

## Oak Bluffs & Island Community

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To: Oak Bluffs Planning Board <planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov>

Dear Members,

I hope this finds you well. I have been watching meetings, reading about our community, and I have been "following" on this topic and want to see where I might be of help or support to You.

I feel very connected to this struggle and would like to share my personal experience with You.

I grew up watching my all-star athlete dad proudly work on a sales team that was installing turf into the astrodome in Texas circa 1965, he believed in Monsanto.

He was a stick ball, street ball, basketball kid in the Bronx. He played sports on weekends my whole life, on a court, on a field and he was always comparing the field and the turf; and, over time his mind changed.

With every "positive" of turf came a host of issues, and he left the company many decades later - he was a company man - his career spanned my childhood.

He left Monsanto feeling athletes really need the earth and all who take care of it. He loved the community of sports.

Our home always had a lot of astroturf mats everywhere - and he shared them all the time - he said they lasted forever.

Forty years later, when he gave his stockpile away to organizations who didn't have resources for flooring, he knew that they would last forever.

He had refused to throw them away, and that was his way of recycling the unrecyclable.

I thank You for your consideration and all you do for our community.

Take care,  
Jen  
washed ashore 2013  
Oak Bluffs

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*"If every 8 year old in the world is taught meditation, we will eliminate violence from the world within one generation."*

*Dalai Lama, October 5, 1989 Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of his nonviolent campaign to end the Chinese domination of Tibet and to date, has continued teaching around the world.*