



NEWSLETTER

HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

3319 Alabama Avenue, Southeast

Washington, D.C. 20020

www.HillcrestDC.com

Next Meeting: Saturday, February 5, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.

At the Hillcrest Recreation Center, Corner of Denver & 32nd Streets, S.E.

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

MERRIT DRUCKER, NEW CLEAN CITY COORDINATOR, WILL BE GUEST SPEAKER FOR FEBRUARY MEETING

Merrit Drucker, who was recently selected to serve as D.C.'s new Clean City Coordinator, formerly served as the Ward 4 Neighborhood Services Coordinator for the past 4 years. Following his graduation from St. John's University, he served in the Army as an Infantry Officer, in various capacities, for several years until his retirement in 1993. Mr. Drucker worked for a Washington, D.C. firm, *Conservation, Environment, and Historic Preservation, Inc.* for a year, specializing in Federal historic preservation programs. He was then employed by *Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC)* for 6 years, where he was a project manager, a trainer, an environmental compliance specialist, and a pollution prevention specialist, supporting Department of Defense, EPA, and private sector programs. He has been an environmental activist for many years, and served as a volunteer during the 2000 Census on the D.C. Complete Count Committee, responsible for outreach to universities and to minority populations. Mr. Drucker holds Master's degrees in Human Resource Management and Philosophy, and he has published several professional articles. He is also a graduate of the George Washington University Certified Public Manager program. He resides with his family in Shepherd Park, in Ward 4.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT HILLCREST RECREATION CENTER

The Hillcrest Recreation Center needs volunteers to help tutor school children one or more days per week from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. It is hoped that people can commit to the same day/time every week to provide consistency for the children. Retired educators can be especially helpful. For more information, contact Sam Williams, Director, Hillcrest Recreation Center, at 202 645-3988, or Linda Jackson, Chair, HCCA Education Committee, at 202 584-3612. The HCCA Education Committee is working with the Recreation Center as they establish/build their tutoring and mentoring program.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Neighbors,

I have identified below issues that impact upon the quality of life within our community and your general piece of mind and serenity. These issues are not the type of matters that politicians like to deal with. They are not sexy and news grabbing issues. They are just basic quality of life issues that cause discontent and frustration within the lives of average people. I am sure that there are other similar type of issues that each of you can identify. This is my list:

- 1) Absence of adequate anti-littering laws in the District which has resulted in DC police officers having no authority or responsibility for taking action to discourage littering and trashing the city.*
- 2) Absence of adequate laws that discourage posting of advertisement signs on city trees and lampposts (see ANC 7B Resolution on Website).*
- 3) Absence of laws/regulations that require police officers to hold persons driving cars, who damage or destroy city and/or homeowner property, financially responsible.*
- 4) Absence of laws that require persons, who abandon cars on city streets, to be held financially responsible for the expense to the city for removing them.*
- 5) Absence of easily enforceable laws that crack down on persons who live in the District but never register their cars in the District.*
- 6) Absence of neighborhood friendly regulations and procedures for Group Homes.*

If any of these matters are of concern to you, I encourage you to contact the Mayor, the City Administrator, and members of the City Council and encourage that they do something to address these voids in city regulations and laws. Also, you can sign up to participate on the HCCA Legislative Committee, which is gearing up to start monitoring the legislation passed by the City Council. You can make a difference if you take a stand!

Sincerely, Vincent Spaulding, President

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE EAST OF THE SOUSA BRIDGE PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE TASK FORCE?

Have you noticed the new countdown pedestrian lights on Pennsylvania Avenue? Seen the activity and clean up around the old Marvin Gardens Apartments? Noticed the new bollards to channelize traffic at Fairlawn Avenue?

These are some of the 2004 accomplishments for the East of the Sousa Bridge Pennsylvania Avenue Task Force. The year 2004 marked a period of transition as the Task Force founders, Donald Murray and Paul Savage, stepped down as Chairs and Howard Ways and Edward Mathis assumed the leadership positions. The Task Force, organized in 2000, is comprised of a group of concerned citizens, property owners, and ANCs from the nine neighborhoods that straddle Pennsylvania Avenue east of the Sousa Bridge to Southern Avenue.

