CA MONTHLY

A Publication of the Columbia Association

AUGUST 2007

1 CA Launches Entertaining New Website

2 Last Month's City Fair A Hit

3 Sister Cities Makes a Difference

New CA Website offers Engaging Content

BY SHELIA L. GREEN

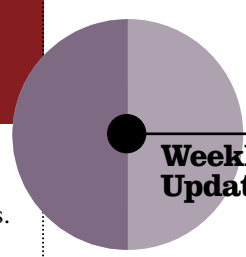
The Columbia Association's (CA) newest website CAmonthly.org features the latest Columbia Association happenings, entertaining stories, contests, opportunities to win nifty prizes and creative ideas for the kids along with links to other resources like the CA Art Center and CA's new calendar website.

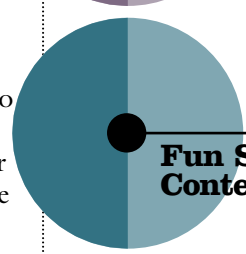
Launched just this month, CAmonthly.org promises to provide a new dimension to CA's efforts to keep residents entertained and informed. *CA Monthly* readers will be directed to the website for contest offerings and opportunities to share stories, thoughts and ideas. "This is an exciting accomplishment for CA," said Shelia Green, editor of the CA Monthly. "Residents are eager to find out about the latest events and happenings. And, this is our opportunity to place them in the know while keeping them entertained with fun website content."

Home page content includes features like *What's New at CA this month?* which highlight the latest CA events and happenings. Other features like *Kids Korner*, serve as a resource for parents and kids and offers ideas on how to prepare tasty treats, creative crafts and great options on where to take the kids in Columbia and the surrounding area.

CA's new calendaring website, www.ColumbiaCalendar.org, past CA Monthly newsletters, CA Art Center images and information along with enticing contest options are just a few of the links available for guests to the site. To visit this new site, log on now to www.CAmonthly.org. ■

Check out the **CAmonthly.org** Website Features





Log onto **CAmonthly.org**

Columbia's City Fair Event, Reminiscent of Times Past

BY SHELIA L. GREEN

Last month's City Fair festivities commemorating Columbia's 40th Birthday embodied much of the charm and character of the city's old day fairs.

Visitors from throughout this area and beyond came out in droves to participate in the return of one of the city's most festive affairs yet. The energy of the crowds, the smell of funnel cake and kettle corn, and the thrill of enticing carnival rides all contributed to the nostalgic nature of the fair's carnival-like atmosphere. Guests were wooed by the numerous offerings which included music entertainment, fireworks, a diverse palette of foods, vendors, and even a cake-cutting ceremony from which the likes of CA President, Maggie Brown, Patty Rouse and numerous community leaders attended. Over 3,000 cupcakes were handed out for guest enjoyment at this ceremony and indulged by all age groups. "It was great to see so many of our residents come out and enjoy themselves with the kids and grandkids in tow," said CA President Maggie Brown. "There was just so much to do. This is a fine example of one of the many benefits of living in this great city."

Though the fair, which was spearheaded by the City Fair Committee in conjunction with the Columbia Association (CA) is now behind us, CA continues to host events throughout the year that share a similar quality to the City Fair. Both the recently hosted International Day and the upcoming "Dia de la Familia" celebration on Saturday, September 22 from 3 to 6pm at the Columbia SportsPark, promote a festive and family-like atmosphere that richly embraces the special and unique qualities of Columbia.

For more information on "Dia de la Familia", please call 410-715-3104. ■

PHOTO BY RON FEDERCZAK

From left to right: CA Board member Pearl Atkinson-Stewart, CA President Maggie J. Brown, Patty Rouse, wife of the late James Rouse, CA Board Chair Barbara Russell, and U.S. Senator Ben Cardin.

kidskorner

Check out the new KidsKorner page at **CAmonthly.org** and learn how to make a delicious strawberry-banana smoothie and to submit your favorite summer vacation memory for a chance to win a gift certificate to Maggie Moo's® at the Mall in Columbia!

Is this your Village Representative?

BY SHELIA L. GREEN

The city of Columbia is comprised of 10 villages from which a representative of each serves as a Columbia Association (CA) Board Member.

2007-2008 Board members are **Maggie Brown, CA President, Barbara Russell, Chair; Philip W. Kirsch, Vice-Chair; Pearl Atkinson-Stewart; Tom O' Connor, Gail Broida, Miles Coffman, Cynthia Coyle, Michael Cornell, Henry F. Dagenais, and Evan Coren.** Of the five women on this Board, we'd like for you to tell us who you think this photo is and write a caption about her. Please log on to CAmonthly.org for more details and for your opportunity to win two free movie tickets along with a chance to have your caption featured on next month's CAmonthly.org website. ■

Sister Cities School Exchange Program — Making a Difference

BY SHELIA L. GREEN

Initiated in 1977, the Columbia Association's Sister Cities Program has for years now, been making a significant difference in the community and has greatly enhanced the lives of hundreds of students globally.

