



Common Fence Point Improvement Association
Quarterly Newsletter
APRIL, 2012
WWW.CFPIA.ORG

April 7, 2012 – The Annual Egg Hunt

The Annual Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 7th starting at 1:00PM at the Common Fence Point Community ball field. This is for neighborhood children from toddlers through 10 year olds. There will be eggs to find, prizes to win, raffles to enter, and more! Rumor has it that our own CFP Bunny will stop by for photo ops again!!

Remember – please bring a basket to hold your eggs. We ask that you take the candy and recycle the eggs for next year. A container will be provided to recycle the eggs. Please **be prompt!** The hunt is organized by age group, starting with toddlers. But once the Egg Hunt is started, the kids are eager to hunt and it's over before you know it! So **please** get there on time. Every year, we have several disappointed children who, upon arrival, find out that the hunt is already over.

Let's hope for a sunny, mild day!

Asian Long-horned Beetle Talk to Be Held on April 9th

Liz Duguay, an Environmental Scientist with the Division of Agriculture at DEM, will give a talk at the Community Hall on April 9th at 5:30pm on the Asian Long-horned beetle (ALB). Liz has worked at the Division for 33 years and currently is the State Survey Coordinator for the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Program (CAPS), administering surveillance and monitoring program for exotic invasive pests.

The ALB, also known as the starry sky or sky beetle, is native to eastern China, Japan and Korea. This species was accidentally introduced to the United States in 1996, arriving from Asia in solid wood packaging material. It has been found in this country in New York, New Jersey and Illinois. Most recently in 2008, Worcester, Massachusetts was devastated by a massive invasion and **28,000** trees were destroyed.

Liz will speak for about 45 minutes, followed by a 20 minute video that shows what happened in Worcester. It is very important that we are all aware of the ALB, what it looks like, and how to report it if found in our area. Liz will cover these important topics in her talk. Please come!

April 21, 2012 - Earth Day on Common Fence Point

This year Earth Day will be held on Common Fence Point on April 21st from 9am – noon. This is a very popular event with residents. It's a great opportunity to meet and work with your neighbors to clean up and beautify the neighborhood. Please bring your own yard waste bags, gloves, rakes, shovels or any other tools you may need. Most importantly - wear comfy clothes. You can register ahead of time with **Mil Kinsella** by emailing her at sterlingmil@cox.net or you can also just come to the Hall that Saturday morning.

If it's a sunny day, don't forget your sunscreen!



DATES TO REMEMBER

Every 3rd Monday of the Month –CFPIA Meeting 7:15pm
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Membership Committee News

The Membership Committee would like to thank everyone who responded to our 2011 membership drive. We had a 21% response, down slightly from 2010, but up from years past. Your contributions of time and money are greatly appreciated. Whether it is \$5 or \$100 it all helps. To those who offered services, we look forward to taking you up on your offer. Getting involved, even in a small way, is a great help. If we each just do a little, it's not a lot for anyone. Still needed are one or two people to keep track of new neighbors. This involves checking property transfers and sending welcome letters. Contact the Membership Chair, **Mary Ann Jencks**, at 401-954-8674 if you can help.

The 2012 membership renewal letter will go out mid-summer. **Mary Ann** looks forward to seeing her usual help with the mailing, and maybe meeting a few new faces, too. Please contact her if you are available. **LET'S GET OUR NUMBERS UP!!!**

Creative Residents Unite!

Last year we asked if anyone would be interested in sharing your creative works with others in our community. **Dennis Macedo** received some interest and hopes to plan an "Arts & Crafts" day sometime soon. If you would like to display your talent, please contact Dennis at damescape@aol.com or call him at 401-573-5915). Hopefully we can decide on a date that works for everyone.

Kitchen Renovation in the Community Hall

Renovations have begun in the kitchen with the contribution of a 3 tub commercial sink from **Tad DeCouto**, **Jackie Shearman's** son-in-law. With the professional help and contribution of **Frank Munro** and **Jeff Culpan**, a new ceramic floor was put in and the sink was installed!! Many thanks go out to **Scott Boyd** for leading the second workday with **Mike Gifford**, **John Tingstad**, **Bob Napier** and **Bill Boyd**. **Marilyn Napier** and **Carlton Johnson** helped **Dennis Macedo** install a new backsplash behind the sink. **John Silvia**, **Warren Caldwell** and others were also involved and we owe thanks to them for their contribution and concern for our Community Hall. It's great to see new neighbors pitching in!!

