

Neighborhood Newsletter

Winter 2020

Volume 10, Number 4

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What will 2020 bring
to residents of the VOLC?
Whatever it is, stay in touch with
the Neighborhood Newsletter!

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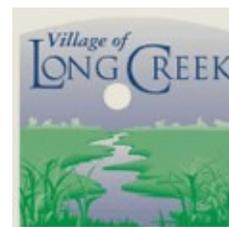
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**Contact information can be found
on the VOLC website**

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



All contact information may be found on the community website at

<http://www.myvolc.org>

Committees and individual residents are asked to contact Mary Legreid to schedule the clubhouse for meetings or other activities:

302-834-2378 or mrlegried@gmail.com

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

Contact Cheryl Werner with corrections or comments.

KNOW THE SNOW (2019-2020)

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY and RETAIN FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

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

Vehicles parked on the street shall be removed 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.

Ice and Freezing Slush: The board may elect to start removal early during an 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. Home owners 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 further discussion with our contractor, so we will have no confusion and you will be notified.

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 call or text the Snow Hotline (302) 455-8428 or volc.rocks@gmail.com if they wish a total opt-out of snow removal services.

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 and other 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 snowfall, trucks with plastic edge plows may be used for a center pull of snow down the driveway onto the street. If you 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 Kim at IPS 302-994-3907 ext 2. kim@ipsde.com

Damage to the grass should also be reported as it is noticed. At the end of the snow season a full list will be provided to the snow removal company. Grass repair will take place at the same time as spring clean-up.

Guidelines will be discussed with BV addressing such issues as snow removal by the mail boxes, at the handicapped sidewalk ramps, driveway shovel edging and other issues raised by residents.

VOLC Snow Hotline phone number is: (302) 455-8428. This line receives voice mail and text.

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

THE BENCHES!

The bench project as conceived and executed by Christine Killian and the Beautification Committee needed lots of helpers. They had no trouble finding them! Working in Christine's garage, a team headed by Bob Dickol, took only an afternoon to assemble all seven benches. Worker bees included Ray Whiteoak, Ray Krout, Paul Wellborn, Pam Smith, Gary Legreid, Guy Werner, Steve and Susan Brubaker, Eric Dean, and, of course, overseer, Christine. They were quite a hard-working crew!!

Below, Barbara Strasser tries out the bench dedicated to the memory of husband, Admiral Joe Strasser.



Here's what they're saying:

"Wow! Amazing team work, and they all look great..." - Councilman Dave Tackett

"They look wonderful!" - Senator Stephanie Hansen.

"Thanks to all who donated and all who saw the work through." - Christine Killian



Above, the bench at the entrance has become known as the "welcoming bench."

While such memorials were not required of donors, many of the benches and foundation "bricks" are dedicated to the memory of loved ones.

At left, Paul Wellborn and Pam Smith on the bench dedicated to their deceased spouses.

At the October Board meeting, Christine Killian was honored for her efforts in getting the Benches Project started and completed. Susan Brubaker and Cheryl Werner presented her with a poem, a certificate and a headdress, marking her as The Chief with many feathers in her cap! Christine accepted all with good cheer and gave a "to-the-penny" accounting of the donated funds that saw the benches become reality.



A Feather (or many) in Her Cap!

Too many cooks can spoil the broth
And too many injuns make efforts for naught.
What we need is a chief! A person with gumption,
And kindness and leadership, no halting presumptions!
A chief who exhibits an abundance of thought -
Of research and patience - who won't hear "cannot!"
Who'll persevere on, with right on her side
Who'll push on and dive in to clear the divide.
And ends up victorious with nay-sayers vanquished.
A chief who can say that all en'mies have vanished.
Who got the approvals, the bids and the plans,
And said "We can do this - just don't give me bans!"
And, so we are happy to have in our midst
One such woman who checks all the traits on the list
Our Chief, our Leader, Our Master in skills-ian
All hail our great chief - our own **Christine Killian!**

around the



One of the year's most successful clubhouse events was **Oktoberfest**, held on October 5th. Under German-born Christine Killian's guidance and donations, authentic foods and clothing set the scene. Above, from left - Christine, Pam Smith, Paul Wellborn, Janet and Stan Sanders, and Cheryl Ford. At top, Couples enjoy the German food and "bier" with genuine German steins.



