

Results for the 2026 Election

Christine (Crissy) Simpson—131 votes

Ellen Mackey—121 votes

Jake Burdett—43 votes

Crissy and Ellen will fill the two (2) open Dorsey’s Search Village Board of Directors seats for the terms which run from May 2026—April 2028.

Thank you for voting.



Who is in charge and how are my fees being used?

Many residents wonder why am I charged by the Columbia Association (CA) when I already pay a HOA (Condo/Townhouse) dues? Do I also pay a Village fee?

Residents do not pay a village fee/assessment. Columbia Association (CA) collects money from our residents. The Village receives a certain percentage of the dues collected by CA. CA and the Village Associations adopted a formula for how much each Village receives during a fiscal year. This is incorporated into a management agreement between CA and the Village. A great resource is CA’s webpage, “Who Handles What?” which is located at this web address explaining who is in charge of certain things.

<https://columbiaassociation.org/about-us/who-handles-what/#Villages>

CA breaks it down into three entities: Columbia Association; Howard County Government; and Columbia Village Community Associations. The section under Columbia Village Community Associations is an umbrella list. Each Village is independently incorporated and may handle some topics differently. We encourage you to contact us.

Why am I paying Townhouse/Condominium dues?

Each Townhouse and Condominium Association have their own By-Laws, Articles of Incorporation, and Covenants. These are separate from the Village of Dorsey’s Search. Please call your management company or contact your Condominium or Townhouse Board of Directors to supply you with this information or look at your documents when you closed on your property. The Village office does not have these legal documents. Our legal documents contain the Village and Columbia Association’s.

Continued on page 4

Reminders

Office Closed

Mon., May 25
(Memorial Day)

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Dorsey's Search Community Association Information

Village Board Meeting Schedule

All village board meetings are held at Linden Hall unless otherwise noted on our website. Each regular meeting has a scheduled resident speak-out for residents to voice their opinion on issues of concern. Meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Please email Ingrid Hatz if you have any questions, see email below.

- Wednesday, May 13, 2026
- Wednesday, June 10, 2026
- Wednesday, July, 8, 2026

Agendas and approved minutes are posted on the village website. Please visit our website or Facebook page for up-to-date status information regarding Board meetings and/or office hours.

Village Office Staff

Phone: 410-730-4005

Ingrid Hatz, Village Manager—ihatz@dorseyssearch.org

William Wright, Covenant Advisor—covenants@dorseyssearch.org

Nancy Meredith, Admini Asst to the Village Manager—nmeredith@dorseyssearch.org

Patricia Jones Head Facility Assistant

Facility Assistants: Michael Piños; LaRisha Tracenrider; Bitsy Furr, Mary Hesse

Village Board Members

Ellen Mackey email: emmackey@verizon.net 410-730-4005
Derek Carey 410-730-4005
Christine (Crissy) Simpson 410-730-4005
Eric Miller 410-730-4005
Dick Boulton 410-884-2964

Columbia Council Representative

Delilah Holmes 410-730-4005
Delilah.holmes@ca-board.org

Office Hours

Monday, Friday 8am– 3pm
Tuesday, Thursday 8am–7pm
Wednesday 8am–4pm
Saturday Open for rental; no Village Office hours
Sunday Open for rental; no Village Office hours

Note: Please check our website for updated closings or delays. Inclement weather or staffing issues may affect these hours.

Please call in advance for rental availability and viewings.

Website: www.dorseyssearch.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dorseyssearch/>

X: Dorsey's Search C.A. @dorseyssearch

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Dorsey's Search Community Association mission shall promote the health, safety, common good and social welfare of Dorsey's Search residents. The Board's mission is not for pecuniary gain or profit. The Village will sponsor, engage in, conduct and encourage cultural, educational, social, civic and other beneficial activities.

