



A rural community of neighbors helping aging adults lead independent and engaged lives at home.

Leverett + New Salem +  
Shutesbury + Wendell

**1-413-345-6894**

[www.villageneighbors.org](http://www.villageneighbors.org)

P.O.Box 501, Shutesbury, MA 01072  
[generalinfo@villageneighbors.org](mailto:generalinfo@villageneighbors.org)

## Village Neighbors

*Working Together to Create Community!*

July / August 2019, Issue 2

### Upcoming Events

Check our calendar at

[www.villageneighbors.org](http://www.villageneighbors.org)

for the **Aging in Place Seminars** and other events of interest this month.



LifePath is Offering

**\$25 worth of Farmer's  
Market Coupons for FREE**

Contact LifePath for more info

[www.lifepathma.org](http://www.lifepathma.org)

**Wendell  
Farmer's  
Market Is  
Growing**



Saturday 10am to 1pm on the Town Common

**Now Also Offering:** *Music, Crafts, Wendell-made Healing Salves, Plant Starts, Body Workers and Food Vendors*

### Who responds when you request a service?



**Meet one of our Call Managers**

**Mary-Ann Palmieri**

*Service Committee*

*VN Board Member - Secretary / Clerk*

A Boston native, Mary-Ann has lived in New Salem with her husband, Tony, for 45 years. She retired from Great Falls Middle School in 2000 and has worked as a copy editor since then. She enjoys traveling especially to visit her children and grandchildren in North Carolina and Hawaii.

If you **NEED A RIDE** or for **MORE INFORMATION** please call  
**1-413-345-6894** or email [servicerequests@villageneighbors.org](mailto:servicerequests@villageneighbors.org)

## Information Session: *Becoming a VN Call Manager!*

You're invited to a one hour information session to learn more about the role **Call Managers** play in the life of **Village Neighbors**.

Call Managers are the hub of our services and purpose, fielding member requests and matching them with volunteer offerings. And we need more people to take on this interesting, from-home, flexible, volunteer role. To learn more please come to a

### **Call Manager's Information Meeting!** **Wednesday, August 14th • 6 - 7 pm**

New Salem Public Library • 23 Main St., New Salem

Bring your curiosity and a brown bag dinner and join us in the community room for a general overview, useful information, and a chat.

For a ride to this event or more info, please contact the Service Committee / Call Managers

**1-413-345-6894** or email [servicerequests@villageneighbors.org](mailto:servicerequests@villageneighbors.org)

## Leverett Transfer Station Welcomes VN Volunteers Delivering Materials on Members' Behalf

As an addition to the services available to VN members who live in Leverett and Shutesbury, the Leverett Transfer Station welcomes VN volunteers delivering materials on members' behalf.

The requests are scheduled with the usual phone call or email to the **Call Managers**  
[servicerequests@villageneighbors.org](mailto:servicerequests@villageneighbors.org)

The members are responsible for any fees required. We are unable to take large appliances at this time, please specify when you call in. The schedules, fees, and services available at the Transfer Station are listed at the **Leverett Town website** [www.leverett.ma.gov](http://www.leverett.ma.gov)

The volunteers should check the website for applicable fees and restrictions so the members will know what the Transfer Station fees will be based on what they are having picked up. The volunteers will show their VN ID badges to indicate that they are representing Village Neighbors members.

We are working on getting similar services for the residents of Wendell and New Salem.



## **Beware of Census Fraud**

*The 2020 Census  
is coming...*

LifePath is starting a program to inform everyone about the dangers of scams relating to the upcoming census. One basic rule is **NEVER** respond to a phone call purporting to be from the census - they **NEVER** use the phone to communicate for census.

Contact **LifePath** for more information.

[www.lifepathma.org](http://www.lifepathma.org)

## Great Turnout for 1st Annual Meeting and BBQ

### Village Neighbors Annual Meeting and Barbecue was held at the Shutesbury Athletic Club on June 23rd.



68 people attended including 32 members with Nancy Spittle, acting President, facilitating. Nancy acknowledged the loss of our President David Dann and the challenges, rewards and lessons learned since VN launched last October.

Don Stone gave the Treasurer's Report reporting a total income of \$18,345 with \$3335 coming from membership fees, a grant from Life Path providing \$12,218. \$768 was from contributions given in David's memory. Expenses for the year totaled \$14,282.

