

# SOUND SHORE BLUFFS PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

## SPRING 2005 NEWSLETTER

### The Sound Shore Bluffs Property Owners' General Meeting Sunday, June 5, 2005 at 10:30am.

All Association Members are asked to please join us at the next General Meeting, scheduled for Sunday, June 5 at 10:30 am at Beach Park. The meeting will be held rain or shine. If the weather looks bad, we will post a notice at Beach Park and then meet under the Pavilion at Crabmeadow Beach.

#### Property Update

We're pleased to report that the repairs at the Lake are complete. If you haven't been there lately, please stop by and check out the great repair job on the stairs and landing by the Lake.



The Beach Commissioner along with Keith Smith and Scott Schafer, have installed the ground cover by the playground at Beach Park and the seasonal clean up is complete.

Thanks for doing such a great job!

#### Beach Rules

A print out of other beach rules is attached as a reminder, as well as a letter from Beach & Lake Commissioner, Joe Bica. These are to make sure that the properties remain fun, safe, enjoyable places for all. Please be sure to review and share these rules with your family members.

#### Vandalism

We are having recurring problems with vandalism at Beach Park. There are people who hang out on the beach, light fires, damage our property and after leaving a beach filled with beer bottles and litter, they drive home intoxicated. We are hoping to get support from our local police and the Suffolk County Executive's Office and are asking the Suffolk County Police Department to issue trespassing summons as well as to check trespassers for underage drinking.

As they say on the 10 o'clock news, "Do you know where

your child is?" We were all kids once and the beach and teens naturally go together, but a little preventative action goes a long way to preventing something before it starts. Destroying private property, leaving unsightly litter and worse, driving drunk are very serious matters. Before anyone is ticketed, arrested or hurt in an accident, please speak to your teenagers about responsible behavior. We ask that you help us avoid any unnecessary police confrontations by speaking to your kids about this problem.

#### Other Issues

As you may have noticed, we are having a problem with people not being diligent about cleaning up after their dog(s). This creates a very unhealthy and unpleasant situation for everyone. Dog waste contaminates the ground, water, attracts rats and becomes a means of passing intestinal parasites and infections to dogs and people. Your own dog can be repeatedly reinfected by parasites in this way. Picking up the poop prevents a great deal of the contamination. Cleanup can reduce veterinary expenses and might even save on human doctor bills.

We all know that the dogs can't clean up after themselves, and this is a *people problem* rather than a dog problem. It's easy to enact "no dogs allowed" rule, and then the people who clean up suffer right along with the ones who don't. If all pet owners act responsibly, this will not be necessary. Won't you please pick up after your pet!?!

#### 2005 SSBPOA Budget

This year's budget is attached and will be discussed at the next General Meeting.

#### Meeting with the County Executive's Office

On May 3<sup>rd</sup> we were invited to attend a Community Meeting held by the County Executive, Steve Levy, where we have the opportunity to ask for help with issues and concerns in our neighborhood. Ginny Ackermann attended the meeting and asked for assistance with the vandalism issue at Beach Park. Mr. Levy and his team will be speaking to our local police department to insure that stronger actions are taken, especially when underage drinking is involved.

We appreciate all of Mr. Levy's help with the waste pipe issue at Blanchard Lake. His office has been very instrumental in putting pressure on the Town of Huntington to see that something is done.

Also discussed was the problem with speeding in our neighborhood. Mr. Levy's office confirmed that although we are not able to install speed bumps we are probably able to install something called a "rumble strip". We will

# SOUND SHORE BLUFFS PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

## SPRING 2005 NEWSLETTER

look into costs as well as permit requirements from the Town of Huntington and will update you later this summer.

We also invited a representative from the Suffolk County Executive's Office to attend one of our General Meetings to meet members of the Association, speak about local issues and listen to our concerns. A separate notice will be issued if they are able to attend this General Meeting.

### **Save the Date - SSPBOA Summer BBQ**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual SSBPOA Summer BBQ will be on Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. More information to follow but mark your calendar's early and save the date.

### **Spring Egg Hunt**

Thanks are extended to the Smith and Bica Families for their hard work in organizing and making this year's egg hunt a great success. There were 37 kids and 600 eggs and a great time was had by all those who attended.

### **Dues Update**

Your dues invoice for 2005 will be sent to you soon. The winners of the 2004 dues collection contest are ...In 1<sup>st</sup> place are Goodwin and West where everyone is paid in full, 2<sup>nd</sup> place goes to Heather and Blanchard with only one house due, third place is Oelsner with two and sadly in last place is West Waterview with 6 homes still outstanding. Common you guys! We need your money to help pay for the upkeep of the properties. Send your check today before we start the 2005 season.

### **Other Neighborhood News**

The County Executive Meeting included of several "civic" associations from Huntington. Some other neighborhood concerns were the crime level and illegal housing. For more information on what the County Office is doing about these issues, please visit the website:  
<http://www.co.suffolk.ny.us>.

Another item discussed is a proposed project of putting in a large scale ferry operation on Long Island Sound (freight and passengers), with possible stops in Crab Meadow and Huntington (and other LI Sound communities). This does not forebode well for our beaches. For more information on this topic please visit  
[www.alliancetopreserveHuntingtonHarbor.org](http://www.alliancetopreserveHuntingtonHarbor.org).

