



The Village at Stone Ridge

THE QUARRY BULLETIN

VOLUME 2

ISSUE AUGUST 2005

'68 Valiant Removed from Quarry



PHOTO: ARMAND FRANCOEUR

Witnessed and reported by
Armand Francoeur

On July 28, a 1968 Plymouth Valiant was removed from the quarry requiring the efforts of a number of people and some large machinery. John Garside and a helper (working for Guthall/Wescon) led the effort.

Two full-time fire fighters from Lowell did the scuba diving required to hook the chains to the car, and a huge ten-wheel tow truck pulled the car from the quarry depths. A second flat-bed tow truck was used to scoop up the badly rusted Valiant.

Bystander residents watched rather excitedly as the tow truck that was pulling the hulk from the quarry got stuck in the soft soil at the water's edge.

(Continued on page 4)

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

From your Board of Trustees



by George Heiter, Board of Trustees

Now that we are finally enjoying Summer in New England, it is difficult to think about business. However, life still goes on here in our Village at Stone Ridge (VSR), and so here are some items that should be considered. . .

Board Member Resignation

Nick Johnson has resigned from the Board of Trustees, effective 17 October 2005, because of the pressure of other commitments. Not only has Nick been a Board member from its inception, but he also made major contributions well before the Board was even established. Our Village has benefited from his prior experiences in all areas of the Property Management Committee, which he established and chaired. We are very grateful to him for all of his efforts on behalf of our Village. He assures us that we will not lose his valued advice when it is needed. Thank you very much, Nick!

2005 VSR Annual Meeting and Elections

Our annual meeting of the unit owners is scheduled for 28 September 2005 at a venue to be announced (the Clubhouse will not accommodate the expected number of participants). In addition to the presentations of reports by the existing Board of Trustees, elections for the new Board will be held. Two positions are to be filled: one 3-year term and one 1-year term (expired term remaining resulting from Nick Johnson's resignation). Please consider becoming a candidate for one of these positions by contacting either Great North Management Company (800-221-0210) or our Election Commission Chair, Richard Diaz (e-mail stoneridge14@comcast.net or phone 978-692-0648) on or before 18 August 2005.

We are again scheduling a Candidate's Night, set for 8 September at 7:00 pm in the Clubhouse. Details of the election process are contained in a letter that will be mailed to all unit owners.

Waste Water Treatment Facility

Guthall LLC has been operating the facility and will turn it over to us shortly. A committee headed by Dean Hubbard is monitoring the transition and will be involved in the facility's future operations. As we learn more about this plant, we are becoming increasingly concerned about its appropriate operation and the requirements on us as unit owners.

In the February 2005 issue of this bulletin, Richard Diaz wrote an article stressing the importance of the proper use of our Waste Disposal System. In this current issue Judy Culver (who is a committee member and serves on the Board as liaison) discusses this disposal system in some detail. It would behoove us to heed her advice.

Clubhouse Rental

A recent Clubhouse use found an overflowing crowd that caused inappropriate parking of vehicles on lawns and side roads. Please be aware that you as the unit owner renting the Clubhouse are responsible for your guests as well as returning the Clubhouse to its original condition.

Please be sure to read the new rental contract introduced by the Clubhouse Committee and contact Great North Management Company (800-221-0210) or the Committee Chair, Donna Hudon, with any questions.

We wish you a great remainder of this summer and hope you will continue to enjoy your life here in our Village. We look forward to your active participation in VSR affairs.

Proper Care of your Sewerage Grinder Pump can Save you Money



by Judy Culver, Treatment Plant Committee

The Village at Stone Ridge does not have individual septic systems, nor are we connected to municipal sewerage. Our system is a self-contained Waste Water Treatment System that directs the effluents from all buildings at VSR to the Plant attached to the Clubhouse. A portion of your monthly Water & Sewer fee of \$75 is used to fund all repairs, to pay the Operations & Maintenance contractor, and to build a reserve fund for future Plant replacement. A more detailed discussion will appear in a future issue of the Bulletin.

