

# The Bugle

Published by the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association

May 2022

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



vol. 54 #2

## Pool Opens at Noon on May 28th!

COVID permitting, current plans are for a regular summer.



**Are you ready? Find out what you need to do to access the pool** this summer on [pages 11 and 12](#), a special pullout supplement.

Be sure to read the Recreational Facilities Policy rules as well!

## Bubble Run on May 30!

### The Dolphin Dash 5K is Back, with some FUN by Claire Pak

Memorial Day marks the unofficial start of summer, and the Dolphins will welcome the season with our eighth annual Dolphin Dash 5K. This year's 5K will be a bubble run, or a bubble walk, if that's more your speed.

But wait! What the heck is a bubble run? It's a run with bubbles! A bubble run is a fun run (no official times kept) with soap bubble fun at the finish, and at marshal stations throughout the course. You'll still need a shower afterward—or maybe you won't! Walkers are also welcome to join the fun.

**Registration is open now!** <https://www.active.com/silver-spring-md/running/distance-running-races/dolphin-dash-5k-fun-run-2022>

Walk-up registration is available; however, advance registration, by **May 12**, is the only way to guarantee shirt availability. Start time will be 9 am. Check-in, shirt pick-up, and walk-up registration will open at 8 am. There will be awards for the top 10 finishers.

## It's a Spring Thing, 2 pm to 4 pm May 14 – Rain Date May 15

**Come to our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Spring Thing!** Come to be informed, greet your neighbors, enjoy some refreshments, and have lots of fun. Please bring individually packaged snacks to share. We also will have drinks, yummy pizza, and more goodies.

You can greet assorted candidates, for this election year! Talk with the Dolphins about swimming for the kids, get set-up for your pool access this summer! We will have tennis and pickleball demos, basketball games, cornhole, fun for the kids and more.

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## Local Elections in 2022 Candidate Forums All on Zoom

State Legislature, County Council, School Board, and State's Attorney forums coming soon. Find out where the candidates stand on your issues!

See [page 23](#) for dates and details.



# THE BUGLE

PUBLISHED BY THE STRATHMORE BEL PRE CIVIC ASSOCIATION SINCE 1969

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## Civic Association

P.O. Box 6836, Aspen Hill, MD 20916

Annual SBPCA membership: \$20.00

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 to 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* and the community directory; maintains the community listserv; 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 (during the pandemic, meetings are on Zoom). The Civic Association's annual meeting is in November just before the BPRA annual meeting.

### Civic Association Officers

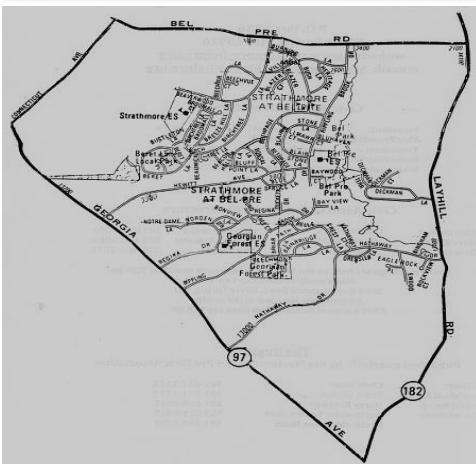
President:	NANCY BECHTOL	301 871-3679	Secretary:	LINDA BEA	301 460-0497
Vice President:	BILL HAMMOND	301 871-5074	Treasurer:	JOHN BOGASKY	301 460-1604

### Civic Association Directors

ELLIOT CHABOT	301 871-1113	CHRIS SWAN	301 871-1113
LILLA HAMMOND	301 518-7818	RITA VAUGHT	206 406-2871

Vacant

Your name could be here!



Strathmore Bel Pre Street map

**Strathmore Bel Pre Community listserv:** To join the listserv, contact JOHN BOGASKY. You must be an SBPCA member to join the SBPcivic listserv.

**Website:** The Civic and Rec Associations have a joint website, maintained by the Civic Association. For more information, contact BILLY RUPPERT at [billyruppert@gmail.com](mailto:billyruppert@gmail.com)

**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

Established in 1966, 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 and pickleball courts, volleyball court, playgrounds, picnic areas, bath house, snack bar, and pavilion, which normally are open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. The tennis and pickleball 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. **During the pandemic, we're on Zoom.**

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, co-sponsored 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:treasurer4bpri@gmail.com">treasurer4bpri@gmail.com</a>
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CLAIRE PAK	301 602-7573	<a href="mailto:claire0618@gmail.com">claire0618@gmail.com</a>
MARIA (COOKIE) STAGNITTO	301 807-8983	<a href="mailto:mrstags1@verizon.net">mrstags1@verizon.net</a>



## Bel Pre Recreational Association Officials

Administrative Assistant	vacant	
Assessment Assistance Committee Chair	DAVE PULLEN	<a href="mailto:treasurer4bpri@gmail.com">treasurer4bpri@gmail.com</a>
Audit Coordinator	MARK FORAKER	<a href="mailto:mark4aker@hotmail.com">mark4aker@hotmail.com</a>
Block Party & Spring Thing Coordinators	CLAIRE PAK and MARIA (COOKIE) STAGNITTO	(contact info is above)
Entertainment & Recreation Committee Chair	CHRIS SWAN	301 871-1113
eSoft Planner Coordinator	KAREN PURDY	<a href="mailto:BPRAPool02@gmail.com">BPRAPool02@gmail.com</a>
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>
Pavilion Scheduler	vacant	<a href="mailto:BPRAPool04@gmail.com">BPRAPool04@gmail.com</a>
Pet Waste Station Coordinator	JACKIE FARY-MOELLER	<a href="mailto:jfarymoeller@aspengroves.com">jfarymoeller@aspengroves.com</a>
Pool and Recreational Facilities Committee Chair	MARIA (COOKIE) STAGNITTO	301 807-8983
Pool Property Helpers Coordinator	JOE MOELLER	<a href="mailto:moellerhj@aspengroves.com">moellerhj@aspengroves.com</a>
Tennis and Pickleball Courts Committee Chair	DAVE PULLEN	<a href="mailto:treasurer4bpri@gmail.com">treasurer4bpri@gmail.com</a>
Tennis Court Keys Distributor	JIM EATON	240 743-8480
Trunk or Treat Coordinator	CHRIS SWAN	301 871-1113
Webmaster	BILLY RUPPERT	301 332-4901





