

the Sea Breeze

PUBLISHED BY HILLSMERE SHORES
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER 2010

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

I just came back from a wonderful eight day vacation sailing on the bay. What a great time of the year to be on the water. The days were mostly cool and sunny. The nights were chilly, great sleeping weather. One of the highlights of the trip was coming out of Crisfield, MD harbor and suddenly being surrounded by a pod of about 20 dolphins. They were diving under the boat and out of the water all around us. I know we don't see that here in Hillsmere, but it just reminded me of what a wonderful, beautiful place the Chesapeake Bay is and how much it means to our community lifestyle.

We had the last of this season's Beach Happy Hours a few weeks ago. This one was combined with a Pig Roast. These events, as well as the family oriented special events like the Ice Cream Social and the Halloween Parade, have really revitalized our community. The comradery and socializing has gone a long way to make everyone feel like they are really part of something special, and they are. Hillsmere has a well deserved reputation for being a great place to live and raise a family. Thanks to the volunteers who work so hard to make it all happen.

As you know, the board has been negotiating with the property owners on E. Bay View Drive who wanted to purchase the community

***HSIA General Meeting
Thursday, Nov 11th***

***Election of Officers
FY2012 Budget
Security Budget Options***

***Voting instructions and
ballot on pages 5 & 6***

(Continued on page 3)

THE SEA BREEZEPublished by: **HILLSMERE SHORES IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION****BOX 3485, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21403**www.hillsmershores.net

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HSIA FAX Number: 410-267-6510

Submit articles, ads and features to above address or FAX

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Vice President	Noel Gasparin	410-263-4456
Secretary	Mark Jones	321-377-2527
Treasurer	Bruce Walker	410-268-7466

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Christian Elkington	410-280-2610	Ray Sullivan	781-367-6420
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2010 BOARD MEETINGS - 7:00 p.m.

Jan 28	May 27	Sep 30
Feb 25	Jun 24	Oct 28
Mar 25	Jul 29	Nov 18
Apr 29	Aug 26	Dec 16

2010 GENERAL MEETINGS - 7:00 p.m.

Jan 14	May 13	Sep 9
Mar 11	Jul 8	Nov 11

All Board Meetings at The Key School Science and Library Center

All General Meetings at The Key School Multi-Purpose Building

(President's Comments continued)

property between their house and the water. An agreement was reached to sell the property for a combined total of \$230,000. It was unfortunate that we had to give up the opportunity to create a living shoreline at sometime in the future, but most of the board felt that the numerous lawsuits that we would have to go through, with a very good chance of ultimately losing, weren't worth it. This sale removes most of the threats of more lawsuits. The community voted on the proposed sale at a Special Meeting on October 7th. The results were as follows:

HSIA Members: 86 in favor, 9 opposed
Property Owners: 88 in favor, 8 opposed

The community has approved the sale of the property to the East Bay View lot owners. We are currently working through the legal and technical process. These costs are being shared equally with the buyers and HSIA. We expect the sale to be completed by the end of the year.

We will have our November General Meeting on Thursday, November 11th. This is a very important meeting. The two big events are the HSIA elections (more on that later) and the approval of the budgets for next fiscal year. It is especially important this year because the community is going to have the opportunity to decide one of our biggest budget items, security. For the last two years, we have spent about \$80,000 per year on security. That comes to about \$66 per lot per year. About 38% of the budget is spent on patrols by off-duty Anne Arundel County police officers. They patrol in uniform in county police cars. They patrol an average of just over 16 hours each week. We also have a private security company, Blueguard, that patrols about 30 hours per week. That is their contract minimum, so we can't reduce that amount. It accounts for about 53% of the budget. The balance is our beach security guard, Randy, and incidental expenses. At the November 11th General Meeting, the Budget Committee will recommend three separate scenarios for the community to consider. The first will be to keep things just the way they are. The second will be a \$60,000 option (about \$49 per lot per year). It will reduce the off-duty police patrols by 56% to an average of 7.1 hours each week. We can't reduce the other items, as I mentioned above. The third option will be a \$30,000 annual budget (about \$26 per lot per year). This plan will reduce the off-duty police patrols by 23% to an average of 12.6 hours per week and completely eliminates the private security patrols. It counts on a Neighborhood Watch program to take up the slack.

