

LABOR DAY COOKOUT

By Nancy Sharpe

What better way to cap off the summer than a VSR community Labor Day Cookout! The weather couldn't have been nicer – sunny, warm, and dry – making the patio tables very popular. The dinner bell rang shortly after 1:00 p.m., drawing a throng of folks to the buffet tables that were laden with delicious grill fare and a myriad of wonderful salads, side dishes, condiments, and later on, fabulous desserts. Thanks go out to master chefs Dom and Peter, and to all of the contributing Village cooks.

Among the 47 attendees there was much eating, socializing and catching up on everyone's summer events and travels. Congratulations to Joan Roy (right) who was the big winner of the 50/50 raffle. Her after tax winnings were not disclosed, but suffice it to say, her retirement is secure.

All in all it was a most enjoyable way to spend Labor Day. Kudos to Steve and Clara Currier and Dorothy Moran for their "labors" in organizing this successful event. As one person stated "Don't we put on a great party!"



Partygoers all enjoyed a beautiful day, tasty cookout food, and wonderful company.





LIBRARY NEWS

By Linda Anzivino



*"My best friend is a person who will give me a book
I have not read."*

Abraham Lincoln

Because we have some new neighbors in the Village, I thought it might be a good idea to review some things about the library:

- It is run on the honor system.
- You may take and read as many books as you want but please return them in a reasonable amount of time as a courtesy to others.
- Puzzles, cookbooks, books on tape (cassettes and CD's), DVD's, and children's books (only a few) are in the two bottom cabinets to the far right of the fireplace.
- Donations of recent new books are encouraged. There is a basket for them. Duplicates and overflow are given to the Fletcher Library, nursing homes, etc.

Now – a quiz! Who was the first author to sell over a million books on Amazon's kindle? The answer is found elsewhere in this bulletin.



Now, that's Italian!

NEW REGULATION SET BY TRUSTEES

The VSR Board of Trustees has put in place a new regulation (# 28) entitled "Providing Notice Regarding Sale of a Unit." Trustees also approved a notification form that will be sent to unit owners and on the web site.

Unit Owners must notify in writing, the Board of Trustees and the Management Company for the Village at Stone Ridge, within 5 days of placing their unit for sale. Additionally, once the sale of that Unit is completed, notification to the Management Company and the Village at Stone Ridge Trustees is required within 10 days prior to the date of closing, stating the name(s) and address of the new owner(s) in order to have the data form in their possession at the time of closing, as stated in Rule and Regulation # 27, "The Condominium Act".

Changes to the Directory

Please make the following changes to your new VSR Directory:

John and Judy Gilmartin

jagilmartin@verizon.net

Susan Neyman

sbneyman@gmail.com

Len and June Halio

len@halio.us june@halio.us

Karen Morton

karenmorton49@verizon.net

VSR RESIDENTS SERVING WESTFORD

By Tom Barry

After working in a volunteer capacity for over a year to develop the Westford Small Business Permitting Guide, four VSR residents have been appointed by the Westford Board of Selectmen to serve on the newly formed Economic Development Committee.



The Westford Board of Selectmen appointed Tom Barry, Ron Caterino, Eli Demetri, and Bill Nussbaum in July, along with two other Westford residents, as regular members of the Committee. In addition, three other Westford residents were appointed as alternate members, along with Jodi Ross, Westford Town Manager, Angus Jennings, Westford Director of Land Use Management, and Andrea Peraner-Sweet, Westford Board of Selectmen.

This Committee of twelve members, with Barry elected its Chairman at the first organizational meeting, is working already on four projects intended to promote the business environment in the Town of Westford so that potential businesses will see an economic advantage to opening their business in Westford.

The Committee has been broken up into four sub-groups of two to four members, each looking into four important aspects of business development:

- Economic Development Incentive Plans/Tax Incentive Financing for potential new business applicants;
- Zoning improvements in the Villages throughout Westford to insure conformance with logical zoning;
- Developing a good business database of the more than 600 existing Westford businesses;
- Researching the advantages of belonging to the regional Chambers of Commerce or initiating Westford's own Westford Business Association for a unified business voice in Westford.

