

The Bugle



Published by the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association

October 2014

vol. 46 #4

It's Annual Meeting Time!

November 20

Strathmore Elementary School

3200 Beaverwood Lane

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!

Contents:	
Annual meetings	1
SBPCA & BPRA Boards	2
President's Corner	3
Gleanings from Meetings	4
Rec Association News	5
Summer Entertainment Series recap	7
Dolphins' Winning Season	9
Rec Association candidates	11
Civic Association candidates	14
Elementary School PTAs	17
Cub Scout Pack 763	22
50s Plus News	23
Aspen Hill Library news	24

Civic Association Board Candidates

NANCY BECHTOL

MAX BRONSTEIN

MAURY POTOSKY

Recreation Board Candidates

KELSEY KLASS

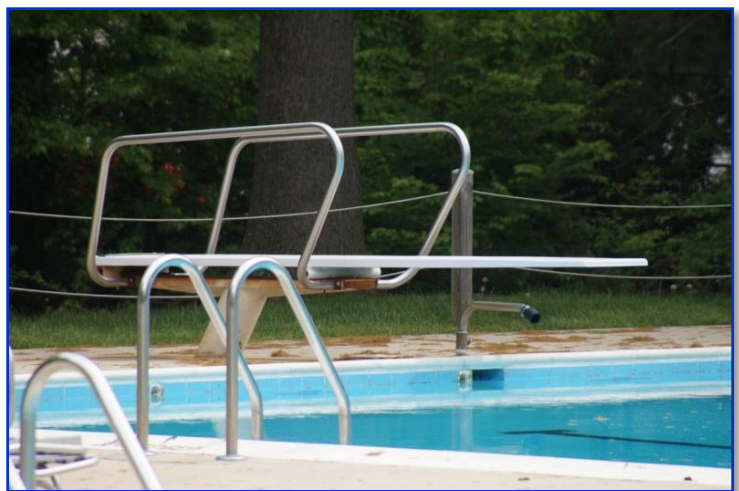
GREG MILLER

LOU ANN RECTOR

BILLY RUPPERT

LARRY VAUGHT

RON WICK



**Candidate bios on page 11.
Also read Elliot Chabot's article on page 5**



THE BUGLE

Published by the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association Since 1969

Chris Swan, Editor 301-871-113

Assistant Editor: Elliot Chabot	301 871-1113	Advertising: Harry Klapper	301 460-9645
North Circulation: Louisa Hoar	301 871-2954	South Circulation: Dan Mann	301 460-3330

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	Webmaster:	Bill Hammond	301 871-5074
Treasurer:	John Bogasky	301 460-1604		Chris Jennison	301 538-5705

Civic Association Directors

Sharon Adamo	301 443-3972	Frank Corrigan	301 460-1011	Maurice Potosky	301 460-9008
Charlie Bea	301 460-0497	Ron Daub	301 460-0929	Chris Swan	301 871-1113
Max Bronstein	301 460-3117	Lilla Hammond	301 871-5074	Dan Thomas	301 871-2624
Elliot Chabot	301 871-1113	Harry Klapper	301 460-9645	Rita Vaught	206 406-2871

Bel Pre Recreational Association (BPRA)

The Bel Pre Recreational Association (BPRA) is the homeowner's association for the Strathmore Bel Pre properties. The BPRA runs our community's pool, tennis courts, volleyball, 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>. The Board normally meets at 7:30 pm monthly. The Nov 20 annual meeting will be held at Strathmore Elementary School. A Town Hall meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 3, at 7:30 p.m. at Strathmore Elementary School.

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
Robert T. Bowser (Treasurer)	(301) 460-3444	r.tbowser@verizon.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
Billy Ruppert	(301) 871-0076	billyruppert@gmail.com
Anthony W. Wormack	(202) 468-3565	awwormack@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

The President's Corner

by Nancy Bechtol

President, Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association



I always hate to see the change in seasons, but settle in quickly, once I become accustomed to the new temperatures and day length. Summer has ended, and our fall season is upon us all. We had an absolutely wonderful summer this year, with cool temperatures, lots of sun, and an amazing rainfall. Just about every time our gardens got a little dry, the rain fell. Hopefully everyone's energy bills were reduced and this helped us cover the utilities costs from our expensive winter.

Yard Sale and July 4th Events



Our Civic Association was busy this summer with a multitude of interesting events, some of which we have organized for years (the Yard Sale and 4th of July events), but also some newer entertainment events at our Pool. A huge crowd of families and friends attended our fun July 4th events. The Parade welcomed three large fire trucks and an ambulance this year. The kids were ecstatic! The Magician was followed by a huge crowd, whether watching exciting new magician tricks or waiting for a special balloon. Games in the pool concluded the afternoon events, with everyone really enjoying themselves. LILLA HAMMOND, BILL HAMMOND and HARRY KLAPPER continue to organize these events for our community year after year and we cannot thank them enough!

Concerts and Movies, oh my!

The two movie nights this year were both a huge success. Thanks to ADAM SHEPARD for his work early in the year to organize with our movie vendor and JOHN BOGASKY for managing both nights at the Pool to make sure everything went well. I would like to thank our snack bar managers, the MILLER Family, for staying open both of these nights and allowing folks to dine and snack while watching the movies. We also offered two music nights this year, thanks to CHRIS SWAN and ELLIOT CHABOT for organizing these events, as well as managing them on-site both weekends. They volunteer so many hours for our neighborhood; the list of what they do for us is endless! Hearing beautiful music at our Pool would not be possible without their continued dedication. I would also like to thank our sponsors who helped reduce the cost for our entertainment series. The BPRA Board agreed to assist with this program and become our co-sponsors. It is the first time both Boards have worked together so closely. It has been a sheer pleasure to partner with them to improve our neighborhood community by offering new and exciting programs for all ages at our Pool.

- Continued on page 8 -



Gleanings From Meetings + More

by Frank Corrigan

August

Washington Suburban Sanitation Commission (WSSC) Public Meeting – Montgomery County

On August 6, 2014, several representatives of WSSC (the Acting Financial Executive, a Commissioner, etc.) held one of two community meetings to explain plans for implementing a new fixed pipeline investment fee to fund the existing water and sewer pipe reconstruction programs from its approved Capital Improvement Program.

