

# FOREST Heights NEWS



Town of Forest Heights  
Prince George's County, Maryland

*We Work Together*

Sue E. McGinnis  
**MAYOR**

**COUNCIL**  
Thomas Casey  
Jerome Corrigan  
Quincy Hines  
Sharon McInnis  
Paula Noble  
Anne K. Reifsneider

*Councilmember Paula Noble, Editor*

**50<sup>th</sup> Year, Issue No. 1**

**January 11, 2003**

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Sue E. McGinnis

**Happy New Year Citizens,**

We are beginning a New Year, 2003 on target - the Forest Heights Community. We know where we are going. We have learned from where we have been. **"We Work Together."**

Some of the 2002 highlights for the town include

- Completion of Talbert Drive
- Traffic light at 210 Indian Head Highway and Talbert Drive
- Renewed Trash Contract
- Prepared and submitted grant for Community Improvement
- Flood Wall construction
- Contact and worked with local and state officials
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Picnic at Forest Heights Park

- 1<sup>st</sup> Clean Up Forest Heights Day
- Veteran's Day Celebration
- 1<sup>st</sup> Summer Youth Camp - 32 youth participated
- Working Task Force for 210 Indian Head Highway Project
- Valentine's Day Dance
- Book Give-Aways
- Neighborhood Watch meetings
- March and November Essay contests for the Forest Heights and Flintstone Elementary students

Now, we will move forward to a more fulfilling and prosperous new year - a community truly and sincerely working together.

## **SPECIAL THANK YOU!!!**

Mayor, Town Council, and Police Department wish to thank the students and staff at Forest Heights Elementary School for the hundreds of appreciation letters for making the school and street safer. We are deeply honored - the students are our future. Our main goal always is to

make your climb up the ladder of success a safe trip.

## ***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 created 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.

## **TOWN MEETING**

**Wednesday, January 15, 2003 in  
the Municipal Building at  
8:00 p.m.**

**The guest speaker will be  
Thurman D. Jones, Jr., President  
Patriots Technology Center.**

**MAYOR**

Sue McGinnis  
(301) 839-1030

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Ward I**

Thomas Casey  
(301) 839-0936  
Sharon McInnis  
(301) 567-2008  
E-mail FHWARD1SCM@cs.com

**Ward II**

Jerome Corrigan  
(301) 839-2585  
Anne Reifsnyder  
(301) 839-1146  
E-mail SPAR1@EROLS.COM

**Ward III**

Quincy Hines  
(301) 839-8522  
Paula Noble  
(301) 567-4246  
E-mail WARDIII4YOU@aol.com

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

**Chief of Police**

Clifton C.K. Brinkley  
(301) 839-4040

**Town Clerk**

Wilhelmina Gray  
(301) 839-1030

**Public Works Department**

**Maintenance Supervisor**

William Clarke  
(301) 686-1432

**OUR TOWN COMMITMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the National League of Cities is committed to promoting racial equality and justice as a fundamental aspect of. A healthy community **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor of Forest Heights and Town Council of Forest Heights affirm our commitment to ensuring racial equality and justice in our city and to working with the National League of Cities to sustain this commitment throughout the country.

**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.

**IN TOWN**

Town Meetings are always held on the third Wednesday during the months of September through June. Mayor/Council Work Sessions are held on the first Monday of the month approximately two weeks prior to Town Meetings. Meetings are open to the public and we greatly encourage your participation. The next Council Work Session will be February 3, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. (Tuesday when Monday is a holiday or as absolutely necessary).

**TOWN TRASH COLLECTION**

Your cooperation with Town ordinances for disposing of residential trash is important for maintaining healthy and property values in the Town. The Town trash contractor collects trash on Tuesday and Friday (except holidays). The County also collects recyclable materials in the Town on Monday (plastics, newspapers, etc.). Trash should be placed within two feet of the curb line. It is important to use trash containers with lids. Public Works has a 24-hour answering machine (301) 686-1432.

**TRASH PICK-UP DAYS BEGINNING AT 7:00 a.m.**

**MONDAY**

Recycling

**TUESDAY**

Trash

**FRIDAY**

Trash

Bulky Trash

**APPLIANCES & TIRE PICK-UP**

These items are not collected by the regular contractor. Town Public Works Department will collect these items at a cost of \$35.00 per item and tires \$4.00 without rim, \$6.00 with rim. Place items at curb by 7:00 a.m. you will receive notice of charges. **DO NOT PLACE ITEM BY CURB UNLESS YOU WANT TOWN TO PICK THEM UP.** After 30 days Town Ordinance Article 11, Section 11-4 -4 states "Violation of this notice can result in \$100.00 fine for first offense and may be fined \$200.00 for repeat offense." For hazardous and poisonous materials call (301) 883-5045. **FOREST HEIGHTS DOES NOT HAVE ANY COUNTY PICK-UP FOR METAL & TIRES.**

**TREE REMOVAL**

All property owners who have trees removed from private property must make arrangements to have all debris removed from the property. Relocating the limbs and tree trunks to the street or curbside is prohibited. Public Works Department will not remove and discard the debris. Town Ordinance indicates that the resident is subject to a fine for non compliance.

