

# The Bugle

*Published by the Strathmore Bel-Pre Civic Association*

*Fall 2010*

*Issue: 10.04*

## **The President's Corner**

by Nancy Bechtol,

Welcome to Fall, everyone! It seems to have entered with a bang this season, as the air has suddenly turned much cooler and there seems to be no end in sight to the rain! I am hoping to see everyone next month at the combined Annual Meeting of the Bel Pre Recreational Association and the Civic Association on Thursday, November 18th at 7:00pm at the Bel Pre Elementary School. It is very important that you attend this meeting to help elect new board members for the BPRA as well as to find out what is happening in your neighborhood. Both Dan Keating and I will be addressing all who attend to provide these updates.

I hope everyone has had a chance to see the new neighborhood sign off Layhill Road. It has been rebuilt for the second time this year due to a car accident earlier this spring. Our Civic Association Board members Lilla Hammond and Linda Bea have managed this repair since the accident occurred, Lilla handling the project management with all the construction companies and Linda handling the insurance claim and the result is a beautifully rebuilt sign at the entrance to our community. I would also like to thank both construction companies for the fine workmanship we received. Both Marafatsos & Sons, Inc. and Deere Signs & Screen Printing were a sheer pleasure to deal with.

The Civic Association's membership drive is well underway. You should have received your membership letter in early August. We have had a little over 250 members send in their dues so far but we are hoping for many more. Please remember to send this in to support your Civic Association and all of the many activities we are able to provide the community. This Bugle newsletter you are reading right now is one of the many tasks we organize for our neighborhood. I would like to thank Linda Bea yet again, as she manages the membership mailing, dues collection and our bi-yearly directory. These tasks are very time consuming and somehow Linda continues to find the time to serve her community!

(Continued – Presidents Message)

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# THE BUGLE

***Published by the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association Since 1969***

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## **Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association (SBPCA)**

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

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**Web site: [www.strathmore-belpre.org](http://www.strathmore-belpre.org)**

**Annual SBPCA membership: \$15.00**

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** and organizes the annual Yard Sale and 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities. The SBPCA Board of Directors meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Genesis Center Nursing Home on Bel Pre 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	Vice President:	Bill Hammond	301-871-5074
Treasurer:	John Bogasky	301-460-1604	Secretary:	Linda Bea	301-460-0497
Past President:	Reuben Lev	301-460-1048	Webmaster:	Bill Hammond	301-871-5074

### **Civic Association Board of Directors**

Charlie Bea	301 460-0497	Harry Klapper	301 460-9645	Max Bronstein	301 460-3117
Marilyn Lev	301 460-1048	Elliot Chabot	301 871-1113	Dan Thomas	301 871-2624
Frank Corrigan	301 460-1011	Maurice Potosky	301 460-9008	Chris Swan	301 871-1113
Ron Daub	301 460-0929	Arlene Thorne	301 871-5013	Lilla Hammond	301 871-5074

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## **Bel Pre Recreational Association (BPRA)**

The Bel Pre Recreational Association (BPRA) is the homeowner's association for the Strathmore Bel Pre properties. Your annual assessment is paid to the BPRA to pay for your pool, tennis courts, volleyball, playground, picnic area, bath house, snack bar and pavilion open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. BPRA Board Meetings are held the 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at Bel Pre Elementary School and during summer months at the Pool Pavilion. The BPRA's annual meeting is in November.

### **Bel Pre Recreation Association Officers**

President:	Dan Keating	301-603-8162	<a href="mailto:dtkeats@gmail.com">dtkeats@gmail.com</a>
Vice President:	Ed Frantz	301-603-8055	<a href="mailto:ed_frantz@comcast.net">ed_frantz@comcast.net</a>
Treasurer:	Keith Yockelson	301-460-8555	<a href="mailto:number1pools@verizon.net">number1pools@verizon.net</a>
Secretary:	Lou Ann Rector	301-603-8805	

### **Bel Pre Recreation Association Board of Trustees**

John Adamo	301 460-3275	<a href="mailto:fijimaster@juno.com">fijimaster@juno.com</a>	Gladstone James	301 460-7292	<a href="mailto:gladstonj@msn.com">gladstonj@msn.com</a>
Sue Hoyer	301 603-9559	<a href="mailto:sue@hoyes.org">sue@hoyes.org</a>	Arthur Meister	301 438-7869	<a href="mailto:ustation@aol.com">ustation@aol.com</a>
Paulette Ladas	301 674-7742	<a href="mailto:apladas@aol.com">apladas@aol.com</a>			

### **Bel Pre Recreation Association Volunteers**

Admin Asst:	Brenda Henry	301-871-6298	Pavilion Usage:	Louisa Hoar	301-871-2954
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## Gleanings From Meetings & More

-by Max Bronstein

Beginning with this column, in addition to reporting on information gleaned from attendance at meetings, there will be reports on matters learned from other credible sources.

