

# The Shoreline

*Sylvan Shores Community News and Events*



## SPRING 2017

### CALENDAR

#### Upcoming Board Meetings

Third Monday of the Month  
June 19th  
July Summer Break  
August 21  
September 18  
October 16  
7:00 PM @ the Clubhouse

#### Sylvan Shores 2017 Board of Directors

President: Tim Cook

[timothycook@gmail.com](mailto:timothycook@gmail.com)

Vice President: Rachel Kline

[rachel@brooks-ins.com](mailto:rachel@brooks-ins.com)

Treasurer: Cathy Izzi

[gc.izzi@verizon.net](mailto:gc.izzi@verizon.net)

Secretary: LaShandra C. Oliver

[lashandra.oliver@gmail.com](mailto:lashandra.oliver@gmail.com)

Stephen Bradley

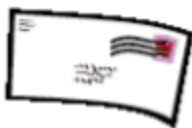
[stbradley@myway.com](mailto:stbradley@myway.com)

Judy Moody

[varydoom@comcast.net](mailto:varydoom@comcast.net)

Robert Jorden

[mjorden@hotmail.com](mailto:mjorden@hotmail.com)



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I took a walk around Sylvan Shores the other night with my wife--one of those nice *long* walks that our neighborhood affords us--and was reminded why Spring is my favorite season here on the shores of the South River. The yards were all green, fresh flowers were blooming, birds were flying around, and the air was cool and fresh. My wife and I took a stroll along a path that encompasses many of the best spots in the community. We started at the baseball field and, walking through, I could almost hear the crack of a bat. I could practically smell hotdogs grilling and see kids running around. We walked to the back of the old laydown yard, and I looked at grass beginning to grow through the freshly laid hay on a spot that for many, many years, was unavailable to us. I admired the old rusty basketball hoops and we continued along the stone path towards the sand filter pond. You could hear frogs chirping and see bats flying around. I looked over the 35 new trees that have been planted there, and thought about how great it is to see us using this space to create a habitat for animals again. We wandered up Cove Road and saw a white house with freshly painted shutters. We peered down the driveway to the pond at the back of Granville Creek. I wondered to myself if there were any turtles in there this year.

As we continued on, I was impressed by all the new homes. I remember a sign on Cove Road, once upon a time, hidden among vines and grasses that hid the old cottage back there. It said, "Build Your Dream Home Here." Now, we see house after house, brand new, freshly cut grass, and lights reflecting off of the water below. When we arrived at the overlook on the South River, I was impressed at the seemingly natural beauty of the new rain pond and pathway that now leads to the overlook. We stopped and sat on the wood rail there and peeked down to the river below. Something swam by: a Beaver's nose poking just above the surface of the water and man, was he moving. I couldn't help but think about how the now graceful landscape of this overlook was such a change from a year ago and how the sight over the river reminded me of why people had been coming here for so so many years.

We continued on to the Central Park and saw that view of the river. We looked at the remnants of beaches and old jetties there and took some time to envision the new landscape that would be there soon. We found the stairs going up to Ridge Road, peeking out from the overgrowth, and walked up past another new home, on our way to Shorewalk. As we strolled along Shorewalk, my wife and I reminisced about the gravel path that used to be there, the crunching sound it makes under the tires of your bicycle, and how that sound reminds you of summer. I noticed the new rain gardens with their fresh, native grasses, flowers, and shrubs; then turned my gaze once again towards the river. The parkway offered a commanding view of the Riva Bridge over Mike's Crabhouse. We took a right up the parkway to Hillcrest Road, then travelled down again through the old viney trees on the aged concrete stairs, before arriving back home at Paradise.

## 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the December 17, 2016, meeting, the Stockholders present elected the 2017 Board of Directors:

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| President      | Tim Cook                                      |
| Vice-President | Rachel Kline                                  |
| Treasurer      | Cathy Izzi                                    |
| Secretary      | LaShandra C. Oliver                           |
| Directors:     | Stephen Bradley, Robert Jorden,<br>Judy Moody |

## 2017 COMMITTEES

The committees expect to be very active this year. The following is an overview of active committees and responsibilities. Chairpersons will report more on activities and objectives for 2017 in an upcoming newsletter. In the interim, please use the "Contact Us" link at [www.sylvanshoresriva.com](http://www.sylvanshoresriva.com) or attend a Board meeting to learn about their activities.

