



December, 2020

# What's Happening

[vipmv.org](http://vipmv.org)

P. O. Box 1204  
West Tisbury, MA 02575

## VIP Meetings

VIP had both board and general meetings on November 18. At the board meeting, Monday Zoom meetings were discussed. In the future, guests will be featured to share their skills, interests and fun adventures. We hope to have more hosts of these Zooms. If you are interested, please let Julie ([VIPmarthasvineyard@gmail.com](mailto:VIPmarthasvineyard@gmail.com)) or Tessa ([tessabpermar@gmail.com](mailto:tessabpermar@gmail.com)) know.

The schedule may alternate between these one week, and cooking classes the next week. McCaull will continue his popular cooking classes, with guest chefs from time to time.

At the general meeting, Erin enthusiastically led a warm-up where each person named something they were grateful for. Erin said "I was invited to lead and I was willing because I am so thankful: for family, my health and Cumberland my horse." Larry, Richard and Colin said they were very grateful to have jobs. Colin reported that he has been working at the VTA and recently went back to the Tisbury Marketplace. Family and friends were mentioned by a majority of folks, and Marney and Onnie appreciated that they live in such a beautiful place. First responders were noted by a number of people.

VIP also had an election to fill a board seat. Welcome to Ann Baird who will be joining the board. Thanks to Laura Jahn for her service on the board!



*Mark out beachcombing on a beautiful day at Sengy*



*Nathan and David getting some fresh air and exercise*

## News from Greg

Greg is in the holiday spirit—decorating at his house and at Seven Hills. At Seven Hills, they are making ornaments and the group watched "Grandma Got Run over by a Reindeer." Greg hopes they win the decorating contest. He is also making holiday cards with bells, candy canes and trees.

## Hobbies of our Fellow VIP'ers



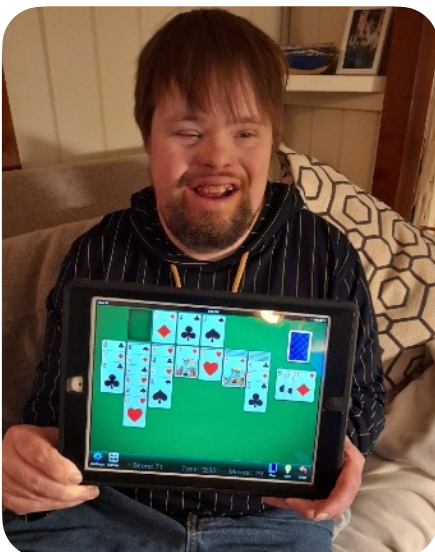
### Oh Darn!!! by Marney Toole

My grandmother knit Richard four pairs of argyle socks over 40 years ago. He wears them everyday all winter long. After 40 years they have developed a few sizable holes in the heels. Not wanting to part with them he asked me to fix them. YouTube to the rescue!!! I found a video on how to darn socks (a first for me!) and voila! I was happy to save my Nana's gift to him. Staying home gave me time to learn a new skill!



### New Creations by Alex Campbell

I recently finished this new piece. It is very detailed. It shows a family compound with gardens and a lake. The family works together to tend the gardens. They grow flowers and lots of vegetables including, of course, jalapeños and garlic. The six members of the family all pitch in doing the various chores including caring for the chickens. I am giving this as a Christmas gift to Jane, the owner of the Beach House. Jane has been selling my angel cards there for over a decade. She plans to have this art printed on greeting cards at an Island print shop. In my spare time, I also assist as a volunteer with the stamping of Food Pantry thank-you notes, and stuffing, labeling and stamping for sending the VIP newsletters!



*Mark plays Solitaire every night on his IPAD. His new hobby!*

Erin likes to keep busy with word searches, coloring books (especially with outdoor scenes and flowers) and watching movies.

