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COVER PHOTO:  Point Picnic, June 1990.

Art work by Dorothy Sanschargin.

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Copies of the Green Light may be purchased for $1.00 at Bucci's Convenience Store, Poplar and Thames Streets; Aidinoff's Liquor and Gourmet Shop, Warner Street; Third Street Liquors and the Walnut Street Market.

COME TO THE FAIR ON AUGUST 18TH
The Fair is almost here again and we need your help. For the sake of our new members (and perhaps as a reminder for the long term members) I would like to explain why the Fair is so important to the Point Association. First, I will quote the aims of our Association from the By-Laws:

ARTICLE II - AIMS
The Aims of this organization shall be:
1. The general improvement and enrichment of the resources of the Point.
2. The beautification of approaches, streets, properties, waterfront and other areas of the Point.
3. The protection of the section against detrimental structures, obnoxious enterprises, and nuisances.
4. The encouragement and promotion of active interest in all properties with special emphasis on the historical aspect of the Point.

We attempt to fulfill these aims with three major activities that require significant funding.
- The first is the Green Light you are now reading. It serves to announce and keep us posted on all the current issues that concern our neighborhood. Through marvelous special articles it helps to keep us aware of the many treasures on the Point and helps to rally us when they are threatened.
- Our Beautification Committee has a long list of successes in helping to enhance the beauty of the Point - too long to recount in this letter.
- And finally, the hiring of lawyers when the need arises to fight the "detrimental, obnoxious, or the nuisance". Our most recent such battle was last summer when we successfully kept the commercial cruise ships from being berthed regularly in Storer Park.

Why the Fair? It is our major fund raiser of the year, along with the Raffle. It is the only way we can do the things we do as The Point Association, while keeping dues low enough to have a large membership. We are a strong viable voice for you, because year after year YOU pitch in and make it happen. See you at the Fair.

[Signature]

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FINE WEATHER, GOOD FRIENDS

The Point Association annual picnic, held at Anne Reynolds' house, 88 Washington St., was well attended. We called Anne to thank her for her hospitality, and she replied, "It was a pleasure to see everyone. The good fellowship expressed leaves a warm feeling."

People brought picnic suppers, lawn chairs, and rugs. They came early, and stayed late. Anne's view of the harbor is unsurpassed; the evening was cool and young guests played happily on the lawn. Anne's garden, lush from the recent rains, won compliments from all.

The Point is a special place to live. This annual picnic, attended this year by at least 100 people, enables friends to relax and visit together. Community problems are discussed; petitions are circulated for signing.

"I could stay all night," someone said, stretching out on the grass.

"What time does the Green Light go on?" a child asked.

Yes -- greetings and good fellowship, and a hostess deeply involved in the well-being of her community.

Anita McAndrews

BEAUTIFICATION REPORT

The contractor has replanted Storer Park and has re-seeded the lawn and put out a hose to spray it. Myra Duvaly moved the hose so it did not make a mud puddle out of the place. Thank you, Myra. There is no work going on there and will not be until September.

We have lost three trees, two in Storer Park -- one was hurt by someone trimming it -- and a tree in Battery Park has a split. We will let it go to see if it heals itself; if not, we will have the city take it out.

A tree on Bridge St. was damaged by a truck. Too bad someone did not get the name of the company. If you see any damage like this, get the company name and let me know.

There will be a judging of gardens in August in the area from Sycamore to Marsh Sts. and Washington to Farewell. The gardens must be visible from the street. Anyone who would like to help judge please call me at 847-7779.

Mary Heins Rommel
Chairman, Beautification
DAY ON THE POINT FAIR

The Point Fair is coming up very soon -- Saturday August 18. It will be held at Storer Park from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The park has its new trees and is ready for the Fair. Vendors are still signing up and will offer a wide array of products and services.

The Gordons have graciously offered to run the Hamburger-Hot Dog concession again this year.

Kathy Phillips, who ran our very successful bake sale last year, has again volunteered her services.

The White Elephant table has been tabled for this year. We'll try next year so save up your donations!

Thank you to everyone who has expressed an interest in helping out -- you will be contacted by the committee chairpersons soon. Anyone who wishes to spend some time helping, please call George or Brenda or Kathy or me. We'd love to have your help.

And to all the fine bakers on the Point, please pull out your favorite recipes and bring something wonderful for the bake sale.

Melanie Aguiar
Evenings 849-3821

RAFFLE

Dear Point Association members:

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the success of our annual raffle depends on the support of all our members. Ticket receipts and money are being returned daily which indicates everyone's participation - thank you!