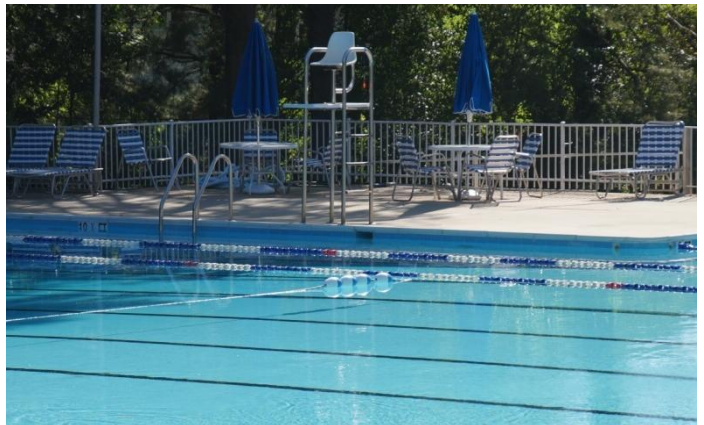
Their handouts explained that:

- Fees will not be used to fund new personnel or programs or operating expenses
- Fees will not result in net additional revenue to the Commission
- Pipeline Investment Fee revenues will replace rate revenue to fund these pipe programs
- The majority of a customer's bill will continue to be based on usage and rates

Further, the Commission wants to recalibrate the existing Account Maintenance Fee to fully recoup the costs that it is intended to cover, since these costs currently are being subsidized with rate revenues. Additionally, they want to “keep the Commission’s current 16-step, conservation-oriented rate structure” and “seek approval from the General Assembly to implement a more robust Customer Affordability Program (CAP) to mitigate the impact of the fees on economically disadvantaged customers.”

The proposed new pipeline investment fee would be charged quarterly/annually to meters based on their size. Over 385,000 meters are either 5/8” or 3/4”, with more than 47,000 meters at 1”. Twelve additional meter sizes range from 1.5” to 12”, with their total number slightly more than 11,000. The quarterly and annual fees for the 145,000+ 5/8” meters would be \$11.00/\$44.00; the 240,000+ 3/4” meters fees would be \$12.00/\$48.00, and the 47,000+ 1” meters fees would be \$14.00/\$56.00. WSSC also is proposing to add \$5.00 to the current \$11.00 Account Maintenance Fee, raising it to \$16.00 for the 435,227 users of the 5/8” through 3/4” residential meters.

Presently, Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties have about 5,600 miles of fresh water delivery pipes and 5,400 miles of waste water and sewage pipes. The WSSC envisions raising rates on a regular basis to replace 6 water treatment facilities, maintain and repair existing pipes, expand the “green” initiative to attain 30% from wind power, and replace existing pumps for more efficient ones.



In the past 20 years, WSSC has added over 70,000 new customers. WSSC plans to increase their bonds to 30 years, from 20 years. This is intended to to save funds, establish a fixed fee for replacing pipes and expand its existing customer affordability program. For comparison purposes, in the year 2000, the operating budget was about \$400 million, and the capital budget was approximately \$200 million; in 2005, the operating budget was approaching \$500 million, and the capital budget was in the \$800 million range. For the fiscal year 2015, the Commission’s total operating and capital budget is projected to be slightly less than \$1.4 billion.

- Continued on page 10 -

Bel Pre Recreational News

by Elliot Chabot

President, Bel Pre Recreational Association

Annual Meetings

Please mark your calendars for two upcoming dates: **November 20 and December 3.**

The annual general membership meetings of the Recreational Association and the Civic Association both will be held on Thursday, November 20, at Strathmore Elementary School, 3200 Beaverwood Lane. 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 a lot of things effecting our community, in just half an hour!

Four seats on the Recreational Association's Board of Trustees will be filled by election at the 2014 BPRA annual meeting, which will start at 7:30 pm. Normally, we fill 3 seats at each annual general membership meeting. This year there are 4 positions to be filled through our election, because of the resignation of ADAM SHEPARD this past May. The top 3 vote getters will serve 3-year terms and the 4th highest vote getter will serve a 2-year term. 6 candidates are running for the 4 seats. Please read the candidate's statements, starting on page 11 of this issue of *The Bugle*.



Quorum and Town Hall Meeting

The owners of 70 homes within the 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 20th Recreational Association meeting, then we will have a follow-up meeting on Wednesday, December 3rd, at 7:30 pm, to elect members of the Board of Trustees. If we don't need a second follow-up meeting on December 3, we will hold a Town Hall meeting with a question/answer format and a relaxed tone. We'll have more details at the November 20 meeting. So save both dates on your calendar: Nov. 20 and Dec. 3.



Budget

By the time you read this, you should have received a copy of the proposed annual budget in the mail, along with your official notice of the annual meeting. The Board of Trustees expects to take final action on the budget in December. 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 March 2015 to February 2016.

As I mentioned in the last issue of *The Bugle*, the 10-year study of our the maintenance and replacement needs of the pool facilities - conducted by Ponte Mellor Architects, Ltd. - will have a big impact on upcoming expenditures by the Recreational Association. A copy of the report is available at <http://strathmore-belpre.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/BeL-Pre-Pool-report-Final.pdf>. Additional material (including a separate study on the pool's pump room) is available at <http://strathmore-belpre.org/bpra-governing-documents/> under the "Budget and Maintenance" heading.

– Continued on page 6 –

New Webmaster

We welcome to CHRIS JENNISON, our new webmaster! CHRIS grew up in our community, has a B.A. in public relations and policy from Syracuse, an M.P.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, and is currently a J.D. candidate at Syracuse College of Law. Thanks to Chris' hard work, the website (<http://strathmore-belpre.org/bpra/>) now has a reorganized and expanded Legal Proceedings page, the full text of the 34 covenants governing our community, and more up-to-date information about upcoming meetings and events. Chris has also modified the website to make it more accessible for persons using assistive technology.

Website Usage

Usage of the Strathmore Bel Pre website continues to grow. In July we had 1,589 page views -- the highest in a single month since we launched the website many years ago.

New Board Member

Welcome to BILLY RUPPERT who joined the Board of Trustees this past June to fill the seat vacated by ADAM SHEPARD. BILLY is a senior graphic designer for URS Corp., has lived in Strathmore Bel Pre for 11 years, and is a graduate of Towson University.

Pool Fence

As reported in the last issue of *The Bugle*, work was needed to bring the outside fence (it surrounds the pool area and facilities) into compliance with the County's requirement that such fences must be at least 6 feet tall. M&T, Inc. cleared the area around the fence of debris and extensive growth, and Potomac Fences installed additions to the fence to bring it to 6 feet in height.

- Thanks to the property owners who gave us input about the fence and thanks to PAULETTE LADAS for coordinating the M&T and Potomac Fences contracts.

