



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, December 4, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.

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

NO GUEST SPEAKER FOR DECEMBER MEETING

In the place of a speaker, there will be an HCCA service recognition program. Following the meeting, join us for a Holiday Potluck Lunch at **our new meeting location**---t he new Hillcrest Recreation Center, located at the corner of Denver and 32nd Streets, Southeast

Everyone is encouraged to bring a dish. Please contact Dorothy Anthony at 202 583-0913 or Paula Spaulding at 202 575-6101 to coordinate your menu selection.

The HCCA Board will meet at 9:00 a.m., also at the new Hillcrest Recreation Center.

Remember to put December 18th, 1:30 p.m., on your calendars for the formal dedication and grand opening of the new Center.

National Cherry Blossom Festival Community Planting In Hillcrest?

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is committed to expanding the Tidal Basin's beauty and celebration to the neighborhoods and communities in the Washington area. Next spring the Festival will grant a trio of cherry trees to a community group in each of the District's eight wards. D.C. Greenworks, a community-based urban forestry organization, will work with each group to ensure the trees are properly planted and the community members are trained to best care for these ornamental trees.

Grantees will be selected on the basis of:

- The group's interest in planting and adopting cherry trees (trees must be planted on public land)
- The group's ability and commitment to take care of the trees
- The appropriateness of the group's proposed planting site

The size of the trees your group will receive will guarantee an instant impact on your neighborhood's landscape, but this also means the trees will be big and heavy. A group of seven (7) adults will be required to properly plant and care for your three new cherry trees.

Applications are due January 17, 2005. For an application or further information about the project, please contact D.C. Greenworks at 202 518-6195 or send an e-mail to trees@dcgreenworks.org.

President's Message

Dear Neighbors,

There are lots of things to comment on that represent good news stories for the residents of the Hillcrest Community. First we have three representatives on the City Council from East Washington which is a first time event in the history of DC home rule. Based on the comments made by Councilmembers-Elect Vincent Gray and Kwame Brown, at the November HCCA meeting, we can expect them to be very proactive representatives of the needs and concerns of the residents of East Washington. We had a successful election of officers for 2005-2006 and I am very pleased that we were able to fill all vacant positions with new persons stepping up to the plate. To those HCCA officers stepping down, "thank you" for a job well done and to those stepping up, "welcome aboard", and I look forward to working with you. As a tribute to Gloria Logan who served as the membership chairperson for HCCA since its beginning 15 years ago, I challenge everyone to recruit at least one new member to demonstrate your appreciation for her many years of service. She set a goal of 500 households for this year and we are now at 422. At the beginning of the year we were at 375. The HCCA Board of Directors voted to begin conducting our meetings in the new Hillcrest Recreation Center starting with the December 2004 meeting. It is with a degree of sadness that we depart from Pastor Senger's church, where we all enjoyed the closeness we felt while meeting in the fellowship hall at the rear of the Lutheran Church. We nevertheless look forward with delight to meeting in a new modern recreation center that HCCA played a major role in bringing to fruition. I could go on and on identifying things that we can be pleased about, such as celebrating, at the Washington Navy Yard, the 15th year anniversary of HCCA, but in the interest of saving space for other information, I am going to stop at this point. Hillcrest is a great community filled with wonderful people and I feel sincerely honored to have the opportunity to serve as your president.

Sincerely, Vincent Spaulding, President, HCCA

Results of HCCA 2005/2006 Elections

The results of the November 6th HCCA elections are as follows:

President – *Vincent Spaulding*; 1st Vice President – *Kathy Chamberlain*; 2nd Vice President – *Carrie Thornhill*; Recording Secretary – *Karen Williams*; Corresponding Secretary – *Brandi Williamson*; Treasurer – *Monica Evans*; Chaplain – *John Hawkins*; Parliamentarian – *Rev. Kenneth E. Burke*; Environmental/Beautification - *Mary Ross*; Youth and Education – *Linda Jackson*; Fundraising – *Richard Evans*; Information – *Willard Poteat*; Legislation – *Virgil McDonald*; Membership – *Evelyn Primas*; Public Safety – *Ed Wilhelm*; Strategic Communications – *Howard Ways*; Recreation – *Boyle Stuckey*; Garden Tour – *Marvin Bowser*

The election procedure, as defined in the HCCA by-laws, was used to fill the eighteen available positions. The procedure calls for the selection of a nominating committee which is responsible for canvassing the membership and producing a slate of nominees for the positions. The slate is presented to the membership the meeting prior to the election. The by-laws allow the nominating committee the option of selecting more than one candidate per position. Additional candidates for any position may be nominated from the floor before the start of voting.