Let me once again describe our fantastic 1990 prizes:

1. A full/queen size handstitched quilt by a quilter just across the bay. Gloria Felter from Jamestown has created "A Seaside Garden" for us. The tiny rosebuds and clam shell stitching gave it the name!

2. A complement to anyone's dining room - a tablecloth and matching napkins in the "Old Calais" pattern from Rue de France!

3. What could be more delightful than dinner with friends? The Sheraton-Islander's Windward Room serves up a scrumptious meal!

4. Perhaps you're more inclined toward an intimate Italian dinner for two - the Cafe del Mare at the Marriott is the place to be!

Help us make the fundraiser a success by doing your share. Please send your tickets back and perhaps try and sell another book! Thank you all - we certainly look forward to seeing everyone at the grand drawing at 4 p.m. at the Point Fair on August 18 but you do not have to be present to win.

Sincerely,

Lesley Faria, Raffle Chairwoman
9 LaSalle Place
846-7054

COME TO THE FAIR!
About five years after its founding, the Point Association appointed a Protection Committee. Dr. David Nemtzow was its chairman, with Marianne MacLeod (now Barker) and David Smith as committee members.

The purpose was "to protect the health and happiness of the citizens of our neighborhood, by eliminating any health menace, hazards, nuisances and other sources of complaint." Under the committee's jurisdiction came the poor condition of buildings, vacant lots, rats and other pests, refuse and garbage and unsafe conditions. Complaints were to be presented by letter to Dr. Nemtzow, but this practice was not followed, and soon most of the complaints came over the telephone.

Many of these situations still exist but to a far lesser degree. Trash and garbage is still strewn about on pickup day, but the recycling bins, so neat and helpful, have raised our morale. Dave Nemtzow got hundreds of complaints about scattered garbage and he would call the Board of Health and the Public Works.

At one time when the yard of an unoccupied house was found to be covered with garbage and inhabited by rats, the Point Association threatened to bring the matter before an open meeting of the City Council. Abandoned and derelict houses were difficult of solution, as vagrants moved in, regardless of lack of water, heat or facilities. After condemnation by the Building Inspector, the Board of Health moved such people out. It was a lengthy process. Absentee ownership made it even more difficult, and Dave had to make many calls.

On several occasions an empty house was used as a food store -- with no license and no running water. Three times sewer seepage and overflow was reported in 1959. Eventually the matter was presented to the City Council, along with reports on water-conditions, and whether the pipe involved was a storm drain, or not. This was a long battle.

Glenn Bissell, at the east end of Walnut Street, complained bitterly for his neighbor, an elderly lady, whose garden was being ruined by oil from a garage next door. The police were called in here, and the matter put to rights.

There were plenty of children living on the Point, whose natural curiosity and vigor inclined them toward mischief. Next to Potter School a house was torn down, leaving dangerous debris that presented a fire hazard and danger to the children who climbed over it. The Building Inspector straightened that one out. In another incident four small boys ran over the tops of cars parked at St. John's church. The police were called and gave the boys "a good talking to". Rats were a constant menace.

At one time during the summer a complaint was sent in by letter stating that a heavy black soot from the Jamestown ferry was blackening the sailboats moored off the Washington Street shore. Ralph Arnold kept watch for some time, and his findings determined that Goat Island was the offender. Thereafter the city had those chimney-stacks closed down during Race Week.

Dogs brought in many calls that were turned over to the Dog Constable, who kept long lists recording how many people were bitten and who did or did not go to a doctor.

The Committee ceased to operate in late 1960. Perhaps at that time progress was hard to see, but now, some 30 years later, we are aware of the change. The work of Dave Nemtzow and his committee; those endless tiresome complaints; the vigilance of the Pointers; the effort to get city officials to carry out their duties -- all of these have paid off, and the Point has become a wonderful place to live.

Esther Fisher Benson

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The Waters’ Edge Flowers
264 Bellevue Avenue
The Bellevue Plaza
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

Telephone 847-1111
PRESSURE POINTS

CSO FACILITY

Storer Park looks like a park again! The paving, grading, seeding and planting of trees was finished in time for our summer enjoyment. The restoration work was completed with the assistance and expertise of Mary Rommel.

The CSO building is progressing on schedule with a completion date of February/March 1991. Although the concrete shell looks enormous, the clapboard and shingle exterior should improve its appearance, and the building should "fit into" the neighborhood. This is the good news!

The bad news is that there will be additional work done in the area that is now fenced off near the Causeway. Work needs to be completed on the outflow pipe; then, the wall will be rebuilt. Underwater pipes will T-off from the main pipe to disperse the flow of discharge. This work will commence on October 15.

Work will also be done at the intersection when the plant goes on-line in the Spring.

