

NEWS from Mill Cove Neighbors

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June 2003

Mayor Avedesian took time during the busy city budget meetings to participate in our neighborhood meeting on Tuesday, June 3. His response to our presentation, *What Is Possible for the Future of the Mill Cove and Conimicut Neighborhoods*, was thoughtful and well received. His understanding of our situation and positions, even when he did not agree, was most appreciated.

He noted several important items. First, by the past efforts of MCNA and the fact that we continue to work together as an organization, we are gaining respect for being an interested, concerned and effective community organization. In particular, this will likely make it possible for Mill Cove Neighbors to participate in the review of the Land Use element of the Comprehensive Plan, as that effort rolls out.

Both the Mayor and Mill Cove Neighbors raised issues that require further City consideration, including:

- ◆ Declaring a moratorium on all building in the Cove neighborhoods, while planning is underway.
- ◆ Respecting that low-density development in our neighborhood is mandated by law, specifically by City zoning ordinances and the Comprehensive Plan.
- ◆ Providing better police protection for our area, the Village, and Conimicut Park, especially as new improvements are set in place.
- ◆ Making sure that citizens do not encroach on City Right-of-Ways and City owned land and that these areas are accessible to public use and preserved for the public good.

While the Mayor indicated that he wanted to maintain distance from Zoning Board decision-making, we think the Zoning Board and any City employees, who work with land-use permits, should be up-to-date on their knowledge of the City Comprehensive Plan, the meaning of the actions taken by Rhode Island and Federal courts, and the arguments regarding the important environmental concerns pertaining to Warwick land-use.

Both members and the Mayor participated in a lively question and answer session. He, and we, acquitted ourselves well. It was a good meeting. Thank you to those who participated.

Thomas A. Wilson & William J. Derrig, Co-chairs

“FLOWERS IN THE AIR”

By now, you may have noticed the flowerpots hanging from light posts in the Village. These are the work of the Conimicut Village Beautification

Committee. The highly successful Italian dinner at the end of May in the Warwick Banquet Hall raised nearly \$2,400. Thanks & praises go to the Committee that is lead by Diane McLaughlin and Dale Bianco.

They tell us that more is to come with the work that they are doing with the Village shop owners on awnings and signage. If you have other questions, you may ask Leslie Derrig, a member of both the MCNA Steering Committee and the Beautification Committee.



APPEAL IN SUPERIOR COURT *YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED*

As was to be expected, the owner of the 4,050 square foot, undersized, non-conforming [*this is the City's legal description*] lot [#228 in Plat 334 on Spidana Avenue] has appealed the denial by the Zoning Board of Review of their request for variances to build. MCNA will participate in the legal process, as we believe the outcome will affect over 20 other lots in the Mill Cove neighborhood, not to mention the rest of Warwick. A reversal here WILL negatively impact YOUR quality of life in the neighborhood. Contact your City Councilmen and the Mayor and urge them to enforce the ordinances that are already on the books by mounting a strong legal defense. After all, these are CITY ordinances – the city needs to defend them. Stay tuned.

**Build within City and CRMC Regulations
Build to Preserve**

*From the Mill Cove Neighbors Association
Statement of Purpose*

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THE JUNK DUMPER

Apparently someone has a scheme of removing junk for a fee and then avoiding the landfill charge by dumping it in our neighborhood. During the first week of June someone made two or three major junk dumps on empty lots in Mill Cove. This was not the usual litter or beer cans, but major household furniture, mementos, rotten food—stuff that clearly is not biodegradable and that might be harmful to the Cove and the surrounding wetlands—and Very Ugly.

By Friday the 13th Warwick Police Officer Baron had determined that a woman had paid a man \$75 to clean out her Providence garage and take her junk to the dump. Although she did not know his phone number or address, she gave Baron a description of his truck and his license plate number (See Below).

Since Baron was unable to locate the junk dumper, he held the woman responsible for its removal. She was unhappy that her wedding pictures, correspondence, other personal papers might be floating around our neighborhood. She rented a U-Haul and promptly removed her portion of it that very day. The City removed the rest of it.

The firm, tactful, cooperative and helpful way Officer Baron handled this matter is worthy of high praise.

Officer Baron suggested we keep watch for the truck and license plate number, advising us to call the police immediately to report any dumping so that the party can be apprehended.

KEEP WATCH FOR A RED 1997 Chevy Pick-Up Massachusetts License Plate # 8300ZJ



RESPONSE TO PETITION

After Neighbor Marc Peterson submitted a petition to the Mayor concerning site conditions left by sewer main construction, the Mayor notified each person who signed it that a new bituminous surface will begin within the next six weeks and that all disturbed areas will be provided with loam and seed.

MCN yearly dues are \$10 **per individual**.
Make your check payable to Mill Cove Neighbors
Mail to: 154 Old Mill Boulevard, Warwick 02889

ALTERNATIVES TO DEET

Use Bounce Fabric Softener Sheets... Best thing ever used in Louisiana. Just wipe on & go

Take one vitamin B-1 (Thiamine Hydrochloride 100 mg.) tablet a day from April through October. The tablet gives off an odor through your skin (YOU cannot smell it!) that repels mosquitoes, black flies, no seeum's, and gnats'. It does not work on stinging insects.

- If you eat bananas, the mosquitoes will like you. There's something about how your body processes the banana oil. Stop eating bananas for the summer and the mosquitoes will be much less interested.

- This is going to floor you, but one of the best insect repellents someone found is Vick's VapoRub.

Plant marigolds around the yard. The flowers give off a smell that bugs do not like.

The mosquito repellent is Avon Skin-So-Soft bath oil mixed about half and half with alcohol. Mix your own: 20 drops Eucalyptus oil, 20 drops Cedarwood oil, 10 drops Tea Tree oil, 10 drops Geranium oil, and 2 oz. carrier oil (such as Jojoba). Mix these together in a 4 oz. container. Apply to skin as needed avoiding the eye area. Keep out of reach of children. Test on a small area of skin for sensitivities. Experiment with different percentages of essential oil.

One of the best natural insect repellents is made from the clear real vanilla (not vanilla extract, which is mostly alcohol). Health food stores usually carry it or can order it for you. Use half vanilla and half water. It works great for mosquitoes and ticks--Don't know about other insects.

**When all else fails,
--get a frog**



**JULY 4th CELEBRATION
PLEASE STAND BY
FOR A FUTURE ANNOUNCEMENT
OF DETAILS ABOUT
OUR HOLIDAY PARTY!**

**When we try to pick out anything by itself,
we find it hitched to everything else
in the Universe.**

John Muir



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