

# The Bugle

*Published by the Strathmore Bel-Pre Civic Association*

*Summer 2010*

*Issue: 10.03*

## July 4th Celebration

Spend this 4th of July with your friends and neighbors at our beautiful community pool! Your Civic Association has once again organized a full day of events and activities promising relaxation, food and fun for your entire family. As always, **volunteers** are needed to help out with the day's events. Please call Lilla Hammond on (301) 871-5074 to volunteer.

### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

#### **COMMUNITY PARADE (Strathmore Elementary School @ 12:30)**

Registration for paraders will begin at 12:30 and the parade will begin 1:00. The parade will begin at the school and paraders will head up Beaverwood Lane to the north end of Birchtree Lane, then down the footpath to the pool pavilion. Community members of all ages are invited to participate. All registered paraders will receive a prize.

#### **FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT (Pool Pavilion @ 1:30)**

The Civic Association will once again provide entertaining fun targeted toward the younger members of our community but will also be fun for all.

#### **FIELD DAY EVENTS (Pool Grounds @ 3:00 – 4:00)**

The field day team is planning fun for the whole family! Don't miss it!

#### **COMMUNITY PICNIC (Pool Pavilion @ 5:30)**

The community picnic will again feature **BBQ** menu to include beef and chicken, coleslaw, potato salad, drinks and assorted deserts.

**ADVANCED REGISTRATION for the picnic is strongly recommended.** This will allow the committee to accurately determine how much food to purchase. The committee will order only a limited number of walk-up portions. Walk-ups will be admitted on a first-come first served basis until the walk-up portions are gone. So, don't take a chance, register in advance.

**ADMISSION** for advanced registration is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12 years of age. The admission for walk-ups will be \$12.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children under 12 years of age, while portions are available.

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### July 4<sup>th</sup> Picnic Registration / Volunteer Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Adults @ \$10.00 each

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Children under 12 @ \$5.00 each

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### **VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION** I will ...

\_\_ Set Up & Clean Up    \_\_ Serve Food    \_\_ Bring a Dessert

\_\_ Help with Field Day Activities    \_\_ Help with Parade Registration

Send this form, along with your payment, postmarked by June 26<sup>th</sup> to: SBPCA P.O. Box 6836, Silver Spring, MD 20916

# Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association (SBPCA)

P.O. Box 6836

Silver Spring, MD 20916

e-mail: [Strathmo@strathmore-belpre.org](mailto:Strathmo@strathmore-belpre.org)

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

**Annual SBPCA membership: \$15.00**

**[NOTE: Your Civic Association is separate from  
the Recreation Association]**

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. All meetings are open to the public.

## **Civic Association Officers**

President:	Nancy Bechtol	301 871-3679
Vice President & WebMaster:	Bill Hammond	301 871-5074
Treasurer:	John Bogasky	301 460-1604
Recording Sec.:	Linda Bea	301 460-0497
Past President:	Reuben Lev	301 460-1048

## **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
Ron Daub	301 460-0929	Chris Swan	301 871-1113
Lilla Hammond	301 871-5074	Arlene Thorne	301 871-5013

## **The Bugle**

### **Published by the Strathmore-Bel Pre Civic Association**

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Send information for The Bugle to: [blev@his.com](mailto:blev@his.com) or to 2701 Bellmawr Court by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

## The President's Corner

-by Nancy Bechtol,

We decided to produce a Bugle again very quickly to advertise our upcoming 4th of July activities. By the time you read this article, our June 5th Yard Sale in the pool parking lot will have already happened and hopefully was a huge success! The Board organizes this yard sale each year for the community, and we are thankful to Paulette Ladas for donating the large dumpster again this year as well as the Kennedy High School Booster Club for supplying coffee and donuts. Hopefully many neighbors participated and got their homes cleaned out at the same time!

We need volunteers to come forward to assist with our next event. The 4th of July activities take a lot of volunteers to make them happen. Lilla Hammond has again agreed to lead this effort, but she needs your help. We are looking for someone to lead the afternoon Field Games at the pool. The Jennison and Ladas families have organized and run these games for years, but we need a new family/person to come forward and offer to assist with this fun task. We also need several families to assist with the Barbeque Picnic dinner we host each year in the pavilion. We feed over 75 people each year, and it is great fun. Please let Lilla know if you can assist in any way. Her phone number is located in the Board listing on the back of the first page of this Bugle.

