

OBserver

Official newsletter of the Owen Brown Community Association

6800 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD 21045

Here's What's Happening at OBCA in October!

- The Village Board and the Executive Architectural Committee (EAC) are beginning their annual review of the Owen Brown Architectural Guidelines. Residents can submit any proposed change and/or addition to the Guidelines. Submissions should be emailed to manager@owenbrownvillage.org Visit our linktr.ee to view the current guidelines.
- OBCA board members will hold a Casual Meet-up with Cider and Donuts on Saturday, October 18 from 9:30-10:30am.
 Meet at the Lake Elkhorn Gazebo to chat with members about what's going on in OB.
- Also on Saturday, October 18 is the OB CARES adopt a spot.
 Meet by the trail on Leafy Green at 9am.
- We are excited for our two School's Out events- Pumpkin Painting on October 17 and Lego Classes on October 20.
- If you missed our HOA 101 Workshop in May, please come on October 28. Learn all the necessary covenant knowledge on being a homeowner in Owen Brown.
- We know that you love Owen Brown so much, we decided to do a
 photo contest. Selected photos will be used in a 2026 Owen Brown
 Calendar. We hope to see your beautiful pictures around Owen
 Brown. Submit by October 31!
- We look forward to seeing you at one of our events. To register visit https://linktr.ee/owenbrownvillage.



LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE



SO DO WE!



Submit your

favorite photo

of what you love

about living

here – the people, places and moments that make it We're making a calendar to celebrate Owen Brown, and we need your help!



All submissions due by Oct 31st



Selected photo winners will be featured in our 2026 Owen Brown Community

Calendar!

https://linktr.ee/owenbrownvillage

MONDAY OCTOBER 20TH AT THE OWEN BROWN COMMUNITY CENTER

SCHOOL'S OUT

WITH



Join us for workshops full of hands-on LEGO® learning and play.

EXPLORE HABITATS & POLLINATION 10AM-NOON



Workshops for ages 6-12

Registration

\$5 per child Each Class Each Workshop Requires
Registration
Limited to Owen Brown
Residents
All Children Must be
Accompanied by an Adult

\$5 per child Each Class



REDESIGN & PROTECT FROM WIND 1-3PM

Registration

Workshops for ages 6-12

6800 Cradlerock Way

410.381.0202

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Upcoming Dates at OBCA

October 8, 7:30 pm **OB RAC Meeting OB** Board Meeting October 14, 7 pm **Pumpkin Painting at OBCC** October 17, 1pm OB Casual Meet-up w/Board October 18, 9:30am October 18, 9am **OB** Cares Adopt a Spot School's Out Lego Workshops October 20, 10am,1pm October 21, 7 pm **OB Work Session OB RAC Meeting** October 22, 7:30pm **HOA 101** October 28, 7pm **OB** Board Meeting November 4, 7pm OB Casual Meet-up w/Board November 8, 9:30am Candles with Candy November 12, 6:30-8pm November 15, 9am-noon **OB Fall Shrub Giveaway**

Owen Brown Community Association, Inc.

Office Hours

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

410-381-0202 Village Office Staff

Ilana Sambuco-Paul Village Manager Susan Sloan Covenant Advisor

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Village Board Members

Brad Butler Board Chair Linda Ortiz-Byrd Board Vice-chair Mae Beale Board Member Adil Ahmed Board Member Vacant Board Member Michael Golibersuch CA Board Rep.





HOA 101

The OBCA Covenant Advisor will provide information on everything from architectural guidelines to applications and more! Great for residents who are just starting out in the HOA community or those in need of a refresher.

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OCTOBER 28TH



WHO DO I CALL?

Learn the differences between Howard County Government, Columbia Association and Individual HOA's



CAN I...?

Get a better understanding of our Architectural Guidelines and how to apply for those changes



PLEASE REGISTER

Scan the QR Code to register or visit https://linktr.ee/owenbrownvillage







OBCA Board Position OPEN

The Owen Brown Village Board is seeking qualified and dedicated individuals to serve on the Association's Board of Directors.

