

VILLAGE VIEW

A Newsletter for the Residents and Friends of the Villages at Marlborough East

Volume 8, Number 4
October 2019

The Villages at
Marlborough East
Marlborough, MA 01752

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The copy deadline for the
December issue is November
10th.

Note to Captains:

For your non-internet residents that need to have a printed version, copies of all Board, Newsletter and Dartmouth mailings are available for pick up from the porch at 92 Westminster. Materials are available for a week after distribution. Of course, captains may also print copies themselves.

Open Meeting is October 22nd

The October 22nd Villages Open Meeting will be at the Marlborough Country Club (Patio Room: gather at 6:30; meeting at 7:00). The purpose of this meeting is the election of three (3) members to the Board of Governors and to conduct other such business as may be lawfully conducted.

Of the three positions on the Board of Governors; two have a term of two years and one has a term of one year.

Complete the nomination form and return it to Teresa Barrera, Portfolio Assistant, by October 1 so that your name may be included on the ballot. The nomination forms can be emailed to tbarrera@thedartmouthgroup.com, faxed to 781-533-7106 or mailed to Teresa Barrera, The Dartmouth Group, 4 Preston Court, Suite 101, Bedford MA 01730.

The formal announcement, with proxy documentation, agenda and location details will be sent prior to the meeting.

Refer questions to Teresa Barrera at 781-533-7206 or Gina DeFrancesco at 781-533-7248.

Board Updates

Board continues to discuss roofs replacement

Working with Bob McBride and Gina DeFrancesco of the Dartmouth Management Group and BES, an engineering firm, the Board is continuing to review options for the replacement of the roofs at the Villages. This is a lengthy process; there are many details about the scope of the job still to be resolved.

Any work on the roofs would not take place before Spring 2020. A general meeting (separate from the Open Meeting on October 22nd) will be held this fall for all residents in order to provide full information on the roof plans and the costs. The Board assures residents, then when roofing figures are final, they will offer various financial payment options.

Continued on page seven



Meet one-year-old Regalo, who charmed 14 villagers on the recent trip to the Harvard Alpaca Farm. He is being trained to be a Therapy Pal. See page five for more photos.

Food Pantry Collection Thursday, October 24th

Villagers are invited to donate to the local Food Pantry. Although the pantry welcomes all types of donations, the special need at this time is for condiments, cooking oils, personal care items (shampoos, soap, lotions), paper towels, toilet paper, diapers and .. surprisingly ... pepper. Within the food categories, canned meals such as Beefaroni or ravioli are appreciated.

Please have your donations on your front porch before 9:00 AM on October 24th for our volunteer team to pick up.



Barbara is third from the left in the front row.

Singers: Join the Golden Tones

I am a long time member of the Golden Tones Chorus. The chorus is made up of retired residents of the Metro West area. We rehearse at the Wayland town center 41 Cochituate Rd, at the corner of routes 20 and 27 on Tuesday mornings, at 10:15. There are no auditions to joining the chorus; all one needs is to love to sing. Members do not have to read music but of course it helps. We perform almost exclusively on Friday afternoons but attendance at concerts is not mandatory. Come when you can. If you love to sing and are interested in being a part of this vital organization, call or email me at 508-460-0233 or barbasutherland123@comcast.com. Or if you have any questions, I'll be happy to answer them. Barbara Sutherland

Captain's Corner

- I would like to suggest that residents keep their back lights on at night for safety. **(Note:** *Although the Rules and Regulations do not address back lights, it's not a bad idea to leave them on at night. Marlborough has had a number of break ins recently [thankfully not at the Villages]. Having outside lights on at night deters burglars.*)

- I wish we had a better way of knowing when a resident has moved away (e.g., to assisted living). It seems like a number of units are becoming available, but I don't know where my neighbor went. And we have new residents, but I don't know who they are. **(Note** *The Village View would be pleased to run information about Village transitions. Unfortunately, we don't have access to this news either. Please contact the View with information about what's happening in your Village. Although there may be some privacy factors to honor, we will endeavor to better inform residents about changes at the Villages.*)

- At the recent Labor Day Picnic, Nancy Hoffer spoke to several residents about how wonderful the Marlborough Fire Department is to the Villages (often here several times a week). She suggested that we gather donations and buy something for our local Station 3. Picnic attendees warmed to the idea. However, as it turns out, the City Of Marlborough does not allow their fire station staff to accept gifts from residents. A nice idea, but it cannot be done.

