



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

DECEMBER 2010

Next Meeting: Saturday, DEC. 4, 2010, 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.

HCCA ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCH



Special points of interest:

- HCCA President Gives Holiday Cheer
- The Neighborhood Griots
- New Health Reform Website Launched

Inside this issue:



Message from the President	2
Hillcrest News and Updates	3
Calendar for December	4

The annual HCCA Holiday Celebration Luncheon will be held at the Hillcrest Recreation Center on **Saturday, Dec. 4, 2010**, immediately following a shortened community meeting, which starts 10 a.m. Each year, we try to improve upon our lunch offerings. Again, this year, we are working with a standardized menu to ensure we have ample variety of your favorite holiday foods, such as:

- Trays of Cheese, Vegetables and Fruit
- Turkey, Ham and Vegetarian Lasagna
- Tossed Salad, Greens, String Beans
- Sweet Potatoes, Potato Salad and Deviled Eggs
- Dinner Rolls, Sodas and Water
- Cakes, Pies, Cookies, etc.

We are asking members to provide food items from those listed above after the first letter of their last name, according to the following:

- ABCD**—String beans, greens, sweet potatoes
- EFGH**—Tossed salad with dressing, potato salad, vegetarian lasagna
- IJKLM**—Deviled eggs, cheese trays, vegetables (with dip) or fruit trays
- NOPQ**—Desserts: Cakes, pies, other
- RST**—Rolls, cranberry sauce, dressings
- UVWXYZ**—Assorted sodas

(Continued on page 3)



(L-R, Back) Phillip and Mary Hammond, Rev. Kenneth Burke, Councilmember Yvette Alexander, Don Murray, Kathy Chamberlain, Karen Williams, Dennis Logan, Marvin Bowser, Linda Jackson and Miles Steele. (L-R, Front) Journalism Scholar Michelle Phipps-Evans, Yvonne Burke, Doris Thomas, Gloria Logan, Pastor Franklin Senger and Carrie Thornhill.

HCCA Continues 20th Anniversary Celebration with the Naming of its First Neighborhood Griots

The HCCA continued its 20th anniversary celebration from 2009 at its recent Nov. 6, HCCA meeting, when it officially named 20 mostly longtime Hillcrest residents as Neighborhood Griots. These residents were asked 11 specific questions

(Continued on page 2)

Message from the President

Dear Neighbors,

December is an extremely busy month for most of us as we continue our holiday celebrations. I just want to take a quick minute and thank all of you who came to the November meeting to vote for your favorite candidate. The large turnout shows that many of you feel your civic association remains a viable part of our community. No matter what candidate you supported, your interest and support are what are important.

Please, let's move into 2011 with a common agenda to keep Hillcrest one of the most livable communities in the city.

This month we will have an abbreviated meeting, and then we will celebrate with our annual holiday party from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. So please bring a dish and come out and spend some quality time with your neighbors.

Earl and I wish each and every one of you a very joyous and blessed holiday season!



Karen

Naming of the Griots (Continued from page 1)

on what a strong neighborhood should look like, and what are the core elements needed for this strong neighborhood to exist. Many were interviewed and videotaped in their homes between September and October by a journalism scholar. The findings were compiled into a 17-page report, which concluded that a strong neighborhood comprises civically engaged residents who find creative ways of engaging their public officials to effect the kind of positive change they need in their neighborhood. Also, there needs to be a voice that speaks on behalf of these residents; and that voice is the HCCA. Many of the 20 griots attended the November meeting where they posed for a photo.

Missing were Mayor Vincent Gray and residents, Lucy Murray, Paul Savage and Nicholas Evans who was not named a griot, but offered his youthful perspective. It is expected that the griots will receive further recognition at the December meeting. The HCCA anticipates that in the future more griots will be named as there are several longtime residents who have made a lasting impact on the community.

Although there are variations on the theme, collectively, the griots view a strong neighborhood as one that is stable, friendly, open, clean, safe and connected with the rest of the city. It is one that can make requests, and receive city services in a reasonable amount of time; one that helps make the neighborhood a desirable place to live and raise a family. A strong neighborhood is one with influence as residents who live in a strong neighborhood are able to keep abreast of local, citywide and national issues, especially those that will ultimately affect them and their lifestyles. Hillcrest is a strong and effective neighborhood, because the civic association is a strong and effective organization. To most, the HCCA and the neighborhood are intricately tied; and it is this link that gives Hillcrest its sustainability and durability as a strong D.C. neighborhood. The report and other tidbits are on the HCCA website at this link, <http://www.hillcrestdc.com/anniv20.htm>.

