



VOLUME 3 NUMBER 6
MAY 2005

Summer Forums

Mark your calendars!

Here is the schedule of Martha's Vineyard Commission forums for the coming summer. Each forum is held on a Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. and includes a panel discussion.

- **June 22 – Living And Working In Paradise:** *How Can We Make Housing Affordable?* with William Hettinger, at the Katharine Cornell Theatre, Vineyard Haven.
- **July 20 – Paradise Lost?** *Are We Loving the Vineyard to Death?* with Steven Kellert, at the Far Barn, Polly Hill Arboretum, West Tisbury.
- **August 24 – Gridlock in Paradise:** *What Can We Do About Traffic?* with Catherine Donaher, at the Sailing Camp Park, Oak Bluffs.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the Vineyard

The Martha's Vineyard Joint Transportation Committee and the Martha's Vineyard Commission will be preparing a new Bicycling and Pedestrian Plan of Martha's Vineyard.

The emphasis will be on identifying improvements to the Island's network of bicycle routes and the 34 miles of bicycle paths, as well as the possibility of extending it. It will also look at improvements to the network of trails on the Island, as well as what improvements towns might consider to make it safer and easier to walk around town.

The goal is to make cycling and walking more viable means of



getting around for both Islanders and visitors. With an increasing population and number of visitors, and the desire to maintain the character of our rural roads, it is clear that we have to look more and more to

alternative modes of transportation. The aim is to make it even more convenient to get around on a bike and for shorter-term visitors to not even bring a car.

This summer, three interns from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) will document the existing bicycle and pedestrian networks, collecting data on usage with counters, observations and interviews. They will also begin outlining possible improvements.

Anyone who has specific suggestions about possible improvements, or who is interested in participating in this effort, is invited to inform Susan Mercier or Srinivas Sattoor at the MVC by phone (693-3453), by email (mercier@mvcommission.org or sattoor@mvcommission.org) or by regular mail (MVC, Box 1447, Oak Bluffs, 02557).

Mosquitoes

On Wednesday, May 25, the All-Island Conservation Commissions heard Dave Lawson, Assistant Director of the Norfolk County Mosquito Control Project, speak about mosquito control, particularly alternatives to mosquito



ditches that were dug for that purpose in the 1930's.

Open water marsh management utilizes some

of the old ditches, fills in others and creates small ponds that serve as habitat for species that eat mosquito larvae. Ditches, even in good condition, alter the salt marsh habitat to make it less useful for a number of species. When the ditches fall into disrepair, they are more likely to encourage mosquito breeding.

The presentation is currently being broadcast on MVT channel 13. For more information about Open Water Marsh Management (an alternative to mosquito ditching) go to www.massnrc.org/ncmcp/NCMCPbro. For more information about establishment of a mosquito control project or district www.mass.gov/agr/mosquito/districts.



New Commissioners

The boards of selectmen of three towns have appointed new Commissioners.

Carlene Gating Condon is the new appointed member from Edgartown, replacing Linda DeWitt. As an attorney, Carlene spent 18 years in corporate law with a large Manhattan law firm, also providing extensive pro bono work counseling indigent clients. Her husband and her moved to the Island full-time in 2001, to raise their twins.

Chris Murphy is the new appointed member from Chilmark, replacing Jennie Greene. A recently retired commercial fisherman, he has served on many town boards in Chilmark and is currently a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. He grew up in Chilmark, went through the Vineyard school system, and the University of Rhode Island.

James Powell is the new appointed member from West Tisbury, replacing Bob Schwartz. Jim is a teacher at Martha's Vineyard Regional High School. He serves on the West Tisbury Finance Committee and the State Workforce Investment Board.

Interns

This summer, the MVC will have several interns help with our planning efforts. In this newsletter, we'll introduce the five in the photo at the left (from left to right).

- **Zak Steele** will work on an analysis of roadside character.
- **Linwood Gallant** will work on transportation planning.
- **Sam Slater** will work on a visual preference survey.
- **Matt Seward** will work on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.
- **Jahmil Lacey** will work on economic analysis.

DRI Status Report

The following are current Developments of Regional Impact.

Rogers Hangar – Construction, West Tisbury (#586) *Approved 4/28/05.*

M.V.Hotel –Oak Bluffs (#335M3) *PH 6/2/05.*

Rutkiewicz Subdivision – West Tisbury (#488) *LUPC 5/2/05. Awaiting result of NHESP study.*

Cozy Hearth – Subdivision, Edgartown, (#584) *PH 6/23/05 (tentative).*

World Revival Church – Construction, Edgartown (#587) *LUPC 6/13/05*

Vineyard House – (#582) *PH 6/16/05*

Dukes County Savings Bank – Landscape Plan, Tisbury (#578) *LUPC 6/13/05*

Vineyard Gardens – Garden center, West Tisbury (#581) *Application incomplete.*

Vineyard Assembly of God – Tisbury (#322M) *Application incomplete.*

1986 Evelyn Way Trust –Tisbury (#576) *On hold at Applicant's request*

Tarkiln Subdivision – Edgartown (#470-M3) *On hold at Applicant's request.*

Vineyard Golf Club Housing – Edgartown (#484-M4) *Application incomplete.*

*LUPC Land Use Planning Committee review
PH Commission Public Hearing
DD Commission deliberation and decision
WD Commission vote on written decision
t.b.d. to be determined*

All meetings at the Commission offices unless otherwise noted. (Information: Paul Foley at extension 18 or check the website)

Upcoming Meeting

Wednesday, June 15, 12:30pm

MV Water Alliance
MVC Offices

Please check the Calendar section of the MVC website for the latest updates.

www.mvcommission.org

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