

Neighborhood Newsletter

Winter
2021

Volume 12, Number 2

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Cheers

Prost

Sante!

Salute!

Salud!

Gesondheid

Na zdrowie

Sei gesund



When the snow descended on December 16, Bear Skelly went sledding.

See more of Bear's Holiday Adventures on page 14.

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May 2020 - May 2021

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**Contact information can be found
on the VOLC website**

<https://www.myvolc.org/>



The VOLC Clubhouse remains closed.

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

VOLC - KNOW THE SNOW (2020-2021)

READ CAREFULLY and RETAIN FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

Here is how the snow removal program works for VOLC for this Winter.

Vehicles shall be removed from the streets during a snow event to facilitate access by snow removal equipment and emergency vehicles.

Lot Services for Driveways and Sidewalks: For snowfall exceeding 1-inch, removal is considered. Services may start within 2 hours after the snow stops. This is a judgment decision as in some cases rain or other events will result in rapid removal without our assistance. Vehicles in driveways should be placed in garages if possible.

For the Streets: Snow removal generally starts if the accumulation is greater than 3 inches. The Board may elect to plow snow in streets if less than 3 inches has fallen. If rain or other weather-related removal assistance is expected, the board may elect to delay or not remove the snow.

Red flags placed along driveway or walkway edges would indicate a **total opt out - i.e. NO snow/ice/slush removal service**. In addition, residents and **snow birds** should email volc.rocks@gmail.com if they wish a total opt-out of snow removal services.

Ice and Freezing slush: The board may elect to start removal early during an expected ice or freezing slush event to minimize subsequent frozen quantities. The board may elect **not** to remove ice, or freezing slush from roadside sidewalks depending on quantities and difficulty; and instead concentrate on driveways and sidewalks to the house. In some situations, ice will simply be allowed to melt.

Typically, no salt/ice melt is used. Homeowners may elect to use salt/ice melts on their own sidewalks and driveways. The board is reviewing the potential use of salt/ice melt for **extreme icing events** for driveways and sidewalks. You will be notified if a community wide salt/ice melt operation is planned and an opt-out will be permitted. A special opt-out symbol/flag placement will be used to opt out of BV salt/ice melt but still receive snow removal. This flag/symbol placement will be determined in consultation with our contractor, so we will have no confusion.... and you will be notified.

BrightView (BV), will be providing our snow removal services. Snow removal will be performed with the approval and direction by the VOLC Board. Actual interface with BV will be handled by a Board designate, normally a Snow Co-Chair, or IPS (our management company).

A **bobcat** with rubber tires and tough plastic blade tips greatly increases the speed of snow removal, thus reducing cost. However, the bobcat also may, on occasion, cause some damage to surrounding lawns areas. Bobcats will only be used on the driveways and never on sidewalks.

Scratching/rubbing of driveway surfaces and sealants are considered normal wear and tear. On sidewalks, only hand shoveling or blowing is done. Trucks with plows and hard plastic tips will normally only be used only on the streets. During heavy snow fall, trucks with plastic edge plows may be used for a center pull of snow down the driveway onto the street. If do not want your drive worked in this manner, place red flags for NO service.

Snow stakes will be used by BV to mark edges of driveways, walks etc. These stakes, owned by VOLC, will be removed in the spring and stored by BrightView.

Damage to walkways/sidewalks/driveways/other should be reported when observed, with pictures to IPS at 302-994-3907 ext 2 and/or info@ipsde.com. Damage to the grass should also be reported to IPS as it is noticed. At the end of the snow season IPS will provided a full list of grass damage areas to the snow removal company. Grass repairs will take place at the same time as spring clean-up.

Guidelines for specific situations will be discussed with BV as they arise, such as snow removal near the mailboxes, benches and handicapped sidewalk ramps; and preference for driveway shovel edging.

VOLC Snow Hotline phone number is: [\(302\) 598-4891](tel:3025984891). This line receives voice mail and text.

Steve Brubaker and Robert Leaming - Snow Co-Chairs / Eric Dean - Board Grounds Liaison

Neighbors



At left - Looks like **Lenny Tricarico** was abducted by an alien!

