



## BIRCHWOOD-CLEARVIEW

# NEWSLETTER

"A Community That Cares" NOVEMBER 2024 EDITION

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

Website: [www.welcometobcca.org](http://www.welcometobcca.org) Email: [birchwood.clearview@gmail.com](mailto: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](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

**Join us in our last Community-Wide Meeting for this year.** The meeting will be held in-person on **Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, from 7pm – 9pm**, for everyone living in the Birchwood-Clearview Community, at the Birchwood City Recreation Center, 1331 Fenwood Avenue, Oxon Hill, MD 20745.

We had a very engaging/brainstorming meeting last month and an Action Registry was created. You may review the Action Registry and April Minutes of Fishbone Problem Solving Method on our website link: [2024 BCCA ACTION REGISTRY - Birchwood Clearview Community Association in Oxon Hill, MD.](#)

**So, come out and join us, 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.**

**BCCA is seeking a Spanish/English speaking interpreter to volunteer to attend our monthly meeting to translate English to Spanish and vice-a-versa when needed. For further information, please contact Sylvia Griffin, BCCA President, Text or call 240-460-2342, if you are available. Thank you!**

**Health and Wellness Classes:**

**Line Dancing – Wednesdays @ 1:15** – Mary Coleman will be instructing the line dance class, so come out and dance your stress away, have fun and stay active.

- **Fitness in the Park - Saturdays @ 9am** - Fitness at Birchwood Park with Planet Fitness Coach, Will Chambers, **will be held on Zoom for the winter months starting this Saturday, November 23, 2024.** Join us on Zoom in the comfort of your home.

**November 23 – Glassmanor: THANKSGIVING LUCHEON from 11am – 1pm – Fee \$10.** Purchase tickets at [PGPARKS.COM](http://PGPARKS.COM) – Ticket Code: GMCC-SPEC-GA-20241123 or for information call 301-567-6033.

**Sunday, December 8th – Time with Santa – Save the date!**

**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATION**



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

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

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



As the air gets crisp and the leaves fall, November is the perfect time to come together as a community to celebrate the season of gratitude. It's been a year I like to think of growth, connection, and positive change, and we are so fortunate to be a part of such a vibrant and engaged neighborhood.

I want to just take a moment and express gratitude for all of you-our residents who make this community a wonderful place to live and we must continue with that commitment and dedication. Just alone with your involvement, enthusiasm, and willingness to volunteer have

made a significant impact . . . from organizing our community events staying on top of maintaining our park and common areas and much more.

I also encourage each of you to come out and attend our monthly community-wide meeting to be informed of new things that are happening and discussing upcoming projects. This is an important opportunity to stay involved and have your voice heard.

**Shout Out! To Systaz with Visionz Social Club** in partnering with Birchwood/Clearview in helping to make our community events a great success (BCCA Community Day, Trunk and Treat, and Time with Santa).

My final note of thanks for the holiday season. Let's just take a moment to appreciate the spirit of unity and neighborly kindness that makes our community so special. Whether you're gathering with loved ones, volunteering, or simply enjoying the changing season, BCCA hope you all have a warm and joyful Holiday.

***Happy Thanksgiving from BCCA!***

**From the BCCA Education Committee Acting Chair, Michelle Ross**

## **Doris Saunders Community Scholarship 2024 - 2025 Academic Year**

On behalf of the Birchwood City-Clearview Manor Community and the family of Mrs. Doris Saunders, we congratulate **Darrius D. Richmond**, selected as the 2024 recipient of the Doris Saunders Scholarship, in the amount of \$400.00. His outstanding academic achievements, commitment to his church as a musician and his service to his community have truly paid off.

This scholarship recognizes his scholastic achievements, volunteer work, dedication and potential to become a leader and an asset to his community. The Birchwood City-Clearview Manor community is honored to support his education at Elizabeth City State University. The scholarship will go towards his tuition.