A variety of wursts (and skinny American hot dogs) were accompanied by sides such as German potato salad, sauerkraut, pretzels and mustard.

Above right - Bob Leaming did the grilling. Thanks, Bob!

Above left - JoanMarie Powers and Wanda Search checked folks in.

At left - Mary Legreid sampled a German liqueur.



Bottom right - German music led to snaking dancers.

Bottom left - Martyanne Grabusky, Loretta Fitch and Justine Gilbert share a toast.

Prost!



A VOLC Halloween



Photos, clockwise starting with the Birthday Babies, at top left - Sam Ferrara, Susan Brubaker, Stan Sanders and Jo Anne Skidmore.
 Paul Wellborn and Pam Smith. (Bonnie and Clyde?)
 Susan Brubaker and Don Doto
 Mary Ohara
 Sharon and Bob Dickol, Don Doto, Sam and Nancy Ferrara.



DON'T FORGET - THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED ON APRIL 1

SUBMIT YOUR Article



A Crimson Pallet painting party was held in the clubhouse on November 9th. Founder and company owner, Pam Dimichle, assured participants that, in spite of all the work, they would be happy with their finished projects. She was right! Using stencils and paint, the results are both personalized and professional looking.

Above, from left - Betty Schinzel, Wanda Search, Maria Tricarico, Jennifer, Isabella and Cindy Lewis. (Cindy's daughter and granddaughter joined the fun.) Seated, Mabel Chadwick and Mary Ohara. At right, Susan Brubaker.



Owner Pam is shown in the photo at right with Wanda.

By popular demand, watch for her to return in the spring!



BIRTHDAYS



HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

Above- November birthdays - Wanda Search, Jean Pokropski and Gene Fitch

January

Justine Gilbert	1st
JoanMarie Powers	2nd
Sharon Mutschler	3rd
Lois Inglisa	17th
John Dean	27th
Ruth Leaming	28th

February

Maria DeArmas	2nd
Ray Krout	8th
George Middleton	9th
Loretta Fitch	12th
Joe Lemanski	27th
Bob Kortvelesy	27th

March

Ray Whiteoak	8th
Bob Dickol	10th
Steve Brubaker	20th
Monica Chan	23rd
Rossana Palermo	26th

State Senator Stephanie Hansen visited the VOLC on October 24th and made a big impression with her talk on native plant species and the Delaware ecosystem. Senator Hansen has been spearheading a state task force to determine what can be done to protect our ecosystem and to encourage new plantings by developers and homeowners that help with the issue.

Her slides and commentary drove home some startling and frightening facts. Among them:

- 40% of all native plant species are threatened or are already eliminated from DE.
- Some of our most popular trees and shrubs are invasive and causing harm. The list includes:
 1. Chinese silver grass
 2. Common periwinkle
 3. Japanese barberry
 4. Burning bush
 5. California privet
 6. Bradford pear
 7. English ivy
 8. Sweet Autumn Clematis and
 9. Japanese Pachysandra



So much interest was shown on this topic that a follow-up meeting with some of the attendees and several Delaware experts in the field was arranged. As a result of that event, a group of residents is seeking to learn more about this topic—both for lot plantings, our Bioretention basins and possibly small sections of the common area. Any proposal from the Grounds Committee would require action on the part of the Board and a community vote. Stay tuned for further presentations, information-sharing, and opportunity for discussion.

To see the DE Task Force Power Point slides prepared by Senator Hansen, go to:

www.dnrec.delaware.gov/Admin/Documets/eft-presentation-sen-hansen.pdf



Above - Kudzu growing along College Ave, Glasgow

Once established, kudzu grows at one foot per day. Mature vines can be 100 feet long.

From 1935 to the mid-50's, farmers in the south were encouraged to plant kudzu to prevent erosion. The invasive plants have crowded out native species on their relentless journey north.



Ruth Leaming continues to conduct doll-making sessions for delivery to Alzheimer's patients at Christiana Care facilities.

Recently, Gaynelle Kahigian, Program Coordinator, for ACE, Acute Care for the Elderly, Christiana Medical Center, Wilmington, made a visit to one such session and provided information and incentive to the volunteers. Back row - Ms. Kahigian and Barb Doto. Front row - Susan Brubaker, Lois Inglisa, Katie Whiteoak, and Mim Krout. Seated - Ruth and Loretta Fitch.



