

# Neighborhood Newsletter

Spring

**2022**

Volume 14, Number

*Spring...*

***FINALLY!***



*Daffodils and Tulips  
at  
Longwood Gardens*

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*Hours:*

*Wednesday–*

*Monday:*

*10:00 am–6:00 pm*

*Tuesday: Closed*

*Photos by Guy and Cheryl Werner*



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**May 2021- May 2022**

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

**[www.myvolc.org](http://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](mailto:cherylwerner@verizon.net)**

# Sure Signs of Spring

## The driveway car wash!

Left—**Linda Trach** caught **Donnie Thompson** in his first spring car wash.

Below—**Stefano Medio** does the same.



## Clean-up from winter damage!

Below—**Steve Brubaker**, Occasional Grounds Committee Volunteer, sent this picture of a downed ever-green needing to be removed. Removal/replacement of common area trees is one of the committee's chores.



## Baseball!

**Patti Abernethy** sent this photo of 2 month-old grand-nephew, **Cody**, showing off his baseball legacy. Baseball player dad, **Carlos**,

is happy to pass it on to big brother, **Cameron**, and now **Cody**, but told **Patti** there are no plans to build their own team!



## And then—naps after the spring chores!

Left—**Christine Killian's** cat, **Paddy**, took a well-earned, mid-afternoon nap after chasing birds at the window feeder.

# More Spring!



At left—Pax is happy to be back on full display at 33 Devalinder, all spruced up for those who enjoy her!

At right—Susan Brubaker's latch hooked sunflower makes a bright and cheery welcome.



Nice weather brings neighbors outside...

Right—Grace and Don Hobson and Pam Smith and Paul wellborn.

Below—Linda Trach and Jean Skelly



Guy Werner captured the beauty of the many cherry trees right down the street at the medical center.



# Neighbors



In honor of Women’s History Month, sixteen VOLC women met for breakfast at IHOP in the Fox Run Shopping Center. Attendees enjoyed it so much that it will become a monthly event, open to all—men and women.

Above left: **Maria deArmas, Odette Haight, and Susan Brubaker**

Above right: **Sharon Dickol, JoanMarie Powers, Linda Trach, (standing) and Joan Dreibelbis.**

Below left: **Debbie Carr and Paulette Francis**



At right— **Sue Bifano** (seated) and friend, **Ida**, who visited from England in March. Sue and Ida met in Barbados 40 years ago and bonded over a passion for knitting. Ida usually visits about twice a year, but due to COVID, hadn’t been here since 2018. That made the visit especially sweet!

Left—Sue’s grandson, **Paxton**, a first-grader in Leadville, CO.



(Neighbors cont.)



**Odette Haight** recently visited Lancaster, PA with her daughter and granddaughters.

They went on a buggy ride and a farm tour, then went to Sight and Sound Theater to see "David, Live on Stage."

At right—**Odette** with Harper and Hadley in front. At left—Mother and daughter in the farm buggy.

The ladies had a great day!



**Guy and Cheryl Werner's** grandson, Garrett, came to Grandma's for Easter and had a grand time with help from neighbors!

At left—driving Barbie's pink Cadillac, borrowed from Odette Haight. (Garrett decided he'd like one of his own...)

And at right, posing with the giant DeVoe Easter Bunny.

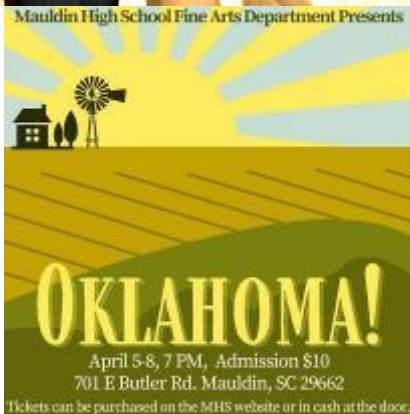


(Neighbors, cont.)



