

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Make the Most of your Membership

One of the Board of Directors' primary concerns is ensuring members receive value for their Village membership. Here are eight ways to make the most of your membership:

1. Call the Concierge, 978-206-1821, if you need help removing an air conditioner, checking out your smoke or carbon monoxide alarms, running errands, cleaning out your garden, shopping, and other tasks that do not require direct contact. We do just about everything we used to do before the pandemic except give rides.

2. Read *Your Village Tuesday Update* email and click on the links for some terrific entertainment and useful information. You can never tell what the Program and Events team will come up with, but every link is probably something you wouldn't find on your own.

3. Join the Zoom Chair Yoga group that meets every Tuesday at 10 am. Led by Chris Morton, a Village member and professional yoga instructor, this is a safe way to get some exercise, to meditate, and to refresh yourself during these times of stressful isolation. The Zoom link is always given in the *Tuesday Update*.

4. Participate in the monthly Village talks. First up this month is Bill Gette, back with tremendous wildlife photos and stories of his travels in Bhutan. You can't miss that – or the other coming programs!

5. The Member Care team has just started a Zoom Chat Room. If you don't have a computer, you can use the toll-free number to phone into the Chat Room. Explore different topics, bring up anything of concern to you, and stay on line for the whole get-together or drop off whenever you want. We don't have our clubhouse yet, but this is a way to stay in touch (more on page 2).

6. Tell the Village (978-206-1821) if you'd like a daily or weekly phone conversation with another Village member. Many members are calling each other to check in and combat feelings of being alone. Or if you want a daily call just to have someone make sure you are up and about, we can do that too.

7. Drop in on the weekly Zoom Happy Hour for social time, Fridays at 5 pm. Registration details are in the *Tuesday Update*, and the conversation is lively, informal, and always fun.

8. Be sure to cash in the restaurant and Market Basket Gift certificates we've sent. Don't leave them in a drawer, wallet, or purse.

Stay Safe! Paul Harrington



Make Sure Your Vote Counts!

If you are voting early this year, take the right steps to ensure your ballot is counted. Be certain to (1) **Mark the ballot carefully** following instructions, (2) **seal it** in the yellow envelope, (3) **sign the ballot envelope** and write your name and address where indicated, (4) **put the ballot envelope inside the return envelope** and seal it, and then (5) **mail it early or put it in a ballot box**. If you forget, you can still vote in person on Election Day.

Upcoming Events

The Village has suspended traditional programs and events for now. Check the Tuesday Update email for more information.

For members and volunteers:

Village Talks on Zoom:

Weds. Nov. 4, 4-5:15 pm, "Crossing Bhutan" with Bill Gette (see page 2).

Weds. Nov. 18, 4-5 pm, "The History of the Presidency" with Lee Thomas (see page 2).

Weds. Dec. 2, 4-5 pm, "A History of the Post Office Through Stamps" with Henry Lukas.

Every Tuesday Chair Yoga 10-11 am: continuing on Zoom through December. No experience needed. Check your Tuesday Village Update email for how to enter the Zoom session.

Weekly Zoom Village Happy Hour, Fridays 5-6 pm continuing indefinitely. Please register by Tuesday if you plan to join on Friday.

Village Chat Room, Nov. 2 and 16, 2-3 pm (see page 2)

To Contact the Village

For information:

call 978-206-1821

email:

info@greaternewburyportvillage.org

visit our website:

www.greaternewburyportvillage.org

For member services:

call 978-206-1821

email a service request to:

services@greaternewburyportvillage.org

Village Launches Chat Room

Last February the Village was very close to opening a clubhouse in downtown Newburyport where members could drop in to meet others, play cards, work on a puzzle, or just chat. We all know what happened in March. Since that time we have implemented many activities to combat isolation, and on October 19 we launched a new way for members and volunteers to get together. The Village Chat Room is a Zoom meeting space you can attend via computer or call into using your phone. It is a virtual clubhouse. With winter coming and Covid-19 still spreading, we need to keep up our connections with others. A Chat Room will be held every other Monday from 2 to 3 pm, including November 2 and 16. The link will be in the *Tuesday Update* and we'll send a reminder on the day of the Chat Room. To join by phone, call the toll-free number 1-646-558-8656 and then enter the meeting ID 883-7615-1054 and the passcode 672281. You can also call the Village at 978-206-1821 and we'll remind you of these numbers.

