

Volunteers for Village Elections



Please consider volunteering for our Election Committee. As a volunteer Committee member, you will ensure that our By-Laws are followed during our Election period. Our Village Election Day is Saturday, April 20 from 8am–1pm.

Eligibility for membership on the Election Committee—By-Laws Article VIII Section 8.02. *“Any member of the Association eligible to vote in the next forthcoming election of Directors and Council Representative shall be eligible for membership to the Election Committee, but in no event shall a member be a candidate for any Association office. No member of the Election Committee may actively campaign for or against any candidate.”*

Whether you have a lot of time or a little time, consider volunteering. Duties for committee members are described on page 5.

Please email Nancy Meredith at nmeredith@dorseyssearch.org and Ingrid Hatz at ihatz@dorseyssearch.org



Village Election—Saturday, April 20

2 Board Seats will be open for this 2024 year

If you are interested in running for a Board seat, you will need to pick up a Candidate packet. The packet contains information about the Dorsey’s Search Community Association (Village) as well as information about being a Candidate. The nomination petition is in the packet. You must be a member of the Association (Dorsey’s Search Community Association) to be eligible to run for a seat. A member is defined as an owner or renter on CA lien holding property located in Dorsey’s Search. In addition, the Directors shall not be in violation of the Dorsey’s Search Restrictions (e.g. Dorsey’s Search Covenants) or in violation of any dues or assessments established by the Columbia Association (By-Laws Section 2.03-Qualifications of Directors).

Deadline for Nomination petitions: Thursday, March 21 by noon.

The Village office is open:

Monday and Friday from 8am–3pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8am–7pm

Saturday hours vary; please check our website

www.dorseyssearch.org

Reminders

March 1
Begin accepting nomination petitions

March 21
Deadline: Nomination petitions are due back by noon

March 29–April 1
Office Closed
reopening on Tuesday, April 2

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**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, March 13, 2024
- Wednesday, April 10, 2024
- Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Agendas and approved minutes are posted on the village website.

Village Office Staff

Phone: 410-730-4005

Ingrid Hatz, Village Manager—ihat@dorseyssearch.org

Anne McKissick, Covenant Advisor—amckissick@dorseyssearch.org

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

Patricia Jones	Head Facility Assistant
DeAngela Alexander	Facility Assistant
Bitsy Furr	Facility Assistant
Mary Hesse	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	varies; please check website
Sunday	Open for rental; no village office hours

Please call in advance for rental availability.

Website: www.dorseyssearch.org

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

Twitter: 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

February 2024

- ⇒ \$500 Donation to Running Brook Elementary School PTA
- ⇒ Election Procedure change—Absentee ballots will no longer be placed in the April newsletter. Residents must call the Village office to have Absentee Ballots mailed to them.
- ⇒ Luke Menefee was voted to be Election Committee chairperson; Ria Malloy was voted to be on the Election Committee.



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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

Corner

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: Jan 24-Feb 22

(descriptions are abbreviated)

Application Approvals:

- 4218 Bright Bay—front door
- 4693 Hallowed Stream—window, slider
- 4540 Hemlock Cone—door
- 4850 Dorsey Hall #8—deck, new light
- 4770 Leyden—HVAC unit
- 5139 Columbia—2 panel slider
- 4705 Ram’s Horn—roof
- 4601 Willowgrove—new brick façade
- 4069 Fragile Sail—tree removal
- 4880 Dorsey Hall #5—deck, lights
- 4900 Dorsey Hall #2—deck, lights
- 5351 Tarkington—Front door with electric lock
- 4707 Columbia—gutter guards
- 4770 Leyden—garden edging

Approved as amended

- 4233 Red Bandana—windows on house and screened porch

Approved with conditions

- 4209 Bright Bay—front gardens; deer fencing
- 4217 Bright Bay—deer fencing around garden beds

Denied

- 4217 Bright Bay—property line deer fencing
- 4225 Bright Bay—property line deer fencing

Application Deadlines and Meeting Dates

7p.m. Deadline	Review Date
Mar 5	Mar 20
Mar 19	Apr 3
Apr 2	Apr 17
Apr 16	May 1
Apr 30	May 15
May 14	Jun 5

Please remember to **apply for exterior changes to the property**. Email Anne McKissick with any questions or give her a call. Her office hours are normally Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8am—3pm.

