

Neighborhood Newsletter

2022

Volume 14, Number 5

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Above: Historic New Castle, DE



Summer's ending, Fall is coming!

Celebrate at the Clubhouse...

End-of-Summer Party - September 11

Oktoberfest—October 2

VOLC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

May 2022- May 2023

Len Krygowski, President,

Steve Brubaker, Vice-President,

Melody DeVoe, Vice President

Ray Krout, Treasurer

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Cheryl Ford

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Wanda Search

Jean Skelly

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Patio Subcommittee

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Loretta Dougherty

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Carolyn Aresu, Board Liaison

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Bernard Aresu

MDR Subcommittee

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Architectural Review Committee

Odette Haight, Chair

Marion Bowman

Nancy Weldin

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Finance Committee

Steve Brubaker, Chair

Loretta Dougherty

Joe Doto

Ray Krout, Board Liaison

Contact information for Board members and Committee members can be found in the Resident Directories, posted on the community website

www.myvolc.org

This publication is written by and for the residents of the Village of Long Creek.

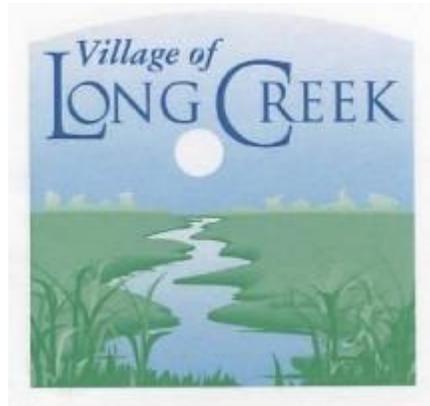
Contact Cheryl Werner, Editor, with suggestions or comments.

302-834-1473 or cherylwerner@verizon.net

What do our Committees do?

Our VOLC Committee members work hard to maintain the financial strength, safety, and beauty of our community.

Any one of them would welcome more volunteers. Happily, some of our newer neighbors have joined right in, adding valuable new ideas! Chairs, members, and Board liaisons are listed on page 2.



Grounds—Our hard-working Grounds Team works closely with the Executive Board to oversee landscape services by BrightView, monitor the common areas, and assist residents with lot issues. They'll soon have the tough task of managing snow removal.

The Garden Club Subcommittee spends hours, digging and planting at the community entrance and at the clubhouse, keeping the spaces attractive and inviting.

Communications—This committee is constantly working to keep all residents informed about community issues and events, through weekly updates, our community website, the bi-monthly newsletter, real-time alerts, directories, and phone lists. Those without email get printed notices.

Clubhouse Committee—This group oversees the maintenance of our VOLC Clubhouse, working to keep it safe and comfortable for library and puzzle borrowing, various meetings, small group and community events.

Activities Subcommittee—Members meet monthly to plan and execute activities designed to promote fun and neighborliness.

Patio Subcommittee—This temporary subcommittee was formed to oversee the construction of the community-favored patio pavilion. The group has recently approved the architectural drawings necessary for a county permit.

Governing Documents Committee—Keeping abreast of current law and best practices, this group oversees by-laws and governance, recommending policy updates as necessary, on such issues as budget and community elections.

MDR Subcommittee—This group conducts a process to determine community interest in updates to deed restrictions and oversees the vote to make wanted changes.

Welcoming—As its name states, members of this committee visit new residents, welcoming them with a packet of community and local information and answers to their questions.

ARC—(Architectural Review Committee)- This group works closely with IPS Management in reviewing resident requests for changes to the exterior of their homes and/or lots and makes recommendations to the Board.

Finance—Overseeing accounts, contracts, and committee requests, this group makes recommendations to the Board for yearly allocations and budget.

Neighbors



Carol and Donnie Thompson recently celebrated their 50th wedding Anniversary with family at Deerfield Country Club.

Above—Carol and Donnie with son Stephen and his family and daughter, Jennifer.



Ava—Grade 6



Colin—Grade 2



Noah—Grade 8



The Thompson children kept their grandparents busy all summer, and with school, starting, activities will only increase and intensify! Baseball, volleyball, soccer, cheerleading, oh my!

Carol and Donnie love it all!



Neighbors cont.

Loretta Dougherty's daughter, Caroline, has recently become a tour guide in the Historic Old City of Philadelphia. Her company, WeVenture, specializes in small tours with groups remaining under 20 people as well as private tour options. The company does walking tours, food tours, and driving tours. In addition to Philadelphia, they provide tours in other major US cities.

The referral code [PHLCaroline](#) provides a 10% discount on any tour at www.we-venture.com or by calling 215-399-1287. There's a comment section to try to request Caroline. Her tour is called Philadelphia History Highlights and Revolution.

(From Mom Loretta—There is also the option to book a Philly tour directly through Caroline (not WeVenture) via cash or Venmo or through Loretta (302) 229-0601.)

At right—Caroline, in center after a family tour.
Proud mama, **Loretta**, is second from left.



Below— **Linda Trach** sent this adorable picture of her new granddaughter.

Gianna Michelle Riggins
Born—July 6, 2022

Linda says: “My first!!! Nana’s in love! “



Above—**Sue Bifano's** grandson, Paxton, enjoyed a retro cake on his 7th birthday.

The dinosaur on the cake is over 45 years old and was on all of Dad Craig's birthday cakes over the years.

Below—**Cheryl and Guy Werner's** grandson, Garrett, was happy to start his first day of kindergarten. He decided “School is great!”