The HCCA recently received a DC Community Heritage Project grant from the Humanities Council of Washington, DC, through the Washington East Foundation, to extend the 20th anniversary celebration through this African tradition of story telling in the HCCA Oral History Project.

HILLCREST NEWS AND UPDATES

Annual Fall Hillcrest Community Wide Clean Up


The Environmental Committee of the Hillcrest Community Civic Association would like to thank everyone who participated in their own way to make the Annual Fall Cleanup a success. On Saturday, Oct. 23 at 8 a.m., residents met on the parking lot of the East Washington Heights Baptist Church. Being properly attired with new safety vests and pickup sticks provided by HCCA, they pulled down posters and cleaned the sidewalks and street curbs of the neighborhood streets. The Rev. Kenneth Burke used his ladder to remove signs that were heavily stapled at heights of 10' to the telephone poles at the intersection of Branch and Alabama Avenue. Here's a special thank you to him for achieving this laborious task.

Additionally, there were several residents, who took responsibility for cleaning their own neighborhood streets at their leisure. The Environmental Committee's goal is to have the residents of the HCCA community commit to picking up litter from their alleys/sidewalks and taking down illegal posters in front of their residences on a regular basis, and the proper disposal of their household trash for weekly city collections. The following

New Health Reform Website Launched

In anticipation of the changes that District of Columbia residents will experience due to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) or the health reform law, the District of Columbia government has created a comprehensive website to offer information on both public and private health coverage options.

Residents could visit www.healthreform.dc.gov to find out about PPACA's impact, tailored specifically for their particular situations in an easy-to-use online tool.



Any ideas, e-mail the editor Michelle Phipps-Evans at hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com

HOLIDAY LUNCH *(Continued from page 1)*

Food items should be ready to serve (steam table racks will be available to keep foods warm) in disposable serving containers, to avoid lost items, and facilitate cleanup. Also include serving utensils. Please provide the name of your dish, information on ingredients for those with allergies or food restrictions and your name. We will have cards available for you to identify your dish, or provide the recipe.

Please label any serving items you wish returned with your name. We invite attendees to also bring a poem, joke or song to share over our Karaoke Open Mike. Please contact Yvonne Burke at (202) 584-3018 with any questions. Looking forward to seeing you there!!!!

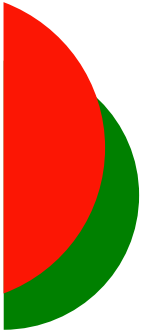
residents participated in the cleanup: Mary Hammond, Ruth Lewis, Monica Evans, Kenneth Burke, Carolyn Ray, David Kirkpatrick, Mary F. Ross, Sheila Brown, Marvin Bowser, Janet Keith, Kathy Chamberlain, Boyle Stuckey, Robin Marlin, Phillip Hammond, Carrie Thornhill, Rita Lowry, Ed Wilhelm, Karen Williams, Pastor Franklin Senger III and Michelle Phipps-Evans.

A special thanks is extended to Earl Simpson, supervisor with the Solid Waste Administration of the Department of Public Works and his staff for collecting the debris from the sites of the cleanup.

—Phillip Hammond

Happy Holidays

Hillcrest Community Civic Association
HILLCREST COMMUNITY
CIVIC ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 30895
Washington, D.C. 20030-0895



Community Calendar for December

- 4 10 a.m. HCCA Meeting, Hillcrest Community Center, 32nd & Denver St., SE
- 6 7 p.m. Friends of Francis Gregory Library Meeting,
Interim Francis Gregory Library, 2100 36th Place, SE
- 8 10 a.m. Goodhope Marketplace Taskforce Meeting
Goodhope Police Substation, 2800 blk Alabama Ave., SE
- 15 6 p.m. PSA 606 Police/Community Meeting
Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter, 3319 Alabama Ave., SE
- 16 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

Hillcrest Community Civic Association
P.O. Box 30895
Washington, D.C. 20030-0895

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES FOR 2010? *Your paid-through date is on the mailing label of this newsletter. If it is earlier than 2010, please send your payment now.*

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ ZIP code: _____

Phone number: _____ E-mail: _____

New Member: _____ Renewal: _____

I prefer to: ____ read the newsletter on the web (www.HillcrestDC.com) or ____ receive the newsletter in the mail. (Please help us save postage by reading the newsletter online.)

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

Annual dues are \$12/year. Make check payable to the
Hillcrest Community Civic Association and mail to:

P.O. Box 30895

Washington, D.C. 20030-0895

Or pay using a credit card online at www.hillcrestdc.com/paydues.htm