



The HERALD

SUMMER ISSUE 2026

Sunny Days in the Heights



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HOLIDAY OBSERVATION

JUNETEENTH OBSERVANCE

On June 19, the City of District Heights joined communities across the nation in recognizing Juneteenth, commemorating the end of slavery in the United States and celebrating the enduring contributions of African Americans to our nation, state, and local community.

Juneteenth provides an opportunity to reflect on the significance of freedom, resilience, and progress while honoring the generations whose sacrifices helped shape the future. As a diverse and vibrant community, District Heights remains committed to fostering inclusion, understanding, and opportunities for all residents.

The Mayor and Commissioners encourage residents to continue learning about the history of Juneteenth and to recognize the importance of preserving the stories and experiences that connect us as a community.

Father's Day Celebration Honors Local Fathers

On June 17, the District Heights Recreation Department hosted its annual Father's Day celebration, bringing together fathers, father figures, families, and community members for an afternoon of appreciation and fellowship. The event provided an opportunity to recognize the important role fathers and mentors play in strengthening families and shaping future generations.

Attendees enjoyed food, conversation, activities, and opportunities to connect with fellow residents in a welcoming environment. The City extends its appreciation to the Recreation Department, volunteers, and participants who helped make the event a success. District Heights remains committed to offering programs and events that celebrate family, community, and the individuals who make a difference every day.

District Heights Fireworks Display

On Thursday, July 2, the City of District Heights welcomed hundreds of residents and visitors to its annual Fireworks Celebration. Families and friends enjoyed an evening of music, complimentary treats for early arrivals, and quality time together before the night's main event. As the sun set, a beautiful fireworks display presented by Digital Lighting, lit up the sky and captivated attendees of all ages. Thank you to everyone who joined us we look forward to celebrating with you again next year!



DISTRICT HEIGHTS DAY

District Heights Day 2026 Brings Community Together

On June 6, residents, families, community organizations, elected officials, and visitors gathered to celebrate District Heights Day 2026.

The event showcased the vibrant spirit of District Heights through live entertainment, community resources, local vendors, family activities, and opportunities for neighbors to connect and celebrate together.

We would also like to give a special thank you to our sponsors who helped make this event possible

- Medallion Security
- PM Pediatric Urgent Care
- Committee to Elect Antoine M. Thompson

Throughout the day, residents enjoyed food, music, and family-fun activities. Attendees were also able to engage with local organizations committed to serving the community.

District Heights Day continues to serve as a reminder of what makes our city special: a strong sense of community, civic pride, and a shared commitment to supporting one another.



The Mayor and Commission extend their appreciation to staff, volunteers, sponsors, community partners, vendors, public safety personnel, and residents who helped make the event a success. Their support and participation contributed to another memorable celebration of District Heights and its people.



Thank you to our sponsors



DISTRICT HEIGHTS CARES

DISTRICT HEIGHTS C.A.R.E.S INITIATIVE: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The District Heights CARES (Community, Achievement, Relationships, Engagement, and Support) Initiative is a collaborative effort between the City of District Heights, local schools, families, and community partners designed to strengthen relationships, support student achievement, and increase community engagement. Since its launch during the 2023–2024 school year, CARES has focused on building meaningful connections between students, educators, families, city departments, and elected officials through school visits, literacy activities, career exploration opportunities, family engagement events, staff appreciation initiatives, and community support programs.

Over time, the initiative has evolved into a citywide partnership model that promotes academic success, celebrates student accomplishments, supports educators, and creates opportunities for residents to engage directly with schools and youth-focused activities. Through collaborative efforts involving city departments, community organizations, and school leadership, CARES has strengthened the relationship between local government and the educational community.

For the 2026–2027 school year, the city plans to expand the initiative by increasing resident involvement, strengthening collaboration among schools, and providing additional opportunities for civic engagement. County, state, and federal elected officials will be invited to participate in school visits and engagement activities, giving students greater exposure to government leadership, public service, and civic responsibility. These efforts will further enhance the city's commitment to supporting students, families, educators, and schools throughout the District Heights community.

