



# FOREST HEIGHTS NEWS

## One Community—Many Cultures

February 2005

Incorporated 1949

52nd Year, Issue No. 2

The Town of Forest Heights Salutes

Sue E. McGinnis

1st African American Mayor of

The Town of Forest Heights

### MAYOR'S JOURNAL

“Let us live the highest vision of what is possible.” – Inga Green

Dear Neighbor,

At the January 2005 town meeting, the Mayor and Council adopted the strategic plan (copy available upon request from the town clerk). The strategic plan will serve as the directive for the town. The Mayor and Council agreed that the need for street replacement and repair warranted top priority. We applied to the State to participate in an infrastructure bond loan program not to exceed \$2 million. We have also contacted private investment companies for bond financing. Senator Gloria Lawlah and Delegate Obie Patterson have agreed to support a bond bill for street repairs. We are exhausting all possible avenues to improve the condition of our deteriorating streets.

I met with Congressman Albert Wynn to share the town's strategic plan as well as future investment opportunities for the town. Congressman Wynn recognizes and understands the needs of our town differs from other municipalities. The location of the town neighboring both the Washington, DC and Alexandria, VA, the National Harbor project, the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project sets us apart. We must take advantage of our location and the ventures surrounding us.

.....continued on page 2

#### TOWN MEETING

FEBRUARY 16, 2005 @ 8:00 P.M.  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The Town of Forest Heights celebrates

Black History

Saturday, February 19, 2005

10:00 a.m.—12:00 noon

Municipal Building

Mayor Paula R. Noble

[mayor.fh@verizon.net](mailto:mayor.fh@verizon.net)

#### TOWN COUNCIL:

##### Ward I

Lynn Smith-Barnes—(301) 749-9741

[WARDIHandinHand@aol.com](mailto:WARDIHandinHand@aol.com)

George Wiggers—(301) 839-3712

[wiggers@forestheights.biz](mailto:wiggers@forestheights.biz)

##### Ward II

Clifton Atkinson—(301) 567-4839

Joyce Beck—(301) 567-0084

##### Ward III

Worthington Ross—(301) 567-5016

[wsross@comcast.net](mailto:wsross@comcast.net)

Larry Stoner—(301) 839-9040

#### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

Phone: (301) 839-1030

Cynthia H. Farrar, *Town Administrator*

[townadministrator@verizon.net](mailto:townadministrator@verizon.net)

Dennis Bobo, *Town Treasurer*

[towntreasurer.fh@verizon.net](mailto:towntreasurer.fh@verizon.net)

Bonita Anderson, *Town Clerk*

[townclerk.fh@verizon.net](mailto:townclerk.fh@verizon.net)

Gloria Wallace, *Receptionist*

#### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Phone: (301) 686-1432

William Clarke, *Supervisor*

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT

Phone: (301) 839-4040

Michael Eubank, *Acting Chief of Police*

[fhpd2004@verizon.net](mailto:fhpd2004@verizon.net)

Latessa Crawford, *Police Clerk*

[policeclerk.fh@verizon.net](mailto:policeclerk.fh@verizon.net)

*Mayor's Journal continued.....*

As we celebrate Black History month, it gives me great pleasure to serve the residents of the Town of Forest Heights as Mayor. I am proud to be an African American who has the opportunity and the privilege to serve in such an honorable position. I recognize the struggles that have been made and the continuous efforts to improve. The demographics of the town have changed drastically since its beginnings. I am the great, great granddaughter of slaves. I understand the sacrifices and tolerance of others. We must remember from whence we come, strive to improve the conditions of our community, and leave it a better place than we found it. I strive to continue the works of all those who came before me.

The future of the Town of Forest Heights belongs to us. The Mayor and Council are committed to improve services, increase police visibility, and enhance the quality of life for all residents. The Mayor and Council are accountable to the residents, and respect the duties set forth in the Charter.

Paula R. Noble  
Mayor

### Southern Magazine

In 1834 a magazine was established by Thomas White, located 1500 East Main Street, Richmond, VA., hoping the magazine would unite the South by promoting art and literature by Southern writers. A brickyard worker in Baltimore wrote poems and short stories which he submitted to the magazine. Mr. White was impressed with his talent and invited him to Richmond. He gave him the job of a proof-reader and checking for proper grammar. The man's name was Edgar Allen Poe. He greatly increased the magazine popularity. By this time the readers were looking forward to his poetry and short stories. Mr. White promoted Poe to editor in December 1835. Poe was unable to control his drinking and was fired in January 1837. However, he continued to write poetry and short stories and his articles continued to be published in the Southern Magazine. His last article was Annabel Lee, published in the November 1849 issue, which was one month after his death.

THOUGHT: Friends Come and GO, But Enemies Accumulate.

### FOREST HEIGHTS HOMEMAKERS

**2004 INCOME TAX**  
MAKE SURE THAT ON YOUR STATE INCOME TAX FORM YOU SPECIFY THAT THE INCORPORATED MUNICIPALITY IN WHICH YOU LIVE IS FOREST HEIGHTS.

The Adult Health Program Prince George's County Health Department Free Community Wellness Program "Facts about arthritis and its management"  
Thursday, March 31, 2005  
11:00 am to 12:00—Municipal Building  
RSVP by March 21, 2005  
(301) 839-1030  
Space is limited. Please call to reserve your seat.