**By-Laws/SOP/Rules & Regulations:** Recommends or reviews Board recommendations for changes to corporate documents and drafts changes for approval; provides clarification of contents of such documents; provides comments on proposals/bids/contracts for goods and services. Chair, Marge Farnan, [margefarnan@comcast.net](mailto:margefarnan@comcast.net)

**Clubhouse & Recreation:** Arranges for maintenance and improvement of Clubhouse and recreation facilities including playground equipment; administers rental agreements for the clubhouse; works with Grounds & Parkways committee for maintenance of green areas. Chair, Dan Anthony, [dsa1944@aol.com](mailto:dsa1944@aol.com)

**Finance:** Concerned with financial management of Sylvan Shores Services, including preparation of budgets and recommendations for assessments; oversees replacement reserve fund; assures the collection policy is implemented (where applicable); and performs audit review. Chair : Cathy Izzi, [gc.izzi@verizon.net](mailto:gc.izzi@verizon.net)

**Grounds & Parkways:** Arranges for overall maintenance and improvement of the physical appearance of the community, including all parkways and other green spaces, South entrance area, and clubhouse grounds. Works with Waterfront Committee to coordinate grounds maintenance for waterfront park areas; arranges for County dumpster and mosquito spraying for community.

**Roads & Drainage:** Although most roads will now be County Roads, this committee will monitor and report/follow-up on issues to the County. Monitors repaving of roads in conjunction with County water & sewer project and storm water management project.

**Waterfront:** Arranges for maintenance and improvement of beach areas, boat and swim piers, and stairways to waterfront areas; administers boat slip and other light craft lease agreements. Chair, Rachel Kline [rachel@brooks-ins.com](mailto:rachel@brooks-ins.com).

Special committees are also assigned for a specific period of time in order to complete a specific task, such as a Nominating or Audit Committee.



## BOAT & CANOE/KAYAK STORAGE

**Boat Slips:** Several slips are available on the South River boat pier and one shallow slip on the Forest Side boat pier. Please email the Board with requests to rent a slip.

**Light Crafts (canoes, kayaks):** The community has kayak racks on both sides of the neighborhood. Registration is required to use the racks. This year, a \$20 storage fee will apply. The fee covers April 1st through March 31st 2018.

Contact Bill Buser to reserve a space at 410-919-7931 or [bbuser23@yahoo.com](mailto:bbuser23@yahoo.com).

## BOAT RAMP KEYS

New boat ramp keys are available to residents in good standing (no outstanding service or community maintenance fees). The fee for a new key is \$25 for one year. Boat registration information is required and you must turn in all old keys. Boat ramp keys open gates on both the main and Forest side of Sylvan Shores.

Contact Bill Buser at [bbuser23@yahoo.com](mailto:bbuser23@yahoo.com) or 410-919-7931.



## **BUS STOP SAFETY**

Parents are reminded that younger children need supervision while they are at the bus stop to ensure that they remain safe while waiting for the school bus. If a parent cannot wait with your child, please make sure that another adult is present and knows that they are responsible for your child. This will ensure that ALL children are safe at the bus stop and they will thank you later! Please also remember to drive slowly at our community entrance during morning and afternoon bus stop times to ensure every child makes it home safely.



## **SPEED SAFETY**

With summer quickly approaching, more children are playing outdoors in our community. Whether rushing to the bus stop, walking to friends' houses, or walking their pets and crossing our streets, our kids (and adults) are out and about. Please keep in mind that the speed limit in our community is 25 miles per hour and that you are NOT obligated to drive that fast!

Police officers have been seen recently monitoring, and ticketing, violators of the speed limit in the community and for not stopping at the stop signs. Please be reminded that there are NO yield signs at our intersections and they are ALL stop signs. They are positioned at corners to ensure that any pedestrians crossing the street, especially on our many blind curves, may do so limiting the possibility of being struck by a vehicle. Please take a few extra seconds to enter or exit our community, slow down to a safe speed, and help keep our children safe!

## **NEW IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

Over the last several years, we have implemented several improvements and are going to be continuing to improve the neighborhood; slowly, but surely. We recently tended to our main piers on the South River by adding new decking, replacing much of the under-construction, and adding landward extensions to the piers.

