



The Berwyn News

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www.myberwyn.org

November 2007

Holiday Party 2007! Saturday, December 15 Details to be announced

Watch the web site and look for flyers with details about our annual holiday part. Everyone one brings a dish to share and there is a fun time for everyone. The party is still being planned, so watch for details in the near future.

Time for Ice Skating

The arrival of the cold weather means that it's a great time to go ice skating. And right here in College Park, you can skate at the Herbert Wells Ice Rink (close to the Metro station). This ice skating facility includes the rink, an indoor warming room and party room, and a snack bar. Rental skates are available. They have lessons for all experience levels, open skating, themed skating, hockey, and much more. For details, drop by for a visit or call 301-277-3717.

Veterans Day Ceremony 11 am, Sunday, November 11

Come out to the College Park Veterans Memorial (Route 1 & Greenbelt Road) for the Veterans Day Observance & Ceremonies

Don't forget that Monday, November 12 is a city holiday. Regular trash and recycling pick-up in Berwyn will be moved to Tuesday, November 13.

THE NEXT ISSUE of the *Berwyn News* will be distributed on the weekend of **December 7th**. The deadline for articles & ads is **December 3rd**.

Send articles and ads to Bob Baca at cookwithbob@hotmail.com

Berwyn District Civic Association

Thursday, November 17, 2007
THIRD THURSDAY, 8-10 pm, Fealy Hall

1. Introductions
2. General discussion of issues important to Berwyn residents. Come talk about items of concern to you.
3. BDCA officer reports
4. Council member reports

BDCA 2007-2008 Officers

President	<i>Jerry Anzulovic</i>
Vice President	<i>Kevin Young</i>
Corresponding Secretary	<i>Timothy Triplett</i>
Recording Secretary	<i>Liesl Koch</i>
Treasurer	<i>Lori Young</i>
Board of Directors	<i>Harry Pitt, Jack Perry, & Patrick Hyousse</i>
Neighborhood Watch Director	<i>Gina Tomko</i>
Berwyn News Editor	<i>Bob Baca</i>

District 2 Election Results!

Congratulations to Bob Catlin and Jack Perry for being re-elected to their seats on the city council. Stacey Baca is to be commended for running a great campaign and keeping the incumbents on their toes. After the initial vote count on Tuesday night, only a single vote separated all three candidates. After counting absentee ballots, the final (though yet to be certified) results are Bob Catlin with 116 votes, Jack Perry with 105 votes, and Stacey Baca with 100 votes.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Jerry Anzulovic, jvamgnc1@verizon.net

I believe the living here in the "mother neighborhood of College Park" allows all of us to know instinctively how to build a great bonfire. I know I really had a good time and I know we had a good turn out from the old neighborhood and some from outside. They say that most people don't feel like fall is here until we go from daylight savings time to regular standard time, but I know I don't get into the fall and holiday mood until we have our bonfire. I have persuaded Park and Planning not to take up the ashes until after Thanksgiving, so I hope all you gardening types will come and take as much as you want. I understand that good wood ashes are just the thing that our heavy clayey soils need here in Berwyn and Branchville. I want to thank the members of the Branchville Volunteer Fire Company and Rescue Squad for coming to extinguish the fire. It always adds a moment of excitement at the close of our oldest annual event.

Here at Point Lookout Annex, we had a good number of visits from the citizens of the underworld on Halloween night. The "rebels" were busy all-night and slept soundly all-night and part of the next morning. Neighborhood Watch was out and about and I do believe everything went very well. My hat is off to Major Davis and the other officers from the Prince George's County Police Department for the coverage they gave us that night. The use of the radios allowed all of us posted in the street to keep in touch with each other and to know what was going on in the neighborhood. Excellent idea. I do believe that we have started another annual tradition. Maybe some of the other neighborhoods in the city can adopt out program. From the radio transmissions we overheard, it sounds like the Town of Berwyn Heights had something like what we did for patrolling activities, but it sounded like other College Park neighborhoods would benefit from an activity like what we had.

Please set aside Saturday December the 15th to help welcome to Berwyn a visitor from the North Pole. I understand he only wants to visit with the little ones here in Berwyn and Branchville, but will at least wave at us big people as he passes through. I am to understand that the little ones can meet him at Fealy Hall sometime in the afternoon of the 15th.