SIGN OF THE TIMES

Meanwhile at the corner of Long Wharf and Washington Street, the site of a proposed 198-room hotel has joined the list of foreclosures, and will go on the auction block, August 8.

With many other development sites and restaurants in the same straits, it's another reminder that Newport needs to pay careful attention to good planning, quality design and sound financial backing when considering future developments. It is a good time to reflect on the future of Newport.

Liz Bermender

RECYCLING NEWS

An expanded recycling program for Newport has been announced by Katherine Maxwell, the city's solid waste co-ordinator. The regular pickup now in effect in Newport will soon include multi-family buildings with more than four housing units.

Of special interest to Pointers is the designation of the Point and Historic Hill for a trial test of resident recycling of corrugated cardboard. Presently only businesses are participating in this pickup. Beginning on August 6, residents of the Point who already participate in MONDAY pickup may add cardboard. They are asked to flatten, bundle and tie corrugated cardboard and place the bundles with their regular blue bins.

Here is another opportunity for Pointers to co-operate in the important program of solid waste recycling.
Sir Henry Clinton, Commander in-Chief of His Britannic Majesty's armies in North America (1778-1782), maintained a highly placed personal spy in the Colony of Rhode Island. And such a spy! During the war years of 1776-1777 this British agent not only served as Chief Justice Of Rhode Island, but he was authorized to sign manually at least five emissions of the state's currency (see illustration) through July 1780.

"Rusticus" (Latin for "the rustic one" or "country person") was a pseudonym adopted by the spy himself in a letter to Sir Henry datelined Portsmouth, Sept. 15th, 1778:

"...as you pledg'd your Honor to me---my Name never should be made mention of---nor called into question---my Letters perused by no Person saving yourself---that I might make use of what Signature I pleas'd so now I commit my Life and Fortune into your Hands and Protection---and hereafter shall address you by the Signature of (Rusticus)......"

The loyalty of Rusticus never seemed to be questioned by his colonial colleagues on Aquidneck Island or in Providence. He was of course a very successful merchant and invested profitably in Newport's West Indian trade; a respected member of the Assembly for over 19 years; a delegate to the Stamp Act Congress in 1765; elected by his fellow colonists to present their collective grievances to King George in 1766.

He bought and improved the historic Vernon House at the corner of Clarke and Mary Streets which was to serve as Comte de Rochambeau's headquarters during the French Occupation of Newport and where Washington and other notables were entertained.

A richly-panelled parlor of his "rustic" country house in Portsmouth has been installed at the Metropolitan Museum in New York. "Rusticus" was obviously a man of wealth with political connections on both sides of the Atlantic, but, like many a Loyalist, he wagered on the wrong side winning the Revolutionary War and lost.

When the War ended, Sir Henry Clinton returned to England with his British headquarter files with which he apparently planned to justify to the world the defeat of his armies at the hands of the American colonists. This enormous collection of military correspondence comprising more than 20,000 documents and letters was purchased more than a century and a half later by an American, William L. Clements, for the Clements Library at the University of Michigan.

Jane Clarke, the librarian, who was assigned the formidable task of cataloging the Sir Henry Clinton Collection describes in her own words the unmasking of "Rusticus":

"He ("Rusticus") had begged Sir Henry Clinton not to disclose his identity to anyone, and I began to think that Sir Henry had granted his prayer, when, after a lapse of another year's cataloging, I found another letter in "Rusticus'" upright hand. This one however was signed in bold letters 'Metcalf Bowler'. The handwritings of the letters was checked, the pieces of the puzzle fitted together and the secret was out! Metcalf Bowler's correspondence with the enemy (was) here."

Ed Craig

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The Unmasking of "Rusticus"
THE COMMON BURIAL GROUND

Newport's Common Burial Ground is in sorry shape. We visited there recently with Ann Parker and Avon Neal, well-known throughout New England for their careful exact rubbings of old gravestones. Because Newport's Common Burial Ground is one of Ann and Avon's favorite places, they were much distressed to see the poor condition of the old graves. Garbage is strewn everywhere; beer cans and soda bottles are stacked against the gravestones; graffiti is scrawled on many of the beautiful engraved memorials.

We called Edwin Connelly, presently with Rhode Island Cemeteries, and he agreed with us that something should be done. He said the graffiti was "insane", or perhaps the work of a satanic group. Because the Common Burial Ground is public, a request to clean up the cemetery must be made to the city's Department of Public Works. Mr. Connelly said that the people who know best how to clean the stones are those who work for the Island Cemetery, a private graveyard. These experts, however, will not clean those graveyards belonging to the state. Perhaps the Point Association can be instrumental in calling Newport Public Works and requesting a good cleaning of the Common Burial Ground which, if nothing else, is an important part of our history. Mr. Connelly said he would be glad to receive suggestions on this. He can be reached by telephoning 1-887-7482.

