

## The LOG Newsletter February 19, 2026

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

**[Follow us!](#)**

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### The Village Needs You!

Hickory Ridge is seeking volunteers to run for the Village Board and Columbia Council. Our Village is at its best when residents participate! Find more information on the [Village Board page of the website](#). Read the Candidate's Handbook and volunteer to run today!



Completed candidate packets are due no later than **5:00pm on Monday, March 16, 2026**.

Absentee ballots will start arriving in mailboxes in early April and the Annual Meeting/Election will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2026, 9:00am - 12:00pm at The Hawthorn Center.

### ***Save these dates!***

Join candidates for the Candidate Forums:

- Monday, April 6: First Candidate Forum, 7:00 – 9:00pm, scripted, *virtual*
- Thursday, April 16: Second Candidate Forum, 7:00pm, unscripted, *in-person at The Hawthorn Center*
- Join us for the Hickory Ridge Community Celebration on Friday, April 24, 5:30 - 7:30pm!

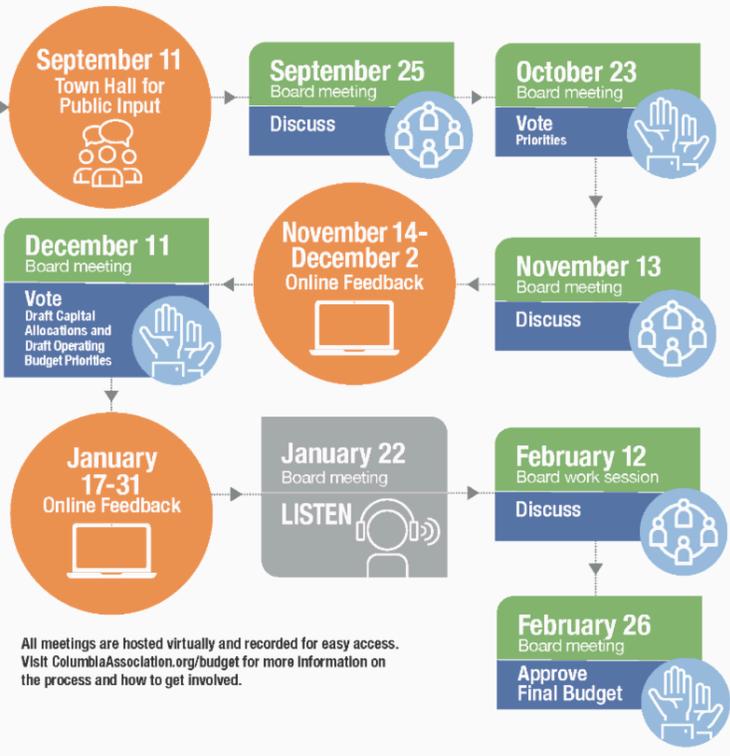
**Do you have questions for Village Board or Columbia Council candidates? [Submit your questions today!](#)**

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# CA FY2027 Budget Process

Welcome to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 budget process, a chance for you to provide feedback on CA's priorities and investments! In line with CA's commitment to transparency and fiscal stewardship, we welcome everyone to engage with the Board of Directors and provide input ahead of the budget's approval.

You're welcome to get involved at any point, but details get more defined and the scope narrows as the Board moves forward with the process. The earlier you can get involved, the more impact you can have on that final budget.



All meetings are hosted virtually and recorded for easy access. Visit [ColumbiaAssociation.org/budget](http://ColumbiaAssociation.org/budget) for more information on the process and how to get involved.



## Join the Election Committee!

We're looking for dedicated residents to volunteer on the Election Committee for the 2026 Annual Meeting & Election Day in the Village of Hickory Ridge.

Each April, our community elects Village Board Members and a Columbia Council Representative — and we need your help to ensure a fair and smooth election process!

### As a Committee Member, You'll:

- Help plan and moderate Candidate Nights



## CARES Corner: Free Tree Canopy Program

Free trees and no planting? Sound too good to be true? It's not! HoCo's Tree Canopy Program was created to improve environmental equity through focused tree planting in communities. The Tree Canopy program has a simple goal - plant as many trees as possible. The program seems to be meeting that goal as HoCo has planted over 400 trees each year of the program.

