

Harper's Choice Voice

The e-Newsletter for the Village of Harper's Choice

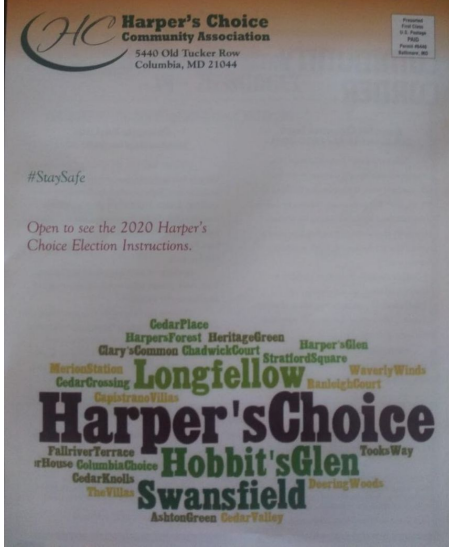
HAPPY
FRIDAY



Harper's Choice Village Election

**BE SURE TO SEND IN YOUR
ABSENTEE BALLOTS BY 11:59
PM TONIGHT!**

The Ballot Issue of the Harper's Choice Voice Newsletter is out now! It looks like the picture on the left, only it is folded in half! It contains your



ballot and all of the information that you'll need to vote in this year's Harper's Choice Village elections. Be sure to send in your ballots by 11:59 PM tonight. It takes literally less than 5 minutes to fill out!

There will be no in-person voting this year.

IF YOU HAVEN'T RECEIVED YOUR BALLOT, EMAIL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS TO STEVE AT MANAGER@HARPERSCHOICE.ORG AND HE WILL SEND YOU YOUR CODE TO VOTE.

For more information [CLICK HERE!](#)

Annual Meeting TOMORROW!

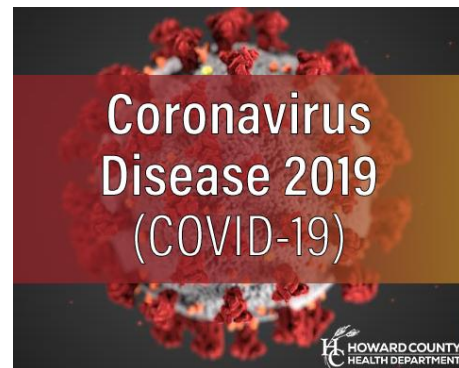
This year's Annual Meeting will be held virtually on Saturday, April 25, 2020, at 1:00 pm.



To join the Annual Meeting via GoTo Meeting, [CLICK HERE.](#)

COVID-19 Coronavirus County Government Updates

- As of *April 24, 2020*, there are 802, 583* cases of the Coronavirus, in the United States. (*source CDC which updates counts daily at noon reflecting confirmed cases as of 4 pm the previous weekday; does not include repatriated cases)
- As of *April 24, 2020*, there are 15,737 cases in Maryland.



Call 410-313-6284 for answers to health and medical questions about Coronavirus.

[Howard County Health Department](#)

What Marylanders Need to Know About COVID-19



Governor Hogan declared a state of emergency to **expand the state's ongoing, coordinated response.**



Practice good hygiene with frequent handwashing, covering coughs, and staying home when sick.



All levels of government have been **actively and aggressively preparing** for all possible scenarios.



Symptoms of COVID-19 include **fever, cough, shortness of breath, and difficulty breathing.**



Stay informed by reputable sources. Marylanders can visit health.maryland.gov/coronavirus or dial 2-1-1.



If you are experiencing the above symptoms, **contact your healthcare provider for guidance.**

Provided by Maryland's Office of the Governor in coordination with the Maryland Department of Health.

FACE COVERING REQUIRED

Effective Saturday, April 18th, 2020

It's important that we aggressively take measures to keep our community safe as we combat coronavirus.

Saturday at 7:00am, everyone must wear face coverings on ALL public transportation and in ALL stores:

- All riders on any public transportation
- All persons over the age of nine
- Shoppers at retail stores, grocery stores, and convenience stores

Homemade face coverings, like a bandanna, scarf, t-shirt or cloth mask may be worn. For details on how to make your own mask, visit <https://bit.ly/2V9INjY>



Calvin Ball
Howard County Executive

DONT FORGET!

Please, continue to practice social distancing guidelines and keep 6 feet between yourself and others.



CDC Cases in U.S.
page

County
Updates

Visit the Coronavirus in Maryland page



**American
Red Cross**

Help the American Red Cross Today!

Make a difference in helping save a life by donating blood today. The American Red Cross is experiencing a blood shortage and is seeking healthy donors who feel well to donate blood. As part of our nation's critical infrastructure, healthy individuals can still donate in areas that have issued shelter in place declarations.

If interested in taking part in this life saving mission, sign-up today to participate in one of these upcoming Red Cross blood drives by clicking below to make an appointment.

