RIVERBAY

Riverbay Newsletter --- Spring, 2010

Hello to Riverbay residents wherever you may be---here at home in lovely Chatham or perhaps still elsewhere at this time. And, of course, a warm welcome to those of you who are new to Riverbay Estates!

Spring has sprung and we can all now look forward to longer days and warmer temps---YEAH!! Some may ask, "Well, what's new in Riverbay?" So here goes---

►**RIVERBAY.org** is ***NEW!*** Come May 1st, you are invited to check out the site, use the site, and post to it. Riverbay.org is ***YOUR*** web site. The site will be of value only if we hear from you-- Riverbay homeowners and residents. The FOR MEMBERS/BY MEMBERS page will be the place where you can post community announcements, place a notice for a missing pet ("Lost 'n Found" section), or advertise an item for sale. Members of Riverbay Association may list their home on our REAL ESTATE page if they have decided to move from our wonderful neighborhood. As you view the web site, you will several LINKS that tell how to contribute a posting or to place a real estate listing. Your feedback regarding the new web site is requested. Please send any suggestions or comments about the new site to riverbaychat@yahoo.org and enter WEBSITE in the subject line. Board members will review all of your comments.

More Riverbay.org history-pg 2—if you care.

►Riverbay Beautification Committee (RBC)

As temperatures climb, the RBC will be shifting into a higher gear. Ann Reydel, committee Chairperson, has scheduled an RBC Planning meeting on Saturday, April 24 at 9:30 a.m. Spring clean-up and a plant swap are planned for Saturday, May 22 with a rain date of May 23. If questions or you want to volunteer, contact Ann at reydel@comcast.net or (508) 945 –1988.

A new lily bed was planted last fall at the main Riverbay entrance at Park Ave. ("The Park") so new blooms in that corner will be eagerly awaited as summer approaches. Conversion of sections of the underground irrigation system from sprinkler heads to a drip line is scheduled for late spring. The very windy conditions at "The Park" plus the growth patterns of the perennials planted there have limited the effectiveness of the current system. This changeover will also be more in keeping with the concept of xeriscaping that the RBC has adopted. The xeriscaping approach focuses on the use of native and drought resistant plants, water conservation and proper soil amending.

The challenging task of updating the web site was taken on after a 2009 Board vote. Sincere thanks are extended to Board members Eric Hartell, Ron Holmes, Ann Reydel, Jan Whittaker, and ad hoc member Ed Fouhy, for all their efforts and dedication to this project.

Riverbay.org history

For those of you who like details, here's how the *NEW* Riverbay.org "went down"….

A dedicated and hard working group established the site in the early 1990's with resident Don Waugh having the foresight to obtain and register our DOMAIN NAME--Riverbay.org. Many thanks to all the Association members who did the initial work to develop the site, set up the e-mail account thru YAHOO, and update the web site content. Special thanks to Don for covering domain name registration costs for a number of years. And, of course, a thank you to ourselves, the Association, for paying the monthly hosting fees over the years.

Cape Cod Computer (CCC) of Harwich was selected from a field of vendors to provide web site re-development services. CCC offered us a very reasonably priced Community web site option with NO monthly hosting charges provided that their logo is posted at the bottom of each web site page. Ann Reydel has volunteered to serve as the Riverbay Webmaster. Adobe Contribute software will allow us to update our site.

Riverbay Board will oversee web site content and designation of the Riverbay Webmaster. Our Association Newsletters will be published on our web site from here on in with a goal to reduce the cost of mailings. One newsletter mailing to 375 homeowners is approximately $165 just in postage alone plus additional costs for paper, printing, envelopes, and labels. Then, the "prez" has to round-up volunteers to fold, stuff, label, and stamp all 375 newsletters---not always an easy task. Sincere thank you's are extended to all members of my past newsletter mailing crews who have pitched in on short notice to help out with these tasks. Many $$$ and hours of time will be saved by publishing the newsletter on our web site. For the time being, we will continue paper mailings but will publish our newsletters on the Riverbay web site, as we know not all Riverbay residents have computer access. An e-newsletter alert will be sent to members who have provided us with their e-mail address to notify them that a" new" newsletter has been posted and is available on Riverbay.org. We also realize that not all residents have e-mail accounts and currently only have 175 of you on our e-mail address list—BUT you can easily add your name to our Riverbay mail group. Your privacy will be respected and e-mail addresses WILL NOT be shared with any outside entity. Contributors' names, telephone numbers, addresses or e-mail addresses will only show on the web site or be included in our newsletters if the resident provides the information.

