

Message from the Mayor– Happy New Year!



Greetings Town Residents: I would like to wish everyone a Happy, Blessed, with Favor and Grace, New Year!! 2020 was very busy, with lots of challenges faced. We plan to update you with regards to accomplishments and projects in upcoming newsletters. Feel free to attend our virtual Town Council meetings, or visit us online at forestheightsmd.gov for additional information.

Mayor Habeeb-Ullah Muhammad



TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS

MUNICIPAL ELECTION NOTICE OF UPCOMING ELECTION

WILL BE FOR TOWN

MAYOR, COUNCILPERSON IN WARDS, I, II & III TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10TH, 2021

YOUR POLLING PLACE

Forest Heights Municipal Building 5508 Arapahoe Drive Forest Heights, MD 20745



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 (Wednesday, February 3, 2021) 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) that the qualifications for the office as contained in the charter are met. (5) Financial Disclosure Statements. 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 Boards judgment does not meet the stated qualifications, shall be returned to the candidate with the reasons for the return stated thereon.

Financial Disclosure Statement: Financial Disclosure Statement may be obtained from the Municipal Building and must be turned in at the same time as the certificate of nomination.

Qualifications: Candidates for Mayor shall have resided in the Town for at least one year or Wards of the Town they represent for at least one year immediately preceding their election, shall be qualified voters of the Town, and shall maintain a permanent residence in the Town during their term of office.

If you have recently moved into Forest Heights from somewhere else in Prince George County or moved from one Ward to another Ward you must provide the County Board of Elections Supervisor with your new address, or if you have never registered to vote in Prince George County, a voter registration application must be submitted to your local board of elections or the State Board of Elections at any time. Applications must be postmarked 21 days before the Town Election (Tuesday, February 9, 2021), to vote in the Town Election.

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 (Wednesday, March 3, 2021). 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.

DEADLINE FOR CERTIFICATE OF NOMINATION AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 4:30 PM

ALL CERTIFICATE OF NOMINATIONS ARE TO BE FILED WITH THE TOWN CLERK (ONLY)

Taking a phrase from President John F. Kennedy’s inauguration speech “Ask not what your country can do for you, but what can you do for your country” and inserting the words ‘Town of Forest Heights’. We must all participate in our town government, by serving as elected officials, participating in decision making, by serving on committees and boards, attending town meetings and most importantly by voting on Election Day. Let all the citizens work together to make Forest Heights a Town we are proud to live in.

TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS

FOREST HEIGHTS NEWS

Town Ordinances and Police Report

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS
ORDINANCE NO. 03-20**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS, MARYLAND REVISING ARTICLE 15 (PARKING AND TRAFFIC) OF THE TOWN ORDINANCE CODE, BY CHANGING, AMENDING, RENAMING OR RE-ADOPTING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF SAID ARTICLE INCLUDING SECTION 15.3. (AUTHORITY TO ERECT SIGNS REGULATING PARKING AND TRAFFIC) TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN TO INSTALL AND OPERATE TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL MONITORING SYSTEMS AT CERTAIN INTERSECTIONS WITHIN THE TOWN AND IMPOSE CERTAIN FINES AND FEES FOR RED LIGHT VIOLATIONS; AND TO AMEND SECTION 15.13 (PENALTIES; FEES) TO PROVIDE FOR A CIVIL PENALTY TO BE ESTABLISHED FOR RED-LIGHT CAMERA VIOLATIONS AND TO AUTHORIZE REGISTRATION FLAGGING AND CERTAIN LATE AND DEBT COLLECTION FEES TO BE ASSESSED OR CHARGED TO SUCH VIOLATIONS INCLUDING PARKING VIOLATIONS; TO MODIFY AND RE-ENUMERATE CERTAIN SUBSECTIONS OF SAID SECTIONS; AND GENERALLY RELATING TO THE COLLECTION OF FINES, FEES AND THE REGULATION OF TRAFFIC AND PARKING WITHIN THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS.

