



FOREST HEIGHTS NEWS

Incorporated 1949

53rd Year, Issue No. 7

March 2006

STATE AWARDS TOWN \$150K FOR BUILDING REPAIR



On March 11, 2006, I appeared before the Maryland General Assembly, Senate and House, to offer testimony in support of the town's request for funding to repair the municipal building. Our efforts have been rewarded in the form of a bond bill in the amount of \$150,000 from the General Assembly to the Town of Forest Heights. Below is the testimony that was given before the General Assembly.

Thank You, Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of this committee.

I have with me today Mr. Worthington Ross, Councilman for Ward III in the Town of Forest Heights. His presence here is a demonstration of the Mayor and Legislative body of Forest Heights working together to promote efficient and responsible governance in our town.

When we look at Forest Heights, we see a town built on the hopes of the generations before us and a town looking to serve the dreams of the generation to come.

Forest Heights is a part of the first impression of the State of Maryland to those travelers who cross the Wilson Bridge from Virginia and who enter Southern Maryland via Washington D.C. Hence, Forest Heights directly impacts the quality of tourism in our state and must be able to display an appearance that is attractive governmentally, aesthetically, and economically. [Senate Bill 981/House Bill 1629] proposes to assist the Town of Forest Heights in projecting that attractiveness that will encourage tourism thereby contributing to the overall economic enhancement of the state.

The renovation and repair of the Forest Heights Town Hall can be viewed as a step in continuing the success of community and economic development in state of Maryland. The proximity of Forest Heights to the National Harbor and Woodrow Wilson Bridge projects, make it critical that presentation of the town be seen as clean, professional, and well kept by those who would patronize these new developments that significantly contribute to economic enhancement of Prince George's County and the State of Maryland at large.

The Town Hall of Forest Heights was built in 1952 and modified in 1965. The building houses the administrative offices for the town government, the public works department, the police department, and a multipurpose room for public functions. Unfortunately, the building, which is the seat of our municipality and the heart of our town, has been in disrepair for some years now. The roof leaks incessantly, handicap accessibility is present but inefficient and energy efficiency is all but nil in this facility. Our Town Hall is in dire need of renovation and repair.

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It is our vision to revitalize the appearance and expand the utility of our facility. We envision a facility that not only is the seat of town government, but one that will provide safe space and recreational opportunities for our youth, seniors and neighboring communities. The renovation to be secured through the proposed funding of [Senate Bill 981/House Bill 1629] will be the bridge to creating a facility that will house activities that promote economic stability and the overall health and wellness of the Forest Heights Community. [Senate Bill 981/House Bill 1629] will allow the Town of Forest Heights to create an environment in this building that will speak to the beauty of Gorgeous Prince George's County and the great State of Maryland.

We hope this assembly will look favorably upon this bill and join our efforts to move our community into the future. Thank You.

Stick with us as we take real action to make Forest Heights the premier municipality in Maryland. We appreciate your support in keeping Forest Heights first.

Sincerely,



3 of 4 Publications as Required by the Annotated Code of Maryland
Summary of Proposed Forest Heights Town Council Resolutions 19 & 20
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE FOREST HEIGHTS TOWN CHARTER

Introduced on March 6, 2006 and shall take effect April 25, 2006.

Charter Amendment Number 19, Section 33-6 (Meetings). Propose to adopt the framework of the Maryland Open Meetings Act, which permits local jurisdictions to close portions of meetings to the public that limited government business may be conducted away from the public, such as personnel issues, legal issues, contract negotiations; and other sensitive matters in an executive session from the public.

Charter Amendment Number 20, Section 33-22 (*Enforcement of Powers*). Propose to increase fine limits to \$1,000. The enforcement of Town ordinances is essential for maintaining the quality of living and safety of the Town's residents. The current limit for fines is \$500 which was set in 1963. Inflation has reduced the significance of the level of fines for inducing compliance with the Town's ordinances. Article 23A § 3 (a) and § 3(b)(2) of the State Code permit municipalities to levy fines as high as \$1,000.

