The Sea Breeze



PUBLISHED BY HILLSMERE SHORES IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

June 2023



What's wrong with this picture? Find out how Hillsmere is fighting the non-native, invasive species Phragmites australis in the Beach Committee report on page 4. Photo credit to C. Dubin, 2020.



Calling all Graduates of Hillsmere – Do you have a graduate you would like to recognize in the *Sea Breeze*? Just email the Editor at seabreeze@hillsmereshores.org or call the 24-hour voice mail at 410-263-4456. Give us the name of your graduate, school, and degree earned. We'll proudly announce your graduate in a future edition.

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HSIA Community News and Events

Jean Somers, HSIA Administrator



July 4th Bicycle Parade – Get out your red, white and blue and decorate your bikes, scooters, and strollers and join us at our annual July 4th Bicycle Parade! The Parade starts at 10 am at The Key School Gazebo on Carroll Drive. We will parade to the beach and have refreshments. Come celebrate our Nation's birthday!

July Happy Hour – Please join us for the July Happy Hour on Friday, July 14, from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Please bring a chair, a dish to share, and your favorite adult beverage. NO GLASS BOTTLES PLEASE. If anyone is interested in helping with our Happy Hours, please email admin@hillsmereshores.org or call the 24-hour voice mail at 410-263-4456. We look forward to seeing you!

Non-Pool Members can use the pool this summer – We have three remaining dates this season for Hillsmere residents, non-pool members to use the pool. Those dates are June 27, July 25, and August 29. Please bring proof of residency for check-in.

Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off – On Saturday, June 17, the County is offering a Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off Day at the Heritage Office Complex, 2662 Riva Road, from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. This is a great way to discard hazardous waste. For more information, please visit Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Days | Anne Arundel County, MD (aacounty.org) or call 410-222-6100.

HSIA Facebook Page – HSIA now has a Facebook page. The page is open to the public, so there isn't an approval process to join. The Communications Committee will post information that is also in our newsletter, on our website, and sent via community email. The Facebook page is not open for public posting. The page is for posting HSIA information only.

2023 Beach Reservations – To reserve the large pavilion, please contact the Administrator at 410-263-4456 or send an email with the date and time requested to admin@hillsmereshores.org. A refundable \$200 security deposit is required. You will need to provide the time and duration of your event. You can reserve the pavilion for the entire day or for as little as two hours. This allows more residents use of the space for parties. Please note that reservations are not final until you receive confirmation from the HSIA Administrator. If you are serving alcohol at your party, you will need to obtain an Anne Arundel County One-Day Liquor License. Further instructions on how to obtain a One Day Liquor License will be given at time of booking.



Important numbers and emails

AACO Police emergency 911
AACO Police non-emergency 410-222-8610
Hillsmere Security: security@hillsmereshores.org
HSIA President: president@hillsmereshores.org
Key School liaison: kaustin@keyschool.org
AACO traffic engineer: pwflor11@aacounty.org
Community Cat Program: jckilborn@yahoo.com

Motions from May 2023 Board meeting:

(complete minutes can be found on the Hillsmere website at www.hillsmereshores.org)

COMMUNITY HOUSE: Ray Sullivan moved the Board approve the contract with Dean Home Improvement for interior renovation of the house at 119 Great Lake Drive. Claire Corcoran seconded the motion. Vote taken – unanimously approved.

BEACH: Maureen Sherer moved the Board approve \$1400 for the purchase of 21.5 tons masonry sand, the purchase of a 20 ft x 20 ft tarp, and the hiring of a company to spread the sand. Ray Sullivan seconded the motion. Vote taken – 8 in favor (Claire Corcoran, Mike Wurst, Gene Gross, Ray Sullivan, Tim Cantor, Adam Blugis, Maureen Sherer, Steve Vanderbosch); 1 opposed (Christian Elkington); motion passed.

POOL: Ray Sullivan moved the Board approve \$4500 for the purchase of new umbrellas, bases, and chairs. Gene Gross seconded the motion. Vote taken – unanimously approved.

