



Hillcrest Community Civic Association  
 "Working together for a better community"  
[www.HillcrestDC.com](http://www.HillcrestDC.com)

P.O. Box 30895, Washington, D.C. 20030-0895, phone 202-584-2703

# The Hillcrest Newsletter

OCTOBER 2012

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

PLACE: HILLCREST RECREATION CENTER,  
 TIME: SATURDAY, OCT. 6, FROM 10 A.M. TO NOON

### FRIENDS OF FRANCIS A. GREGORY LIBRARY MEETING

PLACE: FRANCIS GREGORY LIBRARY, 3660 ALABAMA AVE., SE  
 TIME: MONDAY, OCT. 15, 7 P.M.

### PSA 606 POLICE COMMUNITY MEETING

PLACE: EAST WASHINGTON HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH, 2220 BRANCH AVE., SE  
 TIME: WEDNESDAY, OCT. 17, 6 P.M. TO 7 P.M.

### ANC 7B MONTHLY MEETING

PLACE: RYLAND METHODIST CHURCH, 3200 S ST., SE  
 TIME: THURSDAY, OCT. 18, 7 P.M.-9 P.M.

**General membership meeting is Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012, 10 a.m. at the Hillcrest Recreation Center the corner of Denver & 32<sup>nd</sup> Streets, SE.  
 Note: Meetings are held the first Saturday of the month.**

## Scott Kratz To Discuss Bridge Recreation Project

Welcome Scott Kratz to the HCCA meeting in October. For the last 18 months, Kratz has been working with the Washington, D.C., Office of Planning to transform an old freeway bridge into a park above the Anacostia River. The old 11th Street Bridges that connect Capitol Hill with communities east of the river have reached the end of their lifespan, and replacement bridges are now under construction. Kratz is working with THEARC, a nonprofit in Ward 8, along with the Office of Planning and several District agencies to use the base of one of the bridges to create a one of a kind park for active recreation, environmental education and the arts.

Where tractor trailers once crossed the Anacostia River, this new bridge park will support an iconic new outdoor performance space, fruit tree orchard in an existing food desert, playground space incorporating principles of universal design, classroom teaching school children about local watersheds and kayak launches on the river. Kratz, who lives in Barracks Row in Ward 6, is the vice president for education at the National Building Museum, and has been involved in the education field for more than 20 years.

### Procedures for Nomination and Election of HCCA Officers/Committee Chairs

In August, HCCA President Karen Williams announced that Linda Jackson would serve as the Chair of the HCCA Nominating Committee (NC) for the 2012 Elections. In September, the HCCA Board approved the nominating and election procedures, which follow the HCCA Bylaws and Roberts Rules of Order (RRO). The NC Chair also received approval from the Board to solicit additional members for the nominating committee.

Announcements were made to the HCCA Board and membership about the Board positions that will be vacant, by virtue of currently serving officials declining to serve for an additional term. Nominations can be made at or before the October meeting for any of the Board officer/committee chair positions. Those interested in serving or nominating someone to serve in any of the positions, are encouraged to make their intentions known by contacting the Nominating Committee Chair Linda Jackson as soon as possible at (202) 584-3612 or at [JACKSONLM@AOL.COM](mailto:JACKSONLM@AOL.COM). Anyone interested in volunteering to work on any HCCA committee, may also contact the NC Chair, who will submit names to the HCCA President.

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# Hillcrest Announcements

## Skyland Demolition Begins

Mayor Vincent C. Gray joined Ward 7 Councilmember Yvette Alexander, Ward 8 Councilmember Marion Barry and several Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners for the start of phased demolition of the Skyland Shopping Center – a long-stalled development project that will provide new retail, housing and amenities to Wards 7 and 8. “I made a promise to the District that we would move the redevelopment of Skyland forward as quickly as possible, and today is further evidence that we’re keeping faith with that commitment,” said Mayor Gray at a press conference Sept. 26. The Skyland Shopping Center is an 18-acre site at the intersections of Alabama Avenue, Good Hope Road and Naylor Road, SE, that will be transformed into more than 315,000 square feet of retail space to include a combination of national-brand retailers and neighborhood-serving shops and restaurants. Several HCCA members attended the demolition. The general consensus among them was “it was about time.” The project has been a focus for the HCCA for 23 years.

