

# The Bugle

Published by the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association

May 2020

[www.strathmorebelpre.org](http://www.strathmorebelpre.org)



vol. 52 #2

## Annual Yard Sale, Dolphin Dash Postponed



Due to the COVID-19 outbreak:

**39<sup>th</sup> annual Summer Market and Yard Sale** rescheduled to Saturday, **September 12**.

**6<sup>th</sup> annual Dolphin Dash 5K** rescheduled to the fall.

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Spring Thing** was been cancelled, as has the **May 30 Movie Night**.

Meetings of the Bel Pre Recreational Association Board of Trustees and the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association Board of Directors are by teleconference. School Board candidates forums have been postponed to the fall. All of our public schools, libraries and recreation centers have been closed since March 16. Community events and gatherings of more than 10 people have also been prohibited by the Governor since March 16.



### Will the pool open on May 23?

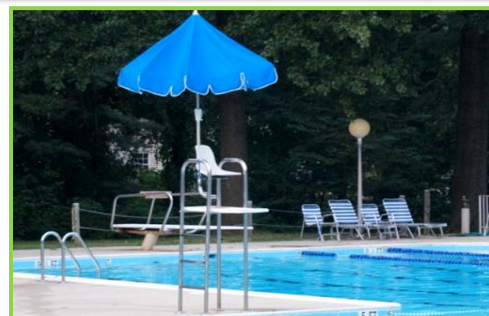
As this issue of *The Bugle* goes to press, we don't know the answer to that question. The Governor has set out a 3-stage plan for re-opening activities in the State, that might make it possible to open our community's pool on time, provided the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (which licenses all community pools in the County) is OK with us going forward. So many IFs to enable us to arrive at a **May 23** opening.

### We push on

Despite all these uncertainties, our community pushes on.

This issue of *The Bugle* is devoted to everyone in and around our community who has found a way to help – in big ways or small ways. Thank you!

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# THE BUGLE

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## Civic Association

P.O. Box 6836, Aspen Hill, MD 20916  
Annual SBPCA membership: \$18.00  
Web site: [www.strathmorebelpre.org](http://www.strathmorebelpre.org)

The SBPCA is a voluntary association, funded by membership dues, that sponsors and participates in many community and local programs; and also represents our community to County Government and various groups such as the Montgomery County Civic Federation and the Glenmont Exchange. The SBPCA also sponsors Boy Scout Troop/Cub Scout Pack 763.

Additionally, the SBPCA publishes *The Bugle*, organizes the annual Summer Market & Yard Sale, the 4th of July festivities; and (in conjunction with the Recreational Association) the Summer Entertainment Series, the Public Affairs Forum series (generally held during the summer), and the yearly community-wide Town Hall meeting, held in December.

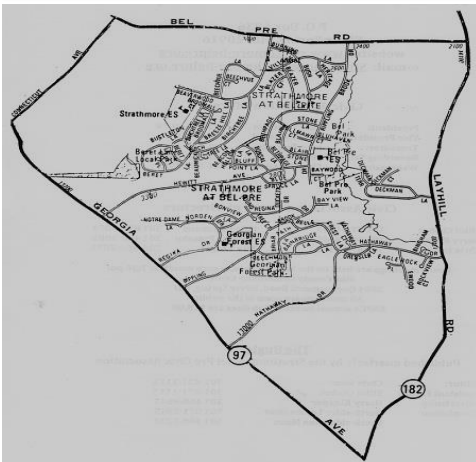
The SBPCA Board of Directors normally meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Mid-County Community Recreation Center on Queensguard Road. The Civic Association's annual meeting is in November just before the BPRA annual meeting.

### Civic Association Officers

President:	NANCY BECHTOL	301 871-3679	Secretary:	LINDA BEA	301 460-0497
Vice President:	BILL HAMMOND	301 871-5074	Treasurer:	JOHN BOGASKY	301 460-1604

### Civic Association Directors

ELLIOT CHABOT	301 871-1113	CHRIS SWAN	301 871-1113	vacant
LILLA HAMMOND	301 871-5074	RITA VAUGHT	206 406-2871	



Strathmore Bel Pre Street map

**Strathmore Bel Pre Community listserv:** To join the listserv, contact JOHN BOGASKY.

**Website:** The Civic and Rec Associations have a joint website, maintained by the Civic Association. For more information, contact BILLY RUPPERT.

**Public Affairs Forums:** Contact NANCY BECHTOL.

**Community Directory and Summer Market & Yard Sale:** Contact LINDA BEA.

**July 4<sup>th</sup> Activities:** Contact LILLA HAMMOND.

# Bel Pre Recreational Association

The Bel Pre Recreational Association (BPRA) is the homeowners' association for most of the Strathmore at Bel Pre properties. The BPRA runs our community's pool, tennis courts, volleyball court, playgrounds, picnic areas, bath house, snack bar, and pavilion, which normally are open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. The tennis courts are open year round.

BPRA Board and committee meetings are announced at <http://strathmorebelpre.org/meetings>. Board meetings are normally the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, at the Bel Pre Elementary School, room 161 or 138, from October to May, or at the Pool pavilion, from June to September.

The annual General Membership meeting is normally held on the Thursday before Thanksgiving Day at 7:30 pm, at Strathmore Elementary School. The annual Town Hall meeting, presented with the Civic Association, is normally held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of December, at 8 pm, at Strathmore Elementary School.

Correspondence can be sent to the BPRA at P.O. Box 6370, Aspen Hill, MD 20916-6370.

## Bel Pre Recreational Association Board of Trustees

KAREN PURDY (President)	301 603-9604	<a href="mailto:klpurdy@hotmail.com">klpurdy@hotmail.com</a>
MARK FORAKER (Vice President)	301 460-0632	<a href="mailto:mark4aker@hotmail.com">mark4aker@hotmail.com</a>
DAVE PULLEN (Treasurer)	301 598-2521	<a href="mailto:Dave_pullen@outlook.com">Dave_pullen@outlook.com</a>
CHRIS SWAN (Secretary)	301 871-1113	<a href="mailto:cswan@usa.net">cswan@usa.net</a>
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GREG MILLER	301 871-9412	<a href="mailto:winstonhen@aol.com">winstonhen@aol.com</a>
BILLY RUPPERT	301 332-4901	<a href="mailto:billyruppert@gmail.com">billyruppert@gmail.com</a>
LARRY VAUGHT	240 558-3814	<a href="mailto:l.vaught@comcast.net">l.vaught@comcast.net</a>



