Neighborhood Newsletter

Volume 19, Number 4



Thanks to Kay Bennett (in orange with shovel) for the photo!

Can you identify any other VOLC pioneers?

Check out pages 4 - 8

VOLC Board of Directors

May 2026- May 2027

Ruth Leaming, President

Dorene Grant, Vice President

Susie White, Secretary/Treasurer

Eric Dean, At-large

Charlie Pinchot, At-large

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Judy Anderson
Chandrika Thankappan
Eric Dean, Board Liaison

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Chandrika Thankappan
Charlie Pinchot, Board Liaison

Contact information for these volunteers 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, and is not an official function of the VOLC Maintenance Corporation.

Contact Cheryl Werner, Editor, with suggestions or comments.

908-451-3348 or cherylwerner@verizon.net

From the Board

During this last open Board meeting, there was some very good dialogue concerning the Architectural Review process.

It was noted that we, as a community, are failing to utilize this process as well as we should. How do we know this? We know because the Board is being called in to make determinations on what homeowners have already done, resulting in questionable outcomes, some at great expense to the homeowner.

We all know that this is a deed-restricted community., so whether you are new to the VOLC or have been here since the groundbreaking, be sure to contact the Architectural Review Committee before moving forward on any exterior project. Use the process and save yourself the possibility of any unnecessary expenses.

Thank you,

Your VOLC Board of Directors

You can download an ARC request HERE.

Focus on The VOLC Clubhouse



The beautiful garden beds are maintained by the Garden Club.

Interior building maintenance and usage is overseen by the Clubhouse Committee.

No swimming pool, no tennis courts—it's what we all chose when deciding on the Village of Long Creek. We have one community amenity—the Clubhouse.

Events including Happy Hours, Cookouts, Bingo, Billiards, Book Club, Cards, Friday Meetups, Football parties, Stitch 'n Bitch, Speakers Series Events, and Safe Driver Classes are held here, along with meetings large and small! The clubhouse also provides access to books, puzzles and DVD collections. The list keeps getting longer!

Ultimately, the over-arching purpose of the clubhouse is as a gathering place for folks to socialize and be part of a community. We've all read the articles about how isolation can prove deadly as we age, as in the story linked HERE, sent by Mary Ohara. (Mary smartly thought of her future wellbeing when she bought next to the clubhouse, figuring she could always be in on the action.)

Keeping the clubhouse updated and vibrant is essential.

General Usage Guidelines for the Clubhouse can be found on page 8.

The Clubhouse Committee is currently seeking new members and a Committee Chair.

(Clubhouse cont.)



Making it our own...



We wanted a library, so we built shelves.





We needed safety, so we switched out folding tables and chairs for sturdy ones.





We wanted less noise, so we added acoustic panels.

We needed to meet during Covid, so we added Zoom—and then more technology!





We needed more space, so we built a pavilion!

(Clubhouse cont.)

We wanted information and entertainment, so we invited speakers, instructors, and performers.



(Clubhouse cont.)

And we needed fun, so we made our own.











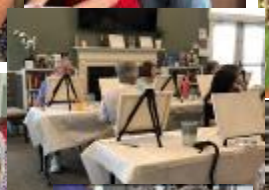














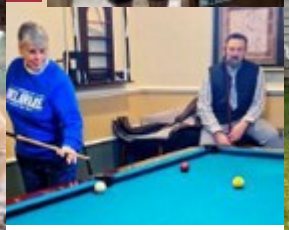
















(Clubhouse cont.)

CLUBHOUSE USAGE IN GENERAL

You own it! Please help keep our clubhouse clean and attractive.

Any resident is free to enter the clubhouse at any time. There are no "hours."

A homeowner or resident should accompany all guests, regardless of age, and be present with them.

The Clubhouse is not available for rent or for private/exclusive use by residents for events such as family parties that are not open to the neighborhood.

