

The Scroll

December/January 2024

Village website: www.dorseyssearch.org

Wishing our Residents a wonderful Holiday

This is the last issue of the Scroll this year. Our next issue will begin February 2024. If you wish to have The Scroll delivered to electronically, please contact Nancy Meredith at nmeredith@dorseyssearch.org.

The Village office will be closed on Friday, December 22. We have our annual shutdown from Friday, December 22—Monday, January 1, 2024. The office will re-open on Tuesday, January 2 at 8am.

If you are selling your home and need legal documents or need to submit a request for letter of compliance, please pick up the Village information a few days before our schedule shutdown. Staff will not be in the office during the shutdown. We will periodically check email, but it will not be monitored a daily basis. Voicemail will not be checked. Exterior Alteration Applications received via email or dropped in our exterior mailbox will not be processed during this time period. Our exterior mailbox will be checked when the office re-opens. Complaints will be addressed when the office re-opens.

If you are interested in renting Linden Hall for an event, please contact Ingrid Hatz at ihatz@dorseyssearch.org. We are already booking into the New Year. Please submit a date you are interested in, the number of people that will be attending, and any additional plans (e.g.: dance floor, DJ, food tables, band, and/bar). Ingrid will be checking email, but might not reply immediately.

We encourage residents to call the police if you see suspicious behavior or have been a victim of any kind of criminal activity. Please do not call the Village Office. We are not a witness to your experience. Only you can provide information to the police. If it is an emergency, please call 911. You may also file a report online at:

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/police/file-online-report>

Please review the types of incidents that may be filed online by reading the details on the webpage listed above. Be safe this Holiday season.

Curbside Collection will be affected on Christmas Day and New Year's Day since they fall on a Monday. If you receive curbside collection from Howard County Public Works, you will be on a slide schedule. That means no collection on Monday, collection will begin on Tuesday. Please view the slide schedule on:

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/bureau-environmental-services/holiday-trash-recycling-schedule>

Reminders

Office Shutdown
Fri, Dec. 22—Mon, Jan 1
reopen on Tue, January 2

No Howard County curbside collection on Monday, December 25 or on Monday, January 1.
Slide schedule will be in effect.

Office Closed
Mon, Jan 15

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Santa Mailbox



Children may mail their letters to Santa at the Village Office. If you missed our Storytime and Breakfast with Santa events, please feel free to mail your letters during our Village Office hours.

Monday and Friday: 8am—3pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday:
8am—7pm

Please legibly print your address on your letter. Santa knows where you live, but the Elves help him with mailing Santa's personalized letters back to the children. The Elves will appreciate the help.

**Dorsey's Search
Community Association
Information**

Village Board Meeting Schedule

All village board meetings are currently held via Zoom. 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. A link is posted on our website under the Village Board-Meeting, Minutes and Agenda and our facebook page. Please email Ingrid Hatz if you have any questions, see email below.

- Wednesday, December 13, 2023
- Wednesday, January 10, 2024
- Wednesday, February 14, 2024

Agendas and approved minutes are posted on the village website.

Village Office Staff

Phone: 410-730-4005

Ingrid Hatz, Village Manager—ihatz@dorseysearch.org

Anne McKissick, Covenant Advisor—amckissick@dorseysearch.org

Nancy Meredith, Administrative Assistant to the Village Manager—
nmeredith@dorseysearch.org

Bitsy Furr	Facility Assistant
Patricia Jones	Facility Assistant
Kathy Ralston	Facility Assistant
Charles Treger	Facility Assistant
Bill Salciccioli	Set-up Tech

Village Board Members

Ellen Mackey	410-730-4005
Derek Carey	410-730-4005
Crissy Simpson	410-730-4005
Luke Menefee	410-730-4005
Russell Stephenson	410-730-4005

Columbia Council Representative

Chris Fuchs 410-730-4005

Office Hours

Monday, Friday	8am-- 3pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	8am--7pm
Saturday	9am--11am
Sunday	Open for rental; no village office hours

Please call in advance for rental availability.