*Left—Jean Skelly’s grandson, Kyle, with his parents at this year’s Swim Team Banquet. Kyle was just named to First Team All-State, the only junior from Salesianum High School.*

*At right, he’s ready for one of the five proms he’ll be attending!*



*Nothing like grandkids...*



*Jean was able to enjoy some of granddaughter, Meghan’s, school activities in South Carolina. A highlight was the performance of Oklahoma. Meghan choreographed and danced in the show. Not hard to see how much she enjoyed it!*



(Neighbors cont.)

JoanMarie Powers' sons, Jeffrey and John, recently flew to London and spent two weeks hiking the English countryside. Jeff's daughter, Rachel, who lives in Amsterdam, was able to join them for a weekend. JoanMarie joked that after all that hiking, they probably felt like the folks described on the sign!



\*\*\*\*\*

**58,281** NAMES ON THE WALL

**16** MEDALS ON THE WALL

**160** MEDALS OF HONOR RECIPIENTS ON THE WALL

**5** YEARS OF CASUALTIES ARE LISTED ON PANEL 11

**5** MONTHS OF CASUALTIES ARE LISTED ON PANEL 22

**5** WEEKS OF CASUALTIES ARE LISTED ON PANEL 31

**246** MOST CASUALTY DEATHS FOR ONE DAY, 10/1/68

**1968** DEADLIEST YEAR OF THE WAR

**16** MEDALS ON THE WALL

**8** WOMEN, ALL NURSES, ON THE WALL

**22 yrs. 9 mos.** AVERAGE AGE OF SERVICE MEMBERS ON THE WALL

**42** SETS OF BROTHERS ON THE WALL

**3** SETS OF FATHERS AND SONS ON THE WALL

**15** AGE OF THE YOUNGEST SERVICE MEMBER ON THE WALL

**62** AGE OF THE OLDEST SERVICE MEMBER TO DIE IN VIETNAM ON THE WALL

**64** GRADUATES OF THOUSAND ISLANDS INDEPENDENT PHIL. SCHOOL WITH HIGHEST DEATH RATE

**1500+** SERVICE MEMBERS STILL MISSING IN ACTION

**21** AGE OF NAVAJ IN WHEN SHE WON THE DESIGN COMPETITION

**400,000+** ITEMS LEFT AT THE WALL

**140** NUMBERED PANELS ON THE WALL

**704** NAMES ON THE LARGEST PANEL

**5** NAMES ON THE SHORTEST PANEL

**SERVICE BRANCHES ON THE WALL**

<b>65.6%</b> ARMY	<b>25.5%</b> MARINE CORPS	<b>4.4%</b> NAVY	<b>4.4%</b> AIR FORCE	<b>.01%</b> COAST GUARD
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SYMBOLS ARE USED BEFORE OR AFTER EACH NAME TO INDICATE A SERVICE MEMBER'S STATUS

- SYMBOL DENOTES THAT THE SERVICE MEMBER IS KNOWN DEAD OR PRESUMED DEAD.
- SYMBOL DENOTES THAT THE SERVICE MEMBER WAS MISSING OR PRISONER STATUS WHEN THE WALL WAS BUILT IN 1982 AND REMAINS UNACCOUNTED FOR TODAY. WHEN A SERVICE MEMBER IS REPATRIATED, THE DIAMOND IS REPLACED BY A STAR.

LEARN MORE AT [VVMF.ORG](http://VVMF.ORG)



At right—**Bob Greenblatt and Donnie Thompson** visited the traveling Wall that Heals, a three quarter— sized replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial located in Washington, D.C. The Wall arrived at William Penn HS in New Castle on a tractor trailer for its only appearance in DE.

Bob sent a photo of the brochure which tells about the Wall. Some glaring statistics: 58,281 names, Average age—22 yrs., 9 mos.



(Neighbors, cont.)



Laura Medio (Granddaughter of **Stefano and Barbara Medio**) is having a record-breaking softball season in her sophomore year at the University of Valley Forge (UVF). Laura started the season by pitching the first no-hitter of her career and the first in UVF history, striking out 13, and was one error away in the last inning from the elusive perfect game. Laura is also UVF's lead-off batter and leads her team in batting average at .327, with an on base percentage of .471!!