Community groups which are open to all, such as the Book Club or Pool Players, are free to schedule special events, such as TV showings or parties. They should bring their own paper goods and food or replace what they use from the general stock.

There is no smoking in the clubhouse and no animals except service animals.

Please schedule meeting time and use of the grill with the designated person from the Committee.

Upon leaving, return furniture to its place, close all windows, turn off the TV and fireplace, return the thermostat to Schedule (SCHED on the thermostat screen), and lock the doors.

The Pavilion:

Place any trash in the bins at the side of the building, roll up sun shades, cover the grill when cool, and stack chairs under the pavilion roof.

The Pool Room:

Please return the cues and other equipment to their designated spaces and cover the table.

The workout room:

No food or drink, except for bottled water.

Please wipe down equipment with the wipes provided and turn off the lights and TV.

Kitchen area:

Wash and dry any glasses, flatware, or bowls used. If the dishwasher is used, please stay to completion.

When full, please empty trash and recyclables to the bins in the shed at the side of the building.

What we're up to...







Travel...

Dick Grant's son and daughter, along with 7 grandkids, surprised Dick for Fathers Day and his birthday. His daughter and her family are from Middletown, PA and his son and his family are from Illinois.
Dick and Dorene made a reciprocal trip to Illinois in August.





Dorene's son, Darren, and his wife, Connie, traveled to Italy, seeking out some of the off-the-beaten-trail small villages. These photos are from Maratea and Tortoli.

Right—**Jean Skelly** and **Janet Sanders** traveled to Atlantic City with the Newark Senior Center. The day included a boat tour, a little gambling, and a walk on the famed boardwalk.

Trips with the Newark Senior Center and the Delaware Express Bus Company are among the most popular travel options with VOLC residents.



More travel...







Karl Markiewicz went fishing on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia in July. He sent these pictures from the Margeree River, where he was fishing for Atlantic salmon He said it was all enjoyable "catch and release" style in a beautiful area, and he hopes to return.







Susie and Ken White went "across the pond" for niece Taylor's wedding in Stow-on-the-Wold, in Gloucestershire, England. While there, they were able to see some local sights, including Stonehenge (left.) At right—the spectacular staircase at their hotel.





4th of July Fun!







Above from left—**Maryann Fagan, Sue Gandy, Jean Skelly, and Odette Haight** attended the annual Safari Sprint at Delaware Park. Competitors included camels (*Little Sheba* and *Humpty Dumpty*), zebras (*Prison Break, Streak*), and ostriches (*Henhouse Harry*).

****

Right—**Jean Skelly's** niece spreads some of Tom Skelly's ashes in the "fairy tale city" Sirimone and Lake Gard. Tom had always wanted to travel to Italy, his grandfather's homeland. He now rests there in peace.



Left—**Donnie and Carol Thompson's** grandchildren are finishing up a summer of sports. The whole family then gathered for their annual Ocean City N.J vacation. The kids are looking forward to school and Fall sports.

From left—Noah, senior, age 17; Ava, sophomore, age 15; and Colin, 6th grade, 12 yrs old





...Snapping Nature



Snake! It appears that **Kay Bennett** is giving Ken and Paulette Francis a run for their money when it comes to the title of the "VOLC home for critters."

Kay snapped these pictures of a Black Rat Snake wandering between houses.

Internet sources contend that these snakes are non-venomous and beneficial because they eat insects and mice and other undesirable critters. Still...





On a much more attractive note, **Kay** sent along these pictures of her "Moon Plant." Kay says she didn't plant it; it just appeared at some point on the side of her house, a beautiful volunteer. The flowers open in the dark and close in the morning.



Jean Skelly's Ring Camera told her someone was at the door. When she looked, she found this little frog sitting right on it!

Cheryl Werner was able to catch this little hummingbird getting his fill from some hanging petunias. He was not much bigger than the blossoms!







Left—These beautiful blooms were showing off at **Chandrika Thankappan**'s house.