Farewell to Patti Abernethy

VOLC residents, family, friends, and elected officials gathered in the clubhouse on August 12th to wish Patti Abernethy the best of wishes for happiness in her next home. A group of friends organized the event, invited all VOLC residents, and happily hosted State Senator Stephanie Hansen and New Castle County Councilman, Dave Tackett. Their funny stories, along with Dino Pironti's of IPS, set the tone for a festive celebration of Patti's commitment to this community, both in her many positions on the Board and committees here and as the VOLC representative at the county and state level.

She will be missed!!



Shown here—Patti enjoying the party with her grandnephew, Rowan, holding Bear Skelly.



*All of the brunch items were either made or donated by neighbors. The beautiful sheet cake was donated by **Maria deArmas**, and shared by all.*

Patti says, "I am so grateful to have moved into a community that is a model of what a community could be-- with thoughtful concern and support of one another. I am blessed to have lived here 13 years and I will miss you all."





Patti Abernethy's grand-nephew, Cameron, had quite the party when he turned two!

Right—The happy birthday boy!

Left—Mom gets ready to cut the cake while Dad and Cam look on.



Right—Barb and Joe Doto recently returned to Bermuda and found that they never tire of its charm.

Below—On the last day of September, they took their great grandson, Conner Curtis, to the Dover Air Base Museum for his 11th birthday.



Barb says, "He got to tour some of the planes, go up in the old control tower and see a C5 do 'touch and go's.' Then he was able to do the flight simulator for a small plane and did a perfect take off and landing with the direction of one of the guides."

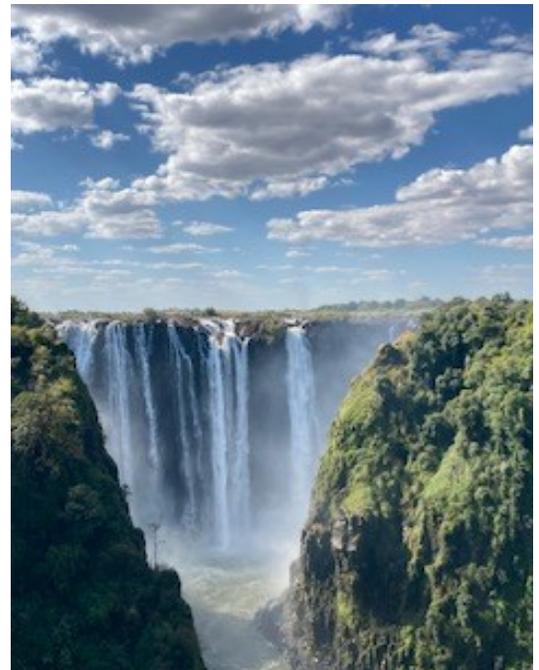
Barb did not fare as well...

Africa up close and personal!



Sharon and Bob Dickol recently returned from a trip that Sharon called, “an exhausting, thrilling trip of a lifetime.”

After flying non-stop from Newark, NJ to Johannesburg, South Africa (after a 24 hour delay) they caught up with their group and began their safari designed to acquaint them with some of the most astounding scenery and animals on earth.



Dr. T and Chandrika Thankappan # 50, have been in the VOLC for a year now after moving from their long-time home in CT to be closer to their son. In that short time, they've made themselves an integral part of the community and a familiar sight walking about the community while Doc regains his strength.



Chandrika has an enormous love of plants—both flower and vegetable! She has a productive vegetable garden in back of their house and unusual, beautiful flowers in the front.

A long-time member of the local Garden Club in her former town, Chandrika quickly joined the VOLC Garden Club, readily sharing her knowledge of all things “plant.” At one time, she had 121 species of Hostas on their property! As our resident plant expert, she’s happy to dispense advice on common garden problems and answer other questions if she can. Lucky for us!



