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The Providence Journal

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NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE WEEK | RIVERVIEW

Former summer colony takes in Bay views all year

The earliest houses in Riverview are Victorians on streets that lead to Narragansett Bay

By CHRISTINE DUNN
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

WARWICK — Riverview, also known as River Vue, a waterfront neighborhood south of Conimicut Point, was once a colony of summer homes. Today, most residents live in their houses year-round, though it is easy to spot the earliest houses, Victorians on the streets that shoot off Tidewater Drive toward the water.

Photos of neighborhood get-togethers are posted on the website of the Riverview Improvement Association (www.myrvia.org), an active group that holds social

events, organizes charitable activities, and even assists elderly residents by providing help to mow their lawns, rake leaves, clear snow and change the batteries in their smoke detectors.

One photo from the late 1920s shows a group of young men and women posing in front of a house during a get-together for an impromptu football game.

There are also photographs of the former River Vue Casino, which was destroyed by arson in 1981. The casino, a shingled bungalow on Mill Cove Road, had been a neighborhood gathering place for close to 100 years.

The Riverview Association had taken over

SEE RIVER, F3



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / KATHY BORCHERS



A small park, left, at the end of Lippitt Avenue. From Whipple Avenue, above, a view of Narragansett Bay.



A cottage on Wentworth Avenue.

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tour the neighborhood
Want to see more photos? Visit the gallery at projo.com/projohomes

REAL ESTATE

'Foreclosure-gate' adds uncertainty

Documentation problems in some R.I. cases slowing sales

By CHRISTINE DUNN
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

WARWICK — Former real estate investor Kim M. Thomas is a veteran of the foreclosure crisis.

Thomas and his wife, Lynn M. Thomas, have lost six properties to foreclosure in the past several years, including their own residence in Warwick.

He said their financial

problems began in 2008, when many of their tenants lost jobs and were unable to pay rent. Since that time, he said, his annual income has fallen from more than \$200,000 to about \$50,000.

The Thomases are challenging all the foreclosures in court, even in cases in which the properties have been sold to someone else.

Thomas said he is paying \$1,500 a month in rent to the man who bought their house at 120 Strawberry Field Rd. until the case is decided.

His lawyer is Providence

attorney George E. Babcock, who has been seeking to prevent or overturn foreclosures in Rhode Island

SEE FORECLOSURES, F2



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / ANDREW DICKERMAN

Kim Thomas, a former real estate investor, is fighting six different foreclosure actions in court, including his residence in Warwick, behind him, on Strawberry Field Road.

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