



The Quail Runner

For and By the Residents
Of Quail Run



May—June 2012

Began Publishing 2003
www.QuailRunHudson.com

Hudson, Massachusetts

Bodacious Bar-B-Que by Firefly's along with Lee's Carnival Games

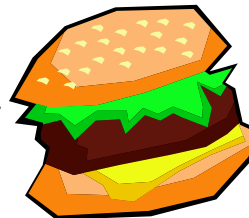


Saturday, June 23 2:00PM
\$13.00 per person

BYOB, Lemonade & Coffee provided

The sign up deadline
Wednesday, 13 June
Seating limited to 60

A sign up sheet is posted in the Community Center or can call either Lee Bradbard at 978-562-7249, Barbara Paradiso at 978-562-1595 or Sally Mauro at 978-568-0821.



BOG News

Contents

- Area Highlights— 9
- Astrology— 7
- Birthdays— 7
- BOG—1, 10, 11
- Book Club - 3
- Condo Care—6
- Curtain Call—4
- Driving—7
- Editor's Desk— 2
- Game Nite—6
- Garden— 4
- Healthy Living—3
- Juliets— 11
- Knit—6
- Newport—6
- Nursing Home—8
- Phone & Email — 2
- Real Estate—4
- Romeo— 3
- Quail Runner Staff— 2
- Senior Money Sense—5
- Social Committee— 1, 9
- Technology Corner— 12
- Tradespeople—8
- Transitions — 3
- Vacation Delivery—2
- Weight & Nutrition—5
- Welcome—3

About half of Quail Run property owners were in attendance at the May Annual Meeting, which is about the same number usually present. Since only three people had chosen to run for the three vacancies on the Board, there obviously was no competition. Yet, ballots were submitted by over 88% of owners (by beneficial interest).

Bob Reid, who will remain as Treasurer on the new Board, went over the balances in the operating, working, and reserve accounts. He went over the final costs of the roof project and noted that it came in very close to the cost estimated about a year ago, and that at this point, over three fourths of the owners had paid their portion in full. The expense covers the full replacement

of the roof, placement of Ice & Water shield beyond what is required merely by code, engineering studies and project supervision, larger gutters, replacement of the wood previously under the gutters with vinyl, legal expenses, and management costs.

We are planning on painting all the buildings at this point with the roof project now completed. The trim will be painted over to cover the nails used, even though the vinyl itself really doesn't need it. The cement siding will be painted the same color as the vinyl siding on the dormers. We will have enough money in the budget to cover the cost without any assessment. The grounds came through the mild winter in

(Continued on page 10)

The Quail Runner Staff

Editor: MJ (Mary Jean) Ebens
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Proof Reader: Bob Freedman

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- 1/3 Autumn **Peggy Kunz**
- 4/9 Autumn **Marilyn Hoffman**
- 5/7 Autumn **Terri Kilshaw**
- 6/11 Autumn **Mary Lewis**
- 1/3 Strawberry **Sally Mauro**
- 2/4 Strawberry **Barbara Champine**
- 5 Strawberry **Lee Rouse**
- 6/8 Strawberry **Toby Allen**
- 7/12 Strawberry **Barbara Paradiso**
- 1/4 Rotherham **Kevin Fitzgerald**
- 6 Rotherham **Harry Morgan**

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- Technology Corner**—George Champine
- What’s Up** — Beverly Beylouné,
- Area News**—Barbara Champine
- Healthy Living**—Peggy Rittenhouse
- QR Real Estate News**—Hugo Guidotti
- Senior Money Sense**—Howie Pearlman

Communications: Phone, email address list:
Barbara Picarello.

Website: QuailRunHudson.com

Published first week of February, April, June, August, October, December



Deadline on the 23rd of previous month.

Copies of the *Quail Runner* can be emailed to a friend, relative, or yourself. Contact the editor if interested

Back issues of the *Quail Runner* are available at the Community Center or from the editor.

Vacation Delivery

To Receive *Quail Runner* while away, give your reporter or the editor an extra long envelope with two first class stamps and your vacation address. The editor has some free extra large envelopes. Or you can get issues emailed to you, or view the current issue on [QuailRun Hudson.com](http://QuailRunHudson.com).

Editor’s Desk

MJ Ebens, editor



Are you worried about your driving skills? The latest offering from AAA is interesting. Everything seems to be *online* these days.

The article on Nursing Homes can apply equally well to many senior living possibilities. Rich and I have checked out local facilities for ourselves, for when the time comes. When my mother’s health deteriorated we had to make decisions for her. The place where she had intended to go wouldn’t take her medical insurance. Don’t let someone else make the decision for you.