## Bel Pre Recreational Association Officials

Administrative Assistant	BRENDA HENRY	301 871-6298
Audit Coordinator	MARK FORAKER	<a href="mailto:mark4aker@hotmail.com">mark4aker@hotmail.com</a>
Block Party & Spring Thing Coordinator	vacant	
Emergency Response & Planning Committee Chair	NANCY BECHTOL	301 871-3679
Entertainment & Recreation Committee Chair	CHRIS SWAN	301 871-1113
Finance Committee Chair	DAVE PULLEN	<a href="mailto:treasurer4bpri@gmail.com">treasurer4bpri@gmail.com</a>
Governing Documents Committee Chair	ELLIOT CHABOT	301 871-1113
Grounds and Landscaping Coordinator	TED BECHTOL	301 871-3679
Long Term Planning Committee Chair	KAREN PURDY	301 603-9604
Mapmaster	PAUL SPELMAN	240 447-7758
Neighborhood Dispute Resolution Committee Chair	vacant	
New Member Recruitment Coordinator	vacant	
Nominating Committee Chair	MARK FORAKER	<a href="mailto:mark4aker@hotmail.com">mark4aker@hotmail.com</a>
Overdue Collections Coordinator	DAVE PULLEN	<a href="mailto:treasurer4bpri@gmail.com">treasurer4bpri@gmail.com</a>
Pavilion Scheduler	LOUISA HOAR	301 871-2954
Pet Waste Station Coordinator	JACKIE FARY-MOELLER	<a href="mailto:jfarymoeller@aspengroves.com">jfarymoeller@aspengroves.com</a>
Pool and Recreational Facilities Committee Chair	GREG MILLER	301 871-9412
Pool Pass Coordinator	LOUISA HOAR	301 871-2954
Tennis Court Keys Distributor	LOUISA HOAR	301 871-2954
Tennis Courts Committee Chair	vacant	
Trunk or Treat Coordinator	ELIZABETH KOMINSKI	<a href="mailto:elizabethinfo@gmail.com">elizabethinfo@gmail.com</a>
Webmaster	BILLY RUPPERT	301 332-4901



# The President's Corner

by Nancy Bechtol

President, Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association

## Fall Market and Yard Sale? (planned for September 12)

This has been a spring season like no other in our lifetime. I never thought I would be writing an article for *The Bugle* while stuck in my home for weeks on end due to a pandemic. Just about everything in our lives has been turned upside down. Of course our neighborhood plans for spring and at least early summer are included in this disruption. We have moved and renamed (for this year only) our Summer Market & Yard Sale, originally to be held on May 30th. For almost 40 years we have hosted a Yard Sale in the pool parking area. We hope to hold our **Fall Market and Yard Sale** in the Fall on **September 12**, in the pool parking lot. We have time to finalize these plans later, after we see how everything evolves. More news in the June *Bugle* edition, and on the Listserv and our Website.



Birthday Bunny Visit

It has been heartwarming to see our neighbors helping neighbors! Folks on our listserv are matching up families-in-need with families willing to offer any help needed. Fun vehicle parades have been organized to celebrate children's birthdays and special anniversaries (Happy 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary to the RUPPERTS!). Special homemade delicious food was prepared by one neighbor and delivered to others in need, by other neighbors. Our neighborhood has been alive with generosity and creativity in this crisis, with neighbors caring for neighbors. In many ways, it is a good time to live in this neighborhood!

## Later Summer Activities

The Board has decided to cancel our first movie night, scheduled for **May 30**. At this point we are hoping to have our later summer events as scheduled, starting with the first music concert on **June 20<sup>th</sup>**, our **July 4<sup>th</sup>** parade, and the Saturday night movies and Summer Concerts, IF we can host group activities by then. We know our events might need to change because of this virus. Yet, we hope we can find a way to maintain social distancing and still host some summer activities.

## Membership is Up: Board Members and Talent needed

I am very happy to report that our membership drive, run jointly with the Rec Association dues collection this spring, was very successful. We have an increase in our membership! We are happy to expand our Board membership and encourage you to join us, and add your talents and skills to our neighborhood. Please let any of us know if you are interested in helping or have an idea, we are always eager to meet you and discuss your ideas.

## Keep Well

Many longstanding traditions have been cancelled this year because of the COVID-19 virus. It is very important we follow Maryland's stay-at-home orders to save lives, which can be difficult. The health and well-being of everyone in our neighborhood is what is most important. If we must stay-at-home, to guarantee our health, then that is what we must do.

I look forward to seeing everyone from a social distance this summer, on our beautiful trails or at the pool, if allowed. Wishing everyone health and well-being through this crisis, please be well.



Motor Driven Band (featuring Paul Stagnitto!)

# Bel Pre Recreational News

by Karen Purdy

President, Bel Pre Recreational Association

As I write this, we are several weeks into distance learning, social distancing, and the Governor's stay at home order. We are adjusting to the new normal and trying to figure out what the future holds. It is a difficult and uncertain time, yet I have seen so many instances of our community coming together to support one another and lift each other's spirits, whether it be through delivering food to neighbors, organizing (social distanced) birthday parades and scavengers hunts, checking in on neighbors, sending an encouraging message or idea for a fun activity to neighbors through the Swim Team or Community listservs or bringing smiles to our faces with a neighborhood tour by a dancing Easter Bunny.



## Community Members Are Here to Help

If you are in need of assistance – meals, food, supplies, someone to talk to on the phone or via video – or know a neighbor that could use support during this time, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any BPRA, Civic Association, or Swim Team Board member. There are many community members willing to provide assistance and we can help connect those in need to those able to help.



## COVID-19 and Our Summer?

The BPRA Board is staying informed on required closures, cancellations, and delays that impact our associations and facilities. While it will be some time before we know how the pool season will be impacted, we are proceeding with our typical spring maintenance, repairs, and pool opening preparations as though the pool will open on time (noon on **May 23**). Any changes to the pool opening date will be communicated on StrathmoreBelPre.org and through both the Community and Swim Team listservs. Signs also will be posted at the pool.

## Calendar Changes so Far (due to the current COVID-19 situation)

- **May 9, The Spring Thing**, including Shred-It, has been canceled.
  - IF the event is rescheduled, the BPRA and Civic Association will publish a new date.
- **May 25, The Dolphin Dash 5K**, has been postponed until later.
  - The new date will be established sometime this summer.
- **May 30, The Summer Market and Yard Sale** has been rescheduled for Saturday, **September 12**
  - Now temporarily named the **Fall Market and Yard Sale**.
- **May 30, The First Summer Movie**, has been canceled.



While the BPRA and Civic Association currently have a host of other fun summer activities planned, including movies and concerts at the pool and the **Fourth of July** parade, the calendar will continue to evolve based on the COVID-19 situation. Calendar changes will be communicated on StrathmoreBelPre.org and through both the Community and Swim Team listservs.