The disposal of household waste water at VSR is a multi-stage process during which the waste is converted into an environmentally clean end-product. YOU control the success or failure of the first stage of the process by introducing only acceptable products into the system. Watch what your grandchildren might be flushing down.

In the first stage, waste water flows from each unit to an associated grinder pump located below ground in the unit's frontal common area near the street. A total of 37 grinder pumps service all



110 units. As its name implies, the pump grinds the waste into smaller particles prior to its flow into the holding and settlement tanks at the Plant in front of the Clubhouse. As some unit owners know, these grinder pumps can fail. When they do, a warning light goes on and an audible alarm sounds to alert the affected unit owners (These are located near our other utility boxes.) If these do not shut off within 10 minutes, you MUST call Great North Property Management at 800-221-0210 to report the failure, and then you and your

neighbors on the same pump should not use the system until it is repaired. Adding more waste to an already overloaded system may cause a backup into your, or your neighbor's unit.

To prevent grinder pump failures and to extend the life of the treatment system, owners must follow the same disposal rules for toilets, sinks, and tubs that apply to personal septic systems:

- ◆ Do Not introduce bulky waste, cooking oils or grease into the system
- ◆ Do Not introduce toxic waste materials and chemicals into the system
- ◆ Do Not flush feminine products, disposable diapers, pre-treated wipes or other personal hygiene products into the system
- ◆ Garbage Disposals are never permitted.

Your cooperation and care in protecting our system is important since improper use or abuse of the system can affect you and your neighbors, can be very costly to repair, and can lead to premature failure of the system.

If you are not familiar with this kind of system or need further advice on how to use it properly, please call Richard Fitzgerald at Great North Management Company.

You will be receiving this same information in another form to underscore its importance.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

A Big Hand Please for Richard and Nany

by Shirley Chambers



I am serving temporarily as Managing Editor while Richard Diaz is recuperating from a bad fall he took in his garage. He fractured a vertebra and has debilitating pain much of the time. He gets a bit bleary-eyed from his pain medication, making it difficult for him to read. Unfortunately an editor who can't read is out of business. He WILL get better with time.

A condo village of this size can't depend solely on bulletin boards and word-of-mouth to disseminate essential information. We therefore need our bulletin and we need Richard and Nany. They donate many hours of their time and talent unselfishly to give us a really good bulletin. They are the "glue" that holds all of us together in this Village, and I wish to thank them both personally. When Richard's at the helm, he won't let me say these nice things, so this is my opportunity to speak up. With your support, Nany and I will try to keep this bulletin going until Richard's return.

VILLAGE AT STONE RIDGE – AVAILABLE SUB-CONTRACTORS LIST

CONTRACTOR	CONTACT	TELEPHONE	COMMENTS/REFERENCES
Hardwood Floors	David Galvin	978-697-7821	Guthall Sub-contractor
BEF Alarms	Brian	978-251-1284	Clubhouse Security System
Excel Painting	John Deroshers	978-866-3153	Guthall Sub-contractor
Sheet rock hanger	Michael - Jag Wallboard	978-852-6555	Guthall Sub-contractor
Plasterer	Rory Precision Plastering	978-857-6928	Guthall Sub-contractor
Finish Carpenter	Dennis Dundas @ D&D	978-621-0361	Guthall Sub-contractor
Kitchen Cabinetry	Jim Forsaith@ Kitchen Works	978-423-5650	Guthall Sub-contractor
Inside Lumber-Finish Stock	Littleton Lumber - Bruce Tilly	978-423-5943	Guthall Sub-contractor
Artec Sprinkler	Girad	978-459-2568	Guthall Sub-contractor
Electrician	David Stander Electric	781-275-6486	Lives in Westford
Plumbing	Hillard Plumbing	978-452-2113	Tyngsboro
Basement Build-Out	Lou Holmes	603-880-6784	Recommended by Angie @ Guthall
Handyman Services	Helping Hand Handyman	978-692-4114	Village at Stone Ridge-Nick Johnson
Renovations/Expansions	Bob Wironen - Built Environments	978-649-5700	Nick Johnson

Questions? Contact Nick Johnson @ nicholasjohnson@comcast.net

('68 Valiant Removed from Quarry Continued)

Coaxing the huge machine up the steep incline took nearly an hour. It was finally rescued by John's use of a large front-end loader.