The long awaited Mid-County Recreation Center has encountered a problem with construction material and should be opening in January, 2011. A basic building block forming a major portion of the structure's walls did not meet moisture barrier specifications. To correct the problem, the outer layer of face brick was removed and a moisture barrier substance applied and then the face brick will be reapplied; the cost of the correction will be borne entirely by the contractor. The center will be 24,500 net square feet in size and cost \$12 million including site, building, and adjacent ball fields. Heating and cooling of the building will be accomplished by a geothermal system which entailed digging 40 wells, some as deep as 300 feet. With the use of special glass windows, building orientation as to sun angles, energy and water saving plumbing appliances and the like, the building will be a "green" facility (Certified LEEDS Silver). On June 23, 2010, Jeffrey Bourne, Facilities Manager of the County Recreation Department gave Susan and me and our grandson, David, a wonderful tour of the new center all the while explaining and pointing out the corrections being done. With all the features it will contain and the many activities to be offered, the new center is worth the wait. But now the wait is almost over and the Department is starting the planning for its operations. If you would like more information about the center, please contact the Center Director, Ingrid St. Villier, at 240-777-6813.

The program for the June meeting of the Montgomery County Civic Federation included a presentation on the county's 311 program by were Tom Street, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer to County Executive Ike Leggett, and Ms. Leslie Hamm, Call Center Manager. Ms. Hamm can be reached at 240-773-3565. Several personal experiences disclosed that calls made directly to county department phone numbers will be routed to 311, which will then connect callers to the requested department. Hours for 311 are Monday to Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm.

At the September meeting of the Montgomery County Civic Federation a hearty thank you was extended to School Board member Laura Berthiaume for her lone vote opposing what she felt was too hasty a Board decision approving the contract with the Pearson Co. as well as in passing the proposed budget. Ms. Berthiaume felt the Board should not be a "rubber stamp" for MCPS employees and MCPS business.

(Continued – Gleanings)

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# New Civic Association Listserve Now Exceeds 50 Members

By John Bogasky, SBPcivic group moderator

In just 6 short months, the new Civic Association listserve has grown to more than 50 members. That is great progress on our goal to provide SBP with an interactive communication channel to supplement *The Bugle*.

We sent out the first invitations in late March to Civic Association members who supplied their email addresses during last year's membership drive. This year's membership drive included a check-off box where members could provide an email address. We are expecting a further jump in listserve membership once we finish processing this year's membership forms.

We are using Yahoo's free groups service. Yahoo's service offers features to customize the format and frequency of messages. Messages can be received as individual messages, as a daily digest of all messages that day, or viewed on the Yahoo site without ever receiving emails. Message format can be full-featured (with formatting and color similar to a web page) or plain text only. Finally, Yahoo allows members to hide their email address from group members if they choose.

There are two ways to join the group. The best way is to create a Yahoo ID, or use an existing one, and use that ID to request membership in the group. Follow the steps in the nearby box to join the group this way. This method allows you to access the message customization features mentioned above. If you just want to receive listserve messages, just send me an email. ([johnbogasky@hotmail.com](mailto:johnbogasky@hotmail.com)) and I will add your email address to the group with the default customization options. Under either method, I will need your name and street address to verify that you are a Civic Association member in good standing.

Not a Civic Association member? Joining is easy. All Strathmore Bel Pre residents can join the Civic Association at any time by simply paying the \$15 annual membership fee. Look at the inside cover of this Bugle for a description of the Civic Association.

All of us on the Civic Association Board hope that all members will join this group. We are excited about the possibilities the group offers to improve our ability to work together as a community. If you have any questions about the group, please contact me.