Vendor List to be Updated

An updated version of the Village Vendor list will be distributed with the next issue of the Village View. This is a list of reliable local services that residents have used and recommend. If you have used a vendor that you would like to recommend, send the name, location and phone number to Linda (page three) for inclusion in the next list.



Holiday Social

Marlborough Country Club

Sunday, December 8th

Reception at 4:00 PM • Dinner at 5:00 PM • \$46 per person

*Cash bar from 4:00 to 5:00 • Appetizers: cheese/crackers**



*Buffet Dinner (Roasted Sirloin Tips w/Bernaise sauce;
Herb Roasted Chicken Statler, North Atlantic Salmon w/Lemon dill sauce)
Meal includes three entrees, salad, vegetables, dessert, coffee/tea*

Reserve with Linda by November 30* (92 Westminster Drive)

You may pay with cash or check (made out to Linda Hilliard)

*As always, please do not arrive before 4:00 as the Country Club
and Activities Team need time to set up.*

** We are seeking sponsors to help defray the cost of the Cheese Tray.
(Cheese sponsorships are voluntary and there is NO EXPECTATION of residents paying extra)*

Upcoming Activities

Holiday Concert on December 15th

Resident Maureen Letendre is a member of the Greater Milford Community Chorus, which will be presenting their annual holiday concerts this December. Their schedule of four shows includes a matinee at 1:30 PM on Sunday, December 15th. Concerts are held at the Milford Town Hall.

Several Village residents had the pleasure of hearing the 46-member chorale group's spring concert and agreed "It was fabulous."

Maureen says this year's holiday show will be a fun mix of traditional holiday music and songs that may be new to your holiday play list. In addition to the concert, there are raffles, home-made snacks and great camaraderie!

Tickets are \$10. Feel free to invite friends, family, colleagues. Contact Linda by November 20 if interested. She will get the tickets and arrange carpools. Or you can order your own tickets at www.greatermilfordcommunitychorus.org.

American Heritage Museum opens

Opening this past May, The American Heritage Museum in Hudson features over 20 exhibits from the Revolu-



tionary War to current times. The Museum has a massive collection of tanks, armored vehicles and military artifacts. Visitors will see the changing technology, and the human impact of America's fight to preserve freedom. Those who have been to the Museum (568 Main Street, Hudson) say that it is fascinating.

If there is enough interest, we will organize a trip to the Museum on Friday, October 18th (or 25th). Senior and vet tickets are \$18. If 10 or more people sign up, we could arrange a private tour mid week. Speak to Linda if interested.

Activities, Directory/Vendor list

Unless otherwise noted, contact Linda Hilliard at 508-251-2593 or linda@hilliardcommunications.com.

Labor Day Picnic



The Annual Labor Day picnic was a great success (as always). Due to concerns about the EEE Virus, the picnic started early (at 3:00) and ended early (before dusk). The consensus was that the food was exceptionally good this year (and bountiful).

As always thanks to those who helped with set up and clean up, to Terri and Len Salafia who had their garage ready to set up in the event of rain and to Marjorie Lee (above left) who took these photos.

Monthly Activities

- **Diner's Club:** The Wednesday, October 16, 5:00 pm Diner's Club will be at La Tapitia (at the entrance to the Villages). Please contact Judy Solari.* November 13th Diners Club will at the Olive Garden on the roadway to Solomon Pond Mall.

- **Game Night:** The Wednesday, October 23rd, Game Night (Bingo) will be hosted by Rose Durkin (38 Westminster Drive) starting at 7:00 pm. Call Rose at 508-251-0063. Don't forget to bring a wrapped gift that can be used as a prize. **Note:** *This is a host switch from previous announcements.*

Tuesday, November 19th Game Night will be hosted by Carolyn Young. Pam and Paul Giunta will host in January.

- **The Knitting Club** (the Knitwits) meets the first and third Friday of each month from 1:30 to 3:30 pm. Contact Judy Solari.*

*Judy Solari at 508-480-8207 or judithsolari63@gmail.com

The Villages Bookclub planning meeting took place on September 11th at the home of Jane Vodoklys. Choices of books for the new season were completed and the group got off to a great start.

- October's book is **Grandma Gatewood's Walk** by Ben Montgomery. This is the inspiring story of a 67-year-old great grandmother who was the first woman to hike the 2,168 mile Appalachian Trail in 1955. At age 71 she hiked the 2000 mile Oregon Trail. The meeting will be at the home of Rosemary Donoghue (52 Village Drive) .

- November's pick is **A Moveable Feast** by Ernest Hemingway. It is a memoir about the author's time in Paris during the 20's as a struggling journalist. The meeting will be at the home of Marie Alice Gately (12 Village Drive).

We are always eager to bring in new Book Club members. If you might like to participate, please contact: Arthur Skura, skuraarthur@yahoo.com 508-481-3882 or Barbara Pemberton, Barbbill51@aol.com 508-460-2077

Trip to the Harvard Alpaca Farm: “Fun!”

Fourteen residents enjoyed the Harvard Alpaca Farm outing on September 6th. Thanks to Lorna Taylor for organizing and to Lorna and Marjorie Lee for taking photos.



Don't Act Your Age!!!

Many of us certainly don't want to look old. However, it's even more important to not ACT old. Acting old is less about age and more about acting in a way that makes people shake their heads and think, "Shoot me if I ever act like that when I get old!"

Here are some don'ts and do's on how to avoid making a spectacle of yourself as you fall into old age.

DON'Ts:

- **Don't wait until you get up to the checker at the grocery store** to fish around for your wallet or your checkbook. If you are writing a check, your checkbook should be in hand. Better yet, use your debit card or pay cash. Speaking of cash, DON'T count out exact change if you have to fumble around in a teeny-tiny change purse as fellow grocery shoppers tap their feet behind you.

- **Don't show your ignorance about computers.** It's one thing to choose not to use computers or the Internet, but if you don't know anything about computers, don't flaunt it. Throwing up your hands and saying to people: "I don't know anything about those computers," as if your lack of knowledge is a badge of honor, not only shows everyone you are old, but kind of dated.

- **Don't drive like an old person.** That means driving in the left lane and staying there no mat-

ter what, leaving your blinker on, driving the speed limit to make sure everyone else does too and being clueless about what is going on around you. If you do any of those things, you shouldn't be surprised when you hear the sound of a horn.

- **Don't use your medical issues as a topic of conversation.** It's no fun to have to deal with some of the physical ailments that accompany getting older and a little sympathy is nice. But unfortunately, no one really wants to hear about them.

- **Don't fall victim to a scam.** To avoid phone scams, don't answer the phone if you don't recognize the phone number and if you don't have caller ID, get it.

- **Don't play the age card.** "Well, I've been around the block a time or two and I think I know a bit more about that topic than you do." No one cares what you think, no one likes a know-it-all, and they are going to do what they want anyway. And why remind everyone that you are old?

- **Don't... go gentle into that good night.** Poet Dylan Thomas had it right. Never give up no matter how old you are or how bad things might get. No matter what life throws at you, keep going. You did that when you were young; why not keep doing it now?

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Shell Renovations and Seasons Corner Store

Both the Rte 20 Shell station (at the base of our hill) and the Lincoln Street location are in the process of being remodeled. In addition to expanding the pumps, Shell will be installing a Seasons Corner Market.

There are currently more than 30 Seasons markets in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire. Shell's corner market concept began in 2012. According to their website, "First we had to select a name that expressed the feeling of New England. Season Corner Market said it all. It spoke to colorful falls, blustery winters, wet springs and hot summers. We're a corner market because we carry fresh and premium local produce. We're always fast, fresh and friendly!"

Seasons Corner Market provides a neighborhood convenience store shopping experience. Not only will "you feel safe and comfortable in each store, but we know you will be pleasantly surprised with all of the premium amenities we have to offer! We take great pride in keeping each location clean and organized. We are proud that we can provide you with so many high quality products and services because of the strong relationships we've built with many exceptional local companies. The store will have produce specials and fuel reward."

Seasons Corner Market markets in other locations have demonstrated a community involvement (e.g., some of their shops have raised funds for Tufts Floating Hospital for Children, Hasbro's Children's Hospital, as well as Boots on the Ground Heroes Memorial).

For more details and store visuals, check out the Shell Season Corner Market website at www.seasonscornermarket.com

Deadline is October 1st!

Further Update on Furnace Offer from MassSave

Editor's Note: As noted in the last Village View, seven (now eight) residents have expressed interest in a new MassSave Multi-Family program in which MassSave would work with utilities to facilitate upgrading heating and air conditioning equipment. MassSave would also streamline the process in applying for the heat loan, as well as the rebates that would be associated with installing the new equipment.

