

March/April
2007

Mayor James L. Walls, Jr.
Vice Mayor Eddie L. Martin
Commissioner Willie E. Calhoun
Commissioner Edith Robbins-Worthy
Commissioner Lee Collins



**2007 City Election:
Candidate Information Available for the Office of Commissioner**

Candidate nomination packets are available for residents who are interested in running for the Office of Commissioner of Ward 1 or Ward 2. The nomination information can be picked up from the City Clerk's Office at the E. Michael Roll Municipal Building, Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm. All candidate nomination forms and required information must be returned to the City Clerk or Board of Supervisors of Elections by Monday, April 9, 2007 by 5pm.

Section 302. Qualifications of Commissioners

Commissioners shall have resided in the City at least two years, immediately preceding their election, shall be twenty-five (25) years of age, shall not have been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude and shall be qualified voters of the City pursuant to Section 501 of this Charter. Commissioners shall reside in their respective wards

Section 507. Nominations

(a) Filing of Requests for Certification. Persons shall be nominated for Commissioner in the City by filing a request for certification of nomination signed by five (5)

registered voters in the City who shall reside in the ward which the candidate wishes to represent. Such request for certification shall contain the following:

- (1) the office for which the candidate is seeking the nomination, (2) the name of the candidate, (3) a statement that the signers of the request for certification are registered voters, and (4) a statement that the signers support the nomination of the named candidate.

The request for certification shall be filed with the Clerk of the City or the Chair of the Board of Supervisors of Elections at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the election. No person shall file for nomination for more than one elective City public office at one time.

- (b) Certification. The Board of Supervisors of Elections shall determine whether the request for certification meets all of the requirements provided in subsection (a) of this section and whether the candidate meets the qualifications of the office for which he or she has been nominated. The Board of Supervisors of Elections shall certify all qualified nominees as candidates for the City general election at least twenty-five (25) days prior to the date set for

**District Heights Day
May 19, 2007**

District Heights Day is a family celebration for the entire community and surrounding area. Please save the date of Saturday, May 19, 2007 to be present with us as we celebrate our neighborhood and the people in it that have helped to make it such a model community in Prince George's County. We will kick-off the event at 10am with a parade leading to the festivities on the ballfield at the E. Michael Roll Municipal Building. There will be carnival rides, food vendors, games, caricature artists, clowns, a petting farm, arts and crafts vendors, musical guests and tons of entertainment!

If you are interested in being a vendor or would like to be a part of the parade, please call Mr. Anthony Long at (301) 336-5633 for more information.

Last year's event was a huge success. Over 1,500 people attended the event. We are planning to make this annual event even bigger and better in 2007. So, don't forget to save the date and invite all of your family and friends to join us for the celebration of our community.

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**Mayoral Scholarship
Program**

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR
MAYORAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Students must be residents of the incorporated City of District Heights; must complete an application form; students must be a high school senior; must submit a high school transcript that includes grades 9-12; must submit a letter from school counselor or community service coordinator certifying that they are currently serving their community or have completed their community service requirements; write a short essay (500 words or less) about your community service experience and its importance. (Must be typed, 12 pt. Times New Roman font, double spaced); submit a copy of your college acceptance letter or list schools applied to if you have not received acceptance letter yet (must submit copy in order to receive funds); and you must submit a copy of your parent or guardians 2006 W2 forms or completed tax returns as proof of household income. (Parents/Guardians combined household income must not exceed \$75,000).

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 30, 2007



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

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

Mayor's Message by James L. Walls, Jr.

On May 7, 2007 the City of District Heights will hold its 2007 City Election, in which two Commissioners (one representing each ward) will be elected. There are approximately 3,697 registered voters in the City of District Heights out of a population of 5,958. Our goal is to have all of our eligible residents registered to vote, and 100% participation of all currently registered voters go to the polls to take advantage of their privilege to vote in our City election. This election is very important to the residents as you must keep in mind that your local government and its leaders are chosen by you, to represent your interests and to ensure that your quality of life is maintained or enhanced. Remember, it is your civic duty to take advantage of your constitutional right to vote!

Citizen participation at City Commission meetings and work sessions has been low in the past, but we want to change that

and encourage you to get involved in your community by attending these regular meetings where City legislative decisions are made that affect you.