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# The President's Corner

by Nancy Bechtol

President, Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association



## Spring is Here

The spring season has sprung into such a showcase of beauty in our neighborhood. We are fortunate to be surrounded by such beauty with a mature forest surrounding many of our homes and streets lined with cherry trees. Spring is truly all around us! Our neighborly volunteerism has also sprung into action this season, planning all spring and summer events. Everyone is hoping for a season which allows for some normalcy that is for sure. It has been a long two years in this pandemic, and a third year which is unfolding. One thing that is for sure, is that the BPRA and SBPCA know how to manage events and the pool so that we can all be together safely. The same will be the case this season. We all hope this virus stays at low levels so that we can all enjoy a more normal summer season!



## Gardening Opportunities on the Pool Grounds

A new group of volunteers has organized under the dedicated direction of COOKIE STAGNITTO to help keep the pool grounds beautiful during our active summer season. They meet during the week, in the late afternoon to weed, prune and water the gardens on our pool grounds. Please reach out to COOKIE if you are interested in helping. Her contact information is on [page 3](#). This group truly gardens, and will help the Grounds and Landscaping Coordinator big time!

## Events this Spring, Summer and Fall

This issue of *The Bugle* is filled with plans for Spring, Summer and Fall activities. The Bel Pre Recreational Association and the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association partner together to provide various activities with the sole purpose of bringing our community together. It is often difficult to meet our neighbors with so many folks working or with children who attend so many different schools. Please consider attending one or all of these events. They provide such a wonderful way to meet new neighbors, and have a great time too! The spring events kick off with the first movie night on **May 7<sup>th</sup>**, and then a Spring Thing festival on **May 14<sup>th</sup>**. We always need volunteers to help plan and organize the **July 4<sup>th</sup>** events, so please contact LILLA HAMMOND if you are available to assist. Her contact information is on [page 2](#). The **July 4<sup>th</sup>** parade through our community is one of our longest standing traditions and you don't want to miss it!

## Yard Sale This Fall – September 24, Rain Date September 25

The fall Yard Sale, held in the pool parking lot, is set for **September 24**, with a rain date of **September 25**. We will again offer folks to stay in their driveways, if this is easier, but the crowd will be at the pool parking lot that morning! Please start planning that clean-up now, and bring all of your goodies to this sale.



As you can see, we have lots already planned, and of course there is always the pool, swim team and tennis! I know we are all looking forward to a fun filled and safe summer season!



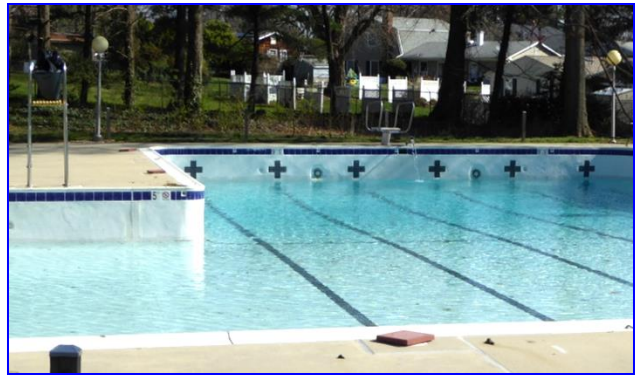
# Bel Pre Recreational News

by Karen Purdy

President, Bel Pre Recreational Association

## Annual Assessments

Thank you to all members who have already paid their \$350 annual assessment. **If you have not yet paid your 2022 annual assessment, please contact BPRA Treasurer Dave Pullen ([treasurer4bpra@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer4bpra@gmail.com) or (301) 598-2521) to arrange payment and confirm the amount due.** Payments made after March 31 are subject to a \$35.00 late fee, 6% per annum (\$1.75/month) interest, and collection costs. NO Access to the pool and recreational facilities is permitted for households with accounts in arrears.



## Pool Opening Summer 2022

The pool is scheduled to open at noon on **May 28, 2022**. As of now, we expect to operate in accordance with normal Recreational Facilities Policy rules, including several recent updates.

Pool rules and procedures are subject to change at any time before or during the summer based on the ever-changing COVID situation. Any updates will be posted online at [StrathmoreBelPre.org](http://StrathmoreBelPre.org) and shared via both the SBP Civic and SBP Dolphins listservs. Signs will also be posted at the pool.

Please take a few minutes to visit [StrathmoreBelPre.org](http://StrathmoreBelPre.org) and familiarize yourself with the Recreational Facilities Policy, including recent updates, before the start of the 2022 swim season. The Recreational Facilities Policy and updates can be found on [StrathmoreBelPre.org/government-documents](http://StrathmoreBelPre.org/government-documents) under the heading **Rules for Pool and Facilities Use; and other policies**. The Recreational Facilities Policy, including pool rules, will also be posted at the pool.

## Pool Hours Summer 2022

**The summary:** On Montgomery County Public School (MCPS) school days, the pool opens at 3 pm. On MCPS school nights (i.e., there is school the next day), the pool closes at 8 pm. Otherwise, the pool is generally open 12 pm to 9 pm except for July 4<sup>th</sup> (noon to 6 pm).

