



# NEWSLETTER

HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 30895

Washington, D.C. 20030-0895

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[HillcrestDC@yahoogroups.com](mailto:HillcrestDC@yahoogroups.com)

**Next Meeting:** Saturday, April 4, 2009, at 10 a.m.

**At the Hillcrest Recreation Center, Corner of Denver & 32<sup>nd</sup> Streets, SE**

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

## SPEAK OUT, HILLCREST

Come to the Open Forum at the April Meeting



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### Comments?

Any comments or story ideas, please e-mail the newsletter editor, Michelle Phipps-Evans at [hillcrestdc\\_newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com)

In lieu of a guest speaker, this month, the HCCA Board will hold a Hillcrest Community Civic Association Open Forum. This forum is your opportunity to speak to the Board of Directors about HCCA, and its plans and procedures. The board has been working to make HCCA more relevant to our community's changing needs. We have updated the committee structure. The current standing committees are Education and Recreation; Environmental and Beautification; Public Safety and Emergency; Membership; Communications; Street, Traffic and Transportation; and Fundraising. The chairs of these committees are in the process of creating their committee work plans. Please feel free to review the completed drafts that are now posted on the Hillcrest Web site, <http://www.hillcrestdc.com/hccadocs.htm>, and are printed in this edition of the newsletter.



Some members of the HCCA board for 2009 to 2011.

We will have about 45 minutes for questions and answers. We ask two things to foster the maximum amount of participation.

- Prepare in advance, and limit your questions or comments to 90 seconds.
- As an option, you can e-mail your questions or comments before the meeting to [klwilliams@hillcrestdc.com](mailto:klwilliams@hillcrestdc.com). I will forward them to the appropriate committee chair who will provide you an answer at the April meeting. We want as many members as possible to have a chance to ask a question or give a comment.

We are looking for constructive feedback from the membership to the work plans presented by the committee chairs and to the general health and well being of the civic association.

## Message from the President

### *Dear Neighbors,*

Spring is bursting out all over. Our wonderful neighborhood of Hillcrest is shaking off the gloom and doom of the past few months. Hope is awakening in our neighborhood and in the world. My neighbors who I have hardly seen over the past five months are venturing out. They are beginning to think about working in their yards, raking away the last of last year's leaves and debris and starting to revitalize their gardens. It's a time for rebirth. As president, I have served through three spring transformations. This experience is always rejuvenating to my soul, and I approach the season with a new zest for life, new resolutions (I'm always a step behind, as most people make these in January); and a new appreciation for how wonderful life can be.

I love living in Hillcrest. My neighbors are great. I love walking out of my house and running into them. We all know each other; we all look out for each other. What a feeling of security, sense of belonging, and community this provides for me and my favorite guy, Earl.

I would like to recognize two of my neighbors, Vincent Spaulding and Kathy Chamberlain for removing the "March 21, 2009, March of the Pentagon Posters" placed on traffic control boxes along Pennsylvania Avenue from the foot of the Sousa bridge all the way to Southern Ave, SE. Also, they removed all the illegally placed "\$100 unwanted car-buses 202-595-6218" signs. These signs were placed illegally using an adhesive, which is totally illegal. Vince and Kathy routinely removed illegally placed signs early every Sunday morning. Illegally placed advertisements deface the community and encourage illegal activities.

So as you emerge from your cave this spring, embrace your neighbors, encourage them to join the Hillcrest Community Civic Association, invite them to the meetings, encourage them to volunteer on one of our committees. As the Association enters its 20<sup>th</sup> year, we need everyone's help to keep our wonderful community viable.

I want to thank all of you who are currently members of HCCA for your support. I look forward to seeing you at our April meeting. Come prepared to participate in our open forum. See you there!

**Karen Lee Williams**  
President, HCCA

## THE HCCA WORK PLANS

Below are the HCCA Committees' work plans for FY 2009. All committees are required to submit budgets and report to the board on all expenditures. These plans are found on the Hillcrest Web site. When the work plans for the other committees are made available, they will also be posted online.