On September 27th, the Westford Economic Development Committee sponsored a Westford booth at the Greater Lowell Chamber of Commerce Business Exposition that attracted over 1,000 attendees. Of particular interest by attendees were the Cornerstone Square development (238,000 sq ft), the Minot's Corner intersection redesign and construction, the Red Hat Office Expansion (100,000 sq ft), and the Bridges at Westford, a 48 unit Memory Care facility planned for the corner of Route 110 and South Chelmsford Road.

Needless to say, there are lots of exciting developments going on in Westford. The Westford Economic Development Committee will work to make sure new business development makes sense for Westford in order to maintain its rural character to the highest degree possible. We all live and love our beautiful Village and the town we live in. We would be happy to hear from you with your suggestions for logical business development to help maintain the proper character for Westford, and also to be mindful of the need to maintain a proper tax base.

GREENHOUSE LUNCHEON

By Joyce Minosh

Twenty ladies recently went to Groton to the Gilson Greenhouses for lunch in the greenhouse. Jodi, the owner, introduced us to about twenty different types of lettuces after which we grabbed our scissors and bowls and searched up and down the isles for the perfect combination of greens. A dressing of red basil, oil, and spices topped each delicious salad. We also were served carrot soup with lemon basil, strawberries, herb cookies, and delicious herbal lemonade. Everyone enjoyed the event and suggested that we do another in the middle of January and another in the spring to learn all about herbs. Watch for sign-ups.



The garden party was a feast for the senses.

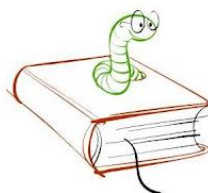
VSR BOOK CLUB NEWS

By Dianne Marston



Since we have some folks who are new to the Village, I'd like to describe the VSR Book Club. It is a group of people who gather together every six weeks for an afternoon of socializing and discussion of a chosen book. The Book Club does not require "membership." Instead, it is an opportunity for *anyone* who has read the book to come to a friendly setting, enjoy a snack, and listen to or participate in the discussion. There are "regulars" who come most of the time and who offer to bring refreshments and lead the discussions. There are also people who drop in when there is a book of interest. You are welcome to come once or twice a year or to each meeting, whatever works for you. In addition to this regular column, a flyer is posted on the mailroom bulletin board with the upcoming dates and books.

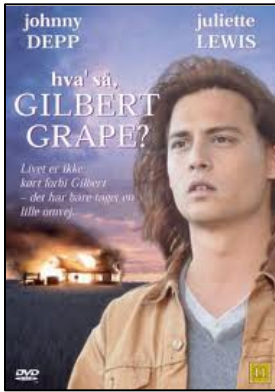
Our December 6 selection is *Jerusalem Maiden* by Talia Carner. "This is an exquisitely explosive journey back to the final days of the Ottoman Empire in Jerusalem. The author creates a portrait of a brilliant young artist trapped in the body and soul of an Orthodox Jewish girl. Carner's descriptions of life in Palestine and Paris convey the bleakness of thwarted ambition, the narrow mindset of fundamentalism, and the struggle between self-fulfillment and community expectation. It immerses us in a provocative and astonishingly realized world filled with evil spirits, arranged marriages, prayer, poverty, and the pain of breaking free." (Michelle Cameron, author of *The Fruit of Her Hands*)



GROOVY MOVIES

By Gail Sergenian

What's Eating Gilbert Grape?



Someone recently reminded us of the 1993 film “What’s Eating Gilbert Grape?” and we had to watch it again. It did not disappoint.

Young Gilbert Grape (Johnny Depp) has a lot to worry about. His mother (Darlene Cates) weighs over 500 pounds, so big she has neither left the house nor been able to get upstairs for years. Her husband’s suicide had left her devastated, and she sits on her sofa day in and day out. Gilbert’s younger brother, Arnie (Leonardo diCaprio) is mentally challenged, and needs almost constant attention to keep him safe. Because of his mother’s condition, that job falls to Gilbert, who also works to support his family at a grocery store that is failing, and does whatever repairs are needed on their dilapidated home. His two sisters similarly take on great responsibility, spending much of their time in the kitchen. Gilbert deals with his difficult life by carrying on an affair with a married woman (Mary Steenburgen). That is until a perky young woman named Becky (Juliette Lewis) drives into town, and a sweet new romantic relationship begins to develop.