Ruth and Christine Killian with a finished doll.



Barb Doto helps with her sewing machine.

Family and Friends



Janet and Stan Sanders' son, Skip and his wife, Polly, welcomed daughter Haven Mae Sanders on October 23.



Sue and Fran Bifano's grandson, Paxton, was a starfish for Halloween, in a costume made by his mom. How cute? Too cute!



Linda Trach and Nancy Weldin attended the Gala for the Everett Theater in Middletown,



Above - Pete and Maria de Armas' grandsons, Alex and Ryan, love Pax, the new VOLC mascot! Seems their dog, Nila, at left, does too!

'Tis the Season of Giving...



Cheryl Ford, second on left, is shown filling boxes for Christmas Child, a project of Samaritans' Purse. Since 1993 Operation Christmas Child has sent over 168 million boxes to children in over 100 countries. Most of these children are affected by war, poverty, natural disasters and diseases. The boxes are sent to Native American reservations in the United States as well. Boxes contain small toys, hygiene items and school supplies.

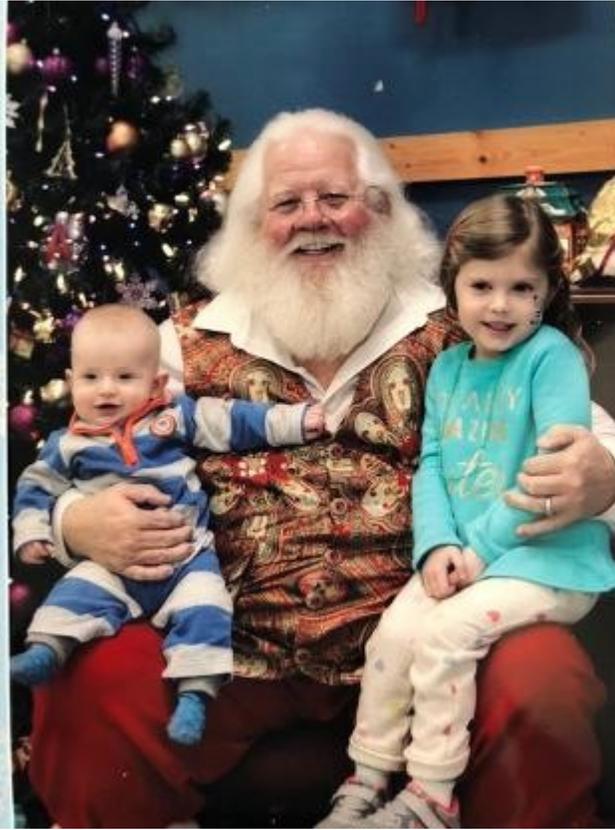
Cheryl says, "My church sent 10 volunteers this week to Odenton, MD, the nearest processing center to inspect boxes and pack for shipping. I have been participating in this process for many years, and I love preparing several boxes each year. Local churches collect filled boxes by the second week in November and forward them to the nearest processing center. There are 8 processing centers in the United States. YouTube has many videos each year. Once the box reaches whatever country, the children receive written material in their language with their boxes."



Above, Ruth, with dozens of boxes and bags filled with donated food.

At right - Bob, is packed and ready for delivery. The official tally? 694 POUNDS!!!!





ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION AT PEOPLES PLAZA BENEFIT THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY OF ST. MARY OF SCOTLAND CHURCH..



Suzanne Getty sent these pictures of her family at the annual Peoples Plaza event. Suzanne wrote, "Our family, especially our granddaughter, Aubrey, and grandson, Nathan, had a great time!"



Above, left, Brook and Bob Kortvelesy's great grandsons, Finn and Judah got some time together at Thanksgiving. At right, great-granddaughter, Sophia, loved her first swimming lesson!



Cindy Lewis' family was ready for Christmas!

At left , Cindy's son, Jason, wife, Hollie, and children, Katie and Christopher.

Right, Christopher high-fives You Know Who!



Merry Christmas!

Left - Cindy's daughter, Jenn, and her husband, Rob

At right, their twins, Isabella and Brooks.



At right - Carol and Donnie Thompson's grandchildren, Ava, 8, Colin, 5, and Noah, 11.