Introduced By: Mayor Habeeb-Ullah Muhammad
Motion Passed October 21, 2020 Vote 6 Yea

ORDINANCE NO. 04-20

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS, MARYLAND AMENDING ARTICLE 14 (TOWN PUBLIC ETHICS ORDINANCE) OF THE TOWN ORDINANCE CODE, BY AMENDING SECTIONS 14.4 (CONFLICTS OF INTEREST); AND 14.5 (FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE BY ELECTED OFFICIALS AND CANDIDATES) TO APPROVE CERTAIN CHANGES MADE THERETO CONSISTENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF HB 879, (ENACTED DURING THE 2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION), INCLUDING CERTAIN CHANGES THAT MUST BE ADOPTED FOR A LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBTITLE 8 OF THE PUBLIC ETHICS LAW OR COMAR 19A.04 SUCH AS (I) LANGUAGE ADDED TO THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST SECTION COVERING LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS PRECLUDED FROM LOBBYING FOR ONE CALENDAR YEAR AFTER LEAVING OFFICE, AND (II) REMOVAL OF HOME ADDRESSES FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE FOR LOCAL EMPLOYEES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS ON THEIR FILINGS SUBMITTED AFTER JANUARY 1, 2019 AND CERTAIN OTHER DISCRETIONARY CHANGES; AND GENERALLY RELATING TO THE TOWN'S PUBLIC ETHICS LAW.

Introduced By: Mayor Habeeb-Ullah Muhammad
Motion Passed November 18, 2020 Vote 7 Yea 0 Nay



DON'T LEAVE CARS UNATTENDED!

"It happens every year, we get more vehicle thefts in the winter because people are leaving their cars running while unattended." As temperatures drop authorities want you to keep your car doors locked until you're behind the wheel. Don't be an easy target, keep valuable objects out of view, stay smart, and stay safe.

Forest Heights Police Department Calls for Service December 2020

911 DISCONNECT	13 PARTY COMPLIANT	1
ACCIDENT	6 PREMISE CHECK	141
ANIMAL COMPLAINT	1 PROPERTY DAMAGE	3
ARMED PERSON	1 REPORTED T/A ROBBERY	1
ASSAULT	1 RESIDENTIAL ALARM	8
ASSAULT COMBINED	1 STOLEN VEHICLE	2
ASSIST FIRE EMS	3 SUBJECT STOP	2
ATT SUICIDE COMBINED	1 SUSPICIOUS AUTO	3
BREAK IN IN PROGRESS	4 SUSPICIOUS OCC. AUTO	2
BREAK IN REPORT	1 THEFT FROM AUTO	1
CHECK WELFARE	5 THEFT REPORT	1
CHECK WELFARE COMB.	4 TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	5
CHEK WELFARE MENTAL	1 TRESPASSING COMPLAINT	1
CPR COMBINED	1 UNKNOWN TROUBLE	9
DISORDERLY	5 VANDALISM	1
DOMESTIC	3 VEHICLE ACCIDENT COMB	2
DOMESTIC W/WEAPON	1 Total Calls Handled: 256	
FAMILY DISPUTE		
GUNSHOTS		
HIT AND RUN		
LOST PROPERTY		
LOUD MUSIC COMPLAINT		
MISC POLICE INCIDENTS		
MISSING PERSON		

POLICE STATION

5508 ARAPAHOE DRIVE

Operating

Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

301-839-4040

(Emergency) 911 (Non-Emergency)

(301) 352-1200



Community News

FOREST HEIGHTS TOY DRIVE



The ongoing pandemic has meant that a lot of changes have had to take place to ensure community safety.

Instead of our annual Children's Holiday Party, the Town of Forest Heights hosted a Toy Drive Giveaway on Saturday, December 19, 2020. We had an incredible turnout, with cars lining up even before the event started. We ended up giving away over 400 bags of toys and school supplies! A huge thanks to Dollar Tree, Mrs. Ingram Tish and Sergeant Ford for their donations. Thanks to Mayor Muhammad, Councilwoman Hines, Councilman Kennedy II, Councilman Atkinson and Forest Heights Staff, a Special thanks to all our volunteers Mrs. Kuny, Mrs. Lawson, Mrs. Spears, Glassmanor President Mrs. Keys and Mrs. Pippins, who not only passed out the toys, but spent hours sorting through the massive donation and preparing the bags for giving out.



FOREST HEIGHTS SANTA RUN

to residents waiting outside of their homes.

On Wednesday, December 23, 2020, Mayor Muhammad, Councilwoman Taunya Hines, the Forest Heights Police Department, and the Oxon Hill Fire Department rode through Forest Heights with Santa, and gave out presents



WEATHER PIPE ADVISORY

Frozen pipes that burst or break can cause expensive water damage to your home and property. For outdoor pipes, a simple way customers can help to avoid problems with frozen water services is to routinely run water from an interior, cold-water tap for about five minutes, two or three times each day, especially during periods when there is usually little water use. Insulate your home to protect indoor pipes. If leaving for a few days, keep the house at minimum of 55 degrees to avoid breakage.

