

the **Sea Breeze**

**PUBLISHED BY HILLSMERE SHORES
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION**

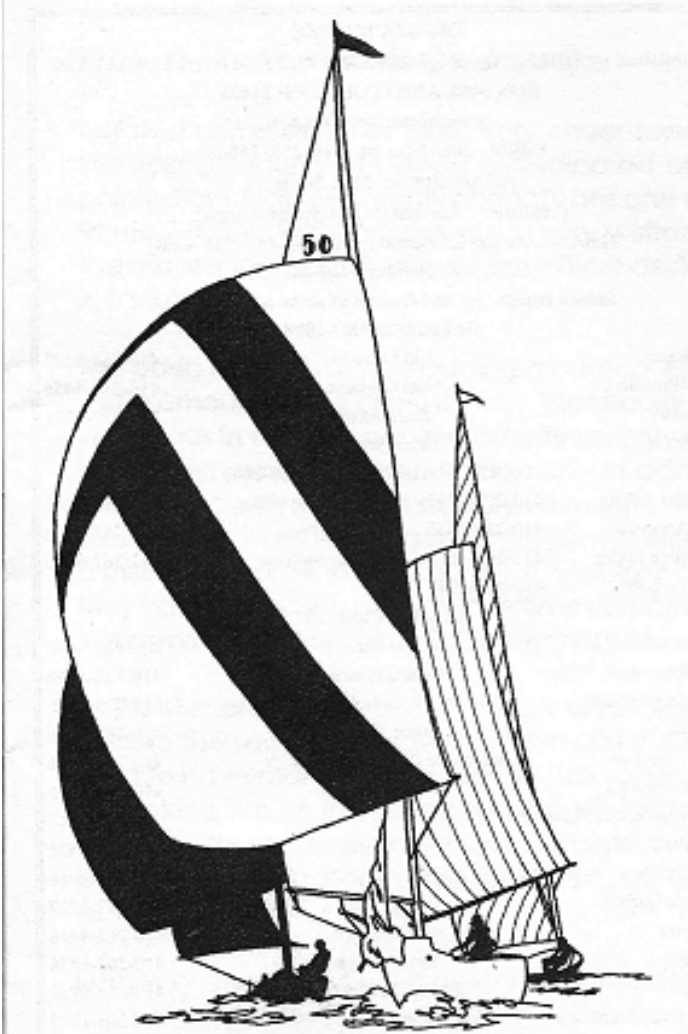
OCTOBER 2009

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

It's really feeling like Fall is here. Even though we've had a few 80 degree days, the nights are very cool. For most of us, we are now waking up for work in what seems like the middle of the night. Can the leaves be far behind?

As you probably know, the President's Comments in the last *Sea Breeze* were inadvertently left out because of a miscommunication. I wrote an article on the possible new beach strip lawsuit but it was put in as the President's Comments, not as a separate article. The actual comments were then emailed to the HSIA email list and posted on our web site. In those comments I spoke about an incident where a scooter was stolen from an open garage and suggested that we need to have more of an urban frame of mind to make sure we don't become victims of crime. By that I meant keeping doors and cars locked and not leaving valuables in plain sight. The victims of that theft were very upset with what I wrote and felt that I was blaming them and making excuses for the criminal that took their scooter. Nothing could be further from the truth. I want to apologize for upsetting them, especially when they were already justifiably upset about the theft of their scooter. When they emailed me, they raised an issue which comes up regularly when we talk about security. They wanted to know why we couldn't become a gated community or put up cameras to record everyone entering or

(Continued on page 3)



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

Help make our community stronger. Please contact us if you would like to volunteer and let us know your area of interest. Please call Natalie Lobe at 410-263-1947 or email her at natalielobe@verizon.net

THE SEA BREEZE

Published by: **HILLSMERE SHORES IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION**

BOX 3485, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21403

www.hillsmershores.net

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Administrator: Jean Somers

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

OFFICERS 2007-2008

President	Bill Shuman	410-263-4102
Vice President	Noel Gasparin	410-263-4456
Secretary	Mark Jones	321-377-2527
Treasurer	Bruce Walker	410-268-7466

