



Common Fence Point Improvement Association
Quarterly Newsletter
July, 2006
WWW.CFPIA.ORG

Comedy Night and Egg Hunt Events Bring Spring to the Point!

Comedy Night SOLD OUT!!! That was on the sign at the entrance to the Point. Approximately 150 people attended the Comedy Night fundraiser held at the Seaconnet Sportsman's Club on April 1st. We want to thank the Sportsman's Club for hosting and organizing the event. Club volunteers prepared the delicious meal and helped us set up. Our own CFPIA volunteers served the dinner. After dinner, everyone sat back and enjoyed the performances of 3 comedians from the Boston area. The Sportsman's Club also donated 12 lobsters for the raffles. We raised approximately \$2000, which will go towards the fire code updates for the CFPIA Hall. Thanks to event chairman **Tom McHale** and his volunteers: **Bill Lund, Cass Barrett, Jackie Shearman, Rose Escobar, Mil Kinsella, Lydia Breddemyer, Pat McHale, Barbara Jones, Pat Lidstone, Mandie Sullivan, Paul Silver, Dana and Steph Mills**. This was truly an example of neighbor helping neighbor. Thanks to our neighbors, The Seaconnet Sportsman's Club for helping us get closer to our goal of installing sprinklers.

The Egg Hunt - Wow! An estimated 300 people attended the Egg Hunt on April 15th, a beautiful Saturday afternoon. Over 900 eggs were hidden (and hopefully found) in the playground and field. There were prizes for those kids who found special numbers in their eggs and we had several raffles. A guest appearance by the Easter Bunny was enjoyed by all of the children. Thanks to **Moria Mahoney** for arranging the Easter Bunny visit. Moria has a friend, who knows a friend, whose brother's former employer knows the Easter Bunny! It wasn't easy, but Moria pulled it off. Thanks to the CFPIA bunnies for their effort in this event: **Nancy Aguiar, Sabrina Aguiar, Cass Barrett, Lisa Camara, Pat McHale, Candace Hibbad, Sheila Item, Barbara Jones, Jeannie Northrup, Jackie Shearman**, and honorary bunny **John Tingstad**. Special thanks to **Lisa and Joel Camara**, and **Diane Barrette** for their generous donations to fund this event.



The Easter Bunny poses for a picture with Egg Hunt attendees

The CFP / Portsmouth PD Connection

Do you know that Common Fence Point has a liaison in the Portsmouth Police Department? If you see any suspicious activity, people speeding excessively or have any other safety concerns, call the Portsmouth Police Dept at 683-0300 and ask to be connected to **Brett Bucholz**. Brett says that if you can provide him with detailed information, such as dates and times, accurate descriptions, and license plate numbers, it will help in curtailing undesirable activity on the Point.

Brett has taken the time to drive around part of CFP, and has already noted 22 streetlights that are out or not working properly and he has made note of this with the DPW. He has asked the DPW to re-paint the traffic and stop lines under the railroad bridge at the Entrance to the Point. In addition, he has arranged for some new "Slow - Children" signs to be placed near the Playground. We are very lucky to have Officer Buchotz helping us keep our Community safer.

DATES TO REMEMBER

07/22/2006 - CFPIA Summer Cookout- Page 2

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TBA - Fundraising Dinner and A "What Do You Have to Offer?" Auction - Page 3

09/16/2006 - Annual Get the Drift and Bag It - Page- 3

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2nd Annual CFPIA Summer Cookout To Be Held Saturday, July 22nd Noon - Dusk

Come join your neighbors at this year's cookout. It is planned to be bigger and better than last years! We need help organizing the event, and some extra hands to help with set up, clean up, children's activities and cooking those hamburger and hot dogs! If you are interested in volunteering to organize or work at the cookout, contact **Jackie Shearman** at 683-0196 or **Pat McHale** at 683-4826. Watch for the announcement of ticket sales at the Entrance Garden. The rain date is Sunday, July 23rd. Remember to bring chairs or a blanket and beverages. See you there!

