



DEB'S DISTRICT UPDATE

Deb Jung • District Four

ful fall

friends I have known since college. I'm lucky that a group of us settled in the area and we have stayed close for many decades. I hope you are taking advantage of the warm fall weather and enjoying outdoor activities, whether its biking, hiking, boating, walking, skating, or just hanging out. I think the pandemic has reminded us all of the pleasures of being outside and appreciating our natural environment.

Daylight is waning, and I'm sure that many of us are trying to find time to see friends and family one more time before the weather becomes too cold for socially distant outdoor gatherings. I celebrated a beautiful fall days last week by taking a kayak trip on the Potomac with



If you haven't voted by mail, the polls are open every day this week, including Saturday, Sunday, and Monday from 7am to 8pm. I voted early on Monday at Wilde Lake High School around 6pm. It took only about 15 minutes. Everything was well organized, everyone wore masks, all of the machines were properly distanced, and tape was on the floor to keep us at least six feet apart. It did feel good to vote and I am sure if you are reading this newsletter, I don't need to remind you to go exercise your franchise. Pundits are predicting a 65% turnout, the highest in a century. Looks like we will be making history with our votes this year!

Finally, for those of you with children who will be trick-or-treating, have fun and stay safe. If you are giving out candy, consider putting it in individual little bags on your front porch so the kids don't have to put their hands in a basket. Looks like it will be cool on Saturday, so dress warmly and bring a flashlight. One last reminder, daylight saving time ends on Sunday, November 1 at 2am, so don't forget to turn back your clocks and enjoy that extra hour of sleep!

Deb

Subscribe to my newsletter [here](#).

County Council Updates



Bills/Legislation

be informed...

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER LEGISLATION

The following is noteworthy legislation voted on October 5.

MY LEGISLATION

CR50 LEED Standards for Bird-Safe Buildings:

This is a technical correction to my bill requiring new construction to use bird-safe building designs. The original bill made Howard County the first jurisdiction in Maryland to require these important bird-safety designs. PASSED

COUNCILMEMBERS' LEGISLATION

CR142 Racial Equity Task Force: PASSED AS AMENDED

CR143 "Fight For \$15" Minimum-Wage Resolution: This legislation encouraged the state to continue the gradual raising of the minimum wage. PASSED

CB51 Prohibition of the Detention Center to Accept ICE Detainees: I voted in favor of ending the contract with ICE as I believe that we should not be adding ICE detainees to our

Howard County prison population during a pandemic. PASSED, VETOED BY COUNTY EXECUTIVE.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S LEGISLATION

CR110 Planning Advisory Committee Ap-

pointments: The County Executive appointed a citizen advisory group in advance of the General Plan that will assist in developing and identifying themes and reviewing data and recommendations that will be presented in the plan. During the Worksession on September 23, I suggested that the Committee needed more representation from school stakeholders and that Board of Education member Vicky Cutroneo should be added to the group. Amendment 2, which successfully passed, added Ms. Cutroneo as well as a designee of the Howard County Education Association. It is important that there is significant input from the school community to better coordinate land-use and school-capacity planning. PASSED AS AMENDED

Council Legislation: Click [here](#).

New Legislation

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-LEGISLATION

The following is noteworthy legislation introduced on October 5.

MY LEGISLATION

CB55 County Executive to provide fiscal analysis for specified legislation:



from the bill's sponsor will help inform the deliberation process.

In Montgomery County, the Office of Management & Budget supplies fiscal notes to the County Executive's bills and in Frederick County the Deputy Director of Finance provides analysis. This was originally proposed as a Charter Amendment (CR102-2020) but it failed on a 3-2 vote, needing four votes to appear on the 2020 General Election ballot.

CB57 Recommendations to be removed from the Technical Staff Reports:

I co-sponsored this legislation with Councilmember David Yungmann in an effort to make the Zoning Regulation Amendment (ZRA) process more deliberative for the Planning Board and for the Council. By removing the required recommen-

dation, the Department of Planning and Zoning is no longer responsible for taking a position on the petition and instead can give pros and cons to aid the appropriate decision-making body. I've also sponsored an amendment that requires the Technical Staff Reports to include specific requirements, which would, among other things, include an analysis of the petition's effect on the environmental policy goals of the General Plan.

