



### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT - Al Rae

I hope you all had a good Thanksgiving holiday. The weather here at the beach could have been better without the high wind and rain. The beach took a pounding with waves up to the dunes causing a lot of damage. (See attached picture later in this newsletter.) The much needed beach replenishment funding is still not final and your support is still needed. I agree that it seems like this funding process has been going on forever but we are still not done. Here is an update:

- When it began the project was described as a 50-year (will last) beach replenishment project overseen by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.
- The whole project was estimated to cost \$25.5 million, with \$14.5 million needed from the federal government.
- Late 2005 the U.S. Congress allocated \$3 million for the project - the State of Delaware will match these funds. This would leave \$11.5 Million still needed from Congress.
- Bethany and South Bethany needed 67 oceanfront property owners to approve easements in front of their property for the project to proceed. All but three were received and these three have been turned over to the State for condemnation processing.
- This year Congress has still not voted on our needed funding in the 2007 budget because of the changes in control of Congress. The South Bethany Lobbyist Marlowe & Company provided a briefing on the project on December 4<sup>th</sup> and said that it may be February 2007 before funding is approved. That Congress may approve only another \$3 million. That would leave an additional \$8 million to be approved in the future before the project could begin.
- The project can not begin until it is fully funded.

Because of the continued need for funding, I would like to ask that you once again contact your members of Congress (House and Senate) and ask them to approve the needed funds for our beach replenishment. We still need some additional funds and we need your help by going to the e-mail site (listed below) maintained by the Town's consultant Marlow & Co., enter your information including zip code and then they will create e-mails in your name to the correct Congressman and Senators. It is easy to do and so very important. The web site to go to is -- <http://capwiz.com/mandcmp/go/Delaware07> .

A new issue which has been reported in the local newspapers, that some SBPOA members have contacted us about, is the receipt of a notice from their property insurance company stating that their coverage will not be renewed. Delaware Insurance Commissioner Matt Denn recently said that "One of our major companies, which already declines to insure homes within 1,000 feet of the coast, is expanding that zone to 2,500 feet. Another major insurer is placing a cap on the amount of new coastal homeowners insurance its agents can sell each month. A third one plans to stop new sales of homeowners insurance to homes within two miles of the coast," We advise that all SBPOA members need to insure that their insurance coverage is continued and should you lose your coverage to immediately:

- Ask your insurance agent to shop around and arrange for new coverage.
- Coastal homeowners who lose their coverage and need to discuss options should call the Delaware Insurance Commissioner's consumer hotline at 1-800-282-8611.
- Insurance Commissioner Denn said that coastal homeowners seeking new policies may end up purchasing a policy in the Delaware FAIR plan, which is operated jointly by insurance companies as a "last-resort" source of homeowners insurance. More information on this issue and the FAIR plan can be found at the Delaware Insurance Departments we site at -  
<http://www.delawareinsurance.gov/inscom/departments/news/101906-Press-Coastal.shtml>.
- Also please let the Town of South Bethany and the South Bethany Property Owners Association know of any changes or additions to the above information.

At the last SBPOA Membership meeting on August 30<sup>th</sup>, property owners noted that Verizon was beginning to offer cable TV services in Delaware and suggested that SBPOA write a letter to Verizon encouraging them to offer competing services in South Bethany. The motion passed unanimously. Since the meeting, I first talked to Town Hall and determined that Verizon TV services would be allowed in addition to the current Mediacom services. I then contacted the President of Verizon, Mr. Bill Allan, and on 11-6-06 received a response which I am including because of how much interest there has been on this subject. His response is: "...the Delaware Public Service Commission voted unanimously to grant Verizon a video franchise. This franchise covers those parts of unincorporated Delaware where Verizon has announced plans to build its Fiber to the Premises network. It initially includes Angola (Sussex), Hockessin, Talleyville, Wrangle Hill, Holly Oak and the unincorporated areas around Middletown, Newark and Dover. Unfortunately, the Town of South Bethany is not on our deployment schedule for 2007. Verizon's engineering department is aware of your community's interest. We will keep you posted as our deployment progresses over the next few years."

Another issue of concern discussed at the last Membership meeting on August 30<sup>th</sup>, is the ongoing problem of foot traffic crossing Route # 1 during the summer season. It is often dangerous and beachgoers are forced to wait a long time for traffic to stop and allow a crossing opportunity. I met with both the South Bethany Police Chief and Town Manager

regarding this issue and was encouraged to learn of two new developments: first, that this winter all 13 of the South Bethany crosswalks will be re-done by DeDOT to be brought into compliance with the American Disabilities ACT (ADA). That this project will level the crosswalks eliminating the puddles that form in the middle; that the new crosswalks will be 6 -8 feet wide and will be re-painted and therefore will be more noticeable by cars; that all of the coastal highway through South Bethany will be re-paved next spring. The other development is that the Town is accepting an offer received from the University of Delaware regarding the "Safety Circuit Rider Program". The UD offer is to perform a free pedestrian and traffic study of South Bethany. This study, staffed by experts knowledgeable in what has worked for other coastal communities would result in valuable recommendations. UD does not fund the changes recommended. We are continuing to follow this subject.