Her email is: amckissick@dorseyssearch.org
 Village office phone#: 410-730-4005

Although Anne has specific office hours, please feel free to call during Village office hours. Day-time staff is here to help our residents also.

Village vs Townhouse/Condo HOA

If you are reading this newsletter, you most likely reside in the Village of Dorsey’s Search. Our legal name is Dorsey’s Search Community Association. The Association has Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Covenants, and an elected Board of Directors which dictate how the Village is run. The Village consists of townhouses, condominiums, and single family homes. Properties in our Village are subject to the CA Annual charge (CPRA). Depending on the year, there are village elections for open seats on the Board of Directors and the Columbia Council Representative (CCR). Each elected seat runs for a two year term. Our elected CCR represents our Village on the CA Board which makes them a CA Board member.

Dorsey’s Search is one of the 10 Villages of Columbia. Columbia Association (CA) manages various facilities, events, and programs for residents that pay the annual charge on their property. For CA residents, reduced rates are usually available for use of CA facilities, special events, and programming. None of the Villages collect the annual charge. The payment goes to Columbia Association and funds are distributed to the Villages.

Continued, page 4

DEER/ANIMAL FENCING

A system of webbing and posts manufactured specifically for the protection of plants from deer and to have minimal visual impact. The webbing is stranded plastic mesh and black. This material is used to protect larger permanent plants/landscaping, such as evergreens. This is intended to be temporary to allow plants to establish or to recover. This is not intended as a permanent solution for damage caused by deer. Other species of plants may need to be considered if substantial damage continues. Deer/animal fencing is prohibited as property line fencing or sectioning off areas of the property. It is to be used as a protective barrier for plants only.

No Exterior Alteration Application is required if the following criteria are met:

1. The plants to be wrapped are within the rear lines of the house.
2. the deer/animal fencing is low visibility, black, fine mesh.
3. Plants are individually wrapped or close groupings of plants are wrapped.
4. The fencing does not exceed the height of 7 feet.

An annual Exterior Alteration Application is required if:

1. The deer/animal fencing is to be placed in the side/front yard or outside the rear lines of the house.
2. The chosen fencing is not low visibility, black, fine mesh.
3. The fencing is taller than 7 feet.

Application Requirements:

AN APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED ANNUALLY. Previous upkeep and maintenance will be of primary consideration for renewal applications. The application must include a site (plat) plan showing the location and dimensions of the deer/animal fencing.

Continued from page 3

If you live in a Townhouse or Condominium Homeowner Association (HOA), you pay a Townhouse/Condominium HOA due. Each Townhouse or Condominium Association will have their own Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Covenants/Guidelines, and an elected Board of Directors. You will find that the names of townhouse and condominium associations have a very similar name to Dorsey's Search.

Our village website has a list of townhouse and condominium HOAs within our Village. Each HOA will have a management company and the contact person. Street names are listed on each HOA.

Similar to the Village, Townhouse/Condominium HOAs will have Board of Directors meetings. If you have issues with in your Townhouse/Condominium, you will need to address those issues with your specific Board. By knowing your Board of Directors and when your meetings occur, you may address your concerns at that level. For example, most townhouse and condominium associations will have their own open space which many will call "common ground". Your localized (townhouse/condo) association owns the property and must maintain the area as a whole organization.

Most townhouse and condominium associations will have color schemes for specific homes and buildings. The Village does not have this information. You must contact your management company to ensure your correct color.

When it comes to applying for exterior changes to the property, the resident must apply with the townhouse/condominium association AND with the Village. When applying at the Village level, you must use the Village application. We do not have an online application. Our application is located on our website as a PDF. By using a PDF editor, you may fill out the application, save on your computer, and email the document to the Covenant Advisor, Anne McKissick. Or you may print, fill it out by hand, and submit to our office by mail or by dropping it off at our office during business hours or in our exterior mailbox. Anne will look at the application to ensure that it is complete. She will update you with a meeting date or with an approval letter.