OTHER COUNCILMEMBERS' LEGISLATION

CB56 APFO exemption removal for Turf Valley Development:

Councilmember Liz Walsh proposed this bill, which would remove the exemption that the Turf Valley development received from the school and roads tests required of most new subdivisions in the County. The zoned schools, especially the elementary school, for the phased development are at or near 100% capacity and are expected to exceed the capacity thresholds by 2024. With the removal of the exemption, some planned units will be required to wait in the school bin until new school capacity is added or until the maximum wait period is reached.



UPCOMING COUNCIL SCHEDULE

- November 2, 7pm — Legislative Session
- November 9, 1pm — Monthly Meeting
- November 11 — Office Closed, Veteran's Day
- November 16, 7pm — Legislative Public Hearing
- November 23, 9:30am — Legislative Work Session
- November 26-27 — Office Closed, Thanksgiving

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S LEGISLATION

TAO1-2021 Transfer of \$54,652,000 from contingency to the New Cultural Center:

This is one of the most expensive and ambitious projects that the current Council has been presented with since its installation. The project is also tied to an affordable housing project that secured Federal and State aid prior to introduction of the project in the FY2021 Capital Budget. The Council held multiple Worksessions on this project during the FY2021 Budget sessions that generated many questions about the financial viability of the primary private tenant, the annual operating costs that surpass revenues, and the timing of the project in relationship to other affordable housing-amenities projects stipulated in the Downtown Columbia DRRA. In an effort to give the project more vetting time, I introduced an amendment to put the funds into contingency. In June, I wrote a letter to the County Executive and to the Director of the Downtown Columbia Housing Corporation requesting standard documents that would be expected for any project when assessing financial risks and liabilities. Over the summer, housing advocates held three workgroups to introduce the project to the public but no new documents were produced to Councilmembers. Prior to the filing of this Legislation, the County Executive's policy director began working with me and Councilmember Yungmann on our requests and concerns. Another Worksession was held on October 26 to discuss new information but the NCC agenda item required re-

scheduling because we weren't able to cover it in the allotted time. I continue to receive the requested documents from the Administration and am working to complete my analysis.

CB53 Turf Valley Elementary School land purchase of \$6 million:

A 10-acre parcel in the Turf Valley development will be purchased by the County. In 2018, a letter of intent stated that the parcel would be 15 acres for the same sale price. HCPSS also currently owns 41 acres on Marriottsville Road and Route 40 that was part of a 2007 land swap. The parcel has no current school development plans though HCPSS Planning Department did indicate that the parcel is being considered for a future middle school site. This was discussed in detail at the October 26 Worksession. I have asked the school district for its analysis of the viability of the 41 acre parcel for school use, as well as the proposed 10-acre purchase.

CR151 BOE Capital Budget request FY2022:

This resolution is needed to enable the BOE to request State funding for proposed Capital projects. An amendment was pre-filed representing a recent BOE vote adding High School #14 (Troy Park) and ES #44 (West Columbia) to the FY2022-2031 Long-Range Master Plan. I testified in front of the BOE during their Capital Budget public hearing on the need for reinstating ES#44 into the Long-Range Master Plan. I'm grateful to the BOE for making this critical inclusion so that West Columbia is on track to address increasing capacity issues.

Election 2020

VOTE IN PERSON

EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

Any Howard County voter can cast an in-person ballot at one of the following locations during early voting (October 26 to November 2, 7am-8pm).

- Marriotts Ridge High School
- Meadowbrook Athletic Complex
- Long Reach High School
- Wilde Lake High School
- Reservoir High School

ELECTION DAY VOTING CENTERS

Any Howard County voter can cast a ballot at any vote center listed below on Election Day (November 3, 7am to 8pm).

- Lisbon Elementary
- Glenelg High School
- Marriotts Ridge High School
- Mount Hebron High School
- Centennial High School
- Meadowbrook Athletic Complex
- Howard High School
- Elkridge Landing Middle School
- Long Reach High School
- Oakland Mills High School
- Wilde Lake High School
- River Hill High School
- Atholton High School
- Reservoir High School
- Hammond High School
- Patuxent Valley Middle School
- Laurel Woods Elementary School

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Early Voting – October 26, 2020 – November 2, 2020, 7am-8pm
- Election Day – November 3, 2020, 7am-8pm

VOTE BY MAIL

Vote-by-mail ballots have been delivered to those who requested ones in advance. Requesting a ballot does not prevent you from voting in-person.