Mark Your Calendars—June & July Meetings						
Thursday, June 8 @ 7pm	Field Committee (see page 7)	Hillsmere House				
Tuesday, June 13 @ 7pm	Piers & Harbors Committee	Key School Barn				
Thursday, June 22 @ 7pm	Field Committee (see page 7)	Hillsmere House				
Thursday, June 29 @ 7pm	HSIA Board of Directors	Key School Barn & Virtual				
Tuesday, July 11 @ 7pm	Piers & Harbors Committee	Key School Barn				
Thursday, July 13 @ 7pm	General Membership	Key School Barn & Virtual				
Thursday, July 27 @ 7pm	HSIA Board of Directors	Key School Barn & Virtual				



Beach Report

Maureen Sherer, HSIA Board Member & Beach Committee Chair



Early summer is generally the most pleasant time to enjoy swimming at the beach. The water temperature is refreshing and the jellyfish are yet to arrive. For reliable information about the bacterial level in the water, check the Anne Arundel County Department of Health website https://aahealth.org/recreational-water-quality-report/ The County samples the water biweekly and promptly posts the results of its testing. Also, after rainfall of 1/2 inch or more, the Department of Health advises no swimming/no direct water contact for at least 48 hours due to possible elevated bacteria levels from rainwater runoff. This website has additional precautionary information, such as warning against swimming for any individual who has open cuts or scratches.

We are researching the purchase of new jellyfish nets. The existing ones are a number of years old, have been patched many times, and are now considered not salvageable.

At the May meeting the HSIA Board approved the expenditure for refreshing the volleyball court with a new load of sand. This will be scheduled for later this month, when there are not so many mid-week reservations for the Walker Pavilion. When the sand company delivers the sand, a section of the western end of the parking lot will need to be closed for several hours. For safety sake, please avoid this area while the work is in progress.

We are consulting with several tree service companies to develop a long term care and maintenance plan for the trees at the Beach. Several of the trees are showing some signs of distress, and some need pruning. We value our trees for their beauty, the shade they provide, and for their service in mitigating storm water runoff. Undeniably, the trees at the Beach have a difficult life, subjected to high winds, droughts, and salt water intrusion into the ground water. Shoreline trees throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed are struggling from this increasing saltwater intrusion due to sea level rise. Our best strategy for our trees is to help them to be as healthy as possible so as to be able to withstand the various threats to them.

The eastern natural shoreline has had its first phragmites cutting of the season, in accordance with our Anne Arundel County issued Vegetation Management Plan. This cutting is difficult work and was done by volunteers. To look at the area now, it is a beautiful tapestry of native vegetation such as spartina, high tide bush, and marsh hibiscus. These plants provide habitat for wildlife. The area will require several more cuttings this season. For many years the area was a near monoculture of phragmites, an invasive plant which provides no habitat value for native species. Phrag-

(Continued on page 5)



Edward Jones



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edwardjones.com/robert-reedy

mites spreads mainly through its rhizomes, which are extensive and can remain viable for years. So, our goal to maintain a natural shoreline of native plants will be a multi-year project. An added advantage to removing the phragmites is that it improves the view. Phragmites can easily grow 12 to 16 feet tall. Further reading, from Maryland Department of Natural Resources: Phragmites: Considerations for Management in the Critical Area

If you drive to the Beach, please remember to have your 2023 Hillsmere sticker affixed to your vehicle. It is required in order to park at the Beach. Also, whenever possible, "carry-in and carry-out" your trash. It discourages nuisance animals, and helps to prevent trash from blowing into the river.

We are all looking forward to summer and hope you will have many opportunities to enjoy our Beach.

KATHRYN M. WEBER CPA AND ASSOCIATES

KATHRYN M. WEBER, CPA WEBER@KWEBERCPA.COM

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HSIA Building Permits

Robin Clark, Permit Committee Chair



A HSIA Building Permit is required every time an Anne Arundel County Building Permit is issued for any work done at your property? The responsibility of obtaining an HSIA Building Permit falls on the owner, not the contractor.

Why does HSIA require and issue building permits? Per HSIA Covenants & Deed Restrictions, HSIA's sideline setbacks (15') are different from the County (7'). We encourage anyone having work done at their property to reach out to the HSIA Building Permit Chair before designing your structure or applying to the County. Failure to obtain a HSIA Building Permit prior to the start of construction will result in a stop work order.

