

Quarry Bulletin

July - August 2023



A Message from our President... ~submitted by Marsha Wyman

During the past 17 months I have been President of The Village at Stone Ridge I have had the privilege of working with unit owners on multiple Issues.



Here are some of my thoughts. I am so impressed by the amount of time, energy, and expertise our residents contribute to all of our committees. Some of our volunteers have been on our committees for several years. I am so grateful for your giving of your time and want to say, "Thank you."

In the Village neighbors care about their neighbors and offer assistance whenever it is needed. We are a welcoming community to new residents. Also, we like are social functions and are always waiting for the signup sheet to go in the mailroom.

I look forward to my last year as a Trustee and will miss my best resource Sandy Kelly whose terms ends next month. Sandy has been my biggest resource when I had a question or needed advice.

Meet Fabulous Freddie the Flying Frog



Who can frequently be found in Nancy Till's birdhouse!

Save the Date! Wednesday October 4th @ 7pm

The Environmental Resource Group is sponsoring a presentation at the Club House on Heat Pumps. It will include a panel of VSR residents who have already installed heat pumps, and who will share their experiences with installation and the performance of the systems.

A representative from Westford Climate Action will be invited to explain the basics of how heat pumps work. As usual, there will be time for questions and refreshments.

Meet Our Candidate for VSR Trustee Mark Roberts

I wanted to introduce myself and let my neighbors know that I have accepted the nomination for the open position on the Board of Trustees at the Village at Stone Ridge. Some of you may know me from my performance "co-starring" with Jimmy Mazz back in



Jean and I moved into the Village at Stone Ridge in October 2021

after living in Chelmsford for over 35 years. This is our first experience living in a home association type community. We are very happy with our choice of moving to the Village. We have found the people welcoming, helpful and friendly. I was born and raised in Braintree, MA and moved to Chelmsford in 1986. I graduated from Quinnipiac University in Hamden CT in 1976 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. Jean and I have two grown children: Liane and Michael. Two granddaughters; Riley age 6 and Allie 4.

I retired from Raytheon in Tewksbury in 2014. I held various managerial positions during my 36 year career, mostly within the quality assurance organization. My focus was on quality compliance and procedure writing. I am familiar with establishing and working within budgets and managing large employee departments.

I am currently a member of the Property Committee and have learned quite a bit about the functioning of the village even though Jean and I have not lived here for a long period of time. I believe the responsibility of a member of the board is to maintain the village as it is, meaning a well-organized well run, and comfortable living environment for all the residents, while also planning for future improvements and ensuring changes to the village suit our needs and comforts. There are several well-run committees here at the village and my hope as a board member is to work with them in any way I can. I am looking forward to working within the structure established at VSR to the best of my ability in an effort to make living here a continued positive experience.

Thank You, Mark Roberts



Mark helps Jimmy Mazz entertain us and he already has experience on our grill!

Beach Party Fun... Social Committee planned a fun beach theme event in July.



As always, good food, good friends and good times. Thank you to Stephanie Tocci and Debbie Rorke our Social Committee Chairs.

And another very successful annual **Pizza** at the **Pond** gathering... The weather accommodated the largest group yet for our third visit!



Origin Story – Part 3 ~submitted by Carlene Craib



A very important, and huge undertaking in the formative years of VSR, was the establishment of its Rules and Regulations. I asked Eli Demetri who was on the original Legal Committee, the group who formulated the original *Rules and Regulations* document, to comment on their work. Here is his report and following that a little quiz to see how up you are on our Rules. Answers are at the end of the Bulletin. Miss a few? Maybe a reread is in order. ©

LEGAL COMMITTEE ~submitted by Eli Demetri



The Legal Committee was one of several formed in the process of transitioning the operating control of VSR from the developers to the Unit Owners. The transition process consisted of replacing the Board membership from the developers to elected representatives of the Unit Owners. The function of the Legal Committee, especially in the early stages, was to define and formalize the guidelines to be followed in governing the operation of the VSR Association. In resolving the more complex matters the Committee worked closely with the VSR attorney.