### The details:

**May 28, May 29:** noon to 9 pm

**May 30** (Memorial Day): noon to 8 pm

### May 31 to June 17\*

Monday through Thursday: 3 pm to 8 pm

Friday: 3 pm to 9 pm

Saturday: noon to 9 pm

Sunday: noon to 8 pm



### June 18\* to August 27\*\*

**July 4:** noon to 6 pm

All other days: noon to 9 pm

### August 28\*\* to September 3:

Monday through Thursday: 3 pm to 8 pm

Friday: 3 pm to 9 pm

Saturday: noon to 9 pm

Sunday: noon to 8 pm

**September 4** (Sunday): noon to 9 pm

**September 5** (Labor Day): noon to 8 pm

**Changes to pool hours** will be announced via signs posted at the pool, online at [StrathmoreBelPre.org](http://StrathmoreBelPre.org), and through both the community and swim team listservs

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

\*\* dates are based on the first day of school for Montgomery County Public Schools and are subject to change based on the school calendar. School starts Monday, **August 29, 2022**.

– Continued on [page 15](#) –



# Strathmore Bel Pre Dolphins News

by Claire Pak

Secretary, SBP Dolphins

It soon will be swim season, and we can hardly wait! We have lined up a stellar coaching staff for this summer, including new head coach, BILL SCHECTMAN.

## 2022 Coaching Staff: Welcome BILL SCHECTMAN!

We are delighted to welcome BILL SCHECTMAN as our new Head Coach. Coach SCHECTMAN has been coaching swimming for 34 years, including 26 years with the Rockville-Montgomery Swim Club (RMSC). BILL's experience includes summer swimming with MCSL and Country Club League teams, YMCA swimming, MCPS high school swimming (including Northwest High School, his current high school team), and elite-level club swimming. BILL has coached swimmers at every age and ability level, from preschool through adult. He founded the Rockville Masters' swimming program and also established the Partnership swimming program for the Special Olympics. BILL's swimmers have achieved success at every level. He has coached many club swimmers to USA Swimming Junior and Senior National-level competition including a FINA World Championships competitor. With decades of success coaching promising athletes, BILL looks forward to coaching many more talented swimmers with the SBP Dolphins.

## Assistant Coach

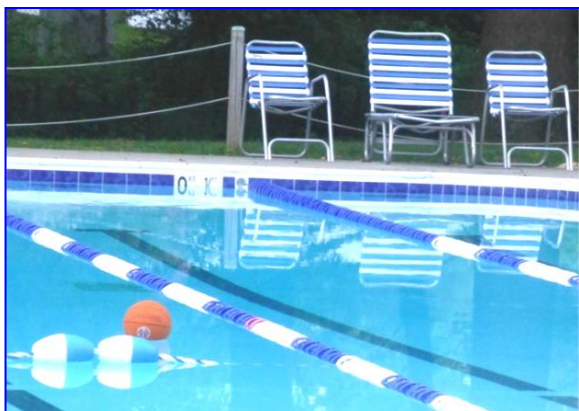
We are also delighted to welcome CARSON TAYLOR, 2021 Dolphins graduate, back for a second season as Assistant Coach. CARSON is a Dolphins graduate (2021) with many Divisionals and All-Stars appearances. Following a successful career with the Dolphins and as a founding member of the Washington Christian Academy swim team, CARSON is now a student and swimmer at Washington College.

## Developmental Coaches

CAMILLE BEARMAN and IAN VIRGA will return this year as Developmental Coaches, with several new swimmer-coaches joining the staff. With this much coaching talent, the Dolphins are very well positioned for competitive success this summer.

## Learn More!

If you'd like to know more about the Dolphins, please contact any member of the Strathmore Bel Pre Dolphins Swim Team Association Board of Directors. Our contact email addresses appear below, and we will be happy to answer any questions you might have about swim team participation. If you'd like to talk in person or on the phone, just email us, and we'll arrange for a time to talk.



## SBP Swim Team Association Board of Directors

ELIZABETH KOMINSKI, Co-President	<a href="mailto:elizabethinfo@gmail.com">elizabethinfo@gmail.com</a>
PHIL KOMINSKI, Co-President	<a href="mailto:phil@freestylebooking.com">phil@freestylebooking.com</a>
CHRIS HUFFINE, Vice President	<a href="mailto:huffine@gmail.com">huffine@gmail.com</a>
DENISE REYES, Treasurer	<a href="mailto:casareyes@gmail.com">casareyes@gmail.com</a>
CLAIRE PAK, Secretary	<a href="mailto:claire0618@gmail.com">claire0618@gmail.com</a>
KAREN PURDY, "A" Meet Manager	<a href="mailto:klpurdy@hotmail.com">klpurdy@hotmail.com</a>

## For More Dolphins News

Watch future issues of *The Bugle* for more Dolphins news, and visit the Dolphins website, <https://sbpdolphins.swimtopia.com/>, for news about

registration and other events. We'll see you at the pool!



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# SPRING SONGS

by Cecily Nabors

Have you noticed that our mornings are filling up with music? Spring birdsong starts in late winter, but as the hormones hit high gear, songs magnify and multiply. Birds are claiming territories and mates.

"Birdwatching" is done with more than the eyes. If you learn the songs of a few common species, it can open up the world. And if you hear a bird harmonizing with itself, that's because birds have a syrinx, a more elaborate mechanism than our own larynx, and one that will let a bird sing two notes at once.



Our backyard birds are at their most charming in spring, especially the **Northern Cardinal**, which gives us both visual and auditory pleasure. The scarlet male goes to the black-oil sunflower feeder, takes a seed, and feeds it to his mate. Human observers melt with romance, but in fact, the female needs protein to make eggs; the courtly gift is both a bond and a boon.

