

# *the* **Sea Breeze**

**PUBLISHED BY HILLSMERE SHORES  
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION**

**JUNE / JULY 2011**

## **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

I usually start my comments with a few words about the weather. This month won't be any different.. just a slightly different place. As I write this, my wife and I are anchored on our sailboat in the Cohansey River about 1/3 of the way down the Delaware Bay on the New Jersey side. The land all around us is very flat and beautiful. A few minutes ago, another sailboat came by and we watched her mast go back and forth over the grasses as she followed the meandering river. The wind is blowing so it's very cool. There are lots of big flies, but they aren't the biting kind. For our vacation this year we are circumnavigating the DelMarVa. We went north up the Chesapeake Bay, through the C&D Canal, and are on our way south again. Our plans are to head offshore and sail for two days in the ocean and then back up the bay from Norfolk and home. It's nice to trade the stress of work and HSIA for the stress of winds and tides.

Speaking of stress.. the Hillsmere Community Pool opened on time and with relatively little of it. A lot of people worked very hard to make that happen. We have received many compliments and very few complaints about the pool. Anchor Aquatics has done a great job keeping everything running smoothly. The lifeguards have been terrific. Anchor Aquatics knows we are new at this and have

### **SEE INSIDE FOR...**

- **Dumpster Days info**
- **Pool info**
- **Beach Social Happy Hour**
- **Bicycle Parade**
- **Beach Report**
- **Stormwater Report**

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### **(President's Comments continued)**

bent over backwards to help us learn the ropes. An example of their responsiveness was when we realized just a few days before the pool was to open that the water fountain next to the office was broken and, even if it worked, was not something you'd want to drink out of. They managed to get a new one installed in just two days. Some people have said they thought the water from the fountain was not drinkable. The water from the well was tested just before the pool opened for bacteria and nitrates. This is required by the County Health Department and must be done at the beginning and at the end of each season. The water is also treated by our new water softener, so feel free to quench your thirst at the new fountain.

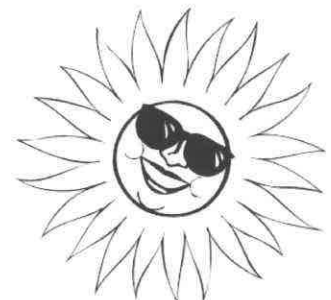
As we go through this season, our primary goal was to make sure everything worked much as it did in previous years. We have lots of ideas for improvements both on our own and because of suggestions we have received. At the end of the season, we will do a survey of all pool members to see what they would like to see changed. For example, one pool member said we should have WI-FI available at the pool so people could bring their laptop and stay connected while enjoying the pool. That would obviously have a cost to the pool membership. The survey will try to see if the pool members think the cost is worth the benefit. We need to hear your suggestions now so we can include them in the survey. You can email your suggestions and/or concerns to [pool@hillsmershores.net](mailto:pool@hillsmershores.net).

Security is still a hot issue at the HSIA board meetings. At the May board meeting, a motion was made to terminate the Blueguard contract. It was defeated. Most board members feel that having the private security patrols is beneficial to the community. The board did agree to monitor the performance of Blueguard (and all security) until the end of the summer when the issue will certainly be considered again. As I mentioned in the last *Sea Breeze*, we have a new Blueguard officer named Mac. If you have any questions or just want to talk about security concerns, please wave him down when you see him go by. He will be happy to stop and talk. If you have feelings about security, especially the Blueguard private security patrols, please let us know.

Our Beach Happy Hour events have begun again. They are on the second Friday of July & August and the second Saturday of September & October. HSIA provides sodas, water, hot dogs, hamburgers, and sausages. Residents bring side dishes and desserts. I'll bet many people in our community don't realize that virtually everyone is invited to attend. You don't need to be a member of HSIA, the pool, or the marina. There is no charge. These parties are for ALL Hillsmere residents. You are also welcome to bring beer or wine as we always get a one-day liquor license. If you haven't attended, please stop by at the next party and have some food on us!

Well, that's enough for this month. I am on vacation, after all. If you are reading this then it means I managed to find an internet connection in Cape May to email my comments to Jean Somers, our administrator. Our trip has been pretty uneventful so far, although we did nearly run aground coming into this anchorage. The hardest part will be the couple of days offshore. We'll be happy to tell you all about how tough it was (exaggerated, of course) at one of the Happy Hours. We'll see you there.