Over the past few years, a growing number of Village residents have been installing new heating and AC units. This is because most of the units in the Villages were installed 20 years ago and are now far beyond their anticipated life spans. With this new program, residents can use any MassSave-approved Furnace and AC installer they wish (a list of those installers is available from MassSave).

This letter is from Patrick Raftery, General Manager of Middlesex Cooling & Heating. Middlesex has installed a large number of units at the Villages.

Raftery wrote that Middlesex is currently installing Heat and AC systems at the Villages for \$10,975. According to MassSave, there is a \$1,000 rebate available on the furnace. (There is also a higher priced furnace that receives a \$1,250 rebate.) For the AC, there is a \$50 rebate per ton (\$100 for a two-ton system). Additionally, according to Raftery, residents can deduct \$350 for payments other than credit cards. Raftery added that he expects a price increase on October 1st.

If you want to proceed with this MassSave program, call Michael Seder 508-768-7912 of MassSave to set up a time for him to visit your unit and provide the paperwork you need. This needs to be done before installation.

For general questions, contact Board Chair Dale Dolesh daledolesh@gmail.com or 248-240-361

Board Updates *Continued from page one*

Resident Directory to be Updated

The 2019/2020 Villages Resident Directory will be updated after the October 22nd Open Meeting and elections. Residents who have directory changes (new phone numbers, new email addresses and so forth), should send their information to Linda Hilliard (contact info on page three)

Road repairs begin next week

This week, ARR-MAX Road Repair will be dropping off their equipment in the visitor spots at the top of the hill. Work will begin in the lower villages on Monday, September 30th starting at 8:00 AM.

Driveways that are getting repairs will be notified by Dartmouth. (Note: Not all driveways need repairs.) Residents may have to park in visitors' spots, the right side of Village Drive or on the side of their Village while their driveways are being repaired. Do not park in the circles overnight. ARR-MAX will be working here several weeks. Residents are asked to be patient.

Residents: Dartmouth Needs to Hear From You

Villagers are reminded that our management company, The Dartmouth Company maintains an emergency contact list for all residents at the Villages. This is a confidential list - used only in the event of emergencies at the Villages. The form is attached to this newsletter. **If you have not filled a form previously, please do so.** Print copies of the form will be on the porch at 92 Westminster.

Board Hires J&J & Sons for Landscaping and Snow Removal

Effective November 1st, the Villages landscaping and snow removal will be done by J&J Sons Landscaping of Marlborough.

After reviewing bids from three landscaping firms (including Rosado Landscaping, which has been with the Villages for several years), the Board felt that J&J would best serve our Association. The Board did due diligence visiting vendors and their other client sites. The Board feels that with J&J, we will receive high quality service - at a slightly lower price than we had paid previously.

Note: Residents are reminded that it may take J&J at least two seasons to get acclimated to the property and to be patient during this learning curve.

About J&J

J & J & Son Lawncare is based on Maple Street in Marlborough. They offer a wide array of services including but not limited to Fertilization, Aeration, Irrigation, Mulching, Spring/Fall Clean Ups, Mowing, Pruning, Masonry, Landscape Construction, Hydro-Seeding, Commercial Plowing/Salt-ing.

They note: "Customer satisfaction is important to us. We provide the same level of attention to detail no matter the size of the job. We look forward to working with you."

Pump Station Update

Bob Cucchi has spoken with the city about the status of the Pump Station repairs at the entrance to the Villages.

He was told that the delay in the job has been caused by National Grid supplying power to the new station. The City expects National Grid to take care of the power this week.

Then the plan is to start paving within two weeks, followed by the landscaping. The target date is mid to late October but there are no guarantees.

2019 Board Meeting Schedule

All meetings are scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Tuesdays except when there is an Open Meeting (OM) in October; then the Board meetings will start at 3:00 p.m.
September 24 October 22

Contacts

Management Company

The Dartmouth Group
4 Preston Court, Bedford, MA 01730
(781) 275-3133* • info@thedartmouthgroup.com
(*use for emergencies after hours)

Gina DeFrancesco, Portfolio Manager
gdefrancesco@thedartmouthgroup.com
781-533-7248

Teresa Barrera, Portfolio Assistant
TBarrera@thedartmouthgroup.com
781-533-7206

If an emergency and no answer,
dial zero and your call will be redirected.

