



BIRCHWOOD-CLEARVIEW

NEWSLETTER

“A Community That Cares” *APRIL 2024 EDITION*

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

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

Social media: Follow us on [Instagram](#) and friend us [Facebook](#)

Support Our Community – BCCA Annual Membership - \$25 per household

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**
- **Use of Birchwood Park Building – Dial 301-699-2255**



UPCOMINGEVENTS

Community-Wide Meeting – Please join us in-person on Thursday, April 18, 2024, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, for all who live in the Birchwood-Clearview Community, at the Birchwood Recreational 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 your questions via email to bccaconcerns@gmail.com.

Saturdays @ 9am - Fitness in Birchwood Park with Planet Fitness Coach, Will Chambers, is now back in Birchwood City Recreation Park under the Pavilion. See you there!

Wednesday, April 24, 2024 @ 12 noon and 6:30 pm - “Getting Financially Fit in 2024”, see attached flyer on last page for more information.

May 1st – **Start the Salad Challenge** for 31 days with Rosaline Law, Health/Fitness/Wellness Coach and Herbalist – on Facebook or checkout her website: Heavenlybodieslive.com. Ms. Law gave us some very good nutritional information this pass Wednesday on Zoom. If you are interested, more information will be posted via email and on BCCA website.

From the Desk of BCCA President, Sylvia Griffin

Healthy
Living

SPRING INTO ACTION!

April is a month associated with springtime, a new beginning, a freshness; not only with the sight of beautiful flowers, green lawns but it can also be associated with a renewed mindset. So, speaking of a new mindset, we need to be aware of how we are handling stress in our lives that can affect our mindset.

April is **National Stress Awareness Month** which can bring attention to the negative impact of stress that so many individuals deal with. In the fast-paced world we live in, stress has become an ever-present companion for many of us. From the pressures of work and personal life to worldly events that can impact our daily routines, stress can manifest in various forms and affect people of all ages and backgrounds.

Recognizing stress isn't always easy to identify, it can manifest physically, emotionally, and reflecting in behaviors. As a community, let us stay in touch with not only family and friends but also your neighbors. As we negotiate life complexities, take the time to prioritize on how we are handling stress and managing on maintaining our health and wellbeing. Its beneficial if we can recognize the signs of stress, understanding its impact, we can adopt healthy coping mechanisms, cultivate resilience, and thrive in the face of diversity.

Believe it or not, we were made for community, we were not made to do life alone. We need people to walk alongside us, encourage us, and point us toward hope when life is stressful and overwhelming. I believe hope and joy can also be found in encouraging other people as we handle the stress in our lives. I also believe in a community, we can find hope, love, and peace as we come alongside and encourage each other.

Fortunately, there are various strategies to help us manage stress and promote overall well-being such as being mindful and meditation, physical activity, healthy lifestyle choices, manage your time, social support (friends, family or maybe a support group), and if need be, seek professional help.

Here are a few resources on handling stress related issues:
<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/media/index-anxiety-disorders>
<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/media/index-bipolar-disorder>
<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/media/index-depression>

“Let us continue keeping our Birchwood Community thriving.”

FROM the BCCA Community Services Committee Chair, Lucy Hall



Transportation Services in Prince George's County for Senior Citizens

Senior Transportation Service is a special service of Call-a-Bus providing regularly scheduled curb-to-curb transportation throughout Prince George's County to County seniors (**aged 60 and older**) and persons with disabilities. See below for description of programs:

Nutrition Program

Senior County residents may receive free transportation to group sites for a nutritional lunch and companionship. **Senior residents who are homebound**, and cannot attend a nutrition site, may be eligible to have meals delivered to their residence.

Medical Program

County seniors and residents with disabilities may receive **transportation throughout the County for medical purposes, especially dialysis**. For on-going or permanent transportation for medical purposes, such as dialysis treatment, please request this service in writing and send it to:

Prince George's County
Office of Transportation
Attention: Transit Division
9400 Peppercorn Place
Suite 320
Largo, MD 20774

General Transportation

There is limited transportation for County seniors to visit senior activity centers, shopping trips, and other recreational purposes.

For more information on all of these programs, please call 301-499-8603.

Please contact me (lucyhall782@gmail.com) to volunteer on this committee to help keep our residents informed of available services for our community.

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



2024 Prince George's County 54th Annual Beautification Awards

Who May Enter? Any person or group maintaining property in Prince George's County is invited to submit an application (this includes professionally designed and maintained gardens).

