



CITY OF DISTRICT HEIGHTS

MARYLAND



The Incorporated City of District Heights will hold elections in the Summer of 2022.

WHEN: TBD

WHERE: YOUTH SERVICES BUILDING
6421 ATWOOD ST.,
DISTRICT HEIGHTS, MD 20747

In the upcoming 2022 Election residents will vote for Ward I Commissioner, Ward II Commissioner, and the Mayor



Call (301) 336-1400, extension 111 to sign up for public safety notifications via email or text message from the District Heights Police Department.

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FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR JOHNATHAN MEDLOCK

PROCLAMATION FOR A HUMANITARIAN AND LEADER

Whereas, the City of District Heights, Maryland expresses deep sorrow over the passing of the Honorable Jack C. Sims, Jr. He was elected first African-American Mayor of the City of District Heights, Maryland serving from 1997-2003. He also served a third term as Mayor 2016-2018. He was Vice Mayor in 1994 and Police and Enforcement Commissioner from 1993 to 1995. Again, serving as Commissioner for a span of years in the 2000's also serving as Commission Liaison for the Department of Public Works and General Government during that time. He was former President of the Maryland Black Mayors Association and the Founder of the Central Prince George's County Maryland Rotary Club, Co-Founder of the District Heights' Citizens Action Patrol.

Whereas, in 2006 the Honorable Sims received the Joseph Gollup Memorial Award in District Heights, MD and on February 11, 2014, Jack C. Sims, Jr., made history again! At a City of District Heights Mayor and Commission work session meeting, a motion was made unanimously to honor at that time Commissioner Sims by naming the City's 1.4-mile park and pathway exercise trail after this special man. On April 26, 2014, the Red Ribbon Naming Ceremonies took place for: The Jack C. Sims Exercise Park/Trail.

Whereas, The Honorable Jack C. Sims, JR., was a member of the Pan African Collective Board of Directors and the Historic Black Towns and Settlements Alliance, Inc., Board of Directors. Also a member of the Maryland Municipal League, Maryland Mayors Association and served on the National League of Cities-International Committee, Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Relations Steering Committee (FAIR), National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (NBC-LEO), NBC-LEO Board of Directors, and he was appointed the First Vice President of the World Conference of Mayors, Inc., by the Founder and CEO and its Board of Directors while representing them as Minister of Tourism and Trade.

Whereas, in October of 2013, Jack C. Sims, Jr., became the first American and first African-American to become the recipient of the prestigious *2013 Mkiva Humanitarian Award* from the South Africa Mkiva Foundation of the XHOSA Nation. Past recipients of this award include Nelson Mandela, former President Fidel Castro and other world leaders. Honorable Jack C. Sims, Jr., was also crowned as Honorary Chief by several communities in the Republic of Nigeria and was gowned as an Honorary Paramount Chief of Bong County, Liberia and served on the Maryland Sister States Program committee for Liberia.

Jack C. Sims, Jr., was active in national and international affairs. He has had business trips to Ivory Coast, South Africa, Equatorial Guinea, Senegal, The Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria, Haiti, Trinidad, Cyprus, Liberia, Vietnam, Sierra Leone, Virgin Islands, Nassau, The Congo, and Gabon.

Now, therefore, I Johnathan Medlock, Mayor of the City of District Heights, Maryland proclaim February 21, 2022 as *THE HONORABLE JACK C. SIMS, JR., DAY in the CITY OF DISTRICT HEIGHTS, MARYLAND.*



Honorable Johnathan Medlock, Mayor

VICE MAYOR CYNTHIA MILLER'S CAFÉ CORNER

As the General Government Liaison, the work continues to be done to revitalize how we should operate in this great City. Here are some updates that will assist us.

- Fiesta Garden Funding and Renovations - New ideas on Art, Flowers, and Gardening Events with innovative ideas
- New City Attorney - Shipley & Horne Law Office is a full service law firm.
- New Website - Will go live in April 2022
- Ordinance of Rules of Procedures - Elected Officials Conduct Guide for the City.
- Recodification Services - Minutes, Ordinances, and Resolutions are organized and researched on the Website and stored in a secured location.
- Updated Personnel Manual - Ensuring that the City has updated polices and regulations for staff.

More things to come:

- Chief of Police
- City Manager
- Senior Center Director
- Outreach Coordinator
- Ordinance for Charter Committee
- Human Resources Specialist
- Financial Services/Treasurer

Having a well functioning City Government will help us thrive to new heights. You deserve it!