BALLOT RETURN OPTIONS

You have the following options for returning your completed ballot. **Make sure your oath is signed on the return envelope or the ballot will not count:**

- Use the postage-paid envelope to return it to the Howard County Board of Elections.
- Drop off the completed ballot in an official Ballot Box.
- Hand deliver your ballot to the Howard County Board of Elections, an Early Voting location, or an Election Day Voting Center.

BALLOT BOX LOCATIONS

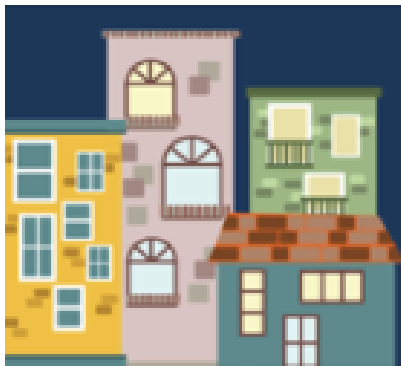
Ballot drop-off boxes will be available from September 23 to November 3rd, 8pm. Drop off boxes are monitored and secured by trusted election officials and ballots are retrieved from the boxes at least twice daily by election officials. The drop off boxes are not property of the U.S. Postal Service.



Howard County COVID Updates

The Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) is extending the deadline to apply for 2020 Homeowners' and Renters' Property Tax Credits to October 31. These tax credits, including the Homestead Tax Credit, help residents feel more safe and secure in their homes, especially as we endure the current COVID-19 pandemic.

I encourage residents to apply for these important relief opportunities today at <https://bit.ly/3I5X0QL>



Homeowners' and Renters' Property Tax Credit Program Application Extended

To apply and learn more about beneficial tax credits, please contact:

● **Homeowners' Property Tax Credit Program:**

- sdattaxcredits@maryland.gov
- 410-767-4433

● **Homestead Property Tax Credit Program:**

- sdattaxcredits@maryland.gov
- 410-767-4433

● **Renters' Property Tax Credit Program:**

- sdattaxcredits@maryland.gov
- 410-767-4433

*Deadline extended to
October 31st*



Calvin Ball
Howard County Executive



Howard County COVID-19 Rental Assistance

- **CARES Act to County**
 - \$800,000 – July 5, 2020
 - \$800,000 – October 5, 2020
- **CDBG-CV from HUD**
 - \$770,356 – July 5, 2020
 - \$1,216,581 – Tentatively November 16, 2020 (Grantees to be determined)
- **CDBG-CV from MD DHCD**
 - \$2,000,000 – Application submitted to State on 9/30/20
- **CARES Act - Rental Assistance Grants to 6 nonprofits in June – Application opened 7/5/20**
- **As of 10/12/20, \$800,000 to 248 households to pay up to 3 months of past due rent. Avg. assistance per household \$3,225.**
- **CARES Act – Rental Assistance Grants to 3 nonprofits in Sept. – Application opened 10/5/20**
- **CDBG-CV – Rental Assistance Grants to HC Housing Commission & Bridges to Housing Stability in June**
- **As of 10/16/20, \$136,403 to 51 households to pay up to 3 months of past due rent. Avg. assistance per household \$2,675.**
- **CDBG-CV – Rental Assistance Grant to CAC to help 290 households pay up to 6 months of past due rent - Avg. assistance per household \$6,713.**



Community Action Council
of Howard County
HELPING PEOPLE. CHANGING LIVES.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
Head Start & Pre-K



Pre-school for eligible Howard County children age 3-5

FREE!

APPLY NOW!

Visit www.CAC-HC.ORG for more details and an application
Applications can be emailed to selswick@cac-hc.org
Don't have email? We can help over the phone: 410-313-6440

If your child is age 3-5 you may qualify for **FREE** Head Start classes or Pre-K.

Income guidelines/requirements will apply.

Income limits are higher if your family is larger. Kids with disabilities and/or IEPs are encouraged to apply. Foster care and/or children experiencing homelessness are automatically qualified.



Space is limited.
Don't delay!