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Jennifer Adams	410-295-3777	Suzanne Miller	
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Bill Anderson	410-263-4456	Kate Penn	443-482-9870
Christina Friday	410-263-7665	Ray Sullivan	781-367-6420
Natalie Lobe	410-263-1947		

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Annapolis Neck Peninsula Federation Representative - Ray Sullivan

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Hillsmere Garden Club	410-268-0276
Hillsmere Pool Association (www.hillsmerepool.org)	410-263-4456
Membership Chairperson	410-295-4913
Swim Team	410-267-9054
Recycling Information	410-222-6103

2009 BOARD MEETINGS - 7:00 p.m.

Jan 29	May 28	Sep 24
Feb 26	Jun 25	Oct 29
Mar 26	Jul 30	Nov 19
Apr 30	Aug 27	Dec 17

2009 GENERAL MEETINGS - 7:00 p.m.

Jan 8	May 14	Sep 10
Mar 12	Jul 9	Nov 12

All Board Meetings at The Key School Science & Library Center
All General Meetings at The Key School Multi-Purpose Building

(President's Comments continued)

leaving the neighborhood. Hillsmere gave up the ability to do that many years ago, shortly after the community was created, by giving all of our roads to the county. In return, we don't have to pay for our own road maintenance which would be very expensive. Since the roads are not private property, anyone is permitted to enter our community. They also were concerned about the effectiveness of our private security patrols. The current company we are using, Blueguard Security, has done a good job of reliably providing the patrols. However, in the next month, we will be analyzing how they are patrolling and see if we can come up with any suggestions to make the coverage more effective and responsive.

The HSIA Budget Committee met this month to prepare the budgets for FY 2011 that starts on July 1, 2010. The budget that most of you are interested in is the Special Tax Budget. The budget we are proposing increases the Special Tax by \$38 to a total of \$159 for next year. The main reason for the increase is continuing improvements at the beach. However, there were several projects that we left out in an attempt to keep the tax from increasing too much. They were: replacing the swing sets near the large pavilion, regrading the same area to reduce or eliminate the standing water we get after a big rain, and adding an electronic gate at the beach that would automatically open at dawn and close at dusk. The new gate would make sure that the beach was available without waiting for someone to unlock it and greatly improve security after dark. The total cost of these additional projects would increase the Special tax by an additional \$23 for next year. At our General meeting on November 12th, we will be asking the membership to approve the HSIA budgets. At that meeting, we will take a vote to see if the membership wants us to include the additional projects in the budget. If you want to be part of that decision, then please attend the meeting. Our General Meetings are at 7:00 pm at the Key School in the Multi-Purpose Building. I want to note that the HSIA board still has to approve the proposed budget at its October meeting before it is presented to the membership for a vote.

Also at the November meeting, will be the HSIA elections. Board members and officers serve two years terms with elections in alternating years. This year's elections will be for the seven HSIA directors. Most of the current directors are running for another term. If you are interested in running, please send an email to nominations@hillsmershores.net or leave a message on our 24 hour voice mail at 410-263-4456. The November Sea Breeze will have ballots so you can vote by mail or in-person.

In the last Sea Breeze, I talked about a possible new beach strip lawsuit and an offer by nine of the East Bay View lot owners to buy the community property between their lots and the water. We agreed to sell the land but not to include the riparian rights. There is nothing new to report at this time. We sent their attorney our response but have not heard anything yet. We are hopeful that this can be settled without more lawsuits. We'll inform the community as soon as we get a response.

Enjoy the wonderful weather. There's still time to get out and enjoy our beautiful beach. Kate Penn and the rest of the Beach Committee have been working very hard to make many improvements for you to enjoy. The new fencing looks great and the two new rain gardens will be planted shortly. Come down and take a look.




