

The Hillandale Bulletin

May 2011

See us at: www.hillandale-md.org or Contact us at: newsletter@hillandale-md.org
Ross Sutton: Editor

HCA General Meeting Wednesday, May 25, 7:30 p.m.

Councilmembers Nancy Floreen, George Leventhal and tentatively Marc Elrich will be our guests for HCA's May 25 General Meeting, at CHI, 10501 New Hampshire Avenue beginning at 7:30 p.m.. An HCA business meeting will follow our guests, with the meeting ending at 9:00 p.m. The Montgomery County Council has a number of committees that formulate and advance policy. Housing and zoning issues are under the purview of the Planning Housing and Economic Development Committee (PHED), and our guests are the PHED Committee. Development of a new Housing Policy is anticipated over the coming months. Review, revision, or elimination of the current controls on accessory apartments by Special Exception will be part of this effort.

Our general meeting is unusual in that the PHED Committee has to act within certain legal limitations. So, while they will listen and ask questions, there are certain topics about which they cannot offer their opinions. On topics beyond the committee's responsibility, there are no such limitations.

The HCA business meeting will include a vote on the adoption of the new HCA Constitution and By-Laws. See the draft at: http://www.hillandale-md.org/CONST_2010_V9a.pdf Election of the 2011-12 Executive Committee will also take place.

A Note from the President

I often think of Hillandale as an island of tranquility in a surrounding sea of noise, traffic and other turbulence, a place where, after living here for some thirty five years, things seem to run pretty smoothly and where several neighbors have become my friends. To the chagrin of some, the deer and the rabbits are still, from all appearances, well fed, and life goes on. Serving briefly as president of the HCA has been a steady learning experience for me, and a knowledgeable and tolerant Executive Committee, has helped me navigate through occasional rocks and shoals. I am sincerely grateful to the very capable members of the Executive Committee, and deeply indebted to Kristine Manlove, our past Vice President for Programs, whose foresight, and sense of purpose helped us keep things on track.

Over the past two years a few things of benefit to Hillandale have been accomplished. Foremost among these are the rewriting - after 30 years gathering dust - of the HCA Constitution and By-Laws, the securing of insurance, and preparations for incorporation as a 501C4 entity. The enjoyment in times past of having a community dinner has been revitalized and made to alternate with National Night Out, an event held at the Hillandale and West Hillandale swimming pools. Consistent efforts have been made during this period to increase the awareness of the community of the many developments that are in planning stages all around us: at the FDA, along Cherry Hill Road, in White Oak, at the Labor College, and in and around the Hillandale Shopping Center. Those who have found time to come the community meetings are well aware of these developments. Roland Leimbach and his team have kept the Hillandale corner looking attractive. And soon we will have a much improved website.