Having a Safe 4th of July Means Adhering to the CFPIA Bonfire Policy

The official CFPIA policy regarding bonfires was drawn up in response to complaints from both the Portsmouth Fire Department and the Coastal Resource Management Council, which occurred in 1998. Each complaint sited the piling of debris and burning of said debris without permits and within close proximity to the shoreline. CFPIA adopted the following resolution regarding bonfires at its quarterly meeting June 15, 1999:

"Bonfires are allowed on Common Fence Point Improvement Association (CFPIA) property by permit only for the 4th of July holiday only. Permits to be let by the Portsmouth Fire Department no earlier than 7 days prior to the burn. Permit holder will be responsible for monitoring the build of the pile, for monitoring the actual burn start to finish, and for the cleanup of the remains. Removal of any remains is to be performed within 7 days of burn.

Bonfires shall consist of untreated wood only. The Portsmouth Fire Department may issue permits to CFPIA Trustees only at other times of the year for ground maintenance."

Trustees of Record: **Scott Boyd, Patricia Freeborn, Thomas McHale, Sara Farina, and John Silvia**

Implied in this policy statement is that piles cannot be constructed any sooner than 7 days before the 4th of July. Explicit in this policy statement is that someone must take full responsibility for all aspects of a bonfire, including getting the permit. Burning without a permit from the Fire Department is a punishable offense. Piling debris on a coastal resource is a punishable offense. Tradition does not excuse any of us from responsibility. You **can** have a bonfire. Have a safe the 4th!

The Dirt from the Playground

A new piece has been added to the CFPIA Playground. It is a balance beam on springs, and is called "Walk the Plank". **Ron Travers, Sue Travers, Ed Francis, and Christopher Francis** did the installation. We appreciate the time and effort they spent to add this piece to the playground.

New benches have been installed at the Playground in memory of CFP resident **Richard Backman**, who passed away last year. The benches were installed under existing trees, to take advantage of the shade. Plans are also underway to landscape the triangular area around them in the fall. Please take a moment to visit the benches and take in the view the next time you are in the Playground area.

Please keep those Clements receipts coming! You can drop them off at the Corner Store. Clements receipts are used **solely** to fund the Playground. Like any back yard, it needs occasional maintenance, however, we are faced with ongoing vandalism, and sometimes need to replace or repair equipment. Please support the Playground and thank you!

Save up to 20% at Macy's on September 16th and Help CFPIA!

Save money and support the CFPIA! CFPIA will be participating in Macy's "Shop For A Cause" on Saturday, Sept. 16, 2006. You can purchase a \$5 shopping pass that will enable you to receive 20% off regular and sale clothing, housewares, bed and bath, and jewelry. You will also save 10% regular and sale furniture and \$10 off every \$50 purchase. The passes can be used at any Macy's store or their affiliates, Filene's or Kaufmann's. Passes will be available at the Summer Cookout on July 22nd. For more information (and restrictions), or to purchase a pass, please contact Pat McHale at 683-4826. **CFPIA will receive 100% of the profits from passes sold.** Don't miss this opportunity to support your community while you save!

Earth Day, 2006

Thanks to 75 volunteers, Common Fence Point was stripped of garbage on April 22nd, Earth Day. Despite the unseasonable cold, young and old alike swarmed out onto the streets with big brown bags provided by RIDEM, determined to rid their neighborhood of unsightly trash.

Thanks to the members of **Cub Scout Packs 1 and 50**, who fanned out along Common Fence Blvd beaches and dragged their overflowing bags up to the road. Thanks to Dave Kehew, director of Portsmouth DPW and his crew for hauling away the piles that dotted the roadsides. Thanks to **Nancy Wyatt** who surprised workers with a huge plate of her home-baked lemon bars! Thanks to the tried and true who show up year after year for their cleaning assignments- Special thanks this year to **Diane and Donald Koch**, who came back several times to get ANOTHER assigned area to clean. Thanks to **Frank Munro** for putting in a sign at the playground and to **Brenda Munro** for her fine coordination of the event!

Meanwhile, at the Saltmarsh Restoration site, **Joel Camara**, of Camara Excavating was performing another **huge** Earth Day task. Joel spent hours restoring proper tidal flushing to the marsh by digging out the shells that were choking the channel. Then he recycled the material to shore up a nearby embankment that was suffering from erosion. Hats off to you, neighbor!

Please have Common Fence Point Pride. Keep it clean!