****The full text of all amendments referred to above can be found posted on the BULLETIN BOARD at the Forest Heights Municipal Center, 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, Maryland 20745, (301) 839-1030. ****

THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS MEMORIAL DAY EXTRAVAGANZA

CONTINUING OUR HISTORICAL ACHIEVEMENTS

REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS

DATE: MAY 27, 2006 AT 6:00 PM—DINNER & PROGRAM

TICKET PRICE: \$50 PER PERSON & \$15 CHILDREN 12 AND YOUNGER

DATE: MAY 29, 2006 AT 9:00 PM—RECEPTION & SERVICE (*FREE*)

LOCATION: FOREST HEIGHTS TOWN HALL



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

CATEGORIES FOR SERVICE

Applicants may be eligible to participate in one of the following categories:

1. Public Sector Category—applicants 14—21 who meet social or financial criteria are referred for placement in the subsidized work experience or academic enhancement activities.
2. Government Sector Category—applicants between the ages of 15—21 are referred for placement in the county government.
3. Private Sector Category—applicants between the ages of 16—21 who are referred for placement in private business in Prince George's County and the Metropolitan Area.



GUIDELINES

1. Students must be in good academic standing with their school.
2. Applicants under 18 years of age must have the signature of a parent or guardian.
3. Applications will be accepted February 20, 2006 thru April 14, 2006
4. Applications received after April 14, 2006 will only be considered if additional jobs become available.
5. To be considered applications must be accurately and fully completed.

Please come by the Municipal Building, 5508 Arapahoe Dr., Forest Heights, MD 20745, during the hours of 8:30 am– 4:30pm to pick up an application.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2006

AREA-WIDE COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO EARN COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

PLEASE CONTACT THE TOWN HALL FOR MORE INFORMATION AT (301) 839-1030

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS 2006 APPLICATIONS

Any person or group maintaining property in Prince George's County is invited to submit an application for the 35th Annual Beautification awards. Better yet, enter yourself! Please come by the Municipal Building, 5508 Arapahoe Dr., Forest Heights, MD 20745, during the hours of 8:30 am– 4:30pm to pick up an application.

KEN-E TOWING

In order to help the town of Forest Heights with the clean-up efforts. Ken-E Towing is offering free towing of unwanted vehicles. Call Ken-E Towing at (240) 505-5114 or Forest Heights for more information.

CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE

The Mayor and Town Council is seeking volunteers 3 persons from each ward to be directly involved with the Town's Government. Please contact the town hall for more information at (301) 839-1030.

OUR TOWN COMMITMENT

Equal Housing Opportunity

The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988: "We Do Business in Accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law" Urban Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing: 1-800-669-9777.

ADVERTISEMENT IN THE FOREST HEIGHTS NEWS

ATTENTION RESIDENTS ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN OUR TOWN NEWSLETTER

WE ARE SEEKING ARTICLES FOR OUR NEW COMMUNITY BUSINESSES AND SERVICES SECTION COMING IN APRIL 2006. CIRCULATION IS APPROXIMATELY 1,000 WHICH INCLUDE DISTRIBUTIONS TO FOREST HEIGHTS RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, COMMUNITY CHURCHES & OTHER PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES.

MONTHLY ADVERTISEMENT RATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

FRONT PAGE—\$250	FULL PAGE—\$100	BACK PAGE—\$105
HALF PAGE—\$50	QUARTER—\$25	BUSINESS CARD—\$10

MINIMUM 2 MONTHS ADVERTISEMENT

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT BONITA ANDERSON AT (301) 839-1030

TOWN TRASH COLLECTION

Waste Management

TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

PICK-UP DAYS BEGIN AT 6:30 a.m.

MONDAY—*Recycling*

TUESDAY—*Trash*

WEDNESDAY—*Bulk*

FRIDAY—*Trash*

You must use trash containers with lids

Trash consist of all mixed combustibles and non-combustibles including garbage, household trash, paper, rags, and cardboard. Trash should be placed within two feet of the curb line.

