



*"Working together for a better community"*

# 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, May 1, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.

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

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## **GUEST SPEAKER FOR MAY 1, 2004 DIRECTOR, D.C. PARKS & RECREATION NEIL O. ALBERT**

After a brief stint as Interim Director, Neil O. Albert was named Director of D.C. Parks and Recreation in July 2001. Albert brings to the District more than 10 years of executive management experience in the public sector.

As Director of Parks and Recreation for the District of Columbia, Albert is responsible for proper development and maintenance of the city's parks and recreation facilities. He is also responsible for coordinating the many city-sponsored recreational activities.

Albert oversees the staffing at the District's 381 neighborhood parks as well as 77 recreation centers and playgrounds, which include 42 swimming pools and more than 170 tennis courts.

Some of Albert's accomplishments since coming to the District include overseeing the establishment of 30 computer learning centers in the city's recreation centers; creating the Capital City Park Foundation, a nonprofit foundation to support agency programs; and improving the agency's financial procedures and systems.

Prior to his work with the District, Albert served as the Director of Nonprofit Assistance Programs for the Fund of the City of New York. In this role, he worked to expand the availability of short-term financing assistance and computer technology to nonprofit and government agencies. Albert also served as Director of Contract Agency Finance for the New York City Department of Youth Services, where he was responsible for managing the financial, accounting and technical assistance functions required for the disbursement of more than \$64 million in city and state funds to more than 800 grantees.

### **Message from the President**

Dear Members of HCCA:

In my message contained in the April 2004 newsletter, I indicated that more information would follow on the plans for the Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Cleanup and Beautification Project scheduled for May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. This community wide effort is being planned to clean up and beautify Pennsylvania Avenue SE from

the east side of the Sousa Bridge to the District line at Southern Avenue, SE. The cleanup beautification project will extend at least one block north and south at each intersecting street along Pennsylvania Avenue, SE. Keep Washington, DC Beautiful, Inc. (KWB) in coordination with the Pennsylvania Avenue East Revitalization Task Force is seeking full participation from all community members, civic associations, businesses, ANC's, churches, schools, etc. The Lysol Corporation has donated a large quantity of cleaning supplies for the event and has recruited WMMJ-FM Majic 102.3 and Mike Chase, a DJ/Jock, to attend and conduct on-air hosting of the event.

The primary focus of this cleanup and beautification project is to transform Pennsylvania Ave, SE into the best-looking street in the nation's capital. DCSWEEP, The National Park Service, DPW, DDOT, WASA, and other federal and District government agencies have been invited to participate. Volunteers from the community and local businesses are being encouraged to come out and help in this effort. Bring your snippers, gloves and other garden tools. Volunteers from all over the city are being invited. Your participation is a great way to get together with your neighbors to help keep our community clean and beautiful.

#### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Plant flowers in designated community gardens
- Recruit volunteers and/or donate water and juice for volunteers
- Serve refreshments to the workers
- Rake and pick up litter and debris from public space
- Trim bushes and cut grass
- Paint out disgraceful graffiti
- Hand out supplies to workers
- Clean bus shelters and paint fire plugs
- Remove advertisement posters from lampposts and trees
- Water newly planted trees on avenue and adjoining streets
- Remove unsightly illegal dumping on CFX railroad track
- Remove weeds & debris from community parks on the avenue (Twining Park, Alabama Ave, SE Bus Stop, Fort Davis Park at District Line, Penn Branch Gateway Park, Fire Station #19).

The beauty of our neighborhood is often times marred by mounds of litter, unsightly graffiti, and vacant lots turned into illegal dumps. Come out and be counted as a community member who cares and wants to reclaim and beautify our community. With everyone's participation we can make Hillcrest a great place to live and an even greater place to live and raise a family.

Sincerely, *Vincent Spaulding*,  
President, HCCA

#### **Highlights of April 3<sup>rd</sup> HCCA Meeting**

The Fundraising Committee reported plans for two upcoming events – a trip to Charles Town on May 15 and a Fish Fry on June 5.

Carrie Thornhill announced that Linda Jackson has agreed to become Chair of the Education Committee, and said that a letter will be prepared to express opposition to a move by the D.C. Council's education committee, taken without public input, to return to an ell-elected school board in 2006.

Capt. Henry presented plans for consolidation of PSAs into new “clusters” that will align more closely with “natural neighborhood boundaries.”

Guest speaker, At-Large Councilmember David Catania, discussed his legislation for controlling prescription drug costs, including a comprehensive approach to purchasing and requiring pharmaceutical companies to disclose marketing costs.

Catania also discussed investment in transportation – especially light rail between the Sousa Bridge and Bolling AFB – to attract new private investment East of the River. He also discussed four proposals for cracking down on reckless driving, including jail time for a second offense and making it illegal to flee law enforcement.

Complete minutes can be found at [www.HillcrestDC.com](http://www.HillcrestDC.com)

## **Chicken & Fish Fry** *Annual Fundraiser*

**Come join the HCCA's  
Chicken & Fish Fry  
at the  
Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter  
3319 Alabama Ave SE  
Date: June 5, 12 noon – 3 p.m.  
Price: \$10.00  
Fried Chicken, Fried Fish  
Greens, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad  
Dessert, Soda**

### **News From the Strategic Communications Committee**

The Strategic Communications Committee is soliciting donations in the amount of \$125.00 for the development of a new Hillcrest neighborhood marketing brochure and T-Shirt. Any business or person that contributes \$125 for the Hillcrest marketing brochure will have their name placed as a sponsor on the brochure.

