

# *The Hillandale Bulletin*

*October 2007*

See us at: <http://www.hillandale-md.org/>

or

Contact us at: [newsletter@hillandale-md.org](mailto:newsletter@hillandale-md.org)

**Ross Sutton: Editor**

## **HCA General Meeting**

HCA's next general meeting will be on October 24, at 7:30 p.m. at the CHI Centers, 10501 New Hampshire Avenue. All Hillandale residents are invited to attend, participate and bring any community concerns/questions. Among the agenda items is a presentation of the plans for construction of a 120' monopole at the West Hillandale Swim Club's property on Schindler Drive. As with all monopole proposals, this is subject to the granting of a Special Exception by the Board of Appeals.

## **Hillandale's Corner Garden: A Tree Update**

Late this summer, the evergreen tree which serves as the Hospice Tree of Light every November and as our Holiday tree every December, suddenly died. Neighbors Jeannie Blinkoff and Roland Leimbach have arranged with Park and Planning (they donated the original tree) for a healthy replacement tree, hopefully before November 1. Thanks to Park's Eugene Rose for the quick response!

## **M-NCPPC Purchases Barnett Dental Building**

Over the summer, M-NCPPC purchased the small office building next to the firehouse at 10611 New Hampshire Avenue for \$1.59 million. It is anticipated that the space will be used for Park offices and not community use space.

## **Donate Blood, Save Lives**

Lt. Steve Mann assigned to our Hillandale Firehouse has organized a blood

drive for Oct 27, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Four Corners Firehouse on University Avenue at the Beltway. This drive is in honor of Carlos Alfaro, a Montgomery County Firefighter who lost his life last year to complications of Hepatitis C contracted while "on the job."

It is simple, easy AND SAFE to donate blood. To make a donation-reservation appointment, call 301-440-9294. Walk-ins are also taken on the donation day, but you may have to wait.

## **CHI Ladies League Bazaar**

CHI's Holiday Bazaar is scheduled for November 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to come, enjoy and support CHI.

In preparation for the event, the Ladies are accepting donations of "Harvest & Holiday" crafts, jewelry, housewares, new-and-nearly-new kitchen items, small appliances, plants, children's clothes, toys, books, videos and DVDs. All proceeds raised from these donations are used in support of the mission of CHI, helping the developmentally disabled of Montgomery and Prince George's counties. For more information or details of how to donate items call 301-445-3350

## **Hillandale Holiday Party**

Save this date-December 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 6-8 PM for our annual Holiday Party. Planning is just beginning so look for details in next month's Bulletin.



## Fire Safety Tips for the Fall

An average of 18,000 home fires a year are caused by candles, with an average of 125 deaths and over 1,000 injuries. Some basic candle safety tips are:

- Extinguish all candles when leaving your home or going to sleep.
- Keep candles away from items that can catch fire.
- Use large heavy candle holders that won't easily tip
- During power outages, avoid carrying candles. Use a flashlight.

Cooking fires are the #1 cause of home fires and home fire injuries. Most cooking fires start with the ignition of common household items (e.g., food or grease, cabinets, wall coverings, paper or plastic bags, curtains, etc.) Annually, there are over 100,000 reported home fires associated with cooking equipment, resulting in an average of 370 deaths and 4,200 injuries. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home cooking fires. Some tips for cooking safety:

1. Always use cooking equipment tested and approved by a recognized testing facility.
2. Never leave cooking food on the stovetop unattended and keep an eye on food in the oven.
3. Keep cooking areas clear of combustibles (e.g., potholders, towels, rags, and food packaging).
4. Keep children away from the cooking area and discourage pets from hanging out in the kitchen.
5. Always keep a potholder, oven mitt and lid handy. If a small fire starts in pan, put on the mitt, and carefully slide the lid over the fire. Never pour water on a grease fire or spray a grease fire in a pan with a fire extinguisher as it can shoot burning grease around the kitchen.
6. Always keep an approved fire extinguisher handy in or near your kitchen.

And, the Metro area is experiencing one its most severe droughts in over 40 years. Be extremely cautious when cooking outdoors. Some tips.

1. Keep your grill area clear of leaves and debris that can easily catch fire.
2. Do not grill on windy days where small embers can be blown away from the grill.
3. Don't over use lighter fluid or use an electric charcoal starter.
4. Consider buying a gas grill which is safer than a charcoal grill.

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