One tree is not enough for Donnie and Carol Thompson! Count them - SIX full-size, themed trees in their beautiful home. And Santa Claus on every wall!



From top right, clockwise - The Beach Tree in the Sun Room, the Family Room Tree, (notice the poinsettias on the stairs), the Dining Room Tree, The Patriot Tree, and The Eating Area (top left). At Center - The Snow Babies Tree .



This delightful trio are the Crowe Boys, Riley P, Harry, and Bernard, who live with Mom - Jane and Dad - Pat Crowe.

Jane says they just love to help with Christmas decorating!



Happy Birthday!

Right - John Powers made a trip from Tennessee to visit Mom - JoanMarie, and Dad - Jim on his 92nd birthday.

Above, left - Granddaughter, Rachel, now living in Amsterdam, was able to join them.

Below, left, granddaughter, Olivia, was home from college and ready for Christmas.



VOLC's Own – Justine's Ice Cream Parlour

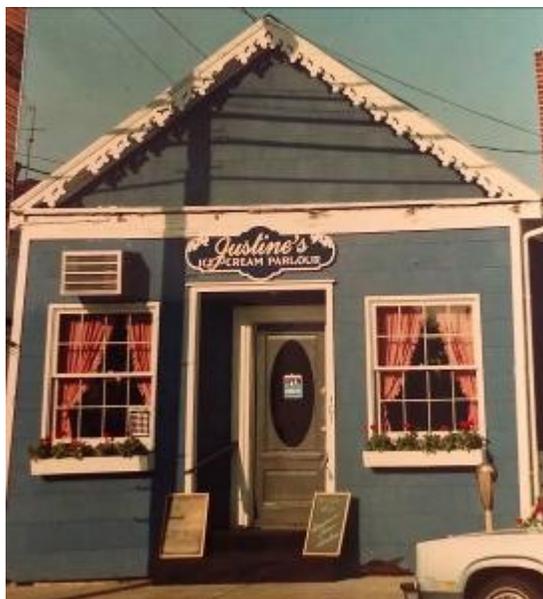
You may have seen this story in the News Journal or on Delaware Online: the host of the Cooking Channel's Man v Food, Casey Webb, takes on the challenge of eating the "Titanic" - 6 pounds of ice cream and toppings at Justine's Ice Cream Parlour in Ocean City, MD.

What you may not know is that the original Justine's in St. Michaels was named for our own Justine Gilbert, who opened the shop with her husband in 1987.

Justine and Charles had moved seven times in their eleven years of marriage, and decided they would like to settle down. After visiting St. Michaels, they knew it was the place for them, and when the local ice cream parlor became available, they bought it and re-named it Justine's. They grew comfortable with the quiet, peaceful town and the slower pace of life. Justine says scooping ice cream all day was hard, but they loved it and loved the people they got to meet. She recalls buses coming to town to eat at the Crab Claw, and those bus riders pouring into the shop for ice cream after their meal. Justine enjoyed designing new flavors and products - like turtle sundaes and home-made waffle cones. As St. Michael's grew in tourism, so did the shop's business. "Everyone loves ice cream," says Justine. "We got an interesting cross-section of people and the opportunity to chat with them."

Asked if she regretted selling the shop, Justine says no and she hasn't been back. Her memories are all good, but she feels the time was right - both for buying and for selling.

Since the Gilberts sold the shop, there have been multiple owners, and in May of 2013, Justine's became a chain, when the second shop was opened in Ocean City. Crowds continue to flock to both locations in search of ever more flavors and treats - like the Titanic Challenge.



The original Justine's in St. Michaels

BTW - Casey Webb finished that giant treat in 17 minutes, faster than most, but not the fastest. Yikes!



Justine's today-- in the same location.

RIP, Pete de Armas 1936-2019

*For several years, we have run a series called **At Home**, featuring profiles of VOLC residents. Few stories have been more compelling than that of Pete and Maria deArmas, which we published a few years ago.*

With so many new residents, and in light of Pete's passing on December 27, we offer this abbreviated version of Pete's American story.