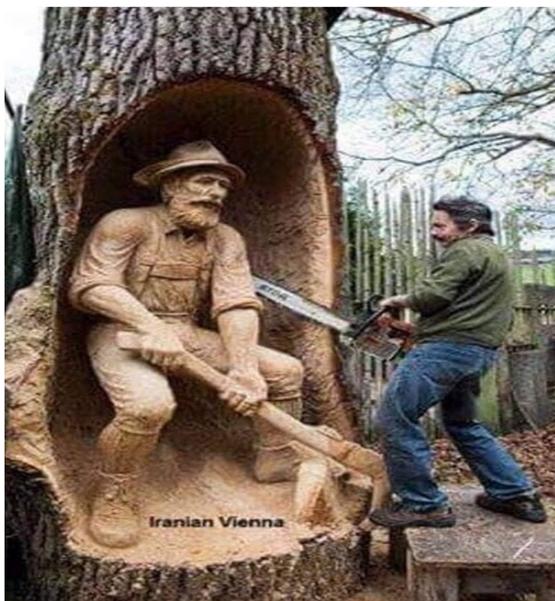
Some of Chandrika’s produce—

Left—Amaranth, Center—Beans and peppers, Right—Dahlia

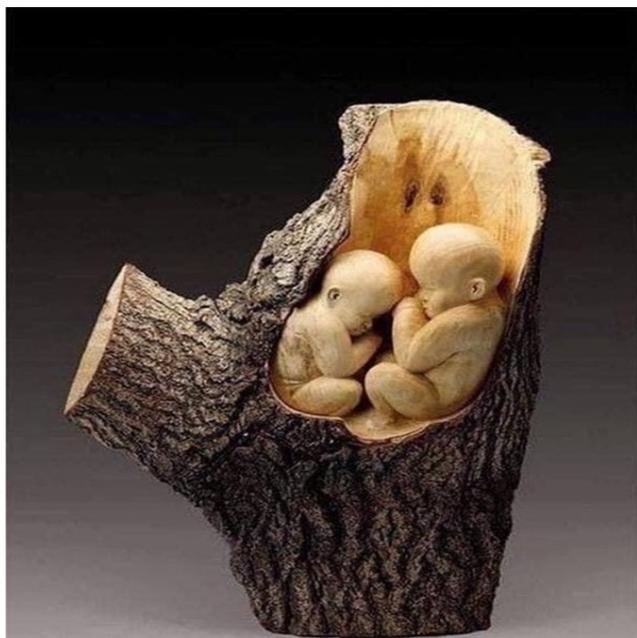
More of Nature’s beauty -

*With all the talk of bee and hornet nests, **Lois Inglisa** sent along this picture to remind us of the wonder of nature.*

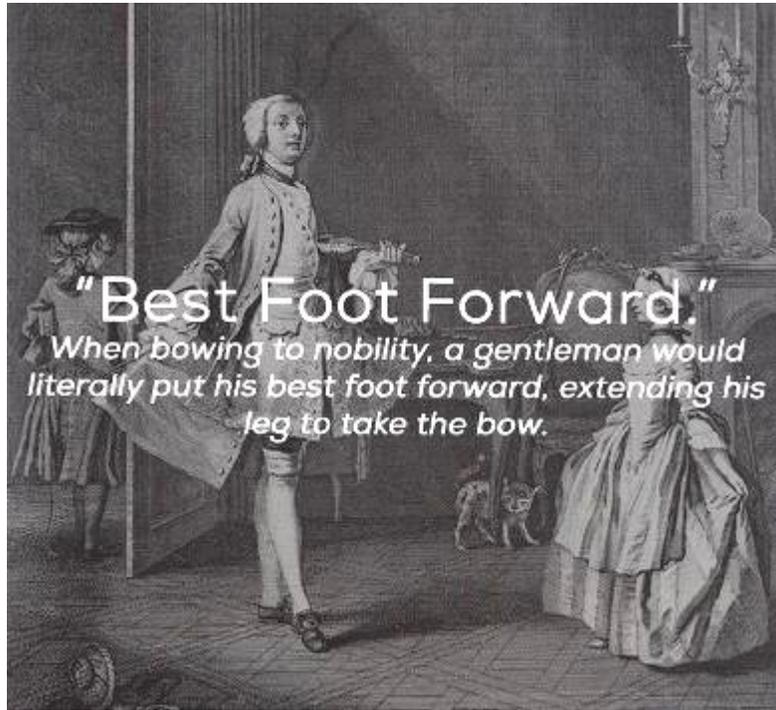




From
Lois Inglisa—
photos of chainsaw
sculptures, trans-
forming dead or
damaged trees into
works of art.

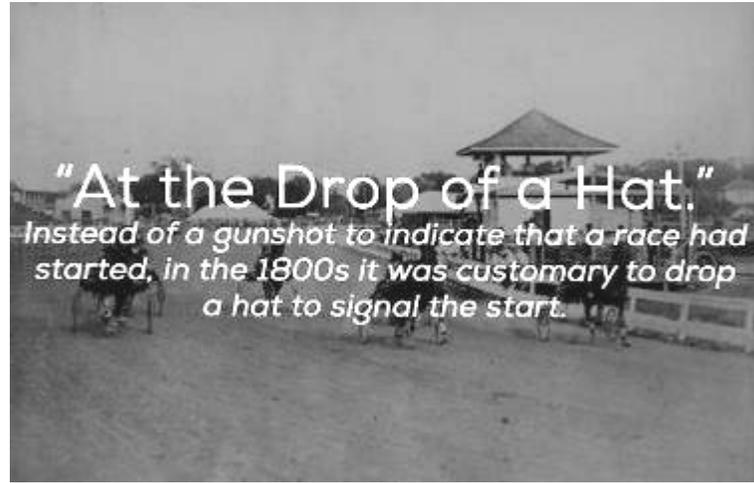


Phrase Origins, submitted by Jean Skelly



"Best Foot Forward."

When bowing to nobility, a gentleman would literally put his best foot forward, extending his leg to take the bow.



