



Mayor Jack C. Sims

Vice Mayor Eddie L. Martin

Commissioner Harryette Irving

Commissioner Cynthia Miller

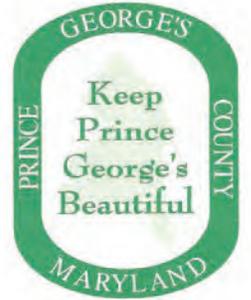
Commissioner Johnathan Medlock

# THE HERALD

Congratulations to the City of District Heights for receiving a Keep America Beautiful - 2017 Community Trails Program Grant to restore and enhance the city's walking trail and dog park. Trails can play a vital role in our communities and the well-being of people of all ages. Trails provide accessible, widely available and low-cost opportunities to support an active lifestyle and can strengthen the social fabric. Trail construction and maintenance builds and solidifies partnerships among community groups, local businesses, property owners, government and community residents.

As for dog parks, the biggest beneficiary is our city. While dogs and their owners love playing in them, dog parks can create a safer, more active, pet-friendly community. Dog parks will make the City of District Heights safer by offering a secure area for dogs to play and socialize, without getting in the way of others.

Stay tuned for more exciting updates on this project!



*We're Involved*

Citizens Concerned for a Cleaner County

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### MY SOLE KNOWS 5K

On Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the District Heights Youth Services Bureau hosted the "My Sole Knows 5K run/walk", which was the inaugural kick-off fundraising event for the District Heights Youth Development Foundation. Below are some pictures from the event:



*District Heights' Youth Services Bureau thanks everyone who came out and showed their support!*

<p><b>RECREATION ACTIVITIES, CLASSES AND EVENTS</b>  <b>CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS</b></p>
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AARP Chapter #939 meets every 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 12 noon

Citizens Action Patrol (C.A.P) meets bi-monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Marbury Homeowners Association meets every Third Thursday of each month

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (T.O.P.S.) meets every Monday 6:45 p.m.

**Recreation and Wellness Center Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

**ONGOING PROGRAMS**

Adult Gym	Wednesdays 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Chair Aerobics	Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Crocheting	Mondays 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Fitness Center	Monday-Friday 9:15 a.m. – 8:45 p.m.
Open Gym	Monday-Friday 3:30 p.m. – 6:20 p.m.
Line Dancing	Mondays 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Indoor Bowling	Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Hand Dancing	Mondays 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES



CHAIR AEROBICS CLASS - TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

INSTRUCTOR: RUNELLE GULLIAM (KOJAK)

\$3.00 PER CLASS



HAND DANCE CLASS - MONDAYS 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

INSTRUCTOR: HENRY ALPINE (THE FIRM)

\$5.00 PER CLASS



LINE DANCE CLASS - THURSDAYS 10 AM - 12:00 PM

INSTRUCTOR: DIANE ATKINS (LADY DI)

\$3.00 PER CLASS



IN-LINE DANCE CLASS - MONDAYS 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

INSTRUCTOR: NICOLE MOTON-MCFADDEN

\$5.00 PER CLASS



### FITNESS ROOM HOURS:

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00AM TO 8:45PM

### MEMBERSHIP PRICES:

District Heights Residents (18-54): \$25 FOR (3) MONTHS  
Non-District Heights Residents (18-54): \$50 FOR (3) MONTHS  
Seniors (55+): FREE

Offering safe and effective wellness consultations, one-on-one personal training, and group training.

**From the Desk of Commissioner Irving,**

**JULY**

Attended the city meeting and work sessions, the District Heights Police Community Meeting and met with the District Heights Veterans Park committee. Along with the staff of the District Heights Recreation and Culture Department, I attended training on the correct way to use the new fitness equipment located in the District Heights Fitness Center. I also attended a Peace Rally at Christ Kingdom Church and attended the Suitland AARP Chapter 939 Crab Feast and Boat Ride.