Deadline to submit articles for the February 2003 issue of the newsletter is January 31, 2003. Articles are to be turned in or mailed to the Municipal Building at 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, MD 20745.

**CRIME REPORT**  
**POLICE CHIEF UPDATE**

December 1, 2002 through  
December 31, 2002

Robbery.....	3
Comanche & Choctow Dr Rolph & Seneca Dr 5400 blk Indian Head Hwy	
Auto	
Vandalism.....	1
700 blk Quade St	
Larceny/Theft.....	1
5500 blk Livingston Rd	
Stolen Motor Vehicles.....	1
5900 blk Ottawa St	
Property Damage.....	0
Vehicle Impound.....	2
Stolen Tag.....	0
Assault.....	0
Recovered Stolen Vehicle....	2
5300 blk Indian Head Hwy 5900 blk Quade St	
Recovered Property.....	0
Residential B&E.....	0

**Eastover District IV Police**  
**(301) 749-4900**  
**Maryland Park Police**  
**(301) 459-9088**

**BOOKS, BOOKS & more**

**B**ooks, books, and more are available to Town residents on **Wednesday, January 15 at 7:30 p.m.** before the Town Meeting begins. The books will be displayed on **Thursday, January 16 and Friday, January 17 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** at the Municipal Building. The books range from best sellers to inspirational from cook books to children. Videos and audio tapes are also available. There is a book for everyone in your household from the youngest to the oldest.

Take the time to participate in the book drive. *"The man who does not read good books is at no advantage over the man that can't read them."* - Mark Twain ■

**NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**  
**PROGRAM - CRIME**  
**PREVENTION**

**N**eighborhood Watch is undoubtedly one of the oldest and most well known crime prevention concepts in history. While the modern day concept of Neighborhood Watch came into prominence in the late 1960s in response to an increasing burglary rate, its roots in America can actually be traced all the way back to the days of Colonial settlements when night watchmen patrolled the streets. *Neighborhood Watch Program* is a highly successful effort which has been in existence for some thirty years in cities across America. It provides a unique infrastructure that brings together local officials, law enforcement and citizens for the protection of communities. In cities around the country, neighbors for three decades have banded together to create these "watch" programs. They



**NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

understand that the active participation of neighborhood residents is a critical element in community safety - not through vigilantism, but simply through a willingness to look out for suspicious activity in their neighborhood, and report that activity to the police and to each other. In doing so, residents take a major step toward reclaiming high-crime neighborhoods, as well as making people in all areas of a city

or town feel more secure and less fearful. The town plans to actively pursue the town residents for participation in this program. The Neighborhood Watch committee will solicit your support for the program. Neighborhood Watch meetings will be scheduled for 2003. Please watch the newsletter for dates and time. ■

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**PRINCE GEORGE'S CABLE**  
**COMCAST**

The Prince George's Cable Commission meets the third Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. The meeting is open to the public. The meeting is held at the Prince George's County Administration Building, 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro, Maryland. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21, 2003. Paula Noble is the Town of Forest Heights Comcast Coordinator. ■

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**2003 TOWN MEETINGS**  
**8:00 p.m.**

- January 15**
  - February 19**
  - March 19**
  - April 16**
  - May 21**
  - June 18**
  - July 16**
  - August 20**
  - September 17**
  - October 15**
  - November 19**
  - December 17**
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**CHRISTMAS IN APRIL – Prince George’s County is seeking homeowners to apply for the 2003 program to be held Saturday, April 26, 2003. The organization will be repairing about 100 homes. For more information, call 301-868-0937.**

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## **CITIZEN’S PERSONAL INVENTORY**

Citizens are encouraged to ask themselves this important question: “What am I, as a citizen, doing to maintain the quality of life, and the property values in our Town?”

- |   |     |    |
|---|-----|----|
| 1. Maintaining property values is important to me.        | Yes | No |
| 2. I am aware of the zoning ordinances in the Town.       | Yes | No |
| 3. I understand the definition of an inoperative vehicle. | Yes | No |
| 4. I understand that trashcans must have secure lids.     | Yes | No |
| 5. I keep my lawn and shrubs cut and trimmed.             | Yes | No |
| 6. I call (301) 839-1030 for metal items pick-up.         | Yes | No |
| 7. I report non-working streetlights to (202) 833-7500.   | Yes | No |
| 8. I contribute to the positive image of the Town.        | Yes | No |

**WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN HAVE A BEAUTIFUL TOWN!**

*We want to hear from you. Please send your comments, question ideas for this newsletter to Town Hall at 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, MD 20745 or Fax (301) 839-9236.*