

The Berwyn News



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2004/2005 Officers & Directors

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Save Saturday, March 5
on your calendar for the
Annual BDCA Pot Luck Dinner
from 6-8pm



**Berwyn District
Civic Association Meeting
January 20, 2005
Third Thursday
8 P.M. – 10 P.M.
(49th Avenue and Berwyn Road)**

AGENDA

1. Roll Call for Officers
2. Minutes from last meeting
3. Presentation: Starview Plaza (former Terrapin Taco & Starlight Inn property) development plans
4. Special Topic – Suggestions for improving Berwyn Community Park
5. Treasurer Update
6. Committee Updates
7. Civic Association Updates
8. College Park Reports from our Council Representatives
9. New Business
10. Adjournment

Greeting and Happy New Year!

The Berwyn District Civic Association (BDCA) did not hold a meeting in December. Instead we held a holiday party on December 18 which was a real success. We had plenty of volunteers helping setup and clean-up. Larry the music was great and Sandy the tree crafts were wonderful. However, as expected, Santa stole the show as the little ones were all so excited. Just watching my own daughter jumping up and down as Santa arrived was quite a thrill. Congratulations to Al Cutino's (AKA Santa) grandson Trevor who won this year's door prize. I hope everyone can attend the next BDCA social event, the pot luck dinner to be held on Saturday March 5 from 6pm to 8pm. Details for the pot luck dinner will be included in next month's newsletter

While we did not have a public BDCA meeting in December, we have had regular board meetings. In the December board meeting we finished the new by-laws which are now posted on the web site. We will vote on adopting the new by-laws in the February 17 board meeting. In our January board meeting we were presented with the property owners plans for building student housing on route 1 in the current vacant lot that use to be the Terrapin Taco and the Starlight Inn property. We also talked about progress on getting something done about the decrepit property (Ridgeway property) across the street from Fealy Hall. A court date has been set for March, which hopefully will lead to some sort of action. In this month's BDCA meeting (Thursday January 20) we will be getting an update and presentation on the new student housing project and will provide more details about the forthcoming court date on the Ridgeway property. At this meeting I will also be soliciting suggestions for possible

improvements for the Berwyn neighborhood park. So I hope to see many of you at this month's meeting.

In the back of last month's newsletter we included our annual membership form. I want to thank all of you who paid their membership dues for 2005 and hopefully those who have not yet joined the BDCA for 2005 will complete the form in the back of this month's newsletter.

I also would like welcome the new local convenience store located at 5004 Berwyn Road. With the forthcoming new Seven-Eleven gas station on Greenbelt road their survival will certainly depend on strong patronage from local Berwyn residents.

Finally, I have not had much time to update our website, but I have completed the Berwyn newsletter archive and have been keeping the calendar up to date. The newsletter archive provides access to older copies of the BDCA newsletter. Most of you are aware that the neighborhood watch has moved from an e-mail list to a bulletin board. A link to the neighborhood watch bulletin board from our website will be soon be available. In addition, the website will soon include a form acknowledging those who have made special contributions to the BDCA. We are still in the process considering whether to purchase a domain name for our website, but several of the most obvious short names have been taken (such as www.bdca.org or www.berwyn.org) so for now our website address is still <http://mywebpages.comcast.net/ttriplett13/berwyn>.

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Happy New Year, from my house to yours! A joyous, safe and prosperous 2005! WOW! Already '05. I must be having a ball because time is flying.

With war and biblical natural disasters all over the world one selfish neighborhood in College Park is insistent that an OLD elementary school, College Park Elementary or as it has become known 'friends school' , not be disturbed and in fact spend money, read city taxpayers, to continue to keep it as a school building. It would probably cost the city monies well into the future as there is no pot of gold or Daddy Warbucks to fund this wish.

This property and building came to the city for a \$1.00 as a surplus school. The restriction was that it must only be used for a 'Public Purpose'. In fact college park had to get special permission to allow the Friends (A Quaker School) to locate there.