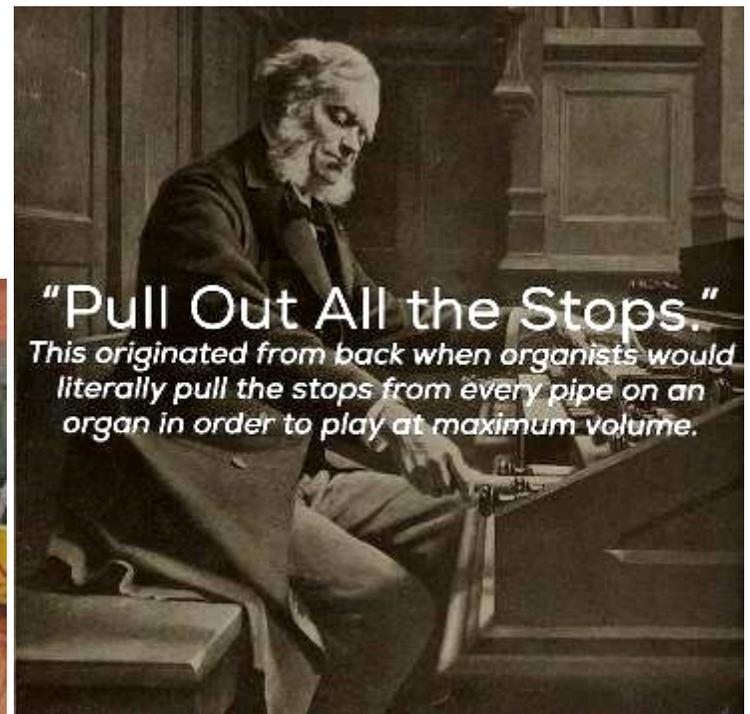
"At the Drop of a Hat."

Instead of a gunshot to indicate that a race had started, in the 1800s it was customary to drop a hat to signal the start.



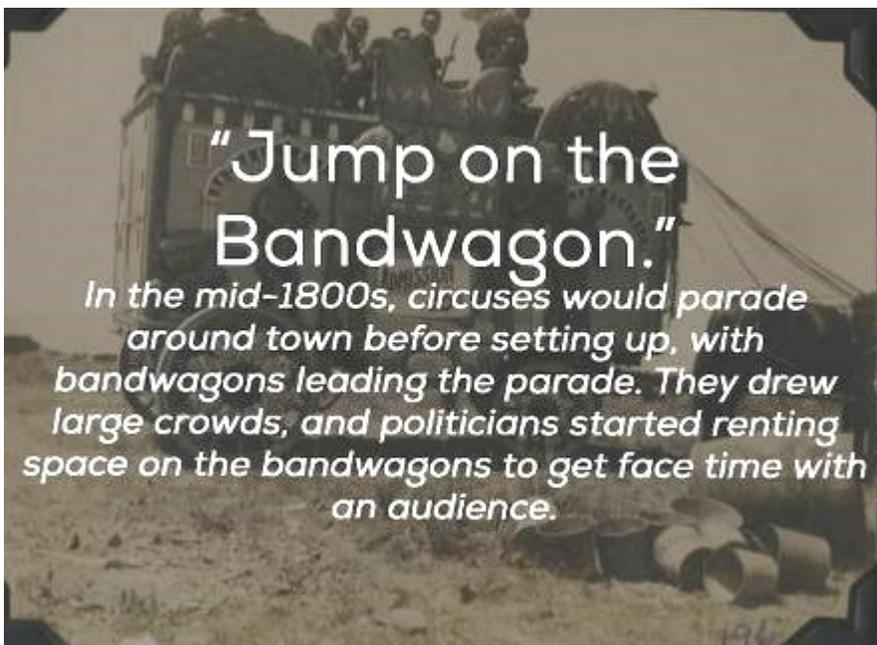
"Close, but no cigar."

During carnivals in the 1800s, cigars were rewarded as prizes for winning carnival games.



"Pull Out All the Stops."

This originated from back when organists would literally pull the stops from every pipe on an organ in order to play at maximum volume.



"Jump on the Bandwagon."

In the mid-1800s, circuses would parade around town before setting up, with bandwagons leading the parade. They drew large crowds, and politicians started renting space on the bandwagons to get face time with an audience.



"Get off your High Horse."

Before cars, owning a horse was a sign of prominence, since nobility and high-ranking military officials were primarily the ones who owned them. Getting off, meant to humble yourself.

Wisdom of the Rockers..

Aging—"An extraordinary process whereby you become the person you always should have been" - David Bowie

"Your graciousness is what carries you. It isn't how old you are, how young you are, how beautiful you are, or how short your skirt is. What it is, is what comes out of your heart. If you are gracious, you have won the game." — Stevie Nicks

"If you truly dig what you are doing, if you lay it out that way, nobody can not respond. That's what rock and roll is; it's relentless." Cass Elliot

"I want to rock till I drop. I love rock and roll music. It keeps you young"— Dion DiMucci

This is a good place to briefly, but effectively, describe your product or services.

Logic

Submitted by Chandrika Thankappan

The difference between in-laws and outlaws? Outlaws are wanted.

Alcohol is a perfect solvent: it dissolves marriages, families and careers.

A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.

Archaeologist: someone whose career lies in ruins.

Alcohol and calculus don't mix . Never drink and derive.

A man running in front of a car gets tired and one running behind gets exhausted.

War does not determine who is right, it determines who is left.

A man who drives like hell is bound to get there.



Appliance Rebate for energy saving upgrade Good until September 30

GET ~~\$50~~ \$100 WHEN YOU PULL THE PLUG ON YOUR OLD APPLIANCE!

You know retiring an aging, power-hungry appliance can save real energy and money over the long haul. But did you know Efficiency Smart will pay you \$100 for responsibly recycling your older, working unit? It's true! But only for a limited time.

Just schedule your free pickup by September 30 to qualify for the bonus reward.



ELIGIBLE APPLIANCES:

REFRIGERATOR • FREEZER • DEHUMIDIFIER • WINDOW AIR CONDITIONER

Certain conditions apply. Contact Efficiency Smart for more information.

SCHEDULE YOUR FREE PICKUP TODAY:

Visit www.energysmart.org/middletown-delaware
and select "Appliance Recycling Rewards" or call 888-997-9106.

