



The Log

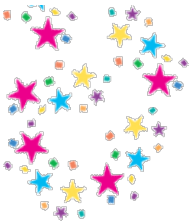
December 21, 2023

What's happening in and around the Village of Hickory Ridge!



The Hickory Ridge Village Office Holiday Hours

The Hickory Ridge Village Office will be closed for the holidays from Monday, December 25, 2023, through Monday, January 1, 2024. Private rentals will take place as scheduled while the office is closed.



Farewell, Bill!

Our dedicated and hard-working Facility Coordinator, Bill Liang has announced his retirement. His last day at The Hawthorn Center will be January 3rd.

Bill has worked over 15 years with The Columbia Association and prior to that, he worked at Bell Atlantic but retired in 2006 to explore new opportunities. Bill loves hot fudge sundaes, a great steak and spending time with his wife and grandkids.



Howard County Holiday Lights

Many of us have family holiday traditions of walking or driving around neighborhoods to enjoy the festive holiday lights and experience the joy they bring. With the [HoCo Holiday Lights Map](#), residents and visitors know who is participating.

Plan a festive evening with a route around Howard County to tour the bright lights and support all the residents and businesses who dedicate so much time and effort to their displays.

Those wanting to share their display are encouraged to register as early as possible. To put your home, business, or community holiday lights display on the map, [click here](#).

If you have any questions or issues registering your holiday display, please contact HoCoHolidayLights@howardcountymd.gov.

Columbia Association's (CA) strategic vision is to create and support solutions to meet the evolving needs of a dynamic and inclusive community. Every five years, CA's Board of Directors is charged with updating the organization's strategic plan. This plan is meant to define the organization's mission and vision and to identify high-level priorities, goals, and objectives for CA moving forward. This public survey has been developed to gather input from residents regarding the future strategic priorities of CA.

This survey should take approximately 5 minutes to complete. The survey will be open to the public through January 8, 2024.

Click [here](#) to take the survey.



Did you know...

The area between the sidewalk and the street is a Howard County easement? If you don't have a sidewalk on your side of the street, the easement could extend 6 - 10 feet from the curb. Any trees issues in this area should be reported to Howard County via [TellHoCo](#) or calling 410-313-7450. While it is the responsibility of the adjacent homeowner to maintain these areas (mow and shovel snow, for example), the trees are county trees and homeowners should coordinate with the county for tree maintenance.



Hickory Ridge Community Engagement Committee

Hickory Ridge Village Residents!

We are in search of excited and interested volunteers from across our three neighborhoods (Clary's Forest, Clemens Crossing, Hawthorn) to participate in a community engagement committee focused on connecting and engaging our Village residents.

Mission of the committee: to connect residents across the Village's neighborhoods by creating links that will increase communication in the Village.

Committee goals:

- Generate ideas for engaging residents in our Village.
- Identify people willing and interested in informing residents of their HOAs, apartment complexes or streets about Village activities.

Time commitment: 1-2 hours per month for meetings.

Interested? Please contact Laura Mayton at 410-730-7327 or manager@hickoryridgevillage.org for more information.



Election Committee 2024

Would you like to get to know your neighbors and learn more about The Hickory Ridge Community Association? Join the Election Committee!

We are looking for residents to help with the 2024 Annual Meeting/Election Day process. Volunteers will make recommendations to the Board, help plan and moderate Candidate Nights, check in voters or help with the vote count at the Annual Meeting/Election Day on April

20, 2024 and ensure that the Election Rules and Procedures are followed.

To join the Election Committee, you must:

- Be a member of the Hickory Ridge Community Association, which means you must own or rent a property in the Village.
- Be able to contribute about 15 hours of your time for several meetings, Candidates Night and Election Day.
- Complete the Committee Volunteer form and return it to manager@hickoryridgevillage.org.

The Committee Volunteer form is on the website.



Skye Anderson, CA Rep Office Hours

Skye Anderson, the Columbia Association Representative, has instituted SOHO (Skye's Office Hours Outside). SOHO is the time for Hickory Ridge residents to discuss Columbia Association concerns and praise with Skye, one on one.

