

December, 2025



What's Happening

vipmv.org

P. O. Box 1204
West Tisbury, MA 02575

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

Season's Greetings!

As another year winds down, VIP is thankful to be anchored in this caring Island community, providing resources and opportunities throughout the year.

Your support helps us provide enriching events and experiences including Sunday art sessions, nature walks, bowling, seasonal dances, and community partnerships including Virginia's Drama Club at the Playhouse and sailing with Sail MV on their accessible sailboats. We recently completed our annual group art exhibit created in the Chilmark Art Kitchen during 2025. This year our show was hosted by the West Tisbury Library.

Off island experiences including skiing and winter adventures in the Mount Washington Valley of New Hampshire, a whale watch in Provincetown, and smaller group activities attending regional events like Rhode Island Comic Con are made possible by your support. Donations allow everyone to attend regardless of means.

Thank you for supporting VIP. Every donation is valuable for the group. Here are a few ways to support Vineyard Independence Partnership through 2026.

- Mail a donation to VIP at PO Box 1204, West Tisbury, MA 02575 or through the link to Zeffy for credit card contributions at vipmv.org.
- Purchase our art calendar, now available at the Capawock Theatre Holiday World Market, or direct from the Arts Kitchen in Chilmark.
- Join us for an activity. Up to date information on new and upcoming events is regularly posted on vipmv.org



Sincerely, *Dale and JP*, co-presidents

VIP Bowling at the Barn

Saturday, January 10 at 11:30 sharp.

Please let Ann know by the prior

Wednesday if you plan to go: (508) 287-2847.

VIP November Art Exhibit at the West Tisbury Library

Art from the 2026 calendar was exhibited and appreciated by many. Thanks to Wynne for providing delicious snacks at the reception on November 12. It was a fun time to talk to artists' about their inspiration. During the month, 35 pieces of art sold.

Thanks to the library staff for their enthusiasm and care in hanging the 74 pieces!



Ali and Mary Beth admire Martha's owls.

Art Sessions at the Chilmark Arts Kitchen

Sundays through December 21 from 2:00-4:00 pm

Comic Con Adventure by Dale

On November 8th, Donald, JP, Tony and I went to the Rhode Island Comic Con at the Rhode Island Convention Center/Amica Mutual Pavillion in Providence, Rhode Island. It was Tony's first time going. We checked out a lot of Cosplay characters (dressing up as a fictional character--it combines the words costumes and play). People like to dress up as their favorite TV and movie characters. We also did a lot of exploring as it is a very



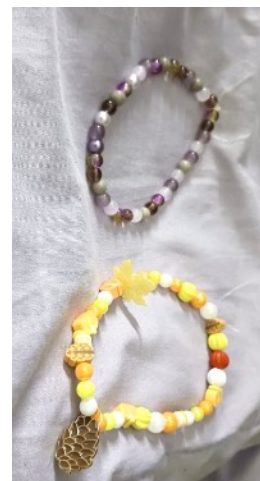
BIG place. We also met a few celebrities and got some autographs from them. Tony got Michael Ironside who is a character actor in many movies and shows like Total Recall, ER and Top Gun. Tony said "Michael Ironside was a very nice guy to meet. We talked for about 15 minutes and then he gave me a free autograph!"

Donald got an autograph from Dallas Dupree Young who is in the show Cobra Kai and Billy Gunn who is a WWE Wrestler. I got Jeremy London from the show 7th

Heaven and movies like Man in the Moon and Mallrats and also Thora Birch who was in movies like Hocus Pocus and American Beauty. JP got a souvenir for his cat Toby. We ate lunch there and checked out a lot of the vendors as we did a little bit of souvenir shopping. Thank you very much to VIP for helping to cover the cost of this trip.

After talking about it at the general meeting, it sounds like we will have a bigger group going next year! We look forward to it.

Ally taught a class on making smoothies on September 18 in the Seven Hills kitchen. She included chocolate in some, and just fruit in others. As you can tell, they were a hit! Now, Ally has moved on to making jewelry--necklaces, keychains, and bracelets. She finds jewelry-making very relaxing. Let her know if you are interested in buying some for holiday gifts.



Other news

*From Martha: I had a very nice time celebrating Thanksgiving. First as an early Thanksgiving at my sister Emily's house in Falmouth. I saw my siblings and their families. For the actual Thanksgiving, we went to our friends Matt and Brenda Sudarsky's house. I had a really good time.

*From Greg: On Thanksgiving, my Dad and Cindy Marshall came down to the Vineyard. We had lunch at the Black Dog and then hung out at my house. We had a big Thanksgiving gathering for dinner at our house with Amanda. Jillian, Heather, Rob and Aisha. It was a lot of fun.

*We celebrated MJ's birthday at a recent Virginia's Drama Club. Sheri gave MJ a very thoughtful card and gift, as did others. Sheri wrote "Thank you for all that you have done for us. Drama club is entertaining and fun."



Thanks and Giving General Meeting Notes written by Beth

At our November 16 meeting, VIP members brought spare change (and some bills) which we sorted and counted. The total was \$256.71 which we decided to split between the Food Pantry via IGI and Harbor Homes.

Judi, Donald and Beth were up for re-election to the board. They are happy to have a second term of three years. They were voted in and thanked.

New Policy - One of VIP's main purposes is to promote community among its members as well as engagement with the greater community. We can do this by encouraging small group activities, including off-island trips.

VIP will reimburse members (those who have paid their dues):

- * for car expenses to travel off-island (not including individual ferry tickets) and
- * admission to cultural events and attractions like museums, aquariums, etc.

Members reimbursed for expenses agree to write a short article together about their experience for the next What's Happening and share photos for a slideshow.



Max, Lila and Michelle



Molly, Kathy and Martin

The Halloween Dance on Saturday, October 25 was a big hit with DJ Ben Starz spinning great tunes. The dance floor was hopping with a variety of characters--cows, lobsters, a hippo and a dinosaur as well as a few super heroes to make sure all stayed peaceful.



Officer David

VIP Advocacy Work Group

VIP members continue to meet to learn more about changes coming to government programs in 2026. Many of us will be impacted. We are working on mapping out supports currently available. We have reached out to our state reps, reminding them about adults with disabilities on the island. We are planning to share information at our February meeting.

Our annual weekend to New Hampshire will be February 5 to 8. At this point, if you haven't signed up and wish to, you will be on the waiting list.

Contact JP at (508) 560-8243 if you have any questions. If you are going, please mail your check to VIP P.O. Box 1204, West Tisbury, MA 02575.



Thanks to the
Tisbury Printer
for their quality
and timely service.