This past week I attended the second meeting with the Commander of the 4th District police, Nancy Demme. She hosts the Presidents of the Civic Associations in her District at this meeting, and provides an update on the status of crime in our neighborhoods. This month she provided our crime statistics and they paint a very good picture for our area. All crime is down, from 14 incidents in 2008, 12 in 2009 and only 8 so far in 2010. Their fiscal year is through June so we are looking good. She asked us to get the word out to our neighbors to please make sure we lock the doors of our cars when parking in front of our homes and that to always close our garage doors when not working in the garage. There has been an increase in residential burglaries and auto thefts and most times the police find that the perpetrators did not have to break in. She also warned us about many cars being broken into in health club parking lots because people leave purses and wallets in their cars and trunks in these locations. Her final warning was to please be extra careful when shopping at the Lotto Plaza off Georgia Avenue because there has been a lot of crime in that particular area recently.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming July 4th festivities, or at the Pool or on the Trail and I hope everyone has a wonderful summer!

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## Gleanings from Meetings

-by Frank Corrigan

The May meeting of the Montgomery County Civic Federation (MCCF) focused on the approximately 90,000 acre portion of Montgomery County land designated as the Agricultural Reserve. It constitutes about 1/3 of Montgomery County's land area and was created as a permanent agricultural area in 1980. Prior to that, residential restrictions allowed one house for every five acres; subsequently, one house was permitted for every 25 acres. In economic terms, agriculture in Montgomery County accounts for \$243 million in financial activity and employs more than 10,000 people. Jeremy Criss is the Agricultural Services Division Manager in the County's Department of Economic Development.

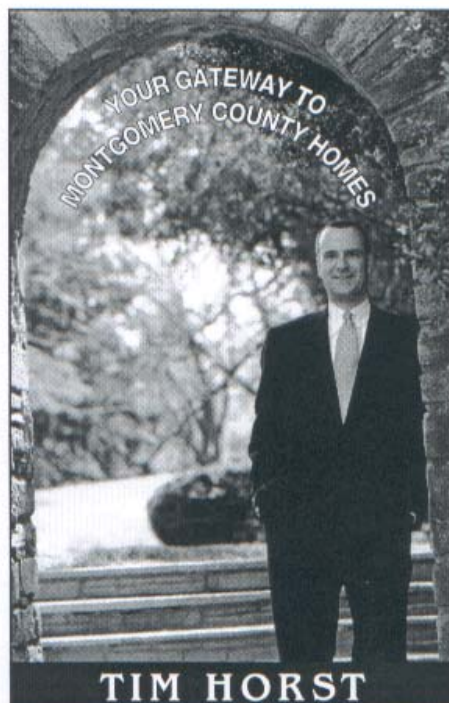
The Agricultural Reserve benefits county residents by providing local farm products such as fruits, vegetables, dairy, wine, wool and livestock. The representatives from county government and the Montgomery Countryside Alliance discussed the advantages of maintaining the Reserve in terms of environmental and recreational advantages as well as providing a source for local, sustainable food production. Additional points made by the presenters included: appropriate incentives are needed to encourage more individuals and families to become farmers (longer term leases make sense for farmers); current criteria such as the 1959 state law requiring an owner to show \$2,500 in income to order to keep an agricultural reserve preferred tax status need to be re-examined; and the county needs to guard against the Reserve being bisected by the outer Beltway and bridge currently provided for in Virginia's six year transportation plan. An interactive guide to the Reserve is maintained by the Montgomery Countryside Alliance at

[www.MoCoAlliance.org/AgGuide](http://www.MoCoAlliance.org/AgGuide).

In recent months the Montgomery County Taxpayers League has been gathering information, formulating proposals and providing testimony to the Montgomery County Council about the county's budget shortfall. Recent proposals to help close the gap such as increases in energy taxes and cell phone taxes have been referenced in various news media. This month the League's Executive Committee decided to postpone the regularly scheduled May 20th meeting and re-schedule it on June 3rd (continued on page 9)

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# BPRA NEWS

## Recreation Association Invitation & Information

- by Dan Keating

We would like to invite community members to attend the Bel Pre Recreation Association Board meetings over the summer at the pool pavilion. We meet on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:30. During the summer, our meetings are at the pool property.

We are glad to have community members join us. The association oversees the recreation facilities financed through your annual \$225 assessment: the pools, tennis courts, volleyball court, playground, climbing ship, picnic area, bath house, snack bar and pavilion on the Association's communal property.

If you wish to host an event with non-member guests at the pavilion, such as a birthday party, please make reservations through Louisa Hoar, whose contact information is attached to this note.