The divers also removed a truck-load of debris

down to about 20 feet. They reported the quarry water is quite warm and very clear with visibility down to at least 40 feet. They also reported seeing large fish.

The Valiant is now history since it went from the quarry to the crusher. End of story—or is it? What's the real story behind the sinking of the 1968 Plymouth Valiant?

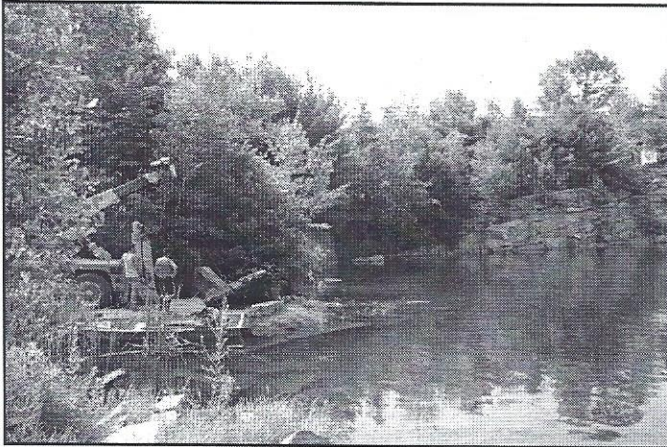


PHOTO: JUDY CULVER

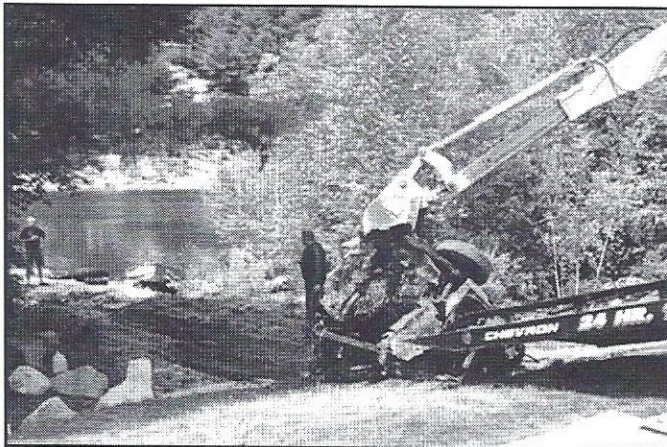


PHOTO: RAY ALLABY



PHOTO: NANY DIAZ



PHOTO: NANY DIAZ

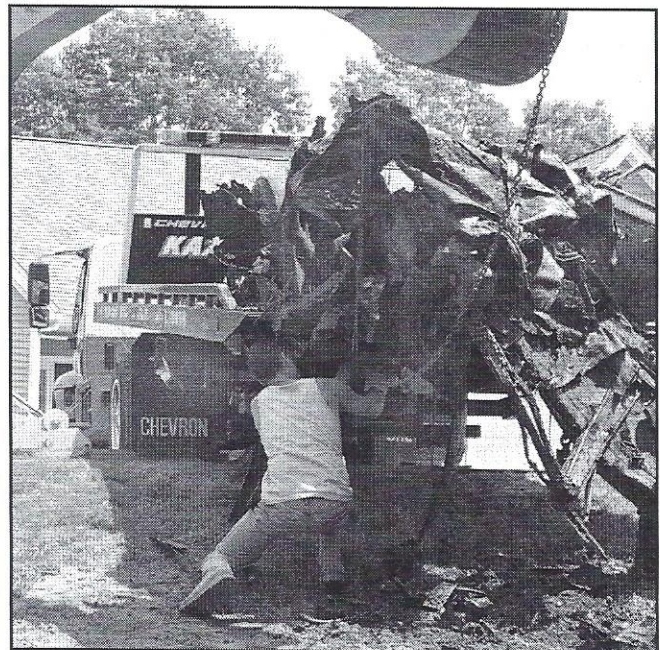


PHOTO: NANY DIAZ

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

Irene & Roger Boucher

by Shirley Chambers

From the moment I entered the Boucher condo on Stone Ridge I felt at ease in their open and friendly environment. Both Roger and Irene emit a feel-good warmth that is most genuine.