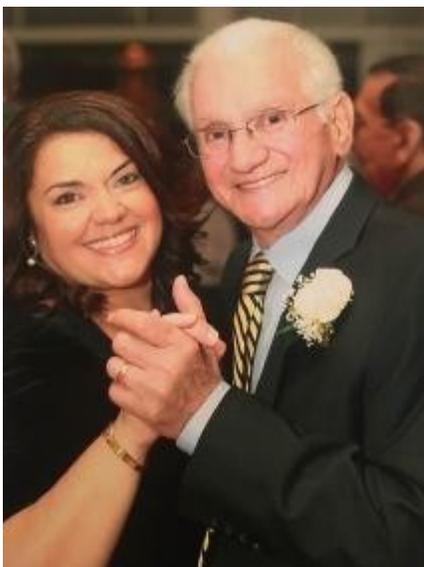
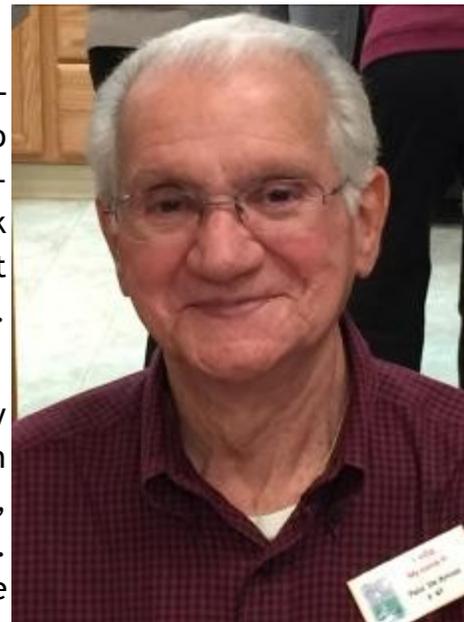
In 1962, a young man named Pedro de Armas left Cardenas, Cuba, a beautiful city linked by ferry to Key West. Pete had chosen to make his way to New York where his sister lived. He was one of three and a half million Cubans who fled the island when Fidel Castro and his Communist regime took over the country. One of eleven siblings, only Pete and his sister made it to the U.S. Pete left in September. All flights between Cuba and the U.S. were cancelled in October.

Between 1960 and 1962, the program Operation Pedro Pan, sponsored by the Catholic Welfare Bureau, airlifted more than 14,000 Cuban children from Havana to the U.S. One of them was 15 year-old Maria Extremera, who, in 1962, along with her twin brother, took a Pan Am flight to Miami. From the camp there, Maria was sent to Port Chester, NY to live with the family of a friend. Pete arrived in Rye, NY, with visa in hand, speaking no English. His first job was as a dishwasher in a posh club, making \$50 a week, later working for Avon. Maria and Pete eventually met through mutual friends and married six months later. Both became American citizens. With Avon, they moved to Delaware where they raised two daughters.

Maria and Pete vividly recall their youth in Cuba when the country was prosperous and the lifestyle much like that of the U.S. Pete has returned three times, bringing his daughters with him several years ago. The girls were shocked by the living conditions in a country so close that their flight took just twenty eight minutes. When asked what they miss about Cuba, both agreed vehemently "Nothing - just family!"

They are proud of their adopted country and proud of the life they've made for themselves and their daughters. They are especially proud of the medical care in this country, and Pete is currently participating in a study for lung cancer at the Helen Graham Cancer Center at Christiana Care. They agreed that, in America, if you work hard and do the right thing, you can hope to have a better life. "That is the most important thing," Pete says, "HOPE. The people of Cuba had it taken away."

At left, a picture of daughter Margaret with her Dad on her parents' 50th wedding anniversary four years ago. Margaret posted, "I miss you already."



A VOLC Autumn ...



...Began to Look A Lot Like Christmas! In Sunlight...



...And at Night – Night Photos by Janet Sanders...



Travels

Carolyn Aresu, Maria Tricarico, and Christine Killian (along with Carolyn's husband, Bernard, who took this photo above at Maine's Nubble Light House) recently made a bus trip to New England. There, their itinerary frequently included train travel, taking them to rocky shores, spectacular foliage, and world-famous farm stands. Carolyn says that the apple pie they enjoyed at the one shown here (above left) was the best any of them had ever had.

Middle left - the WW II Museum in Wolfeboro, NH.

Below, right - A highlight was a stop at the famous covered bridge along the Kancamagus Highway leaving North Conway.