-Bill Shuman  
President, Hillsmere Shores Improvement Association



## HSIA NEWS



**Hillsmere Shores Community Happy Hours 2011** - The Beach Committee will be sponsoring community Happy Hours each month throughout the summer. Our next two Happy Hours are scheduled for July 8 and August 12 from 5 - 8 pm at our community beach and park. Come join your neighbors and enjoy this beautiful facility! We will supply the hot dogs, hot dog buns, condiments, hot grills, paper plates, napkins, soft drinks and coolers full of ice. You bring a plate of Happy Hour style food to share, some folding lawn chairs and your favorite adult beverage. So put it on your calendar and plan to be there. If you would like to help with or plan future community Happy Hours, please contact Kate Penn or Noel Gasparin.



**Hillsmere Playgroup** - At the end of April, two members of the Hillsmere Garden Club joined the Friday morning playgroup to make May Baskets. The results were stupendous! If you would like more information regarding the weekly playgroup, please contact Emily Auerswald at [eaurswald@gmail.com](mailto:eaurswald@gmail.com).

**2011 Beach Reservations** - To reserve the large beach pavilion, please contact the Administrator at 410-263-4456 or email [admin@hillsmershores.net](mailto:admin@hillsmershores.net). A refundable \$200 security deposit is required. If you are serving alcohol at your party, you will need to get an Anne Arundel County One-Day Liquor License. Signed forms for a liquor license must be obtained from HSIA two weeks prior to your party and submitted to the County. You will be required to specify the time needed for your party. You can reserve the pavilion for the entire day or for as little as 2 hours. This will allow more residents use of the large pavilion for parties. Reservations are not final until you receive a confirmation from the HSIA Administrator.

### Mosquito Spraying

The Maryland Department of Agriculture began the 2011 mosquito spraying program in June. The program will run through the end of September. Our assigned night of the week for adult mosquito control is Wednesday. Spraying will occur anytime during the hours of 7:30 PM and 2:00 AM. Please note that spraying will not necessarily occur at the same time every week. While a technician will visit our community every week, spraying will only occur if the appropriate conditions are met. Please visit the web site at [www.mda.state.md.us/plants-pests/mosquito\\_control/](http://www.mda.state.md.us/plants-pests/mosquito_control/) for more information.



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## Congratulations to our Hillsmere graduates!!

- ◆ **Jaclyn Foxwell** graduated from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade from St. Martin's Lutheran School on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Jaclyn will be attending Archbishop Spalding High School in the Fall.
- ◆ **Jack (Rocco) Kling** graduated from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade from St. Mary's Elementary School on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Rocco will be attending St. Mary's High School in the Fall.
- ◆ **Michael Miles** graduated from Anne Arundel Community College on May 26<sup>th</sup> with an Associate of Arts degree in Music. Michael is transferring to a four year school to major in Music Composition.
- ◆ **Peter Miles** graduated from Anne Arundel Community College on May 26<sup>th</sup> with an Associate of Arts degree in Architecture. Peter is transferring to a four year school to major in Architecture.
- ◆ **Philip Miles** graduated from homeschool high school on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Philip will be attending Anne Arundel Community College full-time in the Fall.
- ◆ **Emily Pittman** graduated from Catholic University on May 14<sup>th</sup> with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.
- ◆ **Jason Somers** graduated from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade from St. Mary's Elementary School on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Jason will be attending Archbishop Spalding High School in the Fall.
- ◆ **Katelyn Somers** graduated cum laude from the University of Maryland College Park Honors Program on May 19<sup>th</sup> with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. She will be attending the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine in Blacksburg, Virginia in the Fall.
- ◆ **Andrew Yenc** graduated from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade from St. Mary's Elementary School on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Andrew will be attending Archbishop Spalding High School in the Fall.