– Continued on page 6 –

*The Bugle* May 2020



## Pool Opening and Hours (Please see StrathmoreBelPre.org for updates)

As of this writing, the COVID-19 situation is still evolving and we do not have sufficient information or guidance to definitively set a pool opening date. IF the pool opens on time, hours will be as follows:



**May 23, May 24:** noon to 9 pm

**May 25 (Memorial Day):** noon to 8 pm

**May 26 to June 15\***

Monday through Thursday: 3 pm to 8pm

Friday: 3 pm to 9pm

Saturday: noon to 9 pm

Sunday: noon to 8 pm

**June 16\* to August 30**

July 4: noon to 6 pm

All other days: noon to 9 pm

**August 31 to September 3:** 3 pm to 8 pm

**September 4:** 3 pm to 9 pm

**September 5 to 7 (Labor Day):** noon to 9 pm

**\*Dates** are based on the current last day of Montgomery County Public Schools, and are subject to change based on the school calendar.

## Changes to Pool Hours

Change will be announced via signs posted at the pool, on StrathmoreBelPre.org, and through both the Community and Swim Team Listservs.

## Pool Passes

The BPRA provides two options for pool access, Season Passes and Household membership.

**Season Passes:** if you selected "Season Passes" when you paid your annual assessment, you will receive 2 season passes in the mail before the pool opens. You must bring your pass (one per person) to the front desk to check in each time you visit the pool.

**Household:** if you selected "Household", did not select an option, or did not return the annual assessment form when you paid your assessment, you will be assigned a "Household" membership. To access the pool with a Household membership, you must have a current BPRA census form, listing all residents of your household and including a recent photo of all members listed, on file at the pool. Pool staff will check the photo rolodex for your information as you check in at the pool. Household memberships without appropriate information on file will be denied access to the pool until the information is provided.

## New Residents

If you are a new resident or have signed up for the Household membership for the first time and have not received a census form to fill out by mid-May, please contact the BPRA's Pool Pass Coordinator, LOUISA HOAR at (301) 871-2954.

Please note, that if you have not paid your Annual Assessment or if your account is otherwise in arrears, you may not use the pool or other common property.

– Continued on page 14 –



# Strathmore Bel Pre Dolphins News

by Claire Pak

Secretary, SBP Dolphins

We hope that this issue finds you all healthy and well. And after a long quarantine, we're sure that the question uppermost in your minds is "What about the Dolphins? What about the swim season?"

The short answer is that we're not quite sure yet. We know that the Dolphin Dash will not take place on Memorial Day this year, but this is just a postponement, not a cancellation. We expect to hold the event sometime during the autumn—more details will follow.



## Three Season Scenarios

As of this writing, the Prince Mont Swim League (PMSL) plans to proceed with the 2020 season, which is very good news. What that season will look like is still to be determined. Several teams have already cancelled their seasons, which means that the league will need to reshuffle the divisions. For all of the other teams (including ours), season start dates will depend on when pools can open. Right now, we are planning for three possible scenarios:

- Full season, with practice beginning right after Memorial Day
- Abbreviated PMSL season, with three dual meets and Divisional championships (no All-Star meet)
- Intramural season, with practices, practice meets, and B meets

We hope to have more clarity by mid-May. Meanwhile, we are planning for the best case.

## Support Appreciated

If you are in a position to make a financial contribution to the team, we will be very grateful. Our children and teenagers have given up so much already and we hope that a summer of swimming will make up for this long period of isolation. Your support helps us to defray expenses, including coaches' salaries, league dues, software, equipment, and supplies. But if a financial contribution is not possible, we hope that you'll continue to cheer us on.

If you are able to make a contribution, our address is:

Strathmore Bel Pre Swim Team Association  
P.O. Box 9292, Aspen Hill, MD 20916-9292



## New to the Neighborhood ?

If you're new to the neighborhood, and you'd like to learn more about the team, please contact any member of the SBP Swim Team Association Board of Directors.

GREG MILLER	President
MIKE BEARMAN	Vice-President
CLAIRE PAK	Secretary
DENISE REYES	Treasurer
KAREN PURDY	"A" Meet Manager
TERRY KOMINSKI	Head Coach

winstonhen@aol.com  
mbearman@vecna.com  
claire0618@gmail.com  
casareyes1@gmail.com  
klpurdy@hotmail.com  
[mermade1967@aol.com](mailto:mermade1967@aol.com)

As always, we can't wait to see you at the pool!

# In Memoriam: Frank Corrigan

by Max Bronstein



FRANCIS "FRANK" CORRIGAN passed away on April 21 at age 82. He is survived by his wife, CAROLE, and son, DAVID. The CORRIGANS were original owners in Strathmore Bel Pre.

FRANK attended Providence College, Boston University, and George Washington University from which he received a doctorate. He also served at G.W.U. as an assistant professorial lecturer.

His area work career started at the U.S. Department of Education when it was part of Health, Education, and Welfare, and continued when Education was a separate department. At retirement, with 44 years of service, he was Deputy Director of the National Institute on Disability & Rehabilitation Research in the Department of Education.

Here in the Strathmore Bel Pre community, FRANK was an active community member. He was elected to the Bel Pre Recreational Association board for 1 term in 1978, became Vice-President in 1979, and then later, was elected to another term, where he served as President from 1984 to 1987. Frank joined the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association Board in 2008 and served through 2015. Frank served on the Governing Documents Committee of the Recreational Association from 2006 to 2007. He also wrote the "Gleanings from Meetings" column for *The Bugle*, from 2012 to 2015. While serving on the Civic Association Board, Frank was one of our community's representatives on the Montgomery County Civic Federation. FRANK was also an active member of the Montgomery County Taxpayers League.

FRANK was a very active member of St. Andrew the Apostle Church and served on the parish council. Also, he was a member of the team that recorded the church's charitable collections. In addition, he was very active as a hospice volunteer and often transported the sick to medical appointments.

I knew FRANK personally as a friend, a neighbor, and a fellow civic activist. To sum up, he very truly earned this description: a very quiet Good Samaritan, and a very fine gentleman. He most certainly will be missed.



**Meals on Wheels of Wheaton**



**We Can Help!**

Do you know someone who is home-bound? We deliver nutritious, freshly cooked meals in Leisure World, Silver Spring, Kensington & Wheaton.

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Kensington, MD 20895

[www.mowwheaton.org](http://www.mowwheaton.org)      **Volunteers Needed!**

*Award Winning*



# Scouts

by Jackie Fary-Moeller

One of the most popular events for our Cub Scouts is our annual trash clean-up along the Matthew Henson trail and along Bel Pre Creek. Not sure what they like best - using their outdoor voices, the mud, or the chance to purposely find really gross things. Unfortunately, all of the organized clean-up events were canceled for the month of April, because of COVID-19. Life (and trash) goes on, so we decided to each clean-up our own little corner of the world. Check out these Scouts in action!



