# CALENDAR Upcoming Board Meetings

Third Monday of the Month March 19 April 16 May 21 June 18 7:00 PM @ the Clubhouse

# Community Beautification & Cookout! April 14th

## Sylvan Shores 2017 Board of Directors

President: Tim Cook
timothyecook@gmail.com
Vice President: Rachel Kline
rachel@brooks-ins.com
Treasurer: Cathy Izzi
gc.izzi@verizon.net
Secretary: LaShandra C. Oliver
lashandra.oliver@gmail.com
Stephen Bradley
stbradley202@yahoo.com
Judy Moody
yarydoom@comcast.net

Sylvan Shores Board SylvanShoresBOD@gmail.com



#### **WINTER 2018**

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In our last newsletter, I shared with you my thoughts on recreation in Sylvan Shores and some information on the direction I'd like to take the neighborhood. As promised, this month I will focus my thoughts on the environment and heritage of Sylvan Shores.

The environment: In this day and age, it is our duty to protect and sustain the environment and planet around us. Living where we do makes this duty particularly important because our activity here on land impacts not only the land around us, but also the South River and the Chesapeake Bay. The development of the Chesapeake Bay watershed has and continues to put stress on this vibrant ecosystem; more than has ever been witnessed in the history of the world. Construction, sewage runoff, forest loss, silt runoff, highway and road construction, and many other items damage the ecosystem. It is up to us to do everything in our power to protect and conserve this ecosystem for the future. This can be done through smart development, habitat conservation, rehabilitation and reconstruction, storm water management, and environmental awareness. If a decision is good for the environment, I am for it, and if it damages the environment, I am opposed. Our own stormwater management project and oyster rehabilitation projects are two examples of initiatives in Sylvan Shores aimed at improving our waters and environment overall

<u>Preservation of the Heritage of Sylvan Shores</u>: Sylvan Shores was founded as a vacation enclave for summertime fun on the South River. We have just passed the 75<sup>th</sup> year milestone of the founding of the community. I feel we have the obligation to maintain and protect the

company property that is part of this heritage. This includes the clubhouse, the parkways, the parks, beaches and piers, our community newsletter, our founding documents, and more. We have overlooks for the community; we now have rain gardens and a new storm water management system; we have the front entryway, and more that are all part of our collective experience here. It is our main purpose to maintain these aspects for the common enjoyment of members of the community. In my decision-making process, if making a decision protects and ensure the continuity of the heritage of Sylvan Shores, I am for it, and if it detracts, or otherwise damages our common possessions, I am opposed. As always, I welcome and look forward to discussion with the passionate residents of Sylvan Shores. Please join us at a monthly board meeting, or send an email with your thoughts.



#### **BOAT TRAILER REGISTRATION**

With the clearing of construction equipment back by the ballfield lot, some of our neighbors are making use of this space as a spot for their boats and trailers. In our January board meeting, we discussed a registration system making it easier to know who is there and ensure the spots are available and secure for our community members. For more information, attend our next meeting on the 3rd Monday of every month, or email the board. If you are interested in registering your boat/trailer with the board and securing a spot by the ballfield, please email the board of directors. If you currently have a boat and/or trailer parked by the ballfield, please let us know as soon as possible.

#### COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP AND COOKOUT

We hope you saw our Save The Date announcement on Facebook and marked April 14th in your calendar! A community resident is spearheading beautification efforts and we need your help. There are opportunities for adults and kids to lend a hand to improve our shared properties. This day of community improvement will include a cookout, potluck, and plant exchange at our clubhouse. In addition to your presence, the clean-up will also benefit from donations of garbage bags, garden tools, gloves, wheelbarrows, and other tools.

What: Community Beautification

Date & Time: April 14th 9am to 2pm

What to bring: At least 1 paper lawn & leaf bag, one plastic trash bag, tools for clean-up. Side-dish of your choice, bulbs, seeds, and divided plants for the after party and plant exchange.

Where to meet: Baseball field. Clubhouse to follow

**Who to contact:** Bev MacWilliams or Board of Directors

Rain Date will be 4/21.

#### **KEEP IN TOUCH!**

Have you joined our community email list? From time-to-time, the board will send an email out to the community with important information, meeting announcements and agenda, and more. This month, we sent out meeting announcement and agenda.

If you'd like to be added to this list, please email the board and let us know. Also, don't forget to check out our website (<a href="www.sylvanshoresriva.com">www.sylvanshoresriva.com</a>) and Facebook Page (<a href="www.facebook.com/sylvanshoresriva">www.facebook.com/sylvanshoresriva</a>) for updates. Make sure you give our page a "like" and share with your neighbor. The more people connect with us, the more voices get heard.



#### SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS

Our properties have fallen victim to several incidents of vandalism. Our clubhouse door handle has been broken off multiple times, requiring the use of community funds to replace it. As a community, we are all responsible for the safety and security of shared spaces. If you see suspicious activity, please alert the police.

In response to the vandalism around the community, the board has decided to install security cameras in various public spaces around the neighborhood. These will aid in the positive identification of those responsible for the vandalism around the community. Locations will include community piers and parking lots, generally seeking to deter those who have been breaking, keying, or otherwise causing destruction to community property. Please reach out to the board of directors with any questions.



### **COMING SOON**

The Bylaws Committee is working on updating the Standard Operating Procedures for the Sylvan Shores Board of Directors. This important job will help us ensure accuracy and accountability within the board. The SOP outlines the operations of the board, including ethical and fiduciary considerations, the various roles and responsibilities of board members, and descriptions of the various committees, among others. If you have had an interest in the operations of the board and wish to be a part of this process, please reach out to Marge Farnan, chairman of the Bylaws Committee at margefarnan@comcast.net.

Board elections are on the horizon! If you are someone who has wondered how they can be more involved in decision-making and make a difference in the community, this is an excellent opportunity to join. The Board of Directors serves as representation for the community and regularly makes decisions which affect all residents and owners. Board members serve for a one-year term of office. Sylvan Shores BOD has a nominations committee, which will collect information from interested parties, then ensure eligibility of those who are interested and share nominees with the rest of the board. Elections are held at our semi-annual Membership Meeting in May. This year, elections take place on on May 21st at 7:00pm. The regular monthly board meeting will follow.

## **BOAT KEYS, SLIPS, KAYAK SPACE**

It's hard to imagine spending the day outdoors with our unpredictable weather, but Spring IS coming! As the weather gets warm, residents will want to take advantage of all that Sylvan Shores has to offer, and that includes water access. If you have a watercraft and need access to ramps, Bill Buser is your guy. Just email the board and we'll get you in touch! Those folks who have their kayaks already housed in a Sylvan Shores spot, please reach out to Bill to renew.

#### FEATURED RESIDENT BUSINESSES

We are now offering space in the newsletter to showcase local businesses. Space is available for business cards as well as half-page, and full-page ads. If you would like to help sponsor the newsletter and have your business information featured, please shoot us an email. Ads may be featured for two volumes in a row, for a maximum of three times a year. Please direct questions about being featured to <a href="mailto:sylvanshoresbod@gmail.com">sylvanshoresbod@gmail.com</a>.



We are always looking for stories and features for future newsletters. We also want your pictures for the facebook page and website updates. Anyone with interest in helping with future newsletters or information they would like to include in future issues, please send an email to LaShandra.Oliver@gmail.com.



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

# **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. Spraying day in our area is Monday.

# Find us online! See our NEW website at www.sylvanshoresriva.com

SSSC Bylaws and Rules & Regulations
Clubhouse Rental Contact 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/

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GoogleVoice Mailbox: 443-906-0227