

THE HILLCREST NEWSLETTER



HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

"Working together for a Better Community!"

www.hillcrestdc.com

P.O. Box 30895, Washington, DC 20030

December 2013

CALENDER OF EVENTS

OBAMACARE

Sign up now at <https://dchealthlink.com>
or call 1-855-532-5465

HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR DC KIDS

Drop off new toys, books, and clothing
-Sport and Health, 4001 Brandywine St, NW
-December 7, 2013 HCCA meeting
-call Earl Williams at 202-584-2703 for pick up

HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

Hillcrest Recreation Center
32nd and Denver Sts., SE

HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Saturday, December 7, 2013 10AM to Noon

FRIENDS OF FRANCIS A. GREGORY LIBRARY MEETING

Francis Gregory Library
3660 Alabama Ave., SE

Monday, December 2, 7PM to 9PM

PSA 606 POLICE COMMUNITY MEETING

East Washington Heights Baptist Church
2200 Branch Ave., SE

Wednesday, December 17, 7PM

ANC 7B MONTHLY MEETING

Ryland Methodist Church
3200 S ST., SE

Thursday, December 18, 7PM- 9PM

Hillcrest Community Civic Association Annual Holiday Celebration Luncheon

Saturday, December 7, 2013

Starting at 10:30AM

Hillcrest Recreation Center

Cost: \$20.00 Per Person

**Meal count must be turned into cater by
November 30th so we must have confirmed
ticket numbers prior to the 30th.**

No tickets sold at the door!

Contact Yvonne Burke: (202) 584-3018

Leaf Collection and Holiday Tree Disposal

The Department of Public Works will be collecting leaves until January 11, 2014. DPW urges residents to follow the schedule assigned to their wards when planning to rake leaves into piles in the curbside tree box space for collection.

Ward 7 Tree collection schedule

North side of East Capitol Street, NE

Rake leaves

Out by Sunday :
December 1

For Collection From
December 2 to 14

Area B. South side of East Capitol Street, SE.

Rake leaves

Out by Sunday :
December 1

For Collection From:
December 2 to 14

Neighborhoods with alley trash/ recycling collections, bagged leaves may be placed where trash and recycling are collected. These leaves will be disposed with the trash as space allows in trucks.

Tips for leaf collection

1. Rake leaves into the tree box space the weekend before your street's scheduled collection week.
2. Once your area is served, DPW will not return until your next scheduled leaf collection week.

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Holiday Gifts for DC Kids



The Federation of Citizens Associations of the District of Columbia is asking their member associations to participate in their "Holiday Gifts for DC Kids," campaign to provide new toys, books, and clothing which is distributed in December

to DC's foster children via CFSA.

As a member of the Federation, this is an excellent way for members of HCCA to share the "Joy of Christmas" with DC's foster children. Last year, the Federation collected over 2,200 presents for DC foster children. HCCA, let's help the Federation help twice as many foster children enjoy the holidays!

You can drop off toys at Sport and Health, 4001 Brandywine St., NW, until December 14, 2013; at the December 7, 2013 HCCA meeting, drop them off at my home or I can pick them up from you. Until December 13, 2013. I will place a list of suggested gift ideas on the listserv or call Earl Williams at 202-584-2703 for gift ideas or if you have any questions.

Mayor's Annual Senior Holiday Celebration

Tuesday, December 10, 2013
10:00am to 2:00pm
DC Armory
2001 East Capitol Street, SE
FREE, Tickets Required

The DC Office on Aging is hosting the Mayor's Annual Senior Holiday Celebration. The theme, "**Live, Work and Play: An Age-Friendly Holiday Celebration**" captures the Mayor's goal of ensuring that the District is known as an Age-Friendly City that is inclusive and has an accessible environment to encourage active healthy aging. This is expected to be the largest event held in DC for seniors with more than 3,500 residents expected to attend. The event will include live entertainment, musical guests, wellness demonstrations, free facials, manicures and massages, informational exhibits featuring community and government resources, and a festive lunch.