## How to Join the SBPcivic Listserve

- 1) Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SBPcivic/> and click on the "Join this Group" button.
- 2) Sign-In to Yahoo or Create A New Yahoo Account. If you have a Yahoo ID, sign in. If not, you will need to create one. (Click "Sign Up" under the "Don't have a Yahoo ID?" heading.) Note, Yahoo creates a new email address when you create your Yahoo ID but don't worry, you don't need to use this email address to join the group.
- 3) After you sign-in to Yahoo, Yahoo presents options for customizing your SBPcivic group membership. To use your personal email address instead of the Yahoo address, click "add new email address" and add your personal email address. Yahoo will provide instructions to verify this address. Once the address is verified, you can set it as your primary address for receiving SBPcivic messages.
- 4) If you wish to keep your personal email address private, click the "Hide my email and IP address from the group moderators" check box. Note that hiding your email address will prevent you from sending messages to the group.
- 5) Please identify your real name and street address in the "Comment to Owner" box.
- 6) Choose a message delivery preference. I recommend "individual emails" since message volume on the group is still low.
- 7) Choose a message preference. Most users should select the "fully-featured" option. The "traditional" option is for those who prefer plain-text email.
- 8) Enter the code displayed in the box and then press "Join" in the lower right corner.
- 9) Yahoo will send your membership request to me as the group moderator. Once I approve your SBPcivic membership request, you will receive a confirmation email and a welcome email.

## The 2010 Independence Day Celebrations

- by Lilla Hammond

This past July 4th, our community turned out in great numbers to celebrate, to remember, and to pay tribute both to our country's history and to those who served to preserve our freedom as Americans. Starting with the *PARADE* from Strathmore Elementary School to the community pool, the highest number in years came to support the event! Parents, grandparents and others arrived with children ranging in age from newborns to teenagers, all sporting red, white and blue! A first this year was that our own community's Cub Scout Troop 763 led the parade. Afterwards, a magician entertained the kids, and then the children were busy competing in *FIELD GAMES* which ended with a coin toss in the community's pool. Later, the *PICNIC* at the pool pavilion was well attended. Families, friends and the lifeguards enjoyed a great meal which volunteers helped serve. Great patriotic music was provided by Bob and Ruth Wolpert. The attendees recognized all the American veterans at the picnic with applause. As always, a number of picnickers pitched in to help decorate, set up and put away tables and equipment. The event wrapped up a great day of celebration for all who attended.

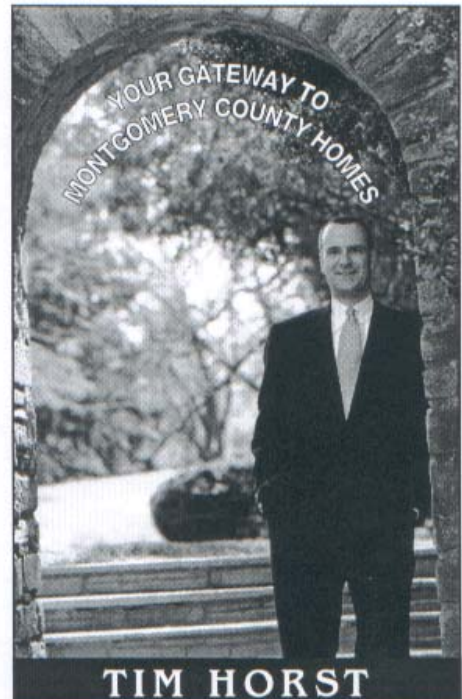
### Paraders

Jessica and Ravindra Abeynayake; Christian Jenkins; Campbell and Emory Scofield; Mason, Malone, Porter, Audrey and Anne Spiceland; Pamica and Sirikorn Yongyosying; David Donhors; Edwin, Shipley and Cleofe Billhimer; Sandra, Andrea and Bradley Landis; Riley, Kayla and Sky Geary; Verne, Maria, Anasazazi and Mo Underwood; Guille Ramos; Ayeron Butler; Madison and Maya Willette; Kevin Kinsey; Emerson, Winston and Olivia Miller; Morgan Dobbins; Luke Sanneman; Daniel and Linda Hudson; Carson and Melissa Taylor; Lilly Brown; Rayi and Brandon Amaya; Nene, Tete and Teye Narh-Mensah; Liesl Feinman; Daniel Arthur; Mike Mihailidis; Carter Ofori; Edem and Eli Egbarin; Vivian, Vanessa and Eric Scretchen; Rafael Pinero; Aaron and Sarah Siegle; Aidan and Evan Pak; Joey and Lucas Moeller; Emily Frantz; Candace Hill; Jonus, Ava and Piper Yockelson; Tesse and Owen Miller; John and Claire Puroy; Mike, Sabrina, Jason and Kristi Lenett; John, Mary and Corinne Kominski; Hope, Aaron and Mark Van Tuyle; Sarah and Erik Staggs; Jonathan and Trina Hosh; Tatiana Eve and Terrin Flowers-Jackson; Nico Daniels; Pete D'Orazio; David Dorsey; Hannah and Gracie MacFarland; Kayla, Alison and Punyajith Wellage; and Chris Perera.