I believe that we should keep the security budget the same as it has been for the last two years. It's a small price to pay for having a significant security presence, about 46 hours each week. The cost per household is only \$5.50 each month. Some people argue that the private security patrols are not effective. The off-duty police are definitely better, but I think the private patrols do help. If you have been following the security challenges we have faced over the last five years, you know that finding a good private security company at a reasonable cost is very difficult. Blueguard has done a reasonably good job compared to the other companies we have used. We have been working with their supervisors to improve the effectiveness of the patrols and will continue to do so. When considering the need for community security patrols, whether off-duty police or private, remember that at any time there is only one county police officer patrolling the entire Annapolis Neck. That includes everything from the beginning of Rt. 665 to the water, except for Bay Ridge which has its own police officer. We get a good response when we call 911, but we don't get regular police patrols. It's just too big an area for one officer to cover. We all long for the days when you didn't have to lock your doors at night and you could leave your kids' bikes in the driveway until the next time they wanted to play. Unfortunately, those days are long gone. For another opinion on security spending, please see the article by Phil Jones on page 13 of this Sea Breeze.

(Continued on next page)

(President's Comments continued)

As I mentioned previously, it's time to hold HSIA elections. This year we are electing officers; President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. There is a ballot in this *Sea Breeze* and also on our web site. Each member of HSIA can vote. If you are like most members and just paid \$15 for your household to join, then you can send in one ballot. Be sure to fill-in your name and address and sign the ballot or it will not be counted. If you would like to vote anonymously, then you can come to the November 11th meeting and have your blank ballot validated. This year there is a contest for President. I am running for reelection and am being challenged by Phil Jones. Each candidate has an article introducing themselves and talking about why they deserve your vote. Please read these before you decide. This is a very important decision that could make a very big difference to our community. It is very important that you take the time to vote. You don't have to come to the meeting. You can mail in your ballot or just give it to someone to bring it to the meeting for you. Your community needs you... vote!

Finally, I'd like to explain the new format for the *Sea Breeze*. I'm sure you noticed that starting last month it came folded. I talked about how our world is changing and the new *Sea Breeze* format is just another example. In the past Jean Somers, our wonderful administrator and *Sea Breeze* editor, would stick mailing labels on the *Sea Breeze* and take it to the Eastport Post Office. They knew her and would make sure that it was delivered without having to go through the whole system. The result was that the current issue was in your mailbox within a day or two. The Post Office is now requiring that all bulk mail have a bar code along with the address. It also has to be folded in order to go through the sorting machines. They also require that all mail be processed at their facility near BWI. We now have our printer, Highstarr Copy Services, do all the work for us. We could do it the old way but it would cost more money and, since the flat pieces would have to be hand processed, it would take a lot longer to get to your mail box.

I'll end the way I usually do, by reminding everyone how our community is such a wonderful place to live. It's not that way by accident. Of course, the people who live here are great, but it's more than that. Hillsmere is a great place to live because of the volunteers who work so hard to keep it that way. They have all done a terrific job and deserve your heartfelt thanks and support.

-Bill Shuman
President, Hillsmere Shores Improvement Association

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HSIA Election Voting Instructions

Vote By Mail: If you are unable to attend the November 11th HSIA General Meeting, just follow these simple steps in order to vote by mail.

1. Tear the ballot out of *the Sea Breeze* or download a copy from the web site.
2. Fill out the election ballot.
3. You must include your name, address, date, and signature in the space provided on the ballot.
4. Mail the signed ballot to HSIA, P.O. Box 3485, Annapolis, MD 21403. Be sure to mark "Ballot" on the envelope.
5. Ballots must be received prior to the General Meeting. Ballots will be checked against a list of paid members. If the voter's name is not on that list, the ballot will not be counted. Dues will be accepted with mail in votes. Please include a membership form with dues payment. Membership forms can be found on our website at www.hillsmereshores.net

Vote In Person: Please note: If you are voting in person, there is no need to provide your name, address, date and signature on the ballot.