For the second year in a row, Laura has been named MVP of her team.



At left—**Bob Dickol** hookin' up and headin' south on his and **Sharon's** RV trip through Virginia.



At right - A chuckle from **Chandrika Thankappan**.

**EXERCISE FOR PEOPLE OVER 60**

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side.

With a 5-lb potato bag in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute, and then relax.

Each day you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer.

After a couple of weeks, move up to 10-lb potato bags. Then try 50-lb potato bags and eventually try to get to where you can lift a 100-lb potato bag in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute. (I'm at this level).

After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each bag.

Above—Another good one from **Chandrika**.

# Senior Show and Tell

Those who attended the neighborhood Show 'n Tell were in for a treat when creative neighbors shared their handiwork! The displays were varied and impressive, causing those who showed and those who viewed to marvel at the items! Neighborly sharing (and donuts) made the event even sweeter!



Above—Susan Brubaker, Greta Ostroski, and Chandrika Thankappan.

Below—Jean Skelly showed JoanMarie Powers a sampling of some of the scrapbooking she's been doing for years. Her special kaleidoscope photos and grandchild-centered life books were a big hit!



Above—One of the more unusual offerings was **Bill McNamee's** wood carvings. Bill demonstrated how he takes a block of wood and turns it into art. His lifelike birds and wood puzzles attracted a lot of attention.

Bill would like to start a VOLC carving group. If you're interested, let him know!



(Show 'n Tell cont.)



**Cheryl Ford and Bob Greenblatt** caught up on neighborhood doings.

At right— **Barb Doto** brought a number of items from different crafts: card-making, quilting and sewing. Seems she's expert at them all!



If you're interested in finding out more about any of these creative activities, the neighbors who showed their wares would be happy to talk with you.

And if you're a stitcher, watch for the survey in the VOLC Communications Committee Monday Updates, compiled by Sharon Dickol. A new group will be starting soon.



Below—**Greta Ostroski** showed a number of her bright and beautiful paintings.



(Show 'n Tell cont.)

At right—Linda Watson, Loretta Dougherty and Sue Bifano

Below—Linda Trach (on right) admires Linda Watson's knitted and crocheted items, including her magnificent crocheted jungle scene.



Linda Watson, Loretta Dougherty, and Sue Bifano



Sue Bifano's knitted creations



Susan Brubaker's assorted specialties—latch hooking, crocheting, knitting.



Susan Brubaker, Jean Skelly and Greta Ostroski were among those who shared their talents.

# *Happy Hour, April 2022*



*Cheryl Ford*



*Sam Ferrara, Nancy Halbedl, Maria deArmas, and Nancy Ferrara*



*Cheryl and John Dean and Odette Haight*



*Bob and Ruth Leaming, Susan Brubaker  
and Jean Skelly*

*Neighbors were happy to get together for the first Happy Hour of 2022 on a Saturday evening in April. After munching on goodies, those whose birthdays fall from January through April were celebrated with song and cupcakes.*

*Family Feud followed, providing plenty of laughter.*

*Next up—Our Memorial Day Barbecue on May 29 at 4 PM.*

*Hope to see you there!*



*Charlie and Dee Pinchot*



## **If the World were a Village of 100** *Sent by Charlie Pinchot*

The population of Earth is around 7.8 Billion.

For most people, it is a large figure. However, if you condensed 7.8 billion into 100 persons, and then into various percentage statistics the resulting analysis is much easier to comprehend.

Out of 100 :

11 are in Europe

5 are in North America

9 are in South America

15 are in Africa

60 are in Asia

49 live in the countryside

51 live in cities

75 have mobile phones

25 do not.

30 have internet access

70 do not have the availability to go online

7 received university education

93 did not attend college.

83 can read

17 are illiterate.

33 are Christians

22 are Muslims

14 are Hindus

7 are Buddhists

12 are other religions

12 have no religious beliefs.