That was a lot of information! As always, we are here to help our residents with any kind of information. If we can't help you, we will direct you to a source that might be able to help you. Please feel free to come visit us at the Village office. I can't tell you how many times residents have told us that they had no idea this building existed. We have events specifically for our residents only. We'd love to see you.

Upcoming Events



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

Staff will be here to consult and help with any questions regarding election procedures.

Ongoing acceptance of volunteers

Village Election on Saturday, April 20 for in-person voting

Absentee Balloting will take place from Thursday, March 28—Thursday, April 18, 2024. You may come to the Village Office to cast your Absentee Ballot or you may call the Village office to have one mailed to you. All Absentee ballots must be received by Thursday, April 18 before close of business which is 7pm. A black exterior mailbox located at the parking lot entrance door may be used to drop your sealed ballot in. The sealed ballot will be transferred to the ballot box. Only Election Committee members may open the ballot to verify voting qualifications and vote counting.

If the election is uncontested, no election will take place. Candidates who submitted a nomination petition will be automatically elected.

Shredding at Dorsey's Search

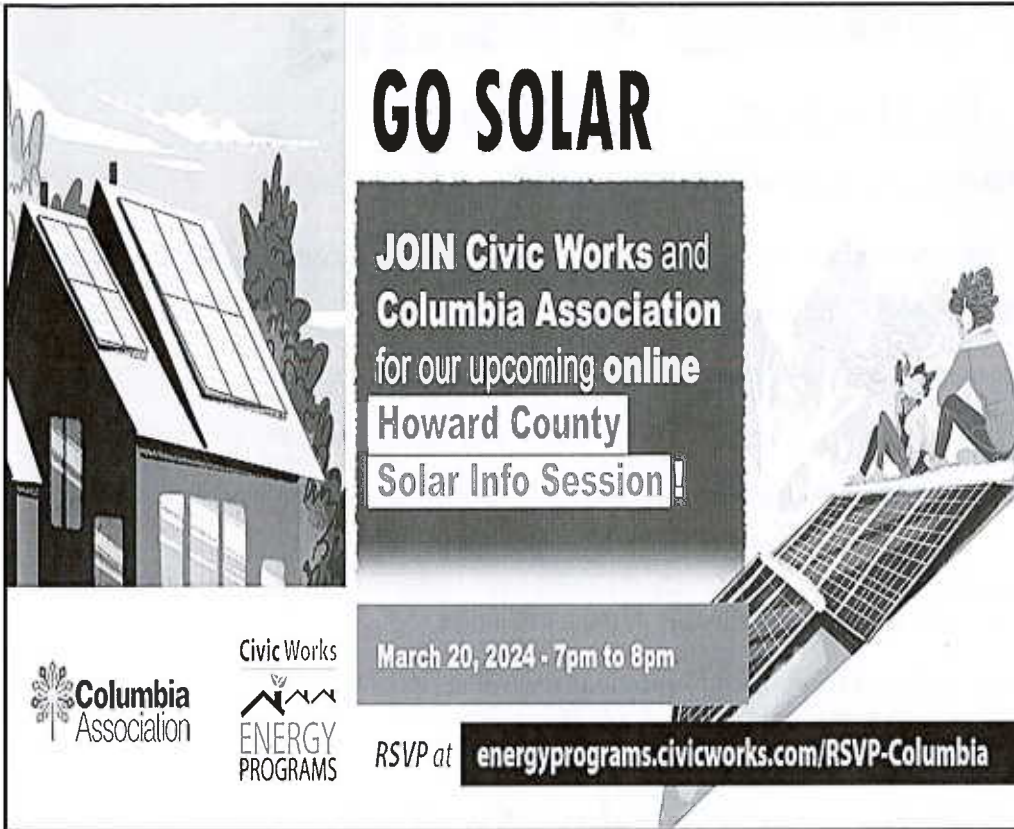
Saturday, May 11 from 9am—noon

Dorsey's Search Community Association/Linden Hall

4765 Dorsey Hall Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21042

The Village is sponsoring a paper document shredding event for our residents. You must be a resident of Dorsey's Search and you must show ID before you shred. Paper document shredding is for documents that have personal information. Junk mail which does not contain your name and address can be put in your recycling can. This is for residential use, not for commercial business.

