



OBCA Happenings in October

OBCA has some fun October events planned for residents.

- October 3 kicks off events with our third Lego workshop with Maslow's Loom.
- If you registered for a shrub, please pick it up on October 10 from 9 am—12 pm.
- On October 16th, we have Pumpkin Painting. See ad for registration.
- On October 25, come Trick or Treat at OBCA and meet the board!

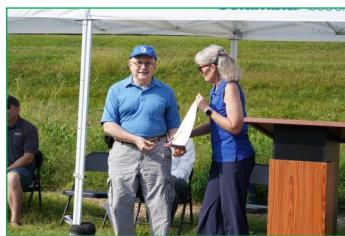
We hope to see you soon! To stay in the know for all things Owen Brown, please follow our socials or subscribe to our newsletter by visiting linktr.ee/owenbrownvillage.

Andy Stack's Dedication- celebrating 44+ years of service

Many of you joined us on September 17th to celebrate the dedication of the new pollinator garden at Lake Elkhorn in Andy Stack's honor. It meant a great deal to have Delegate Guzzone join us with a certificate of recognition, along with one from Councilwoman Rigby. Also in attendance, current and former CA leadership and many dedicated volunteers who've worked with Andy over the years, all honoring his legacy.



Above: Andy's sign by Pollinator Garden. Left: Andy Stack and his wife Diane Stack. Below: Delegate Guzzone presented Andy Stack with a certificate of recognition at the Dedication. (Photo courtesy of CA)





LITTLE GHOULS, BIG GHOULS & EVERYONE IN BETWEEN WELCOME!

MEET & TREATS

★ TRICK-OR-TREAT & MEET THE BOARD!

Registration



Preferred

**Opens
Sept 13th**

OCT 25TH | 1PM-2:30PM

OWEN BROWN COMMUNITY CENTER

LIMITED TO OWEN BROWN RESIDENTS

School's out, so let's celebrate!
Come for the treats, stay to
trick out some pumpkins!

PUMPKIN PAINTING



**Friday October 16th
1pm**

**Registration Opens
September 21st**

This is a free event, however a ticket is required to paint a pumpkin.
Limited to OB Residents.





Owen Brown
Community Association

OBCA Meetings & Events

Lego Workshop	Oct. 3, 10 am
OB Board Meeting	Oct. 6, 7 pm
OB Cares Fall	
Shrub Pick up	Oct. 10, 9 am –noon
OB RAC Meeting	Oct. 14, 7:30 pm
Pumpkin Painting	Oct. 16, 1 pm
OB Work Session	Oct. 20, 7 pm
Meet and Treat	
with the Board,	Oct. 25, 1-2:30 pm
OB RAC Meeting	Oct. 28, 7:30 pm
OB Board Meeting	Nov. 3, 7 pm
OB RAC Meeting	Nov. 11, 7:30 pm
OB Work Session	Nov. 17, 7 pm

Owen Brown Board Bulletin

From the desk of Board Chair, Brad Butler

School has started and Fall has begun, but at the time of writing Summer weather has been stubbornly persistent around Owen Brown! A few updates that may interest you...

The Cradlerock Way Complete Streets project is underway. Crews are starting work after school drop-off to minimize disruption, with rolling sidewalk detours expected through completion. This is only phase 1, and is the result of tireless advocacy to improve pedestrian safety in our village. Thanks to everyone who has supported and advocated for this project, please keep it up!

At Cradlerock Park, most paths have reopened — the exception is the through-path to the library and 50+ Center, closed for the duration of construction. We've invited the project team to October's board meeting to discuss tree planting and are awaiting confirmation; we'll share details once confirmed.

Mike's update on the opposite page covers two capital projects headed our way this winter — the Lake Elkhorn bridge replacement and expanded restroom access around the lake — take a look for the details and timeline. The bridge replacement will provide a wider path and more seating, but will require a long detour during construction.

CA also sought board input on its plans to make a few sustainability investments around the community — likely tree plantings and a few more educational signs similar to what you see at the new pollinator garden at the Lake.

As Owen Brown staff work to make operations more efficient and effective, our board is doing the same with our own Policies & Procedures, including a few procedural updates to the Election Committee's hand-book. The last time we took a close look at these documents was 2021, so it is time for a routine update. I'll share more details as they solidify.

As always, reach out anytime at obvillageboard@googlegroups.com — even just to say hello. I look forward to sharing another update soon!



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Capital Projects Planned to Upgrade and Improve Lake Elkhorn Walkways and Facilities

From the desk of Michael Golibersuch, OBCA Columbia Council Representative

The Columbia Association Board of Directors did not meet in September but there are still some noteworthy updates. There are several capital construction projects planned in Owen Brown, as well as an event which honored a community leader.

The first of the capital projects is the renovation of the bridge over the east inlet of Lake Elkhorn. The current bridge will be almost entirely rebuilt with a custom design. It will maintain low (compared to other CA bridges) railings made of timber while the decking will be upgraded to the newer non-slip material. The new bridge will also be wider with an expanded observation deck with additional benches. The construction is tentatively planned for this winter and will make that crossing unusable for as long as three months depending on weather. CA will be notifying the school system of the impact this could have on students who walk from Hopewell to Lake Elkhorn Middle School.