The long-term goal of the CARES Initiative is to create sustainable partnerships that foster student success, encourage family engagement, strengthen community connections, and build a culture of collaboration that benefits the entire City of District Heights.

Residents, community organizations, businesses, and volunteers interested in supporting the CARES Initiative are encouraged to get involved.

To learn more about partnership and volunteer opportunities, please contact the Media & Community Outreach Coordinator, T'Neisha Turner, at PublicAffairs@DistrictHeights.org.



Building a Stronger District Heights
—*Together.*



ONE CITY.



ONE COMMUNITY.



BETTER TOGETHER.

CITY OF DISTRICT HEIGHTS, MARYLAND



DISTRICT HEIGHTS COMMUNITY

DISTRICT HEIGHTS LEADERS ATTEND SENIOR PROM

On May 30, Mayor Pamela Janifer along with Commissioners, Stephanie Holland, Edwin Green, Rahsheim Wright and Ronald Waters joined County Council Chair Krystal Oriadha and seniors from across Prince George's County for the annual Senior Prom.

The event brought together older adults for an afternoon of music, dancing, fellowship, and celebration. Senior Prom continues to offer residents an opportunity to build connections, create lasting memories, and enjoy a special event dedicated to honoring older adults throughout the county.



L to R: Bernice McCullough, CMMR Edwin Green, CMMR Waters, CMMR Holland, County Councilchair Krystal Oriadha, Mayor Pamela Janifer, CMMR Wright, Former Vice Mayor Harryette Irving



Best Dressed L to R: Commissioners Edwin Green, Alfreda Jackson, and Ruth Akofio-Sowah

FIESTA PLACE COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS

May has flowers...however, where is the rain? If you have not heard, the Maryland Department of the Environment has issued a drought warning for most of the State. As gardeners, there are certain actions we can take to avoid losing what we are growing. Watch the Plot Partners at Fiesta Place use best practices for growing during drought.

This is the Year of the Container Garden. What to plant now? Warm season flowers and veggies such as tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, sweet potato, watermelon, cucumber, herbs and more. We are beyond our last frost date, so it is safe to plant.

If our gate is open (early in the morning or in the evening due to the heat), please feel free to stop by and say HI!

Stay Hydrated,

Teri Speight
Fiesta Place Community Garden Plot Partner



Fiesta Place
Community Garden

CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events

Aug
4

National Night Out

Hosted by the District Heights Police Department, National Night Out brings residents and law enforcement together through family-friendly activities, public safety education, and community engagement. Sponsorship support helps provide activities, giveaways, refreshments, and resources that strengthen relationships between the police department and the community.



Aug
16

Back-to-School Youth Haircut Event

In partnership with the Burton & Craig Shields Foundation, the city will host a free back-to-school youth haircut event for local students. Volunteer barbers will provide complimentary haircuts to help youth return to school feeling confident and prepared for the new academic year. The event is expected to serve approximately 150 students and offers sponsorship opportunities through financial contributions, school supplies, refreshments, and other event support.

Aug
19

Community Backpack and School Supply Giveaway

Co-sponsored by Dr. Phelton Moss and the Price Benowitz Project, the city is coordinating a large-scale backpack and school supply giveaway anticipated to serve approximately 2,000 students. In addition to distributing backpacks and essential school supplies, the event will feature family-friendly activities and opportunities for community engagement. Sponsorships will help ensure students begin the school year equipped with the tools they need to succeed.

