

FOREST Heights NEWS



Town of Forest Heights
Prince George's County, Maryland

We Work Together

Sue E. McGinnis
MAYOR

COUNCIL

Jerome Corrigan
Quincy Hines
Sharon McInnis
Paula Noble
Anne K. Reifsneider

Councilmember Paula Noble, Editor

50th Year, Issue No. 3

March 14, 2003

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Sue E. McGinnis

Dear Citizens,

We are in a time where there is a possibility of a national conflict. State regulations require that the Town of Forest Heights have an emergency operation plan, that outlines how the Town will respond to extraordinary events, or disaster from preparation to recovery.

The preservation of life, property, and the environment is the responsibility of local, state and Federal government. While no plan can completely prevent death and destruction, good plans carried out by knowledgeable, and well trained personnel can and will minimize losses.

Under any circumstances, citizens remember to remain calm, think safety first, do not panic. We have qualified, certified, and experienced persons capable of responding to any emergency.

We live in a country that was built on the foundation of faith, prayer, inner strength, determination, unity, and the basic instinct to survive.

The Forest Heights Police will be holding meetings to update the community. ■

THE ASIAN TIGER MOSQUITO

The Asian tiger mosquito is a very aggressive day-biting mosquito which has become a serious pest in parts of the county. It is a black mosquito with white stripes on the legs and a white stripe down the middle of its head and back. It is very aggressive and will bite whenever people or animals available, but it is also skittish and hard to swat. Often, you will not feel it biting and it tends to stay near the ground (you may get bitten on the legs only).

This mosquito lays its eggs in containers or holes in trees. It is closely tied to human habitation and any container in your yard which will hold even a small amount of water for a week or more can breed the tiger mosquito.

Keeping this mosquito controlled in the county will take an organized community clean-up effort. Please check your yard for water holding containers such as tires, kiddie pools not in use, buckets, barrels or cans, wheelbarrows, canoes, boats, tarps where water can puddle, flower pots or saucers under pots. Either empty, store or rinse these containers out weekly. Don't forget rain gutters - these can breed large numbers of mosquitoes if not cleaned so that they flow. ■

TOWN MEETING

**Wednesday, March 19, 2003 in the
Municipal Building at
8:00 p.m.**

We Work Together

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 April 7, 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 April 2003 issue of the newsletter is March 28, 2003. Articles are to be turned in or mailed to the Municipal Building at 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, MD 20745.

MAYOR

Sue McGinnis
(301) 839-1030

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ward I

Sharon McInnis
(301) 567-2008
E-mail FHWARD1SCM@cs.com

Ward II

Jerome Corrigan
(301) 839-2585
Anne Reifsnieder
(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.

We Work Together

CRIME REPORT
POLICE CHIEF UPDATE

February 1, 2003 through
February 28, 2003

Robbery.....	0
Auto	
Vandalism.....	0
Theft.....	0
Stolen Motor Vehicles.....	0
Property Damage.....	0
Vehicle Impound.....	7
Stolen Tag.....	1
Assault.....	1
Seneca Dr & Sachem Dr	
Recovered Stolen Vehicle....	2
100 blk Onondaga Dr	
Recovered Property.....	0
Residential B&E.....	0
Vehicle Impound.....	1
Livingston Rd & Rt 210	
Theft from Auto.....	1
5400 blk Indian Head Hwy	

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT
HOURS

Monday through Friday
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Closed Saturday and Sunday

2002 INCOME TAX
REMINDER

We ask you once again to assist us in making sure that the Town receive as much income as we can possibly get from the State and from the County. Please make sure you do the following two things: 1) Make sure your car registration lists **FOREST HEIGHTS** as the town in which you reside not Oxon Hill. This will ensure that we get our proper

tax from the State. 2) Make sure that on your State Income Tax form you specify that the Incorporated Municipality in which you live is **FOREST HEIGHTS**. This will also ensure that we get our proper share of your income tax back from the State. ■

GUIDELINES FOR DISPLAY
OF SIGNS & POSTERS

1. Must be made of water resistant material or covered with plastic to prevent water damage.
2. Use printing material that will not run when wet.
3. Maximum size 18 inches wide & 24 inches top to bottom if mounted on wooden town signs.
4. Large signs must not exceed 2 feet by 3 feet.
5. Large signs must be secured and stable on stakes, frames, post etc.
6. Double side tent type signs may be used providing they do not hinder traffic or pedestrian crossing.
7. Can be displayed one week prior to event.
8. Must be removed day event ends, and return wooden town signs to maintenance department.
9. All effort must be made to present a neat, well lettered, correct spelling and easy to read sign.
10. Illegal to place signs or posters on utility poles.
11. No sign or poster may be placed on Town easement (12 feet in from curb) or parks.
12. Signs & posters must be pre-approved by the Mayor or Public Works Chair.

LIFE BEGINS AT 80

I have good news for you. The first 80 years are the hardest. The second 80 are a succession of birthday parties.

Once you reach 80, everyone wants to carry your baggage and help you up the steps. If you forget your name or anybody else's name, or an appointment, or your own telephone number, or promise to be three places at the same time, or can't remember how many grandchildren you have, you need only explain that you are 80. Being 80 is a lot better than being 70. At 70 people are made at you for everything. At 80 you have a perfect excuse no matter what you do. If you act foolishly, it's your second childhood. Everybody is looking for symptoms of softening of the brain.

Being 70 is no fun at all. At that age they expect you to retire to a house in Florida and complain about arthritis (they used to call it lumbago) and you ask everybody to stop mumbling because you can't understand them. (Actually your hearing is about 50 percent gone.)

If you survive until you are 80, everybody is surprised that you are still alive. They treat you with respect just for having lived so long. Actually they seem surprised that you can walk and talk sensibly.

So please, folks, try to make to 80. It's the best time of life. People forgive you for anything. If you ask me, life begins at 80.

THOUGHT: "Inside every older person is a younger person wondering what the devil happened."

FOREST HEIGHTS
HOMEMAKERS

ELECTION INFORMATION

*Filing Deadline for Candidates is **APRIL 2, 2003***

Forest Heights residents who plan to be CANDIDATES for the office of Mayor or Town Council Member in the coming town election are reminded that they must file a Certificate of Nomination at the administrative office at 5508 Arapahoe Drive on or before **Wednesday, April 2, 2003**. Filing of such a Certificate constitutes a filing for office provided the candidate is otherwise qualified.

The Town Charter provides that all candidates shall have resided in the Town for at least one year immediately preceding the election, shall be qualified voters of the Town and shall maintain a permanent residence in the Town during their term in office. Candidates for Town Council may seek office only for the Ward in which they reside and shall have resided in that Ward for at least one year preceding the Town Election.

Those elected officials whose term expires in May 2003 are:

Mayor:

Sue E. McGinnis

Council Members:

Ward I - (Vacant)

Ward II - Anne Reifsneider

Ward III - Quincy Hines

CANDIDATES STATEMENTS

Candidates in the May 2003 Town Election must have their statements for the April Newsletter in to the Town Clerk by Wednesday, April 2, 2003.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Every person who is a citizen of the United States, is at least 18 years of age (or will be at the time of the Town Election), and has been a bona fide resident of the Town for at least 30 days at the time of election, is qualified to register in Prince George's County, Maryland, with the Board of Elections Supervisor. Only those who are registered voters will be eligible to vote or run for office in the Town Election.

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.