The fee for an HSIA Building Permit is \$25. The following items are required to obtain a HSIA Building Permit:

- 1. A copy of the Anne Arundel County Building Permit.*
- 2. A TO SCALE copy of the site plan.*
- 3. A copy of the plans and elevations, TO SCALE, of the structure. *
- 4. Cash or check in the amount of \$25., made payable to HSIA
- 5. Mail all required items & payment to HSIA, PO BOX 3485, Annapolis MD 21403
- 6. Provide current mailing address, as your HSIA Building Permit will be mailed via USPS
 *AN EMAILED PDF OF THE COUNTY PERMIT AND THE TO-SCALE SITE and/or STRUCTURE PLAN IS PREFERRED AND MAY EXPEDITE THE PROCESS
 OF OBTAINING A HSIA BUILDING PERMIT.

<u>HSIA Covenants & Deed Restrictions</u>, recorded among the Land Record of Anne Arundel County, Maryland in Liber 900, Folio 334, are binding as a matter of law and are for the benefit of all other lot owners in Hillsmere.

Anne Arundel County Code, 2005, Article 18, Zoning, Title 2, General Provisions, Subtitle 3, Setbacks

For permit approval, please allow 10 working days to receive your permit in order to allow time to make sure all of your documents are legible (do not take photos of documents and email them), review it, verify your request meets HSIA Covenants and setbacks, and contact you for any questions on the submission. Please provide your current mailing address if it is different than the address on the AA County Building Permit. Your permit will also be mailed, via USPS, which takes several days.

If you have any questions on the setbacks feel free to ask before you go to the trouble of getting a County permit and find you cannot get an HSIA permit. When in doubt, or, if you have any questions, contact HSIA Building Permit Chairman via email, permits@hillsmereshores.org, or voice mail, 410-263-4456.



Field Committee Report

Mike Waters, Field Committee Chair

Planning Committee Seeks Members

Volunteers are invited to join the Field Committee to develop a long-term plan for the community property surrounding the pool and Hillsmere House. The Committee's charter is to establish guidelines to use our field fairly and efficiently for open space activities.

People wishing to join are asked to attend the first two meetings at the Hillsmere House on Thursday, 8 June at 7:00pm and Thursday, 22 June at 7:00pm. It is anticipated the Committee will complete its work with a proposal to the Board in October and presentation to the community during the November General meeting.

The Committee is led by Chairman, Mike Waters and Vice-Chair, Jay Harper. The Hillsmere House, Pool, and Environmental committees will be represented.

If you cannot join the Field Committee, please consider sharing your views by contacting Mike Waters at 410-280-8674 or mike@waters.net.







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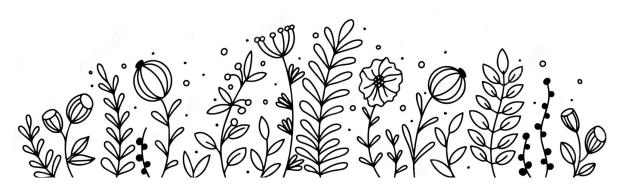
- **%** (410)263-8000
- ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401
- WWW.ASKJACK.CC

Welcome Committee Report

Christy Hollywood, Welcome Committee Co-Chair



As we welcome summer, the Welcome Committee reports 12 new resident HSIA welcome bags have been delivered across the community so far in 2023. Please let us know if you have a new neighbor and note if you'd like our team to (a) deliver a welcome bag or (b) leave the bag at your house, so you can deliver it (possibly with the addition of a plant or baked good and a smile). We check our email quasi-weekly at welcome@hillsmereshores.org.





