

the **Sea Breeze**

**PUBLISHED BY HILLSMERE SHORES
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION**

OCTOBER 2008

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

The weather has been very nice as summer comes to an end, except when it's been raining cats and dogs. The days are still warm, but the mornings are getting a bit chilly. Soon the leaves will be turning colors and, unfortunately, falling.

At our September 11th General Meeting, we had several guests. There had been several articles in *The Capital* about how the City of Annapolis was going to do a \$9M bond issue to finance Key School construction projects. This raised a lot of questions about why the City would fund a school in the County. Some people were concerned that somehow The Key School property would be annexed into Annapolis City. Sam Shropshire, a member of the Annapolis City Council, Ken Peil, Key School Director of Finance and Operations, and Marcella Yedid, Head of School, were on hand to explain the situation and answer questions. They explained that there was no ulterior motive. It was just that having the bond issue handled by the City would save the School about \$100,000. Many of the questions from the audience were about increases in the student population, which would obviously affect our community. They were assured that there are no plans to increase the population. However, the Annapolis City Council ultimately voted not to issue the bonds, so the School will be looking to

Volunteer's Corner **Volunteers Needed ...**

- **Hillsmere Historian** - still needed.
- **Community Representative** to act as liaison for Duvall Creek Dredging Project.

**Help make our community stronger.
Please call Natalie Lobe at 410-263-1947
or email her at natalielobe@verizon.net**

(Continued on page 3)

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

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Treasurer's Assistant: Jim Schwallenberg

HSIA Service and Information: 410-263-4456 (24-hours)

HSIA FAX Number: 410-267-6510

Submit articles, ads and features to above address or FAX

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Recycling Information	410-222-6103

2008 BOARD MEETINGS - 7:00 p.m.

Jan 31	May 29	Sep 25
Feb 28	Jun 26	Oct 30
Mar 27	Jul 31	Nov 20
Apr 24	Aug 28	Dec 18

2008 GENERAL MEETINGS - 7:00 p.m.

Jan 10	May 8	Sep 11
Mar 13	Jul 10	Nov 13

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)

the County to help with the bond issue. I want to thank Sam, Ken, and Marcella for taking time to attend our meeting and address community concerns.

There was also a terrific presentation by Jeanne Bellis, a Recycling Outreach Specialist from the Anne Arundel County Recycling Program. Jeanne explained that recycling is a lot easier than most people think. All types of paper can be recycled, although things like used paper towels just turn to pulp and cannot be used. You can put everything into the same recycling bin. You don't need to separate anything. Cardboard boxes don't need to be broken down. Cans, bottles, and jars don't need to be cleaned first and you can include the lids too. You don't have to decide if a certain plastic is recyclable. Just put any plastic bottles or jars in the bin. Plastic supermarket bags should not be put out with the recycling. Take those back to the supermarket and put them in the special recycling bins. The challenge is to put out as much recycling as you do trash. In other words, half of your waste should be recycled. For more information, visit www.RecycleMoreOften.com.

Earlier this year, we announced a Volunteer Recognition Program. We planned to award special "Community Volunteer" tee shirts, tote bags, and gift certificates for increasing levels of effort. This was to be capped off with a special edition of the *Sea Breeze* and a Volunteer Recognition Dinner. Unfortunately, our plan was a bit too ambitious. We did get the tee shirts made and they have been given to about 25 volunteers. I'm sure there are more volunteers who have put in more than eight hours this year who should get the tee shirts, but we never got their names. The other plans never got off the ground because we didn't have enough volunteer time available to get it done. We will try to be more organized next year. If you would like to help with the Volunteer Recognition effort, please let me know.

Speaking of volunteers, it's election time! HSIA has elections every year. In alternate years, we have elections for officers and directors. Each serve two year terms. This year, we will be electing officers. The positions are President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. If you are interested in running for one of these offices, please contact Ted Shepherd at nominations@hillsmere shores.net. Contact him as soon as possible if you are interested so we can get your name on the ballot and a short bio in the November *Sea Breeze*.

