



BIRCHWOOD-CLEARVIEW

NEWSLETTER

"A Community That Cares" JUNE 2025 EDITION

Published by Birchwood City-Clearview Manor 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 301-699-2400**
- **Calvin Thomas, Zoning Inspector for Oxon Hill – 240-444-2811**



UPCOMINGEVENTS

Join us in-person for our Community-Wide Meeting on **Wednesday, June 18, 2025**, (due to Juneteenth on Thursday 19th), at 7pm - **Birchwood Recreation Community Center - 1331 Fenwood Avenue, Oxon Hill, MD.**

Agenda Items:

- **President Remarks**
- **ALL WHITE Peace Fest Community Day**
- **Committee Reports**
- **Corporal Johnson – Crime Report**
- **Volunteers Appreciation**
- **Residents' Concerns**



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 and/or earn Community Service.

Come out and celebrate on Sunday, June 29, 2025, from 3pm to 7pm, “All White PEACE FEST” Community Day! It’s time for our community to come together and enjoy fellowship, food, vendors, music, games and much more! At this event, our community is encouraged to wear **ALL WHITE** but if you don’t, that’s ok too, just want to see your face in the place 😊.

For this event, we are calling all **Volunteers** to assist us with setup, serving, breakdown, etc. We are also accepting donations of packaged snacks and case(s) water. **Vendors** are welcome for a fee of \$30. If you are interested in participating or for more information, please contact: **Dynamite**, Systaz with Visionz SC, at (202) 213-5073 or via email smcbean@pcori.org. Thank you and see flyer below.



- **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 under the Pavilion in Birchwood Park or on Zoom if weather is not favorable.

From BCCA Education Committee Acting Chair, Michelle Ross



Doris Saunders Community Scholarship 2025 - 2026 Academic Year

Attention Graduating High School Seniors

Are you planning to pursue higher education? If so, we are excited to announce a scholarship opportunity for outstanding seniors who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership and community involvement.

The Birchwood City/Clearview Manor Community Association (BCCA) in collaboration with our residents want to celebrate passionate, college-bound students, as you prepare to take the next step on your journey to greatness! We are looking for future leaders... We are looking for students that have given back to their community. The bottom line is that we want to reward students who have excelled both in and outside of the classroom. If this sounds like you, please keep reading!

The **Doris Saunders Community Scholarship, in the amount of \$400.00**, is in honor and loving memory of a valued, beloved community member and volunteer who served her community. We want to continue in the tradition of paying it forward and honor students who have given back to the community and will continue to "give back" to their community. Two deserving students will receive the scholarship, based on merit, leadership and commitment to community.

Qualifications to Apply:

- 1) Graduating High School Senior;
- 2) is a current Birchwood City/Clearview Manor resident;
- 3) is planning to enroll in an accredited undergraduate program at a college, university or vocational school for the 2025 - 2026 Academic school year; and,
- 4) Must have a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0

If selected, proof of all qualifications will be required.

The *Doris Saunders Scholarship* recipients will be selected by a committee, based on the following:

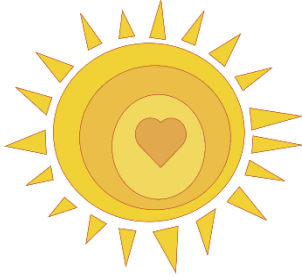
- 1) Participation and leadership in the community (including church and/or place of worship) and high school leadership activities (list your activities in your submission); and
- 2) Submission of a 300-word essay: Topic: “What are your academic and career goals”?

Applicants should submit their entries to the 2025 – 2026 - BCCA Scholarship Committee, no later than Monday, July 28, 2025.

In addition to the 300 - word essay, you must submit (1) a transcript for your high school; and (2) a copy of your College/University or Vocational School acceptance letter. Please include your address, phone number, e-mail and Parent/Guardian contact information. The scholarship proceeds will be paid directly to your institution to assist with books or tuition. If you are selected, you will be notified by e-mail and will be honored at a future Birchwood City/Clearview Manor Community meeting. And, your essay will be shared in the BCCA Newsletter.

Don't miss the chance to invest in your future! Apply today and take a step toward achieving your dreams. On behalf of all the dedicated members of the Birchwood City/Clearview Manor Community Association and the family of Doris Saunders, we wish you good luck! If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Ross at Ross063012@gmail.com or 240-441-8447.

From the BCCA Beautification Committee Chair, Betty Woods



Hey good, good, friends and neighbors, it's me!

I'm bursting with pride after riding through the neighborhood and seeing mother nature at work and your dedicated efforts in beautifying your yards. We have some creative designers in our **midst**, it shows the power of "community" when we work together.

How I miss my little home and being able to work in the yard. ☹️ I want to encourage each of you to keep the community spirit rolling. If you haven't paid your membership dues, it's not too late, just do it! Come on out to the meeting, get involved, learn more about your neighbors and make new friends.

I often ponder and wonder what if "thoughts"...what if God wasn't faithful, what if God was fickle as we are, and numerous other thoughts. Isn't it comforting to know that He is faithful, showering us with new mercies and forgiveness daily. **Isn't He 'good!** Let's be people of faith. Regardless of our circumstances and situations nothing takes God by surprise and one day.....if you feed your faith, it will starve your doubts. Cast all your cares upon Him because He cares for you.



If you wanna do something special just for little old me, smile more, hum or sing a little song and let me vicariously enjoy the beauty of your hard work in making our community stronger and more beautiful.

From BCCA Community Services Committee Chair, Lucy Hall



Invasion of Raccoons: Recently, some of our community and surrounding community residents have been experiencing a problem: **Raccoons in their attics**. I called Maryland Department of Natural Resources/Nuisance Wildlife Division (1-877-463-6497) to ask if something unusual was happening since this seems to be occurring more often than usually. The official said nothing unusual was occurring; raccoons always try to get in attics. The official provided the following suggestions:

- Soak **rags in ammonia** and place them in areas where you have seen raccoons in your yard; that will deter them and they will stay away from that area.
- Keep outside **trash securely and completely covered** in trashcans.
- **Inspect your attic vents** to ensure they are secure and in good condition to prevent raccoons from entering your attic.

Telephonic Service to Check on Maryland Senior Citizens



Maryland Senior Call Check Program is a free service that provides a daily-automated phone call to Maryland residents aged 65 and older. The program aims to check on the well-being of participants and ensure they are safe. If a call goes unanswered, the program will call a family member or neighbor (you selected) and may involve a non-emergency service if necessary. **Call 1-866-502-0560 to sign up.**

Tell your neighbors about this program.

CPR Classes (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) - In response to a resident's recent question about the availability of local CPR Classes, please see below:

According to Prince George's Fire Department Headquarters, the Fire Department no longer teaches CPR. The **Red Cross** provides CPR classes for a fee:

Go to: redcross.org/takeaclass - Online - \$37.00 - Classroom Instructor Led- \$46.00

NOTE: According to the Red Cross, if immediate certification is needed, it is recommended to take an instructor-led training course. The online course does not meet the US Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements for workplace certification.

COME ABOARD and join BCCA for 2025 and then join this Committee to help keep residents updated on beneficial information. Email lucyhall782@gmail.com

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.**

Shout out and thank you to [Sandra Bowman](#) who attended the **[495 Southside Express Lanes Study Public Hearing](#)** at Oxon Hill High School, 6701 Leyte Drive, Oxon Hill, MD, on June 4, 2025. Sandra is a valuable member and volunteer of BCCA. We appreciate Sandra for attending and taking notes to share with the community; see information below.

Report: Michelle Shropshire, Northern VA Megaprojects Director, VA Department of Transportation (VDOT) presented a Powerpoint presentation on the subject hearing.

Mr. Edward Burroughs III, Chair of the Prince Georges County Council (PGCC) and District 8 Councilman, and Ms. Krystal Oriahda, Vice Chair, PGCC and District 8 Councilwoman were in attendance. Several other Maryland and PG County officials were also in attendance. Mr. Burroughs made three points on why he did not think the addition of express lanes and tolls were feasible:

- 1) It would not solve the traffic problems.
- 2) It would be an additional financial burden on residents.
- 3) Plans for a metro rail system have been promised to PG County residents which has not come into fruition. A metro rail system would be more viable for VA and MD residents.