Board of Governors

Dale Dolesh, President	248-240-3615	daledolesh@gmail.com
Wayne Chang, Vice President	508-630-8729	wwchangkar@gmail.com
Bob Cucchi, Treasurer	508-786-0473	cucchibob@yahoo.com
Nancy Hoffer, Clerk	508-251-2538	nhoffer@verizon.net
Jimmy Johnson, At Large	508-481-0752	jj01231951@gmail.com

Village Captains

Canterbury	Ellie Harris	508-624-8844
	Joanne Kane	508-358-2052
Chatham	Carol Dragstedt	508-935-6443
Cotswald	Cheryl Skura	508-481-3882
Essex	Paula Adelson	508-485-1030
Gloucester	Rose Durkin	508-251-0063
Oxford	Terry Salafia	508-251-2753
	Lorna Taylor	508-251-1375
Staffordshire	Kay Cucchi	508-786-0473
Stonehenge	Barb Pemberton	508-460-2077
Westminster	Nancy & Joe Johnston	508-251-0049
Yorkshire	MaryEllen Russell	508-485-4624

Activities/Newsletter Contact

To sign up for the activities or for questions about the newsletter or vendor list, contact Linda Hilliard, 92 Westminster, at 508-251-2593 or linda@hilliardcommunications.com.

Activities Team: Rita Barnett, Rose Durkin, Vera Gazza, Ellie Harris, Linda Hilliard, Debbie Jones, Libby Levinson, Barbara Pemberton, Cheryl Skura, Judy Solari, Lorna Taylor, Carolyn Young

Act Your Age

Continued from page five

DOs

• **Do keep current.** Know what is going on in the world, in your town, in politics, music, fashion, restaurants...you may be retired from your job but you haven't retired from life.

• **Do volunteer.** Helping others is also helping yourself because it is a life affirming activity. Doing something for other people through volunteering reminds you that you are still a valuable part of the human race.

• **Do hang out with young people.** They keep us young. Don't just stick with people your own age. Spending time with the younger generation will make you realize that you may be old physically but you are still relevant.

Getting old is an inevitability, but it doesn't mean we need to give up on ourselves. If we are still alive and relevant and happy, maybe no one will notice that we are old! DO enjoy yourself! You have earned it!

Services

Cat Sitting Service

Stacey Jones (508-624-7171) offers a cat sitting service (day, weeks or whatever). She will check in on your pet twice a day, feed and clean litter.

Notary

Libby Levinson of 47 Village Drive provides notary services. Libby can be reached at 508-877-4515.

Have a Service to Offer?

If you have an expertise that can help fellow residents, be included in this listing.

*****THE VILLAGES AT MARLBOROUGH EAST CONDOMINIUM TRUST*****

All information reported will be kept in strict confidence and is for association records only.

This form must be returned to The Dartmouth Group, 4 Preston Court, Suite 101, Bedford, MA 01730-2356

****UNIT INFORMATION FORM****

Unit Address: _____

NAME OF ALL PERSONS LISTED ON DEED: (1) _____

(2) _____

(1) Tel #: W: _____ H: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

(2) Tel #: W: _____ H: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

Number of people living in the unit: Total: _____ Adults: _____ Children: _____

Mailing Address of Persons listed on deed (if different from unit address):

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

(Initial below if applicable)

I have not received a copy of the Condominium Rules and Regulations and would like one sent to me.

EMERGENCY CONTACT/AGENT (someone other than yourself):

Name: _____ (Home #) _____ (Cell#) _____ (Work #) _____

Address: _____
Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Do you have a Knox box (lock box with keys) on your door? If so, please provide code _____ (for emergencies only)

Does this person have a key to your unit? Yes ☐ No ☐

Is this person authorized to order maintenance/repairs? Yes ☐ No ☐

IF UNIT IS LEASED, PLEASE COMPLETE TENANT INFORMATION AND ATTACH A COPY OF THE LEASE:

Resident (1) _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

Resident (2) _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

Home # _____ Lease Expiration Date: _____

****Please provide a copy of your current signed lease to The Dartmouth Group.****

VEHICLE INFORMATION (Include all occupant's vehicles. List additional vehicles on back or on separate sheet of paper.)

Resident Vehicle #1
Make, Color, Model, Year, License Plate #, State

Resident Vehicle #2
Make, Color, Model, Year, License Plate #, State

Resident Vehicle #3
Make, Color, Model, Year, License Plate #, State

Signature of Unit Owner _____

Date _____