



November/December

2007

THE HERALD

Mayor James L. Walls, Jr.

Vice Mayor Edna L. Martin

Commissioner Willie E. Calhoun

Commissioner Lee Collins

Commissioner Jack C. Sims

Teen Job Bank Now Available to Residents

If you are a District Heights resident who needs some help around the house, give us a call at (301) 336-7600.

In an effort to assist with teen employment, the District Heights Family & Youth Services Center has created a TEEN JOB BANK with a list of services offered by teens (aged 13-18) living within District Heights. Residents of District Heights may call and receive the names of the teens who are willing to do specific jobs.

These jobs include: babysitting, pet sitting, lawn and yard work, housework, grocery shopping, typing and computer work, painting, shoveling snow and other odd jobs.

All fees to be charged will be a matter solely between the teen and the employing resident.

If you are interested in helping out the City's youth, please contact: the District Heights Family & Youth Services Department at (301) 336-7600. You may ask for either Sara Tuke or Meg McNulty.

Check out our new website at:
www.districtheights.org

The City Welcomes New Program Director

On October 1, 2007, Charles Hall became the City's new Program Director for the Recreation/Cultural Department.

Charles is a native of Washington, D. C. and a graduate of Eastern High School. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Communications from Bethune-Cookman University, in Daytona Beach, FL.

Charles comes to us from the Department of Defense's Human Resources division in Washington, D. C., where he held the position of Human Resources Assistant. For the last six years, Charles spent his evenings working for Shiloh Baptist Church Recreation Center in Washington, D. C. where he held the position of Assistant Director for Male Youth Projects.

There Charles coached the youth basketball team, tutored youth in various subjects, helped youth apply for college, sponsored college tours, and acted as a mentor in the Boys Mentoring Program. He is also a Boys Scout Leader, certified basketball referee, life guard, and experienced pool manager.

Already during his short stay here, Charles has helped initiate the Adult Open Gym Program. The program, which takes place every Wednesday night (7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.), here in the City's Recreation/Cultural Department, is an organized basketball program for men and women.

Please join us here at the District Heights Municipal Center in welcoming Charles to our beautiful City.

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FOR BULK TRASH PICK-UP
PLEASE CALL
(301) 888-1900



**District Heights Family & Youth
Services Center is open.
Call (301) 336-7600**

Chief's Message by Jeffrey Dahn, Chief of Police

The Police Department in partnership with District Heights Elementary School held a "Speed Awareness Day" on October 11, 2007. During this event, the students of the school made signs and came out near the road to encourage drivers to slow down. In addition, several officers from the Department conducted radar speed enforcement on County Road utilizing the Department's newly purchased "laser" radar unit. This unit is highly accurate, pinpointing each vehicle as it approaches the monitored area.

Officers on that day were only citing drivers who were in excess of 10 miles per hour over the limit, yet they wrote over 50 traffic citations in less than eight hours in front of the school. Many drivers cited were City residents. This is strong evidence of the speeding problem on our City's streets. Please, for the sake of your children, your families and for our citizens, **SLOW DOWN** and obey posted speed limits.

As the weather cools off, many people have a tendency to "warm up" their vehicles by leaving the cars running while unattended. This is a very bad idea for two main reasons. First is that this is a safety issue. If the vehicle should somehow slip out of gear, the vehicle will go mobile without a driver. Next, many vehicles stolen in Maryland are done so with the keys inside the vehicle. It is because of these reasons that leaving a vehicle unattended while running is a violation of Maryland law. Officers have been instructed to diligently enforce this law in the coming winter months.

For more information on the District Heights Police Department, visit us at:

www.districtheightspolice.com

District Heights Family and Youth Services Center NEWS, Meg McNulty, LCPC, Director

Discussion Groups

This fall, the Youth Services Bureau will offer two ongoing groups:

JEWELS – Young women aged 12 to 16 will have the opportunity to learn to value self worth, receive options to boost confidence, build communication skills and set healthy goals. The group meets every Monday evening from 7:00-8:00 p.m., light snacks will be served. Come learn to shine from the inside, out!