*Do you have a graduate you would like to recognize in the Sea Breeze? Just email the Editor at [admin@hillsmershores.net](mailto:admin@hillsmershores.net) or call the 24-hour voice mail at 410-263-4456. Give us the name of the graduate, school, degree earned, and date of graduation. We'll be sure to proudly announce your graduate!*



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# DUMPSTER DAYS


**Please read this information carefully. You may want to hold on to this issue of the Sea Breeze for Dumpster Days instructions. Please note that the dumpsters will be delivered by noon on Friday, July 15 and removed by 1 pm on Saturday, July 16.**

Dumpster Days are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, July 15 and 16. The dumpsters will be located adjacent to the community pool. **The dumpsters will be delivered by noon on Friday, July 15 and removed by 1 pm on Saturday, July 16. Please make sure the dumpsters are in place before hauling any items to the dumpster area. If we have a large amount of rain, dumpsters could be relocated to the beach parking lot.**

Please be courteous and follow all directions to maintain a smooth flow of traffic. We will be using a clockwise traffic pattern, the same as in previous years (please see the map on the next page). To avoid excessive damage to the grounds, **do not enter or exit the dumpster area from Harbor Drive.** If anyone can volunteer to help supervise loading of the dumpsters or the flow of traffic, please call the HSIA information line at 410-263-4456.

Please follow these guidelines:

- ◆ Do not bring children.
- ◆ Watch for, and do not interfere with, County trucks and bulldozers in the area.
- ◆ Do not leave waste materials outside the dumpsters or allow them to protrude above the top of the container.
- ◆ Do not put too much heavy material in one container. Fill the containers completely from the rear to the front.
- ◆ Do not put garbage or similar trash, hazardous materials, tires, liquids, pressurized containers, refrigerators, air conditioners, boats, trailers, logs or tree trunks into the dumpsters. Tie or bundle light material so it won't blow around. Disassemble large items such as swing sets and other similar items. Cut tree trimmings into 3-4 foot lengths.
- ◆ Do not put material into the containers after dark.
- ◆ Do not block flow of local traffic on Great Lake Drive.



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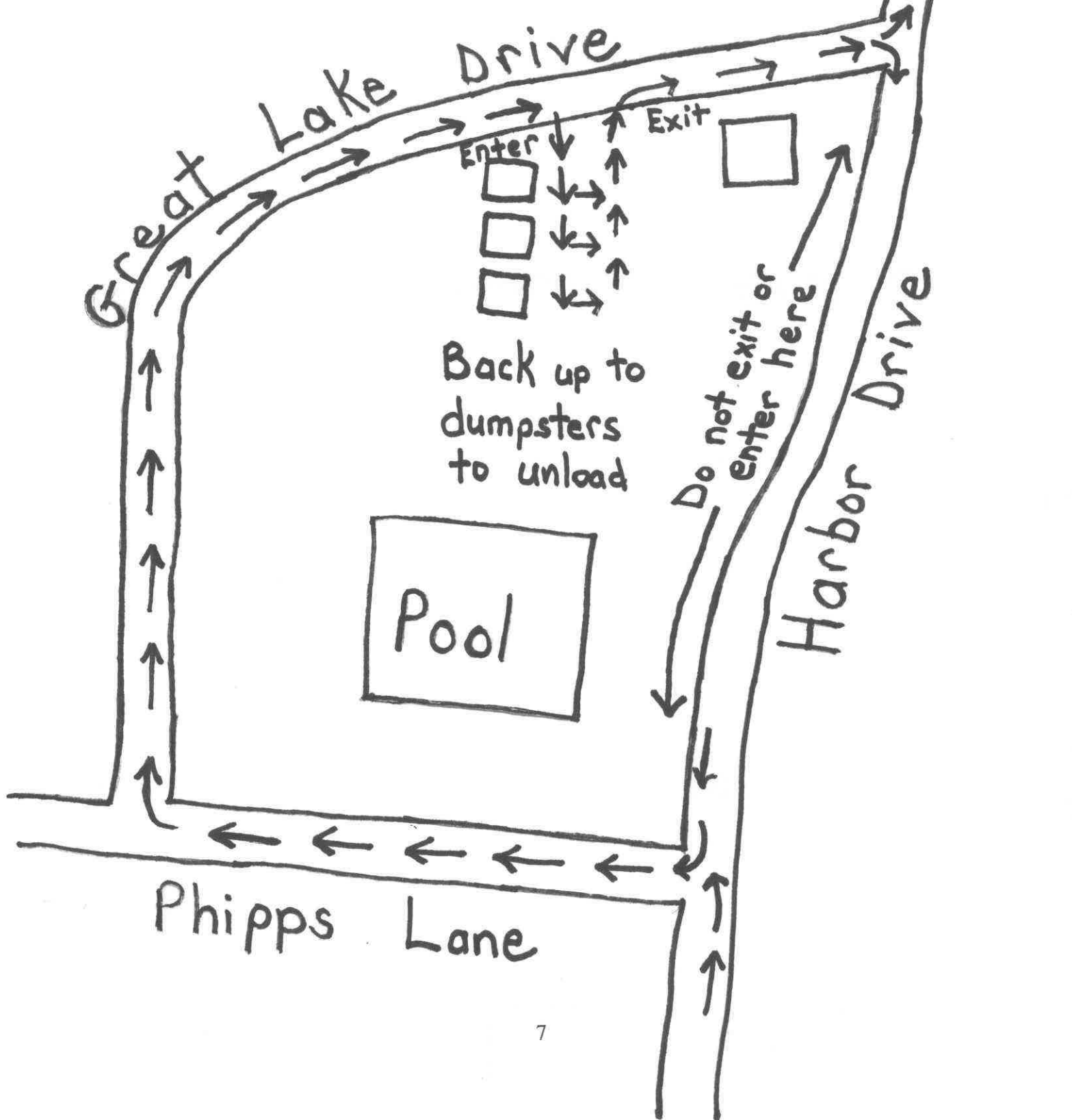
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Clockwise traffic flow  
for Dumpster Days





## RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENT

We hope everyone enjoyed themselves at the Ice Cream Social. We had a great turnout. It was really hot and humid, so the ice cream was a welcomed treat! We donated the leftover ice cream to the Capital Food Bank.

Our next event will be the annual Fourth of July Bicycle Parade. Get out your red, white and blue and come join us as we parade to the beach. Decorate your bikes, scooters, longboards, and skateboards. The parade will begin at 10 am from The Key School parking lot on the corner of Hillsmere and Carroll Drives. Light refreshments will be served at the beach. Hope to see you there!



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# **HOT OUT?**

## **JOIN THE HILLSMERE POOL**

*~Helene Raven, Pool Communications*



The Hillsmere pool opened May 28 on schedule. The Memorial Day festivities were a big success. HSIA served hamburgers, hot dogs, and brats, as well as grilled chicken and salmon. The water was great and the games were enjoyed by more than 70 children.

There is still time to join the pool this summer. Pick up the paperwork at the pool, download the forms from the website, or inquire through your Hillsmere administrator on (410) 263-4456. The pool offers multiple membership options, including family memberships (\$350), individual adult memberships (\$140), youth memberships (\$70 - adult membership required), and coupon vouchers (\$120 for 10 vouchers).

The pool opens each day at 11 am and is open until 8 pm Saturday through Thursday; and Friday evening the pool is open until 9 pm. FYI: The Hillsmere Swim Team began practice June 1 in the evening. Now that school is out, swim team has moved their practice to 7:15 am - 9:10 am M-F. The swim team has three more home swim meets this summer. There are two regular home swim meets scheduled for Saturday July 9 and Saturday July 16. Hillsmere is hosting the silver championship meet on Saturday July 23. Meets should be done by noon. Key School began their summer camp June 20 and it runs until July 29. The camp uses our pool between the hours of 9:15 am - 10:45 am M-F.

We hope the entire community can join the pool. The pool has the ability to have more than double the members we have had in past years - so join the pool and cool off this summer!!!

### **Lighthouse Shelter Donations**

Suzanne Martin is currently taking donations for the Lighthouse Shelter. Feel free to drop donations off outside her house at 118 Maple Drive. Or you can call her at 410-216-9840 or email [suz.martin@gmail.com](mailto:suz.martin@gmail.com). Suzanne will deliver the items to the Shelter. Donations currently in need are: jars of jelly, canned fruit, canned or box potatoes, regular size boxes of cereal, pancake mix, syrup, toilet paper. Other non-perishable food donations welcomed, but these are items that usually run low.

***On behalf of the Shelter — Thank you !!***

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## From the Stormwater Committee

~ *Ray Sullivan, Stormwater Chair*

It's summertime and the living is easy. Here's a suggestion that could make your life easier by saving you work and money; and at the same time, help to reduce runoff, clean-up the bay and reduce pollution.