Bill Shuman
President, Hillsmere Shores Improvement Association

HSIA NEWS


Be on the HSIA Board...Give Back...Get Back - If you're reading this, you probably live in Hillsmere. So, you may have an interest in subjects that concern our community, how they become issues, and how citizens like yourself deal with them. A position on the board will provide that privilege. HSIA Board Member is that rare political job with no begging for campaign funds balanced by no need to trash your opponents. Everyone on the HSIA Board is a giver: time and energy, lots of both. But board members are takers, too. From their work they get a better understanding of issues covering everything from sliding boards at the playground to lights at the marina to police reports on safety to picnics for you and your neighbors. Board members also take back new friendships with other board members and the chairpersons who seek to stay on top of topics ranging from beautification to zoning. Finally, board members receive a honing of skills that include speaking in public, learning how to research, and negotiating subjects less simple than they might appear at first glance. In short, should you be elected, you will embark on a diversified course in self empowerment helpful in work and living. If this prospect tempts you, please consider joining the Board. Please provide to nominations@hillsmershores.net ASAP: your name, a statement that you have paid your 2009 dues, and a few words about what you hope to do as a board member, and why you're qualified to do it. This information will run along with other candidate biographies in the November issue of *the Sea Breeze*. The General Election will be November 12. If you've occasionally been tempted to enlarge your life by serving the lives of others, now is your chance!

Riverwatchers Need Lake Hillsmere Access: Since December 2008, South River Federation Riverwatchers Kevin Green and Jennie Gundersen have been conducting biweekly tests on Duvall Creek for parameters including temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen and turbidity. The results are used to track trends and alert the Riverkeeper to water quality problems in the South River. They would like to expand the sampling to include Lake Hillsmere, but there is no public access. If you are willing to allow the Riverwatchers access to your dock for about 15 minutes every other week, it would be greatly appreciated. You will be notified in advance of sampling and the times are very flexible. Please contact Kevin at Ka.green@comcast.net or Jennie at jlgundersen@hotmail.com for more information. See results at <http://www.southernriverfederation.net/index.php/river-health/water-quality-data>.



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(HSIA News continued)

The following residents are running for a position on the HSIA Board of Directors for calendar years 2010-2011. It's not too late for you to run too! Just email your name to nominations@hillsmershores.net. Include a brief bio of yourself and a few words why you would like to join the HSIA Board. Your bio will run along with the other candidates in the November *Sea Breeze*. Please consider giving some of your precious time to the community and please email your bio by Tuesday, October 26th.

Bill Anderson - I have been a resident of Hillsmere since September 1969 along with my wife Sandy. We have two children and four grandchildren. I've provided 39 years of service to the Hillsmere community. Since 1970, I have served as President of HSIA for one term and have been a board member for approximately 28 years. I chaired the committee that constructed the boat ramps and the new pavilion. My family and I have assisted, or single-handedly performed the maintenance throughout the community since 1975. I've participated in cleanup efforts of the beach, marina and boat ramps after numerous hurricanes and storms. Since 1998, I have been Chairman of the HSIA Building Permit Committee. I've participated in the budget planning process for our community for the last 16 years and I've also served as the Beach Chairman for five years. I constructed, and regulated assignments, for spaces on the dinghy/canoe/kayak racks and I managed spaces assigned in Hillsmere's Boat Park on Beach Drive. I organize our community Dumpster Days and am the liaison with the County for this clean-up effort. I've also attended and participated in several County hearings of concern to Hillsmere community projects.

Christina Friday - I moved to Hillsmere approximately 5½ years ago with my husband, Tom, and our daughter, Chase. We have two children, Chase, now six years old, and Christopher who is four years old. Hillsmere is the perfect place for us; the place that I dreamt it would be for our family.

I was born and raised in Huntington, Long Island, where my true love of sea and sand began. In the early 1990's, I traveled to Bosnia-Herzegovina where I worked as an admin assistant for the United Nations High Commission for Refugees. After 2½ years, I returned home to be with my mother who was undergoing cancer treatment in New York. She is currently well and visits OFTEN! I have a major in Political Science and attended both Drew University and St. Mary's College. I have worked as a public servant in several capacities, engulfing all arenas of county, state and federal government. I've since entered the private sector starting my own business, Developmental Strategies, Inc., focusing on both political and non-profit fundraising.