Finally, congratulations to Scott Moore for being selected the lifeguard of the year for 2006. He received \$200 from the SBPOA, and his name has been added to the plaque, in memory of Ian Saylor, which is displayed in the Town Hall.

Please have a great and safe year end holiday. Should you want to contact me please send an e-mail to [al.rae@verizon.net](mailto:al.rae@verizon.net) or call 302-537-9440.

Respectfully,  
Al Rae

### **911 Locator Alert System:**

One of our members asked that we make you aware of the following. The fire company is passing out information on a 911 Locator Alert System being offered by a private company for a fee. The system is a high intensity flashing strobe light that is attached to the top of your mail box or a separate post in front of your house. Should you call 911 or activate a medic-alert, the strobe starts blinking to assist the ambulance or police in finding your house. Information on this is found at [www.2help911.com](http://www.2help911.com) or by calling 302-934-5340. The company, 911 Locator Systems Inc., is located in Millsboro.

### **SOUTH COASTAL LIBRARY BUILDING CAMPAIGN UPDATE:**

The Friends of the South Coastal Library (FOSCL) have begun the Capital Campaign to raise the necessary funds to expand and improve the library facility, located at 43 Kent Avenue in Bethany Beach. Since the present library was built in 1994 the number of patron visits to the library has increased dramatically. The number of patron visits increased from 95,005 in 2001 to 123,094 in 2005. State Senator George Bunting and State Representative Gerald Hocker have agreed to serve as honorary co-chairmen of the Campaign.

The objectives (not finally agreed to by the County) of the new South Coastal Library / Cultural Center building expansion project are to:

- Increase library / meeting space from the current 10,000 sq. feet to more than 20,000 sq. feet.
- Enhance educational and cultural opportunities at the Library / Cultural Center by providing added space including a 150 person meeting room with a stage and kitchen.
- Provide added space to be used by the surrounding communities, such as South Bethany, for workshops, training, club meetings and more.

With a campaign goal of \$3 ½ million dollars (which is ½ the total project cost) donations from property owners, businesses, visitors, governments and friends in the surrounding communities are being requested to help achieve the building of this important community asset.

Your (tax deductible) gifts for the new library are needed and can be sent to:

- FOSCL (Friends of the South Coastal Library),
- Capital Campaign
- P.O. Box 1617,
- Bethany Beach, DE 19930-1617.

#### SBPOA DATES FOR 2006 - 2007

| DATE              | Weekday  | TIME         | EVENT  |
|-------------------|----------|--------------|--|
| January 26, 2007  | Friday   | 7-11 PM      | Winter Social and Game Night   |
| February 9, 2007  | Friday   | 7:00 PM      | Town Council Regular Meeting   |
| February 15, 2007 | Thursday | 10.00 AM     | SBPOA Membership Meeting (#4)<br>➤ Appoint Nominating Committee  |
| March 2, 2007     | Friday   | 7-11 PM      | Winter Social and Game Night   |
| March 9, 2007     | Friday   | 7:00 PM      | Town Council Regular Meeting   |
| March 16, 2007    | Friday   |              | Publish Spring Shore Lines   |
| April 13, 2007    | Friday   | 7:00 PM      | Town Council Regular Meeting   |
| April 21, 2007    | Saturday | 10.00 AM     | SBPOA Membership Meeting (#5)<br>➤ Meet the Town Election Candidates<br>➤ Nomination and Election of Officers<br>➤ President's Report<br>➤ Adopt Annual Operating Budget |
| May 3, 2007       | Thursday | 6:30 PM      | Neighborhood Watch Thank You Dinner  |
| May 11, 2007      | Friday   | 7:00 PM      | Town Council Regular Meeting   |
| May 26, 2007      | Saturday | 7:00 to 7:00 | Town Election  |

**THE EVACUATION ROUTE FOR THE SOUTH BETHANY AREA HAS BEEN**

**CHANGED.** - The Town's Hurricane Evacuation route has changed to the route below:

| Evacuation Route - South Bethany Area |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
|                                       | Start - State Route 1 and Evergreen Road (McDonalds)                                  |
| 1                                     | Drive Northbound Route 1 to Garfield Parkway (Del. Rt. 26)                            |
| 2                                     | Turn left onto Garfield Parkway (Del. Rt. 26)   |
| 3                                     | Continue on Vines Creek Rd. (Del. Rt. 26) to Dagsboro                                 |
| 4                                     | Turn right on Main Street   |
| 5                                     | Turn left on Clayton St. to Rt. 113<br>or<br>proceed north on Dagsboro Rd. to Rt. 113 |
| 6                                     | Proceed on Rt. 113 to points north.   |

**Composite picture showing damage to ocean front homes and to the beach**



There is an excellent article with pictures in the 2006.12.01 Coastal point.