If you are interested in participating in this free program, reach out to Natural Resources Specialist, DJ Scheckelhoff. He will add your name to the list of potential participants and conduct a site visit. All participants are required

- Assist with voter check-in and vote counting on Election Day – April 25, 2026
- Ensure Election Rules & Procedures are followed

**Requirements to Join:**

- Be a member of The Hickory Ridge Community Association (must own or rent a Columbia Association–assessed property in Hickory Ridge)
- Be available to contribute ~15 hours of your time for meetings, Candidate Night, and Election Day
- Complete and submit the **Volunteer Application form**

Your participation is a great way to get involved, meet neighbors, and support local democracy!

to complete a 1-2 page application and Right of Entry to confirm their planting, but this is only required after HoCo conducts a site visit and sends a planting proposal for their property. Trees will be planted with your input, based on your goals for planting and on what will thrive on your property. Keep in mind that all trees must be native to Maryland. You can find more information on the Howard County Forestry page.

( <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/forestry> )

**Learn More About Free Trees!**

**Hickory Ridge Community Association Upcoming Meetings**

- January 15:** CARES meeting, virtual
- January 21:** RAC meeting, virtual
- January 26:** Board meeting, *if needed*
- January 27:** Wills Trusts and Estate Planning Basics

**Meeting Information**

**Let's Have a Party!**

The Hawthorn Center is a lovely location to celebrate life's moments. Whether it's a birthday, shower, wedding or retirement party, we would love to help you host your event. Call or submit a rental inquiry for more information.



**Submit Inquiry**

**Community Mailboxes**

The community mailboxes are property of the United States Postal service. If the mailbox your mail is delivered to is in need of attention, find [more information here under "Community News."](#)

**Questions for CARES Committee?**

The Community Action and Resources for Environmental Stewardship (CARES) Committee will answer your environmental sustainability questions! Email questions to [cares@hickoryridgevillage.org](mailto:cares@hickoryridgevillage.org) and CARES will answer. Some questions may be featured in future issues of The Log!



**Snow Reminders**

## Who Do I Call?

Check out the Useful Information page on the Hickory Ridge website. There are phone number and/or links to various resources.

### Useful Information



## Who Handles What?

Want to know who handles what—CA, the Howard County Government, or the Columbia Village Community Associations? Click [HERE](#) to see a simple breakdown.

When snow falls, residents are responsible for clearing all sidewalks that abut their property...even if the sidewalk is behind the back yard.

The following is a list of local people who may be able to shovel for you.

We are looking for people willing to shovel snow for neighbors (for a reasonable fee). If you are able to help shovel and would like your name added to our snow shoveler list, please call us at 410-730-7327 or email [events@hickoryridgevillage.org](mailto:events@hickoryridgevillage.org) and provide your name, street and phone number.

Please note that the list below are individuals interested in providing snow shoveling services but are not vetted by this office. You must contact the individual for availability and pricing.

\*David Garza: 347-574-2881

\*Nathan Johnson: 667-261-2465

\*Andrew Manney: 443-847-8204

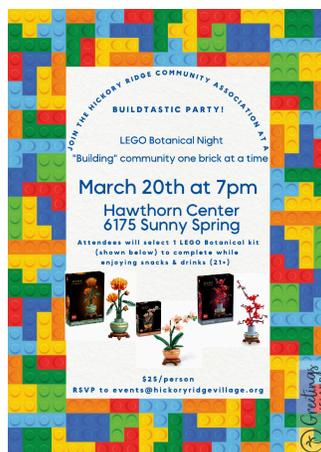
## Upcoming Events!

