



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, March 6, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.
NOTE: Meetings are the first Saturday of the month

Guest Speakers for March 6, 2004

**Ray Browne, U.S. Representative for the District of Columbia,
Paul Strauss, U.S. Senator for the District of Columbia,
and a representative from DC Vote**

Ray Browne is a native of the District of Columbia who is committed to obtaining self-determination for the citizens of the District of Columbia. He grew up in the Trinidad section of the City, attended Wheatley Elementary School and has a long and impressive record of success in both the private and public sectors. In public life, Browne has been an ANC Commissioner, a member of the Neighborhood Planning Council, a Mediator for the Washington Superior Court and a leader in the Democratic Party. He has been a consistent and vigorous voice for the right to vote in the District of Columbia and for the right to voting representation in the U.S. Congress.

As a member of the DC Major's Commission on Alcoholism and of The Drug Strategy Team, Browne has fought for programs to assist substance abusers. And, in the late 1980s, when AIDS was considered a disease for drug addicts and homosexuals, Browne fought with his own insurance industry to obtain coverage for the dreaded disease. Despite major opposition from his peers, Browne was successful in initiating the concept of a health insurance pool for those who are uninsurable. Browne also was a strong leader in the establishment of mandated alcohol, drug and mental health benefits for residents of the District.

Paul Strauss is currently serving his second term in the 108th Congress as our D.C. Shadow Senator. As a non-voting representative to the U.S. Senate, Strauss lobbies the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives on behalf of the citizens of the District of Columbia in their attempt to gain full Federal representation, self-determination, and eventually admittance to the union as the nation's 51st state. The Senator also works closely with the non-voting U.S. Congressional Delegate, the Office of the Mayor, and the D.C. City Council members to advance the interests of local residents on Federal issues.

Prior to first being elected Senator in 1996, Paul served in several locally elected government positions. His elected positions include at-large member of the D.C. Democratic State Committee, Chairperson of the Democratic Party's D.C. Statehood Committee, Chairperson of Advisory Neighborhood Committee (ANC) 3E, and Chairperson of Neighborhood Planning Council #3. Paul was first elected the ANC in 1986. In 1987, he became the youngest ANC chairperson and served as an ANC Commissioner until 1996.

Message from the President

Dear Members of HCCA:

The HCCA will be celebrating its 15th anniversary this year. We are all very proud of our civic association's accomplishments and believe that our community is a better place to live, work, and raise a family as a result of its existence. However, for our civic association to continue to succeed in making a better community for our mutual self-interests, the cooperation and participation of all residents (old, young, and new) in the various program activities and special events, is needed. My making an effort to cultivate new leaders and participants to backfill Officer and Committee Chair positions that become vacant, was identified as one of my top ten focus items.

Currently, the following officer and committee chair positions are vacant: 2nd Vice President, Education Committee Chairperson, Legislative Committee Chairperson, and Neighborhood Watch Program Manager. These are all key positions within HCCA and need to be filled ASAP. If you are willing to serve in one of these positions as a chairperson or committee member, or if you are willing to be considered for a vacant officer position, please contact me at 202-575-6101 or by e-mail at vspauld@starpower.net. One of the best ways to get to know your neighbors and to establish relationships is to become involved with community activities. There are lots of new families moving into the Hillcrest community and I encourage, as a part of our membership drive, that they be contacted and invited to join HCCA and become active members in the work of our civic association.

With everyone's participation, cooperation, and support, the quality of life in our community will continue to improve. There is a lot to be done and we need everyone's help as we move forward for the next 15 years!

Sincerely,
Vincent M. Spaulding, President

Trash & Litter -Still a Problem in Hillcrest

Trashing and littering is still an on-going problem in our community, which requires everyone's attention and action. Trash pick-up sticks are still available for purchase at \$25 per stick. If you are interested in purchasing one, contact Kathy Chamberlain at 202 581-8272 or Phil Hammond at 202 582-3059.



Important Hearing on Skyland Redevelopment March 23rd PLEASE ATTEND

The wheels of government are moving toward redevelopment of the Skyland Shopping Center at last! Please show your support by attending a public hearing on March 23rd, 7:00 - 9:00 pm, at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter, 3319 Alabama Ave, SE. The Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development and the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) will jointly hold a public hearing on the Section 108 loan guarantee application to get \$27.97 million so the National Capital Revitalization Corporation (NCRC) can proceed with land assembly and preparation on the Skyland project. It is important that residents of Hillcrest and nearby neighborhoods turn out in large numbers for this hearing. The official notice of the hearing, including information on how to testify, will be available at the March 6th HCCA meeting, or visit www.anc7b.org and click "Skyland Public Hearing".