**AUGUST**

Technically the Mayor and Commission went on recess after the August City meeting but I was still extremely busy attending and participating in various events and activities. At North Forestville Elementary School, I attended a TNI meeting and a meeting to meet the new Assistant Principal (Mrs. Evans). I spoke with our School Board Representative, K. Alexander Wallace, and other Prince Georges County representatives concerning my request for a traffic light or crossing guard at Ritchie Road and the street leading to North Forestville Elementary. I attended a Town Hall Meeting held by Delegate Angela Angel. Commissioner Cynthia Miller and I attended a Women’s Luncheon sponsored by Congressman Steny Hoyer. I attended Friends and Family Day which was sponsored by Prince Georges Council Member, Mel Franklin. I also attended the District Heights National Night Out. It was an awesome event with free food, excellent entertainment and lots of great and useful information.

**SEPTEMBER**

The Mayor and Commission returned from recess. I was on vacation and missed the city meeting. I assisted AARP Suitland Chapter 939 with the distribution of school supplies to students at both District Heights and North Forestville Elementary Schools. I attended North Forestville Elementary Back to School Night and attended city work session. Mayor Sims, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Medlock and I participated in the Youth Service Bureau’s “My Sole Knows 5K Run/Walk.” It was a great event. Congratulations to the organizers and sponsors!

Remember, that the Children are back in school, so please be alert while driving!

*Commissioner Harryette Irving, Ward II*  
Liaison for Recreation, Parks and Culture Department

**FROM THE DESK OF CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Code Enforcement handles hundreds of complaints annually. The Code Enforcement officers patrol the City on a routine basis. We respond to complaints that are called, mailed, or e-mailed.

**Section 404. Littering Prohibited**

It shall be unlawful for any person to cause or allow to flow any dirt, earth, and/or silt upon any of the sidewalks, streets, alleys, or other public space and it shall be similarly unlawful for any person to permit or allow any mud, dirt, garbage, bottles, trash or any kind of debris whatsoever, to be thrown or dropped in any manner onto or upon the streets, alleys or other public space without immediately removing the aforesaid mud, dirt, garbage, bottles, trash, or debris from the said areas of the City. Violation of this section shall be a municipal infraction punishable by a fine.

**Leaf Collection**

Each November and December, the Public Works Department removes leaves from curbs and gutters of residents’ homes. Each year we gather over 400,000 pounds of leaves. The leaf machines we use is designed to help us collect leaves at a rapid pace. This process is repeated throughout the winter and runs through the first week of January. Leaves are placed between the curb and the sidewalk.

**Grass Clippings**

Grass clippings will be picked up on Wednesdays by Bates Trucking and Trash Removal. All grass clippings and leaves must be bagged in a paper bag and placed curbside.

**Limb Collection**

As part of our beautification efforts, we have established a limb collection program that allows citizens to place their excess limbs curbside for pickup. This process takes place on the **2nd Tuesday** of each month. Our “chipper” machine only allows us to pick up limbs up to seven inches in diameter. All limbs exceeding this length should be cut prior to pick-up.

For items that cannot be taken during regular trash pick-up days, the Public Works Department offers bulk trash removal services.

**Every Wednesday**, trash collection trucks are available to pick up large items such as couches and refrigerators. This service is provided **by appointment only**. A maximum of (3) items per weekly pickup. **Only requests received by Tuesday at 2pm will be eligible for pick up.** In order to schedule removal of bulk trash, please call Bates Trucking and Trash Removal at (301) 773-2069.



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## CITIZENS ACTION PATROL (CAP) NEWS

**National Night Out (NNO):** NNO on August 1<sup>st</sup> was very successful with a record-breaking turnout. We received outstanding volunteer support, as always, from Christ Kingdom Church of District Heights and from the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority of Capital Heights MD. The District Heights Public Works Department, once again, did a stellar job throughout the day. Thanks to all who attended and participated.

**Tip of the Issue:** "Nextdoor.com" A web site that provides information about District Heights and neighboring communities. Information such as: crime, local events, recommendations from residents pertaining to needed commercial services (electrical, construction, plumbing and much more.) We currently have 254 residents connected to this site and growing. To get connected to this dynamic free tool, send an email to [dhciviccoalition@gmail.com](mailto:dhciviccoalition@gmail.com) and request to be added. You will be sent an email invitation.

