



BIRCHWOOD-CLEARVIEW

NEWSLETTER

“A Community That Cares” *SEPTEMBER 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](#)

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 – **will be held on Thursday, September 19th** for all who live in the Birchwood-Clearview Community, at the Birchwood Recreation Community Center, address: 1331 Fenwood Avenue, Oxon Hill, MD 20745.

Come and join us for a very engaging/brainstorming problem solving meeting. Voice your opinions on things you like and don’t like about the community and help us continue to enhance our community and make it even better for all of us. Your voice needs to be heard as part of BCCA’s new “Fishbone Problem-Solving Exercise.”

Health and Wellness


- **Fitness in the Park - Saturdays @ 9am** - Fitness at Birchwood Park with Planet Fitness Coach, Will Chambers, **under the Pavilion (weather permitting).**
- **Line Dancing - Wednesdays from 1:15pm – 2:15pm**, Birchwood Recreation Center – **Get out there and learn to line dance with instructor Mary Coleman.** Use your mind, learn a dance and increase your steps; because your health is your wealth!

October 5, 2024 – Birchwood City/Cleaview Manor Community Day – We are inviting all residents to come out and celebrate with us on Community Day! Don't stay home, bring the whole family! See flyer below.

If you would like to participate as a **VENDOR or VOLUNTEER**, please contact Veda Dixon via email H15642vad@hotmail.com, for further information. **Many Volunteers are needed and is a good opportunity for high school student to earn credit as a volunteer.**

You may also make a donation: Case(s) of water, packages of chips and/or cookies or monetary donation via CashApp, Zelle, or PayPal using BCCA's Treasurer, Percell Walker's email – Percellwalker@verizon.net.

BIRCHWOOD-CLEARVIEW MANOR COMMUNITY Day



OCTOBER 5, 2024 | 11AM - 4PM

Join us for a vibrant and joyous gathering with games, fun raffles, 3-on-3 basketball, a custom motorcycle contest, free food, and various vendors as we welcome our neighbors in the community!



**Birchwood Community Park and
Recreational Center
1331 Fenwood Ave, Oxon Hill, Md 20745**

welcometobcca.org

From the Desk of BCCA President, Sylvia Griffin

Hispanic
Heritage Month
September 15-October 15



The Birchwood City/Clearview Manor Community would like to recognize and celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. It's a wonderful opportunity in recognizing the richness of the Hispanic culture, their history as well as their contribution of the Hispanic and Latino communities. Birchwood is fortunate to be a part of such diversity in our

wonderful community. Many of our ancestors come from different parts of the world that bring unique experiences and culture to share with others. Let's look at "What Does Hispanic Mean?" Well, the term "Hispanic" generally refers to people who speak Spanish or from other Spanish-speaking countries, however, it has evolved on broader understanding of identity. Such as, the United States (U.S.) Census defines Hispanic or Latino people who trace their roots to Spanish-speaking countries in the Caribbean, South America, Central America, or Spain along with other locations.

The Hispanic cultural has an enormous impact and contribution in the U.S., it shaped and has great influence in many areas such as, literature, politics, food and especially music and dance (salsa)! This ethnic group is a growing population, as of 2020, Hispanics are the largest racial minority group in the U.S., making up over 18% of the total population, their growing numbers are influencing everything from language and education to commerce and entertainment. As more, and more young people of Hispanic descent come of age, their influence on American culture will continue to grow. In looking ahead let our Birchwood/Clearview Community embrace this celebration because it is also a recognition of our future along with other ethnic groups as we live alongside each other; no matter the culture it's still a call to continue advocating for equality, recognition and representation for all. The celebration encourages all to learn more about cultural traditions, histories, and experiences of our Hispanic/Latino communities, fostering greater appreciation and understanding of each other.

I would like a "Call To Action" to our Hispanic/Latino Birchwood - Clearview residents to connect with the Birchwood City-Clearview Community Association (BCCA) right here where you live. Get involve with the Association so we all can work together in making a collective impact in our community. Come out to the monthly community meetings that are scheduled every third Thursday of the month. Be that one that can help make a difference in our community.

