

March
2011
(Edition)

BIRCHWOOD-CLEARVIEW COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Visit BCCA on the web
www.neighborhoodlink.com/oxonhill/bccc

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

"A COMMUNITY THAT CARES"



**Why Are Trees Near Valley View Elementary School Being Cut Down?
Come to the March 16th Community Meeting for a Response from the County.**

**Free Fresh
Produce**
(See Page_)

**Ongoing
Exercise
Classes at
Birchwood
Rec. Center.
Join Us.**
(See page_

**March is
Women's
History
Month**
(See page_)

**Highlights
on BCCA's
Education
Committee**
(See page_)

**METRO
ACCESS Fare
Increase**
(See page_)

BCCA Community Meeting – Wed. March 16, 2011, 7:00 P.M.
Birchwood Recreation Center - Please Attend.

AGENDA

1. Guest Speaker: Sam Stefanelli, Asst. Director, Real Property Management, Prince George's County Schools
(to respond to residents' concerns about the recent cutting down of numerous trees around Valley View Elementary School in our community)
2. Neighborhood Watch Report - Prince George's Police Dept.
3. Exercise Classes at Birchwood Recreation Center
4. Your Concerns About and Suggestions for our Community

Mark your Calendar:

1. **Prince George's County Council Public Hearings** on the FY2012 Budget for MD Nat. Capital Parks and Planning Commission on April 26, 2010, 6:30 pm, at the County Administration Building, 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772.

Please come out and show support for our community's budget request for more improvements at Birchwood Recreation Center. The recent improvements (including the walking trail, new lights, the basketball court, the pavilion) all were done on the basis of our BCCA Presidents and residents submitting letters and speaking at these county budget hearings. So, please attend the hearings and support our community.

2. **Birchwood-Clearview Community Day Saturday, May 21st. Volunteers are needed to:**

- Help the Hospitality Committee (Mrs. McCoy, Mrs. Hernandez-Saunders and former President Mr. Webster) collect and purchase food;
- Plan and monitor youth games and activities for ages: preschoolers to teenagers;
- Make follow-up telephone calls to public officials and businesses to determine

their response to letter requesting donations and invitations to attend the event. We also need and appreciate financial donations to help cover the cost of this community event. Please call either BCCA President Sylvia Griffin on 301-839-6719 or Lucy Hall on 202-538-6170 to volunteer and/or make a donation, and they will give your name to the relevant BCCA Committee.

FROM THE DESK OF BCCA PRESIDENT – SYLVIA GRIFFIN

Exercise Classes
at Birchwood Recreation Center



When: Tuesdays and Wednesdays
6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Cost: \$40.00 Per Month –
To be paid before taking class.

Exercise Instructor: *Tami Hayes*
(Ms. Hayes says that she has been an exercise instructor for 23 years and has worked in various fitness programs including Spa Lady, Gold, Fit Physique, and USA Gyms.)



Bring your mat, towels and water
and if you like, bring weights for both your hands
and legs.



Come and join the nationwide “Let’s Move” healthy living initiative. The fitness classes are for the entire family.

Comments from one participant “Ms. Hayes will show you how to protect sensitive areas.”

For further information, please call BCCA President *Sylvia Griffin* on 301-839-6719.

FROM THE DESK OF BCCA YOUTH LEADER – JAHNAE MCCOY

Please watch this space for information on the upcoming Youth Leadership Forum!

BCCA'S WARM CLOTHING AND FOOD DRIVES:

Warm Clothing Drive –Please share your blessings with others and reach into your closet and pull out that gently worn, warm garment and share it with your community.

Food Drive - When you go to the store, please pick up a few items for your neighbors. All food items will be shared with the Oxon Hill Food Bank. We are continuing this drive in honor of our dear, beloved *Doris Saunders*.

For both drives, please contact Michelle on 301-839-2268 or at sapphire09@comcast.net to arrange for pick-up, or you may bring the clothes and food to the community meeting.

FREE FRESH PRODUCE

The Prince George's County Dept. of Social Services is providing free fresh produce at various locations in the County. The closest location to our community is:

Temple Hill at Iverson Mall (in front of Burlington Coat Factory) - 3737 Branch Ave. Hillcrest Heights, MD 20748, on April 18 and May 16, 2011, 4 pm to 6 pm.

Other locations include Largo-March 21; Hyattsville-June 20; and Brandywine-April 19, May 17, June 21.

(Please bring your own bags. One distribution per household.). For further information, please call 301-909-7000.

Women's History Month Luncheon:

Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III, Presents the 26th Annual Women's History Month Luncheon: "Your Service is Our Strength."

The Gladys Noon Spellman Award will be presented to a Prince George's County Government woman and the Gladys Noon Spellman \$2,000 Scholarship Award is presented to graduating seniors who reside in Prince George's County. The Luncheon is March 17th 12 pm to 2 pm at Martins Crosswinds, Greenbelt, MD. Cost: \$35 per person.

For additional information, please contact Ja'Net Lyons in the County Executive's Office at (301) 952-5851 or by email at jl Lyons@co.pg.md.us.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH.

Material Girls: Contemporary Black Women Artists

Feb 12, 2011 - Oct 16, 2011

Wednesday – Saturday:

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday: Noon to 5 p.m.

Material Girls celebrates accomplished women artists whose sculptures incorporate both traditional and unexpected art-making materials. Using hair, beads, tissue paper, rubber tires, plastic and other materials, the artists craft forms that play on unique cultural meanings and personal memories.

Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture

830 E Pratt St, Suite 400
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Admission:

Members - **Free**

Children 6 and Under - **Free**

Maryland Public School Teachers (with ID) - **Free**

General Admission - **\$8**

Senior Citizen (65+) - **\$6**

Youth (age 7 to 17) - **\$6**

Phone: 443-263-1800

www.AfricanAmericanCulture.org

NOTICES:

METRO ACCESS FARE INCREASE –METRO ACCESS increased its fares on February 27, 2011. Please call 301-562-5360 to get the exact fare for a trip.

Also, there is PG County Call-A-Bus Service: Make reservations 14 days in advance by calling 301-499-8603 between 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday-Friday. One-Way Fares are: Regular Fare: \$1.00, Senior Citizens: \$.50, and persons with Disabilities: \$.50. Escorts ride free.

24-Hour Service by Maryland Libraries

AskUsNow! is Maryland's statewide interactive information service available 24 hours a day, seven days a week that uses the expertise of librarians to provide answers to questions, research guidance, and help navigating the internet. AskUsNow! is a cooperative service of Maryland libraries and available for any resident or student of Maryland. Email at www.askusnow.info . You may also reach the service on Twitter or Facebook.

Maryland Delegate Jay Walker is having a Town Hall Meeting on March 15th, 6:30 pm, at Harmony Hall Regional Center, 10701 Livingston Rd, Ft. Wash, MD 20744 to obtain your views on various issues, including economic development, same-sex marriage, education, gaming/gambling and transportation.



SPOTLIGHT ON BCCA's EDUCATION-SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

We are so happy to announce that one of the community's residents, Mrs. Woods, has volunteered to become the Chairperson of BCCA's Education-Scholarship Committee. This is a very important committee because it plays a pivotal role in lives of our young people. The purpose of this committee is to study and report information on matters relating to education, including the area of scholarships (which includes the State Senatorial Scholarships). The Chairperson is requesting your help. She needs some of you to help her monitor educational and available scholarship information, and she is requesting all residents to make financial donations to help raise funding to go towards scholarships. Please use the attached membership form and make a donation. Please write on the form that your donation is for "Education-Scholarship" or place a check mark besides "Scholarship Donation."

A February 18, 2011 letter, to parents from PG County Schools Superintendent, William Hite, in response to County residents concerns about the potential increase in class sizes and the loss of some school programs, emphasized that the school system is facing a \$150 million budget deficit in FY 2012.

He advised parents to stay involved in the budget process by contacting their state elected officials and urging them to fully fund education. He also suggested that the parent visit website www.pgcps.org to obtain the latest updates on the school budget process.

NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN THE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION FOR 2010-2011. PLEASE USE THE FORM BELOW

BIRCHWOOD-CLEARVIEW COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

NEW MEMBERSHIP YEAR 2010-2011 (Sept 2010 to Aug 2011) Yearly Dues: \$20 per household.

DATE _____
RESIDENT'S NAME(s) _____
ADDRESS: _____
Phone No. _____ Email _____

Membership Dues \$ _____
Scholarship Donation\$ _____
General Donation \$ _____
Total Amount Enclosed\$ _____

The Association needs volunteer help. Please place an X besides the area below where you want to give
“a LITTLE time for a BIG cause.”

☐ Membership ☐ Education/Scholarship ☐ Recreation ☐ Ways & Means (Fundraising) ☐ Beautification ☐ Legislation
☐ Hospitality ☐ Publicity/Newsletter ☐ Youth Committee ☐ Public Affairs ☐ Community Service ☐ Technology

After completing this form, detach and mail it along with your check (payable to BCCA) to P.O. Box 7, Oxon Hill, MD 20745-0007 or bring it to the monthly community meeting. Thank You for Your Support

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