One of the main activities of the Legal Committee was to develop a comprehensive set of Rules & Regulations to be submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval. These defined in detail what activities are allowed/disallowed in the VSR neighborhood. The Committee meetings conducted to establish these Rules & Regs involved many "vigorous" discussions with no bruises or bloody noses to speak of. The current version is the evolution of the original set, modified over the years to address new issues as they occurred.

Another important activity of the Legal Committee was to work with the ASR Committee in handling Unit Owner requests for modifications to the exterior of their units. The Legal Committee assisted ASR in developing specifications of allowable modifications and the appropriate documentation. The required documentation consisted of standardized forms for defining the requested modifications and any legal forms required for filing with the Registry of Deeds.

Over the years as VSR has matured (okay, grown old) the activities of the Legal Committee have dwindled to occasional requests from the Board of Trustees to review specific cases as they occur. As a result, the Legal Committee has de facto disbanded and ridden off into the sunset.

Test your knowledge by taking the Rules and Regulations Quiz from Carlene on the next page.

Rules and Regulations Quiz

True or False:

- 1. _____The fine for a violation of the Rules and Regulations is \$10.
- 2. ____Charcoal grills are allowed in VSR as long as they are not on a deck.
- 3. ____Catch and release fishing is allowed in the quarry.
- 4. ____Children under 18 are not allowed in the clubhouse gym.
- 5. _____If your grinder pump alarm goes off call the Water and Sewer Committee Chair.
- 6. ____You may park a boat in your driveway with the permission of the Board of Trustees
- 7. ____Homeowners may plant annuals, bulbs, and perennials around their unit without permission of the Landscape Committee.
- 8. ____Lawn sprinklers allowed in the Village.
- 9. ____Generator installations must be registered with the Middlesex Registry of Deeds.
- 10. ____You are allowed to have a storage pod in your driveway for a short period of time.

Multiple Choice:

___The speed limit in the Village is:

- a. 25 mph
- b. 20 mph
- c. 15 mph

_Christmas decorations must be removed

- a. Immediately after the holiday
- b. Within 4 weeks of the holiday
- c. At the homeowner's discretion

_____Which of the following modifications must be registered at the Registry of Deeds?

- a. Awnings
- b. Finishing of basements
- c. Porch railings

_Unit owners are allowed to keep

- a. One pet
- b. Two pets
- c. Three pets

Dining Out.... ~ submitted by Paul Currier



Dining Out - Mangia Mangia Italian Kitchen

Jayne & I discovered Mangia, Mangia several years ago. It's a short distance from the village, located in Billerica center across from the town common. It's not a big restaurant. There're about 10 booths, with half a dozen tables. Each dining table has a checkered tablecloth. You feel like you're having dinner with an Italian family.

The restaurant may be small, but the menu is not. You can get salads, pizza, subs, calzone, panini, seafood, veal, and of course the traditional homestyle Italian dishes. We've tried almost everything on the menu. We love their pizza's. Their subs are awesome and the Italian pasta entrees are delicious. We also like their salads. The spinach & goal cheese salad is one of our favorites. Their calamari are great. They serve bread with their meals so don't overload on bruschetta or garlic bread which is easy to do. Trust me!

For entrees we've enjoyed their shrimp scampi, chicken parm, eggplant parm, chicken Augustino and chicken verdicchio.

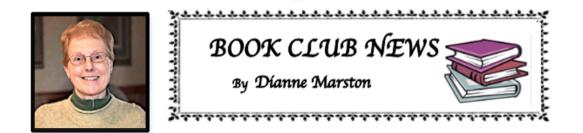
Another tidbit, the portions are generous. You will have another meal to bring home. You should leave room for dessert. You are in for a treat. They are fantastic. I blow up my weight watcher points for an entire week after our Mangia Mangia excursions.

