



Hillcrest Community Civic Association
 "Working together for a better community"
www.HillcrestDC.com

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

NOVEMBER 2011

Next Meeting: Saturday, November 5, 2011, at 10 a.m.

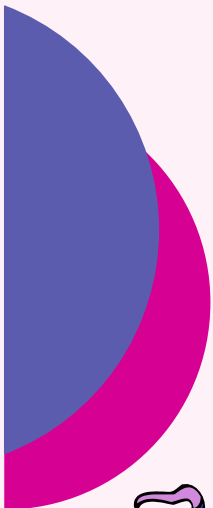
At the Hillcrest Recreation Center, Corner of Denver & 32nd Streets, SE

NOTE: Meetings are normally held the first Saturday of the month.

Local DCPS Principals To Address HCCA

For the month of November, the Hillcrest Community Civic Association will hear from the principals from the District of Columbia Public Elementary Schools in the neighborhood. Listen to interim principal Tracy Foster from Randle Highlands; principal Katie Jones from Winston Education Campus; and a representative from Anne Beers who will be representing principal Gwendolyn Payton.

The guests will talk about their schools, and the programs that are available at their schools. They will also discuss what the HCCA and the community can do to assist them in their missions in educating the children of Ward 7.



Happy Thanksgiving

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The HCCA invites you for an opportunity to find out what are the advantages of Beers being named a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Catalyst school; what does Randle's vision and mission of "Leave No Child Behind" really mean to the school; and how does Winston nurture each child's combination of strengths, needs and experiences.

HILLCREST NEWS AND UPDATES

Thank You, HCCA

Thank you for your presence and financial support at the art auction that was held Sept. 30, 2011. Together, we raised over \$3,000 for HCCA. As we set our sights on the Fundraising Committee activities for 2012, we are looking for additional committee members. You should only have a fundraising vision or a will-

ingness to work with the committee. Please contact me if you would like to more information on how to join us. Contact Sheila Brown, Chair, Fundraising Committee, (202) 297-3883.

13th Street Ramp Closure

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) will permanently close the 13th Street, SE,

ramp to the inbound 11th Street Bridge on or about March 1, 2012. Closing the ramp will accelerate construction of new ramps from southbound DC 295 to the new inbound 11th Street Bridge and from the new outbound 11th Street Bridge to southbound DC 295. Opening these two new freeway ramps will reduce com-

(Continued on page 2)

Any ideas or articles, e-mail the editor, Michelle Phipps-Evans, at hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com by the 15th. Or follow on Twitter @HillcrestWard7

A Message from the President

Dear Neighbors,

I can't believe the leaves are covering my yard again. It seems like just yesterday that I was planting spring flowers. I remember clearly how hard it was for me to stand up after bending over for so long. The yard looked so lovely but now... I guess that's why we host the annual garden tour in June. So neighbors, please be careful as you rake or blow the leaves this fall. I don't want to hear you didn't make the HCCA meeting because you threw out your back.

I'd like to thank everyone who came out to support our wine tasting and art auction on Sept. 30. It truly was a wonderful event. If you missed it, sorry. The response has been so overwhelming, the committee said it might do it again. Speaking of the Fundraising Committee, I would like to thank them personally. First, Shelia Brown, Fund Raising Chair. Under her direction, the committee worked wonders and turned a large empty room into a visual delight. Then, there's Earl. It was his idea to do an art auction in the first place. I didn't think an art auction would be such a great event but he and the Committee showed me. Thank you, Earl. Michelle Peete found the wonderful caterer and put in a lot of time and effort getting all her assignments done. Then, there is Nancy Harris who was affectionately called the ticket-selling machine, and Ann Curt-singer, the contender for the ticket-selling title. Other committee members whose efforts were essential to the success of the auction are Mary Ross, Mary Hammond and Robin Marlin. Thank you, ladies.

Well, stay tuned for more great events to come. If you have any ideas for socials or fund raisers you would like to see, please let us know as the board is putting together its work plan for 2012 as we speak.

Finally, enjoy the change of seasons, and have a great Thanksgiving.

Karen

HCCA News and Updates

(Continued from page 1)

muter traffic cutting through local neighborhoods east of the Anacostia River by providing now-missing direct links between DC 295 and the South-east-Southwest Freeway.

The ramp from southbound 295 to the new inbound 11th Street Bridge is scheduled to open May 2012 while the ramp from the new outbound 11th Street Bridge to northbound DC 295 is scheduled to open July 2012. Direct local access across the river via the 11th Street Bridge is scheduled to be restored June 2012 with the opening of the new local bridge. The new local bridge will allow local traffic to cross the river separate from freeway traffic and improve bicycle and pedestrian travel via a new 16-footwide shared-use path. In addition, the local bridge will provide local travelers with

now-missing direct access to both directions of Interstate 295/DC 295.

Re-Routing Traffic

With the 13th Street, SE, ramp closed, traffic wishing to reach points west of the Anacostia River will be re-routed as follows:

- To Suitland Parkway or Howard Road to access the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge or the 11th Street Bridge via northbound Interstate 295 or
- To Malcolm X Avenue at Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE to north or southbound Interstate 295
- To Pennsylvania Avenue to access the John Philip Sousa Bridge.

Traffic models indicate closing the 13th Street SE ramp will result in some traffic shifting from the 11th Street Bridge to Douglass and Sousa Bridges until the new ramps from southbound DC 295 to the Inbound 11th Street Bridge and from the new outbound 11th Street Bridge to northbound DC 295 are open. As a re-

sult, travel times for some travelers may increase by as much as 12 minutes until the new freeway ramps open.