1. Tear the ballot out of *the Sea Breeze*, download a copy from the web site, or pick up a ballot at the meeting.
2. Have your ballot validated upon arrival at the meeting. You do NOT need to mark your selections before the ballot is validated.
3. Please be prepared to show a picture ID.
4. Drop ballots in the ballot box or hold them for collection.

Note: You may have someone else drop off your completed, signed ballot at the General Meeting by following steps 1, 2, and 3 in the **Vote by Mail** section above. Remember, you must be a current member to vote. Not sure if you're a current member? Please call the Administrator at 410-263-4456 or email admin@hillsmereshores.net.



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Hillsmere Shores Improvement Association Officer Election Ballot

Key School Multi Purpose Building
November 11, 2010, 7:00 pm

Only HSLA members in good standing may vote. One vote per membership.

Please vote for one for each position:

President	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Shuman <input type="checkbox"/> Phil Jones _____ write-in or floor nomination
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/> T.J. Hurlburt _____ write-in or floor nomination
Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/> Bruce Walker _____ write-in or floor nomination
Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark Jones _____ write-in or floor nomination

In order for a ballot to be accepted by mail-in vote or other than in-person, the following must be completed:

Voter's Printed Name

Voter's Address

Voter's Signature

Date

CANDIDATE BIOS

Bill Shuman — Candidate for President **399 Harbor Drive**

I have been proud to serve as President of HSIA and to work with the other officers and directors. We have built a team that has made a real difference in our community. It hasn't been easy. Our board has very diverse opinions on the many tough issues we have had to deal with. It has taken leadership and vision to bring the board together to meet the challenges and do what was best for the entire Hillsmere community.

Many of the issues we have faced have been difficult. It would have been easy and certainly less stressful to ignore when a private pier was built on community property or to cave in at the threat of a lawsuit and simply let our community property be taken. We have also fought to enforce our covenants when attempts were made to build houses that violated the height and set-back restrictions.

We have worked hard to improve our community facilities, especially the beach. The improvements at the beach in the last several years have been amazing. We have added new play equipment, landscaping, beautiful rain gardens, new fencing and parking lot improvements. We also had the vision to propose a more natural living shoreline plan. When this was presented to the community a few years ago, there was a very mixed reaction. Even though we probably could have had the plan approved in a close vote, we decided that it would be best to come up with a plan that most of the community would support. We expect to have new proposals for the community to consider early next year.

Teamwork has been very important in the many accomplishments of the last few years, but my personal relationships have also greatly benefitted the community. When we have needed police help, I have been able to get an immediate response with everything from the safety of children at bus stops, to having detectives investigate illegal drug activity. My relationship with the County Executive's office has enabled us to quickly help residents with everything from zoning and health enforcement to streetlights. One of my proudest achievements was dealing with the Blizzard of 2010. I managed to get our streets cleared within a couple of hours after the county had missed plowing a number of Hillsmere streets. I also organized volunteers to help other residents and even get people to the grocery store.

There is much work left to do. We need to continue to improve our security, modernize our bylaws, and continue our beach improvements. A top priority is to work with the Hillsmere Pool Association to finalize the new lease and make sure the pool continues to be a wonderful community asset.

It is a lot of work, but the thanks I have received by phone, email, letter and in person make it all worthwhile. I am looking forward to continuing to serve our wonderful community. Call me at 410-263-4102 or email me at president@hillsmreshores.net if you have any questions. Thanks.



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Happy Thanksgiving

Phil Jones — Candidate for President

112 East Bay View Drive

I have lived in Hillsmere for more than 30 years and have led or been involved with most major community project areas. I have:

- Been a past president of HSIA
- Led one of the Sand Spit marina expansions
- Designed and managed the Sunset boat ramp upgrade
- Worked on the first major revision to the beach
- Helped stop the recent HSIA proposed community beach living shoreline plan
- Remodeled the community entrance sign, at County expense (not the recent upgrade)
- Was one of the committee chairmen that built the Hillsmere pool
- Helped on many other community projects

I am a retired Navy Commander and Senior Manager from ARINC Engineering Services. My education is as a mechanical engineer and a computer information systems designer; however, my experience is in getting stuff done and project management.

