



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 6, 2006 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.

HCCA BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS NEED YOUR INPUT AT THE MAY 6TH CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING



Please plan to attend the May HCCA meeting on May 6th to provide your input to the proposed board recommendations that will shape the future of the organization and the issues upon which it will focus.

In February, 2006 the HCCA Board of Directors participated in an all day retreat to analyze the current state of the organization, which included a review and identification of issues of concern to the community and the organization. At the April, 2006 HCCA meeting, the topics of major focus at the retreat were outlined and proposed next steps were identified. The HCCA membership will be asked, at the May 6th meeting, for their input and ideas about the proposed board recommendations. There will not be a guest speaker for May. Most of the meeting time will be devoted to allowing members to comment on the board's recommendations.

The meeting will be facilitated by Connie Spinner, a neighborhood resident and experienced facilitator, who has focused on working with groups in change. She has worked for over twenty years in education and community development, where she directed her efforts on improving quality of life for citizens in the District of Columbia. Connie served five years as a senior staff member at a national non-profit organization linking policy, practice, and strategic philanthropy to community-based school reform. And, for over 16 years, Connie has been employed as a professional consultant, providing training, curriculum design, and group facilitation to national and international organizations.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

The HCCA would like to extend its sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone who helped make the HCCA spring party a huge success. The generous donations of time and money made this an event to remember. We would especially like to thank the Naylor Gardens Board of Directors for their financial support. We hope to continue partnering with all of our neighbors to provide activities for the entire family. Thank you all.
Brandi Williamson, Co-Chair.

Message from the President

Dear Neighbor. Littering in the District of Columbia is an ongoing problem that is in need of stronger actions to abate. The Department of Public Works, who has the primary responsibility for enforcement of anti-littering laws, is not sufficient to serve as an adequate deterrent to littering. An increase in the fine for littering is needed and giving police officers, who currently don't have the responsibility for writing littering tickets, the responsibility to do, is also needed. The visual image of the District of Columbia is being adversely impacted by uncontrolled littering, illegal dumping, unlawful posting of advertisement signs on trees and lamps, graffiti, trucks hauling trash without protective coverings, etc. Legislation, programs, and initiatives, designed to discourage the foregoing illegal activities and create a sense of hope that things will get better, are needed to encourage community involvement and respect of the public space. The D.C. Council is considering giving police officers the authority to write tickets for littering, thanks to legislation introduced by Councilmember Kwame R. Brown, at-large Democrat and member of HCCA, which would allow police to fine people who leave a beer bottle on a curb or toss a fast-food bag out of a car window. Litter often ends up in area waterways and officials estimate that about 70 tons of trash are removed every month from the Anacostia River. If the City Council supports and passes this legislation that will engage police officers in writing littering tickets, the residents of the District of Columbia can receive some relief. I encourage members of our civic association to contact members of the City Council to support this bill that is intended to make for a cleaner city. Also, I encourage the members of our civic association to support political candidates who come out in support of strong proactive actions to make our city cleaner and a better place to live, work, and raise a family. Sincerely, Vincent M. Spaulding, President

HCCA POLICY ON POLITICAL SPEAKERS



In keeping with the mandate of the by-laws and, as a result of a discussion at the recent Board of Directors retreat, the Board passed a resolution at the April meeting of the Board to the effect that: "The HCCA will not allow political candidates to speak at monthly meetings unless all candidates running for that office are invited. The Ward 7 council member will have a regular place on the agenda. Should the Ward 7 council member be running for political office, that council member will be allowed to speak, but only about ward 7 business. He/she will not be allowed to mention the candidacy or any of the issues pertaining to the race." This is an appropriate action by which the board spells out just how the provision of the by-laws shall be enforced. It establishes a policy as a point of reference for any future request from political candidates.

KEEP HILLCREST BEAUTIFUL Community Cleanup Day, Saturday, May 13, 2006



Please support this effort. Grab your pick-up stick and work gloves and meet at the East Washington Heights Baptist Church parking lot at 8:00 AM. This event is being sponsored by the HCCA Environmental Committee, in conjunction with their neighborhood school-based community cleanliness initiative.

THE 13TH ANNUAL HILLCREST GARDEN TOUR TO FOCUS ON CURB APPEAL



On Saturday, June 17th, The Hillcrest Garden Tour will showcase a 5-block section of our picturesque neighborhood. This year's tour will be led by a tour guide. A highlight of the tour will be a partial makeover of the front yard of one of our neighbors. Frager's Hardware has agreed to demonstrate landscaping techniques and plant selection tips that can transform a plain entranceway into a more interesting, colorful, and attractive one.

The tour begins at 11a.m. in the parking lot of East Washington Heights Baptist Church, 2220 Branch Ave SE (Branch & Alabama) and will last 1 ½ to 2 hours. Water will be provided during the walk. Following the tour, come to a backyard reception and enjoy a complimentary light lunch and door prizes.

Tickets are \$15 the day of the tour, or \$10 if purchased by June 14th. To reserve your ticket for \$10, email GardenTour@HillcrestDC.com by June 14th and give your name and the number of tickets you wish to reserve. For more information, contact Mary Hammond at 202-582-3059, Kathy Chamberlain at 202-581-8272, or Greg Harris at 202-575-1763.



AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE LECTURE SERIES

Presented by C.R. Gibbs, Noted Author/Scholar/Historian

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND:

“Vanished Past, Hidden Present: The Black History The New Stadium Will Hide”

Saturday, May 6, 2006, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

“Great Black Women”

If you think you know them all, try this one. This lecture and exhibit covers several ancient and modern black women, law breakers and law makers, most of whom are not well known.

Saturday, May 13, 2006, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

“Black Roots of Ancient Egypt’s Glory”

Saturday, May 20, 2006, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Francis Gregory Branch Library
3660 Alabama Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20020
202 645-4297



HCCA WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:
 Rev. James & Judge Mary Terrell, 3118 Westover Drive, SE

COMMUNITY CALENDAR FOR MAY

1	7 p.m.	Friends of Francis Gregory Library, Francis Gregory Library, 3660 Alabama Ave., SE
6	10 a.m.	HCCA Meeting, Hillcrest Rec Center 32 nd and Denver Streets, SE
10	10 a.m.	Goodhope Marketplace Taskforce Meeting Goodhope Police Substation, 2800 blk Alabama Ave SE
17	6 p.m.	PSA 606 Police/Community Meeting Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter, 3319 Alabama Ave., SE
25	7 p.m.	ANC 7B Monthly Meeting Ryland Epworth Methodist Church, 3200 "S" St, SE
27	7 a.m.	Twining Park Work Session, 2700 blk Pa Ave. SE

Dues for 2006 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: Evelyn Primas,
 Membership Chairperson, 3341 Alabama Avenue, SE, Washington, D.C. 20020-1462

Phone: 202 584-6617