There is also a storm drain that runs diagonally across the field on the south side of the building, restricting development on the property. We cannot sell it. We can give it back to Prince George's County or put it to another public use. I support putting the City Hall on this site and selling the current site for a couple of million dollars. We can and we should, despite some Nimbys or Bananas, who don't want any change and would saddle future generations of city taxpayers with an Albatross and continuing expense.

The 'Silly Council' is against making a decision that might 'Offend' some. All decisions by elected officials will in most cases, offend some one or group. We are no different.

College Park's search for a new city manager continues. A lot of public hearings on new or changed laws are on tap. Paper bags are coming for the disposal of grass clippings and yard trimmings.

There will be some improvements to Berwyn Road in the area of the Beautiful Day and Holy Redeemer's parking lot. Nothing is happening with route 1 street improvement.

Developers are going full steam ahead in utilizing the land use plan for development along the street. Hopefully we will be successful in coordinating a plan for parking for students and the new residences close to the UM...it remains to be seen.

You should have noticed the street sweeping signs. By the time you read this city sweeping will be complete in Berwyn. If your car(s) were in the way – move 'em and sweep it up yourself.

2004 must have been a banner year for civil suites against the city. They go on thru the judicial system and hopefully the city will prevail. However, whatever the decision is made some will be please and some won't. That's life.

The neighborhood preservation group is being somewhat successful in that the city code enforcement folks are aware that more are looking over their shoulders at the work they do.

Our city website has stirred up some interest in that the name of the owners of rental property and their phone numbers are available with a click of a mouse. You should check it out and verify that all of the rentals near you are listed. If you find what you believe is an error call (301) 864-8877 and report you suspicions.

Stolen Autos in Berwyn is increasing. You should know how to make it more difficult for a thief to take your car. Contact neighborhood watch, your insurance company or the police for some tips – Don't leave your keys in the car and invest in a "CLUB" if you have one of the more popular cars.

My thanks go out to all of those in our neighborhood who are involved at the local and citywide level. YOU can get involved. Come on out on the 3rd Thursday to you Civic Association Meeting. See you there.

May God continue to Bless America,
Jack

Berwyn Neighborhood Watch Update

By Janeen Miller
Berwyn.watch@juno.com

janeenmiller@juno.com OR
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/berwyn_neighborhood_watch

It's been a while since I've contributed a column to this newsletter, but rest assured, I'm still around. Here's an update on what's been going on:

New e-mail address: At the end of November, the Berwyn Neighborhood Watch e-mail account was switched over to a Yahoo Group list. So far, 56 of the 110 people who were on the old Berwyn.watch@juno.com list have switched over. I hope that more of you will join the new Yahoo Group list. Here's how to do it:

Send an e-mail message to berwyn_neighborhood_watch-subscribe@yahogroups.com. If you are new to Yahoo, you will have to register by selecting a user ID and a password. It only takes a few minutes and doesn't cost you anything. The new Yahoo group makes it easier for me to manage such a large list, and sending messages is a snap. You can also visit the website at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/berwyn_neighborhood_watch.

If you have any questions, or have any trouble, write to me at janeenmiller@juno.com.

The old Berwyn.watch@juno.com account is no longer active. If you have written to me at that address, please re-send your message to the other account!

Incidents: Stolen cars are the hot topic these days. I'm sure you've heard that Prince George's County leads the state, indeed the region, in the dubious distinction of having the most stolen cars, and College Park is not immune to this trend. Throughout the City and right here in Berwyn, we have had our share of stolen vehicles, and abandoned stolen vehicles. What can you do? Be sure to lock your car and take the keys! Don't leave your vehicle idling. And invest in a theft-prevention device such as a steering wheel lock. Pay attention to what is going on outside, especially at night. Investigate when motion detector lights go on, or when a dog starts to bark. And if you see any suspicious activity, don't hesitate to call the Prince George's County Police non-emergency number at 301-333-4000.

We have also had several reports of thefts of items from yards, sheds and garages. These include bicycles, lawnmowers, and tools. Please invest in a good quality lock to keep sheds and garages secured. Again, keep your eyes and ears open and report suspicious activity to the non-emergency number.