Meetings are held on the 1st Thursday and 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm. If you can not attend the meeting, tune in to Channel 71 (Comcast only) on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7pm to watch the live broadcast of the City Meeting. Re-runs of the meeting are aired Monday through Friday at 12 noon and 7pm.

Write letters, send emails, or schedule a meeting to speak with your Commission representative to voice your needs and community concerns. It is also your duty to hold your elected officials accountable for their responsibility to the residents of this City.

If you have any questions about the upcoming election, please contact the Board of Supervisors of Elections by calling (301) 336-1402.

In addition to the City of District Heights Mayoral Scholarship, residents who are currently attending a college or university in the State of Maryland and high school seniors who plan to attend a Maryland institution of higher learning are eligible to apply for the 2007-2008 State Delegate Scholarship through Del. Melony Griffith's office. An applicant planning to attend an out of state institution must be reviewed and accepted by the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) for approval.

Scholarship applications can be picked up at the E. Michael Roll Municipal Building between 9am and 5pm.

All applications are reviewed by a scholarship committee and it is pertinent that you return your completed application with all requested attachments (essay and letters of reference). Call (301) 858-3557

Chief's Message by Lt. Wayne Simms, Acting Chief of Police

Helpful Tips on What to Do If a Stranger Approaches You

Who is a stranger?

- A stranger is someone you don't know.
- Most strangers will not try to harm you, but some strangers are dangerous, even if they dress nicely or look friendly.

If a stranger approaches:

- Don't go near the stranger or vehicle.
- Never take rides, money, candy, or gifts from strangers.
- If you don't know, don't go.
- Say No! Loudly and forcefully.
- Tell an adult, parent, or police officer.
- Try to remember what the stranger looked like or what kind of car they were driving
- If you can, write down the license number of the car with a pencil and paper, in the

dirt, or on the sidewalk with a stick or stone.

- Don't let the stranger trick you by saying that he knows your parents, if they do they should have a prearranged password.

Stranger Rules

- Say No!
- Get away.
- Tell someone.
- Don't be afraid to yell for HELP!!!

Ways to keep you safe

- Have a password that you and your parents know.
- Never go with anyone who does not know the password.
- Never play in alleys or deserted buildings.

- Always take a friend.
- Come home before dark.
- Never go anywhere unless you have permission from your parents and they know where you are.
- Never tell anyone on the phone or at the door that you are home alone.
- Dial 911 if you are home alone and need help in an emergency.

Always report to a police officer, parent, teacher or adult you know if a stranger does any of the following:

- Tries to join in your playing.
- Asks you to go with him/her.
- Tries to have a conversation with you or touch you while you are at the movies, playground, or walking anywhere.
- Offers you a ride, candy, gum, or money.

Community News Briefs

CAP NEWS

CAP scholarship fund applications are available at the E. Michael Roll Municipal Building (General Government Office). Applications are also available at Hemingway AME Church located on District Heights Parkway, First Baptist Church of District Heights on Kipling Parkway, and at Suitland High School. The scholarship award is for \$500.00. Forms should be returned to the Citizens Action Patrol, P.O. Box 47876, District Heights, Maryland 20753-7876 and post marked no later than April 30, 2007.

CAP will begin preparing and making plans to assist in the 2007 National Night Out event. We will again conduct a raffle for some exciting prizes. Please support the organization by purchasing tickets when solicited. Profits are used to help support CAP so that we can make contributions towards projects such as the scholarship fund.

CAP is also looked for additional members to help support the organizations endeavors. CAP meetings are held at 7 PM on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Municipal

R e s i d e n t s ...

Do you need a hand around the house?

The District Heights Family & Youth Services is providing a new service to District Heights residents looking for reliable teens to hire. We have teens that are ready to work!

Jobs performed include:

Babysitting	Computer work	Handyman
Yard Work	Shopping	Car Wash
Cleaning	Painting	Pet sitting

If you have any questions? Don't hesitate to call the Teen Job Bank. We will provide referrals and information for you.

Contact Sara Tuke at 301-336-7600

Meet our youth at the Teen Job Bank Car Wash during the Health Fair on May 12, 2007 from 12 noon to 4pm.

Code Enforcement News by John Lamarre, Code Enfc. Inspector

All of us may exercise our rights to their full extent until those rights begin to affect the rights of our neighbors.