Please RSVP to [events@hickoryridgevillage.org](mailto:events@hickoryridgevillage.org)



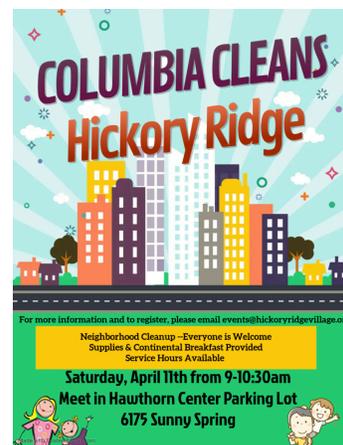
Manatee PJ Story Time  
March 17th & 18th at 9:30  
The Hawthorn Center  
Designed for 0-5 year olds and their adult friend(s)

Snuggle up in your coziest pajamas (adults too!) and join us for a special story time all about manatees! We'll read delightful stories, learn fun manatee facts,



Adult Lego Botanical Night  
March 20th at 7pm  
The Hawthorn Center  
21+

21+ adults come unwind and get creative as you choose one of three LEGO Botanicals sets to build throughout the evening. Enjoy drinks and snacks while



Columbia Cleans  
April 11th from 9:30-11am  
The Hawthorn Center

Join us for a community clean-up of the CA Open Space in the Hawthorn neighborhood. Individuals, families, and groups are welcome! Registration is

and enjoy a cozy morning together—with a little St. Patrick’s Day celebration sprinkled in. Pajamas encouraged, festive fun guaranteed! Everyone is welcome but please RSVP!

you build, connect, and relax. Cost is \$25 per person, and pre-registration is required. We’ll be “building” community one brick at a time!

required. Service hours are available.



# Join Us

## Mondays Community Walk



www.hickoryridgevillage.com



**Every Monday,**  
**10:00 AM**  
**Meet at**  
**The Hawthorn Center,**  
**6175 Sunny Spring**

**FREE!**  
**Questions? Call**  
**410-730-7327**

Connect with neighbors, make new friends, and discover more about Hickory Ridge! This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone—of all ages and abilities—to meet members of the **Community Engagement Committee** while enjoying fresh air and great conversation.

After the walk, **we'll be serving coffee**, so stick around and enjoy a warm drink with your neighbors!

Let's build community, one step at a time!

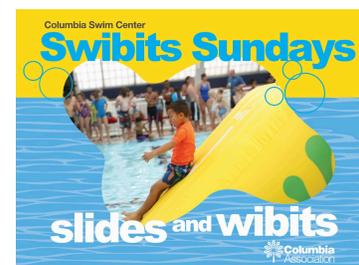


**Pets welcome!**

## SwiBits Sundays--Columbia Swim Center

Swibits Sundays are back at the Columbia Swim Center every Sunday from 11am - 4pm. Come ready to bounce, slide, climb, and splash your way through the inflatable obstacle course - it's high-energy fun for kids, teens, and adults.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.



Friends of WLHS Band

# BINGO BAND

With the

Fundraiser

All Baskets Valued \$200 - \$500

**20 February, 2026**

WILDE LAKE HIGH SCHOOL  
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Reserve your ticket today!  
[www.wlhsband.com](http://www.wlhsband.com)



## Windy Weather

Nobody wants a neighborhood of scattered recycling. When setting items out for collection, be sure your recycling cart lids are closed and any material set outside of it is secured in a box or paper bag.

Have a recycling bin with no lid? [Contact Howard County Trash & Recycling](#) to exchange your bin for a cart with a lid and wheels.

**Remember!** The clean-up of recycling, especially in grouping areas, that is spilled/spread by animals or wind is the responsibility of the residents.



