



VOLUME 2 NUMBER 7
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Website Launched

The MVC launched its website at its 30th anniversary celebration (see next page). The site includes descriptions of the Commission's varied activities, guidance documents for DRIs and DCPCs, minutes of past Commission meetings, a calendar of upcoming meetings and events, and many technical reports. Over 120 documents are already available and more are being added every week. The site was created by Mindshare Media under the guidance of Susan Sigel-Goldsmith.

www.mvcommission.org

Community Development Plans Finalized

The Commission, acting as consultants to all six Island towns, completed Community Development Plans under Executive Order 418. Look for more detail in next month's newsletter.

MVC Forum: How Can We Protect Our Coastal Ponds?

Karl Honkonen, Director of Water Policy at the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, will be the keynote speaker in the last of the popular series of public forums being held to celebrate the Commission's 30th anniversary.

"Clams and Kayaks: How Can We Protect Our Coastal Ponds" will be held on Wednesday, August 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Old Whaling Church in Edgartown. Honkonen will speak about the policies and tools that the Commonwealth has put in place to allow communities like the Vineyard deal with the many threats to coastal ponds.

He will be joined by a panel of people who deal with various water-related issues, made up of:

- Paul Bagnall, Edgartown Shellfish Constable and Biologist;
- Brian Howes, Director, School for Marine Science and Technology;
- Brett Stearns, Martha's Vineyard Water Alliance; Director Wampanoag Tribe Natural Resource Office;
- William Wilcox, Water Resources Planner, Martha's Vineyard Commission.



As Director of Water Policy at the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs,

Karl Honkonen is responsible for managing programs and providing policy direction for the Secretary on all issues related to water resources protection, including protecting natural water resources (quality and quantity), ensuring drinking water safety, watershed management, and managing wastewater disposal.

This forum is being co-sponsored by the Martha's Vineyard Water Alliance. The series of monthly forums on topics affecting the future of the Island is being held in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Martha's Vineyard Commission, with the cooperation of the All-Island Selectmen and the support of the Edey Foundation.

Mr. Honkonen is replacing Ellen Roy Herzfelder who was unavailable due to a scheduling conflict.

(Information: Jo-Ann Taylor at extension 10)

Commission Lauded

At the Commission's 30th anniversary celebration on July 27, Senator Rob O'Leary (right in photo) and Representative Eric Turkington (center) lauded the unique role that the Martha's Vineyard Commission plays in protecting the character and environment of Martha's Vineyard. About 75 people attended the informal event. A more formal celebration will be held in the fall.



Case Against MVC Dismissed

Superior Court Judge Richard J. Chin has dismissed the case filed by Kenneth and Nicole Bilzerian against the Martha's Vineyard Commission regarding the MVC's approval of the Bridge Housing Corporation's proposed housing project on State Road in Vineyard Haven as a Development of Regional Impact.

The judge dismissed the Bilzerians' case last week because of a lack of standing. In his Order, the judge adopted an argument advanced by the MVC supporting Bridge Housing's Motion for Summary Judgment that the Bilzerians were not "parties aggrieved" by the MVC's decision and therefore could not bring a claim into court.

Upper State Road Traffic Study

At the request of the Tisbury Planning Board, the Martha's Vineyard Commission will be carrying out a traffic study of Upper State Road in Tisbury. This study will provide data that will help analyze the potential impact of Planning Board suggestions for new roads in the area including a connector road between Upper State Road and the Edgartown-Vineyard-Haven Road. It will also be used to calibrate a computerized traffic model of the Island.

The study will consist of three parts. First, automated traffic counts will be made of all roads in the area. Secondly, MVC staff will study turning movements at key intersections, based on on-site observations.

Thirdly, for two days over the next few weeks, drivers at the State Road / Edgartown – Vineyard Haven Road intersection will be handed survey cards. Each driver will be asked to fill in the card at the end of that driving trip and to drop it off at a grocery store, ferry terminal or mail box. The questions deal with the origin, destination and purpose of that trip. There will be a drawing for five \$100 gift certificates among the people who submit completed surveys.

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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) *Denied on July 15, 2004. WD August 5, 2004.*

Pennywise Path Affordable Housing Project - 60 units of affordable housing, Edgartown (#577) *Approved on July 22, 2004. WD on August 5, 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)