At right, Chandrika captured a double rainbow.



Family!







Proud grandparents **Bill and Judy Anderson** attended grandson Cameron's graduation on June 2 from Avon Grove High School. Cameron will attend West Chester University this fall.

Cameron is also a paintball enthusiast and was awarded the title of MVP at a NJ Paintball competition.



Above, **JoanMarie Powers'** granddaughter, Olivia, is pictured on the day of her bridal shower in Massachusetts. The wedding date is in October.

Below—**Marilyn Abrams'** grandson, David, received the prestigious pre-doctoral fellowship at the University of Virginia from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, part of the NIH.

No surprise—Marilyn is so proud of him!!











The Friday Meetup is held every week, and you can always count on good conversation, probably some reminiscing, and sometimes, quizzes, games, or trivia.

And then there was the time Janet Sanders tied some folks together by the wrist and challenged them to get out without untying the knots! Guess who figured it out first. (JL!)



Sharon and Bob Dickol



Odette Haight and Gary Legreid

Delaware News

Delaware Memorial Bridge lane closures

A major preservation project will close two right lanes of the East-bound Delaware Memorial Bridge for about 11 weeks starting on September 7, according to Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA) officials. The project is expected to be finished by Nov. 24 — two days before Thanksgiving Day.

Primary Voting:

Primary elections will take place on September 15. Our designated voting location is Hodgson Vo-Tech HS, right down the street.



For the grandkids

A new inclusive playground has opened at Glasgow Park.



Flock Cameras

You may have heard about the controversial Flock cameras that record license plates as cars pass. It seems they are suddenly everywhere, including right outside our door. On one side, the argument is for safety and as a useful police tool. On the other, concerns about privacy and misuse. Wilmington has decommissioned their Flock cameras, but those in Newark remain.

You can read about them HERE. The map shows two cameras right outside the VOLC on Glasgow Ave. and in the Peoples Plaza parking lot. (Thanks to Bob Greenblatt for pointing them out,)



September

Cheryl Werner	*6th*
Sue Gandy	*8th*
Nancy Halbedl	*12th*
Mim Krout	*12th*
Christine Killian	*18th*
John Johnson	*23rd*
Grace Hobson	*25th*
Debbie Fry	*26th*
Phil Pannucci	*27th*
Carol Renna	*27th*



Gary Legreid's August birthday was celebrated at an after-meetup dinner out with neighbors. Friday Meetup has become a VOLC social fixture and the after-meetup dinners extend the fun.



October

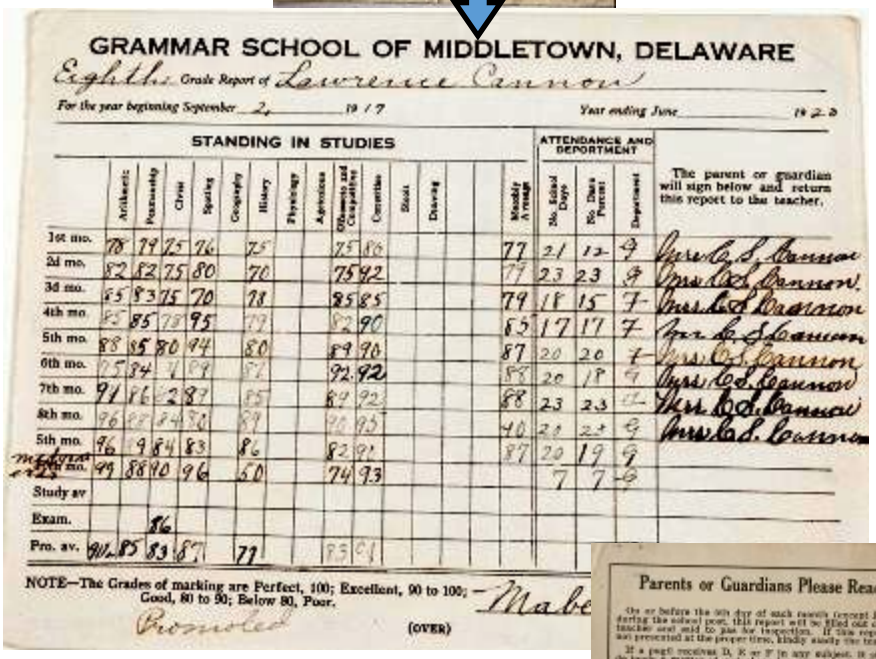
Maria Tricarico	*9th*
Theresa Han	*9th*
Susanne Getty	*14th*
Dean Rapp	*15th*
Jackie Roark-Martin	*16th*
Lenny Tricarico	*17th*
Stan Sanders	*21st*
Sam Ferrara	*30th*