Thanks to Kate Penn and the Beach Committee for the great job they did with the new revetment and wetland area on the east corner of the beach (near the small playground). The new native grasses are growing and it looks really nice. The Beach Committee has more projects in the planning stages. The next phase involves changes and improvements to the parking area and entrance. You'll be hearing more about these in the near future.

I had hoped that I wouldn't have to write about any crime activity in this issue. However, there have been two serious incidents in the last month. The first was a home invasion on Cedar Lane where a male broke down the door at 3:30 in the morning and found two elderly women (83 and 89 year old sisters) sitting in the kitchen. He demanded money and started rummaging through a purse. One of the women took a metal gripper (the type used to get a box off a shelf) and wacked him in the head. He fled with the purse. The women were not injured. The second was an apparent robbery at Mansion and Hillsmere Drive, next to Key School, on October 2 at approximately 1:00 pm. A 27 year old man was robbed at knife point. His phone and wallet were taken. He was not seriously injured. Because the incident occurred next to The Key School campus, the School was locked-down while the police searched for the perpetrator. Both of these events were very serious. The common thread is the likelihood that the perpetrators were both drug addicts (they were not the same person). So how can

(Continued on next page)

(President's Comments continued)

we help to make our community safer? First, you should always report suspicious activity to the police by calling 911. Second, we need to make sure drug activity does not occur in our neighborhood. I have received tips from residents, via email, several times about suspected drug activity. I always turn these over to the police and they always take them seriously. You can email me via the "Talk to Us" button on the web site or by leaving a message on the 24 hour voice mail at 410-263-4456.

Well, that's enough for this issue. Get out and enjoy the fall weather. By the time you read this, we will have had the last of our beach socials and happy hours. They have been a great success. Thanks to the Beach Committee, especially Noel Gasparin, for the hard work organizing these terrific community parties. They were a great way to get out and meet your neighbors. It's just another testimonial to how wonderful this community really is.

Bill Shuman
President, Hillsmere Shores Improvement Association

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Thus far, the national press has chosen to concentrate on other elections. But any day now, major newspapers and cable TV could descend on our community to cover democracy at the local level. If you think you can stand the scrutiny, endless interviews, and hard fought battles that mark U.S. political campaigns, opportunity awaits right here in Hillsmere.

At the General Membership Meeting of the Hillsmere Shores Improvement Association to be held on Thursday, November 13, 7:00 pm, at Key School, the paid membership of HSIA will cast their votes for the following HSIA Officer positions:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

To assume one of these leadership positions, you must send to the Nominations Chairman by October 25:

1. Your name.
2. A statement that says you are a paid member of HSIA and you are running for whatever officer position you are seeking.
3. A paragraph spelling out what you want to accomplish in that position.
4. A paragraph that tells why you are qualified to serve in that position (e.g. work and educational experience).

This information will appear online at the Hillsmere Shores website at www.hillsmreshores.net and in the November *Sea Breeze*. It will give your fellow residents a chance to see how splendidly prepared you are to help lead us forward in the twenty-first century. Then, considering how valuable you are, you will be elected to a two-year term and provide the community with epic service.

Later on, when you are being sworn in as U.S. President, you will recall fondly the day you decided to enter public service. If you are reading this message now, then today is that day! So please send the four numbered items to Ted Shepherd, Nominations Chair, at nominations@hillsmreshores.net or to HSIA, P.O. Box 3485, Annapolis, MD 21403. We'll take it from there.

Now, on behalf of the community, let me be the first to say "Thank you!"

Ted Shepherd
Nominations Chair

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HSIA NEWS

Blood Mobile Drive - To help ensure an adequate blood supply, Anne Arundel Medical Center has developed a new mobile blood program to allow neighborhoods, companies, churches, schools and organizations in the community to sponsor blood drives. Blood donations obtained from the mobile blood program stay at AAMC and are used solely for the purpose of meeting the community's increasing need for blood. Hillsmere will be sponsoring a blood drive on Saturday, October 18. The AAMC Blood Mobile will be parked at our beach from 10 am to 4 pm for anyone wishing to make a blood donation.

Volunteers Needed for the Beach Committee - Do you enjoy the community beach, playground, and park? We need your help to maintain this gem of our community! We are looking for Beach Committee members to handle on-going projects as well as occasional volunteers to help with clean-up and work days. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Kate Penn, Beach Chair, at beach@hillsmershores.net.

