

CALENDAR Board of Directors Meetings:

December 16 *(Stockholders Meeting)* January 20 February 17 7:00 PM Clubhouse

Sylvan Shores Kids Club: December 10 & 17 6:30 PM Clubhouse December 20 6:00 PM Clubhouse (see enclosed flier for details)

SYLVAN SHORES SERVICES

2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS President: Cathy Izzi 410-279-3611 / gc.izzi@comcast.net Vice President: Kim Cover

410-956-0105 / kcover123@gmail.com Treasurer: Bryan Jackson

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Secretary: Linda Barker 410-952-9696 / brkrlinda@yahoo.com Dan Anthony

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OTHER CONTACTS Billing

Tidewater Management, 443-548-0191 **Boat Pier Slips** Bill Buser 410-353-1533 / bbuser23@yahoo.com Waterfront Committee Linda Barker 410-952-9696 / brkrlinda@yahoo.com **Grounds & Parkways** Barbara Loya 410-919-7931/ shoreresident@gmail.com **Clubhouse Rental & Boat Ramp Keys** Dan Anthony 410-956-3350 / dsa1944@aol.com Newsletter June Moriarty juneandjeff@aol.com **Storm Water Management Liaison County Water & Sewer Project Liaison** Patrick Jameson 443-786-1774 / jp2468@comcast.net

> or contact us through www.sylvanshoresriva.com

December 2013

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There are several articles in this newsletter to update the community on current projects, so I would like to take this space to thank the many people who have worked tirelessly to benefit the community, especially in the midst of the construction. It has been a long and arduous year for many of us, and we still have a way to go before the transition is complete and we start to see the jewel of the South River that Sylvan Shores can be.

To every member on the Board, I am always grateful for your participation and follow through; for your passion in taking on the responsibilities of your committee; for voicing your opinions respectfully during the meeting; and mostly for your patience with me in my first year as president. It is certainly much, much more than I anticipated. I am hesitant to list those persons here for fear of missing someone, but the Board and others deserve recognition: Dan Anthony, Marge Farnan, Kim Cover, Bryan Jackson, Barbara Loya, Linda Barker, Margaret Palyo, Bob Jorden; and our non-Board warriors: Patrick Jameson, Bill Buser, June Moriarty. Without the efforts of each of these persons, my role would be impossible, and this community would be at a loss. Thank you!

BLESSINGS AND PEACE TO ALL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT UPDATE

In July, the Board held a community meeting to discuss the Special Community Benefit District (SCBD) and the need to petition the County for this designation. As Sylvan Shores Services Company, Inc. (SSSC) has nearly shed all of its water and sewer utility activity, the ongoing community maintenance and related administrative expenses must continue to be covered. These were included in the prior water and sewer assessment fees, and are now being billed as a community maintenance fee. We are grateful to those who see the value and need for maintaining and improving our common areas and pay the \$25 monthly fee (even in the midst of the current water and sewer and pending storm water management construction).

As SSSC is not a homeowners association, it was necessary for the Board to consider ways to continue to fund the maintenance and improvement of common areas and facilities for the benefit of all owners and residents as our Charter mandates. A Special Tax Benefit District was considered.

In September, owners received a special newsletter devoted to the SCBD (available at <u>www.sylvanshoresriva.com</u>). Since that time, the Board has submitted the petition language to the County for their approval. We received approval of the petition language on November 15^h, and we have been busy to further define the timeline and budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year (June-July).

It is our intention to mail the petition and draft budget to owners by December 31st. Please be sure to review all of the information thoroughly. Guidance for budget comments and recommended deadlines for returning the petition will also be included. The September 2013 Shoreline newsletter provides additional detail and we encourage you to revisit that information.

Until the budget and SCBD are approved by the County Council, Sylvan Shores will continue to bill the \$25 monthly fee (the 2014 budget will be available at the December 16th Stockholder meeting and published later in The Shoreline).

JOIN US MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2013 ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS MEETING CLUBHOUSE, 7:00 P.M.

Please join us for the annual election of officers and directors of SSSC, as well as presentation of the 2014 budget and planned projects. Light refreshments will be available. All residents are welcome to attend, and property owners who would like to be a voting stockholder, please contact Marge Farnan at <u>margefarnan@comcast.net</u> to purchase your \$10 stock certificate. If you are a stockholder and are unable to attend the meeting, please be sure to assign a proxy, which will be enclosed with your notice of the meeting.

If you would like to be a nominee for an officer or director position on the 2014 Board of Directors, please contact Kim Cover at <u>kcover123@gmail.com</u>. You must be a property owner, stockholder and member in good standing to become a Board member.