I hope that everyone voted and that your candidate won here in the city elections and don't forget, primary day is, as of this writing, in February. Let's hope it is a bright clear fairly warmish day. At least for those of us working outside all day. See you on the 15th for November's membership meeting.

THE BERWYN NEWS ADVERTISING AGREEMENT

<u>AD SIZE (width x height)</u>	<u>ONE ISSUE</u>	<u>10 ISSUES</u>
1/8 Page (Biz Card) (3.75"x2.5")	\$25	\$200
1/4 Page (3.75"x5")	\$35	\$275
1/2 Page (Horizontal) (7.5"x5")	\$50	\$350
1/2 Page (Vertical) (3.75"x10")	\$50	\$350
Full Page (7.5"x10")	\$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 cookwithbob@hotmail.com. We prefer picture files (jpg, gif, etc), but can work with text or pdf files (although some formatting changes may be necessary).

Ads will not run until payment is received as instructed above! For further information, please contact Bob Baca (Berwyn News editor) at cookwithbob@hotmail.com.

Thank you for supporting our community!!!

BERWYN DISTRICT CIVIC ASSOCIATION Annual Membership Dues

Membership dues are \$10 per person or \$15 per family, collected once a year. Paying your dues today will make you an active member through September 2008! 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.

COUNCILMAN VIEWS AND COMMENTS

Bob Catlin

301-345-0742 or Catcprtc@aol.com

Greetings neighbors. November has arrived and as I write this column immediately before the City election I have no way of knowing the outcome of the election in our District 2. Should I fail in my bid for reelection, I am sure that I will be able to write a farewell column for the December newsletter. Regardless of what happens in District 2, the City Council in December will look very different from the City Council elected in November 2005. The new Council will have five or six new (or almost new) people on it.

In October the BDCA sponsored its annual bonfire. Our bonfire has a long history in the community. Last month was my 18th Berwyn bonfire and the weather has always cooperated, with only a couple of close calls with rain.

Crime issues still are at the forefront in Berwyn as witnessed by some incidents in the past month. Even though the police presence in the neighborhood has never been greater, we have experienced more crime than ever before. I still believe it to be an anomaly, as crime overall in the City and in surrounding areas has been trending down modestly. Halloween was a success. The collaboration of many residents lead by our Neighborhood Watch, the City, and the police worked to quell the problems we experienced last Halloween.

A number of important meetings are coming up in the latter part of November. On Thursday, November 15th at 7 pm at City Hall, three County Council members (Dernoga, Olson, and Campos) and Park & Planning will discuss the large picture issues concerning development in the Route 1 corridor, because a lot of development is planned for Hyattsville and Riverdale Park, too. On Monday, November 19th at 7 pm at the BARC auditorium just north of the development occurring at IKEA, the County will present its plans for its proposed Rhode Island Avenue project. The project extends from University Blvd. north to Route 1. The one block stretch of Rhode Island Avenue between University Blvd. and Greenbelt Road is not part of the project because it is a State and not a County road. As it impacts College Park, the major changes called for in the plan are a traffic light at Rhode Island Avenue and Edgewood Road, along with two roundabouts at locations to the south. The proposed roundabouts would require the closing off portions of the parallel service road, as the service roads could not be incorporated into the proposed roundabouts. Finally, on Thursday, November 19th at 7 pm at City Hall a meeting with stakeholders to discuss transit improvements in the Route 1 corridor. A study has been completed and presented to the City, so now where do we go?

In other news of interest, Mayor Tabori of University Park recently indicated he would like to see rent stabilization legislation generated for his town in the near future. I hope to see you at our November 15th meeting at Fealy Hall. This will be our last BDCA meeting of the year, as December events are limited to our annual Holiday Party.

CITY COUNCIL MUSINGS

Jack Perry, 301-345-7526

Because of deadline requirements, this is being written before the election. In Berwyn, we had three candidates running for two seats on the council. I will share with you some of my observations that I encountered on my walks and talks throughout the 2nd District. I've met and talked to a lot of folks. I didn't meet any that I didn't enjoy talking to, however, you can imagine that we all don't agree. Everyone was cordial and interesting. Most cases, we agree to disagree.