I am honored to represent and serve our community as a current board member. I will continue to do my best for the residents of Hillsmere and welcome your thoughts and input.



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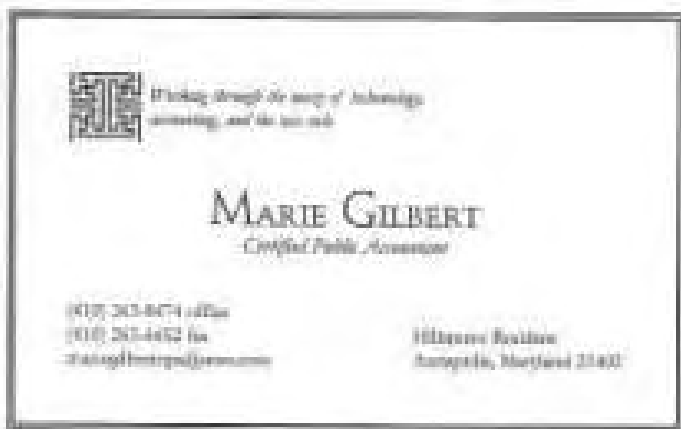
(HSIA News continued)

Phil Jones - Over my years as a resident of Hillsmere Shores, I have been elected and served on the HSIA Board of Directors many times. I have served as the President of the HSIA Board of Directors. I have been active in the community over the years having worked with “Buzzy” Abbott on the first major beach redesign; lead the second major expansion to the marina; designed and permitted the last ramp improvement to the Sunset boat ramp; was one of the committee chairs for the building of the Hillsmere pool; co-authored along with Chris Elkington the private letter that was sent to everybody in the community to stop the HSIA Board’s proposed “Living Shoreline” change to the beach area; and over the last two years have most likely attended more Board meetings than some of the current Board members.

I hope to restore to the Hillsmere community more faith in their Board of Directors. Recently, the Board has had a tendency to make major decisions without, what I believe, is adequate openness and discussion with the community. Four cases in point are: (1) the Beach “Living Shoreline” effort, which I think would have been an environmental disaster for Hillsmere; (2) the Beach Strip Lawsuit, why HSIA has elected to continue this lawsuit using a Land Patent rights approach that I understand has failed in the past, I do not understand or support; (3) increased the spending for security patrols with no way to measure any improvements in community security, and (4) the Pool Lease Renewal or maybe HSIA assuming pool management. I support continuing to have HPA manage the pool, it has worked well for the last 28 or so years, so why change it now. The Board’s handling of these four major areas, plus others have created unnecessary divisions within the Hillsmere community. I believe we need to get back to the One Community Concept and I will work to that end of increasing the flow of information from the Board to the community to help ensure that the Board of Directors, in fact, represents the interests of the owners and residents of the Hillsmere Shores.

Kate Penn - I am running for re-election to the HSIA Board of Directors to continue my work as Beach Chair. It has been a great four years, working with the volunteers on the Beach Committee, and with the many volunteers who have joined our spring and fall work days at the beach. We have accomplished some great improvements, as well as provided important maintenance. However, I am very excited about future projects still remaining that will enhance the quality of our beautiful beach park.

My professional background is in construction management. I currently provide part-time consulting while raising my three children. When my family moved here five years ago, we were looking for a neighborhood with a strong community where our children would have open spaces to play and explore. My experience has far exceeded my expectations, as I am regularly surprised and warmed by the friendliness, concern, and sharing I have witnessed among neighbors. I am proud to be a part of this neighborhood and appreciate the opportunity to work with you all to make it an even better place to live.