 <b>DETAILED CURBSIDE RECYCLING LIST</b> 		
	YES	NO
PAPER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>books (paperback, hardback, phone books)</li> <li>boxes (food, snack, shoe, toys)</li> <li>catalogs/magazines</li> <li>gift wrap (non-shiny/non-foil only)</li> <li>junk mail, envelopes</li> <li>kraft paper</li> <li>molded fiber (inserts &amp; packaging)</li> <li>newspapers &amp; inserts</li> <li>paper egg cartons</li> <li>paper insulation (Climacell)</li> <li>tubes from paper towels &amp; toilet paper</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>aseptic cartons (drink, milk, soups, food)</li> <li>foil-type gift wrap (can't easily be torn)</li> <li>ice cream containers</li> <li>laminated paper</li> <li>paper plates, bowls, cups</li> <li>paper that can't be torn easily (typically means there are plastic layers added)</li> <li>paper towels, napkins, tissues</li> <li>shredded paper</li> <li>thermal paper receipts</li> <li>wax paper</li> </ul>
PLASTIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>bottles (soap, dressings, drinks, sauces)</li> <li>buckets (no metal components)</li> <li>cups (#5 only)</li> <li>flower pots (CLEAN, no soil or plant material)</li> <li>jars (peanut butter, spreads, sauces)</li> <li>jugs (detergents, milk, juices)</li> <li>large items, such as playhouses, laundry baskets, lawn furniture</li> <li>milk/soda crates</li> <li>pet carriers</li> <li>pump bottles (lotions &amp; soaps)</li> <li>spray bottles (hair &amp; cleaning products)</li> <li>storage bins</li> <li>takeout &amp; reusable containers (#5 only)</li> <li>tubs (butter, cheese, yogurt)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>#1 plastic clamshell packaging (egg cartons, produce, toys, electronics, batteries)</li> <li>#5 orange pill bottles*</li> <li>acrylic plastic (Plexiglass)</li> <li>bubble mailers*</li> <li>CDs/DVDs &amp; jewel cases</li> <li>coffee pods*</li> <li>crinkly wrappers for chips &amp; snacks*</li> <li>drink &amp; food pouches*</li> <li>electronics*</li> <li>garden hoses</li> <li>gel packs</li> <li>hangers</li> <li>insulation</li> <li>liners from cereal/cracker boxes</li> <li>motor oil or pesticide bottles</li> <li>plastic bags, film, wrap, &amp; plastic-bagged materials*</li> <li>plates, straws &amp; utensils</li> <li>PVC plastics</li> <li>Styrofoam* &amp; packing peanuts</li> <li>toothpaste tubes, toothbrushes</li> <li>trays</li> </ul>
METAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>aluminum, steel &amp; tin cans (even pet food!)</li> <li>aluminum foil/bakeware</li> <li>EMPTY aerosol cans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>batteries &amp; electronics*</li> <li>compressed gas tanks (propane, helium, oxygen)*</li> <li>hangers*</li> <li>motor oil or other automotive fluid cans</li> <li>pots, pans or other scrap metal*</li> </ul>
GLASS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>any color glass bottles &amp; jars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ceramics</li> <li>CorningWare or Pyrex</li> <li>lightbulbs*</li> <li>mirrors</li> <li>non-food/drink glass (window panes, drinking glasses, furniture inserts)</li> </ul>
CARDBOARD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>clean, dry cardboard (no plastic bags, film or Styrofoam packaging)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>food contaminated boxes such as greasy pizza boxes* (visit <a href="http://FeedTheGreenBin.org">FeedTheGreenBin.org</a> for composting information)</li> <li>furnace filters</li> <li>Styrofoam pieces*</li> <li>waxed cardboard (bulk/supplier produce boxes)</li> </ul>

\*Items may be recycled beyond the curb! Visit our website for more details.

10/2025

[KnowBeforeYouThrow.org](http://KnowBeforeYouThrow.org) • 410-313-6444



## News From The Community Ecology Institute (CEI)

Did you know? CEI is a Howard County based environmental non-profit committed to cultivating communities where people and nature thrive together. They own and steward two Howard County properties - Freetown Farm (Columbia) and Green Farmacy Garden (Fulton) where they host nature-based and sustainability-focused events for participants of all ages! They have some

exciting membership-based offerings for 2026 that they want to make sure are on your radar! Registration is open now, please don't delay in reserving your spot!

***For families with kids:***

Seedlings; the early childhood nature playgroup, for children ages 5 and under with a caregiver. Friday or Sunday mornings, seasonally; registration now open for winter and spring sessions; [Click to read more and register!](#)

Families on the Farm; a year at Freetown Farm with CEI's Family Nature Club. Welcoming families with kids of all ages (most engaging for kids ages 6-11 and their adults). Gathering on the third Sunday each month, families will engage in farm and nature-based projects while building community and strengthening family bonds; [Click to read more and register!](#)