26 live less than 14 years

66 die between 15 - 64 years of age

8 are over 65 years old.

If you have your own home,  
Eat full meals & drink clean water,  
Have a mobile phone,  
Can surf the internet, and  
have gone to college,  
You are in the miniscule privileged  
lot.

(in the less than 7% category)

Amongst 100 persons in the world,  
only 8 live or exceed the age of 65.

If you are over 65 years old, be  
content & grateful. Cherish life,  
grasp the moment.

If you did not leave this world be-  
fore the age of 64 like the 92 per-  
sons who have gone before you,  
you are already the blessed  
amongst mankind.

(Neighbors cont.)

# From My Window—Spring

At right - Lois Inglisa sent this photo of blue birds gathering to swoop down and feast on the red berries of a winterberry bush.



She says sometimes there are 6-8 at once.



Left—Jean Skelly’s new bird feeder attracted a steady stream of visitors during the March 12 snow storm.



Ken Francis snapped these two photos. The vultures to the right are a familiar sight in the VOLC.

The little red finch is much cuter!





# Did you know?

## Surprising facts about the human body

Sent by Charlie Pinchot



**DID YOU KNOW?**

IF THE **HUMAN EYE** WAS A **DIGITAL CAMERA**, IT WOULD HAVE **576 MEGAPIXELS**.



**DID YOU KNOW?**

YOU CAN **SURVIVE ENTIRELY** ON A DIET OF **POTATOES** AND **BUTTER**, WHICH PROVIDE ALL THE **NECESSARY NUTRIENTS** THE **HUMAN BODY** NEEDS.



**DID YOU KNOW?**

**BANANA** IS A **HAPPY FRUIT**. EATING JUST ONE CAN **HELP YOU RELIEVE IRRITABLE EMOTIONS**, ANGER OR **DEPRESSION**.



**DID YOU KNOW?**

**HUMAN THIGH BONES** ARE STRONGER THAN **CONCRETE**.



**DID YOU KNOW?**

Beer reduces the **Risk** of developing **Kidney Stones** by **40%**.



**DID YOU KNOW?**

Without your **Pinky Finger**, your **hand** would **lose 50%** of it's strength.



**DID YOU KNOW?**

**HUGS** THAT LAST OVER **20 SECONDS** RELEASES **CHEMICALS** IN YOUR **BODY** CALLED "**OXYTOCIN**" THAT MAKES YOU **TRUST SOMEONE MORE**.

## *Holy Funnies* from Patti Abernethy

# Church bulletin board

The following appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off – let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again', giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing 'Break Forth Into Joy'.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5pm – prayer and medication to follow.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7pm there will be hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge – Up Yours.'

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

Compiled by Max Bowen



Before my surgery, the anesthesiologist offered to knock me out with gas or a boat paddle... It was an ether/oar situation.

Astronomers got tired of watching the moon go round the earth for 24 hours.

So they decided to call it a day.



I have a pencil that used to be owned by William Shakespeare.

But he chewed it a lot. Now I can't tell if it's 2B or not 2B.