Village Board Notes April 2026

- Accepted the FY'27 Village Budget
- \$150 donation to Wilde Lake Middle School Performing Arts Boosters

CCR Report – Delilah Holmes

Columbia Update

- CA has been working to make people more aware and curious about village board elections & their importance

Old Business

- Voted on a new board meeting schedule, reducing the number of meetings (more meetings can be called at any time, but we are working as a board to ensure that we are concentrating on strategic focus, not operations).
- Discussed changes to board operating procedures (vote is next meeting)
- Received a thorough update on where we are on board goals-
 - Membership rate study is underway with recommendations expected in August 2026
 - New CA website- more personalized experience forthcoming. Projected launch is December 2026
 - Brand awareness survey- complete
 - ✦ Survey sample successfully reflects the demographics of Howard County
 - ✦ 2/3 have a positive overall impression of CA and are satisfied with CA's presence and role in the community
 - ✦ CA is viewed as a key contributor to the desirability to living here
 - ✦ Opportunities- Closing organizational perceptions & engagement gaps, increase feeling of inclusivity in programming, etc.
- Financial position of CA & future outlook
 - Currently, CA is in a very good financial position. However, a deficit is anticipated a few years from now. This may require a 1% cap and \$0.01 rate increase down the road. On average, this is anticipated as an approximate annual charge increase of \$31 per household. No decisions are being made now, CA is just looking into the future.
- We reviewed CA's requests re: Lakefront Library including:
 - Parking, public restrooms, the impact on acoustics for Lakefront Live, visibility of the CA Lakefront

New Business

- We reviewed the board governing documents & board responsibilities
- We reviewed the quarter 3 financials

Please reach out with any questions or concerns!

Covenant

rehearsal

The Resident Architectural Committee (RAC) is a village board appointed volunteer committee that meets twice a month to review exterior alteration applications. Property owners must apply for **ALL** exterior changes to their property/home. If you have any questions regarding the application process, please feel free to contact the Covenant Advisor at 410-730-4005, ext. 11. The Exterior Alteration Application can be found at our web site. www.dorseyssearch.org in the Covenant section.

Approved/Denied Applications: Mar24-Apr27

(descriptions are abbreviated)

Application Approvals:

- 4208 Purple Twilight—tree removal; paint trim & garage door
- 4345 Wild Filly—tree removal
- 4361 Wild Filly—deck
- 4750 Ram's Horn—roof
- 4265 Coattail—deck; landscaping
- 4632 Old Dragon—tree removal
- 4025 Twilight Grove—garden; shed
- 4013 Seabird—doors
- 4041 Fragile Sail—fire pit
- 4034 White Star—Playhouse & play equipment
- 4282 Bright Bay—roof
- 4117 Red Bandana—roof
- 4759 Hallowed Stream—roof
- 4228 Scarlet Sage—roof
- 4300 Sweet Bell—fence; sheds
- 4081 Fragile Sail—Paint shutters
- 4641 Old Dragon—landscaping
- 4736 Ram's Horn—tree removal
- 5315 Tarkington—deck railing
- 4514 Kingscup—deck
- 5333 Chase Lions—deck

continued onto next column

- 4760 Hallowed Stream—roof
- 4753 Hallowed Stream—roof & gutter
- 4265 Coattail—railing on deck
- 4614 Willowgrove—siding & windows
- 5171 Columbia—dog kennel
- 4615 Brentwood—landscape edging; paint front stoop

Application Deadlines and Meeting Dates

7p.m. Deadline	Review Date
May 5	May 20
May 19	Jun 3
Jun 2	Jun 17
Jun 16	Jul 1
Jun 30	Jul 15

Please remember to apply for any exterior alteration!

Curbside Yard Trim Collection

For residents paying a yearly trash and recycling fee on their property tax

In the Village of Dorsey's Search, we are fortunate to have year round collection of yard trim and food scraps. We've had a prelude to summer with 90 degree weather this past April. We saw many residents working in their yards during this time. Then it was back to freeze and frost warnings.

Here are a few reminders about Yard Trim Collection

NO plastic trash bags; reusable containers without lids should be set out or paper bags

Acceptable yard trim: Bamboo; brush/weeds (no Japanese Stiltgrass); grass; hedge clippings; holiday trees; leaves; seed pods (pine cones, sour gum balls, etc.); small limbs or branches less than 4" diameter and 4' in length.