Howie’s column on pre-nuptial agreements may not apply to you, but what about your children or grandchildren? A lot of good advice there.

The Assabet Wildlife Refuge is quite lovely and a great place to walk. Don’t forget mosquito repellent and watch out for the speed bumps — take them **very, very** slow!

Both the Social Committee and the Communications Committee are open to new members. Joining the Social Committee would give you a chance to meet and be involved with a lot of the more out-going residents here at Quail Run, in addition to being in on a lot of the fun!

Have you notice the Ridge lately? Toby and her crew keep adding to the plantings there. The Ridge is getting more and more attractive each spring.

Would you be interested in writing an article or a column for the *Quail Runner*? We’re always looking for new ideas and suggestions.



Welcome New Residents

Nancy and Greg McMann at 7A Strawberry. 978-562-3672 The McManns moved here from Oregon. You may see Greg walking to his job at Intel.

Be sure to let **Barbara Morgan**, 978-568-1929, h.morgan@comcast.net, know if you have new neighbors. She’s our “Welcome to the Neighborhood” representative.



HEALTHY LIVING

by Peggy Rittenhouse
Vein Disease



Vein disease occurs when veins have trouble carrying blood from your legs back to your heart. The main causes are heredity, injury, obesity and prolonged sitting or standing. If your mother or grandmother suffers from venous vein problems, you are more likely to be affected. Also women are more often affected than men due to pregnancy. Unfortunately we cannot do anything about our heredity but we can control other factors such as obesity and prolonged sitting or standing. The first sign of vein disease is often tired, heavy feeling legs. This is a clear indication that the return flow of blood from the legs to the heart is impaired. Often the next step is swelling of the ankles and lower legs, a sign that blood has become congested in the leg veins. Other symptoms include leg pain, varicose or spider veins, tingling, numbness, burning, or cramping in the legs and feet, discoloration of the skin and even open sores or ulcers on the lower leg. These leg ulcers are often very hard to heal. Untreated vein disease could lead to blood clots. If the clot travels from the leg to the lungs, a life-threatening pulmonary embolism could occur.

Is there any treatment? Yes there is and often consultation with your doctor is the first steps to better leg health. You may need prescription compression socks and stockings which help support weakened veins and may enable you to lead a pain-free active life. These compression stockings are available in below the knee, thigh high or full pantyhose types. The internet is a good place to begin your search for compression stockings. I have found a brand that is relatively easy to put on, at least compared with other brands I have tried. These stockings are sold according to size of the ankle, calf and thigh and are available in quite a few sizes and colors. The manufacturer that I have had good luck with is Mediven and the stockings are called Mediven Comfort. However, they are pricey but they do last quite a while and do help with assisting the blood return to your heart. If you are traveling by plane or car, it is important to get up and walk frequently and even when sitting to practice dorsiflexion which is the raising and lowering of your toes while the heel remains on the floor.

ROMEO'S

Retired Old Men Eating Out
 (and having fun!)



Wednesday, June 20, Romeo luncheon at **KIMBALL FARMS - WESTFORD, MA** (off Route #110)

Wednesday, July 25, 2012 – Romeo luncheon at **Clubhouse – Catered by Brads.**

Details to follow; please check your e-mail.

This group is open to all men at Quail Run; it's a good opportunity to get acquainted and a chance for conversation.

It is important that you give notice that you plan to attend. At our last gathering there was a last minute rush to provide enough seating.

Communications Committee

This group functions as its name indicates. We work to maintain a variety of communications within and sometimes outside of Quail Run. The *Quail Runner*, the *Directory and Phone Listing*, *Quail Run website*, and our email database.

Intel contacts us through email when there is something on their site that may affect us .

If you would like to be involved with some of these activities, contact the Communications Committee Chair, MJ Ebens, 978-562-7880, rmjEbens@verizon.net



Book Club

Meetings are the Community Center on Wednesdays, from 7 to 9 PM; generally the last Wednesday of each month.

Contact **Marcella Monte** for more information; 978-562-0823 or marcellamonte@comcast.net



Quail Run Real Estate News

by Hugo Guidotti

What goes down must come up! An old adage turned around and probably true. But no one tells us when that up will happen. Economists and many so called "experts" keep telling us how the real estate market is improving. I am by nature an optimist but I think one needs a healthy dose of being realistic to balance out the glass being "half full".