Mosquito Control Report

Ray Sullivan, HSIA Board Member & Mosquito Control Committee Chair

The HSIA Board opted out of the MDA's Mosquito Control Program for 2023. Last year, our community was not sprayed due to the number of exemptions filed with the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Mosquitoes are an important food source for many predators including dragonflies, fish, birds, and frogs. There are almost 200 species of mosquitos found in North America and 59 of these live in Maryland. Yet *only three species* pose a real concern because of the diseases they can spread. Below are suggestions on non-toxic methods to control mosquitos from the Maryland Department of Agriculture Mosquito Control webpage:

Tips to Rid Your Community of Mosquito Breeding Sites

- 1. Clean rain gutters to allow water to flow freely.
- 2. Remove old tires or drill drainage holes in tires used for playground equipment.
- 3. Store plastic wading pools inside or turn them upside down when not in use.
- 4. Turn over or remove clay pots and plastic containers.
- 5. Dispose of all empty beverage containers, plastic wrappers, discarded toys, etc.
- 6. Check for trapped water in plastic or canvas tarps used to cover boats, pools, etc. Arrange the tarp to drain the water.
- 7. Pump out bilges in boats. Turn canoes and small boats upside down for storage.
- 8. Replace water in bird baths at least twice a week.
- 9. Remove pet food and water dishes that are not being used.
- 10. Flush livestock water troughs twice a week.
- 11. Don't leave garbage can lids lying upside down. Be sure water does not collect in the bottom of garbage cans.
- 12. Flush water in the bottom of plant holders twice a week.
- 13. Fix dripping outside water faucets.
- 14. Turn wheelbarrows upside down when stored outside.
- 15. Check around construction sites or do-it-yourself improvements to ensure that proper backfilling and grading prevent drainage problems.
- 16. Check ornamental ponds, tree holes and water-holding low areas for mosquito larvae. Call the nearest Mosquito Control Office (Annapolis Headquarters 410-841-5870) if you find, or suspect, mosquito larvae are present.
- 17. If ditches do not flow and contain stagnant water for one week or longer, they can produce large numbers of mosquitoes. Report such conditions to a Mosquito Control Office. Do not attempt to clear these ditches because they may be protected by wetland regulations.

Garden Club

Leigh Gruber, Administrative Assistant



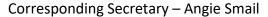
At the Garden Club's May meeting, members and guests enjoyed a potluck lunch overlooking Duvall Creek at the home of our President, Patsy Mattingley. Officers for our 2023-2024 fiscal year were inducted:

President – Patsy Mattingley

Vice President – Maggie Burnette

Second Vice President - Jane Waters

Treasurer – Micky Stubbs





Club summer meetings, started during the pandemic, are very informal. In response to a survey taken last fall, the club will sponsor a "walk about" on June 21 at 10:00 with informal visits to the homes of 4 members in Hillsmere. These homes are within walking distance of each other and will feature our members discussing aspects of their lovely gardens. Estimated overall time for the event is approximately 3 hours. This event is open to anyone, but only club members will receive the itinerary in our newsletter, the Buzz. Anyone with an interest in joining the Garden Club or participating on the tour should contact the club at the email address below.

A Summer Tea is also expected to be held this summer, with details included in the Buzz.

Those with an interest in gardening-related subjects are invited to join the club, which meets September through May on the third Wednesday of each month. Visitors are always welcome. For those wishing to join (Hillsmere residency is not required), annual dues for September through May are \$20. To receive the monthly "Buzz" newsletter or for more information about joining, send an email to the administrative assistant (HillsmereGardenClub@gmail.com).





Piers & Harbors News

Adam Blugis, HSIA Board Member and Acting P&H Chair



BOATING SEASON IS HERE! After a very mild Spring, warm weather has arrived, water temps are rising, and the 2023 Boating Season is well underway. While HSIA's volunteers maintain a number of Hillsmere Shores properties, our marina continues to attract many residents who enjoy boating, fishing, and marine life and bird watching. One of our residents reported spotting two baby Terrapin Turtles in the water and others are enjoying catching Blue Crabs and a variety of fish to include small Croaker, White Perch and Norfolk Spot. Another resident, Tom O'Brien, reported a catch and, involuntary, release of a nice sized Sea Trout. Of course, since Tom is an avid Chesapeake Bay Fisherman, his disclosure of the exact location is questionable. As a reminder, a Maryland Fishing and Crabbing License is required to fish in our marina. By now, slip holders should have their boats in their assigned slips, or have notified the Slips Committee of any delays in occupying slips.