PARENTS HELPING PARENTS – Mothers of children of all ages are invited to come for a weekly discussion group. Hear how others cope. Share your wisdom and support. Meetings are held on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30.

National Family Week: November 18-24, 2007

This year, one way to celebrate National Family Week is to have a family dinner together. A survey released in September of 2007 reaffirmed previous studies that found teenagers who ate dinner as a family five or more times a week are less likely to start using drugs, smoking or drinking alcohol than peers who ate with their families two times or less a week. While with hectic schedules dinners are difficult to do, there are many benefits. Meal = \$20.00, Communication as a family = Priceless.

Save the Date

The 2nd College Expo will be held on Saturday, November 17, 2007. Many 2-year, 4-year and technical schools will be exhibited. Youth will meet representatives from schools, will be eligible for door prizes and can get an application for the Career/College Development Institute. Please call 301.336.7600 or 5633 to register for a college tour.

Job Bank

Are the leaves beginning to pile up? Do you worry about shoveling your walk when the snow comes? Our area youth are ready and willing to do odd jobs. Just call the Center and we will match you with a youth worker.

Please call 301.336.7600 for more information and registration about any of the programs above.

Community News Briefs



*Fall is Here...and Winter is Coming Soon.
Are You Ready?*



The District Heights Family & Youth Services Center has a **Teen Job Bank** with a list of services offered by teens (aged 12-18).

Local residents may call and receive the names and contact information for responsible teens who are willing to do specific jobs. All terms are negotiated by the residents and teens.

These jobs include: raking leaves, cleaning gutters, housework, car washing, shoveling snow, washing windows, computer work, running errands, babysitting, painting, pet care and odd jobs.

For more information, please contact the following:

District Heights Family & Youth Services Center
2000 Marbury Drive
District Heights, MD 20747

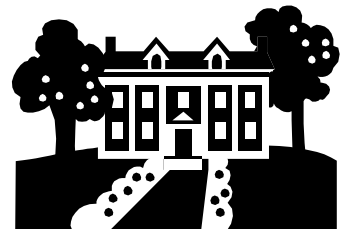
If you have questions about how to employ a youth, contact Sara Tuke at (301) 336-7600.

Code Enforcement News by John Lamarre, Inspector

Beware! The Most Common Code Violations

The following is a listing of the most common **housing violations** found during a code enforcement inspection of the interior and exterior of a property.

- Plumbing, electric, HVAC, structural finish work
- Unsanitary conditions
- Overcrowded conditions
- Dwelling units unfit for human habitation
- Unsafe buildings
- Smoke detectors: not operable or installed on each floor
- Carbon Monoxide inspections
- Pest infestation
- Vacant structures not secured or maintained to code standard
- Roof, gutters and downspouts, chimneys, porches and stairways
- Siding, windows, doors, foundation
- Exposed and untreated wood surfaces
- Accessory structures: garages, sheds and fences
- Sidewalks
- Yard maintenance
- Dead or unsafe trees



The following is a listing of the most common **building violations** found during a code enforcement inspection of a property.

- Altering or building structures without permits or registration certificates
- Home improvement contractors performing work without licenses

The following is a listing of the most common **health, sanitation and safety code violations** found during a code enforcement inspection of a property.

- Sanitary maintenance of premises
- Solid waste
- Noxious weeds / High grass
- Animal maintenance
- Rodents, insects, vermin and other pests

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: **If you suspect that there are**
: **code violations in your**
: **neighborhood, call John or**
: **Michelle at (301) 336-1400.**
.....

2007 Fall Leaf Collection Schedule

The Public Works Department will begin its annual Fall Leaf Collection on Monday, November 5, 2007. The City will be divided into four sections, as shown on the map below. Piles of leaves that have sticks, rocks, bricks, car parts, bottles, etc., **will not be picked up**. The leaves should be piled between the sidewalk and curb, not more than four feet from the curb, as the vacuum hose will not reach any further. If the leaves are wet and heavy, on the scheduled pick-up day, they will not be picked up until they become drier.