You can report water main breaks or emergencies to WSSC by calling **301-206-4002**.

COVID-19 News

COUNTY RESTRICTIONS TO REMAIN THROUGH JANUARY 16

AS a reminder, the county has shut down all indoor dining. Outdoor dining will be at 50 percent capacity with carryout and curbside pickup available. Retail stores capacity is decreased from 50 percent to 25 percent.

VACCINE NEWS

Prince George's County is currently adopting its vaccine distribution plan. The phases, as well as an FAQ on the vaccines, is available at <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3730/COVID-19-Vaccination>

It is currently in phase 1A, focusing on healthcare workers and residents of long term care facilities such as nursing homes. Children under 16 will currently not be able to get a vaccine. If you get the vaccine, it is recommended that you still follow current health guidelines. Wear a mask when in public, wash hands frequently, and maintain social distancing.

The county will use the Wayne K. Curry Sports and Learning Complex in Landover as the location for the first round of vaccinations. It will be by appointment only.

Other clinics are soon to follow in Largo, Laurel, Cheverly and Clinton, with 3 mobile units planned for later.



Prince George's County COVID Testing sites

Prince George's County has several permanent testing locations for COVID-19, with pop up locations announced on their website. You can find the locations by going to princegeorgescountymd.gov and searching COVID-19 testing. Testing is limited to persons 10 years of age or older. Patients do not need an appointment, doctor's note, or insurance to get tested.

Prince George's County Department of Health HQ.

1701 McCormick Drive, Upper Marlboro. Open Mondays-Thursday 9:00 AM –3:30 PM. Open Fridays if no pop up site available.

D. Leonard Dyer Regional Health Center.

9314 Piscataway Drive, Clinton MD. Open Monday-Friday 9:00 AM-3:30 PM.

Adventist Medical Group. 10709 Indian Head Highway, Suite D, Fort Washington. Open Monday, Tuesday, and Friday 7:30 AM-11:30 AM.

Roseu Medical Center (Appointment Required) 14402 Baltimore Avenue, Laurel. Open Monday-Friday 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

First United Methodist Church of Hyattsville.

6201 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville. Open Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM.

Testing is also available by appointment at many private locations. Check with your nearest pharmacy to see if they offer this service. The Prince George's County website also offers locating services for testing.



PGCPS Resources



Prince George's County Schools is continuing to respond to the pandemic using distance learning. Resources are available for students and parents. Nine Parent Centers are **open Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.** Parents may call **240-696-3315** during these hours for live assistance or to book an appointment at a center. The closest Parent Center is Thurgood Marshall Middle School at **4909 Brinkley Road** in Temple Hills. All visitors to these centers should wear a mask.

To learn more about the evolving plan, go to the PGCPS website and follow the prompts for the Reopen page. It will contain press releases, resources, and updated plans for the school system.

Student Grab and GO Meals

Prince George's County Public Schools offers FREE meals for all children ages 2 to 18 to be picked up at schools on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10AM-1PM. This includes nearby locations such as Forest Heights Elementary School, and Flintstone Elementary School. John Hanson Montessori is no longer serving as a location, and residents are advised to use Oxon Hill HS as an alternate. Parents picking up meals without a student must show student Pin Number, Student ID, or most recent report card to verify enrollment.



Community News

TAX SEASON IS HERE

The deadline to submit your tax return is April 15, 2021, but you should start preparing for it now. There is no guarantee that the IRS will extend the deadline due to COVID-19. Please be sure to put Forest Heights as your address, and use the Town of Forest Heights Tax Code (1728) instead of Prince George's County. By putting Forest Heights on your tax code and driver's license you are ensuring that the tax revenue gets directed to the Town and the 4 schools within the municipality.



Senior Exercise Group

The Forest Heights Senior Exercise Class currently meets in the Municipal Building at 5508 Arapahoe Drive on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4:00 PM. Schedule is subject to change. The exercise class is free to join for Forest Heights Seniors, and a great way to stay connected and stay fit. Call Ms. Moore at 240-640-6641 for more information.



