

December, 2021



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Ida and Ally enjoying the beauty of Felix Neck.

I hope to see you in Edgartown on Wednesday, December 15, for a walk. The decorations will be beautiful. We will meet at 3:00 in front of the Whaling Church on Main Street. If the weather is not good, we will go on Friday, December 17. You can text or call me at (603) 997-1308 or Allison at (508) 627-0143 if you have any questions. Thanks, Ally

Welcome to Our New Board Members

At the general meeting, Caitlin Houghton and Beth Kramer were elected to jointly fill the position which Laura Gliga held. Laura finds herself too busy to devote time to the board, but hopes to see us at gatherings. Caitlin is a longtime resident of Martha's Vineyard. She is the recipient of the Gopen Fellowship through the Institute of Community Inclusion at UMASS Boston. She is working on an employment project for people on the island. Debbi Zetterberg, who has been clerk for 4 years, would like to stay on the board but not as clerk. Newly elected Beth volunteered to take on that role.





Alexander celebrates his November birthday. See story page 2.

Tessa teaching Marney, Martha and Allison (photographer) tips on Mailchimp and the VIP website. Tessa will be stepping down as communications coordinator at the end of the year.

Never a Dull Moment by Alexander Campbell November was a busy month. My mom and I went off island to celebrate my birthday on November 5th.We had wonderful pedicures and a great lunch at my favorite restaurant La Cucina Sue Mare. I also had my first cannoli. It was delicious.





I was inspired to draw a few new cards focusing on the holidays and then I let my imagination go. I had the new designs printed and they are for sale at the Beach House in Vineyard Haven.

I have also been enjoying some Christmas shopping. The World Market at the Capawock Theater is a fun place to shop and has all kinds of handcrafted items.

Thanks and Giving from notes by Debbi

VIPers had much to be grateful for at our general meeting on November 17 via Zoom. Many folks were happy for friends and family and good health. Martha, Erin, Dale and Tony mentioned being thankful for their jobs—at Island Grown Initiative, Cronigs and Fed Ex. Marney is grateful for the hard workers that keep the grocery shelves stocked, often working long hours due to a shortage of help. Andy appreciates having a government that is respectful and supportive of ideas he values. JP is happy that island community events are resuming including at Pathways and the Playhouse.

We hope to show our gratitude by saying to people "Thanks so much!" or writing cards of thanks or "Hello. How are you? I wish I could visit." Others will write to a worker's boss, telling them what a great job they are doing. Donating money to causes like the Food Pantry is another way to say "Thanks." Save the dates: *Saturday, January 8 Bowling *Friday, January 14 DJ dance at Slough Farm in Edgartown at 6:30 Details to follow.



Amanda and Alexander in stride at the Barn Bowl and Bistro on December 4. Monthly bowling has resumed. Ally led the bowlers, with Alexander a very close second.

We had a glorious, crisp November day to enjoy the fall colors at Felix Neck on November 20. It was a great way to catch up with old friends.

From left to right—Nate, Greg, Amanda, Celeste, Diamond, Marney, Chris, Abby, Ida, Ally and Debbi. (not pictured: Allison).

Amanda reads one of the poems on the "Awakening" walk written by naturalist EM Dengenis.

Greg is given a tour via golf cart by staff person Phil. Nate is getting a view from the back.

A VIP Ski Trip to New Hampshire March 11-March 13 is in the Works! Wynne Freed, an occupational therapist and former team member at Chilmark Chocolates, volunteers with New England Disabled Sports (NEDS). NEDS has specially adapted gear and volunteers will be assisting folks to enjoy the slopes of Bretton Woods. Snowshoeing, hiking and enjoying hot cocoa are among the possible activities. The total cost is \$180 per person (lodging and meals). There is an additional cost of \$50 for skiing, which includes rentals, a lesson and a ski pass. The VIP Board has generously decided that the expense not keep someone from going on this trip. VIP will subsidize expenses for anyone who wants to go. There is a minimum payment of \$30.

Please get in touch with Beth, 774-563-8391 (call or text) or email at <u>bethmv@comcast.net</u> for more information or if you would like to sign up. Right now she is enjoying the sights of the Galapagos Islands so she may not get right back to you.

Erin's Ganola by Erin Doyle

I had a dream to make something delicious and decided to make granola. I use my mom's secret recipe. During my Vision meetings with Beth Kramer and Julie and my family, the idea of having a business under Island Grown Initiative (IGI) was hatched. We met with Rebecca Haig and others of IGI and my idea took off.

I now bake most Saturdays, using the kitchen at



Camp Jabberwocky. I use only organic ingredients. I sell through the Mobile Market and will be selling my Ganola at a table at down-island Cronig's Saturday, December 11 from 2:00-4:00 pm and Saturday, December 18 from 2:00-4:00 pm. 25% of the proceeds will go to the Island Food Pantry. It is lots of fun. I hope you enjoy it!





A Culture of Caring: Keen Eyes Keenan Movie Review and more by Martha

On Tuesday, November 9, I joined Tony, Erin and her father, Rob, and Allison at the MV Film Center for a debut. The movie, A Culture of Caring, is a documentary about the efforts of Island Grown Initiative (IGI), where Erin and I work. The movie features the many ways IGI is helping people all over the island obtain healthy food. It was fun seeing the little kids eating their school lunches.

The weekend prior to Thanksgiving I celebrated in Falmouth at my sister Emily's house. I saw my sister Jennifer and my nieces and nephews. It was nice to see them all. On Thanksgiving, I celebrated at my mother's house with my brother Matthew and his friend Lisa. VIP is very appreciative to our individual donors and 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.