"Thousands of Columbia and Howard County residents have been touched by this program," said Meredith Jaffe, Manager of the Sister Cities Program. "Each year, high school students have the opportunity to not only experience another culture firsthand, but to find a second family that they keep throughout their lives. Former participants have returned to France and Spain to live with their host families again years later, or for their friends' weddings a decade after their exchange experience.

CA is proud of its ability to educate, inform and cultivate young people by exposing them to a culture different than their own. For many students, the experience of participating in this program is an opportunity that comes just once in a lifetime. Students are given an opportunity to travel abroad for two weeks during the summer and spend time with a family in Cergy-Pontoise, France or Tres Cantos, Spain, learning about the country's culture and language. Following their two week stay, students return home to host their French or Spanish counterparts. Not only are students exposed to a new language and culture, but they are introduced to new foods and customs. Many lasting memories and long-term friendships have resulted from this experience.

More than 100 students are participating in this year's program while more than 10,000 people have been exposed to the program this year through school presentations, career day, fairs, local and cultural awareness events and the Young Artists Competition.

"The positive impact on the lives of those participating, and showcasing Columbia's role in the global community are what makes this program a success," said Steve Sattler, Director of Marketing and Communications at CA.

Applications for this program are usually accepted between the months of October and February, for the following summer. Applicants must be high school students residing in Howard County and must have completed high school level two of French or Spanish by the end of the current academic school year or have the equivalent language fluency.

Look for a feature on the students' experience on next month's CAmonthly.org website. We'll take you into the day in the life of a foreign exchange student and hear first-hand what it's like to be a part of this program. ■

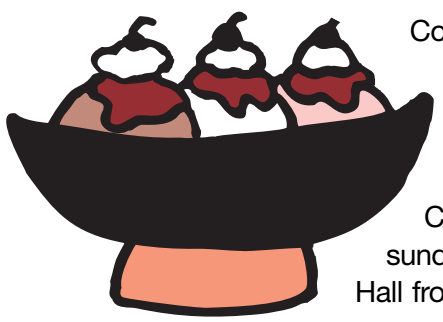
bulletin board

Columbia Association Board/Committee Schedules

CA Board of Directors meetings and Committee meetings are an excellent way to learn about the Columbia Association and its programs. Unless otherwise noted, regular meetings are held at the Columbia Association headquarters building, 10221 Wincopin Circle. For more information call 410-715-3000.

CA Board	**Aug 23**	**7:30pm**
External Relations	**Aug 2**	**7pm**
Performance Oversight	**Aug 7**	**7pm**
Planning & Strategy	**Aug 9**	**7pm**
Board Operations	**Aug 13**	**7pm**

River Hill Ice Cream Social



Come and join River Hill residents for free ice cream sundaes on **Friday, August 3 from 5:30 to 7:30pm** at the Village Center Courtyard. Coupons for sundaes are available at Claret Hall from July 27 to August 3.

Village Pool Parties

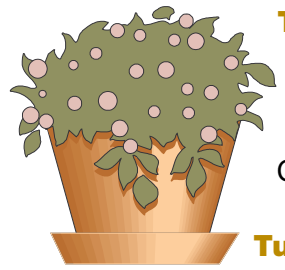
Oakland Mills Pool Party!

Oakland Mills residents are invited to come and join the neighbors for a party at the pool in Thunder Hill on **Tuesday, August 7 from 6:30 to 8:30pm.** Food and entertainment will be provided. Tickets are being sold for $2.50 (3 and under free) and can be purchased in advance at the Other Barn. Please call 410-730-4610 for additional information.

19th Annual Kings Contrivance Pool Party

Kings Contrivance residents are invited to the Villages 19th annual pool party on **Thursday, August 9 from 6:30 to 9pm** at the Dickinson pool. Hot dogs, veggie dogs, snacks, desserts and drinks along with games, music and tons of fun will be provided free of charge! Limited tickets are available. Please contact the Kings Contrivance Village Association at 410-381-9600 to find out more.

Town Center Happenings



Tuesday, August 14 at 7pm, a "Gardening in Small Spaces" workshop geared to townhouse and condo owners will be presented by River Hill Garden Center designer, Ryun Wauls.

Tuesday, August 21 at 7pm, a "First Time Homebuyer Seminar" will be presented by Realtor Harry Hearn of Exit 1st Class Realty.

Please contact the Town Center Community Association at 410-730-4744 for additional information.

Carribean Night

The Dorsey's Search Community Association is sponsoring an evening of Caribbean entertainment at Linden Hall on **Saturday, August 25 from 6 to 10pm.** Music will be provided by Orlando Phillips. Tickets are available to residents for $10.00 and to non-residents for $20.00. Residents must be over 21 to attend. Pricing includes a buffet and beverages. Limited seating is available and tickets are on sale until August 17. No tickets will be sold at the door.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Maggie Brown, the Columbia Association's president, wants to hear from Columbia residents about what is on their minds. Send your ideas, issues or concerns. Attach additional pages if necessary.

_____

_____

_____

_____

❑ Please get back to me on this issue.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number, Email _____

Please send your concerns, issues or questions to:

Maggie Brown, The Columbia Association, 10221 Wincopin Circle, Columbia, MD 21044
Email: Maggie.Brown@columbiaassociation.com