One of the energy efficiency initiatives offered in partnership between:



Senior (and other) Perks

1. Free entry to national parks

The National Park Service (NPS) manages [423 parks](#), from Acadia in Maine to Zion in Utah. Of those parks, more than 100 charge entrance fees. The rest are free. However, the NPS waives entrance fees at all parks five days a year. Here are the free dates for 2022:

- **Jan. 17: MLK Day**
- **April 16: Start of National Park Week**
- **Aug. 4: Anniversary of the Great American Outdoors Act**
- **Sept. 24: National Public Lands Day**
- **Nov. 11: Veterans Day**

Members of the military, as well as [military veterans](#) and Gold Star Family members, can all get a pass for free entry to national parks.

For others, it's not free, but it can be a bargain:

People 62 and older can purchase a [lifetime senior pass](#) to national parks for just \$80 (plus a \$10 processing fee). Anybody in the car with a person holding a lifetime senior pass also gets in for free.



2. The Over-60 Tuition-Free Degree program

To be eligible for free undergraduate or graduate tuition, Delaware residents aged 60 or over must apply for admission to the University and be admitted.

<https://www.pcs.udel.edu/60-tuition-free-degree/>

3. Free movies

If you don't want to pay for sites like Hulu or Netflix, you have plenty of others where you can watch movies for free — and many of the available movies are quite good.

[Crackle.com](#), [TubiTV](#) are good places to start. You'll have to watch a few ads in exchange for getting to see the movies, but they are free of charge. [Peacock](#) is another.

(Senior Perks cont.)

4. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute—OLLI

Friendship, social opportunities and learning —
no grades or exams

From OLLI—OLLI membership is open to men and women 50+ and to members' spouses or partners at any age. Whether your formal education ended early in life or includes advanced degrees, we welcome you. Many VOLC residents have taken classes at the OLLI classes in Wilmington and online.

- **Join OLLI for fun and learning — online, in-person or both!**
- **Fall 2022 — Mark your calendar, classes start September 6!**

[Registration re-opens August 24-September 20!](#)

Click here to learn more about OLLI.

<https://www.lli.udel.edu/about/>

Late registration and drop/add will be available during the first 2 weeks of class on a first-come first-served basis, by emailing OLLI-online@udel.edu with your request.



My face in the mirror isn't so
wrinkled or drawn.
My house isn't dirty,
and the dust is all gone.
My garden looks lovely,
and so does my lawn.
I think I might never
put my glasses back on.

Coming birthdays...

September

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Cheryl Werner | 6th |
| Nancy Halbedl | 12th |
| Mim Krout | 12th |
| Christine Killian | 18th |
| Dee Pinchot | 18th |
| John Johnson | 23 rd |
| Amy Leickel | 23 rd |
| Grace Hobson | 25th |

October

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Maria Tricarico | 9th |
| Susanne Getty | 14th |
| Dean Rapp | 15th |
| Lenny Tricarico | 17th |
| Stan Sanders | 21 st |
| Dr. T | 26 th |
| Sam Ferrara | 30th |
| Barbara Doto | 30th |



Coming event...

Join us for our End-of-Summer Party on Sunday, September 11, at 4 PM.

Master Griller, Bob Leaming, will be serving up burgers and dogs. Beverages, assorted sides and desserts will be included at \$10 per person.

Pay at the door, but please let [Christine Killian](#) or [Cheryl Werner](#) know you're coming.

Bring your outdoor gear—chairs, games, etc., and let's have some fun! Who will be our corn-hole champ??

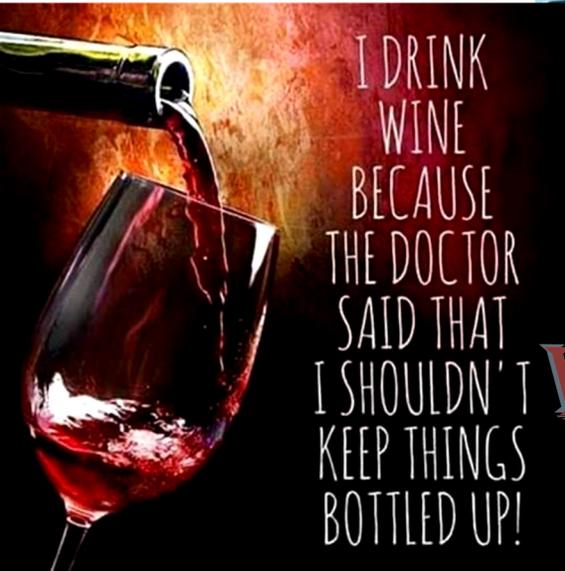
And if you have a favorite summer dish to share, bring it along! Please just let us know, so we can plan accordingly.

Funnies... from Charlie Pinchot

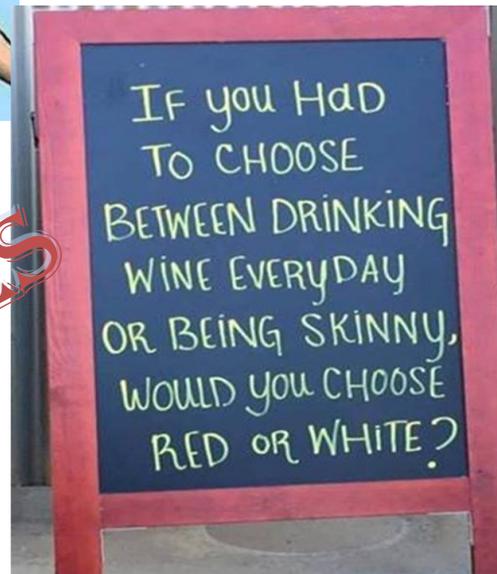
MY DILEMMA IS 25% OF ME WANTS TO BE SLIM AND TRIM, BUT THE OTHER 75% OF ME WANTS PASTA, CHEESECAKE AND UNLIMITED GLASSES OF WINE.



