



TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS

FOREST HEIGHTS NEWS

Incorporated 1949

SPECIAL EDITION

February 2008

TOWN ELECTIONS FOR COUNCILPERSON IN WARDS I, II & III TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12TH, 2008 11 AM TIL 8 PM

In accordance with Section 33-31 of the Forest Heights Town Charter persons may be nominated for elective office in the Town by filing a certificate of nomination together with a statement of the particular office to which he aspires, with the Town Clerk on or before the first Wednesday in February preceding the Town election. Such certificate shall state (1) the office for which the person is seeking, (2) the name and signature of the candidate, (3) the ward in which the person resides, (4) a statement that they meet the qualifications for the office as contained in this charter. No person shall file for nomination to more than one elective Town public office or hold more than one elective Town public office at any one time. The Town Board of Elections shall review each certificate of nomination and shall certify that the candidate meets the qualifications contained in this Charter. Any certificate of a candidate, that the Board's judgment does not meet the stated qualifications, shall be returned to the candidate with the reasons for the return stated thereon.

The below listed residents have submitted necessary documents and will appear on the ballot for the

March 12th election

Ward I, Councilperson

Carmelita L. Smith-Barnes

Ward II, Councilperson

Andrea McCutcheon

Clifton Atkinson

George Edward McDermott

Ward III, Councilperson

Taunya L. Hines

Larry Stoner, Sr.

Cancelled February 20th Town Meeting will be held on

Wed. February 27th, 8 p.m.

If you are not currently registered to vote a voter registration application must be submitted to your local board of elections or the State Board of Elections at any time. However, an application must be postmarked by January 22, 2008, to vote in the Town Election and the Primary Election. The deadline for the General Election in November is October 14, 2008. If you submit a voter registration application during the period that registration is closed, your application will be held at the local board of elections and processed when registration reopens. For the 2008 elections, registration will be closed from January 23, 2008 to February 25, 2008 and October 15, 2008 to November 17, 2008. Registration applications may be obtained from the Municipal Building in Forest Heights. For any additional information regarding election registration please contact the Town Clerk or the Prince George County Board of Elections at (301) 430-8020.

Absentee Voters may make an application in writing for an absentee ballot. The application must be received no later than 7 days before the election. The application shall contain an affidavit, which need not be under oath, but which shall set forth the information required. Please contact the Town Clerk of Forest Heights for additional information on absentee voting at 301-839-1030.

In accordance with Section 33-34(b) of the Town Charter, the Town Council voted on February 4th (5-1) in lieu of voting machines for the March 12th election to use voting ballot and ballot boxes. This decision was made to insure that we come well within the allotted budget that was permitted in our 2008 fiscal year for elections. It is the duty of the Town Board of Elections to carry out the responsibility and the procedures.

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) and the Maryland Mayors Association (MMA) "If I Were Mayor Essay Contest" information and study guide is now available at the town hall. Eleven (11) winners will be recognized at the statewide Municipal Government Celebration Event in May.

Contest Rules

- The contest is open to all Maryland students enrolled in the 4th grade during the 2007-2008 school year.
- Essays must address the subject with the opening line beginning: "If I Were Mayor, I Would..."
- Essays may not exceed 275 words.
- Only one essay may be submitted per student.
- Essays will be judged by contest sponsors in the following areas:
essay relation to contest topic; displayed knowledge about municipal government and the role of a mayor; creativity; and proper use of grammar.
- Students must include their first and last names, school and teacher's name at the top of their essays.
- Essays must be received no later than April 1, 2008. Winners will be notified by the end of April 2008.

Dear Neighbors:

Once again it is time for us to exercise one of the most important democratic events. On 12 March, I am asking for your vote for me to remain your representative on the city council. The past several months have been very trying for our small community. With most of the legal problems adjudicated we are moving ahead to make this a better city.

Integrity of your elected officials should be paramount in your mind. I am doing all within my powers to see that this is an attainable goal. Our city finances, police department, trash collection and other areas that need attention will receive this council's undivided attention.

I encourage you as a citizen of Forest Heights, please come out and participate in the meetings. We must have citizen input to help us.

Remember this is your (our), town. It is only as good as we make it.

Carmelita L. Smith-Barnes, Councilwoman

~~WORKING HAND IN HAND FOR AND WITH YOU~~

VOTE

Andrea McCutcheon

For the office Town Council Ward II

I am a candidate for Town Council Ward II, Town of Forest Heights. I have served as Councilwoman Ward II since my appointment May 31, 2006. I have also served as Council President since March 2007 and Acting Mayor during the transition after our last election.