**Something for our Senior Citizens...**at the meeting a person from one of the other associations discussed something called SAD (Seniors Against Discrimination). They have a campaign to Freeze School Taxes for Seniors

at age 70. For more information please visit their website at [www.sadseniors.com](http://www.sadseniors.com) or write to them at 6 Neptune Road, Rocky Point, NY 11778 or email [SADSeniors@aol.com](mailto:SADSeniors@aol.com).

### **Environmental Issues**

Thanks to all of you who have returned your postcards about the following environmental issues. We appreciate your help and feedback and will keep you posted on any new developments.

#### **Storm Water Run-off into the Lake**



Good news! The Town of Huntington has agreed to do something about the waste-pipe that goes into Blanchard Lake. We'll keep you posted on when

this work will take place. Thanks to Ginny Ackermann, recording secretary, for her work on this project.

#### **Key Span Issues**

In early April members of the Board of Directors (John Sapienza, Keith Smith, Jim Teeple, Kathy Burke and Ginny Ackermann) met with KeySpan Management for a tour of the facility and to discuss our concerns.

KeySpan Management was unaware of the excessive noise and will work with us to first determine what at the plant is causing it and ways to prevent it. They are considering installing monitoring devices to track sound levels and they have given the Board of Directors a number to call when the noise level is unacceptable. They ask that people keep track of the date, time and duration of any incidents.

Regarding the air pollution issues, KeySpan confirmed that the emissions statistics listed in the Newsday article were correct. He stated that KeySpan uses whatever is cheaper (oil or gas) and for the past several years they have been using oil, which although it is cheaper, produces more pollution. They are within the guidelines of the law and do not have any immediate plans to change in this regard. The Board has determined it is not in their jurisdiction to continue any further with this matter.

For more information speak to Ginny Ackermann, your Block Rep or anyone on the Board of Directors.

# SOUND SHORE BLUFFS PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

## SPRING 2005 NEWSLETTER

### ***Let your voice be heard!***

The two properties, Beach Park and The Lake are deeded land to Sound Shore Bluffs Property Owners' Association Members. As a member, these properties belong to you for as long as you own your home (none of us can secede from the association - I've checked with a lawyer already) *and it is in your own best interest to be involved in the way the property is run, kept up and managed.* These properties would be valued at over a million dollars and it does not take a lot of time to be involved – attend the two general meetings a year (one in summer and one in the fall), pay your annual dues, and participate in the election of the board of directors (**who will be making decisions on your behalf on how the dues money is spent on property additions and improvements, etc.**) OR better yet, become a director on the Board.

The Board of Directors meet monthly in the summer and every other month in the winter.

### ***Elections to the Board of Directors***

Board of Directors terms are for two years and positions are open to **ALL** Association Members in good standing.

### **We are holding elections for ALL positions at the second General Meeting later this year!**

An outline of the duties for each position will be sent out with the next newsletter or check out the descriptions in our bylaws on our website at [www.soundshorebluffs.com](http://www.soundshorebluffs.com). If you have forgotten the login information or would like an actual copy of something on the website please call Ginny Ackermann at 262-1487.

**WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENS BEHIND THE SCENES AT SOUND SHORE BLUFF PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION...**Here is YOUR chance to determine what dues are charged, how the money is spent, what type of parties are held, what property additions are made, changed or taken away. It's easy to complain about the way things are done, but, here is your chance to make a change! Stop complaining and join!

Everyone in good standing is eligible to be elected to the board... this is a Property Owners' Association made up of 143 families...not a private club. Won't you lend a hand to make sure that it is run properly!? If you would like more information on being on the board of directors, please speak to any board member or call Ginny Ackermann at 631-262-1487.

If you are interested in nominating someone for a position

on the Board or would like to join the Board yourself, nominations are made from the floor at the second General Meeting. All interested parties are VERY welcome.

### ***How to contact an Association Board Member or Beach Rep...email addresses are:***

(financial/dues related) [dues@soundshorebluffs.com](mailto:dues@soundshorebluffs.com)  
(general comments) [directors@soundshorebluffs.com](mailto:directors@soundshorebluffs.com)  
(newsletter/ website) [editor@soundshorebluffs.com](mailto:editor@soundshorebluffs.com)

### ***Board of Directors:***

President - John Sapienza  
Vice President - Rick Schwarz  
Treasurer - Joseph Gold  
Financial Secretary - Kathy Smith  
Commissioner - Joe Bica  
Recording Secretary - Ginny Mallon-Ackermann  
Corresponding Secretary - vacant position

### ***Block Representatives:***

Ken Kroll - West  
Ginny Goonan - Oelsner & Heather  
Jeanne Schwarz - West Waterview  
Keith Smith - Goodwin  
Jim Teeple & Kathy Burke - Hewitt  
Nick Zaffiris - Blanchard

### ***Reminder – Are you selling your house?***

Please make sure your dues are paid in full before you contact Kathy Smith for a letter of clear title. You must request this letter at least 48 hours in advance.

Don't let back dues hold up the sale of your house! When we see houses go up for sale we do check your account to see if back dues are owed. We will contact you, your real estate agent and/or attorney if need be to collect back dues.

If you wish set up a payment plan, request a letter for closing or have questions about your account standing you can write to the P.O. Box or send an email to [dues@soundshorebluffs.com](mailto:dues@soundshorebluffs.com).

### ***SSBPOA Newsletter***

The Newsletter and website comes to you 100% free of charge from Ginny Ackermann. If you have any questions or comments, please call 262-1487 or stop by 20 Goodwin Place. We're still looking for stories of the "old days" for our website and fun pictures from around town, so if you have some trivia, facts or stories to share, please let us know!