The County also collects recyclable materials in the Town on **MONDAY** (plastics, newspapers, etc.)

Every WEDNESDAY, tree trimmings, grass and leaves will be picked up, provided they are no longer than 4 feet and tied in small bundles. Grass clippings should be in trash bags.

Whenever Prince George's County Government holidays are celebrated on a Tuesday or Friday, trash will not be picked up on those days, nor will there be a make up date. However, trash will be picked up on the next regular scheduled pick-up date. Your cooperation with Town Ordinances for disposing of residential trash is important for maintaining health and property values

in the Town.

METAL PICK—UP please call the Town Hall @ (301) 839-1030, M-F 8:30 am—4:30 pm. for metal pick-up.

YARD WASTE

Waste Management will continue to pick up the town's yard waste with regular scheduled trash pick-up.

Please make sure your yard waste is in plastic bags, not trash cans.

THANK YOU!



**RECYCLE BINS FOR RESIDENT
PLEASE CALL (301) 952-7630**

WORK SESSION & TOWN MEETING SCHEDULE

******SPECIAL MEETING******

April 11, 2006



Town Meetings are always held on the third Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. during the months of September - June.

Mayor/Council Work Sessions are held on the first Monday of the month (Tuesday when Monday is a holiday or as absolutely necessary). Meetings are open to the public.

Mayor/Council Work Session

- Monday, May 1 @ 7:30 pm
- Monday, June 5 @ 7:30 pm

Town Meeting

- Wednesday, April 19 @ 8 pm
- Wednesday, May 17 @ 8 pm

Deadline to submit articles for the May 2006 newsletter is May 5, 2006. Articles are to be turned in via email to townclerk.fh@verizon.net or mailed to the Municipal Building at 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, MD 20745.

Mayor Myles Spires, Jr.
mayor.fh@verizon.net

TOWN COUNCIL:

Ward I

Alice Hoskins—(301) 839-1030
thecook@worldnet.att.net
George Wiggers—(301) 839-3712
wiggers@forestheights.biz

Ward II

Clifton Atkinson—(301) 567-4839
cliftonatkinson1@yahoo.com

Ward III

Worthington Ross—(301) 567-5016
wsross@comcast.net
Larry Stoner—(301) 839-9040

ADMINISTRATIVE OF FICES

Phone: (301) 839-1030
Ronnette Watts, *Town Treasurer*
towntreasurer.fh@verizon.net
Bonita Anderson, *Town Clerk*
townclerk.fh@verizon.net
Lillian King, *Receptionist*
receptionist.fh@verizon.net

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Phone: (301) 686-1432
Javier Nazario, Supervisor

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Phone: (301) 839-4040
William Waithe, *Lt./Acting Chief*
fhp2004@verizon.net
Latessa Crawford, *Police Clerk*
policeclerk.fh@verizon.net

CRIME REPORT
POLICE CHIEF UPDATE
March 2006

March 2006

Theft	0
Property Damage	0
Vehicle Impound	0
Theft from Auto	0
Stolen Tag	0
Robbery.....	0
Stolen Auto	0
Vandalism to Auto	2
Assault.....	2
Recovered Stolen Vehicle	1
Residential B & E.....	0
Arrest	3
Attempted Stolen Auto	0
Accident	0
Lost Property.....	0
Found Property	0

Forest Heights Police Dept.
(301) 839-4040
Eastover District IV Police
(301) 749-4900
Maryland Park Police
(301) 459-9088



CURFEW REMINDER: ALL TEENS AGES 16 AND UNDER SHOULD NOT BE ON THE STREETS DURING THE HOURS LISTED BELOW WITHOUT AN ADULT.
FRIDAY—SATURDAY: 12:00 AM TO 5:00 AM
SUNDAYS—THURSDAY: 10:00 PM TO 5:00 AM