



BIRCHWOOD-CLEARVIEW

NEWSLETTER

"A Community That Cares"

JULY 2023 EDITION

Published by Birchwood-Clearview Community Association, Inc. (BCCA)
P.O. Box 7, Oxon Hill, MD 20745

Website: www.welcometobcca.org Email: birchwood.clearview@gmail.com

COMMUNITY CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Prince George's County Police: For Emergency dial 911, non-emergency, dial 301-352-1200.**
- **Request services from Prince George's County: dial 311 or download the mobile Apps PGC311 at https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.connectedbits.connectcdcounty311&hl=en_US&gl=US**
- **Use of Birchwood Park Building – Dial 301-699-2255**



UPCOMINGEVENTS

Community-Wide Meeting – Thursday, July 20, 2023, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, for all who live in the Birchwood-Clearview Community. Please join us in-person at the Birchwood Recreational Community Center, address: 1331 Fenwood Avenue, Oxon Hill, MD 20745.

You are invited to attend!

Saturdays at 9 a.m. (unless cancelled) – Workout Fitness in Birchwood Park with Planet Fitness Coach Will Chamber. Please come out and let's get fit together!

PRIMARY AGENDA:

1. Prince George's Police Dept – Cpl. Dorian Johnson, COP Representative for our community
2. Prince George's Parks and Recreational Planning
3. 311 Report Update
4. Free Lawn Care Service Drawing for five recipients
5. Comments/Questions – Community Residents

From the Desk of BCCA President, *Sylvia Griffin*



I want to express how honored I am to have been elected and leading as your President of a wonderful community.

Also, giving kudos to the former Acting President, Michelle Ross, in her awesome leadership for our Birchwood-Clearview Community.

As I embark on my role as your President, I'm excited knowing that I stand on the strong and sturdy shoulders of dedicated and committed residents and my predecessors in making what this community is today. However, we have many more exciting tasks ahead of us in continuing to make Birchwood-Clearview a model community in the South County of Prince Georges, MD.

I believe the most valuable change any of us can make is ensuring that our community is filled with individuals who strive to make and want a difference rather than settling for what is merely acceptable in our communities.

I encourage everyone, the young and the young at heart, to make every effort possible to come to our monthly community meetings to get involved. **DON'T MISS OUT!** Your ideas and suggestions can have a great impact on all of us.

Again, I look forward to seeing and working alongside you.

Blessings

From BCCA Legislative Committee Chair, *Donna Joyner*



This committee is responsible for keeping abreast of legislation and regulations at all levels of government (federal, state and local) that affect the residents of our community.

The Legislative Chair Position is of great value to the community and is vacant for those who are interested. There is no required amount of volunteer time and no required experience to serve on this Committee--just a willing heart. Even if you are still working, we need any time you can spare. Please join us. If you would like more information or have some suggestions, please email me at

dyjoyner2@msn.com

From BCCA Hospitality Committee Chair, *Lottie McCoy*



BCCA Hospitality Committee serves you. In cooperation with other BCCA committees, we coordinate refreshments for meetings, community days, recreational activities and other Association events.

For additional information or to let me know that you want to join me and help serve, please email me at lottie.mccoy@icloud.com

From BCCA Membership Committee Chair, *Gloria Hernandez Saunders*



Thank you so very much for all the residents that have renewed their membership with our Birchwood-Clearview Community Association (BCCA). If you did not send in your membership for calendar year 2023, it's not too late. Please join using the attached form on the last page.

Join us for the purpose of not only benefitting your community, but also for the good feeling from a sense of serving others. Also, if you would like to join the Membership Committee to help me, please email me at army320@verizon.net

Your Membership Dues Have Contributed to the Following Community Benefits--And Much, Much More:

- Thousands of dollars in scholarships provided to our youth to further their education;
- Newsletter-Printing & Distribution - keeping you abreast and up to date on what's going on in the neighborhood, including state and county impact;
- Maryland officials' spending over \$3 million to build sound/safety barriers along the Capital Beltway near the Birchwood-Clearview Community;
- Street Cleaning supplies- the people you see walking with trash bags and picker uppers and mowing the entrance are keeping our community clean; County-Wide Growing Green with Pride Clean-Up Projects;
- Walking Trail, tennis and basketball courts, the pavilion, and the upcoming new playground at Birchwood Park;
- Tree planting throughout the community under Prince George's County "Right Place/Right Tree Program;"
- Community Center activities & senior activities: teen and adult Valentine dances, Halloween parties, exercise classes and chronic disease management and healthy eating classes;
- Community Days, annual holiday events including Family Breakfast/Dinner with Santa;
- Food /Coat Drives (in support of local Food Banks/Shelters); Holiday Basket Distributions and much, much more.

From BCCA Beautification Committee Chair, Betty Woods



Hello Neighbors,

Now that summer is here, we can delight ourselves with the many beautiful lawns and gardens throughout our neighborhood. Treat yourselves to a stroll, or drive throughout the neighborhood and admire the effort and hard work or get an idea that you can use in beautifying your lawn.

Just a gentle reminder to be mindful of your neighbors. Let's not do things that might annoy or disturb the peace of anyone such as playing excessively loud music, leaving litter and debris in front of our homes or not picking up after our pets. Remember the **GOLDEN RULE** and let's smile more, speak and treat others as we'd like to be treated. A little bit of kindness and a smile goes a long way.

Continue to enjoy the beauties of summer, join this wonderful membership committee, if you haven't already done so, and be safe.

Looking forward to seeing each of you at the next community meeting. 😊

Prince George's Food Scraps Composting

Statement from our county official: Our campaign slogan is **“Every meal. Every scrap. Every Monday.”** The program adds another sanitation collection service to the County's weekly pickup schedule. The County is offering this program to...reduce excessive greenhouse gas emissions, protect our environment, and reduce the cost and environmental impacts of trash pickup.” Please place your green can on the curb by 6 a.m. Monday.

WHAT CAN I COMPOST?

¿Qué se Puede Compostar?



Yard Trim
Recortes de Jardín

Bread, Pasta and Grains
Pan, Pasta y Granos

Dairy Products
Productos Lácteos



Fruits and Vegetables
Frutas y Vegetales

Meat and Bones
Carne y Huesos

Seafood and Shellfish
Pescados y Mariscos

Uncoated Paper Plates and Bags
Bolsas y Platos de Papel Sin Recubrimiento

Eggs and Egg Shells
Huevos y Cáscaras de Huevo

Tea Bags and Loose Tea
Bolsas de Té y Té a Granel



Paper Towels and Napkins
Toallitas de Papel y Servilletas

Paper Ice Cream Containers
Contenedor de Helado de Papel

Pizza Boxes
Cajas de Pizza

Coffee Grounds and Filters
Granos de Café y Filtros

Leftovers
Restos de Comida

Food-soiled Paper
Papel Sucio con Restos de Comida



COMPOSTING IS AS EASY AS 1-2-3:

- 1 Put your kitchen pail in a convenient location
- 2 Empty contents of pail into green cart
- 3 Put green cart curbside by 6 a.m. Monday

mypgc.us/compost






From BCCA Education Committee Acting Chair, Michelle Ross



Doris Saunders Community Scholarship 2023 - 2024 Academic Year

Calling all College Bound Students - The Birchwood/Clearview Manor Community Association (BCCA) in collaboration with our residents want to celebrate passionate, college-bound students, as you prepare to take the next step on your journey to greatness! We are looking for dedicated students. We are looking for leaders... We are looking for students that have given back to their community. A leader in school! The bottom line is that we want to reward students who have excelled both in and outside of the classroom. If this sounds like you, please keep reading!

The ***Doris Saunders Scholarship***, in the amount of \$400.00, is in honor and loving memory of a valued, beloved community member and volunteer who served her community. We want to continue in the tradition of paying it forward and honor students who have given back to the community and will continue to "give back" to their community. Two deserving students will receive the scholarship, based on merit, leadership and commitment to community.

Qualifications to Apply:

- 1) Graduated from high school in May/June 2023;
- 2) is a current Birchwood/Clearview Manor resident;
- 3) is planning to enroll in an accredited undergraduate program for the 2023 - 2024 Academic school year; and,
- 4) Must have a grade point average of 2.75

Proof of all qualifications will be required, if selected.

The ***Doris Saunders Scholarship*** recipients will be selected by a committee, based on the following:

- 1) Participation and leadership in the community (including church and/or place of worship) and high school leadership activities (list your activities in your submission); and
- 2) Submission of a 200-word essay: "Why higher education and community involvement are important in the 21st Century."

Applicants should submit their entries to the 2023 BCCA Scholarship Committee, no later than **August 5, 2023**. **Please include your address, phone number, e-mail and Parent/Guardian contact information.** The scholarship proceeds will be paid directly to your institution to assist with books or tuition. If you are selected, you will be notified by e-mail and will be honored at a future Birchwood/Clearview Manor Community meeting. And, your essay will be shared in the BCCA Newsletter.

On behalf of all the dedicated members of the Birchwood/Clearview Manor Community Association and the family of Doris Saunders, we wish you good luck! If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Ross at Ross063012@gmail.com.

From BCCA Publicity Committee Chair, *Veda Dixon*

HELLO

Greetings Neighbors! My name is Veda Dixon and I'm the new BCCA Publicity Committee Chair, happy to meet you. I look forward to serving and working with you. I'm still getting acclimated to the position but thanks to **Lucy Hall**, she is so graciously assisting to get me up to speed. **Thank you so very much Lucy; could not have done it without you!**

This Committee is responsible for writing and distributing the community newsletter and keeping residents updated on relevant activities and events. **If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact me. If you want to receive a copy of the BCCA Newsletter via email, send me your email address.**

All those who currently helped Lucy to physically distribute the BCCA Newsletter and other information door-to-door, I still need your help when the time comes and anyone else **new** who would like to join us, send me your contact information to my email address veda4533@icloud.com. **Thank you for your warm welcome!**

Events Hosted

Monday, June 19th – **Sip and Paint Activities at Birchwood Park.** PG/MD Parks and Recreation/Birchwood-Clearview hosted a fun family event which included Sip and Paint, Live DJ music, Skate Mobile, Connect-Four Basketball and Bean Bag Toss; fun was had by all.



Participants enjoying Sip and Paint activities

Saturday, July 1st – **Fitness Workout in Birchwood Park with Planet Fitness Coach Will Chamber.** The exercises were stress relieving and energizing! The class was for 1 hour in which participants warmed up, stretched and moved into circuit training exercises which strengthened the body's core, legs/arms and helped with balance. No More Excuses! Will Chamber will hold fitness class on Saturdays at 9 a.m. (unless cancelled). Come out next Saturday and Let's Get Fit!



Participants taking part in the Saturday Fitness Workout

What's New

BCCA Announcement Board (entrance of Crisfield Court) - Did you see the improved BCCA Announcement board when you turn on to Crisfield Drive and Livingston Road and the BCCA Meeting announcement signs? Thank you so much Vice President Elton Jones! More to come.

New Elderly Property Tax Credit! This new credit, effective July 1, 2023, will provide up to a 20% credit of the County property taxes, inclusive of any Homeowners and Homestead Tax Credit, for up to 5 years. Applications will be made available in Spring 2023. To be eligible, you must meet the following criteria:

1. Age 65 and over;
2. Own and reside at property for which credit is sought for at least the previous 10 years;
3. The assessed value does not exceed \$500,000 at the time of application;
4. The application must be submitted by October 1, 2023.

The application gives an email address in which you may submit your completed form. You may even submit a picture copy of the completed application and attach it in your email, if you do not have a scanner. Click on link below to print the application/FAQs:

[Elderly Property Tax Credit Application](#)

[Elderly Property Tax Credit Application -Español](#)

**Please allow 4-6 weeks for your application to be reviewed

[Elderly Property Tax Credit Application FAQs](#)

[Elderly Property Tax Credit Application FAQs - Español](#)



Dogs Should Be On Leash

Per Prince George's County Regulations, it is against the law for the owner or custodian of any animal to allow the animal to run at-large. See Prince George's Code of Ordinances: Division 4: Animal Control, Subdivision 1-Enforcement and Violation Notices, Section 3-135(a) (f), which requires that all dogs be kept on a leash at all times unless they are on the owners' private property, and even then, the owners must have control over them. Violators are subject to pet impoundment and fines. Call 311 with concerns.

No Smoking in Parks

The Department of Parks and Recreation in Prince George's County, part of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, sends a reminder to the community **that its parks have been and will continue to be smoke free. This includes all forms of tobacco, e-cigarettes, vapes and marijuana.**

Our Community Matters! Become a Member and Get Involved!

BIRCHWOOD CITY-CLEARVIEW MANOR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC. (BCCA) MEMBERSHIP FORM

BCCA’s mission is to enhance the quality of life for residents of the Birchwood-Clearview Community. This is accomplished through community volunteers and membership dues from residents. Become a member of BCCA for the calendar year 2023 by completing this form and enclosing your annual membership fee of \$25.00 per household. Please make your check payable to BCCA and mail to BCCA, P.O. Box 7, Oxon Hill, MD. 20745-0007. ATTN: Mrs. Hernandez Saunders, Chair of BCCA’s Membership Committee.

DATE _____

NAME of RESIDENT(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL _____

- Membership Dues \$ _____
- Donation for Scholarship \$ _____
- General Donation \$ _____
- Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Community volunteers are needed. This includes students who need community service hours. Please volunteer for just a **Little While** to make a **Big Impact** in any of the following areas. ***Please check all areas of interest.***

Membership	Recreation/ Youth	Publicity	Education	Legislative
Beautification	Hospitality	Communications	Community Service	Ways and Means/Sponsored Activities
Any Other Areas of Interest (Please explain)				

To see some of BCCA’s accomplishments over the years, please read the articles under the Membership Committee in this newsletter and also click on <https://welcometobcca.org/about/>

THANK YOU FOR JOINING AND SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY