



The Berwyn News

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Volume 19, Issue 4

www.myberwyn.org

April, 2011

**Thursday, April 21, 2011
Membership Meeting 8PM,
Fealy Hall 49th Ave., & Berwyn Road**

Guest Speakers

**Joseph Snee, representing
Looney's Bar and Grill**

At the Varsity on Baltimore Blvd., College Park

**** WANTED! ****

Berwyn Newsletter carrier for
North Side of Potomac Ave. from
Berwyn Rd. to 8404 Potomac Ave.
Contact: Jerry Anzulovic at 301.474.2912

College Park Recycles Saturdays, April 16 & 23

7:30 AM until 12 Noon
Davis Hall, 9217 51st Ave.

Accepting yard waste, bulk trash, electronics, and
more. For a detailed list see:
www.collegeparkmd.gov

GRAFFITI DEFEATY BRIGADE

**Is looking for a few good hands & bodies!
Join us Saturday, May 14th, 8:00 AM at the
Kidwell Bldg., lower Berwyn Rd.**

Play Group Meets Wednesdays, 10AM
Berwyn Neighborhood Park (Cherry Park)
In case of rain ~ Fealy Hall

*** **

**** COMING ATTRACTION ****

**Ice Cream Social in the Park
Details in upcoming newsletter**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER Kevin Young

The Berwyn District Civic Association's April meeting will be held Thursday the 21st, 8 P.M. in Fealy Hall. Our special guest will be Mr. Joseph Snee, representative for Looney's Pub, which will be opening late this summer in the new Varsity apartment building across from the College Park Firehouse. Looney's is a popular sports pub with three other locations in the Baltimore area. Mr. Snee will discuss the plans for the College Park location and answer any questions you may have.

Lieutenant Charles Duellely, Prince Georges County Police, gave a very informative presentation on local crime issues at our March meeting. Lt. Duellely and his detectives have made recent arrests in the armed robberies of several North College businesses. Duellely also reported an arrest of a College Park resident whom police believe is responsible for a large number of breaking and entering cases in the area. Our COPS officer, JJ Black, was also in attendance and spoke about crime prevention.

City Engineer, Steve Halpern, was invited to the March meeting to discuss traffic issues at Greenbelt and 49th Avenue. Mr. Halpern agreed to look into complaints of vehicles dangerously entering the Village Pump parking lot from eastbound Greenbelt Road. Many of you took the opportunity to report to Mr. Halpern issues regarding code enforcement, public safety and public works. While this wasn't the intent of Mr. Halpern's visit, he did a great job in contacting those other departments by noon the next day to relay your concerns and copied me by e-mail.

I am very pleased to announce that Mr. Kevin Carter and Mr. Dan Blasberg will be co-chairing the new Berwyn Security Committee. The security committee will be working over the next couple months to bring together our neighborhood security

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President's Corner Continued from page 1

camera project. Kevin and Dan have already done an impressive amount of research and development on this project. They will be attending our May meeting to discuss project details and demonstrate a camera in operation. The May meeting will be your chance to learn about how you can become part of the network.

Did you know that any member can introduce an issue under new business by making a motion and obtaining a second? Once the motion has been seconded the matter can be deliberated. When deliberation is complete the motion will be voted upon. The association will then take action. This might include writing a letter in support of or in opposition to a matter that is being considered at the city, county, state or even federal level. Or it may be a formal request for action from the city or county government. It could also be an approval to spend association funds. These are just a few examples--please keep in mind "new business" is not the time for general discussion or complaints. It has always been the association's policy to allow attendees latitude in discussing of matters of personal concern. However, in an attempt to keep the meetings running smoothly, attendees will be given the opportunity to bring up non-agenda items with a three minute time limit before adjournment. I will also limit the president's report, committee reports and council reports to five minutes each. The goal is to improve the pace of our meetings and, in turn, improve attendance.

The graffiti defeaty brigade will assemble at 0800 hours May 14th at the end of Berwyn Road at the CXS Railroad to paint over the graffiti that has sprung up over the last few months. Jerry has assured me that we will have plenty of paint, buckets and rollers to get the job done. Come out and join in this very worthwhile neighborhood event.

COUNCILMAN'S VIEWS AND COMMENTS

**Bob Catlin - 301-345-0742 or
Catcprtc@aol.com**

Greetings neighbors. It is budget season in the City. The City Manager has released his proposed budget for FY2012 and now the Mayor and Council have begun its budget review with adoption to occur in late May. The good news is that the proposed budget contains neither increases in the property tax rate nor any fee increase. The budget does propose a lot of spending on road repaving, purchasing a new (and better) street sweeper and

the funding the initial phase of the renovation of Duvall Field which will entail the replacement of the concession building and bathrooms.

With respect to District 2 the proposed budget includes the repaving of 48th Place in Branchville and the repaving of the Greenbelt service road and 48th Avenue, in the vicinity of Pontiac Street, in Berwyn. In Lakeland, Melbourne Place would be repaved. The City is also proposing a "green street" demonstration project in Berwyn. Rhode Island Avenue, between Greenbelt Road and Tecumseh Street, would be reconstructed using best practices for storm water drainage. The project would be designed this year for construction in 2012 or 2013.

It looks like the missing segments of the trolley trail in Lakeland and Old Town are getting closer to construction. Then Lakeland piece should be constructed this summer and the Old Town piece should get constructed either this fall or in the spring of 2012.

In the last few weeks a variety of developers have been busy investigating possible projects in the Route 1 corridor. It is too early to speculate about what may occur, but I am hopeful that some proposals will come forward this summer.

In case you have not heard, April is spring clean-up month in the City. The City's Public Work's facility is open Saturday mornings (7:30 to Noon) through April 23rd.

The University is holding its 12th annual Maryland Day celebration on Saturday, April 30th from 10 am until 4 pm. The event typically draws about 60,000 to 70,000 visitors to the 100's of things that comprise Maryland Day.

A public hearing on the City's proposed budget will take place on Tuesday, May 10th before that evening's Council Meeting at City Hall.

The City's Committee for a Better Environment will hold an Energy Efficiency Workshop at City Hall on Saturday, May 21st at 12:30 pm.

Please read this important warning about a group of solicitors now active in the City and I hope to see you at April's BDCA meeting on the 21st.

A Warning about Solicitors now active in the City

A group of people, landlords who else, have hired an Arizona firm to solicit signatures to place two referendums items on the November ballot. These

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Bob's Column Continued from page 2

items are designed to reduce the taxes and fees paid by our absentee landlords and to strip the City of the power to regulate rental properties and much more, too. Because they want their property taxes to be the same as the taxes for owner-occupied property taxes, your taxes would have to increase by hundreds of dollars a year. They would accomplish this by prohibiting the City from providing its Homestead Tax Credit or Homeowner's Property Tax Credit. From a casual reading of the referendum items this is not at all their apparent goal, because there are written in a way to disguise their true intent. Absentee landlords are not spending the large sums of money to get these items on the ballot for our benefit. The people being paid to collect signatures will probably be polite and claim that the referendum will reduce your taxes, but they don't have anything to say beyond what they have been scripted to say. They have been roaming College Park for the past few weeks. They need to get over 2,000 signatures, but they have six months to get their signatures. If you have already signed the petitions you can have your name removed, by providing the City with a withdrawal of signature for each petition. The withdrawal request should be made as shown below and sent to the City Clerk at 4500 Knox Road.

I, _____, do hereby state that I wish to withdraw my signature from the petition proposing to amend the Charter of the City of College Park by adding a new section, Section §C10-12, Property Tax Limitation. I have no intention of supporting this Petition.

Signature

Print Name

Date: _____

I, _____, do hereby state that I wish to withdraw my signature from the petition proposing to amend the Charter of the City of College Park by adding a new section, Section §C12-6, Non-Discrimination in Housing and Rental Laws. I have no intention of supporting this Petition.

Signature

Print Name

Date: _____

**BERWYN DISTRICT CIVIC ASSOCIATION
Annual Membership Dues**

Membership dues are \$10 per person or \$15 per family, collected once a year. Your dues support publication of this newsletter, community events, advocacy for Berwyn issues, and much more. Make checks payable to "Berwyn District Civic Association, Inc."

Please Print Clearly!

Send payment, family name, and street address to:

***Berwyn District Civic Association
PO Box 535
College Park, MD 20740***

Any individuals or businesses who contribute \$25 or more will be acknowledged on the BDCA website sponsorship page. If you want to contribute but prefer not to be acknowledged, please let us know with your payment. For those contributing \$50 or more, you may provide us with a link to your business or personal website which we'll add to the BDCA site.

Thank you!

**Jack Perry's City Council Musing
will resume next month.**

**Spring Has Sprung!
By Marie Labonte**

Berwyn is a wonderful community to live in. We have a mix of long time neighbors, new residents and students. In order to keep our community beautiful and safe, some issues need to be addressed on a regular basis.

Many of us walk, jog and bike in the community as the weather warms up. As we walk why not take a notepad and a pen or pencil with you and note things in the neighborhood that you feel should be brought to the attention of various departments of the City of College Park? Listed below are some suggested items that should be addressed and the name and/or department responsible along with a phone number and e-mail address located at the bottom of this write up. If everyone takes a few minutes and becomes a little more observant we certainly can brag about beautiful and clean our little community is.

Continued on next page

Marie's Column Continued from page 3

It is impossible for the City Departments to be able to address every issue without our help.

Here are some examples of who to contact in our City Departments. As residents of the Berwyn District Civic Association it is our responsibility to help the City address and maintain a well-run community.

Public Works **240-487-3590**

Robert T. Stumpff, Director
rstumpff@collegeparkmd.gov

Steven Halpern, City Engineer
shalpern@collegeparkmd.gov

- Broken curbs.
- Tree limbs need trimmed from electrical lines.
- Street lights need replaced.
- Yellow curbs or Stop bars need painting

William Fleming, Public Works Supervisor
wfleming@collegeparkmd.gov

- Potholes.
- Faded, missing or bent signs in your neighborhood.
- Street cleaning less than perfect or leaking oil and debris in the street.
- To replace your trash or recycling container.
- Need a special pickup, or for materials that have been sitting out too long.
- Trimmed or storm damaged bushes and branches should be tied in 5 foot bundles, not exceeding 75 lbs. Why? Public Works employees can collect without leaving debris in the street.
- Broken glass in the street. (Sweep it up, or report it.)

Public Services **240-487-3570**

Report Dead animals on the public roads and public property (not in your yard).

Robert Ryan, Director
bryan@collegeparkmd.gov

Jeannie Ripley Code Enforcement Mgr.
jripley@collegeparkmd.gov

- Report grass that has grown more than 12 inches high.

- Trash in the yard or cars with no tags.
- Noisy parties.

Jim Miller, Parking Enforcement Mgr.
jmiller@collegeparkmd.gov
Voice Mail: 240-487-3520

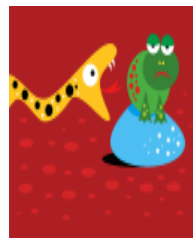
- Vehicles parked less than 25' from the intersection.
- Unidentified vehicles parked in the same spot longer than 48 hours.

Vivian Cooper, Animal Control Officer
vcooper@collegeparkmd.gov
**** After Hours Voice Mail: 240-375-3165**

- To report dogs and cats running loose in the neighborhood.

It is unlawful to place unauthorized signs on telephone poles.

It is unlawful for businesses or organizations to solicit in the neighborhood without a city permit.



Was It A FROG Or A SNAKE In This Hole?

By Peung

Growing up in a remote village of Northeastern Thailand gave me extraordinary experiences that forever imprint in my memory.

My sister and I lived with my grandfather during our elementary school years because our parents were working in Bangkok. We attended public school because my parents couldn't afford an expensive private school in Bangkok. In the village, we had one Buddhist temple and one elementary school. We went to temple every week on Buddha day to listen to Dharma and to bring food to the monks. The temple was the heart of the village. Every event took place at the temple such as the birthing ceremony, wedding ceremony, funeral, New Year's festival, Buddhist ceremonies and even free movie shows from drug companies who tried to sell pain relief to the villagers. We didn't really care about the medicine but to get to see movies on a big screen was a really exciting event for us.

Everybody knew everybody in my village. I knew all my friends' families—their parents and their grandparents. My grandfather's brother and sisters were living nearby and so were their children and grandchildren. So basically the

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Was It A FROG Or A SNAKE In This Hole?

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whole village was like a one big family. We didn't have running water or electricity. We did our homework early before it got dark so that we wouldn't have to light up the kerosene lamp. Our grandfather was very frugal and he didn't like to waste the oil lamp. We made sure all the water containers were full of water. Everyday after school we would push a cart full of empty gallons to collect water from a pond to bring home for cooking and washing. We collected rain water for drinking and kept it separate from the pond water.