There are some items that jumped out at me as I walked. It is still possible to tell which houses are absentee owned and the tenants do not give a hoot on how the place looks. Curb appeal is not on their scope of something that make a community. I found any number of houses where smoking was done on the front porch and never cleaned up. The 'city flower' (red plastic cup) grows in any median and proliferates after a warm night. I can't give you an exact count on how many front doors were open nor how many *Gazette* newspapers were not picked up and recycled. There are trash carts in front of the houses and recycling bins scattered everywhere on the properties.

There are a number of houses with no visible address. It is either not there, not on a contrasting background, or is hidden behind overgrown shrubs (this can pose more than one safety hazard for the resident.) There is a lot of indoor furniture on the front porch. There are untagged automobiles on the property and strange looking things covered in the driveway. Screens are leaning against the house and many screen and storm doors are broken.

The attitude that it is somebody else's responsibility to keep the street clean is district-wide.

Enough of that stuff, let's talk about the council. Development is real and coming slowly to our fair city. These projects will have an impact on all of us. The council is working on these one at a time, attempting to get the best product we can and that all of our questions are answered. The hotel that was proposed for the Jerry's Sub/Pizza shop area has morphed into student housing. Four stories, stick built. The office buildings proposed to the north are under re-evaluation. We will all hear more about these as plans are developed. The 'Purple Line' is causing a lot of

hand wringing on campus. How it will get through the campus? The transportation folks and 'East Campus Development' have one idea. Dr. Mote has another. So what's new about that? One of the reasons the Metro station is at Calvert Road and not on campus is that 'they' didn't want it there. Don't forget that the proposed alignment would have raped the south farm of BARC.

All of the police departments that serve College Park residents have been in and talked to the council. If nothing else, communication lines are open and they are all aware that College Park is a unique area for policing.

The city manager has been authorized to purchase the third trash truck. Single stream recycling is coming to College Park. A 'newspaper' has reported that we will "make money on trash." That is just a little bit wrong. The city's cost will be offset by some rebates, thus reducing the overall cost to dispose of solid waste and recyclable material. The more material we are diverting from the trash or solid waste stream, the less we have to pay at the landfill.

Some will say that recycling is 'touchy-feely.' It can, in the big picture, save a lot of money. You of course know that aluminum can be recycled and a savings of 90% in energy is realized over using raw materials to make it. 90%...that's an impressive number. Plastic bottles also enjoy a beneficial savings in oil. The old plastic is reused and a new 'yuppie water bottle' costs less to manufacture. This goes for Coke, Pepsi, and milk jugs also. I'm sure that your editor and I could write a bunch on recycling – if we go out in the community and use just your neighbor's, we could generate volumes. There are those among us who like 'green' and 'footprints'. That's what recycling is about.

You will have to look elsewhere in this newsletter for election results. Thanks to all who helped with our annual bonfire. A special thanks goes out to Major Davis, the Prince George's County Police, and your neighbors who made Halloween in Berwyn the success that it was.

Mail in your dues to the Civic Association. Join the Neighborhood Watch e-mail ground. And please clean up behind your dog. Hope you voted. May God continue to bless this great country. See you at the meeting.

Have you paid your dues for the year? We need your support to help publish and distribute this newsletter, run our website, and sponsor all those great community events. Check page 2 of the newsletter for dues information.

BERWYN NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH **Gina Tomko (GTomko@epe.org)**

We saw a lot of trick-or-treaters this Halloween, including several large groups of 12-15 kids. When some of these groups saw the police cars, city cars, and heard the 2-way radios, they all proceeded with caution and appeared polite and appreciative. What a nice change from last year, huh? The police did stop and talk to some kids who were not in costume and seemed to have them detained briefly at the corner of 49th Ave. and Patuxent Ave., but we don't know of any arrests.