[www.coastalpoint.com](http://www.coastalpoint.com)

**Curbside Recycling is now available for South Bethany Residents and Renters.**

Right now, the way to obtain this service is for each individual to sign up with DSWA by using the attached form or by signing up on the Internet, [www.dswa.com](http://www.dswa.com) by following the links from their web site. Should SBPOA be lobbying for the Town of South Bethany to contract with DSWA to get the whole town covered? Right now there are quite a few people who have paid the \$36 and signed up as individuals. Please respond with your desires to [SBPOA2005@aol.com](mailto:SBPOA2005@aol.com).

**Curbside Recycling includes:**

| MATERIAL   | YES   | NO!   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>PAPER</b><br>Newspapers,<br>Phone books<br><u>Clear Bags Provided!</u>          | Keep papers dry and clean.  | Junk mail, Magazines, Envelopes, Cereal Boxes, Boxboard                       |
| <b>FLATTENED CORRUGATED CARDBOARD*</b>   | Flattened Appliance Boxes, Storage Boxes  | Cereal boxes, Paperboard  |
| <b>PLASTIC BOTTLES</b><br>Narrow-neck bottles ONLY                                 | Empty and rinse. Labels can stay on. Discard lid. Milk Jugs, Soda Bottles, Shampoo & Detergent Bottles                        | Butter Tubs, Yogurt Containers, Styrofoam, Motor Oil Containers               |
| <b>PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS</b>  | Plastic Grocery Bags  | Paper Bags, Garbage Bags  |
| <b>CANS</b><br>Aluminum, Steel & Empty Aerosol Cans<br><u>Green Bags Provided!</u> | Empty and rinse. Labels can stay on. Food and Beverage Cans, Pet Food, Empty Aerosol Cans                                     | Foil, Pie Pans, Paint Cans, Scrap Aluminum, Lawn Chairs, Siding, Doors        |
| <b>GLASS</b><br>Clear, brown, and green<br><u>Use Blue DSWA Bin!</u>               | Empty and rinse. Labels can stay on. Discard lid. Food and Beverage Containers only.  | Window Glass, Drinking Glass, Mirrors, Coming Ware, Pyrex, Ceramic            |
| <b>JUNK MAIL</b><br><u>Blue Bags Provided!</u>                                     | Keep dry and clean. Office Paper, Glossy Catalogs, Magazines, Glossy Newspaper Inserts, Color Paper, Window Envelopes, Flyers | Newspaper, Cardboard, Chipboard, Paperback Books, Paper Bags, Telephone Books |
| <b>HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES</b><br><u>Place in a small sealed clear bag!</u>            | AAA, AA, C, D, watch, camera, and hearing aid batteries   | Automobile, motorcycle, marine, or lantern batteries                          |

\* Volume restrictions apply, contact DSWA for details.

**Ready to Subscribe for Curbside Pick-up of Your Separated Recyclables?**

Just complete this form and return with your semi-annual payment:  \$36 OR  \$54 **CHECK ONE**

**For \$36.00 (\$6 per month for 6 months):**

**We'll pick up: Newspapers, Magazines, Phonebooks, Glass (clear, brown and green), Narrow-Neck Plastic Bottles, Aluminum, Metal Cans, Corrugated Cardboard, and Junk Mail.**

**For \$54.00 (\$9 per month for 6 months):**

**We'll also pick up: Yard Waste (grass clippings, shrubbery trimmings, and leaves - 4 bags/week maximum).**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Development/Neighborhood: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Trash Hauler: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_ How did you hear about program? \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to DSWA and return to: DSWA Curbside Recycling Program, P.O. Box 455, Dover DE 19903-0455.

**South Bethany Merchandise**



Show your pride in the town by purchasing South Bethany clothing and accessories at McCabe’s. These articles have a South Bethany Logo on them and are sold by McCabe’s, at no profit, as a service to South Bethany.