**Some additional BPRA activities since the last issue of *The Bugle* are:****Recreation**

After the May 31 showing of the movie "Lemony Snicket's - A Series of Unfortunate Events," (reported in the last issue of *The Bugle*) the BPRA co-sponsored 3 more summer entertainment nights:

- Pan Lara Steel Pan Band (June 21) - music night
- "Percy Jackson & the Lightning Thief" (July 18) - movie night
- Back 'n Time (August 16) - music night
- Thanks to CHRIS SWAN, JOHN BOGASKY, the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association, and the members of the Entertainment & Recreation Committee for making these programs happen.



We now have a foosball table and a second ping pong table at the Pool Pavilion.

New swings have been installed in the play area.

- Thanks to KYE PAK for taking care of the logistics for the tables and swings.

– Continued on page 16 –

2014 Summer Entertainment Series Recap

by John Bogasky

2014 marked the Civic Association's second summer sponsoring the Summer Entertainment Series at the pool. This summer we sponsored a total of four events. There were two movies, starting with our season kickoff showing of **Lemony Snicket's: A Series of Unfortunate Events**, and then a record crowd for **Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief** in July. We also sponsored two concerts. In June, we had a taste of the Caribbean with the **Panlara Steel Pan Band**, a family of steel pan players from Maryland. We closed our season with a repeat performance by **Back N Time** playing rock and roll classics.



Attendance at our events ranged from 50 to 100+ community members, a significant improvement over our inaugural season. Those of us on the Civic Association Board started these events to create a new way for our community to come together. We were very pleased to see attendance growing as more community members become aware of these events. We hope to see even more of you in 2015.

The SBPCA Thanks our Summer Entertainment Sponsors!!

Lilla
Hammond



Paulette
Ladas



Tim
Horst



SBP Superstars

Community Champion

The Bel Pre Recreational Association

Ted & Nancy
Bechtol

John & Shelly
Bogasky

Maurice &
Charlotte
Potosky

Chris Swan &
Elliot Chabot

Robert &
Yvonne Bowser

Adam
Shepard

Larry &
Rita
Vaught

Susan &
Max
Bronstein

Bill &
Elizabeth
Thornby

Band Leaders

Super Fans

And our host – The Bel Pre Recreational Association

Thanks to our Sponsors and Volunteers

These events would not be possible without your support! The 2014 Summer Entertainment Series was made possible by the generosity of our sponsors who underwrote most of our costs for the entertainment performers, movie licenses, and equipment

rentals. We also want to thank our volunteers who helped organize and run each event. Finally, the Civic Association thanks the BPRA Board for keeping the pool open late for the movies and for waiving guest fees for Summer Entertainment Series attendees!

Please Support the 2015 Summer Entertainment Series

The Civic Association soon will begin fundraising for the 2015 Summer Entertainment Series. At this time, we plan to repeat the 2014 schedule of concerts and movies, but would like to be able to add more events. Send any suggestions for movies, concerts, or anything else about the Summer Entertainment Series to any member of the SBPCA board. See the inside front cover of *The Bugle* for contact information. Civic Association members also can post suggestions to the SBPcivic listserve.

We hope that more families and area businesses will support the Series. With more support, we are able to increase the number of events, show more recent movies and present more expensive bands. We look forward to seeing you at next summer's Summer Entertainment Series!



Board Member Departures

We are losing two Board members this fall, SHARON ADAMO and CHARLIE BEA. The ADAMOS, JOHN and SHARON, have both been very active members of our community associations and have contributed much to our neighborhood. JOHN ADAMO served on the BPRA for years as Treasurer, and SHARON ADAMO recently joined our Civic Association Board. They are moving soon and we will miss them both so very much. CHARLIE BEA has been a member of our Civic Association Board for over a decade and served as our Treasurer for most of these years. He kept on top of our finances and always knew exactly what we could and couldn't afford! I have never been to a single Board meeting when CHARLIE wasn't on our Board. We will all miss his wisdom, oversight and guidance. But the good news is he is still here in our neighborhood and only a phone call away!

Join the Civic Association Board

We currently have three vacant positions as a result of these folks moving and retiring from the Civic Association Board. We welcome anyone who might be interested in joining us! We meet once a month, generally the 4th Tuesday of each month, at the Montgomery County Recreation Center off Layhill and Queensguard roads, from 7:30pm to 9:00pm. Please consider attending a meeting and joining our Board. We welcome anyone who is interested in adding positive value to our community.

Matthew Henson State Park Trail

As many of you know, my husband TED and I live near the Matthew Henson State Park trail, near the Rippling Brook Drive entrance. We utilize this trail all the time for walking, running and biking and have just fallen in love with this beautiful resource right in the heart of our neighborhood. My husband spends time every single week cleaning up trash that has been dumped near this trail or in the dead end street near our home. Our local Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops have walked this woods and cleaned trash and debris from the wetland and woodlands. Though it is illegal to dump trash and debris onto this state park land, an offense that can result in criminal prosecution and civil fines, it occurs way too often. Please discontinue this practice if you have been at fault, and encourage residents to do the same, if you ever witness this activity anywhere near this land. Our park thanks you!



Annual Meeting November 20th at 7 pm – Strathmore Elementary

I look forward to seeing everyone on November 20th at Strathmore Elementary School for our Annual Associations meetings at 7:00pm. Please attend to hear about all of the good things that are happening in your neighborhood. You can help us start planning for next Summers Entertainment series!





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Summer 2014: Dolphins' Winning Season

by Claire Pak

The Dolphins had another winning season! For the second year running, we went 4-1 in the very competitive B Division of the Prince-Mont Swim League, taking second place in the Division. Congratulations to Head Coach TERRY KOMINSKI, Assistant Coach LILAN MILLER, and Developmental Coaches EMMA BEARMAN, KAYLA GEARY, and WINSTON MILLER for leading our Dolphins through another successful summer!

We held our annual awards banquet on Wednesday, July 23. Awards were presented to the top 3 swimmers in each age group, based on total number of points scored, and are known as the high points awards. Individual awards also are presented to swimmers, as selected by the coaches.