Not acceptable: Japanese Stiltgrass; bushes with root bases; logs over 4" diameter or 4' in length stumps; Dirt/soil/mulch; yard trim with trash or other materials; yard trim in placed in plastic bags, recycling carts or wheelbarrows. Please use the Woodwaste Area at the Alpha Ridge Landfill. It is free if you are a Howard County resident.

Residents are responsible to keep their property in a seasonally appropriate manner which may include the upkeep of lawn, landscaping, and leaf removal. We appreciate your effort.

Townhouse or Condominium Association own Common Property*. These common property elements need maintenance. Some examples of common property are: parking lots; landscaping/tree removal on community-owned property; snow removal; roofing; siding; playgrounds; front steps; or even decks. As a homeowner, you will need to speak with your townhouse/condominium association to find out who is responsible for these elements.

Attend your townhouse/condominium association meetings. Don't know when these occur, talk with your neighbors or contact your management company. On the Village website, we list all of the townhouse and condominium associations residing in our Village. Please visit: <https://www.dorseysearch.org/about-us/homeowners-associations> If you still need help, give us a call at 410-730-4005. We can direct you to the correct association.

Single family homes owners pay for the upkeep of their property.

Who owns the pathways?

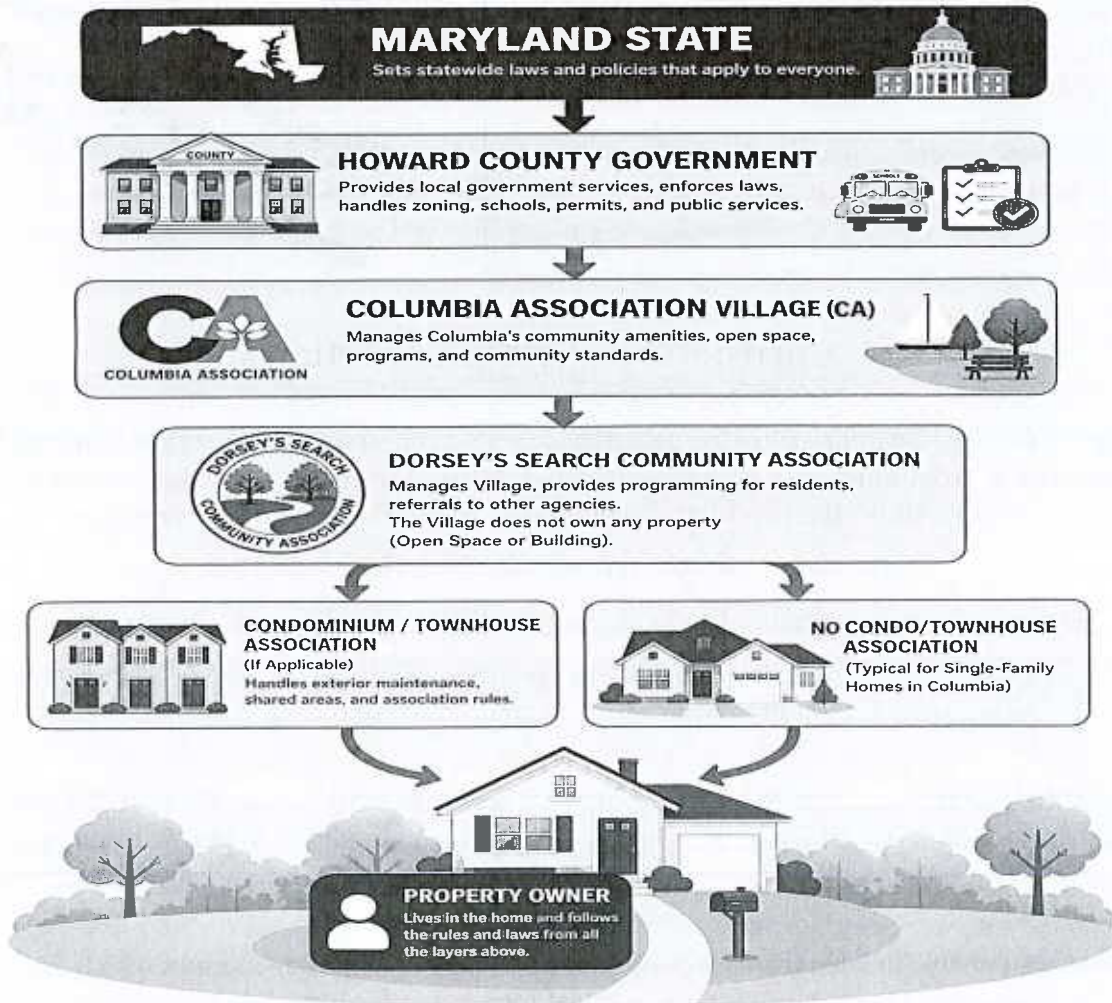
Did you know that the pathway that runs along Little Patuxent River and Willowgrove Drive all the way up to Larkspring Row is owned by the County? That pathway is known as the Gwynn Acres pathway, but on Google Maps it is called the Dorsey's Search Loop. Another County-owned pathway called the Plum Tree pathway (aka Dorsey's Search loop), runs behind Broken Lute Way/Old Dragon Path and the townhouses located on Hallowed Stream and Ram's Horn Row. Archery hunting also occurs at these locations. The Open Space that borders these pathways is owned by Howard County. The County **does not** hunt on CA property in Dorsey's Search.