This is not your typical family, but it is full of warmth and caring. Gilbert is gentle and loving with Arnie, and the family is devoted to their mother. She demonstrates her love for Arnie by leaving the house to speak to the police when he is arrested for climbing a water tower. At the end, the children make a dramatic choice to protect their mother from ridicule by their neighbors.

Darlene Cates was selected for her role as “Momma” after being seen on a Sally Jesse Raphael show about obese women who did not leave their homes. She really understood the character. I like the sympathetic way in which she was represented. I recently read that she has lost a great deal of weight and is thinking of returning to acting. She certainly showed promise in this film.

I could not take my eyes off the three young stars. They do a remarkable job, especially diCaprio, who is breathtaking as Arnie. He was nominated for an Academy Award and a Golden Globe Award for his portrayal. Johnny Depp and Juliette Lewis are also very fine. Whenever I see any of them in a film today, I remember them in “Grape.” The film is powerful and unforgettable.

Runner up: This is the sixtieth anniversary of “Singin’ in the Rain.” It is still a delight, and worth seeing again. Debbie Reynolds had not danced on film before this role, but she certainly keeps up with Gene Kelly and Donald O’Connor, which is quite a feat. Some call it the best musical ever made; it is definitely up there.

Seen any good DVD’s lately? Please let me know.

(Answer to Linda's library quiz: (Stieg Larsson)

VILLAGE TIPS

Restaurant Review

By Larry and Linda Anzivino

*Napa East
12 Murphy Drive
Nashua, NH*

Always exploring new and different restaurants in the area has brought us to a unique experience. **Napa East** is a recently opened restaurant only 10 minutes from home. The atmosphere tends toward Vegas just a bit with the style and décor of the seating. The booths are very contemporary with a burgundy vinyl material. Another option is to sit at the extremely long bar.

The Napa experience is found in choosing from over 100 bottles of Napa Valley wine. Since it's so close to home, we have made a number of visits, each time trying something different from the wide variety of items on the menu. You can order small plates or main plates, soup and/or salad. There are five choices of pizza. Or you can just order an assortment of artisan cheeses with sips of different wines. That's correct: "sips." You can order wine by the sip, half glass, full glass, or the bottle.

Some of the items we have enjoyed over our multiple visits are the Cal-Italian salad, clam chowder (with sherry and smoked bacon), French three-onion soup gratin, Kobe beef sliders, bacon-wrapped veal loin, pan-seared spice-rubbed duck breast, and Napa Valley pizza (really loved that pizza).

It was a new and enjoyable experience and we may be seeing a new trend in the way that they pour (dispense?) the wine. We're definitely headed back, and why not: Napa Valley with a Vegas touch, just 10 minutes from home and their new fall/winter menu beginning October 1. Though it's only a few minutes off of Route 3, Exit 4, you may want to use your GPS. Also, we suggest a call ahead for a reservation (603-595-9463). You may be surprised when pulling into its location in the middle of an industrial center. But then again, we said it's unique.

Communications Committee Notes

Have you checked out the VSR website <http://www.villageatstoneridge.com> lately? Webmaster Harriet Shanzer does a great job keeping it up to date and full of useful and entertaining items. You can find there the clubhouse calendar, notices and agendas of upcoming meetings, forms, documents, policies and important information, as well as many photos from VSR events and the Quarry Bulletin – in color!

If you have a problem or concern with your unit or VSR in general please call Great North Property Management at 603-891-1800 or 800-221-0210. If you don't receive a response within a couple of days, let one of the Trustees know.

VSR Italian Night was *Fantastico*

By Roni Hubbard

The Social Committee outdid themselves this year by organizing the best Italian night yet. The exquisite food came from Filho's Cucina in Groton and was served their two helpful waitresses. Appetizers were grilled shrimp, seafood stuffed mushrooms, and assorted calzones, followed by pasta salad, cucina antipasto, and meatball, sausage, and chicken pasta dishes. A yummy Italian cake from Mirabella's was the dessert.