◀ **Stonybrook Park looks much better thanks to Cub Scout EVAN RHOMAN and his big brother ALEX.**

**Eagle Scout BEN WEINER is at Strathmore Local Park, right next to the school** ➤



◀ **Cub Scout ISAAC VALENCIA is taking care of the Matthew Henson Trail.**



◀ **here is Cub Scout OSTEN PORTER picking up trash at his neighborhood park**



## Community I Spy: Rainbow Edition

by Christine Mueller

Have you been walking the neighborhood more these days? Have you spotted the rainbows? Families throughout the community have painted, constructed, and otherwise made visible in the front of their homes rainbows! As you take your daily walk see how many you can spot.

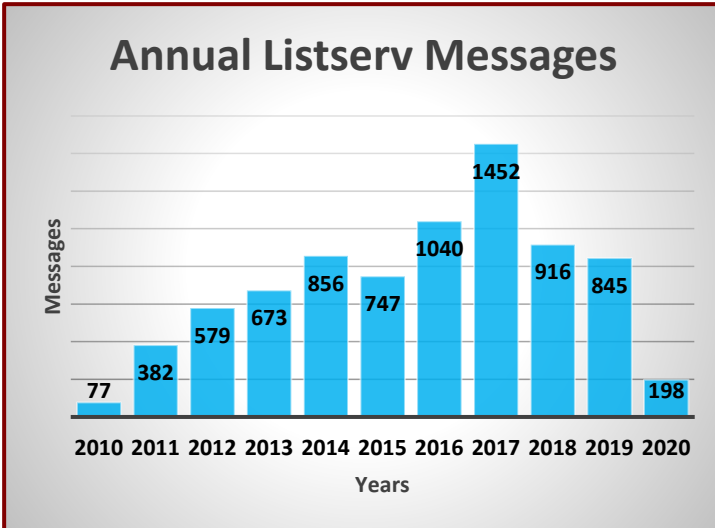
If you have not already made one, take a few minutes to construct a rainbow and make it visible for your neighbors to enjoy. As we all spend more time at home these days, it is important to bring a bit of color and happiness to our friends and family.

# 10 Years for the SBPcivic Listserv!

by John Bogasky

The Civic Association created the SBPcivic listserv in March of 2010. The goal was to offer our members a new way to communicate. Before the listserv, the community's communication channels were limited to *The Bugle*, the bulletin board at the pool (at least in the summer), and direct mail.

The first message was sent on March 17, 2010. It was from me about the Green Neighborhood Challenge, an effort to take advantage of lower rates for wind-based electricity back then. Listserv members can read that first message for themselves, as well as all 7,765 messages sent through April 8, 2020, on the listserv's home page at <https://groups.io/g/SBPcivic>.



At first, listserv messages grew steadily each year before stabilizing between 850 to 1,000 per year. 2017 was an outlier with over 1,452 messages. I looked back through the messages but did not see any one event that could explain that surge.

As of April 8, 2020, the SBP Civic listserv has 261 members. The number of members has been stable between 240 and 270 since 2014. Most, but not all, Civic Association members join the listserv.

Over time, the listserv has filled several communication niches in our community. A favorite of mine has been tips about

maintenance issues for our community's homes. It's such a useful and specialized service since we all live in similar homes. Where else could Civic Association members go for such information? To see what I mean, try searching our messages for "aluminum wiring", or for your home's model (e.g., "Judson"), on the message search page at <https://groups.io/g/SBPcivic/messages>. We now have 10 years of community wisdom accumulated on our Civic Association listserv.

The listserv is also a place where we sell our used items (or give them away). It's a place to share information about our community, be it gatherings (movies, Spring Fling, concerts, Summer Market), development projects (Kaiser Permanente, Glenmont Metro Center, the arrival of Aldi's and Lidl), meetings (BPRA, SBPCA, annual police talk at the pool), news (a tree falls on Layhill, car break-ins, crime reports), or just plain fun (local nature, birthdays, girl scout cookie sales), and so much more.

In 10 years, the listserv has grown to be an indispensable part of Civic Association membership. It's a key part of how we communicate, share, and help each other.

We look forward to the next 10 years!





# Nature's Solace

by Cecily Nabors

In the caves of pandemic isolation, we read books, played music, binge-watched, and found ways to be together while maintaining social distance. We did jigsaw puzzles, closet cleanouts, and garden clearing. We faced the trials of home schooling, working from home, and dealing with losses.



Many of us went to nature to calm our anxieties and restore our spirits. Spring continued to unfold, the goddess Flora scattering flowers with no thought of coronavirus. In our small neighborhood park, and on the Henson Trail, people smiled at each other as they passed on the boardwalk, while pickerel frogs uttered their grunting snores, robins searched the forest floor, and deer browsed. Northern watersnakes emerged from their cold sleeps to bask on warm rocks by the bridge.

Tiny spring beauties and rue anemones, our woodland ephemerals, glorified the woods amid the uncurling fronds of ferns. I even stopped fussing at the horribly invasive lesser celandine choking the creek banks; its bright yellow flowers gave a lift to the heart.



When I found this year's red-shouldered hawks' nest near Bel Pre Creek, it brought me great joy, as well as an added reassurance of a normal world.

Will we remember the solace of nature when we've survived this pandemic and emerged into a new normal?

This spring, our lives were upturned by a virus, an unthinking jumble of RNA. As we learn to counter the virus, can we remember the way we turned to the natural world, our refuge in stressful times? The lives of Earth's creatures are being altered by unthinking, or uncaring, humans. We can fix our virus problem pretty fast (by Earth standards) by keeping a turkey vulture's wingspan apart from each other, slowing the spread to buy time to make a vaccine. Can we fix our global warming problem as fast? The interactions of birds and bugs are becoming offset: added warmth means altered insect hatching during migration and nesting. Birds are less able than we to adjust to the world's new normal. We have to care enough to help.



Speaking of birds, an Eastern phoebe has returned to claim his territory near the bridge. Titmice and wrens are singing in woods and yards. Our front-yard mockingbird has found a mate and the yard resounds with song. And near Bel Pre Creek, the red-shouldered hawk is on her nest, a joy to see. The last time I saw her, she stood up, rearranged things, and settled down again. She called out (perhaps being more than ready for her mate to bring her a snack), but she stayed put, loyal to the next generation. She gives us a model of steward-ship, steadfastness, and hope. May we be as loyal to the next generations of the Earth.



# Barrie School



Now Enrolling  
for Fall 2020!