Website: www.dorseysearch.org

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

Twitter: Dorsey's Search C.A. @dorseysearch

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

November 2023

- ⇒ 4745 Ram's Horn Row –15day letter to be sent to property owner and a resolution letter to be sent CA if owner does not contact the Covenant Advisor
- ⇒ 4616 Broken Lute Way—15day letter to be sent to property owner and a resolution letter to be sent CA if owner does not contact the Covenant Advisor
- ⇒ Voted Mr. Stephenson to fill the open Board of Directors seat. Term will end on April 30, 2024



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To view our Columbia Council Representative's report to the Dorsey's Search Board of Directors, please visit our website at:

<https://dorseysearch.org/village-board/council-rep-report/>

Want to join our Constant Contact group? Use your phone to scan this QR code. Type in your email address and name, press Sign up. It is that simple. We send out Crime Bulletins and other pertinent information regarding the happenings of our Village. Be in the know!



Covenant

Order

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.dorseysearch.org in the Covenant section.

Approved/Denied Applications: Oct 19—Nov 21

(descriptions are abbreviated)

Application Approvals:

- 4241 Lilac Lane—portico
- 4606 Brentwood—firepit
- 4600 Learned Sage—roof
- 5326 Tarkington—windows
- 4209 Eagles Wing—roof
- 5085 Columbia—lights
- 5197 Columbia lights
- 4761 Hallowed Stream—roof
- 4020 Huckleberry—garage door
- 4240 Scarlet Sage—siding, shutters, trim, garage door
- 4513 Hemlock Cone—basketball unit
- 4749 Leyden—lights
- 4237 Scarlet Sage—tree removal
- 4683 Hallowed Stream—deck
- 4606 Smokey Wreath—Tesla charger, windows
- 4017 Twilight Grove—windows, siding, gutters, downspouts, Slider
- 4617 Smokey Wreath—trex decking
- Heatherfield Condo—vinyl fence

Approved as amended

- 5312 Chase Lions—privacy screen
- 4353 Wild Filly—patio

Application Deadlines and Meeting Dates

7p.m. Deadline	Review Date
Dec 5	Dec 20
Dec 19	Jan 3
Jan 2	Jan 17
Jan 16	Feb 7
Feb 6	Feb 21
Feb 20	Mar 6

Holiday Decorations

You may display holiday decorations 21 days before and 21 days after a holiday. If you add up the number of days, that is 43 days of recognition.



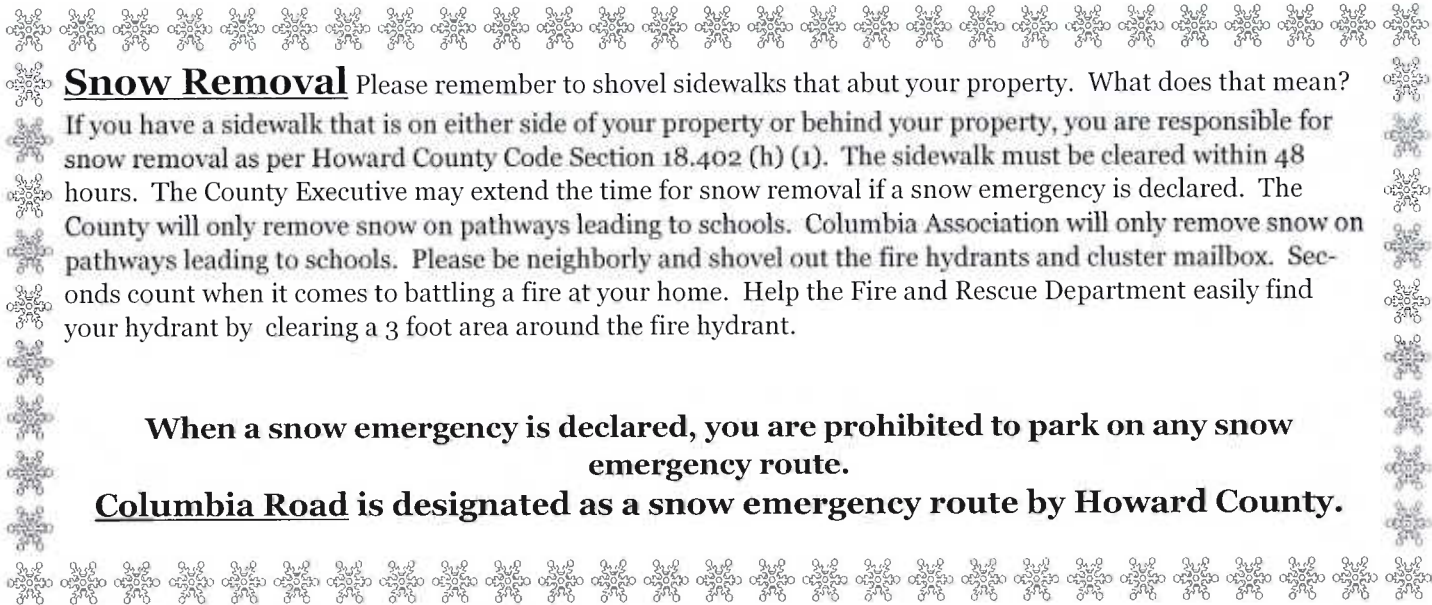
Garbage Cans, Recycling Bins, and Composting Cans

