



FOREST HEIGHTS NEWS

ONE COMMUNITY—MANY CULTURES

March 2005

Incorporated 1949

52nd Year, Issue No. 3

TOWN MEETING

MARCH 16, 2005 @ 8:00 P.M.
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MINISTER PAMELA ROBINSON
ABUNDANT LIFE MINISTRIES
"SHARE PROGRAM"

THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS HOST
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION
MONTHLY MEETING
MARCH 17, 2005
7:30 P.M.

MAYOR'S JOURNAL

"We can draw lessons from the past, but we cannot live in it."

Lyndon B. Johnson,
December 13, 1963
36th President of the United States



Dear Neighbor,

The Town of Forest Heights Black History celebration was a success! Floyd E. Wilson, Jr., the first African American member appointed to the Prince George's County Council more than 30 years ago graciously spoke to our community about his political career as well as his personal achievements. Mr. Wilson, who is the newly elected Executive Director of the Prince George's Minority Business Development Division offered words of encouragement and inspiration to our youth for their future endeavors, goals, and dreams. The County Executive Jack B. Johnson attended the Black History celebration as well as Delegates Obie Patterson, Darryl Kelley, Councilman Tony Knotts, and Governor's Deputy Director Herbert Jordan III, Diana Banks, Church of God in Christ and author Tahira Chloe Mahdi.

The area elementary schools submitted both art and writing displays for a "One Community – Many Cultures" contest sponsored by Dr. and Mrs. Roscoe Moore, Jr. Dr. and Mrs. Moore and Joann Fisher along with the members of National-Louis University Class 165M donated monies toward savings bonds for the winners of the contest. Major O'Neill, District IV donated tickets to the Lion King production for one of our winners.

.....continued on page 2

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2005
POTOMAC RIVER WATERSHED CLEAN-UP
OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO EARN COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

Mayor Paula R. Noble
mayor.fh@verizon.net

TOWN COUNCIL:

Ward I

Lynn Smith-Barnes—(301) 749-9741
WARDIHandinHand@aol.com
George Wiggers—(301) 839-3712
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
Larry Stoner—(301) 839-9040

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

Phone: (301) 839-1030

Cynthia H. Farrar, *Town Administrator*
townadministrator@verizon.net
Dennis Bobo, *Town Treasurer*
towntreasurer.fh@verizon.net
Bonita Anderson, *Town Clerk*
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
Latessa Crawford, *Police Clerk*
policeclerk.fh@verizon.net

The Forest Heights Youth Council adopted a pledge for its membership (see page 2). Marquita Lester, one of the Forest Heights 9th grade youth, has actively spearheaded this effort and continues to support, volunteer and encourage the Forest Heights youth to participate in activities. The Forest Heights Youth Council has hosted two events in the last three months that proved to be well attended. Mrs. Tara Wilson recently agreed to lead the council as the President of the Forest Heights Parks and Recreation Council. Our Forest Heights Police, Corporal Waithe also provides leadership and direction for the youth. The Forest Heights Youth Council meets every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building. This is the time to encourage all of our youth to participate. Please contact Gloria Wallace at (301) 839-1030 for more information.

March is National Women's History month. Women's history provides a wealth of new role models for today's young people and for adults as well. The Town of Forest Heights salutes Tahira Chloe Mahdi for her contributions and positive achievements as a resident and published author, "God Laughs, Too" and "How to be Queen of the Universe."

Saturday, April 2, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon a clean up has been coordinated with Prince George's Citizen's Concerned for a Cleaner County (CCCC) and the Alice Ferguson Foundation to clean the trail behind the Bell Acres Park at N. Huron and Mohican. This is a great opportunity for community and its students to participate in the clean-up. Please contact Gloria Wallace to sign up for the Potomac Watershed Cleanup - "It Starts In Your Backyard!"