From my point of view the current leadership of HSIA has created unnecessary community issues. A few examples of these are the East Bay View shore line issue, the community beach living shoreline and stone breakwater issue, and the Hillsmere pool lease renewal issue. These issues could have been resolved with less community stress with better leadership and more community involvement all along the process.

As I mentioned when I was elected last year to the HSIA Board of Directors, years ago Hillsmere was a friendlier place to live with much less divisiveness. We need to work to get back to that time. The beach socials are getting progressively more popular and are moving us in that direction. Additionally, the HSIA Board needs to listen more to what the community is saying and to act on community suggestions and recommendations. Instead what we continue to hear from the Board's President are statements saying the Board does not have to follow community wishes or even General Meeting votes. These are not positions I support.

We have a wonderful community with great people and super facilities. We need to be working to maintain this community and to rebuild a community spirit. This is what I plan to do if elected President.

I ask for your support and thank you for your vote.



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T.J. Hurlburt — Candidate for Vice President

403 Walnut Drive

I was born January 28, 1969 in Long Beach, California, and have been living in the Hillsmere community since December 2006 on Walnut Drive. I am a mechanical engineer for Oceaneering International (Hanover, MD) where I work as lead engineer with a team of designers, engineers and technicians on sub-sea robotic vehicles. Previous to moving to Maryland, I spent six years working at sea on two icebreaker/research ships in the coastal and shelf waters of Antarctica, where I participated in the logistics and collection of ocean and geophysical data for science funded by the National Science Foundation and the US Antarctic Program. In total, I spent 12 years working as a professional mariner and marine engineer, beginning in 1994 with Sea Education Association (Woods Hole, MA) aboard the sailing ships Westward and Corwith Cramer. During these years, I acquired US Coast Guard limited tonnage Master/Mate and Engine Department licenses, taught the skills of seamanship and watch-standing, meteorology (as it applies to ocean passage-making), and celestial navigation. In May of 2006, I married Ximena, whom I met while working in southern Chile in transit to Antarctica. Together, we have a two year old son, Morgan, and are looking forward to our second baby in late December. In my spare time, I enjoy wood working and dabble in electronics. And despite growing up in New England, knocking around boats and sailing all over the planet, we still don't own a boat... Yet!



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Bruce Walker — Candidate for Treasurer

543 Beach Drive

I have served you for six years on the HSIA Board, one year as a director and five as Treasurer. As a Director, I served as Chairman of the Zoning & Covenants Committee and served on both the Budget Committee and the Bylaws Committee. As Treasurer, I created a 12 month rolling cash flow projection for HSIA and maintained it monthly to help the Board understand its cash position, spending, and its debt status. I also created a 25 year spending plan for maintenance/replacement of P&H facilities. I have helped put HSIA on a sound financial footing and opened the budgeting process for board and HSIA membership involvement. Debt is falling and financial reserves are rising. I guided the reduction in **HSIA debt from \$508,000 in 2004FY down to \$125,819 today while still managing the financing of a sizeable list of projects** each year and the rebuilding of the Contingency fund after Isabel. My goal is to keep HSIA on a sound financial basis and to help the Board understand the financial impact of their decisions as we make those decisions.