The Committee would like to interview new residents to the neighborhood for an upcoming feature called “New Faces of Hillcrest” in a future edition of the East of The River News. If you are a new resident to the neighborhood in the last three years or know of a new resident please contact us.

The Committee is also gearing up for future publicity events. Our members need you!

For more information contact, Sherry Ways at (202) 320-5517 or [s\\_ways@hotmail.com](mailto:s_ways@hotmail.com)

## **New ANC 7B Commissioner Barbara Savage**

With the swearing-in of Barbara Savage on April 15<sup>th</sup>, ANC 7B is back to its full complement of 7 commissioners. Barbara replaces Jim Byers, 7B05, who resigned several months ago because he moved out of his single member district. By law, a commissioner must live in the single member district he/she represents. We miss Jim on the ANC, although we're happy he didn't move far away. As a resident of the Dupont Park neighborhood, Jim remains involved in neighborhood issues. We welcome Barbara, who has long been an active member of our community, and we thank her for stepping forward to fill this position for the remainder of the year. 7B05 includes Hillcrest south of Alabama Ave, west of Branch Ave, plus Naylor Gardens. The ANC 7B map can be found at [www.anc7b.org](http://www.anc7b.org).

The next ANC 7B meeting will be Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 7pm at Ryland Methodist Church, 3200 S St SE. Tentatively, our guest speakers will be representatives of the National Park Service. Visit [www.anc7b.org](http://www.anc7b.org) for more information. The meeting agenda is posted about 1 week prior to the meeting.  
Kathy Chamberlain, Chair, ANC 7B

## **Removal of Signs on Lamp Posts and Trees**

If you are tired of those illegal posting of signs installed on trees and lamp poles in violation of the District's poster laws that make your neighborhood look trashy, they should be removed. Signs advertising "Hub Cap Sale", "Home Buying", "Quick Loans", "Maryland Night Clubs" are still being installed in our community, even with the police being on alert for these illegal acts. These type of activities, if not abated, send a message to persons interested in doing other illegal activities that it is okay to do so. The best defense to discourage the installation of illegal posting of signs in the community is to remove them as quickly as possible. There is a cost to the sponsors of illegal sign installations. Quick removal results in the sponsor not benefiting from the advertisement; and they normally go away. The Mayor's call center is available to assist in the removal of illegal sign postings and the issuing of fines to offenders. They can be contacted at 202-727-1000 or by use of your PC at [www.dc.gov](http://www.dc.gov). Also, if you see signs in Maryland, please contact Mr. Paul Franklin who handles sign removals in Prince Georges County at 301-513-7311 or 301-513-7489. Mr. Franklin is very interested in the abatement of illegal sign postings and encourages that you leave a message on his answering machine, if you call and he is not there.

*Vincent Spaulding*

## **Charlestown Races & Slots, HCCA Annual Fundraiser**

Please join the HCCA for a Saturday filled with fun and excitement on a one-day bus trip to Charlestown, West Virginia

**When: May 15, 2004**

**Time: 10 am – 6 pm**

**Tickets: \$20**

Bus will depart from 33<sup>rd</sup> & Denver Streets SE

*\*meal not included*

**Ticket Contacts:**

Faith Lyles 583-1563; Nancy Harris 575-2696; Scarlett Durham 581-1121; Peggy Flemming 584-4536;

Thelma Martin 583-0288; Kanika Brookins 327-5624; Fred Butler 583-0346; Diane Scroggins 583-8093;  
Alyce Foster 584-4261  
*Southern Comfort Bus Line*

**Mark your calendar for the  
11<sup>th</sup> Annual Hillcrest Garden Tour  
Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 11 a.m.  
For tickets, contact  
Sherry Ways, 320-5517 or  
Kathy Chamberlain, 581-8272  
Tickets: \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door**

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBER *Ardie Myers, 2333 34<sup>th</sup> Street, S.E.*

Our sympathy is expressed to the family of James Lefevre

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### **Community Calendar for May**

- 1 10:00 a.m. - Hillcrest Community Civic Association Meeting (Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter)
- 12 10:00 a.m. - Good Hope Marketplace Task Force (Good Hope Marketplace Substation)
- 12 6:00 p.m. – Police/Community Meeting, PSA 608, 6<sup>th</sup> District Substation, 2701 Pa. Ave., S.E.
- 19 6:00 p.m. – Police/Community Meeting, PSA 610, 6<sup>th</sup> District Substation, 2701 Pa. Ave., S.E.
- 20 7:00 p.m.- ANC7B Monthly Meeting, Ryland Epworth Methodist Church, 3200”S” St., S.E.
- 22 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.;Pa. Ave. Cleanup Beautification Project;  
Meet at Twining Park at 7 a.m. for regular work day and stay for the beautification project.

*for more calendar events, check [www.HillcrestDC.com](http://www.HillcrestDC.com)*

## Membership Drive!

Are you aware that we are trying to reach a membership of 500 households? You can help by bringing a new neighbor to our meeting on Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 10 a.m. or encourage them to join. The persons who recruit the most new members will be recognized at our 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Dues are still only \$10.00 for the year. If you have not paid your dues for this year, please complete the form below.

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Recruited by** \_\_\_\_\_

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

Make check payable to Hillcrest Community Civic Association and mail to: Dennis Logan, Treasurer, 3624 Austin Street SE, Washington DC 20020 phone: 582-4724