

The Bugle

Published by the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association

October 2015



vol. 47 #4

It's Annual Meeting Time!

November 19

Bel Pre Elementary School

13801 Rippling Brook Drive

Civic Association Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Rec Association Meeting 7:30 p.m.



Please come! Meet your neighbors, hear about the work of the Associations this past year, and learn about their future plans.

You can cast your vote for your Civic and Recreational Association board members only at each of the annual meetings. Every vote is important, so do attend the meetings, learn the latest, and vote!

Civic Association Board Candidates

JOHN BOGASKY

LINDA BEA

ELLIOT CHABOT

LILLA HAMMOND

CHRIS SWAN

Recreational Board Candidates

TED BECHTOL

PAUL SPELLMAN

ANDY WRIGHT

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THE BUGLE

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Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association (SBPCA)

P.O. Box 6836, Silver Spring, MD 20906

e-mail: Strathmo@strathmore-belpre.org

Web site: www.strathmore-belpre.org

Annual SBPCA membership: \$18.00

The SBPCA is a voluntary association, funded by membership dues, that represents our community to County Government and various other groups such as the Montgomery County Civic Federation. The SBPCA also publishes *The Bugle*, organizes the annual Yard Sale and 4th of July festivities. The SBPCA Board of Directors meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Mid-County Community Recreation Center on Queensguard Road. The Civic Association's annual meeting is in November just before the BPRA annual meeting.

Civic Association Officers

President:	Nancy Bechtol	301 871-3679	Secretary:	Linda Bea	301 460-0497
Vice President:	Bill Hammond	301 871-5074	Treasurer:	John Bogasky	301 460 1604
			Webmaster:	Chris Jennison	301 538-5705

Civic Association Directors

Max Bronstein	301 460-3117	Lilla Hammond	301 871-5074	Chris Swan	301 871-1113
Elliot Chabot	301 871-1113	Harry Klapper	301 460-9645	Rita Vaught	206 406-2871
Frank Corrigan	301 460-1011	Maurice Potosky	301 460-9008		

Bel Pre Recreational Association (BPRA)

The Bel Pre Recreational Association (BPRA) is the homeowners association for most of the Strathmore at Bel Pre properties. The BPRA runs our community's pool, tennis courts, volleyball courts, playground, picnic area, bath house, snack bar, and pavilion, which are open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. BPRA Board & committee meetings are announced at <http://strathmore-belpre.org/bpra>. Upcoming Board meetings are scheduled for Wednesday Oct. 28 and Dec. 2, at 7:30 pm, at Bel Pre Elementary School, room 138. The annual General Membership meeting is held on the Thursday before Thanksgiving Day at 7:30 pm, at the Bel Pre Elementary School multi-purpose room.

Bel Pre Recreational Association Board of Trustees

Elliot Chabot (President)	(301) 871-1113	echabot@usa.net
Kim Watters (Vice President)	(301) 460-0054	kimwatters@live.com
Larry Vaught (Treasurer)	(240) 558-3814	l.vaught@comcast.net
Dan Keating (Secretary)	(301) 603-8162	dtkeats@gmail.com
Paulette Ladas	(301) 674-7742	pauletteladas@remax.net
Greg Miller	(301) 871-9412	winstonhen@aol.com
Kye Pak	(301) 460-4388	kye_pak@msn.com
Lou Ann Rector	(301) 603-8805	louannphs@hotmail.com
Billy Ruppert	(301) 871-0076	billyruppert@gmail.com

Bel Pre Recreational Association Officials

Brenda Henry (Administrative Assistant)	(301) 871-6298
Louisa Hoar (Pavilion reservations, tennis court keys & pool passes)	(301) 871-2954
Chris Jennison (Webmaster)	(301) 538-5705

The President's Corner

by Nancy Bechtol

President, Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association



Summer 2015 Recap

What an amazing summer we have had in our Strathmore Bel Pre neighborhood! Our swim team had an great year, despite the rain that seemed to never end earlier this summer. This was followed by the driest late summer we have had in quite some time, but finally the rain is starting to fall. I am watching our grass green up before my eyes. Our 4th of July celebration was outstanding this year, thanks to all of the planning efforts of LILLA HAMMOND and her following of volunteers. We had one of our largest crowds ever for the parade, the magician's show and the afternoon field and pool games. Please read Lilla's article inside this edition of the Bugle for more of the details.

Entertainment Series – Third Year



Our third Summer Entertainment Series, featuring three evening movies and two musical events, was also outstanding again this year. The crowds for these events are slowly growing each year, so word is getting out. If you haven't been able to make any of these events yet, please plan to put them on your calendar for next summer. They will be back!, and are well worth attending!

The Bubbas (PHIL & ELIZABETH KOMINSKY with Donnie Williams and Chris Brooks) perform at the pool pavilion in June

We have CHRIS SWAN and ELLIOT CHABOT to thank for all of the work in planning the music events and JOHN BOGASKY for the movie night planning and execution. It is a lot of work for these folks and we can't thank them enough for being so dedicated to our Civic Association and our neighborhood. They are always looking for volunteers to help and assist the nights of these events, so please reach out to them if you can help in the future.

Community Website

Have you visited our SBPCA/BPRA website recently? You can find it at www.strathmore-belpre.org. I am positive you will immediately notice the many improvements to this website. This is thanks to the hard work of ELLIOT CHABOT and CHRIS JENNISON, our webmaster. They have both developed and added over 200 new items onto our website.

Please check it out. You will be amazed!!