An audible bond is the pair's counter-singing. Both male and female cardinals sing, whistling cheerful phrases in a turnabout duet. The female, seen here, will even sing from the nest.

southern climes to fill the air with musical cascades. The Northern Mockingbird that owns our front yard will soon be improvising almost all night long: a sound guaranteed to bring me good dreams.

The bird with "song" in its very name is the **Song Sparrow**, shown at right. It was a favorite with the American colonists, who named it for its immense repertoire. The male singing from your rooftop may often start with three long notes, but what follows will be a series of trills and short sharp notes of almost infinite variation. This has been represented as "Maids, maids, maids, put on your tea kettle-ettle-ettle!" It's not a set playlist—the Song Sparrow shuffles his songs.



In spring, the air trembles with the scents of moist earth and sun-warmed leaves. Warblers return to flit through our treetops, adding splashes of color and activity to spring's dappled-green light. Warblers don't warble, though. Some sing slow buzzy songs like the Black-throated Blue Warbler, or run a dash up the scale like the Prairie, or jazz into a trill that rises above my hearing range like the Blackburnian. Warblers rock the soundtrack.

In *Spring in Washington*, LOUIS HALLE wrote, "...it seems to me the singing of birds is the purest form for the expression of natural beauty and goodness in the larger sense...." If the dazzle of birdsong on a spring morning makes you want to learn our songsters, check into apps like Larkwire, or Merlin ID from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, or listen to "Birding by Ear," a great set of CDs. Knowing some common birdsongs will enhance your experience, whether you're on a neighborhood walk or hiking on a forest path. Activate your sonic sensors! You're listening to Spring.



# Summer Aquatic Classes

by Maria (Cookie) Stagnitto

We will have our summer aquatic classes again this summer on Monday evenings from 6:30-7:30 pm.

We will have sessions on **June 13, 20 and 27, July 11, 18, and 26, and August 22 and 29.**

The cost is \$10.00 per class or \$50.00 for all 8 classes.

Maybe this year, it won't rain on Monday evenings so we can get all 8 sessions in!

Contact COOKIE STAGNITTO for more information at [mrstags1@verizon.net](mailto:mrstags1@verizon.net).



## Scouts: Talking Trash

by Jackie Fary-Moeller



Once again, the Scouts of Pack and Troop 763 (sponsored by the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association) did an Earth Day cleanup in our corner of the world - the Matthew Hensen trail starting at Rippling Brook Drive.

We found an extraordinary number of beer bottles, a shopping cart from CVS and a large amount of recycling. It is very probable that most of the recyclable items came from the bins of the Strathmore Bel

Pre neighborhood, as there were 2 days in the past months when it was very windy during the curbside trash pickup days.

All the things that the wind tossed out of our recycling bins were thrown into the street, where the rain and wind washes them down into the storm drains, which exit directly to the closest waterway. For example, all the rain water for Blue Spruce Lane gets drained into a storm drain at the bottom of the hill, goes through an underground culvert and then gets dumped near the pedestrian bridge on the Matthew Hensen trail near Rippling Brook Drive. The large stormwater wetland area there is where the dirt, oil and trash of Blue Spruce Lane ends up. So many times we think of littering as something that "someone else" is doing when often we are just as likely to be the culprits.

### Join the Scouts?

Want your child to participate in meaningful activities like stomping in mud, using their outdoor voice, and creating an impressive pile of trash? Join in the fun of Cub Scout Pack 763 - contact BILL TOTTEN at [billatotten@gmail.com](mailto:billatotten@gmail.com) or myself at [jfarymoeller@aspengroves.com](mailto:jfarymoeller@aspengroves.com)



# Plan to Use the Pool this Summer? Here's How.

by Karen Purdy

## Pool Check-in (Where are my paper Season Passes?)

We have transitioned to a Household-based pool entry system. **This means no one will receive paper pool passes this summer.**

The current policy allows for admission for all individuals residing in your home and additional family members as specified in the BPRA Recreational Facilities Policy. Names and photos of each household member must be on file in eSoft Planner.

Once you have 1) paid your 2022 BPRA Annual Assessment (and any outstanding prior year balances) and 2) are properly set up in the BPRA eSoft Planner pool check-in and assessment collection system, you will simply check in with your name at the front desk.

Pool staff will rely on member-provided information in the eSoft Planner system to manage pool access, so PLEASE be sure that your information is correct and complete.

## What do you need to do to make sure you are ready to check in at the pool? Three easy steps.

1. Pay your 2022 BPRA Annual Assessment and any outstanding balances.
2. Log into your eSoft Planner account, hover over My Account, click My Memberships.
  1. Verify that **2022 BPRA Annual Assessment – due March 1, 2022** is listed under Swim Memberships Purchased/Enrolled AND that all appropriate/eligible household members are listed for pool check-in under the Family Member column associated with the **2022 BPRA Annual Assessment – due March 1, 2022** membership. This is the screenshot:



### My Memberships

This is a listing of your membership(s). You can view the payment details of the membership by clicking on the Details button.