We have upgraded the playground, fixed the clubhouse steps and door, added plantings, and removed an old dilapidated fence from the front of the community. We have seen several new stormwater management Best

Management Practices (BPMs) installed and maintained. The lookout over the South River on Cove Road has been restored and the sod at the lookout on Parkway E has been restored as well. We have seen a major and complete cleanup of the old laydown yard behind the ballfield. It is now available for residents to use for walking and biking, as there is a path connecting Meadow Road to the sand filter pond, now. We have planted *loads* of new trees around the sand filter and are enhancing the surrounding environment.

We have many projects in the works, including installing a stormwater management pond and system at Central Park, cleaning up along the beachfront at the main swim pier, protecting the swim pier steps, and more. Our goal with projects is to continue repair and re-develop the greatest parts of our community that have been neglected for some time. We intend to do this with sensible priorities and good management of our accounts. The hope is that we can bring back many of the things that have made Sylvan Shores such a wonderful waterfront community.



## **NEW AND IMPROVED PLAY STRUCTURE**

We hope you've checked out the brand new, state-of-the-art playground we installed next to the clubhouse!

The structure has 3 slides, tunnels, climbing areas and all kinds of ways to entertain the kids. We included a deep layer of mulch to protect kids from falls. And... we installed a bench for the grown-ups to relax while watching the excitement.

After extensive review and consideration, we're confident we got the best commercial-grade playground we could buy with the funds available and know that our kids will be playing here for many years into the future.

We also moved some concrete piping left over from our storm-water management project over to the play area. These pipes are great for climbing and exploring.

If you're handy and want to help freshen up that area by painting the concrete and old metal climbing structure, please let us know. We'll buy the paint...

Come and play with us!



### **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

The Board of Directors has more work to do. We are motivated and excited to do the work, but can't do it alone. We are interested in finding those of you out there also motivated and excited to make a difference in the community. We seek all skill sets and there is opportunity for physical work, leadership, project management, finances, communication, security, gardening, and more. Do you have other ideas? Bring it on! Please reach out to us or (even better!) attend a Board meeting and introduce yourself. We look forward to running with the best and seeing the community become all it can be. Board Meetings are every third Monday of the month.

### **CALLING ALL RESIDENT CONTRACTORS**

With all of the maintenance and improvements we hope to tackle as your Board of Directors, we often have jobs in the community that require licensed and insured contractors (construction, electricians, plumbers, painters, etc.). Jobs range from little things around the area to larger projects which would benefit the community as a whole. We would love to know of residents who fit the bill we might hire down the road for jobs or who may be willing to volunteer their time. Contact a member of the Board if this is you.



### **NEIGHBORHOOD PARKING**

With the ever-growing emphasis on personal transportation, our little community has been overwhelmed by cars. Please be thoughtful when parking in the community to avoid problem areas. You should limit your parking to your own property, driveways, and garages. The streets of Sylan Shores are too narrow to allow for parking on the street in most places. This allows fire trucks and other emergency vehicles to get around the small streets when they need to. Additionally, now that summer is here, boats are being pulled through the community. At the entrance to the Forest Side there should be no parking at the top of the hill on the curb. People maneuvering around those cars have caused accidents and nearly injured kids.

We now offer parking off Meadow Road near the ballfield that is lit and available for parking any time. This lot should also be used for commercial vehicles. The clubhouse parking lot is available for TEMPORARY PARKING for Clubhouse renters and their guests only. It should not be considered for everyday use. We have had problems with people leaving vehicles there for extended periods, which impedes the use for renters. Overall, please keep your cars on your own property to reduce the chance of accidents and parking troubles.

### **TRASH, RECYCLING & YARD WASTE**

Our scheduled day is Thursday morning for all trash and recycling. Trash should be put out by 6:30am. Mark yard waste with an "X" and keep next to trash and recycling. Please keep all trash and trash cans off the curb if not Wednesday evening or Thursday morning. Do NOT store your trash by the road outside of these times, as it becomes an eyesore and an attraction for animals.



