Reach Out

Volume 54 Number 7 • November 7, 2025

Photo by Sandy Saperstein

Long Reach Community Association
6110 Foreland Garth
Columbia, MD 21045

Phone: 410-730-8113
Email: info@longreach.org
Fax: 410-730-5882
Website: longreach.org

Office Hours: By appointment only
@LRCA_Stonehouse
'Long Reach Community Association'

WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

Village Center Redevelopment

The Long Reach Village Board received official notice from the Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ) of its acceptance of a Petition, ZB-1132M, for a Major Village Center Redevelopment and PDP amendment for the Long Reach Village Center.

The plan incorporates a large indoor sports complex, a senior housing building, retail space, apartments, townhomes, and more. Information about the plan is available at **longreach.org**.

As part of the county's Village Center Redevelopment zoning process, the Long Reach Community Association has an opportunity to provide a Community Response Statement (CRS) to DPZ. The Long Reach Village Board will be drafting the statement in upcoming Board meetings and work sessions:

- November 11, 2025 Work Session: 7pm online via Zoom
- November 18, 2025 Board meeting: 7pm at Stonehouse
- November 25, 2025 Work Session: 7pm online via Zoom

Community updates and meeting information is available online at **longreach.org**. You may also visit Columbia Concepts website **destinationlr.com**.

COLUMBIA ART CENTER
6100 Foreland Garth
Columbia, MD 21045
410-730-0075
ColumbiaArtCenter.org

singular sensations
Dec. 11-20, 2025

A holiday exhibition featuring artwork in all media priced for sale at $300 or below.

Next *Reach Out* publication - January 16, 2026

Stonehouse Holiday Hours

Stonehouse will be closed Nov. 27—30 and Dec. 19 at noon through Jan. 1, 2026

Join the Election Committee

Want to get more involved in your village and help your community? The Long Reach Election Committee is looking for dedicated residents to assist with the 2026 Election Day process.

What does the Election Committee do?

- Moderates Candidates' Night
- Upholds election rules and procedures
- Counts votes on Election Day: Sat., April 25, 2026

Who can join?

- Must be a member of the Long Reach Community Association
- Must be able to contribute approximately 10 hours for meetings, Candidates' Night, and Election Day

Deadline to apply: 4 pm on Monday, January 12, 2026
Interested? Visit **longreach.org** for more details.

We Are Hiring!

Looking for a flexible job that is located in Columbia? The Long Reach Community Association is hiring for several part-time positions.

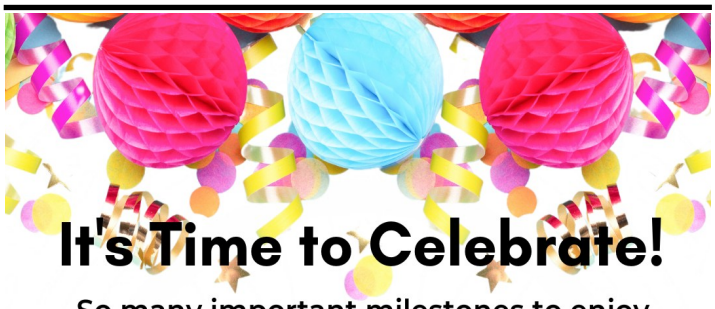
Whether you're interested in community engagement, event support, or administrative work, this is a great chance to get involved and make a difference.

Visit **longreach.org** for position information.

Long Reach Village Board Members

Nina Basu, Chair	nina.basu@gmail.com
Lillian Norris-Holmes, Vice Chair	lillianholmes8@gmail.com
Amy Bennett	amybenn@comcast.net
Rick McCray	rmccrayii@gmail.com
Drew Nelson	drew.nelson.longreach@gmail.com
Reginald Avery, CA Rep	waialua1@icloud.com

The Village Board typically meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Visit **longreach.org** for meeting information, meeting minutes, and more.



It's Time to Celebrate!

So many important milestones to enjoy with friends & family in the new year.

We have the venue for those moments!

Stonehouse can accommodate banquets and meetings with ease. We offer a variety of rooms, from large to small, that are versatile enough to handle large weddings and small conferences.

Our newly renovated Plaza Room holds up to 150 guests and features a wood floor & commercial kitchen with warming ovens for your catering use. For smaller events with a less formal setting, consider our newly renovated Tamar Room.

visit longreach.org/rental-information or contact us at 410-730-8113

6110 Foreland Garth, Columbia, MD 21045

Computer Help. *Personalized.*

It's service the way it used to be. Personal. Friendly. Convenient. For Computer Tech Support, Tutorials and Web Development --- Think Percworks.

"You proved to be competent, thorough, a patient teacher, and a valued new friend."
- Byron and Sharon Ruth

Call Robin Abello at
410-772-8118
www.percworks.com

We come to your home or office!

PERCWORKS
Personal Computerworks, Inc.

Long Reach Community Association

Stonehouse • Office Hours • Services

The Village office is open by appointment only. Village services, including Letter of Compliance requests, resale document sales, and the processing of Exterior Alteration Applications, are available. Please contact our staff for assistance or to schedule an appointment. Visit **longreach.org** or call 410-730-8113.