Anita McAndrews

ARTISTS' GALLERY, WORKSHOP
ONE BULL STREET, NEWPORT

Anita McAndrews, Point resident, is one of four artists who will present current work at a new studio gallery in Newport.

The Spring Bull Studio, One Bull Street, is a working studio where both finished and work in progress will be presented by artists Richard Grosvenor, John Orr, Sheldon Horton, and Anita McAndrews.

The Spring Bull Studio, open weekdays from noon to 5 p.m., will be inaugurated Wednesday, August 1.
Many pages of history have been written about Point events -- so why not a first-ever windsurfing event? I suggested to Matt Scott, a student at Coronado, California who was visiting his grandmother (Green Light staff member, Kay O'Brien) on the Point, that we team up for history's first windsurfer cruise on Narragansett Bay. I'm a senior citizen visiting friends on the Point; the average age of our team would be about 40, ideal for a pair of serious explorers. Matt and I agreed to be serious, so we set out to make history.

This is our official report.

Some background: Windsurfing, also called boardsailing, is a popular, growing sport in the Newport area; and one of the best launching spots is at Battery Park. On any breezy evening and on weekend days, local boardsailors launch from the little beach at the end of the park drive-in, sail out through the anchored boats and then play around in the waters defined by Rose Island, Newport Bridge, Goat Island and the park.

The sailors like it for its convenient location, the fact that they can take advantage of any breeze except an uncommon easterly and for the grassy areas that can be used to rig the sometimes delicate equipment. Other area sailing centers -- Fort Adams and First, Second and Third Beaches -- are more restricted in their equipment-rigging spots and in the wind directions that give the sailors their fun.

But Battery Park boardsailing -- in fact, all Newport area windsurfing -- has been limited to lessons, to occasional races and to sailing back and forth off a beach.

Matt and I decided to introduce cruising; going somewhere in a windsurfer; exploring; finding out what is on the next island and around the next point. Windcruising is a new phase of the sport of boardsailing, popular in the North Carolina Outer Banks, the Florida Keys, Corpus Christi barrier islands, the Virgin Islands, the Sea of Cortez and the Great Lakes. Why not Narragansett Bay? On the charts the bay looked ideal for cruising. But was it really?

We found out.

We launched at Battery Park on a breezy Tuesday morning. We used new sailboards designed specifically for distance sailing, deep-hulled windsurfers with little outriggers. They're called WaterSpyders, made in California by Yamaha. We packed lunches and spare gear inside the boards, tied extra sails -- in case the wind should turn either wimp or macho -- to the outriggers, lifted our sails and headed north under the bridge.

It was a good west wind -- the 10 to 15 knots our weather radio had promised us. We made good time past the War College (they waved from the college beach as we sailed) and then headed for the east shores of Gould Island.

Already we had sailed a couple of nautical miles, already farther than your average boardsailor goes in an afternoon.

Our windcruise research focused on two questions. Were there isolated, empty beaches along the Narragansett shores so that windcruisers could stop occasionally for a rest or for lunch, and was the scenery interesting? Gould Island was okay on both counts -- except for the built-up northern end.

We went on to the west shores of Prudence Island. From our water-level view, it was a long, rocky, forested wilderness. Hardly a building in sight. We stopped for lunch at a sandy beach on the southwest shore.

Then on we sailed to the small bay between Prudence and Patience where some friendly quahog diggers gave us directions to the mouth of Greenwich Bay (and corrected our pronunciation).
The wind was coming up as we resumed -- a lot more than the forecast. I shifted to a smaller sail; Matt toughed it out.

Our next stop was Warwick Point, which we thought was another island, but a pair of residents identified it as mainland -- and the mouth of our bay destination.

We had sailed about a dozen bee-line nautical miles -- and a lot more with our exploration and sightseeing -- and we had a great wind dead on our bows, so we dropped our sails just as we entered Greenwich Bay and posed a difficult question; shall we fight the wind to our theoretical destination -- the beach at Goddard Park -- or, like classical explorers, think of a more reasonable destination?

Showing keen intelligence, we shifted to a more comfortable sailing direction and let the wind decide our destination.

It turned out to be Mount View, the charming little waterside village a couple of miles south of Greenwich Bay. We beached our WaterSpyders, got directions from helpful residents, called Matt's granny for a pickup and retired for the day.

But we had done it. We had completed the longest windcruise of record of any boardsailors in the Newport area, had used the Point for another history-making endeavor and had discovered that sailboard cruising is indeed feasible and enjoyable on Narrangansett Bay.