The semi-professional Italian master of ceremonies was our own Lively Larry. Mr. Anzivino entertained us with jokes and special announcements and was the question man for a wild, rowdy contest on Italian knowledge cooked up by Joyce Minosh. Jack Bilodeau headed the winning table, and everyone at the table won scratch tickets. Gail Sergenian was the lucky 50/50 raffle winner.

Following the competition we were serenaded by the famous Three Italian Tenors (right), Dom DeFronzo, Larry Anzivino, and Tom Sangiolo, assisted by British baritone Dean Hubbard. The very talented Ruth Ann Dillon accompanied them on our new piano. Ruth Ann provided lyrics to the crowd and invited everyone to sing along.

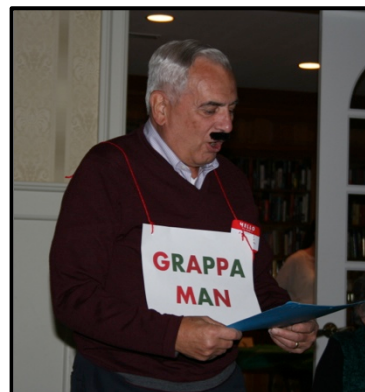


There were rousing rounds of applause when Larry announced the 54th anniversary of Irene and Roger Boucher (right) and the recent marriage of Louise O'Donnell and Frank Bashore. (left). Congratulations to the happy couples.



A crowd favorite was the introduction of Grappa Man Frank Minosh (right). Grappa Man brought samples for all and answered questions from the audience about the making of grappa. After tasting the grappa, someone at our table wanted to change Grappa Man's title to Gasoline Man, and Grappa Man's other Italian favorite, limoncello, went faster than the grappa.

All who attended expressed their appreciation to the Social Committee, our two servers from Filho's, Lively Larry, Ruth Ann Dillon, our Italian singers, and Grappa Man for a memorable evening.



FALL ACTIVITIES ARE STARTING UP – WHY DON'T YOU JOIN US?

Knitting



The knitters untangle their problems on Monday afternoons from 1-3.

Bridge



The bridge players test their skills on Wednesday afternoons at 2.

Aerobics



Elaine gets the exercise group going on Mondays at 8:30 and Wednesdays at 7:45.

Yoga



The yoga enthusiasts keep themselves fit and relaxed on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9.

Other activities: Friday Poker and Canasta at 6:30 and Social/Game Night at 7, and Village Meetings on the first Thursday of each month.

Social Committee News

New Year's Eve – Something New and Different!

The Social Committee is planning a delightful new event to celebrate the New Year. **On January 1st at 11:00 a.m.** there will be a Champagne Brunch. We can wish each other a Happy New Year and enjoy some delicious champagne along with sweet and savory treats. Watch for details and sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Won't you join us?

The Social Committee is looking for new members. We have a great team of folks who plan and execute fun events at the clubhouse. If you would like to join the committee, email Joyce Minosh at westfordconnect@aol.com or simply show up on the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the clubhouse. There are lots of tasks that need to be done, some big and some small, something for everyone. **We are also looking for someone to lead this talented group of ladies. Step right up – it will be fun!**



Larry explains the Italian gesture game (below). You had to be there to appreciate!



Upcoming Village Events

November 17 – Karaoke with Skip Giles

November 23 to December 16 – Toys for Tots in the lobby

December 1 – Holiday Party with Phyllis Duggan's band and a performance by our own Village Chorus led by Donn and Susan Hill and Ruth Ann Dillon

December 18th – Caroling in the Village

January 1 – Welcome the New Year, 11:00 a.m.

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This month's photographs are by Roni Hubbard, Joyce Minosh, Carlene Craib, and Ruthann Dillon.

The Quarry Bulletin is a bi-monthly newsletter to keep you informed about events and information for The Village at Stone Ridge. Contributing writers please send copy to ccraib@comcast.net.

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