### ***DON'T THROW AWAY YOUR YARD***

The county is encouraging everyone to GRASSCYCLE: Mow it High, Let it Lie. Try mulch mowing — when you do this, you leave the grass clippings on the lawn. These clippings hold water, keeping your lawn moist. The clippings eventually break down to naturally feed your lawn. If you can't get beyond the idea of leaving those clippings on the lawn, then try putting them in your compost pile. Remember — every time you bag grass or leaves, you are losing some of the biomass that is your yard. Grass and leaves hold water; therefore performing a natural slowdown runoff. When composted, they make excellent fertilizer.

If you have to put out yard waste, you don't have to put it a plastic bag. You can put it in a barrel marked with an "X".

Summertime and the living is easy. Let's keep it that way.

**Want to make a donation to the Annapolis Neck Peninsula Federation? You can. Please make checks payable to ANPF and send donation to ANPF c/o HSIA, P.O. Box 3485, Annapolis, MD 21403.**



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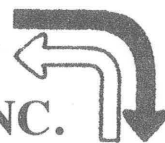
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## BUILDING PERMITS

An HSIA Building Permit is required: Every time an Anne Arundel County Building Permit is required. The responsibility of obtaining an HSIA Building Permit does not fall on your builder, it falls on you.

The following items are needed to obtain an HSIA Building Permit:

1. A copy of the Anne Arundel County Building Permit.
2. A copy of the construction location on the property when required by the County.
3. Cash or check in the amount of \$5.00 made payable to HSIA, unless we sent you a certified letter. Then the cost is \$20 for the permit.
4. Mail to HSIA, P.O. Box 3485, Annapolis, MD 21403



Permits are required for construction of new houses, new sheds, additions to houses or sheds, retaining walls, piers and bulkheads. When in doubt, or if you have any questions, please call the HSIA Building Permit Chairperson, Bill Anderson, at 410-263-4456.

### Hillsmere Resource Guide

Do you run a business that you would like listed in the "Hillsmere Resource Guide"...It's FREE! The guide lists the services and businesses that are owned/operated by our Hillsmere neighbors. It can be found on our website at [www/hillsmershores.net](http://www/hillsmershores.net). Please send your information to Nuala O'Leary at [nules99@hotmail.com](mailto:nules99@hotmail.com).



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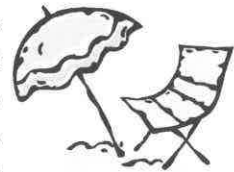
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# From the Beach Committee

~*Kate Penn, Beach Chair*

Summer is here, and the beach beckons. Enjoy the beach, but please be sure to clean up before you leave. If a trash can is full, please use the next one or take your trash home, and don't forget to recycle! Security is present to ensure the beach is used by residents and their guests only. To avoid problems, please get a Hillsmere sticker for your car by contacting 410-263-4456, or go to the community website: [www.hillsmereshores.net](http://www.hillsmereshores.net). Also, if you wish to reserve the large pavilion for parties and large groups of guests, please call 410-263-4456. A temporary liquor permit is required for any event serving alcohol.



## ***Summer Happy Hours and Community Events at the Beach:***

Join your neighbors, enjoy the beach, and have some fun during our upcoming community events this summer. Thank you to all of the volunteers, from the Recreation Committee and the Beach Committee, who work hard to make these great events happen!

The Fourth of July parade is coming up, on Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, at 10 am. The parade starts at The Key School and progresses to the beach, where refreshments will be served. We have had an impressive showing the past couple years, so come out and watch, or join the parade. Be sure to put the annual Community Picnic on your calendar for Saturday, August 20 from 4-7 pm.

The Community Happy Hours are Friday evenings, July 8 and August 12, from 5 pm to 8 pm. We will be grilling hot dogs and providing sodas and water; you are welcome to bring an adult beverage and a dish to share. This family-friendly event has made the beach a popular Friday evening destination for everyone.

## ***Operation Clear Water is back for Summer 2011:***

The South River Federation has resumed Operation Clear Water for this summer. They test the bacteria levels in the water off our community beach, along with other recreational beaches on the South River, throughout the summer, from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Results will be posted in *the Sea Breeze* and are also available at the South River Federation Website, <http://www.southriverfederation.net/index.php/river-health/bacteria-data>.