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.



GO SOLAR

JOIN Civic Works and Columbia Association for our upcoming online Howard County Solar Info Session!

March 20, 2024 - 7pm to 8pm

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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.

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The **Village Election** will be held on Saturday, April 20, at Village Office/Linden Hall (located in the Dorsey's Search Village Center) with polling from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

There will be no election 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 available director positions for the term provided for in Article 8 of the Association's Articles of Incorporation.

Offices to be filled: There are two (2) open seats for Village Board of Directors. Candidates must be in compliance with the covenants. Each term will be two years, a term running from May 1, 2024 until April 30, 2026.

Who is eligible to vote: There is one vote per household and the property must be in compliance with the covenants. Must be a property owner or tenant (*tenants must have proof of residency, e.g. drivers license, utility bill, lease*) as of March 1, 2023. Please call the office to have an absentee ballot mailed to you. Your name will be matched to "The List of Members" as is stated in By-Law Section 1.08 List of Members. The ballot may be placed in our exterior mailbox, mailed, or brought to the office. All Absentee Ballots must be received by Thursday, April 18 at close of business.

Becoming a Candidate

Dorsey's Search property owners or renters may run for the a Village Board of Directors position. Candidates must be in compliance with the covenants. An Exterior inspection of your property will be made to ensure compliance to the Dorsey's Search Village Covenants. All candidates must pick up a Candidate Packet and complete the nomination petition which is contained in the packet. Please see election calendar for deadlines. The nomination petition must be signed by at least ten(10) residents and if the resident is a renter, proof of residency must be provided, such as a copy of drivers license, utility bill, or lease showing the address. These documents will be used by the Election Chairman to validate residency. It is a good idea to get more than ten signatures. Petitions must be returned to Linden Hall by the deadline that appears in the election calendar. Candidates are responsible for writing and submitting a candidate statement by the deadline.

Election Calendar 2024

Mon., Feb. 26, 2024

Candidate packets may be picked up at Village Office/Linden Hall during operating hours (see page 2 for hours)

Fri., Mar 1, 2024

Nomination petitions will be accepted starting on March 1, 2024.

Thu., Mar 21, 2024

Nomination petitions must be returned to the Village Office/Linden Hall by noon. (By-Law; Section 8.03—Nominations)

Mon., Mar. 25, 2024

Candidate Statements are due by noon. Statements must not exceed 150 words (By-Law; Section 8.04-Candidate's Statements)

**Thu., Mar. 28, 2024—
Thu., April 18, 2024**

Absentee ballots are available at Village Office/Linden Hall for Dorsey's Search residents. Absentee ballots may also be mailed to you. Please call the Village Office at 410-730-4005 to have one mailed to you. (By-Law; 8.07-Absentee ballots)

Tue., April 16, 2024

Candidate's Night 7:00pm, if the election is contested. Candidate's Night will be held at the Village Office located at Linden Hall.

Sat., April 20, 2024

Village Election polling (in-person) at Village Office/Linden Hall from 8am—1pm.

Absentee Ballots may be mailed to members upon request. No Absentee Ballots may leave the office unless the member requests it to be mailed to them. If you are a tenant, supporting documents must be viewed to ensure membership as stated in Article 6 in the Dorsey's Search Articles of Incorporation. As stated in Article 7—Section B, "such members will collectively be entitled to one vote relative to the lot, unit, share, membership or other interest, and if such members cannot jointly agree as to how that vote should be cast, no vote shall be allowed with respect to such lot, unit,".

Responsibilities of a Dorsey's Search Board member:

The primary responsibility of a **Board member** is that of an advocate. The following is a list of responsibilities:

- ⇒ Oversees the village budget
- ⇒ Hires and evaluates the Village Manager
- ⇒ Appoints standing and ad hoc committees and oversees their effectiveness
- ⇒ Attends one Board meeting per month on the second Wednesday at 7:00 pm
- ⇒ Develops and presents testimony to government agencies, e.g. HC Council, Columbia Council, Columbia Association, and state legislators (when needed).
- ⇒ Negotiates and complies with the management contract between the village and Columbia Association
- ⇒ Offers programs and services which help unite the community

Sharpshooting on County Open Space

Signs for Sharpshooting are posted at the entrances of the County pathways. Sharpshooting areas will be closed to the public from 3pm—midnight weather permitting. If you have any questions about the sharpshooting events, please visit the County website at:

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/natural-resources>

There are 5 dates listed on the website. Be aware of the dates and keep your pets secure.