Left - Odette Haight recently visited the Biltmore while on a trip to NC. In this photo, she uses the estate's clever photo op to pose with (long deceased) George Vanderbilt and his St. Bernard, Cedric.

In the Shake of A Lamb's Tale...

Twas the 1st of November
Daylight savings begun.
Nothing new with the neighbors,
Nor under the sun.

And then - it appeared
First to walker, Deb Carr.
Then to all he was seen,
From near and afar.

A cute little lamb
At the last stretch of fence
She made us all smile -
Feel peaceful - less tense.

Let's name him they said,
Suggestions came in.
They thought just as hard
As if he were kin.

Now Baa-xon, now Lamb Chop,
On Shepherd and Roxy.
Maybe She-ba or Casper
Or Carson or Molly?



Then a woman named Grace
Inspired them all.
"Pax," she said, "Pax,
It means PEACE above all."

And so, it was done
And the lamb was thus named.
But how did it get here?
The myst'ry remained...

But, when quiet, they say
You'll hear Pax at night.
"PEACE be with you all,
And to all a good night."

...Pax took over!

VOLC resident describes her experience as a volunteer Christmas decorator for the White House

From Colleen Haefner

I was chosen as a volunteer to decorate the White House. I spent the 3 days before Thanksgiving working with volunteers from the 50 states. It was a wonderful experience. We worked long hours (6:30 am to 4:30 pm) off site for 2 days, making bows and wiring them to thousands of balls. We also worked on decorations for different rooms in the White House. One group cut out paper petals and transformed them into the state flowers that adorned the tree in the Blue Room. It was simply beautiful. On the third day we went to the White House to help with the lighting of the 54 trees. The lights were wrapped on the branches so that no wires showed. Very tedious! (I'm glad we have a pre-lit tree!)



Colleen in the Blue Room



Delaware Peach Blossom

We had lunch in the State Dining Room. That was surreal - eating where the heads of state have been entertained. All

the volunteers that worked in the White House were invited to a reception on the following Monday. There was wonderful food, drinks and music by the Marine Band. It was our first chance to see how everything turned out. Mrs. Trump thanked all the volunteers for their hard work throughout the year. It was such an honor and

privilege to help decorate the "People's House." The decorations were so beautiful. If you get a chance, it is really something special to see at Christmas.



New Year's Resolutions?

Facts from AARP

Trying to eat healthier?? Getting the word that sugar is a villain? Don't gag on these surprising facts:

These foods have more sugar than a glazed Krispy Krème Donut (10 grams sugar):

- Starbucks Grande latte: 17 grams.
- Subway 6" Sweet Onion Teriyaki Chicken Sandwich: 17 Grams.
- 8 oz Tropicana 100% Orange Juice: 22 Grams.
- Yoplait Original Yogurt: 27 Grams.
- 20 oz Vitamin Water: 33 Grams.
- Sprinkles Red Velvet Cupcake: 45 Grams.
- One can of canned tomato soup: 24 grams



Vowed to get more sleep? Research says you're right on!

Night owls, take note. That sleep deficit you've been accumulating has real and dangerous implications for your brain, and not just because it makes you sleepy during the day. Sleeping less than seven or eight hours a night has been linked to memory loss and cognitive decline, new research shows.

A good night's sleep:

Clears out toxins

Most people think that when you sleep, your brain goes to sleep, too. But it turns out that parts of your brain are several times more active at night than during the daytime. One of them is a newly discovered drainage system called the glymphatic system, which is kind of like your city's sewage and recycling system. Its job is to clear out and recycle all your brain's toxins. One protein very actively recycled during sleep is involved in developing amyloid plaque, the hallmark of Alzheimer's. No one is saying that Alzheimer's is all caused by sleep deprivation, but it may be a factor.

Repairs daily wear and tear

New research indicates chronic sleep deprivation can lead to irreversible brain damage. A University of Pennsylvania animal study found that extended wakefulness can injure neurons essential for alertness and cognition - and that the damage might be permanent. Short sleep also may be linked to shrinking brain volume, though it's not clear whether the lack of sleep causes the brain to shrink or whether a smaller brain makes it harder to sleep. Other studies have led scientists to conclude that chemicals secreted during the deeper stages of sleep are crucial for repairing the body - including the brain.