2014 Dolphins Winners:

TOP 3 swimmers for each age group

8 & Under

Boys

ERIK STAGGS

SHANE KENT

LUCAS MOELLER

Girls

TESSA MILLER

AVA YOCKELSON

LIZETT INGA

9-10

Boys

IAN VIRGA

ASA VIRGA

WYATT KENT and

EVAN PAK (tie)

Girls

LAUREN HILL

DARYN LAM

CAMILLE BEARMAN



11-12

Boys

CARSON TAYLOR

BEN SPENCER

AIDAN PAK

Girls

OLIVIA MILLER

MELATI MAUPIN

MAYA KODGI

13-14

Boys

EMERSON MILLER

JOSH BEARMAN

DALE GOTCHER

Girls

RILEY GEARY

NADIRA ROBERTS

CARRIE HILL

15-18

Boys

NICK WESLEY

EVAN BEARMAN

CONNOR RUPPERT

Girls

MORGAN HILL

LILAN MILLER

EMMA BEARMAN

Most Improved (by age group)

EDDIE WRIGHT (8 and under)

ANITYAH ELEY (9-10)

ALINA WRIGHT (11-12)

LOURDES MINOR (13-14)

NIC THORNTON (15-18)

Hardest Working (by practice group)

ANDREW "CALL ME DREW" WRIGHT (Beginner)

TESSA MILLER (Novice)

MELAK ARMSTRONG (Junior)

JOSH BEARMAN (Senior)

Most Dependable: BILL SPENCER

Most Spirited: NICK WESLEY/KAYLA GEARY/EMMA BEARMAN

Katie Dorr Inspiration Award: ISABELLE DURAN

Most Valuable Dolphin: LILAN MILLER

- Continued on page 22 -

WSSC August meeting

Our residential quarterly water bills would increase substantially over the next four years under the recommended rates for the account maintenance fee and reconstruction fee.

WSSC would expand their Customer Affordability Program:

- Eligible homeowners and renters could apply for a waiver of some portion of the Pipeline Investment Fee and Account Maintenance Fee
- Eligibility for the waiver would be determined through a WSSC partnership with a state or local agency
- Customers still would still be responsible for paying for the water and sewer service they use
- Conservation and water saving tips would be offered to ensure that they maximize their savings under Commission's rate structure.

The current Customer Affordability Program provides assistance to 17,800 households in Montgomery and Prince George's counties. It is projected that the proposed enhanced program would cost WSSC up to \$2.5 million annually.

The proposal and the FY 2016 Budget will be submitted to the County Councils for approval, to take effect July 1, 2015.

An ironic note (really an acknowledgement), from the WSSC representatives concerned water conservation. Their customers have responded so enthusiastically to the WSSC conservation message over the years that WSSC has seen substantial and continuing reductions in water usage, thereby losing revenue, and needing to define/establish other sources of revenue. It was interesting that there was no discussion about or proposals for "belt tightening" or other cost saving measures before increasing fees.

- Continued on page 19 -

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Bel Pre Recreation Association 2014 Candidates 4 positions – 6 candidates



Kelcey Klass

1. **Age (optional):** I am old enough to know better and young enough to learn.
2. **Occupation:** I am a substitute teacher in Montgomery County Public Schools.
3. **Length of time living in the Strathmore/Bel Pre neighborhood:** We have lived in this community for 42 1/2 years.
4. **What are your most recent contributions for/to our community?** I have served on the covenant committee.
5. **What do you see as the most important function of the Recreational Association?** The Civic Association and the Recreation Association are 2 distinct organizations. BPRA has standards governed by laws. The SBPCA is governed by the will of the majority of the members of the organization. Therefore running for the BPRA has different responsibilities as a trustee of that organization. If elected to the BPRA I will uphold the legal obligations of that organization.
6. **What is your vision for the Board of the Recreational Association?** It is most important to distinguish between the 2 organizations. I will only follow the legal aspects of the BPRA specifically to the fact that the BPRA assets are specifically used in a proper manner. BPRA is a HOA with legal governing documents that must be adhered to for specific activities
7. **How would you build community in Strathmore-Bel Pre?** The existing community of Strathmore Bel Pre is an attractive community that many families would enjoy. I would encourage all the community and possible future members of the community to take advantage of our pools, tennis courts, walkways, schools, and friendly neighbors. Our community is governed by a body of covenants which help to maintain the quality of the community and its facilities.

Gregory (Greg) Miller

1. **Age (optional):** 49
2. **Occupation:** Professor, University of Maryland College Park
3. **Length of time living in the Strathmore/Bel Pre neighborhood:** Since 2000, 14 years
4. **What are your most recent contributions for/to our community?** My wife and I have been operating the snack bar facilities at the Pool since 2009, installing sliding windows, building a food preparation island, and ensuring that the kitchen facilities are maintained and are up to county code. In addition, I have served as President of the Strathmore Bel Pre Swim Team since 2009, and have also served as a Board Member of the BPRA this past year.
5. **What do you see as the most important function of the Recreational Association?** I believe that one the most important functions of the Board is to ensure maintenance of the community recreational facilities which include the tennis courts, pool, grounds, pavilion and bath houses.
6. **What is your vision for the Board of the Recreational Association?** I would like to see continued improvements to the community pool and grounds. Much has done been in recent years to update aging facilities, but more is needed.
7. **How would you build community in Strathmore-Bel Pre?** I view community as the building and nurturing of relationships through volunteerism and goodwill. Our pool and pavilion continue to serve as the nucleus of all that goes on within our neighborhood and to this end, I would like to see continued efforts towards improving and maintaining our recreation facilities. In addition, I would like to see continued support for initiatives to bring entertainment and/or recreational programs to our community.

– Continued on page 12 –

Bel Pre Recreation Association
2014 Candidates **4 positions -- 6 candidates**
(continued from page 11)

Lou Ann Rector

1. **Age (optional):**
2. **Occupation:** I am a Captain in the United States Public Health Service and work for the Surgeon General, the Nation's Top Doctor.
3. **Length of time living in the Strathmore/Bel Pre neighborhood:** I have lived in the community since December 1998.
4. **What are your most recent contributions for/to our community?** I served on the Bel-Pre Recreational Association from December 2003 to December 2014. I assisted the Rec Board with many projects such as parking lot lights at the pool, an AED for the pool to save folks in the event of a heart attack, and purchasing a new refrigerator for the snack bar.
5. **What do you see as the most important function of the Recreational Association?** I believe in upholding the charter and preserving property values in our community.
6. **What is your vision for the Board of the Recreational Association?** I also believe we have a responsibility to keep our common areas safe and updated for our community.
7. **How would you build community in Strathmore-Bel Pre?** We have a nice community here, and I would like to make and keep it nicer.