Here is what some residents had to say in regards to this year's Halloween experience:

"It was wonderful to see so many people out in their yards handing out candy. I both walked and drove around and didn't find a street that didn't have people outside, keeping an eye on things. I met a lot of new people and saw a lot of old friends, and felt Berwyn was a very well connected community last night."
- Janeen (Berwyn Road)

"I thought the night went extremely well. And I believe a lot of the credit goes to the police, city officials, and our diligent participating neighbors. All deserve a pat on the back for their involvement in making last night a safe and fun night. And special thanks to Mark Shute for his role in monitoring questionable visitors to our community."
- Harry (Potomac Avenue)

"A couple more community shows of support like this and I would not be surprised to start seeing parents driving their kids to Berwyn because it's a 'nicer and safer neighborhood.' "
- Dave (48th Avenue)

The police and city presence was truly impressive. We couldn't have pulled it off without them. A special thanks to Bob Ryan for bringing all those walkie-talkies that were so much fun to use!

And, a huge "thank you" to Major Davis and Lt. Snowden, who came through for us just as they said they would.

If anyone wishes to drop them a quick note of heartfelt thanks, here is their contact info:

- Bob Ryan, Director of Public Services
bryan@collegeparkmd.gov

- Joe Nagro, City Manager
jnagro@collegeparkmd.gov

- Major Kevin Davis, Commander, District 1, Prince George's County Police
kfdavis@co.pg.md.us

- Lt. Bernard Snowden, Commander, District Investigative Section,
Prince George's County Police
btsnowden@co.pg.md.us

I thank all of you for helping out this year. I truly feel like this has been the best Halloween night in Berwyn in all of the seven years that I have lived here. I feel blessed to live in such a tight knit community of people looking out for one another at all times.

Still haven't joined our online neighborhood watch group? Well, what are you waiting for? The communication among neighbors is critical to the safety and quality of our neighborhood. For those of you interested in joining, send an email to: Berwyn_neighborhood_watch-subscribe@yahoo.com.

"Over and Out" --- Gina



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It's leaf collection time again in College Park.

To have leaves collected by the leaf vacuum, please:

- Rake the leaves to the curb, but not into the street. Pile leaves away from cars and storm drains. Please note that the leaf vacuum cannot reach around cars.
- Remove all tree limbs, rocks, and other debris from leaves to be collected.
- Bagging is not necessary during leaf collection season, however if you bag leaves, they will only be collected when the leaf vacuum is scheduled in your neighborhood. Leaves in plastic bags will not be collected at any time. Use paper yard waste bags or approved reusable containers. Do not put them out with regular trash.
- Noise and dust may be noticeable. We apologize for any inconvenience.
- Use paper bags or reusable containers for small trimmings & clippings; they will be picked up during posted collection dates.

Please call 301-474-4194 if you have any questions.

The Berwyn Community Garden

Introduction

This past September, the idea of a Berwyn Community Garden was brought up at a council meeting. A group of students thought it would be a great way to unite residents and students while creating a healthy, alternative food source for those living in the Berwyn area. Those residents interested are welcomed to aid in the any part of the planning process.

What is a community garden?

It is a designated portion of land that is divided into plots for local residents to use. Some, such as the Master Peace Garden in Riverdale, divide the plots in half: shared by students and families. Community gardens are often run by a self-governing set of bylaws; others elect boards in a democratic fashion, while others are run by appointed officials.

Many Gardens also encourage activities such as work days, fundraisers, and social gatherings. Community garden organizers typically say that "growing community" is as important as growing vegetables, or as the American Community Gardening Association (ACGA) puts it, "In community gardening, 'community' comes first".

Benefits

How would Berwyn benefit from a community garden?

- Provides a catalyst for community and neighborhood development
- Beautifies neighborhoods
- Produces nutritious foods and reduces family grocery budgets
- Reduces crime
- Preserves green space
- Generates income opportunities and economic development
- Creates an opportunity for recreation, exercise, therapy, and education

Organization

How can I get involved?

- Browse: www.communitygarden.com (ACGA website)
- Contact berwyncommunitygarden@gmail.com with your interest and questions.
- Check your mail for interest meeting dates and times.

Our first interest meeting will be at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, November 13th at 5024 Berwyn Road. Come learn about and get involved in this community project.



Information Provided by
Jerry Anzulovic
of Bright and Associates

Properties Sold or Rented (Berwyn 0, Branchville 0)

No, that's not a mistake. Nothing sold this past month.