**Darrius,**

***Please accept our heartfelt congratulations on this well-deserved accomplishment. We look forward to seeing the great things you will achieve in the future!***

**Darrius D. Richmond**

### **Doris Saunders Community Scholarship Submission**

In the 21st century, higher education and community involvement are vital for individual and societal progress. Higher education provides individuals with critical thinking skills, specialized knowledge, and the ability to adapt to an ever-changing job market. As technology and globalization shape our world, a well-educated populace is essential for innovation and economic growth. Higher education also promotes personal

growth and social mobility, enabling people to pursue careers that match their passions and strengths.

Community involvement, on the other hand, fosters a sense of belonging and collective responsibility. In a world increasingly interconnected yet fragmented, active participation in community initiatives strengthens social cohesion and addresses local challenges. It encourages civic engagement, ensuring that diverse voices are heard in decision-making processes. This involvement builds networks of support, enhances empathy, and promotes a shared understanding of common goals.

Together, higher education and community involvement create a foundation for a resilient and informed society. They empower individuals to not only succeed personally but also contribute meaningfully to their communities. As we navigate complex global challenges, the synergy between educated minds and engaged citizens will be crucial for fostering a more equitable and sustainable future.

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



We are in the mist of the Fall Holiday Season and the close of 2024!! Let us start, Michelle, Denise and I by ***"Wishing You & Yours" a Happy Thanksgiving*** coupled with mouth-watering dishes, desserts, and specials dishes shared with family & friends near and far.

A "Blessed Christmas Time" surrounded by all the traditional items that are staples in your home menu.

Representing the Birchwood City/Clearview Manor Community at ***the Annual "Police Thanksgiving Day Celebration Days***, Thursday & Friday, November 14 & 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Prince George's County District 4th Headquarter. We, Ms. Michelle Ross & Ms. Sharon R. Sims-Colbert, set-up, served, decorated and celebrated with our Officers. From the Leadership Levels and the COPS Division, many participated in our community events all during the year, and this is one of the ways we give back each year on behalf of our community.





## From the BCCA Community Services Chair, Lucy Hall



NATIONAL FAMILY  
CAREGIVERS MONTH

As declared from the White House and state and local governments, November is the **National Family Caregivers Month**. It is a month-long observance that aims to:

- Honor the work of family caregivers.
- Raise awareness of the challenges caregivers face.
- Provide resources and support to caregivers.
- Encourage involvement of communities.
- Promote the wellbeing of caregivers.
- Advocate for caregiver-friendly policies.

As stated in the White House's **Proclamation on National Family Caregivers Month 2024**, "Family caregivers are the backbone of our Nation, making tremendous sacrifices to be there for the people who need and cherish them most."

In an October 2024 Bulletin, Maryland Department of Aging announced the receipt of a \$490,000 grant to support family caregivers, specifically to increase outreach, advance partnerships, and strengthen services and support for family caregivers. The Bulletin noted that according to AARP, in 2023, there were an estimated 760,000 unpaid caregivers in MD. For further information, the bulletin referenced Maryland Access Point as the gateway to long-term services and support in MD. The organization may be reached by calling **1-844-627-5465**, going online at [marylandaccesspoint.211md.org](http://marylandaccesspoint.211md.org) or visiting [aging.maryland.gov](http://aging.maryland.gov) for more information.

**A Big *Thank You* to our Community Family Caregivers!**

## 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).**

Thank you to **SYSTAZ with VISIONZ SC/BCCA** and the community that helped make the **TRUNK OR TREAT** with Spook Room a spooky good time for the kids!

Below are a few pictures taken by Sylvia Griffin:

SYSTAZ WITH VISIONZ SC / BIRCHWOOD CITY - CLEARVIEW COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PRESENT...

**FREE ENTRY**

GLOR GURONZ  
Smoky City  
SWV SOCIAL CLUB

CONTEMPORARY WHEELS  
TRUCKS PLUS

**TRUNK OR TREAT**

H-WEEN

FEATURING OUR SPOOK ROOM

**OCT 31**

BIRCHWOOD CITY COMMUNITY CENTER  
1331 FENWOOD AVE OXON HILL MD  
STARTS 6:30PM TO 10:00PM





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](mailto:Percellwalker@verizon.net) - BIRCHWOOD CITY COMMUNITY ASSOC., **OR** use **CashApp** - \$birchwoodBCCA ([Percellwalker@verizon.net](mailto: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](mailto: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