Documents needed to apply:

- CAC universal application packet
- **Child's proof of age**
birth certificate, baptismal record, passport, medical records
- **Income Verification for Last 12 months**
Tax Return, W-2, Pay stubs, or other proof
- **Proof of Howard County residency**
Lease, utility bill, deed
- **Proof of custody or legal guardianship (if applicable)**
- **Child's medical information**
- **Child's insurance card**

CAC's Mission: To diminish poverty, enable self-sufficiency and advocate for low-income families and individuals.

Early Childhood Education * Energy Assistance * Food Assistance * Housing Assistance

www.cac-hc.org

Behind on your energy bills?

WE CAN HELP.



Giving you more time to pay



No up-front payments



Connecting you with assistance options



Don't wait.
CONTACT US NOW.

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County News

MIHU APPLICATIONS OPEN NOW

Deadline October 30

Home ownership is possibility for all County residents through the Moderate Income Housing Unit (MIHU) program. Applications are being accepted for the 2020 open enrollment period. To qualify, an applicant's household income may not exceed 80% of Howard County's median income (example: maximum \$92,461 for a four-person household). Click [here](#) for more.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS GRANT FUNDING

The Howard County Board Elections received a \$700,000 grant to assist with the increased costs of the upcoming general election during the pandemic. The Board will use the funds for PPE in polling places. The grant was made possible by the Center for Tech and Civic Life and a donation from Priscilla Chan and Mark Zuckerberg.

HOCO RISE EMERGENCY GRANTS

Applications Requested

HoCo RISE Covid-19 Artist Relief Funds are available for individual artists adversely affected by COVID-19. Other HoCo RISE grants are available for arts organizations and have a submission deadline of the first day of each month. Grant funds will be awarded through December 2020 or until total funding is distributed. Click [here](#) for more.

VIVIAN C. "MILLIE" BAILEY NEIGHBORHOOD SQUARE

The Vivian C. "Millie" Bailey Park opened in Downtown Columbia with a front-row view of Lake Kittamaqundi. The new park has a playground and will be the future site of the Howard County Veteran's Monument. The park's 102-year-old name-sake was the first African-American female U.S. pilot, serving in the U.S. Army in World War II, and was a 1943 graduate from the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps Training Center in Fort Des Moines, Iowa. She served in the Women's Colored Detachment in several military installations in the U.S. She was also

one of only two African American women in the Adjutant General School, Officers' Administration Course, November-December 1944 and graduated with a superior rating; it was the only time she served in a non-segregated environment during her military career.

Since she arrived in Columbia, Ms. Bailey has been a well-respected community leader: a member of American Legion Post 156 and a dedicated volunteer and fundraiser at Running Brook Elementary School. She also has been recognized by the Community Action Council of Howard County with the 2018 Reverend John W. Holland Humanitarian Award for her lifelong commitment to serving others.



COLUMBIA FLIER BUILDING

The County is seeking Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the sale of the property. Prior to the RFP, the County held a community meeting and a survey soliciting feedback from the community on the repurposing of the building. The survey indicated that future owners should value the history of the building, prioritize sustainability, and provide a benefit to the community.

HoCo BY DESIGN: GENERAL PLAN UPDATES

HoCo By Design is providing several engagement opportunities for residents to provide input and identify community priorities for maintaining and improving the County's quality of life. This is a once in a decade opportunity to shape how the County grows and responds to changing demographics and regional shifts.

Click [here](#) to access upcoming dates, event recordings, and meeting presentations.

BYOQ! Bring Your Own Questions: On October 21, the project team held a community discussion about concerns and priorities.

Community Ideas Exchange Workshop: A virtual 3-D interactive workshop will provide community members an opportunity to give input on different planning themes, development choices, design considerations, and more. This workshop will be open 24:7 through the month of November. More details coming soon.

BLOOD DONATIONS NEEDED



The American Red Cross now faces a severe blood shortage due to an unprecedented number of blood drive cancellations in response to the coronavirus outbreak. Healthy individuals are needed now to donate to help patients counting on lifesaving blood. Click [here](#) for more.

PRE-SUBMISSION COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Maple Lawn West — November 9, 6pm. Request to increase density for additional residential units to increase to 473 units. Click [here](#) for more.

Patuxent Commons — November 5, 6:30pm. Request for a residential project located at Cedar Lane and Freetown Road. Click [here](#) for more.

HOWARD COUNTY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Applications are being accepted for the following:

Board of Social Services — November 13

Pension Oversight Commission — October 30

Email [here](#) for more information.

Get involved.



School News

SCHOOL REOPENING

The Board of Education will be discussing reopening plans during the following Worksessions. Click [here](#) for more.

- November 5, 4pm
- November 19, 4pm

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

The Board of Education voted to keep School Resources Officers in HCPSS schools. Following this decision, the Howard County Government and HCPSS will hold focus groups in October for school and community stakeholders to provide input. A public town hall will follow in November. The Board of Education will also issue a report on School Resource Officers in Schools in September. Click [here](#) for more.

Virtual Town Hall

- November 12, 6:30–8pm, members of the public will have an opportunity to share views about SROs during a moderated virtual town hall.

HIGH SCHOOL #14

Troy Park has been selected as the preferred site for High School #14. The HCPSS Superintendent and BOE will convene the Site Review Committee to move the project forward. High School #14 is included in the FY2021 HCPSS Long-Range Master Plan.

Happy 50th Anniversary

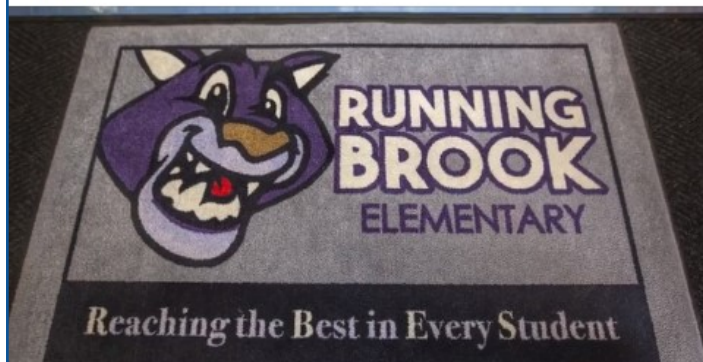
Longfellow Elementary has been a place where all students feel a sense of belonging, can discover the world around them, and nurture a lifelong love of learning. For 50 years, one thing has never changed at Longfellow – it's always had passionate teachers, incredible staff, and dedicated administrators who ensure students are PROUD; Persistent, Resilient, Optimistic, Unique, and Determined.

Congratulations to Principal Anderson, Assistant Principal Jackson, PTA President Brooke Dalesio, our educators, students, and the entire Soaring Eagles community on 50 years of Longfellow!



Running Brook Elementary School is a loving place, that values each student and fosters an incredible environment in which to grow and thrive. It's a place where each student has the support they need to reach their full potential and develop their unique talents and abilities. For 50 years, it has remained a place where you will find passionate teachers, incredible staff, and dedicated administrators who are always striving to reach the BEST in every student.

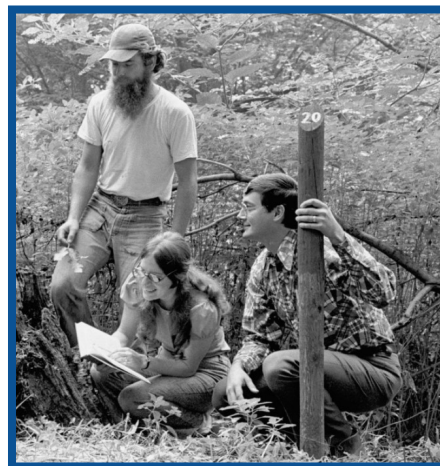
Congratulations to Principal Esposito, Running Brook PTA, our students, educators, and entire Panther community on 50 years of excellence!



Community News

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY HCC

I am grateful for the half century that Howard Community College has been a fundamental educational resource right in the heart of Columbia. The College provides a supportive environment to so many in the community, from summer campers, including my daughter, and dual enrollment high schoolers to traditional scholars and enrichment learners. Keep up the great work, President Kathleen Hetherington and HCC's faculty, staff, and trustees." Click [here](#) for more about the College's history and 50th celebration.



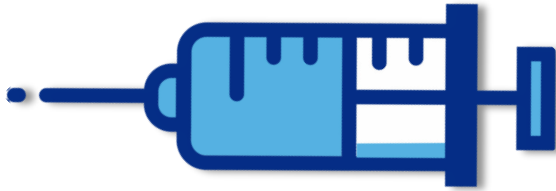
Food on the 15th



A food donation campaign that includes student volunteers has received the William Donald Schaefer Helping People Award from the Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot. Volunteers collect donated non-perishables and deliver the groceries each month to low-income seniors in Howard County.