Kathy Chamberlain
Chair, ANC 7B

Highlights from Feb. 7th HCCA Meeting

- Capt. Henry and Inspector Maupin reported progress on the auto-theft problem, saying that many arrests had been made in the past week.
- Membership chair Gloria Logan announced a new drive to boost Association membership to 500, and asked Members to give application forms to their neighbors
- Environment Chair Phil Hammond circulated a petition asking WASA to provide testing kits for lead in drinking water.
- Mayor Williams addressed four areas of critical emphasis: Public safety, health, education, and full democracy for DC.
- The Mayor reaffirmed support for the Skyland project as a "Number 1 priority" that will require "the threat if not the exercise of eminent domain." He is also bringing in Vartan Gregorian (former head of the NY Public Library) to advise on improvements to DC's library system.

Complete minutes can be found at www.HillcrestDC.com

The Spring Exercise Class for Women is About to Start



Ladies, don't put it off another day. Take action now to take better care of yourselves and have fun in the process. Join the East Washington Heights Baptist Church women's exercise class.

The first 10 week session was successful and a lot of fun. The ladies in the evening class would like to extend an invitation to you to sweat a little, tone a little, look a little better, feel a lot better, and have big fun in the process. We are offering one women's exercise class for the spring session.

Class Times: Mondays & Thursdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Fees: \$135 for 10 weeks/or 20 sessions with 2 sessions per week.
Class size: Minimum 10, maximum of 25 per class
Instructor: Calvin Nophlin –recognized fitness expert and experienced personal trainer
Start Date: Monday, March 1, 2004, Room 4.

To register, see or call Paula Spaulding (202) 575-6101 or Vasser Baldwin (202) 583-0154 to add your name to the list. Make your checks payable to East Washington Heights Baptist Church and join us on March 1st.

Help Adopt Your Park – become a Friend of Twining



As we head into our 5th year of adopting Twining Park at Pennsylvania Ave and 27th St SE, our volunteer numbers are dwindling. If you enjoy the summertime beauty of Twining as you travel toward the Sousa bridge, then please become a volunteer for the 2004 season. First work session will be Saturday, March 27, 8am-noon. Your help is needed even if you can only spare one hour. Throughout the growing season, work sessions will be 4th Saturday morning of the month. Additional work sessions will be scheduled during weekday evenings.
Kathy Chamberlain, kathychamberlain@starpower.net

NTA Celebrates Brown v. Board of Education

The Hillcrest-Palisades partnership is now seven years old and this is the third year for our Neighbors Through Art program, founded by Miles Steele (HCCA) and Alice Stewart (PCA). The first event was a very successful art exhibition attended by well over 125 neighbors and friends. Our musical extravaganza in 2003 drew some of the neighborhoods' finest performers. A good time was had by all! This year's collaboration, slated for sometime in the Fall, will be in honor of the 50th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education. The program is expected to showcase the many literary, performing and/or visual arts of residents in both the Hillcrest and Palisades communities in a program that focuses on artistic expressions of civil rights. We hope this year's effort will attract new participants - both artists and volunteers to assist with the many related activities. We need you!!!!

This is a major event of the Palisades-Hillcrest partnership and will continue to help strengthen our relationships. Through last year's NTA program, more people from Hillcrest and Palisades have visited each others' neighborhoods and homes than in the six previous years. Our partnership is a model for this city. It is no exaggeration to say that these activities not only give us and others a tremendous amount of pleasure, but they also help us make Washington, DC the kind of city we all want to live in.

If you are interested in joining this group of enthusiastic people, please contact Linda Jackson, a HCCA member, at LMJDESIGNS@AOL.COM or 202-584-3612.

Hillcrest Community Civic Association Planning 15th Anniversary Celebration

Place – Navy Yard catering and conference center, Washington Navy Yard, 1411 Parsons Ave, SE
Time – September 18, 2004, 1pm-5pm, serving dinner at 2pm.

Contact all your friends and relatives in the area and tell them to set this date aside to help us recognize and celebrate 15 years of the most prolific and dynamic civic association in Washington, D.C. being in existence.