The following items are currently available:

|                           |      |
|---------------------------|------|
| NYLON BAG (red or black): | \$10 |
| MEDIUM CANVAS TOTE:       | \$15 |
| LARGE CANVAS TOTE:        | \$18 |
| HAT:                      | \$12 |
| HOODED SWEATSHIRT:        | \$22 |
| ADULT SWEATSHIRT:         | \$15 |
| ADULT T-SHIRT:            | \$ 8 |
| CHILD SWEATSHIRT:         | \$15 |
| CHILD T-SHIRT:            | \$ 8 |

We will be adding some new items (visors, polo shirts, and beach towels) in the spring!

| <b>TREASURER’S REPORT – Kathy Connor</b> |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| <b>Balance – September 1, 2005</b>       | <b>\$25,139</b> |
| <b>Income:</b>                           |                 |
| • Dues                                   | 220             |
| • Telephone Book Adds                    | 230             |
| • Sales from McCabes                     | 306             |
| • Misc.                                  | 43              |
| <b>Total Income</b>                      | <b>\$799</b>    |
| <b>Expenses:</b>                         |                 |
| • Neighborhood Watch                     | 54              |
| • Newsletters                            | 625             |
| • Holiday Lunch Deposit                  | 200             |
| • PO BOX                                 | 38              |
| • Telephone Book Appre. Dinnner          | 817             |
| • Misc.                                  | 12              |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                    | <b>\$1,746</b>  |
| <b>Balance – May 31, 2006</b>            | <b>\$24,192</b> |

**News from South Bethany**

The local newspaper, “Coastal Point”, has excellent articles documenting issues that are of interest to South Bethany property owners. They offer these articles on their web site, <http://coastalpoint.com>. There is a link to the archives right under their web page header. Headlines for some of the interesting articles follow:

- 2006.09.15 “Ernesto amplifies beach erosion worries”
- 2006.10.06 “Walkway, permit fee hike moved forward,” an excellent article covering the Sept 26 South Bethany special meeting. “Commission approve the Estuary,” “Dredging begins,” picture of dredging which started October 3.
- 2006.10.13 Picture of foamy mess in South Bethany caused by the Noreaster in October
- 2006.10.20 “South Bethany grass and canal dredge addressed,” an excellent article covering the Oct 13 South Bethany Town Council Meeting. “South Bethany hikes building permit rate”
- 2006.10.27 “Assawoman Canal Dredge proceeding” “The Assawoman Canal dredging project involves both mechanical and hydraulic dredging methods from the northern end of the waterway at its confluence with White Creek, to the southern end of the waterway at Little Assawoman Bay. The channel will be dredged to a width of 35 feet and a depth of 3 feet below mean low water (MLW). An estimated 34,000 cubic yards of material will be removed from the canal as part of the project. Material will be pumped via pipeline to a second upland disposal facility located on property owned by the Division of Fish and Wildlife.”
- 2006.11.10 “Mini-golf approved in Bethany Beach”
  - “Super Giant selling generic drugs for \$3.99”

## **Update on Windmills**

Recently the Delaware General Assembly passed House Bill 6, (now incorporated as DE Code Title 26, Chapter 10, § 1007 (d) (3)) { <http://www.delcode.state.de.us/title26/c010/index.htm#TopOfPage> } which requires among other things “Resources that provide short- or long-term environmental benefits to the citizens of this State (such as renewable resources like wind and solar power)” In reply to this new law Delmarva Power issued a Request for Proposal on November 1 for construction of new, cost effective resources for Delaware. Bluewater Wind will be one of the responders. They will probably be proposing a windfarm of about 200 windmill turbine to be located no closer than 7 miles off shore. At this distance a turbine would appear on the horizon to be about ¾ of an inch tall and as thin as a tooth pick. There is an excellent article in the 2006.12.01 Coastal Point, titled “State may see nations first off shore wind farm. <http://coastalpoint.com> Other interesting links are at [www.bluewaterwind.com](http://www.bluewaterwind.com) [http://www.bluewaterwind.com/Delaware/index\\_flash.html](http://www.bluewaterwind.com/Delaware/index_flash.html) Click here: Bluewater Wind <http://www.delmarvanow.com/bethanybeach/stories/20061018/2340074.html> Click here: Bluewater wants to bring first offshore wind farm to Delaware - Delaware Wave - [delmarvanow.com](http://delmarvanow.com)

## **Winter Social and Game Nights**

Mark your calendars! Enjoy an evening with friends and neighbors. The SBPOA together with the South Bethany Women’s Club is sponsoring two winter socials and game nights. The first is on Friday, January 26, 2007 from 7 PM to 11 PM, currently scheduled to be at the South Bethany Town Hall. Bring your favorite drinks and snacks to share. Coffee will be provided. The second is scheduled for Friday, March 2, 2007, same rules apply.