## W Street Block Party

The 2900 block of W Street, SE, is hosting its annual block party on Oct. 6, from 3 to 6 p.m. The block will purchase all the menu items and paper goods but you can feel free to bring your favorite dish. They are asking for a small contribution of \$5 per person. Children under 5 are free. Chairs will be provided or you can bring your own for a fun afternoon of socializing after the HCCA meeting.

## Communications Workshop

The HCCA is pleased to welcome three journalists to lead the conversation at the communications workshop at the Nov. 3 HCCA meeting. *Capital Community News* Editor Andrew Lightman, *The Washington Informer* Publisher Denise Rolark Barnes and WUSA TV9 Reporter Delia Goncalves (also a Hillcrest resident) will join the community to discuss “The Art of the Pitch.” The workshop will begin directly after the membership voting. The panelists will discuss specifics within their industries as each medium has different procedures for pitching, when to pitch, what to pitch; and to respond to whether social media really works. Be prepared to engage the group with your questions. *Please continue to e-mail interests and needs to the Communications Chair at [hillcrestdc\\_newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com).*

## Trick Or Treating In Hillcrest

Come celebrate the fun of Halloween in Hillcrest! Bring the kids and join your Hillcrest neighbors and friends for a special evening of trick-or-treating hosted by the families in the 2900 block of Fort Baker Drive and the 2900 block of W Street, from 6 to 7:30 pm on Wednesday, Oct. 31, 2012. For more information, contact Amina Wilkins at [blkinfo@erols.com](mailto:blkinfo@erols.com).

## CONDOLENCES FROM THE BOARD

Hillcrest is saddened by the loss of Delores Pryde, a mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, friend and neighbor. Pryde lived most of her life in Hillcrest, raising her four children here. A longtime resident of W St, SE, she was a D.C. school board member, and deeply devoted to family, neighborhood and the city of Washington, DC. Delores will be greatly missed.

## The President’s Message

### Dear Neighbors:

We have stepped lightly into fall. The weather has been beautiful— cool mornings, glorious afternoons, acorns falling from trees 40 feet high, crashing into our house and cars. I love this time of year; after all, I am an autumn baby. Here it comes...wait for it...HOWEVER it seems the entrance of spring and fall produce terrible episodes of allergic reactions that usually end up with me sitting in emergency room breathing through a nebulizer. For some strange reason, this takes all the joy out of the changing season’s thing. How are you? Is anyone else hacking and coughing, having difficulty breathing and having a hard time making it through the day? If you are, I emphasize totally. If you’re not having any problems, count your blessings and enjoy.

Fall also brings elections. On Saturday, Nov. 3, HCCA will hold elections for the Board of Directors to serve from Jan. 1, 2013 to Dec. 31, 2015. The HCCA Nominating Committee, chaired by Linda Jackson, is looking for people who want to serve on the board. Sometimes we find it difficult to find people who are willing to make the two-year commitment to their community. You will find the list of vacancies, qualifications, and contact information in another article in this newsletter. To keep HCCA the premier civic association in the city, we need a few dedicated people to step up and serve. If making the commitment to join the board is too much, you can elect to serve on one of our standing committees. Whatever choice you make, please remember there is nothing more satisfying as serving your community. See you on Saturday, Oct. 6.

By the way, enjoy the wonderful weather we’re having. We live in D.C., you never know how long it will last.



### Procedures for Nomination, cont’d from page 1

Anyone seeking to run for an office or committee chair, **must** reside in the Hillcrest community, as defined by the Association’s Bylaws, and also have their HCCA membership dues paid up. In addition, in order to vote, a person’s membership dues must be current and paid up.

At the October meeting, the NC Chair will announce a slate, comprised by the nominating committee, based on the latest available information. The HCCA President will then ask for any nominations from the floor. Any modifications/objections will be made at that time. In addition, candidates for office are encouraged to provide a **short paragraph** about themselves, including prior involvement in HCCA and community activities/position(s)

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# THE ENLIGHTENED ENVIRONMENTALIST

## Winter Gardening

Fall is at the door and winter is approaching. What does that mean for us indoor gardeners? Your plants will thrive best in ideal conditions so it's time to make some adjustments, as the weather cools and the days shorten. Here're a few tips.

