



THE VAIL'S VOICE



November/December 2008

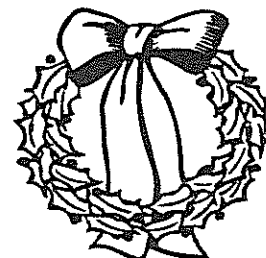
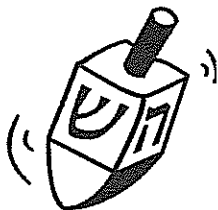
Notes from the Chair... Ronnie Waltzer

Thanks to your Board of Director's hard work on the Vail's Grove budget at our recent annual budget workshop, and with a special thank you to our new treasurer, Ellen Mytych, you will be delighted to learn that there will be no increase in your maintenance payments in 2009!

In an initiative to improve security in our community, we enlisted the help of the Putnam County Sheriff's Department to form a Neighborhood Watch. Officer Kanuk is our liaison and has told us that he is only a phone call away from assistance with any security issue except domestic disputes. **He can be reached at (845) 225-4300 EXT. 424.** Neighborhood Watch information is available in the office. The responsibility is ours, however, to report matters of concern. Our motto (like the New York Metro's) could be "If you see something, say something".

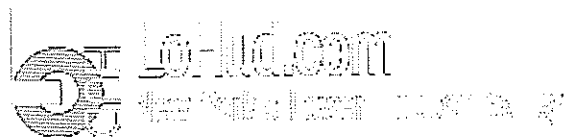
A request was recently made to shareholders who are selling or renting property, that they replace the signs on their front lawns with a sign in a window instead. While no one wants to hinder a shareholder who is trying to sell or rent in these difficult economic times, the presence of signs (including political choices) on multiple properties has an impact on the appearance of all homes in Vail's Grove. Rule #12 in our Rules and Regulations addresses this matter.

I encourage you to attend Board meetings on the third Wednesday of each month in order to express any concerns you may have, and to learn about what is taking place in our community. Your Board of Directors wants to hear from you. Refreshments are always served, so don't have dessert after dinner. I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season, and best wishes for the New Year!



Our very own Margaret Flannery has been honored by the Putnam Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW). Margaret has served on our Board of Directors, is currently our liaison for the Town of Southeast, has been our Chairman of Public Safety, has been known to walk around with petitions for various issues, and is not afraid to speak her mind, even if her opinion is not always the "popular" one. She is currently our Chairman for the brand new "Lend A Hand" Committee.

We are indeed fortunate to have such a strong personality in our community. Congratulations Margaret - you go girl!



November 12, 2008

Putnam NOW honors local woman

*Susan Elan
The Journal News*

Putnam's chapter of the National Organization for Women plans its first scholarship event, called the Putnam County Women of Worth Awards, at the Mahopac Library tomorrow.

"Nothing is done to honor the women of Putnam County except for Sybil Luddington," Laura Leonard, NOW's Putnam chapter president, said referring to the teenage Revolutionary War heroine.

Putnam County's Women of Worth Awards were conceived as a "mini-version of NOW's national awards," Leonard said.

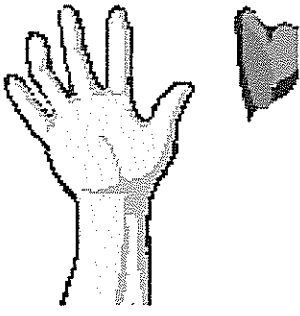
Five local women, selected by Putnam NOW's board of directors, will be honored this year. They are Putnam County Democratic Chairwoman Lynne Eckardt, U.S. Rep. John Hall's district director, Susan Spear, attorney and Hudson Valley Community Coalition organizer Margaret Yonco-Haines, Putnam County League of Women Voters President Jennifer Maher and Southeast activist Margaret Flannery.

All are invited to attend without reservations and a \$20 donation at the door will go to fund a "Women of Worth Scholarship." Among those expected to participate are representatives of Sens. Charles Schumer and Hillary Clinton, Putnam County Executive Robert Bondi, state Sen. Vincent Leibell of Patterson, and members of the state and national offices of NOW.