**BID WHIST GAMES**  
returns to Forest Heights, Friday March 25 @ 7:30 pm in the Municipal Building. If you are interested, please contact Gloria Wallace (301) 839-1030

**Informational Session & Town Meeting Schedule/Highlights**



**COUNCIL WILL MEET EVERY MONDAY. TIMES WILL BE POSTED. PLEASE CALL TOWN HALL.**

*Next Town Meeting  
February 16, 2005*

Town Meetings are always held on the third Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. during the months of September - June. Mayor/Council Informational 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. **The next Informational Council Session will be Monday, February 28, 2005 at 6:30 p.m.**

**January 27th, 2005  
Town Meeting Highlights**

- ◆ **RESOLUTION 1-05—  
to adopt Forest Heights  
Strategic Plan (6-0-1 vote)**
- ◆ **RESOLUTION 2-05—  
Infrastructure Loan (6-0-1  
vote)**

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**New Town Ethics Ordinance**

At the December 19, 2004 Town Meeting, the Town Council repealed the existing Article 14 Town Ethics Law, and passed a new Town Public Ethics Ordinance which became effective on January 14, 2005. The Mayor and Council enacted the new Ethics Ordinance to require Town officials and employees to disclose their financial affairs and to set minimum stan-

dards for their conduct of Town business. (copy available upon request from the town clerk)

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**ENERGY ASSISTANCE FOR ELIGIBLE MARYLAND RESIDENTS**



Low-income Maryland residents may be eligible to receive a discount on a portion of the natural gas they use through a new Residential Essential Service (RES) pilot program. Depending on the amount of natural gas used during the winter heating season, this credit could be worth as much as \$135.

For eligibility please contact the Maryland Department of Human Resources Energy Hotline at 1-800-352-1446 or [www.dlhr.state.md.us/meap](http://www.dlhr.state.md.us/meap).

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**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.**

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**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The contractor for the Handicapped Accessibility project, making the Municipal Building ADA compliant is Inner City Residential and Commercial Development Group, LLC. There will be employment opportunities for qualified construction workers. Please contact Mr. Joseph Gaskins, President, (301) 423-0524.

**PRINCE GEORGE'S CABLE  
COMCAST**

The Prince George's Cable Commission meets the third Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. The meeting is held at the Largo Government Center. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 15, 2005,  
1-800-COMCAST

**OXON HILL FOOD PANTRY**

The Oxon Hill Food Pantry, located at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 4915 St. Barnabas Road, provides emergency food rations to needy individuals and families in Forest Heights and the surrounding area. It operates on Tuesday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on Thursday evening from 6 to 8 p.m. Phone (301) 899-8358 during hours of operation.



**SHARE PROGRAM**

Orders for March are due on Monday, March 7th. Pick packages up at Abundant Life on Saturday, March 19th.

Package includes:  
*Meat, fruit, vegetable and dessert*

\$16 per value package/  
regular package, which can be paid for with food stamps, EBT cash money order & check. Payment is due when the order is placed.

Please contact Abundant Life for more information @ 301-839-7993

**CRIME REPORT  
POLICE CHIEF UPDATE  
January 2005**

Theft .....	0
Property Damage .....	1
Vehicle Impound .....	5
Theft from Auto .....	0
Stolen Tag .....	1
Robbery .....	0
Stolen Auto.....	0
Vandalism to Auto .....	1
Assault .....	0
Recovered Stolen Vehicle ..	0
Residential B & E.....	1
Arrest .....	1

**Forest Heights Police Dept.**  
**(301) 839-4040**

**Eastover District IV Police**  
**(301) 749-4900**

**Maryland Park Police**  
**(301) 459-9088**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday—Friday**  
**8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.**  
**Closed Saturday and Sunday**



**PLACES OF WORSHIP**

Abundant Life Ministries  
5533 Livingston Road  
Forest Heights, MD 20745  
(301) 839-7993  
Bishop Albert I. Chatman

Forest Heights Baptist Church  
6371 Oxon Hill Road  
Forest Heights, MD 20745  
(301) 839-1166  
Dr. James A. Langley, Pastor

St. Mark AME Church  
5427 Indian Head Hwy  
Forest Heights, MD 20745  
(301) 567-9509  
Rev. Henry D. Harper, Pastor

The Prepared Table Baptist Church  
5508 Arapahoe Drive  
Forest Heights, MD 20745  
(301) 702-9482  
Rev. Edward A. Smith

Christ Deliverance Community Freewill  
Baptist Church  
Services at Flintstone Elementary  
800 Comanche Drive  
Forest Heights, MD 20745  
(301) 686-1993  
Rev. Ronald Gay



The Town of Forest Heights would like to thank Ms. Anne Reifsneider for donating a new flag for the Laura Park on Seneca Drive.

Eastover Car Wash donated \$500 to the Forest Heights Police Department in recognition of the superior job they are doing.

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**TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE**

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

**MONDAY**—*Recycling*

**TUESDAY**—*Trash*

**WEDNESDAY**—*Bulk & Yard Waste*

**FRIDAY**—*Trash*

**PLEASE CONTACT WASTE MANAGEMENT AT (301) 702-3558 OR**

**TOWN CLERK AT (301) 839-1030, WITH ANY TRASH COMPLAINTS**

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**RECYCLE BINS  
FOR RESIDENTS**

**PLEASE CALL (301) 952-7630**



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**SNOW PARKING  
RESTRICTIONS**

Town Ordinance Section 15.3.2 in order to effectively clear our streets during snow conditions: “Except as indicated by legally posted signs, it shall be unlawful to park on the side of any street opposite the street light poles during a snow emergency.” In other words, simply park on the light pole side of the street, unless restricted by **NO PARKING** signs. Note: If the snow plow is blocked by your car, the fine is \$35.00 plus impoundment of your vehicle.

*Deadline to submit articles for the March 2005 newsletter is February 25, 2005. Articles are to be turned in via email to [townclerk.fh@verizon.net](mailto:townclerk.fh@verizon.net) or mailed to the Municipal Building at 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, MD 20745.*