The office has received complaints about cans/bins left out at the front of the house or in front of the garage doors. Please store your bins in your garage or at the rear of your house. It is stated in the Village Guidelines that these items must be stored out of sight.

If you are interested in erecting an enclosure for your bins, please submit an application for the structure. In the application, you will need to place the following information:

Materials used to build the enclosure; the dimensions of the enclosure; and placement on the property

This is not a fast track process. The committee puts a lot of thought into their decision. Garbage draws wildlife and insects into our living space which may carry disease and parasites. Although the trashcans/bins might be empty, the residual smells and decay can be detected by these creatures. If you don't use cans to place your trash out by the curbside, please be mindful that animals will tear or peck their way into the bag. We highly recommend using a trashcan because animals are messy foragers. The creatures will only get to one bag, not the 3-4 bags you've placed at curbside. This is friendly advice, not a Covenant regulation. Please help us minimize trash and complaints!



Snow Removal

Please remember to shovel sidewalks that abut your property. What does that mean? If you have a sidewalk that is on either side of your property or behind your property, you are responsible for snow removal as per Howard County Code Section 18.402 (h) (1). The sidewalk must be cleared within 48 hours. The County Executive may extend the time for snow removal if a snow emergency is declared. The County will only remove snow on pathways leading to schools. Columbia Association will only remove snow on pathways leading to schools. Please be neighborly and shovel out the fire hydrants and cluster mailbox. Seconds count when it comes to battling a fire at your home. Help the Fire and Rescue Department easily find your hydrant by clearing a 3 foot area around the fire hydrant.

When a snow emergency is declared, you are prohibited to park on any snow emergency route.

Columbia Road is designated as a snow emergency route by Howard County.

Live Holiday Tree disposal/Holiday Light recycling

Please visit the Howard County Website for Holiday Tree Recycling.
There is also information about how to recycle your holiday lights.

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/bureau-environmental-services/merry-mulch>

The Village was audited this year and below is the Auditor's Report Opinion excerpt of the letter.

**Clark
Anderson, P.A.**
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

7678 Quarterfield Road, Suite 101
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061
Phone: 410-766-5400
Fax: 410-766-5518
email: cpa@cacpas.net
web: www.clarkanderson.com

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Directors
Dorsey's Search Community Association, Inc.
Ellicott City, Maryland

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Dorsey's Search Community Association, Inc. (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of April 30, 2023, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Dorsey's Search Community Association, Inc. as of April 30, 2023, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Upcoming Events

Ticket distribution has ended for our Holiday Events.
Please call the office (410-730-4005) if you would like to be on a waitlist.

We appreciate all the residents that came early to get tickets!

Village Elections

Village Elections will occur on April 20, 2024. Please continue to read The Scroll for more information. The Board will accept Volunteers for the Election Committee. Please email the Ingrid Hatz, Village Manager at ihatz@dorseysearch.org. The qualifications to become a member of the Election Committee are printed below. Please remember that you will need to be available on Saturday, April 20.

Two Board of Director seats will be open for Elections this 2024 Election season. The Village will not have Elections if the following criteria are met as stated in the Dorsey's Search Community Association, Inc. By-Laws:

Section 2.04-"... if after the date for which nominations for the Board of Directors are closed, the number of nominees meeting the requirements is less than or equal to the number of vacant director positions, the qualified nominees shall be deemed to have been elected by the members and the Board of Directors shall appoint nominees to the available director positions for the term provided for in Article 8 of the Association's Articles of Incorporation."