#### Membership purchased successfully

Swim Memberships Purchased/Enrolled						
Title	Member #	Family Member	Membership Start Date	Membership End Date	Account	Attendance
SBPCA Membership <i>Suspended pending payment</i>	10716106	Jenny Dolphin George Dolphin	Jan 1, 2022	Dec 31, 2022	<button>Details</button>	<button>History</button>
2022 BPRA Annual Assessment - due March 1, 2022 <i>Suspended pending payment</i>	50716106	Jenny Dolphin George Dolphin Jack Dolphin Jan Dolphin Joe Dolphin	Jan 1, 2022	Dec 31, 2022	<button>Details</button>	<button>History</button>

→ If a name is NOT listed under the **2022 BPRA Annual Assessment – due March 1, 2022** Swim Membership, that name will NOT show up at the front desk for pool check-in, even if that name is listed under Family Members in My Profile. ←

To have a name added to the membership for pool check-in, add it to My Profile, then complete the eSoft Planner Help Form found at [StrathmoreBelPre.org/pool-access-esoft](https://StrathmoreBelPre.org/pool-access-esoft)

3. Make sure you have uploaded photos for each family member listed in My Profile. Instructions for uploading photos can be found at [StrathmoreBelPre.org/pool-access-esoft](https://StrathmoreBelPre.org/pool-access-esoft)

– Continued on [page 12](#) –

*The Bugle* May 2022



## Pool Access (continued from [page 11](#))

**If you paid your assessment online**, you may have completed all the necessary steps. Please log into your account to verify that the correct household members are listed and that photos have been uploaded.

**If you paid your assessment by paper check AND completed the household information on the assessment form**, a volunteer entered this information into your eSoft Planner account. Please log into your account to verify that the correct household members are listed and that photos have been uploaded.

**If you paid your assessment by paper check and did not submit or update your household information, either on the assessment form or online in eSoft Planner**, you will likely see only one or two names listed. Please log into your account to verify that the correct household members are listed and that photos have been uploaded. To add household names for pool check-in, you will need to complete the eSoft Planner Help Form at [StrathmoreBelPre.org/pool-access-esoft](http://StrathmoreBelPre.org/pool-access-esoft).

### What if I need help?

If you need assistance with eSoft Planner, please stop by the pool parking lot between 2 pm and 4 pm on Saturday, **May 14**, during the Spring Thing. We will have computers available and will be able to help you check the status of your account, upload photos and answer any questions you may have about the system.

Alternately, you may visit [StrathmoreBelPre.org/pool-access-esoft](http://StrathmoreBelPre.org/pool-access-esoft) and complete the eSoft Planner help form (preferred) or email [BPRAPool02@gmail.com](mailto:BPRAPool02@gmail.com). If you do not have access to a computer or email, please call me at (301) 603-9604 before 8 pm for assistance.

**If you are a new resident, renter, or landlord**, please visit [StrathmoreBelPre.org/pool-access-esoft](http://StrathmoreBelPre.org/pool-access-esoft) for information on how to get set up for pool check-in.

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## Tennis and Pickleball

by Jim Eaton

BPRA Tennis Courts Keys Distributor

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### Join our Tennis and Pickleball Courts Committee?

You can make your voice heard on courts matters. We would like to find some additional members for our committee. If you can help out, please contact DAVE PULLEN, at [treasurer4bpri@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer4bpri@gmail.com).

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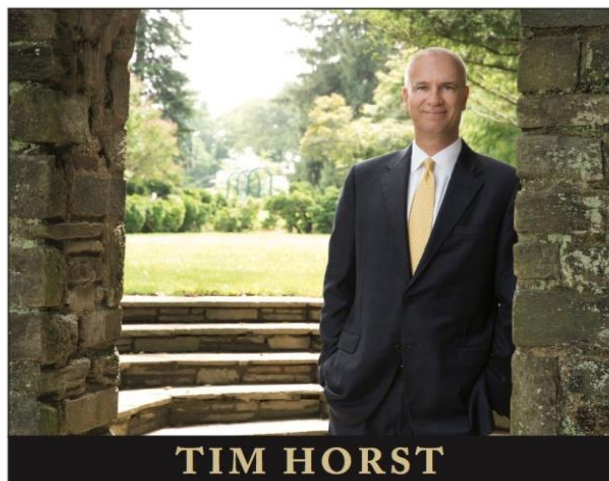
Rates, terms, and fees as of 3/24/2022 10:15 AM Eastern Daylight Time and subject to change without notice.





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## **Bel Pre Recreational News**

(continued from [page 6](#))



### **Pavilion Reservations**

As of now, we plan on allowing pavilion reservations this summer. More information, including instructions for requesting pavilion reservations will be posted at [StrathmoreBelPre.org](http://StrathmoreBelPre.org) soon.

### **Volunteers welcome!**

The BPRA is always looking for members interested in volunteering. Currently, we are looking to fill several positions including eSoft Planner Coordinator, Dispute Resolution Committee Chair, and Webmaster.

If you are interested in learning more about any of these positions, serving on our committees, or volunteering in some other way, please contact the appropriate committee chair listed on [page 3](#) or contact me at [klpurdy@hotmail.com](mailto:klpurdy@hotmail.com)

If you are interested in 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.



### **Upcoming Events**

Stay tuned for more information about movies and other possible outdoor events this spring and summer.

**– Continued on [page 17](#) –**



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## Bel Pre Recreational News

(continued from [page 15](#))

### BPRA Board Meeting Schedule

The BPRA Board of Trustees normally meets on the first Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 pm. BPRA meetings, except for facility walk-throughs, generally are held via Zoom. The June, July & August meetings will be held either on Zoom or at the pool pavilion. For those meetings, the location will be posted online and in the next edition of *The Bugle*. For updates, please see [StrathmoreBelPre.org/meetings-meeting-minutes](http://StrathmoreBelPre.org/meetings-meeting-minutes).



All members of the BPRA are welcome and encouraged to attend the meetings of the Board. A 15-minute period at the beginning of each meeting is normally reserved for members of the Association to speak on any issue. If you would like to attend a Board meeting, please contact me at [klpurdy@hotmail.com](mailto:klpurdy@hotmail.com) or (301) 603-9604 no later than 4pm on the day of the meeting to be added to the participants list and to get Zoom log-in information.

### The BPRA Board will meet on the following dates in 2022:

**May 3, May 14** (9 am, property walk-through\*), **June 7, June 21** (if needed), **July 12, July 26** (if needed), **August 2, August 16** (if needed), **September 13, October 6** (Thursday), **November 1, December 6, January 3, 2023** (\*if allowable per COVID-19 guidelines. To be confirmed at a later date.)

