



Common Fence Point Improvement Association

Quarterly Newsletter

April, 2013

WWW.CFPIA.ORG

Earth Day Cleanup to be Held April 20th, 9am-Noon

Earth Day Cleanup is April 20 2013 from 9am to Noon. If you are unable to help with the actual clean up, bakers and water for the volunteers would be welcomed donations!

For the workers: Wear gloves and bug spray. Bring a yard waste bags and rake in case if you have some hard to reach areas. We have high expectations to make our neighborhood clean. No time like the present to begin teaching your little ones about community spirit and teamwork! Check in at the Community Hall first and tell us where you d like to clean, so we don t get overlap.

In addition to the regular clean up, we will be removing invasive honeysuckle and Asiatic bittersweet from the bayberry bushes and rosa rugosa on the perimeter of the salt marsh restoration area around the pond. We have one tree to cut down as well. Adults should wear long sleeves and gloves and bring pruning shears. **We will need a small pickup to get the piles to the dump.** Register ahead of time with **Brenda Munro** by calling 401-286-8384 (e-mail bwhalenmunro@gmail.com) or **Mil Kinsella** at 401-633-2606 (email sterlingmil@cox.net) if you can help, or just show up at the Hall that morning. **Brenda** and **Mil** are this year's organizers for Earth Day.

Cell Phone Recycling on Earth Day

Got an old cell phone and don't know what to do with it? One of our Common Fence Point neighbors, **Hailey Gablinske**, a sophomore at Portsmouth High School, has been accepted to travel abroad in the summer of 2013. This summer, Hailey will be traveling to France, Italy, Switzerland, and Austria with a student ambassador program called People to People. The People to People Student Ambassador program helps students gain insight into the lives of others around the world and earns them firsthand experience through service and cultural immersion. To help raise funds for her trip, she would like to collect old cell phones and ink cartridges to recycle. The only stipulation to this is that the phones must be able to power up, no cracked screens, and cords are not accepted.

Hailey will be collecting the cell phones at the Community Hall on Earth Day, April 20th. Thank you in advance for your donation!



DATES TO REMEMBER!

Every 3rd Monday of the Month –CFPIA Meeting 7:15pm
April 30th - Zumba Classes Start at the Hall – Page 4

April 20th – Earth Day 2013 - Page 1

The Entrance Garden is Looking for Daylilies

The entrance garden will receive a fresh, new covering of soil and mulch to help keep the current plants healthy and growing for the upcoming growing seasons. If anyone has daylilies they'd like to share, the Entrance Garden would be very happy to give them a new home! Plants can be dropped off anytime at the Garden. Please be sure they are well watered, and planted in soil in a container just in case they cannot be planted right away.

Extra hands are always welcome! If you are interested please contact **Barbara Ney** at barbney@gmail.com.

A big **THANK YOU** to **Barbara** for continuing to maintain the Garden year after year!

Jay Miller to Tackle the Phragmites in Our Pond

Common Fence Point resident **Jay Miller** recently completed a course jointly offered by CRMC and URI in Invasive Plant Management (IPM). As a result of taking the course, Jay is now certified in IPM and is qualified to apply the herbicide needed to control the invasive phragmites that have taken over our fresh water pond on Anthony Road.

Currently, **Jay** is in the process of filing out an application that will be submitted to the Department of Environmental Management (DEM). Once the application is received, a representative from DEM will come out to our pond to assess the situation. He plans to start treating the phragmites this summer. Unfortunately, this effort will take many years to complete before we can reclaim the pond. Thanks to Jay for volunteering to take on this enormous effort!

Did you know that CFP residents were able to skate on the pond in the winter? Yes, it's true! **Jackie Shearman** has the photos to prove it! Let's bring back our pond!



The pond viewed looking from Anthony Road



The pond viewed looking towards Anthony Road.

CFPIA Egg Hunt, 2013

The Annual CFP Easter Egg Hunt was held on Saturday, March 30th. The weather was sunny and cooperative. A large number of parents and eager children turned out for the event at the playground. Three age groups (0 to 3) (4 to 6) (7 to 10) gathered to listen for the start of the race in their area. Thank you to the **Easter Bunny** for appearing on time and allowing some great photo ops for parents and kids. The Easter Bunny was assisted by **Ashley Jefferds, Jessie Jefferds, Sami Jefferds, Kacey Shearman, Sabrina Aguiar, Gianna DePalma** and **Kaitlyn Shaker** in filling and hiding the eggs. We are talking thousands of eggs, folks!

Thanks also to **Jeanne Drapeau, Jan Bachman, Tracy Boyd** and **Karen Shearman** for assisting with raffles, prizes, set up and clean up. The event was organized by **Jackie Shearman**. Thanks to Jackie, this event continues year after year and has become a very nice tradition for the children of Common Fence Point.



The Egg Hunt raffle table is in full swing while the children wait for the Egg Hunt to begin.

Are You Seeing Any Seals This Year?

Grey Seals can be seen this time of year as they migrate back to cooler waters in Maine and Canada. Don't be fooled by their "cuteness" and seemingly slow movement! If provoked they can turn on the speed. Grey seals are aggressive and should be given a wide berth. They possess a nasty bite that can result in several unsavory infections and diseases. Go to <http://www.mysticaquarium.org> to learn more. If you see an injured, ill, or dead marine mammal, call 860-572-5955 ext 107 with the location and send them a photo from your cell phone, if possible!

CFPIA's New Vice President

Kristina Thompson has taken on the role of Vice President for our organization. She resides on Common Fence Boulevard and has been a resident here for 13 years. **Kristina's** interest in taking on this position is our neighborhood and its' upkeep. In particular, she is concerned about extensive flooding, which has resulted in increased mosquito breeding. In the past several years, there has been much reporting of and concern with instances of Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus, both potentially deadly viruses carried by mosquitoes in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Kristina is concerned with the area bordering Mount Hope Bay on Common Fence Boulevard. She has been doing research and found that when our neighborhood was first established, there were fresh water deposit drains built to clear existing fresh water and enhance tidal flooding, which resulted in better mosquito control. These drains have since become so overgrown, they are not even visible. **Kristina** has been working with another CFP resident, **Joel Camara**, whose father and grandfather were originally involved in the establishment of the drains. **Joel** has agreed to volunteer his time to do maintenance work on the drains and get them back to doing the work they were envisioned to do. A permit for the work was submitted to CRMC and a permit was granted.

Welcome to our new VP and keep up the good work. Thank you **Kristina** and **Joel!**

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

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**THE LATIN INSPIRED,
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PARTY!**

**Tuesday nights starting April 30th : 6:30 pm
Wednesday mornings starting May 1st : 9 am**

Common Fence Point Community Hall

**Bring a Towel and Water to Work Out and Give
Back: First week proceeds donated to CFPIA!**



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Want to stay in shape, but can make the Zumba classes?

NO EXCUSES!! The YMCA continues to hold fitness classes at the Community Hall on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 6pm

For more information on these classes, send an email to groupx@newportymca.org