You may view hearing presentations and boards, and provide comments on the Virtual Public Information Room (VIPR) website: www.vdot.virginia.gov/495southside. You may also submit comments to VDOT to be included in the Public Hearing Report. **Comments must be received by June 26, 2025.** You may provide comments in the following ways:

- 1) Complete an online comment form on the VIPR website above.
- 2) Email comments to: 495southsideexpresslanes@vdot.virginia.gov
- 3) Mail comments to: Michelle Shropshire, P.E., VDOT Northern VA Megaprojects Director, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA, 22030
- 4) Call 703-691-6044 and leave a message (TTY/TDD 711)
- 5) Submit oral and written comments at the hearings.

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If you have not signed up to become a BCCA Member for 2025, please do so!

Reminder:

Questions
(202) 644-9800 or (571) 482-4770

POP-UP FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS
for People Impacted by Cuts to Federal Jobs & Funding

April 5 - June 30, 2025
Thursdays: 5 pm - 7 pm
Saturdays: 9 am - 11 am

Follow @DMVFreeEvents

Washington, DC
Safeway - 322 40th St NE, Washington, DC
Giant - 1535 Alabama Ave SE, Washington, DC

Prince George's County, MD
Giant - 7074 Allentown Rd, Camp Springs, MD
Giant - 7546 Annapolis Rd, Lanham, MD

Northern Virginia
Giant - 6364a Springfield Plaza, Springfield, VA
Safeway - 4215 Cheshire Station Plaza, Dale City, VA

DMV Free Events is not affiliated with this free community event.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

FREE FRESH FOOD

We will bring fresh produce and protein directly to District 8 families!

- CHAIR -
EDWARD BURROUGHS III
DISTRICT 8

proud to partner with:

STOREHOUSE

Providing food to over 1000 people!

We will host free food distributions twice a month starting on **JUNE 28**

To register please visit:
bit.ly/4dvDtr9

Scan the QR code, or call us: 301.952.3680

EVENT DETAILS

Drive-Thru: All food will be distributed through a safe and convenient drive-thru pickup.

Location: The exact location will be shared after registration.

When: Distributions occur on the **2nd and 4th** Saturdays of each month, from **11:30 AM to 1:30 PM**.

Who: Open to all District 8 residents.

Requirement: Food is free, but **registration is required** to ensure we prepare enough for every neighbor.

CURRENT COUNTY FOOD INSECURITY RATES

County	Food Insecure	Food Secure
District 8	10%	90%
Prince George's Co., MD	10%	90%
Prince William Co., VA	10%	90%
Washington DC	10%	90%
Alexandria City, VA	10%	90%
Montgomery Co., MD	10%	90%
Raritan Co., VA	10%	90%
Adoptive Co., VA	10%	90%

Question: USDA's experiment-item screener for food insecurity
Source: Capital Area Food Bank Survey conducted May 28-July 31, 2024, with 1,817 adults ages 18 and older in the D.C. Metro Area

Am. J. Prev. Control. 2021 Dec; 65(10):1003. doi: 10.1093/ajpc/65.10.1003

From BCCA Membership Committee Chair, *Gloria Hernandez Saunders*

MEMBERSHIP FORM (2025)

BIRCHWOOD CITY-CLEARVIEW MANOR COMMUNITY, INC. (BCCA)

BCCA's Mission is to enhance the quality of life for residents of the Birchwood City-Clearview Manor Community. Membership dues and community volunteers help BCCA accomplish this mission. Go to www.welcometobcca.org to see some of the accomplishments.

TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

TO JOIN BCCA, please pay your membership dues (\$25.00 per household annually) by using either one of the two methods below:

(1) Complete this Membership Form and **MAIL IT** with your check or /money order payable to BCCA. Mail to:

BCCA

Attn: Mrs. Hernandez Saunders, Membership Committee Chair

P.O. Box 7

Oxon Hill, MD 20745-0007

--OR

(2) Pay your membership dues electronically by using **CashApp** \$birchwoodBCCA (Percellwalker@verizon.net)

NOTE: If you use CashApp, please remember to complete this form and Email it to Percell Walker at pjwalker47@hotmail.com

Date _____

Name(s) of Residents _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Membership Dues\$____ Scholarship Donation\$____ General Donation\$____ Total \$____

Would you like to volunteer in any of these areas? __Beautification

__Community Services __Diversity __Education __Hospitality __Legislation

__Membership __Planning __Publicity __Recreation/Events __Technology __Ways

and Means __Youth

Please go to www.welcometobcca.org to learn what each committee does.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING BCCA.

Your membership renewal date for next year will be 12 months from the date you joined this year.