Dan Thomas

Longtime SBPCA board member DAN THOMAS passed away this summer. Before his health deteriorated, he helped with our July 4th activities, and even took a brief turn as Treasurer. Our condolences to his family and friends.

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Gleanings From Meetings + More

your name could be here!

With much regret, the Civic Association and the editors announce the retirement of FRANK CORRIGAN from both the Civic Association, and from writing the Bugle *Gleanings* column! FRANK, and his predecessor MAX BRONSTEIN, worked hard for many decades to keep our community informed of Montgomery County news and events, with a focus on our local government and school board. We vigorously thank them for their service!

Please, if you have an interest in the affairs of the County, and a desire to keep your community members informed, volunteer to write the *Gleanings* column. You are needed, and, yes, it does matter!



50 Plus Club Meetings

by Maury Potosky

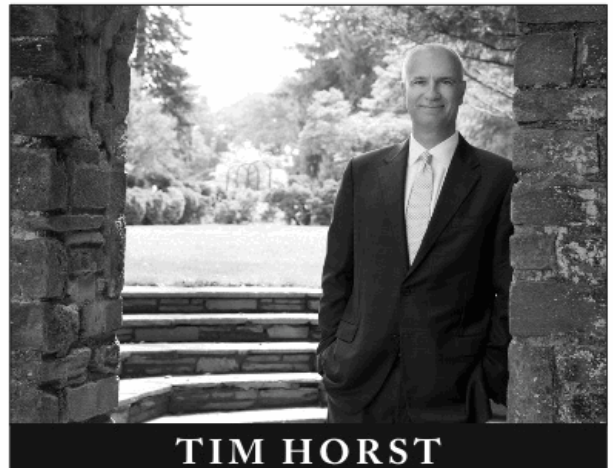
The 50 Plus Club met over the summer at the swimming pool pavilion for several meetings. We next will meet on Wednesday, November 4, 2015 at 7:30 pm, at the home of CHARLOTTE and MAURY POTOSKY, 3505 Beret Lane. At that meeting, we will plan our winter activities for the rest of 2015 and the beginning of 2016. The following meeting will be on Wednesday, December 16 at the home of BOB and ARLENE WISETH, which will include their annual holiday display. Upcoming activities include the Rockville Concert Band on Sunday, November 22, at the Fitzgerald theater in Rockville, and again on Sunday, December 20.

This past month the Club went to see the Gypsy Baron at the Fitzgerald theater, and we thank IRIS HYMAN for making the arrangements. We will also have seen Ragtime at Toby's Dinner Theater in mid-October.

If any senior residents of Strathmore at Bel Pre wish to participate in our activities, please call us at 301-460-9008. We would love to have you join us! We can also be reached at maury3505@aol.com.

I have served the Strathmore at Bel Pre neighborhood for 30 years.

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Bel Pre Recreational News

by Elliot Chabot

President, Bel Pre Recreational Association

The summer of 2015 was a great season at the pool. That makes 47 summers in a row for our pool! If you were at the opening of the pool in 1969, please give me a call or drop me a note. Our 50th anniversary is just a few years away and it's not too early to start planning for the celebration!

Annual Meetings

Please mark your calendars for two upcoming dates: November 19 and December 2.

The annual general membership meetings of the Recreational Association and the Civic Association both will be held on Thursday, November 19, at Bel Pre Elementary School, 13801 Rippling Brook Drive. Both groups will hold elections for seats on their governing boards. The Civic Association will meet from 7 pm to 7:30 pm, followed immediately by the Recreational Association. Even if you're not currently a member of the Civic Association, I urge you to attend their annual meeting -- it's a great way to learn about many things effecting out community.



WSSC (and maybe Washington Gas) will be at November 19 meetings

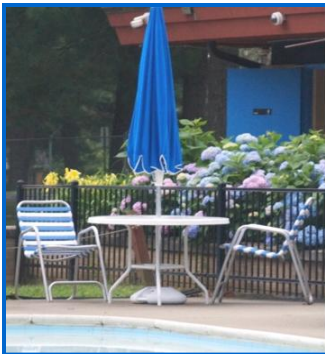
This year WSSC, our local water and sewer authority, and Washington Gas have been invited to come to the annual meetings and explain what they have been doing in the neighborhood for the last few months and any future plans. A great reason to join us on November 19 at Bel Pre Elementary School at 7 pm.

• Thanks to BONNIE CULLISON and NANCY BECHTOL for making the arrangements.

Election rules change for voting!

BPRA members may sign in and get ballots starting at 6:45 pm. . **Unlike past years, however, ballots may not be cast until all of the candidates have been given an opportunity to address the membership.** The BPRA meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

Please – come to the annual meeting, hear the candidates, and then vote.



Quorum and Town Hall Meeting

The owners of 71 homes within the Recreational Association (who have paid their annual \$225 membership dues) must be present at the annual meeting for us to have a quorum. If we do not have a quorum at the November 19th BPRA meeting, we will have a follow-up meeting on Wednesday, December 2nd, at 8:00 pm to elect members of the Board of Trustees. If we don't need the follow-up meeting on December 2nd, we will hold a Town Hall meeting with a question/answer format like we did last year. So either way, save both dates on your calendar. **November 19 and December 2.**

Budget

You should have received a copy of the proposed BPRA annual budget in the mail, along with your official notice of the annual meeting. The Board of Trustees plans final action on the budget at its January meeting. We would like very much to get the input of everyone in the Association. The budget is our key planning document for the upcoming fiscal year, which runs from March 1, 2016 to February 28, 2017.

