

April 24, 2008

The Calvin Ball Bulletin

A bulletin to keep you and your neighbors informed of current news and happenings in our community. If you do not get this bulletin directly, feel free to email me at cball@howardcountymd.gov and I will be sure to get you on the list.

For more District 2 News go to our website at:
www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_DistrictTwo.htm

We Want To Hear From You!

The link below will navigate you to a list of meetings open to the public. If you have specific questions please call the contact number listed for that meeting.

http://www.co.ho.md.us/News/HCG_Portal_PublicMeetings.htm

How Can You Participate in Howard County Government?

This is your chance to stay informed and involved! Your comments are welcome as the County Council reviews legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email or fax. All legislative public hearings will take place in the Banneker Room of the George Howard Building. Click the following link for the Council's calendar of meetings

http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CC_Legislative_CouncilCalendar.htm

View the Council's Current Legislation and Stay Informed

The County Council is responsible for adopting the laws of the County. The legislative process generally follows a monthly cycle. To

view legislation under consideration by the Council, please click on the following link

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/Legislative_Pending.htm

Boards and Commissions Vacancies

Persons interested in applying for a Board or Commission are invited to view the following link

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/PortalServices/HC_BoardsandCommissions.htm

County Council Launches a New Sign Up System!

Citizens may now sign in on-line to testify at County Council public hearings. Once the public hearing agenda is posted, citizens may use the convenient on-line form provided on the County Council website to sign in. You may continue to sign-in in-person inside the Banneker Room beginning one-half hour before the hearing.

Click on the following link to view the new the sign up system and its instructions and procedures:

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_GiveTestimonySignup.asp

Budget- Fiscal Year 2009- We Want to Hear From You!

It's budget season! The County Council would like to hear from you on the proposed FY 2009 budget. Your participation is encouraged and valued. You may testify in person at the scheduled budget public hearings or submit written testimony to the Council during the FY2008 budget process.

Below you will find the budget calendar for FY2009, as well as a link which provides additional budget information. Hearings will be held in the Banneker Room and work sessions will be held in the Ellicott Room unless otherwise noted.

Click here for additional budget information

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_BudgetCalendar.htm

Friday, April 25, 9:00 a.m.

Work Session- Capital Budget (if needed)

Tuesday, April 29, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.; continue at 7:00 p.m.

Public Hearing- Capital & Operating Budgets

Community College (4:00 p.m.)

Library

Board of Education

Wednesday, April 30, 7:00 p.m.

Public Hearing – Operating Budget

(all departments except Board of Education, Libraries,
Community Colleges)

Monday, May 5, 7:00 p.m.

Constant Yield Hearing

Tuesday, May 6, 9:00 a.m.

Work Session – Operating Budget Legislative

Legislative and Judicial

Public Safety (Police, Fire)

Public Facilities

Friday, May 9, 9:00 a.m.

*Work Session - Capital and Operating Budget
Budgets*

Board of Education

Friday, May 9, 11:00 p.m.

Work Session- Capital and Operating Budgets

Library

Tuesday, May 13, 1:00 p.m.

Work Session

Community Services, Funds/Revenues

Wednesday, May 14, 3:00 p.m.

Work Session (if needed)
Pending issues

Friday, May 16, 9:00 a.m.

Work Session (*if needed*)
Education

Tuesday May 20, 1:00 p.m.

Work Session (if needed)
Pending Issues

Thursday May 22, 11:00 a.m.

Legislative Session
Adopt Budget

Report an Illegal Sign

You can help us by reporting Illegal Signs with a new online form. The form is available at the following link
http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DILP/Permits/Permits_signs_Illegal.asp .

Please be sure to describe the location of the illegal sign in the free-form textual area at the bottom of the form.

For further information on the County's sign code, the sign permit application process, sign sizes, fees and for other answers to frequently asked questions, visit the Department of Inspections, Licenses & Permits page on the County's website
http://www.howardcountymd.gov/DILP/DILP_HomePage.htm or call DILP at 410-313-1830.

BRAC- Get Involved!