NOTE: Per the Red Cross, there is no data or evidence that COVID-19 can be transmissible by blood transfusion, and there have been no reported cases worldwide of transmissions for any respiratory virus including COVID-19. For questions and/or more information about donating blood during the COVID-19 pandemic, visit <https://rcblood.org/2Vx3mPa>.

Friday, May 1 from noon to 6:00 p.m. at Mosaic Christian Church in Elkridge

Thursday, May 7, 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. and Friday, May 8, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Su Casa in Ellicott City

Thursday, May 14 and Friday, May 15, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day at The Mall in Columbia (open space by Lord & Taylor).

Last Day for Seniors; Continuity of Learning



Updates from Tuesday, April 21, 2020

The following email provides links and helpful resources. Additional information is provided on the HCPSS website.

Accessing HCPSS applications: In order to access G Suite or Google Meet, users must first log out of any personal accounts. After logging out of personal accounts, students and staff can log in with their HCPSS credentials. Parents cannot access these platforms with their own accounts. Students must be logged in with their credentials in order to access applications through Clever, Synergy, or Canvas. [Directions for using Google Meet](#) can be found on Canvas (login required). Please see messages from schools/teachers, who are providing specific directions for students.

Virtual Classroom Expectations for Students and

Parents/Guardians: Students at all levels are now engaging in virtual class check-in sessions on Google Meet. To ensure a positive, productive and enjoyable learning experience for all participants, it is important that all students and parents/guardians adhere to these [Google Meet Expectations](#), which include online behaviors for students and privacy guidelines for parents.

Seniors: The last day of school for high school seniors will be Wednesday, May 20. We expect to have additional information regarding graduation ceremonies and celebrations during the next few days.

Field Trips: All in-state and out-of-state field trips are canceled through the remainder of this school year.

Devices for Distance Learning: FedEx backlogs have delayed delivery of some devices. Teachers have been informed of delays and will be flexible with students. Families who need to borrow a device may submit a new or updated request via HCPSS Connect. [Details on student technology devices](#), including technology requirements and instructions for requesting a device, can be found online. We know some needs may change as students and families begin to follow their respective Continuity of Learning Schedules. Families may request a device at any time.

Continuity of Learning Schedules and Templates: Available on the HCPSS website are [general Continuity of Learning schedules](#) for high school, middle school and

elementary school students. Also available are [fillable and downloadable scheduling templates](#) for parents/students to use.

Webinar for Parents en Espanol: [HCPSS will co-host a web conference](#) entirely in Spanish with the Howard County Foreign-Born Information and Referral Network (FIRN) on Wednesday, April 22, from 11 a.m.-noon. Topics include the Continuity of Learning plan, student technology and connectivity, and food support.

- **Seminario Web para Padres en Español.** [El HCPSS co-organizará una conferencia por Internet](#) totalmente en español con la Red de Información y Referencias para Personas Nacidas en el Extranjero del Condado de Howard (FIRN) el miércoles 22 de abril, de 11 a.m. al mediodía. Los temas incluyen el plan de Continuidad del Aprendizaje, la tecnología y conectividad de los estudiantes y el apoyo alimenticio.

Account Self-Service for Students: Students have the ability to retrieve their usernames and reset passwords, independent of teachers and staff. [Directions on using self-service can be found online.](#)

Meal Services Extended: HCPSS will provide [free meal services](#) at 14 county locations throughout state-mandated school closures, extended through Friday, May 15. Participants receive a Grab-N-Go snack, lunch and dinner for that day, as well as a Grab-N-Go breakfast for the following day. Friday distributions at school-based locations also include meals to sustain children through the weekend. Participants are encouraged to bring a bag to carry home meals each day. Parents/guardians may pick up meals for their child(ren).

Fourth Quarter Grading: Find [detailed information online.](#)

Community Support: The Bright Minds Foundation [Access to Learning Fund](#) is providing greater support for our students during the extended COVID-19 school closure. Funds already raised have provided HCPSS with additional resources including assistive technologies, connectivity resources and other school supplies to support remote learning.

Additional Updates

- **Budget Public Hearing:** A public hearing will be held during the May 7 virtual Board of Education meeting on FY2021 Operating and Capital Budgets and FY 2022-26 Capital Improvement Program. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the Board meeting will be held virtually, live on the HCPSS website and on Comcast 95/Verizon 42. Community members wishing to testify should register online. Specific instructions on testifying virtually will be emailed to each registrant prior to the public hearing.
- **Ethics Panel:** The HCPSS Ethics Panel oversees the school system's Ethics Regulations, advises the Board on matters related to conflict of interest and financial disclosure, and provides advisory opinions to employees on the applicability of the Ethics Regulations to specific situations. Interested citizens may submit a letter of interest and resume by May 8. Details online.

Additional information is provided on the [HCPSS Continuity of Learning website](#).