Further information to follow. Check your HCCA newsletters for more details. Help us make this celebration an extra special occasion. Contact committee chairman Mark D. Johnson, 575-2304, if you would like to help on this committee.

Ideas for the Spring Shade Garden

Spring is just around the corner. It's time to start quaking up that garden. Many Hillcrest homes enjoy quite a bit of shade which does present gardening challenges. Here are some ideas to brighten bare areas before the hostas emerge completely and the soil warms up enough to plant the summer impatiens. Follow the design rule of combining the three plant forms - Tall and Spiky in the back, Round and Full plant shapes in the middle and Cascading forms to fill out the front. Many of these plants will continue to thrive through the summer adding texture and color to your hostas and impatiens.

Foxglove - This must-have plant for the shade garden produces statuesque spires of rose-pink bell shaped blooms. You can also find cultivars that bloom peach, white or yellow. Bi-annual. Plant form - Tall and Spiky.

Solomon's Seal - Candy cane striped green and white leaves accent the long stems with white flowers in mid-spring. Foliage persists through the summer. Perennial. Plant form - Tall and Spiky.

Heuchera (Coral Bells)'Plum Pudding' - The glossy, claret red ruffled leaves accented with silver marbling provide a dramatic background for the sprays of delicate pink flowers. Best set against light foliage plants such as Japanese Painted Fern, gray leafed hostas and impatiens. Perennial. Plant form - Round and Full

Bellis perennis (English Daisy) - This cheerful flower provides early spring color in the garden, producing masses of pompon-like blooms over mounded rosettes of green foliage. Perennial. Plant form - Round and Full.

Phlox stolonifera (Creeping Phlox) 'Pink Ridge' - This lovely true pink phlox makes an excellent groundcover in the native shade garden. Forms a dense carpet of delicate foliage with flowers that cover the plant in spring. Perennial. Plant form - Cascading.

Lamium 'Orchid Frost' - This low growing groundcover has blue-green foliage with silver accents, which makes it perfect for adding both sparkle and texture to a shade garden. Brilliant pink flowers appear in late spring through early summer. Plant form - Cascading.

Japanese Painted Fern - Highlight shady areas with the silvery sheen of Japanese Painted Fern's foliage. It is effective both as an accent plant in a container or in large drifts along a shady path. Hardy to zone 5. Perennial. Plant form - Round and Full.

Marvin Bowser, Chair, Hillcrest Home and Garden Tour Committee

Welcome New Members

Melvin Thomas, 2517 36th Street, SE
Helen Rouce, 3124 Westover Dr. SE
Michael & Evangeline Tierney, 3167 Westover Dr. SE
Stephen Ballard & Michael Leary, 1725 31st. St. SE
Michael Highlander & Tripp Reed, 3122 Westover Dr. SE
Albert R. Hopkins, 1530 E. Capital Street, SE
Rodney Streeter, 3234 T Street. SE
Kim D. Neal, 2009 32nd. Street SE

Community Calendar for March

- 6 10:00 a.m. - Hillcrest Community Civic Association Meeting (Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter)
 - 10 6:00 p.m. - PSA 608 Community/Police Meeting, 6th District Substation, 2701 Pa. Ave., SE
 - 17 6:00 p.m. - PSA 610 Community/Police Meeting, 6th District Substation, 2710 Pa. Ave., SE
 - 18 7:00 p.m. - ANC 7B Monthly Meeting, Ryland Epworth Methodist Church
 - 23 7:00 p.m., Public Hearing on Skyland, Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter
 - 27 8:00am, Twining work session, Pennsylvania Ave and 27th St, SE
 - 27 10:00am, Friends of Francis Gregory Library meeting, 3660 Alabama Ave SE
- for more calendar events, check www.HillcrestDC.com*

Membership Drive

Have you renewed your membership for the year 2004? Remember--we operate on a calendar year basis (January through December). Help us with our membership drive and recruit new members in your block. The persons who recruit the most new members will be recognized at our 15th Anniversary celebration. Don't forget to sign your name at the bottom of the application so you get the credit. Let's get busy and start signing up new members!

Name(s) _____

Address _____ zip _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Recruited by _____

Make \$10 check payable to Hillcrest Community Civic Association and mail to: Dennis Logan, Treasurer, 3624 Austin Street SE, Washington DC 20020 phone: 582-4724