The many photos on their walls attest to the fact that family is all-important to them. They are both button-bursting proud of their three sons Roger, Norman, and Andrew and their families. Roger is Senior Vice President of Bank of America.

For the last three years Norman has been in London (not in harm's way during bombings), working as portfolio manager for Putnam Investments. Andrew is an attorney with the law firm of Bowditch & Dewey in Worcester and Boston.

So far there are three granddaughters and there will soon be a grandson due in September. All three sons went to Holy Cross College and all married well-educated ladies. One of their daughters-in-law is an attorney, one is a CPA financial planner, and one is a medical doctor specializing in

infectious diseases. Every year the entire family takes a trip together, and this year all twelve of them went to Wentworth-by-the-Sea. Irene says "They are all wonderful people whom we like to be with."

In this high-def, surround-sound, plasma-screen 21st century we're living in, it's nice to meet folks like Roger and Irene with the old values. And speaking of old values, gone are the days of the mom-and-pop stores and family-run markets that offered personalized services as their hallmarks. That describes Boucher's market on University Avenue in Pawtucketville. This was a family-run business for 60 years, started by Roger's father Charles Sr. in 1925 in a converted

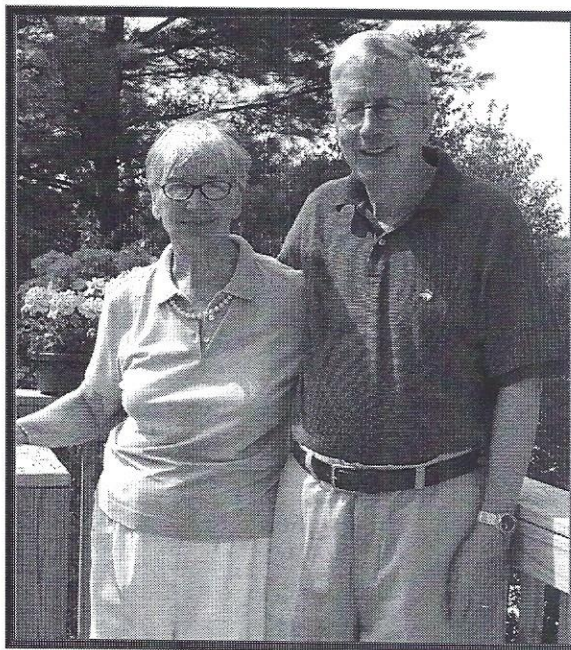


PHOTO: NANY DIAZ

barn on Mt. Hope St. in Lowell. In 1941 he moved his business to the University Avenue site. Four of Charles' eleven children ran the business when he retired, Edgar and Roger being the last two, and they ran it for 40 years. Can't you just picture a soda fountain in front of the store, blocked off shelves and meat counter space in the rear, and Roger or brother Edgar back there cutting meat to order as you watched? They then wrapped each order in that fresh white waxed paper butchers

used in those days. Roger says with pride, "None of those plastic-wrapped pieces of meat for my customers." Their delicious corned beef was renown country-wide.

— I —> —<— G —> —<— I —> —<—

*In this high-def, surround-sound
plasma-screen 21st century
we're living in, it's nice to meet
folks like Roger and Irene
with the old values.*

— I —> —<— G —> —<— I —> —<—

One of the personalized services offered by Boucher's Market was delivery of orders. One day Roger was bringing an order to a customer when her "little" dog attacked him and bit him in the seat of his pants. The bite was bad enough that he had to seek help in the emergency room at St. Joseph's Hospital (now Saints Memorial). Guess who was the attending RN there.