### **LOCK YOUR CAR AND HOUSE**

Some communities in our area are having a problem with items being stolen from unlocked vehicles. Some of the vehicles were left unlocked and without an alarm turned on so the suspects went undetected until the next morning. Some of the cars have been entered simply because satellite radios, cell phones, and GPS systems have been visible through the windows. As a reminder, please hide your property and secure all of your vehicles' and house locks everyday and every time! Your neighbors would much rather you double check your locks with your keyfob before going to bed instead of seeing police cars in the community investigating a crime!

Also, garages can be a target because doors were left open during the evening hours. Our community members are reminded to secure your vehicles and make sure your houses, sheds, garage doors, windows, and basement doors are always locked even if you are working in the yard or playing with your children outside. Also, if you have a home or vehicle alarm system, please use it!

Please call the County Police to report any suspicious activity and remember you can remain anonymous! Call 410-222-8610 or 911.



### **COMMUNITY WATCH**

During the summer months, we typically see a rise in incidents of vandalism to homeowner's property, community property, and contractor's equipment in the neighborhood. Not only do homeowners have to replace personal property at their own expense last year, but when community property is damaged, every community member is affected because the community has to pay for repairs.

Please be vigilant in our community. Drive slowly as you enter and exit our community to observe anything illegal or suspicious. Please watch out for your neighbors' homes and our community property. If you see anything suspicious, please call 911 and report it. You do not have to identify yourself but please give a description of what you saw including a tag number or description of the suspects.

### **HOME SECURITY SURVEY**

The Anne Arundel County Police Department offers to the community the service of a Police Officer who will come to your home and perform a security survey.

The officer will give pointers on proper locks, landscaping, and lighting to make your home a safer place for you and your family. The Department is willing to provide this service free of charge to keep our community and residents safe, which frees up their time and manpower to patrol our community to deter crime.

To schedule an appointment for this free service, individuals must contact the Anne Arundel county Police Department's Crime Prevention Section at (410) 222-0042 and request a free home security survey.



## WATCH YOUR CAR PROGRAM

When it's 3:00 a.m. – Do you know where your car is?

Maryland's WATCH YOUR CAR program is a free and voluntary national vehicle registration and theft prevention program. Vehicle owners sign an agreement stating their vehicle is not normally used between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. The agreement states that if a police officer, anywhere in the US, observes a "WATCH YOUR CAR" vehicle being operated between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m., the officer may stop the vehicle and verify the operator is the owner or has the right to be in possession of the vehicle.

Remember – most vehicles are stolen during nighttime hours when you are asleep!

The Anne Arundel County Police Department has been registering vehicles for approximately two years. They find it to be another very useful tool used by law enforcement to recover stolen vehicles and also prevent the theft of registered vehicles. The "WATCH YOUR CAR" program is available at no cost and requires no actions from the vehicle owner after they register the vehicle in the program. When the vehicle is registered, a small decal is placed on the front windshield and one on the rear window indicating participation in the program. The program is coordinated by the Anne Arundel County Police Department's Crime Prevention Section.

To register your car, you can go to Police Headquarters or any of the four district stations between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Before going to the districts, call to arrange an appointment. You can also receive a registration form by calling the Anne Arundel County Police Department's Crime Prevention Section at (410) 222-0042 or on the website below.

<http://mdsp.maryland.gov/Organization/Pages/OfficeoftheSuperintendent/VehicleTheftPreventionCouncil.aspx>

**IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY, AND IT WORKS!!!!!!**



## PAW PATROL

It falls on all of us with pets to be responsible owners. Anne Arundel County Animal Control laws are very specific about what behaviors are not acceptable in our communities. Several of our neighbors continue to create inappropriate situations where their dogs, cats, and other pets are left to roam the community and private property, or escaping from their yards. Some owners also have continued to allow, despite polite warnings from their concerned neighbors, their pets to create disturbances by leaving their pets outside all day while their owners are away from home. Not only does this violate county code, described below, but it creates a touchy situation because other neighbors may have children who are trying to nap during the day or their own pets may become agitated to see other animals in their yard. This also creates a problem when dogs are left outside all day and evening to bark, even though their owners *are* home. If one of your pets has become such a bother to your family that the animal must live outdoors, the SPCA or Animal Control would gladly accept your animal for adoption.

The officers with the Anne Arundel County Animal Control have provided a quick summary of county code, which they actively investigate and prosecute. Some of the violations must be observed by a resident and a formal complaint must be filed on an affidavit, which can be found at

<http://www.aacounty.org/departments/animal-control/affidavit-of-complaint/>.