• Thanks to LARRY VAUGHT, RITA VAUGHT, GREG MILLER, BILLY RUPERT, and DAN KEATING for their work putting together the FY17 proposed budget.

– continued on page 6 –

Financial Records and Budget Documents

A special thanks to TAMARA HENRY who served as the BPRA's bookkeeper from 1998 to 2015. Thank you for your many years of work for the community!

- Thank you, as well, to BRENDA HENRY, who has served as the BPRA's Administrative Assistant since 1997.

We are now well along on moving from our paper-based financial processes to an electronic-based system. At the same time, monthly financial statements, annual audits, long-range planning studies, and adopted budgets from previous years are now available on the BPRA website at <http://strathmore-belpre.org/bpra-governing-documents/> under the "Budget and Maintenance" heading.

- Thank you to LARRY VAUGHT and RITA VAUGHT for their work in planning and implementing the new processes; and to CHRIS JENNISON for the additions to the website. Also thanks to BOB BOWSER, whose 2014 BPRA Finance Committee laid the ground work for this change.

Pool Physical Plant

As I noted in the June issue, our pool will reach its 50-year mark in just a few years, 2019. Our 10-year facility study (available at <http://strathmore-belpre.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/BeL-Pre-Pre-Pool-report-Final.pdf>) identifies numerous parts of our recreational facilities that are reaching their life expectancy.



Hot Water Heater

In August, an emergency replacement of the hot water heater was made. On the last day of the season, emergency repairs also were needed to replace a broken flange in the pool's pumping system.

- Thanks to the efforts of GREG MILLER, JOE MOELLER, CLARK BAUGHER (Georgetown Aquatics), and BILLY RUPERT in these emergencies, we were able to stay open every day of the season.



Concrete and Pump Room

We have issued an RFP for replacement of the three concrete pool deck slabs next to the roof of the pump room, to replace the associated drain system, repair and caulk other concrete slabs, and re-caulk the seams around both pools. This work should be completed before the start of next year's pool season.

Our next step is expected to be a review of the pool's filter system and a structural engineer re-evaluation of the pump room. To help set longer-range

priorities and to better develop a strategy to deal with the costs involved, we will be developing a multi-year capitol budget to supplement the BPRA's annual budget.

- Thanks to KIM WATTERS, JOE MOELLER, DAVE PURDY, and GREG MILLER for their leadership in moving us forward with this project.

Summer Entertainment series

The Summer Entertainment Series grew to 5 events this summer. We had 3 movies (How to Train Your Dragon, Guardians of the Galaxy, and X-Men: Days of Future Past) and 2 live music performances (The Bubbas (featuring our own Strathmore Bel Pre residents ELIZABETH and PHIL KOMINSKI); and Pan Lara (a steel pan band)).

- Thanks to CHRIS SWAN, JOHN BOGASKY, and the Civic Association for leading this effort.



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Summer 2015: Dolphins' Winning Season

by Claire Pak

It's hard to believe that I'm writing another end-of-season *Bugle* article, when I'm sure that I wrote a "Welcome Summer" article yesterday. Summer has flown by once again, along with another fun and WINNING season for our Dolphins!

We finished 4-1 in the Prince-Mont Swim League B Division (third year in a row!), placing third at Divisionals, and second overall in the Division. Special congratulations to MORGAN HILL, who set a league record in Girls 15-18 50 M Butterfly, and to both MORGAN and CARSON TAYLOR, who earned first-place finishes at the All-Star meet, which includes the entire league, not just the B Division.



Special thanks and congratulations to Head Coach TERRY KOMINSKI, Assistant Coach LILAN MILLER, and Developmental Coaches EMMA BEARMAN, KAYLA GEARY, and WINSTON MILLER for a tremendously successful season!

We held our annual awards banquet on Wednesday, July 29. Awards were presented to the top 3 high points swimmers in each age group, and coaches individual awards.

2015 Dolphins Winners

TOP 3 swimmers for each age group

8 & Under

Boys

SHANE KENT
LUCAS MOELLER
GRAHAM WICK

Girls

TESSA MILLER
ALANA SIEGFIRE
MAIA ANTONIO

9-10

Boys

ASA VIRGA
WYATT KENT
EVAN PAK

Girls

PIPER YOCKELSON
LAILA KRONEMER
ANIYAH ELEY



© Gabriella Wright, CPP

TOP 3 swimmers for each age group

11-12

Boys

CARSON TAYLOR
IAN VIRGA
AARON SIEGLE

Girls

DARYN LAM
LAUREN HILL
CAMILLE BEARMAN

13-14

Boys

DALE GOTCHER
JOSH BEARMAN
AIDAN PAK

Girls

OLIVIA MILLER
NADIRA ROBERTS
CARRIE HILL

15-18

Boys

EVAN BEARMAN
EMERSON MILLER
WINSTON MILLER and
SKY GEARY (tie)

Girls

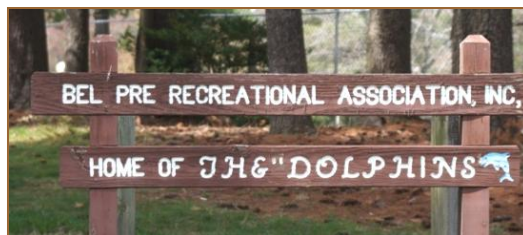
MORGAN HILL
EMMA BEARMAN
REBECCA WESLEY

Most Improved (by age group)