Nancy Spittle gave the Membership/Volunteer Committee report with their main focus on signing up new members and volunteers and following up with training, vetting, education and support. Goals included developing teams with professional expertise to handle sensitive issues; initiating Dementia Friendly Community features with volunteer training; and encouraging interest groups and activities that promote social opportunities.

Fay Zipkowitz gave the Service Committee report which has been developing policies and procedures and doing fundraising. A new committee for Fundraising has been established.

Mary-Ann Palmieri reported on Call Manager work, answering and filling 3-5 service requests per week.

Paula Lyons and Elizabeth Fernandez O'Brien reported on Public Relations and Event Planning Committees with their focus on increasing awareness of VN in the general community and the media. PR has updated mailing lists, published its first digital newsletter, had a successful fundraiser at the Full Moon Wendell Coffee House and has done outreach to local high schools for volunteers and interns.

Dina Polizzi gave the report for IT. IT's focus this past year was on integrating the database to include volunteer/member interests and providing IT support to the other committees. Projects for next year include developing the website to enhance user-friendliness; training volunteers and members on

website and social media use; and expanding the IT team to help seniors navigate the new technology that broadband will provide.

After the meeting there was a short memorial service for David Dann at the fire pit, led by Dina Stander, where members and friends shared poetry, thoughts and memories. A barbecue with delicious side dishes and desserts was accompanied by music in the pavilion.

Don Stone and Elizabeth Fernandez O'Brien were elected to the Board unanimously.

Many Thanks to all the committees, members and volunteers who helped make the day a success.

### SPECIAL THANKS!

**Joie Ciepiela, Tommy Drake and Tom Siefert** from the Shutesbury Athletic Club.

VN Volunteers **Dina Stander, Bette Richard, Kenyon Fairey, Glenn Stockton, Paul Lyons, Bert Fernandez and Norene Pease.**

**Adrian Meck and Ron Meck** for the music.

*Grateful acknowledgement to the following businesses who donated food or gift cards:*

**BigY • Trader Joe's • Atkins Farms**

### Save the Dates

**September 10th**

### 5th Annual Senior Health and Safety Expo

Schuetzen Verein in Barton Cove  
10am-2pm

**Free Luncheon** to all who attend.

For questions call Deputy Ray Zukowski

**413-774-4726**

**September 12th**

### Protect Yourself From Medicare Fraud

Leverett Public Library 5pm

Find out more at [www.masmp.org](http://www.masmp.org)

## Upcoming Events

Saturday, July 27 • 11:30 am

### Memorial Service for David C. Dann

Shutesbury Elementary School 23 West Pelham Road, Shutesbury

Following the service there will be a **Celebration of his Life** at the **Shutesbury Athletic Club** on 282 Wendell Rd.

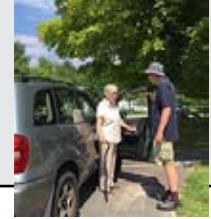
*If you would like, you can bring a dessert to share.*

**If you need a ride**

Please Call

**1-413-345-6894**

Or contact us at  
**servicerequests@villageneighbors.org**



Sunday, July 28, 2019 • 8 am

### David C. Dann Memorial Golf Outing to Benefit Village Neighbors

Cherry Hill Golf Course 323 Montague Rd, Amherst, MA

For more information or to sign up please email:

**DavidCDannMemorialGolf@gmail.com**

## Volunteer Opportunities

*The Village Neighbors Team Needs You!*

**Let us know if you would like to join with other members and volunteers around a shared interest!**



### Membership / Volunteer Committee

- Welcome and interview new members and volunteers
- Social activities, trainings and programs

--- CONTACT ---

**membership@villageneighbors.org**



### Service Committee

- Answer requests from Members and connect them with Volunteers waiting to assist.

--- CONTACT ---

**servicerequests@villageneighbors.org**

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### IT Committee

- Home assistance with electronics
- Training volunteers and members
- Database and web updates
- Social media

--- CONTACT ---

**it@villageneighbors.org**



### Events / PR Committee

- Event planning
- Newsletter
- Event Calendar
- Outreach
- Social media

--- CONTACT ---

**pr@villageneighbors.org**

The **Village Neighbors Board of Directors** is looking for new members to fill out the board. We have four dedicated members now who are working hard for the organization, but we need more people who could provide varied perspectives and expertise. Our bylaws recommend seven board members so if you would be interested in working on the board, or know of someone who might be interested, let us know.

Board members do not need to be members or residents of our four towns. It would be great if we could add people to the board who have legal, accounting, or social services experience. CONTACT ---**generalinfo@villageneighbors.org**