Sunset Beach Party - Friday, August 18th

If you missed the Blue Moon Party last summer, you have a second chance to attend a great neighborhood gathering this year. If you did attend, then you know what is in store for the evening! **Dennis Maceco** is heading up the event again this year, so we can only expect it will be just as much fun as the festivities last year.

This family event will be held at the Common Fence Point Beach, located on Common Fence Boulevard, beginning at 6:30pm. Please bring your favorite beverage and a snack or appetizer to share with your neighbors. Chairs or blankets and bug repellent are suggested. Watch for flyers and a sign at the Entrance Garden on or before August 1st. Please call Dennis if you have any questions at 401-683-6104.

We REALLY need to thank

Barbara Morse – a new CFP resident and member, who has offered to maintain the Entrance Garden. If you see her out there working, give her a thank you 'toot'

Michael Pare of New England Kitchen and Bath Center in Bristol, RI, who donated a sorely needed new stove and refrigerator to CFPIA!!

Fundraising Dinner and Auction Planned for the Fall

Despite our fundraising efforts and the generosity of contributors, we still have to raise the \$50,000 needed to install sprinklers by 2008. The next fundraising event is in the planning stages, but will consist of a dinner at the Community Hall, followed by an Auction that we are calling... well, we really don't have a name for it yet, but here is the idea: We are looking for contributions of a service you can provide. All auction items will begin at a minimum amount, to be determined. Don't think you have a skill? Think again!

Here are just some of the services that have been discussed as possibilities: babysitting, tutoring, computer help, gardening, lawn care, cooking, dog walking, pet sitting, laundry, errand running, grocery shopping, and household repairs. There could also be other services offered, such as a sailboat or powerboat ride. The list is endless! Gather your list of skills together and watch for more information on the website, www.CFPIA.org, or in the next Newsletter. If you have any fundraising ideas or would like to be included in planning this event, please call **Tom McHale** at 683-4826.

Attention CFPIA Residents – Road Race to Be Held on August 20th at 10am

This is the 3rd Annual CFP Road Race to benefit the Portsmouth High School Boosters Club. The route takes the runners onto some CFP streets. All residents, and in particular, those that live on the following streets may experience some short traffic delays: Anthony Rd, Attleboro Ave, Common Fence Blvd, Greenfield Ave, Massachusetts Blvd, Rhode Island Blvd, Massasoit Ave, Narragansett Blvd, King Philip St, Rayham Ave, North Water St, Summit Rd, and Sakonnet Drive. For more information on the race, please call **John Santillo** at 683-4733.

CFPIA Gets Non-Profit Mailing Status

CFPIA applied for and recently received a non-profit mailing status from the United States Postal Service. This means our mailing costs will almost be cut in half when we do bulk mailings (more than 200 pieces of mail). This savings will be realized with every mailing of the Newsletter. In order to save even more, we need to mail out membership letters once a year. In order to be fair to those who have paid memberships from January 1 to June 30th of this year, membership letters will be mailed out in the summer or early fall to CPF owners and residents, but will exclude those January to June members. Next year, all memberships will be mailed at the same time. Please remember that the membership form is also available on www.CFPIA.org

Annual Get The Drift and Bag It - September 16th

Volunteers interested in cleaning the shoreline this year are asked to call **Mil Kinsella** at 401-633-2606 or Brenda Whalen Munro at 682-2627 to register. This will help in determining the amount of supplies needed, including the number of tee shirts to order! The time of the clean up will be determined by the tides. Watch for signs at the Entrance Garden or updates on the website.

Remember that this is the cleanup where volunteers are asked to record all debris picked up and tally the amounts on a data card. The information is used by The Ocean Conservancy to educate people and create solutions to the problem of solid waste and litter.

Please note that this event is being held the same day as the Shop at Macy's event. No problem!! Bag the trash, then bag the savings!

CFPIA
PO Box 134
Portsmouth, RI 02871
Meetings Held 3rd Monday of the Month 7:15 PM

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Our Playground and Ball Field Mowing Crew



After changing the oil, sharpening the blades, and washing the machines, **John Tingstad** and **Matt Gifford** pose for a photo in the CPFIA Playground. Matt and John have undertaken **all** the mowing thus far this year. Thanks guys!!