SENIOR MEAL DELIVERY



For More Information, Contact the Department of Family Services, Senior Nutrition Program at (301) 265 - 8475

MEAL OPTIONS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

The Senior Nutrition Program (301) 265 - 8475
The Senior Nutrition Program provides residents 60 years and older with the opportunity to enjoy nutritious, home-delivered meals to promote safety and good health during the coronavirus pandemic.

The Aging & Disabilities Resource Center (301) 265 - 8450
Older adults needing guidance with delivery services from grocery stores and pharmacies, or who want to learn about other programs and services for older adults, can call the Aging & Disabilities Resource Center.



Angela D. Alsbrooks
County Executive



FREE DIABETES PREVENTION WEBINAR WITH DOCTORS COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER

Doctor's Community Medical Center offers a wide array of community support groups and resources for health related concerns. They will be hosting a Diabetes prevention webinar on Monday, January 11, 2021 from 3:00PM-5:00 PM. To sign up contact Teymi Herring, Diabetes Education Coordinator, at 301-552-8661, ext. 3 or email at therring@DCHweb.org.



DON'T FALL FOR ENERGY SCAMS!

Pepco has seen an increase in reports of individuals calling Pepco customers and falsely claiming their electric or gas service will be disconnected unless payment is made. These impersonators instruct customers to buy a prepaid credit card and call back to a different phone number with the personal identification number (PIN) or other personal information.

Pepco representatives will **never** call you to ask you for cash or request that you purchase a prepaid credit card to make a payment on your bill. If you have concerns about the status of your account, call Pepco's Customer Service line at 202-833-7500.

Ask for a photo ID through a window. All Pepco employees and contractors carry company ID badges displaying their name, photograph and identification number. To verify a Pepco employee's identity or work being done, call us at 202-833-7500.

Community News

TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS

TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS

1st MONDAYS @ 7:30 PM

Dial-In: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 86008316885

TOWN MEETINGS

3rd WEDNESDAYS @ 8:00 PM

Dial-In: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 563484463

As a precaution in response to the Coronavirus outbreak, Town Meetings will be open to the public but will be held by teleconference.

For Public Period, each person will be limited to two (2) minutes for public comments and the Mayor and Council Members will not provide feedback to comments or statements provided from the public.

Please send written questions or comments to the Town Clerk at Shawkins@forestheightsmd.gov. Comments/questions will be submitted to the appropriate individual.

Celebrate MLK Day

The Town of Forest Heights will be closed Monday, January 18, 2021 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. MLK Day is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service. We encourage residents who are able to serve their community, through donations, staying in touch with those who are lonely, or look up safe ways to volunteer.



Get your Town of Forest Heights Information Electronically!

Stay Connected: Town Meetings Now on Facebook Live

Residents are invited to sign-up to receive updates on upcoming events, meeting notices, public safety notices/alerts, etc. Please email shawkins@forestheightsmd.gov if you would like to comment for public period.

It is easy to sign-up; just email shawkins@forestheightsmd.gov to start receiving information electronically from the Town of Forest Heights or call the Town Hall Administrative Office at 301-839-1030 for assistance. Visit us at www.forestheightsmd.gov. and/or check us out on Forest Heights Facebook.

May we have your email address?

Weatherization Assistance Available: FREE HOME UPGRADES

Apply for weatherization upgrades that can make your home more energy efficient. Applications can be found at the Forest Heights Municipal Building or emailed on request. Applications can be dropped off at the mailbox at the municipal building. **Veterans and Retired homeowners will be given preference.** For more information, call 301-839-1030. Anyone who meets the income requirements is welcome to apply. Come check it out today!

Number of People Living in House	Owner(s) Only Annual Income Must Be Less than	Number of People Living in House	Owner(s) Only Annual Income Must Be Less than
1	\$69,800.00	2	\$79,750.00
3	\$89,700.00	4	\$99,600.00
5	\$107,600.00	6	\$115,600.00
7	\$123,600.00	8	\$131,600.00

Dear Neighbors,

If you notice a Street or Area Light that is out please contact the Administrative Office with the Street Address and Pole Number if possible. You can find the Pole Number on the side of the pole facing the street and should read similar to:

PEPCO 767452-1464.