Political Signs in Hillsmere - Political signs supporting or opposing candidates for public office or ballot questions may be placed on privately owned lots by the property owner or resident for up to 30 days before or 7 days after a public election. The signs must be no greater than 2 by 3 feet or equivalent area. Political signs may not be placed on HSIA property.

DO YOUR DUTY...
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RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENT

Put on your favorite costume and come join us for the annual Halloween Parade on Sunday, October 26th, at 1:00 pm. We will meet at the Key School parking lot on Carroll and Hillsmere Drive and parade to the beach for refreshments. Come out and enjoy the parade, either as a participant or just as a spectator. Hope to see you there!

Please enjoy these pictures from our 4th of July Bicycle Parade.



Stephanie Crouse-Geib/Susan Staples: 410-263-4456

Personal Ads

Lost and Found - Ladies watch, black strap with gold face. Please email dowellhouse@comcast.net.

For Sale - Two friendly blue parakeets, 1 ½ years old; brothers, Fred and Rickie. Home-raised from birth and can be held, unlike birds sold in pet stores. The matted silver cage is 36" square, holds 1-7 birds, has storage area on bottom, is a \$200 value. Many toys and food included. Easy to care for. Asking \$80. Please call Kerry or Donna at 410-268-3996.

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 410-279-1666.

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From the Beach Committee

~Kate Penn, Beach Chair

I received a few inquiries about the safety of our stone revetment after explosives were found in the granite placed on the shoreline of the Round Bay community in Severna Park. At that time, in August, I spoke with Wes Matheu of Shoreline Design to determine if there was any risk with our shoreline. Wes acknowledged that the stone came from the same supplier, although it was not possible to determine if it came from the same quarry. He also told me that after the incident in Severna Park, both he and a representative from the supplier inspected the rock and did not observe any remnants from the explosives.

Wes explained that it would be clearly visible because the material is placed in brightly-colored tubes. The bright yellow tubes observed on the Severna Park project encased the explosive materials. However, both the article run in *the Capital* in August and Wes have pointed out that the material is not explosive. The material used is a mixture of fertilizer and diesel fuel, which must be detonated with an explosive or blasting cap. It is not flammable, and cannot be detonated by either flame or heat. It is water soluble; therefore, even if some had been left on the stone when it was delivered, there is no chance of it being there now, given its exposure to both the water and the weather.

I recently spoke with someone who was concerned about a plastic container he saw in the stone on our shoreline. What he observed was clear plastic, and was not the type or color of the material found in the rock at the Round Bay community shoreline. However, in order to provide greater assurances to our residents who are concerned, we will have a third party inspection of our site.

We are looking for volunteers for our Beach Committee. If you enjoy the community beach, playground and park, we could use your help to maintain this precious gem. We are looking for Beach Committee members to handle on-going projects as well as occasional volunteers to help with clean-up and work days. If you are interested, please contact me at beach@hillsmershores.net.

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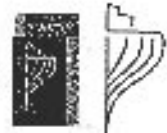
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GARDEN CLUB

On October 15, we will meet at the Eastport/Annapolis Neck Library at 9:40 am for a trip to the Tawes Garden. Our visit will include a power point presentation, a tour and lunch in the cafeteria. If interested, please call Jean Koehler at 410-268-0276 so that your name can be put on the list.

Our November 19 program will be a presentation of holiday floral arrangements by one of our members, Grace Bolea. The meeting will be at the Eastport/Annapolis Neck Library and will start at 12:30 pm with refreshments. We will also be planting bulbs at the Library after the meeting.

Please feel free to join us for either, or both, of these events!