Right - **Sue Bifano's** grandson, Paxton, told his mom exactly what he wanted to be for Halloween - a set of sheets!!!



Above - Cheryl and Guy Werner's 4-year-old grandson, Garrett, loved his new astronaut costume! He's posing next to the candy shoot he built with his dad to provide contact-less trick or treating for neighbors.



Cody Trach is all dressed up for the holiday. Mom, **Linda**, says, "Cody tolerates my fashion requests."



This cute pilgrim greeted folks at **Nancy Weldin's** house, wishing them Bountiful Blessings at Thanksgiving..

And families...



Nancy Weldin had her king "crowned" for Christmas.

Right - Thanks to Linda Trach and Nancy Weldin, the Basin 5 Pups keep their holiday watch, night and day, even in the snow.

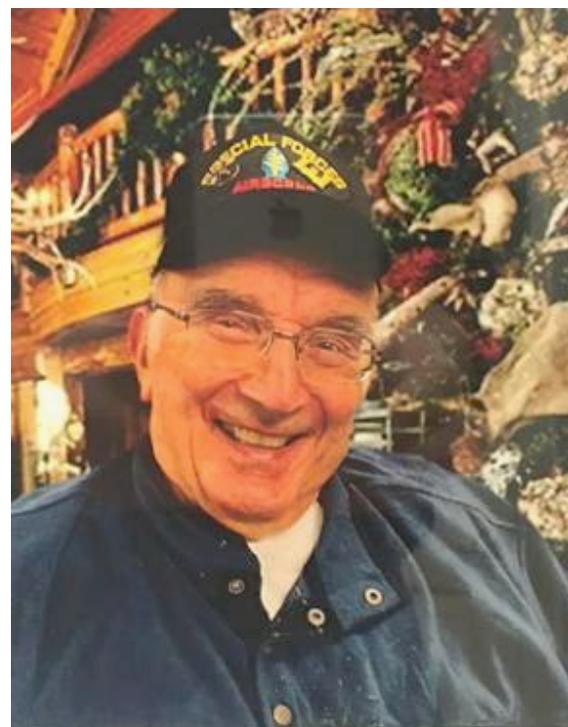


Kay Bennett sent these pictures of a deer family of four that paid a nighttime visit to her backyard the week before Christmas. Showing their holiday spirit, they ate from the holly leaves and berries before bedding down.

(Neighbors cont.)



At left - It's likely that only **Loretta Fitch** could put together "Basket Trees," without having to buy a thing! Look closely and you'll find that the pretty conifers are decorated with tiny baskets. The trees are even topped with baskets instead of angels or stars! Loretta said "It was such a crazy year, I wanted to put together something different." In the spring, Loretta planted a "bed" of begonias - complete with headboard and footboard. Apparently her creativity thrives in all seasons!



Above - **Jim Powers** in a holiday photo taken at the Veterans Home where he now resides. **JoanMarie** and son, John, and daughter, Janice, were able to visit with him several times over the holidays.



Right - **Sue Bifano** had only one wish for Christmas and it came true when son, Craig, and grandson, Paxton, arrived from Colorado for a visit. Sue was in heaven for six days!



(Neighbors cont.)

COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card

Please keep this record card, which includes medical information about the vaccines you have received.
Por favor, guarde esta tarjeta de registro, que incluye información médica sobre las vacunas que ha recibido.

Last Name: Leaming First Name: Ruth MI: _____
Date of birth: 1/28/57 Patient number (medical record or IIS record number): 801189781

Vaccine	Product Name/Manufacturer Lot Number	Date	Healthcare Professional or Clinic Site
1 st Dose COVID-19	<u>EK5730</u>	<u>12/21/20</u> mm dd yy	<u>CCHS-NEWARK</u>
2 nd Dose COVID-19		mm dd yy	
Other		mm dd yy	



VOLC’s own “first responder,” **Ruth Leaming**, got her Coronavirus vaccine injection on 12/21, likely making her the first VOLC resident to do so. Ruth works in the ACE unit at Wilmington Hospital, where anyone over 65 with an acute issue is treated. Husband, **Bob**, was glad to report that all went well!