My sister and I had plenty of work to do around the house such as feeding ducks and chickens, cooking, cleaning and gathering plants for food. We had plants and vegetables around the house that we used for cooking, like eggplant, yam, bamboo shoot, papaya, jack fruit, mango, tamarind, guava, and several others. I loved roaming around the village and rice fields looking for plants and small animals like fish, frogs and crabs. It was like play for me except it was a purposefully play. My sister and I often swam in rivers and ponds, collecting lily flowers and stems to make curry, digging for clams and snails. Sometimes we went to a shallow marsh to pick morning glory to make stir-fry. (Morning glory is still my favorite dish). A lot of times, we would find several giant leaches latching onto our calves, painlessly sucking our blood away. I didn't have mercy with those leaches. I hated them and wanted them dead. Once I pulled them out of my calves I would pin them to the ground with sharp sticks and left them to dry up in a hot heat. (My bad, so much for being Buddhist)

One hot summer we went looking for crabs in an empty field and found several crabs hiding in their holes. You can tell that it is a crab hole when you see crab foot prints and little pebbles of dirt in front of the hole. After awhile, we came across an unusually big hole without any crab footprints. My sister and I looked at each other with a great puzzle and such a curiosity. "What can this be? What animal lives in this hole? And who would dare stick a hand in the hole to find out?" Those were the questions running in my little eight years-old mind. Well, it turned out I was the brave and stupid one. I made a tight fist and quickly plunged it in the large hole. Before my fist reached the bottom of the hole, I felt a wet, cold and lather-like object. "Snake, frog,

no...snake, no...frog" my confusing mind thought. With my eyes closed, I quickly and tightly squeezed the creature with my hand and with all my mighty power pulled it out. Guess what we had for dinner that night --- barbeque frog...a very big green frog.

Those were the ways of living for farmers like us. I was a child and I didn't have a choice. I learned the way people lived and practiced what adults taught me. Choices were not an option. You ate what you had or you went hungry. I took this amazing experience as a gift, a once in a lifetime gift. Where else could I learn about nature like that? Where else could I be to witness a water buffalo giving birth? And where else could I learn the trick of trapping an iguana with a string and a tin can or catch fish with bare hands? It was only there in my little Thai village which now lives forever in my memory. I'm glad to have this opportunity to share my story with you and I hope you enjoy it as much as I do.

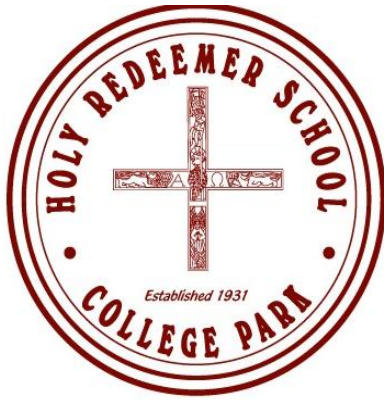
About Author: Ratchadawan Chambers (Peung) was born in a northeastern village of Thailand. She came to the United States 20 years ago and married the American Professor, Erve Chambers. Peung graduated as a registered nurse from University of Maryland at Baltimore. She has worked in sub-acute care facilities, long-term care facilities, and a hospital in Maryland for over ten years. Now Peung is living in Berwyn and busy being a full-time mom of four years-old twins.

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University of Maryland Event Notice

Maryland Day 2011

Explore Our World
Saturday, April 30
10 AM to 4 PM



Holy Redeemer School

4902 Berwyn Road

College Park, MD 20740

301-474-3993

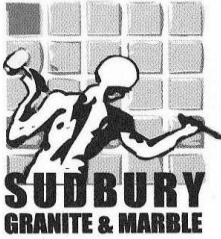
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**Standard Operating Procedure:
Publication of the Berwyn District Civic
Association (BDCA) Newsletter**

The Board of Directors for the BDCA meets on the 1st Thursday of each month. Board members are requested to submit an e-mail copy of articles for publication to the newsletter editor not later than the following Monday. As a reminder, an e-mail is sent to all Board members on the next business day.

Once completed, the newsletter is submitted to the BDCA President for final approval. The final, approved newsletter is e-mailed to the printer not later than the 2nd Thursday of the month.

On the 1st of every month the general membership is invited to submit articles, and 1 accompanying photograph for publication. All articles must adhere to the following conditions for publication:

- Articles should be in MS Word format and not exceed 1 pages, single spaced, in Verdana font, with a font size of 9.5.
- Articles capturing the history of our Berwyn neighborhood, community affairs, human interest, family recipes and traditions will be considered.
- Articles and photographs expressing a political, religious or social philosophy will not be accepted.
- The Editor reserves the right to decline articles, and or photographs, for any reason.