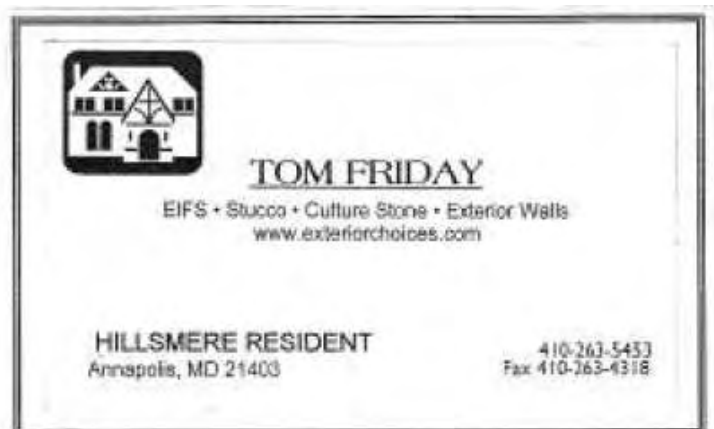


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(HSIA News continued)

Ray Sullivan - I have lived in Hillsmere on Meade Drive since 2001. During these 8 years I have been involved in many local activities both inside Hillsmere and in the greater Annapolis area. I have been on the board since 2007. My focus has been on growth issues that affect our quality of life with particular interest on traffic and our environment. For the past several years, I have been the Hillsmere delegate to the Annapolis Neck Peninsula Federation (ANPF) and have helped keep the board and our community informed on these issues. My role as the ANPF delegate has put me in contact with many other communities in our area. Furthermore, it has made me begin to understand how the County and City government organizations function. It is my experience that by building alliances with other communities that we can be effective in having a real voice in the changes that will happen due to growth. We have had some successes but there is still much work to do.

Currently, I am heading the Stormwater Committee. The basic plan is complete and you will see projects going forward starting this fall. We are working with the South River Federation, Key School and AA County.

By being on the board, my role will strengthen our community's voice in the area. The change in the Annapolis political leadership should allow us to have a more cooperative relationship with the city. I intend to continue to keep people informed on these issues, to build alliances inside the community and with other communities and with the city and county governments. I hope that more of you will get involved.

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GARDEN CLUB

The Hillsmere Garden Club's kick off meeting in September was well attended and everyone enjoyed the creative storybook flower designs done by some very talented members. The October 21st meeting will be a presentation on "The Wonders of Chrysanthemums" by Gene Sumi of Homestead Gardens. He always presents a good program and if you enjoy this fall bloomer, be sure to stop by. Our November 18th program should be a "must see" for the flower arrangers in the community. Donna, of Gateway Florists, will be doing a demo of holiday floral arrangements.

The Garden Club meets at the Eastport-Annapolis Neck Library at 12:30 pm for refreshments, a business meeting at 1:00 pm, followed by the program at 1:30 pm. Please feel free to join us if you have an interest in either of these topics!

If you have any questions, please call Jean Koehler at 410-268-0276.



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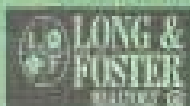
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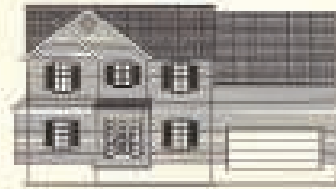
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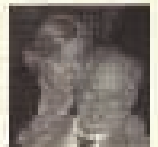
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-Sylvia Wicklem
 Hillsmere, Annapolis

And for your information as of October 9, 2009 - other properties listed for sale in our community:

Homes:	Price:	BR	BA
409 Edgemere Drive	\$250,000	4	2*
402 Harbor Drive	\$299,900	4	2
406 Walnut Drive	\$299,900	4	2*
102 Edgemere Drive	\$310,000	4	2
510 Forest Hill Drive	\$325,000	3	2*
101 Meade Drive	\$332,500	4	3*
510 Hillsmere Drive	\$345,000	5	3*
315 Cedar Lane	\$349,900	4	3
280 Hillsmere Drive	\$350,000	4	2.5
121 Maple Drive	\$359,900	6	3
278 Hillsmere Drive	\$360,000	4	3
102 Great Lake Drive	\$379,000	5	3
112 Maple Drive	\$379,000	4	3
615 Tayman Drive	\$449,900	4	3.5*
607 Hillsmere Drive	\$469,000	5	2.5*
134 Locust Lane	\$474,000	5	5
533 Lee Circle	\$549,900	3	2
124 Bay View Drive E	\$599,950	4	3*
510 Birch Drive	\$610,000	4	3
507 Hillsmere Drive	\$615,000	5	3.5
100 Sunset Drive	\$720,000	4	3
105 Bay View Drive	\$995,000	3	2
630 Riverside Drive	\$2,950,000	4	3.5

* Under contract - list price, not necessarily sales price.