### **STREETS, TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

The Streets, Traffic and Transportation Committee (STTC) is responsible for monitoring, advising on and keeping the membership abreast of plans and proposals for street, traffic and transportation changes or improvements. STTC is to serve as a liaison to public and private agencies on STTC matters. The committee is expected to develop plans and recommendations for information and action.

1. Introduce the Streets, Traffic and Transportation Committee (STTC) work plan and a presentation on Hillcrest relevant STTC issues, initiatives, and projects by a DC Department of Transportation official at the Feb. 7 and March 7, 2009, HCCA membership meetings.
2. By April 2009, the STTC will produce a summary fact sheet/status report on STTC projects and initiatives relevant

to Hillcrest for posting on the HCCA Web site with hyperlinks to relevant agencies and organizations.

3. By May 2009, the STTC will assemble two notebooks of information on projects and initiatives relevant to Hillcrest for ready access by HCCA members. The first notebook will be placed at the Francis Gregory Library for ready reference by HCCA members and neighborhood residents. The second notebook will be kept at the home of the STTC chair.
4. Over the course of 2009, the STTC will take responsibility for preparing or causing to have prepared 1-2 articles for inclusion in the HCCA monthly newsletter on STTC issues, projects or initiatives.
5. Over the course of the year, the STTC expects to conduct 1-2 walking tours of key STTC sites to monitor conditions, changes, improvements, or problem areas and report findings to HCCA and relevant agencies for consideration and/or resolution.
6. Participate in 1-2 City Council hearings, roundtables, budgetary or performance reviews of DDOT or other government agencies involved in STTC matters affecting Hillcrest. Develop and/or submit letters of support or opposition

*(Continued on page 3)*

**HCCA Work plans** (Continued from page 2)

to city officials on projects as agreed upon by the board and membership.

7. STTC will prepare and disseminate at HCCA meetings and Web site a STTC member issue and service form to gather and process community input into the work of STTC.

8. Over the course of the year, STTC will seek to communicate with and coordinate, where appropriate, with entities like the Pennsylvania Avenue Task Force, and other contiguous civic associations.

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

The Communications Committee shall keep the membership informed of activities affecting the Association and the community including libraries, and ANC7B. The Committee will also keep the District community aware of some of the work of the Association. Methods used by this Committee shall include publishing of the newsletter, written media (newspapers, mail and electronic distribution of the HCCA Newsletter, etc) telephone trees, list servs and emails.

1. Compile and complete the monthly newsletter for distribution to the Hillcrest Community. The deadlines to get the information to the editor for the calendar year are as follows: April 13; May 18; June 15; July 13; Aug. 17; Sept. 14; Oct. 19; Nov. 16; Dec. 14.

2. Each month, supply to the newsletter relevant information to Hillcrest from other sources—District government agencies, nonprofits, media and the Hillcrest community—as deemed fit; and so long as space permits.

3. Compose at least two OP-Eds on significant issues of relevance to the Hillcrest community every six months. Send to media outlets in the District, e.g. East of the River, Washington Post and others.

4. Lend communications support and expertise to Hillcrest-organized events throughout FY 2009. This may include assisting with writing press releases or articles and distribution; serving as a press contact; providing background information to media; helping set up interviews; supplying photographs and the like.

5. Seek opportunities to write about Hillcrest-related events to send to the media every quarter. For instance, the annual garden tour.

6. Over the course of the year, maintain the Hillcrest list serv, by ensuring the information is relevant to Hillcrest, free of spam and other negatives. Forward information from other list servs that may be of relevance to Hillcrest.

7. Maintain a Web site that presents Hillcrest as the beautiful neighborhood that it is, with residents who care deeply about their community. Keep the website up to date by posting current newsletters, meeting minutes, association bylaws, and timely notices about HCCA-sponsored events and monthly meetings.

