

WEST TISBURY

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We were surprised by thunder and sharp lighting along with the heavy rain last Saturday night. This has been a winter to remember although we have not had the snow that other towns in the commonwealth have had.

Rufus Peebles, chairman and keeper of the togas, wants to remind all registered Democrats that the town Democratic committee meets tomorrow at the Howes House at 10:30 a.m. to reorganize and select two delegates and alternates to the state convention in June.

Cathy Minkiewicz reports that the garden club has two suggestions for getting over the winter blahs — the bus trip to the New England Flower Show in Boston on March 17, arranged by Sandy at the Tisbury Council on Aging (508-696-4205).

Sal Laterra, of Providence, R.I., will be the guest of Phyllis Meras this weekend. He plans to take her out to dinner for Valentine's Day on Monday night.

Paul Karasik returned last week from this year's comics festival in Angouleme, France. He arrived a week before the actual festival began to teach at the Masters in Comics program at the European School of Visual Arts.

Colleen Morris over at the library invites you to the weekly library movie on Valentine's Day at 7 p.m. Dr. Strangelove is the film, but when you have an opportunity to go to a movie with Colleen, who cares what the title is!

The third and fourth grade students at the public charter school will be performing at the Vineyard Playhouse on Saturday, at 3 and 7 p.m. as part of the wonderful Fourth Grade Theatre Project.

The PTO reports that family pizza and bingo night will be tonight from 6 to 8 p.m. in the school gym. It should be a fun event for all. A \$10 donation for each family includes dinner and bingo. The bring-your-parents to lunch event saw an overwhelmingly positive response. Now the school is planning to try bring-your-parents to lunch week, since most parents have busy schedules and one day does not necessarily work for all. The week will be Feb. 22 through Feb. 25.

Marian Irving reports that on Sunday at 4 p.m. the Congregational Church will present renowned pianist Lisa Weiss in concert with cellist Jan Hyer, soloist Kevin Ryan and Matt Pelikan on alto recorder. A reception will follow in the parish hall with an opportunity to meet the performers and enjoy refreshments. Suggested donation is \$15.

Anthony Saccoccia, head chef of the Grill on Main in Edgartown, will be offering a three-course Valentine's meal.

Happy birthday to: Beverly Bergeron, Deirdre Ling, Jennifer Marcus and Karlena Hammarlund today; Sandra Polleys, Abe Lincoln, Deborah Otto, Ken Cramm, Gayle Stiller and Brad Tucker tomorrow; Dr. Michael Bigby and Vincent Lenza on Sunday; Beth Toomey, Chris Morse and Michelle McCormack on Monday; Kevin Peters Jr., Leah Houghton, Karen Child and Suzanne Fenn on Tuesday; Dan Gouldpur, Don MacDonald, Megan Higgins and Nancy Cox on Wednesday; Leslie Eaton, Barbara Paciello, Janice Feltz, Garrison Vieira, and Emily Thomas on Thursday. Belated birthday wishes to Julie Wells and Spencer Booker. Anniversary greeting to Tim and Eileen Maley on Sunday.

Well, that is all of the social news for this edition. Please call or e-mail with news you wish to share with others. Have a Happy Valentine's Day on Monday and a great week.



Margaret L. Schwier

Margaret L. Schwier, 85, Enjoyed Close-Knit Island

Margaret L. Schwier died Feb. 1 at the Martha's Vineyard Hospital after a brief illness. She was 85.

Born in Detroit in 1925, she lived in the Detroit/Troy area her whole life until she moved to the Vineyard in 2006 to be closer to her son, Bob, and his wife, Peggy.

Accustomed to living in a large metropolitan area, she was amazed at the tight-knit Island community. She was delighted to be recognized while shopping at the supermarket or having lunch out, or getting special attention from all who looked in on her.

She was an avid golfer and loved to watch golf whenever she could. She loved baseball season and her allegiance eventually turned from the Tigers to the Red Sox once she moved to the Island.

After volunteering at the Troy Public Library for many years, she continued her interest in volunteering at the Vineyard Haven Public Library. She attended the First Baptist Church in Vineyard Haven and found wonderful friends and support there.

She was the daughter of Milford and Avis Baggett and was married to her high school sweetheart, Bob Sr., from age 18 until his death in 1988.

In addition to her husband, she was predeceased by her son, David. She found great enjoyment from her grandchildren, Amy and David Jr. and their spouses and children.