- ✓ Plants still have the tendency to reach toward a light source. Make sure your plants get enough sunlight. If your home doesn't get ample sunlight, you can buy plants that are appropriate for medium to low light environments. It's also good to rotate your plants for them to grow straight.
- ✓ Watering right would solve most problems. Use room temperature water. Too much dryness or too much wetness is bad for your plant. Make sure your containers and your soil have proper drainage.
- ✓ Bathe your plants occasionally. Use a spray bottle and gently shower your plants.
- ✓ Plants require ample fresh air. Plants tend to suffer a great deal if they are kept in smoky or stagnated air. Open windows near your plants occasionally
- ✓ Keep a check on your home temperature. Plants tend to grow well at a certain temperature i.e. 65-75 degrees at daytime and about 10 degrees lower at night.
- ✓ Consider fertilizing your plants regularly. You can use a liquid fertilizer and add it in small amounts when you water your plants.

For more useful tips and information go to: <http://www.bhg.com/gardening/houseplants/care/indoor-gardening-secrets/>

**John Hawkins**  
**HCCA Environmental Committee**

### Procedures for Nomination, cont'd from page 2

and their vision on how they see the HCCA organization moving forward. This statement should be provided to the NC Chair no later than Oct. 10, 2012. These statements will be compiled and provided to the membership prior to voting at the November meeting and election. The NC Chair reserves the right to edit statements for brevity.

At the November 2012 meeting, the NC Chair and the Membership Chair will determine paid members, who are eligible to vote, and will issue each one a secret paper ballot. Any nominations from the floor at the November meeting will have to be write-in candidates. You must be present at the November meeting to vote.

A "Teller Committee," to be appointed by the President (not to include any nominating committee members), will count the ballots and announce the winners for each office/committee chair, before the November meeting adjourns.

## Current Slate

### BOARD POSITIONS

### NOMINEES (as of 9/12/12)

PRESIDENT	Karen Williams
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT	VACANCY
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT	Boyle Stuckey
SECRETARY	VACANCY
TREASURER	Monica Holman
PARLIAMENTARIAN	Kenneth Burke
CHAPLAIN	VACANCY
Chair, Membership Committee	Phil Hammond
Chair, Environmental Committee	Mary Ross
Chair, Street/Traffic Committee	VACANCY
Chair, Fundraising Committee	Sheila Brown
Chair, Communications	VACANCY
Chair, Public Safety Committee	David Kirkpatrick
Chair, Recreation and Education Committee	VACANCY

**Submitted by: Linda Jackson, HCCA**  
**Nominating Committee Chair**

## Got Ideas????

Please email any ideas or articles for the newsletter by the 15th of the month to the editor, Michelle Phipps-Evans, at [hillcrestdc\\_newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com).

Or follow on Twitter @HillcrestWard7 or write it on the Facebook wall, All Over Hillcrest.

Visit the website at [www.hillcrestdc.com](http://www.hillcrestdc.com)  
Join the conversation on the listserv at  
[HillcrestDC@vahoogroups.com](mailto:HillcrestDC@vahoogroups.com)

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES FOR 2012?** *Your paid-through Date is on the mailing label of this news-letter. If it is earlier than 2012, please send your payment now. \$12/year.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash  Check



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## The HCCA Newsletter

*A publication by the Hillcrest Community Civic Association*

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*The Hillcrest Community Civic Association promotes the welfare of our neighborhood. Our purpose is simple--to voice our concerns to government officials, businesses, and residents to ensure the best possible living environment in the Ward 7 neighborhood of Hillcrest.*

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### HCCA Board

Karen Williams, President  
Kathy Chamberlain, 1<sup>st</sup> VP  
Boyle Stuckey, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP  
Yvonne Dupree, Record. Secretary  
Monica Evans, Treasurer  
Kenneth Burke, Parliamentarian  
John Hawkins, Chaplain  
Mary Ross, Chair, Environmental  
Philip Hammond, Chair, Membership  
David Kirkpatrick, Chair, Public Safety  
Michelle P. Evans, Chair, Communications  
Veronica Davis, Chair, Street, Traffic, Transportation  
Sheila Brown, Chair, Fundraising  
Yvonne Burke, Chair, Hospitality  
Vacant, Recreation and Education