



FOREST HEIGHTS NEWS

Incorporated 1949

53rd Year, Issue No. 2

February 2006

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Neighbors,



As Forest Heights continues to heal from the crisis that befell us, it is important that we not only look ahead but that we examine all angles to determine where we have been, where we are, and where we are headed. This takes a high level of commitment to the peace of the town and a willingness to be patient, set personal opinion aside, and to deal with the facts that directly impact the growth and development of our municipality. Now is not the time for more infighting and challenges to our peace; rather, now is the time for all of us to come to the table of reason and think about what really will help us build a strong community where our investment in our families and properties will flourish.

Where have we been? To be certain, we have authorized an independent investigation of the town's business dealings as far back as is necessary. This independent investigation will be spearheaded by an outside source experienced in municipal, state and federal investigations and it will be conducted with the aid of federally funded programming. The goal of this investigation is to find out where we have been as a town, how we got there, and to discover who is responsible for the financial and operational challenges that we have had to face.

Where are we now? I am glad to say that since January 17, 2006, we have been able to get a real handle on things. The chaos that existed during the last administration is almost non-existent. Internal controls over our spending have been implemented, the police force is in full swing, and finally, street repair is on the way. Our town government is now operating like a government should; meetings conducted peaceably and with dignity, service given in an orderly fashion, and employees who can be effective and secure in their positions without the threat of whimsical tyranny.

Where are we going? We are poised to be a premier town. Our new approach which highlights increased public safety, financial responsibility by our town government, infrastructure development, quality and effective leadership by our town officials (through calm, respectful, and consistent example), is positioning us to never again be labeled as a town with belligerent leadership out of control and residents blinded by the blight of dubious dealings from its government - but we will be a town whose citizenry is highly regarded as wise stewards not swayed by the shrouds of yesteryear which in too many cases veiled racist practices and community robbery. Forest Heights will capitalize off of the development around us and move in step with rising values, both personal and financial, and we, without bickering and fighting, deception or manipulation, but with the clear vision of maximizing our future, will rise to the level of a model community.

Thank you for your help in putting Forest Heights as a community first.

Sincerely,

Myles Spires, Jr.
Mayor

PROJECT HEAT UP

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL MANGAEMENT ORDINANCE

Maryland Department of Human Resources

Office of Home Energy Programs introduces Project Heat Up

Income Eligibility Standards

Effective January 15—March 31, 2006

Household Size	Maximum Monthly Inc	Maximum Yearly Inc
1	\$1,395.63	\$16,747.50
2	\$1,871.04	\$22,452.50
3	\$2,346.46	\$28,157.50
4	\$2,346.46	\$33,862.50
5	\$3,297.29	\$39,567.50
6	\$3,772.71	\$45,272.50
For each Add'l person	\$472.42	\$5,705

On January 30, 2006 the Forest Heights Town council passed emergency legislation to implement Financial Management to ensure the proper internal controls over Town finances. These controls cover cash management, personal property taxes, cash disbursements, check and credit cards, and payroll. A full version of this ordinance can be obtained from the Town Clerk of Forest Heights.

Please contact the municipal center (301) 839-1030 or stop by M-F, between the hours of 8:30 am—4:30 pm to pick up an application.

Citizens Concern Survey

Name: _____ (optional)

Address: _____ (optional)

We wish to convey our thanks to all citizens who have taken an active role in helping us to identify areas of interest from the community. In the interest of prioritizing our efforts, we are asking that you take a moment to fill out this survey indicating from 1-5 which issue is the most pressing for you. 1 = being least critical; 5 = being critical

Infrastructure (Street Repair)	1	2	3	4	5
Recreation (Youth and Elderly Programs)	1	2	3	4	5
Public Safety (Police Department)	1	2	3	4	5
Public Works (Waste Removal)	1	2	3	4	5
Town Finance and Revenue	1	2	3	4	5

You may return this form via fax, hand delivery, or mail to the Town Hall, Attention: Mayor Spires.

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

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

Next Town Meeting

February 15, 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, March 6 @ 8 pm
- Monday, April 3 @ 8 pm

Town Meeting

- Wednesday, March 15 @ 8 pm
- Wednesday, April 19 @ 8 pm

Deadline to submit articles for the March 2006 newsletter is March 10, 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
cliftonatkinsonI@yahoo.com

Ward III

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

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

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

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Phone: (301) 839-4040
William Waithe, *Lieutenant*
fhpd2004@verizon.net
Latessa Crawford, *Police Clerk*
policeclerk.fh@verizon.net

CRIME REPORT
POLICE CHIEF UPDATE
January 2005

January 2005

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

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



CURFEW REMINDER: AGES 16 & UNDER SHOULD NOT BE ON THE STREETS DURING THESE HOURS WITHOUT AN ADULT.

FRIDAY—SATURDAY: 12:00 AM TO 5:00 AM

SUNDAYS—THURSDAY: 10:00 PM TO 5:00 AM