



## BIRCHWOOD-CLEARVIEW

# NEWSLETTER

**"A Community That Cares" DECEMBER 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**



## UPCOMINGEVENTS

Community-Wide Meeting – **Thursday, December 21, 2023, 7:00 PM, is cancelled.**  
Remember, you don't have to wait until the monthly meeting to get your questions/concerns addressed, you may send your questions via email to [bccaconcerns@gmail.com](mailto:bccaconcerns@gmail.com).

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

(Continuation from Upcoming Events)

**Saturday, December 16, 2023 – Breakfast with Santa – BCCA Event.**

# BREAKFAST WITH SANTA!

*Featuring a Continental Breakfast with Santa, Fun Games,  
and Toys for the children.*


You are Cordially Invited to join BCCA and Meet your Neighbors for this  
Fun Filled Event for the Whole Family, *Especially the Kids!*

**Saturday, December 16, 2023 - 11am to 1pm**

**Birchwood Recreation Center, 1331 Fenwood Avenue, Oxon Hill, MD 20745**

*This Holiday, be a blessing to someone else! For this Event, we are asking everyone to donate  
a Canned Good(s) (pull-up tops if possible), and/or a Gently Used Coat, for those less  
fortunate. BCCA will donate these items to the appropriate donation center. Thank You!*

If you like to make a donation to this Event and/or Volunteer to assist with setup, games, or  
cleanup, please contact Veda Dixon, BCCA Publicity Chair, 301-775-0533, [h15642vad@hotmail.com](mailto:h15642vad@hotmail.com)

 Sylvia Griffin, BCCA President, 240-460-8743, [sygriffin@gmail.com](mailto:sygriffin@gmail.com).

**Come Out and Let's Have a Jolly Good Time!**



## From the Desk of BCCA President, Sylvia Griffin



As the festive season is upon us, it's pleasing to the eyes to see Birchwood enveloped in the warm glow of Christmas lights and the spirit of togetherness. Christmas is yet another special holiday in spending time with friends and family along with giving thanks. It also can become a time for communities to get together, sharing joy, kindness, and creating lasting memories for years to come. It's also heartfelt to see many that have embraced the spirit of Christmas in making

Birchwood decked with festive lights, ornaments, and decorations adorn on homes in creating a magical atmosphere for all to enjoy. It's very pleasurable if you wish to stroll or ride through the community to view...simply beautiful!

As a community, just reflect on the past year, expressing gratitude for your shared encounters and experiences as well as overcoming many challenges for some. After you reflect, begin a collective vision for the upcoming new year, reinforcing a sense of unity and resilience! However, Christmas does provide a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together for festive activities, such as Birchwood's "**Breakfast with Santa**" event-**Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup>**. Just by embracing these festive activities and community traditions, we can foster a sense of belonging and make this holiday season truly special for everyone in our neighborhood.

May the spirit of Christmas continue to illuminate our lives with warmth, kindness, and the joy of community.

***I PRAY EVERYONE HAVE A SAFE AND JOYFUL CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!***

## From BCCA Beautification Committee Chair, Betty Woods



Good friends and neighbors, you guys are really going all out in creating a festive look in our beautiful neighborhood. There is something special about this time of the year and I love it! I think I've come up with the perfect gift that keeps on giving. Try this out and let me know what you think.

- Smile often, even if you don't really want to. Your smile can cause a chain reaction.
- Speak, say an encouraging word, even if you don't know the person. Often, that can be just the spark to lift someone's spirits.
- Lend a helping hand if you can.
- Laugh long and hard, it releases stress and activates muscles you don't use often.

I could go on and on but I'll end the list with my favorite: **Follow the golden rule, gain a friend by being friendly and let's pray for our neighbors and each other.** This is my gift to you, feel free to pass it on.

***MERRY CHRISTMAS AND LET'S MAKE EACH DAY A DAY OF THANKSGIVING!***



## From the Desk of BCCA Secretary, Wanda Gross

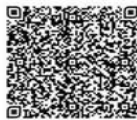


Wanda R. Gross

- LOAN DOCUMENTS
- TRUSTS
- POWER OF ATTORNEY
- TITLES/ BILL OF SALE
- REFINANCES & MORTGAGES
- ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
- BANK FORMS
- SCHOOL FORMS
- WILLS, POWER OF ATTORNEY
- AND MORE..

contact with me

SCAN ME



FOR INFO

Wanda Mobile & Remote  
Notary Services

MOBILRE NOTARY, SIGNING AGENT  
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MOBILE NOTARY

*so nice to meet you!*

I'm Wanda R. Gross, a Certified Mobile Notary Signing Agent and Estate Planning Document specialist based in Oxon Hill Prince Georges County Maryland! Providing accurate , prompt, and professional service to my clients is my priority. I'll expertly guide clients through the signing process and ensure that all documents are signed and delivered on time!

**AVAILABLE FOR AFTER  
HOURS, HOLIDAYS &  
WEEKEND APPOINTMENTS!**



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1423 DUNWOODY AVE OXON HILL MD 20745

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



**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 YOU – Our Neighbors!**

*All year long, most of our neighbors have been doing what you can to be “A Good Neighbor.” I know you are not perfect but you try to keep our neighborhood clean by: sprucing up your homes and lawns so that it adds value, report 311 incidents to better our neighborhood, and watching out for our children as they gather to meet the school bus and go home after school. When you see something, you say something to the appropriate authorities, when suspicious things are happening in our neighborhood, you checked on your neighbor, if you have not seen or heard from them in a while and strived to be a better neighbor! **Thank you!***

*As I take my walk through the neighborhood, smile and say hello, I am also greeted with a smile and sometimes good conversations. I love viewing some of your unique handywork in your yards and homes. I get inspired by some of your decorations and it sparks my creative juices flowing of how I can better my home/yard 😊; keep up the good work!*

*It is a goal of mine to meet more of my beautiful Birchwood City/Clearview Manor neighbors because I know you have some “Good News” to share with me; you never know who you would be helping; so, get ready! Not only that, I would like to know what you would like to see in our newsletter that would be beneficial not only for you but our neighbors. **Any ideas?** I want to hear them.*

*I applaud 🙌🙌 **YOU, Our Neighbors,** for every effort you made and are making, to be “A Good Neighbor,” regardless of the challenges you may face. **“Nothing can dim the light that shines from within.” Mya Angelou. Blessings to you all!***



### **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.

(Continuation from BCCA Publicity Committee)

### **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.