I believe it is the responsibility of the Mayor and Council to be accountable for their actions and follow the rules of the Town Charter, Ordinances, Maryland Code and other laws governing municipalities. I have worked to insure that we work within the budget, so that we do not experience a financial crisis as in the past administration.

I have worked diligently with Mayor Hines and the Town Council during the transition from turmoil to turn around. I have attended **all** meetings since my appointment May 2006. As chairwoman of the sanitation committee I participated in executing a contract with Goode for town trash removal. I am currently chairwoman of the Police Department.

My family adopted Lohr Park at the intersection of Seneca and Woodland, where Mr. Kennedy and I donated roses, mulch and plants to beautify it. Several residents assisted me in cleaning the park and pruning trees and bushes.

My goals remain to:

- Serve public good and represent interests of all citizens.
- Identify Town needs and determine priorities.
- Establish broad policy and local laws as ordinances and resolutions.
- Ensure that Town Charter and Ordinances are faithfully executed.
- Support our Town operating in a proactive efficient manner where the services of police protection, health and sanitation, and infrastructure are in response to the needs of our Town.
- Promote beautification of our Town by actively participating and seeking participation from Town residents.

Andrea McCutcheon

MCCUTCHEON FOR TOWN COUNCIL WARD II

VOTE CLIFTON ATKINSON WARD 2

Dear Ward 2 Citizens of Forest Heights

I, Clifton L. Atkinson, have been a resident of the Town for more than 25 years. I am submitting my letter of intent to run for Ward 2 as Councilmember. During my tenure as a Councilman of Ward 2, I have attended meetings in Annapolis and the Prince George's County Municipal Association on behalf of the Town.

I successfully completed the following Maryland Municipal League workshops:

- Consensus and Team Building
- Municipal Budgeting
- Open Meeting Act
- Academy for Excellence
- Ethics
- Public Information Act
- Municipal Issues in Court
- Emergency Management

I will take my position as Councilmember of Ward 2 serious. As a Councilmember of Ward 2, I promise to represent all of its residents. I will be available 24 hours, 7 days a weeks.

During my tenure as Councilmember, I was Chairperson for Public Works, new employees were hired, our streets were cleaner, and equipment was updated. I worked closely with the Public Works employees to ensure the streets were cleaned.

During my tenure as Councilmember, I was the Chairperson for the Police Department. The police department was upgraded with new computers and additional police cars.

I ask for your support and vote on March 12, 2008

VOTE CLIFTON ATKINSON WARD 2

Statement of Ward II candidate George Edward McDermott Re: upcoming election

To the good citizens of Forest Heights Maryland my intention in submitting my name for nomination for the Council seat in the town's upcoming election representing constituents in Ward 2 was submitted in good faith with the hope and aspiration that I would become the voice of change in our electric council representing citizens interest and the best interest of Forest Heights Maryland a Municipal Corporation governed by We The People for the benefit of our community as a whole. A concept our elected officials seem to have forgotten over the past administrations. It's

But since the signing up as a candidate, I have evaluated my current circumstances and believe it would be in the best interest of our community at this time that I withdraw my name from consideration for the foregoing reasons.

1. As an elected official of the town and its representatives would have to commit certain time and resources in order to do justice to the constituents and the Constitution of this unincorporated township. Which would result in my advocacy on a half of the people of this town against elected officials who abuse the Oval Office.
The town charter of Forest Heights Maryland is our Constitution and the rule of law the general misconception is that any statute passed by its legislature bearing the appearance of law constitutes the law of the land. The United States Constitution is the supreme law of the land and our town constitution is patterned after such. Note that any statute, to be valid must be in agreement. It is impossible for a law which violates our constitution to be valid. This is distinctly stated as follows.
 - A. All LAW's which are repugnant to our Constitution are null and void. "Mulberry vs. Madison 5 US (2 church) 137, 174, 176, (1803).
 - B. Where rights secured by the Constitution are involved, there can be no rule making or legislation which would abrogate them. Miranda vs. Arizona, 348 US 436 p. 491.
 - C. An unconstitutional act is not law; it confers no rights in poses no duties and affords no protection it creates no office it is a legal contemplation, as an inoperative as though it had never been past . Norton vs. Shelby County 118 US 425P. 442.
2. Our current leadership and past administrations have knowingly violating the respective oath of office by not seeking proper legal advice and oversight of their legislative rule-making capacity creating a perception and culture of corruption within their administrations abrogating the rights and liberties of our citizens. Which is well documented in the United States District Court house in Greenbelt Md. McDermott vs. The Town of Forest Heights Md. Which the town's attorneys have been defending in bad faith.
3. As a citizen journalist. **SECRET JUSTICE NEWS. COM** and also secret **JUSTICE NEWS@ YOU TUBE** I believe I can better serve the community by being the check and balance on our Government and town administration, being an elected official would conflict greatly with my advocacy work on defending the rights and liberties of the broken system of Government and the Judiciary which appears to be disconnected from the plight of victims.
4. I also need to commit more time to my Church which is Forest Heights Baptist Church for we must not forget the natural order that 1 God created- man... 2. Man (that's you) creating our Constitution... 3 are Constitution created our Government... 4 And our Government created corporations etc. purportedly for the benefit of we the people with bylaws and statutory restraints on exceeding their power and authority under color of law.