Can you imagine if these reports went home today?

Katie Whiteoak *found these Middletown 8th grade school reports for her paternal grandmother's brother, Lawrence Cannon.*

Below are both photos of the originals and their easier-to -read versions.





GRAMMAR SCHOOL OF MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE

Eighth Grade Report of Lawrence Cannon

For the year beginning September 2, 1917 Year ending June 1920

STANDING IN STUDIES

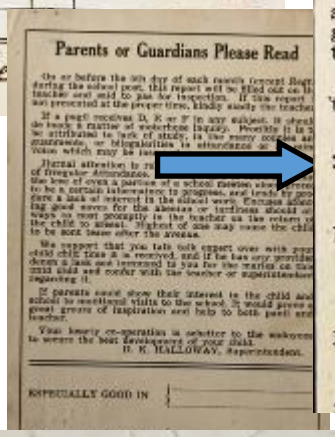
	Arithmetic	Penmanship	Civics	Spelling	Geography	History	Physiology	Agriculture	Oil Cooking and Competitive	Cornetics	Stock	Drawing			Monthly Average	ATTENDANCE AND DEPORTMENT: No. School Days	No. Days Present	Deportment	The parent or guardian will sign below and return this report to the teacher.
1st mo.	78	79	75	76		75			75	80					77	21	12	9	Mrs C. S. Cannon
2d mo.	82	82	75	80		70			75	92					79	23	23	9	Mrs C. S. Cannon
3d mo.	85	83	75	70		78			85	85					79	18	15	7	Mrs C. S. Cannon
4th mo.	85	85	78	95		79			82	90					85	17	17	7	Mrs C. S. Cannon
5th mo.	88	85	80	94		80			89	90					87	20	20	7	Mrs C. S. Cannon
6th mo.	75	84	91	89		87			92	92					88	20	18	9	Mrs C. S. Cannon
7th mo.	91	86	82	89		85			89	92					88	23	23	9	Mrs C. S. Cannon
8th mo.	96	88	84	80		89			90	95					90	20	20	9	Mrs C. S. Cannon
9th mo.	96	89	84	83		86			82	91					87	20	19	9	
10th mo.	99	88	90	96		50			74	93						7	7	9	
Study av																			
Exam.			86																
Pro. av.	91½	85	83	87		77			83	91									

NOTE—The Grades of marking are Perfect, 100; Excellent, 90 to 100; Good, 80 to 90; Below 80, Poor.