QR owners looking to sell really need to know the value of their property as viewed by a bank who would be doing the financing and how they would appraise the property. In recent sales, bank appraisers, according to my knowledge have considered dollar values for QR homes from \$275,000 to \$306,000.

Of course if one is lucky enough to find a cash buyer, the bank appraisal is not very important. And surprisingly a number of over 55 buyers have the cash to buy because they have just sold a house.



Since 12D Strawberry and 6C Rotherham recently went under agreement, there are now only 4 homes available for sale as follows:

- 9C Autumn Dr. A style Asking \$275,900
- 3C Rotherham A style Asking \$275,900
- 3B Strawberry A style Asking \$299,900
- 3B Autumn Dr A style Asking \$308,900

I recently updated my over 55 website and if you are interested in any Massachusetts Senior Housing even just for comparison purposes, you can go online at activeadultliving.com and you will find information about many over 55 communities as well as my listings at QR.

I also recently upgraded my QR listings with a great looking Virtual Tour that walks you through each home with some great videos. You can find these by going online at realtor.com and following the prompts to condos in Hudson. *If nothing else you may get some interior decorating ideas from the images you will find!*

Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.

Martin Luther King



Prudential

Hugo Guidotti, SRES®
REALTOR®

Prime Properties

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08/12

Curtain Call



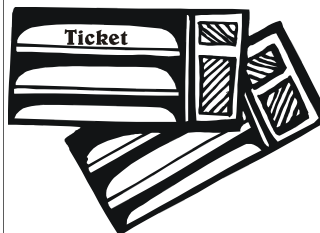
Curtain Call's last meeting for this season is Wednesday, 20 June at 1:00 PM, in the Community Center.

We are having our **annual luncheon**.

This year there will be a \$5.00 charge as we are purchasing the food from Brad's Gourmet Delicatessen. The menu - sandwiches, salad and dessert. Coffee, tea and soft drinks will be supplied by us.

Please notify me if you are planning on coming. Last call date is Friday, June 15th.

We have a total of 24 members. If you are interested in joining us give me a call. (978 562-7437). You do not have to attend all meetings; however, it would be nice if you did. I do send an email (Notes of Meeting) to all members and hand deliver to those who may not

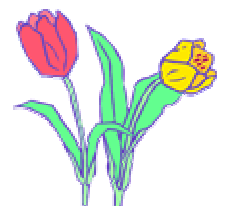


have a computer. **Our meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at 2:00 PM, in The Community Center.** Our season starts in September and ends in June.

This year we saw 3 plays.
Toby Allen

The **Garden on the Ridge** is growing well. We added Phlox, Rhododendron and Forsythia and also, planted some Spring bulbs. THANKS all who have donated and helped.

If you have plants in your garden and want them removed give **Toby Allen** a call. Maybe we can use them. No Hosta.



Senior Money Sense

by Howie Pearlman

How essential are prenuptial agreements for seniors?

When my clients plan to marry, I advise them that a prenuptial agreement should be considered before they take that life-changing step.

When individuals have reached their senior years, the prenuptial agreement takes on new significance, as much more may be at stake than people realize. Your net worth may exceed that of your future spouse, and by age 50+ you may have accumulated:

- A lifetime of savings
- Retirement funds
- Ownership in, or profits from the sale of, a family business
- Home equity
- Money from a divorce settlement or inherited from a deceased spouse
- Inherited property that you want to remain in your family.

Even if your net worth is equivalent to that of your future spouse you may have different goals in mind for your assets when it comes to spending in your retirement years, planning for long-term care costs and inheritances for your respective families.

When two people marry, they immediately have legal rights in each other's assets in the event of divorce or death. Even if there are already wills, trusts and other ownership arrangements in place, the legal rights of a spouse trump many of these dispositions. Children or grandchildren's inheritances could be substantially diminished in the event of your passing. A prenuptial agreement will go a long way to help protect your family and ease their concerns about your coming marriage.

How to best protect your assets should be given serious consideration before you enter into marriage. Between the ever-growing divorce rate and the costs of funding long-term care, taking the step to get married exposes your respective estates to many possible expenses.

It is critical to understand that even the best prenuptial agreement does not protect your assets from each other's long-term care/nursing home costs. Mass Health (the Massachusetts Medicaid program) does not allow spouses to "contract around" their rules

(Continued right)



07/12

Weight & Nutrition Support Group

Meets every Wednesday from 9:30 am to 10:30 am in the Community Center. There are no dues or fees involved. The group is there to support and help one another by exchanging ideas, recipes, and strategies.