Properties under Contract (Berwyn 11, Branchville 1)

4816 Berwyn Road, \$515,000, Timothy & Rebecca Aldridge, Owner occupants since 07/02/2003.
5053 Berwyn Road, \$347,000, Damjan Jevtic, Absentee owner since 02/24/2005.
4705 Greenbelt Road, \$449,000, William & Ellen Roberts, Absentee owners since 06/22/2006.
4907 Quebec Street, \$415,000, Joshua & Valerie Durrant, Owner occupants since 07/30/2002.
8708 Rhode Island Avenue, \$425,000, Frances Darling, Owner occupant since 08/20/1970.
4718 Ruatan Street, \$375,000, Jarred & Sue Hester, Owner occupants since 03/02/2005.
4702 Tecumseh Street, \$499,000, Ellen Roberts, Absentee owner since 11/08/2005.
4705 Tecumseh Street, #202, \$264,900, Stephen Tennant, Absentee owner since 06/17/2005.
4707 Tecumseh Street, #304, \$259,900, Stephen Tennant, Absentee owner since 06/17/2005.
4709 Tecumseh Street, #104, \$267,000, Stephen Tennant, Absentee owner since 06/17/2005.
8414 48th Avenue, \$140,000, (lot), 10,000 sf, 48th Ave Conservation Trust, Absentee owner since 06/18/2004.
9002 48th Place, \$360,000, Lori & Kevin Taylor, Absentee owners since 08/19/2005.

Properties for Sale or Rent (Berwyn 16, Branchville 2)

4703 Berwyn Road, \$1,500,000, Quality Enterprises, Absentee owners since 06/28/2001
4802 Branchville Road, \$380,000, Thomas & Glenda Kines, Owner occupants since 02/01/1995.
8306 Potomac Avenue, \$399,000, Donald Kirsch, Absentee owner since 10/27/1992.
***8400 Potomac Avenue**, \$369,900, Scott Roberts, Absentee owner since 11/23/1998.
8403 Potomac Avenue, \$407,000, Deborah Vanadia-Mims, Owner occupant since 12/12/1997.
8514 Potomac Avenue, \$424,900, Rudolph Schwartz, Absentee owner since 08/05/2003.
8520 Potomac Avenue, \$375,000, Robert & Stephen Ford, Owner occupants since 10/01/2004.
5000 Quebec Street, \$415,000, Richard Fahey, Owner occupant since 06/05/1991.
5007 Quebec Street, \$349,900, Russell Dickerson, Owner occupant since 03/24/1988.
5009 Quebec Street, \$398,500, Robert & Linda Brown, Owner occupants since 03/09/2005.
5004 Roanoke Place, \$430,000, Jose & Aurelia Cruz, Owner occupant since 02/17/2006.
4707 Tecumseh Street, #103, \$1,800 per month, 2 BR, Bruce Weneck, Absentee owner since 10/11/2006.
4709 Tecumseh Street, #302, \$1,700 per month, 2 BR, Renne Gray, Absentee owner since 04/02/2007.
4914 Tecumseh Street, \$149,000, (Building lot), 9228 sf, Ilhame Sefiani, Absentee owner since 02/11/2004.
8901 48th Avenue, \$375,000, Ana Anguilar & Jose Zavala, Absentee owners since 09/29/2005.
8702 49th Avenue, \$1,295 per month, Karyn Keating-Volke, Absentee owner since 10/19/2005.

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, LA means living area only (NOT the basement or lower level).

Visit the Berwyn online MESSAGE BOARD!

Post your questions, items for sale, announcements, and more at www.myberwyn.org.
Click "BDCA Message Board" at the top-center of the page and post your message.

Your Ad Here!

Have a business in the neighborhood, a home-based business, or some other ad that you need people to see? The *Berwyn News* has great rates for ads and over 500 copies are delivered throughout the Berwyn neighborhood each month (and is also available online). See page 2 for details and get your ad in the December newsletter.

Have something to share with your neighbors?

We're interested in your neighborhood stories, photos, opinions, and community interest items. Send them to the editor at cookwithbob@hotmail.com and we'll try to get the in the next issue of the *Berwyn News*. (Are you the neighbor with the security camera idea? Send me your thoughts and I'll share them with all of Berwyn.)