

July 27, 2009

## 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](mailto: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](http://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](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 **Board of Education, Board Room, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042**. Click the following link for the Council's calendar of meetings

[http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CC\\_Legislative\\_CouncilCalendar.htm](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](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](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/PortalServices/HC_BoardsandCommissions.htm)

---

## **Spotlight on District 2 Community Members!**

The following honorees were recognized for their notable achievements and received an honorary resolution from the Howard County Council:

**Kimberly Feldman**, a 9<sup>th</sup> grade English teacher at Oakland Mills was named Howard County Teacher of the Year. A Howard County teacher since 2005, Kimberly is known for her innovative and engaging attributes to her teaching.

**Cynthia Hankin**, principal of Deep Run Elementary School in Elkridge earned the Distinguished Educational Leadership Award. Ms. Hankin has been recognized as a passionate leader who strives for excellence and her genuine confidence in her staff, students, and the community. Since 2006, Ms. Hankin has also been noted for her continuous accomplishments and improvements at Deep Run Elementary.

---

## **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.

### **Painting**

Lark Brown Road

### **Culvert Repair**

Mission Road, vicinity of Concord Drive

---

## **Planning Board Public Work Session for ZRA 113!**

The normal Planning Board alternate Thursdays schedule has been modified to address the Downtown General Plan Amendment – ZRA 113, as well as other cases. For detailed meeting information, please refer to the Planning Board Agenda. **The Board's role is advisory to the County Council (Rules of Procedure—Section 1.108).**

### **Meeting Schedule**

Continuation of ZRA 113-Downtown Columbia-General Plan Amendment  
Ellicott 2 Room

**Thursday, August 13, 2009 at 7 p.m.**

Comments or testimony may be mailed or e-mailed to [planningboard@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:planningboard@howardcountymd.gov) up to the day prior to the scheduled public meeting.

Special needs requests should be submitted 3 working days prior to the meeting. For more information, contact **Bob Lalush at (410) 313-2350.**

---

## **National Night Out 2009!**

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out (NNO), a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) has been scheduled for **August 4<sup>th</sup>**! We cordially invite you and your community to be a part of National Night Out!

**National Night Out is designed to:**

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and

- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back

Along with the traditional display of outdoor lights and front porch vigils, cities, towns, and neighborhoods ‘celebrate’ NNO with a variety of events and activities such as:

- block parties,
- cookouts,
- visits from local police and sheriff departments,
- parades, exhibits,
- flashlight walks,
- contests, and
- youth programs

Contact your Homeowners Association, nearest Columbia village or the **Howard County Police Department Headquarters** at **410-313-3200** to register your community.

If your community is celebrating National Night Out, we want to know! Please contact Council Member Calvin Ball’s office with the details of your community’s celebration! [cball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cball@howardcountymd.gov) or **410-313-2001**.

To register online click the following link  
<http://www.howardcountymd.gov/Police/Docs/NNO2008.pdf> (Note: There is no cost to register or participate).

---

## **Secure Your Garages, Homes, and Cars!**

Howard County Police are reminding citizens to keep their homes secure now that summer is officially here.

To ensure the safety and security of your home, police offer the following tips:

- Always keep all doors, including the garage door, closed and locked. Ensure that the door leading from the garage to the interior of the home is also locked.

- Always lock your vehicles, and remove valuable property. A garage door opener in an unlocked car is like a key to your home.
- Report suspicious people or activity by calling 911. It is always helpful if you note the make, model, and tag number if any suspicious vehicles in your neighborhood

---

## **Howard County Police Plans to Build Positive Relationships This Summer!**

With the help of a \$39,000 anti-gang grant from the U.S. Attorney's Office, the police department has invested in a trailer stocked with pingpong tables, sports equipment, video games and board games that they plan to use to engage county youth. HCPD is hoping area teens will take some time to get to know them, perhaps over a game of pingpong.

Throughout the summer, officers plan to take the trailer to areas where teens gather in order to provide recreational activities and in hopes of forming bonds between teens and police.

Between **June 29 and Aug. 21**, the trailer will rotate locations: **Mondays** at the East Columbia Branch Library, **Tuesdays** at Savage Park, **Wednesdays** at Wilde Lake Middle School, **Thursdays** at Centennial Park North and **Fridays** at Harper's Choice Middle School. **The program will not operate July 13-17 and July 27-31.**

---

## **Take the “Buy Local” Challenge in Howard County!**

The Buy Local Challenge is a statewide initiative to support local farmers and local economies. Challenge yourself and your family by eating at least one locally grown, produced or harvested item each day from **July 18<sup>th</sup> through the July 26<sup>th</sup>.**

For more information log on to [www.buy-local-challenge.com](http://www.buy-local-challenge.com)

**List of Howard County Farmer’s Markets in and Around District 2!**

**Oakland Mills Village Center**  
5851 Robert Oliver Place  
Sundays 9 am - 1 pm

**Howard County Farmers Markets**  
East Columbia Library  
6600 Cradlerock Way  
Thursdays 2 - 6 pm

---

## **Enjoy Summer Restaurant Week in Howard County!**

Starting **July 27<sup>th</sup> thru August 9<sup>th</sup>** enjoy Howard County Restaurant Week by discovering some of Howard County's excellent restaurants! Enjoy fixed price menus ranging from \$10.09 to \$40.09.

For more information and to find a list of participating restaurants click the following link [www.howardcountyrestaurantweek.com](http://www.howardcountyrestaurantweek.com)

---

## **Learn Bicycle Safety at the Bike Rodeo - July 30<sup>th</sup>!**

On **Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 7pm** in the **Oakland Mills Community Police Office Lot**, Headstrong Cycling will be sponsoring a free event to teach children the importance of bicycle safety.

The rodeo is free to the public, and will feature a series of bicycle-handling drills and traffic simulations with a goal of teaching children the importance of seeing, helmet usage, basic safety strategy, laws and regulations. Headstrong Cycling will also check children's bicycles for safety and proper fitting of helmets.

---

## **The Columbia Association's Middle School and Teen Advisory Committees Are Recruiting New Members!**

The Columbia Association (CA) is recruiting youth ages 11 to 19 to become members of CA's Middle School and Teen Advisory Committees. As members of the committee, teens can create and implement events and programs for their peers.

CA residents **ages 13 to 19** are eligible to apply for participation. Teen Advisory Committee members must attend meetings every other **Thursday from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at CA Headquarters.**

CA residents **ages 11 to 13** are eligible for participation in The Middle School Advisory Committee. Members of this committee must attend meetings once a month on a **Wednesday from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at CA Headquarters.**

Applications for CA's Teen Advisory Committee are available at [www.ColumbiaAssociation.org](http://www.ColumbiaAssociation.org) For more information or to apply for CA's Middle School Advisory Committee, please call **Carol Wasser at 410-715-5523.**

---

## **Do You Have a Budget Request For the Columbia Association?**

Residents of Columbia have the opportunity to make budget requests for the FY11/FY12 budget cycle for their village. The village assessment share is a portion of operating funds from the Columbia Association budget all of the villages in Columbia receive. If you have a budget request for your village, you may send it to your Long Reach or Oakland Mills village association office. For contact information, please click the following links.

### **Oakland Mills Village**

The Other Barn  
5851 Robert Oliver Place  
Columbia, MD 21046  
410-730-4610; fax: 410-730-4620  
[OMCA@ColumbiaVillages.org](mailto:OMCA@ColumbiaVillages.org)

### **Long Reach Village**

Stonehouse  
8775 Cloudleap Court  
Columbia, MD 21045  
410-730-8113; fax: 410-730-5882  
[Info@LongReach.org](mailto:Info@LongReach.org)

---

## **BRAC- Get Involved!**

The Howard County BRAC office is charged with keeping the residents and businesses of Howard County current on all information regarding Federal Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), National Security Agency, Extended Use Lease (EUL), and additional defense growth on Fort Meade not included in BRAC and how the addition of 22,000 jobs in the Fort Meade area will impact Howard County.

Participation from the residents and businesses in Howard County is important. You may attend and observe the Howard County BRAC Task Force Meetings held usually once a month. The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 9, 2009 in the Howard County Gateway Office 3:30 to 5:00 PM.**

Or, you may send your comments and/or recommendations to the **Executive Director Kent Menser** at [kmenser@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:kmenser@howardcountymd.gov) or give him a call at **410-313-6521**.

For more information on BRAC please visit [http://www.howardcountymd.gov/PortalServices/HCG\\_ExecutiveBRAC.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/PortalServices/HCG_ExecutiveBRAC.htm)

---

## **Are You Prepared in Case of an Emergency?**

“Better Together” an organization of Long Reach community stakeholders are asking all residents to take time out to think about their family’s emergency plan and necessities in case of an of emergency. If an emergency should occur there may or may not be time to respond or gather supplies.

To ensure residents are properly prepared, the “Better Together” group has prepared an emergency tip sheet and checklist for families to review. Log on to <http://www.btlongreach.info/> to ensure that your family is cared for in case of an emergency!

---

## **Start a Neighborhood Watch Program in Your Community!**

The Neighborhood Watch Program involves the joint efforts of the Howard County Police Department and the community, designed to enhance neighborhood security, heighten the community's power of observation, and to encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors. For more information please contact the Howard County Police Department **at 410-313-2200.**

---

## **Need Help With The Digital Transition?**

As you may know, the digital transition occurred on June 12<sup>th</sup>. This means that anyone who is not connected to cable or satellite for television must either purchase a digital television or a converter box in order to receive the digital television signal.

The FCC has set up a terrific multi-language call center staffed with thousands of people to handle calls with all aspects of the digital transition. The telephone number is 1-888-CALL-FCC. Or you may log on to [www.dtv2009.gov](http://www.dtv2009.gov) for online assistance.

---

## **Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Residents 62 and Older!**

The Howard County Office on Aging, through Maryland Access Point (MAP), is offering Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Maryland residents age 62 and older who are considering this as an option. The counseling is targeted to seniors who may be able to pay for their everyday expenses but are struggling to cover the costs of health care, home repairs and modifications, increased property taxes and other unexpected expenses.

To schedule a counseling session or learn more about the costs and features of a reverse mortgage, call MAP of **Howard County's toll free number: 1-800-506-5806.**

---

Dr. Calvin Ball

Council Member, District 2

[http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/Dist2\\_Bio.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/Dist2_Bio.htm)

410-313-2001

"Only a life lived in the service to others is worth living." Albert Einstein