What about Judging? Each garden will be evaluated by accredited judges of the University of Maryland Extension Master Gardeners of Prince George's County.

For more information and application, click on link [Beautification Awards | PGCBC Beautification Committee \(pgcbeautification.com\)](#) or contact Sharon Sims-Colbert, Sharon.sims2@verizon.net, 301-455-4355:

From the BCCA Beautification Committee Chair, Betty Woods



Good neighbors and friends, hello! Are you enjoying the new mercies you've been given that allows you to see this day and the awesome spring weather? The pollen count is high but that can't compare to the excitement and joy this time of the year brings. **I hope you're gearing up to participate in the cleanup activities we'll be doing on the 27th.** In addition to cleaning our community, we get an

opportunity to fellowship with each other, involve our children and teach valuable lessons on what community pride and involvement means.

We hope that you join us for **Growing Green with Pride Day, Saturday, April 27, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. Please meet us at the Birchwood Recreation Center, under the Pavilion for light refreshments, supplies and instruction.** For more information, contact Betty Woods, bttwood@gmail.com, 301-651-4318 or Sharon Sims-Colbert, Sharon.sims2@verizon.net, 301-455-4355.

RAIN
— or —
SHINE

GROWING GREEN
Prince George's
county MARYLAND
WITH PRIDE

Help beautify our county by joining neighbors in your community for a day of cleaning, weed removal and planting.

SATURDAY
APRIL 27
8AM-12PM

Registration is required for participation. Please click the link below to register:
<http://MyPGC.us/GrowingGreen>
by April 19th, 2024

Students may earn service learning hours!
Contact Tonya Hairston at
GrowingGreenWithPride@co.pg.md.us
or 301-499-8641 for more information.



Also, I'd like for us to start a **"swap shop"** where we swap ideas, propagated plants and other items that might be useful or wanted by someone else. I have an abundance of **Lambs Ear** (see picture) that I'd like to share. It's a perennial that can serve as ground covering for bare areas or mix it between your blossoming plants. **I'd like for someone to gift me propagated indoor plants and pollinators.** **Let's do a seed swap....what are your ideas. Let me know by sending me an email bttwoods@gmail.com.**

Looking forward to seeing you. Enjoy this great weather and let's remember that each day is because of His great mercies.

Blessings!

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.**



Spotlighting: Mr. Roland Johnson

Mr. Johnson, is one of our neighbors who lives on Colony Road, and has blessed our community by cutting the front entryway on Birchwood Drive, all last year for free!

A little bit about Mr. Johnson. He has been married for 43 years, lived in the community for over 25 years, he has three (3) girls and six (6) grandchildren and loves to travel. He is also a “Good Neighbor,” knowing, checking, and helping them, when possible.

Mr. Johnson, stays on the go, I would see him going up and down the street on his riding lawnmower, coming from cutting several of his client’s lawns in the neighborhood.

Mr. Johnson, BCCA and community would like to say a big “Thank You Very Much” for serving our community and being a good neighbor. God Bless you Sir.! 🙏😊

APRIL BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



“HAPPY BIRTHDAY” TO ALL THOSE WHO ARE CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH!

May your day be blessed and filled with joy!

Yours Truly - Veda - April 26

Zodiacs – Aries (April 1st – 20th) and Taurus (April 21st - 31th)

Flowers –Aries (Honeysuckle) and Taurus (Poppy)

Birthstones – Aries (Aquamarine/Diamond) and Taurus (Diamond/Emerald)



Rediscover the Library! They offer all kinds of events for the whole family at different locations in Prince Georges’ County. For instance: **Oxon Hill Library - 6200 Oxon Hill Rd., Oxon Hill, MD, features:**

Kids Achieve Club | Club de niños; ayuda para las tareas escolares

Every Tuesday, 4:00pm - 6:00pm - Author Room - Homework help and reading practice for students in grades 1 through 6. Ayuda con las tareas y práctica de la lectura para los estudiantes en los grados de 1 al 6.

AGE GROUP: | Elementary (5-12 yrs) | Click on link: [Kids Achieve Club | Club de niños; ayuda para las tareas escolares - Prince George's County Memorial Library System \(pgcmpls.info\)](https://www.pgcmpls.info)

Locate an event for you! [Events - Prince George's County Memorial Library System \(pgcmpls.info\)](https://www.pgcmpls.info)

A Few Pictures Featuring - **GROWN FOLKS NIGHT OUT** – Friday, March 15, 2024 - Thanks Sylvia G.