(Continued - July 4th)

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## Dolphins Reaching for the Wall

-By Claire Pak

The buzzer sounds, and six tiny swimmers jump into the pool. Two or three of them are confident and ready; they're already veterans of a meet or two and they know what to do. The others hesitate. They look around: for their mothers, for their coaches, for their older brothers or sisters. Do I jump now, their faces ask...am I supposed to go? One by one, they go.

Marshall is four and he's been practicing all summer. With weeks of persistent hard work, he's learned to swim, and now he's going to show what he can do. He looks around for a moment, takes a deep breath, and jumps. The other swimmers pass him, but Marshall keeps swimming. One by one, his teammates and competitors touch the wall. Marshall grabs the rope and rests for a moment. Is it over, he seems to wonder, do I just get out now? "Keep going! You can do it! Come on, Marshall!" That's all Marshall needs. He keeps going. Three minutes later, exhausted but triumphant, Marshall touches the wall to the cheers of parents, coaches, and teenage teammates. He did it.

This is the highlight of every Dolphins summer. One by one, the Developmental swimmers build their strength, gain confidence, and finally get the courage to jump. Each summer, proud young swimmers stand with their teammates and accept trophies inscribed with their names, the hard-earned reward for a summer of twice-daily practice and very early Saturday mornings.

(Continued – Reaching the Wall)



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**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.

**Who Has a C.L.U.E.?** In recent years, insurance companies have shared claim information with each other. The C.L.U.E. report is a standardized itemization of claims and, often, inquiries that a homeowner has made. If there have been too many calls or claims, the buyer of that home may be denied a new insurance policy or may be quoted an outrageously high price. This has become a serious problem for some sellers, who called their insurance companies every time there was a covered problem and find themselves unable to find a buyer who can start a new insurance policy (required by all lenders). 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.

**Consult Your Insurance Agent** - For insurance information, your agent has definitive answers. Long & Foster Insurance Agency can provide information and competitive quotes. Contact them at [www.longandfoster.insurance.com](http://www.longandfoster.insurance.com)



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## County Launches 311 Information Number

Release ID: 10-250

Media Contact: Patrick Lacefield 240-777-6507

Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett announced the official launch of MC311, the County's new online and telephone information system. The public is now able to access Montgomery County government information and non-emergency services online or by calling a single number: "3-1-1."

"One of my objectives is to create 'greater responsiveness and accountability' in meeting the needs of a very diverse county," said Leggett. "As part of this overall objective, I believe a County government that 'listens' must have a single, one-stop phone number for service requests, information, and complaints and a web portal where County residents can enter their own requests, get their own information, and track the progress of the work requested. With our new MC311 system, that's exactly what we'll get."

Features of the new MC311 Customer Service Center (CSC) include:

- Customers can call one easy-to-remember number in order to access Montgomery County information and services – "3-1-1";
- Customers can also access information and create or track service requests on the new website at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/311](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/311); • 311 also can be reached from most wireless phones – or residents can reach the Call Center by dialing 240-777-0311, which is also the number to reach MC311 for calls originating outside Montgomery County;
- Hours of Call Center operation are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. The self-service website is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week; • About 30 County government "information and referral" phone numbers are now answered directly by MC311. All other County phones can continue to be dialed direct;
- Trained representatives who speak Spanish, Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese and French are available, as is a language interpretation service for other languages; The TTY line is available by calling 240-773-3556;
- Customer service representatives and the online system use a state-of-the-art database of information and services about County government that can be continually updated so the most current facts are available via the web portal;
- MC311 will provide County leaders and managers a wealth of systematic, real-time information on department performance on service requests that will be valuable in holding departments accountable for their performance and assist policymakers in decisions about the most effective allocation of County resources;
- In the event of a community event/emergency, like a water main break, H1N1 flu epidemic, or weather-related incident, the 311 system can quickly incorporate real time information;
- By consolidating different County department call centers and information and tracking systems, MC311 has already projected more than \$10 million in savings between the current and coming fiscal years;
- MC311 is also designed to support the County's "911" emergency system by diverting some non-emergency calls that are currently answered by 911 operators – freeing up 911 time to focus on emergencies.