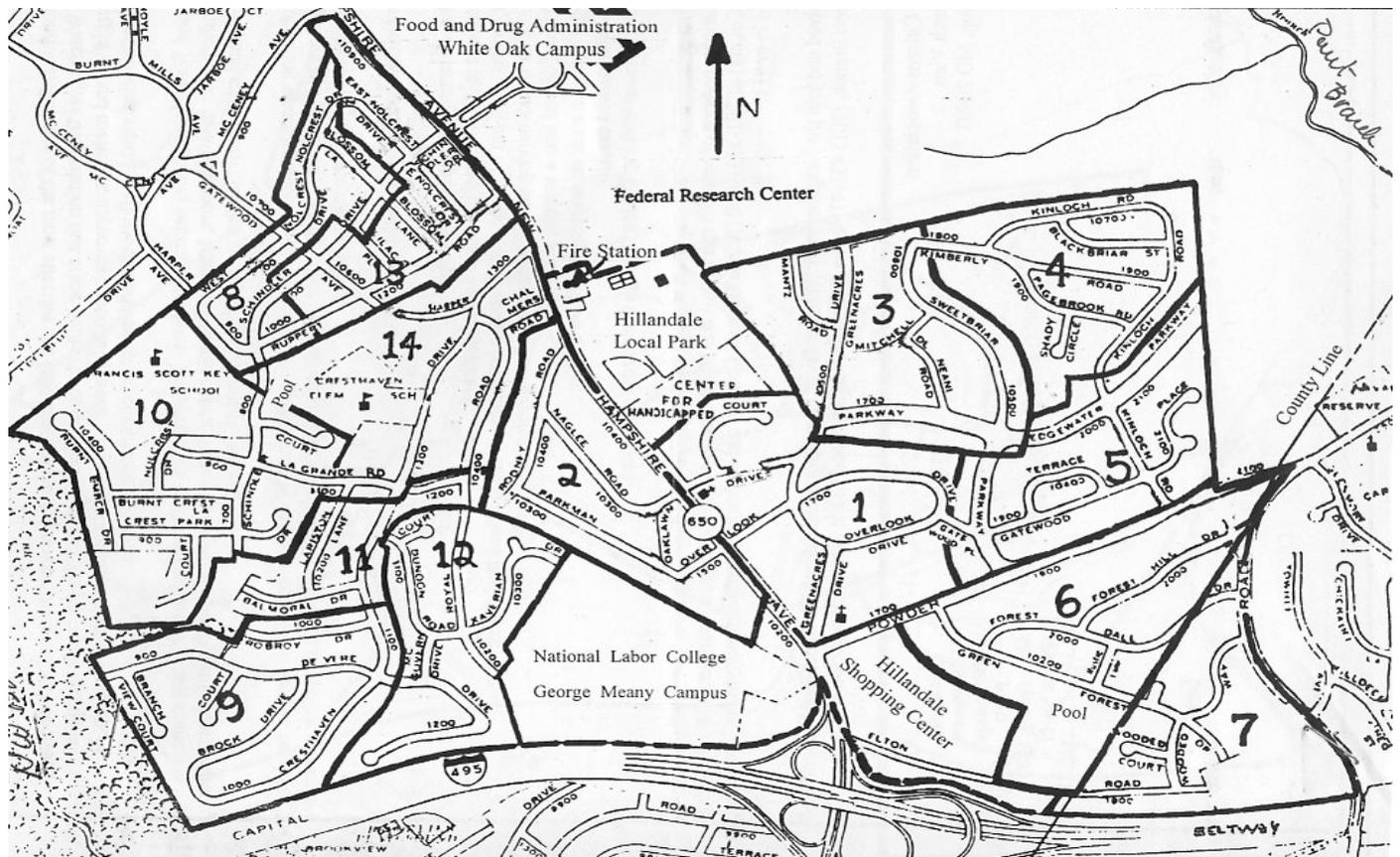
Great efforts have been made to devise ways to control speed on Cresthaven and Schindler, to resolve canine related issues, to ensure adherence to vehicle parking regulations, to promote greater pedestrian safety on NH and Powder Mill Rd, to protect Hillandalers from Army complex noise and ensure compliance with zoning regulations. I would be remiss in not acknowledging the substantial help to Hillandalers in these and many other areas of concern, well before, during, and after my presidency, of Eileen Finnegan, whose knowledge of our community and outside forces affecting it is second to none.

Thank you for letting me serve as President of the HCA

Lou Giacchino

On the back page of this Bulletin you will find our annual dues form. We encourage all Hillandale residents to help out the HCA by paying your voluntary annual dues of \$20. Your dues pay for the day-to-day operating expenses of the citizens association. Those households that are current with their dues will also receive a copy of the Hillandale Directory when the next edition comes out later this summer.

Hillandale Crime Watch



Please Connect with Your Neighbors and Strengthen Our Community

Q: Do you know which Crime Watch District you live in?

A: Check out the map, there are 14 Districts

Q: Do you know how to efficiently connect with other community members to share information and get feedback from police?

A: Join Crime Watch by contacting Lynda Williams at sealynda@aol.com or call her at 301-439-8812

Q: Are you taking the initiative to report suspicious activities, or thefts from vehicles to the police non-emergency phone numbers?

A: In Montgomery County: 301-279-8000
In Prince George's County: 301-333-4000

We've been fortunate in Hillandale to have a Neighborhood Crime Watch organization for many years. Now in our digital age, communication has become faster and more efficient. Through the use of e-mail to communicate broadly and having the ability to get input from our Community Policing Officer, potential problems can be addressed, and answers can be disseminated quickly.

One example of this new era happened recently on Kinloch Road. Several neighbors noticed a "suspicious, occupied car" parked on the street with a man just sitting there. When approached, his response was not comforting. This was definitely out of character for the neighborhood. Some phone calls were logged to the police. One neighbor also contacted Lynda Williams who was able to get a fast answer for the neighbors from the police. MoCo police did respond to the calls and the answer was a relief for concerned parents. Unknown to neighbors, there was a visiting VIP in the community with a private security guard.

And, there's often a springtime bump in some petty crime. With better weather, thefts from vehicles and thefts from garden sheds often increase. Please remember not to leave valuables in your vehicles and remember to lock the doors and set the alarms. If you are a victim, please, please report the incident to the police non-emergency number. It is just a phone call, but having the incident recorded and logged is important to the police and the community.

Board Nominations for HCA

At the upcoming May General meeting the community will be voting on officers for the HCA Executive committee for the upcoming year. All Hillandale residents over the age of 18 are eligible for board positions. It is not unusual for some board positions go unfilled and we are always looking for interested residents to help us. Below is a list of nominees for the upcoming election. If you have a nomination or want to serve, please let us know.