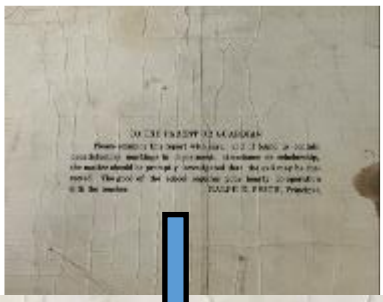
Promoted

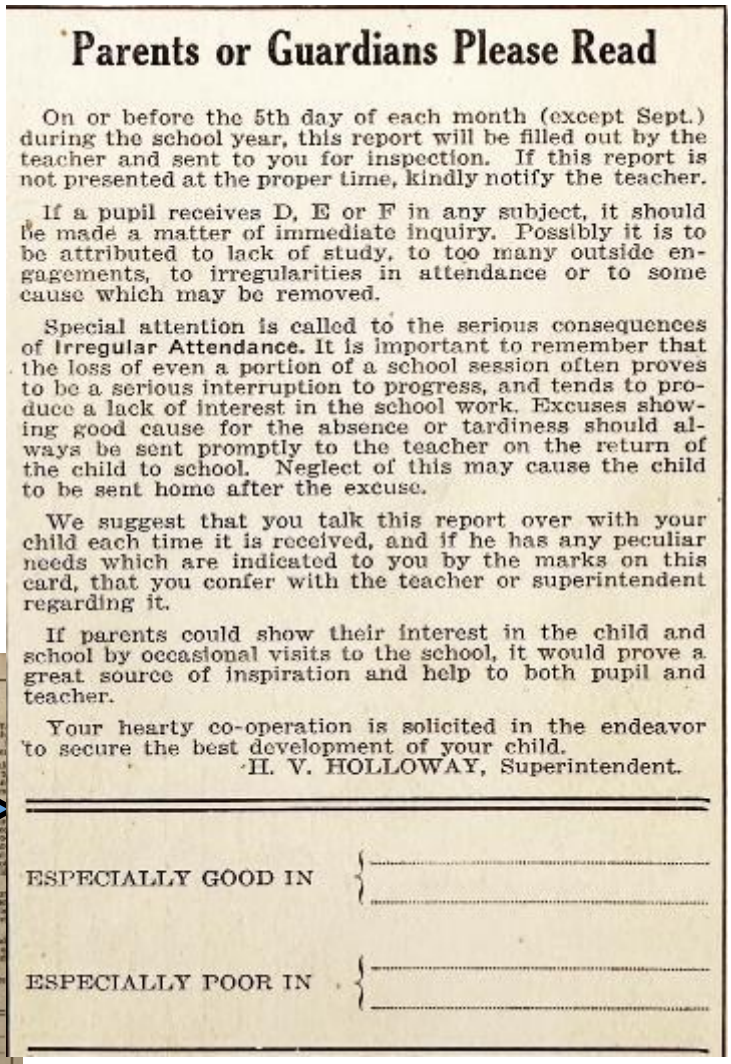
(OVER)

Mabe



Parents or Guardians Please Read





Parents or Guardians Please Read

On or before the 5th day of each month (except Sept.) during the school year, this report will be filled out by the teacher and sent to you for inspection. If this report is not presented at the proper time, kindly notify the teacher.

If a pupil receives D, E or F in any subject, it should be made a matter of immediate inquiry. Possibly it is to be attributed to lack of study, to too many outside engagements, to irregularities in attendance or to some cause which may be removed.

Special attention is called to the serious consequences of **Irregular Attendance.** It is important to remember that the loss of even a portion of a school session often proves to be a serious interruption to progress, and tends to produce a lack of interest in the school work. Excuses showing good cause for the absence or tardiness should always be sent promptly to the teacher on the return of the child to school. Neglect of this may cause the child to be sent home after the excuse.

We suggest that you talk this report over with your child each time it is received, and if he has any peculiar needs which are indicated to you by the marks on this card, that you confer with the teacher or superintendent regarding it.