Columbia Cleans

Every year the Columbia Villages and Columbia Association select a date for a Columbia Wide Clean Up. This year, the date is **Saturday, April 13 from 9am—noon**. We ask that volunteers sign up and help keep our public use areas clean. We have two routes which takes our volunteers onto County and CA pathways. The routes have one tot lot area which are apart of the cleanup. Maps will be given to participants at the starting point.

I am proud to say that our Village does a good job with keeping litter/trash off of our public use spaces. Trash can be found in the wooded areas just off of the pathways. The cause for trash can be from our neighbors upstream when we have heavy rainfall or animals getting into our trash or recycling cans and the wind takes it. Regardless of where we find trash, it is not good for wildlife, waterways, or our woods. Other ways to help with litter/trash is to have secure tight fitting lids on your cans. If you leave a trash bag with food scraps in it and it is NOT placed in a can, the birds or another type of animal will have that garbage strewn across the front of your property by the curb. Stormwater will take that garbage down the storm drain which leads into our beautiful wooded areas in our neighborhood. Of course we have clever wildlife, so on occasion we have garbage can incidents which we cannot control. Please clean up as soon as you can.

Please consider volunteering to help keep our area as litter and trash free as possible. You may email Nancy Meredith at nmeredith@dorseyssearch.org to sign up.

We start at the Dorsey Hall pool parking lot. Donuts, Coffee, and water will be available. As well as, a map of the routes, instructions, garbage bags, gloves, trash bags, and trash grabbers.

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>

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

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

Dorsey Hall Garden Club

"The soil is a gift of God to the living." Thomas Jefferson 1813

In the gray days of late winter while the garden is still silent and the sun stays late, there is a way to prod spring along. Many flowering shrubs and trees have already begun to form their tender buds and you can appreciate them weeks earlier, in the warmth and comfort of your home. To force a bloom along, all you need is a sharp pair of pruners, some heavy gardening gloves and a few strong budding branches from your yard.

When you go to look for prospects, you will see that many of these woody branches have already budded and are just waiting on the right conditions to burst into flower. By March, these plants have had the required dormancy period and are beginning to develop their buds in anticipation of the warm springtime weather.

Don't fret about pruning! Woody shrubs and trees often need pruning and your goal can be two-fold; to bring a flowering branch inside and nudge the bud to flower, as well as prune and shape your shrub or tree. Look for branches with many buds. The buds should be fully developed and round in shape. (Leaf buds will be thinner and spear shaped.) Make sharp, angular cuts. This prevents water from entering the branch. At the same time, you can prune out cross branches and branches that have grown inward which will improve the shape of the specimen. (Don't trim more than 1/3 of any tree or shrub.)

Once you bring your cuttings inside, cut them again and put them in warm water in a cool location, (60 to 65F if possible). Mist the branches a few times daily to prevent the buds from drying out. Some say to cut the stems underwater and add a floral preservative. In either case, be sure to change the water frequently to avoid unwanted bacteria from forming and interfering with the absorption of water by the branches. Keep the branches away from heat and out of direct sunlight. Once the buds begin to open, move the them into a brightly lit room. Keeping flowering branches out of direct sunlight will prolong the bloom period.

The time it takes to force the bud to open depends on several factors. The plant species itself and when it is cut. The Forsythias and the pussywillow only take one to three weeks to bloom inside. Apple and crabapple branches can take two to four weeks.

There are many options for forced budding. Pussy Willow branches last the longest. Other options are, Cherry, Forsythia, Redbud, Quince, Serviceberry, Star Magnolia, Crabapple, Pear and Plum trees and many more. I recommend taking cuttings over a few weeks to extend your floral project.