Billy Ruppert

1. **Age (optional):** 56
2. **Occupation:** Graphic Designer
3. **Length of time living in the Strathmore/Bel Pre neighborhood:** My wife, Maggie and I moved here 11 years ago. We have 3 children, 2 swim team grads and 1 current member.
4. **What are your most recent contributions for/to our community?** I replaced ADAM SHEPARD as an interim member of the board in June 2014. I am a parent volunteer in various capacities with the neighborhood swim team.
5. **What do you see as the most important function of the Recreational Association?** The most important function of the BPRA is to take care of the pool and the surrounding grounds. It needs to keep the facility safe, clean and in top condition.
6. **What is your vision for the Board of the Recreational Association?** My vision of the board is that it remains what it is now: a group of neighbors volunteering their time to take care of the needs of our neighborhood, working together and building friendships.
9. **How would you build community in Strathmore/Bel Pre?** I'd continue the community activities such as movies and music groups. The swim team builds community. We've made numerous friends and have formed deep roots in the neighborhood through participation with the team. I strive to reach out to new families who are my neighbors. The Civic Association ListServe is another way. Making home improvements to our home, it makes it easier and saves headaches by tapping the experience of other neighbors who own an Endicott model. It'd be great to have a section in the ListServe that served as a place to share info in a more formalized way. I thought during some of the more rambunctious annual meetings that it'd be valuable to be able to share and hear home repair/improvement tips. Strathmore Bel Pre has been a gift to our family. We lived in our prior neighborhood for 12 years. There were no young children and we traveled 5 miles down Georgia Avenue to our community pool. Living here, my children can walk and ride a bike to the many friends they've made here. We walk to the pool. We are surrounded my great neighbors, kind and generous, and many dear friends.

– Continued on page 13 –

Bel Pre Recreation Association

2014 Candidates

4 positions -- 6 candidates

(continued from page 12)

Larry Vaught

1. **Age (optional):** 66
2. **Occupation:** Senior Auditor with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (I am a Certified Public Accountant and a lawyer)
3. **Length of time living in the Strathmore/Bel Pre neighborhood:** 1 year
4. **What are your most recent contributions for/to our community?** I volunteered to serve on the Rec Board's Finance Committee. My daughter is on the swim team and I like to volunteer to help at the swim meets.
5. **What do you see as the most important function of the Recreational Association?** The overall function of the Recreational Association is to maintain and enhance property values of its members by doing two things. 1. Enforcing the covenants required by the governing documents; and 2. Maintaining the community pool and other common areas include providing for future capital repairs and improvements.
6. **What is your vision for the Board of the Recreational Association?** My vision for the Board focuses on three main areas. 1. Develop a strategic plan: The plan should align with the objectives of the homeowners determined from homeowner input. This would ensure that the Board's future decisions would agree with the objectives of the homeowners. 2. Improve financial management: Implement financial controls that would allow for transparency of financial transactions to the homeowners. Ensure expenses stay within budgeted amounts. Set aside reserve funds for future capital expenditures and repairs. 3. Review and update the governing documents: Ensure they are still in-line with what the homeowners want.
7. **How would you build community in Strathmore/Bel Pre?** Unless people feel included in the community, there is no community; just a grouping of houses. Reach out and seek more input from the homeowners. Research ideas that would bring more people together. Look at ways we could use our beautiful common area around the pool year around rather than just four months for member recreation. Determine if there are other volunteer activities that would benefit the community and make people feel included. The bottom line is, the more people you can get involved, the more they will feel included and the more community you will have.



Ron Wick

Age (optional): 49

Occupation: attorney

Length of time living in the Strathmore/Bel Pre neighborhood: 12 years

What are your most recent contributions for/to our community? I have volunteered regularly for the swim team for the past 5 years in various capacities.

What do you see as the most important function of the Recreational Association? Maintaining and enhancing the pool, tennis courts, and other facilities in the pool complex. This is an enormously valuable asset to our community. It provides a safe place for our children to be active and make/meet friends, and a gathering place for adults. Many of our neighboring communities would dearly love to have such an asset.

What is your vision for the Board of the Recreational Association? Maintaining the standard of excellence in the recreational activities BPRA offers, and continuing to expand the schedule of events such as the Saturday night movies and concerts.

How would you build community in Strathmore-Bel Pre? I think there is an excellent sense of community already. I think that the sense of community has to, and does, come from all of us and our neighbors, rather from an elected Board. I would focus my energy on maintaining and creating the facilities and events around which people can and do gather. If we build it, they will come.

Strathmore Bel-Pre Civic Association Board

2014 Candidates

5 positions -- 3 candidates

Nancy Bechtol

1. **Age (optional):** 56
2. **Occupation:** Director, Facilities Engineering and Operations at the Smithsonian Institution
3. **Length of time living in the Strathmore/Bel Pre neighborhood:** 24 years
4. **What are your most recent contributions for/to our community?** I have served as President of the Civic Association since 2008, and served as Vice President of the Strathmore Bel Pre Swim Team for 6 years before that.
5. **What do you see as the most important function of the Civic Association?** Our mission is to serve our community by promoting the interests and welfare of our homeowners through communication and organized events.
6. **What is your vision for the Board of the Civic Association?** My vision has been to create a team of Board Members who each have a role to play in organizing some aspect of our work. If we each manage one or more programs, the work of the Board gets done. My goal is to attract members who want to contribute to our community in a positive way, then evenly divide up the work among the Board, to accomplish more than we ever thought possible. All hands on deck is my motto! As President, it is my job to organize and lead this team to accomplish activities which brings our neighborhood together.
7. **How would you build community in Strathmore-Bel Pre?** The Board is trying very hard to reach and involve as many homeowners and residents in our community as is possible in the activities we organize and in our methods of communication through *The Bugle*, the Listserve and our Website. We organize activities for all ages and interests, from Yard Sales, to 4th of July Parades to music and movie nights. Everything we do on this Board is to build community.



Max Bronstein

1. **Age (optional):** old enough to have grandchildren, young enough to tell good jokes. Did you hear the one about ...
2. **Occupation:** Community Activist and former business machines salesman
3. **Length of time living in the Strathmore/Bel Pre neighborhood:** since 1973
4. **What are your most recent contributions for/to our community?** I attend County and other government meetings to bring back the news to our community, and to represent/present our community's perspective. I recently testified before the County Planning Board on the proposed Aspen Hill Master Plan amendment on the Vitro/BAE Labs property.
5. **What do you see as the most important function of the Civic Association?** Speaking out to the Planning Board, county and state departments of transportation, and all the other local government agencies. If we don't speak up for our community, who will?
6. **What is your vision for the Board of the Civic Association?** To be an active, engaged association with civic representation, and with recreational and civic activities.
7. **How would you build community in Strathmore-Bel Pre?** Hold more activities, but keep an eye on costs.

- Continued on page 15 -

Strathmore Bel-Pre Civic Association Board
2014 Candidates **5 positions -- 3 candidates**
(continued from page 14)

Maurice (Maury) Potosky

1. **Age (optional):**
2. **Occupation:** Retired physicist/systems engineer
3. **Time in Strathmore:** 42+years
4. **Recent contributions:** Analysis of Strathmore Bel Pre covenants and land use restrictions.
5. **What do you see as the most important function of the Civic Association?** Create a cooperative community and get residents involved in community functions. Educate community with respect to community resources. Work with other civic associations on regional needs. Provide services, resources, and activities to community.
6. **What is your vision for the Board of the Civic Association?** Accomplish functions.
7. **How would you build community in Strathmore-Bel Pre?** Continue publishing *The Bugle* and expand listserv. Set up operating committees for education, entertainment, and projects for community growth, to include residents.