City of District Heights New Website Mockup



COMMISSIONER HARCOURT'S REPORT

Dynamic Changes for You!

Hello Beautiful District Heights,

As we finally start to shake off the doldrums of winter and move from a pandemic to an endemic phase of COVID-19, it is important to keep safety at the forefront of our collective minds.

The City is actively searching for its next permanent Chief of Police, and interest has been high. As we transition, the Department is being headed by the highly capable Sgt. Ronald Tarpley. The dedicated staff and officers on the Department are working hard to keep our community safe.



Please be sure to use the District Heights App (you can find it on the App Store) or send inquiries, compliments, and concerns to: police2002@districtheights.org.

Please note that Code Enforcement activities will focus on quality of life issues that directly impact the safety and desirability of our community. Mrs. Watkins and Mr. Green want you to know they will work with residents to resolve problems. Please send inquiries before you start a project, or to report violations to: codeenforcement@districtheights.org.

You may also request a District Heights Welcome Package (contains ordinances and helpful information), by sending a request to our City Clerk, Mr. Antonio Robbins at: cityclerk@districtheights.org.

And finally, please feel free to connect with me directly. I would love to hear your thoughts and suggestions to help make our community a more desirable place to call home: harcourt@districtheights.org or (240) 507-3254.

Always yours,

Commissioner Xander Harcourt

FROM THE DESK OF COMMISSIONER IRVING

The past three months have been very eventful in the City of District Heights. The City Manager position became vacant, there was a change in leadership in the District Heights Police Department, and a firm was hired to assist the City with the utilization of ARPA funds. A town hall was held to inform District Heights' residents on ARPA funds and funds can be used. Citizens were invited to participate by asking question, expressing their concerns, and sharing their opinions as to what the ARPA funds should be allocated for.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the weather (snow). Unlike many areas in Prince George's County (thanks to our Public Works Department) our streets were useable/drivable.

The Senior Citizen Center building construction ran into a few problems but is now coming along quite nicely. If you have not had the opportunity to see how the construction is progressing, do go to the Municipal Center lower parking lot (near the field) and you can see all that has been completed.

A landscaping company was contracted to care for the Veterans Park landscape. This will ensure that the beauty of the Veterans Park is maintained. The process of identifying a sign for the Veterans Park was initiated. The City and the Veterans Park Committee want to ensure that the sign selected will enhance the beauty of the park. Applications from District Heights (Incorporated City) Veterans (to have their name on a brick at the Veterans Park) are still being accepted. Please contact the City Clerk, Antonio Robbins (301 336-1402 ext. 110).

COVID-19 restrictions were still in place and prevented meeting in-person. However, meetings were held on Zoom and/or virtually. Mr. Antonio Robbins, City Clerk, did an outstanding job of coordinating the meetings and ensuring that information was on Constant Contact. One of our citizens, Pamela Janifer, did a good job of ensuring that meeting information was on Nextdoor. As a result of issues beyond the City's control, the City's television channel (Comcast 71/Verizon 25) has been out of service.

I would like to extend a HEART FELT THANK YOU to the City's residents that have stepped up and shared their time and talents by serving on various committees (i.e. Charter, Website, Ethics, BOSE, Citizen Action Patrol (CAP) Senior Citizen Center, Veterans Park, Community Garden, etc.).



RECREATION, PARKS, AND CULTURE

The City of District Heights Recreation Department is currently open to help serve residents and guests with various recreation classes, sports, and leisure activities from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday - Friday. Please call (301) 336-5633 for more information about classes, activities, programs and much more!

EVENT AND ACTIVITY CALENDAR


APRIL 2022

SATURDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
9 Spring Into Financial Literacy <u>Ages 4-17</u> 10-11:30 am	10	11 Kickball/Flag Football <u>Ages 6-10</u> 11 am-1 pm <u>Ages 11-14</u> 1-3 pm	12 Dodgeball	13 Video Game Bus 12-2 pm
Spring Break Youth Activities April 11th-18th				
				14 Hike/Bike Activity 11-12 pm Survival of the Fittest 12-1 pm Family Kickball Night 6-8 pm
<i>*All activities are subject to weather conditions</i>				
16	17	18 Easter Egg Hunt 12-2 pm		