Living in our Village involves many associated layers. We used AI to create a flow chart. In the flow chart below, residents can visualize the many layers that you live under. Call us at 410-730-4005. We can help clarify.

Dorsey's Search Community Association (Village)

The Village has an elected Board of Directors and an elected Representative who sits on the CA Board of Directors. Please visit the website listed previously in this article for general information regarding Village responsibilities. Again it is an umbrella listing, so give us a call for more specifics.

*Common Property—Association (Condo or Townhouse; in this case) property held jointly.





"Dahlias are the joyful divas of the late summer garden".

Recently, I unpacked my dahlia's tubers from last year. A few I've had for several years now and I am always pleased that I've been successful in overwintering these beautiful plants. Even though I don't mark them or identify the specific kind, I love the feeling of surprise when I rediscover their individual beauty in the summer garden. Dahlias are readily available and easy to grow. They are easy to divide as I have experienced and they can be saved year to year. There are over 42 species of dahlias and countless hybrid varieties. This is because they have 8 sets of chromosomes. 4 times more than a human being. This allows for the vast number of cultivars available today. Some varieties can grow to amazing heights and blooms can range from 2 inches in diameter to the massive 25 in. dinner plate varieties. Many gardeners become obsessed with the overwhelming assortment and are passionate about collecting various dahlias. Dahlia competitions abound and the flower is judged on color, form, size, etc. The flowers are showy and work wonderfully in flower arrangements, since they come in a variety of bold colors and are long lasting.

Dahlias have a long history. They are a native of Mexico and is the Mexican national flower. For centuries, their tubers were used as a food crop by the Aztecs. And before the discovery of insulin, the starch in dahlias was used to treat diabetes. They were named for the 18-century botanist, Anders Dahl. They were originally thought to be a type of vegetable and their blooms were considered secondary.

When selecting dahlias, you should keep our pollinators in mind. Unfortunately, not all dahlias are good pollinators. Some of the multi-petaled, showy varieties are difficult for bees and butterflies to feed from, the petals blocking access to this nutritious food source. Look for plants with open centers where you can see the bright yellow 'eye' of the flower. These varieties, perhaps not as interesting are most beneficial to attracting and keeping pollinators in your garden. They still provide added interest and color. Dahlias provide an important food source in the later summer, early fall months, when other flowers begin to fade.

Plant in the spring after the threat of frost. They require 6-8 hours of sun in well-drained soil. They are fast growing and bloom mid to late summer. After the first frost you can dig up your dahlia tubers. Clean them up and dry for a few days, then pack them in vermiculite or some sawdust like medium to prevent rot from too much moisture forming. You should store them in a cool place and wait for spring to arrive. If you over winter your dahlias, you won't be disappointed to rediscover them in next years garden.