In 2005, I initiated and chaired the **Hillsmere Shores Community Survey** project. The Community responded with over 100 volunteers to create and conduct the survey and a fantastic 64% return of the 110 question survey. Over the next four years, HSIA implemented many action plans as a result of the survey and the survey continues to be a guiding light for the Board. In 2008, I became the Hillsmere Shores community and HSIA representative for the **Dredging of Duvall Creek**. It is now the highest priority dredging project for the State in Anne Arundel County. In 2009 and 2010, I worked on the future of the **HSIA pool** and am the lead Board member on negotiating and achieving the sale of the **beach strip property** to the East Bay View residents. The community and HSIA membership approved the beach strip property sale on October 7th. I am leading the coordination of the sale. **The upcoming election looks to be very contentious. I would recommend that you read the HSIA Accomplishments of the last six years printed on pages 16 & 17 of this issue. We need a strong turnout for this vote!**

Biography: I grew up in Maryland, as did my wife. I graduated from university in chemical engineering. We have two sons and 4 granddaughters. I worked for The Dow Chemical Company for 31 years in a variety of positions. My wife is a retired RN. We became a lot owner in Hillsmere Shores in 1996 and residents since 2001. We looked all along the coastline of the Chesapeake for where we would like to live and chose Hillsmere Shores because of the location and the people who reside here. We wanted a down-to-earth diverse community where people are friendly and neighborly and that is what we feel Hillsmere Shores is like. I would like to continue to give back to this community by serving again as your Treasurer.

Mark Jones — Candidate for Secretary

101 Boyd Drive

I currently serve as the HSIA Secretary and the Chairman of the Piers and Harbor Committee. Prior to this, I was a volunteer working with the Piers and Harbor Committee. Having grown up in Hillsmere as a child, young adult and now an adult and parent myself, my family and I have and continue to enjoy our community and the amenities it offers us as residents. I would like the opportunity to continue to serve in the position as Secretary and continue to work on behalf of the community as an officer of the HSIA Board.



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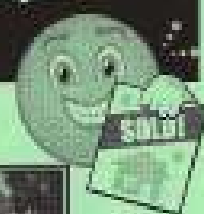


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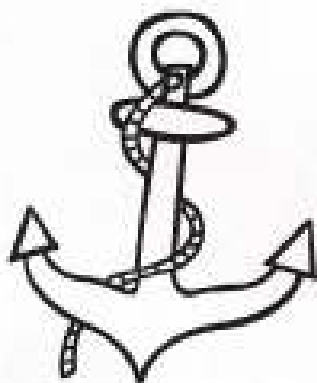
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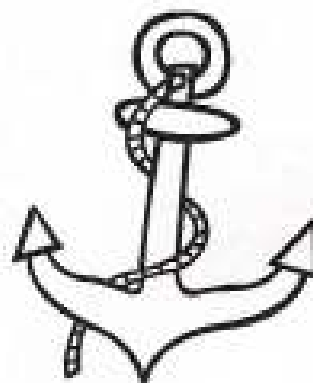
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HSIA NEWS



VOTE

HSIA General Meeting - Please make sure to attend our November 11th HSIA General Meeting at 7:00 pm in The Key School Multi Purpose Building. Come out to vote for new officers. The FY2012 budget will also be presented along with options for the security budget (see the President's Comments for details on security budget). Only paid HSIA members can cast a vote. If you have not paid your 2010 dues, you can download a membership form from the web site at www.hillsmershores.net. There's always a long check-in line at election meetings, and mailing your dues ahead of time greatly speeds up the check-in process. If you cannot mail your dues payment ahead of time, you can certainly bring it to the meeting. Not sure you're a current member? Just call the voice mail at 410-263-4456 or email the administrator at admin@hillsmershores.net.

Political Signs in Hillsmere -Remember that political signs must be removed seven days after an election. Please make sure you remove any political signs from your property by November 9th. Thank you!

**Election
2010**

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RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENT

We had beautiful weather for our annual Halloween parade. Everyone had a great time parading in their costumes to the beach...and there were only six cupcakes left! New this year was a costume contest. There were five lucky winners who received Menchie's gift cards. The categories were -- 5 and under: cutest, most original, scariest; and 6 and up: most original, scariest. Below are pictures of our winners.

Toy Drive and Christmas Caroling in Hillsmere

This year's "Santa Run" sponsored by the Annapolis Firefighters Union will pick up presents at the Hillsmere pool parking lot on Sunday, December 12, at 6:30 pm. Please bring the kids to see Santa and bring a wrapped present with a tag on it with age and gender of the present. For more information, contact Kurt Beall at 410-507-4797 or heroespub@aol.com.