**House of the Month:** The District Heights House of the Month for September is located at 6911 Kipling Parkway - CONGRATULATIONS !!! The criteria for House of the Month is based on house and yard appearance visible from the street. If you would like to nominate a house of the month, send an email to [dhciviccoalition@gmail.com](mailto:dhciviccoalition@gmail.com) with the address and the committee will review your selection.

**Block Captains: "Duties"** (1) maintains a vigil over a block(s) to help ensure safety/security of the area. (2) Coordinates with residents in their area to discuss problems and issues they may have or see. (3) Disseminates relevant information pertaining to City issues and events. (4) Coordinates with the City police department and the CAP director to give updates on block status. (5) Recruits citizens to become involved in the Block Captain efforts and the Citizen's Action Patrol. Contact the District Heights Citizen's Action Patrol at [dhciviccoalition@gmail.com](mailto:dhciviccoalition@gmail.com).

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## COMMUNITY GARDEN

*Fiesta Place Garden!*

*6717 Gateway Blvd.*

*Whatever We Grow, We Give, and Whatever We Learn We Teach!*

**October** – Tricks our senses with chilly, sunny days, and then treats us with gorgeous colors. Time to bring your house plants back inside before cold weather arrives. Be sure to check for insects, spray with insecticidal soap and be sure to read the directions first.

The cooler fall months are the prime time to divide and transplant perennials, trees and shrubs. The fall season gives perennials, trees and shrubs the chance to develop stronger roots for the next growing season. Decorate your home with pumpkins, gourds, creating wreaths to match your décor.

**November** – After the first frost remove faded annuals and cut back the stems of perennials right to the ground. Holidays are just around the corner, decorate and enjoy your family and friends. Eat lots of greens you planted for the fall. Clean your garden tools before you store them.

**December** – Cover bare soil in your vegetable and flowers beds with chopped leaves or other organic material. This will help keep moisture in while providing organic matter and to help stop soil erosion. Tis the season and holiday decorating isn't complete without a beautiful poinsettia, giving it bright light, keeping it moist but not wet. **Amaryllis** is some of the most elegant flowers of the holiday season. Buy them potted and ready to bloom.

On a special note, The District Heights Community Garden Program appreciate all of the compliments, the help and love, you have given to Fiesta Place Garden this year and hope that 2018 will continue to bind us together. We hope we have encouraged and inspired the community to continue to enhance the beauty of our city and to also Grow It and Eat It! To our Community, we wish you a Joyous Holiday and a Healthier New Year!

If you would like to know more about the garden program, plot rentals, gardening, volunteering or if you have comments or suggestions email us at [dhgardens@gmail.com](mailto:dhgardens@gmail.com).

*Until the Next Time Keep It Growing! And check us out on Twitter, Facebook, and Pinterest at DHCGardens.  
Deborah Turner, Garden Coordinator, since 2010*

## THE POLICE BEAT BY CHIEF ELLIOTT W. GIBSON, SR.

The City of District Heights Police Department is very much looking forward to a prosperous Fall and Winter. As you are aware, our school age children are back in school. We must be mindful that, as motorists, we must stop for all stopped school buses. A motorist must stop at least 20 feet behind a stopped school bus and remain stopped until the red flashing lights and the Stop Sign are turned off. Please take a few extra minutes to drive within the speed limit of 25 mph and come to a complete stop when approaching a controlled intersection. Also, we have a duty to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians in a marked or unmarked crosswalk. Sometimes our children are not paying attention, while getting onto or off public transportation or school buses. We help our children by being aware of their presence and being cautious.



During the months of June, July and August, the District Heights Police Department managed over 759 calls for police services. There were a total of forty-one (41) crimes reported over a three month period. In July 2017, two young men were shot while standing in a parking lot at 1:00 am in the morning. They died as a result of their injuries. This case was closed with the arrest of one of their friends. This incident occurred in the Woodland Springs section of District Heights. Most of the crimes reported over the past three months related to incidents of theft, theft from vehicles and/or businesses along Marlboro Pike, where goods were stolen. We had two (2) homes and three businesses broken into during this three-month period. There were no discernable patterns associated with these events. The suspect(s) entered the homes through a small rear window. Various items were stolen including cash and clothing. There were no injuries to anyone and no one was home at the time of the incidents. We ask our residents to be aware of these incidents in your neighborhood. Once again, we have had a number of packages stolen from the front porch of our residents' homes. Two arrests were made of suspects in these cases. If you are having a package delivered, and you will not be home to take delivery, please have the package given to a neighbor who is home, or have them take the package back to the office of the carrier.