8 & under	XAVIER MINOR
9-10	ELAINE CANALES
11-12	MAGGIE TOBIN
13-14	LIAM TOBIN
15-18	LAUREN DAVIS

Hardest Working (by practice group)

Beginner	PAULO KAYATANI
Novice	DREW WRIGHT
Junior	ASA VIRGA
Senior	OLIVIA MILLER



- Continued on page 19 -

July 4th 2015 Celebration – a Great Strathmore Bel Pre Event!!

by Harry Klapper, Greg Miller, & Lilla and Bill Hammond

This year many community members came together to help celebrate this special day. It was inspiring! We had a great turn out for the parade from Strathmore Elementary School to the pool. Our thanks go to the participants, the parents, their families, friends who helped. Adding to the spirit of the parade were Cub Master BILL TOTTON's Pack 763 and Scout Master ERIC WASHINGTON's Troop 763 with their flag bearers who led the paraders.



Registered Paraders

JONAS, PIPER and AVA YOCKELSON; JOEY and LUCAS MOELLER; AARON and SARAH SIEGEL; MAIA ANTONIO; GRIFFIN and MAKAYLA COOLEY; GRACIE FORAKER; DANIEL LANDRY; KALINA and ILIYAH OWENS; DARYN LAM; MIRIAM LEV; DIEGO KAPONO; KAYATANI; TESSA MILLER; JOHN BOGASKY, IV; ANGELO and THERESA MILAZZO; DAVID DORSEY; ISABELLA DORSEY; HANNAH and GRACE MACFARLAND; ANGELA VAUGHT; SARA RODRIGUEZ; CHARLIE TORRES; ERIK and SARAH STAGGS; SARAH, DANIEL, ELORA and LAYLA BREEDEN; XAVIER and OLIVIA HUFFINE-WRIGHT; CHRISTIAN MARTIN; WILL, SAM and JAKE SMITH; BEV WEIVER; MARSHALL, CHARLOTTE and WILLIAM MCNAMEE; CHANE and CELENA ROCHELLE; JOHN, CLAIRE and BEN PURDY; GRAYSON and LILA HAMITY; DARIUS GICHURU; MALEK WASHINGTON; KHALIL ABDUL-WAKEEL; DANIEL FLOYD; JULINE FLOYD; DANIEL HALL; DAVID HANSON; CHRISTOPHER and MAKAYLA CRON; LILY and OWEN MILLER; EAMON HOYE; BEN POTOSKY and WILLIAM HAMMOND, II.



Volunteers

We are very grateful to our community for their support of the events on this special day. The people who helped with extra care and attention were REUBEN and MARILYN LEV, RENEE and KEITH YOCKELSON, AMY and GERRY SHARP and BILL HAMMOND. Thanks RENEE for pre-registering the Dolphins! CAPTAIN POTTER, LT. JIM FALISE and their teams of professional fire fighters and emergency personnel from Montgomery County Fire Station 25. It was very exciting when the two fire trucks and emergency vehicles arrived to lead the parade.

Entertainment and Field Games:

HARRY KLAPPER coordinated the pavilion entertainment with professional magician MICHAEL CHAMBERLIN who, once again, kept the attention of his audience with his wonderful magic show and balloon sculptures. LEE ANN and SCOTT MCNAMEE, JOE SEIGLE and JENNIFER HILL-BOULIN gave the kids a lot of fun and excitement with interesting and fun games for the kids. Their leadership and enthusiasm made the games a great success. Our thanks also go to the pool guards who provided safety and coordination for our pool activities.



Strathmore Bel Pre residents enjoyed a great time coming together on July 4th!

The Dolphins won their early morning swim the same day which simply added to the fun and excitement.

Again, thank you all for making our celebration a special day for our community!!

A Community Hero: MAX BRONSTEIN

The Montgomery County Civic Federation, Inc. hosts a fantastic website at www.montgomerycivic.org. I recommend you take a look at their September 2015 online newsletter. It features our very own MAX BRONSTEIN in an article recognizing MAX as a Community Hero. He is certainly a community hero in our neighborhood! We all know him well, but it is wonderful to see Max recognized by the Montgomery County Civic Federation for his 15 years of dedication and support of this organization too. The MCCF newsletter is also an excellent source of county information, so please do check it out. You have now two reasons to do so!



MAX BRONSTEIN and FRANK CORRIGAN retiring from the Civic Association

MAX just recently retired from the SBPCA Board after decades of service. We are all missing his contributions and efforts regarding local governmental affairs, not to mention his great sense of humor and fun stories. For many years, he faithfully wrote the Bugle *Gleanings from Meetings and More* column. Max also attended meetings on our behalf. He wrote letters, testified, and in general represented our community and our viewpoints regarding State and County government efforts.

The SBPCA suffered another retirement announcement this summer, from FRANK CORRIGAN. He was a partner in crime along with MAX and also attended numerous community meetings each month. FRANK took over writing the *Gleanings from Meetings and More* column from MAX starting in 2012. FRANK did an outstanding job representing our community at all of these meetings and also at writing the *Gleanings* article for each edition of the Bugle. We already miss him terribly at our monthly SBPCA Board meetings, but are so appreciative all of his years of service to our community, the SBPCA, and the BPRA. Frank was also President of the BPRA many years ago.