Get Your Flu Shot with Neighbor Ride

Howard County residents who are 60 years of age can call Neighbor Ride for door-to-door transportation to flu shot providers. Click [here](#) for more.



Leaves, Leaves Everywhere!

Now that fall is here, your yard may be blanketed in beautifully colored leaves. What's the best thing to do with all those leaves? Check out the many great options below! What shouldn't you do? Do not dump leaves, grass clippings or other landscaping waste into a storm drain inlet or a stream. Why? This is both bad for water quality and is considered an illicit discharge and a violation of County Code. Discarding landscaping waste into a storm drain inlet can clog pipes and lead to flooding (even in your own yard). The decaying process of yard trim can also lead to depleted oxygen levels in our streams and water bodies.

What are my options for leaves/grass clippings?

- ✓ Grasscycle/Mulch leaves and let them lie
- ✓ Compost in your backyard
- ✓ Participate in a Rake and Take Program
- ✓ Utilize curbside yard trim collection
- ✓ Drop-off at the Alpha Ridge Landfill Wood Waste Area



Want more details? Visit [our website](#) or call 410-313-6444

Out in the Community



As always, the annual **Fall Farm and Conservation Day**, sponsored by the Howard Soil Conservation District, Howard County Economic Development Authority, and Howard County Farm Bureau, was a huge success. Four local farms, each specializing in a different type of farming, welcomed us to show how they are adapting to constantly changing economic and environmental conditions. **Brendel Farms** gave us a tour of their grain and beef cattle operation. **Heron's Meadow Farm/BL Teas**, Maryland's first and only tea farm, educated us about this unique agricultural industry, agricultural tourism, and conservation practices. **Frank's Produce** in Sykesville introduced

their fruit and vegetable operation and explained a very large-scale pond rebuild. Ponds have gotten very high-tech these days. Finally, we visited **Manor Hill Brewing** in Ellicott City, which is Howard County's first, and Maryland's largest, on-farm brewery. We discussed the challenges and opportunities with starting a new on-farm operation in Howard County. As we concluded we were reminded by Randy Mariner that, "If you take care of the land, the land will take care of you." Truer words were never spoken.



One of the more enjoyable aspects of serving on the County Council is the occasional opportunity to welcome a new business into our community. Such was the case last week when I was honored to participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony at **Nothing Bundt Cakes!** I'm thrilled that Alice and Bryan Pax have chosen to open this sweet business right here in District 4 and wish them nothing "bundt" success!



BEER . FOOD . FRIENDS
**DOWNTOWN COLUMBIA
OCTOBERFEST**

Socially Distant Outdoor Seating,
Octoberfest-inspired Food Specials,
Local Craft Beer, and Space to Gather

Sundays in October - 21 & Over - Reservations Required

Details at: www.DTCPartnership.com

Howard County Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission

Middle and High School Essay Contest

“In the end, we will remember not the words
of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

ESSAY QUESTION:

Give an example of a time
when you took a stand
against injustice and what
was the impact?

DEADLINE:

Applications
must be received
by October 30, 2020
at 5:00 PM.

The contest is open
to all Howard County
Middle and High School Students.

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/y62zdevk>
for official contest rules
and an application.

PRIZES:

High School:

1st place \$200
2nd place \$150
3rd place \$125

Middle School:

1st place \$150
2nd place \$125
3rd place \$75



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: (410) 313-6430
OR EMAIL MLK@HOWARDCOUNTYMD.GOV.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN



Calvin Ball
Howard County Executive



Avoid large gatherings, parties, and events.

Door-to-door trick-or-treating is not encouraged, but if done, should be done in household groups, keeping physical distance between other groups and using flashlights or glow sticks so walkers can be easily seen. Treats are encouraged to be left outside.



Trick-or-treaters should wash hands (or use sanitizer) between homes and after touching surfaces and objects.

Facial covering should still be worn even if wearing a costume mask.



Indoor activities are riskier than outdoor activities (indoor activities should be avoided).



Pumpkin patch and hayrides should only be conducted in small groups and non-family members should be physically distanced.



Indoor haunted houses, where it may be difficult to maintain physical distancing and enforce other mitigation strategies, should be restricted.