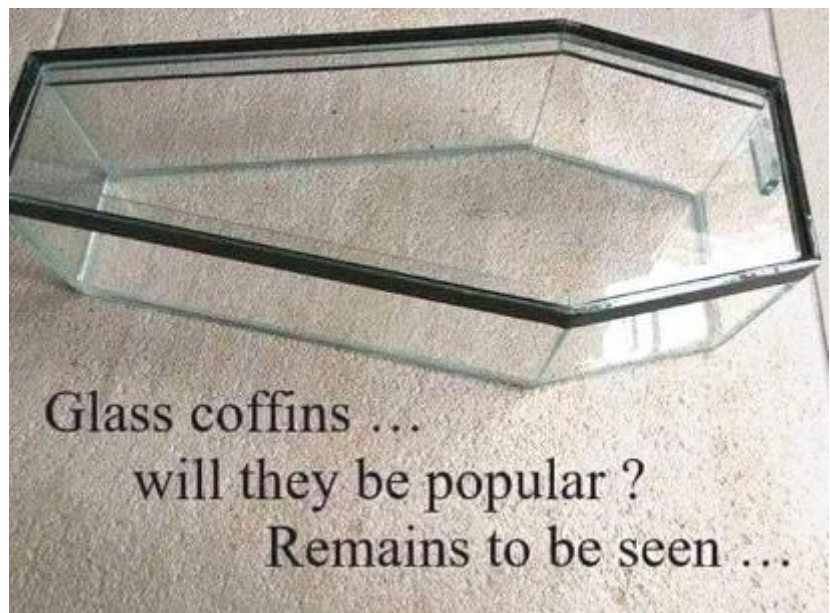
**I'M TAKING CARE OF MY PROCRASTINATION ISSUES; JUST YOU WAIT AND SEE.**

**I relabeled all of the jars in my wife's spice rack. I'm not in trouble yet....but the thyme is cumin.**



**If you boil a funny bone it becomes a laughing stock. That's humerus.**

**NURSE CAME IN AND SAID DOC, THERE'S A MAN IN THE WAITING ROOM WHO THINKS HE'S INVISIBLE, WHAT SHOULD I TELL HIM? THE DOCTOR SAID TELL HIM I CAN'T SEE HIM TODAY.**





- BEAUTY PARLOR* A place where women curl up and dye.
- CHICKENS* The only animals you eat before they are born and after they are dead.
- COMMITTEE* A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.
- DUST* Mud with the juice squeezed out.
- EGOTIST* Someone who is usually me-deep in conversation.
- HANDKERCHIEF* Cold Storage.
- INFLATION* Cutting money in half without damaging the paper.
- MOSQUITO* An insect that makes you like flies better.
- RAISIN* A grape with a sunburn.
- SECRET* Something you tell to one person at a time.
- SKELETON* A bunch of bones with the person scraped off.
- TOOTHACHE* The pain that drives you to extraction.
- YAWN* An honest opinion openly expressed.



"YOU'RE HYPER NOURISHED."

*And the truest  
 one of all:  
**ADULT** -  
 A person who has  
 stopped  
 growing up  
 and is now  
 growing out.*



"I'm advising you to dramatically decrease your intake of media sound bytes."

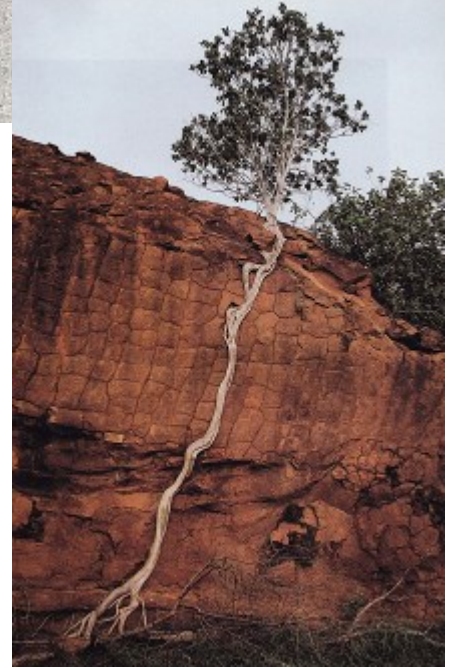
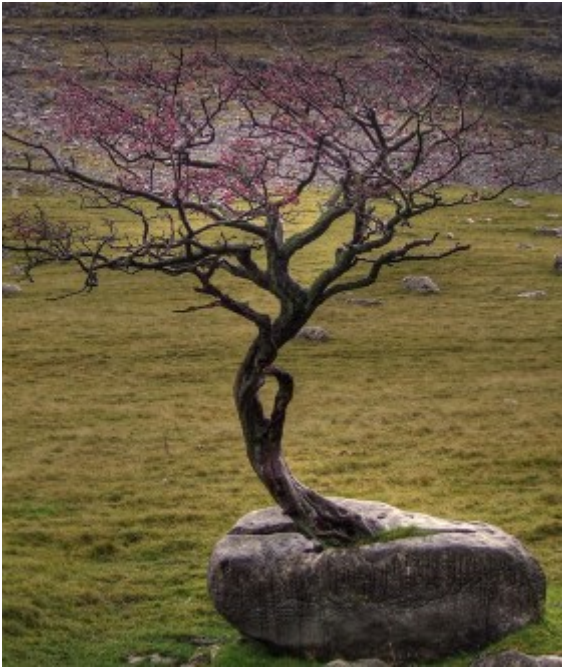
# *A tree's Gotta Grow...Anywhere it can.*