My doctor has given me three days to give up drinking. I've picked the 5th of June, July 17th and October 9th!!



WINE FUNNIES



"I didn't want to waste the good stuff, so I used the oldest bottle in your wine collection for the spaghetti sauce."

I ENJOY A GLASS OF WINE EACH NIGHT FOR ITS HEALTH BENEFITS. THE OTHER GLASSES ARE FOR MY WITTY COMEBACKS AND FLAWLESS DANCE MOVES

I JUST read an article ON THE DANGERS OF DRINKING... Scared the SHIT out of Me. So THAT'S IT! AFTER today, NO MORE READING.

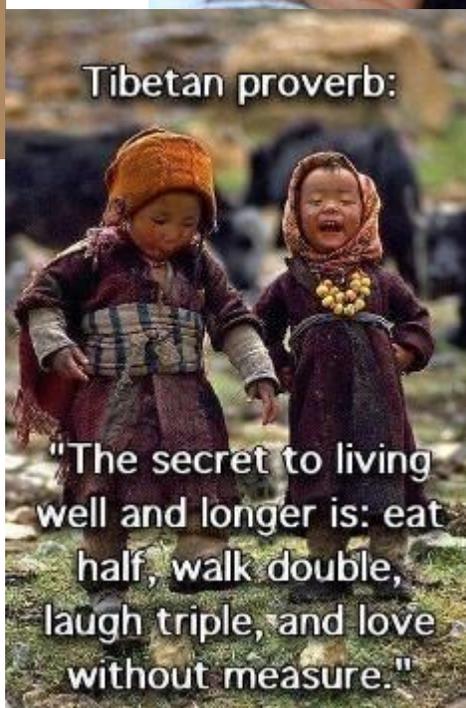
*Wisdom sometimes comes
with age...*

**This lady is from a generation that
knows how to enjoy the moment**



**I get most of my
exercise these
days from
shaking my
head in
disbelief.**

Tibetan proverb:



"The secret to living
well and longer is: eat
half, walk double,
laugh triple, and love
without measure."

It is better to
have a friend
with two chins...
than to have one
with two faces.



**You don't stop laughing
when you grow old**

**you grow old when
you stop laughing!**

We forget that
waking up each day is
the first thing we should
be grateful for.



You don't really
realise how old
you are until
you sit on the
floor and then
try to get back
up.

**IN A WORLD
WHERE YOU CAN BE ANYTHING**



BE KIND



YOU KNOW YOU'RE OLD WHEN YOUR KNEES GIVE YOU A MORE ACCURATE WEATHER FORECAST THAN THE GUY ON THE TV.

GETTING OLDER IS JUST ONE BODY PART AFTER ANOTHER SAYING, 'HA HA, YOU THINK THAT'S BAD? WATCH THIS.'

Paranoia has reached absurd stages...

I sneezed in front of my laptop and the anti-virus started a scan on its own

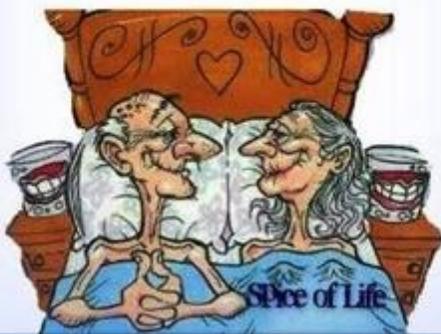
5 Stages of a Woman's

Life:

- To grow up
- To fill out
- To slim down
- To hold it in
- To hell with it



Being lazy is such a strong word. We much prefer "selective participation."



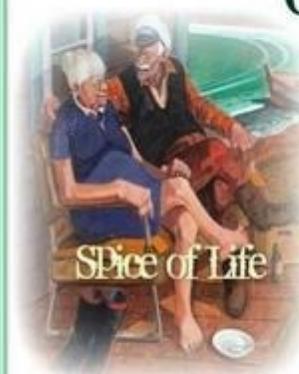
SOME PEOPLE AGE LIKE WINE. OTHERS AGE LIKE MILK.

I kinda like wearing my mask in public. Now I can talk to myself in peace.



I'm so old, I can remember going through a whole day without taking a picture of anything.

Old people are just young people who have been living for a very long time.





"I've crunched the numbers in your retirement account. It's time to figure out who will be wearing the mask and who will be driving the getaway car."



I signed up for an exercise class and was told to wear loose fitting clothing...

If I HAD any loose fitting clothing, I wouldn't have signed up to begin with.

I see people around my age mountain climbing, I feel good getting my leg through my underwear with out losing my balance

YOU KNOW YOU'RE GETTING OLD WHEN A RECLINER AND A HEATING PAD IS YOUR IDEA OF A HOT DATE

AT MY FUNERAL TAKE THE BOUQUET OFF MY COFFIN AND THROW IT INTO THE CROWD TO SEE WHO IS NEXT

"I find, these days, that most of my conversations start out with: Did I tell you this already? or What was I going to say?"