We would like to thank our residents and business partners who continually look out for their neighbors and report incidents that come to their attention. Once again, we ask that our residents take the time to ensure that your vehicle doors are locked, windows closed and that there are no valuables visible to passersby. Always be aware of your surroundings. **If you see something suspicious, please call police on 911!**

The District Heights Police Department is hosting a Domestic Violence Awareness Summit, on **Saturday, October 21, from 2:00 - 4:00 pm.** in the Municipal Building. This summit is designed to bring awareness to the plight of those who are victims of Domestic Violence, as well as things that you can do to help in this endeavor. We will have a number of guest speakers, who will share their experiences. The Chief of Police for the City of District Heights will discuss the First Responders duties and responsibilities during these kinds of events. Come out and help support this worthwhile endeavor. Refreshments will be served.

Are you aware of the City initiative to "SCOOP THE POOP"? There are some residents who walk along Kipling Parkway and Marbury Drive, who allow their pets to relieve themselves and forget to clean up after them. The City has an Ordinance prohibiting this practice. We do not wish to issue a fine to pet owners, but we must keep our City clean. Again, Scoop the Poop. The police department and our Mayor and Commissioners are always interested in knowing that our residents and business partners are committed to keeping the City of District Heights safe and clean.

If there is a community group interested in having a police department member speak at their Church, School, or civic association, please contact the District Heights Police Department on telephone number [\(301\) 336-1400](tel:3013361400). As always, every first Thursday of the month, the City Meeting is televised. We discuss the events which occurred the previous month. The District Heights television station is channel 25 (Verizon) or channel 71 (Comcast).

As always, we ask our residents to always write down the telephone numbers of emergency and non-emergency services. The telephone number to ask a question about the Community Policing meetings is [\(301\) 336-1400](tel:3013361400). Emergencies will require the resident or business person to dial 911. The non-emergency police dispatch number is [\(301\) 352-1200](tel:3013521200).

Public Safety is a Team Effort. COME JOIN THE TEAM!

# PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NEWS

BY BRIAN EDWARDS, SR., SUPERVISOR

## 2017 Fall Leaf Collection Schedule

The Public Works Department will begin its annual Fall Leaf Collection on Monday, October 30, 2017. 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 December 22, 2017 through January 5, 2018. After this time, all leaves must be put in **brown lawn bags or a trash can with an X on the front or a note that says yard waste** and placed curbside for Bates Trash Service, which picks up leaves and grass clipping on Wednesdays. **There will be no leaf collection on the following dates: November 10, 23, and 24, 2017, and December 25, 2017. Tree limbs will not be picked up during the fall leaf removal season. Limb pick-up will resume on Tuesday January 09, 2018.** Christmas trees will also be included in this pick-up.

Section I: October 30, 31, & November 1, 16, 17, 20, & December 6, 7, 8.

Section II: November 2, 3, 6, 21, 22, 27 & December, 11, 12, 13.

Section III: November 7, 8, 9, 28, 29, 30, & December 14, 15, 18.

