

The Hillandale Bulletin

March 2012

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

HCA General Meeting: Weds, March 28

The next general meeting of the Hillandale Citizens Association will be held on Wednesday, March 28th at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be held at the CHI Center located at 10501 New Hampshire Ave.

This month our featured speaker will be Tom Rodden of RGS Title and the subject will be **“Realtors, lenders, attorneys and homeowners behaving badly.”** We have asked Tom to relate to us some of the questionable real estate shenanigans that he has come across while working as a settlement attorney in Maryland. In addition Tom will also touch on a recent change or two in the Maryland tax laws that might affect you as a homeowner.

The regular bi-monthly business meeting will follow, so bring your concerns and cares and come meet you officers and neighbors. We hope to see you there.

Spring Garden Awards

Although I expect my dandelions to be rather exceptional this year, modesty prevents me from awarding the Hillandale Garden Award to myself. So my fellow judges and I are asking you to submit your nominations to us for the spring 2012 awards. We will be selecting three homes in greater Hillandale and want to hear from you if you think a neighbor deserves our consideration. It is also perfectly fine for you to nominate your own yard. We do not mind if you want to crow a little bit about your own turf. There is no particular theme that we are looking for. We just want to see any home or yard that you think looks especially nice.

The winners get the “coveted” sign placed in their yard for a few weeks and mention in the May Bulletin. And of course, the bragging rights last forever... To make a nomination call Ross or Elizabeth at 301-439-6217 or email est.john@verizon.net

Hillandale Needs Your participation

HCA covers over 1300 homes along the New Hampshire “spine” from the Beltway to McCeney. Neighborhood subdivisions which are part of the HCA service area include: Hillandale Forest, old Hillandale, Hillandale Heights, Cresthaven, Crest Park, Burnt Mills Knolls along with other many other smaller additions to those areas.

There are many, many homeowners and residents covered by this large area, and all are welcome to participate.



The Association works to improve our community, serve our members, organize HCA events & projects, weigh-in on proposals in our area and give input to various levels of government when necessary.

The HCA Executive Board serves on an annual basis with nominations being prepared each spring and new members assuming their responsibilities following elections at the Association’s May meeting. A nomination committee will be recruiting for the officers and at-large members beginning now..

Please consider volunteering to bring your energy and input to the HCA Board. The time commitment would include evening meetings of the Executive Board six times per year and General Meetings another six times per year. Additional projects or activities would depend on the particular position. The four at-large slots provide the opportunity for community members to get familiar with the organization and provide input from your part of Hillandale.

If you are interested in learning more about the opportunities for you to help out with our community organization, please give me a call at 301-439-2263, or send me an e-mail at finnegan20903@yahoo.com

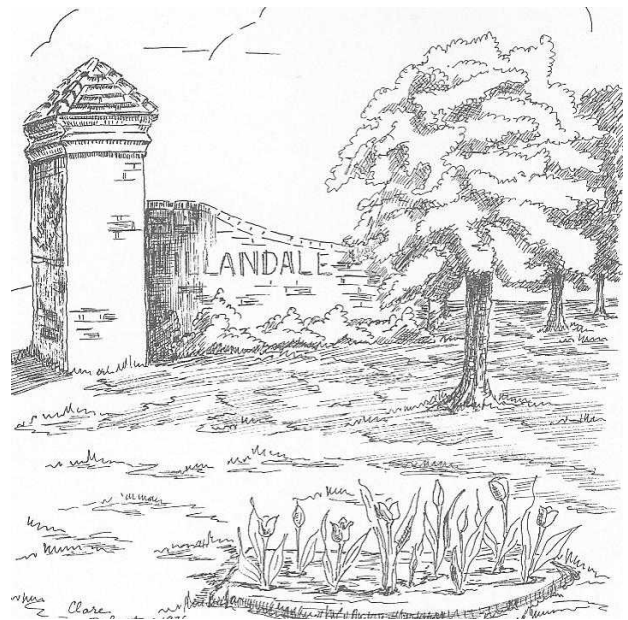
For more information on HCA, see our web site at: <http://hillandale-md.org/>

Eileen Finnegan

Help Wanted For Hillandale's Corner

The Hillandale wall (officially known as a monument) at the corner of New Hampshire Avenue and Powder Mill Road is a very familiar landmark to all. But, many Hillandalers do not realize that this small green space is a community project with a long history, and deserving of your help.