The Annual Meeting is currently scheduled for Thursday, **November 17, 2022**, at 7:30 pm.

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# Civic Association's 2022 First Saturdays at the Movies!

## SBPCA's First Saturdays at the Movies

**May 7 (Drive-In)**

**June 4**

**July 2**

**August 6**

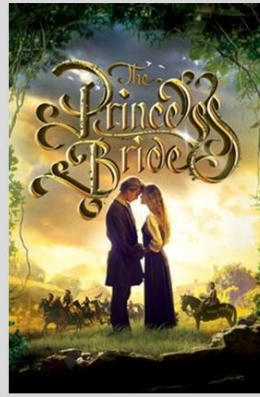
**September 3**



*Encanto*



*Spider-Man: No Way Home*



*The Princess Bride*



*West Side Story (2021)*



*Disney's Jungle Cruise*

Our Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association is proud to announce our 2022 summer movie lineup! This year, we polled SBPcivic listserv members on which movies they preferred from a list of 18 licensable titles. Votes were widely distributed, with only West Side Story receiving votes from more than 50% of participants. Hopefully, the poll helped us pick movies that will entice many of you to join us at the Pool this summer! This will be our 10<sup>th</sup> Season for our Summer Movie program!

**All movies start at dusk.** We will announce rain delays via the SBPcivic and Dolphins listservs and the SBP Facebook Page

**We are still looking for Summer Entertainment Sponsors!** Generous support from sponsors makes our Summer Entertainment Series possible. At this writing, sponsor support has dropped from 2021. We hope that we can continue our strong sponsor support so we can continue offering the numbers of movies and concerts that we plan for this season.

We list our current 2022 sponsors in the banner below and thank them for their support! If you want to join our 2022 sponsors, please contact SBPCA Treasurer John Bogasky at [johnbogasky@hotmail.com](mailto:johnbogasky@hotmail.com). Your support can help us sustain this SBP tradition.

### The SBP Civic Association Thanks Our 2022 Summer Entertainment Sponsors!!!

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Bob & Deb Perry

And Our Host - The Bel Pre Recreational Association

*The Bugle* May 2022



# Street Trees in our Neighborhood

by Jackie Fary-Moeller

If you drive through the neighborhood, you'll notice that there was a plan for street trees. Maples along Beret Lane, double-blossomed ornamental cherries along Rippling Brook in the south section of Strathmore Bel Pre, Bradford pears on Belle Crest Lane, oaks along Breeze Hill and Broomall Lanes and Japanese flowering cherry trees along Rippling Brook (north section), Blue Spruce Lane and Burning Bush Lane.



## Flowering Cherry Trees here?

What's that? You don't notice the cherry trees on Blue Spruce Lane? A few are still there, the hardy survivors of winters that are just a teeny tiny bit too cold for them. Many cherry trees have thin bark, with the sap underneath very susceptible to freezing when overnight temps drop. The sap expands as it freezes, causing the bark to split and often causing the demise of the tree. These trees will do much better inside the Beltway, where the freeze date is 2 weeks before in spring and often more than 3 weeks later in the fall. They also do well in microclimates that stay just slightly warmer or on hills where the cold air

flowing down the hill will prevent a hard freeze. You'll see this to spectacular effect on Burning Bush Lane, where there are many mature cherry trees. If you really like flowering cherry trees, then you can choose from the many available varieties. However, none of the more cold tolerant options will have the ethereal blossoms that come out very early and before any leaves show, creating a cloud of the palest pink. There's nothing like it.

## Bradford Pear Trees

There's also nothing like Bradford pear, which has stinky flowers, weak branches, gets compared to thornbushes, doesn't live more than 30 years and is certainly not sterile as it was advertised. It's not a great street tree and is terrible for nature, as it has been compared to kudzu.

## Great Street Trees

So what does make a great street tree? Being small, beautiful and compact. You want to choose a tree that doesn't attract wildlife, as you don't want to encourage deer and birds to come into the street and get hit by cars. While holly, American crabapple, paw paw, dogwood, American plum and serviceberry are great options for your yard, consider planting them away from the street. Being native also makes for a great street tree - redbud has beautiful pink blossoms and attractive heart shaped leaves, as does fringetree and magnolias. I will also add crepe myrtle to the list, although not technically native to Maryland, it is tough and beautiful with long lasting late summer blooms. For full beauty, do not cut or prune crepe myrtle, as it is not necessary (Google "crepe murder" for more info).

## Need some incentives?

Montgomery county government is offering \$40 coupons as part of its Reforest Montgomery program and the state has \$25 coupons that can be used together to buy a native tree. The state also has a backyard buffer bundle for owners who live near streams or storm drains. Find out more here, download the coupons and see the list of participating nurseries here: <https://treemontgomery.org/other-planting-programs/>.

## Friends of Native Trees in Takoma Park

The [Takoma Park Native Tree Selection Guide](https://fontt.org) is available to view and download on the **Friends of Native Trees in Takoma** website, [fontt.org](https://fontt.org). The guide features trees that are native to Maryland and "not rare" in Montgomery County and one or more neighboring counties. The target audience is anyone in the area with a yard or land to plant a native tree, especially people who are not particularly aware of the benefits of native trees.





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or Free California Roll(6)**  
for order over \$45

**One-time coupon**

Can't be combined w. other offers

Exp: 07/31/22



## 60s Plus Club

by Cookie Stagnitto

Newly formed, the Club is focused on folks in our neighborhood who are over 60. The Club will be meeting at the pool pavilion, on the 1st Thursdays of the month, in the summer from 4:30-7 pm. Bring a snack to share. Before then, we will have a table at the Spring Thing (**May 14**, from 2 pm to 4 pm) to highlight our plans for the summer.