Garden club members will be meeting 10 am on Tuesdays at the Butterfly Garden on Gray Rock Drive. Stop by to chat about gardening and meet our members. We hope to see you there over the spring and summer months.

Joan Oliver DSGC

Information on a wide variety of gardening and environmental topics can be found at the University of Maryland Extension Services. Their website is, extension.umd.edu.

The Dorsey Hall Garden Club meets monthly. Our Club is dedicated to encouraging the love of gardening and promoting positive horticultural practices and conservation through education of its members and the broader community. New members are welcomed. If interested in joining the garden club, please email Karen Griffith at tgriff@hotmail.com



New: CA Watershed Resident Advisory Panel

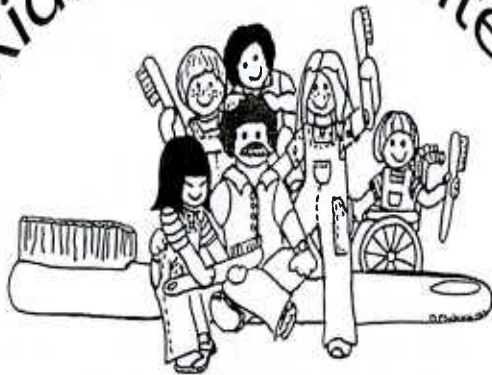
The newly formed **CA Watershed Resident Advisory Panel (WRAP)** brings together representatives from every CA village committed to protecting and improving our local watershed. This group was established in response to growing concerns about water quality, stormwater runoff, erosion, and the impact of development and climate change on our shared natural resources.

A central goal of the WRAP is to build awareness and encourage stewardship—providing information through community outreach about watershed health, conservation practices, and simple actions residents can take to make a difference.

The CA WRAP will collaborate with village boards, CARES groups, and county partners. Representatives will share updates on CA's watershed management initiatives and gather input and feedback from the community on the issues that matter most to residents. Look for upcoming guidance on sustainable watershed practices from the new 'Watershed Wise from the WRAP' contribution to the village newsletter.

The Dorsey's Search Village Representative to the WRAP is Ria Malloy. For more information: <https://columbiaassociation.org/engage/committees/watershed/>

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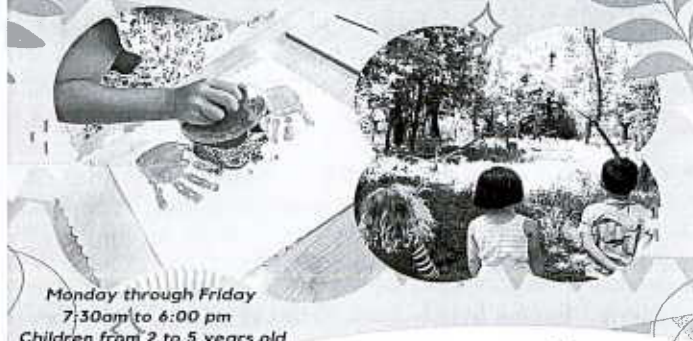
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THE CEO IS A ELLICOTT CITY LOCAL!

Electronic version of the newsletter

You can sign up for the electronic version of the newsletter. Just email Nancy Meredith at nmeredith@dorseyssearch.org

Please supply an email address and your property address.

If you have new neighbors, be sure to tell them about the newsletter. We don't receive new owner information on a regular basis.

Ever wonder—What does my CA annual assessment pay for?

Go Visit the Columbia Association webpage:

[https://
www.columbiaassociation.org/
annual-charge/](https://www.columbiaassociation.org/annual-charge/)

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Ads placed in the Dorsey's Search Scroll are paid advertisements. The appearance of the ads in the village newsletter does not indicate endorsement or recommendation of any advertisement by the community association.



Howard County Office of Natural Resources

Meeting at Linden Hall
Tuesday, **June 2nd** starting at 6pm

TOPIC: Overview of the DEER season; additional dates for archery hunting

Howard County personnel will present an overview of the past hunting season and will propose additional archery management dates for the 2026/2027 season. Community members will be able to ask questions. Please join the conversation about deer management. Get important information and dispel any gossip that may be discussed in the community.