The Board of Sylvan Shores Services considers and directs all issues related to Parkways, beaches, piers, boat slips, clubhouse and other capital improvements, as well as the everyday management of the corporation. Please refer to SSSC Bylaws and Rules & Regulations, which are available at the Document Center at <u>www.sylvanshoresriva.com</u> for more information.

We need volunteers to serve on the Board and otherwise help our elected members. Except for Board positions, you do not have to be a stockholder to volunteer. Please consider participating. We welcome your ideas and your efforts on behalf of our community.

STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

Sylvan Shores has received conditional approval from the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and preliminary approval from the United States Army Corps of Engineers to proceed with the Storm Water Management (SWM) Infrastructure Upgrade project. We have submitted final design modifications to A.A. County and are awaiting the final grading permits. All areas of Sylvan Shores were assessed by engineers and feedback was sought from property owners. SWM project plans are available for viewing during Board meetings. The list below identifies priority areas of a more comprehensive SWM plan for the community. Road grading, curbing and the current Water and Sewer Construction design will also factor into the SWM Plans, as well as additional storm water inlets. It is expected that these areas can be funded by the \$1.8 million grant.

- Orchard and Poplar storm pipes, storm inlet drains and grass swales to surface sand-filter area behind the County pumping station. This will gather and filter runoff from Shadyside, Remital, Woodside, Orchard, Poplar and Ridge Roads. The sand filter will clean water for the outfall area to Granville Creek.
- 2. Shore Walk and Parkways storm pipes, storm inlets, and permeable pavers. This will gather and filter runoff from Cherry, Dogwood, Elm, and Hillcrest and the Parkways along Shore Walk. Bio-retention areas

are planned for the Parkways for filtering storm water outfalls to the South River.

- Circle and Paradise bio-retention area and grass swales, storm pipes, storm inlets to carry runoff to Riva Road system.
- 4. Cove Road storm pipes, storm inlets and dry swale to capture and filter runoff from Cove, Ridge, Maple, and Park Roads. Filtered outfall to South River.
- 5. Central Park (South River Boat Ramp area) bioretention areas and improved outfall to South River.
- Tulip, Rabbit Hill and Forest inlet storm drains to pocket wetland on Beard's Creek (Forest park area). Additional curbing on Tulip.
- 7. Forest and Hoot Owl bio-retention area near the boat ramp.
- 8. Forest and Fern repair existing storm inlets, additional curbing, storm pipes and storm inlets.

This has been a long and complex project and is the largest SWM grant awarded to a private community in the state of Maryland. Coordination with paving and completion of the County water and sewer project is in progress, in an effort to reduce expenses for grading and repaving. If you have any questions about the project, contact Patrick Jameson, jp2468@comcast.net. Reports are also made monthly at the Board meetings.

COUNTY WATER & SEWER PROJECT UPDATE

In September, homeowners received an update on the County's water and sewer project in Sylvan Shores. Since that time, the construction has been met with challenges in the Cove Road area of the community. That area now seems to be nearly completed and most homes have been connected; there are still a few exceptions. It is unlikely that roads will be paved until the spring, and that will be in conjunction with the storm water management project.

Part of this project also includes the demolition of the pump house on Hillcrest. This will happen very soon, if not as you are reading this newsletter. Additional work involves decommissioning of the deep well in Parkway C and liftstations located throughout the community.

Questions regarding construction should be addressed to Jim Higgins, inspector <u>jhiggins@dewberry.com</u>, 443-988-8560; Steve Schummer, contractor, 410-320-5484, <u>schummer@aol.com</u>.

Finance and billing questions for the County project and water/waste water usage should be addressed to Leslie Campbell at 410.222.7519, <u>lcampbell@aacounty.org</u>. County documents regarding finances are also available at <u>www.sylvanshoresriva.com</u>.

Sylvan Shores is Not an HOA

Sylvan Shores Services is a 501(c)(4) community organization, transitioning from its utility operations. It is not now, and never will be, a Home Owners Association (HOA). If you see this designation on <u>any</u> document referencing SSSC, please notify a Board member.

DUMPING ON COMMUNITY PROPERTY

Please refrain from dumping and blowing yard and other debris in the Parkways and roadways onto other common areas. The mowing contract does not include removal of these items. This adds to the cost of maintenance, which is passed along to the homeowners for community maintenance. **Persons known to be dumping may expect an invoice for removal of the debris**.

Even though most roads in Sylvan Shores will now be County roads, the County does not provide unbagged leaf or debris removal from the roads. Blowing leaves into the streets also has the potential to block any current or future storm drainage. Take advantage of the County's bulk and yard waste pick-up every Thursday morning. Bag or wrap leaves and limbs and mark your bags with an "X."



The Board identifies trees that need pruning or removal throughout the year. Sometimes an issue is brought to our attention. The Board has spent significant funds this year for tree removal/trimming and expects that next year will require increased focus on trees. A County forester and private arborist were asked to provide feedback on several areas.