The Howard County BRAC Task Force has now moved to into phase II of its work. Phase II will focus on the impact of overall Fort Meade growth on 6 specific areas in Howard County. They are: Work Force Development, Transportation, Education, Infrastructure, Work Force

Housing and Health and Human Services. Residents and business persons of Howard County are invited to participate in the work of the Task Force during this phase. If you are interested, please contact the Executive Director of the HC BRAC Office at kmenser@howardcountymd.gov

The next Howard County BRAC Task Force Meeting will be on **Wednesday, May 28, 2008** from **7:00 PM – 9:00 PM**. This meeting will be held **1st floor of the Gateway Building in Columbia**. These meetings will start with a 15 minute update, given by Executive Director Kent Menser, on BRAC actions related to Howard County. The remainder of the time will be devoted to discussion of ideas, concerns and recommendations raised by the attendees. For any questions on meetings, call Kent Menser at **410-313-6521**.

For more information on BRAC please visit http://www.co.ho.md.us/HCG_ExecutiveBRAC.htm

Pardon Our Dust!

You may have seen or may see some road work in your neighborhood. Howard County Department of Public Works will be conducting the following construction projects. Additional information is provided below describing the details of such projects.

Asphalt Curb:

Cemetery Lane

Concrete Repair:

Glenmar Road at Jumping Field Court

Snowden River Parkway Lane Extension to Begin

A County construction project at the **8200 block of southbound** Snowden River Parkway and Maryland Route 108 in Ellicott City, at the left turn into the restaurant and service park, is scheduled to begin on or about Monday, March 31. The project will extend the median left turn lane

into the service area. Weather permitting the project should be completed in late May 2008.

The existing left lane will be closed during work hours, **9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** Flagging operations will be in place to direct traffic as needed, and signs will be posted to advise motorists of the construction.

For questions or concerns about **Capital Project J-4211**, contact Lisa Brightwell, Public Works Customer Service, at **410-313-3440** or by e-mail to publicworks@howardcountymd.gov

Dobbin Road Lane Addition to Begin

A County construction project is currently under way at the intersection of Dobbin Road and McGaw Road in Columbia. The project will include construction of a right turn lane from northbound McGaw Road onto eastbound Dobbin Road. Weather permitting the project should be completed by June 2008.

The existing right lane on northbound Dobbin Road will be closed during work hours, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Flagging operations will be in place to direct traffic as needed, and signs will be posted to advise motorists of the construction.

For questions or concerns about **Capital Project J-4211**, contact Lisa Brightwell, Public Works Customer Service, at **410-313-3440** or by e-mail to publicworks@howardcountymd.gov

General Growth Properties: Many Voices, One Vision

Join General Growth Properties, Columbia General Manager Greg Hamm **on Monday, April 28th, 7:00 p.m.** at **The Spear Center** (10275 Little Patuxent Parkway) for the Presentation of the Draft Master Plan for the revitalization of Columbia Town Center.

TO RSVP email rsvp@ggp.com

If you need transportation to and from the GGP meeting please call 410-992-6500.

GGP will hold a community discussion meeting at The Other Barn in Oakland Mills on **May 21 from 7 – 9 p.m.**

Blandair Regional Park – Advisory Committee Meetings Scheduled!

Blandair Regional Park is a proposed County park facility to be centrally located on a 300-acre parcel of land in Columbia. The project intends to preserve over 200 acres of forest, wetlands, meadows, and a historic farm complex, while providing active and passive recreation experiences. The unique site promises to afford opportunities for learning about the County's agrarian roots, for children to delight in nature, and for enthusiasts to recreate in the outdoors - right in Columbia's backyard.

In March 2008, the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Department of Public Works selected Whitman Requardt and Associates, LLP, (WR&A) a Baltimore-based firm, to provide engineering and design services. At the same time, the County Executive appointed a new citizen Advisory Committee to assist with the project. The Committee is composed of citizens whose varied backgrounds and interests will provide valuable input into the development of the design. The members also represent the interests of the surrounding communities, as well as including a student representative. Their meetings, which began on **March 12, are open to the public. There will be a general public meeting in September; comments are welcome.**

Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule

May 14, 2008, 7 p.m. Department of Recreation and Parks
Conference Room

June 25, 2008, 7 p.m. Department of Recreation and Parks
Conference Room

September 11, 2008, 7 p.m. Public Meeting at Oakland Mills High
School Auditorium

September 17, 2008, 7 p.m. Department of Recreation and Parks
Conference Room

October 15, 2008, 7:30 p.m. Public Meeting with Recreation and
Parks Board; Department of Recreation and Parks Conference Room

Please note that all meetings are not open to the public and dates are
subject to change. This website will be updated when dates change.