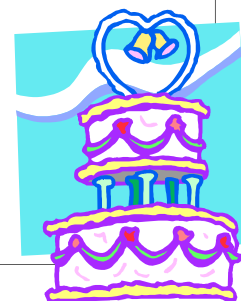
Open to all ladies here at Quail Run. Contact **Marlynn Stott** or **Marcella Monte** – 978-562-0823 marcella-monte@comcast.net

prenuptial agreements (continued from left) about the counting of spousal assets. Accordingly, it is crucial that spouses wishing to protect assets engage in proper estate planning.

True, no one can predict the future, but they can prepare for it. The process of structuring a prenup opens both parties up to an honest and enlightening financial discussion before the marriage. The agreement delineating how resources will be divided upon divorce or death is a way to avoid protracted legal battles in the case of divorce, separation or death.

If you are a senior and are considering marriage, evaluating the benefits of having a prenuptial agreement — with an attorney skilled in estate planning and prenuptial agreements — should be a fundamental part of your marriage plans. Each party should have a separate attorney to represent respective interests in structuring a prenup. If you married before negotiating a prenup, you may resolve this with a postnuptial agreement and proper estate planning with a qualified attorney.

Linda T. Cammuso, a founding partner at Estate Preservation Law Offices and an estate planning professional, has extensive experience in estate planning, elder law and long-term care planning. She may be reached at www.estatepreservationlaw.com or by calling 508-751-5010.



Condo Care

Calendar May - June

- This is a good time to empty the built-in vacuum. It probably needs it once or twice a year
- Time to switch your overhead fans to the summer setting with the button down.



Valley Crest, our landscapers, will *mow our lawns on Thursdays* now. This is a change from Friday's which conflicted



with our trash and recycling collection days. For several weeks areas of lawn have been skipped because owner's cars are in driveways and the trash barrels are on the lawn. This also gives Valley Crest an extra day in the event that Thursday is raining to get it mowed on Friday if it has to be, rather than having them mow on Saturday, or the following week.



The Master Key

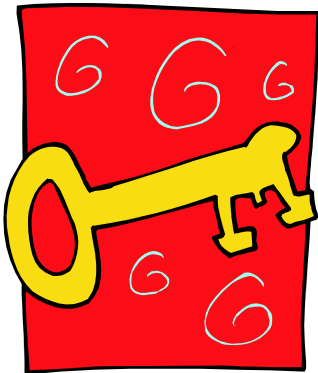
Have you changed the key and lock to your front door? You need to have the key rekeyed to the master. If your key is not rekeyed to the master, then in the event of an emergency when urgent access is required, **the front door of your unit may be broken into to provide access.**


Remember, you do have things in your unit such as drain lines, water lines, and fire sprinkler pipes that might affect your neighbors and require emergency attention in your absence.

If you are interested in avoiding this, please contact **Warner Eldredge**, an approved locksmith here is Hud-


son who has the codes to re-key your locks. The cost is \$50 for a house call and \$12 per lock. You have two locks on your front door.

His service is quick and efficient. **This is much cheaper than replacing your front door!**





Ice Cream Social August 18
Save the date!



NEWPORT PLAYHOUSE
Reminder

The day for the bus trip/lunch/play/ cabaret is fast approaching. Participants must be at the community center for departure at 9am on Wednesday June 13.

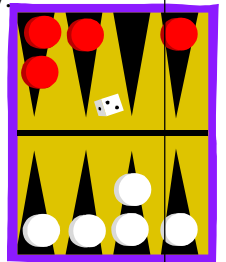
Questions.....call Terri 978 562 0578

Games Night Is Back!!!

Games night is back in business; first and third Tuesday, 7:00 PM at the Community Center. Come and enjoy an evening with your neighbors playing any of a variety of games, such as Dominoes, Rummicube, Mah Jong, or whatever strikes your fancy.

If your last name begins with A-F bring a refreshment to share on the first Tuesday, otherwise it's your turn on the third Tuesday.

Coffee and Tea will be served.
We're looking for some new faces!



Stitch & Knit

The group meets the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 each month at members homes. All knitters (or other types of handwork) are welcome.

For more information **Barbara Baker**, 978-562-2460.