"It's important to honor what women contribute to our county," said Putnam Legislator Mary Conklin, R-Patterson, who has been asked to speak at the event. "All woman are of worth but some gain national, state or local recognition for what they do."

Sponsors of the event include the American Red Cross, the Community Action Program, Putnam Against Domestic Violence, Hudson Valley Community Coalition, WESPAC, the United Way and the League of Women Voters. Primo Deli of Southeast is donating the food.

The celebration will begin at 6 p.m. at the library, 668 Route 6.



WE NEED SOME HELPING HANDS -

Margaret Flannery

From time to time, we all Lend a Hand to one of our neighbors to help in a time of special need. Every day someone needs a ride to an appointment, or to do some shopping, run errands (groceries, medications etc.), prepare meals during a difficult time, make home visits or phone calls. (It's always nice to have a friend to say "hello".)

If you have a little time to extend a helping hand in some capacity, please contact Cindy at the office - (914) 669-5100, vailsgrovecoop@gmail.com

OR
Margaret Flannery - (845) 669-8913 (Home) or (845) 661-4991 (Cell),
maflannery1@comcast.net

Also, CAP, the County Assistance Program, is asking for your help.

RECYCLE YOUR MEN'S WINTER COAT OR JACKET

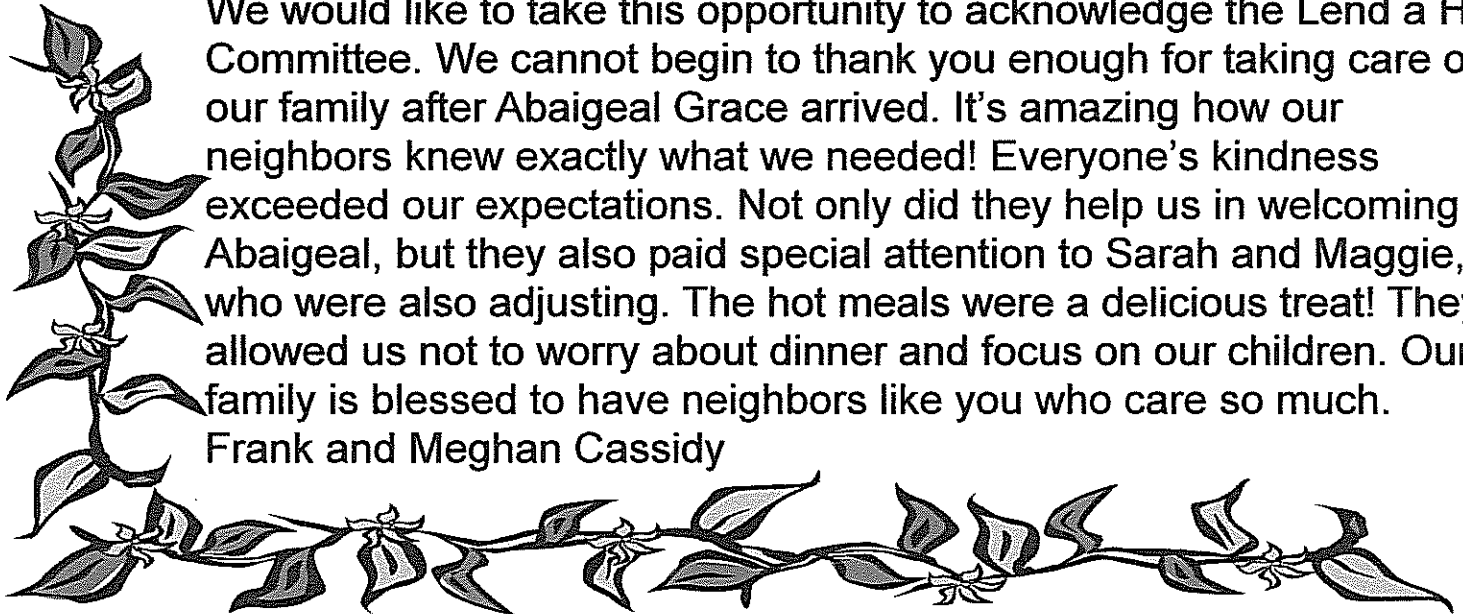
CAP is in desperate need of men's coats. If you have a coat or jacket that is no longer being used but is still serviceable, please consider donating it to the County program. Your coats will help some of our citizens get through the cold winter, interview for jobs, and enable them to work outdoors. The Touch of Class Cleaners in the A&P shopping center in Carmel has offered to clean the coats free of charge and deliver them to CAP at 121 Main Street in Brewster. You may drop the coat(s) off at the CAP address, Touch of Class Cleaners or call Margaret Flannery and she will arrange to pick it up at your house.