Mayor Paula R. Noble

Message from Youth Council Chairwoman, Marquita Lester

AS THE FOREST HEIGHTS YOUTH CHAIRWOMAN I'M PROUD TO REPORT TO THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS, AND BOARD THAT THE EVENT THAT TOOK PLACE ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2005 FROM 7-11PM WAS ONCE AGAIN ANOTHER SUCCESS. WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR WONDERFUL MAYOR, THE CHIEF, CPL. WAITHE, COUNCILWOMAN BARNES, COUNCILMAN ATKINSON, REV. CHATMAN, & MRS. WILSON FOR ALL THEIR HELP AND SUPPORT TO OUR PROGRAM. THANKS FOR EVERYTHING TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS.

"We pledge to love the senior citizens and our wonderful"



COUNCIL CHAIRWOMAN MARQUITA LESTER & COUNCIL SECRETARY DOMINIQUE CROSBY

FOREST HEIGHTS YOUTH PLEDGE:

AS THE FOREST HEIGHTS YOUTH COMMITTEE WE PLEDGE TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER, WE ALSO PLEDGE TO RESPECT OURSELVES, AND THE ADULTS AROUND US. WE PLEDGE TO LOVE THE SENIOR CITIZENS AND OUR WONDERFUL FATHER POLICE STAFF, WE WILL EXTEND OUR HANDS OUT TO THOSE WHO MAY NEED OUR HELP, WITH GOD ON OUR SIDE WE WILL OVERCOME ALL TRIALS AND TRIBULATION THAT MAY TRY TO LEAP IN OUR WAY. FOREST HEIGHTS YOUTH PLEDGE!!!!

Ms. Marquita Lester

NCBM SCHOLRSHIP PROGRAM

The National Conference of Black Mayors (NCBM) awarding scholarships at the 31st Annual Convention in Columbus, Ohio on April 27-May 1, 2005. Please stop by the Municipal Building at 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, MD 20745 to pick up the eligibility guidelines and a student application form. The organization is awarding twenty \$1,000 scholarships to students in active members' cities and towns.

We ask that your students return the applications to the Municipal Building, so we can forward them to the NCBM office postmarked no later than MARCH 15, 2005. Please do not fax the application to us.

Forest Heights Black History Program

“One Community—Many Cultures”

“We would like to thank our area businesses, public officials, professional and community leaders for their donations & generous support of our community for such a wonderful Black History Program. And a very special “Thank You” to Mr. Floyd Wilson, Jr., Executive Director, Prince George’s County Minority Business Development Division, our guest speaker. Prince George’s County Executive, Jack B. Johnson, Deputy Director, Governor’s Office of Minority Affairs, Herbert Jordan, III, Delegate Darryl Kelley, Delegate Obie Patterson & Councilman Tony Knotts for offering words of encouragement and inspiration to our community. We would like to thank Mayor Carol D. Johnson, City of District Heights and Mayor Lillian Thompson-Martin, Town of Fairmount Heights for sharing their time during our celebration.”

- Children’s National Medical Center
- CVS
- District IV Police Station
- Desserts By Gerard
- Dollar Century Store
- Family Dollar Store
- Giant Foods, Inc.
- Eastover Liquors
- Dr. & Mrs. Roscoe Moore
- Safeway
- Sharper’s Florist
- Meads Liquors
- McDonalds
- Mike’s Liquors
- Mr. R.C. Tolbert, The Mortgage Store
- Murray’s Steaks



Mayor Paula R. Noble

PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION 2006

PUBLIC HEARING
SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2005
10:00 AM—3:00 PM
The National Church of God
CHOIR ROOM
6700 BOCK ROAD
FORT WASHINGTON, MD
26TH DISTRICT TEAM:
SENATOR GLORIA LAWLAH

WITH DELEGATES OBIE PATTERSON, DARRYL KELLEY & VERONICA TURNER

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.**

MARYLAND STATE VEHICLE INSPECTION & REPAIR

FOREST HEIGHTS CHEVRON GAS STATION

Mr. Walid Halabi
5401 Indian Head Highway
Forest Heights, MD 20745
(301) 839-1555