We will spread the word among the other boardsailors. Some day their colorful sails may be seen commonly island-hopping along the scenic Bay.

And a modest memorial to our epic cruise would probably be appropriate.

Dick Fryklund
Arlington, VA

JAMESTOWN BRIDGE - 50 YEARS OLD

If you are looking for something different to do this summer or are entertaining grandchildren who complain that they are bored -- take them to the exhibit now in place at the Jamestown Museum celebrating the 50th birthday of the Jamestown Bridge.

The four-part project sponsored by the Jamestown Historical Society and funded in part by grants from the R.I. Committee for the Humanities and R.I. Sea Grant, includes an exhibit, a videotape, a book, and a slide/lecture program.

The project director, Sue Maden, and the exhibit manager, Donald Armington, are to be congratulated on mounting a classy exhibit.

"The Jamestown Bridge, 1940-1990, From the Bridge to Nowhere to Obsolescence" features memorabilia as well as many photos, newspaper and magazine articles, and the only known surviving print of 36,000 posters announcing the opening. Also part of the display are the plans for the bridge's design.

In an effort to encourage children's attendance at the exhibit, a corner has been set up where they can try on a toll taker's uniform, make a puzzle of Conanicut Island, or make rubbings of two bronze plaques which have been removed from the bridge.

The exhibit is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 1 to 4 p.m., at the Jamestown Museum, 92 Narragansett Ave. While there, check out the permanent ferry boat exhibit, featuring photos and artifacts from the numerous ferries which ran between Jamestown and Newport in pre-bridge days. There is a wonderful soundtrack made on a ferry trip across the harbor on a day of dense fog. It will bring back memories to those of you who rode the ferry.

Florence Archambault

BILL DEL NERO CLEANERS
AND LAUNDRY INC.

TEN SPEED SPOKES
18 Elm Street
Newport, Rhode Island 02840
401-847-5609
Every Thursday evening in the early 50s, Edith Ballinger Price would aim her quaint little car down Broadway and pick me up near City Hall. Then off we'd go, with great anticipation, to 78 Washington St. There Gladys and Bill MacLeod would have four music stands set up and ready with Haydn string quartet music. I think we must have played every quartet Haydn wrote. We didn't play up to speed nor with the best intonation, but certainly with the greatest enthusiasm and enjoyment. Our love for what we were doing -- playing together the creations of such a master -- could surely not be surpassed by any professional musicians.

Our string quartet consisted of myself as first violin, Gladys and Bill both playing second violin, and Edith on viola. What about a cello, you ask? Later Esther Bates, who lived in the Claggett house, joined us as a cellist. And our transient Navy community brought us an abundant variety of appropriate talent, which the MacLeods were quick to hear of and to invite to our sessions.

Of course, we played the works of other composers. Mozart was a frequent challenge (more difficult than Haydn!). An occasional flute, clarinet, piano, or whatever would join us, augmenting the group and expanding the interest. Gladys and Bill seemed to have an unending supply of music which fit any combination of would-be artists we might be at the moment.

We didn't play all evening. After a couple of hours -- at about 10 o'clock -- we'd come to a reluctant halt. Gladys would disappear into the kitchen and in no time would reappear in the adjoining room with coffee and plates of delicious sandwiches and sweets.

When the weather permitted we had our refreshments on the porch so we could enjoy the peaceful harbor scene. Our conversations were as stimulating and as long as the music, if not more so. Coffee doesn't keep me awake but when I returned home I found myself mulling over things we'd discussed, problems we hadn't solved. It took some time to get to sleep.

One of our Navy additions was a Captain Steere, who played the flute. He was as enthusiastic as we about being able to play in a group. The assault transport he commanded left Newport and we didn't expect to see him again. But several months later the ship came to Newport for a visit. We all had an invitation to join him for dinner aboard ship. What a thrill! Edith had to take her dramamine to make it to the ship at anchor. (There were no piers then!)

Captain Steere sent his gig for us and we ate an elegant roast beef dinner in his quarters, where he had his own galley, cook and waiter. After the sumptuous meal was over, Bill asked if the Captain felt like playing music. Well! It was like a quick, quick change at a play. More so. It seemed as if the Captain went out one door in uniform and came right in another in civilian clothes carrying his flute! Wow! This further attests to how much enjoyment we all derived from our Harbor String Quartet sessions. Incidentally, our title was created out of necessity when someone bravely asked us to perform publicly.

Oh, that those days were continuing! Hopefully someone new on the Point will start a group which will equal ours in many, many happy hours playing music. The very gracious hospitality of the MacLeods is greatly missed.
The Zabriskie Memorial Church
of St. John the Evangelist

THE FIFTH SUMMER SACRED MUSIC SERIES

Sung High Masses for Traditional Church
11:00 A.M.