SPOTLIGHT ON BCCA COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE



This Committee's mission is to keep the community informed of available services that benefit the welfare of the community. This includes health care, public transportation, senior citizens, veteran's affairs, employment/training opportunities and other community service-related areas. This Committee recently assisted the family of Mrs. Edith King in coordinating a "Meet and Greet" for her. Mrs. King was one of our long-time seniors and a community dedicated volunteer. She provided much service to our community by coordinating the community collection of food donations for a local food pantry. She has since moved to NJ. (See photos below.)



Mrs. Edith King and 5 BCCA Presidents (1 current and 4 former) at the "Meet and Greet for Edith" in August 2024. See below for other residents and our PG County Police C.O.P. representative greeting her.





FREE
for Maryland
Residents 65+

Senior Call Check

A daily call to check on
residents home alone.

CALL 1-866-50-CHECK

or Register Online
aging.maryland.gov



The Community Services Committee has provided information to the community on the new Maryland program for seniors. It is called **"Senior Call Check" for Maryland resident 65 and older. CALL: 1-866-502-0560**

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Every day a telephone call will be placed to a participant at a regularly scheduled time. These calls will take place between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. If the participant does not answer the first call, there will be two more calls. If those calls go unanswered, additional calls will be made to notify an alternative person who is

selected by the participant during program enrollment. The alternate will then be encouraged to check on the senior adult. The failure of the participant and alternate to answer calls may result in a Welfare Check by local law enforcement.

Source: Please click on: <https://md.aft.org/covid-19/maryland-senior-call-check-program#:~:text=Senior%20Call%20Check%20phone%20lines,within%2024%20hours%20Monday%20%E2%80%93%20Saturday>

BCCA Community Services Committee will be providing similar information to residents by using BCCA Newsletter and periodic emails sent out by BCCA Publicity Committee. Please share this information with your neighbors and tell them to send their email address to birchwood.clearview@gmail.com in order to receive the BCCA Newsletter and the periodic informational emails.

BCCA Committee on Community Services - Lucy Hall, Chair

Gloria Hernandez Saunders - Vice Chair

Committee Members: Barbara Bishop, Stephanie Moore, Priscilla Thomas Oredugba

NOTE: When you join BCCA for 2024, please join our Committee also and help us keep the community informed of information on available services.

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



2024 Beautification Award Program: To all nominated and Beautification Winners of the Prince George's County "2024 Beautification Program"
Congratulations!!

Notices of your status letters dated September 1, 2024, should have been received in the last couple of days for individuals that will be acknowledged. Congratulations to all that have participated along with the honorees!!

The annual presentation will be held on **September 25, 2024**, at the Newton White Manor located at 2708 Enterprise Road, Mitchellville Maryland. Light refreshments will be served at 5:00 P.M. with the Program promptly starts at 6:00 P.M. **Please RSVP today to confirm your attendance to Ms. Esther Mitchell at 301-226-7437 which is located on your notice.**

It is my desire that we sit together to capture the honorees at one table as the Birchwood-Clearview Community. Please contact me and advise of your attendance via email Sharon.sims2@verizon.net.

**The Birchwood City – Clearview Manor Community
2024 Inaugural – “Back To School” Supplies Drive**

Every “Cause” has a story. Our 2024 Inaugural “Back To School” Supplies Drive is no exception. Due to emergency repairs required at our normal and customary venue, the event was delayed for two weeks. The communities drive, along with a motto I personal have used since I first heard it kicked in and captured the essence of these words; “Keep Our Children in the “Center of the Table”!! Below outlines the number of school age children from Pre-Kindergartens to 12th Grade that were the benefactor of our efforts by schools. After the initial event, the community was able to deliver to our community school packets of school supplies to include adopting the entire Pre-Kindergarten Class were every child, 30, received supplies that will support this new learning experience as they commence this exciting educational journey and expand their knowledge, motor skills and social skills that promote ways of interacting with their peers to the upper classes members and staff. Well supplied students in general reflect better learning experiences!!