If the situation is an emergency, such as an animal that has been recovered that appears to be injured or sick, or an animal is left outside on a chain without proper shelter, food, or water, the Animal Control officers will respond to emergency complaints. These types of complaints can be made anonymously to 410-222-8900, 24 hours per day. If you reach an employee who appears to be hesitant about having an officer respond immediately, describe the urgent circumstances to them, such as lack of shelter, food, or water, or the animal appears to be in distress. If the urgency is communicated to the department, the officer will respond accordingly.



**Below is the summary of county code violations that our residents should become familiar with and be reminded of with their own animals.**

***Public Safety Threat***

An animal poses a public safety threat if the animal:

- Inflicts severe injury to a person
- Bites a person
- Kills or inflicts severe injury to a domestic animal
- Attacks a person
- Without provocation, chases or approaches a person in an attitude of attack
- Engages in encouraged dog fighting activity or shows evidence of having been engaged in encouraged dog fighting activity

***Dog Outdoors***

For each dog confined or tied outdoors, an owner shall provide:

- A shelter to protect the dog from the wind, snow, rain, cold, and sunlight
- A chain, rope, or line used to tie a dog which must be at least 10 feet in length
- All animals with food and water daily

***Public Nuisance***

The owner of an animal may not permit the animal to be a public nuisance or to cause a public nuisance condition. Public nuisance includes the following acts by an animal:

- Molesting pedestrians
- Chasing vehicles
- Damaging property of someone other than the owner of the animal

***Animal Disturbance Prohibited***

It is unlawful for a person who owns, keeps, or has possession of an animal to permit the animal to disturb the quiet of a person or neighborhood.

***Running at Large***

"At-Large" means off the property of an animal's owner and not leashed and not under the control of a responsible person.

***Removal of Animal Excreta***

The owner of any animal shall be responsible for the removal of any excreta deposited by his or her animal on public walks, recreation areas, or private property other than his own.



**SPECIAL COMMUNITY MEETING**

We are in the process of planning a special community meeting to review a proposed pier construction agreement. We will be sending details and notifications to the community shortly. The mailing will contain the information regarding the request, along with the date when the meeting will be held. Be on the lookout for this mailer coming soon.



Thank you to all to helped get this long-awaited newsletter out to our community. Anyone with interest in helping with future newsletters or anyone with information they would like to include in future issues, please send an email to [LaShandra.Oliver@gmail.com](mailto:LaShandra.Oliver@gmail.com).

The Board of Directors would like to thank HighStarr Copy & Print Services for working with us to produce this newsletter. Their customer service is unbeatable and their finished products are spectacular. Thanks HighStarr!

Sylvan Shores Services Company  
P.O. Box 208  
Riva, MD 21140

**COUNTY CONTACTS TO NOTE**

Emergency 911

South County Roads District

410-222-1933 or 410-222-1276

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](http://www.aacounty.org)

Sylvan Shores Water & Sewer Capital Project

Inspector – John Bassford : 410-222-7569

[pwbass12@aacounty.org](mailto:pwbass12@aacounty.org)

Finances – Leslie Campbell - 410-222-7519

Gail Rash - [pwrash23@aacounty.org](mailto:pwrash23@aacounty.org)

**MOSQUITO SPRAYING**

We will be participating in the 2017 Maryland Department of Agriculture Mosquito Control program.

The purpose of the program is to prevent mosquito-borne diseases in humans, pets, and domestic livestock. The Department of Agriculture will inform us of the spraying day for our community, at which time we will inform the community via

<https://sylvanshoresriva.com>, Facebook, email, and this newsletter.

**Find us online! See our NEW website at  
[www.sylvanshoresriva.com](http://www.sylvanshoresriva.com)**

SSSC Bylaws and Rules & Regulations

Clubhouse Rental Contact Information

Neighborhood Watch Information

AA County Water & Sewer Project Information

The Shoreline Newsletters

Plus many other useful links!

**Contact us** through our website with change of address, questions, comments, suggestions....



<https://www.facebook.com/SylvanShoresRiva/>

<https://sylvanshoresriva.com/>

GoogleVoice Mailbox : [443-906-0227](tel:443-906-0227)