Annual Meeting -- November 19th at 7 pm --Bel Pre Elementary

We are currently planning for a very informative Strathmore Bel Pre Community General Membership Meeting on November 19, 2015 at Bel Pre Elementary School. Please plan to attend, as it is a great way to meet neighbors and find out what the Civic and the Rec associations have worked on this past year. It is also when we elect our board members for the SBPCA and BPRA. I hope to see you there!

Town Hall Meeting December 2nd at 8 pm --Bel Pre Elementary

Mark your calendars now to attend the 2nd annual Town Hall meeting, where lively discussions of all things Strathmore Bel Pre take place, in a round-robin question and answers format, with both the Civic and the Rec board members in attendance!.



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Update on Glenmont MetroCentre Developments

By John Bogasky

After long waits (decades in the case of Glenmont MetroCentre), two local redevelopment projects are now gathering steam.

Most noticeable is the start of construction on Phase 1.1 of Glenmont Metro Centre. This phase will construct 171 townhomes, including 22 MPDUs (Modified Price Dwelling Units), on the property's easternmost third near the intersection of Layhill Road and Glenallen Avenue.



Artist rendering of new Glenmont MetroCentre townhomes

Winchester Homes is the builder.

Financial success with this project could demonstrate to other potential developers that there is real potential in the area around the Glenmont Metro Station, especially now that the Georgia Avenue and Randolph Road intersection modernization is underway. We can only hope that these milestones spur the long-overdue redevelopment of Glenmont Shopping Center.

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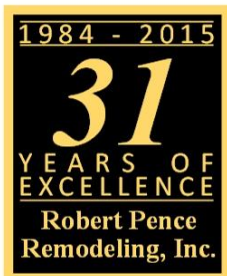
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**Bel Pre Recreational
Association
2015 Candidates
3 positions – 3 candidates**



Ted Bechtol

1. **Age (optional):**
2. **Occupation:** I work at the U.S. Capitol where I am Superintendent of the Capitol Grounds.
3. **Length of time living in the Strathmore/Bel Pre neighborhood:** Since 1990
4. **What are your most recent contributions for/to our community?** I served on the Recreational Association for about 20 years, starting in the early 1990's.
5. **What do you see as the most important function of the Recreational Association?** First and foremost is to maintain the pool facilities at the highest level possible, so that it can serve as an excellent community amenity and focal point.
6. **What is your vision for the Board of the Recreational Association?** My interest would be to see that the facilities and landscape were well maintained keeping current with all county regulations and safety requirements at the least expense to the community and that appropriate planning is done for future needs.
7. **How would you build community in Strathmore-Bel Pre?** I would support a broad spectrum of events and activities appealing to all members of our community.

Paul Spelman

1. **Age (optional):** 48
2. **Occupation:** Attorney for the Federal Trade Commission, Bureau of Consumer Protection, in Washington, DC. The FTC enforces consumer protection laws and goes after false and deceptive advertisers.
3. **Length of time living in the Strathmore/Bel Pre neighborhood:** 8 years.
4. **What are your most recent contributions for/to our community?)** I have three children on the Dolphins swim team and so have become involved with the team. I am also a participant on the Civic Association ListServe.
5. **What do you see as the most important function of the Recreational Association?** I think the most important function of the association is to oversee the pool, pavilion, tennis courts, basketball court, and associated parking facilities. In other words, the recreational aspects of the community. I've come to see these facilities as a tremendous asset to the community, in terms of their availability for use and recreation, their ability to build community and bring neighbors together, and also as a way of maintaining and enhancing property values.
6. **What is your vision for the Board of the Recreational Association?** I would like to see continued management and improvements to the facilities, and would look into expanding their use, if in any way possible, to additional months of the year.
7. **How would you build community in Strathmore-Bel Pre?** By protecting the community facilities and increasing their availability, as much as possible for all sorts of different activities.



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Bel Pre Recreational Association
2015 Candidates **3 positions -- 3 candidates**
(continued from page 11)

Andy Wright

1. **Age (optional)** : 40
2. **Occupation:** Commander, US Coast Guard; Chief of Real Property and Planning in the Office of Civil Engineering; USCG Headquarters
3. **Length of time living in the Strathmore/Bel Pre neighborhood:** Just 2 years. My family and I moved into the community in September 2013
4. **What are your most recent contributions for/to our community)?** My 3 children are all on the swim team and, as all parents do, I try to help out whenever I can. My most notable contribution is normally watching after the kids so my wife, Gabi, can photograph the action. For the broader community (beyond Strathmore Bel Pre) I have been a youth baseball coach for the past 3 seasons.
5. **What do you see as the most important function of the Recreational Association?** As a relatively 'new' resident to the neighborhood and area, what attracted my family most to this community were the outstanding facilities, the evident sense of community, and the safe environment for our kids. To me, the most important role of the Recreational Association is to continue to reinforce those attributes.
6. **What is your vision for the Board of the Recreational Association?** I think the Board has done a remarkable job of keeping our community facilities clean, safe, convenient and family oriented. My vision is that the Board would continue to build upon that tradition and continue to reinforce the strong sense of family and community here.
7. **How would you build community in Strathmore-Bel Pre?** As mentioned, I think there is already a strong community here. My family has made so many friends through the swim team, but it goes much further than that. My first winter here (fresh from a tour in Hawaii), I was amazed by the way neighbors would go out of the way to help each other shovel driveways, free cars stuck in the road, and generally care for one another. This is a great community to live in. The swim team, pool, concerts and events all help cultivate that. I hope to help build upon that and reinforce what makes this a great place to live.