Please note: Leaves will be picked up on a non-scheduled basis from January 2, 2008 through January 7, 2008. After this time, all leaves must be put in bags and placed curbside for Burch Trash Service, which picks up leaves and grass clipping on Mondays. There will be no leaf collection on the following dates: November 12, 22, and 23, 2007 and December 24, and 25, 2007. **Tree limbs will not be picked up during the fall leaf removal season.** Limb pick-up will resume on Tuesday January 8, 2008. Christmas trees will also be included in this pick-up.

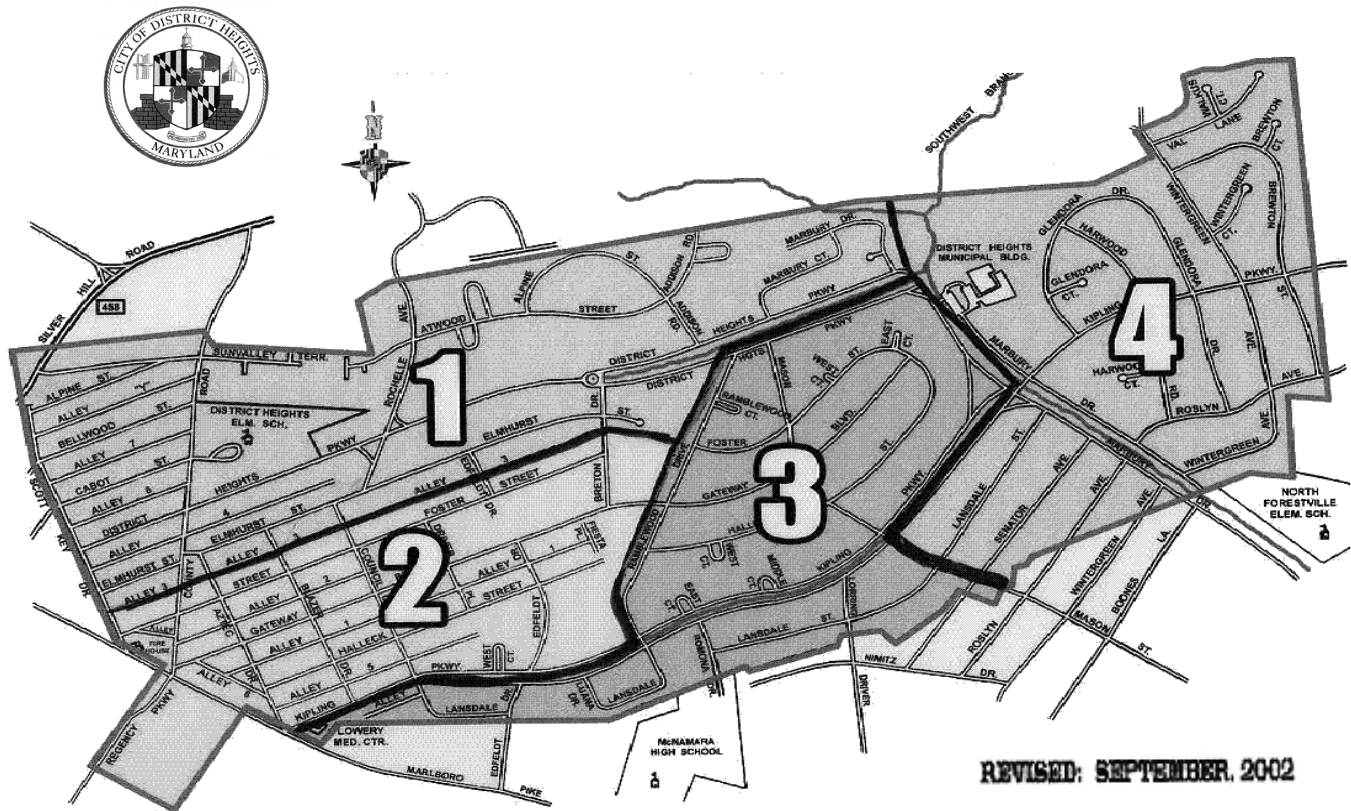
Section I: November 5, 6, 7, 26, 27, 28 & December 12, 13, 14