1/13



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Quail Run Birthdays

June

- Sandra Mocanu, 2
- Ray Samra, 4
- Mary Lewis, 7
- Marlynn Stott, Lee Rouse, 8
- James Donato, 9
- Hugo Guidotti, 12
- Nancy Reid, 18
- Sherry Lupien, 24
- Tom Haley, 27
- Kay Aiello, 28



July

- Barbara Edelstein, 8
- Connie Nefzger, 11
- Elaine McGoldrick, Ginny Fullam, 12
- Sharon Evans, 19
- Ginny Fernandes, 21
- Dot Haley, 25
- Joyce DiPaolo, Ginnie Samra, 27
- Peter Stott, Ruth Durand, 29
- Marion Anderson, 30
- Kent Callahan, 31

To include a birthday, contact your reporter or the editor

Website to test your driving skills

As 10,000 Americans turn 65 every day, AAA is helping aging drivers and their families cope with questions about driving ability in high-risk situations.

Concerned by a loss of mobility, nearly 90 percent of senior drivers indicate that the inability to drive would be a problem, with almost half identifying it as a serious problem.

Many senior drivers are self-policing their driving or avoid driving situations that put them at greater risk of a crash.

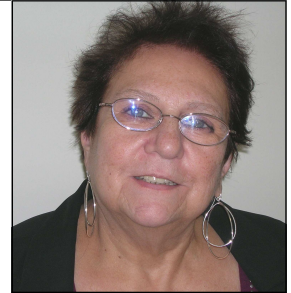
AAA offers free tools on their new website →

Astrology — What's Up

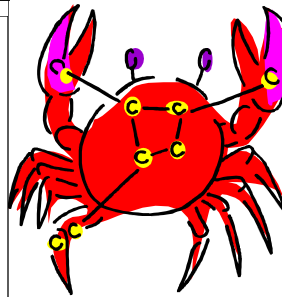
By Beverly Beylouné

CANCER June 22 – July 22

This year you are able to get some feelings you've been holding on to...out in the open!! This will remove a huge weight from your shoulders.



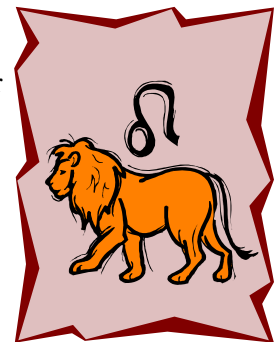
With your intuition getting a planetary tune-up you'll be able to listen to your inner voice and will become an even better judge of character. You will be introduced to new friendships and fittingly your social life will blossom Be prepared as one new confidante becomes a great friend and your 'rock'.



Financial and real estate matters improve in the Fall.

LEO July 23 – August 22

You have been at a personal crossroad...and now things are going your way. This year you have the right people in your corner who are ready to help in any way. With their help you will be able to recognize what is best for your family.



This summer the stars bring the answer to a big question!

Your luck soars this year...buy a lottery ticket and/or plan a long distance get-away. But, be careful since having extra money may tempt you to spend more...try to keep to a budget. Someone special returns to your life by Fall.

SeniorDriving.AAA.com

The tools include: a Roadwise review and Smart features for mature drivers all designed to help identify vehicle features that can assist drivers with visual, physical, and mental changes that are frequently encountered as Seniors age.



Choosing a Nursing Home; Plan in Advance if Possible

Finding the right nursing home is a daunting task most of us will face, as two-thirds of people over 65 will need a nursing home, at least temporarily, according to AARP. It's best to research facilities in advance, but a sudden illness or injury may force you to confront things sooner than you expect. Here are several key considerations:

- Stay close. The biggest influence on the quality of care nursing home patients receive is often the frequency of visits by friends and family. Make sure you'll be allowed to visit when you want — from early morning to late evening.
- Get references. Your local Area Agency on Aging or hospital discharge planners can provide listings of nearby nursing homes. Medicare caseworkers, at 1-800-MEDICARE, also can help. Stick to facilities certified by Medicare. They're inspected every year, and any complaints are investigated. Read recent inspection reports, usually available through the state health department. One accident isn't a big deal, but frequent reports of falls, bed sores, and the like are a red flag.
- Check on staffing. No matter how dedicated individual employees are, if there aren't enough, care suffers. Check the ratio of aides to patients. **The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services require each patient have a daily minimum of 2.8 hours of nursing aide time and 1.3 hours with an RN or licensed practical nurse.** Ask specific questions about care. Can your mom keep her current doctor? Who decides whether to change your dad's medicine, and will you be notified first? What's the policy on handling patients who get agitated?
- Scope it out. Snoop around — and beware any place that objects. Check resident rooms for cheerfulness and safety. Use the bathroom to see if there's enough hot water. Inspect the kitchen for cleanliness. Are patients smiling? Is it peaceful? Does it smell pleasant and homey? Stay for a meal. Is the food appetizing?



(Continued on page 10)

Are you Avid?