## Virtual Open House

*Learn about our programs from the  
comfort of your own home!*

**Saturday, April 25 | 10-11:30am**

- *Discover Montessori: 12 mos - Grade 5*
- *Project-Based Learning: Grades 6-12*

admission@barrie.org  
301.576.2800



Join us in 2020  
for a summer



June 15 to Aug 14

## Barrie Camp

Ages  
4-14



## Camp Open House

**Sunday, May 17  
1 to 3 pm**

April 19 has been cancelled.

camp@barrie.org  
301.576.2818

Registration now open! **barrie.org/camp**

13500 Layhill Road • Silver Spring, MD  
Minutes from the ICC & Glenmont Metro  
Bus Transportation & Extended Day Available

# barrie.org



# Notes from the Glenmont Exchange

by John Bogasky

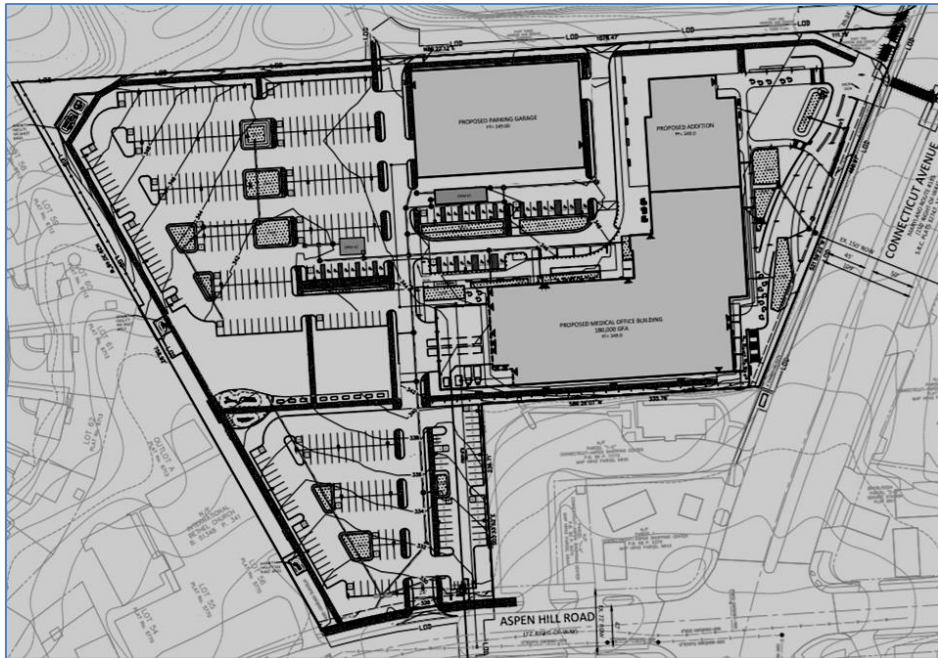
Since the last edition of *The Bugle*, Kaiser Permanente submitted new plans for their new health center at the Vitro site in Aspen Hill (next to Home Depot). You can review the site drawings and other application documents at these links:

- Preliminary Plan: <http://eplans.montgomeryplanning.org/daiclinks/pdodlinks.aspx?apno=120200130>
- Site Plan: <http://eplans.montgomeryplanning.org/daiclinks/pdodlinks.aspx?apno=82018007A>

A public hearing on these plans tentatively is scheduled for **June 25, 2020**.

Kaiser plans to tear down the entire Vitro building and build a new building closer to Connecticut Avenue, just behind the Dunkin Donuts store. The drawing mentions two phases. In Phase 2, Kaiser plans to expand the medical office building along Connecticut Ave. and build a parking garage at the back center of the lot fronting the Home Depot service road. You can see the planned configuration in this site drawing.

**Kaiser  
Permanente  
Site Plan**



The proposed parking garage at the top of the picture, and the office building addition immediately to its right, seem planned for Phase 2 of the project.

Kaiser will also install rain gardens that should vastly improve drainage on the parking lot. Kaiser will install a new traffic signal at Connecticut Avenue and Aspen Hill Road to assist pedestrians and vehicles crossing Connecticut Avenue.

The entrance along Aspen Hill Road will be restricted to employees and emergency vehicles, controlled by a gate. The main entrance will use the Connecticut Ave. driveway, shared with Home Depot. A new traffic signal is also planned for that entrance. Since the site is vacant today, any redevelopment will have some traffic impact. However, the traffic study submitted with the other plans conclude that redevelopment will result in “minor increases in delay and queue times” and that both planned phases “pass the Motor Vehicle Adequacy Test with signal timing optimization at the Connecticut Ave/Aspen Hill Rd. intersection.”

There are literally dozens of documents and hundreds of pages detailing plans for the site. Go to the links for an in-depth view of Kaiser’s redevelopment plans.



### Board Meeting Schedule

The BPRA Board will meet on the following dates in 2020:

**May 5, May 16** (10am, property walk-through\*)

**June 2, June 16** (if needed)

**July 7, July 21** (if needed)

**August 4, August 18** (if needed)

**September 1**

**September 12** (10 am, property walk-through\*)

**October 6, November 10, December 1**

(*\*if allowable per COVID-19 guidelines*)



Meetings are at 7:30 pm unless otherwise noted. If COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed and in person meetings are allowed, the Board will meet either at the pool (**June – September**) or at one of the local elementary schools (**October – May**.) As long as in person meetings are prohibited, the Board will meet via teleconference. Details will be posted on StrathmoreBelPre.org.

### Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting is currently scheduled for 7:30 pm on Thursday, **November 19**, 2020. The meeting location and any contingency plans will be published at a later date. Please see StrathmoreBelPre.org for updates.

– Continued on page 15 –

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## Bel Pre Recreational News (continued from page 14)

### Annual Assessments

Thank you to those members that have already paid your \$300 annual assessment!! **If you have not yet paid your annual assessment**, please contact BPRA Treasurer DAVE PULLEN at treasurer4bpri@gmail.com or (301) 598-2521, to arrange payment and confirm amount due.

### UnPaid Assessment Late Fees

Payments made after March 31 are subject to a \$30 late fee, 6% per annum (\$1.50/month) interest, and collection costs. Access to the pool and related facilities is not permitted for households with accounts in arrears. The BPRA is legally obligated to collect the annual assessment even if the pool does not open.



### Pavilion and Party Reservations

One of the great benefits of being a Bel Pre Recreational Association (BPRA) member is that you can reserve the use of the Pool Pavilion for free. While you do need to provide a \$50 security deposit in advance, it is refunded after you use the pavilion.

Please note:

- If you have any guests who are not BPRA members, you need to pay the regular guest fee (\$2 per person for weekdays, \$3 per person for weekends). Guest fees must be paid by the member and are not to be paid by any guest(s).
- Reservations generally are taken on a first come-first-served basis.
- Use of the pavilion or the pool with 10 or more guests normally requires approval at the monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees (normally the first Tuesday of the month).

