



Howard County Happenings with Allan H. Kittleman

June 2017

Bikeshare rolls out next month



If you drive a car in this area, you know how congested traffic can be. That's why my administration has actively been looking to provide more transportation options for our community.

Our latest addition is Howard County Bikeshare, a public-private partnership, set to launch next month. A convenient, fun and affordable mode of transportation, Howard County Bikeshare will feature a network of seven docking/charging stations with 70 bicycles serving the Columbia Lakefront, The Mall in Columbia, the new Crescent development, Howard County General Hospital, Howard Community College, Oakland Mills Village Center and Howard County Recreation & Parks' Blandair Park.

Click the accompanying video to see how the program works or visit www.HowardCountyBikeshare.com.

Another successful school year

This week wraps up another successful school year, a year of great progress both inside and outside the classroom.

Howard County Public Schools continue to be among the best in the nation! We thank the teachers, administrators, staff, board members and parents for all they do to keep us the best. I'd also like to give an extra pat on the back to Dr. Michael J. Martirano, our new acting school superintendent, for his tremendous leadership.

One of the joys of being County Executive is being able to visit all 76 county schools and take part in Read Across America, Simulated Congressional Hearings and dozens of other classroom activities.

I also attended all 12 high school graduations again this year -- such a satisfying experience!

I wish all involved in our schools a safe, fun and restful summer. We'll see you in September!



County Executive Allan H. Kittleman and Superintendent Dr. Michael J. Martirano listen as Bushy Park Elementary students talk about ways to respond to bullying in the school's Carson Reading Room.

Today is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

The National Center on Elder Abuse estimates that about 1 in 9 Americans ages 60 and older have experienced some form of abuse. This abuse can be physical, verbal or emotional, ranging from inappropriate or aggressive solicitations to tax, insurance and sweepstakes scams, and various forms of identity theft and financial exploitation.

Earlier today, I joined State Insurance Commissioner Al Redmer at the Howard County Library Miller Branch for an event to raise awareness about mistreatment of some of our most vulnerable residents.

I ask that all of you look out for our seniors and advocate for them. If you see something you suspect could be abuse, please call Howard County Police at 410-313-3200 or, in the case of an emergency, dial 911.

Take a June Bug stroll with HoCoWalks

Take a walk with your family this weekend!

Join the Department of Recreation & Parks this Saturday, June 17, at 9 a.m. at High Ridge Park, 10100 Superior Avenue in Laurel and look for insects and other creatures along the way. This month's walk reminds us that summer is here and nature is all around us.

After enjoying an invigorating walk, stop by the Roving Radish truck for a healthy snack. Visit the website [here](http://www.hocowalks.com).

HoCoWalks visits different parks throughout the year on select Saturdays starting at 9 a.m. For more information click [here](http://www.hocowalks.com).

Happy Birthday Columbia! Let's eat cake!

Columbia officially turns 50 June 21, and the town will be cutting the birthday cake this Saturday, June 17 at 7 p.m. at the tent on Lake Kittamaqundi. I hope you'll join me and many, many others to mark the occasion and celebrate James Rouse's vision.



Rebuilding Together Howard County turns 'silver'



Rebuilding Together brings together volunteers to help residents make repairs to their homes.

Rebuilding Together Howard County celebrates its silver anniversary tonight, marking 25 years of helping county residents make necessary repairs to their homes.

Since starting in 1992 as Christmas in April, Rebuilding Together has mobilized volunteers to help families, the elderly, people with disabilities and our veterans with home repairs when they cannot manage the projects themselves. These volunteers are helping to keep Howard County strong.

Please join me in congratulating Rebuilding Together Howard County as it celebrates 25 years of assisting our community.

Dates to Remember

June 26 [HCPD Community Athletic Program](#) (mobile rec center) at Talbot Springs Pool at 9 a.m. (Other community locations on Mondays through Aug. 4)

June 27 [Recreation and Park's Sunset Serenades and Traveling Bands Series](#) (other events through August)

June 29 [Belmont Blockbusters](#) (outdoor movie series) at Belmont Manor at 8 p.m. The Wizard of Oz (other showings through Aug. 24)

July 4 [Independence Day – County offices closed](#)

July 4 [4th of July Celebration at the Columbia Lakefront](#) at 5 p.m. (fireworks after dark)

July 8 [Solar Fest](#) (interactive STEAM activities) at Alpha Ridge Park at 6:30 p.m.