You got it - Irene, who had to do the swabbing, prepping for the doctor to stitch up Roger's rump. And this is how Roger and Irene first met! (I love this story.) They will have been married for 47 years come October of this year.

Linda Barry, wife of our Board of Trustees member Tom, is Roger's niece (Edgar's daughter). That both families bought condos here in our Village is sheer coincidence.

We, at the other end of the chronological arc, can remember the good old days when innocence prevailed. It was great fun reminiscing with the Bouchers.

PERCEPTIONS

Neighborhood Connections



by Louise O'Donnell

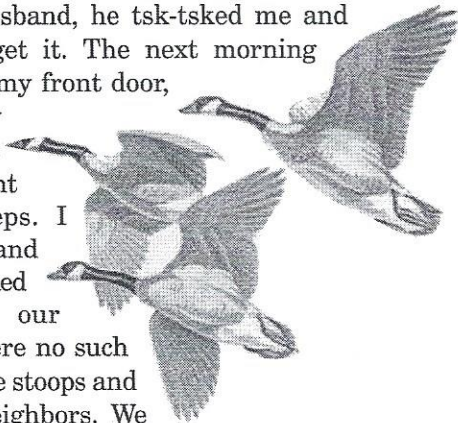
On a recent trip to Maine, I was sitting around with some friends discussing implausible events in the life of the O'Donnells. I recalled a golfing incident when I was forced to hit the ball across a body of water. A gaggle of Canada geese stood on the other side of the pond, directly in my path. One of my friends advised me to hit the ball and try to frighten off the geese. Being a mediocre golfer and thinking that I couldn't possibly hit the ball that far, I took a healthy swing and to my dismay hit the lead goose on the head. He stared at me across the water, shook his head, and wandered off leading his flock away quickly.

After finishing our golf game, we went merrily on our way. When I returned home and relayed the event to my husband, he tsk-tsked me and told me to forget it. The next morning when I opened my front door,

I was greeted by goose droppings all over my front porch and steps. I called my husband and we both looked up and down our street; there were no such droppings on the stoops and steps of our neighbors. We cleaned up the messes and, laughingly, decided the goose had immediately called his relatives and told them to bomb our front steps in retaliation.

In the three years we've lived here there have been no further bombings.

This is a true story, the moral being: Never hit the leader of the pack for he may have connections in your neighborhood.



Book Club Report

by Gail Sergenian

Our book club's August selection is "Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants,"

by Ann Brashares. Join us at 1:00 pm in the clubhouse on Thursday, August 4 (we always meet on the first Thursday of the month) for refreshments and a wonderful discussion. We hope to see you there!



A SLICE OF LIFE

Aspirin Therapy



by Mort Silverman

There is an old joke about a man who greets his wife at the door of their home as she returns from a long workday. He opens his fist containing two aspirin. She looks at the aspirin and responds, "What are they for? I don't have a headache". "Good," he replies, "let's make love!"

I have known my friend Irene for about sixteen years. She was a Psychiatric Nurse at the same hospital that I retired from. When she heard the joke, she said that it gave her a good idea.

She met her husband at the door that night, as he returned from a hard days work. You guessed it...she had two aspirin in her clenched fist. As he approached the doorway, she extended her open hand. He exclaimed, with emphasis, "Great!, Just what I need, I've got a splitting headache." Irene broke out in laughter.

Tom, her husband, stood there with a puzzled and tired look on his face. Irene told him the original joke.

He smiled with a weary grin as Irene gave him a hug and a kiss.