Many thanks for your generosity!

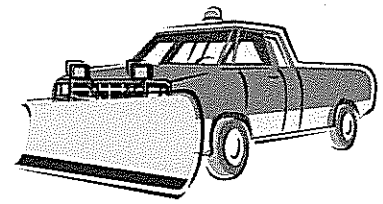
Lend a Hand in action...

We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Lend a Hand Committee. We cannot begin to thank you enough for taking care of our family after Abaigeal Grace arrived. It's amazing how our neighbors knew exactly what we needed! Everyone's kindness exceeded our expectations. Not only did they help us in welcoming Abaigeal, but they also paid special attention to Sarah and Maggie, who were also adjusting. The hot meals were a delicious treat! They allowed us not to worry about dinner and focus on our children. Our family is blessed to have neighbors like you who care so much.

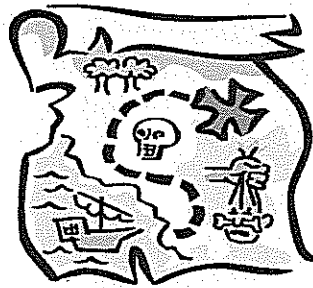
Frank and Meghan Cassidy



Notes from the Maintenance Committee - Jack Waltzer

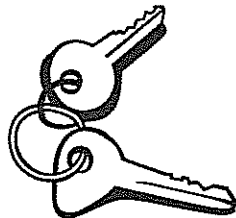


1. Temporary speed bumps have been taken up; shareholders, renters and guests should be mindful of the fact that we have children playing, bike riding and walking our roads...**please obey our 10MPH speed limit.**
2. Leaves left at the curb for pick-up by the Buildings and Grounds Department **MUST BE IN BIODEGRADABLE BAGS.** They will not be taken otherwise.
3. Buildings and Grounds will soon be marking (with orange sticks) those spots where the snow plow must take extra caution near curbs or other projections that could be damaged. If you have a concern for a spot that was not marked last snow season, notify Jay Moore at (914) 669-9606, or Jack Waltzer at (845) 669-8085 so we can add markings to those particular spots.



Cindy Says -

From Tom Duffy - By this time, you should have received a Grinder Pump Location Map. This map needs to be reviewed and returned to the Coop Office by Monday, December 15, 2008. If you have any questions regarding the map, please contact Sarah Cwikla at Stearns & Wheler (203) 268-8990. Thank you for your cooperation.



A car key has been found and was turned into the office - it's waiting to be claimed!

Neighbor News -

Get Well Wishes to Jay Couillard, Claire Navin and Patti Sckolnik.

A warm welcome to our newest Vail's Grove residents, baby Annaleen, and baby Abaigeal Grace.

Annaleen was born to Rosie Myers on October 31st. (Congratulations to new grandparents Joan and John Myers as well!)

Abaigeal Grace was born to Meghan and Frank Cassidy on November 19th.



Our sincerest condolences to the Becker family on the passing of Robert Becker - husband, father and grandfather, as well as founder of the Vail's Grove Cooperative.

Mary Rubini wrote a lovely tribute to Mr. Becker, which we thought would be fitting to add - below is part of her message.