After Santa collects the presents for the needy, join us for a night of Christmas caroling as we celebrate the warmth of the season. We will go to homes in Hillsmere spreading Christmas cheer as we sing traditional holiday songs. All are welcome. Please dress warmly.



Hillsmere Security Requirements & Expenses

By Philip Jones, HSIA Board Member

(The November *Sea Breeze* deadline required that this article be written before either the HSIA Budget Committee or the HSIA Board were able to develop a security recommendation for Hillsmere residents.)

I am not against good security for Hillsmere. But I am opposed to collecting taxes from residents and spending it on additional security patrols whose need is not supported by any "crime" data or analysis. Money for all additional security patrols come directly out of the pockets of Hillsmere property owners. If you look at your annual Anne Arundel Real Property Tax Levy you will see an item listed as "Hillsmere Estates /Shores." For Fiscal Year 2011, that number is \$178.85. When you approve the Hillsmere Special Tax Benefit Budget you determine that number. The more you approve, the more you are taxed by HSIA, the less you approve, the less that comes out of your pocket.

Hillsmere security is provided by four different types of security: (1) On-duty County Police Officers, (2) Off-duty County Police Officers, (3) private contractors – BlueGuard, and (4) summer beach security. This discussion does not question the need for summer beach security, since it provides a demonstrable valuable service to Hillsmere. I also do not question the need to provide some level of security deterrence or the need to have an On-duty County police officer in the Annapolis Neck Peninsula area to respond quickly to emergency situations. What I do question is: **The \$75,000 Hillsmere is currently spending to augment the security and deterrence already being provided by On-duty County Police Officers?**

We know: That the only analysis of Hillsmere police reported "incidents" was conducted by a Member of the HSIA Board on his own and that study, covering 2006, 2007, 2008, and part of 2009 does not support any additional security patrols to augment the On-duty County Police. That study indicated that for the first ten months of 2009, there were 1,549 Police Incidents reported for the Hillsmere Shores area. Of those reports only 49 actually occurred within Hillsmere proper. Of the 49 total incidents reported, only those incidents related to Assault-Sex Offenses (2); breaking and entering (1); and destruction of property (6) may possibly respond to the use of additional security patrols assuming that the officer was on duty at the time, was on the proper street, and in fact saw the incident, all major "ifs". What this shows is that for the first 10 months of 2009, HSIA spent \$62,500 (off-duty police + BlueGuard) to maybe prevent 9 crimes within Hillsmere (\$6,944 per incident), assuming again all the "ifs" in fact came together at the proper time. Or maybe HSIA is spending \$75,000 per year with almost **NO HOPE** of improving community security.

We Know: That roughly 74% of the respondents to the 2005 Hillsmere Community Survey said that they felt either secure or very secure at the community beach or on Hillsmere streets. (At the time of the survey Hillsmere was spending \$37,000 on community security.)

We Know: That Hillsmere, for Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010, spent and is spending \$80,000 per year (about one-third of all the Special Tax money collected) to augment County Police. That money is roughly divided as follows: \$31,000 for Off-duty County Police, \$42,000 for private security, the remaining funds supports the beach security guard and other miscellaneous community security costs.

We Know: That Hillsmere has employed Off-duty County Police Officers and private security companies. In recent years, Hillsmere has employed three different private security companies, including the current BlueGuard Security Company. Hillsmere has not had good experiences with private security companies, two of them have been fired and the third, BlueGuard (the folks with the flashing orange light), I think should also be fired for a lack of need and performance. Also please remember when you hear the statement "that security patrols prevent crime", there is no way to prove if that statement is true or not. It is the cry of those who have no other justification or evidence to support their position that additional patrols are needed.