This community has many large and beautiful trees. While many of them are healthy, some need attention, especially after the stress of the water and sewer construction. The Board is making appropriate budget adjustments for Grounds & Parkways (G&P) to address these areas, including feeding, trimming and removal, along with additional ground trimming.

If you have a concern about trees in the common areas, please contact the Grounds & Parkways chairperson, Barbara Loya. The Board will research and make a decision as to the best approach. Since all of our community is in the Critical Area, ALL tree removal, dead or alive, requires permits. It is unacceptable for residents to trim or remove trees in common areas without prior approval and, certainly, without necessary permits. Again, contact the G&P chairperson if you have concerns.

CLUBHOUSE RENTALS

The Clubhouse is looking great with upgrades to the kitchen and removal of the old baseboard heating units. More improvements are to come, including some repairs to the playhouse. Contact Dan Anthony to schedule your event, 410-956-3350 or dsa1944@aol.com. The Clubhouse is also available for community-wide activities. Anyone interested in organizing a special event for the community should also contact Dan.

NEW CANOE/KAYAK RACKS

Some of you have enjoyed our new canoe/kayak racks – one at Forest Park and one at Central Park (South River boat ramp area). Thanks to resident Doug Bedingfield for his fine craftsmanship! The old rack at Central Park will also remain in use. Though it's past the season, anyone interested in a slip should contact Bill Buser, <u>bbuser23@yahoo.com</u>. There is no fee for use of the canoe/kayak racks, but users need to register for a slip.

New rack at Central Park (boat ramp):



New Rack at Forest Park:





HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

NEW SYLVAN SHORES KIDS CLUB

See the insert for more information on these fun, upcoming events:

Christmas Caroling Movie Night Valentine's Day Dance

and more . . .

Thanks to Jennifer Rossback for establishing and organizing this club. Contact her at jenn2729@aol.com to learn how you can be a part of these exciting activities!

Sylvan Shores Kids Club!



All New - All Ages Sylvan Shores Kids Club - SSKC! And Parents too... Be a part of something Great and Fun!

Future Events at the Clubhouse

Dec. 10th **Tuesday 6:30pm** <u>Christmas is the Time for Giving</u>. Bring a gently used toy and/or canned or paper goods to donate to a child in need and practice singing for Christmas Caroling. (only juice and cookies will be served)

Dec. 17th **Tuesday 6:30pm** <u>Kids Cookie Exchange</u>. Bring a bunch of cookies to swap with our friends. We will be decorating cookie boxes then filling them with all different cookies to take home. We will also be practicing for Christmas Caroling. (only juice and cookies)

Dec. 20th 6pm <u>Christmas Caroling in the Neighborhood</u>. All welcome to join us. Dinner at the Clubhouse. Bring something to share. Please RSVP on Facebook. Hopefully we will have a surprise visitor??!!

Jan. 24th Movie Night at the Clubhouse (date subject to change)

Feb. Valentine's Day Dance - ages and times to follow!

For more information, contact Jennifer Rossback, 443-203-6319 Check Us Out On FaceBook We need Bells for Caroling and Christmas lights to decorate the Clubhouse Christmas Tree Sylvan Shores Services Company P.O. Box 208 Riva, MD 21140

> COUNTY NUMBERS TO NOTE Emergency 911 South County Roads District 410-222-1933 or 410-222-1276 Snow Removal – 410-222-4040 (for snow over 4", otherwise contact Roads District) Pothole Hotline – 410-222-7045 Animal Control – 410-222-8900 Dept. of Aging Transportation – 410-222-4826 For more contact numbers, go to www.aacounty.org Sylvan Shores Water & Sewer Capital Project Inspector – Jim Higgins 443-988-8560 Finances – Leslie Campbell 410-222-7519

TRASH, RECYCLING & YARD WASTE PICK-UP

Thursday Mornings Only

Mark your bags with an "X" for yard waste and put out with recycling and trash Wednesday evenings or before 6:30 AM Thursday mornings.

HOW TO PAY YOUR MONTHLY ASSESSMENT

Monthly payments should be made to Sylvan Shores Services Company and mailed to PMB/Box #134 211 E. Lombard Street Baltimore, MD 21202-6102 For electronic bill payers, have your account number and property address referenced on your payment. For automated bill payments, visit www.tidewaterproperty.com to download the application or contact Tidewater directly at 443-548-0191.

www.sylvanshoresriva.com

SSSC Bylaws and Rules & Regulations Clubhouse Rental Contact Information Neighborhood Watch Information AA County Water & Sewer Project Information The Shoreline Newsletters **Contact us** through www.sylvanshoresriva.com with change of address, questions, comments, suggestions, complaints ... plus many other useful links.