### Quilts of Valor

We are sponsoring the Quilts of Valor for our Veterans. Everyone is invited to take part in this endeavor (no age restriction!). JAN WISOR will have kits available to get you started.

### Current Plans

A Gardening Group is being formed to help maintain plants and shrubs at the pool. An over 60 mile event with any combination of swimming, biking, walking and running is planned. Submit your name to COOKIE ([mrstags1@verizon.net](mailto:mrstags1@verizon.net)) and keep track of your miles. All 60+ participants will be acknowledged at our September get together. We are sponsoring the book exchange in the pool lobby.

### Plan to Participate

Please, bring your snacks to share, and your ideas to our meetings scheduled for:

**June 2, July 7, August 4, September 4.** Contact COOKIE STAGNITTO for more information at [mrstags1@verizon.net](mailto:mrstags1@verizon.net).




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AUTHORIZED BY NATALI FOR COUNCIL, ANGEL GONZÁLEZ, TREASURER



# Upcoming Candidate Forums

By Elliot Chabot

## Candidate Forums

Every even-numbered year is an election year in Maryland – and 2022 is no exception. This year, the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association has continued the tradition of co-sponsoring a series of candidates' forums in the months leading up to the primary and general elections. Each forum gives the candidates for particular offices the chance to speak to the community and – most importantly – devotes most of the time to questions from the audience and (hopefully) answers from the candidates.



**During May and June, the following forums have been scheduled (starting at 7:30 pm):**

Thursday, **May 5**, State Senate and House of Delegates (District 19)

Thursday, **May 12**, County Council (District 6)

Wednesday, **May 25**, School Board (At Large and District 5)

Wednesday, **June 1**, School Board (Districts 1 and 3)

Wednesday, **June 15**, Montgomery County State's Attorney

Note that voters in Strathmore Bel Pre get to vote on all 4 School Board seats (At Large and Districts 1, 3, and 5).

The forums are being jointly sponsored by our civic association, along with the Friends of the Aspen Hill Library, Aspen Hill Library Advisory Committee, Aspen Hill Civic Association and Glenmont Exchange. The forums are part of the Aspen Hill Public Affairs Series that started in 1984.

## To Attend the Forums

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, **all of the May and June forums will be held on Zoom**. To register to get the Zoom sign-on information for the forums, send an e-mail at [AspenHillForums@gmail.com](mailto:AspenHillForums@gmail.com) and include "Candidate Forum" in the subject line. If you have questions that you would like posed to the candidates, please send them to the same address.

Earlier this year, forums were held featuring the candidates running for County Council at large (March 10) and County Executive (April 7).

## Election Days

This year's Primary Election will take place on Tuesday, **July 19**, and the General Election will take place on Tuesday, **November 8**. Polls are open from 7 am to 8 pm. Strathmore Bel Pre voters who live north of the Henson Trail vote at Argyle Middle School. Strathmore Bel Pre voters who live south of the Henson Trail vote at Georgian Forest Elementary School.

## Early Voting for 2022

If you don't want to wait until election day, early voting is also available at 14 locations throughout Montgomery County, including the Mid-County Recreation Center (2004 Queensguard Road), the Bauer Drive Recreation Center (14625 Bauer Drive), and the Wheaton Library & Recreation Center (11701 Georgia Avenue). Early voting for the Primary Election will be available from **July 7 to 14**; and early voting for the General Election will be available from **October 27 to November 3**. The 14 early voting locations will be open those days from 7 am to 8 pm.

If you have any questions about the election process, call the Montgomery County Board of Elections at (240) 777-8683.





# A S.M.A.R.T. Agenda

S.M.A.R.T. government is Laurie-Anne's acronym for the policy platform to revitalize our County and position our economy for future success!

- ▶ **Strengthening** 21st-century learning from cradle to career
- ▶ **Making** a living in Montgomery County more affordable
- ▶ **Advancing** sustainable local food production in the Ag Reserve
- ▶ **Recovering** from the pandemic while revitalizing the economy
- ▶ **Tackling** climate change through multi-modal transportation solutions

To learn more about Laurie-Anne's vision and experience please visit her website at [www.laurieannesayles.org](http://www.laurieannesayles.org)  
You can also follow her on social media



**On July 19, 2022 vote for Laurie-Anne Sayles the CANDIDATE FOR S.M.A.R.T. GOVERNMENT**

As a publicly financed candidate, Laurie-Anne can only accept contributions up to \$250 and they are TRIPLE matched when made by a Montgomery County resident!



By Authority: Sayles for Montgomery County, Stephen Schiavone, Treasurer





## Yard Sale September 24, Rain Date September 25

### **The Civic Association's Annual Yard Sale has been moved to the Fall!**

We will set-up in the Pool Parking lot, with spaces and tables to sell your goodies! Additionally, for neighborhood sellers wishing to host a sale at their house, we will create and distribute a map of all registered homeowners sales.

Save your sale items for the Fall! Sell lots of items and bring home new treasures.

### ***Join the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association***

The Civic Association is a voluntary body, which aims to represent and inform the community in local civic affairs. In contrast, the Bel Pre Recreational Association is a mandatory body, which you generally join when you buy your house. Rec Association annual dues maintain the pool and pool properties.

#### **Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association Membership**

**Dues are just \$20 per year.**

Why Join? The Civic Association:

- Publishes *The Bugle*
- Hosts the [strathmorebelpre.org](http://strathmorebelpre.org) web site
- Runs the Civic Association listserv
- Organizes the Yard Sale, the July 4<sup>th</sup> Events, Summer Movies and Concerts

**We need your support to help sustain these community services!**

To join, contact LINDA BEA at 301-460-0497 or a Civic Board Member listed on [page 2](#).