First—a little history: For many decades the intersection of what is now New Hampshire and Powder Mill was actually a five-point intersection that included Greenacres Drive. In the mid-1960s, Greenacres was reorganized to its current termination at Powder Mill. This change created the little right-of-way void between the roads. Community leaders petitioned the County for permission to beautify this area and a few years later (after raising funds by holding card parties) completed the effort by constructing the signature brick wall in 1966-67.



Hillandale Woman's Club Cookbook 1978-79 Edition

For three and half decades, the Hillandale Woman's Club maintained this proud entryway to Hillandale. Every year a new Club Beautification Chair carefully planned improvements and organized volunteers to cut the grass, maintain the flowerbeds and even sweep the street gutters! Over the years cherry trees were planted, then removed, flowerbeds were installed, changed and planted over and over again. During the 1990s, the Club installed white lights on an evergreen tree as a seasonal fundraiser for Montgomery Hospice. But when the Club ended in 2002, so did their official sponsorship of the corner.

HELP WANTED: April through October 2012

Lawn Mowing: Volunteer to cut the grass once per month — that's a "6 mow" commitment. If that's too often, tell us how often you are willing to help. (We need multiple volunteers — so please do help.)

Litter pick-up: Unfortunately, this needs to be done often, so we need a few truly committed folks willing to share weekly duties. And, if interested, this could include removing "Junk Car" signs too!

Flowerbed weeding: Given the weed control fabric and mulch, this is a once per month job for one or multiple gardeners. Water for the beds is available.

A schedule will be prepared to include all interested volunteers based on their availability. You can request a once-per-month assignment, or a one-time assignment. **To Volunteer, please call or e-mail Eileen Finnegan at 301-439-2263, or finnegan20903@yahoo.com**

Recently neighbors, with limited HCA support, have been tending to the corner. But it is now time for more residents to volunteer time and make the corner an inclusive HCA community project. Please volunteer to help. Who knows, you may meet new people, gain an appreciation of our business area, and have an impact on what all those commuters think of Hillandale as they pass by our corner.

Thank You

Many Hillandalers have contributed time and gardening expertise over the years, and they are deserving of our thanks.

But one neighbor — Roland Leimbach — stepped-up and took responsibility for managing the care of the corner for most of the past decade. As Roland phases out (he has agreed to mulch and advise), please thank him for his selfless contribution to our community's gateway.

Thanks Roland!

Hillandale News Tidbits

Roadside Solicitation Legislation: The Montgomery County House Delegates and Senators did not support the bill to give the County the option to enable a permit system or enact a ban. They did support the “permit only” legislation and have sent that on to the General Assembly for final action. Although any permit system will have to be enacted by Council at a later date, the fiscal note accompanying the State legislation indicated that the County anticipates 3,000 permits to be issued requiring three new employees to administer and enforce the system. Council and the Executive will decide details of whether permit holders will be allowed in the roadway, on medians and sidewalks, along with the duration and cost of the permits.

HCA supports Hillandale’s Public Schools: HCA allocates funds annually for school support. Recently, awards were made to Springbrook’s After-Prom activity, and Cresthaven’s PTA to support its outreach activities.

Third District Update: At the January HCA General meeting, Commander Johnson reassured the community that Hillandale is safe and secure.

More recently, it was announced that the new Third District Police Station ground breaking is scheduled for April 12. The new station will be constructed along Milestone Drive to the east of New Hampshire at Route 29. Decisions regarding the excess land adjoining the station will be made at a later date. Proposals for a senior housing facility or a small HHS office have been discussed.