(continued on page 10)

## Recreational Association Officers

President:	Dan Keating	301-603-8162
Vice President:	Edward Frantz	301-603-8055
Treasurer:	Keith Yockelson	301-460-8555
Secretary:	Lou Ann Rector	301-603-8805
Administrative		
Assistant:	Brenda Henry	301-871-6298
Pavilion Usage:	Louisa Hoar	301-871-2954

## Recreational Association Trustees

John Adamo	301-460-3275
Sue Hoyer	301-603-9559
Gladstone James	301-460-7292
Paulette Ladas	301-674-7742
Arthur Meister	301-438-7869

Board Meetings are held the 4th Monday of each month, 7:30 pm at Bel Pre Elementary School and during summer months at the Pool Pavilion.



## 2009-2010 MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL CALENDAR



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### 2009

Sept. 28.....	Yom Kippur No School
Oct. 2.....	Early Release K-12
Oct. 16.....	MSTA Convention No School
Nov. 2.....	Professional Day, No School
Nov. 11.....	Parent Conferences, Report Cards, Early Release K-8
Nov. 12.....	Parent Conferences, Early Release K-8
Nov. 25.....	Early Release K-12, Interim/Planning
Nov. 26-27.....	Holiday—Thanksgiving
Dec. 24 & 25.....	Holiday-Christmas
Dec. 28-31.....	Winter Break

### 2010

Jan. 1.....	Holiday-New Year's Day
Jan. 18.....	Holiday-Martin L. King Jr., Day
Jan. 25.....	Professional Day, No School
Feb. 3.....	Report Cards
Feb. 15.....	Holiday-Presidents' Day, No School
Feb. 26.....	Early Release K-12
Mar. 29-April 1.....	Spring Break, No School
Apr. 2, 5.....	Holiday, Easter
Apr. 6.....	Professional Day No School
Apr. 14.....	Report Cards
May 31.....	Holiday-Memorial Day No School
Jun. 16.....	Last Day of School, Students dismissed after Lunch
Jun. 23.....	Report Cards Mailed



# The New Civic Association Email Group

By John Bogasky, SBPcivic group moderator

Early this year, the Civic Association board voted to set up a listserve for Civic Association members. Our goal is to provide our community with a new, timely and interactive communication channel to supplement *The Bugle*. (Don't worry, there are NO plans to use email to replace *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. As of April 18<sup>th</sup>, the group had 33 members.

We are using Yahoo's free groups service. Yahoo's service is well established and offers features that allow members 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 messages. Message format can be fully-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. Alternatively, you can join the group by sending me an email ([johnbogasky@hotmail.com](mailto:johnbogasky@hotmail.com)) from the address where you wish to receive group messages. This will add you 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.

It's easy to join the Civic Association if you want to join the group. All Strathmore Bel Pre residents can join the Civic Association at any time simply by paying the \$15 annual membership fee. If you wish to join, simply contact any member of the Civic Association board. You can find contact information for all board members on the back front cover of any edition of *The Bugle*.

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 Yahoo Group

- 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.

# STRATHMORE BEL PRE JULY 4th 2010 CELEBRATION!!

## *Help Our Community Celebrate July 4th 2010!*

As many of you know, StrathmoreBel Pre Community likes to celebrate July 4th!

There is always plenty of planning to do and we get great assistance from our fun-loving, patriotic neighbors.

Would you like to help us this year?



***Help make our July 4th  
Celebration the best yet!  
Thanks!***

If you would like to volunteer to make our community's celebration special this year, select from the list below.

We welcome your ideas, and talents!

- ☐ Parade Committee
- ☐ Entertainment
- ☐ Field Day –Games
- ☐ July 4th Picnic

***YES! I would like to help with Strathmore Bel Pre's July 4th Celebration.***

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **OR EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ **PARADE** for the kids.....Volunteers needed: 11:45am - 1:15pm
- ☐ **FIELD GAMES**.....Volunteers needed: 2pm - 4pm
- ☐ **PICNIC** set up at Pool Pavillion...Volunteers needed: 4pm - 5pm
- ☐ **PICNIC** tickets, servers and wrap up..Volunteers: 5pm - 7:30pm

For more information about volunteering, please contact:  
Harry Klapper at [hjksbk@msn.com](mailto:hjksbk@msn.com) or Lilla Hammond at [lilla.hammond@verizon.net](mailto:lilla.hammond@verizon.net)  
Or call 301-518-7818 (Lilla)

**To volunteer, please:** fill out the above information and send form to:  
**SBPCA PO Box 6836, Silver Spring, MD 20916 Thank you!**

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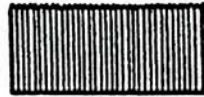
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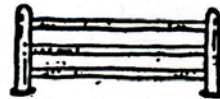
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## Gleanings

(continued from page 4)

because the County Council will be acting on the FY 2011 budget May 27th. At last month's meeting of the Taxpayers League, the members considered a number of cost saving suggestions that they anticipated sharing with the County Council. One suggestion was to for the county to consider adopting the Federal Government's percentage contribution to employees' health benefits. The County Council President, Nancy Floreen, joined the meeting and engaged in an extensive discussion with the members about budget issues and options. An interesting point made by a League member related to the State of Maryland's millionaires' tax which was adopted two years ago. It seems that Montgomery County's revenue from that tax has dropped by 75% in those two years.