At the November 11th General Meeting, the community will be presented with several Security spending (read taxing) options. I think the On-duty County Police Officers provide Hillsmere with adequate security and to spend more on security is unnecessary and unwarranted. **In this case, "More Is Not Better".**

GARDEN CLUB



The Garden Club invites men and women to the Eastport-Annapolis Neck Library at 12:30 pm for a "cup of tea" and an interesting program related to gardens. You do not have to have a "green thumb" to participate in our monthly meetings. We have arranged to have talented gardeners and historians present programs for us.

On Wednesday, November 17, Ms. Mollie Rideout, the Horticulturist from Paca Gardens, will be at our meeting to describe the gardens of Mr. William Ferris. On Tuesday, November 30, we will prepare the greens for decorating the entrance at Hillsmere and the gates to Quiet Waters Park. This is when we need your decorating talents as we prepare for the holidays.

For more information, please contact Katie Berry at 410-263-1937.

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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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.hillsmereshores.net. Please send your information to Nuala O'Leary at nules99@hotmail.com.

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HSIA/Community Accomplishments 2005FY to 2010FY

Carrying on in the tradition of previous HSIA boards, below is a summary of what your Community volunteers have accomplished through your Association these past six years. The list is quite extensive.

Community:

Conducted a comprehensive Community Survey in 2005 achieving 64% return
Initiated Outreach Program for those unfortunate to have a house fire in our Community
Created leader roles for Volunteer Coordinator, Web Master, Welcome to new residents
Initiated Beach Socials for the community
Rebuilt the Community Hillsmere Drive entrance and new signs
Zoning&Covenants Committee-outlined mission/vision/operating principles/etc
Made the budgeting and expenses process open and transparent
Initiated Volunteer Recognition Program with T-shirts and Tote bags
Enhanced Community security program adding private security
Added Beach security during the summer to reserve the beach for our residents
Defined relationship with Key School; Key School initiated annual donation to HSIA
Helped move Duvall Creek dredging to become the current #1 project priority in MD
Lost community property to adverse possession lawsuit due to years 1970-2000
Conducted effective Building Permit process/program
Arranged with the County to test for mosquito spraying each week throughout summer
Maintained active interaction with local governments and organizations incl. SRF, ANPF
Reduced debt from \$508,000 to \$125,819

Piers & Harbors:

Rebuilt Contingency fund to full strength after Isabel and major projects
Expanded the marina adding 26 new slips and redoing the parking lot
Achieved Clean Marina status/recognition; initiated oyster growing at marina
Rebuilt Beach Drive canoe pier and added 40 new canoe/kayak racks
Rebuilt Beach Drive pier/slips/boat ramp and added electricity to slips
Rebuilt Sunset Drive pier/slips and added electricity to slips
Installed security cameras at the Marina
Added automated marina entrance gate
Updated P&H rules and procedures

Beach:

Completed stone revetment of the east side of the beach where bulkhead failing
Redid the parking lot and internal fence and storm water management system
Upgraded playground for tots
Upgraded playground for older kids
Replaced benches with resident dedications; replaced waste baskets and picnic tables
Upgraded swings
Replaced pavilion roof
Completed wave action study of the shoreline in response to Community concerns &
to provide information necessary to plan the protection and improvement of our beach.
Initiated SRF weekly water sampling of our beach for swimming safety

Storm Water/Environmental:

Restored marsh at northeast beach trench entry to River/Bay
 Created storm water rain garden at mid-Beach entry
 With help from SRF & grant from CBF, created storm water rain garden by pool
 Helped fend off construction of 105 Steffey to reserve storm water management
 Offered rain barrels to the community at reduced price through our Watershed Stewards
 Working on a comprehensive storm water strategy for all of Hillsmere

Property:

Revamped rental house installing new flooring, ceiling fans, dishwasher, dehumidifier
 Painted rental house inside and outside
 Installed new windows throughout rental house
 Installed new furnace in rental house
 Hired property management company for rental house

Budget/Treasurer:

Made finances open and transparent
 Initiated monthly cash flow and committee spending reports
 Opened the budgeting process for board and HSIA membership involvement
 Created Mission/Vision/Operating principles for the budget committee
 Pushed HSIA back to obtaining multiple bids for work and materials
 Paid back the \$1000 to the remaining 50 1992 marina expansion project investors
 Guided reduction in debt from \$508,000 in 2004FY down to \$125,819