Operation Clearwater monitors water quality by counting enterococci bacteria. These bacteria indicate recent fecal contamination of water, and could cause illness, such as gastroenteritis and ear infections. Elevated bacteria counts are directly related to storm water runoff washing fecal material into the water, primarily from dogs and waterfowl, as well as faulty septic systems. We can all help keep our waterways cleaner by cleaning up after pets, discouraging geese from collecting on the beach, and reducing the storm water runoff from our homes and yards.

Test Results Recorded to Date by South River Federation:

5/18/2011	5/25/2011	6/1/2011	6/8/2011	6/15/2011	Note: When the level of enterococci exceeds 104/100 ml, the water is not safe for swimming
84 cfu/ml	16 cfu/ml	88 cfu/ml	16 cfu/ml	8 cfu/ml	

*Note: The Anne Arundel County Health Department advises that after a rainfall, all Anne Arundel County beaches are under a no swimming/no direct water contact advisory for 48 hours due to predicted elevated bacteria levels from rainwater runoff and increased health risks.*

***(Continued on next page)***

### ***(Beach Committee Report continued)***

In order to gather more complete information about swimming/boating related illnesses, the South River Federation is asking people to record any potentially water-related illnesses encountered by family members and pets this summer. This would include illness or infections following swimming or water contact from boating to wading in the river. The types of illnesses that are normally associated with water contact are:

- ~ gastrointestinal symptoms such as cramping, diarrhea and vomiting,
- ~ infection of a cut, or
- ~ ear infections.

To record any potentially water-related illnesses, forms are available on the SRF website at <http://www.southriverfederation.org/images/stories/pdf/2011illnesstrackingsheet.pdf>. This is a PDF document you can complete on-line and email to the Federation. Please record where the water contact occurred, whether or not you saw a physician, and the age and gender of the person who became ill. If several members of your family got sick, you can indicate that on the form and give all ages and genders.

Please visit the SRF website at <http://www.southriverfederation.org/images/stories/pdf/2011phsurveyletter.pdf> for more information. At the end of the summer, they will compile a report.

### ***Maintenance Projects Underway (your tax dollars at work!):***

We have completed the permit phase of the drainage improvement project, and are ready to start work. Weather allowing, construction will begin on July 11, and last for one week. Please be patient and careful around the equipment while using the beach and park during this time. The planned work includes trenching in the areas between the parking lot and large pavilion, and from the volleyball court to the drainage swale in the middle of the park. We will refurbish the volleyball court, defining the border with a low edging and finishing with more sand. In addition, we will be removing the submerged rocks off the beach in front of the large pavilion.

Enjoy the new tire swing and accessible swing that were recently installed. The tire swing has all new hardware, and the new tire is larger and a safer design. The much awaited accessible swing can be used by all, but provides additional support for those who need it in order to swing safely. The new swing set, which will replace the large, 4-bay set by the large pavilion, is scheduled for installation this fall, pending permit approval.

The nettle net was lowered this month, and the broken support brackets were replaced with stainless steel ones. We have also tried a new method for securing the net to the pilings, which should keep it from blowing up during high winds.

### ***Volunteers Needed!***

Are you interested in helping keep the beach beautiful? The Beach Committee needs volunteers both for ongoing projects and for occasional clean ups and repairs. If you are interested in either, please email Kate Penn at [beach@hillsmereshores.net](mailto:beach@hillsmereshores.net), or call 410-263-4456.

Some projects we need help with this year include: coordinating repairs/replacement of playground equipment, and managing the bench sponsorship program.

Do you have ideas for how we can make the beach even better? Please let us know.

# ITEMS OF INTEREST & FYI

## HILLSMERE READERS

A reminder that this column welcomes your calls for community-related items of interest for services, affinity groups and appropriate announcements. Please feel free to take advantage of this.

◆ **Anne Arundel Food Bank "Harvest for the Hungry"** - Nonperishable food items can be dropped off at the Eastport-Annapolis Neck Branch Library, 269 Hillsmere Drive, Annapolis, 410-222-1770, or the Annapolis Area Branch Library, 1410 West Street, 410-222-1750.