Effective July 1, the new MC311 program fell under the Office of Public Information. "Local governments provide countless services for their residents, but, sometimes, figuring out just who to call can be a challenge," said Public Information Director Patrick Lacefield. "Now, residents need only remember two numbers – 911 for emergencies and 311 for non-emergencies. And our on-line website offers all of us County residents a self-service option that's available at our fingertips 24/7." 311 Call Centers have already been implemented in many counties and cities across the country, including New York, Baltimore City, San Francisco, Minneapolis, Albuquerque, Charlotte, and Washington, D.C.

For more information about MC311, call the Office of Public Information at 240-777-6507.

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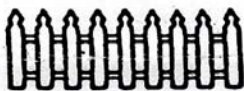
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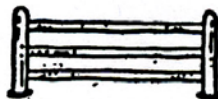
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## Gleanings –

Also given at that meeting was a presentation by Rollin Stanley, Director of the Planning Department, concerning the ongoing Zoning Code Rewrite Project. The rewrite began about a year ago and will probably go on for another year or so. A Zoning Advisory Panel, made up of individuals from varied interests, gives input to the Planning Department for the project. Bear in mind that the code, 1000 pages long, is kept in loose-leaf form so that new changes can be easily added. Many additions come about in the form of Zoning Text Amendments (ZTAs) that originate with the County Council at the behest of special interests such as property owners and developers. Please remember this latter statement when wondering about how certain puzzling situations occur. A number of civic activists will be following this matter with great interest.

On September 15th a most interesting hearing was held before the Board of Appeals where oral arguments were given by attorneys representing Suburban Hospital and the Huntington Terrace Citizen's Association. For over 20 years, the hospital has been buying homes around the hospital in preparation for expanding the facility. Suburban now owns 23 homes currently occupied by renters. Huntington Terrace, the community surrounding the hospital, would prefer that the plan not call for the demolition of as many homes and that Lincoln Street, a main street for the neighborhood, not be closed. Another hearing is scheduled for October 20th when a decision will be made. Since the hospital is in a residential zone, it is a termed a special exception, and the latter must be approved by the Board. Be advised the case has already been heard by a Hearing Examiner who remanded it to the Board so that a plan could be formulated more in concert with the community's concerns.

An amendment to the plans for Layhill Overlook, which will be located on the land along Bel Pre Road between the Moose Lodge and Homecrest Road, was recently posted. I and Dick Kauffunger, of Layhill Village, attended a meeting on September 17th with a Planning Department representative and two representatives of the project's engineering firm to go over the changes. Primarily these entail a reduction in the size of the Vedanta Center's planned new worship center from 6500 square feet to 5000 square feet. Also, stormwater management will conform to newly enacted regulations and there will be new configurations for internal paths and roadways.

At the September 21st meeting of the Mid-County Citizen's Advisory Board a number of topics were discussed. We first heard from the new Commander of the Fourth District, John Damskey, who took over on August 1st. He reported on a recent upsurge in burglaries in the district, but went on to relate that those responsible had been apprehended. He stressed that he looked forward to partnership and communication with the district's residents. Coincidentally, I had a telephone conversation with the Commander earlier that day during which I informed him that on September 4th, I had reported that a storage pod (pod = portable on demand storage) measuring 12 feet long, 8 feet wide, and 7½ feet high was illegally parked in the 3300 block of Hewitt Ave, and that as we spoke it was still illegally parked there. Violation notices were affixed to the pod on September 17th with a 48 hour removal request. I was informed that the police were addressing the situation and that I would be contacted by the Traffic Complaint Officer. (The Commander said the latter lives on Hewitt Ave. ???) I also mentioned the problem of the small trailers often parked along Hewitt Ave. When I drove up Hewitt Ave. on September 22nd, the pod was still there, but most of the trailers were gone. I will be following this issue and plan to meet with Commander Damskey in the near future to further discuss partnership and communication with the police. On September 27th, Officer Di Carlo, the Traffic Complaint Officer, left me a voice mail that the pod had been removed as of September 24th. What surprised me greatly was his statement that these large storage structures, the size of a small room, may be legally parked on our roads if the lessee obtains a permit from the Department of Permitting services. Removal was enforceable since the pod had no permit.