Upcoming Board Meetings—In-person*
November 18, December 2 & 16

Upcoming Board Work Sessions—Virtual*
November 11 & 25

Upcoming RAC Meetings—Virtual*
November 12 & 25, December 10

* *Visit **longreach.org** for meeting information*

CA Representative Comments

By Reginald Avery • waialua1@icloud.com

Well, my fellow Long Reach residents, if you haven't noticed, the weather outside is changing, it's getting colder, and it's certainly getting darker earlier these days. As we enter a new season that means the CA Board of Directors are having initial FY27 budget discussions, which we already started in September, and we are continuing to develop and finalize. For the next several months the main focus of the Board will be to develop and prioritize our strategic budget objectives and desired financial outcomes, in accordance with the previously Board-approved FY27 budget schedule. The purpose of the Board's budget discussions that were scheduled for September and continues for the next several months, the Board will determine what will be the high-level, strategic objectives for FY27 budget year and to provide CA staff the guidance needed to begin to produce income, expense and capital expenditure data projections. From that data the Board will be able to develop the correct budget that will address the priorities for our overall community.

At the Board November and December meeting, the Board, will further refine guidance to the staff to produce a draft budget document that will be issued to the community in January 2026. At the September 25, CA Board meeting, the Board decided on several main concerns as strategic priorities for the FY27 budget: Resource Resilience & Awareness of Value, which will focus on attaining AAA credit rating. Funding for long-term capital expenditures. Prioritizing maintenance of assets. Evaluating reducing resident costs. Evaluate affordability of membership plans, rates and service offerings. Assessing CA's compliance with ADA standards. Increase access to before/after school programs. And enhancing environmental sustainability.

These are but a few ideas that we are working on. Please let me know if there are other priorities that we need to include.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Pumpkin Palooza—On **Saturday, Nov. 22, 11am-2pm** at the Miller Branch Library (9421 Frederick Rd), join Howard County for games, composting demos, food, and more. Bring your pumpkins, gourds, squash and jack-o'-lanterns to be composted at the Alpha Ridge Landfill!

Tree Lighting Downtown Columbia—Ring in the holiday season in the Merriweather District on Nov 21**,** 5:30–8:30pm. Enjoy live music, festive performances, warm cocoa and lots holiday fun for the kids. The tree lighting countdown begins at 7:00 pm.

Report Non-Emergency Issues Online—Report water main breaks, broken street signs, and more on Howard County's mobile app and website. Residents can report non-emergency issues which will be assigned to the responsible department. Download the TellHoCoApp on your phone or visit **howardcountymd.gov/Tell-HoCo**.

Members Wanted: Aging Well in Columbia Advocacy Committee

Seniors are a distinct and active population in Columbia, and the Aging Well in Columbia Advocacy Committee works to advocate for their best interests in the community.

This Columbia Association advisory committee is looking for representatives from the village of Long Reach. Interested persons are invited to attend an upcoming committee meeting.

For more details, visit **columbiaassociation.org/engage/committees/senior** or contact Celindah Grier at 301-602-7101 or celindah.grier@gmail.com

Merriweather Symphony of Lights

Drive Through Or Walk Through Symphony of Lights

Set in historic Merriweather Post Pavilion and made up of more than 300,000 bulbs, it's a dazzling display of larger-than-life animated and stationary holiday light creations. Fun options: Drive-thru, Festive Families, Tail Lights, Lit at the Lights w/drinks, Midnight at 7 (New Years Eve event), and more!

Opens Friday, November 29. For additional details and tickets, visit **merriweatherlights.com**.

RAKING REMINDERS

Please remember to dispose of your raked leaves properly. Leaves and yard waste can be recycled on your regular recycling pickup day through mid January or all year long with the green bin program.

No plastic bags. Yard waste for collection must be placed in paper bags or reusable containers.

Do not rake or blow leaves into the street. Placing leaves or any yard waste into the street or a storm drain is in violation of the Howard County Code.

Do not dump your leaves onto CA Open Space.

Consider letting a thin layer of leaves remain in naturally wooded parts of your backyard around trees, shrubs, and perennials, acting as a natural mulch.

Try home composting. Howard County offers free composting kits and workshops. For details, visit howardcountymd.gov/public-works/backyard-composting. Remember, you must obtain approval from the Long Reach Architectural Committee for a compost bin. It's easy!

Mow your leaves. Turn dried leaves into finer sweepings that will break down easily and nourish the soil.

For more tips, visit **howardcountymd.gov/curbsidecollections** or call 410-313-6444

All ads in *Reach Out* are PAID ADVERTISING. The Long Reach Community Association does not endorse any goods or services advertised in our newsletter.

LONG REACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
6110 FORELAND GARTH
COLUMBIA, MD 21045

Stay In Touch! Sign up at longreach.org

Get Village updates, local event info., public meeting details, community resource information, and our newsletter, *Reach Out,* directly in your inbox. It's simple and we do not share or sell your email.

LONG REACH

GINGERBREAD HOUSE *Decorating Party*

- All ages welcome!
- $25 per Gingerbread House reservation / up to 4 people per house
- Reservation includes 1 gingerbread house kit, candy for decorating & PIZZA DINNER for participants!

Wed. 12/17, 5:30–7:30 PM

REGISTER AT: LRCA.EVENTBRITE.COM
6110 FORELAND GARTH / 410.730.8113
Questions?: lrcaevents@longreach.org

KRIS WOODSON
INSTRUCTOR, 500RYT

Yoga for Every Body

Experience Yoga in a safe & supportive environment. All experience levels are welcome.

6 week session $125
Thursdays 6:30-7:45 pm
Nov. 6 - Dec. 18 (no class 11/27)

Punch Cards $150
Redeem 6 classes any time of year

TRY YOUR FIRST CLASS FREE!

Classes held at Stonehouse
Visit **longreach.org** for details