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3/13

For Sale/Trade/Free/Wanted

Sale— Treadmill Excellent condition. Low mileage! Non-digital. Easy. Works great. Paid \$400 reduced to \$100 or best offer. Stop by for a free trial! Terri 978-562-0578



For Rent

Do you have a friend that may be interested in living at Quail Run? If so, we have a "C" Unit with two-car garage available for rent immediately. Please call - Prudential Stephan @ 978-443-7300 for more information.

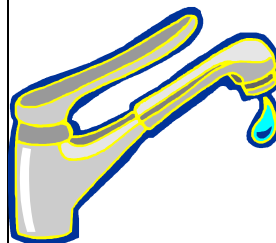
Free Cat window. Adjusts to fit Quail Run windows. Allows the cat to go in and out, one way, or not at all depending on the setting. Worked fine to keep Leo on our closed in deck. He's too old to use it now. Ebens 978-562-7880

Trades People Recommendations

Handyman Service — Do you need someone who can turn his hand to **anything**? This highly recommended real *gentleman* has done sink disposal, vertical blinds, shelf construction, painting, plumbing, garage/basement organization and a dozen other repairs.



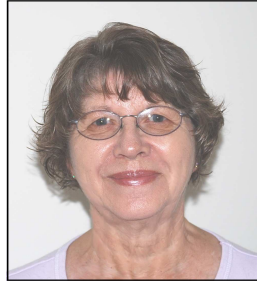
Clean and efficient. Reasonable rates. Hudson resident. Call David, **A-Z Handyman** 978-273-7133 (recommended by Terri Kilshaw.



Area Highlights

By Barbara Champine

ASSABET RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

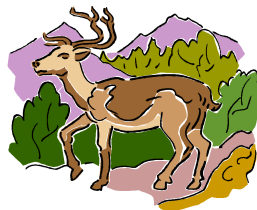


George and I recently found a real gem for bikers, hikers, and nature lovers. This is hidden away in nearby Sudbury. The Assabet River Refuge is also open for wildlife observation, photography, hunting and fishing.

The complex gives emphasis to local wildlife and habitats you will find at the Assabet River NWR. There are interactive exhibits, such as pull out drawers with specimens inside, wildlife sounds and question/answer panels. If you are bringing kids, ask for a scavenger hunt to match the taxidermy animals with their habitat! Children also love the "Night Room" which is an interactive showing of the wildlife you will see and hear at night.

There is a pond with a canoe launch. You can visit an Army bunker about a tenth of a mile from the Visitor Center. Aside from local wildlife exhibits, the Visitor Center also features indoor and outdoor panels that examine the history of the area. These exhibits focus on early Native American inhabitation of the watershed, European farming settlements of the area, and the military occupation of the former Fort Devens Sudbury Annex which covered the land which is now the refuge.

An asphalt trail circles the complex and is suitable for hiking and biking. There are a total of 15 miles of trails with maps available. There is a multi-purpose room and a nature store.



The store features field guides, wildlife themed toys, books, historic maps and Assabet Refuge hats. There are restrooms available.

A variety of programs are presented throughout the year. On Wednesday, June 27 at 7pm the author Sy Montgomery will give a talk on forays into Birdology. This talk will be illustrated with striking images and stories.

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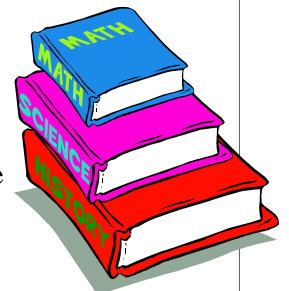
Social Committee News

JOIN THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Social Committee is a hard-working, amicable group of men and women, who love planning events for the enjoyment of our fellow residents. We would welcome new members, so if you think you would like to join us, please plan on attending our meeting on Wednesday, August 1st at 7:00 PM at the Community Center. If you have any questions, please contact **Barbara Baker** at 978-562-2460, or Email bakerb2939@gmail.com.

Librarian Help Wanted

Volunteers are needed to help organize our overflowing library in the Community Center. If you would like to help out, please contact either **Marcella Monte** at 978-562-0823 or **Sally Mauro** 978-568-0821.



ASSABET RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE (Continued from left)

The refuge is open daily from one half-hour before sunrise to one half-hour after sunset. Visitors are asked to remain on refuge trails.

Horses, motorized vehicle and pets are not allowed. The visitor center is open Thursday thru Sunday from 10 to 4 and the Nature Store is open Friday, Saturday and Sunday 10 to 4. Admission is free.