Click here for more information on Blandair
http://www.co.ho.md.us/rap/rap_BlandairRegPark.htm

Public Engagement in Land Use Task Force Meeting- April 30th

The Public Engagement in Land Use (PELU) Task Force will meet **on
April 30th at 6:00PM in the Ellicott Room of the George Howard
Building.**

To view the PELU Task Force Blog, click the following link
<http://howardcountypelu.blogspot.com/>

Questions and Comments may be sent to **Theodore Wimberly** at
twimberly@howardcountymd.gov or by phone at **410-313-3121**

Long Reach Community Association Elections – April 26th 2008!

The Long Reach Community Association will elect three Village
Board members to two-year terms on **Saturday, April 26, 2008, from
9:30 am to 12 noon.**

There are 4 candidates vying for the three Board positions. Absentee Ballot Packets will be sent to every household in Long Reach and are available at the front desk at Stonehouse in the Long Reach Village Center. Owners and lease-holding tenants of properties in Long Reach are entitled to vote. All voters must produce personal identification, such as a driver's license, and tenants must also produce a current lease. Each ownership interest and each tenancy interest in a lot is entitled to one vote. Stonehouse hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays and 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays.

For information, call Stonehouse, **410/730-8113** or **301/596-3265**, or contact the Chairperson of the Election Committee, Nina Basu, Chair 410/935-9279.

Click here for [Election Rules](#)
Click here for [Candidates Statements](#)

Oakland Mills Community Association Elections – Saturday, April 26, 2008!

ELECTION DAY is **Saturday, April 26**, polls are open from **8:30a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** The Columbia Bank will sponsor **FREE** hot dogs, sodas and balloons. The Columbia Bank continues to be a wonderful neighbor. Manager Tim Kelly, personally continues to active member of the ROPE committee, Stakeholder's committee, 40th Birthday Planning Committee and assists our community at every opportunity. Please stop in, meet Tim and give a huge thanks to him and the Columbia Bank!

Goodwill Truck will be in the lot near The Other Barn on Election Day. Many thanks to Howard County Dept. of Planning & Zoning (Samantha Stone and Lindsay Leiterman) for organizing this. Donating goods is the environmentally friendly way of "cleaning house" and, it's tax deductible.

In addition, The League of Woman Voters will hold a **voter registration drive** at The Other Barn.

For Oakland Mills Board and CCR Candidate statements and pictures click here

http://oaklandmills.columbiavillages.org/OMCA_Elections2008.htm

Check Out Career Academies Summer Camps at HCPSS!

The HCPSS Career and Technology Education Office (CTE) is offering many exciting weeklong opportunities for middle and high school students. The Career Academies Summer Camps will be held from **June 16-20, 2008 for middle school students and June 23-27, 2008 for high school students** at the Applications and Research Laboratory on Route 108 in Ellicott City.

The Career Academies Summer Camps are geared toward students who are interested in learning more about careers in science, technology, engineering, culinary science and business. Students will have an opportunity to participate in activities to help them understand how these career areas relate to their own interests.

Students will explore career areas offered through the Career Academies high school program, including Biotechnology and Health Services, Multimedia Arts, Automotive Technology, Architecture, Construction Technology, Engineering, Business and Entrepreneurship, and Culinary Sciences. Howard County Public School System teachers will staff the camp.

Enrollment is limited on a first come, first served basis. Students will receive a camp T-shirt and a Certificate of Participation. There is a registration fee of \$75.00 for each camp and students must provide their own transportation. The **registration deadline is May 15, 2008.**

Registration forms will be available **after Feb. 27** at your middle or high school, and on hcpss.org/cte and in the CTE office in mid-February.

For more information contact **Sally Long**, Career and Technology Education Office, **410-313-6629**.

Oral Health Screenings - Coming to Oakland Mills in May!