Because we live in an area where homes are separated by no more that 20 to 30 feet, it is critical that we conduct ourselves according to the standards set forth in the City Code of Ordinances. If one neighbor believes a well kept lawn and flower garden are the way to maintain their front yard and another neighbor believes that their front yard is the perfect place to haul motors out of cars and do tune-ups for friends and family, there will be a problem.

Under circumstances that violate the City Code of Ordinance, we must refer to the City Ordinances to solve the problem. Our procedure calls for giving notice of the violation to the owner of the property and providing a specific amount of time to correct it. Presently we have a 90% compliance record. Failures to comply are issued citations with fines ranging from \$50.00 up to \$1,000.00 depending on the infraction.

The City Code of Ordinances provides for control various situations. The presence of garbage/ trash/debris, tall grass/weeds, abandoned/unregistered vehicles, and animals running at-large are a few examples that are regulated by the Ordinances. The issuance of building permits, which require strict adherence to the Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA) Codes and Prince George's County Codes that the City has adopted with some modifications, is also under the jurisdiction of the Code Enforcement Office. This office has been in operation for 15 years and progress is still being made in enforcement action. The Code Enforcement Office is also responsible for the issuance of all business licenses, yard sales permits, vendor's licenses and Burglar Alarm User's Licenses and registration

Enforcement of the rental license Code passed by the Commission in 1992 is also the responsibility of the Code Enforcement Office, whose main duties consist of

performing a yearly inspection for any existing code violations and issuing the yearly licenses.

CARE OF PROPERTY

It shall be a municipal infraction for any person in possession of any land within the developed area of the City, whether said person be a tenant or owner, to permit or allow any trash, waste material, garbage, offensive or dirty brush or other filth of any kind whatsoever to accumulate upon his or her premises and alley. Furthermore, it shall be a municipal infraction for any person in possession of any land within the developed area of the City, whether said person be a tenant or owner to permit or allow his yard, lot or land to grow or develop with weeds, briars, dead limbs, or dead trees. If the said nuisance is not removed within ten (10) days after adjudication of the municipal infraction by the District Court, then the Commission shall cause the public nuisance to be removed, and is authorized to incur the necessary expense in so doing, and shall place a charge against the proper person(s) for such costs including unpaid municipal

2007 SPRING CLEAN-UP!

The annual clean-up will take place from April 16-27, 2007. Residents may rid their property of grass clippings, heavy bulk items and trash.

CLEAN-UP

No hazardous materials, such as paint will be accepted. Place your items curbside during the clean-up week.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(301) 336-7417

Public Works Commission Liaison
Comr. Willie Calhoun
(240) 508-1138

Brian Edwards
Public Works Supervisor
(240) 508-7289

Rick Whitman
Foreman I
(240) 508-7290

Angela Barnhill-Love
Foreman II
(240) 508-6679

BULK TRASH COLLECTION Call (301) 888-1900

Burch Trash Service, Inc.

Bulk trash is collected on Wednesday's, by APPOINTMENT ONLY. You must call by 2pm on the Tuesday, before Wednesday's pick up. Regular trash pick up days are Mondays and Thursdays.

Grass Clippings

Grass clippings and leaves will be picked up on Monday afternoons by Burch Trash Service, Inc. All grass clippings and leaves must be bagged and placed at the curbside.

Limb Pick-up

Limbs will be picked up on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Limbs will be taken up to 7" in diameter and need not be cut length-wise. Limbs should be placed curbside, not in the street. No limbs will be picked up from the alley.

NO EXCEPTIONS!

Recycle Oil and Antifreeze

The Public Works Department accepted recyclable oil and antifreeze. Residents may bring the recyclable oil and antifreeze to the rear of the Municipal Building between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. All fluids must be in a secured container.

Recreation/Cultural Department News by Anthony Long, Director

Annual Senior Citizen Health Fair



12 noon to 4pm

at 11am

During the Health Fair by the youth members of our Teen Job Bank!

Clubs and Organizations

- Marbury Homeowners Association.....Third (3rd) Thursday of each month.
- Citizen Action Patrol (CAP)Third (3rd) Wednesday of each month.
- District Heights Boys & Girls ClubThird (3rd) Monday of each month.
- T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)Meets every Monday at 6:45 p.m.
- Girls Scouts Troop 90/67Meets every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
- Stamp ClubFirst (1st) Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- AARP #939First (1st) Tuesday of each month at 12 noon.
- Game Club.....Every 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month.
- 3D Elite Cheerleaders.....Every Saturday at 12:30 p.m.