Section IV: November 13, 14, 15, & December 1, 4, 5, 19, 20, 21

### Public Works Department

(301) 336-7417

### Public Works Commission

#### Liaison

Commissioner Johnathan Medlock

(240) 695-0448

### Public Works Supervisor

Brian Edwards

(240) 508-7289

#### Foreman I

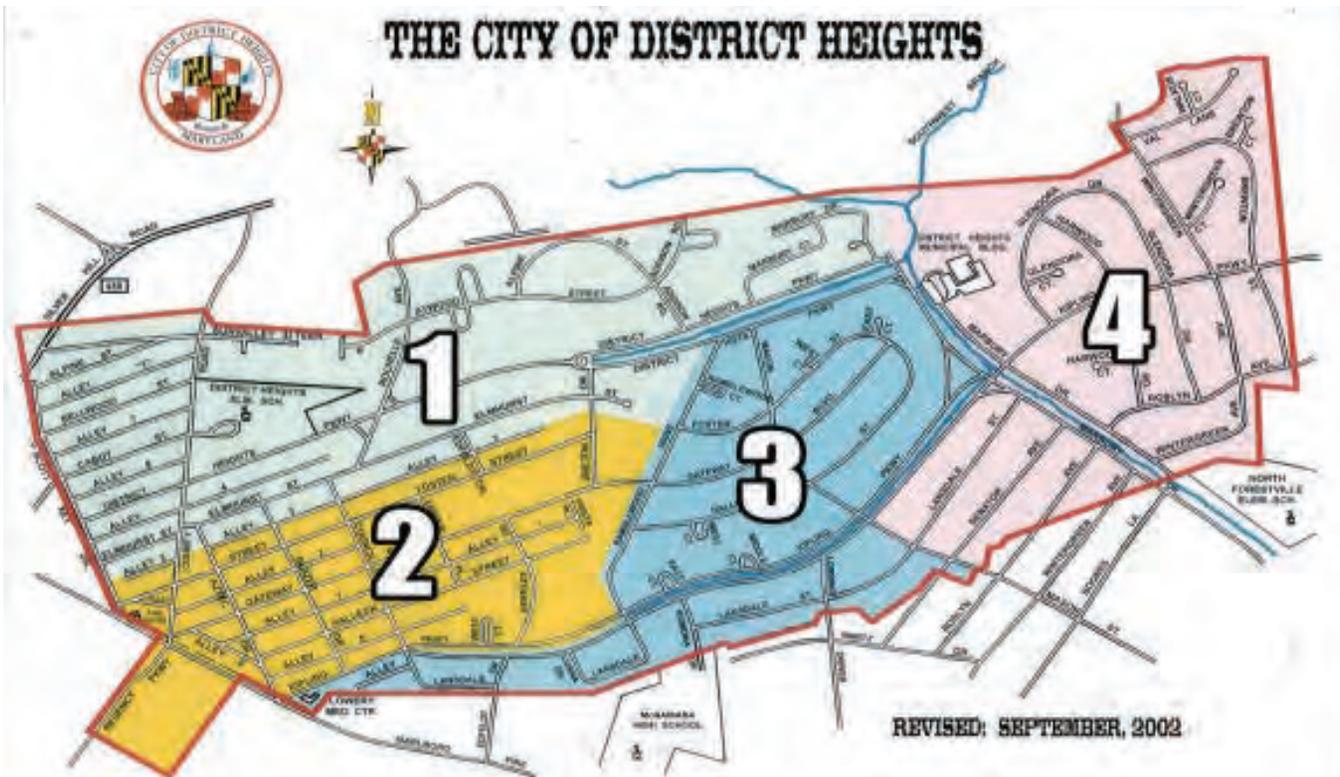
Rick Whitman

(240) 508-7290

#### Foreman II

Angela Barnhill-Love

(240) 508-6679



THE CITY OF DISTRICT HEIGHTS

2000 Marbury Drive  
District Heights, Maryland 20747  
www.districtheights.org

Pre-sorted Standard  
U.S. Postage Paid  
District Heights, MD  
Permit No. 1840

**Important Telephone Numbers:**

General Government (301)-336-1402

District Heights Call-A-Bus (301)-336-1402

Police Department & Code Enforcement (301)-336-1400

Youth Services Bureau (301)-336-7600

Recreation, Cultural and Parks Department (301)-336-5633

Public Works Department (301)-336-7417

Bulk Trash (301)-773-2069

Commission Meetings are only on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month starting at 7 p.m.

Community Garden Program Volunteers meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 11 a.m. in Commission Chambers.

**District Heights TV Program Guide:**

Watch us on Channel 71 (Comcast) and Channel 25 (Verizon)