Volunteering with The College Guild

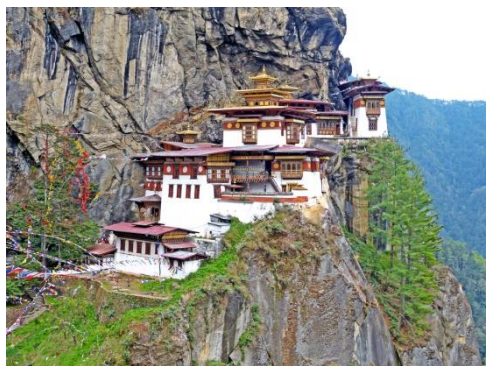
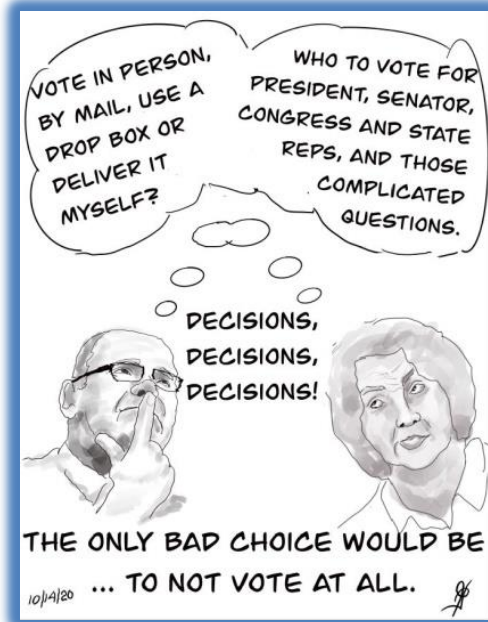
by Sue Herman, Village Member

For me, one of the sadder aspects of the Covid-19 lockdown was the end of my hobby/volunteer work giving tours: walking tours in Boston, and museum and historic house tours locally. But when a friend sent me a link to Collegeguild.org, I found an antidote: an opportunity to read and give feedback to the responses of prisoners to questions provided by the College Guild. Both the prisoners and the volunteers can select which subjects they would like to read, think, and write about.

By the Numbers

- 5,287** Total units completed in 2018
- 7,000+** Students who have completed courses
- 532** Active students
- 436** Students on our waiting list

out Collgeguild.org. Everything is explained on the website: the questions for each topic are listed, and sample responses of volunteers are provided for some of the topics. It could make a difference for you, too.



Photos from Bill Gette's upcoming Village Talk

Our Mission

To promote living well and independently through community engagement and neighborly support.

Village Talks on Zoom:

Wednesday, November 4, 4 to 5:15 pm.

“Crossing Bhutan - The Kingdom in the Clouds, Land of Dragons.” Take an exciting trip to Bhutan with naturalist Bill Gette. Bill has visited this remote country three times and will share his photographs of the country's beautiful wildlife, magnificent scenery, inspirational religious art and architecture, and travel adventures.

Bill Gette has traveled to all seven continents studying and photographing wildlife. He joined Mass Audubon full time in 1996 as the Founding Director of the Joppa Flats Education Center in Newburyport.

Wednesday, November 18, 4 to 5 pm.

“The History of the Presidency” with Lee Thomas. Using music and illustrations and following a question and answer format, Lee Thomas presents a history and analysis of the U.S. Presidency: where it has come from and where it is headed as an institution.

Lee Thomas has a BA and two Masters degrees in American Thought and Culture and Education. He has retired from teaching in Newton and Masconomet.

We Want To Know

If you know a member or volunteer who is facing surgery, a loss, or an important milestone, let the Village know so we can acknowledge it appropriately and offer help as needed. Please call 978-206-1821 or email membership@greaternewburyportvillage.org