Respectfully, Sharon R. Sims-Colbert, Event Chair

Accokeek Elem.	Barnaby Elem.	Benjamin Stoddert M.S.	Crossland H.S.	D.C. Kipp	Flintstone Elem.	Fort Washington Elem.	Glassmanor Elem.	Oxon Hill Elem.	Oxon Hill Middle	Oxon Hill H.S.	Patterson Elem.	Potomac H.S.	Valleyview	Other	115
1	4	1	2	2	1	1	15	1	7	3	4	2	66	5	



These pictures represent the assemble lines of supplies for each grade of primary education experiences.



OUR “VOLUNTEE’S”

Burnetta Simmons * Brailen Simmons * Elton Jones, Sr. * Jordan Sims * Lucy Hall * Mark Marshall * Michelle Ross * Sharon Sims * Sylvia Griffin * Veda Dixon ,
Member of the Community &

“ Sisterz With Vision Social Club” - *Tracie Weaver-President & Shana McBean-Vice President



OUR “BENEFACTORS”

Betty Woods * Veda Dixon * Wanda Gross * Michelle Ross * Lucy Hall & Elton Jones, Sr. /
Lodge #92 - Fairmont Heights, Maryland * Darlene Fletcher * Sisterz With Visionz Social Club
* Ade Maiyegun * Veronica Vines *



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.**

Hello and Hola, como estas!

Lucy Hall shared a text comment to a few of BCCA members that was “Good News” from an Uber Driver and it is a testament to our community. The driver said, “whenever I come into this community, I notice how nice and peaceful it is. I want to move in this community. What is it called?”

Ygenia Bound commented that someone else said to her, “it’s so peaceful when I visit this neighborhood.”

It is a wonderful thing when others recognize our community and make positive comments about it. As **Sylvia Griffin** stated, It’s through the years of hard work and dedicated residents in helping to shape a “Community That Cares”.

Let us all be proud and continue making our community a good place to live.



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.

Residential Street Cleaning Program – The Street Cleaning Program was implemented on September 3, 2024, and the yellow Zone 11 signs were put up in our community. Therefore, when notified of the date the street cleaning will take place, if possible, please removed your vehicles parked on the street so that our community can be cleaned. Thank you kindly!

No Smoking in the 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.**

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



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

May your day be blessed and filled with joy and peace!

From BCCA Membership Committee Chair, *Gloria Hernandez Saunders*

BCCA MEMBERSHIP FORM



**Birchwood City-Clearview Manor
Community Association, Inc.,
Oxon Hill, MD 20745 (BCCA)**

BCCA 2024 Membership

Drive

(January-December)

Annual Membership Fee: \$25.00 per household

BCCA's Mission is to enhance the quality of life for residents of the Birchwood City-Clearview Manor Community. This is accomplished through community volunteers and membership dues from residents.

Benefits Derived From Membership Dues Include: Scholarships to further education; Family Community Day, Breakfast with Santa, back-to-school supplies, etc.; newsletter printing & distribution to keep residents updated on pertinent information; County-wide Clean-up projects and tree planting; construction of and upkeep of the walking trail, tennis and basketball courts, the pavilion, and the upcoming new playground at Birchwood Park; and much, much more.

Please complete this 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, Membership Chair.

OR pay your membership dues 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 use **CashApp** - \$birchwoodBCCA (Percellwalker@verizon.net)

NOTE: If you use Zelle or CashApp, Be sure to complete this form and email it to Mrs. Hernandez Saunders at army320@verizon.net

DATE _____

Name(s) of Residents _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ **E-mail** _____

Membership Dues\$ ___ **Scholarship Donation\$** ___ **General Donation\$** ___ **Total \$** ___

Would you like to volunteer in any of these areas? Membership Recreation/Youth
 Publicity Education Ways and means/Sponsored Activities Beautification
 Hospitality Communication Community Services Legislation

THANK YOU FOR JOINING BCCA FOR THE YEAR 2024!