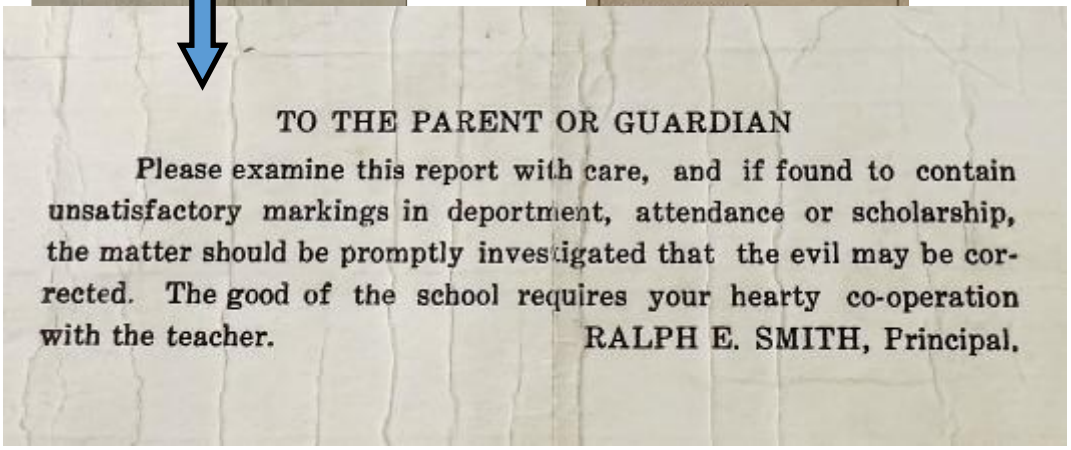
If parents could show their interest in the child and school by occasional visits to the school, it would prove a great source of inspiration and help to both pupil and teacher.

Your hearty co-operation is solicited in the endeavor to secure the best development of your child.

H. V. HOLLOWAY, Superintendent.

ESPECIALLY GOOD IN

ESPECIALLY POOR IN



TO THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN

Please examine this report with care, and if found to contain unsatisfactory markings in deportment, attendance or scholarship, the matter should be promptly investigated that the evil may be corrected. The good of the school requires your hearty co-operation with the teacher.

RALPH E. SMITH, Principal.



How locals really say these Delaware town names

By Jackson Cooper, Delaware News Journal—submitted by Mary Ohara



Delaware may be the nation's second-smallest state, but it packs a wide range of unique town names.

Most of the First State's town and place names have been around for centuries, giving plenty of time for Delawareans to alter their pronunciations. After all, these names come from a breath of historical roots, pulling at times from European counterparts and frequently sharing spellings with other cities in the United States.

Fortunately, the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs does have a comprehensive guide to help newcomers learn the ropes of naming some of the state's biggest cities and towns.

But, if you needed a refresher, here's a guide to pronouncing some often-botched Delaware place names.

Hockessin

The "c" in this New Castle County town can still trip up newcomers and many lifelong residents alike. It is pronounced "HO-kess-in," not "HOCK-ess-in."

Newark

Even though it's spelled the same as the much larger city in New Jersey, this college town's unique pronunciation makes it probably the most mispronounced town name in Delaware. The Delaware Newark distinctly enunciates the "a", pronouncing it NOO-ark, rather than the New Jersey Newark's NOO-erk.

Christiana

This New Castle County community (and its mall) is pronounced with a short "a" — Chris-ti-ANN-a, not Chris-ti-AW-na.

Glasgow (Pronunciation cont.)

Plenty of American towns borrow their names from European counterparts, though few stick to the original pronunciations. Glasgow is an exception — like the original Glasgow in Scotland, the community's name is pronounced GLAZ-go, not GLASS-gow.

Smyrna

Wedged in between New Castle and Kent counties and part of the Dover metro area, a common mistake is calling this town “SMEERN-a” or “SUH-mer-na.” – you pron-

Frederica

While many locals won’t call you out for mispronouncing it, the town is pronounced “Fred-er-ICK-a,” as opposed to “Fred-REEK-a.”

Leipsic

Best to just ignore the “e” in this one – this Kent County town is pronounced LIP-sick, not LIPE-sick or LEEP-sick.

Houston

Similar to Newark, this Kent County town suffers from frequent mispronunciations due to sharing its name with a larger city elsewhere in the country. While it’s spelled the same as Houston, Texas, this is pronounced HOUSE-ton, not HUGHES-ton.

