



VOLUME 2 NUMBER 6  
JULY 2004

## Time For Birthday Cake

The 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Martha's Vineyard Commission will be marked on Tuesday, July 27. Join present and former Commissioners as well as Senator Rob O'Leary and Representative Eric Turkington on the Commission's lawn between 5 and 7 p.m. for a piece of birthday cake and a glass of punch. (Note that a more formal celebration of the anniversary will be held in the fall.)

## Community Development Plans

On June 30, the MVC submitted draft Community Development Plans to the steering committees of each of the six Island towns. These drafts are being reviewed and revised for completion by the end of July.

# MVC Forum on the Vineyard Economy: "Trends in the Trades"

How is the Vineyard's economy changing? Will we get an influx of retiring baby boomers? Is the pattern of tourism changing? With improved transportation and communications, will the Island become more of a year-round community, more like an outer suburb of Boston? How will future changes to various sectors of the Island's economy affect our businesses, our jobs, and our property values?

These are some of the questions that will be tackled in the third forum in the series "Looking at the Vineyard, With an Eye on the Future" that will take place on Wednesday, July 21 and will deal with the topic "Trends in the Trades". The session starts at 7:30 p.m. and will take place at Sailing Camp Park on Barnes Road in Oak Bluffs. Note that the forum has been moved to this larger venue as a result of the tremendous popularity of the previous two forums.



The main speaker is Wendy K. Northcross, Chief Executive Officer of the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce since 2002. Wendy will be joined by a panel representing various aspects of the Vineyard's economic life: farming, services, tourism, real estate, and construction. The panel will be made up of:

- James Athearn, President of the Martha's Vineyard Agricultural Society and Chair of the Martha's Vineyard Commission;
- Steve Bernier, Proprietor of Cronig's Market;
- Renee Balter, Executive Director of the Oak Bluffs Association;
- Judy Federowicz, Owner/Broker, Landmarks Real Estate,
- Norman Rankow, President of the M.V. Chamber of Commerce and proprietor of Colonial Reproductions.

This forum is being co-sponsored by the Martha's Vineyard Chamber of Commerce.

The series of monthly forums on topics affecting the future of the Island is being held in celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Martha's Vineyard Commission, with the cooperation of the All-Island Selectmen and the support of the Edey Foundation.

Over 125 people attended the second forum on The View From the Road at the Polly Hill Arboretum, which was also broadcast on community television, and well covered in the press.

(Information: Jackie Campbell at extension 10)

# Island-Wide Meetings Deal With Present and Future

For more than a year now, the Martha's Vineyard Commission has been organizing ongoing Island-wide get-togethers to facilitate cooperation between public entities and community organizations that deal with various aspects of managing the Island community today and planning for its future. Some meetings feature guest speakers on specific topics.

## **Conservation Commissions:**

The Island's Con Comms have been meeting on a quarterly basis for almost two years. The last meeting was held on April 28 and dealt with the criteria for referring DRIs to the MVC. The next meeting will be held in the Fall. Meetings are coordinated by Jo-Ann Taylor, MVC Coastal Planner and DCPC Coordinator.

**Planning Boards:** Representatives from Island boards have been meeting monthly for about a year. They last met on June 16 to discuss cellular towers, a discussion that will continue when the boards meet again in September. These meetings are coordinated by MVC planners Bill Venno and Christine Flynn.

**GIS:** A meeting of Island users of Geographic Information Systems and related databases was held on May 20. The discussion dealt with data sharing among the Towns and Island conservation groups as well as future data collection projects such as trails, piers and wells. These meetings are coordinated by MVC GIS Specialist Christine Seidel.

**Affordable Housing:** See article to the right.

# Affordable Housing Meeting

On June 2, 2004 the MVC and the Dukes County Regional Housing Authority hosted a joint meeting of all of the towns' Affordable Housing and Resident Homesite Committees, as well as all public and private non-profit affordable housing entities.

Individual towns have struggled to address the affordable housing issue locally; however, participants felt that the issue also needs to be dealt with more actively on an Island-wide basis. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss various affordable housing initiatives and challenges that affect town, public, and private non-profit housing groups. The meeting provided affordable housing advocates, town representatives, and housing developers an opportunity to share their knowledge and insight as well as positive and negative experiences.

"There is no issue more serious than housing," said MVC Affordable Housing and Economic Development Planner Christine Flynn, "as it directly impacts the stability of the Island's economy and, more importantly, our sense of community. The participants agreed to continue to meet, to foster greater communication and further working relationships between the many groups working towards more affordable housing on Martha's Vineyard"

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 8, 2004 at 5:00 p.m. at the MVC offices.

**MARTHA'S VINEYARD COMMISSION**  
**Box 1447, Oak Bluffs, MA 02557**  
**Phone: 508-693-3453**  
**Fax: 508-693-7894**  
**info@mvcommission.org**

## DRI Status Report

The following are current Developments of Regional Impact.

**One Eleven Realty Trust (MV Hotel)** – 14-room addition to hotel, Oak Bluffs (#335M-2) DD July 15, 2004, 7:30 p.m.

**Pennywise Path Affordable Housing Project** - 60 units of affordable housing, Edgartown (#577) DD July 22, 2004

**Dukes County Savings Bank at Nobnocket** – New bank branch and back office with a small daycare, Tisbury (#578) PH August 5, 2004

**Vineyard Golf Club Housing** - 16 units of housing, Edgartown (#484M-4) Referral received June 15, 2004

**4 Causeway Road** – Construction of an office building with apartments, Tisbury (#574): On hold at Applicant's request

**1986 Evelyn Way Trust** - construction of warehouse and office space, Tisbury (#576) On hold at Applicant's request

**Tarkiln Subdivision** – Edgartown (#470M-3) On hold at Applicant's request

---

LUPC Land Use Planning Committee review  
PH Commission Public Hearing  
DD Commission deliberation and decision  
WD Commission vote on written decision

All meetings at the Commission offices unless otherwise noted. (Information: Paul Foley at extension 18 and Jo-Ann Taylor at extension 19)