The event is free, but a ticket is required for entry. Call (202) 724-5626 to reserve your ticket today! Friends are invited

Hillcrest Community Civic Association (HCCA) Past, Present and Future

By Guest Columnist, Paul Savage
President Emeritus, HCCA
Hillcrest, Ward 7 East Washington DC

As we approach the dawning of 2013, I look back over the early years of HCCA with great fondness, respect for our many accomplishments and a renewed spirit in what is possible in the years ahead. I propose a call to action beginning January 2014. This would be the year for HCCA to start working diligently toward creating an accelerated and dynamic Strategic Action Plan for our Hillcrest community and other Ward 7 communities. This Hillcrest Strategic Action Plan should be focused, coherent and directly addresses inequities in resources, goods, services, and media coverage of our communities versus that of wards west of the Anacostia River.

A prime example of an action item that should be addressed by the Hillcrest Strategic Action Plan is the inequity of the DC Department of Transportation's (DCDOT) vast allocation of resources that can be readily seen on H Street Northeast, 14th Street Northwest, U Street Northwest, Southeast/Southwest Waterfront and Washington Circle to name a few. In the meantime, after more than 9 years of hard work by East of Sousa Bridge Pennsylvania Avenue Revitalization Task Force Members, our Great Street Pennsylvania Avenue still has not been completed. For sure nothing has been done in terms of economic development projects and community revitalization, except a single tax credit apartment building in the 2300 block. Even construction of that apartment building went in the complete opposite direction from Task Force Proposals adopted by the Office of Planning (OP), and Office of Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED). The Task Force proposed that all properties in the 2300 block of Pennsylvania Avenue be acquired by the DC Government, including the adjacent gas station, and be totally demolished, and replaced with a new mixed use project with underground parking, and designed to set back from Pennsylvania Avenue. The Task Force proposals, if adopted would have created a vibrant project and a true destination point whereby Wards 7 and 8 residents, and thousands of others passing by would have a good reason to stop and patronize business entities. Another priority action for the Hillcrest Strategic Action Plan should be to engage the DC Govern

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ment, DMPED, OP and Skyland Town Center Developers to ensure that true mixed income homeownership is one of the principal driving forces of Skyland in order to attract and retain quality retail stores, restaurants and other amenities. While the current Skyland proposal is better than what is there now, the proposal falls far short of what most Hillcrest residents worked tirelessly to redevelop for more than 25 years! The current housing options in the Skyland proposal needs to be expanded to include majority homeownership opportunities such as condos and townhouses. This option would promote neighborhood stability to complement the residential communities of Hillcrest.

Another essential action item for the Hillcrest Strategic Action Plan should be to target fairness and equity in addressing crime and public safety issues in Hillcrest and Ward 7. This action item should engage appropriate DC Public Safety officials to ensure that we receive our fair share and deployment of police officers. One principal action step in the past has been to work very closely with all surrounding civic associations and AN-C7B. We also built coalitions across Ward 7, indeed across Washington DC. We must continue to be diligent, proactive, and aggressive in advancing our own Hillcrest agenda.

Finally, I recommend that the Hillcrest Strategic Action Plan develop action items to promote positive images and stories about Hillcrest and other Ward 7 communities. We can conduct a very aggressive door to door, Community Outreach Campaign and share current and past issues of the HCCA Newsletter. Material can also be shared from the HCCA Historian's archives, including a meeting hosted by HCCA at the Holy Comforter Lutheran Church with the NBC News Director and his team, along with a cross section of civic leadership from across Ward 7. The meetings were held because Hillcrest and Ward 7 citizens were displeased with only negative coverage of our communities. Exactly nine months later these same Ward 7 leaders were invited to the NBC 4 headquarters for a follow-up meeting. These meetings resulted in greatly improved news coverage of our community.