CA is also working on expanded bathroom access around Lake Elkhorn. New porta pots will be installed near the Lake Elkhorn playground off of Cradlerock Way. CA has also completed a design that will convert the low-use office at the Lake Elkhorn pavilion into a winterized bathroom that will be accessible year-round. The construction for that winterized bathroom will not take place until FY28 at the earliest but, in the meantime, CA will place temporary porta-

ta-pots by the pavilion when the existing bathrooms need to be shut down for the winter.

Other planned capital projects include resurfacing of the parking lot for Owen Brown Community Center/Dasher Green Pool, new benches and other minor adjustments to the area between Sonoma's and the Cradlerock underpass, and improvements to the Lake Elkhorn boat ramp that is needed to facilitate lake maintenance.

If you have walked around Lake Elkhorn recently, you've certainly noticed the new walkable bioretention pond and pollinator garden on the west end of the lake beneath the dam. I've been happy to see people taking advantage of those new benches and enjoying that new feature of our open space. On September 17th, CA officially dedicated that garden to Andy Stack who served on either the Village or CA Board for 44 consecutive years. Andy didn't just show up either – he was a fountain of knowledge, experience, and composure and the decisions he made over those decades helped shaped our community into what it is today. Dedicating the garden is a fitting tribute to his service.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at michael.golibersuch@ca-board.org or stop me to say hello as I walk my brown-and-white dog (who looks like a border collie but isn't) around Lake Elkhorn.



Your place to find friendly reminders regarding property maintenance

Fall is coming, and with it comes falling leaves!

As a reminder, leaves should be raked into paper bags and placed out with your recycling for collection. Leaves and other yard waste placed in plastic bags will not be picked up.

Also, per Howard County, please do not blow or rake leaves into the street. Leaves can clog storm drains, potentially causing drainage issues, and leaving them in the street creates an inconvenience for your neighbors.

Thank you for helping keep our streets and community clean and safe this fall!

Watershed Wise from the WRAP: Keep Leaves Out of the Storm Drain

Fallen leaves are great for improving your soil, but leaves that wash into streets can clog storm drains and contribute to localized flooding. Storm drains also carry water—and anything in it—directly to our streams, lakes, and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay.

As leaves break down in waterways, they release nutrients that can contribute to algae blooms, reducing oxygen levels and harming aquatic life.



Instead of letting leaves wash into the street, use them as mulch beneath trees and shrubs or in your garden. You can also add them to your compost bin or place them in paper bags for collection at the Alpha Ridge yard waste area. If you live near a storm drain, volunteer to keep it clear or take turns with neighbors to check it regularly. Remove leaves before and after storms.



Love Where You Live



Saturday

October 17 9am-Noon

Owen Brown CARES

Community Action and Resources
for Environmental Stewardship

Meet at the
Lake Elkhorn Path &
Boat Ramp



Lake Elkhorn Adopt-A-Spot #2

Fall Clean-Up

Open to All Residents

Dress appropriately, close toe shoes
and bring your gloves as well as water.
There is poison ivy around, so wear
long sleeves and pants.

Interested in joining us or have any questions
contact: Linda Ortiz-Byrd @ Linda96ort@gmail.com

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



Owen Brown Community Association
Scan Here for our E-Newsletter

owenbrownvillage.org

CELEBRATE THE SPOOKY SEASON

with Howard County Recreation & Parks!

- Autumn LEGO Train Garden: Oct 3 - Nov 1
- Truck or Treat: Oct 10
- The Haunted Experience: Oct 16, 17, 23, 24
- Happy Haunted Hayride: Oct 18 & 25
- Marvel Movie Madness: Oct 17
- Floating Pumpkin Patch: Oct 24
- Halloween Tricks, Treats & Trees: Oct 24 & 25
- Haunted Hallways: Oct 30
- Museum After Dark – Ellicott City Station Museum Evening Tours: Oct 24 & 31



For prices, times, locations, and to register, scan the QR code
or visit tinyurl.com/SpookySeasonHCRP.

Howard County
Recreation & Parks



BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY EVENTS NOW!

Whether you're hosting a corporate holiday party or sleighing your family celebration, we have the perfect room for you!

Rental Information

rentals@owenbrownvillage.org

6800 Cradlerock Way
Columbia, MD 21045
410.381.0202

Rental Rates

Dasher Green 70 (64 seated guests)	
Mon-Fri	5 hrs, \$600. Add'tl hrs \$105.
Sat-Sun	5 hrs, \$650. Add'tl hrs \$115.
Hopewell 100 (96 seated guests)	
Mon-Fri	5 hrs, \$650. Add'tl hrs \$115.
Sat-Sun	5 hrs, \$700. Add'tl hrs \$125.
Business Meetings 25 (seated guests)	
Mon-Fri	\$50 per hour