MARINA SLIPS and OPERATIONS

- The Slips Committee: In mid-April all slips were assigned—a full Marina! The Slips Committee encourages those on the Slip Wait List to inquire about temporary slip availability by contacting marinaslips@hillsmereshores.org. Occasionally, slips become available and can be rented out on a temporary basis. Temporary slip rentals are possible when the current slip holder removes their boat for an extended period of time usually one to three months and for a variety of reasons. Placement of a boat in a temporary slip depends on the size of the boat in relationship to the size of the available slip. A special thank you to Bill Barker and the Slips Committee for their continued, year round volunteer work to keep our slips filled.
- Marina Operations: Now that the marina in fully operational, a small number of maintenance issues have been reported, such as leaking water spigot and electrical problems, and they will be addressed as soon as possible. The P&H Committee encourages all slip holders to report any unresolved maintenance issues to marina@hillsmereshores.org.
- Marina cameras and Wi-Fi update: As approved by the Board, Custom Access and Security has started work on installing a system of video cameras, a license plate reader, and several wireless internet access points at the Marina and Sunset Drive boat ramp. Initial work is focusing on installing waterproof conduits along the bulkhead and under the full length of the main dock. The job will take several more weeks to complete. Video from the cameras will be saved on a local HSIA server and made available to our security contractor and police as needed. A policy on data retention, public and private access to the cameras, and internet access is pending discussions by the Piers and Harbors Committee. A special thank you to Mike Waters, former HSIA President and volunteer, for providing his technical expertise while supervising the Security Camera installation project.
- HSIA BOAT DECALS: Please be sure to affix your 2023 Marina sticker on your boat so it is visible
 from the bulkhead or piers. Sighting of Marina stickers is the quickest way for Security to confirm that boats are authorized to be in the Marina. Also make sure your current MD Registration decal is affixed to your boat. NOTE: HSIA "MARINA" stickers go on your boat, not on your
 car!
- STICKERS & GUEST PASSES: Vehicles and trailers at the Marina and boat ramps need current

HSIA stickers or Guest Passes. Blue Guest Passes were issued last year for 2022-2023 and are still valid. Contact the HSIA Administrator for Guest Passes. Each slip holder is offered two Guest Passes, and can have more if needed. Please ensure:

- Your car, truck, boat trailer, and boat have the 2023 HSIA sticker attached, and that your guests' vehicles have a Guest Pass.
- If you or your guests' vehicles do not have a HSIA sticker or guest pass, the HSIA Board has authorized towing of vehicles without stickers from the Marina parking area. Get that new 2023 sticker on your vehicle!

Sand Spit Living Shoreline Project, now also known as Hillsmere Shores Coastal Resiliency Project: On May 17, 2023, the MD Dept. of General Services, Capital Grants & Loans Division informed the P&H Committee that the capital grant for the Project was finally approved by the Maryland State Board of Public Works. This is the \$109k grant that MD State Delegate Dana Jones secured for the Project in Maryland's 2022 Capital budget. This money will be used to complete the design, permitting and initial purchase of construction material for the Project. The Arundel Rivers Federation, on behalf of the HSIA, is in the process of applying for other grants for the Project. During HSIA's May General Membership Meeting, The HSIA Board's decision to proceed with a Joint Permit Application for the Project to the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Maryland Department of Environment was unanimously ratified by the participating General Membership.

Marylanders Grow Oysters (MGO): Annually, our marina serves as a drop off site for the Marylanders Grow Oysters Program. This state program engages waterfront citizens to care for oysters in cages hung off their piers until the baby oysters are mature enough to survive on an oyster sanctuary reef. The MGO program is administered by the Arundel Rivers Federation (ARF) and this year, Mairin Corasaniti, ARF's new Outreach Coordinator, coordinated a drop off of Oyster Spat on June 1, 2023, when growers dropped off the spat they have cared for since last fall. Volunteers from HSIA then took the baby oysters to a sanctuary reef in the South River. Educational Note: when oysters reproduce, they spawn tiny larvae that freely navigate the water column until they find an appropriate habitat with a structure to settle on. Once the larvae permanently attach to a surface, such as old oyster shells, they are known as spat.

Growers need to shake their oyster cages once a month to knock any excess algae off the cages, so that the oysters have plenty of water circulation. If you would like to help care for the oysters at the marina during the fall and winter months, please email environment@hillsmereshores.org.