If you are an Owen Brown owner or resident interested in contributing to the future of our community, we encourage you to attend two board meetings to learn more about the role and responsibilities.

> Meetings are the first and third Tuesday of the month at the Owen Brown Community Center

Interested residents should email their letter of interest to the village manager.

manager@owenbrownvillage.org





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Owen Brown Board Bulletin, from the desk of Board Chair, Brad Butler

Happy Fall — I've enjoyed walking my kids to school in the beautiful weather lately, and watching the leaves turn.

The OBCA board had a busy month in September. We closed two architectural violation cases with the Columbia Association, approved our Q1 financials, and began planning our fall agenda to include architectural guideline updates, input to the CA and Howard County budgets, and negotiating an updated grant sharing formula with the other villages. You may recall in earlier updates that OBCA receives a much smaller per-capita grant from CA than most other villages - we hope to address that disparity through this update.

We also heard from the CA Capital Projects team and the CA Climate & Sustainability Committee. The Climate and Sustainability Committee provided some recommendations around resident communication and emergency preparedness, which you will see reflected in our social media messaging over time. These recommendations are based on a comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment prepared for CA in 2021, which is good reading if you are interested in understanding what risks CA is working to mitigate.

Columbia Association and Howard County, and BGE each have quite a bit planned for Owen Brown in the coming months. CA will be replacing the bridge/boardwalk at the east/upstream end of Lake Elkhorn this winter and replacing much of the signage around the lake this fall. The upgrades look amazing! Howard County will begin construction on Cradlerock Park behind the East Columbia Library, replacing the three multi-use fields there now with two higher quality fields, a playground, a basketball court, and other landscaping. Con-

struction on the first phase of pedestrian safety improvements on Cradlerock Way and a multi-use path along Dobbin Rd are in final design and planned to start in the Spring.

BGE is beginning public engagement on a project to add a circuit to the power line easement that runs roughly north/south through Long Reach, Owen Brown, and Kings Contrivance, including the paths/wetlands at the east/upstream end of Lake Elkhorn. If you live along the power line easement off Malindy Circle, Dasher Court, Angelina Circle, Hickory Limb, or Carved Stone, or if you use the pathways around that end of the lake regularly, this project will be important for you to follow. You may see survey work happening soon, but construction is likely more than a year away. OBCA and CA have met with BGE twice already and provided some input. They will continue to have public meetings. You can find more information by searching "BGE tricounty transmission upgrade."

Thank you to everyone who attended the ice cream social — we had a great turn-out! Our upcoming monthly board chair & CA rep meet-ups will be on October 18th and November 8th. Keep an eye on our social media for details. In November, we plan to combine this meet-up with a volunteer event to remove some invasive plants around the Lake Elkhorn boat ramp. I hope you'll join!

Lastly — The OBCA Board of Directors has an open seat. If you're interested in participating roughly twice a month, steering the community association's strategy and operations, and advocating on behalf of your neighbors, please attend a meeting to find out what it's like. We would love to have you!



Your place to find friendly reminders regarding property maintenance

Who do I contact?

Living in Columbia can sometimes be confusing when it comes to knowing who to contact. Most services that we rely on within our community are provided through Howard County government. Columbia Association oversees most of the pathways, lakes, play areas, pools and athletic facilities. Owen Brown Community Association enforces exterior property covenants on individual homes and businesses within the village.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the **Columbia Association Open Space areas**, you can contact CA Open Space directly by calling 410-312-6330 or by emailing Open.Space@ColumbiaAssociation.org.

Tell Hoco is a way for anyone in Howard County to report non-emergency issues while on-the-go, such as water main breaks, potholes, etc. Download the TellHoCoApp to your mobile phone or visit howardcountymd.gov/tell-hoco.





Owen Brown Community Association 6800 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD 21045



2025 FALL CLASSES & EVENTS



Register today! From tots to active adults, we have events and programs that are perfect for you and your child. Choose from exciting morning, afternoon and evening activities that fit your schedule.

410-313-7275 | HowardCountyMD.gov/rap











