

Calendar September, 2011

Progress Report on CICA's School House Road Year-Round Housing Duplex

If you have driven down School House Road this summer, you may have noticed a new driveway opening on the west side. This is for CICA's new year-round, moderately priced rental duplex. It will have one energy efficient, manufactured two-story building containing two units – three bedrooms and two baths upstairs; kitchen, living room, dining room and half bath downstairs; and a full basement. The housing faces south, toward woods that will be kept as undeveloped open space.

The funding for the duplex is from a special State program for housing on unconnected islands which is part of a larger energy-efficient and affordable housing State bond issue. The Parcel on School House Road is the Town's contribution to the funding.

CICA had hoped to finish the project in August. But between satisfying all the reviewers at the State Housing Authority (MSHA), and a reduction from two to one shifts at the builder's factory, the project will not be ready for occupancy until December, at the present estimate.

Meanwhile, we want to get information about it out the people who might want to live in one of these units. Applications will not be formally accepted until MSHA gives its final approval to the construction plans. We hope this approval will come at the end of September. If you are interested in applying, you can let us know this month and we will make sure you get an application. There will be a tenant selection committee, independent of CICA.

Applicants must live year-round on Chebeague, must meet the income eligibility criteria and must be able to show responsible residence in previous houses or apartments. Individuals, couples, groups of single people who apply to live together and families are all welcome to apply. Applicants must have incomes no greater than \$54,400 for a single person, \$62,200 for two people, \$77,600 for four and higher incomes for larger families. The rent is set at 28 percent of the resident's income, with tenants paying for utilities, while CICA pays for the taxes and building insurance.

Besides residence on Chebeague, income and showing of responsible tenancy, the Tenant Selection Committee can consider other attributes of applicants in making their decisions. These include: length of prior residence on Chebeague, number of people being housed, Children in the household, immediate need for housing, work, either paid or volunteer for the Town or island community organizations, and family or other ties to the island.

CICA is building this housing with the belief that there are year-round residents of Chebeague who need year-round housing that they can afford. This housing will be new, energy efficient and attractive. We hope you will apply to live in it. Let us know if you want an application.