Looking for Election Committee Volunteers

Qualifications for Committee members are:

- You are eligible to vote at the forthcoming Election
- You are not a candidate for any Association office
- You will not actively campaign for or against any candidate

Duties (Entire list of duties can be found in the Dorsey's Search By-Laws):

- Establish administrative rules and regulations
- Prepare and make available blank nominations petitions
- Prepare all absentee and regular ballots upon receipt of all nomination petitions
- Issue, receive, and count ballot cast and post results upon closing of the polls
- Certify, in writing, the name of those persons elected and offices to which they were elected, respectively, to the incumbent Board of Directors of the Association

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.

Seeking Newsletter Carriers for Next Year

Seeking school aged students to deliver village newsletters. The Village would like to place your name on the waitlist. Please submit your name, email address, and phone number to Nancy Meredith at nmeredith@dorseyssearch.org or call at 410-730-4005.

Her office hours are Monday—Friday
8am –3pm

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Important Numbers

The Howard County Bureau of Highways is responsible for pavement, sidewalks, storm drains, trees, and over 970 miles of county roads for the convenience and safety of the public. If you see a problem within the village please call the appropriate number below or use the TellHoCo App that can be downloaded onto your cell phone. Tell-HoCo may also be accessed by visiting the County website at www.howardcountymd.gov

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.

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

Street trees need pruning call 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

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.

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>

Dorsey Hall Garden Club

The holidays are fast approaching and the pressure of gift giving builds with each passing day. *The Dorsey Search Garden Club* has a few suggestions for your gardening folk. Along with tools, gloves or gift cards to your favorite garden center, there are a few gardening books that you could consider.

Chesapeake Gardening & Landscaping by Barbara Ellis. This book is written with an eye to our local environment. Ellis shares ideas to build your garden with plants suited to the Chesapeake Bay watershed region. What makes this book interesting is it is designed around a few basic principles. Such as; reducing lawn, diversity planting, emphasis on native plants, water management and even gardening for wildlife. She also gives detailed descriptions of native plants which are helpful in deciding what would do well in your yard. A former editor of gardening books and the Publication Director for the American Horticultural Society, she is the author of several books.

The Wild Garden, Expanded Edition, by William Robinson with new chapters by Rick Darke. The original book was published in 1870 by the renowned Irish gardener and journalist, William Robinson, whose ideas about wild gardening spurred the movement that led to the concept of the English cottage garden. He emphasized an authentic, natural approach to gardening, instead of a formal, structured approach. He was a man ahead of his time and his ideas are still relevant today as we work to enhance our gardens with nature in mind. Updated by Rick Darke, he expands on William's book with new chapters on garden design and 125 color photographs which puts the subject in a more modern context, but still underscoring Robinson's importance in the evolution of ecological garden design.

A Way to Garden, by Margaret Roach. This practical and inspiring book presents gardening through the year. In her down to earth style she informs the reader that so much can be gained by gardening and how gardening can change our view of the broader environment. The book supplies guidance to those looking for a way to succeed in the vegetable patch or tending to other areas of the garden and also gives advice and insight on her experiences as a gardener. The book is expansive in its information and a joy to read.

Braiding Sweetgrass, by Robin Wall Kimmerer is an intimate book on the wisdom of the author's indigenous people, the value of science and the teaching of plants. As a botanist, she writes from a personal perspective about the natural world that will change the reader's view. Most importantly, she reminds us that we have an *obligation* to nature and gardening offers us the opportunity to do what's right on our little plot of land.

Joan Oliver, DHGC

If you have a gardening question, the *University of Maryland's Home and Garden Information Center (HGIC)* can help. All Maryland residents are welcome to send their questions to [Ask Extension](#). You can also view the online resources at the [Maryland Grows](#) blog, or visit a local [Master Gardener Program](#) for answers to residential gardening questions.

The Dorsey Hall Garden Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month. 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. Visit us on Facebook. New members are welcomed. Please email Karen Griffith at tgriff@hotmail.com.



Columbia Association and the Downtown Columbia Partnership are hosting Festive Fridays down at Lake Kittamaquandi this holiday season. Please go visit:

<https://columbiaassociation.org/explore-columbia/event-calendar/>

Columbia Association sponsors many events throughout the year. Go check it out.