Ongoing Programs

- Bible Study.....Every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
- Open House.....Monday through Friday 3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Baseball.....Every Thursday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Baseball (12-18).....Every Wednesday and Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
- Baseball (12-18).....\$50/month (residents), \$60/month (non-residents),
- Baseball (12-18) Mentoring).....Every Monday (except holidays) at 7:00 p.m.
- Cultural (12-18) Mentoring).....Every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
- Standing School of Dance.....Every Saturday, 9 am – 12 noon
- Standing School of Dance.....\$55/month (residents), \$65/month (non-residents)
- Boys & Girls Club Baseball & T-ball.....Begins in April. Call (301) 322-9845 or (301) 967-1823

Upcoming Events

- Early Registration for Summer Camp.....March 19 thru April 6, 2007.
- Career/College Expo.....Thursday, March 29, 2007, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.
- Willie Diggs Basketball Camp.....April 9th thru April 13th, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.
- Teen Party.....Friday, April 13, 2007, 7:00 pm to 12 midnight.
- Easter Egg Hunt.....Monday, April 9, 2007, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.
- Career /College Development Institute.....Every Wednesday, April 18 – June 20, 2007 (6:30 pm to 8:30 pm).



CAREER/COLLEGE EXPO

Thursday, March 29, 2007
10am to 2pm

District Heights Recreation/Cultural Center
Workshops, and representatives from Colleges/Universities, Businesses,
and Scholarship Information. You don't want to miss this opportunity.

DISTRICT HEIGHTS DAY

Saturday, May 19, 2007
Parade starts at 10am
Festival starts at 11am
(Municipal Ball Park)

JOB & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are accepting applications for the positions of Instructor (adult applicants only) and the position of Instructor Assistant (age 16 & older applicants) for the Summer Enrichment Camp.

Volunteers and volunteer instructors are needed for tutorial classes and mentoring programs. Anyone interested in helping our youth achieve greatness should call the Recreation and Cultural Department at (301) 336-5633.

Family & Youth Services Center News by Meg McNulty, Director

Career and College Development Institute... The Time is Now!

What opportunities do youth have to help them prepare for their futures?

Are you a youth who wants to have an exciting career or wants to get into a good college?

Are you an adult who can give a few hours of your time?

If you are invested in the productive future of our youth, the City of District Heights has a program for you.

What? Career and College Development Institute (CDI) is an ongoing project to prepare youth for their futures a to include future planning, college mentoring, job shadowing and career

guidance inventories

When? Wednesdays from 6:30pm to 8:30pm, weekly

Who? Youth aged 14-18 can apply to be a participant. Any adult can volunteer their time.

Why? The fundamental goal is to ensure the academic and vocational future for all youth.

How? Youth will need to get an application for the Institute at the Municipal Building. (There is no cost to participate in CDI.) Adults can present on a variety of career and college topics such as interview skills or time management on Wednesday evenings or even be a site for job shadowing or job placement.

For more information please call (301)

336-7600 or (301)336-5633.

Bowie State University Intern

District Heights Family and Youth Services Center was honored to host Shavone Murphy who successfully completed her graduate internship here at the city in the middle of March. Mrs. Murphy is ready to earn her masters degree in counseling psychology from Bowie State. We all wish her well.

Domestic Violence Coalition

If domestic violence is an issue that you care about, our coalition is forming. This call is for action; innovative ideas and passionate individuals are needed. Come be part of a movement! Please call Elaine Davis Nickens at (202) 321-0435 or

City of District Heights Information

Events	March/April Commission Meetings	Need a Ride? Use the Call-A-Bus Service
Spring Clean-Up April 16 – April 27, 2007	Tuesday, March 27, 2007	Call (301) 336-1402 to schedule your ride.
City Election May 7, 2007	Thursday, April 5, 2007	You must schedule your ride at least 2 business days in advance for a single rider, and one week
Senior Citizens Health Fair May 12, 2007	Tuesday, April 10, 2007	in advance for groups of 5 or more.
District Heights Day May 19, 2007	Tuesday, April 24, 2007	Hours of Operation: 9am to 5pm
		Residents of the City of District Heights will be given preference.