Elected Positions:

President.....Eileen Finnegan
Vice PresidentJeff McNeil
Treasurer.....Ken Harringer
Secretary.....Sue Taylor
VP of Programs.....vacant
At large #1.....Heather Moore
At large #2.....Andrew Rein
At large #3.....Matt Gervase
At large #4.....Ava Penny
Past President.....Lou Giacchino

Appointed Positions:

Historian.....vacant
Bulletin Editor.....Ross Sutton
Garden Awards.....Ross Sutton &
Elizabeth St.John
Housing & Permits.....Jeremiah Pope
Greeters.....Riccardo Cabrera &
Lynda Williams
Natural Resources.....John Dunn &
Phyllis Solomon
Neighborhood Watch...Lynda Williams
Schools.....Nubia Jones &
Tom Helfand
Membership.....Hall Crannell
Website.....Russ Harris
Zoning & Planning.....Eileen Finnegan
West Hillandale
Women's Club.....Sue Shawhan
HSTA.....Janet Cromes
West Hillandale
Swim Club.....vacant
PIX Group.....vacant

Home and Garden Awards

We are please to announce the Home and Garden Awards for the spring. The spring season always brings out the best in Hillandale and we have to admit that we saw at least 50 homes that easily deserved the award. The selections are listed below in no particular order.

1113 Dunoon Rd. Nice mix of azaleas
1903 Wooded Way. Everything in place
10503 Rodney Rd. Mix of shade and sun plants

We would like to thank our judges for their help. If you would like to help out with the judging next time or just want to nominate a home (including yours) for the next award just send a note to the newsletter address shown on page one.

Dog Bite Prevention

According to the U.S. Humane Society, 39% of U.S. households own at least one dog. While dogs are often revered as a loving member of the family, it is important to remember that dogs are animals with animal instincts. The CDC recently reported that approximately 4.5 million people are bitten by dogs every year. Of those bitten, approximately 85,000 required medical attention for their dog bite-related injuries. In 2006, more than 31,000 people underwent reconstructive surgery as a result of a dog bite. Owning a dog can be a wonderful bonding experience, but also comes with great responsibility. By taking the following precautionary steps, dog owners can prevent many dog bite injuries:

Keep your dog confined securely: Make sure that gates are securely closed and locked and that the fence is tall enough so that the dog cannot jump it.

Leash your dog: When not inside or behind a fence, your dog should be on a leash that you can control (non-retractable, no more than 6 feet long).

Socialize your dog: Dogs should learn from an early age how to interact with both people and other dogs outside of your immediate family.

Do not chain or tie up your dog: This practice is considered inhumane and is known to cause viciousness in dogs.

Spay or neuter your dog: This can decrease aggression in many dogs.

Do not play aggressively with your dog: Avoid wrestling, play hitting, and other aggressive-like activities, which can encourage aggressive behavior in dogs.

Address aggressive behavior: If your dog bites or snaps at another person see a behaviorist or dog trainer immediately to correct the aggressive behavior.

Even if all of the proper precautions are taken, dog bite incidents can still occur. Make sure that your dog is licensed according to local laws and that all of its vaccinations and shots are up-to-date. Although every jurisdiction has different laws regarding dog bites and attacks, these types of cases are taken seriously in the courts. Protect yourself by reviewing your homeowner or renter's insurance policy to make sure that canine inflicted injuries are covered under your policy.

The **Hillandale Citizens Association** exists to protect our property values when impacted by government or private development plans. In addition it works to improve our neighborhood by taking action to assure a safe and friendly community. These activities are supported by your membership dues of \$20 per year. The Association also maintains a reserve for legal expenses when they arise.

Have you paid your dues for this year? Look at the label BELOW. **The number above your name indicates the year through which our records indicate you are paid up.** For example, a number 2011 indicates you are already paid up for this year; the number 2012 indicates you have already paid up for next year, 2013, etc. **No number indicates that you have not yet paid dues for this year. In that case, please fill out and return the form below.**

Hillandale Citizens Association Membership Form
Please print clearly; it helps us keep our records straight

Last Name _____ Do NOT list my name in the Directory

First Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

Please add a listing for the additional last name _____ (No additional cost for this service)

Additional First Name _____

Telephone Number _____ Do NOT list my phone number in the Directory

E-Mail Address _____ Do NOT list my E-mail in the Directory
 ADD my E-mail to the Yahoo Bulletin Group

Dues for membership in the Association are \$20 per year, or \$40 for two years

Enclosed \$20 for dues for the year 2011 Enclosed \$40 for dues for the years 2011 and 2012.

Please make checks payable to **Hillandale Citizens Association** and return to
Hillandale Citizens Association Membership
c/o Hall Crannell, 10000 Branch View Court, Silver Spring, MD 20903-1617

Hillandale Citizens Association
10000 Branch View Ct.
Silver Spring, MD 20903

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