While there, Ruth thought “something might be up,” since there was lots of security around! Sure enough, a couple of hours later, President-elect Joe Biden, along with wife, Dr. Jill Biden, arrived at the same clinic for their shots!



Cheryl Ford’s daughter, Lauren, and her whole family joined in on the Christmas spirit with matching pjs! They are obviously enjoying the look! Even the pets look happy!



(Neighbors cont.)

Right - **Becky Noetzel** is shown with her great granddaughter, Cornelia, when she was about 3 weeks old. Cornelia Ciel Noetzel, was born on 8/1/2020. She looks quite comfortable with her Great Grandma, as does Becky!



Left - Our first snowstorm of the season was pretty, if not kind to walking and driving. This picture of **Carolyn and Bernard Aresu's** deck proves the “pretty” part.



Jean and Tom Skelly's granddaughter, Caroline Elizabeth Townsend, recently graduated from Coastal Carolina University with a degree in Graphic Design.

Because of the pandemic, the ceremony was virtual. At left, Caroline rejoices when her name appears on-screen. At right, she's on campus with the school mascot, Chauncey, the Chanticleer.

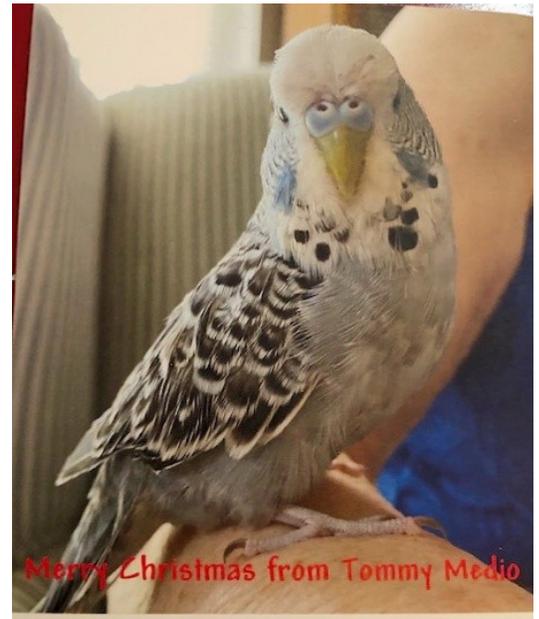
Jean says, “She is our first grandchild, and we are very proud.”



(Neighbors cont.)



Patti Abernethy found that our local turkey vultures failed to take a Christmas break, leaving her to clean up after their holiday get-togethers...



Tommy **Medio**, Barbara's pet parakeet, was featured on **Barbara and Stefano's** Christmas card this year. Tommy is named for quarterback Tom Brady, late of the New England Patriots, and favorite of the Massachusetts' couple.



Thousands of smaller birds flew over the VOLC on their annual trip south.

A Few Thoughts on Aging

Author Anonymous

The only time in our lives when we want to get older is when we're kids. We're so excited about aging, we give our age in fractions - four and a half, ten and a half.



You get into your teens and they can't hold you back. You jump to the next one, say you're "almost 18," or skip a couple altogether...



Then the greatest day - You BE-COME 21! "Become 21" - almost sounds like a ceremony! Yesssss!!! Everything is possible!



But, then you TURN 30. Turn - like sour milk? What happened here?

Then you're "PUSHING" 40! Whoa! You try to put on the brakes, but

You REACH 50!

You MAKE IT to 60



You've built up so much steam,
You Hit 70!
Before you know it,
You GET INTO your eighties... like it's a club - and
so it is!

And if you're lucky enough,
You GET INTO your 90's - where the club is
even more exclusive!
And, now you realize how lucky you are and how
wise you are...



Now, everyone starts to ask you the secret to a long and happy life.

You tell them:

1. Throw out nonessential numbers.

This includes age, weight and height. Let the doctors worry about them.

2. Keep only cheerful friends.

The grouches pull you down.

3. Keep learning.

Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever...

5. Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.

6. Let tears happen. Endure, grieve, and move on.

7. Surround yourself with what you love - whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. Your home is your refuge, make it your own.

8. Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, try to improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.

9. Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, even to the next county, or to a foreign country but NOT to where the guilt is.

10. Tell the people that you love that you love them at every opportunity.



Hard to believe I once had a phone attached to a wall.



When it rang, I'd pick it up without knowing who was calling. Amazing I'm still alive

SHARED ON I'M NOT RIGHT IN THE HEAD.COM

The Phone: then and now...

The phone my sister has (she's six)



The phone I had when I was six



"Is everything OK? You haven't photographed your food yet."



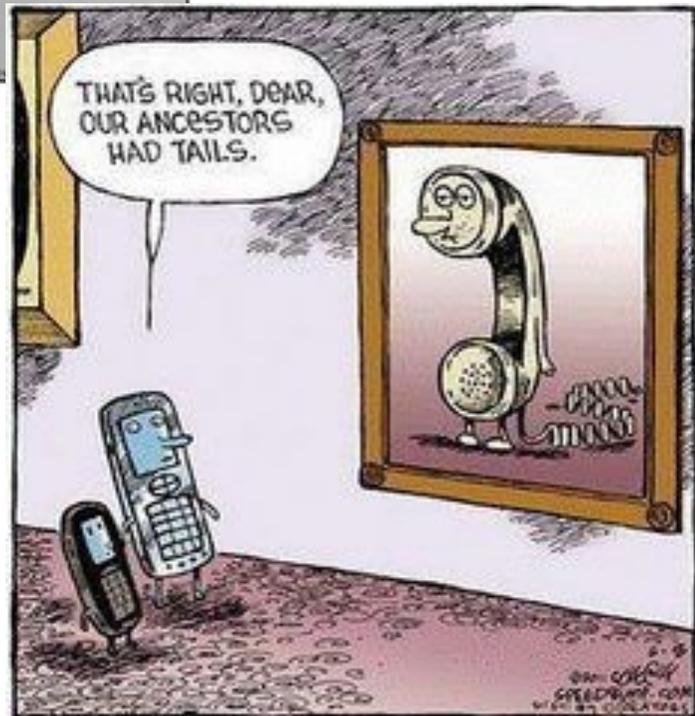
How times have changed!



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(Phones, cont.)



Holiday Adventures with Jean and Tom Skelly



Pretty scary, huh?



That doesn't look very good.



Ah, that's better!



I really was there! See???



Meg, are you asleep?



I love to bug Caroline.



Decorating cookies is fun.



I am so cute in this basket!



I WAS NOT NAUGHTY!!

And BEAR

VOLC Folks Are Caring!

This year's collection of pjs, books, and monetary donations for the Pajama Program marked our 6th year! Not wanting to let COVID-19 stop our streak, boxes went out on the porches of Mary Legreid and Cheryl Werner. The collection is always a success, and many residents tell us they like to know that the pjs and books collected are distributed right here in Delaware. And it's fun to buy cute children's pjs!!!

The Pajama Program is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that promotes and supports a comforting bedtime routine and healthy sleep for children to help them thrive. Since 2001, Pajama Program has delivered over 7 million good nights for good days to children facing adversity by providing new pajamas, storybooks, and resources for caregivers. To achieve its mission, Pajama Program relies on a national network of volunteers, generous donors, and partnerships with 4,000 community-based organizations across the United States and Puerto Rico.

The Pajama Drive



This year, we collected:

65 pairs of pjs,

43 books,

and \$255!!!



VOLC Holiday Food Drive

Bob Leaming (shown at right with just some of the food collected) and wife, **Ruth**, conducted their third VOLC food drive on December 13. When their filled-to-the-brim-car was unloaded and the contents weighed, the VOLC had added another 800+ pound donation to the Food Bank of Delaware, bringing our total over the past two years to well over 2,000 pounds,

Bob says, "Facilitating food drives around the holiday is just something we have done over the years, in support of helping local efforts to help feed the hungry. Have to say that our VOLC community is the most giving community I have ever lived in! Proud to be the VOLC!"



Obviously, Bob and Ruth are active not only in the VOLC community, but in the greater area and are committed to helping wherever they can. Their efforts to involve neighbors in those projects help to improve community spirit and cohesiveness. Thanks, Ruth and Bob!