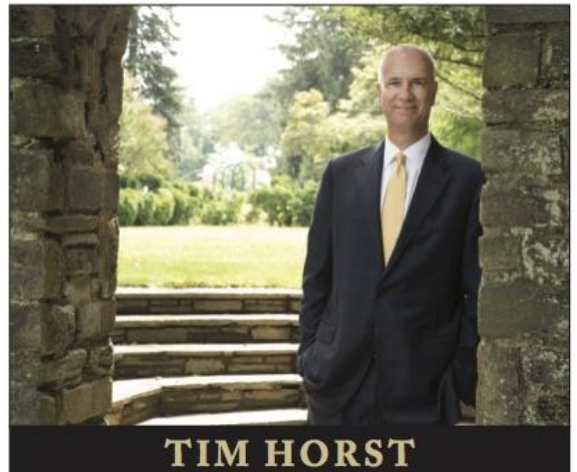
Now would be a good time to make your reservation! To reserve the pavilion or to have an event anywhere on the pool grounds, please contact LOUISA HOAR at (301) 871-2954.

– Continued on page 16 –

*The Bugle* May 2020

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# Bel Pre Recreational News

(continued from page 15)

## Volunteers

The BPRA is always looking for members interested in volunteering. If you are interested in serving on one of our committees or volunteering in some other way, please contact the appropriate committee chair listed on page 3 of this edition of *The Bugle* or contact me at [klpurdy@hotmail.com](mailto:klpurdy@hotmail.com)



## Future Board Members?

If you are interested on serving on the BRPA's Board of Trustees, please contact Nominating Committee Chair MARK Foraker at [mark4aker@hotmail.com](mailto:mark4aker@hotmail.com). He can answer any questions you may have about serving on the Board.

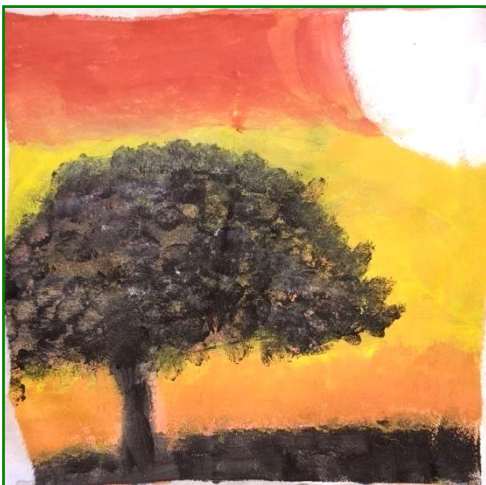


## Community Quilt by Sara Foraker

If you and/or your children need a creative outlet during the quarantine consider making a hand painted quilt square to become part of a community collaborative quilt. You can use old cotton t-shirts or dish towels (not textured terry cloth). For this project you will also need: Paint brushes, cardboard, masking tape, and any or all of the following: acrylic paint or fabric paint, permanent markers or fabric markers, stamps, tie dye supplies, or anything else that sparks your creativity!

**Instructions:** Cut out a square of fabric that is at least 7" x 7". Using masking tape, tape it down to a piece of cardboard, masking around a 6" x 6" square. This will be your painting/creative space. Within the square, you can draw, paint, stamp...express yourself! Allow to dry, and repeat! Make as many squares as you like and when we can get together again, we will sew them together and display the finished quilt somewhere in the community.

If you have any questions or ideas about the Quarantine Quilt Project please email SARA FORAKER at [nucleusartworks@gmail.com](mailto:nucleusartworks@gmail.com). Stay well and keep craftin' SBP!



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# How to Join the SBPcivic Listserv

by John Bogasky

## Civic Association members

Current members in good standing of the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association can join the SBPcivic listserv simply by sending an email to SBPcivic+subscribe@groups.io. In the email, please provide your name and street address so that we can verify your Civic Association membership.

## New Member of the Civic Association?

It appears that several BPRA community members became new Civic Association members by using the optional check-off option in this spring's BPRA Assessment mailing. If that describes you, please send your email today to join the SBPcivic listserv.

## Wish to Join the Civic Association?

If you did not join the Civic Association as part of the Civic and Rec joint dues mailing in March, it is not too late! You can join at any time simply by paying the Civic Association's modest \$18 per year membership dues. If you want to join, make your check out to SBPCA and mail it to SBPCA, PO Box 6836, Aspen Hill, MD 20916. If you have questions about the SBPcivic listserv, simply email me at johnbogasky@hotmail.com.

The listserv is our community resource, and it's a great resource, due to the contributions of so many Civic Association members. Thank you for your efforts and participation that make the listserv such an asset to our community.



Organizing a garage sale is one of the best ways to get rid of junk and earn some extra cash, but since most residents are under a **Stay-At-Home order** we have **the on-line garage sale!**

The very best place to host your on-line garage sale would be through your own virtual neighborhood, like **our local Listserv!**

Also try the apps: • **VarageSale** • **OfferUp** • **Facebook Marketplace** • **search for "Buy and Sell Items" + Your City**

Source: <https://www.womansday.com/life/work-money/a28188625/online-garage-sale-how-to/>

Real Estate Inventory is Low. This may be the perfect time to make a move!  
For more information, please call Lilla or Michael Hammond.



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# Resurfacing the Neighborhood

by Ben Hawley (photos by Charles Smith)

Our neighborhood streets are getting a new look, resurfacing. No doubt you have noticed the Montgomery County street repair vehicles working on our streets for the upcoming road resurfacing of the Georgian Forest area. This pavement system preservation project employs long-term strategies to preserve and enhance the physical and operating conditions of the roadway system.

## Background

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) Division of Highway Services (DHS) maintains nearly 5,200 lane miles of streets and highways in the county's transportation system. MCDOT concluded a complete condition inventory of all County roads, identifying and rating the condition of each. This new assessment survey, updated every two years, has enabled the development of county-wide roadway repair strategies based on a formula-based objective rating system.



resurfacing Bonview Lane

Overall, the pavement conditions in our community were generally rated as fair, with some areas described as needing more attention. This rating meets the criteria for the County's Residential Roadway Resurfacing Program, consisting of full-depth (base repair) patching followed by hot mix asphalt (HMA) overlay.

– Continued on page 20 –

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# Creativity while Quarantined in the SBP Community

by Sara Foraker

Staying inside and social distancing, especially on rainy days, can be pretty stressful with kiddos. The SBP community has found creative ways to stay busy during the quarantine to help keep kids and parents feeling good.

The KOMINSKI family organized the boisterous Birthday Parades to celebrate neighborhood kids who have to spend their special day at home.

They also invited the Easter Bunny (PHIL KOMINSKI) and Care Bear (MARK FORAKER) to travel around and greet everyone – at a safe distance, of course – bringing much needed music and joy to families on Easter Sunday. [Editor's note: on April 12, Governor HOGAN issued a proclamation designating the Easter Bunny as an "essential worker". No word yet on Care Bear's status.]