- Friday, January 12th from 5-6pm at Mad City Coffee with Jeremy Dommu, Vice Chair of The Hickory Ridge Village Board
-

Leaves, Leaves Everywhere!
Now that fall is here, take steps to manage all those leaves:

- Grasscycle/Mulch leaves
- Compost in your backyard
- Participate in a Rake and Take Program
- Utilize curbside yard trim collection
- Drop-off at the Alpha Ridge Landfill Wood Waste

Do not dump leaves, grass clippings or other landscaping waste into a storm drain inlet or a stream. This is both bad for water quality and is considered an illicit discharge and a violation of County Code. Discarding landscaping waste into a storm drain inlet can clog pipes and lead to flooding (even in your own yard). The decaying process of yard trim can also lead to depleted oxygen levels in our streams and water bodies.

A black, perforated metal curbside collection bin filled with leaves and grass clippings. It has a logo for Calvin Ball, County Executive, on the side.

HowardCountyMD.gov/CurbsideCollections



Babysitters in Hickory Ridge

If you live in Hickory Ridge, you babysit and would like to be included in the babysitter list in the next edition of The Log, please email [**events@hickoryridgevillage.org**](mailto:events@hickoryridgevillage.org).

Please note that the list below are individuals with experience and interest in babysitting but are not vetted by this office.

Babysitter List

- Gloribeth "Glory" Gancedo: 305-224-2095
- Kailyn Shaw: kailynshaw@yahoo.com
- Zandi Jera: sunsetjera@yahoo.com
- Shamiso Dzvairo: sunsetjera@yahoo.com
- Neely Jackson: neelydenisej@gmail.com
- Kristen Bowman: kkbowman85@gmail.com
- Brynn & Brooke Howes: 410-952-6861
- Jos Dumont: jos.pierre.dumont@gmail.com
- Sofia Blose 410-707-0332
- Christine Chen: NH8ChristineS@gmail.com
- Carolina Stiefel 443-467-5811



Free dog walking services to seniors available in Hickory Ridge

Offering free dog walking services to seniors with limited mobility. If you are having a difficult time giving your dog the exercise he/she deserves, please email Freedogwalkingservice@gmail.com. Teens from local high schools will walk your dog for free after school and on the weekends. For now, we are only accepting dogs under 35 pounds who live in the Hickory Ridge and Clemens Crossing communities.



Interested in being a 2024 Lifeguard?

It's cold outside, but CA's already thinking about summer! All lifeguard candidates for the 2024 season, whether new or experienced, need to complete our Water Screening test as part of their certification.

To help prepare applicants, Columbia Association is offering three Water Screening Walk-throughs at the Columbia Swim Center between November and January.

What is the Water Screening Test?

Water Screening includes:

- an untimed 200-yard swim (8 lengths),
- retrieval of a 10 lb. brick from the diving well (approximately 11 feet), and
- a two-minute water tread with hands out of the water.

Get Practice & Help From Instructors

These events will allow those interested in becoming a lifeguard to practice the test and meet with our certified instructors for tips and skill tutorials.

- Session 3 – Wednesday, January 24, 2024

Sessions start promptly at 6:00 pm, and run until 7:00 pm.

To register or for more information, please contact the Aquatics Office at 410-312-6332 or email Aquatics@ColumbiaAssociation.org



Cub Scout Pack 720

Fun with a purpose. Camping, fishing, hiking, and life skills. Adventure awaits your son and/or daughter at Cub Scout Pack 720! K-5th grade. Serves Swansfield and Running Brook students. Contact Cubmaster Josh White at jmwhite0610@gmail.com to find out more!



Reinvest * Renovate * Restore

Housing Repair Program

Who is eligible?

- You must be a Howard County homeowner
- Own and occupy the home as your principal residence
- Can be single family, townhouse or condo
- All mortgage, property taxes, HOA/condo fees, and hazard insurance payments must be current

Loan Terms

- Maximum loan amount is \$40,000
- Interest rate shall not exceed 2%
- Maximum term is 30 years



Department of Housing & Community Development — To apply visit <https://bit.ly/3gqNF58> and complete the Pre-Application. Full program guidelines and income eligibility requirements can also be found on our website.



Funding availability based on annual budget allocation.

Contact Taylor Shelton for details at

tshelton@howardcountymd.gov or (410) 313-6333

988 Is Here to Help

Need immediate emotional support? Call 988 to connect to a counselor who can help. Their specialists provide confidential care 24/7. Because we all need help sometimes.