Directions: Take Main Street Hudson towards Sudbury. The Refuge is just beyond the Fire Academy, on the left,

just after the sign for entering Sudbury. It is less than 10 minutes from Quail Run. **Be cautious going over the speed bumps as they are quite high and hard.**



Hudson Public Library or Our Local Coffee Shop



The HPL has opened a coffee shop on the first floor. Patrons are encouraged to enjoy coffee or tea while they peruse the holdings and maybe even sit for a while to read.

The HPL also has *Kindle Fires* to take for a *test drive* for two weeks. The reading device comes pre-loaded with a huge selection of books. Keep it for 2 weeks.

This is not your Father's library. No "shushing" allowed!

Choosing a Nursing Home (from page 8)

Once you've narrowed your choice to two or three facilities, bring along your loved one if he or she is physically and mentally up to it. If not, show pictures and discuss why you favor a particular home. Allow the person to feel they have some control so they'll "buy in."

Consider costs. Last year, a semiprivate room ranged from an average of \$46,355 in 1 up to \$222,285 in Alaska.

To control costs, determine if it's possible keep your loved one at home longer through combination of family help, health aides, and adult day care.

If a move is years away, **consider getting long-term care insurance. Medicare will pay for a stay of up to 90 days; Medicaid covers costs for the poor. Many people must use up most their assets to reach the point where Medicaid takes over.**



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Website: www.countryglass.com

3/113

BOG News Continued from page 1

relatively good shape. The utility panels will be hidden by planting greenery, not covered over with vinyl fencing previously considered. Scheduled painting of the decks will be resumed next year. Most of them are in good condition, although some unstable railings have been noted, and these are being repaired by a crew from Alpine Management.

This month, letters will go out to some owners for attention to problems noted with the fire sprinklers in their units. Inspection is required by our insurer, and we have to be in compliance. Some units could not be inspected because the inspectors could not get inside, and a schedule will be set up to try to accommodate them at this point. Some mechanical problems were noted and Quail Run will pay to have them fixed. In other units, the sprinkler heads have been stained or painted over or obstructed, and this must be corrected at the unit owner's expense.



At the Annual Meeting held on 16 May, 92 unit owners were represented in person or by proxy, totaling 61.33 % of the beneficial interest.

There were three candidates for the three vacant seats. The board members have conferred among themselves as provided for in the By-Laws and elected the following for the term of 2012-2013:

- President - **Bob Freedman**
- Vice President - **Bill McPhail**
- Clerk - **Pat Ritter-Waltrup**
- Treasurer - **Bob Reid**
- Member at Large - **Allen Boemer**

Pictures on page 11

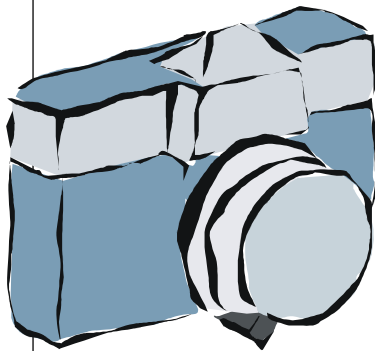
Thanks to Vince Picarello for his service on the BOG and in Quail Run

Technology Corner Continued from page 12

You can easily select a rectangular, circular, or elliptical area. Paint.net supports layers, which allows all sorts of ways to manipulate images. You can, for example, create double exposures, easily altering one part of the picture while leaving the rest alone. (Yes, you can do this with the selection tool, but layers provide more safety and flexibility. A selection can disappear with a wrong mouse click; a layer can't.) You can also insert your cat into a seascape if that's your pleasure.

Find it at: <http://www.getpaint.net/download.html> .

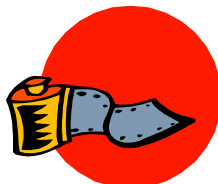
FotoFlexer If your goal is quick photo fixes, or you don't want to install another program, FotoFlexer is worth a try. This Cloud-based service, financed with advertising (which is only occasionally annoying), offers a significant set of photo manipulation tools. And it's exceptionally easy to use.



Start by going to the FotoFlexer at: <http://fotoflexer.com/> and clicking Upload Photo. (Ignore the big, green Download here button you might see.) Once a picture is uploaded and on-screen, you'll find a clear, tab-and icon-based user interface for altering it.

The first button you'll want to click is Fullscreen, which gets rid of the advertising. (The advertising comes back when you click away from FotoFlexer, so you'll probably have to press that button a few times.)

