

# The Hillandale Bulletin

January 2009

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

or

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

**Ross Sutton: Editor**

## January General Meeting

The HCA will hold a meeting on January 28, at 7:30pm at CHI, 10500 New Hampshire Ave.

Michael Chapters, Assistant Supervisor of Tax Assessments from the Montgomery County State Department of Assessments and Taxation is scheduled to provide information and answer questions regarding the 2009 property assessments.

HCA board members will also brief the community on recent activities, including a Crime Watch update. A community vote on participating in the State mosquito program will be taken. Also, Lou Giacchino has been nominated to serve as HCA president, and a vote by the general membership is needed for his installation to that now vacant position.

## Community Directory

Preparation of this every other-year publication will happen over the next few months, if you have a change or correction to you phone number, email, etc., please send the information to [crannell@cua.edu](mailto:crannell@cua.edu). Make the subject line: HCA Directory. The biannual directory is provided free to all HCA members who are current with their dues. If you would like to pay your dues or have a question you can contact Hall Crannell at that same email address.

## Door to door salespersons

There have been a number of reports of “questionable” door-to-door salespersons visiting homes in Hillandale. A reminder that any vendor **selling anything** door to door is required to have a Montgomery County vendor’s license. If a solicitor approaches your home, you should ask to see their license. In general, we recommend caution in dealing with any door to door solicitation-whatever the reason.

## Mosquito Control

Although with the cold weather mosquitoes are not something we worry about, for the past few months the HCA board and some concerned Hillandale residents

have been exploring our participation in a state mosquito control program. The state charges a fee to include a community in the program which would be paid out of our reserve fund. This issue is slated for a vote at the general meeting later this month. Due to the limitations of the program, and the fact that the program does not address the control of the daytime tiger mosquito, the HCA board is recommending that we do not pursue this option. We invite all residents to come to the meeting to vote and comment on this issue.

## Trash Cans, etc.

The neighborhood has had some problems with wild animals getting into trash and strewing it around. A reminder to all residents that you should have tight fitting lids over all your trash can to prevent this. Not only is the trash an issue but also uncovered trash cans will only serve to draw animals into closer proximity to your home. You should never leave trash bags with any sort of discarded food by the curbside. All refuse that animals might find tasty should be sealed up.

We also remind you that by county law you are required to clean up after your dog. We have had problems with dogs pooping on yards that are not their own. Many animals (rats come to mind) do eat dog poop.

## Get Fit!

If you are looking to work off some of those holiday pounds or just looking for some exercise during the cold winter months, you might consider signing up for a Deep Water Running and Exercise class at the Martin Luther King Swim Center. A different class is offered on one of four weekdays and the one-hour classes run for 9 weeks. The fee is \$48.

The course offers cardiovascular exercise with no weight bearing stress, and is beneficial for crosstraining and/or rehabilitating persons requiring the cushioning of deep water. A deep Water (flotation) belt is required and may be purchased at the pool for \$20.

## **Cresthaven Elementary's Rebuild**

The reconstruction of Cresthaven will be an intensive 18-month project. The kids are off to the Fairland holding school and the old building is about to be demolished. Our brand new Cresthaven Elementary School will be ready to open in August 2010.

Oak Contracting is overseeing this project and Tony Kukowski, Oak's Project Superintendent, took time to meet with neighbors to provide initial information. Here's a peek at the schedule:

**Now:** Site preparation, including tree removal and grading

**Soon:** Two construction trailers to arrive and be installed in front parking area

**Now to Mid-February:** Asbestos abatement to take approx. 3 weeks

**Mid-February to Early-March:** Demolition to take 2-3 weeks

**Late-February or March:** Excavation for the new school building pad

**Late-March to June:** 117 Geo-thermal wells to be drilled on the playfield.

**March through July:** Construction of basic building shell

**Late-July or August:** Structure to be "under roof"

**August 2009 through June or July 2010:** Interior work

**July 2010:** Completed school to be turned over to MCPS

There will be a lot of activity on the site soon, and for your own safety, be cautioned that this is a secure construction site. Much of the old school will be recycled with all that material being trucked out on Cresthaven Drive! Drilling of the geo-thermal wells (for the energy-efficient heating/cooling system) may be the noisiest part of the project. Oak has indicated that it is their intent that all contractors will comply with county guidelines.

Oak and MCPS are planning to build a quality school with as little disruption as possible. As the project gets underway, HCA will continue to keep everyone as informed as possible.

## **Key Middle School Status Report**

Here's a quick update from Keith Green of Hess Construction:

"We have entered the "finishes" stage of the project and are painting walls, putting in ceilings/floors, installing millwork/casework. The finishes will continue through March 2009. We have also energized the electrical and mechanical systems and will continue through May 2009 testing, balancing, and inspecting the systems. The facility is absolutely beautiful inside."

Students will be returning to Key from Tilden in August 2009.

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

**Pre-sorted STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Silver Spring, MD  
Permit No. 2116**