RECREATION, PARKS, AND CULTURE

EVENT AND ACTIVITY CALENDAR

MAY 2022

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Cinco De Mayo Soccer Party</p> <p>5-7 pm</p> <p><i>*Weather permitting</i></p>	<p>6</p> <p>Mother's Day Giveaway</p> <p>11 am-1 pm</p> <p><i>Register by April 29th to receive a special gift! Call (301) 336-5633 to register.</i></p>
<p>MONDAY</p> <p>9</p> <p>Summer Camp Pre-registration Begins</p>			

JUNE 2022

SATURDAY	WEDNESDAY	Summer Camp June 27th-August 5th
<p>4</p> <p>District Heights' Day</p> <p>Parade starts at 10:00</p> <p>Activities are from 11 am -4pm</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Father's Day Pizza Party</p> <p>5-7 pm</p>	<p>Cost \$200</p> <p>No before/aftercare</p> <p>9 am-3 pm</p> <p><i>Call (301) 336-5633 for more information.</i></p>



YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU



The first three months of the year are typically focused on resolutions including new diets, exercise, etc. By March however, we tend to lose motivation and inspiration to continue with goals set at the top of the year. Do not despair, you do not have to do this alone! The YSB can help you get back into the swing of things this Spring.

As the days get warmer and longer, we want to invite you to participate in our garden of events. The YSB has started our second installment of (6) nutrition and gardening classes for our Nuts and Cuts Program. The classes began in March, but you can still join and learn tips/techniques focusing on nutrition and healthy eating. We are also offering classes on healthy budgeting to help you maximize your budget while eating healthy! But we didn't stop there...what better way to incorporate healthy eating than growing and canning your own vegetables! The Nut and Cuts Gardening Program is offering in-person gardening the first Saturday of every month at the Woodland Springs Community Garden! Canning videos will be available on our YouTube channel and the City's website.

Also online registration is open for the 5th Annual My Sole Knows 5K Run/Walk! This year's event will be virtual only, but we have some goodies in store to celebrate our 5th year of hosting this event!



For more information about our services, please contact (301) 336-7600. Also refer to the calendar on the next page for a snapshot of current and upcoming events.

YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU

EVENT AND ACTIVITY CALENDAR

APRIL 2022

SATURDAY 2	SUNDAY 10	April 11th-April 15th
Nuts and Cuts Gardening Class @ Woodland Springs Apts.		Facebook Virtual Cooking Class with Chef Rom Virtual Pain Sessions
MONDAY 18	FRIDAY 29	
My Sole Knows 5K Medal Design Drawing Competition Begins	Build Your Own Calm Down Kits	

MAY 2022

SATURDAY 7	FRIDAY 20
Nuts and Cuts Gardening Class @ Woodland Springs Apts.	Virtual Family Yoga to De-Stress Event

JUNE 2022

SATURDAY 4	FRIDAY 24
Nuts and Cuts Gardening Class @ Woodland Springs Apts.	School's Out Virtual Event



CODE ENFORCEMENT

Code Enforcement officers patrol the City on a routine basis. They respond to complaints that are called, mailed, or e-mailed. Code Enforcement's objective is to educate residents on code enforcement issues, encourage civic pride, and obtain voluntary compliance of City Ordinances. Due to COVID-19, most of their services are virtual. Please call (301) 336-1400 for questions and/or to report a code violation.

Storage of Wrecked or Junked Vehicles

All partially dismantled, wrecked, junked, discarded, unused, stripped or otherwise non-operating motor vehicles, motorcycles, or any unregistered or improperly registered motor vehicles stored on private or publicly owned property, are a public health nuisance and unlawful.



Vehicles Prohibited on Unpaved Areas

It is unlawful for anyone to store or leave a motor vehicle, boat, motor home or camping vehicle on the unpaved area of any yard in any residential lot except during a snow emergency.

Abandoned Motor Vehicles

Abandoned motor vehicles or any abandon vehicle parts are prohibited. Abandoned motor vehicle means any motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer that:

- is inoperable and left unattended on public property for more than 48 hours;
- has remained illegally on public property for more than 48 hours;
- has remained on public property for more than 48 hours with invalid or improper registration plates;
- has remained on private property for more than 48 hours without the property owners consent.

Repairs on Public Space

No person shall make repairs to any vehicle on public space including the confines of the Municipal Building grounds, except in an emergency situation to make the vehicle operable.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

2022 Spring Clean-Up

The annual clean-up will take place from April 12-15, 2022. Residents may rid their properties of tree limbs, grass clippings, heavy bulk items and trash.