"The recent loss of our long time resident, friend and attorney, Robert Becker, has left a tremendous void in our community, the depth of which will be felt for years to come. As most of you know, Mr. Becker served as the attorney for Vail's Grove since the inception of the Cooperative. He, in fact, was the attorney that created the Coop back in 1973, when the land was purchased from my Grandparents, and we owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude. What some of you might not know is that during the course of his tenure as our attorney, he never once submitted an invoice to the Cooperative for his services. It is almost unimaginable to compute what those hours and hours of service would have otherwise cost the Cooperative had we retained an "outside" attorney. Through the generousness of his heart and his spirit of community, Mr. Becker was always there for us to answer questions, render an opinion, tend to the swearing in of officers and oversee all legal matters of the Cooperative without compensation."

Thank you Mr. Becker, and thank you to the Becker family for sharing this wonderful man with us. May he rest in peace.



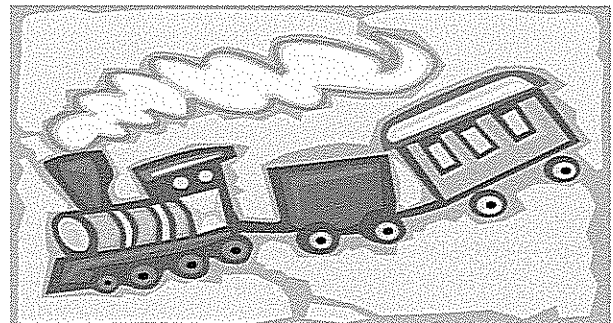
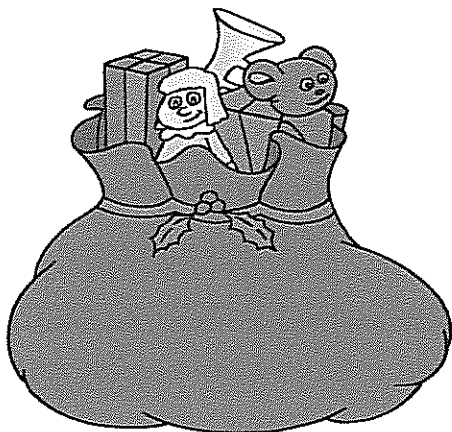
The Vail's Grove Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 20th, 2008 at the Pavilion from 4:00pm - 10:00pm. There will be Gingerbread houses and trains to decorate.

Santa will come and hand out (parent provided) wrapped gifts to all of the good boys and girls.

Dinner will be catered by Ledley's and there will be dancing and games for the kids and grown-ups alike.

Tickets can be purchased at the Coop Office. Ticket prices are \$10 per adult, \$5 per child - kids 3 and under are free.

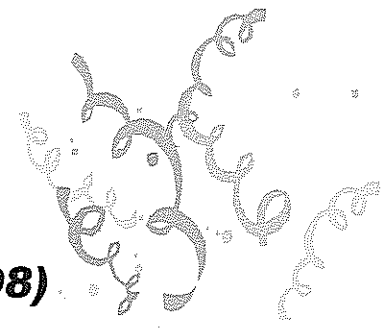
Come join your friends and neighbors for this much looked forward to annual event!





NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATION

(Wednesday, December 31, 2008)



Come **ROCK** in the New Year with your friends and neighbors at the Vails Grove Pavilion!

Live Music From ***Joe Greco & The Music Connection!!!***

Door's open at 7:30PM

Dinner starts at 7:45PM

\$20 per person!!

BYOB!!



Reservations Available Through The Vails Grove Office @
914-669-5100. (10am-3pm, Mon-Fri).

Table Reservations Available For Groups of 8 or More.

Seating Is Limited. ALL Reservations Must Be Paid For IN FULL by
12/23/08.

Make Checks Payable To: **Vails Grove Co-op**

For More Info Contact: Joanie Ford @ (845-669-9425), Chris Dress @ (914-646-5860), or Ed Keith @ (845-661-6048).

Hats & Party Favors Provided.