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## Maricé Morales priorities:

- Creating **safe neighborhoods** with **reduced traffic congestion**
- **Ensuring** that **seniors can age in place** in our county
- Providing **quality** and **affordable public transportation**
- Addressing the **equity and opportunity gap** in our schools
- **Attracting entrepreneurs** and young innovative companies
- **Reducing** greenhouse **gas emissions** in our county
- **Incorporating community feedback** on enrichment programming taking place at our libraries and community resources

For up-to-date Primary Election info  
visit [maricemorales.com](http://maricemorales.com)


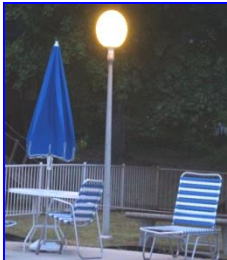










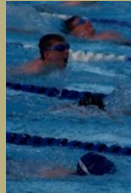


By Authority: Friends of Maricé Morales. Josh Goodman, Treasurer.

MARICÉ  
**MORALES**  
★  
COUNTY COUNCIL  
DISTRICT 6



# 2022 Strathmore Bel Pre Summer Calendar

~May/June 20 ~

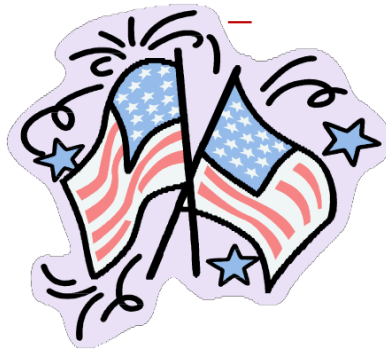
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Pool Hours May 28 to June 16 and from Aug. 28 to Sept 5</b>  Mon to Thurs 3 to 8 pm Fri 3 to 9 pm Sat noon to 9 pm Sun noon to 8 pm		<b>May 3</b> BPRA Board meeting @ 7:30 pm on Zoom	<b>All events are at the pool unless otherwise indicated</b>	<b>5</b> Candidates' forum - State Legislature (Dist. 19) @ 7:30 pm on Zoom	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>Drive-In Movie Night</b> Encanto @ dusk
<b>8</b>				<b>12</b> Candidates' forum - County Council (Dist. 6) @ 7:30 pm on Zoom  Deadline for Dolphin Dash 5K early registration	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> BPRA Board meeting & property walk-through @ 9 am  <b>Spring Thing</b> 2-4 pm
<b>15</b> Spring Thing rain date, 2-4 pm					<b>20</b>	
<b>22</b>		<b>24</b> Civic Association Board meeting @ 7:30 pm on Zoom	<b>25</b> Candidates' forum - School Board (At Large & Dist. 5) @ 7:30 pm on Zoom	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Pool opens @ noon</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>Dolphin Dash 5K</b> Bubble Run •Registration @ 8 am •Race @ 9 am		<b>June 1</b> Candidates' forum - School Board (Districts 1 & 3) @ 7:30 pm on Zoom Swim Team PM Practices begin	<b>2</b> 60s Plus Club, 4:30-7:00 pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Movie Night</b> Spiderman: No Way Home @ dusk
<b>5</b>		<b>7</b> BPRA Board meeting @ 7:30 pm, on Zoom or at the pool		<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Swim Team Ice Cream Social	<b>11</b> Swim Team Blue-White Meet (time trials)
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Aquatic Class 6:30-7:00 pm		<b>15</b> Candidates' forum - Montgomery County State's Attorney @ 7:30 pm on Zoom		<b>17</b> <b>MCPS Last Day of School</b> Longer Pool Hours begin  Swim Team Pasta Party	<b>18</b> Swim Team A meet
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Swim Team AM Practices begin Aquatic Class 6:30-7:00 pm	<b>21</b> BPRA Board meeting (if needed) @ 7:30 pm, on Zoom or at the pool	<b>22</b> Swim Team B Meet	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Swim Team Pasta Party	<b>25</b> Swim Team A meet
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Aquatic Class 6:30-7:00 pm	<b>28</b> Civic Association Board meeting @ 7:30 pm, on Zoom	<b>29</b> Swim Team B Meet		<b>July 1</b> Swim Team Pasta Party	<b>2</b> Swim Team A meet <b>Movie Night</b> Princess Bride @ dusk



# STRATHMORE BEL PRE JULY 4th 2022 CELEBRATION!!

Every year, our Strathmore-Bel Pre Community comes together to celebrate our country's birthday!

Please see the box below for several ways you can help!



Last year's Patriotic Car Parade was amazing! Many in our community came out of their homes to greet and wave to our Car Parade!

If you can help with the events, please sign up for one of the activities listed below.

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

***Help Our Community Celebrate on Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022!***



**YES! Please count me in...**  
**...to help with Strathmore Bel Pre's July 4th Celebration!**  
**...for more info, visit [strathmorebelpre.org/fourth-of-july](http://strathmorebelpre.org/fourth-of-july)**

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

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

- ☐ Setting up ☐ Registration ☐ Safety ☐ Flag Ceremony ☐ Wrap up  
☐ We plan to be in the July 4<sup>th</sup> Patriotic Car Parade.  
☐ I want to help plan the events.  
☐ I would like to be on the July 4<sup>th</sup> SBPCA Committee.  
☐ Children's games at the pool and pavilion if possible.

**Text Bill Hammond at (301) 509-4621 or Lilla Hammond at (301) 518-7818**  
**Or email Bill at: [whammond38@gmail.com](mailto:whammond38@gmail.com)**

**Strathmore Bel Pre July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee**

**\*\*\*If you text us, be sure to text "July 4<sup>th</sup>" at the start of your message. \*\*\***

**THANKS!! We look forward to hearing from you!!**