From BCCA Membership Committee Chair, *Gloria Hernandez Saunders*



Membership Drive

Objective/Purposes:

To promote, foster and protect the welfare of the community, improve the civic recreational, social, and economic status and condition of the community.

Membership:

Any person 18 or more years of age living within the boundaries of Birchwood City/Clearview Manor shall be eligible for membership in BCCA.

BCCA Executive Board:

President - Sylvia Griffin
Vice Pres. - Elton Jones
Secretary - Wanda Gross
Treasurer – Percell Walker

Committee Chair members:

Beautification – Betty Woods
Communication – Felica Pratt
Community Service – Lucy Hall
Diversity – Silvia Cruz
Education – Michelle Ross
Hospitality – Lottie McCoy
Legislation – Donna Joyner
Publicity – Veda Dixon
Recreation/Youth – Emily Mencino Cruz
Ways and Means – Sharon Sims-Colbert

Membership Chair:

Gloria Hernandez Saunders
army320@verizon.net

Birchwood City/Clearview Manor Community Association, Inc., Oxon Hill, MD

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 2024 (January – December), by completing this form and enclosing your **annual membership fee of \$25.00 per household.**

Benefits include but not limited to:

- **Community Events** such as **Community Day, Grown Folks Night Out, Breakfast with Santa, Health/Educational Seminars, Back to School Supplies, etc.**
- **Scholarship funding provided to our youth to further their education;**
- **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;" and more.**

Please complete the Membership Form and mail it with your check/money order payable to BCCA.

Mail to: BCCA, P.O. Box 7, Oxon Hill, MD 20745-0007, Attn: Mrs. Hernandez Saunders, BCCA Membership Chair.

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

You may also pay your membership dues (\$25) via **Zelle**, login to your bank app, send money using Zelle. Search for BCCA’s Treasurer, Percell Walker’s, email: **Percellwalker@verizon.net - BIRCHWOOD CITY COMMUNITY ASSOC or CashApp - \$birchwoodBCCA (Percellwalker@verizon.net)**. Be sure to complete the form below, and send it via email to Mrs. Hernandez Saunders at army320@verizon.net.

DATE: _____

NAME of RESIDENT(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ EMAIL _____

Membership Dues \$ _____

Donation for Scholarship \$ _____

General Donation \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____ or amount paid via Zelle or CashApp \$ _____
(Remember, when using CashApp, please include your name/description (membership) in comment section.)

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 more information about BCCA’s Newsletters and Events, click link:
<https://welcometobcca.org/about/>**

THANK YOU FOR JOINING AND SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

What's Your Plan for Financial Freedom?

- Are you prepared for the rising cost of your child's college education?
- Will you outlive your money, or will your money outlive you?
- If you suffered a heart attack, stroke, cancer, kidney failure, how will you pay your bills?
- Does your current life insurance contain living benefits?
- Do you know what living benefits are in a life insurance policy and how they work?
- Are you taking full advantage of your employer's retirement plan?
- Are you losing tax dollars unnecessarily?
- Are you protected from foreclosure and/or eviction with Mortgage/Rent Protection?



GETTING FINANCIALLY FIT IN

2024

You are invited to a
FREE- No-Obligation WORKSHOP
Wednesday, April 24th 2024 @ 12 noon and 6:30
pm



Topics to be discussed:

- ❑ *How Money Works*
- ❑ *Getting Out Of Debt*
- ❑ *Leaving a Legacy*
- ❑ *How to Prepare for a Tax-Free Retirement*
- ❑ *The 'New Kind' of Life Insurance*

RSVP Contact: Sylvia Griffin, President
Phone: 240-460-8743
Please RSVP by April 15th 2024
2 Sessions to choose from

You don't want to miss this!

Host: Sylvia Griffin, President

Co-Host: Melvin Latimer

Presenters: Anthony Stewart
of American Classic Agency and
Stewart Financial Services

Workshop Location:

Birchwood Civic Association

1331 Fenwood Avenue

Oxon Hill, MD 20745

www.AClassic.com www.SFSInc.co

SFS Office Phone: 301-794-4290



Anthony Stewart
President/CEO
ACA and SFS



Melvin Latimer
Financial Services
Professional