Gifts in her memory can be made to the Friends of the Vineyard Haven Public Library, 200 Main St. Vineyard Haven MA 02568, or to the First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 806 Vineyard Haven MA 02568.

Drugs and the Teen Brain

The Youth Task Force will feature Janina Kean, president and chief executive of High Watch Recovery Center in Kent, Conn., as well as a board member of Vineyard House, as their guest speaker on Saturday, Feb. 16.

Ms. Kean's talk is entitled Their Brain Never Had a Chance. Use, Abuse and Addiction In Adolescence.

Studies show that 2010 witnessed the largest number of adolescents in American history who suffer from addiction. Her presentation will shed new light on research showing the link between addiction and brain development in the uterus and childhood.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information about this and subsequent lecture presentations by the Youth Task Force, call 508-696-5304.

Cinderella in Song

There are no sets, costumes or acting and it's not a play. It is a musical story but director Garrett Brown admits that The True Story of Cinderella is hard to describe. "It's a very serious voice recital ... completely deadpan but very funny."

Mr. Brown will be at the piano at the Old Whaling Church while his cast of 13 sit and perform their characters, in all different styles of music, for Island Theatre Workshop's Cinderella performances on Friday and Saturday nights at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 plus a nonperishable item for the Island Food Pantry, at the door. The shows benefit the Martha's Vineyard Preservation Trust.



CHILMARK

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Chilmark goes Caribbean tomorrow night when the Chilmark School's annual fund-raising dance takes place at the Chilmark Community Center. The popular event is for adults only and brings out the tropical in everyone. There will be items for auction and by raffle, food and dancing to the returning favorites, the Smokin' Flamingos, all to support the after school activities of the Chilmark students. By the way, be sure and check out the student's art work on display this month at the Chilmark Library. Kathleen Cameron is their skilled teacher who brings out the talent in all of them.

Tonight, Friday, Feb. 11, the movie Hidalgo will be shown at 7 p.m. at the Chilmark library as part of the ongoing winter Friday night movies series. Free pizza and drinks are offered and all are welcome at no charge. The movie for Feb. 18 will be I Know Where I am Going, a classic romantic comedy from 1945.

The weather, although cold and sometimes very windy, is still not as unpleasant as it has been off Island. We still have no snow, just some pretty white ice coating the rocks on the jetties and on ponds around town. We saw two tourists swimming at Menemsha Beach yesterday morning ... a pair of beautiful swans, feeding around the rocks, seemingly undisturbed by the cold! A pretty sight for my winter-glazed eyes.

And, since we are talking about birds, I have noticed a lot more chatter in the air early mornings this week. The winter chat line has been only crows and the geese in the early mornings at Menemsha but they were joined this week by many new voices. How nice.

Cathy Minkiewicz, current president of the Martha's Vineyard Garden Club, tells us that there will be a bus trip to see the New England Flower Show in Boston on March 17. Please call Sandy at the Tisbury Council on Aging at 508-696-4205 for information. The Polly Hill Arboretum is arranging a trip to see the gardens of the Delaware Valley in May. For information please call Karin at 508-693-9426.

The Chilmark Democrats will hold a winter caucus on Sunday, Feb. 13 at 1:30 p.m. They will meet in the second floor meeting room of the town hall. Elections will be held to choose delegates to the Massachusetts convention in June and to select a new chairman for the local committee.

Chilmark Chocolates is open for your Valentine's Day shopping ... so again, you don't have to leave town for holiday shopping. The Allen Farm shop will be open this weekend from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Do you wish you knew more about the computer you use? The Chilmark library is offering six weeks of computer workshops taught by BZ Riger of Oak Bluffs. The first one on Wednesday last was about using Google and the next session on Wednesday, Feb. 16, will be about Facebook. There will be six workshops; Feb. 23 is Facebook for Entrepreneurs; March 2 is Blogging for Beginners; March 9 is YouTube and March 16 is Digital Photos. There is a lot to learn each week and BZ makes it all sound easy. The library allows us to follow along on their laptops but the number is limited so if you wish, bring your own. Everyone is welcome at no charge and you may attend any or all of the workshops.



Eli Dagostino

KINDERGARTENER LINCOLN MARINO MAKES A NEW FRIEND.

That's What It's All About

By HOLLY NADLER

It looks like the way the world should look all the time: It's noontime on a shivery cold Thursday in February, but inside the community center of Woodside Village in Oak Bluffs, the immense room is awash in light. A tall Christmas tree still holds its full regalia of ornaments, and at the piano accomplished musician Michael Haydn plays a robust Mozart sonata.