The HUFFINE-WRIGHT family organized a neighborhood scavenger hunt for kids and families that involved finding letters and spelling out a secret message. Many kids and parents were seen out walking, and biking around the neighborhood so they could de-code the message.

Sidewalk chalk "stained glass" can be seen decorating sidewalks and driveways, as well as beautiful hand painted rainbows in windows to keep passers by smiling.

Many thanks to all families who have helped to keep our creativity flowing and our spirits lifted!



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# Resurfacing the Neighborhood

(continued from page 18)

## Schedule

This project was scheduled to begin in the spring of 2020 and will take four to six weeks to complete, weather and other operational requirements permitting. Work hours will be between 7 am and 7 pm, Monday through Friday. Generally, the work will proceed as follows:

- ❖ **Conduct survey** - MCDOT inspectors identify areas of pavement that, prior to resurfacing, may require full depth patching or other marked by white paint.
- ❖ **Full-Depth Patching** - Full-depth patching restores the pavement's structural integrity and capacity to support vehicle loads. The areas of distressed pavement marked by the MCDOT inspectors are removed and replaced by new asphalt pavement. The final paving of the road will cover these patched areas.
- ❖ **Pavement milling** - Milling/grinding off the edges of the existing pavement allows the new pavement to match the level of the existing curbs, etc., and restores the proper roadway cross-section to improve ride-ability and drainage. The new pavement is intended to provide a smoother ride and assure positive drainage.
- ❖ **Paving with hot mix asphalt** - Asphalt delivered to the site in dump trucks. The hot material is transferred into the hopper of an asphalt paving machine such as the one depicted in the photo. The paving machine places the hot asphalt in a uniform thickness and compaction.
- ❖ **Replace roadway lane markings** – Permanent lane markings, if existing prior to paving, will be remarked shortly after all paving operations have been completed.



Bonview Lane

## IMPACTS

Access to residences should be available, however minor delays may be experienced as workers restrict traffic from freshly placed hot mix asphalt. Generally speaking, this work is best characterized as noisy and disruptive. MCDOT will take steps to mitigate any inconveniences.

### Parking Restrictions and Towing

Street paving will necessitate short-term parking restrictions. The intent is to maintain continuous traffic at all times utilizing lane closure or alternating one-way traffic patterns. However, minor traffic delays and brief daily road closures may be experienced as flaggers manually direct traffic safely through the construction zone. Signs will be posted identifying restrictions. Should the Police tow your vehicle, contact the police non-emergency number (301) 279-8000.

## Please note:

Paving, resurfacing and patching projects are seasonal activities, suspended from roughly November to March/April. Because of the COVID-19 event, current paving timeframes may slide into May.

For more information visit [https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-Highway/roadmaint/Pavement\\_Management/Residential/ResidentialResurfaingindex.html](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-Highway/roadmaint/Pavement_Management/Residential/ResidentialResurfaingindex.html).



# Aspen Hill Library News

by Elliot Chabot

## Libraries are Closed

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Aspen Hill Library – and all Montgomery County libraries – is closed indefinitely. On March 12, the County Government announced that all libraries (and recreation centers) would be closed effective Monday, March 16.

Originally scheduled to reopen on March 28, the County Executive (on March 25) extended the closures to April 24. On April 15, the Department of Public Libraries and the County Recreation Department announced that their facilities would now remain closed indefinitely.



## Keep Your Library Books – No Fines (for now)

The Library Department is asking that people not use the book drops to return books until the libraries reopen. All deadlines for holds and overdue books will be extended to a week after the libraries reopen.

## Aspen Hill Library cancelled programs and events include:

- Property Tax Workshop originally scheduled for March 22.
- The Aspen Hill Library Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for April 6.
- The Spring Used Book Sale scheduled for May 2. (The next book sale is scheduled for **October 24**).
- Knitting and Crocheting Club meetings on the first and third Fridays of each month (3 to 4:30 pm).



## Postponed Events

- School Board Candidates Forums (originally scheduled for March 12 and 26, then rescheduled for April 13) will be held in the fall, before the General Election.
- Annual General Membership meeting of the Friends of the Aspen Hill Library (originally scheduled for May 30) has been rescheduled to Saturday, **August 29**. The meeting will be held by teleconference. The annual luncheon has been cancelled.

## Operational Services



Though the Aspen Hill Library building (and all the other County libraries) is closed, these library services remain open to the public:

- ❖ **Ask-A-Librarian**, where you can get quick answers to brief questions from a real Librarian. This is available at <https://montgomerycountymd.libanswers.com> or by phone at (240) 777-0001.
- ❖ **Hoopla**, a web/mobile streaming platform with movies, music, e-books, audiobooks, and television.
- ❖ **Independent Overdrive E-Book Collection** (which replaces the CloudLibrary)
- ❖ **New York Times**, the full online edition, and associated blogs/guides.
- ❖ **Databases**. A collection of several hundred databases are available for free at <https://montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/az.php> with everything from *Consumer Reports* articles to the Alexander Street Jazz Library of over 11,000 albums to ACT/SAT prep courses.
- ❖ **Virtual Branch**. While all the brick-and-mortar branch libraries are closed, the County Library Department does have a “virtual branch” that is providing real-time storytimes, yoga classes, and much more. To access this, go to <https://mcpl.libnet.info/events?> And under “location” choose “virtual branch”.

## Future Events

- ❖ **Summer Reading** events and programming will happen, but may be virtual. It is too early to know.

## 2020 Summer Movies at the Pool

July 11	August 1	September 5
		
Sonic The Hedgehog	A Beautiful Day In The Neighborhood	Spider-Man: Far From Home

### This will be our 7<sup>th</sup> summer of movies at the pool!

Despite COVID-19, the Civic Association (SBPCA) plans to go ahead with our 2020 Summer Entertainment series with some adjustments. We plan to delay the first movie until **July 11<sup>th</sup>**, and plan only 3 movies this year given the shortened schedule. Our hope is that we will have made enough progress against COVID-19 by late June to hold the movies and concerts at the pool. Certainly, for the movies, there is room on our hillside for folks to spread out.

### Please Support our Movies and Concerts

The SBPCA's Saturday Movies and Summer Concerts are only possible thanks to the generous support of our sponsors. We recognize our 2019 sponsors below. Sponsor support pays for costs to license movies, hire performers, and maintain our equipment. **Please contact SBPCA Treasurer JOHN BOGASKY at [johnbogasky@hotmail.com](mailto:johnbogasky@hotmail.com) to join our sponsors.** Your support can help us sustain this SBP tradition.