STRATHMORE-BEL PRE CIVIC ASSOCIATION
2014-2015 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

If you haven't already done so, please join the Civic Association!

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Parking Lot

GSW Electric repaired and upgraded the parking lot lighting. We hope to have the timing system on the lights replaced this fall.

- Thanks to KIM WATTERS for coordinating these efforts.

The parking lot is scheduled to be resurfaced and restriped by next May.

- Thanks to GREG MILLER for coordinating this work.

Grounds Maintenance

Large scale maintenance has been done on the trees around the basketball court.

- Thanks to KYE PAK for coordinating this work.

Pest Now has treated the volleyball area for bees. Fairway Lawn Care provided fertilizer and weed treatments.

- Thanks to PAULETTE LADAS for coordinating the Pest Now and Fairway Lawn Care contracts.

The BPRA has entered into a 3 year contract with Waste Management for trash and recycling removal.

**Administration**

Behind the scenes, many folks carry out the day-to-day operations, budgeting, and planning.

- Thanks to BOB BOWSER (our Treasurer), LARRY VAUGHT, the Finance Committee, BRENDA HENRY (our Administrative Assistant), TAMARA HENRY (our Bookkeeper), LOUISA HOAR (our Pavilion Reservations and Tennis Court Keys coordinator), DeLeon & Stang (our auditors), and Georgetown Aquatics (our pool operators).

Current Litigation

As we go to press, the Bel Pre Recreational Association is the defendant in two law suits. The full text of relevant documents can be found at <http://strathmore-belpre.org/bpra-legal-proceedings>.

Henry v. Guirand (Case 2325, Maryland Court of Special Appeals). A suit to, among other things, compel the BPRA to take actions against the “growing fence” at 14017 Breeze Hill Lane. In January, the Court ruled to dismiss the BPRA portion of the suit. In February, the plaintiffs asked the court to reconsider its decision. There has not been a change in status since the last issue of *The Bugle*.



Guirand v. Bel Pre Recreational Association, Inc. (Case 383580V, Montgomery County Circuit Court). A suit to enjoin the BPRA from taking actions against the fence at 3200 Bustleton Lane; with a counter-claim by the BPRA asking the Court to either compel the plaintiffs to remove the entire fence, or alternatively, to prohibit any fencing of the side yards. Both sides have submitted requests for documents and other information. The dispute is expected to go to trial on December 3, unless a settlement is reached prior to trial.

THE BULLETIN BOARD – Updates from your neighborhood schools

Contributors: Laura Miller, Claire Pak, Brenda Quinlisk, and Megan Virga

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. We're delighted to announce that we're teaming up to give *Bugle* readers a one-stop summary of what's going on with **YOUR neighborhood elementary schools**. Whether or not you have a past, present, or future pupil, as neighbors and property owners, you share in the success of our community's schools.

NEWS FROM THE FOREST

We're very pleased that Mrs. KIMBERLY ROGERS, Acting Principal last year, has returned as our official principal. She is keen to cultivate nurturing relationships with our community, and hopes neighbors will stop in to visit or volunteer! Meanwhile, our fall fundraiser with Lavender's is underway, so if young neighbors come to you bearing catalogues, know that any orders you place will support a worthy cause. Speaking of support, we thank our 2014-2015 "Community Sponsors" for their generous support of our PTA: LILLA HAMMOND, TIM HORST, and ROBERTS OXYGEN, Long & Foster, PAULETTE LADAS, Re/MAX.

NEWS FROM BEL PRE & STRATHMORE:

TIVINIA NELSON, long-time Assistant Principal for both Bel Pre and Strathmore, has been named Acting Principal at Strathmore Elementary, and the PTA is delighted to continue to work with her. Mrs. NELSON encourages parent involvement. At our recent PTA meeting, she reminded parents that her door is always open to parents and families. We're also VERY excited about the beautiful new Bel Pre School! Principal CARMEN VANZUTPHEN wishes to thank all community members who came to visit and tour Bel Pre during the Community Celebration on October 16. Finally, the BPSPTA thanks PAULETTE LADAS, whose very generous contribution made the delicious refreshments and beautiful decorations possible.

- 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.

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.

See you at school!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Georgian Forest ES PTA

School phone: 301-460-2170

Bel Pre Strathmore PTA

Bel Pre: 301 460 2145

Strathmore: 301 460 2135

PTA website: <https://sites.google.com/site/gfespta/>

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

Like our PTA on Facebook! Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/123760599438/>



© Gabriella Wright, CPP

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 29 – GFES Spirit Night Jerry's (Aspen Hill) 5-8pm

November 10 & 11 – Book Fair GFES*

November 10-15 – Book Fair at Bel Pre & Strathmore*

November 13 – GFES Spirit Night Sole d'Italia 5-10pm

November 20 – GFES Fall Family Night*

December 12 – Family Dance Night Strathmore

December 18 – BPS Spirit Night Boston Market

Stay tuned for a winter Spirit Night at Lee's Kitchen, and Family Bingo Night at Bel Pre!

* = Volunteers needed – SSL Opportunity

GFES SSL Coordinator: Megan Virga
(megancv@gmail.com)

BPSPTA SSL Coordinator: Laura Miller
(lilansky@aol.com)

September

Montgomery County Civic Federation (MCCF) – Deer Management

The MCCF September program focused on strategies for managing the County's white tail deer population. MIKE RILEY, Director of the Montgomery County Department of Parks, and GEORGE TIMKO from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources were among the presenters. The program covered a variety of strategies for dealing with the size of the deer population.

The County has substantial numbers of residents on the side of protecting deer at all costs, and an equally large number who believe the County needs to reduce the deer herd to more sustainable levels. Sentiment also is increasingly in favor of reducing the number of deer in urban/residential areas because of deer damage to foliage, plants, etc., as well as collisions with cars.

The Park Service representatives recognize that something must be done, yet they envision extensive studies and planning first, because of the complexity of the subject and various interests with strong views that must be considered. It was pointed out that the deer problem has been growing for more than 20 years and that a plan previously had been developed.



The Div. of Natural Resources and the Parks Dept. are tracking complaints and accidents. In 2013-2014 3K to 5K in costs. 85% of deer/car collisions are in urban zones. Some mitigation techniques, such as raising fences from 6 to 8 feet (the County regulation is 6 feet for fences) and establishing passageways away from roads, have been used in areas like the ICC.