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ITEMS OF INTEREST & FYI

♦ **Key School 5K/10K Run & Family Fun Run** - Runners of all ages are welcome to lace up their running shoes and participate in the Key School Parents' Association's 5K/10K Run and Family Fun Run on Sunday, October 19. Registration is from 8:00 - 8:45 am on the Key School Campus and the race starts on Hillsmere Drive promptly at 9:00 am. The one-mile Family Fun run will begin at 9:15 am. Runners of all ages and experience levels are welcome. Refreshments will be available for all. Last year's race was a great success and, once again this year, Key School personnel are working directly with local police to minimize inconvenience. The courses for the runs are as follows:

The 5K/10K Run will begin at 9:00 am on Hillsmere Drive in front of Smith House. Runners will proceed toward the beach, taking a left on East Bay View Drive, making a right onto Kuethe Drive and bearing left onto Beach Drive. They will proceed to Spruce Lane, cross Hillsmere Drive to Harbor Drive, follow Harbor Drive to Green Spring Drive, return to Hillsmere Drive, and finish at Smith House.

The Family Fun Run will begin at 9:15 am on Hillsmere Drive in front of Smith House. Runners will proceed to Carroll Drive, making a left onto Tayman Drive, a left onto Mansion Drive, and a left onto the Manse Field. The race will end on the Manse Field in front of Smith House.

For more information or to download a Race Registration Form, visit www.keyschool.org.

♦ **Library Happenings** - Keep up with the latest happenings at the Annapolis and Eastport/Annapolis Neck Libraries. Visit the County Library web site at www.aacpl.net to see all the latest info on monthly events, book discussions, computer and internet training, events for teens, storytimes, adult programs, seasonal events, and much, much more.

♦ **Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off** - The next Anne Arundel County household hazardous waste drop-off date is October 18 at the Millersville Landfill, 389 Burns Crossing Road. Drop-off hours are from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. This provides opportunities for County residents to safely dispose of products containing harmful chemicals. Items accepted include oil-based paints, staining agents, paint solvents, pesticides, household and automotive cleaners, oil and antifreeze contaminated with water or other products, pool chemicals, gasoline, kerosene and other fuels, nicad (rechargeable) batteries, watch batteries. The following mercury containing items are also accepted: thermometers, thermostats, button batteries, fluorescent light tubes, mercury vapor lamps. Anne Arundel County cannot accept medical waste, compressed gas tanks, ammunition, smoke detectors or fire extinguishers. This service is for Anne Arundel County residents only. Be prepared to provide proof of residency. Any questions can be directed to the Department of Public Works at 410-222-7951 or check the web site at www.aacounty.org/DPW.

♦ **County Executive Leopold Announces New Tool on County Web Site for "Lost Pets"** - County Executive Leopold announced the "Lost Pets" program on the Anne Arundel County web site. Designed to speed up the process of finding pets and reuniting them with their families, county citizens may post descriptions, pictures, and the last location of their pets. Access this feature by visiting the County homepage web site or the Quick Links section of Animal Control's web site.

HSIA Board Meeting

Thursday, October 30, 2008

7:00 pm

Key School Science & Library Center

HSIA General Meeting

Thursday, November 13, 2008

7:00 pm

Key School Multi-Purpose Building

Deadline for the November

Sea Breeze is October 25, 2008



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			1	2	3 Dumpster Days	4 Dumpster Days
5	6	7	8	9 Yom Kippur	10	11 Beach workday / Beach Social Happy Hour/ Yardsale
12	13 Columbus Day	14 Piers & Harbor Meeting	15 Garden Club	16	17	18 Blood Mobile at Beach
19 Key School Run	20	21	22	23	24	25 Sea Breeze deadline
26 Halloween Parade	27	28	29	30 HSIA Board Meeting	31 Halloween	



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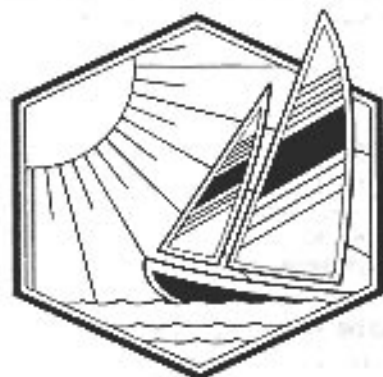
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2008

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2 Daylight Savings Time Ends	3	4 Election Day	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Piers & Harbor Meeting	12	13 HSIA General Meeting	14	15
16	17	18	19 Garden Club	20 HSIA Board Meeting	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving	28	29
30						



Hillsmere Shores Improvement Association
P. O. Box 3485, Annapolis, MD 21403
www.hillsmereshores.net

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