For more information, contact Project Manager Peter McDonough at (202)484-2330, Ext. 148, or email at ddotpublicaffairs@dc.gov.

Any comments about the closure, contact Kathy Chamberlain, the Hillcrest representative on the 11th Street Bridge Community Communications Committee at kchamberlainDC@gmail.com.

The Circulator Bus Comes To East of the River

The D.C. Circulator launched a new route to serve the Ward 7 and 8 communities on Oct. 3, 2011. The limited stop route connects the Potomac Avenue Metro station to Skyland via Barracks Row, and Anacostia. It'll run every 10 minutes from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. until March 31, and until 9 p.m. from April 1 to Sept. 30, 2012, for \$1. More info at www.dccirculator.com.

The Enlightened Environmentalist

For Fireplace and Wood Stove Users

Just as beautiful lawns and gardens in summer, and foliage of gold, tangerine, and amber in fall delight the sense of sight of those who stroll about Hillcrest, so too does the sense of smell revel when greeted by the aromatic smells of the vapors emitted from the burning of wood in fireplaces and wood stoves during the cold season.

Acknowledging at the outset that we advocate only burning trees that have been felled by disease, injury or PEPCO, following are a few tips follow to cut down the hassles for those who enjoy the comforting warmth that only a burning wood can provide:

Have your fireplace or wood stove and chimney cleaned and inspected annually by a professional to prevent chimney fires from creosote and soot build up. Accumulation of creosote and soot prevent the fire in the fire box from properly burning and producing sufficient heat.

Creosote is from the burning of green (unseasoned) or wet wood and slow burning fires. It attaches itself to stove pipes and chimney lining and is removed by the brushing action of the chimney sweep. Burning a very hot fire for the first 30 minutes each time you start a fire will control the build up of creosote in a clean chimney. After the annual inspection, a rule of thumb for fireplace wood burning is to clean the chimney after consumption of a third to a half cord of wood. For wood stoves, follow the manufacture's suggestion.

Seasoned wood is wood that has been cut to size, split and air dried. There is a debate on how long it takes to season wood. Specifically, once it has been cut to size and split, how long does it take for the water content in the wood to evaporate to 20% or less of the wood's weight? The suggested length of time ranges from 2 to 3 months to a year for soft wood (pine, fir, etc.) to 18 months for hard wood (oak, maple, etc). Since most people use wood that has been cut to size and split within a year of burning, 2-3 month drying time is not unreasonable. In a properly ventilated firebox, if the fire does not

A Fond Farewell

The HCCA board wishes Metropolitan Police Department Officer Jonathan LaFrance a warm farewell as he is leaving the MPD for an opportunity with the federal government.

LaFrance, who served as the Full Stride Officer for Fairfax Village, will be replaced by Officer Ed Smith. On behalf of the HCCA, the board will like to thank LaFrance for his dedicated service to our community.

keep going out when lighted, consider it seasoned.

Store your cut to size, split fire wood in lots that are off the ground and stacked in such a manner that allow for air to circulate throughout the wood pile. Cover with a tarp in a manner to keep out rain and snow yet will not trap moisture or hinder air circulation.

Finally a few safety thoughts: Remember to gather ashes from your fireplace or wood stove in a fire proof container and store them in a covered metal container until you dispose of them. A smoke detector should be installed in the vicinity of your wood burning stove or fireplace, and an ABC fire extinguisher should be in the area as well.

Courtesy the Environmental and Beautification Committee

Hillcrest Community Civic Association
 HILLCREST COMMUNITY
 CIVIC ASSOCIATION
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Community Calendar for November

- 5 10 a.m. HCCA Meeting, Hillcrest Community Center, 32nd & Denver St., SE
- 7 7 p.m. Friends of Francis Gregory Library Meeting
Interim Francis Gregory Library, 2100 36th Place, SE
- 9 10 a.m. Goodhope Marketplace Taskforce Meeting (Safeway Discussions)
Goodhope Police Substation, 2800 blk Alabama Ave., SE
- 16 6 p.m. PSA 606 Police/Community Meeting
East Washington Heights Baptist Church, 2220 Branch Ave., SE
- 17 7 p.m. ANC 7B Monthly Meeting, Ryland Methodist Church, 3200 "S" St., SE

**Scout meeting every Saturday morning, 9:30 a.m.—Cub Scouts;
 11 a.m.—Boy Scouts at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church**

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WWW.HILLCRESTDC.COM
 HILLCRESTDC@
[YAHOOGROUPS.COM](mailto:HILLCRESTDC@YAHOOGROUPS.COM)
 "ALL OVER
 HILLCREST"
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 @HILLCRESTWARD7

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HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES FOR 2011? *Your paid-through date is on the mailing label of this newsletter. If it is earlier than 2011, please send your payment now.*

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Amount: _____

E-Mail: _____ Cash or Check

New Member Renewal Name & Address in Hillcrest Directory Y or N

Receive the newsletter in the mail Or, read the newsletter on the web (www.HillcrestDC.com)

I'd like to serve on the following committee(s): _____

(Visit the website for a list of committees)

Annual membership fee: \$12 per household per calendar year. Make check payable to HCCA, and mail to: Hillcrest Community Civic Association, P.O. Box 30895, Washington, D.C. 20030-0895
 Or pay using a credit card online at www.hillcrestdc.com/paydues.htm