State Farm Insurance reports that there were about 1.09 million deer vehicle collisions from June 2010 to June 2011 with average property damage of more than \$3,000 per accident. Deer also create a billion or so dollars in agricultural damage, and also carry ticks that spread Lyme disease. With their voracious chomping, "ghost forests", particularly in the Northeast, have been created

On the bright side, one presenter observed . . . "the bears remain in Frederick County." Maryland's Department of Natural Resources considers suburban areas to be the biggest challenges with the number of deer continuing to increase in populated areas. Among options to manage the deer population are fertility control, repellants and deer resistant plants.



A Citizens Guide to Safe Bow and Arrow Hunting, indicates that the deer population can exceed 400 animals per square mile in some suburbs, while the carrying capacity of the land is about 40 animals per square mile. Additional information is available on the Department of Natural Resources website: www.dnr.statemd.us or by telephone at 1-877-620-8DNR between 8 AM and 5 PM M-F.

- Continued on page 20 -

Gleanings from Meetings

(continued from page 19)

September Meeting

School Board Challengers

On September 30, 2014, the Montgomery County Taxpayers League, the Montgomery County Civic Federation and the Parents Coalition of Montgomery County jointly sponsored a forum for the challengers in the School Board elections to present themselves and their positions. Present at the forum were: SHEBRA EVANS and JILL ORTMAN-FOUSE, the two At Large Candidates (no incumbent), KRISTIN TRIBLE for District One (opposing incumbent JUDY DOCCA), LAURIE HALVERSON for District 3 (opposing incumbent PATRICIA O'NEILL) and LARRY E. EDMONDS for District 5 (opposing MIKE DURSO).

State Maintenance of Effort Law – Yes or No?

The challengers were asked about the State Maintenance of Effort (MOE) law. LARRY EDMONDS supported the MOE requirement and said that budget should/could be increased. SHEBRA EVANS noted the MOE was established to protect the budget and add resources for poor students. KRISTIN TRIBLE indicated that MOE was established to insure that payments were maintained. LAURIE HALVERSON suggested that MOE was an example of a policy getting in the way of sound budget planning and that she would prefer another approach. She noted that MOE was established because Baltimore was offsetting its budget with State funds for its schools.

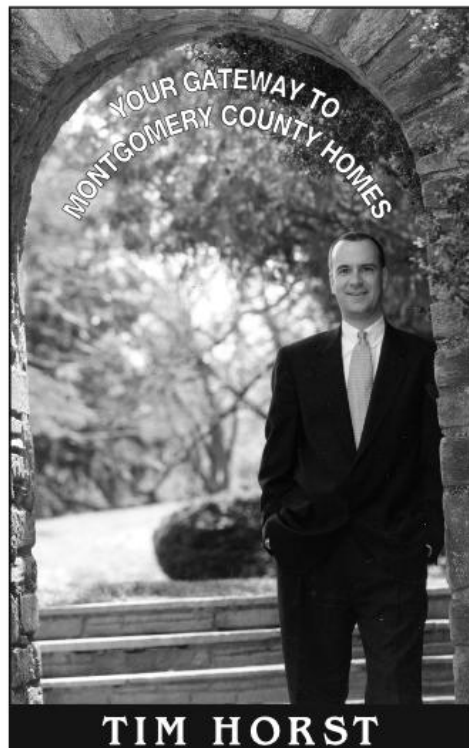
A Board of Education Inspector General and/or a Fraud and Abuse Hotline?

Considering the MCPS budget is \$2.3 billion, should an Inspector General (IG) be hired to report to the Board of Education? LARRY EDMONDS supported the idea of an outside auditor, and KRISTIN TRIBLE advocated for a fraud and abuse "hotline", but did not want an additional "executive" with a high salary to be a by-product of such an initiative. She believed that the School Board needed to raise hard questions with the MCPS leaders. JILL ORTMAN-FOUSE recommended the hotline idea as well as the Inspector General to insure that funds were being used effectively and efficiently. LAURIE HALVERSON supported the proposal for having an IG to help tighten controls and audit credit card usage as well as a hotline. SHEBRA EVANS preferred a fiscal management committee in lieu of an IG and said the system already had a hotline.

- Continued on page 21

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neighborhood for
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The Achievement Gap – Budgets and Measures of its Reduction

KRISTIN TRIBLE preferred giving more discretion to principals and supporting them and leadership teams to improve student performance. JILL ORTMAN-FOUSE recommended flexibility for individual school leaders and allowing principals discretion among funding categories. LAURIE HALVERSON pointed out that the system lacked good measures of effectiveness. SHEBRA EVANS suggested putting funds and the focus on teachers and their professional and cultural competencies. LARRY EDMONDS would spend as much money as possible on the achievement gap and bring in African American and Latino teachers with particular attention to young male teachers.

Closed MCPS Budget Discussions held by the Board of Education

The challengers were queried regarding the “secret” budget discussions held by the Board of Education. JILL ORTMAN-FOUSE said all information should be available. She felt that if budget discussions and other issues were more open, it might be possible to engage the numerous experts and other talented people in the County in addressing and solving problems in the schools. LAURIE HALVERSON referenced the role of the unions in internal discussions and allowed as how there may be private discussions regarding salaries, for example, but that the School Board should be included at appropriate points. LARRY EDMONDS preferred open meetings and discussions; however, he suggested that if lawyers were involved in seeking a higher percentage of State aid to Montgomery County schools, there may be a reason for holding private discussions.

Transparency with School Budgets?

LAURIE HALVERSON would like to see more transparency with school budget information online/a website and even data about grades. SHEBRA EVANS suggested having data for several years for comparison instead of just one. Additionally, she said what is online is a projection but not the final budget. “Maybe 3 to 5 years’ worth of data would be helpful.” LARRY EDMONDS was of the opinion that individual salaries should not be provided and that teachers’ salaries were not adequate. KRISTIN TRIBLE supports an open budget, and JILL ORTMAN-FOUSE noted that you cannot get data about individual class sizes, only averages. KRISTIN TRIBLE believes that the MCPS budget should be readily available.

Teacher Salaries

LAURIE HALVERSON mentioned the difficulty of collaborating with officials in Annapolis and that Montgomery County teachers receive 15 to 20% more in salary compared to their counterparts in Howard and Fairfax Counties. LARRY EDMONDS said he believes that teachers deserve high pay. KRISTIN TRIBLE said she would not agree with a system for pay based on student test scores. JILL ORTMAN-FOUSE said they are already looking into teacher pay for the next three years and pointed out that teachers need substantial assistance in working with children who have special needs. With qualifiers, LAURIE HALVERSON would consider more training for teachers regarding merit pay. LARRY EDMONDS believes teachers deserve high pay and would not link a percentage of pay to performance without much more data. SHEBRA EVANS considers teachers’ jobs important and advocates for having the best teachers. She is against pay for performance.