But the most wonderful and most natural part of the scene is that at each of the immense tables kindergartners from the Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School in West Tisbury sit and eat and swap stories with the seniors who live at Woodside Village. The village itself is a beautiful collection of apartment buildings for seniors set on sprawling acres behind Martha's Vineyard Community Services. The complex is one of three on the Island built and owned by the nonprofit group Island Elderly Housing.

On this Thursday young Annabel in a long-sleeved purple shirt with silky blonde hair and blue eyes, keeps company with Nancy Nichie, who expresses interest in the fact that Annabel had not attended preschool. Annabel's good friend Ella enters the scene, her Mary Sunshine personality preceding her, with her bob of brown hair, brown glasses and pinafore with pink and white polka dots. Ella brings me over to her lunch date, Betty Searle. "Ella is full of questions," Ms. Searle says with evident pleasure. "She wonders where do old people live? And what about teeth falling out and do we have dentists?" Ella also gabs about her grandmother and her legion of cousins.

Next we meet Jamie Rivard, a beautiful young girl with pigtails who has her full-time speech therapist, Lloyd Petruzzell, in tow. In addition to acquiring vocabulary, Jamie is also learning to sign. The heavy lifting — which includes serving dishes of macaroni and cheese and green salad, and making sure all other details have been taken care of — is done by charter school high schoolers, including 10th grader Zach Dupon and ninth grader Olivia Olenick. Zach is the grandson of master chef Jean Dupon, owner of Le Grenier restaurant in Vineyard Haven, and yes, Grandpere has been teaching Zach everything he knows about cooking. Olivia is spellbinding with aloe-green eyes, and pink, purple and orange stripes painted on her hair augmented by a purple cap. She wears a black Goth T-shirt representing a band called Chiodos.

The community room is alive with so many ages and flavors of people that Olivia and Chiodos fit in as naturally as the eldest resident, Anita, in her turquoise blouse adorned by butterfly appliqués, being read to by brown curly-haired Maria, whose book is titled I Paint.

The helpful high schoolers have been serving dinners to seniors at least three times a year, and all of them have learned life's great lesson of how service sparks the heart and soul.

As this reporter trades good wishes with Ann Wallace, executive director of Island Elderly Housing, Zach Dupon jogs by with a number for us. "Forty-six," he says and keeps moving. Ms. Wallace smiles. Apparently someone has assigned him to count heads of the lunch bunch for this newspaper story.

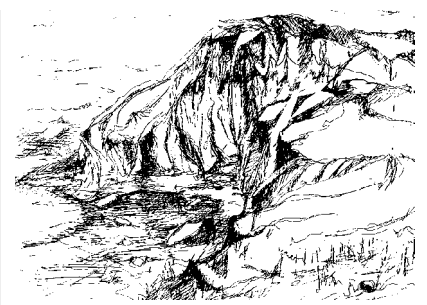
Other adults have played strong roles in making this event such a well-orchestrated success. Marie Larsen, charter school administrator and easy to spot — tall, thin, smiling and dressed in black — is in charge of all school activities, mentorships and community service work. The ever-personable Kevin MacFarland delivered the food, and in fact is routinely pressed into service whenever transportation of anything, people, food or otherwise, is required. Ann Baird, also an administrator at Island Elderly Housing, is on hand to make sure all runs smoothly, and it does — a big hotel in the Poconos could not have done better. Charter school principal Bob Moore, one of the few men on the Vineyard with a job that involves wearing a suit, is happy to announce that the school has now achieved its third year of the three-or-four-times-a-year dinner service to the Island elderly.

Ms. Wallace introduces me to Woodside resident Alma West, noting: "Alma just said something that was so gratifying to the people who put on the luncheon." With a little prodding, Alma says: "I have three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren who visit me for four days every August. I love them dearly but I do wish I could see them more often, so today has been a special treat for me."

Mr. Haydn the pianist plays Happy Birthday, and cupcakes with candles are presented to Woodside residents Rosemary Brown and Rita Reynolds. Tenth grader Oscar Thompson bears trays of cupcakes for all celebrants. Shirley Robinson enjoys hers with her grandnephews, Trey and Ryan.

In another part of the room, a new outbreak of fun occurs as charter school teachers Lori DiGiacomo and Mindy Brodsky lead a circle of little kids, high school kids and elder kids in a complete round of Hokey Pokey. "You put your whole self in, you put your whole self out, you put your whole self in and you shake it all about, you do the hokey pokey [index fingers jabbing the air] and you turn yourself around, that's what it's all about!"