***For teens:***

Green SEEDS Internship program; our seasonal internships offer experiential education and leadership opportunities for high school and college students to strengthen understanding and respect for personal discovery, connection to nature, food security, and land stewardship in an inclusive community. High school students receive SSL hours. College students may receive college credit. Fall, winter, and spring sessions are held after school on Wednesdays and on Saturday mornings. Summer sessions are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

[Click to read more!](#)

[Click to register!](#)

***For adults:***

Nourishing Gardens: Through the Seasons; join a welcoming community at monthly meetings where you will receive support to discuss and troubleshoot challenges that come up in your garden, interactive workshops with experienced gardeners on related topics, and tips and tricks to keep you on track for garden success! Led by our Nourishing Gardens Program Manager, a Baywise-certified Master Gardener and Columbia Association Weed Warrior, with over a decade of farm and garden experience. In-person meetings will be held the 3rd Tuesday of every month in addition to online recordings and resources.

[Click to learn more and register!](#)

CEI also offers: Second Saturday Socials for teens, monthly Repair Cafe sessions, workshops, property tours, a popular homeschool enrichment program, free community meals, and more! Our property spaces are also available to rent for events. Follow them on our website, Social Media: Facebook, Instagram and by joining their mailing list to stay up to date with all our community offerings!



**Petsitters in Hickory Ridge**

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



**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 pet sitting but are not vetted by this office.

#### **Pet sitter List**

\*Za'ir Scarborough:443-362-0128

\*Vanessa Castro  
Twopugz.dogcare@gmail.com

\*Jae Johnson: jjohns4728@gmail.com

\*Saloomah Khodami: 6674792858, Dog walking only, Availability: Afternoons

\*Gita Ehssan: 6674792855, Availability: Afternoons

\*Amanda Kirkpatrick: "Loving Care When You're Not There":  
amandakirkpatrick1990@gmail.com

\*Beth Roberts: bcaitlyn1.8@gmail.com

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

#### **Baby sitter List**

\*Gloribeth "Glory" Gancedo: 305-224-2095

\*Kailyn Shaw:  
kailynshaw@yahoo.com

\*Zandi Jera: sunsetjera@yahoo.com

\*Shamiso Dzvairo:  
sunsetjera@yahoo.com

\*Jos Dumont:  
jos.pierre.dumont@gmail.com

\*Sofia Blose 410-707-0332

\*Christine Chen:  
NH8ChristineS@gmail.com

\*Carolina Stiefel: 443-467-5811

\*Sydney Daniel:  
danielsydney75@gmail.com

\*Kasey LaWall: 301-275-4623

\*Le'Mia Tyree:  
lemia.tyree@gmail.com

\*Mia Fatuzzo:  
miaholdenfatzuzzo@gmail.com

\*Aisha Bamidele:  
aisha\_bamidele@yahoo.com

\*Yocheved Englander: 443-574-5332

\*Daynisha Holloway:  
daynishah@yahoo.com

\*Hermione Bransford:  
chelsinoelle@gmail.com

\*Daphne Richardson: 443-750-1151

\*Grace (Stevie) Brown:  
g.lombard2583@gmail.com

\*Za'ir Scarborough:443-362-0128

\*Jae Johnson: jjohns4728@gmail.com

\*Gita Ehssan: 6674792855,  
Availability: Afternoons

## Letter of Compliance

If you are putting your house on the market, request a Letter of Compliance well in advance of a settlement date. It's best to make the request when the house is put on the market. 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 available on the [Sellers and Buyers page](#) of our website and at the Village Office. Questions? Email [applications@hickoryridgevillage.org](mailto:applications@hickoryridgevillage.org).



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



### Who Do I Call?

Check out the [Useful Information page on the Hickory Ridge website](#). There are phone number and/or links to various resources.

## Columbia Association and Howard County



### See Click Fix

See Click Fix is an interactive website for Howard County residents to report issues to the County. Issues include, but are not limited to, roadway issues, missing street signs or fallen street signs, street tree issues, potholes, cracked sidewalks, etc. **THIS IS NOT a site for 911 emergencies or police or fire issues.**



### CA 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](mailto:Open.Space@ColumbiaAssociation.org).

Columbia Association (CA) Open Space project information is now available online via CA's Project & Access Dashboard. Visit [columbiaassociation.org/open-space/development/real-estate-services/](http://columbiaassociation.org/open-space/development/real-estate-services/) and click on the Dashboard. You can view various projects, access, and requests currently taking place on CA Open Space.