To address issues referenced herein, I suggest that HCCA appoint an AD HOC Committee to develop the Hillcrest Strategic Plan to identify community needs, establish priorities, and determine actionable steps and procedures for reporting outcomes. The Ad Hoc Committee should have 60 calendar days to develop the HCCA Strategic Ac

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The Enlightened Environmentalist

Wind Energy, Alternative Energy: At What Cost to the Environment

Industrial wind energy is widely promoted as a clean and sustainable source of energy. It brings however, many adverse impacts of its own, which are often ignored or even denied. Of most immediate concern for communities targeted for wind power facilities are their huge size and unavoidable noise and strobe lights day and night.

People concerned with the environment are increasingly aware of the negative impacts of wind turbines and their additional supporting infrastructure (including heavy duty roads, transformers, and power lines) on wetlands, birds, bats, beneficial insects, and other wildlife – all impacted directly by degrading, fragmenting and by the destruction of habitats.

The US Fish and Wildlife service is concerned about the danger to birds and bats. They have issued stinging guidelines which recommend that wind turbines should not be installed near wetlands, on mountain ridges, near shorelines or in other locations known as concentration areas for wildlife or at sites subject to frequent fog or low-lying clouds during Spring and Fall migrations.

Construction of a wind power facility cost between \$1 million and \$2 million per megawatt capacity. Many consumers believe that because wind is free, wind power will significantly reduce their electric bill. Not necessarily so, because subsidies are designed to keep the energy price competitive with other energy sources, but not much lower.

Wind turbines on land generate significant amounts of electricity in many states, including Minnesota, Iowa, Texas and Colorado. But, the United States, unlike countries in Europe has not installed a single offshore wind turbine – until now. Dominion Virginia Power won the right from the Department of Interior to lease 113,000 acres off the Virginia coast to generate power with wind turbines. When completed, the project could provide electricity to about 700,000 homes. Virginia Power has 4 1/2 years to submit construction plans.

Department of Interior officials said, that they have worked with the Defense Department, Maritime and Fishing interests, and Environmental groups to minimize or eliminate conflicts with wind turbines.

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tion Plan and report back to the HCCA President, Board of Directors, HCCA Membership and Hillcrest residents for further discussion. Half of Ad Hoc Committee Members should include HCCA Members and Hillcrest residents who are not members of HCCA to provide greater cross fertilization of ideas and interest.

Our citizens and community based organizations must continue to be vigilant and proactive in expressing views and opinions by calling media outlets, writing letters and sending emails to newspapers to let media and news executives know that we are still here.

Going forward, I sincerely hope that those of us that reside in Hillcrest and in Ward 7 will simply not allow anyone, media outlet or politician to take us for granted! We have the power. The power of One!

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For more information on wind turbines and other green energy sources, contact the DC Department of the Environment (DDOE) at 202.535.2600 or visit the website at www.ddoe.dc.gov. If you are interested in bundling or pooling your energy purchasing power to lower utility rates, the DDOE website links you to a "Partner List" of organizations that serve various communities. To locate the "Partner list" from the DDOE website, click 'Energy in DC' and then click 'Buy Green Power.' This list was compiled by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and can be accessed directly at <http://www.epa.gov/greenpower/partners/>



The Board and membership of the Hillcrest Community Civic Association, wish you all a happy and, healthy Holiday!



**Hillcrest Community
Civic Association
P.O. Box 30895
Washington, DC 20030**

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3. Leaves only, Please: tree limbs, bricks, dirt, rocks, etc., will damage the equipment and delay collections.
4. Prevent fires and parking problems by placing leaves in the tree box space, not in the street.

Leaf Collection Facts

1. Every street will have at least 2 collections. During the first pass, crews will vacuum loose leaves from the tree box space, collect bagged leaves, and clear potentially hazardous situations.
2. The second pass features a more thorough cleaning.
3. No collections will be made on Christmas Day or New Year's Day
4. Place holiday trees and wreaths next to your trash container at your regular collection point.

Holiday Tree Pick-Up

Trees collected between December 29 - January 11 will be recycled. After January 11 trees will be collected with your trash as space allows in the trash trucks.

HCCA Board

Karen Williams, President
Michelle Phipps-Evans, First Vice President
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Contact information is available on our website at www.hillcrestdc.com