

BIRCHWOOD CITY-CLEARVIEW MANOR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

December 2009 (Edition)

PUBLISHED BY THE BIRCHWOOD-CLEARVIEW COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC (BCCA), P.O. BOX 7, OXON HILL, MD 20745

For additional community information,
please go to BCCA's Website:
www.neighborhoodlink.com/oxonhill/bccc

**WE ARE A COMMUNITY
THAT CARES**



NEXT COMMUNITY MEETING
Wed. December 16, 2009
Rec. Center 7:00 PM
PLEASE ATTEND

HAPPY HOLIDAYS MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY HOLIDAYS

AGENDA - COMMUNITY MEETING Dec. 16, 2009

- 1. Opening Remarks**
- 2. Silent Prayer**
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. Your Suggestions for Improving Our Community**
- 5. Welcome to Our Community Christmas Family Fellowship--Holiday Potluck Dinner, Meet and Greet Your Neighbors, Merriment. Please come out and have a Joyful Good Time.**

BCCA'S Up-Coming Events:

Family Breakfast With Santa; Saturday, December 12, 2009,

9:30 am to 12:30 pm, Recreation Center

Family Fun: Pancakes and Sausage Breakfast, Santa, Games, Gift Bags. See you at this Family Fun-Filled Event.

Also, if you would like to donate fruit (apples and oranges), Dunkin' Donuts Prepared Coffee in Jug, children's books and games for ages 2 to 12, or a financial donation, and/or volunteer at this event, please call either Gloria Hernandez-Saunders on 301-567-9474, Lottie McCoy on 202-355-5985, or Lucy Hall on 301-839-0499.

Upcoming Trip to the National Great Blacks In Wax Museum, Feb 2010.

From the Desk of BCCA's President, Sylvia Griffin: FOOD for Thought:

Question: "How should Christians respond to the "War on Christmas"? Answer: Many people perceive that there is a concerted effort to eliminate the word "Christmas" from public discourse--sort of a "war on Christmas." A grade-school choir sings "We Wish You a Happy Holiday" instead of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas." Also, it is possible to do all one's Christmas shopping and never see or hear the word "Christmas" in the stores. Of course, there's nothing wrong with saying "Happy Holidays" or "Season's Greetings." But if someone says "Happy Holidays" for the sole purpose of not saying "Merry Christmas," then we are right to question what's going on.

"Why is the word Christmas censored?" One reason put forward by those seeking to avoid the word Christmas is that it would offend non-Christians. But, according to a recent Gallup poll, only 3 percent of adults in America say it bothers them when a store makes specific reference to Christmas. The exclusion of Christmas, then, is not really a way to "adapt" to a more diverse culture, but a way to engineer a more secular

culture. This is primarily a spiritual battle, not a political one. How should Christians respond to the use of "Happy Holidays" and the exclusion of Christmas? Here are some suggestions: (1) Celebrate Christmas! Let the joy of the season show in your life. Teach your family the significance of Jesus' birth and make the Christmas traditions meaningful in your home. (2) Get specific and wish others a Merry Christmas when confronted with a "Happy Holidays." (3) Speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). The Christmas season is a wonderful opportunity to share Christ's love and the gospel message. He is the reason for the season! (4) Pray for those in positions of power (1 Timothy 2:1-3). Pray for wisdom. Pray for revival so that Christmas, instead of being "offensive," would be honored by all.

Youth Corner

From the Desk of the Youth Executive Leader, Jahnae McCoy

Greetings Birchwood City Youth,

I am Jahnae McCoy and I serve on the Birchwood City /Clearview Association Board as the Youth Executive Leader. My role on this board is to reach out to youth, like me, so I can share with the Executive Board those things you would like to do. For example: there are many things we would like to do, but we need your help to do some of these things --like skating, dances, field trips, talent shows, Friday night activities, youth meetings, and so much more. In order to have that, we need your help. If I can just hear a word from you, it will help the community out a lot. Our goal as youth is to get some of you involved in your community, so you can know what is going on in the area you live in. So, you will be hearing more from me as your Youth Executive Leader. For more information or service hours you can contact me at sapphire09@comcast.net. Have your say about **YOUR** future--envision what you would like to see in Birchwood City-Clearview Manor--2 or 3 years from now. Stay tuned for more information.

A Community That Cares

The upcoming holidays are about celebrations, happiness and joy. However, before we celebrate, let's consider helping our community members who may need a helping hand.

Warm Gear Drive Continues

Please look in your closets for gently worn coats and take them to the cleaners and then bring them to the December and/or January Community Meeting(s) and help support our community's efforts to help those who need warm clothing. For additional information, please contact Michelle Ross on 301-839-2268.

Warming communities..one coat at a time. Remember, we are "A Community That Cares..all year long"!

Food Drive Continues:

Please bring to Birchwood-Clearview community meetings non-perishable food items and/or a financial donation for the Oxon Hill Food Pantry located at 4915 Saint Barnabas Road, Temple Hills, MD. For additional information, please contact either Doris Saunders on 301-839-1127 or Michelle Ross on 301-839-2268. ***Everyone counts and so does every item you donate.***

BIRCHWOOD CITY/CLEARVIEW MANOR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

Dear Neighbor:

My name is Doris Saunders, Acting Coordinator of the BCCA Neighborhood Watch Program.

This letter is to provide all residents information on the program.

The mission of the Neighborhood Watch Program is to maintain a safe and healthy community environment for all residents by neighbors looking out for each other and reporting any suspicious activity to the Prince George's Police Department. The success of the program rests on the collective participation of all residents in the community, old and young, homeowner or renter. A police officer from District IV Prince George's County Police is actively working with us.

Volunteers are needed for Block Captain and Coordinator. There are more than 700 homes in our community; some streets have as many as 75 homes. More than one Block Captain will be required for most streets to provide effective communication with neighbors. If you are interested in serving in either of these roles please contact me at (301)839-1127, email Dasaund2001@aol.com.

Please visit the BCCA web site: www.neighborhoodlink.com/oxonhill/bccc for more information on the Neighborhood Watch Program.

Yours truly,
Doris Saunders, Acting Coordinator

DETACHABLE MEMBERSHIP FORM



PLEASE JOIN THE TEAM

MEMBERSHIP YEAR 2009-2010 - Please join the BCCA by completing this form and enclosing your annual membership fee of \$20.00 per household for the year 2009-2010. Make your check payable to BCCA, and mail to P.O. Box 7, Oxon Hill, MD. 20745-0007, and include the following information:

RESIDENT'S NAME

ADDRESS:

Phone No.

Email:

Membership Dues \$ _____ **Scholarship Donation\$** _____ **General Donation \$** _____

The Community Needs You

Please see below and check the area of which you would like to volunteer, regardless of how little time.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Ways & Means | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation/Parks & Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legislation | <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Education/Scholarship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity/Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsored Activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Others (Please specify) | |

THANK YOU TO BCCA'S BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE. THE SIGN LOOKS GREAT!

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