Wine & beer are offered, no cocktails. Reservations are for 6 or more. We've waited up to 30 minutes during busy dinner hours. Early week days are less hectic. Enjoy... and when you go, don't forget, *Mangia Mangia!!*

Thank you to Paul for another great Restaurant Review Column.

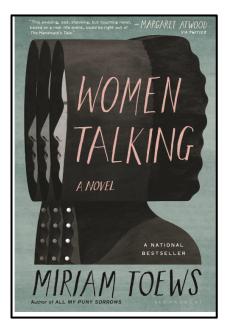


Mangia Mangia is located at 430 Boston Road in Billerica. They are open Mon - Thursday 11:30-8:30 pm. Fri & Sat 11:30- 9:00 pm and Sunday 12:00-8:00 pm.



Our VSR Book Club has continued to meet in the Clubhouse. If you would like to join us, our refreshments and socializing begin at 1:00, followed by our book discussion in the clubhouse library at 1:30.

Our next meeting will be on September 28. The book to be discussed is <u>Women Talking</u> by Miriam Toews. "Published in 2018, this is the seventh novel by Canadian writer <u>Miriam Toews</u>. Toews describes her novel as 'an imagined response to real events,' the <u>gas-facilitated rapes</u> that took place on the <u>Manitoba Colony</u>, a remote and isolated Menonite community in Bolivia: Between 2005 and 2009, over a hundred girls and women in the colony woke up to discover that they had been raped in their sleep. These nighttime attacks were denied or dismissed by colony elders until finally it was revealed that a group of men from the colony were spraying an animal anesthetic into their victims' houses to render them unconscious. Toews' novel centers on the *[Wikipedia]*





The November 2 meeting will feature <u>Dava Shastri's Last</u> <u>Day</u> by Kirthana Ramisetti. An Amazon Best Book of December 2021: "When Dava Shastri, a self-made billionaire and philanthropist learns she has terminal cancer, she decides to leak the news of her death to the media so she can, once and for all, know what the world thinks of her. The problem? It's not what her, or her four grown children, expect. Big-hearted, laugh-out-loud, and rife with complicated family dynamics, Dava Shastri's Last Day asks all sorts of interesting questions about celebrity culture, how society values women, the legacies we leave behind, and how we love. It's a lot of fun to read and so much fun to talk about." —*Al Woodworth, Amazon Editor*

A reminder that all newcomers are welcome to attend and join the group.

When you use the Exercise Room

SAVE US MONEY Before you leave

PLEASE CHECK

Did you wipe down your equipment? Are the fans and lights turned OFF?

Thermostat settings:

Is the Heat ON and set down to 60 in the winter? Is the A/C set to OFF in the summer? Is the FAN AUTO-ON switch placed in AUTO?

Also, please dispose of all trash. Thank you

Quiz Answers

True or False 1-F, 2-F, 3-T, 4-T, 5-F, 6-F, 7-T, 8-F, 9-T, 10-T

Multiple Choice 1-C, 2-B, 3-A, 4-B

Upcoming Events

- September 7 Candidate's Night. – 7 pm
- September 11 6 pm Social Committee September 20 – 7 pm Finance Committee September 21 – 10:30 am Property Committee
- September 27 Country Western Night – 6 pm
- September 28 Book Group 1pm
- September 28 Annual Meeting – 7 pm
- October 4 7 pm Come learn about Heat Pumps

Did You Know?

Polystyrene is slow to degrade, and if disposed of improperly, the foam can leach chemicals into the environment harming water sources. Have you found it difficult to dispose of large styrofoam items? A Styrofoam Collection, sponsored by First Parish Church United, is being held Sat. Oct. 21 9:00 - 2:00 at Westford Highway Dept. 26 North St. NOT ACCEPTED are styrofoam food and drinking containers, meat trays, and packing peanuts.

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The Quarry Bulletin is a bi-monthly newsletter to help keep you informed about events and information at The Village at Stone Ridge.

All are invited to mail articles and photos of interest to our neighbors for consideration. <u>quarrybulletin@gmail.com</u>

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Check our calendar for upcoming events at villageatstoneridge.com