Section II: November 8, 9, 13, 29, 30 & December 3, 17, 18, 19

Section III: November 14, 15, 16, & December 4, 5, 6, 20, 21, 26

Section IV: November 19, 20, 21, & December 7, 10, 11, 27, 28, 31

THE CITY OF DISTRICT HEIGHTS



Recreation/Cultural Department News by Anthony Long, Director



The Recreation and Cultural Department will hold its annual Pre-Holiday Luncheon for our senior citizens on:

Monday, November 19, 2007 at 12 noon
 E. Michael Roll Municipal Building (Gymnasium)
 2000 Marbury Drive
 District Heights, MD 20747

If you would like to attend, please RSVP by calling (301) 336-5633.
The deadline to RSVP is Thursday, November 15, 2007.

Clubs and Organizations

- Marbury Homeowners Association.....Third (3rd) Thursday of each month
- Citizen Action Patrol (C.A.P.).....Third (3rd) Wednesday of each month
- District Heights Boys & Girls Club.....Third (3rd) Monday of each month
- T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly).....Meets every Monday at 6:45pm
- Girls Scouts Troop 90/67.....Meets every Thursday at 7:00pm
- Stamp Club.....First (1st) Monday each month at 7:00pm



Continuous Programs

- Bible Study.....Every Tuesday at 7:00 pm
- Open Gym.....Youths 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm daily
- Computer Class.....Every Saturday, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon
- Aerobics Class (Class is free).....Tuesdays at 6:30 pm
- Karate (Tang Soo Do).....Every Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00 pm
- Chair Aerobics.....Every Thursday, 9:30 am to 10:30 am
- 3D Elite All Star Cheerleaders.....Saturdays, 12:00 noon – 3:00 pm
- AARP #939.....First Tuesday of each month at 12 noon

New Recreational Programs

- Daughters with a Purpose (DWP) Youth Female Mentoring Program: Thursdays, starting November 8, 2007 at 6:00pm
- Standing Ovations Dance Classes: Every Saturday, 9:00am to 12 noon
- Tai Chi-Chi Gong: Every Monday, 12 noon to 1:00pm
- Adult Open Gym: Wednesdays, 7:30pm to 9:30pm

Please contact the Recreation/Cultural Department to register or obtain complete details of any of our programs at (301) 336-5633. Anthony Long: Recreation Manager

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Girl Scouts Unit Forum.....Friday, November 2nd, 6:00pm – 9:00pm
- District Heights Boys and Girls Club..Friday, November 9, 6:00pm – 9:00pm
- Football Banquet.....Saturday, November 17, 11:00am – 1:00pm
- College Expo.....Saturday, November 17, 2007
- Pre-Holiday Luncheon.....Monday, November 19, 12:00pm – 3:00pm
- AARP Christmas Luncheon.....Tuesday, December 11, 12:00pm – 3:00pm
- Community Christmas Party.....Saturday, December 15, 4:00pm – 6:00pm
- Holiday Home Decorating Contest.....December 17th through December 31st

RECREATION/CULTURAL CENTER HOURS OF OPERATION

- Monday-Friday.....10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Saturday.....Special Events Only

The Recreation/Cultural Department will be closed on: November 12th for Veteran's Day, November 22nd and 23rd for Thanksgiving, and December 25th for Christmas.

FITNESS ROOM (Opening in November)

The fitness room will offer a treadmill, elliptical, cycle, rower and multi-stationed weights. Membership required. Memberships are offered monthly, quarterly or yearly and may be purchased at the Recreation Office. Stop in or call (301)336-5633. We apologize for the delay.