Port Mahon

Located right along the edge of the Delaware Bay and named after a similar port city off the coast of Spain, locals pronounce it “MAY-hawn.”

Lewes

It’s all too common to hear out-of-state tourists at the Delaware beaches make this mistake. As any Delawarean would tell you, that second “e” is pronounced – like Louis, not Lose.

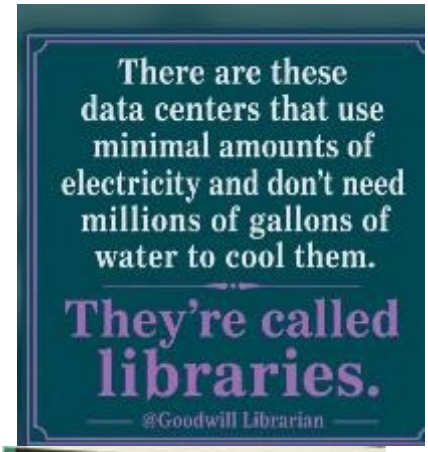


Bob Greenblatt and Donnie Thompson traveled with Delaware Express for the Original Brooklyn Pizza Tour.

The Brooklyn Bridge and Grimaldi's were stops on their trip.



More signs...























Around the clubhouse

Below—Birthday Babies—**Cheryl Ford, Fran Rapp, and Gary Legreid** at the August Happy Hour



Get Artsy!

After a July break, Get Artsy classes began again in August, led by Judy Anderson and Cheryl Werner, with an exercise in Flower Pounding.

Creativity flowed as design and product selections were made.



Judy's pouch



Cheryl's artwork



Janet Sanders



Mim Krout,
Nancy Halbedl



Chandrika Thankappan

Yup! We used hammers!





Debbie Happold



Maureen Graham





How's this for a sign? Courtesy of **Jean Skelly's** niece in Italy



Just three friends relaxing— **Paulette Francis, Grace Hobson, and Chandrikamma Thankappan** who took the selfie.

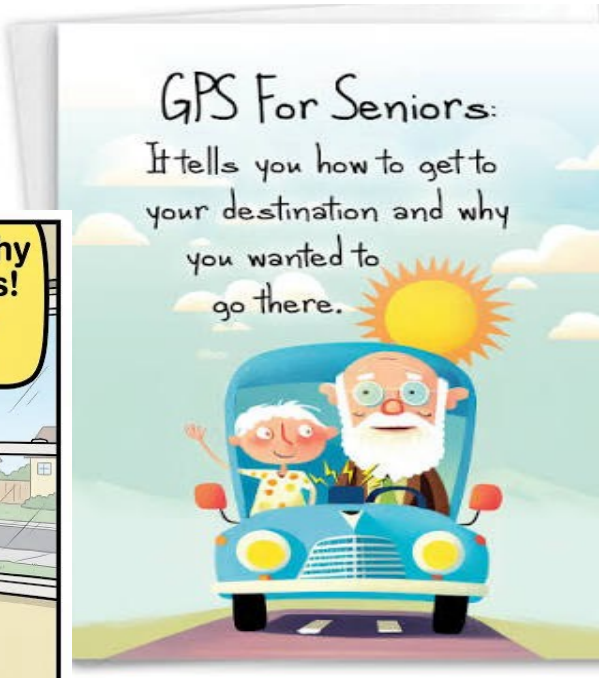


Look closely. **Sue Gandy** sent along this photo, "Head in the Clouds."



Due to the generosity of his dinner companions, it appears that **Don Hobson** now has enough lemons for his drink!







Free gift cards for your birthday!



Birthday Paks are advertising mailings designed for women to introduce them to local restaurants and services. You can sign up to receive the pack of gift cards here.



Maria deArmas was so impressed with her breakfast at the new Moon Star Bakery in Fox Run Shopping Plaza, she wanted to tell everyone about it.



Chandrika Thankappan sent along these wise Commandments for Seniors.



Submitted by **Judy Anderson**