Photo Contest 2015: Life In Strathmore Bel Pre
by Chris Swan

Our second photo contest! This contest features a theme: Life in Strathmore Bel Pre. Simply take or collect your best photos of life in our community! Winners of the contest are eligible to receive prizes, and their photos will be published in *The Bugle*, and featured on the Strathmore Bel Pre website.

Enter now and often!!

The Rules:

1. To enter, please email your photo to: echabot@usa.net by January 1, 2015. **(Extended Deadline!!!)**
2. Photos must be at least 940 pixels wide by 410 pixels high, and should be in JPG or PNG format.
3. Winning entries will be chosen by a panel of your neighbors, including Gabi Wright, certified photographer, and frequent contributor to *The Bugle*.
4. Prizes: First prize \$ 50 Second prize \$25 Third prize \$15 Honorable Mention \$10
5. More than one photo per person may be submitted, but only one prize may be won per person.
6. All submissions become property of the Civic Association, which may use them on the website and in *The Bugle*.

Strathmore Bel-Pre Civic Association Board

2015 Candidates

5 positions -- 5 candidates

Linda Bea

1. **Occupation:** Retired. I was a Verizon Senior Manager in IT Financial Systems.
2. **Length of time living in the Strathmore/Bel Pre neighborhood:** 27 years
3. **What are your most recent contributions for/to our community?** I have served on the Civic Association since 1990 as President, Secretary and Board member. I also serve as membership chair, and produce our community's directory.
4. **What do you see as the most important function of the Civic Association?** I believe our most important function is to maintain the sense of community and quality of life in our neighborhood.
5. **What is your vision for the Board of the Civic Association?** As secretary, my goal is to maintain an accurate historical record of our Civic Association activities. My vision for the Board is to play an active role in disseminating information to our community on relevant issues and to enhance a sense of community by organizing and sponsoring activities throughout the year.



John Bogasky

1. **Occupation:** Independent Consultant
2. **Length of time living in SBP neighborhood:** 25 years
3. **What are your most recent contributions for/to our community?** I serve as the treasurer for the Civic Association, moderate the SBPcivic listserv, organize the movie nights as part of the Summer Entertainment series, manage fund raising for the Summer Entertainment Series, help with *Bugle* advertising, write articles for *The Bugle*, represent our community at the Glenmont Exchange meetings, and managed the selection, purchase, and storage of the Civic Association's new movie system.
4. **What do you see as the most important function of the Civic Association?** The Civic Association provides the most flexible vehicle for SBP residents to voluntarily join together to better our community
5. **What's your vision for the Board of the Civic Association?** The Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association (SBPCA) aims to promote the interests and general welfare of the homeowners and residents of Strathmore Bel Pre (SBP), to provide for effective communication within the community, to provide a focal point for representation of community interests beyond the community, and to sponsor community events. My goal is to continue serving as SBPCA Treasurer, organizer of the movie nights at the pool, and as moderator of the SBP civic listserv.

– Continued on page 14 –



Strathmore Bel-Pre Civic Association Board

2015 Candidates

5 positions -- 5 candidates

Continued from page 13



Elliot Chabot

1. **Occupation:** Attorney, U.S. House of Representatives
2. **Length of time living in the Strathmore/Bel Pre neighborhood:** 12 years
3. **What are your most recent contributions for/to our community?** I serve as the liaison between the civic association and the recreational association. I am president of the Bel Pre Recreational Association, a board member of the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association, and assistant editor of *The Bugle*. CHRIS JENNISON and I work together to expand the content of Strathmore Bel Pre website. I assist with the Summer Entertainment series at the pool, and with our community yard sale. I'm a Friend of the Aspen Hill Library, where I help run the Friends book sales, and Friends programming, such as the annual community festival, and movies. I'm chairman of the Aspen Hill Library Advisory Committee, which tends to the policy and functions of the Library.
4. **What do you see as the most important function of the Civic Association?** Speaking out for our community before the County Council and other government agencies. Keep our community strong and our voices heard.
5. **What is your vision for the Board of the Civic Association?** Continue to build the sense of community within Strathmore Bel Pre. Continue and expand programs like the Summer Entertainment Series, the Annual Yard Sale, the community's 4th of July Celebration, the town hall meetings, *The Bugle*, and the community directory. Work together with the Recreational Association, local PTAs and scout groups, and neighboring civic associations.

– Continued on page 15 –



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(continued from page 14)

Tennis Courts

The weather may be getting colder, but the tennis courts are still available! The tennis courts (located at 13920 Bethpage Lane – across from the pool) are open year round to all BPRA members. If you want to use the tennis courts, but don't have a key, contact LOUISA HOAR - our Tennis Court Keys Coordinator - at (301) 871-6298 and she'll help you get what you need.

Wi-Fi access at the pool

The WIFI internet access at the pool has been repaired, with Verizon replacing the outdated router.

- Thanks to KYE PAK for riding herd on this.

Website

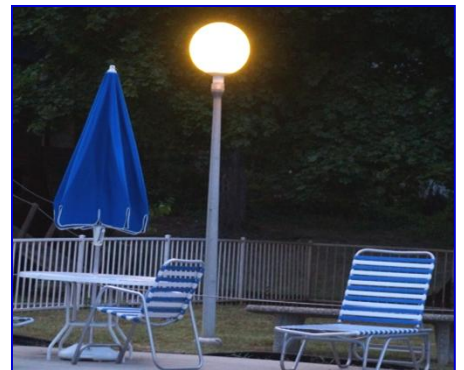
Since the beginning of June, over 200 updates have been made the community website. Use of the website has increased by leaps and bounds. August 2015 usage nearly doubled August 2014 usage.