Community Calendar

JANUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 NEW YEARS DAY 	2
3	4. Trash, Yard Waste and Recycling Pickup MAYOR/ COUNCIL WORKSESSION 7:30 pm DIAL 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 86008316885 	5 Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	6	7 Bulk Trash 3 items or less Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	8	9
10	11 Trash, Yard Waste and Recycling Pickup	12 Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	13	14 Bulk Trash 3 items or less Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	15	16
17	18 Trash, Yard Waste and Recycling Pickup MLK Day. Town Hall Closed	19 Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	20 MAYOR/ COUNCIL TOWN MEETING 8pm via ZOOM DIAL 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 563484463 Inauguration Day, Town Hall Closed 	21 Bulk Trash 3 items or less Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	22	23
24 31	25 Trash, Yard Waste and Recycling Pickup	26 Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	27	28 Bulk Trash 3 items or less Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	29	30

FEBRUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Trash, Yard Waste and Recycling Pickup MAYOR/ COUNCIL WORKSESSION 7:30 pm DIAL 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 86008316885 	2 Senior Exercise 4:00 PM Groundhog Dat	3	4 Bulk Trash 3 items or less Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	5	6
7	8 Trash, Yard Waste and Recycling Pickup	9 Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	10	11 Bulk Trash 3 items or less Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	12	13
14 Valentines Day	15 Trash, Yard Waste and Recycling Pickup Presidents Day, Town Hall Closed	16 Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	17 MAYOR/ COUNCIL TOWN MEETING 8pm via ZOOM DIAL 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 563484463 	18 Bulk Trash 3 items or less Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	19	20
21	22 Trash, Yard Waste and Recycling Pickup	23 Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	24	25 Bulk Trash 3 items or less Senior Exercise 4:00 PM	26	27
28						

*****EWCWSS****

Local Forest Heights
Post Customer

PRSWRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

Community News (continued)

PARKING POLICY FOR SNOW EMERGENCIES

As stated in the Town Ordinance Section 15.3.2: Except as necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with law or the directions of a police officer or a traffic control device, no person shall stop, stand or park any vehicle or operate a truck or commercial vehicle as stated below in any of the following places within the Town:

On the side of any street opposite the streetlight poles during a snow created state of emergency as declared by Prince George's County pursuant to effective snow emergency plans. Vehicles so parked may be impounded pursuant to Section 15.7.

Mayor **Habeeb-Ullah Muhammad**—ext. 1223

Hmuhammad@forestheightsmd.gov

**Town Council/Administration
Ward I**

Robert Barnes

rbarnes@forestheightsmd.gov

Calvin Washington

cwashington@forestheightsmd.gov

Ward II

Clifton Atkinson

catkinson@forestheightsmd.gov

Jonathon Kennedy II

jkennedy2@forestheightsmd.gov

Ward III

Taunya Hines

thines@forestheightsmd.gov

Paula Noble

pnoble@forestheightsmd.gov

Linwood Robinson, Town Administrator— ext. 1234

lrobinson@forestheightsmd.gov

Sherletta Hawkins, Town Clerk—ext. 1233

shawkins@forestheightsmd.gov

Kathleen Via, Administrative Assistant—ext. 1229

kvia@forestheightsmd.gov

Leittia Vaughn, Town Treasurer-ext. 1235

lvaughn@forestheightsmd.gov

Larry Vaughn, Public Works Director—ext. 1231

ldvaughn@forestheightsmd.gov

POLICE DEPARTMENT

(301) 839-4040

Chief of Police, Col. Anthony Rease—ext. 1224

chief@forestheightsmd.gov

Bernard Jones, Jr., Police Lieutenant — ext. tba

Command@forestheightsmd.gov

Marcus Jones, Administrative Lieutenant — ext. tba

Command@forestheightsmd.gov

Tessie Hoffmann, Police Clerk—ext. 1225

Lisa White, Director of Communications

FHPD_Media@forestheightsmd.gov

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE

Joseph Hawkins—ext.1228

codeenforcement@forestheightsmd.gov

HEALTHY HEIGHTS COORDINATION

Marnisha Moore, Healthy Heights Coordinator

mmoore@forestheightsmd.gov

Town of Forest Heights

www.forestheightsmd.gov



Keep your Sidewalk Clean: Please take the time to rake up any Yard Waste and keep it from spilling on the sidewalk. Grass clippings can be a tripping hazard, especially after wet weather. Failure to sweep up Yard Waste is subject to a fine under Article 19.1 of the Town Ordinance.



Important Town Help Numbers

If you need to reach the Town of Forest Heights, call **301-839-1030** for the Admin Department. For the Forest Heights Police Department or Code Enforcement, dial **301-839-4040**. For Public Works, dial **240-993-9243**.