**Patti Abernethy** sent these amazing photos of trees finding a way to thrive in the most unlikely places!

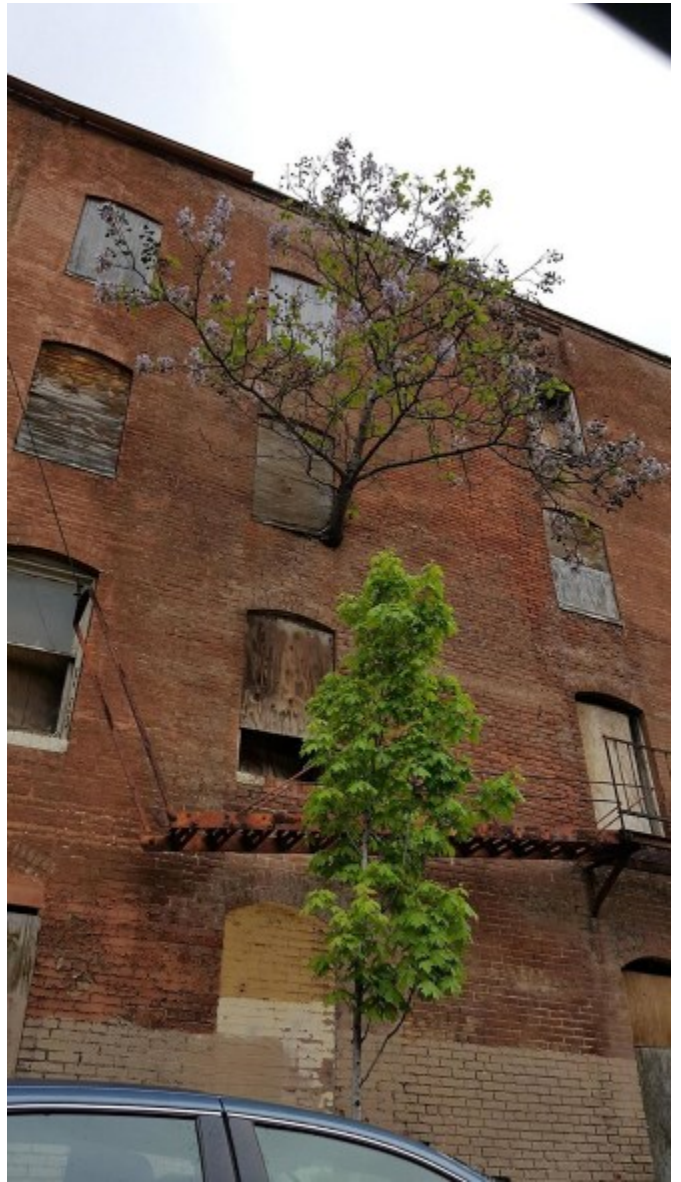


(Neighbors cont.)



**AMAZING!**







(Neighbors cont.)