And it is what it's all about. This joyous luncheon proves it. At about 2 p.m. the school bus appears, and the kindergartners troop out. It's clear to all a new tradition has taken hold on the Vineyard.



AQUINNAH

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The Chilmark School will have their annual Caribbean Night on Saturday, Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Chilmark Community Center. Join in the fun with music by the Smokin' Flamingos. Tickets are \$15 and include beverages and desserts. Enjoy the silent and live auctions as well as raffles. A few of the exciting items include a fishing charter with Captain Jennifer Clarke, boat tour of the Elizabeth Islands, a stay at the Captain Flanders House, books, jewelry, handmade items, scallops, Vineyard-raised meats, artwork and more. Any donations may be dropped off to Katie Carroll at Menemsha Texaco before Saturday afternoon. Fund-raising efforts will provide for a week of school at sea aboard the Alabama on the Shenandoah, guest speakers, theatre programs and amazing field trips.

Aquinnah artisan Joan LeLacheur will feature her exquisite wampum jewelry and home decorations over the weekend at the Allen Farm on South Road in Chilmark. Her sale will be open today through Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Nice Valentine Day gifts.

Aquinnah photographer and calendar maker Lisa Bibko-Vanderhoop has her sentimental Valentine cards and prints available at the Bank of Martha's Vineyard at Beetlebung Corner. Lisa's Vineyard Seadogs calendar is at a special rate while at the bank. Stop by on your way to Chilmark Chocolates today; it is open with Valentine's Day treats.

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School students will perform Ronald Dahl's Willy Wonka for their musical this year. It is only fitting, as their teacher/director Katherine Poole Murray was a part of Willy Wonka when she was in fourth grade in Ann Hollister's class in Edgartown. Tickets will be \$10 at the door, \$7 for students and seniors. Performances will be held at the school's performing arts center on Thursday and Friday, Feb. 17 and 18, at 7 p.m., and on Saturday Feb. 19 with a matinee at 1 p.m. and again at 7 p.m.

The Martha's Vineyard Center for Living has an ongoing raffle; tickets are \$5 each, six for \$25, or a book of 12 for \$50. Winners will have a choice between two pairs of wampum earrings by Joan LeLacheur, an airplane tour around the Vineyard with pilot David Stein, a handcrafted floral bag by Sylvie, autographed books by Catherine Walters with photographs by Alison Shaw, and a serene fishing shack watercolor by artist Joseph Palermo. Buy your tickets from Karen Achille, Ellie Bates, Olga Church, Chuck Cotnoir, Shirley Dewing, Ginger Duarte, Barbara Harnen, Diane Jetrund, Nancy Shemeth and yours truly, or from MVC4L director Leslie Clapp at the Anchors in Edgartown.

The Aquinnah Public Library is having a great response to their bottle drive. Just a reminder that clean and neatly boxed deposit bottles and cans may be left at the Aquinnah landfill drop off each Sunday and Thursday through the end of March. Funds will be matched by the Libri Foundation for up to \$350 for the purchase of new children's books. Thank you to Steve and Amanda Hutchinson, the volunteers organizing the campaign.

Corduroy, the storybook bear, will visit with the children at the Aquinnah Library on Thursday, Feb. 17 from 4 to 5 p.m. Listen to his stories and enjoy his bear hugs.

Members of Community Baptist Church of Gay Head will meet on Saturday, Feb. 12 to discuss the ongoing search for a new minister. A potluck luncheon will be served from 11 a.m. to

noon at the Totem Pole. Following lunch, members will meet with Rev. Ellen Tretreau and with members of TABCOM. Also, a reminder about the meeting on Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. at the Totem Pole to continue the bylaw revisions.

The Cape Cod Maritime Museum in Hyannis will feature a display of Wampanoag Maritime Art: Traditional and Contemporary in a show that runs from today through May 22. Thank you to Linda Jeffers Coombs for her assistance as curator of the Aquinnah Wampanoag art in providing the work of the late Norman W. Smalley, who was a fisherman and a scrimshander and the work of the late David F. Vanderhoop, who painted with oils. Works by the late Grover O. Ryan, who was not only a housepainter but also a landscape and maritime artist in oils, are also included. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sundays noon to 4 p.m.

