



Early
Summer,
2021

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

What's Happening

vipmv.org

P. O. Box 1204
West Tisbury, MA 02575



Erin and her boss Taz showing off some basil.



The May tour included Martha, Chris, Andy, Judi, Ally and Tony.

Island Grown Initiative (IGI) hosts VIP

VIP members enjoyed tours on May 18 and for our general meeting on June 1. Erin, who works at IGI several times per week, co-led the tours along with other IGI staff. The first tour was limited to ten people, but about thirty-five gathered for a tour and pizza in June. The tours included the greenhouse, the very large composter, chickens and the community garden. The composter turns food waste into a valuable addition to garden soil. IGI is seeking input on an accessible garden plot which they hope to have next season. If you would like to be involved contact Beth Kramer, who is on the IGI Board. IGI has an accessible Porto potty while their bathrooms are being reconfigured. Erin enjoyed showing off all the plants, and introducing her co-workers.



Working at the Pawnee House by McCaull

The Pawnee House has been great, they have good write-ups, and people enjoy themselves when they are there! I do a lot of the prep, and wash dishes. Soon I will just do the prep, they hired a nephew or two to wash the dishes.



Nomadland outside at the Y

by Martha Keenan with Allison

I went to see Nomadland at the drive-in movie at the Y. I had never been to one. Jemima James and her band were bonus entertainment before the show. The movie was okay. It was about these people living in their cars, vans and campers. The lead works at various jobs like Amazon, restaurants, parks and a potato farm. Brian, the director of the MV Film Festival, explained the movie was part documentary and part acted movie. Most of the supporting cast are real “nomads”, with their vehicle being their only home. It was fun and nice to go together. Don't make the mistake we did and realize there is no microwave popcorn in the pantry! It is bring your own refreshments. I had a good time.



Keen Eyes Keenan at the Drive-In.

Kate James and her parents Pat and Gaff are enthusiastic readers of “What’s Happening” in Virginia. They particularly enjoyed the advice to “sleep on it” to find missing peace, or THE missing piece.

Thanks to Judi and Debbi for their photos. Submissions welcome! Send to chilchoc85@verizon.net or text to (508) 627-0143.



VIP Beach Brigade

About twelve people combed the Menemsha beach on June 5 for trash and treasures. A peculiar iron piece with a stone half circle was discovered. It was a gorgeous day to be out with friends.



Our Cat Lucy by Shelly

Bill and I had a cat named Lucy for 12 years. She had a long happy life. We adopted our cat in 2010. She lived to be 15. Bill and I considered our cat Lucy as our daughter. One time I was working on a woven bracelet and Lucy took it out of my hand and she brought the unfinished bracelet under our bed.

Lucy had surgery in January 2016. She had an abscess in her stomach. There was a chance she wouldn't wake up. After her surgery the doctor said she was eating a lot of kibble. We were happy Lucy wanted to eat again. She lived on the Vineyard from October 2016 through January 24, 2017. From her abscess she ended up with kidney problems. Her kidney problems went away at least by October or November 2016. Lucy was on the Vineyard while Bill and I were looking for a new place. She lived at Laura Jahn's house for a month while my parents were in Florida. Lucy moved to Mashpee Village January 25, 2017.

Her kidney problems came back recently. We are thankful her kidney problems didn't come back for another five years. Lucy died on June 7th, 2021 from kidney failure. We sang to Lucy a lot her last day. We are watching Lucy's favorite movie Chitty Chitty Bang Bang once a week because Lucy liked the music in the movie, so we can think of Lucy.

Lucy was a sweetheart and was a really patient cat. The day before Lucy died she snuck outside behind the gate and was sitting on the grass by our stairs. We will think about Lucy every day. And we will always think about our good memories with Lucy.



Please send a card to:
Shelly Desmarais
Mashpee Village
1 Wampanoag Way #E-6
Mashpee, MA 02649

A recently discovered letter mailed to VIP last fall.



Mr. Peaches the Juggler

October 5, 2020

To: Vineyard Independence Partnership,
Mr. Peaches wishes to express his appreciation for the opportunity to perform at the Yard Sale on Saturday. He had a wonderful time on what turned out to be a beautiful day.

It looked like a very successful event where everyone had FUN.

Best wishes to all.

Sincerely,

Mr. Peaches

Robert Freed alias



Polly Hill Arboretum or Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary, that is the QUESTION!

By Martha & Marney

We discovered a fun way to explore a couple of familiar places on Martha's Vineyard, besides observing the changes the different seasons bring. Go on a Quest! What is a Quest you ask? It is a verse with accompanying map that takes you on a trail of discovery. At Polly Hill, Martha enjoyed the romantic tale of the Bigleaf Magnolia named 'Julian Hill' after Polly's husband. I was in awe of the Metasequoia whose species lived in the time of dinosaurs. We both marveled at the majesty of the Fernleaf and Weeping Beeches. At Felix Neck we learned of the farming history, discovered a good viewpoint for one of the osprey nests and enjoyed shaded lookouts across Sengekontacket Pond. Both Quests gave us the opportunity to see familiar places in a new way.



Playhouse is busy these days. The art space is open (check website for hours) and the Tisbury Amphitheater will be the summer venue for Shakespeare for the Masses and Children's Theatre.

Now playing virtually are four five minute readings. One features a solo performance by former VIP Board member Laura Jahn as a person living on the street. Additional actors include Jenny Allen, Paul Munafo, and Molly Canole.

<https://mvplayhouse.org/theater/2021/06/second-annual-5-minute-plays-containing-a-moment-of-joy/>



Heading out for a tour at IGI, above. Below, VIP co-presidents Tony and Julie tackling the tough questions, like when will we play mini-golf and should we have another slice of pizza?



The Island Disability Coalition is looking for new members for an array of projects. Contact Beth Wike at MV Community Services for details.

Cynthia Dean noticed that with a You Tube search of Chilmark Chocolates one can watch the MV Museum presentation of the MV Medal in July, 2019. It is fun to see the team assembled and hear Robb's enthusiasm.

VIP is very appreciative to the following for their support:



The Joy Fund and Island Fund of the MV Community Foundation (formerly PEMV)



and the Martha's Vineyard Vision Fellowship.