School Board Incumbents

Information about the current incumbents can be found on their campaign websites:

Judy Docca District 1 - <http://judydocca4kids.com/>

Pat O'Neill District 3 - <http://www.patoneill.org/>

Mike Durso District 5 - <https://www.facebook.com/durso4boe>

Cubs Scouts Pack 763

by Jackie Fary-Moeller

Cub Scout Pack 763 was started a few years ago to support Strathmore, Bel Pre, and Brookhaven Elementary Schools, and recently has grown to include Georgian Forest and Harmony Hills.

The pack is led by Cubmaster BILL TOTTON, with sponsorship by the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association.

The pack meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 3820 Aspen Hill Road (the church in between Giant and the pet cemetery), from 7 to 8:30 pm. Questions and inquiries can be directed to Cubmaster BILL TOTTON at wandst@juno.com, or 301-871-3388.



Cub Scout Pack 763 at the 2014 July 4th parade!

Dolphins' Winning Season

(continued from page 9)

B-meet Swimmers of the Year:

WINSTON MILLER (boys)
KAYLA GEARY (girls)

Swimmers of the Year (overall high-points award):

IAN VIRGA (boys)
OLIVIA MILLER and LAUREN HILL (tie-girls)

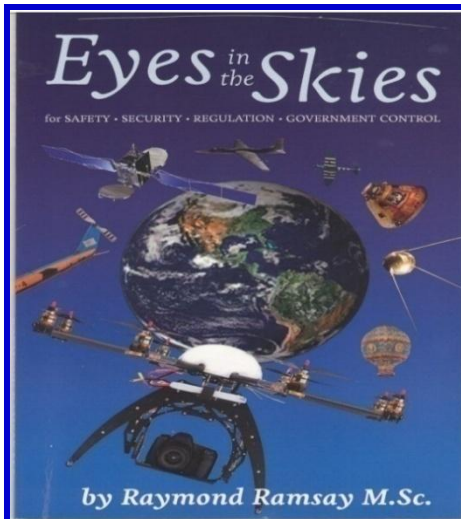


Special congratulations to senior Dolphin MORGAN HILL. You might recognize MORGAN's name; she is a long-time Dolphins swimmer and holds many team, pool, and league records. MORGAN was recently named to USA Swimming's National Junior Team, as one of only 6 female swimmers in the 50M Freestyle event. We are all thrilled for MORGAN, and we can't wait to see what she does in the pool this winter!

Finally, a big THANK YOU to our wonderful neighbors and friends. You continue to support our team and our children in so many ways, and we're proud to represent this amazing community in the pool and out. We can't wait 'til summer!

July 4th Celebration

An Article about the Celebration will appear in the Winter 2015 Bugle



Eyes in the Skies

A new book on aerial surveillance by local author Ray Ramsay, former Director of the U.S. Navy, Naval Sea Systems Command, Office of Maritime Affairs & Shipbuilding Technology.

The 56-page book is available for \$12.95 plus \$5 for shipping from the author at 13924 Blair Stone Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20906.

50 Plus Club Meetings

by Maury Potosky

The 50 Plus Club met over the summer at the swimming pool pavilion for several meetings. The club also attended Toby's Dinner Theatre for the musical **Memphis**. A great time was had by all. Our next meeting in October was at the POTOSKY home and will be followed by a Sunday afternoon December 14 meeting at the home of BOB and ARLENE WISETH. At that meeting we will view their holiday display of a small town with lights and trains.

In November we will go to the Fitzgerald Theater in Rockville for the winter concert of the Rockville Concert Band on the afternoon of Sunday November 23 followed by the concert of the Rockville Chorus on Sunday evening. We are planning additional activities for the winter and early spring.

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.



GETTING CONTROL OF YOUR PAPER FLOW..A FEW TIPS!

Is your desk or counter top attracting papers? Sometimes the paper piles can seem uncontrollable. Here are a few tips from Elizabeth Mayhew of *Real Simple* magazine:

Establish a system for organizing mail: 1) Designate an in-box for the mail - big enough to hold a week's worth of papers, but no more, so you can't let things pile up. 2) Deal with mail when you get it. Throw away junk mail before taking your coat off. Put catalogs and magazines in a separate basket to go through later and put mail in your in-box. 3) Keep a large wastebasket near your in-box. Getting rid of bulk makes the paper you have to deal with less intimidating. 4) Pick a regular time to sort through your in-box. Whether it's one hour a week, or a couple minutes a day, pick a schedule that fits your lifestyle and stick to it.

Types of mail: 1) Invitations - decide quickly if you will attend, mark invitation once you have replied, put the invitation in a visible place, put the date in your calendar right away and toss the invitation after the event. 2) Bills—use a portable filing system. Keep everything you need together: checkbook, stamps, and a pen in your organizer. Choose a labeling system that works for you. Pay the bills daily or use a weekly system. Once bills are paid, move them to a file cabinet or storage box.

Stop junk mail: 1) The Credit Reporting Industry Pre-Screening Opt-Out hotline (888-567-8688) removes your contact information from four major credit bureau lists for pre-approved credit card solicitations. 2) Contact your bank and credit-card companies to make sure your name is removed from shared mailing lists.



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For more information about the market and what it means for you, call Lilla!





NEW HOURS!!!

As of October 5th, the Aspen Hill Library is open mornings, evenings, and SUNDAYS!!!



The hours:

Monday through Thursday 10 am to 8 pm
Friday and Saturday 10 am to 6 pm
Sunday 1 pm to 5 pm

4407 Aspen Hill Road
240-773-9410

This is the first time in its 47 years of existence, that the Aspen Hill Library is open on Sundays! WOW!

Fall Book Sale – November 15

10 am to 4 pm Community Room

The Aspen Hill Friends Fall Book Sale on November 15, 2014 promises to be chock full of books, CDs, and puzzles. With plenty of good books at bargain prices, you can shop to your heart's content. Shop for yourself, for your family, and, of course, for the holidays.

Books are arranged in some 35 categories such as Reference, Cookbooks, Travel, Math, Religion, Business, History, and of course, 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

Contact the Friends, then donate!

Sunday Movie Matinees! NEW

January 11 and February 22 at 2 pm

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

Chinese Lunar New Year

Watch for updates about the Lion Dancers performance at the Library in February 2015, celebrating the Chinese Lunar New Year. The date will be published on the Civic Association Listserve