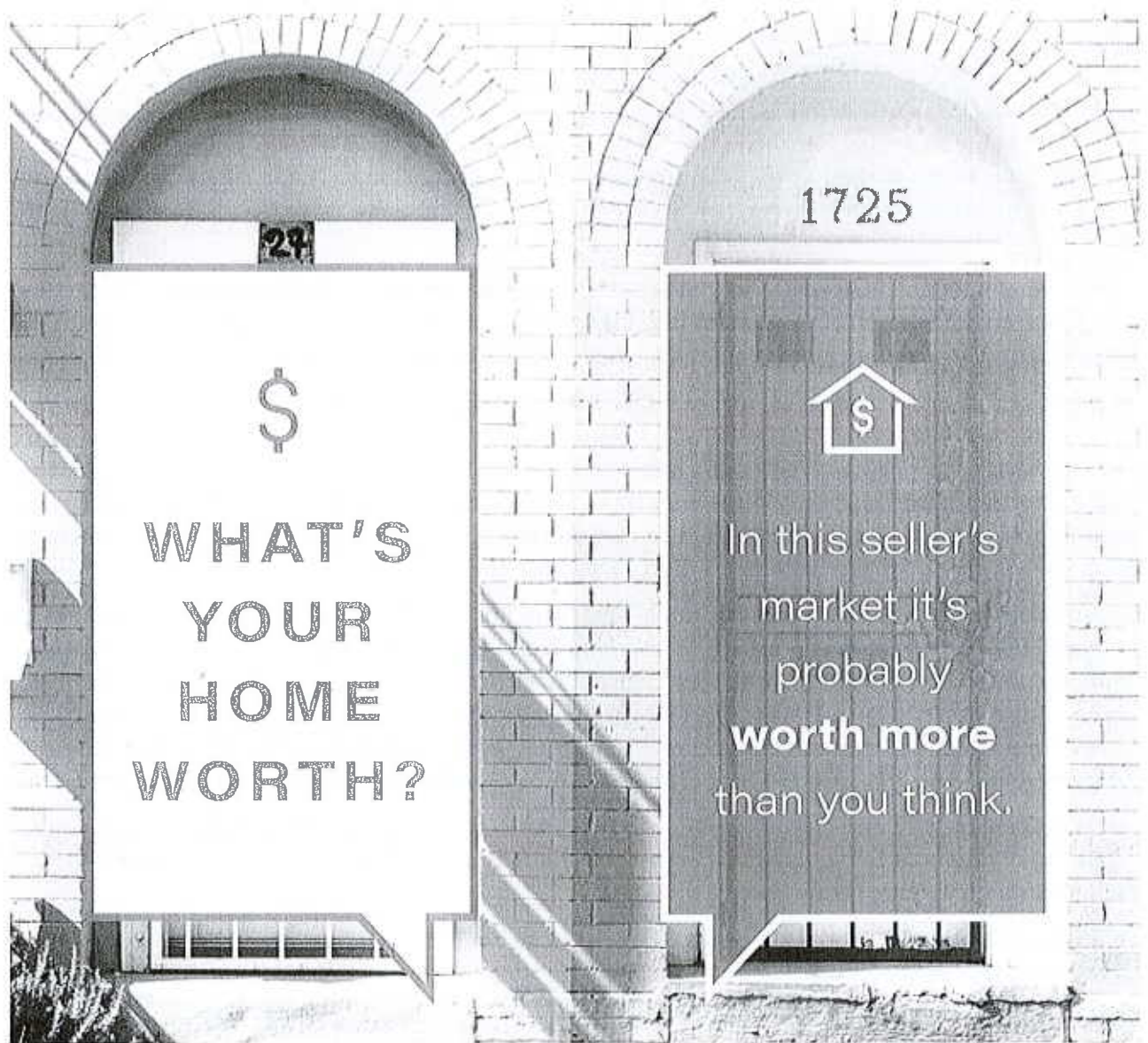
So, in the last days of winter while you anxiously await spring, watching each day for the first snowdrop or crocus, you can appreciate how satisfying forcing a few branches to bloom inside can be.

Joan Oliver, Dorsey Hall Garden Club



More information can be found at the University of Maryland Extension website.

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. Visit us on Facebook. New members are welcomed. Please email Karen Griffith at tgriff@hotmail.com



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