Pool Season is Almost Here!

Memorial Day weekend marks the start of Columbia Association's outdoor pool season. If you're brave enough to take that first chilly plunge, you see how big your audience will be! Columbia Association's (CA) **Pool Status Guide** lets you check activity levels at all CA pools, both indoor and outdoor. A quick glance tells the story:

Red = heavy activity

Yellow = moderate activity

Green = light activity

Click on any pool icon to explore available amenities. You can also filter pools by specific features right at the top of the page, making it easy to find what you're looking for. This tool was introduced last season and proved to be a big hit with residents.

Whether you prefer online convenience or like a good old-fashioned printed schedule on the refrigerator, visit CA's aquatic website:

www.columbiaassociation.org/sports-recreation/pools/pool-locations/

From there, you can access the live pool guide or print a PDF schedule for your favorite location.

In the Village of Dorsey's Search, we're lucky to have the **Dorsey Hall Pool** located at: **4649 Columbia Road, Ellicott City**.

This pool is home to the **Dorsey's Search Dolphins** of the Columbia Neighborhood Swim League (CNSL). Throughout the season, the team will hold practices and pep rallies at the pool. During swim team events or the annual Village Pool Party (see page 11 for details), the pool may be closed to the public. Residents are welcome to visit other CA pools during those times.

Swim Meet Dates & Parking Reminder

The Dolphins will host three home meets this season:

- June 13
- June 20
- July 18

Parking is limited

No parking is allowed along Columbia Road (posted by Howard County).

Do not park in nearby townhouse lots, as these are reserved for residents.

If possible, consider walking or biking to the pool. Otherwise, parking is available on nearby streets such as: Smokey Wreath, Snowdrop, Maydew Mews, and Wild Filly.

Let's dive into summer and make it a fantastic season at the pool.

GO DOLPHINS!

Important Numbers

Take a picture of the problem. Use the TellHoCo App which is an app that can be downloaded onto your cell phone. TellHoCo may also be accessed by visiting the County website at: www.howardcountymd.gov. When using the County website, type in the search bar Tell HoCo, select Tell HoCo, this will bring you to the submission page. During the submission process, it will ask if you want to submit a picture. You don't have to have one have to have a picture, but it is always good to pinpoint your issue.

Traffic Engineering Division...This division is responsible for traffic signals, streetlight installation, street signs, and traffic calming and safety. 410-313-2430.

Street Signs ...The Sign and Marking Division is responsible for all existing street signs and pavement markings. To report damaged or down sign, contact 410-313-7450. To inquire about the installation of a new sign, contact 410-313-2430.

To Report a Highway Maintenance concern such as road condition, **sidewalks**, storm drainage or street trees, contact the Highways Operations Division at 410-313-7450 or by email: highways@howardcountymd.gov.

To Report a Traffic Control concerns such as intersection safety, traffic calming, street lights and miss-timed traffic signal or school flasher, contact the Traffic Engineering Division at 410-313-2430 or by email: traffic@howardcountymd.gov.

Street Lights...BGE is responsible for all street light outages and maintenance, ("knocked down", "bulb out" or "on in daylight") - their Customer Service number is 800-685-0123 or online at www.BGE.com

Mailbox Problems: Mailboxes are the property of the US Postal Department please call 410-750-1340 for Ellicott City and 410-381-4373 for Columbia. You may also use the HoCo App to report a mailbox issue.

County Council Representative for Dorsey's Search (District 1): Liz Walsh can be reached at (410) 313-2001

Street trees need pruning 410-313-7450

Animal Control.....	410-313-2780
CA.....	410-715-3000
Trash/Recycling Collection.....	410-313-6444
HC Information.....	410-313-3000
Voter Information.....	410-313-5820
Bus Schedules.....	800-270-9553
Senior Info. & Assist.....	410-313-1234
Police Non-emergency.....	410-313-2200
HC Police General Information.....	410-313-3200
HC Board of ED.....	410-313-6682
Cable Complaints.....	410-313-3318
Columbia Association.....	410-715-3000
HC Citizens Services.....	410-313-6400
HC Licensing & Permits.....	410-313-2455

Trash and Recycling Pick-up: there are holidays that the County has moved pick up to a slide schedule. If you have further questions, please Call 410-313-6444 or visit their website at: www.howardcountymd.gov/holidayschedule
All trash and recycling cans should be removed from the street on the pick-up day and stored out of sight.