- Thanks to CHRIS JENNISON - our webmaster - for making this a fantastic community resource.

Late Fee Reduced

The fee for paying your annual dues more than 30 days late has been reduced from \$50 to \$22.50. Please note, however, that late payments also are subject to a 6% per annum interest charge plus any costs in collecting the outstanding debts.

- Please pay your annual dues on time and you won't have to worry about any of these extra fees!

**Current Litigation**

Henry v. Guirand (Case 2325, Maryland Court of Special Appeals; Petition Docket 614, Maryland Court of Appeals). A suit to, among other things, compel the BRPA to take actions against the “growing fence” at 14017 Breeze Hill Lane. In November 2014, the Maryland Court of Special Appeals ruled to dismiss the BPRA portion of the suit. In June 2015, the Maryland Court of Appeals denied the plaintiff's request that it review the case. In July, the plaintiffs petitioned the Court of Special Appeals to reconsider its November 2014 decision.



Klang v. BPRA (Case MU-254930, Office of the Attorney General of Maryland, Consumer Protection Division). A complaint that the BPRA Board of Trustees did not comply with the notice requirements of the Maryland Homeowners Association Act when it adopted the BPRA's FY16 annual budget (covering March 1, 2015 to February 29, 2016). The complaint has been referred to a mediator.

THE BULLETIN BOARD – Updates from your neighborhood schools

Contributors: Laura Miller, Claire Pak, Brenda Quinlisk, and Kathy Lorenzo

The Parent-Teacher Associations of our three neighborhood elementary schools, Georgian Forest (GFES) and Bel Pre/Strathmore (BPSPTA), want to strengthen our ties with Strathmore Bel Pre neighbors. Here is your one-stop summary of what's happening in YOUR neighborhood elementary schools. Strathmore Bel Pre property owners share an interest in the success of the schools that serve our community. Please consider supporting the PTA, even if you don't have children at Bel Pre, Strathmore, or Georgian Forest.

NEWS FROM GEORGIAN FOREST: The Georgian Forest Elementary PTA is hosting a Scholastic Book Fair November 11-12, 2015 in the school media center from 9 am – 6 pm. If you have Veteran's Day off from work, please come by the school and purchase books for the children in your lives. We had a very successful Spirit Night at Chipotle in Aspen Hill. Thank you to all the community members who supported the event. We will have another Spirit Night in December. Please visit our new website at <http://gfespta.my-pta.org/> to learn about our upcoming events as they are confirmed.

NEWS FROM BEL PRE & STRATHMORE: The first month of school has gone by SO quickly! Bel Pre has started its second full year in its beautiful new building, and TIVINIA NELSON has begun her first full school year as Principal of Strathmore. We were delighted to see so many families and children at our September 1 popsicle party, and we're working on some new initiatives that we hope will drive increased participation and engagement, and help us to make the PTA a better advocate for all of our families and students. Please come out to support our upcoming Spirit Nights at McDonald's and Lee's Kitchen (see Upcoming Events) Special thank-you to STACY and the management at Lee's Kitchen, who not only sponsored a successful Spirit Night for us last spring; they also made a very generous matching donation. We're grateful for their support!

– Continued on page 18 –

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Bel Pre #00891 Strathmore ID# 04541

Georgian Forest ID# 00893

Safeway School Rewards Program (www.escrip.com)

Bel Pre/Strathmore ID# 6676411

Harris Teeter Together in Education Program (www.harristeeter.com)



BOX TOPS are Welcome

PLEASE HELP COLLECT BOX TOPS from General Mills products! Our schools receive 10 cents for each box top. Please clip them before recycling. Drop them off in the BoxTop box located in each school front office.



Join Us

Both of our PTAs hope that our Strathmore Bel Pre neighbors will join us for school and community events, especially school Spirit Nights! Our combined efforts to support local organizations and businesses will help foster our community and generate benefits to homeowners. Did you know that you can join the PTA even if you don't have children in school? Consider joining the GFES and/or Bel Pre Strathmore PTAs and be a voice for our community's children! PTA application forms are available at the front office.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Georgian Forest ES PTA

School phone: 301-460-2170

PTA website: <http://gfespta.my-pta.org>

Bel Pre Strathmore PTA

Bel Pre: 301-460-2145

Strathmore: 301-460-2135

PTA website: <http://bps-pta.org/>

Like our PTA on Facebook!

Find us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/123760599438/>



See you at School!

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 13—McDonald's Spirit Night (Bel Pre/Strathmore)
November 9-13—Scholastic Book Fair (Bel Pre/Strathmore)
November 11-12—Scholastic Book Fair (GFES)
November 18—Lee's Kitchen Spirit Night (Bel Pre/Strathmore)

Stay tuned for additional Spirit Nights and other PTA-sponsored community events!

*= Volunteers needed – SSL Opportunity

GFES SSL Coordinator: KATHY LORENZO

(hanrahan_kathleen@hotmail.com)

BPSPTA SSL Coordinator: LAURA MILLER

(lilansky@aol.com)

Dolphins' Winning Season

(continued from page 7)

Most Spirited:

WINSTON MILLER, EMMA BEARMAN, KAYLA GEARY

Most Dependable:

SARAH STAGGS

Swimmers of the Year:

ASA VIRGA and MORGAN HILL

B Meet Swimmers of the Year:

WINSTON MILLER and SARAH STAGGS

Most Valuable Dolphin:

EMMA BEARMAN



© Gabriella Wright, CCP

We continue to be overwhelmed and grateful to the community for your support and encouragement. As always, you responded generously to our annual appeal for financial support, and you also welcomed and encouraged our first-ever Dolphin Run 5K, which will now be an annual community event. We hope that our team continues to make our neighborhood proud, both in and out of the pool.

See you next summer!



SBP Neighbors There's a New Gig in Town!

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and Swam with the Dolphins

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Office: 240-497-1700

Email: Tamar@longandfoster.com

*No one understands the magic of
Strathmore Bel Pre like a child.
And only an adult who experienced it
can articulate it's powerful influence.
THAT is what will sell your house.*



Wanted – Den Leaders and Presenters for Cubs Scouts Pack 763

by Jackie Fary-Moeller



Cub Scout Pack and Troop 763 could use your help! We need to find some folks who wish to make a meaningful impact in the lives of boys.

Den Leaders Needed

If you like working with kids in a structured setting, please consider becoming a Den Leader. Cub scouts range in age from 1st through 5th grade. The dens are small, 2-5 boys. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every month of the school year, at 7 pm. Den activities take about 45-60 minutes. Dens also usually need 1-2 outings at local parks, museums, nature centers, fire stations. Den leader handbooks present the activities. The boys are energetic and lots of fun. A background check and 1-2 hours of training are required for den leaders.

Presenters Needed

If you have a special skill that that you would like to share 1-2 times a year, we need folks to teach first aid for 5th graders and older, give a tour of a fire or police station, explain nutrition/healthy habits, or make history relatable to young kids. It would also be great to have a fluent Spanish speaker to do outreach at our local schools. All scout materials have already been translated into Spanish, and the kids speak English, but the parents may not. If you are interested or would like more info, please contact JACKIE FARY-MOELLER at jfarymoeller@aspengroves.com or Cubmaster BILL TOTTEN at wandst@juno.com.



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Update on Plaza Del Mercado Developments

By John Bogasky

Plaza Del Mercado

Federal Realty Investment Trust, the owner of Plaza Del Mercado, has signed leases with Aldi's and LA Fitness. LA Fitness will rebuild the Giant store site into a 2-story fitness center. Aldi's will rebuild the immediately adjacent retail stores for their grocery store. Aldi's stores are smaller than most grocery stores, similar in size to a Trader Joe's. You can see the store placements in the diagram below. Federal Realty also plans to refresh the facades for the entire shopping center and redo the parking lot to include new lighting and better lane definition. This will be similar in scope to the parking lot and façade refresh completed for Kohl's arrival in Aspen Hill. You can see elements of the parking lot redesign in the diagram.

This month, Federal Realty seeks approval to amend the approved Plaza Del Mercado site plan that included a major expansion of old the Giant store. Giant abandoned the idea of expanding at Plaza Del Mercado after obtaining the County's approval. The new plan requires less space than was approved for Giant. It also specifies an easement to allow a connection between Plaza Del Mercado and Layhill Center. This easement will require construction of the interconnection whenever Layhill Center is redeveloped.

There is no official schedule on when construction will start, but I expect we will begin to see activity early next Spring.





Fall Book Sale – October 17

10 am to 4 pm Community Room



As we go to press, the Aspen Hill Friends Fall Book Sale on October 17th, 2015 promises to be chock full of books, CDs, VCR tapes. With plenty of good books at bargain prices, you can shop to your heart's content. Shop for yourself, for your family, for the holidays.

Books are arranged in some 35 categories such as Reference, Cookbooks, Travel, Math, Religion, Business, History, and the Fiction – romance, mysteries, science fiction, espionage, and general fiction.

Most books cost 50¢ for paperbacks, and \$1 for hardbacks, although special books are available.

Book Donations Needed

If you would like to donate used books, CDs, records, board games, or puzzles for the Aspen Hill Friends of the Library book sale, e-mail the Friends at aspenhill@folmc.org, or call us at (301) 871-1113. The Aspen Hill Friends is a 501(c)(3) organization, so donations are tax deductible

Monday Night Movies -- January 25 and February 29 at 7:30 pm

When the movies are chosen, a notice will be posted on the Civic Association Listserve.

Getting your home insurance in order....Information for a smooth home sale:

Flood Coverage - Most policies cover water damage that occurs from above the ground, such as roof leakage, storm water pushed through window voids, and burst plumbing. Water that rises or seeps into a basement from the ground is considered a flood and is not insured. If you are concerned about ground water seepage & damage, you need a separate flood insurance policy.

Insurance companies share claim information with each other using the C.L.U.E. report, a standardized itemization of claims and, often, inquiries that a homeowner has made. Too many calls or claims can prevent the homebuyer from obtaining a new insurance policy or s/he may be quoted an outrageously high price. A savvy homeowner, in order to keep his policy intact and to have an acceptable C.L.U.E. report, will only make an inquiry or claim for major losses.

Deductibles - Since only large losses might be claimed, it may be economical to raise the deductible on your current policy to lower the annual premium.

Insurance When Selling - You should call your insurance company to let them know that you are putting your home on the market to be sure you are properly covered. After the sale, keep your policy in effect for a week or so until the buyer's deed has been recorded with the County.



And, when you're ready to make your move.... please call Lilla!

***Lilla Hammond, CRS, GRI Email: lilla@lnf.com
301-518-7818 (Direct) 301-468-060 (Office)***