8. Lend support to board in any communications-related matters as needed.

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE**

The Committee shall monitor and advise on issues of public safety, law enforcement, fire and emergency preparedness. The committee shall act as a liaison with the appropriate public and private agencies and keep the

**Updates from the Recreation Center**

**Hillcrest Easter Egg Hunt:** April 13, 10 a.m. to noon, Hillcrest Recreation Center. Toddlers to 12 years old. (Toddlers must be accompanied by an adult.)

**Hillcrest Basketball Tournament Fundraiser:** April 17-19. E-mail [bstuckey@hillcrestdc.com](mailto:bstuckey@hillcrestdc.com) for more information.

**April Activities for Seniors**

**April 10,** Trip to the Anacostia Museum and lunch at IHOP. We leave Hillcrest Recreation Center at 10:30 a.m.

**April 24,** Trip to the National Museum of the Native American and lunch. We leave Hillcrest at

**In Sympathy**

Expression of sympathy to the family of the late Otis Scott, former member of the Hillcrest Community Civic Association. —Dennis and Gloria Logan

community abreast of these issues. The Committee shall develop plans, activities, and recommendations for information and action including advocacy on legislation.

1. In conjunction with Lt Netter and PSA 606 provide a monthly crime report.
2. Form a webcam committee to investigate the feasibility of crime webcams throughout the Hillcrest community.
3. Re-invigorate the Neighborhood Watch program.
4. Provide training programs that result in a safer community (example- First Aid Classes, CPR training).
5. Identify Safe Houses for children to approach when they encounter a problem on the street.
6. Contribute safety tips to the HCCA newsletter.
7. Coordinate NATIONAL NIGHT OUT ON CRIME event.

**EDUCATION AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

The Committee shall act as liaison with and keep the community abreast of educational and recreational activities that directly and indirectly impact the Hillcrest community. The Committee shall develop plans, activities and recommendations for information and action including advocacy on legislation.

**Education**

1. Assign committee member to all three elementary schools in the neighborhood. The member will be responsible for attending PTA meetings and meeting with school principals and representatives to determine school needs.
2. Establish a line of communication between schools and HCCA so that information on needs and events flow to the community through the newsletter, list serv and meetings.
3. Search and acquire mentors for students at the school
4. Search and acquire speakers to encourage and speak

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| <b>HCCA Work plans</b> (Cont. from page 3)<br>with the students.<br>5. Provide gap funding to the schools<br>6. Provide chaperones for field trips.<br>7. Get volunteers to read to students.<br>8. Schedule a student performer for every monthly meeting. | 9. Provide scholarships for students.<br><b>Recreation</b><br>1. Establish line of communication between the recreation, senior wellness center and HCCA so information on needs and events flow to the community through the newsletter, list serv and | meetings.<br>2. Provide volunteers for special events.<br>3. Provide guidance and feedback on recreation activities<br>4. Provide gap funding for events and third party services<br>5. For recreation activities that cost, provide funding for those in need. |
|---|---|---|

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR FOR APRIL

|    |         |  |
|----|---------|--|
| 4  | 10 a.m. | HCCA Meeting, Hillcrest Recreation Center<br>32nd and Denver Streets, SE                         |
| 6  | 7 p.m.  | Friends of Francis Gregory Library Meeting<br>Francis Gregory Library, 3660 Alabama Ave., SE     |
| 8  | 10 a.m. | Goodhope Marketplace Taskforce Meeting<br>Goodhope Police Substation, 2800 blk Alabama Ave., SE  |
| 15 | 6 p.m.  | PSA 606 Police/Community Meeting<br>Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter, 3319 Alabama Ave., SE |
| 16 | 7 p.m.  | ANC 7B Monthly Meeting<br>Ryland Epworth 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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Have you paid your dues for 2009? Your paid-through date is on the mailing label of this newsletter. If it is earlier than 2009, please send your payment now!

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

New Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Annual dues are only \$10. Make check payable to the Hillcrest Community Civic Association and mail to:**

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