Makes order from chaos

As you go about your daily activities, your brain is exposed to thousands of stimuli - auditory, visual, neuromensory. And it can't possibly process all that information as it comes in. A lot of the tagging and archiving of memories occurs at night while you're sleeping. It's a bit like what goes on in a library. All the books dropped off in the book repository during the day are dusted off and cataloged at night. People who think they've adapted well to sleeping just four or five hours a night are often wrong; memory tests show they are not functioning optimally.

The Owl and his Shepherd

For years, photographer Tanja Brandt has made it her mission to capture magnificent photos of animals and wildlife. Recently, the German artist found a new challenge when she photographed the unique bond between two unlikely friends: Ingo, a Belgian shepherd, and Poldi (Napoleon) one-year-old owlet. The owlet and canine have a special protector-protected relationship in that their affection towards each other couldn't be any more evident.

Ingo lovingly guards Poldi, who apparently doesn't know how to live free. The owlet hatched two days after his six brothers and sisters; therefore, has always been very vulnerable due to his small size. Comparatively, Ingo was raised to by a family of strong, and oftentimes ruthless, police dogs. They respect each other and they can read each other, says the photographer.

Following are some adorable photos of the unlikely best friends:



Submitted by Patti Abernethy

**You drop something
when you were younger,
you just pick it up.**

**When you're older and
you drop something, you
stare at it for a bit
contemplating if you
actually need it
anymore.**



**WHEN YOU'RE DEAD,
YOU DON'T KNOW
YOU'RE DEAD. THE PAIN
IS ONLY FELT BY
OTHERS.**

**THE SAME THING
HAPPENS WHEN
YOU'RE STUPID.**

**And just like that
1969 was
50 years ago.**

**I'VE FOUND THAT
GROWING UP IN THE
SIXTIES WAS A LOT
MORE FUN THAN
BEING IN MY SIXTIES**

**ONE WAY TO FIND OUT IF YOU
ARE OLD IS TO FALL DOWN IN
FRONT OF A LOT OF PEOPLE. IF
THEY LAUGH, YOU'RE STILL
YOUNG. IF THEY PANIC AND
START RUNNING TO YOU,
YOU'RE OLD.**

**"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?"**



2020 Census: Fact v Fiction - Avoid Scams

November 14, 2019

by Colleen Tressler, **Consumer Education Specialist, FTC**

Thanks to Melody Devoe and Bob Greenblatt

The Federal Trade Commission is partnering with the U.S. Census Bureau to help you guard against potential census scams. Knowing how the [2020 Census](#) process works, what information you will – and won't – be asked for, and some red flags will help you spot and report scams.



The Process

In mid-March 2020, the Census Bureau will start mailing out (and, in some areas, hand delivering) invitations to participate in the 2020 Census. You should get yours by April 1. You can respond online, by phone, or by mail.

The Census Bureau has an important job: to count every person living in the United States. Starting in May 2020, census takers will start visiting homes that haven't responded to make sure everyone is counted. If you aren't home or can't come to the door, the census taker will come back up to six times. Each time, they'll leave a door hanger with a phone number so you can call to schedule a visit.

The Questions

The census questionnaire asks how many people are in the home at the time you complete the form; their sex, age, race, ethnicity; their relationships to one another; phone number; and whether you own or rent the home. For the full list of questions on the 2020 Census, visit [Questions Asked](#).

Signs of a Scam

[Scammers](#) may pose as census takers to get your personal information – and then use it to commit identity theft and other frauds. But there are ways you can identify official census takers.

Census takers must show a photo ID with the U.S. Department of Commerce seal and an expiration date. If you ask, the census taker will give you a supervisor's contact information and/or the [census regional office](#) phone number for verification.

The Census Bureau will never ask for your full Social Security number, bank account or credit card numbers, money or donations, or anything on behalf of a political party. The 2020 Census will not ask citizenship status.

The Census Bureau may call you as part of their follow-up and quality control efforts. They also might call if you're not home when a census taker stops by or when a personal visit is not convenient. Calls will come from one of the Census Bureau's contact centers or from a field representative. Since we all know you can't trust caller ID, visit [How to identify a phone call from the Census Bureau](#) for the phone numbers you can use to check out any calls you might get.