Other properties listed for rent in our community:

Homes:	Price:	BR	BA
402 Harbor Drive	\$1,650	4	2
412 Hillsmere Drive	\$1,800	4	2
510 Birch Drive	\$2,250	4	3
102 Lee Drive	\$2,300	4	3*
325 Hillsmere Drive	\$2,400	5	3

The above information is deemed reliable but not guaranteed, as taken from the AACo Multiple Listing Service. It is not my intention to solicit listings of other Realtors. However, if you are not working with another agent I would love to be of service.



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RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENT

Put on your favorite Halloween costume and come join us for the annual Halloween Parade on Sunday, October 25th, 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!

Thanks to everyone that participated in our summertime events! Please enjoy this photo from the 4th of July Parade.



Personal Ads

Boat Slips for Rent in Hillsmere - Protected slips off Kitty Duvall Creek. Short or long term considered. 1 slip w/lift. Please email DawnDougan@mindspring.com or call 410-268-0866.

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.

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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Hillsmere Elementary School News

~ Debbie Jones, PTA President & Hillsmere Resident

Hi there. My name is Debbie Jones and I am the PTA president for Hillsmere Elementary School and a Hillsmere resident. I would like to share school news with the whole community. Our biggest change is our new principal, Mary Wagner. She is very energetic and eager to make our school one of the top schools in Anne Arundel County. I also wanted you to know that some of our community children walk to and from school each day. Please be sure to watch for them from about 8:30 until 8:50 am and then again in the afternoon from about 3:30 to about 3:50 pm.

Hillsmere Elementary School is holding our annual Hillsmere Fun Fair on November 7th from 10 am until 2 pm. We welcome the whole community to come play games, enjoy activities, buy a baked good and bid in our silent auction. Stop by, bring the family and have some carnival kind of fun!! This is also the largest fund raiser for the school so every little bit helps!

Did you know that several of our local businesses also contribute to our school? We are currently signing people up to designate our school in the Giant A + Bonus Bucks program and Safeway eScrip program. It costs you nothing and takes only a few moments but it can mean several hundred dollars for our local school.

To register in the Giant A + Bonus Bucks visit
www.giantfood.com/our_stores/bonus_bucks/designate_school.htm
or call 1-877-ask-aplus (1-877-275-2758). Hillsmere's # is #01689

To register in the Safeway eScrip program visit www.escrip.com. Hillsmere's # is 6515648

Both programs allow you to register for up to 3 different schools

And last, we are collecting **Box Tops** and **Campbell's Labels for Education** for this academic year. Box Tops are those little pink squares (I do mean little) that appear on hundreds of products including:

General Mills cereals	Nature Valley granola bars	Cottonelle bath tissue
Green Giant frozen vegetables	Huggies diapers	Kleenex
Pillsbury refrigerated items	Ziploc bags & containers	Hefty bags and serving items
Avery office supplies		

Campbell's Labels for Education can be found on:

Campbell's soups	Spaghettios	Swansons broths
Pepperidge Farm products	Prego Italian sauces	V8 juices

We would be very grateful for any of these items that you could donate. While in lean times, these small programs go a long way to help Hillsmere Elementary be the best it can be for our local children. If you would like more information about these specific programs or to arrange someone to pick up your labels, please contact Angie Carroll at 410-263-1192 or email to angelicbr@gmail.com (Angie is also a Hillsmere resident).

Thank you for your support!