Yard Trim Collection: Howard County offers yard trim collection on the same day as recycling collection. Do not use plastic bags for your yard trim—it will not be collected. Use paper bags or reusable containers without lids only. Howard County offers the “**Feed the Green Bin**” program in our Village. Please visit the Howard County website if you are interested in participating. Information and tips can be located on the website.

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/public-works/feed-green-bin>

Bulk Trash Items: Residents receiving County-provided curbside trash collection are eligible for curbside bulk trash and metal collection. Residents in private areas that do not receive County collection are not eligible for bulk pickup. Remember: Bulk trash items collected by the County will be sent to a landfill. Residents may call 410-313-6444. Large trash items (individual items which do not fit in trash cans) such as mattresses, box springs, chairs, sofas, dressers and tables will be collected. Place these items at the curb on your regular trash day. Maximum of 4 large trash items will be collected per pick-up. Items must be able to be lifted by two collection crew members (larger items will be tagged and left for the resident's disposal). Bulk metal items include metal swing sets, file cabinets, appliances, lawn mowers, exercise equipment, etc. must be scheduled. Please remove doors from refrigerators, and drain oil and gas from lawn mowers. Please go to:

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/curbsidecollections> for detailed information.

CA's Deer Management Survey

CA wants to hear from you about the deer. Watch a short video and fill in the survey.

Video & survey link: <https://columbiaassociation.org/blog/open-space/oh-deer-tips-for-living-with-white-tailed-deer-in-columbia/>

Upcoming Events

New Date for Dorsey's Search Cleans

We couldn't find a date in the spring, so we are going to try the Fall.

Saturday, October 24; 9am—noon

We will post this event again later in the year!

Thanks to those residents who signed up for the April cleanup.

Dorsey's Search Pool Party

Thursday, July 30 at the Dorsey Hall Pool from 6—9pm.

Dorsey's Search residents ONLY

You must have a ticket (*Ticket distribution TBD*)

We understand this a weekday, but make it a relaxing weekday evening.

Don't worry about dinner we've got it covered.

A DJ will keep us all entertained by playing songs and if you are up to it, there could be some dancing. Of course, the main focus is the use of the pool. It won't be crowded because the pool will be closed to the public. Only Dorsey's Search residents holding tickets will be permitted into the pool that evening.

Make this a memorable evening with your family.

Come join us at the Dorsey Hall Pool Thursday, July 30 from 6pm—9pm

Ticket distribution will be announced at a later date, so keep reading the newsletter.

Document Shredding

We have a date scheduled in the Fall!