The above is in addition to normal day to day activities of managing and maintaining facilities, conducting holiday social functions, annual community picnic, dumpster days, creating budgets and managing finances and insurance, responding to incidents and inquiries, organizing volunteers to help residents during snow storms, community meetings, board meetings, Come-and-Get-it Day, planting flowers at the entrance and islands etc., beach cleanup and project days, etc., 99% of which are all done by volunteers. Your HSIA Board of Directors, committee chairs and members, project managers, etc are all volunteers working to make your community a better place.

Two of the larger portions of the Special Tax are Security and Beach Capital projects:

<u>Special Tax Fees:</u>	<u>Security :</u>		<u>Beach Capital Projects</u>	
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Spent</u>
2010FY: \$121/lot	\$80,000	\$78,112	\$16,350	\$22,637
2009FY: \$160	\$40,000	38,170	\$78,000	\$64,173
2008FY: \$156	\$40,000	28,642	\$80,500	\$53,844
2007FY: \$123	\$45,000	28,154	\$11,500	\$ 3,207
2006FY: \$141	\$39,000	33,907	\$41,679	\$ 11,915
2005FY: \$101	\$37,000	29,401	\$39,000	\$20,600
2004FY: \$ 77	\$36,000	38,225	\$17,000	\$16,400
Average = \$126/yr/lot		= \$32/yr/lot		= \$22.39/yr/lot

STax Incr. of \$7.33/yr/lot 2004-2010FY

The other major portions of ST spending (in order of size) are loan payments (2 more yrs), Ground Maintenance, Sea Breeze, and admin. Submitted by Bruce Walker

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.

♦ **Key School News - Key School Open House, November 14, 1:00 - 3:30 pm.** The Key School will hold its annual fall Open House on Sunday, November 14, from 1:00 - 3:30 pm. Families interested in learning more about what Key's program offers children in grades Pre-Kindergarten through grade 12 are invited to attend. The Open House program begins at 1:00 pm in Key School's Activity Building, 534 Hillsmere Drive. All visitors will have the opportunity to meet the faculty and review Key's curriculum. An Upper School Chorus performance, parent-led campus tours, and student and faculty presentations follow. For more information about admission to Key, please stop by Key School's Admission Office, call Key at 410-263-9231, or visit the School's web site at www.keyschool.org.

Key School Theater Presents....Our Town. December 9-11, 7:30-9:30 pm. Don't miss Key Upper School students performing "Our Town." The performance is at Key School's Katharine Hall, 534 Hillsmere Drive. Please call 410-263-9231 or visit www.keyschool.org for more information.

2010 Flu Immunization Clinics - Beginning in October, flu and pneumococcal vaccinations will be available at area health centers. Call for appointments or go to weekly walk-in clinics. For more information, call 410-222-7343 or visit www.aahealth.org.

Parole Health Center (weekly walk-in clinic), 1950 Drew Street, 410-222-7247. Monday and Wednesday, 8:30 - 11:30 am., Wednesday, 1 - 3 pm.

Health Services Building, 3 Harry S. Truman Parkway. November 17, 1 - 4 pm and 5 - 7 pm and December 9, 9 am to noon, and 1 - 4 pm.



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2010

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2 Election Day	3	4	5	6
7 Daylight Saving Time Ends	8	9	10	11 HSIA General Mtg	12	13
14	15	16	17 Garden Club	18 HSIA Board Meeting	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Happy Thanksgiving!	26	27
28	29	30 <i>Sea Breeze</i> deadline				

HSIA General Meeting

Thursday, November 11, 2010

7:00 pm

Key School Multi-Purpose Building

HSIA Board Meeting

Thursday, November 18, 2010

7:00 pm

Key School Science & Library Center

Deadline for the December

Sea Breeze is November 30, 2010



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Candidate Bios

HSIA/Community Accomplishments FY2005-FY2010

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