Prince George's County Summer Youth Employment Initiative

Youth can gain valuable work experience and insight into career and occupational areas of interest to them. The Youth Employment Services Office will place youth in jobs of interest to them. You must meet the following guidelines:

1. Students must be in good academic standing with their school.
2. Applicants under 18 years of age must have the signature of a parent or guardian.
3. Applications will be accepted thru April 13, 2007.
4. Applications received after April 13, 2007 will only be considered if additional jobs become available.
5. To be considered applications must be accurately and fully completed.

For instructions and application visit www.goprincegeorgescounty.com/government/executivebranch/summeryouth.asp

City Commission Meeting Highlights by Tamil Perry, City Clerk

2007 Voter Information

Section 501. Voters

Every person who meets all the following requirements may vote in City elections:

- (a) is a citizen of the United States;
- (b) is at least eighteen (18) years of age,
- (c) has resided within the corporate limits of the City for thirty (30) days immediately preceding the City election, and
- (d) is registered to vote in accordance with the provisions of State and County law and this Charter.

Section 505. Registration

(a) Registration by the Prince George's County Board of Elections shall be deemed registration for City elections, provided that the person so registered meets the voter qualifications enumerated in this Charter. The District Heights Board of Supervisors of Elections shall accept the list of registered voters provided by the Prince George's County Board of Elections as a valid registration list for the City.

(b) No person shall be entitled to vote in a City election unless he or she is duly registered to vote at least thirty (30) days prior to that election.

Section 1301. Distribution of Absentee Ballots

(a) Any qualified and registered voter who cannot be present at an upcoming City election may vote by absentee ballot. The individual shall apply for an absentee ballot on an application form provided by the Board of Supervisors of Elections. The individual shall state in the application the reason that he or she cannot vote in person at the election, shall sign the application, and shall deliver the application, by mail or other means, so that it reaches the Board of Supervisors of Elections on or before the Tuesday immediately preceding the election.

(b) The Board of Supervisors of Elections shall accept applications for absentee ballots after the Tuesday immediately preceding the election only in the event that, after the Tuesday immediately preceding the election, any of the following emergencies occurred:

- (1) The applicant has been notified that, as a condition of employment, he or she is required to be absent from District Heights on election day.
- (2) The applicant has become unable to be present at the polls as a result of illness or accident.
- (3) The applicant is unable to be present at the polls because of a death or serious illness in his or her immediate family.

A voter who makes application for an emergency absentee ballot shall appear in person at the City offices during normal business hours to obtain the absentee ballot or designate an agent to deliver the absentee ballot to the voter.

(c) If the Board of Supervisors of Elections determines that the applicant is eligible to vote as an absentee voter, the Board shall deliver, by mail or other means, an absentee ballot to the place so designated by the applicant. If the Board of Supervisors of Elections determines that the applicant is not eligible to vote as an absentee voter, the Board shall so notify the applicant.

EXERCISE  *your right*
...TO VOTE!

Commissioner's Corner.....Martin, Calhoun, Robbins-Worthy, and Collins

ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZENS HEALTH FAIR COMING SOON!!!

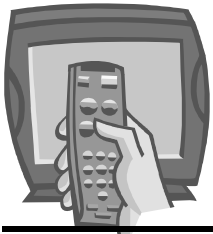
The City of District Heights Recreation and Cultural Department is calling all senior citizens to come out and participate in the annual Seniors Citizens Health Fair on Saturday, May 12, 2007 from 12 noon to 4 p.m., but make sure you get there an hour early for the 3K Walk/Run around our scenic park trail at 11 a.m. You can also get your car washed by our youth from 12 noon to 4pm while you attend the health fair activities!

There will be something for everyone to enjoy including back and foot massages, exercise demonstrations, health foods and health screenings focusing on blood pressure, cholesterol and glaucoma. There will also be over 20 health vendors in attendance. Transportation to and from the health fair will be provided upon request. If you want to request transportation for a senior citizen or want more information on the event, please contact the Recreation and Cultural Department at (301) 336-5633 or Vice Mayor Eddie Martin at (240) 508-6721. Help us make the City of District Heights a healthy community!

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
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