Mayor Anthony A. Williams attended a Task Force meeting in the Spring and new City Administrator Robert Bobb visited the Task Force three times in 2004 to pledge their support to this community effort. The City Administrator, along with Dan Tangherlini (Director of the District's Department of Transportation) announced that approximately \$14 million in funding for streetscape improvements has been earmarked. In the Fall of this year, the ground breaking for the new light rail station at Pennsylvania Avenue also occurred.

In 2005, expect to see several long planned projects getting starting or completing construction, including:

- 10 new townhouses by the Marshall Heights Community Development Organization, Inc. and CIH Homes at 2525 Minnesota Avenue SE;
- 10 townhouses by the Anacostia Economic Development Corporation;
- 28 condos by the East of the River Community Development Corporation; and
- Construction of the 34 condos at the Penn Circle Condos (Marvin Gardens Apartments).

Upcoming challenges for the Task Force include getting the RFK access road opened up as a short term solution to routing traffic from the Sousa Bridge to the Whitney Young Bridge to northbound Kennilworth Avenue and solidifying a commitment from the National Capital Revitalization Corporation to implement its feasibility plan for the acquisition and redevelopment of the south side of the 2300 block of Pennsylvania Avenue SE.

To learn more about the Pennsylvania Avenue Task Force and to get involved in one of the key issues (transportation, economic development, or public nuisance crimes) please contact Howard Ways at howardways@hotmail.com or visit the www.hillcrestdc.com.

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW DUE!

Membership dues for 2005 are now due. Dues are \$10.00 per household per year. Please remind your friends and neighbors to support their community organization by submitting their dues. To pay, checks should be made payable to Hillcrest Community Civic Association and mailed to Mrs. Monica Evans, Treasurer, 3650 Camden Street, SE, Washington, D.C. 20020. We are continuing to pursue our goal of attaining 500 households on our membership list and we strongly encourage you to recruit at least one new member.

VOLUNTEER TUTORS NEEDED BY EXPERIENCE CORPS

Experience Corps is now recruiting older adults (55+) to serve as volunteer tutors, mentors, and classroom assistants in seven D.C. public schools for the second semester. There is a special need for volunteers in three southeast schools. Tutors serve 4-5 hours a week. Male mentors serve 1 ½ hours a week. Classroom volunteers serve 16 hours a week and receive a stipend. Training and supervision will be provided. For more information, call Lois Berkowitz at 202 797-1150 or send an e-mail to lberkowitz@experiencecorps.org.

JOIN THE EAST WASHINGTON HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH WOMEN'S EXERCISE CLASS

The holidays are over and it's time to shed those extra pounds and get fit! Take action now to take better care of yourself, look better, and have fun in the process. Join the EWH Baptist Church women's exercise class. The class meets on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7:00

'til 8:00 p.m. The instructor is Calvin Nophlin, a neighborhood resident and recognized fitness expert and experienced personal trainer. Class fees are \$99 for a ten week class. For more information or to get additional information, call Vasser Baldwin at 202 583-0154 or Paula Spaulding at 202 575-6101.

HCCA WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:

Bettie Alston, 3360 Southern Avenue, SE
Derek & Allison Andrews, 2400 33rd Street, SE
George Awkard, 2553 36th Street, SE
Dion & Jennifer Black, 3143 "O" Street, SE
A. Scott Bolden, 420 7th Street, NW
Rev. Kendrick Curry, 3045 "Q" Street, SE
Cheryl Dobbins, 2007 30th Street, SE
Rev. & Mrs. Joseph Evans, 3140 Westover Drive, SE
Gregory & Charlotte Hudson, 3166 Westover Drive, SE
Dwayne & Xantippe Humphries, 2800 33rd Street, SE
Levitha Owens Long, 2846 Ft. Baker Drive, SE
Kelly Owens, 2332 33rd Street, SE

Dues for 2005 are now due. Please pay promptly.

It's only \$10 per year. Get on track and send your payment NOW!!!!

Names(s) _____

Address _____ zip code _____

Phone number _____ E-mail _____

New Member _____ Renewal _____

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

Make check payable to Hillcrest Community Civic Association and mail to: Monica Evans, Treasurer,
3650 Camden Street, S.E. Washington DC 20020 phone: 202 584-0577