FIRST MINT

First mint to make coins in the Western Hemisphere was opened by the Spanish, located in Mexico City in 1536. The first coin produced was the Piece of Eight also called the Spanish Dollar. By 1630s the coin Piece of Eight was being circulated in the first English Colonies in Jamestown, VA and St. Mary's, MD. In order to make change the coin was cut into eight pieces or bits, two bits equaled a quarter of the Spanish Dollar. (slang term for a quarter is two bits). In 1658 Cecil Calvert had his own coins made in England for use in Maryland, termed the Baltimore shilling. Calvert's many enemies in England filed criminal charges accusing him of circulated false money, case was dismissed. May 1661 the Maryland Assembly passed a law establishing a mint in Maryland.

THOUGHT: A hangover is the wrath of grapes.

FOREST HEIGHTS HOMEMAKERS

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.



The Forest Heights Police Department has joined in partnership with "Project Child Safe". "Project Child Safe" is funded by the Department of Justice and provides "Free" gun locks to participating Police Departments. These gun locks are available to town residents free of charge. If you own a firearm of any type simply come by the Forest Heights Police Department Office during normal business hours, and request a gun lock.

LET'S KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE!

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.

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.

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 Council Session & Town Meeting Schedule/Highlights

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

*Next Town Meeting
March 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, April 4, 2005 at 6:30 p.m.

**February 16th, 2005
Town Meeting Highlights**

Approval of Resolution No. 03-05 for the Town of Forest Heights to Participate as an Issuer of Infrastructure Bonds, 2005 Series A (vote 6-0-1)

Approval of Resolution No. 04-05 to provide funds for the Summer Playground Program (vote 6-0-1)

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.

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, March 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, April 4th. Pick packages up at Abundant Life on Saturday, March 16th.



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

February 2005

Theft	0
Property Damage	1
Vehicle Impound	5
Theft from Auto	2
Stolen Tag	0
Robbery	0
Stolen Auto.....	0
Vandalism to Auto	3
Assault	0
Recovered Stolen Vehicle ..	4
Residential B & E.....	1
Arrest	0

Forest Heights Police Dept.
(301) 839-4040

Eastover District IV Police
(301) 749-4900

Maryland Park Police
(301) 459-9088



RECYCLE BINS
FOR RESIDENT
PLEASE CALL
(301) 952-7630



PLACES OF WORSHIP



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

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

Guiding Light Ministries
5701 Livingston Road
Oxon Hill, MD 20745
(301) 686-1101
Bishop Willie J. Lewis

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

LeDetroit Baptist Church
5306 Indian Head Highway
Oxon Hill, MD 20745
(301) 567-3088
Rev. Wayne K. Bumbry, 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
Municipal Building
5508 Arapahoe Drive
Forest Heights, MD 20745
(301) 702-9482
Rev. Edward A. Smith

TOWN TRASH COLLECTION

Waste Management

TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

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

MONDAY—Recycling

TUESDAY—Trash

WEDNESDAY—Bulk & Yard Waste

FRIDAY—Trash

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

**It's important to 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

Deadline to submit articles for the April 2005 newsletter is March 25, 2005. 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.

MOVING FORWARD

ELECTION INFORMATION

Filing Deadline for Candidates is **APRIL 1, 2005**

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 **Friday, April 1, 2005**. 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 2005 are:

Mayor:

Paula R. Noble

Council Member:

Ward I – Lynn Smith-Barnes

Ward II – Joyce Beck

Ward III- Worthington Ross

CANDIDATES STATEMENTS

Candidates in the May 2005 Town Election must have their statements for the April Newsletter in to the Town Clerk by Friday, April 1, 2005.

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, questions, and ideas for this newsletter to Municipal Building at 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, MD 20745 or Fax (301) 839-9236.