May

Betty Ramsey 1st  
 Brenda Durrett 7th  
 Jean Skelly 14th  
 Bill McNamee 25th  
 Don Doto 29th

June

Marion Bowman 2nd  
 Yau Lang 2nd  
 Norm Petterson 7th  
 Paulette Francis 11th  
 Greta Ostroski 14th  
 Bernard Aresu 15th  
 Judy Anderson 21st  
 Cheryl Dean 23rd  
 Joe Doto 23rd  
 Paula Kendrick 25th  
 Sue Bifano 25th  
 Ken Riley 27th  
 Sharon Dickol 28th

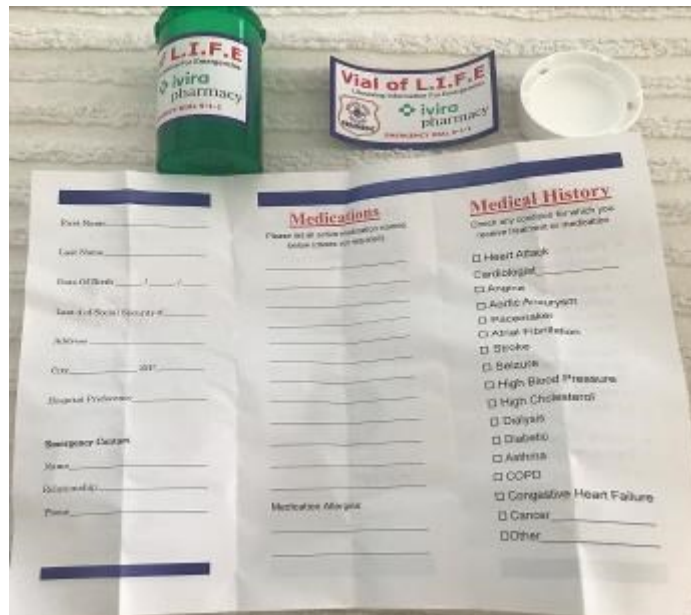


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Right—**Nancy Weldin** sends along this information about the Vial of Life, which could actually save your life.

The form is to be filled out with your complete medical information, then placed in the green vial and put on a shelf in your fridge. The magnet goes on the refrigerator door. If you experience a medical emergency, all pertinent information is available to first responders. They are trained to look for it.

These Vials of L.I.F.E can be picked up at local libraries for free.



\*\*\*\*\*

**Bob Greenblatt** sent this link to your official state COVID-19 record:

[https://delvax.dhss.delaware.gov/delvax\\_public/Application/PublicPortal/Index](https://delvax.dhss.delaware.gov/delvax_public/Application/PublicPortal/Index)

Wait about 3 days after your last shot for it to be complete.

# Life's little truths...

*Sent by Charlie Pinchot*



I used to be able to do cartwheels. Now I tip over putting on my underwear.

I hate it when I see an old person and then realize we went to high school together.

I told my wife she should embrace her mistakes... so she hugged me.

My wife says I only have 2 faults. I don't listen and something else....

At my funeral, take the bouquet off my coffin and throw it into the crowd to see who is next.

I thought growing old would take longer.

I came, I saw, I forgot what I was doing. Retraced my steps, got lost on the way back, now I have no idea what's going on.

The officer said, "You drinking?" I said, "You buying?" We just laughed and laughed.... I need bail money.

Day 12 without chocolate. Lost hearing in my left eye.

Scientists say the universe is made up of protons, neutrons and electrons. They forgot to mention morons.



The adult version of "head, shoulders, knees and toes" is "wallet, glasses, keys and phone."

A dog accepts you as the boss... a cat wants to see your resume.

Oops.... did I roll my eyes out loud?

Life is too short to waste time matching socks.

Wi-fi went down for five minutes, so I had to talk to my family. They seem like nice people.

If you see me talking to myself, just move along. I'm self-employed; we're having a staff meeting.

I won't be impressed with technology until I can download food.

Some people call me crazy. I prefer happy with a twist.

My doctor asked if anyone in my family suffers from mental illness. I said, "No, we all seem to enjoy it."

I really don't mind getting old, but my body is having a major fit.

Camping: where you spend a small fortune to live like a homeless person.

Project Manager. Because Miracle Worker isn't an official job title.

I told my wife I wanted to be cremated. She made me an appointment for Tuesday.

Measure once, cuss twice.

My dream job would be driving the karma bus.

I've reached the age where my train of thought often leaves the station without me.