See Click Fix



### HoCo Crime Statistics Map

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 Statistics map.](#)

[Crime Statistics Map](#)



### CA Community Programs

You've made Columbia your home. You're part of a unique and diverse community, and that certainly has its benefits. At Columbia Association, it's their mission to foster a unique sense of place and enhance the quality of life. Take a moment to explore some of their many options.

[Community Programs](#)

### Paid Advertisements

We offer very affordable advertising rates! For information on placing an advertisement in The Log, please email [manager@hickoryridgevillage.org](mailto:manager@hickoryridgevillage.org).

**COLUMBIA TREE & LAWN SERVICE**  
 Licensed & Fully Insured  
 FREE ESTIMATES

- Hedge and Tree Trimming
- Tree & Stump Removal
- Snow Plowing
- Vegetation Clearing
- Mulching
- Firewood
- Retaining Walls
- Water Flow Solutions
- Tree Planting
- Bamboo Remediation



CHARLES N. PEDDICORD, President  
 Licensed Tree Expert      Total Home Care  
 DNR #068                      MHIC #47824

**410-740-5444    410-365-6367 Cell**  
[www.columbiatreeandlawn.net](http://www.columbiatreeandlawn.net)

**THE HAWTHORN CENTER**



**Event Space For Your Next Celebration!**

Conveniently located in the Village of Hickory Ridge, The Hawthorn Center offers attractively appointed and reasonably priced rental space for both social and business events.

- ♦ Free WiFi and Sound System
- ♦ Lobby and Kitchen
- ♦ Ample parking, and more

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 **Contact us for more information**  
**410-730-7327**  
[info@hickoryridgevillage.org](mailto:info@hickoryridgevillage.org)  
[thehawthorncenter.org](http://thehawthorncenter.org)  
 6175 Sunny Spring, Columbia MD 21044

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**HICKORY RIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

Hey parents!

Are you looking for a dentist your children will love? Well look no further! We here at Terrific Smiles Pediatric Dentistry are here to help!



We offer gentle dental care in a fun and welcoming environment created just for kids! Dr. Terri Ambrose is a board certified pediatric dentist who is passionate about helping kids maintain happy and healthy smiles. Check out our website and schedule your next appointment!  
[www.terrificsmilepd.com](http://www.terrificsmilepd.com)



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*Residential & Commercial*

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Bathroom, Kitchen, & Basement Remodeling

***Proudly Serving Customers for over 30 Years!***  
Outstanding References

**410-218-6261**

**HowardPaintingMD.net**

BONDED AND INSURED • MHIC NUMBER: 47783

Hickory Ridge Community Association  
410-730-7327  
The Hawthorn Center  
6175 Sunny Spring, Columbia MD 21044  
Office Hours: Mon-Thu 9:30am - 5pm, Fri 9:30am - 3:30pm

### Hickory Ridge Community Association

#### Hickory Ridge Village Board

**Kristine Amari**

**Mark Covington**  
Vice Chair

**Steve Hannan**  
Chair

**Micajah McGarity**

**Mariah Robertson**

CA Representative

**Skye Anderson**

#### Village Staff

**Laura Mayton**, Village Manager  
**Tania Tavares**, Covenant Advisor  
**Devora Wilkinson**, Covenant Advisor  
**Emily Rieger**, Events Coordinator  
**Heather Harvanek**, Facility Coordinator  
John Pongracz, Facility Assistant  
Ellen Gallagher Roberts, Facility Assistant  
Daniel Nairn, Facility Assistant  
Erica Carpio, Facility Assistant  
Tiwana & Ed Nicholson, Custodians

#### Village Services

- Rentals of The Hawthorn Center
- Covenant Enquiries
- Information & referral
- B/W and color Copies
- Notary Public - *Please call for an appointment.*
- Free classified newsletter ad
- Fax
- Special Events
- Story Times

*Please note: fees may apply.*



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