There was also an armed robbery of a patron at the carwash across Route 1. The details from the police are as follows: December 18, 2004 @ 1925 hrs.
8616 Baltimore Ave. College Park, MD. Case Narrative: The suspects robbed the victim at gunpoint. The victim was washing his vehicle when the suspects approached displaying a handgun demanding money. The victim gave the suspects his wallet, and then the suspects fled southbound on Baltimore Ave.
Suspect: #1-4 unknown Black Males/20's/5'7"/145/dark clothing. No further details.

Please let me know of any criminal incidents or suspicious activity in the neighborhood. We can alert our Contract Police officers to situations that warrant extra attention. For example, you may have noticed increased traffic enforcement in the neighborhood as a result of the request made by the BDCA. We are paying for these officers; let's use them to our advantage.

You have my best wishes for a safe and peaceful New Year.



Information Provided by
Jerry Anzulovic
of Bright and Associates

Properties Sold (Berwyn 7, Branchville 1)

Comment:

- 5009 Berwyn Road, \$230,000, Barrett J. Penan, Absentee owner, 2825 Cox Neck Road, Chester, MD., 21619-2345, DOM (?), SB (?), SA (?), SS (?).
- 5028 Berwyn Road, \$225,000, (\$225,000), Jeffrey Cruz & Unita C. Sargusin, Owner occupants, DOM 139, SB Keller Williams Select Realtors, SA Frank Davis, Jr. Frank@FrankDavisJr.com SS \$5,000.00.
- 5030 Berwyn Road, \$216,000, (\$?), Gloria Pope, Absentee owner, 431 Roundabout Road Louisa, VA., 23093-2546, DOM ?, SB ?, SA ?, SS (\$?)
- 4713 Branchville Road, \$230,000, (\$249,900), Meir Duke aka Bare Feet Enterprises, Inc, Absentee owner, 7-C Gwynn Mill Court, Owings Mill, MD., 21117-3526, DOM 134, SB RE/MAX ONE, SA, Rick Mubarak, rick.mubarak@remax.net, SS \$0.00.
- 8308 Potomac Avenue, \$287,000, (\$287,000), Douglas E & Deborah E Hannum, Absentee owners, 100 Giddings Avenue, Severna Park, MD., 21146-4016, 410-647-8619, DOM 112, SB Champion Realty, SA Doris (Dori) Savani, dorisavani@championrealty.com, SS \$0.00.
- 8436 Potomac Avenue, \$296,000, (\$309,990), Eugene & Eugene Jr. Mosbrucker, Absentee owners, 17313 Donora Road, Silver Spring, MD., 20905-3720, 301-421-9197, DOM 111, SB RE/MAX Realty Centre, Inc., SA, Nancy Wert, wert2300@aol.com, SS \$0.00.
- 8504 48th Avenue, \$306,000, (\$?), Alison C. Russell & James M. Quindle, Owner occupants, DOM ? SB ?, SA ?, SS (?).
- 8702 49th Avenue, \$324,500, (\$310,000), Ross E. & Carolyn G. Eichberg, Absentee owners, 12605 Glen Road, Potomac, MD., 20854-1020, 301-590-0851 or 301-590-3188 or 301-983-6140 DOM 133. SB RE/MAX Advantage Realty, SA Larry Gross, larry@larrygrossgroup.com, SS \$0.00

Properties under Contract (Berwyn 11, Branchville 0)