August 5... **Missa Secunda**—Hans Leo Hassler
**Offertory Anthem**—All Breathing Life, Sing and Praise The Lord—Johann Sebastian Bach
**Communion Anthem**—Crucifixus—Bach
In Heav'n Above—Edvard Grieg (Op. 74)

August 12... **Missa**—Johannes Brahms (Gloria and Credo—Missa Paschalis)
**Offertory Anthem**—Lass dich nur nichts dauren—Brahms (Op. 30)
**Communion Anthem**—Ach, arme Welt, du trugest mich—Brahms (Op. 110, No 2)
Regina Coeli—Brahms

August 19... **Missa Brevis**—Dietrich Buxtehude
Kyrie, Gloria—Buxtehude
Sanctus and Benedictus—Missa Paschalis, plainsong
Agnes Dei—Phillipe de Monte
**Offertory Anthem**—Cantate Domino—Guiseppe Pitoni (Wo sill ich fliehen hir—Buxtehude)
**Communion Anthem**—Ave Maria—Jean Mouton
Ubi Caritas—Maurice Durufle

August 26... **Mass in C**—Franz Schubert
(with orchestra)
**Offertory Anthem**—Jubilate Deo—Schubert
**Communion Anthem**—Glory Be To God On High—Rachmaninoff
Ave Maria—Tchaikovsky

The public is cordially invited to attend the services and join the congregation for refreshments after the service.
There is parking at the rear of the church as well as on the neighboring street; the residential parker stickers are not in effect during the services.

For additional information call:
W. Robert Foreman, 295-0203 evenings 421-4833 days
or The Rev. Henry Turnbull, 846-1324
Pointers were shocked to read the news of an accident to Sophia Vasilioiu of Chestnut St. in June. She was walking her little dog along the Point streets, as she has done for many years, when a pit bull terrier attacked her and her dog, which she had picked up in her arms. Her dog was knocked from her arms and she was knocked to the ground. The terrier killed the little dog and bit Sophia on the arm. The fall caused her to sustain a broken arm. The attacker had broken the chain by which he was secured in a parked truck, jumped out, and was running along the street, headed towards Sophia and her dog. 

Sophia reports that she was treated and is recovering physically, with therapy, but is still frightened and upset.

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The Real Estate section of the Providence Journal of June 30 carried a feature story on the Point. Realtor Walter Whitley described the run-down condition of the Point in the 60s and 70s, when the Whitleys bought their 1719 sea captain's Georgian house on Elm Street, which they spent two years restoring.

They were among a group of restorers who started a "turnaround" for the Colonial, Victorian and Georgian houses that had been sadly neglected. Operation Clapboard was formed to help in the preservation, and the Point Association, which had been organized in 1955, continued its program of retaining the historic character of the neighborhood, its beautification, and of neighbor helping neighbor.

The article pictured the house on the harbor side of Washington Street at Cherry Street. It also quoted prices of the 60s, saying that a house priced at $8,000 then might sell for $200,000 today.

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The Goat Island lighthouse with its Green Light was the topic of a feature in the Providence Journal in July. The headline "Harbor Light A Comfort To Residents" leads into descriptions by Pointers who have looked at the light in the early morning, and in the evening, as it comes on again. Anne Cuvelier, her husband, and Esther Fisher Benson, are quoted in the article. An unusual photo, a close-up of the lighthouse with the Newport Bridge in the background, highlights the story.

(See Dorothy Sanschagrin's article in the June issue of the Green Light)

Kit Hammett

THANKS!

This column will confirm that the Point Association is indeed a viable volunteer organization. Many people work behind the scenes quietly and without fanfare to insure that the committees run smoothly. We, the Board, would like to thank the following individuals for their help:

Bruce Howe - for his continuing support through plant donations to the annual Plant Sale.

Donna Maytum - because she is always willing to help when asked.

Bill Reardon - for providing new resources to the Plant Sale.

Amy Weintraub - for her help with public relations, writing press releases, and succeeding in getting them published.

We hope to continue this column with each issue, and welcome new volunteers. Please contact me if you are interested in helping.

Marylynn Rooke
1st Vice President
846-6849
The Secret Garden Tour of 1990 was truly a great success. It has come a long way from its first dry run in the Fall of 1984. That year there were 150 in attendance and we thought we had done mighty well. This year, in June, 1990, well over 1400 people enjoyed the exquisite private gardens on the Point.

May I point to a few of the many workers of the Secret Garden Tour?