NO HAZARDOUS material such as paint will be accepted. Place your items curbside during the week of clean-up.



Mosquito Control

Beginning May 25, 2022 through September 30, 2022, the County will be spraying the City of District Heights for mosquito larvae. Complaints should be forward on a regular basis. Name, address, problem area, time of day when mosquito are the worst. Complaints can be faxed to (301) 422-0502 or e-mailed to skeetermdl.mda@maryland.gov or call Mrs. Barnhill-Love at (301) 336-7417

Public Works Department
(301) 336-7417

Commission Liaison
Harryette Irving
(301) 456-3885

Public Works Supervisor
Brian Edwards
(240) 508-7289

Foreman I
Rick Whitman
(240) 508-7290

Building Coordinator/Admin. Asst.
Angela Barnhill-Love
(240) 508-6679

Bulk Trash Collection **(301) 773-2069** ***Bates Trash Services***

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

Recycling is picked up on Thursdays. Yard waste is picked up on Mondays.

Limb pick-up is on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

CIVIC COALITION

Veterans Corner:

Veterans Crisis Line. If you are a veteran in crisis or concerned about one, contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1 800-273-8255 to connect with a qualified responder from the Department of Veteran Affairs. The support line is confidential and available 24/7.

Coalition News: The Prince George's County Office of Community Relations introduced a "new and improved" 3-1-1 call center. You can also download the mobile app (PGC311). Ocr.mypgc.us/pgc311 for more information.

Contact us at: dhciviccoalition@gmail.com.

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CITIZEN ACTION PATROL NEWS



Tip of the Issue

Auto Thefts. Based on information received from the Prince George's County Citizen's Advisory Council, auto thefts are still a major issue. Always secure your vehicle and do not keep valuables visible.



House(s) of the Month

The house of the month for February is 6120 Belwood St. The house of the month for March is 2501 Lorryng Dr. Congratulations!



National Night Out (NNO)

NNO 2022 is scheduled for August 2nd, 2022. If you would like to be involved in the planning or participation, contact the District Heights' Police Department at (301) 336-1400 or email CAP at dhcivicactionpatrol@gmail.com. The event location is to be determined.



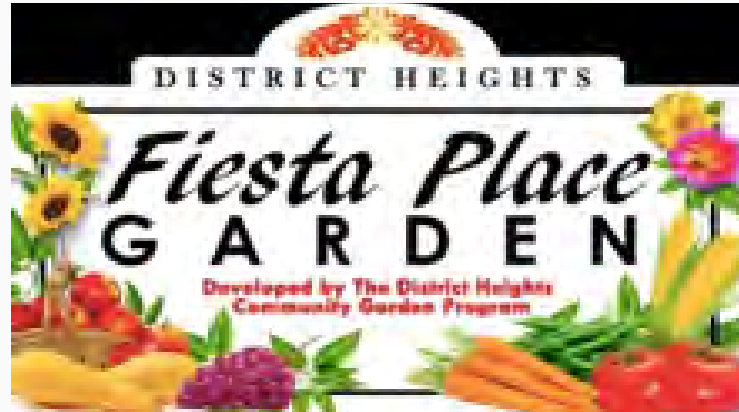
Get Involved!

Contact CAP at (301) 336-1400 dhcivicactionpatrol@gmail.com if you are interested in helping to keep your city clean and safe by joining the neighborhood Watch Program.

FIESTA PLACE GARDEN

6717 Gateway Blvd.

SPRING has sprung and the Fiesta Place Community Garden is excited about the possibilities! We are renovating the site and preparing for a new season. There will be MORE garden plots for rent, more programs to get our community encouraged, engaged, and excited about the possibilities of gardening in COMMUNITY!



We are adding raised beds that will be accessible for most, increasing children's programming, and adding a First Saturday in the Garden Program. We encourage you to sign-up for our newsletter to stay informed, as well as sign up for a plot this season. Email us at FiestaPlaceGardeninfo@gmail.com. To leave a message for the Community Garden, please (301) 336-1402, ext. 159.

"Be the seed that helps grow a beautiful garden community!"

Teri Speight





THE CITY OF DISTRICT HEIGHTS

2000 MARBURY DRIVE
DISTRICT HEIGHTS, MD 20747
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