



OBserver

Official newsletter of the Owen Brown Community Association

6800 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD 21045

PUMPKIN PAINTING

Friday October 18th
1pm



School's out so Join us for an afternoon of Crafting and Snacks. Limited to OB Residents. This is a free event, however a ticket is required to paint a pumpkin.

Registration Opens October 1st



*Fall
Cookie
Decorating
with
Live & Love
Cakes*

\$13
per person

Join us for an evening of community and cookies! Learn decorating techniques to set your Holiday cookies apart from the rest.

WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 6TH
7PM

Ticket includes 3 cookies and all supplies for decorating with guided instruction



On Sale
October 7th



Limited to Owen Brown Residents Ages 8 and older. Minors must be accompanied by an adult

OB DATES TO REMEMBER

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| OB Board Meeting | Oct. 1, 7pm |
| OB RAC Meeting | Oct. 9, 7:30pm |
| OB Board Work Session | Oct. 15, 7pm |
| Pumpkin Painting at OB | Oct. 18, 1pm |
| Community Tree Planting | Oct. 26, 9am |
| OB Board Meeting | Nov. 5, 7pm |
| Fall Cookie Decorating | Nov. 6, 7pm |
| Paint Night | Nov. 13, 7pm |
| OB RAC Meeting | Nov. 13, 7:30pm |
| OB Board Work Session | Nov. 19, 7pm |
| Ornament Making | Nov. 20, 7pm |

OWEN BROWN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

Office Hours

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| Monday-Friday | 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. |
| Saturday | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon |

Village Office Staff

| | |
|---------------|--|
| | 410-381-0202 |
| Craig Barton | Village Manager |
| Susan Sloan | Covenant Advisor |
| Kelly Kalal | Facility Coordinator/ Event Planner |
| Nick Bechetti | Asst. Covenant Advisor |
| Kelly Carney | <i>OBserver</i> Editor |
| Joann Allen | Facility Assistant |

Village Board Members

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Brad Butler | Board Chair |
| Linda Ortiz-Byrd | Board Vice-chair |
| Robert Golibersuch | Board Member |
| Mae Beale | Board Member |
| Adil Ahmed | Board Member |

Check us out on the web and Facebook at:
www.owenbrownvillage.org
www.facebook.com/owenbrownvillage

OBCA BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

from the desk of Board Chair, Brad Butler

By the time you're reading this, it will officially be fall! Trees are already turning colors for the season.

This month's update is primarily administrative — the village approved quarterly financial statements, approved last year's tax forms (our fiscal year ended April 30th), and received a clean audit result. Our funding arrangement with CA requires an audit every three years.

We also approved a donation to Cradlerock Elementary PTA. We will consider a donation request from Talbott Springs ES PTA at our October 1st meeting. The majority of our small donation budget goes to supporting school-affiliated groups where Owen Brown kids attend.

CA let us know that they are finalizing plans to plant approximately fifty trees around Lake Elkhorn this Fall. The lake loop has lost numerous trees in recent years to age and disease, this will help fill in gaps and create more shade and scenic landscaping around the lake. Recent mowing between the boat ramp and the bridge removed invasive species in preparation for this project

Lastly, we're still working with the other villages and CA to reach a new funding agreement for the village association and building lease for the community center before the current agreement expires in April. We're making progress, I'll continue to provide updates as we get closer.

Owen Brown CARES*

*Community Action and Resources
for
Environmental Stewardship



Community Tree Planting

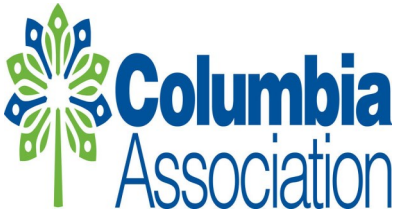
**Saturday, October 26, 2024
9 am**

**Dasher Green/Leafy Screen
Adopt A Spot**

Email Linda Byrd for more details@

Linda96ort@gmail.com





CA'S INVESTMENT IN LAKE AND WATERSHED MAINTENANCE IS A BUDGET PRIORITY FOR OWEN BROWN

From the desk of Michael Golibersuch, OBCA Columbia Council Representative

After not meeting in August, CA's Board of Directors met on September 12. The primary output of the meeting was the approval of annual goals which include:

- Completing a new five- year strategic plan
- Evaluating the management model of community and neighborhood centers
- Evaluating the option purchase CA's headquarters building (currently leased)
- Increasing communication and engagement by adding features to and improving CA's website
- Renewing CA's Natural Resource Stewardship Plan

I was disappointed that the Board chose not to include a training plan for Board Excellence as one of the objectives. CA's board - dating back years - has persistently struggled with its knowledge of CA's operations and governance acumen, sometimes substantively damaging CA's reputation or wasting community resources. I believe the Board can better guide CA and serve the community if it invests in its own development.

If you've visited Lake Elkhorn in the past month, you may

have noticed that it has not been looking its best. This situation is due to a confluence of events. In order to conduct maintenance on the spillway, the floodgate was opened to drain the lake. This significantly lowered water levels exposing large sediment deposits and raising massive amounts of aquatic vegetation to the surface. Unfortunately, this has coincided with a dry spell preventing the lake from refilling quickly and the stagnate warming water, in turn, contributed to a toxic algae bloom. Because of the algae bloom, it is unsafe for CA to operate the aqua mowers that would typically be harvesting some of the vegetation that is now so prominent. Much of this acute issue should be cleared up when we finally get some rain; however, I think it also highlights the importance of CA investing in lake and watershed maintenance and that will be a priority for me as we go into budget discussions. Remember, homeowners can play a role in lake health by installing rain gardens and limiting the use of fertilizers on your lawn.

As always, if you have any questions, I can be reached at michael.golibersuch@ca-board.org. And if you see a 40 something year old walking his brown and white dog around the lake, please stop me and say hi.

Holi-DIY Family Workshop
with
AR Workshop
Wednesday
November 20th
7pm

\$17
per person

Create a collection of Holiday Wood Ornaments at this festive and family-friendly event!
Each individual participant will need to be registered to take part of the fun.
All registered guests will make their own set of 6 ornaments (no sharing allowed, thank you!)
Minors must be accompanied by an adult.

On Sale
October 21st
Password
OBCA1120

Limited to Owen Brown Residents

BOARD MEMBER NEEDED

The Owen Brown Community Association seeks to fill an opening on its Board of Directors, with a term ending April 30, 2025.

Owen Brown residents may submit their interest or questions about the volunteer position to the Village Manager by email at manager@owenbrownvillage.org or by phone at 410.381.0202.



Owen Brown Community Association
6800 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD 21045
Office: 410-381-0202 Fax: 410-381-0235



Paint Night 

Nov 13
7pm

\$20
per person

LED Winter Wine Bottle
lights included

 **On Sale**
Oct 14th

LIMITED TO OWEN BROWN RESIDENTS
MINORS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

Decking the Halls
WITH
NATURAL MATERIALS

Let's get Crafty with the Master Gardeners.
Inspiration from the Grocery to the Garden to
bring the Warmth of the Holidays Home.

Thursday
November 21st
11am-12pm



Registration Opens
October 1st

Owen Brown Community Center
8800 Cradlerock Way
Columbia, MD 21045
410.381.0202

REGISTRATION REQUESTED NOT REQUIRED