



SENIOR
LEADERSHIP
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March 2017

Message from the Office of the President/CEO

Columbia's 50th Birthday Celebration officially begins Sunday, March 19 with a special ceremony at 11:00 a.m. in the outdoor courtyard between Maggiano's and Seasons 52 at The Mall in Columbia.

The six-month event has been in various stages of planning since 2012 and Columbia Association (CA) salutes the managing director and the board of directors of the Columbia 50th Birthday Celebration, Inc. organization for its dedication and work on this event. We also wish to thank the many sponsors and volunteers for their donations of time, talent, and resources, all of which are integral to the Celebration's success. Over 80 community groups will participate in honoring Columbia and over 100 events will take place during the next 26 weeks.

Also observing their 50th birthday this year are the village of Wilde Lake, Merriweather Post Pavilion, and the Hobbit's Glen Golf Club.

Join us in celebrating Columbia's first 50 years – and the next half century. For more information, please visit www.columbiamd50.com for up-to-the-minute details, including times, places and directions, as well as additional events.

Happy Birthday to All!

Sport and Fitness

Aquatics

CA's Aquatics Division received the "Silver International Aquatic Safety Award" from Jeff Ellis & Associates, Inc. for consistently exceeding the firm's criteria for aquatic safety certification. This is the sixth year the Aquatics Division has received this recognition, which is given only to clients scoring in the top 30% of the audit criteria. In the award letter sent to CA by Mr. Richard A. Carroll, senior vice president and COO, Jeff Ellis & Associates, Inc., Mr. Carroll noted that "swimmers who frequent your aquatic facilities...are consistently being afforded with the highest degree of swimmer protection currently available for the aquatic industry."

Matthew Zao, a member of the Columbia Clippers, has been named to the 2017 USA Deaflympics Team. He will compete in the Deaflympics games in Turkey in July.

Planning & Community Affairs

Increasing Influence in Columbia Planning and Development

Staff from the Office of Planning and Community Affairs continued to participate in and monitor proposed and on-going development projects in and around Columbia.

Village Center and Downtown Redevelopment

- Oakland Mills Village Center Redevelopment Feasibility Study – Consultants are preparing the final report. Following the completion of the report and its posting to the project website, Howard County government will hold a final public meeting on March 22 at 7pm at Oakland Mills Middle School.
- Downtown Columbia Cultural Center – staff attended the Pre-submission Community Meeting for the Downtown Columbia Cultural Center on February 16 and the February 22 meeting of the Design Advisory Panel.
- County Executive's 2nd FY2018 Citizens Budget Hearing – staff attended the budget hearing on March 8 and was part of a large group of community members and organizations in attendance who are supporting the Bikeway (increased and targeted funding to implement the 2016 Bicycle Master Plan).
- Staff updated the Development Tracker, which provides information on development related meetings and submitted proposals for sites in and near Columbia. The development tracker is updated monthly and is available on-line at <http://bit.ly/developmenttracker>.

Open Space Assessment

Columbia's open space is a distinguishing feature of Columbia. As part of achieving one of CA's strategic goals related to environmental stewardship, an interdepartmental work group was convened to review existing open space related-plans, policies, programs and stewardship protocols. Chaired by the Director of Planning and Community Affairs, Jane Dembner, the Open Space Assessment work group has completed its analysis and is currently preparing a draft Open Space Assessment report, which will document what CA has in place, what has been achieved in recent years, and provide recommendations related to CA's management and stewardship of its open space resources. This effort began in August 2016 and is anticipated to be completed by April 2017. A presentation to the CA Board on the report's findings is anticipated in April.

Village Center Presentation to Board

On March 9, Gregory Reed, Vice President for Development, Kimco Realty in the Mid-Atlantic Region, made a presentation to the CA Board and addressed related questions regarding the six Columbia village centers owned by Kimco Realty. Mr. Reed's presentation was preceded by a brief overview by staff in the Office of Planning and Community Affairs on all the village centers and recent studies and redevelopment initiatives. Both presentations are available on the CA website (please navigate to the Board of Directors webpage and then find the presentations with the materials for the March 9, 2017 work session, under the heading "Meetings / Sessions").