Welcome to Ivan Vanderhoop, son of Todd Vanderhoop and Amara Ignacio. Ivan was born on Jan. 25 at Massachusetts General Hospital. He is the grandson of Erick Vanderhoop of Aquinnah and Patti Young of Edgartown as well as Bruce and Adriana Ignacio of Aquinnah and Fort Duchesne, Utah. Ivan is also the great-grandson of Anne Vanderhoop Madison.

Condolences to the family and friends of Martin "Mugsy" Morris, who passed away on Jan. 30 with services held at the National Cemetery in Bourne this past weekend. Mugsy was a fellow fisherman of the Manning family and enjoyed swordfishing aboard the Bozo.

Condolences to the family and friends of Arthur Strople, who passed away recently in Florida.

Still no snow on the ground in Aquinnah. Witch hazel already has started to bloom with buds on many branches. Temperatures have ranged from 49 degrees at midnight one night this week to 2 degrees at midnight on Tuesday. Wind gusts were up to 46 mph, rearranging the landscape especially on Tuesday.

Happy 11th anniversary wishes to Jim and Eloise Moreis Boales as they celebrate their special day on Feb. 12.

Happy birthday wishes to Martha's Vineyard Magazine editor Nicki McHugh Miller. Nicki deserves a wonderful fashion shopping spree for her special day on Feb. 12. I am sure her husband, Jim Miller, has just that gift in mind.

Happy birthday wishes to Leona Smith White as she celebrates her special day on Feb. 12. Aquinnah photographer extraordinaire Albert O. Fischer III will celebrate on Feb. 13 and shares the day with Michael Washington. Heather Vanderhoop will party on Feb. 14.

Fellow Vineyard Gazette up-Island correspondent and confidante Jane Slater will celebrate her special day on Feb. 15. A very special birthday wish for granddaughter Kayla Manning as she celebrates a major milestone. Karen Child, Fred Thifault and Trina Kingsbury all share the day on Feb. 15.

Douglas Fortes, Brenda Johnson and Ed Conroy all share the day on Feb. 16. Linda Hobbs and John Robey will party on Feb. 18.

Mom, Meet Dad Again

Just in time for Valentine's Day weekend, the Martha's Vineyard Ecumenical Youth Group is hosting a parents' night out.

The particulars are basic. Tonight, Feb. 11, starting at 6:30 p.m. drop off your kids, ages three and up, at the Federated Church at 45 South Summer street in Edgartown. Come back to pick them up at 10 p.m.

The best part is the cost. Three and half hours of adult time, taking in a movie, eating dinner or just sitting back and getting to know each other again, will only set you back \$8 per child. That's not \$8 an hour, either.

For those with big families there's also a group rate. Drop off all 10 of those kids for the \$25 per family bargain.

All proceeds of the evening go toward the mission work of the MVE Youth Group.

For additional information, call the Federated Church at 508-627-4421.

Weekly Sudoku

9x9 grid for Weekly Sudoku puzzle with numbers in some cells.

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all the numbers from one to nine.

Difficulty this week: Moderate

Answers to the puzzles can be found on page 5-A of this week's Gazette.

Vineyard Gazette Crossword

- ACROSS: 1 Dollops, 5 Russian ruler, 9 '87 Peace Prize winner, 14 Incur, as bills, 19 "Thanks —!", 20 Dingy digs, 21 Jargon, 22 Crop up, 23 Clothing store?, 25 Gary Cooper in "High Noon?", 27 Asian nation, 28 Jab, 30 Genetic info, 31 Poetic preposition, 32 Stolz or Avarheid, 34 Actress, 38 Brazil bits, 41 Seats, 45 Bank (on), 46 Tai — (martial art), 47 Recruit-to-be, 48 Baseball's, 50 Coaxed, 54 Plane place, 57 Bedroom furniture, 59 Elbow —, 60 Available, 61 Photo finish, 62 Bright, 64 Part of MST, 65 Medicore, 67 Mason's need, 68 Any, 69 Dexplores, 70 Scandinavian, 73 Puts another worm on the hook?, 75 Composer Janacek, 76 Chip off Woody's block, 78 Archaeological site, 81 Class ring?, 82 Galley, 83 Absolutely adored, 84 "— Gay", 86 Socialite, 87 Perle, 90 Anti-knock stuff, 92 Glisten, 94 Chaos, 95 Puppeteer Lewis, 96 Israeli dance, 97 Counterfeit, 99 States, for short, 100 Mighty mite, 103 Marina statistics?, 107 Corelli composition, 109 Macpherson

15x15 crossword puzzle grid with some numbers filled in.

"Tricky Business"

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