



**October/ November,
2023**

VIP is a 501-c3; our ID # is: 04-2867826

What's Happening

vipmv.org

P. O. Box 1204
West Tisbury, MA 02575



Save the dates:

Open Art Session—Sundays from 2:00-4:00 pm Chilmark Arts Kitchen

Check your email or call Dale at (508) 693-6616 or Allison at (508) 645-2429 if you have any questions.

Buddy Walk—Saturday, October 21, at the high school, starts at 11:00 am
Details inside.

VIP Art Exhibit at the Chilmark Library from October 20 to November 18
featuring art from the 2024 calendar and more!

Art Reception—October 28, 3:30-4:30 pm, at the Chilmark Library
See VIP's latest art, chat with the artists and buy the 2024 calendar.

Dance —October 28, 5:00 pm at the Chilmark Community Center with the band the Black Eyed Susans. Bring your own supper if you wish, and a snack to share. Costumes optional.



Board Meeting—November 8, 6:00 pm, details to follow

General Meeting—November 15, 6:00 pm, at the high school.

Thanks and Giving, Board Elections to fill openings, Sharing new and more.

Never Say Never, Always Say Always by Jo-Ann and Derrill, Jacob's Mom and Dad. Approved by Jacob!

There are 31 million nonspeaking Autistics in the world. Twenty two year old Jacob Bazy of Aquinnah is one of the 31 million. We have always believed in Jacob's competence and intelligence. Jacob is beginning to communicate by spelling on letter boards pointing to each letter one letter at a time. One of Jacob's fellow nonspeaker spellers Otto Lana says "Changing the world with one finger and twenty-six letters, that's my superpower." Spelling on a letter board for Autistics is a challenge since many have the mind / body challenge called Apraxia where the brain wants to do one thing but the body does another. Speech and language rely on two separate parts of the brain so a nonspeaker can have language but not be able to speak. Regulating the sensory system and motor planning enables the nonspeaker to spell and get their thoughts out in writing.



Matthew Kennedy, a letter board practitioner was here on the Vineyard for a one-week intensive home letter board outreach. Exceedingly kind and unconditionally accepting with over 15 years experience coaching Rapid Prompt Method / letter board communication, Matthew met Jacob where he was at – on the floor, on the

swing, outdoors and indoors. He told Jacob think with your brain, look with your eyes and move your body to spell.



Jacob all week demonstrated his strong auditory learning channel, listening comprehension and recall of information given in lessons. The second day as they were talking about history Matthew was giving Jacob a choice whether they were talking about history or art and Jacob pointed to "H" and then "I" and went on to independently spell HISTORY. From the lesson on the history of pizza Matthew asked what city in Italy is associated with pizza and Jacob spelled NAPLES. By the end of the week Jacob was spelling on the three stencil boards and the three foam letter boards A-I, J-R, and S-Z. Now, onward to the full 26 letter board and fluent and open communication with the end goal of independently typing.

Don't stop believing and special thanks to everyone who held our belief that Jacob would be able to communicate and never gave up on us!

News from Alexander

My nephew Artie was here for a few days and we had so much fun. He's getting so big and has such a great personality!

I am going on the Buddy Walk and at this point, I have raised the most money in sponsors for the MV Team!



The Buddy Walk will be Saturday, October 21st at 11:00 am at the high school. Lunch will follow.

Register to be part of the MV team:

<https://mdsc.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.team&teamID=5197> ,

sponsor Alexander or just show up.

**For more information contact Theresa Inman
at 774-563-0997 or
tinman@mvcommunityservices.org.**



Meet the Puppets

We are so grateful to Heather for her patience, inspiration and creativity.

Dale's Kermit the Frog is very fond of flies. Dale appreciated Heather's help in the multistep process which required one on one help.

Donald's Handyman Jack is a woodworker and employee at the Vineyard Home Center and Shirley's. He is friends with Kermit. Ally's Alice has a sister named Lilly. Alice has stage fright but being with Lilly and friends helps with her anxiety.

Amanda's Robbie is a Boston Red Sox starting pitcher with 40 years experience on several teams. He is looking forward to 2024.

Mark's Michael plays the harmonica in a very popular band The Black Eyed Susans.



News from JP

I will be featured in an immersive theater and dance experience celebrating the Halloween season at the Grange Hall. Performances are October 26-29 and tickets are available on the Circuit Arts website: <https://circuitarts.org/events>. I am excited to collaborate with Abby Bender of Built on Stilts and other island performers.



October 26–29 – Granger Things

6:30 PM and 8:30 PM at the Grange Hall, West Tisbury

Produced by Circuit Arts and Built on Stilts
Sponsored by the Vineyard Preservation Trust

Thrills, chills, and camp galore! Circuit Arts is teaming up with Abby Bender and Built on Stilts to present a performance sure to conjure the spirits of Halloween....

VIP Work News

Ally is excited to be working more hours at the YMCA Aquila Cafe. Erin is cleaning about 600 eggs a day at Morning Glory Farm, in addition to making granola in the IGI kitchen. Look for Alexander at the Beach House. Donald will help you find any hardware items at Vineyard Home Center and Dale groceries at Cronigs. Martha is “plugging” away (literally!) at the IGI greenhouses. Ida continues to make dogs look their best at Groomingdale.



Observed each October, National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) celebrates the contributions of America’s workers with disabilities and showcases supportive, inclusive employment policies and practices that benefit employers and employees.

VIP Art Exhibit at the Chilmark Library from October 20 to November 18 featuring art from the 2024 calendar and more! See the exhibit during library hours:

Tuesday: 10:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Wednesday: 10:30 AM - 6:00 PM

Thursday: 10:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Friday: 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Saturday: 10:30 AM - 5:00 PM except closed 11/11

Sunday/Monday: Closed

Thanks to the Tisbury Printer for their outstanding service.