Communications and Marketing

Buy A Brick Program

A total of 385 bricks were purchased – 327 in the section for Columbia's 50th birthday and 54 in general sections. An additional 36 bricks will be placed in the employee section to recognize years of service to CA.

Rollout – New Membership Program

Updates are being made to all membership-related information on the CA website for the transition to the new membership structure on May 1.

The Communication and Marketing team is meeting with each village association's board of directors to share a brief presentation on the new membership structure.

Open Space and Facility Services

Long Reach Tennis Club

Work on the Long Reach Tennis Club began in late February 2017, with the tennis facility scheduled to open in February of 2018. Clearing and sediment controls activities are currently underway, with earthwork and grading construction to follow. Once temporary electric and construction trailers are in place, a time-lapse camera will be installed with regular postings planned for the CA website.

Columbia Swim Center

Preliminary electric and gas utility work associated with Phase II of the Swim Center renovations is currently underway. Interior improvements to the Swim Center locker room and lobby areas will begin in May 2017, and the Swim Center will remain closed throughout the summer while construction activities are taking place.

Town Center Bell Tree

Construction activities associated with site preparation for installation of the bell tree at the end of the pier at Lake Kittamaqundi are now underway. Work on electrical utility extensions to the end of the pier is currently in progress. The refurbished bells and bell tree will be delivered to Columbia in May with installation immediately thereafter.

Sustainability

CA is promoting energy management efforts at the Supreme Sports Club as a showcase project during an upcoming U.S. Department of Energy conference.

Community Services

Volunteer Center Serving Howard County

The Volunteer Center's 50-50 Challenge, encouraging volunteers to pledge 50 hours of service in honor of Columbia's 50th birthday, has received commitment of 600 hours towards the center's goal of 2,500 hours.

Columbia Archives

Columbia's 50th birthday is creating more interest in Columbia's history at the Columbia Archives. Research materials and photographs from the collections have helped Business Monthly, the Mall in Columbia, the 50th Birthday Celebration Committee, and Howard County Citizens Association tell the story of Columbia in the various ways that each will celebrate the occasion.

Columbia Archives has received the restored maquette of The People Tree. It is now on display in the reading room and will be part of an exhibit at Howard Community College this summer.

Upcoming Events

Volunteer Center Serving Howard County

The Volunteer Center Serving Howard County will be partnering with the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress to collect stories from local veterans during Howard County's Veterans Resource Fair on Tuesday, April 4 at the Ellicott City Senior Center.

Columbia Archives

The Columbia Archives exhibit of the early work of Gail Holliday opens at Slayton House in late March. There will be a reception featuring Ms. Holliday on Sunday, April 9 from 3 - 5 pm. The exhibit will feature seldom seen works portraying the first stores to open in the Wilde Lake Village Center.

Also, coming soon at Slayton House will be an exhibit of "Then and Now" photographs by Fern Eisner, a long-time resident and professional photographer.

Barbara Kellner, manager, Columbia Archives, will present a talk on the similarities and differences in the planning of the villages of Wilde Lake and River Hill at Claret Hall in River Hill. The villages are celebrating their 50th and 25th birthdays, respectively.

Columbia Art Center

In partnership with Blossoms of Hope of Howard County, Howard County Poetry and Literature Society, and the Volunteer Center Serving Howard County, Columbia Art Center will present "Healing Hands/Words of Inspiration" on April 1-23, with a gala reception and awards ceremony, Friday, April 7, 6-8pm, free of charge. In celebration of Columbia's 50th Birthday, the annual "Blossoms of Hope" show will feature 50 art works and corresponding words of inspiration inspired by the theme of healing hands. Proceeds from the show will go to Blossoms of Hope to benefit the Claudia Mayer/Tina Broccolino Cancer Resource Center of Howard County General Hospital.

Columbia Community Exchange

Columbia Community Exchange (CCE), in partnership with Transition Howard County, will host a skill share fair on March 25 at The Barn to celebrate ten years of time banking in Howard County. Time Bankers will give demonstrations, teach a quick skill and offer tips on a variety of everyday services offered through CCE.



Other Events

Dog Day Afternoon May 13, 10am – 2pm; rain date May 20

Kids Day June 11, 10am – 2pm

Open House June 24 & 25 – Columbia Athletic Club, Columbia Gym, Supreme Sports Club