Make sure you have the latest and most accurate information about the 2020 Census. Visit [2020 Census Rumors](#) to fact-check and ask questions.

If you suspect fraud, call 800-923-8282 to speak with a local Census Bureau representative. You also can file a report with the FTC at [FTC.gov/Complaint](#). Your reports may help law enforcement agencies launch investigations that could stop imposters and other fraudsters in their tracks.

Want information on the latest frauds and scams we're seeing? Sign up for our [consumer alerts](#).

HOLIDAY PARTY 2019



Greeting - Tom and Jean Skelly



Course One
Garden Salad

Mix of Greens, Tomato, Onion, Cucumber, Asiago Cheese, Croutons

Entrée Choices

Chicken Picatta with Lemon-Caper White Wine

Sliced Roast Beef with Au Jus.
Horse radish Cream on the side

-served with Mashed Potatoes & Green Beans-

Dessert
Assorted Miniature Desserts



Preparing - Activities Committee



Singing - Vocal Exchange



The Olde VOLC Singers Present: The Twelve Days of Christmas



On the 1st Day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...

...a life sized lamb, named Pax

Susan Brubaker

..2 painting parties

Pam Smith

...3 Pairs of P.J.'s

Bernard Aresu

..4 Billiard's Players

Stan Sanders

...5 Fat Fracker's Recipes

Bob Dickol

...6 Cooked Chickens

Ron Dreibelbis

...7 Decorated Benches

Linda Trach/Nancy Weldin

...8 Books for Book Club

Carolyn Aresu

...9 Bio Retention Basins

Lois Inglisa

...10 Dolls for Alzheimer's patients

Katie Whiteoak

...11 Wild Flowers and Trees

Steve Brubaker

...12 Happy Hours

Cathy Brindle

IT WAS FUN - YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE!

DON'T MISS IT AGAIN! MARK YOUR CALENDAR - DECEMBER 13, 2020!

TO SEE THE VIDEO: GO TO

MYVOLC.ORG

CLICK ON "RESIDENTS LOGIN HERE."

TYPE IN THE PASSWORD: VOLC19702

CLICK ON: ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLICK ANYWHERE ON THE VIDEO.

Travel Club News

After the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, after all the gifts were opened and most of the leftovers gone, the VOLC Travel Club made a relaxing trip to Lancaster PA for lunch and a show. The happy group enjoyed an expansive buffet at The Dutch Apple Theatre, followed by the exuberant stage production of Holiday Inn, based on the music of Irving Berlin. The weather was great, the company the best, and a good time was had by all.

Why not make a New Year's Resolution to join us for one or more of the trips below?



Ray Search and Sam Ferrara enjoyed lunch before the show.

The Travel Club Team, headed by Christine Killian, has announced three trips for 2020:



March 15 - Toby's Dinner Theater - Join us as we travel in our luxury Delaware Express coach to Columbia, Maryland for a sumptuous lunch buffet and the Broadway hit musical, "Kinky Boots." This high-heeled, high-spirited show proves that friendship will get you through even the toughest times. Kinky Boots won the Tony award for best musical, and recently ended its Broadway run after six glittery years.

Cost - \$95 Includes Transportation, Lunch Buffet, Show, and Gratuities.

June 16 - A Day in Lancaster - We'll start our day at Kettle Kitchen Village, a quaint, walkable village of local cooks, quilters, and shopkeepers, featuring unique hand-made food and gifts as well as brand-name items. After lunch at the Kling House Restaurant, we'll travel on to the American Music Theatre for "Britain's Best," the new musical featuring hits from The Beatles, Elton John, Dusty Springfield, The Rolling Stones, Shirley Bassey, Peter Gabriel, Phil Collins, Adele and MANY MORE!

Cost - \$90. Includes Transportation, Lunch, Show, and all Gratuities



September 15 - Annapolis, MD - Our day begins with a guided tour of the United States Naval Academy and will include the famed Noon Formation of Midshipmen, rated the #1 thing to see in Annapolis. We'll enjoy lunch at the legendary Dahlgren Hall on campus before time-on-your-own or a comfy trolley ride through this historic town, the nation's oldest still-active state capital. **Cost - \$78 without trolley tour, \$95 with trolley town tour.** Includes transportation, lunch, and all gratuities.



Get out while you can!



It's later than you think!