Neighborhood Clean-Up: The HCA Board is considering setting up a Community Clean-Up Day on May 5. There are several areas that are being considered including the wooded area of Hillandale Local Park; the Riggs Court paper road in Hillandale Forest; the vacant lot at Oaklawn and New Hampshire; and the area of the community welcome sign on New Hampshire. If you would like to head up one of these spots, please come to the March meeting and volunteer!

**PLEASE STOP
putting bagged dog waste
in our storm drains.**



Some loving pet owner has been depositing bagged dog waste in the storm drains along Sweetbriar Parkway. **STORM DRAINS FEED DIRECTLY INTO THE LOCAL CREEKS.** Storm drain water is not filtered or processed; it goes to the Paint Branch then on to the Anacostia River to the Potomac and the Chesapeake Bay.

Please properly dispose of your bagged dog waste in your trash container at your home. If you do not want to take the waste *into* your home, keep a separate small garbage container outside just to collect the bags and put this container out on the regular trash pick-up days.

Please stop polluting our waterways and be a responsible pet owner. Please, STOP putting your dogs’ trash bags in the storm drains, or tossing the bags into the woods, or on your neighbors’ lawns.



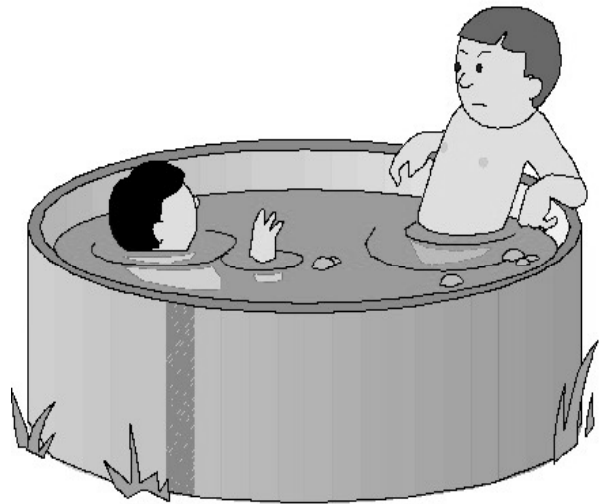
For more information on stormwater pollution go to the Montgomery County DEP website at: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dectmpl.asp?url=/Content/dep/water/stormwaterhome.asp>

Have you outgrown that backyard pool?

Summer is almost upon us and it is time to think about how you are going to get away from your TVs and computers and enjoy the great outdoors. A little fun and exercise might be in order. Perhaps it is time to shed that pound or two that you put on this winter.

Hillandale offers a great solution. In fact Hillandale offers two great solutions. One of the most special features about our community is that Hillandale has not just one but two private community pools for your consideration.

The **Hillandale Swim and Tennis Association** is located at 10116 Green Forest Drive and *has opened every Memorial Day through Labor Day since 1957. The Hillandale Swim & Tennis Association is a beautiful oasis of fun, friends and fitness. A not-for-profit association, HSTA welcomes community members of all ages who want a friendly place to enjoy outdoor recreation and leisure. HSTA is managed by a volunteer board of directors elected annually by the membership. The active and involved membership always brings new ideas and events to the club and each summer calendar is a mix of wonderful summertime traditions and spontaneous fun.* For information go to www.hillandalepool.com or call 301-434-4782.



The **West Hillandale Swim Club** is located at 915 Schindler Drive and has been in operation since 1963. It is a gathering place, where pool members and their guests enjoy good weather and the company of family, friends, and neighbors. It is a place where our children learn to swim and have fun, while they learn the value of good sportsmanship and friendly competition. The Pool's Swim Team, the Dolphins, is a charter member of the Montgomery County Swim League, which celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 2008. For more information go to www.westhillandaleswimclub.org or call 301-439-9722

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

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