The term for the newly elected officers and committee chairs is two years and begins January 2005. Members of the Nominating committee were Dorothy Anthony, Marvin Bowser, Kenneth Burke, Ken Davis, and Faith Lyles.

Another Hillcrest-Palisades Neighbors Through Art Success!

“Neighbors Through Art” did it again on Sunday, October 24th from 2 to 5 p.m., with a program of artistic expression on the theme of integration and civil rights. Residents of both neighborhoods coordinated for almost a year on this program which featured visual, literary, and musical artists as well as a panel, that gave their impressions of the impact of the Brown v. Board of Education decision of 1954 and other significant civil rights milestones.

Originally founded by Miles Steele (Hillcrest) and Alice Stewart (Palisades), this collaborative effort is the third one for this group and there is room for more involvement by residents of both neighborhoods in this exciting and interesting venture that brings people together from two different corners of the city. For more information, call Jim Whittaker at 202-250-5922 or Linda Jackson at 202-584-3612.

Skyland is On the Move!

On November 13, 2004 about 100 people attended the Skyland Town Hall meeting at the Winston Education Center to discuss retail priorities and design preferences for the new Skyland Shopping Center. Most of the attendees lived within a half mile of the shopping center and nearly half stated that this was the first meeting on Skyland that they had attended. The well-attended event was the first of its kind since the National Capital Revitalization Corporation (NCRC) sold downtown property in August. It is the proceeds of that sale that will be used to acquire the property for the new Skyland Shopping Center.

NCRC Interim Chief Executive Anthony Freeman got the day’s events started by greeting the attendees and laying out the purpose of the meeting. The participant guide provided by NCRC highlighted the economics of Skyland today. For example, Skyland businesses currently generate approximately \$150 in sales per square foot, compared to \$325 per square foot generated by businesses located at the Good Hope Marketplace, which opened in 1997. NCRC commissioned a study in 2003 that revealed that East of the River residents have the retail purchasing power of approximately \$574 million but more than \$400 million (70%) of that is being spent outside of their community. This reflects a large untapped market and missed opportunities for residents and businesses.

Using handheld keypads, attendees responded to survey questions intended to elicit responses about preferred uses. The uses most desired by the attendees included a sit down restaurant, coffee shop and clothing store. It was noted that while most of the attendees lived within a half mile of Skyland, the majority responded that they rarely shop there on a regular basis.

Vincent Spaulding, President of the Hillcrest Community Civic Association, presented a synopsis of the community's efforts over the last 15 years to see the center improved. Lead developers Gary Rappaport (The Rappaport Companies) and Merrick Malone (Harrison Malone Development) presented a preliminary site plan, which showed a proposed Target and Shoppers Food Warehouse, space for up to 24 additional stores and 1,100 parking spaces. To date, more than 30 plans for Skyland have been discussed and analyzed. The proposed configuration would be a welcomed improvement over the current center which has many older structures with visible signs of stress from years of deferred maintenance with gaps between buildings, poor lighting, and parking areas in poor condition which helps attract illicit activity.

For more information about Skyland, contact NCRC at 202-530-5750 or visit the Hillcrest Community Website at www.hillcrestdc.org. Submitted by Howard Ways, Strategic Communications Committee Chair

HCCA Welcomes the Following New Members:

Monica and Kevin Bell, 2119 31st Pl. SE
Marcia Davis, 3156 M Pl. SE
Stanley & Louise Butler, 3622 Alabama Ave. SE
Michelle & Antonio Evans, 3031 W Street SE
Ayaka Blandford, 3619 Alabama Ave. SE
Julius Fleishman, 2901 Branch Ave. SE
Jesse & Danielle Burwell, 2514 Palmer Pl SE
Rose Money, 3220 Pennsylvania Ave. SE
Ruth Bean, 2109-B Ft Davis Street SE

Have you paid your dues yet?

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 _____

Recruited by _____

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