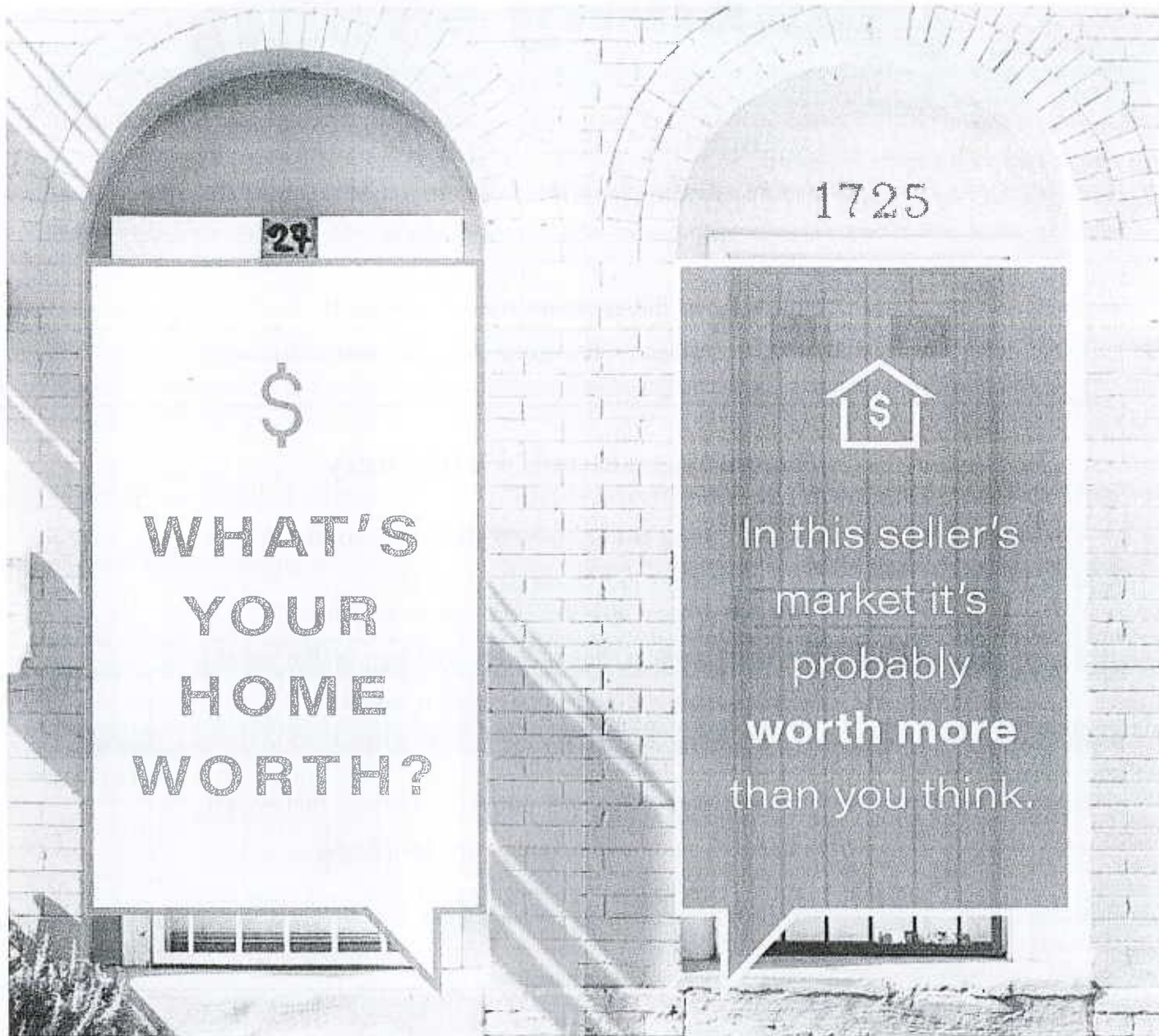
Saturday, October 10 from 9—noon.

Many residents asked about Spring Shredding, but the trucks were booked. We got our date in the Fall and we look forward to seeing our Residents.

Do a google search about what can and cannot be shredded. Your house will feel so much lighter and you know that personal information isn't just laying around in the trash for someone to freely take.

Start saving those old documents.

Special events are sponsored by the Dorsey's Search Community Association and some events may be co-sponsored with the Villages of Columbia and/or Dorsey's Search Village Merchants and Columbia Association. For those events requiring a ticket, tickets can be picked up at Linden Hall during regular business hours. For most events, there are a limited number of tickets available, so tickets are distributed on a first-come, first served basis. **No telephone reservations can be taken unless otherwise noted.** Tickets must be picked up in advance—there are no tickets available at the door, since caterers need an exact headcount before hand. **If you picked up free tickets and cannot attend an event, please return to the village office as soon as possible so you can be taken off the headcount and allow a wait-listed family to attend.** Staff may require ID in order to verify residency; please do not send children to pick up tickets, since they are not included on the resident list. Family or Children's events must have an adult accompanying a child. Tickets may still be available when the newsletter is being printed, but may be sold out before you receive your issue. Please feel free to call us to see if there are still tickets available. Thank you.



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