This year - 800+ Pounds

Over 2 years - Well over 2,00 pounds!

Thanks to All!



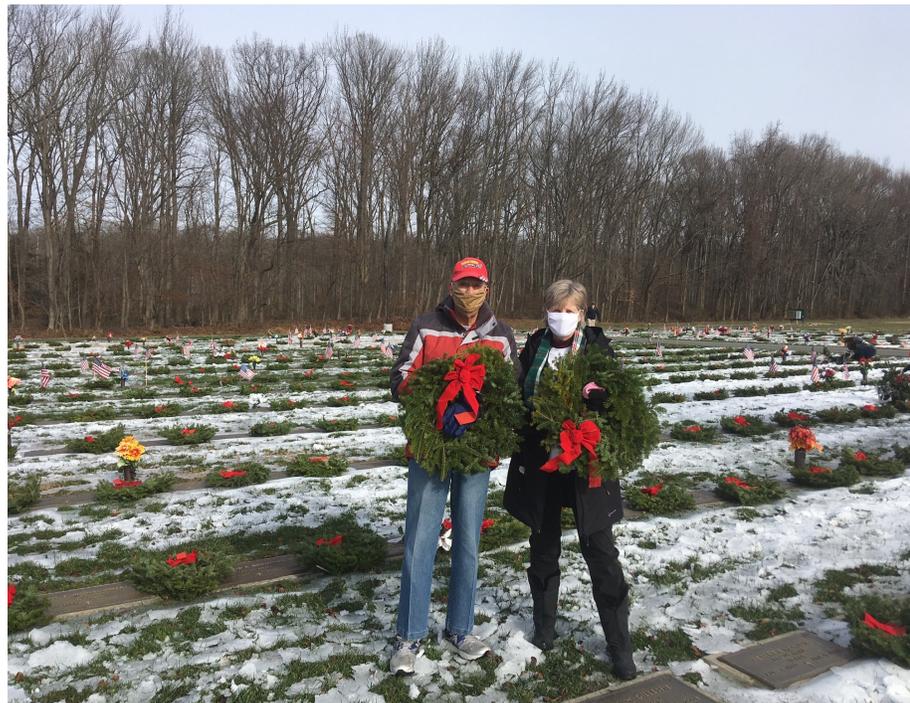
<https://www.fbd.org/>



Wreaths Across America

Right - Ray and Mim Krout

From Mim - "Ray and I volunteered for Wreaths Across America, an organization with the mission to "Remember, Honor and Teach." On Wreath Day, December 19th, we went to the veterans here at the 896 Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery where Ray helped unload boxes of hand made wreaths from a tractor trailer and then we both placed over 100 of them on headstones, along with hundreds of other volunteers. For more information regarding this organization go to <https://www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/our-story>



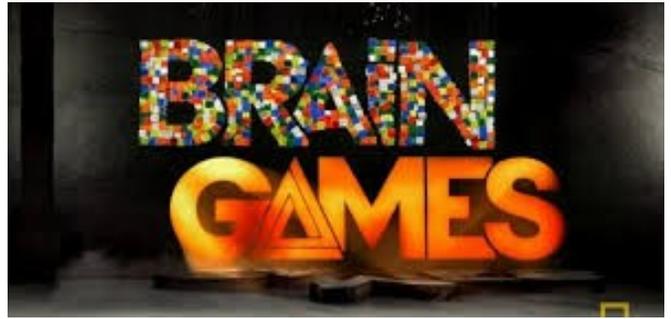
Brain challenge

Submitted by Patti Abernethy

These are not trick questions.

They are straight questions with straight answers.

Answers below.



1. Name the one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest ends.

2. What famous North American landmark is constantly moving backward?

3. Of all vegetables, only two can live to produce on their own for several more growing seasons. All other vegetables must be replanted every year. What are the only two perennial vegetables?

4. What fruit has its seeds on the outside?

5. In many liquor stores, you can buy pear brandy, with a real pear inside the bottle. The pear is whole and ripe, and the bottle is genuine; it hasn't been cut in any way. How did the pear get inside the bottle?