OUTDOOR BASKETBALL COURT NOW OPEN

Hours extend from daybreak until the lights cut off in the evening. **Bring your own ball. Remember to respect our facility.**

Rent our Facility for Your Next Event!

For details, contact the Recreation/Cultural Dept. (301) 336-5633.

Instructors and Volunteers are needed for Tutorial classes. Anyone interested in helping our youth achieve greatness, please contact the Recreation/Cultural Department at (301) 336-5633.

City Commission Meeting Highlights by Tamil Perry, City Clerk

August 2, 2007 Comr. Collins moved that the City Commission grant a special exception to the owners of 6709 Kipling Parkway to erect a 6 foot privacy fence in their back yard. Comr. Martin seconded the motion, which carried a 3-0-0 vote.

Comr. Collins moved to introduce Resolution No. DH 07-07 to establish a line of credit at Sun Trust Bank in the amount of \$500,000. Comr. Sims seconded the motion, which carried a 3-0-0 vote. Comr. Collins moved that the City of District Heights adopt Resolution No. DH 07-07 to establish a line of credit at Sun Trust Bank in the amount of \$500,000. Comr. Sims seconded the motion, which carried a 3-0-0 vote.

Comr. Sims moved to establish a petty cash account for the Police and Code Enforcement Department in the amount of \$100. The account will be maintained by the Police Department who will complete a detailed reconciliation sheet to be turned in to the Accountant for review before the petty cash account is replenished. Comr. Collins seconded the motion, which carried a 3-0-0 vote.

Comr. Sims moved to authorize the purchase of a new 2007 Chevy C6500 Truck from I. G. Burton & Company, Inc. in the amount of \$50,630.00. Comr. Collins seconded the motion, which carried a 3-0-0 vote.

September 6, 2007 Comr. Martin moved to approve a pay increase for Code Enforcement Inspector John Lamarre from Grade C Step 16 to Grade D Step 15.

Comr. Calhoun seconded the motion, which carried a 4-0-0 vote. Comr. Martin moved to approve a pay increase for Code Enforcement Officer Michelle Watkins from Grade C Step 10 to Grade D Step 9. Comr. Collins seconded the motion, which carried a 4-0-0 vote.

Comr. Collins moved to transfer \$5,000 from Unreserved Funds to a new account titled Debt Service – SunTrust Loan to cover cost associated with the loan. Comr. Martin seconded the motion, which carried a 4-0-0 vote.

Comr. Sims moved that the Mayor and Commission approve the change of Health Insurance Plans from Mamsi to United Healthcare effective October 1, 2007. Comr. Martin seconded the motion, which carried a 4-0-0 vote.

Comr. Calhoun moved to increase the ICMA contribution of qualified employees from 5% to 10%. Comr. Sims seconded the motion, which carried a 4-0-0 vote.

Comr. Martin moved to extend the deadline for the research and adjustment of employee leave balances to October 31, 2007. Comr. Sims seconded the motion, which carried a 4-0-0 vote.

Comr. Sims moved to transfer \$5,500 from Unreserved Funds to a new line item titled Mayor & Commission Professional Development. Comr. Collins second the motion, which carried a 4-0-0 vote.

September 11, 2007 Comr. Calhoun moved to deny the special exception request for a privacy fence at 6201 District Heights Parkway. Comr. Martin seconded

the motion, which carried a 4-0-0 vote.

Comr. Collins moved to hire a Clinical Supervisor at a salary up to \$35,146.80 depending upon qualifications and experience. Comr. Sims seconded the motion, which carried a 4-0-0 vote.

Comr. Sims moved to transfer \$12,000 from Unreserved Funds to Lobbyist line item. Comr. Martin seconded the motion, which carried a 4-0-0 vote. Comr. Collins moved to enter into a service agreement with G.S. Proctor & Associates for \$1500 per month from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. Comr. Sims seconded the motion, which carried a 4-0-0 vote.