- 4711 Berwyn Road, \$309,000, Ulysses Glee, Absentee owner since 8/5/1977.
- 5012 Berwyn Road, \$205,000, Claude Edwards, Owner occupant since
- 4808 Osage Street, \$249,900, Kris A. Magnuson, Owner occupant since 10/9/2003.
- 8519 Potomac Avenue, \$255,000, Frances O. Barrett, Absentee owner since 3/29/2001.
- 8521 Potomac Avenue, \$255,000, Frances O. Barrett, Absentee owner since 3/29/2001.
- 5005 Quebec Street, \$299,000, Albano B. & Rose Cutino, Owner occupants since 1960.
- 4718 Ruatan Street, \$289,900, Galen P. & Christine Dively, Absentee owners since 11/06/1995.
- 4700 & 4702 Tecumseh Street, Unimproved acreage, \$110,000, Gerald A. & Shirley J. Behrens, Owners since 5/25/1982.
- 8701 48th Avenue, \$299,000, Tom G. & Frances G. Simon, Had been owner occupied since 11/02/1956.
- 8603 49th Avenue, \$259,900, John F. & Elizabeth Hendricks, Owner occupants since 1940.
- 8609 50th Place, \$215,500, Dawn K. Nichols, Absentee owner since 7/26/2002

Properties for Sale (Berwyn 10, Branchville 0)

- 4709 Berwyn Road, \$269,900, Jutta Hagner, Absentee owner since 5/16/2000.
- 5108 Berwyn Road, \$409,900, Lundy S. & Rose A. Taylor, Owner occupants since 2/21/1985.
- 4713 Branchville Road, \$290,000, Meir Duke, Absentee owner since 10/13/2004, A classic "flip".
- 4904 Osage Street, \$325,000, Albert A. & Margaret A. Gam, Owner occupants since 4/12/1971.
- 8312 Potomac Avenue, \$349,000, Seyed M. Abediyeh, Absentee owner since 4/28/1994.
- 8413 Potomac Avenue, \$364,990, Quinnie & Cindi B. Stephens, Owner occupants since 8/1/1995.
- 8408 48th Avenue, \$295,000, Michelle Tam & Zo Ann Song, Absentee owners since 1/8/2002.
- 8410 48th Avenue, \$295,000, Michelle Tam & Zo An Song, Absentee owners since 1/8/2002.
- 8500 49th Avenue, \$329,000, Zo Ann Song, Absentee owner since 8/27/2001.
- 8707 48th Place, \$329,000, Mohammed R. & Hosne A. Ali, Absentee owners since 5/10/1979

DOM means day on the market from listing to filing of deed at courthouse. Underline means a new listing. * Means a change in offered price



Senator John A. Giannetti, Jr

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The next issue of the Berwyn News will be distributed on the weekend of FEBRUARY 12th.
Deadline for ads and copy – February 7th.

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BERWYN DISTRICT CIVIC ASSOCIATION
2005 Membership Dues

Membership dues are still only \$10 per family! - Membership dues are collected once a year. *Note: If you paid your membership fee at Berwyn Day 2004 picnic, then your membership is up to date and you can disregard this form.*

Please Print Clearly!

Street Address: _____

Family Name _____

Send your \$10 check (made payable to BDCA) and completed form to: **PO Box 535, College Park MD 20740**



Any individuals or businesses who contribute \$25 or more will be acknowledged on the BDCA forthcoming website sponsorship page. Those contributing \$50 or more will be listed as gold star contributors. If you want to contribute more but prefer not to be acknowledged then simply write in anonymous below. If you would like to include a link to your business or personal website then please provide a URL link below.

Please Print Clearly!

Name to be posted on website: _____

URL Link: _____



**Community Life Fellowship Assembly of God
January Community Activities**

meeting at
College Park Church of God, 8800 48th Avenue

Kick the Smoking Habit

Want to keep that New Year's Resolution? Celebrate Recovery is a biblical and balanced program that can help you overcome your smoking. Call for more information.

Free Guitar Lessons

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.

Marriage Small Group (6-weeks) Friday Nights Beginning February 4, 7:30 p.m. Call for location.

Communication in your Marriage

- Recognizing and understanding the barriers to good communication
- Learning ways to make your relationship a priority
- Discovering practical steps for resolving conflict

Diabetes Awareness - January 19, 7:30 p.m.

- Learn the signs of diabetes
- Discover what you can do to reduce the risk of this life threatening disease
- Receive a free diabetes test

Adding Value to the Community

Phone 301-220-4335 for details..... www.clf.netfirms.com

