



## BIRCHWOOD-CLEARVIEW

# NEWSLETTER

**"A Community That Cares" NOVEMBER 2023 EDITION**

Published by Birchwood City-Clearview Manor Community Association, Inc., (BCCA)  
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### 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.connectedcounty311&hl=en\\_US&gl=US](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.connectedbits.connectedcounty311&hl=en_US&gl=US)**
- **Use of Birchwood Park Building – Dial 301-699-2255**



**Community-Wide Meeting – Thursday, November 16, 2023, 7:00 PM**, for all who live in the Birchwood City-Clearview Manor Community. Please join us in-person at the Birchwood Recreation Community Center, address: 1331 Fenwood Avenue, Oxon Hill, MD 20745. **Remember, you don't have to wait until the monthly meeting to get your questions/concerns addressed, you may send them via email to [bccaconcerns@gmail.com](mailto:bccaconcerns@gmail.com).**

#### PRIMARY AGENDA:

1. Opening Prayer/Community Pledge
2. President, Sylvia Griffin and/or Vice President, Elton Jones
3. Prince George's Police Dept – Cpl. Dorian Johnson, COP Representative for our community
4. Guest speakers
5. Comments/Questions – Community Residents

**You are invited to attend!**

*(Continuation from Upcoming Events)*

**Saturdays @ 9am - Fitness in Birchwood Park** with Planet Fitness Coach, Will Chambers, is now via Zoom for the winter months. See you on Zoom!

**Saturday, December 16, 2023** – Christmas with Santa – BCCA Event. Save the Date.

### **From the Desk of BCCA President, Sylvia Griffin**



#### **THANKSGIVING IS A WONDERFUL TIME!**

Thanksgiving feast is a central element of the celebration, a traditional menu that typically includes your turkey, delicious stuffing, that you so selflessly prepared for family and friends; putting your spin on your food incorporating marvelous flavors. The act of preparing and sharing a meal brings people together, fostering a sense of unity and warmth.

In the spirit of gratitude, many people use Thanksgiving as an opportunity to give back to their communities. Many of us will volunteer at local charities, organize food drives, or reach out to those in need are common ways individuals contribute to making this holiday meaningful beyond their own circles. This commitment to helping others reinforces the idea that Thanksgiving is not just about receiving but also about giving.

Thanksgiving is a time-honored tradition that transcends its historical roots to become a celebration of gratitude, unity, and giving. As we come together with family and friends, let us Birchwood community reflect on the blessings in our lives, express our gratitude, and embrace the spirit of generosity. In a world that often moves at a hectic pace, Thanksgiving provides a moment to pause, appreciate, and celebrate the richness of life.

**LET US CONTINUOUSLY BE EVERY SO THANKFUL!**

### **From the Desk of BCCA Secretary, Wanda Gross**

National Diabetes Month  
2023



November is National Diabetes Month, a time when communities across the country seek to bring attention to diabetes. This year's focus is on taking action to prevent diabetes health problems.

Diabetes is a disease that occurs when your blood glucose, also called blood sugar, is too high. It affects about 37 million Americans, including adults and youth. Diabetes can damage the eyes, kidneys, nerves, and heart, and it is linked to some types of cancer.

But there's also good news: Taking charge of your health may help you prevent diabetes health problems. Get smart about risks and diabetes prevention. Small changes to your lifestyle can help to prevent or delay diabetes, even if you've been diagnosed with pre-diabetes. Talk with your doctor and create a plan and set goals that work for you.

This article was copied from the National Diabetes Association.

From BCCA Ways and Means Committee Chair, *Sharon Sims-Colbert*

A Huge “Thank You” to the PGPD Explores & Their Officer; Leadership of Our Very Own Vice President - Elton Jones & Treasurer - Purcell Walker!!

Grill Masters – 2023 Community Day



Our Prince George’s County Police – District IV  
“Thanksgiving’s Day Celebration”  
November 2, 2023



(Continuation from BCCA Ways and Means Committee)



*As we step into the season of this "Thanksgiving Holiday", It is our honor and pleasure to extend to every resident of the Birchwood City - Clearview Manor Community our heartfelt wishes that this time is spent surrounded by your loved ones. We claim for you "Joy in Your Heart", "Peace In Your Spirit," "Unbreakable Faith," "Reflections of Happy Times," and as the saying goes, "A Feast fit for Kings & Queens"!!*

*Your "Ways & Means Committee  
Sharon R. Sims-Colbert - Michelle Ross - Denise Jordan-Williams*

**From BCCA Publicity Committee Chair, Veda Dixon**

### ***BLESSINGS TO EVERYONE!***

I know every day is a day of thanksgiving but in light of celebrating the Thanksgiving Holiday, I would like to thank God for being so good to me and my family, for his love, health and strength, peace of mind, roof over my head, food to eat, protection, ways and means to take care of needs, prayer, His grace and mercy and the list goes on. On my worst days, I'm still blessed because someone in the world is going through a worse than me!

**What are you thankful for?** Fill in the blank, I'm thankful for \_\_\_\_\_.

In light of November being National Diabetes Month, and as "Good News," I wanted to shout out my husband Michael for lowering his A1C from 10 to 6.3; due to working with the doctor, taking medication, making small changes to his diet and exercising; it really does work! 😊

Due to the high cost of printing the monthly BCCA's Newsletter, please contact me via email [h15642vad@hotmail.com](mailto:h15642vad@hotmail.com), include your name and address for verification, if you would like to be added to the community email list-serve to receive the newsletter, current events and other county/community information. **Thank you!**



**The "Good News" Segment!** This is where we share and feature your "Good News"! We hope the "Good News" will inspire, encourage, and give our readers "food for thought." With that said, **please send me any "Good News" you would like to share, the first Monday of each month via email [H15642vad@hotmail.com](mailto:H15642vad@hotmail.com).**

**Spotlighting Our Veterans!**



# **THANK YOU VETERANS**



**A TRIBUTE TO OUR COMMUNITY VETERANS**

**To all of the Veterans living in the Birchwood City-Clearview Manor Community-- including those who have served and those who are still serving)**

*(Continuation from BCCA Publicity Committee)*

We thank you and we honor you for your service to our country. We pay tribute to all of our community veterans and express our appreciation to you for your service. In addition, some of you in our community who have retired are still working and volunteering to serve other veterans in their efforts to obtain various benefits. What an Honor to have served your country and then continue to provide serve to your fellow veterans!!!

**ON BEHALF OF BCCA's EXECUTIVE BOARD AND THE COMMUNITY,  
THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE VETERANS LIVING IN OUR COMMUNITY**



**“Remembering”**

*Submitted by: Lucy Hall, Chair, BCCA Community Service Committee  
and Sharon Colbert-Sims, Chair, BCCA Ways and Means Committee*



### **Unlicensed Rental Homes**

A rental license must be obtained to rent a single or multi-family dwelling. Please go online at <http://dpie.mypgc.us> under Forms and Checklist or call 301-883-6168 for more information.

### **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. 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 Volunteer and Get Involved!***

From BCCA Membership Committee Chair, *Gloria Hernandez Saunders*



**Hello, Birchwood–Clearview Residents!** Thank you for your membership with the Birchwood City-Clearview Manor Community Association (BCCA).

Next year, BCCA Membership Committee plans to launch a Community-Wide Membership Drive going from door-to-door. We want to welcome our new neighbors as well as our long-standing neighbors to become a part of BCCA.

As the saying goes, “United we Stand, Divided we Fall.”

We want our community to be United in order to make a difference and to change/improve the things we can for the betterment of our wonderful community.

If you would like to join the Membership Committee to help me with the door-to-door Community-Wide Membership Drive, or become a member (\$25 membership per household) please email me at [army320@verizon.net](mailto: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 planned 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.

# Birchwood City – Clearview Manor Community Day Saturday, October 21, 2023

Thank you to-- our wonderful volunteers and donators, BCCA Committee, PG Parks and Recreations, PGPD Explorers (grill masters) and other invited guests; vendors, entertainers -- anyone who participated in any way to make our community day a great success! Your labor of love is valued and much appreciated.

Thank you to Betty Woods for the pictures taken below on Community Day!



(Continuation of Community Day Pictures)