### 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)

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# BPRA NEWS from page 5 –

The board is also sponsoring at Free Tennis Clinic on the Association's courts Saturday June 19 from 1-3 pm. The event for children and adults will focus on fun with a mix of games, contests and instruction. Bring a tennis racket and tennis shoes (no black-soled shoes). The event will be run by tennis pro Harvey Rattner. Speaking of the tennis courts, the Association is replacing the 40-year-old unsightly rusty fences around the courts with new, low-maintenance vinyl-coated fencing.

We are glad to have Greg and Laura Miller running the snack bar this summer with a larger menu of freshly cooked food than we've had for several years.

The board is working hard to help everyone enjoy our shared recreation facilities. We are glad to hear from community members with thoughts and suggestions. We wish you a great summer.

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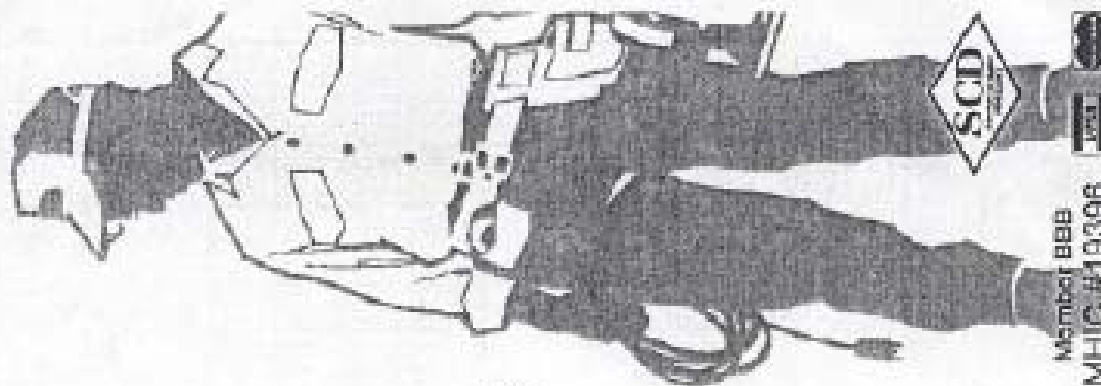
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### **Additional Pool Security Measures**

- by Dan Keating

The Bel Pre Recreation Association has taken additional steps to prevent trespassing after hours on the pool property. New, more secure locks have been installed; lighting has been upgraded; barbed-wire fencing has been repaired; new signs have been put up; and, most importantly, improved security cameras have been installed.

Because of the danger of using the pool without supervision, the Board considers preventing trespassing to be a key safety issue. The Board has informed police that trespassers will be prosecuted, and material captured by the cameras can be used in court.

Please make sure that youngsters and adults are aware that trespassing on the pool property after hours will not be tolerated and will be prosecuted.

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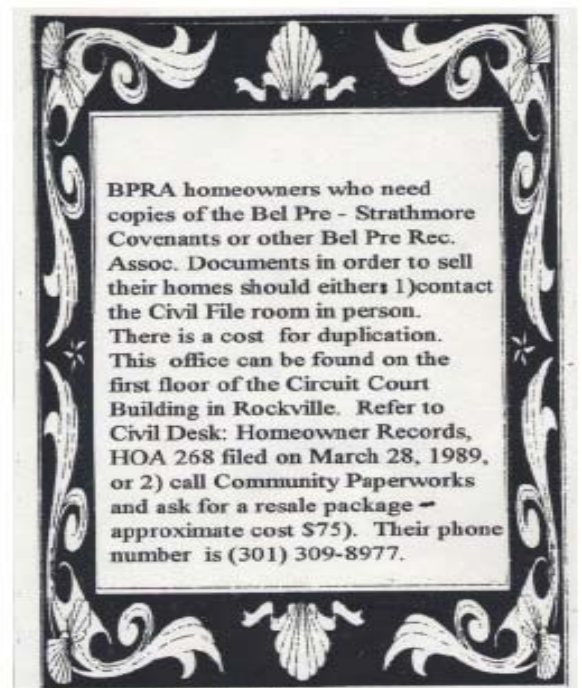
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