### Summer Entertainment Sponsor Levels

SBP Superstar	\$500
Community Champion	\$250
Oscar Winner	\$100
Band Leader	\$50
Super Fan	\$25

## The SBP Civic Association Thanks Our 2019 Summer Entertainment Sponsors!!!

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### Community Champions

SBP Swim Team Association

### Oscar Winners

Chris Swan & Elliot Chabot

Susan Shannon

Mary Manders

Ted & Nancy Bechtol

Vicki Thomas & Pat Rayner

### Band Leaders

John & Shelly Bogasky

Charlotte & Maury Potosky

Larry & Rita Vaught

Linda & Charles Bea

Jo & Chris Jennison

Justin & Nicole Stone

Janet Kisler

And Our Host - The Bel Pre Recreational Association



# 2020 Strathmore Bel Pre Early Summer Calendar

~ May/June/July 2020 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>All dates are contingent due to COVID-19!!!</b>  Events struck-through indicate cancelled or rescheduled events.		<b>Pool Hours</b> <b>May 23-24</b> : noon to 9 <b>May 25</b> : noon to 8 <b>May 26-June 15</b> : M-Th 3-8; F 3-9, Sat noon-9, Sun noon-8	<b>Pool Hours</b> <b>June 16 to August 30</b> : Every day noon to 9 pm July 4: noon-6		<b>Pool Hours</b> <b>Aug 31 - Sep 3</b> : 3 pm to 8 pm <b>Sept 4</b> : 3 to 9 <b>Sept 5-7</b> : noon to 9 pm	<b>May 23</b> <b>Pool Opens at noon</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25 MEMORIAL DAY</b> No Pool Guest Fees  Dolphin Dash 5K Run will be rescheduled to the Fall	<b>26</b> Swim Team Swimmers Meeting  Civic Association Board teleconference	<b>27</b> Swim Team pm practices begin	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Swim Team Parents Meeting	<b>30</b> <del>Yard Sale</del> rescheduled to 9/12  <del>Movie Night</del> cancelled
<b>31</b>	<b>June 1</b> Swim team pm practices all week	<b>2</b> Rec. Association Board teleconference	<b>3</b> 	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Swim Team Ice Cream Social	<b>6</b> Swim Team Blue-White Meet
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Swim Team pm practices all week  AH Library Advisory Committee meeting	<b>9</b> 	<b>10</b> 	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Swim Team Pasta Party  No Swim Team am practice	<b>13</b> Swim Team A Meet
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>MCPS Last Day of School</b> Longer Pool Hours begin tomorrow	<b>16</b> Swim Team am practices begin  Swim Team Buddy Breakfast  Rec. Association Board meeting (if needed)	<b>17</b> Swim Team B Meet – Twinbrook @ SBP  	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Swim Team Pasta Party  No Swim Team pm practice	<b>20</b> Swim Team A Meet  <b>Music Concert:</b> Motor Driven Band (featuring PAUL STAGNITTO) 7-9
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 	<b>23</b> Swim Team Swimathon  Civic Association Board Meeting	<b>24</b> Swim Team B Meet – W. Laurel Swim Club @ SBP	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Swim Team Pasta Party  No Swim Team pm practice	<b>27</b> Swim Team A Meet  Swim Team Dolphin Dance
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 	<b>30</b> 	<b>July 1</b> 	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Memorial Meet 8:30 am  Swim Team Pasta Party  No Swim Team pm practice	<b>July 4<sup>th</sup>!</b> Pool open 12 noon to 6 pm No Pool Guest Fees  <b>Parade 11:30 am</b> <b>Entertainment 12:30</b> <b>Field Games 2:00</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 	<b>7</b> Rec. Association Board meeting	<b>8</b> Swim Team B Meet @ Norbeck Hills  	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Swim Team Pasta Party  No Swim Team pm Practice	<b>11</b> Swim Team A Meet  <b>Movie Night:</b> Sonic the Hedgehog
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Swim Team 8U Practice  Swim Team Divisionals Practice	<b>14</b> Swim Team 8U Practice  Swim Team Divisionals Practice	<b>15</b> Swim Team Jelly Bean Meet  Swim Team Divisionals & Last 8U Practice	<b>16</b> Swim Team Divisionals Practice am and pm	<b>17</b> Swim Team Pasta Party w/ Paper Plate Awards 6 pm	<b>18</b> Swim Team B Division Championships

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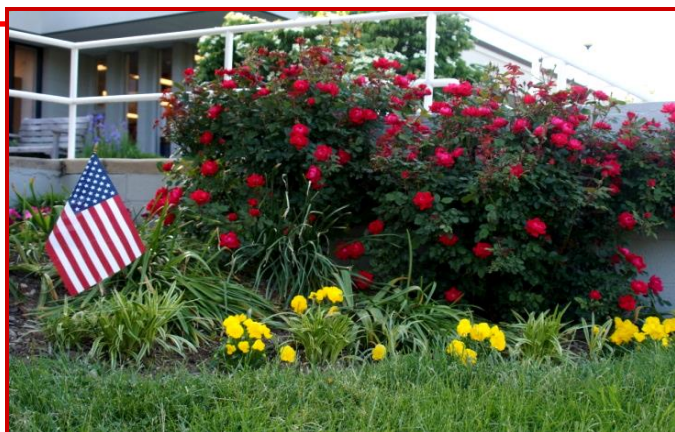
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- Barrie School (p. 12) 301-576-2800



## Advertise in *The Bugle*!

Four times-per-year, *The Bugle* reaches all 750+ homes in our Strathmore Bel Pre community. Call or email John Bogasky ([johnbogasky@hotmail.com](mailto:johnbogasky@hotmail.com)) or 301-980-3215) to arrange your ad in *The Bugle*!

Bugle Ad Sizes	Annual Price	Single Issue Price
Business Card	\$ 140	\$ 50
Quarter Page	\$ 200	\$ 70
Half Page	\$ 250	\$ 85
Full Page	\$ 325	\$ 125

## Please Volunteer For Our Community's July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration!

You can help us make this July 4<sup>th</sup> a special day, and a great celebration for our community. We welcome your ideas and talents!

### Contact:

WILLIAM HAMMOND – [Bill.Hammond@verizon.net](mailto:Bill.Hammond@verizon.net) or (301) 518-7818

LILLA HAMMOND – [Lilla.Hammond@verizon.net](mailto:Lilla.Hammond@verizon.net) or (301) 518-7818



### For our July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Celebration, help is needed with the following:

PARADE ..... 11:30 am – 1:00 pm (Registration & Safety)  
 ENTERTAINMENT..... 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm  
 GAMES..... 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm  
 DECORATIONS,SIGNS..... ON July 4<sup>th</sup> and before

We look forward to hearing from you.... Thanks!

**THANKS VERY MUCH! THE JULY 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration Team**