**The Host Gardeners** -- it goes without saying that their love and care of their individual gardens is the primary reason for our success. For 1990, they were Toni and Pete Peters, Hunter House (Jeff Curtis, Preservation Society of Newport County), Rev. Henry G. Turnbull, Anne Reynolds, Anita McAndrews, Joe and Angela Vars, Frank Sheekey, Kenneth Moldow, Roe O'Brien, Mary and Doug Riggs, June Warren, Richard Nelson, James Michael, Ilsa and Alex Nesbitt, Herb and Mary Rommel, Bob Massey, Bill and Hazel Fullerton, Gerry and Suzette Seigel and Nathaniel Norris.

Chairman of the Garden Volunteers was Mary Catherine Bardoff assisted by Mary Rommel and Gretchen Tackaberry.

The Tea Committee was DeDe Elster, Nathaniel Norris and Doreen Kranz. Plant Sale Committee consisted of Rosalys Hall, Bruce Howe and Ray Bliss while the Coffee Committee was Sally Blackett, Mark Dray and Rick Roeker. Tom Haslam and Robert Foreman comprised the Office Committee.

To these volunteers, and all the others too numerous to mention, the children of Newport County have cause to be grateful. Last year the Benefactors of the Arts with the funds raised by the Secret Garden Tour sponsored an exhibit "Soviet Views Through the Eyes of Children" at the Newport Art Museum, which was seen by 2200 children. In previous years, the Benefactors have sponsored performances by the R.I. Philharmonic Orchestra and the R.I. Philharmonic Youth Orchestra.

This year the proceeds will be awarded as a series of prizes to deserving students in the fields of Art, Music and Horticulture.

Myra Horgan Duvally

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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH - 1974

STOLEN - a new, red, mountain Giant bike, from a secluded spot in a Washington Street yard recently. The theft, and word of several others in the Point area this summer, reminded Annette Chremiec of a very effective Neighborhood Watch in 1974 and 1975. Annette had been instrumental in the organization and activities of that watch on the Point.

As a result of frequent housebreaks on the Point in 1974, a Neighborhood Watch was sponsored by the Point Association, in co-operation with the Newport Police Department, and based on a similar organization in Philadelphia.

Other local neighborhood groups on Historic Hill, in the Fifth Ward, in Jamestown and, in a section of Middletown, joined forces.

Annette recalls an extensive program of promotion and education for people to become "eyes and ears" of the police. The emphasis was on "watch" and "report" of suspicious behavior observed in a neighborhood.

The Green Light issues of those years had many reports of meetings and of suggestions to residents. In January 1975 there was a listing of such suggestions. That neighborhood watch program is history now, but the suggestions (with a few updates) are as pertinent now as they were 15 years ago, so we repeat them.

To reduce the chance of being victimized

- Update old locks, especially those on doors with glass windows.

- Make and keep an inventory of serial numbers on TVs, cassette players, VCRs, computers, typewriters, etc.*

- Deposit extra cash in banks. Consider keeping valuable silver, jewelry, collections, etc. in safe-deposit boxes.

- BE ALERT! If you see, hear, or suspect suspicious activity, call the Police at 847-1212 (For Newport).*

Activities that police should know about

- Suspicious-looking people who go from door to door, asking for work or directions, about other persons, or promoting an unheard-of or doubtful organization. Watch to see if such a person goes from your house to a neighboring one.

- A car or truck that stops in front of or in the driveway of a home where the owner is known to be away for the day or longer.

- A vehicle that appears on your street several times, moving slowly, with the driver apparently looking over houses or locating such items as porch or yard furniture, potted plants, or bicycles.

- Teenagers who don't live in your neighborhood, and may be looking for unlocked cars or empty houses.

- The sound of breaking glass.

- Lights or movements in houses where you know the owners are away.

- Children or young people with large amounts of money.

- Individuals selling household goods or services at ridiculously low prices.

- Persons carrying articles such as TVs into unmarked cars or trucks.

Annette adds:

- Lock your car -- on the street, in a parking lot, and in your driveway to prevent people from taking cash, tokens, flashlights, tools, etc.

- Chain bicycles and motorcycles in the driveway or yard.

- Lock your doors (such as screen doors) when you are inside, but in other rooms, or upstairs.

- BE ALERT! IT CAN HAPPEN TO YOU!

There is no movement to organize another "watch" program currently, but residents are urged to be aware of possibilities.

Our thanks to Patrolman Michael McKenna of the Newport Police Public Affairs Department for assisting us with this.

Kit Hammett
UPDATE OF WASHINGTON'S VISIT

Two hundred years ago in August, 1790, President George Washington and Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson visited Newport and Providence. Rhode Island had ratified the Constitution on May 29, 1790 and the visit of the country's highest officials was to welcome Rhode Island into the United States of America.