Debbie Jones
Hillsmere Elementary PTA President
hesptapres@gmail.com

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HILLSMERE POOL ASSOCIATION (HPA) NEWS

~Tom Trimmer, Pool Association Vice President

HPA Election of Officers & Committee Chairpersons

The HPA will hold election of officers and committee chairpersons at the October 2009 General Membership meeting. The positions up for election are:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Membership Committee Chair
Building and Improvement Committee Chair

The responsibilities for each of these positions can be found in the HPA By-Laws at the HPA web site.

If you are interested in serving your pool association and contributing to the continued excellent pool experience, please visit the HPA web site www.hillsmerepool.org, and leave your name, contact information and the position you are interested in filling.



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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 Open House - The Key School will hold its annual fall Open House on Nov. 8, 2009. Families interested in learning more about enrolling children in Pre-Kindergarten through grade 12 are invited to attend. Visitors will have the opportunity to meet the faculty and review Key's curriculum. An Upper School Chorus performance, campus tours, and grade-specific faculty presentations follow. The Key School is an independent day school that encourages intellectual rigor, independence of thought, curiosity, creativity, and openness to differing ideas and perspectives. The largest nonsectarian school in Anne Arundel County, Key School enrolls 700 students.

Key School encourages all qualified students who are interested in its programs to apply for admission, regardless of family financial status. The Open House takes place Sunday, November 8, 2009, from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. and begins in the School's Activity Building, 534 Hillsmere Dr., Annapolis, Md., 21403. For more information about admission to Key, please visit the school's web site www.keyschool.org or call Head of School for Enrollment Management Jessie Dunleavy 410-263-9231.

Won't You Help Maryland Plant 50,000 Trees? - The Maryland Department of Natural Resources is offering \$25 coupons off the purchase of trees with a retail value of \$50 or more at participating nurseries around the state. Please go out, purchase a tree, and plant it in your yard for the health of the South River and the Chesapeake Bay. For more information and for a coupon, visit <http://www.trees.maryland.gov/>.

Meet the Authors - On Sunday, November 15, Gwen Ifill, Alice McDermott and Craig Symonds will talk about their most recent books at **MEET THE AUTHORS** at 4:00 pm in The Francis Scott Key Auditorium at St. John's College. This event will be followed by a reception and bookselling and signing.

Moderator and managing editor of Washington Week and senior correspondent of The NewsHour with Jim Leher, Gwen Ifill surveys the American political landscape in her timely book **THE BREAKTHROUGH: POLITICS AND RACE IN THE AGE OF OBAMA**. Alice McDermott won the National Book Award for her novel **CHARMING BILLY**. In her sixth and most recent work **AFTER THIS**, McDermott creates another Irish-American family and in elegant, exquisite language follows their lives in Vietnam-era New York. Professor Emeritus at the Naval Academy, Civil War and Naval historian Craig Symonds (Hillsmere resident) is the author of twelve books. His recent book **LINCOLN AND HIS ADMIRALS** has won numerous awards including The Lincoln Prize, The Barondess Award, the Nevins-Freeman Award, The Laney Prize, and The Lyman Award.

Tickets to the event are \$30 if purchased by November 9th and \$35 at the door. Checks made payable to Caritas can be sent to Caritas at St. John's College, P.O. Box 2800, Annapolis, MD 21404. Proceeds from the event will help Caritas provide emergency financial aid to St. John's undergraduate students. For more information, please contact Lesal Kilcrease at 410-757-2640 or email lkilcrease@cbmove.com.

HSIA Board Meeting

Thursday, October 29, 2009
7:00 pm

Key School Science & Library Center

HSIA General Meeting

Thursday, November 12, 2009
7:00 pm

Key School Multi-Purpose Building

**Deadline for the November
Sea Breeze is October 26, 2009**



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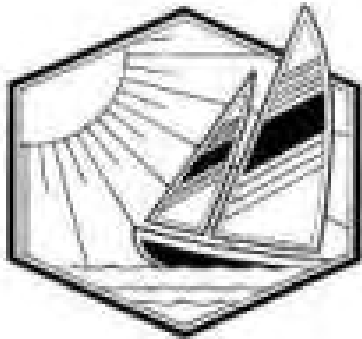
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2009

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



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