I now respectfully request that the Town Clerk removed my name from consideration as a candidate for elective office in 2008 election cycle effective May 1 2008. It is my belief that this course of action is in the best interest of the townspeople, a pledge to remain an advocate for our Town Constitution and citizens the rights contained therein.s

As a resident of over 40 years I enjoy living community and demand that those holding office return to the rule of law of pay and respect their respective posts of office to uphold and defend our Constitution and citizens rights. I would urge all citizens to exercise their dominion over government by voting in the upcoming election failure to do so will breed tyranny and corruption of government. "Remember when People acting in the name of government violate ethics, they break the trust with "We The People" the natural result for "We the people" is to pull back power (honor and allegiance). I would now like to endorse Larry Stoner and Cliff Barnes as my community's choice.

Yours in truth

George McDermott

Larry Stoner, Sr.

For the Office of Town Council Ward III

Dear Ward III Residents,

I once again am asking for your VOTE and support in the upcoming election for Councilman. I have served you well as the Chairman of the Police Department and the Chairman of the Health and Sanitation Department and as Acting Mayor in past terms. I hope I have represented you well and as Councilman I successfully worked on many issues, namely:

- Actively engaged in the process leading to the passage of a balanced budget
- Monitored trash collection activities and Town cleanliness
- Oversight of police protection and public safety
- Participated as a member of Police Board interviews and selection of police officers
- Reviewed trash contracts and services and recommended that contracts be re-bid

The residents of Forest Heights deserve the continuity of a dedicated and working Council Member and I intend to strive to make this the best Municipality in Prince George's County and the State of Maryland. My qualifications include: a Bachelor's degree in Social Welfare from the University of the District of Columbia, retired Metropolitan Police Officer, and Chapter Present of Blacks in Government at the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), where I retired from in January of this year as a Human Resources Specialist. I bring a wealth of experience and have worked for the town diligently during past terms.

I look forward to continuing to serve you; I am always just a telephone call away (301) 839-9040

Sincerely yours,

Larry Stoner, Sr.

Vote

**Taunya L. Hines
Councilwoman Ward 3
March 12, 2008**

It's been said that behind every great man is an even greater woman. For this reason I plan to continue the good works that's been started.

My name is Taunya L. Hines. I've been a town resident for over twenty years. I am the wife of Quincy Hines Jr., the mother of his children and a GOD fearing Christian who knows with GOD on my side there is nothing I can't overcome. As long as GOD orders my steps' and the citizens of Ward III hold me accountable we will have a successful 2 yr. term.

I am a woman who believes in standing up for what is right and working to reach my goals. May of 2007 I was elected as councilwoman to represent and fight for Ward III. I've been at the workshops and town meetings. I've begun taking the MML classes so that I can assist where needed. I'm a firm believer in saying it takes a village to raise a child. This town is our child. I love to listen to the unheard.

I will voice your ideas to ensure the members of our community are equally represented. There are a lot of changes I would like to bring to our community. We need to work together to promote equal rights. I'd like to implement children's programs, elderly activities and a strong neighborhood watch. Most importantly we need to take back our community. We need to get EVERYONE involved and work together.

Our ancestors fought for this right so I strongly urge you to come out and vote to ensure ALL voices are heard in Forest Heights. In the words of Senator Barack Obama "Let's turn the page".

Sincerely,

Taunya L. Hines