The Early Childhood Oral Health Program is offering oral health screenings for children 1-12 years of age on **Friday, May 16, 2008** from **9am – 12noon** within the **Oakland Mills Village Center**. Screenings will be conducted by the Howard County Health Department. For more information, please contact **Linda** at **410.313.1453**. Tell your neighbors with small children!

Sponsors: Parents as Teachers, Howard County Office of Children's services, Department of Citizen Services, Columbia Kiwanis Club and Oakland Mills Community Association.

Oakland Mills High School is Need of Donations for National Teacher Appreciation Week!

National Teacher Appreciation Week runs May 5th through May 9th. The Future Educators Association will be hosting a breakfast for the staff on Tuesday May 6th. The club is seeking donations for food items, beverages, paper goods, etc. Our budget is very limited. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Please e-mail barbara_savage@hcpss.org if you are able to contribute.

Howard County Job Fair & Career Expo May 13th!

Don't miss the Howard County job fair and career expo on **Tuesday, May 13th from 10:00AM to 3:00PM at Turk Valley Resort in Ellicott City**. Come meet with prospective employers face to face from Howard County and become acquainted and network with your colleagues and meet your match!

This event is sponsored by the Howard County Chamber of Commerce and Howard County Human Resources Society. Find your perfect match!

For more information please click on the following link
<http://howardmdcoc.weblinkconnect.com/cwt/External/WCPages/WCEvents/EventDetail.aspx?EventID=159>

Teen Advisory Committee Sponsors College Fair - Saturday, May 3rd!

The Columbia Association (CA) Teen Advisory Committee will sponsor a College Fair on **Saturday, May 3, from noon to 2 p.m.** at Kahler Hall. Representatives from colleges and universities across the country will be present to educate local teens on the various options available to them after high school. Students will also have the opportunity to meet one-on-one with Guidance Counselor Nesa Herring. Light refreshments will be available.

This is a FREE event. Kahler Hall is located at **5440 Old Tucker Row** in Columbia. Please contact **Carol Wasser at 410-715-5523** for more information.

The Oakland Mills Farmers' Market Season Starts May 4th!

“Start Spreading The News!!!!” The farmers' market will return beginning **Sunday, May 4th**.and will run **each Sunday from 9AM – 1PM** in the lot of the OM Village Center. There will be eight vendors that will set up at the market:

Homestead Farms (vegetables/fruits)
Bonaparte Breads
Musachio Farms (vegetables/berries)
Dragonfly Farm (cut flowers and vegetables)
Penn Farm (vegetables)
Great Harvest Bread Company
Shaw Farms (organic vegetables/berries)
Lewis Orchard (vegetables/fruits)

The market master is hoping to get a coffee vendor, let's hope that happens! Please let your friends/neighbors know about the market so that it can be even more successful this year!

Make a Difference...Volunteers Needed at Stevens Forest Elementary School

Stevens Forest Elementary School is seeking volunteers to work with our wonderful students during our after school homework program. Interested persons would assist children in grades 1st - 5th in the areas of mathematics, reading, and spelling. Volunteers may work with an individual child or a small group of children. **Help is needed Mondays, Tuesdays and/or Wednesdays from 3:30 - 4:00 pm.** Please contact **Mrs. Merry Martin at (410) 313-6900** if you are interested in supporting our terrific students

Assistance for Seniors to Get Out and About! - CA's Senior Shuttle for Cultural Events

The Columbia Association's Senior Advisory Committee sponsors a **FREE** curb-to-curb evening and weekend transportation shuttle to cultural events throughout Howard County for groups of 4 or more seniors ages 60 and over. For complete details call CA at **410-715-3087**

Neighbor Ride is Need of Volunteers!

There is an immediate need for volunteers at Neighbor Ride, a volunteer-based supplemental transportation program for Howard County seniors ages 60 and over. Daytime, evening and weekend drivers are needed. Ride Coordinators to accept and assign rides are needed **Monday through Friday for 3-4 hours.** The next driver orientations are scheduled at the Neighbor Ride office, 8808 Centre Park Dr., Columbia, MD 21045. Please call **410-884-7433** or contact volunteer@neighborride.org