6. Only three words in standard English begin with the letters 'dw' and they are all common words. Name two of them.

7. There are 14 punctuation marks in English grammar. Can you name at least half of them?

8. Name the only vegetable or fruit that is never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form except fresh.

9. Name 6 or more things that you can wear on your feet beginning with the letter 'S.'

Answers:

1. Boxing. 2. Niagara Falls ... The rim is worn down about two and a half feet each year because of the millions of gallons of water that rush over it every minute. 3. Asparagus and rhubarb. 4. Strawberry 5. It grew inside the bottle. The bottles are placed over pear buds when they are small, and are wired in place on the tree. The bottle is left in place for the entire growing season. When the pears are ripe, they are snipped off at the stems. 6. Dwarf, dwell and dwindle. 7. Period, comma, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation point, quotation mark, brackets, parenthesis, braces, and ellipses. 8. Lettuce. 9. Shoes, socks, sandals, sneakers, slippers, skis, skates, snowshoes, stockings, stilts.

Resolving (again!) to lose weight and exercise more?

Enjoy these funnies sent by Barb Doto.



"I'm going to order a broiled skinless chicken breast, but I want you to bring me lasagna and garlic bread by mistake."



"The handle on your recliner does not qualify as an exercise machine."



"I have metal fillings in my teeth. My refrigerator magnets keep pulling me into the kitchen. That's why I can't lose weight!"



"The healthiest part of a donut is the hole. Unfortunately, you have to eat through the rest of the donut to get there!"



"I was going to wake up early to go jogging, but my toes voted against me 10 to 1."

a balanced diet is
chocolate in both hands



Bob Greenblatt asked, “How would you describe the year just ended?” You responded!

Challenging

Reflective

CRUEL

Daunting

Frustrating

Warning

EXHAUSTING

Chaotic

Historic Memorable

Heartbreaking

Disappointing

Exasperating

Sad

Alarming

Hellish

Surreal

TESTING

Kindness

STRANGE Scary

Trying

Disgusting

Inspiring

Coming soon in 2021...

Lower speed limit and fewer trucks on Glasgow Ave - Several members of the VOLC community along with residents of the surrounding area and our elected officials joined a ZOOM meeting on December 26, hosted by State Senator Stephanie Hansen. It was announced that completed traffic studies have reinforced the need for a lowering of the speed limit and the banning of large trucks on Glasgow Avenue. Expect to see the signs soon.

Vaccines - Those 65 and older are now in Group 1B and vaccine should be available toward the end of January, into February. The usual vaccination networks, such as pharmacies, will give the shots.

Delaware's Vaccine Phased Allocation Plan 12.29.20

Week 1-4	Week 5-8	Week 9-12	Week 13-16	Week 17-20	Week 21-24	Week 25-28	Week 29-32
Mid December – Mid January	Mid/late January – Mid/late February	Mid/late February – Mid/late March	March - April	Mid/late April – Mid/late May	Mid/late May – Mid/late June	June	July
					Phase 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anyone who did not have access to vaccines in prior phases 		
					Phase 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16-49 years Essential workers not receiving vaccine in Phase 2 		
				Phase 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50-64 years 16-49 years with moderate-risk medical conditions Other congregate settings Essential workers not receiving vaccine in Phase 1 			
			Remaining Phase 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16-64 years with high-risk medical conditions High-risk congregate settings Other essential workers 				
	Phase 1b <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 65 years and older Frontline essential workers 						
Phase 1a <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents of LTCFs HCP 							

Plastic bag ban - You likely know that single-use plastic bags will be banned in Delaware starting on January 1. The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control urges consumers to bring reusable bags to stores instead and to clean/disinfect those bags between uses. A lot of leeway was given to the stores as to how they would handle the new ban. Some will provide paper and may or may not charge; others will sell you reusable ones. It seems that, in all cases, you can bring your own, but if you do, you must bag your groceries yourself.

This article lists the plans of each of our nearby major grocery stores, at least at the time of publication.

<https://delawarelive.com/2020/12/02/paper-or-thicker-plastic-free-or-not-its-a-mixed-bag/>