Sep
19

My Sole Knows 5K Run/Walk

Hosted by the District Heights Youth Services Bureau, the annual MY Sole Knows 5K Run/Walk promotes health, wellness, youth engagement, and community connection. Sponsorship support helps offset event costs, enhance participant experiences, and strengthen youth-focused programming throughout the city. The City of District Heights invites businesses, nonprofits, faith-based organizations, and community partners to join us in supporting these important events. Through sponsorships, in-kind donations, and volunteer support, our partners help create meaningful opportunities for residents while investing directly in the future of our community. Organizations interested in sponsorship opportunities are encouraged to contact the City of District Heights for additional information and partnership details.

District Heights Maryland
ONE CITY. ONE COMMUNITY. BETTER TOGETHER.

DISTRICT HEIGHTS YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

MY SOLE KNOWS
VIRTUAL 5K RUN/WALK

SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

TAKING STEPS TOWARDS THE MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL WELLNESS OF OUR YOUTH!
Every step you take helps build a stronger, healthier future for our youth and our community.
Your Miles. Their Future.

YOUR RACE. YOUR PACE.
Run, walk, or jog on your own route, anywhere!

MAKE AN IMPACT.
Support mental and behavioral wellness initiatives for youth.

EARN RECOGNITION.
All registered participants receive a digital certificate.

TOGETHER, WE CAN
create a healthier, happier community—one step at a time!

REGISTER TODAY!
VISIT:
RUNSIGNUP.COM/RACE/MD/DISTRICTHEIGHTS/MYSOLEKNOWS

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (301) 336-7600

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CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Investing in District Heights: Sponsorship Opportunities for Summer and Fall Community Events

As the City of District Heights continues navigating financial challenges and preparing for a stronger future, partnerships with businesses, organizations, and community supporters are more important than ever. Sponsorships help the city expand programming, provide resources to residents, and ensure community events remain accessible, impactful, and successful.

This summer and fall, District Heights is launching a community-wide sponsorship initiative to support several signature events that directly benefit local youth, families, and neighborhoods. These events provide opportunities for businesses and organizations to make a meaningful impact while increasing their visibility and engagement within the community.

Sponsor a Senior Lunch

Community partnerships aren't limited to special events. The District Heights Senior Center welcomes opportunities for local restaurants, caterers, and food service providers to sponsor meals through its Senior Lunch Program.

The Senior Center serves as a gathering place where older adults enjoy fellowship, activities, educational programming, and wellness opportunities. A sponsored lunch provides more than a meal—it creates an opportunity for connection, conversation, and community engagement.

Restaurants and businesses may sponsor a single lunch, provide in-kind food donations, or explore ongoing partnership opportunities throughout the year. Sponsoring a senior lunch is a meaningful way to support District Heights seniors while demonstrating a commitment to community service.

Organizations interested in sponsoring a senior lunch are encouraged to contact the District Heights Senior Center at 301-305-3660 for additional information

Become a Community Partner

District Heights thrives when businesses, organizations, and residents work together. Sponsorship opportunities are available at various levels and may include financial contributions, in-kind donations, volunteer support, or event participation.

Whether you're a local business seeking greater community engagement, a nonprofit looking to make an impact, or a community partner interested in supporting local programs, there are numerous ways to get involved.

Together, we can continue creating memorable experiences, supporting our residents, and strengthening the sense of community that makes District Heights a great place to live, work, and grow. For information on event sponsorship opportunities, partnership opportunities, or ways to get involved, please contact the City of District Heights.



**District Heights
Maryland**

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General Government

(Monday - Friday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm)

301-336-1402 ext. 110

Police Department

For emergencies
call 9-1-1 (24 hours)

districtheights.org/police-department

301-336-1400 ext. 111

Code Enforcement

districtheights.org/code-enforcement

301-336-1400 ext. 160

Public Works

districtheights.org/public-works

301-336-7417

Senior Services

districtheights.org/senior-services

301-350-3660

Recreation Center

districtheights.org/recreation-parks-culture-department

301-336-5633

Family & Youth Services

districtheights.org/family-youth-services

301-336-7600

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE CITY OF DISTRICT HEIGHTS



**District
Heights
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The Herald