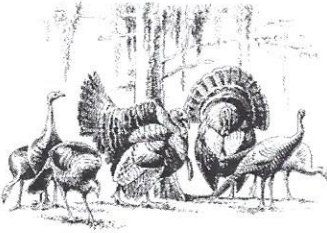
VAN GOGH'S FAMILY TREE

His dizzy auntVerti Gogh
 The brother who ate prunesGotta Gogh
 The brother who worked
 at a convenience storeStop n Gogh
 The grandfather from YugoslaviaU Gogh
 The cousin from IllinoisChica Gogh
 His magician uncleWhere-diddy Gogh
 His Mexican cousinA mee Gogh
 The Mexican cousin's American
 half-brotherGring Gogh
 The nephew who drove a
 stage coachWells-far Gogh
 The constipated uncleCant Gogh
 The ballroom dancing auntTang Gogh
 The bird lover uncleFlamin Gogh
 His nephew psychoanalystE Gogh
 The fruit loving cousinMan Gogh
 An aunt who taught positive thinking ...Way-to Gogh
 The little bouncy nephewPoe Gogh
 A sister who loved discoGo Gogh
 And his niece who travels
 the country in a vanWinnie Bay Gogh
And there ya Gogh!

-Sent by Nick Johnson

No More Turkey for Me, Thanks

by Shirley Chambers



As you all know, we have a fairly substantial wild turkey population in our Village. Those of us who live up against the wooded area on Sandstone Rd. have been treated this Spring to Mama turkey and her five little ones daily doing the turkey trot down our back lawn. I saw them almost the day they were hatched, fuzzy little round things on wobbly legs. I think the nest must have been nearly in back of my unit. I had made a little flower garden back in "my" woods, and Mama turkey likes it because I put cedar chips on it to keep the weeds down. She "bathes" in it, rolls around flapping her wings throwing the chips around, and to hell with my plants. When her babies were still fuzzy she would sit on the chips, and they would gather under her as if they were still in the nest. This always put a smile on my face. Now they are growing adolescents getting their long legs and tall arched necks, and I'm sorry to report to the turkey world that Mama has lost two of them (nature's way).

One day quite recently I witnessed Mama turkey and her three little turks suddenly fly up on my deck and sit on the railing. I dashed for my 35 mm camera

(damn, no film). Then I grabbed my digital camera (damn, forgot to charge it up). So you will just have to believe my story without picture proof. She was teaching them to fly, and my deck seemed to be the right altitude for flight lessons. And I thought this was sooo cute! The next day I had to go to Maine for a few days. When I returned, I found my deck and lawn had been an "airport" while I was away. The whole family must have had loose bowels, and there were feathers all over the area. They are not welcome to return, and I no longer think they are so cute. From now on the only Wild Turkey that will please me will be in a glass with an ice cube in it.



DECK STAINING

by Nick Johnson

Some residents have asked that we repeat the information on deck stains. You may also refer to the June/July issue of the Bulletin. Please refer to page 2.

The stain for the back decks is SIKKENS Cetol SRD #996 Natural Light, available from Lynch Paint Center, 302 Littleton Rd., Westford

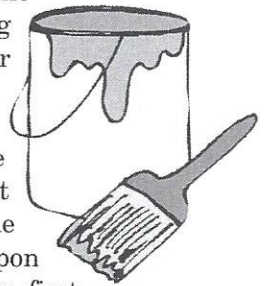
The stain for the front decks is ULTRA PREMIUM PENOFIN Penetrating Oil Finish, Transparent Chestnut UN 1263, available from COLORWORK III, 7 Summer Street, Chelmsford

We are now using the ultra premium type because it has "99% U.V. protection" according to the manufacturer, which means it lasts longer. It has a red label, and the original one put on the house has a blue label. The original stain did not last very long, and this new one "lasts up to 5 years" according to the manufacturer. It costs \$39.99 a gallon vs. \$34.99 for the former one, neither of which I would call cheap. Since most of the cost is in the labor, I changed the standard for the Village to the longer-lasting

version with the same color.

I purchased 2 gallons of the front deck stain for the Village and if anyone wants to do their own deck, as I do, they can borrow the can. Since the front decks are so small, it does not take very long.

The Property Management Committee is currently developing a plan to paint all the decks over some period of time. All front decks that need it can be done in one year. Many of the owners have already stained their own front decks. The back decks will be done over a three-year period based upon when they were constructed. The first phase will be completed this year, and Richard Fitzgerald of Great North is now obtaining bids. Armand Francoeur has kindly volunteered to coordinate this program. If anyone has any questions about the deck-staining program they may email Armand at jafran@comcast.net





Simply Social... *By Donna Hudon*

Hope everyone is enjoying this all-too-fleeting summer.