I will be testifying before the County Council on September 28th in support of a proposed regulation banning parking of various types of trailers on our streets. The current law omitted trailers and the new law corrects the omission. Additionally, I will strongly urge that storage pods also be banned from county roads and that permits allowing them should be discontinued.

Other topics discussed at that Board meeting were emergency preparedness, status of the ICC, and plans by the B.F. Saul Company to develop part of the downtown Wheaton area with more office buildings.

Stay tuned for more notes from the Bugle!

## THE TRADING POST

Free (non-commercial) ads are available to all Strathmore Bel-Pre residents in the **Trading Post**. Ads are published at no cost. Send your advertisement to [crbea232@yahoo.com](mailto:crbea232@yahoo.com)

### 50+ Club News

-by Charlotte Potosky

The 50+ club has now been in existence for almost 15 years. Over the years the Club has been a source of activity and friendship for dozens of Strathmore at Bel Pre residents.

This season we have finished our round of meetings at the pool pavilion and are now meeting at various other locations. Our schedule for this fall includes a meeting at a Leisure World party room on October 20, hosted by Marcia & Don Gould and Fred Denecke, for dancing and socialization. The November meeting is yet to be scheduled. The December meeting will be at the home of Bob and Arlene Wiseth on December 6 at 7:30 PM.

Other activities include our trips to Toby's Dinner Theatre. The next season will include the shows *Beehive*, *Happy Days* and *Chicago*. We are also planning an autumn trip to the Newseum at a date to be determined.

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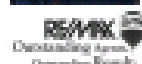
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List with me and I will make a donation to Children's Hospital in Washington DC. in your name.



## July 4<sup>th</sup> -

### Troop 763 Parade Leaders

The following Cub Scouts and leaders took part in leading our community parade: Alex and Alan Silva; Nene and Tete Mensah; Daniel Arthur; Raul and Brandon Amaya; Mr. Guilford Queen; Mrs. Shaari Arthur; and Cub Scout Master Bill Totten.

### July 4th Volunteers

Our sincere thanks go to all those who made the special day even more special!

*Parade:* Dan Thomas; Bill Hammond; Bob and Ruth Wolpert; and Joe and Molly Story.

*Entertainment & Field Games:* Harry Klapper; Sharon Chua; Michael Hammond; Yee Yongyosying; Pushpa Abeynayake; and Michael Brown.

*Picnic:* Ruth and Bob Wolpert; Linda and Charlie Bea; Molly and Joe Story; Bill Hammond; Mike Linett; and Dan Thomas.

*July 4th Celebration Co-Chairs:* Harry Klapper and Lilla Hammond.





## Community Signage – a Remake!

– by Lilla Hammond, SBPCA Board

The Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association Board is pleased to notify our community that our community sign at Layhill Road and Hathaway Drive has been rebuilt a second time.

Earlier this year, a car accident demolished the newly rebuilt community sign. At the time of the accident, very helpful neighbors came to assist and found that the driver and occupants of the car were almost miraculously uninjured. Afterwards, Linda Bea took photos and assumed responsibility for submitting the claim and communicating with the insurance company on behalf of SBPCA. Thanks to Linda's efforts, SBPCA received a check to cover most of the expenses for replacing the sign.

Once again, after review of all the bids by the insurance company, Marafatsos & Sons won the contract. The company provides skilled stone and brickwork and is owned and operated by members of our community. In addition, the Deere Company of Clinton, MD did a beautiful job of refurbishing the sign, and Dermot McDermott, Dexterity Remodeling, built the wood support for the sign and will paint it as soon as the new wood is ready. We are grateful to the various contractors for their fine work and (once again!) we are glad to have such a great community sign!



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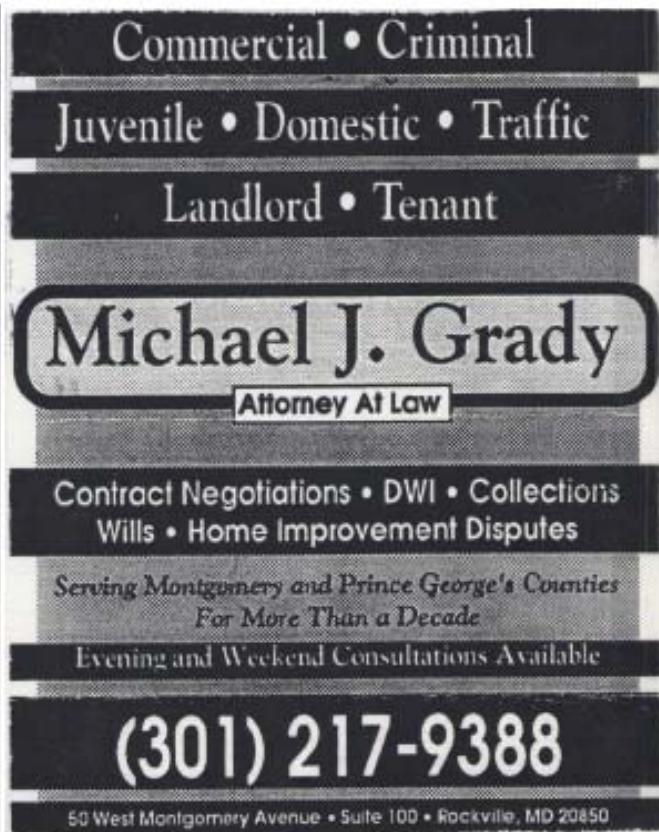
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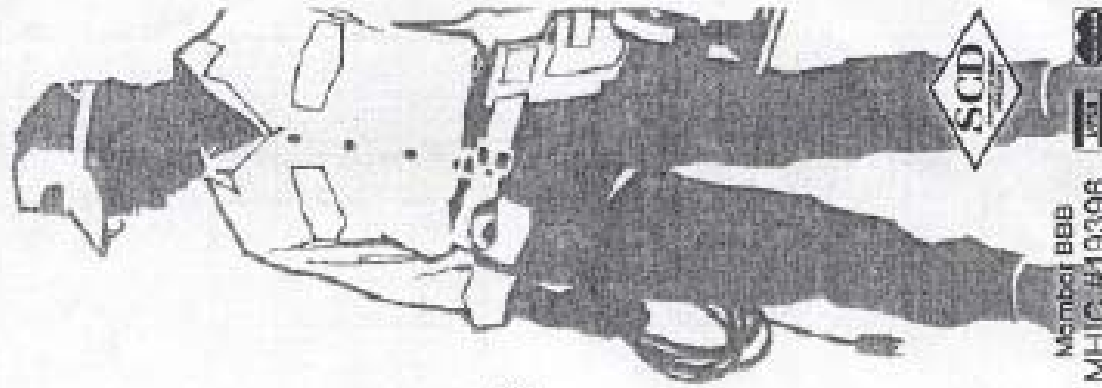
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# Almost 1 in 20 Strathmore Bel Pre homes now Wind-powered!

By John Bogasky

As of August 31, twenty-six Strathmore Bel Pre homes have signed up with Clean Currents to power their homes with clean, renewable, CHEAPER than PEPCO wind power. That's nearly 1 in 20 Strathmore Bel Pre homes! That success also means that we have raised at least \$260 for our Civic Association to spend on a "green project" for our community.

Over the summer, Clean Currents was able to reduce their prices by a few tenths of a cent from the prices quoted in my Summer Bugle article. As a result, Clean Currents extended the Green Neighborhood Challenge deadline to October 1, too late to include the program's final results in this *Bugle* edition.



Make the switch to  
clean, renewable,  
wind generated  
electricity and  
**Clean Currents**  
will donate \$10.00  
to the SBPCA

The Civic Association Board will decide on our "green project" for the Green Neighborhood Challenge proceeds at our September meeting, too late for this edition of the Bugle. The leading contender was to use the proceeds to purchase a tree or two for the pool grounds to help replace some of the trees lost or damaged by this summer's big thunderstorms. We will announce the final decision on the SBPCiv listserve and in the next edition of the Bugle.

Thanks to all those families that signed up with Clean Currents! Its been fun for me to coordinate this program for the Civic Association.

***The Bugle is the best advertising opportunity in town!***

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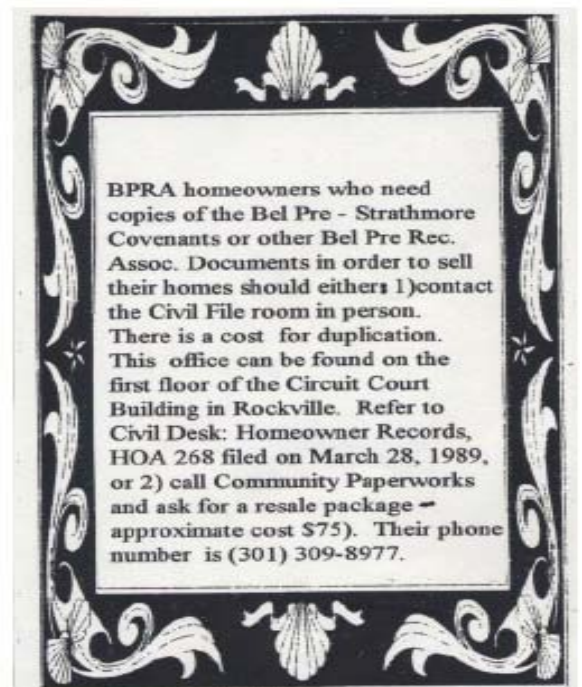
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***Contact Harry Klapper on 301-460-9645 or at [hjksbk@msn.com](mailto:hjksbk@msn.com)***



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- ◆ Assistance with completion of Medicaid application
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- ◆ Caregiver support and counseling

### Reaching the wall –

Nearly all of our Developmental swimmers made it across the pool this summer, thanks to the hard work of Developmental Coaches Laura Entwisle, Joanna Ladas, and Julie Pinero. The team finished 1-4 in the PMSL's top division, with all of our swimmers showing substantial improvements in time and technique, thanks to the dedication of Head Coach Terry Kominski and Assistant Coach Sarah Bechtol. For the second straight year, SBP hosted the A Division Championships, hosting the entire A division on the hottest day of the summer. Amid power failures and extreme weather, we had a great season of swimming and playing: Dolphin Dance, Raft Nights, Dolphin Games, Pasta Parties, and the Jelly Bean Meet were all smashing successes.

The Board of the SBP Dolphins Swim Team Association, on behalf of all Dolphins families, would like to sincerely thank the Strathmore Bel Pre community for their continued support this season. Your response to our fundraising appeal was incredibly generous, and your contributions helped to support another Dolphins summer for our community's children. If you'd like information about the team and how to participate next summer, please feel free to contact any member of the Board:

Greg Miller	President	<a href="mailto:winstonhen@aol.com">winstonhen@aol.com</a>
Scott McNamee	Vice-President	<a href="mailto:scott.mcnamee@fda.hhs.gov">scott.mcnamee@fda.hhs.gov</a>
Claire Pak	Secretary	<a href="mailto:cdaltonpak@yahoo.com">cdaltonpak@yahoo.com</a>
Maribel Pinero	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:Maribel@mtpcpa.com">Maribel@mtpcpa.com</a>
Andrew Ladas	A Meet Manager	<a href="mailto:apladas1@aol.com">apladas1@aol.com</a>
Paulette Ladas	B Meet Manager	<a href="mailto:apladas@aol.com">apladas@aol.com</a>

Next season's issue of the Bugle will include a complete season recap, including age group and special award winners. It's just eight months til Memorial Day!

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### Presidents Message -

We have a new Police Commander in District 4 and his name is Commander John Damskey. Our Civic Association was invited to a meeting at District Headquarters on Randolph Road and Max Bronstein attended this meeting at the end of September. The Commander emphasized the importance of making sure our cars are locked when left outside in our driveways or on the street. There has been a rash of thefts in our neighborhood taking advantage of unlocked vehicles, so please make every effort to lock your car doors! Our community liaison is Lt. Edward Harhai and he can be reached at 240-773-5516 with any questions or concerns about suspicious activity in our neighborhood. District 4 also has a number for any reports of suspicious activity that is not dangerous and it is 301-279-8000. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Max for attending this meeting, and for his constant attendance in many community meetings throughout the year as he keeps our Civic Association abreast of what is happening in our community. He writes for the Bugle each and every edition to get this word out to all in our community and we each owe him a huge debt of gratitude! Thanks Max!

I look forward to seeing each and every one of you on November 18th at 7:00pm! Please come out to show your support of your neighborhood and its Associations!