◆ **Donate Used Eye Glasses** - The Lions Club accepts used eye glasses. Hillsmere resident Ann Smith has volunteered to collect the eye glasses. Please contact Ann at [asmith1943@gmail.com](mailto:asmith1943@gmail.com). Thank you for your donation.

◆ **Anne Arundel County Department of Health Learn to Live** - The Learn To Live program of the Anne Arundel County Department of Health urges County residents to protect their skin year-round from the sun's harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays. Without proper protection, there is a greater risk of skin damage. This damage can lead to skin cancer, the most common type of cancer. Follow these simple tips to protect your skin when spending time outdoors:

- Use sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15 and apply it 30 minutes before going outside. Reapply every two hours or immediately after swimming or sweating.
- Use lip balm with an SPF of at least 15.
- Wear a hat with a wide brim to shade your face, head, ears and neck.
- Seek shade, especially from 10 am to 4 pm when UV rays are strongest.
- Cover up. Clothing with tightly woven fabric offers the best protection from harmful rays.
- Wear sunglasses that protect against 100 percent of UVA and UVB rays.

Learn to Live offers free Sun Smart Kits to County residents. The kit contains a Sun Smart Guidebook with tips for selecting and applying sunscreen, ideas for sun accessories, and information on skin cancer detection. To order a kit, County residents can call the Learn To Live Line at 410-222-7979 or visit the Sun Safety web page at [www.LearnToLiveHealthy.org](http://www.LearnToLiveHealthy.org).

◆ **Donate Used Cell Phones** - Verizon collects used cell phones. For more information visit their web site at <http://aboutus.vzw.com/communityservice/Shipping.html>.



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# HSIA GENERAL MEETING PROXIES

In order for a proxy to be used at an HSIA General meeting floor vote, it must have the following information:

1. Name, address, and signature of person giving the proxy.
2. Name of person who will cast the vote.
3. The date of a single meeting for which it is valid.
4. The particular subject or subjects for which it is valid.

Proxies that do not have all of these items will not be accepted. **Proxies must be in writing and delivered to the HSIA Secretary or his or her designate at the General Meeting.** Faxed or scanned copies will be accepted. You may use the following format (it is also available for download on the HSIA web site):

I hereby give my proxy to _____ and authorize him or her to vote on my behalf on the following subjects:	
1. _____	
2. _____	
3. _____	
at the HSIA General Meeting to be held on _____ and any continuation thereof.	
Print Name _____	Address _____
Signature _____	

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### HSIA Board Meeting

Thursday, June 30, 2011

7:00 pm

Key School Science & Library Center

### HSIA General Meeting

Thursday, July 14, 2011

7:00 pm

Key School Multi-Purpose Building

### HSIA Board Meeting

Thursday, July 28, 2011

7:00 pm

Key School Science & Library Center

**Deadline for the August**

*Sea Breeze* is July 27, 2011

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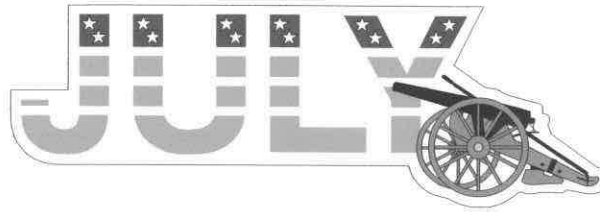
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# 2011

Sun	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3	4 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Bicycle Parade	5	6	7	8 Beach Social Happy Hour	9
10	11	12	13	14 HSIA General Meeting	15 Dumpster Days	16 Dumpster Days
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27 Sea Breeze deadline	28 HSIA Board Meeting	29	30

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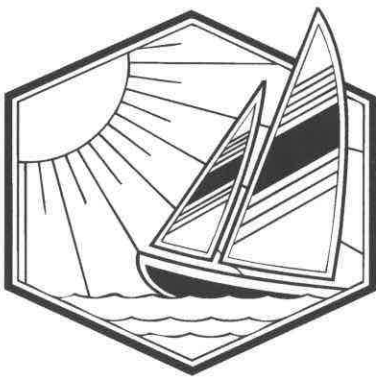
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**2011**

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Beach Social Happy Hour	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Community Picnic
21	22	23	24	25 HSIA Board Meeting	26	27
28	29	30	31 <i>Sea Breeze</i> deadline			



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