We've had some new additions to our Clubhouse. The kitchen has a clock. The restrooms have new hooks. Bulletin boards have been hung in our mailroom, as well as new address placques placed above the mailboxes. Our marquee stands proudly in the foyer. Carpets have been cleaned in the great room and exercise room. We're looking good!



Please note the following changes have been made for use of our Clubhouse.

Rental Agreement—effective September 1st.

The Security deposit is \$100.00 and the rental fee is \$100.00

Several "terms" have also been added and they are as follows:

- ◆ No decorations are to be attached to the walls.
- ◆ If the dishwasher is used, please be sure it is emptied after the event.
- ◆ Please wash any dish towels that are used and return to the Clubhouse.

Also, please note that the maximum number of people using the Clubhouse is 100.

Keeping things up in the Clubhouse will ensure that it looks great and inviting for years to come. It's a wonderful facility and we encourage our residents to use it.

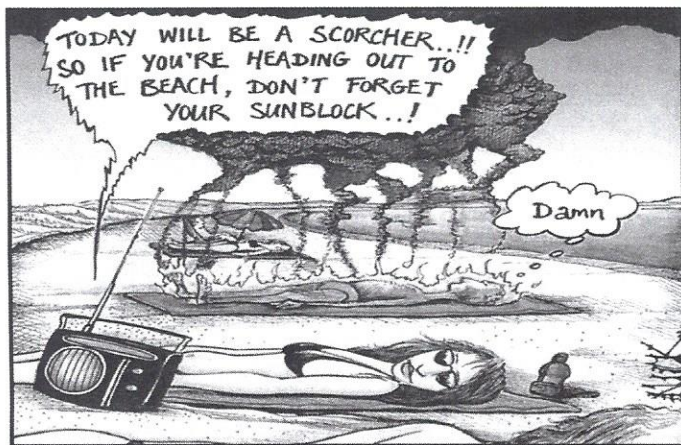
Thank you for your cooperation, and enjoy your day. We will be holding our 2nd Annual Paper Products drive in September. Watch for time and dates.

Clubhouse Bookings

- Sunday – August 14** Private Function
- Thursday – September 8** Paper Products Marathon
- Tuesday – October 18** The Village of Stone Ridge Version of "The Antiques Road Show"
- Saturday – October 29** Wine Tasting
- Saturday – November 5** 2nd Annual Arts and Crafts Festival

Social Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 24 - 7:00 pm at the Library



THE LAST WORD Heaven Help us

An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him "How do you expect to get into Heaven?"

The boy thought it over and said, "Well, I'll run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the door until St. Peter says, 'For Heaven's sake, Dylan, come in or stay out!'"

—Sent by Gabriella DiPrizio

PERKS OF BEING OVER 55

1. Kidnappers are not very interested in you.
2. In a hostage situation you are likely to be released first.
3. No one expects you to run - anywhere.
4. People call at 9 pm and ask "Did I wake you?"
5. No longer does anyone view you as a hypochondriac.
6. Things you buy now won't wear out.
7. You can eat dinner at 4 pm.
8. You no longer think of speed limits as a challenge.
9. You quit trying to hold your stomach in no matter who walks into the room.
10. You sing along with elevator music.
11. Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to pay off.
12. Your joints are more accurate meteorologists than the national weather service.
13. Your supply of brain cells is finally down to a manageable size.
14. You qualify to buy a condo in the Village at Stone Ridge.

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TRIVIA

Many years ago in England, pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim or handle of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill they used the whistle to get some service. "Wet your whistle" is the phrase inspired by this practice.

In Shakespear's time, many mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. Pulling on the ropes tightened the mattress making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase..... "goodnight, sleep tight."

The Quarry Bulletin is a monthly newsletter to keep you informed of any events and information for The Village at Stone Ridge. Contributor writers please send copy e-mail to: stoneridge14@comcast.net or direct mail to: 14 Stone Ridge, Westford, MA 01886.