Our next step is to update the appliances. Once that is done, the Hall will be more functional and attractive to potential renters. Hopefully that will result in an increase in our rental income. Any contributions to this project are appreciated and tax deductible. The sooner we have the funds, the sooner we can proceed. Send tax deductible donations to: CFPIA – PO Box 134 – Portsmouth, RI 02871.



Our Community Hall's new sink and floor

Go Fly A Kite!

Have you witnessed the beauty and joy of our residents flying colorful kites recently? Pass the word! If you have a kite and are available, let's meet on Sunday afternoons in the ball field. The more the merrier. What a sight it will be!

Clement's Market Friends Fund

Thank you to all the residents who donate their Clement's receipts to the Common Fence Point Playground. The money raised by these receipts allows us to maintain the playground equipment. Thank you also for the notes of appreciation that come in with the receipts. In 2011 we raised \$1,007.29. The total amount accumulated since September, 2001 is \$8,646.18. Please show your support of Clement's community spirit by shopping there often! You may still drop off receipts at the Little Corner Store. Thanks to Mo for his support.

Playground News

The swings are back!!! On Saturday, March 25, 2012, **Michael Soares**, of Aquidneck Fasteners in Tiverton, a former CFP resident, replaced 6 chains on the swings and attached the seats. The chains were vandalized along with 2 more bubble panels during the winter. Thanks to **Mike** for his donation of time and materials to make the playground safe and fun for everyone.

Please remember that the playground is open to everyone! You do not have to be a member of CFPIA nor be a resident of Common Fence Point to use the playground.



Gina Price and Ailish McKenna are the first to try out the new swings

When You Are Out and About in the Neighborhood

It's that time of year: time to get out and start walking, biking, running, and enjoying our great neighborhood. Stay safe and remember to ride bikes with traffic and walk or run against traffic. This information comes from the National Traffic Highway Safety Administration. Going against traffic gives you, the walker/runner, a chance to make eye contact with oncoming drivers to make sure they see you. If not, you have a chance to get out of the way. Try it, you'll be amazed to see the oncoming cars giving you room. Riders should stay as close to the curb as possible and ride with traffic. **Remember, ride with, walk against!**

If you are walking with your dog(s) – they must be on a leash – no exceptions. And please pick up after your pet!

How's that New Year's Resolution?

Get Fit classes are available all spring and summer long at the Community Hall. Contact **Moirá Maloney** at groupx@newportymca for more information.

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

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Improvements at the Entrance Garden

The CFP entrance garden continues its transformation. **Barbara Ney** and **Luke Taylor** recently cleaned up the left over fall and winter plantings. **Luke** removed the overgrown ornamental grass that was obstructing the view of traffic from Anthony Road and the CFP Access Road. He trimmed back the holly and rhododendron bushes. He also planted numerous cuttings of sedum and other groundcover that should cover the new ledge and rid the area of the dreaded crabgrass! Several plants have been relocated for better growth and visual balance. **Barbara** added more spring bulbs and summer plants that will hold up in dry, sandy soil... A layer of compost will be added soon to help amend the soil. **Barbara** also added a spotlight to enhance the new sign at night. We thank **Hilda Taylor** for footing the electric bill to light up the sign. The sign looks great day and night!

If you are thinning out your perennial gardens and have any of the following plants that you'd like to donate, we'd gladly accept them! We are looking for Artemesia, Penstemon, Agastache, English Lavender, Russian Sage, Purple Coneflower, Garden Phlox, Santolina, Black Eyed Susan, Thyme or Snow in the Summer. These are all plants that should tolerate the full sun and dry, sandy soil that exists in the garden. Just place your plant in a pot or plastic bag with plenty of soil and water, and leave them at the entrance garden with a tag indicating the plant name. We'll take it from there!

We can always use an extra volunteer or two so if you are interested in occasional watering or weeding please contact **Barbara** at 401-293-0066 or email her at barbney@gmail.com