Unsolicited articles are due the 1st of each month and may be submitted to Michele Garnes at:
mckgarnes@earthlink.net

THE BERWYN NEWS ADVERTISING AGREEMENT

<u>AD SIZE</u>	<u>ONE ISSUE</u>	<u>10 ISSUES</u>
1/8 Page (Biz Card)	\$25	\$200
1/4 Page	\$35	\$275
1/2 Page (Horizontal)	\$50	\$350
1/2 Page (Vertical)	\$50	\$350
Full Page	\$75	\$500

Send your payment, business name, mailing address, phone, email, and contact person to:

Berwyn District Civic Association
PO Box 535
College Park, MD, 20740

with checks payable to
"Berwyn District Civic Association, Inc."

Ad files, ad size, and number of dates to run should be sent via email to the editor at berwynnews@gmail.com.

We prefer picture files (jpg, gif, etc), but can work with text or pdf files (some formatting changes may be necessary).

Ads will not run until payment is received!

Thank you for supporting our community!!!

All Dogs Club

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College Park, MD. 20740

301.345.DOGS (3647)

www.AllDogsClub.com



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Neighborhood Homes

Information Provided by
Jerry Anzulovic

Properties Sold or Rented (Berwyn 2, Branchville 0)

- 5027 Berwyn Road, \$200,000 (\$230,000), 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths,
althomas.4@juno.com
4810 Osage Street, \$297,500, (\$287,500), 3 bedrooms, 1½ baths,
BARBARA.BENNETTE@Long,foster.com

Properties Under Contract (Berwyn 21, Branchville 0)

- 5011 Berwyn Road, \$234,900, 4 bedrooms, 2½baths
5027 Berwyn Road, \$219,900, 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths
5031 Berwyn Road, \$191,900, 4 bedrooms, 2½baths
4705 Greenbelt Road, \$249,900, Foreclosure, 6 bedrooms, 3 baths
4805 Greenbelt Road, \$114,900, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath
4821 Osage Street, \$137,900, 3 bedrooms, 2baths
4823 Osage Street, \$194,900, 5 bedrooms, 2½ baths
8322 Potomac Avenue, \$190,000, 5 bedrooms, 3 baths
8400 Potomac Avenue, \$369,900, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths
8411 Potomac Avenue, \$200,000, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath
8521 Potomac Avenue, \$190,000, (\$194,500), 4 bedrooms, 2 baths
5010 Roanoke Place, \$204,900, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths
5016 Roanoke Place, \$110,900, 5 bedrooms, 2 baths
5106 Roanoke Place, \$189,900, 5 bedrooms, 2 baths
4705 Tecumseh Street, Unit 302, \$109,900, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths
4707 Tecumseh Street, Unit 102, \$120,000, (\$110,000), 1 bedroom, 1 bath
4709 Tecumseh Street, Unit 104, \$95,000, (\$220,000), 2 bedrooms, 2 baths
4709 Tecumseh Street, Unit 202, \$119,900, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths
4720 Pontiac Street, \$399,900, 5 bedrooms, 3½ baths
8306 48th Avenue, \$349,900, 5 bedrooms, 2 baths
8404 49th Avenue, \$250,000, 4 bedrooms, 2½baths

Properties for Sale or Rent (Berwyn 17, Branchville 1)

- 5031 Berwyn Road, \$2,500, 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths
5049 Berwyn Road, \$209,000, 3 bedrooms, 2½ baths
5057 Berwyn Road, \$199,000, 3 bedrooms, 2½ baths
5110 Berwyn Road, \$250,000, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths
4822 Osage Street, \$274,900, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
8320 Potomac Avenue, \$319,000, 5 bedrooms, 4 baths
8321 Potomac Avenue, \$349,900, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
8524 Potomac Avenue, \$340,001, 5 bedrooms, 1 bath
5002 Roanoke Place, \$274,800, 5 bedrooms, 2 baths
5102 Roanoke Place, \$278,000, 5 bedrooms, 3 baths
5104 Roanoke Place, \$325,000, 5 bedrooms, 2 baths
4815 Ruanan Street, \$199,900, 4 bedrooms, 1 bath
4709 Tecumseh Street, Unit 303, \$1,680, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths
4914 Tecumseh Street, NEW HOME, \$359,900, 5 bedrooms, 3 baths
8707 48th Avenue, 229,900, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
9004 48th Place, \$300,000, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths
8703 49th Avenue, \$330,000, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
8711 50th Place, \$349,950, 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths