



BIRCHWOOD-CLEARVIEW

NEWSLETTER

"A Community That Cares" MARCH 2025 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**



UPCOMING EVENTS

March and April Community-Wide Meetings are cancelled.

Join us in-person on Thursday, May 15, 2025, for the next Community-Wide Meeting at 7pm at 1331 Fenwood Avenue, Oxon Hill, MD (if via Zoom, the link will be emailed and listed on BCCA website www.welcometobcca.org).

In our previous meetings, we have been working to identify challenges in our community by using the Fishbone Problem Solving tool. One Priority Action has been identified and assigned action items has been listed on the Action Registry for your review. The Action Registry and April Minutes of Fishbone Problem Solving Method is listed on our website link: [2024 BCCA ACTION REGISTRY - Birchwood Clearview Community Association in Oxon Hill, MD](#).

Please 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 Line Dancing Class – Wednesdays – 12 – 2pm –**
Come out and enjoy line dance instructor Mary Coleman and the Birchwood line dancers as they learn a dance and groove to the music. Stay fit, stay active and live well!
- **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. Join us on Zoom in the comfort of your home. Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86822318584> - Meeting ID: 868 2231 8584**



BCCA is looking for **VOLUNTEERS** (18 years and older) to fill committee chair vacancies as well as to serve on various committees.

If you have been asking yourself...how can I serve my community? Ask no longer, we have something for you to do. Contact Veda Dixon via email h15642vad@hotmail.com.

Join a Committee Today! – Just 1 hour (per week or month) of volunteer services will go a long way!

Calling all Youth to serve as well or earn Community Service.

Committees include: Membership; Recreation/Youth; Publicity; Education; Ways and Means; Beautification; Hospitality; Communication; Community Services; Legislation; Diversity; and Event Planning.

From the Desk of BCCA President, Sylvia Griffin



It is already March and spring is in the air, time is really going by extremely fast as they say, "Where has time gone". Even though March is moving fast however, let us bring attention to shed light on few various important causes. From health wellness to social justice, advocacy, and action. Here are just a few of awareness themes for March.

Women History Month: dedicating, honoring, and celebrating the contributions of women throughout history. I feel it's time to recognize the achievements of women in various fields and acknowledge the ongoing fight for equality. Not only women that made history but also, celebrating those who are currently and tirelessly advocating for many of injustices and inequality that women stand in the need of today.

National Nutrition Month: Birchwood residents let us all focus, as well as encourage, each other in making informed food choices and getting involve with physical activities. Shout Out

to Ygenia Bounds, Will Chambers and Veda Dixon and other participants in leading Birchwood's health and wellness classes on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Autoimmune Disease Awareness Month: which affects millions of people worldwide, yet they are often misunderstood and underdiagnosed.

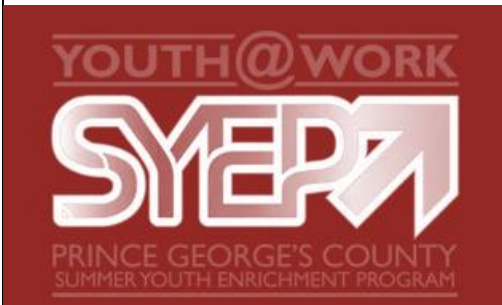
National Social Work Month: We all know the importance of a Social Worker which is a vital role in supporting individuals and communities, also advocating for social justice, addressing systematic inequalities. Recognize those that have contributed to this field of important work in creating positive change.

GET INVOLVED: Help Birchwood to educate and bring awareness to our community on these important themes. Participate in local events, fundraisers or volunteer opportunities to these causes.

Let us join in making a positive impact and create a more inclusive and compassionate Birchwood Community.

From the BCCA Community Services Committee Chair, Lucy Hall

Prince George's County 2025 Summer Youth Enrichment Program (Excerpts)



The Summer Youth Enrichment Program (SYEP) offers County youth and young adults **ages 14 to 24** with enriching and constructive summer work experiences in community organizations, private sector companies, and government agencies.

We strive to provide young people with the opportunity to:

- **Learn new job skills while working**
- **Experience professional development opportunities**
- **Gain exposure to a diverse range of careers**
- **Participate in job readiness training**
- **Network with industry leaders**
- **Build your positive working relationships**
- **Earn pay for meaningful and rewarding work experiences**

This year's program runs from July 1 until August 8.

Get Prepared: Five steps will help you to prepare for these and other job opportunities.

- 1. Create a work-appropriate email address.**
- 2. Prepare a resume and highlight your accomplishments.**
- 3. Gather your personal documents.**

4. Open a bank account.
5. Sign up for a job readiness class.

Check out our Getting Prepared Guide. It's full of tips and information to help you get ready for the summer program.

How to Apply: Applications for summer job opportunities accepted from March 1- March 31.

NOTICE: Limited opportunities are available. Candidates are selected based on a random lottery system and not all who apply are able to be selected.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, GO TO WEBSITE:

https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/departments-offices/human-resources-management/youth-employment-and-internships/summer-youth-enrichment-program?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

From the BCCA Event Planning Committee Chair, Ygenia Bounds



Health and Wellness is continuing with Line Dance Class every Wednesday from 12 to 2pm. Please bring your friends, neighbors and relatives to join us; all are welcomed!

We're looking into securing hand dancing classes, so with that in mind, bring your partner! 😊

Also look out for another game night (forth coming). Since the days are lighter longer, game night will be from 5pm to 7pm on Wednesdays.

I would love to have a **Mother's Day Brunch**, but volunteers are needed to help with this event. **Don't everyone volunteer at once 😊, let me know.**

Hope that you are all encouraged to attend and make these events a success. If you think of some other things you would like to see happen, please let me know and we can plan together.

We're on this train together, so let's go! Ygenia 🙌

From the BCCA Beautification Chair, Betty Woods



Great day neighbors and friends!

We've been gifted with some fantastic weather as Spring gets ready to make her majestic entrance. Beware of that fickle side as she teases us with bright sunshine then reverts back to the frigid chill of winter.

This brings to mind the word renewal. As believers, we're to renew our minds, think on positive things and do good deeds. In our everyday life, we renew licenses, contracts and prescriptions. As we prepare to enter the spring season, let's get ready to renew a few things...the appearance of our homes with a coat of fresh paint, repairing those things we've neglected like a loose and dangling shutter, a leaky faucet or whatever it is that needs to be refreshed or given a new look.

As you work outside on your lawns and gardens ... refresh (renew your soil). Add a fresh coat of soil to the old, mix it well and add some nutrients like soil enhancers, peat moss or fertilizer. Your vegetation will reward you with bright colors, healthy roots and some good eats coupled with the satisfaction of enjoying the beauty and pride you feel as a result of your work.



As you well know, our world today has taken a tipsy turn that has and will wreak havoc on so many. Those who can speak out with the power to make a difference has been struck with muteness and fear. It seems that wrong has become right as per one man who is drunk with the wine of the world of power. We cry out like King David

in Psalm 13:1-6, how long oh Lord? How long will this madness continue.... I just want to encourage each of you to hang in there and trust God. None of this has taken Him by surprise. Remember Jeremiah 29: He has a purpose and plan for each of us. He feels our pain and hears our cry. HE, not the person who wants to be king and sit on a throne is, and always will be in control. He is not influenced with the billions of dollars some have. He owns the cattle on a thousand hills (Psalm 50:10).

Finally, I encourage you to be patient, do good, show kindness and let's pray for each other. God has not forgot! Wait on Him (Isaiah 40:31). Smile, it's gonna be alright! The soul would have no rainbow if the eyes had no tears.

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.**

Special thanks to Jacqueline Smith, JAS’s Small Business Solutions, for presenting: **Tax Preparation Basics, on January 29, 2025 and thank you to our participants.** Jacqueline shared her knowledge and expertise by answering our questions and advising on offsetting taxes, amending past taxes to include property taxes paid in other states, new tax laws, old withholding form W4 vs new W4 forms, the difference between an exemption and a dependent, refundable and nonrefundable credits, etc. IRS are not the lawmakers, Congress is, therefore, write to your Congress representative for any changes or answers you want to see and know about and they are obligated to respond to your letter “the power of the pen is real.”



Oxon Hill Community Association (OHCA)
PRESENTS:
TAX PREPARATION BASIC
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025 12 NOON
BERCHWOOD COMMUNITY PARK AND RECREATIONAL CENTER
1331 FENWOOD AVENUE
OXON HILL, MKD 20745
PRESENTOR:
JACQUELINE SMITH
“JAS’s Small Business Solutions”



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

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

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 ☐ Beautification ☐ Hospitality ☐ Communication
☐ Community Services ☐ Legislation ☐ Diversity ☐ Event Planning