FotoFlexer does quite well when you need to adjust lighting. The Basic tab's Adjust icon gives you three sliders to quickly change hue, saturation, and lightness. The Contrast control offers the typical combination of contrast and brightness sliders. (What's the difference between lightness and brightness? The first affects the entire picture evenly, while the second concentrates on the lighter parts of the picture.) The Geek tab (yes, that's its name) has a Curves control which behaves much like the like-named tool in Paint.net.



2/13

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JULIETS NEWS

All Quail Run women are invited to Lunch

Tuesday, 19 June 12 noon at **Stephen Anthony's** in Marlboro, 999 Boston Post Road East (Rt. 20) separate checks, order from menu.

Contacts are **Marlynn Stott** 978-567-5912, **Alice Gagne** 508-653-0381

July as yet undecided but a sign-up will be passed around at June luncheon and posted at Community Center.

Sign up for either event at the Community Center.



New BOG Members

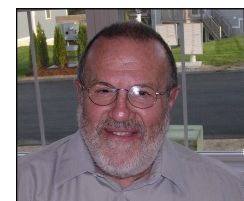


Bill McPhail



Allen Boemer

Retiring BOG member Vinnie Picarello





Technology Corner

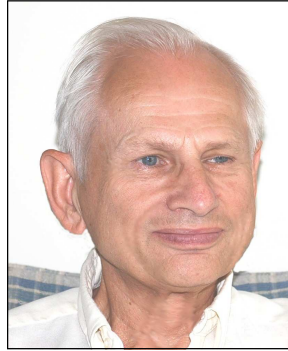
By George Champine

OLED is coming. Even though television is quite a mature technology, rapid advanced continue to be made. Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) technology is now the norm, and the recent advance was to replace the fluorescent back lights with the smaller and more flexible Light Emitting Diode (LED) backlights that give much improved colors. Now, Organic Light Emitting Diodes (OLED) technology is replacing the LCD displays. Instead of the back light shining through the LCD screen, the OLED emits light itself and no back light is required. Therefore the OLED TVs are very thin (1/8TH inch) and the colors are very bright with deep blacks and stunning picture quality. The 55 inch TVs from LG, Sony, and Samsung, which will be available at the end of the year, weight about 18 pounds. As usual they will be expensive, but the price will come down rapidly.

Wireless Printers. Many people in Quail Run have a wireless router because of the convenience it provides. Recently, wireless printers have become available at reasonable prices that have the advantages of being able to place the printer anywhere, and being able to print from several computers to the same printer.

Free Cloud Storage. Several companies are now offering “cloud” storage, for example Dropbox, Microsoft’s SkyDrive, and Google Drive. These services are roughly similar. You get several gigabytes of free storage just for signing up. By installing a small Windows app, you get the ability to synchronize that storage with the hard drive on your PC, where you can manage them using Windows Explorer. You can sync files and folders with other PCs and Macs, access them from mobile devices, and share them with other people.

The simplest scenario of all is personal file backup. Keeping your important files in a folder that is continually synchronized with an online storage service gives you a backup security blanket. If your local drive



crashes, you can recover those files quickly and easily. A side benefit of this approach is that it allows you to access files easily from multiple devices. If you have a desktop PC and a notebook, for example, you can start working on a file in your office. Whatever changes you make are synchronized to the online copy. Grab your notebook, head off to the airport, and you can pick up where you left off—as long as you have access to an Internet connection.

Both Google and Microsoft offer the ability to create and edit a variety of document types directly in a web browser. With Dropbox, you can view common formats but you need third-party apps to enable the same editing scenarios.

Online viewing and editing means you don’t need to worry about whether you’ll have the right app installed—if you can open your online file storage location in a browser, you can get your work done.

Free Photo Editing Packages. One of the most popular uses of computers by senior citizens is digital photography. However, sometimes the pictures need retouching to crop or adjust colors. The best retouching packages cost \$50 to \$100, but here are three free packages that will do the job for most people.

Picasa from Google. This is a very good package for the casual user as it is largely self-explanatory. It lacks some of the features of the others however. Find the installation package at: <http://picasa.google.com/>.

Paint.net from Microsoft provides all the adjustment tools an average digital photographer should need. For instance, if you're not satisfied with a picture's exposure, you'll find four tools on the Adjustments menu for fixing it. Auto-Level may get you what you want without any work at all, but in my experience, it rarely does.

Brightness/Contrast can help if the entire picture is over- or underexposed. But if only parts of the image are off, try either Curves or Levels. I find Curves more useful, as it allows one to minutely adjust the picture. Paint.net's selection tools (which let you copy, delete, and adjust specific parts of an image) don't match Photoshop's, but they're sufficient for most uses.

(Continued on page 11)