I believe I will forever be astounded about the timing of closing Chilmark Chocolates. Allison had been so clear and I was so torn. Allison is hopeful I will listen to her more often... The pandemic would have abruptly caused the closing of the chocolate factory. We, along with Onnie, have had a chance to accompany our moms as their health changed. I feel so fortunate that my mom Betty truly became a vital part of the Chilmark Chocolates community. Thank you for your prayers, cards and encouragement at this tender time. Gratefully,

*Mary Beth*





## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY FAN** by Judi Schubert

Because of Covid-19 we will no longer be BLOWING out the candles on our birthday cakes, YUCK!

How are we suppose to get the candles out and make a wish? The answer is simple: "The Happy Birthday Fan"!

If a friend or family member is having a birthday, make them a folded paper fan. (You can find detailed directions on how to do this on the internet).

After you have made the accordion folds (but before you fold it in half to make the fan) you can decorate it with markers and add names or favorite animals or both, and of course HAPPY BIRTHDAY and the date. Then you present your friend or family member with the fan as a gift sometime before the cake comes out. They make a wish (if they wish) and then use the fan to safely fan out their many candles. Now the fan becomes a memento of that year's birthday made by you!

Tessa and I plan to offer a VIP workshop on making a Happy Birthday fan in the spring when we can comfortably gather outside.

## **My Thanksgiving** by Martha Keenan

I went to see my mom for Thanksgiving. We had a nice meal. My mother ordered from Meals on Wheels. On Friday, my mother Jane and I went to see my sister Emily in Falmouth. It was nice to see her. When I returned to my house, I had to quarantine just in case.



*Larry measures and folds*



*Judi folds in half*



*Decorating the fan*

## **Tackling a Jigsaw Puzzle**

by Laura Jahn

With every jigsaw puzzle, there are different strategies you can come up with based on the artwork. You want to take a look at what colors and shapes there are, and where they are--letters too if there are any. Finding lots of edge pieces is a great way to get started, as you can get a sense of how big the puzzle is and where things are relative to the edges. Each picture has different challenges, so you will need to find different ways to handle different ones. Beware of different areas that look similar! You might think a piece is from the river when it's really from the pond.



*Allison finishing a puzzle at Betty's house. Allison enjoyed puzzles as a youngster, but has not worked on a puzzle in years. She especially enjoys nature scenes.*

## Catching up with David and Nathan

by Camden Elliott

Dave and Nathan are super easy-going and enjoy spending time at home. Dave's favorite thing is to watch TV! He loves pretty much anything but his favorite thing to watch is comedies, especially older ones. He likes to sit in his recliner, usually with the cat and dog on his lap. Dave is the best recycler, always breaking down the Amazon boxes.

Nate likes to watch TV too, but not as much as Dave. Nathan's favorite things to watch are sports and scary stuff. Nathan also loves to play games like Uno, Go Fish, and Connect Four. Sometimes Dave likes to join in with Uno. Nathan loves to do puzzles with Ruby and also dance with her.

We also go on lots of walks. Most often we walk in the cemetery right near our house or on the beach. When we're on the beach Dave uses his metal detector. He has a large collection of bottle caps, but one day I bet he will find some buried treasure!! Nate looks for seashells and I collect beach glass.



*Ruby, in the middle, giving Camden and Nathan a makeover*

### Happy Holidays!

See you on Zoom. All are invited to a VIP Board meeting Jan.12 and a dance with DJ Ben in January. Check your emails for details.



*A Scott Air pack*



## Firefighting Training by Tony Palmer

Jeremy and I have just finished the IFSTA (International Fire Service Training Association) book. We did all the chapters in the book but now we're doing the National Fire Academy course from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) online. We just went through weeks of classroom training on how to put our gear on, including Scott packs. They are breathing machines which allow the firefighters to breathe much better. Now due to Covid, the classroom stuff can't happen. Jeremy, the chief, and I are studying for the final exam together at the firehouse. The test and quiz have very hard questions but we got through it all. After the final exam is all done, I will move up in rank in the fire department and then I will be Lieutenant Tony.

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

VIP is very appreciative to the following for their support:



*The Joy Fund and Island  
Fund of the PEMV*



*and the Martha's  
Vineyard Vision Fellowship.*