Food Distribution Sites

Howard County government, community partners, and local organizations are providing a variety of food distribution resources for residents in need:



Feeding the Community

- Ducketts Lane Elementary School, 6501 Ducketts Lane, Elkridge
- Hollifield Station Elementary School, 8701 Stonehouse Drive, Ellicott City
- Howard High School, 8700 Old Annapolis Road, Ellicott City
- Laurel Woods Elementary School, 9250 North Laurel Road, Laurel
- Oakland Mills Middle School, 9540 Kilimanjaro Road, Columbia
- Swansfield Elementary School, 5610 Cedar Lane, Columbia
- Talbott Springs Elementary School, 9550 Basket Ring Road, Columbia
- Wilde Lake Middle School, 10481 Cross Fox Lane, Columbia
- Community Locations: (Weekend meals not provided at community locations)
 - Forest Ridge Apartments, 5890 Stevens Forest Rd, Columbia
 - Monarch Mills Apartments, 7600 Monarch Mills Way, Columbia
 - Bethel Christian Academy, Campus 1, 8455 Savage Guilford Rd., Savage

[Howard County Public School Systems](#) grab and go meals are available Monday-Friday from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm for anyone under 18, no pre-registration needed. Locations include:

- Bushy Park Elementary School, 14601 Carrs Mill Road, Glenwood
- Cradlerock Elementary School/Lake Elkhorn Middle School, 6680 Cradlerock Way, Columbia
- Deep Run Elementary School, 6925 Old Waterloo Road, Elkridge

[Department of Community Resources and Services](#) is currently offering Grab-N-Go food distribution for eligible older adults at the Ellicott City 50+ Center, located at 9401 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21042. Distribution is held on Thursdays between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. for registered residents.

[Howard County Food Bank](#) is open Tuesdays - Thursdays 1 - 4 p.m. , and Saturdays 9 a.m. to noon at 9385 Gerwig Lane in Columbia. The Food Bank is providing pre-packaged bags of food to clients and new clients should bring identification and proof of Howard County residency for their first visit.

Pop Up Food Pantry daily April 19 - May 3 from 6 - 8 p.m. at Long Reach Village Center, 8775 Cloudleap Court, Columbia. Call 410-340-0529 for information or to donate.

Columbia Community Cares is providing grab and go bags of food, and other essential supplies such as diapers, at the following locations, Monday - Friday, 11 a.m - 1:30 p.m:

- Cradlerock Elementary School/Lake Elkhorn Middle School, 6680 Cradlerock Way, Columbia
- Howard High School, 8700 Old Annapolis Road, Ellicott City
- Oakland Mills Middle School, 9540 Kilimanjaro Road, Columbia
- Swansfield Elementary School, 5610 Cedar Lane, Columbia
- Wilde Lake Middle School, 10481 Cross Fox Lane, Columbia

Salvation Army is hosting a monthly pop-up pantry, April 15, May 20, and June 17th, at 3267 Pine Orchard Lane, Ellicott City from 1 -3 p.m. They will have fresh produce along with canned goods, please bring proof of Howard County residency.

Fun Activities For All Ages

With the fun activities provided by Columbia Art Center, CA's School Age Services and Columbia Archives, boredom doesn't stand a chance! From DIY art projects to creative ways to preserve your family legacy, CA at home has got you (and the whole family) covered in the entertainment department.



Village Board Virtual Meetings

The next meeting of the Village Board is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at 7 PM** via GoTo Meeting.

[Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.](#)



- You can also dial in using your phone.
 - United States: tel:+1-872-240-3311
 - Access Code: 908-237-781

[New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:](#)

[Click Here to View Village Board Agendas](#)

Architectural Committee Meetings

The Architectural Committee meets twice a month to review applications for changes to the exterior of properties in the Village and In-home business submissions. Meetings are held at Kahler Hall on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., and meetings are open to the public. Application submissions are due two weeks in advance of the scheduled meeting date. Upcoming submission deadlines and meeting dates are noted below.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

April 28
May 12

MEETING DATE

May 12
May 26

Have you visited us on Facebook lately?

Please join us on Facebook for up-to-date information about what's happening in and around the Harper's Choice Community.

[Facebook](#)



Keeping You Informed

This weekly e-Newsletter serves as a recap of news and events we share with our community throughout the week via other social media channels. Connect with us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to receive more regular announcements and information from us.

Subscribe to Our e-Newsletter

Was this message forwarded to you from a friend? You can [subscribe to this newsletter directly](#) so that you can receive it straight to your inbox from us! You may also text HCCANEWS to 22828 and

follow the prompts to register.

Stay Connected

[Steve Ingley](#)

Village Manager

[Debbie Nix](#)

Covenant Advisor

[Cathy Murphy](#)

Facility Manager

[Leah Akers](#)

Executive Assistant

Your Village Board

[Joel Hurewitz](#)**

Village Board Member

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Columbia Council Re

[Ralph Paez](#)**

Village Board Member

[Lauren Avant](#) **

Village Board Member

[Brynn Conover](#)*

Village Board Member

[Rebecca Beall](#)*

Village Board Member

* Term expires 4/30/20

** Term expires 4/30/21

5440 Old Tucker Row Columbia, MD | 410.730.0770 | [Email](#) | [Website](#)

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