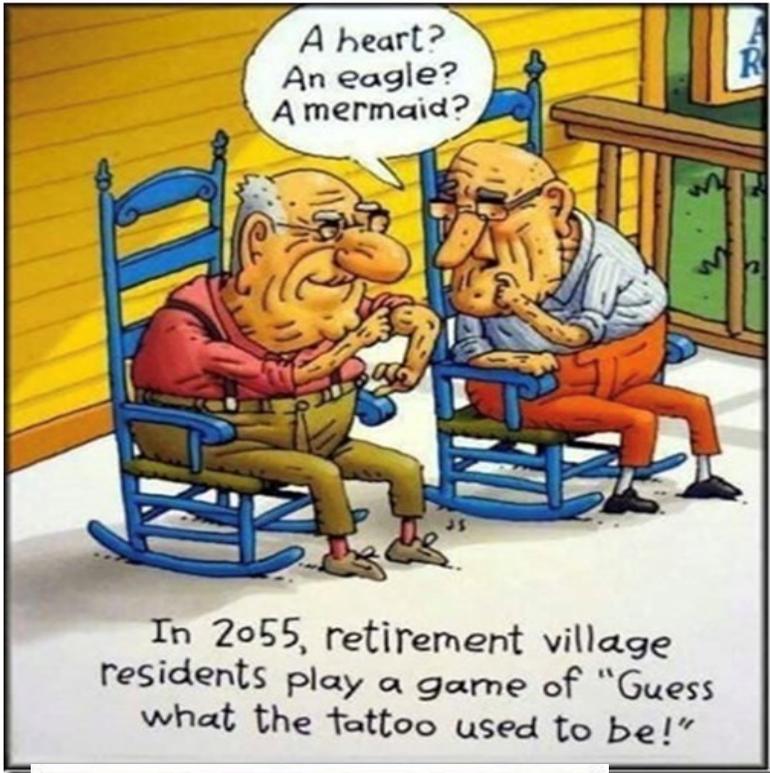


If i woke up and Nothing Hurt I would think I was dead.



Double Takes



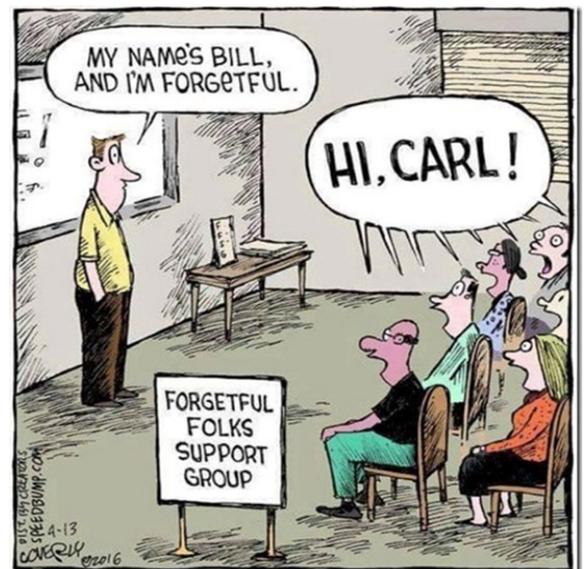


You know you've sunken to new lows when you refer to a trip to the supermarket as 'going out'

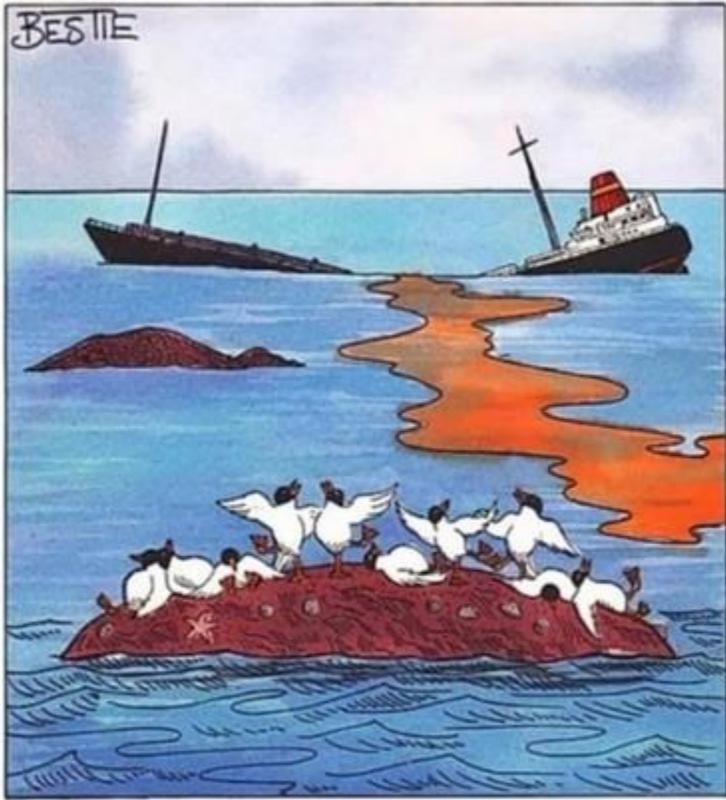
When I die I want my last words to be, "I left a million dollars under the..."