An enactment of that visit will take place on August 18 in Newport, and on August 19 in Providence. President Washington (portrayed by William Summerfield) with his delegation will arrive in Newport aboard the Sloop Providence. They will be greeted and entertained at such familiar sites as the Old Colony House, Hunter House, Trinity Church, the Vernon House and the Touro Synagogue. A semi-formal reception will be held in Washington's honor in the evening at the Old Colony House.

The visit has been planned by the Rhode Island Heritage Commission and the Rhode Island Historical Society. The Newport Historical Society is assisting with that part of the program taking place in Newport.

Since August 18 is the day of the Point Association's Fair at Storer Park, the visiting delegation may view a very interesting spectacle of community action as they drive to the Hunter House.

Best wishes to Green Light Editor, Virginia Covell, undergoing therapy at Forest Farm Health Center for a broken hip and a broken shoulder suffered in a fall at home. We miss you!

THE STAFF

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COOK'S CORNER

OOPS!!! We goofed last month. The temperature for the Rhubarb Cake should have been 350 degrees not 450! Sorry.

Well, the dog days of summer are finally here and the past few days have been sweltering. This is the time to move out of the kitchen as much as we can. One way to keep the heat out of the kitchen is to utilize your crockpot. You can start your evening meal in the morning before the day's temperature peaks and ignore it for the rest of the day.

CHICKEN IN SOUR CREAM

3 large chicken breasts, spilt
1 1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
1/4 tsp. paprika
1/2 cup dry white wine
1 can condensed cream of mushroom soup
1/2 lb. sliced fresh mushrooms
1 cup sour cream

1. Rub chicken well with seasonings. Place in cooker.
2. Mix next 3 ingredients together and pour over chicken.
3. Cook on low 6-8 hours, or on high 2-3 hours.

Here's a recipe that uses up some of that over-abundant zucchini.

ITALIAN VEGETABLE ZUCCHINI STEW

4 med. potatoes, sliced lengthwise
5-6 sm. zucchini (scrubbed but not peeled) sliced lengthwise
1 lg. green pepper, cut in thin strips
1 lg. onion, chopped
1 cup chicken stock
1 clove garlic, minced
2 bay leaves, crumbled
1 1/2 tps. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
1 tsp. oregano

1. Combine all ingredients in cooker.
2. Cook on high 2-3 hours, or on automatic 3-4 hours. Yield 4-5 servings.

Summer brings an increase in entertainment. Here are two dips which can be made quickly in the microwave. They are both scrumptious.

SHRIMP DIP (Makes 2 1/4 cups)

1 8 oz. package cream cheese
1 can cream of shrimp soup
4 green onions, sliced

1. Place cream cheese in 1 qt. casserole. Heat on MED 5 to 5-1/2 minutes. Stir frequently during heating. Stir in soup and onions.
2. Heat on MED 3 1/2 to 4 minutes or until heated through. Stir 2 or 3 times during cooking. Serve warm.

HOT CRAB DIP (Makes 2 cups)

1 8 oz. package cream cheese
1 TBS milk
1 tsp Worcestershire Sauce
1 5 1/2 oz. can crabmeat, drained
1 TBS chives, chopped
1/8 tsp onion salt
Dash cayenne pepper, if desired.

1. Blend cheese, milk and Worcestershire Sauce with electric mixer in small bowl.
2. Stir in remaining ingredients. Pour into 1 qt. casserole.
3. Heat on MED. for 4-5 minutes, or until hot. Serve while warm.

Both these dips are delicious with either crackers or raw veggies.

Florence Archambault

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PLANT SALE

The Point Plant Sale went well because of all the good people who came—neighbors from afar, from right now and from yesterday!

Then, the excellent committee's knowledge of plants, of what grew well here, and of how to help in the choosing, was invaluable and made certain the success of the day. They were Susan Bowen, Lois Dickison, Ilse Nesbitt, Anne Reynolds, Mary Lynne Rooke, and Joan and Douglas Stickley.

We are grateful to Anita McAndrews and her son, Shawn, for once more making the Plant Sale so welcome.

We had flowering shrubs and trees because Sheila Leonard and Bill Reardon introduced us to the generosity of two great R.I. nurseries. Precious individual donations bring to the sale plants we would not otherwise have—Mrs. Vranesh's Jade Plant, John Harris's Moses in the Bulrushes—Bruce Howe was especially jubilant over the state of his gift of plants this year. So many they covered the floor of the conveying truck; they stood straight and tall, most in full flower.

Thanks, so many thanks!

The Plant Sale was what you made it. What happened was all due to you.

It was a happy day surely.

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