



# FOREST HEIGHTS NEWS

## One Community—Many Cultures

October 2004

Incorporated 1949

51st Year, Issue No. 10

### MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Neighbor,

The Town of Forest Heights has its challenges like many of the municipalities in the State. The town recently applied for \$2 million bond loan to aid in the repair of the streets through the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Unfortunately, the underwriters of the program declined to insure the Forest Heights loan. The underwriters determined the tax base revenue collected is too small. In order to satisfy underwriting standards, generated revenues should exceed \$1.5 million. Councilman George Wiggers' article in the September issue of the Forest Heights News outlined the history, tax increase and options related to the proposed \$2 million bond issue. There are a few residents who would rather the streets cave in and continue the minimal patch work. While the majority of the residents welcome the much needed infrastructure improvement. The past town government, although diligent in its efforts, did not adequately address the future of the town needs and infrastructure requirements. It has now become the responsibility of this government to strategically plan for the future of all its residents, and aggressively Move Forward. Neighbors, this is our Town and we collectively must take responsibility for it.

There are a number of complaints about youth and young adults in the streets late at night. Our concern is that the youth and young adults are not coming into Forest Heights but live in Forest Heights. It is our responsibility first as parents to ensure our children's safety and whereabouts and second as a community to provide services. We have established the Youth Council Advisory Committee. The Forest Heights police department will actively encourage all of our residents yet they will enforce the law mandated by the Town and State.

Lt. Governor Michael S. Steele, Secretary of Planning Audrey Scott, and Assistant Secretary of Housing Brian McLaughlin visited the town on September 29 to meet with the Forest Heights' local businesses and Flintstone and Forest Heights Elementary Schools. While in the town, the Lt. Governor Steele announced the state's funding of \$1.6 million to Prince Georges' County for drug and crime prevention.

Mayor Paula R. Noble

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much." – Helen Keller

Mayor Paula R. Noble

[mayor.fh@verizon.net](mailto:mayor.fh@verizon.net)

### TOWN COUNCIL:

#### Ward I

Lynn Smith-Barnes—(301) 749-9741

[WARDIHandinHand@aol.com](mailto:WARDIHandinHand@aol.com)

George Wiggers—(301) 839-3712

[wiggers@forestheights.biz](mailto: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](mailto:wsross@comcast.net)

Larry Stoner—(301) 839-9040

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

Phone: (301) 839-1030

Cynthia H. Farrar, *Town Administrator*

[townadministrator@verizon.net](mailto:townadministrator@verizon.net)

Diane Starkey, *Town Treasurer*

[towntreasurer.fh@verizon.net](mailto:towntreasurer.fh@verizon.net)

Bonita Anderson, *Town Clerk*

[townclerk.fh@verizon.net](mailto:townclerk.fh@verizon.net)

Gloria Wallace, *Receptionist*

### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Phone: (301) 686-1432

William Clarke, *Supervisor*

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

Phone: (301) 839-4040

Bernard Sewell, *Chief of Police*

[fhpd2004@verizon.net](mailto:fhpd2004@verizon.net)

Latessa Crawford, *Police Clerk*

[policeclerk.fh@verizon.net](mailto:policeclerk.fh@verizon.net)

## Work Session & Town Meeting Schedule

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

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. The next Council Work Session will be Monday, October 18, 2004 at 6:30 p.m.

- October 20th—Town Meeting
- November 1st—Work Session
- November 17th—Town Meeting
- December 6th—Work Session
- December 15th—Town Meeting



## Oxon Hill Food Pantry

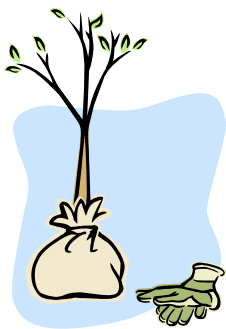
The Oxon Hill Food Pantry, located at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, 4915 St. Barnabas Road, provides emergency food rations to needy individuals and families in Forest Heights and the surrounding area. It operates on Tuesday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and on Thursday evening from 6 to 8 p.m. Phone (301) 899-8358 during hours of operation.



## YARD SALE



The Town of Forest Heights is sponsoring a Yard Sale on Saturday, October 16, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building located at 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, MD. Please contact Gloria Wallace or Bonita Anderson for more information at (301) 839-1030.



## TREE PLANTING

Saturday, October 16, 2004, will mark the second annual celebration of Gorgeous Prince George’s Day, rain or shine. The Town of Forest Heights will be planting trees and shrubs. We are seeking volunteers for this annual celebration of tree and shrub planting. Interested parties please contact the Municipal Building at (301) 839-1030, with your name or names of others who are willing to participate.

*“Celebration of Gorgeous Prince George’s Day, rain or shine.”...*

### 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.

To be eligible for the RES discount, customers must:

- ◆ Use natural gas as the principal source for home heating
- ◆ Apply for and receive assistance from the Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP); and
- ◆ Be current on natural gas utility payments

For more information about MEAP and other Maryland energy assistance programs, contact the Maryland Department of Human Resources Energy Hotline at 1-800-352-1446 or visit the program's Web site at [www.dlhr.state.md.us/meap](http://www.dlhr.state.md.us/meap).



### CRIME REPORT POLICE CHIEF UPDATE September 2004

Theft .....	1
Property Damage .....	0
Vehicle Impound .....	12
Theft from Auto .....	0
Stolen Tag .....	0
Robbery .....	0
Stolen Auto .....	3
Vandalism to Auto .....	0
Assault .....	1
Recovered Stolen Vehicle ..	0
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

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday  
8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.  
Closed Saturday and Sunday



### CHRISTMAS IN APRIL

Applications for Christmas in April will be available at the Municipal Building starting the week of October 18th. Please pick up an application if you need to have repairs to your home.

Code Enforcement Officer  
Heberlig

*Deadline to submit articles for the November 2004 newsletter is October 25, 2004. Articles are to be turned in via email to [townclerk.fh@verizon.net](mailto:townclerk.fh@verizon.net) or mailed to the Municipal Building at 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, MD 20745.*

## TOWN TRASH COLLECTION

Trash shall be collected and removed beginning at 6:30 am each **TUESDAY & FRIDAY**. Waste Management agrees that on those collection days, (**TUESDAY & FRIDAY**) the removal of trash and garbage shall include the following:

- ◆ All mixed combustibles and non-combustibles including garbage, household trash, paper, rags, and cardboard. **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 ARE 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. The holidays are New Years, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Your cooperation with Town Ordinances for disposing of residential trash is important for maintaining health 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 BEGIN AT 6:30 a.m.**

**MONDAY**—*Recycling*

**TUESDAY**—*Trash*

**WEDNESDAY**—*Bulk & Yard Waste*

**FRIDAY**—*Trash*

**PLEASE CONTACT WASTE MANAGEMENT AT (301) 702-3558 OR  
TOWN CLERK AT (301) 839-1030, WITH ANY TRASH COMPLAINTS**



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**Town of Forest Heights**  
5508 Arapahoe Drive  
Forest Heights, MD 20745  
Phone: (301) 839-1030  
Fax: (301) 839-9236  
Email: townclerk.fh@verizon.net

***CURRENT RESIDENT***