Comr. Calhoun moved to transfer \$10,401.18 from Unreserved Funds to the A.N.G.E.L. House II Project. Comr. Martin seconded the motion, which carried a 4-0-0 vote.

Comr. Sims moved to approve the proposed Rules and Regulations governing the Recreation Facility and grounds. Comr. Martin seconded the motion, which carried a 4-0-0 vote.

Comr. Collins moved to accept the proposal from Michael Campbell for Health & Wellness Programs in the amount of \$400 per month. Comr. Martin seconded the motion, which carried a 3-1-0 vote. Comr. Sims voted “no.”



Need Information? Call Us!

Mayor & Commission City Departments



James L. Walls, Jr., Mayor.....	(240) 508-0448
Willie E. Calhoun, Commissioner (Ward I).....	(240) 508-1138
Eddie L. Martin, Commissioner (Ward II).....	(240) 508-6721
Lee Collins, Commissioner (Ward II).....	(301) 336-1402
Jack C. Sims, Commissioner (Ward I).....	(301) 233-7106
Public Works.....	(301) 336-7417
General Government.....	(301) 336-1402
Police/Code Enforcement.....	(301) 336-1400
Recreation/Cultural.....	(301) 336-5633
Police Non-Emergencies.....	(301) 333-4000



City of District Heights Information

November/December Commission Meetings

November 13, 2007
November 27, 2007
December 6, 2007
December 11, 2007

Need A Ride Use the Call-A-Bus Service

Call 301-336-1402 to schedule your ride.

You must schedule your ride at least 2 business days in advance for a single rider, and one week in advance for groups of 5 or more.

Hours of Operation: 9am to 5pm

Residents of the City of District Heights will be given preference.

Tips for Attending our College Expo on November 17th

If you have never been to a college fair before, you can expect rows of tables, staffed by representatives of various higher education institutions who are there to answer your questions and give you information on their college, university, technical school, or scholarship program.

If you research colleges before attending the fair, you will know which college tables to go to and should have questions ready for the representatives. If you do not do any research before the fair or if you are having a hard time figuring out which colleges are your best choices, you have a few options:

- Visit all of the tables, collect information and ask for the representative's business card, and give your name, mailing address and email address to the representative for follow-up and to schedule a campus tour.
- Ask each representative about scholarships, grants, and other financial aid options that you may qualify for.
- Our counselors and volunteers can help you develop a list of colleges at the fair which offer the major(s) of interest to you. Also if you are interested in participating in our local college/university tour, please call (301) 336-7600.

Commissioner's Corner.....Martin, Calhoun, Collins, and Sims

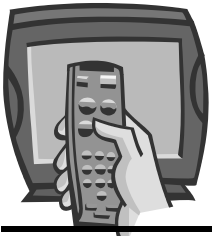
The Office of the Vice Mayor is in the process of collecting information to compile a City of District Heights Business Directory to be published and distributed to our residents and community stakeholders. If you have a business that is registered with the City of District Heights Code Enforcement Department and you are interested in listing your business or service in the directory, please email your business name, owner(s) name(s), business license number, contact information, and a brief description of your service to me at martine@districtheights.org. For more information on this project please contact me at (240) 508-6721.

Eddie L. Martin
Vice Mayor

The Commissioners of the City of District Heights are committed to our residents and youth. We welcome your input on how to improve the quality of life of our residents, so feel free to contact us with your ideas.

Residents, if you wish to contribute news-worthy articles to The Herald, please submit your articles to the City Clerk no later than the 1st of each month.

Accommodations for persons with disabilities will be provided upon request given at least 10 days in advance. To request accommodations for persons with disabilities, please call (301) 336-1402.



Watch Channel 71

City meetings are aired Monday-Friday
at 12 noon and 7 p.m.

We're on the Web!
www.districtheights.org



CITY OF DISTRICT HEIGHTS
2000 MARBURY DRIVE
DISTRICT HEIGHTS, MD 20747

PRE-SORTED STANDARD
US Postage
PAID
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