Call whenever you need emergency emotional support or are worried about someone else. The 988 helpline is free and confidential.



Call 988 for emergency emotional support.
Safe, supportive, confidential. Available 24/7.



Community Action Council of Howard County

The mission of the Community Action Council is to diminish poverty and enable self-sufficiency for all Howard County Individuals, families and children in need. To better serve the local community and improve ease of accessibility, the Community Action Council of Howard County (CAC) will have community service workers stationed at the following locations during the following extended times:

Howard County Food Bank

Tuesdays, 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Wednesdays, 11:00 am - 7:00 pm
Thursdays, 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Laurel MultiService Center*

Wednesdays, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Thursdays, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

*The Laurel MultiService Center is included along the Purple Bus route. To learn more about CAC's programs or to apply for assistance, visit <https://cac-hc.org/get-help/>



Report Non-Emergency Issues Online

Report water main breaks, broken street signs, and more on Howard County's mobile app and website Tell HoCo. Residents can report non-emergency issues which the county will assign to the responsible department. Download the TellHoCoApp on your mobile phone or visit howardcountymd.gov/Tell-HoCo.



Letter of Compliance

If you are putting your house on the market, request a Letter of Compliance from the Village Office well in advance of a pending settlement date. This letter is not required, but it is a valuable tool for sellers because it verifies that your property is in compliance with the Hickory Ridge Covenants. Any covenant violations on your property become the responsibility of the new owner, so home buyers often request a Letter of Compliance from the Seller. Request forms are



Exterior Alterations

Thinking about making some changes to the exterior of your home or landscaping? Don't forget to check to see if you need to submit an Exterior Alteration application. The Hickory Ridge Architectural Guidelines and applications are available **on our website** in the Covenants section. Questions? Call 410-730-7327 or email applications@hickoryridgevillage.org.

For a complete schedule of RAC meetings and submission deadlines, click [here](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

January 2: Community Engagement Committee meeting at 7:00pm

January 8: Board meeting at 7:30pm

January 9: Election Committee meeting at 6:00pm*

January 17: RAC meeting at 7:30pm*

[*Zoom meeting, check website for details.](#)



Resident Architectural Committee Meeting Agenda

Resident Architectural Committee (RAC) meeting agendas are available on the Hickory Ridge website. [Click here to view](#) upcoming agendas and meeting results. Questions about submitting an application or the approval process? Email applications@hickoryridgevillage.org.



Rent The Hawthorn Center for your Event

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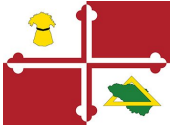
Open Space Questions or Concerns?

If you have questions or concerns about Columbia Association Open Space areas, contact CA Open Space directly by calling 410-312-6330 or by emailing Open.Space@ColumbiaAssociation.org.



Crime Statistics Map of Howard County

Howard County has interactive maps with information about properties and neighborhoods. One is the Crime Statistics map. It used to be that the Howard County Police would have to put these statistics together for us, but now they are available at our fingertips. [Check out the Crime](#)



Howard County Government Updates

Subscribe to Howard County Executive Calvin Ball's newsletter *The Ball Bulletin* [here](#) Stay informed about the latest updates and essential information from your Howard County government.



District 4 County Council Newsletter

Deb Jung is the County Council Representative for Hickory Ridge residents. For more information about your district, check out the website.

[District 4 Website](#)

Never miss an edition of *The Log*

If you have yet to sign-up to receive the newsletter electronically and would like to do so, please click below. This will ensure that you never miss a copy of *The Log*.

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[Jeremy Domm](#), Vice Chair

[Steve Hannan](#)

[Bill Inglis](#)

[Mariah Robertson](#)

[Chris Smith](#)

CA Representative

[Skye Anderson](#)

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 Tania Tavares, Covenant Advisor
 Devora Wilkinson, Covenant Advisor
 Emily Rieger, Events Coordinator
 Bill Laing, Facility Coordinator
 Charlotte Nisos, Bookkeeper
 Heather Harvanek, Head Facility Assistant
 John Pongracz, Facility Assistant
 Bianca Smalls, Facility Assistant
 Daniel Nairn, Facility Assistant

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Contact Us - The Hawthorn Center - Resident Resources

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Hickory Ridge Community Association | 6175 Sunny Spring, Columbia, MD 21044

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