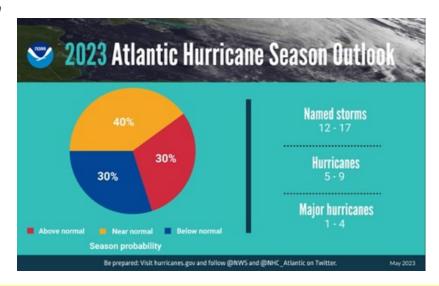
Or if you have dock at your home and would like more information about the program please email info@arundelrivers.org.

Hurricane Season is upon us – be prepared and have a plan. Below is the 2023 Seasonal Outlook along with other important links to help all Hillsmere Shores Residents prepare for this year's Hurricane Season.

NOAA 2023 Hurricane Forecast

Maryland Department of Emergency Services <u>Hurricane Boater Safety</u> and <u>Homeowner Hurricane Safety</u>.

(Continued on page 14)



NOTE TO HILLSMERE SHORES MARINA SLIP HOLDERS:

SLIP HOLDERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR AND ASSUME FULL AND SOLE RISK OF DAMAGE TO THEIR BOATS AND THEIR EQUIPMENT, THE BOATS AND EQUIPMENT OF OTHERS, AND THE HSIA PIERS AND DOCKS AS A RESULT OF LEAVING THEIR BOATS IN THE MARINA DURING A TROPICAL STORM OR HURRICANE.

P&H Committee Meeting Time & Place: P&H Committee Meetings have resumed at the Key School "Barn" Building. The next P&H Committee Meeting will be on Tuesday July 11th, 2023, at 7 pm. Everyone is invited to attend. In the interim, please direct questions/issues/concerns/comments to marina@hillsmereshores.org





WATER TREATMENT
PLUMBING
WATER COOLERS



the SEA BREEZE

Published by: the Hillsmere Shores Improvement Association (HSIA) P.O. Box 3485, Annapolis, MD 21403

www.hillsmereshores.org

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Security	Claire Corcoran	410-263-4456
Shoreline Protection	Kevin Green	410-263-4456
Traffic	Matt Franz	410-263-4456
Web Master	Kelly Ann Pavkov	410-263-4456
Welcoming	C. Hollywood & E. Doyle	410-263-4456
Zoning & Covenants	Claire Corcoran	410-263-4456
Key School Liaison	Kate Austin	443-321-7811
ANPF Representative	Ray Sullivan	410-263-4456
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Hillsmere Garden Club	o. ooe.o	410-268-7175
Hillsmere Hammerheads S	Swim Team	443-336-8432
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Babysitter

Age 15

Age 16

Age 19

Age 17

Age 15

Age 18

Age 16

Age 16

Age 14

Adult

Age 15

Age 13

Adult

Age 14

Adult

Adult

Adult

Age 18

Adult

Age 16

Adult

Age 13

Age 16

Age 15

Adult

Age 13

Pet Sitter/Dog Walker

Bella

Ella

Ella

Hailey

Hannah

Lauren

Léana

Maggie

Nora

Sara Shanley

Sky

Linda

Alexis

Earl

Elaine

Hannah

Lauren

Linda

Maggie

Quentin

Shanley

Shondra

Sky

Sean

Mary Ellen

All babysitters, dog walkers, and pet sitters have been verified and updated as of October 2022.

If you would like to be added to either service listing, please email postmaster@hillsmereshores.org.

Jan 26	Арі	il 27	July	27	Oct 26
Feb 23	Ma	y 25	Aug	31	Nov 30
Mar 30	Jun	e 29	Sep 28		Dec 21
	2023 GEN	IERAL MEM	BERSHIP N	IEETINGS	
Jan 12	Mar 9	May 11	July 13	Sep 14	Nov 9

Community Cat Program - Carolyn Kilborn, jckilborn@yahoo.com

June-July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				7p—Field Committee (see page 8)	5p—Happy Hour @ Beach	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		7p—P&H Committee Meeting				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
				7p—Field Committee (see page 8)		
25	26	Open Swim @ Pool (see page 3)	28	7p—HSIA Board Meeting	30	1 J U L Y
2	3	4 10a—4th of July Parade	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		7p—P&H Committee Meeting		7p—General Membership Meeting	5p—Happy Hour @ Beach	



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

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