►**NEW ENTRANCE SIGN**

A new gold leaf quarter board has been installed at the Chipping Stone Rd. entrance to Riverbay The old quarter board sign was

splitting at both ends and not salveagble. Chatham Sign Company did a great job for us and all four entrance areas now have gold leaf signs. Be sure to check out the new Riverbay sign at the Chipping Stone Road entrance-----it really sparkles on a sunny day!

►**2009 ANNUAL MEETING**—What went on back then anyway….

The Annual Association meeting was held last fall on October 4, 2009 at the Chatham Community Center. A small but lively group attended on a day filled with downpours. Mary Ann Gray, volunteer archivist at the Chatham Historical Society, was our guest speaker. Although Riverbay is just a "young'un" in the Town of Chatham (less than 50 years old,) Mary Ann provided some of the history in our area, including that of the Native Americans.

Did you ever wonder why so many of our streets and roads have Indian names? Mary Ann gave a fun and informative presentation—just wish more of you had been there to hear her stories.

The following slate of officers was elected last fall. The Board also includes the most recent past president as a member.

OFFICERS

President: Jan Whitttaker
Vice-president: Ron Holmes
Secretary: Jean Zilliox
Treasurer: Audrey Gray

BOARD MEMBERS

Allan Brier Jean Carey
Sal Gionfriddo Eric Hartell
Harry Howard Ann Reydel
and Tom Patton, Past President

Residents at the meeting brought up several issues of concern, including traffic/speeding, corner visibility, town right-of-ways, and status of deeded access to the paths to the Monomoy River. Comments about the first 3 topics follow; path access to the River will be discussed in a future issue of the newsletter

Our next Annual Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October, 2, 2010. Suggestions for speakers are welcome. Hope to see you there.

Best wishes to all and happy Spring—make that summer and fall, as well.

Jan Whittaker

Jan Whittaker, your "Prez"
(508) 945 - 0552
riverbaychat@yahoo.org

SAVE THE DATES

- April 24 RBC Planning meeting
- May 1st Premiere of new Riverbay.org
- May 22nd Spring Clean-up/Planting Day
- May 22nd Plant Swap/X-change Day
  {2 above events to be held at "The Park"}
- May 23rd Rain date for above

Just a reminder: 30 mph
****

This is the speed limit within Riverbay--.
'tis not posted but that's what it is!

Please drive carefully and watch for children, animals, walkers, runners, any of us!

QUESTIONS?? -- Corner Visibility & Town Right-of-Way within Riverbay

Residents raised several questions about corner visibility and plants and structures, such as fences, close to the street.. The Town Planning Board has rules and regulations governing these topics (specifically pages 10 and 11) and can be viewed online at. **http://chathamma.virtualtownhall.net/Public Documents/ChathamMA_planning/Subdivision%20Regulations.pdf**

Within the maze of the 20 streets in Riverbay, there are many intersections and visibility at corners can become a safety issue as trees and scrubs leaf out. If there is a problem, we encourage neighbor-to-neighbor discussion and cooperation in dealing with this. If there are ongoing safety concerns, residents can contact the Town of Chatham Highway Department (508) 945 – 5155 or utilize the **Chatham Citizen's Feedback form**.

AND, finally,

*A "**new**"* flag flies at the Park Avenue main entrance here in Riverbay. The high and persistent winds of this past winter did a number on our previous flag, which was polyester and rated as a high endurance and wind resistant. Mr. Charles Carden of Riverview Drive donated the flag that is now flying at "The Park". The flag was presented to Chuck upon the death of his father, who had served in both the US Marines and the US Army. We thank Chuck for the flag donation and we also posthumously acknowledge Master Sergeant Harvey Bryan Carden for his 31 years of military service to our country.

Riverbay.org is HERE

Yoo--Hoo!! --- WANTED!!

E-mail addresses of Riverbay residents help us to:

• SAVE $$$ • GO GREEN

• IMPROVE RIVERBAY COMMUNICATION

So far, over 175 Riverbay households have taken the leap
Please send your e-mail address to the Association at the address below and we will add you to the Riverbay mail group. Please note E-MAIL ADDRESS on the subject line

riverbaychat@yahoo.com

PRIVACY: Residents--your e-mail addresses will *NOT* be shared with any outside entity.