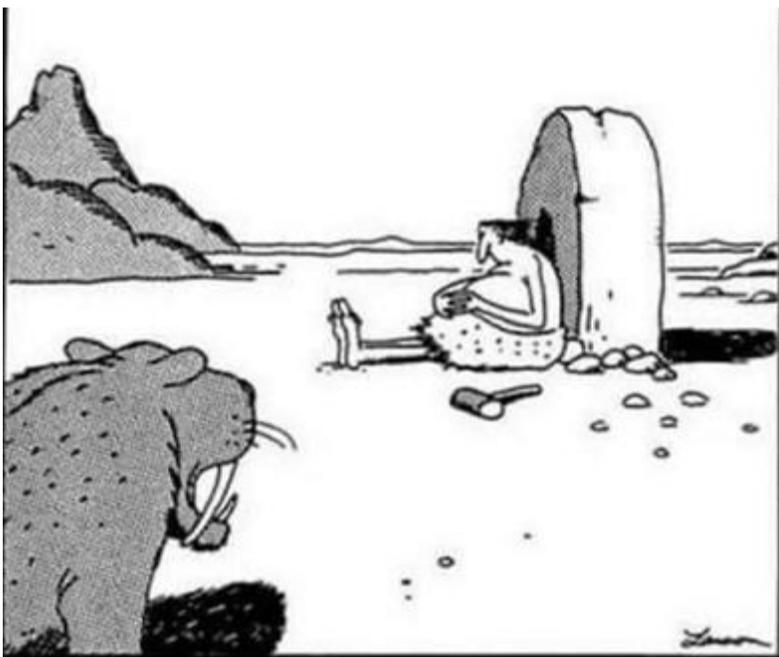
An elderly man thinking his wife was losing her hearing went about 20' behind her and asked "Can you hear me sweetheart?" No reply. Moved to 10' and inquired again. No reply. 5' and not a word. A few inches behind ear, he asked "Can you hear me now honey?" His wife said "For the fourth time, yes."



More Funnies from Charlie Pinchot



AFTER 50,000 GALLONS OF WHISKY
LEAKED INTO THE SEA, NO TERN
WAS LEFT UNSTONED

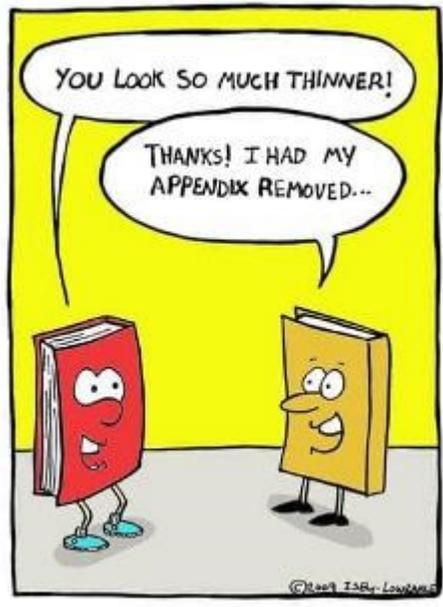


Thag Anderson becomes the first fatality as a result of
falling asleep at the wheel.

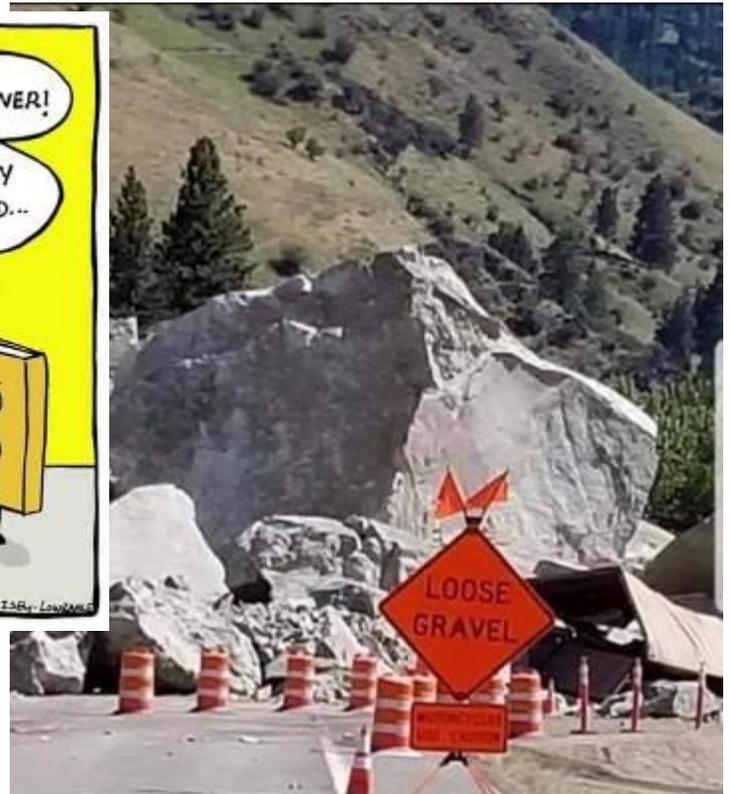


"I keep hearing about bluetooth!
What's the best way to prevent it?"

THANKS FOR TEACHING ME THE MEANING OF -PLETHORA- IT MEANS A LOT



"It's ok to mix peas and corn, but don't call it 'porn'."



Being a little older, I am very fortunate to have someone call and check on me everyday. He is from India and is very concerned about my car warranty.