



Neighborhood Newsletter

Summer 2014

Volume 5, Number 2

Does wisdom really come with age?

Written by Sharon Dickol, with excerpts from www.newsmaxhealth.com/Health-Wire/article/2011/10/19/id/477454



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As you will see, this issue is chock full of wonderful contributions from our residents. The ones that touched me the most were those submitted by proud grandparents, announcing births, graduations, and honors. It made me think of the lessons learned from our parents, the values and qualities we pass on to our children, and the wisdom that transcends generations.

It turns out that wisdom really does come with age! According to a study conducted by the University of Montreal, the brains of

those over 55 years of age are used more efficiently than their younger counterparts.

According to researchers, the fact that younger people can come up with answers more quickly is not reflective of wisdom, but rather of inexperience. Canadian scientists associated with the Institute of Geriatrics at the University of Montreal created two groups of test subjects, one younger and one older, and asked them to perform a variety of tasks while their brains were scanned.

Neuro-imaging scans revealed that younger participants, after making a mistake, activated several different parts of the brain to help them decide what to do next. Older participants didn't start thinking about what to do next until the game restarted, showing greater mental efficiency, according to the scientists.

"When the young participants made a mistake and had to plan and execute a new strategy to get the right answer, various parts of their brains were recruited even before the next task began," study author Dr. Oury Monehi said.

"However, when the older participants learned that they had made a mistake, these regions were only recruited at the beginning of the next trial, indicating that with age, we decide to make adjustments only when absolutely necessary."

"The older brain has experience and knows that nothing is gained by jumping the gun. We now have neurobiological evidence showing that with age comes wisdom and that as the brain gets older, it learns to better allocate its resources."

It's nice to know there's something positive about growing older! Read more about wisdom inside.

Information Fair, June 27 at 7 PM

VOLC residents as well as area reps will share local knowledge. Learn about local "best buys", close-by fitness centers, and travel and volunteer opportunities. Newcomers and not-so-newcomers to VOLC will surely learn something about what this area has to offer! Join us at the clubhouse!

Send newsletter comments and suggestions to Sharon at sdickol@verizon.net
Or call: 836-8575

VOLC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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VOLC Board Update

On May 6, our community formalized the election of our board members for the Maintenance Corporation. Along with the turnover of the funds for the Maintenance Corporation's ongoing responsibilities for the storm water management system, the Corporation began readying itself for additional responsibilities that are coming our way. The first of these will be a transfer of the Architectural Committee (ARC) duties. This Committee reviews and approves homeowner requests for exterior changes, additions, or renovations or reconstruction of individual homeowners' homes and or landscaping that is described in the governing documents, particularly **Article 6 of the VOLC Active Adult/Lot Maintenance Declaration of Restrictions and the subsequent Policy Supplement**. We currently are handling these with the Board members, but expect to formalize a committee to assume these duties in early July. Kitty Heston will be the Board liaison for ARC.

This won't be a big change from current process. The guidelines that ARC has followed in the past will remain. The application process will continue to use the same format as the present Architectural Review Request Application Form. Forms are available at the model home and in the clubhouse. A completed application will now be submitted to any of our Board members instead of BC Communities. The Board, instead of BC/Benchmark, will consider the application, and provide a written response as promptly as possible. If a response is not received by the homeowner within 60 days, it is deemed the application is approved.

We are encouraged that several of our neighbors have expressed an interest in serving on ARC. It is in the best interest of our community that ARC function efficiently, fairly, and reasonably to maintain a pleasing environment for our residents and marketable curb appeal for The Village of Long Creek which includes consistency in architectural style, scale, materials and details and approved colors for siding, trim and doors, and virtually all changes to the exterior of the property. All of us received copies of the ARC guidelines when we closed on our homes. These guidelines were formulated by the builder and developer, and were formalized into restrictive covenants and deed restrictions that residents are required to follow. Should we elect, they can be changed going forward by a 66% affirmative vote of all residents. To maintain the desirable look of our community and harmony between residents, we need to be aware of these restrictions, and the approval process for changes. Being versed in these restrictions and fully utilizing the approval process can minimize or eliminate headaches down the road.

Respectfully,

Jim Davis

PANAMA CANAL CRUISE!

Join your neighbors for 17 glorious days on the Celebrity Infinity ship. This cruise leaves Fort Lauderdale, Florida on April 28, 2015 and travels to Cartagena in Colombia, Colon in Panama, Puntarenas in Costa Rica, Puerto Quetzal in Guatemala, and Puerto Vallarta and San Lucas in Mexico. **To get early bird prices, you must make a deposit no later than August 1, 2014.** Contact Carol Thompson for more details, carol2628@comcast.net or call 302-547-5483.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Jo Ann Skidmore**, who became a great-grandma for the fifth time! **Brantley Beau Scott** was born on May 30th at 3:34pm. He weighed in at a very healthy 9lbs. and is 21.5 inches long!

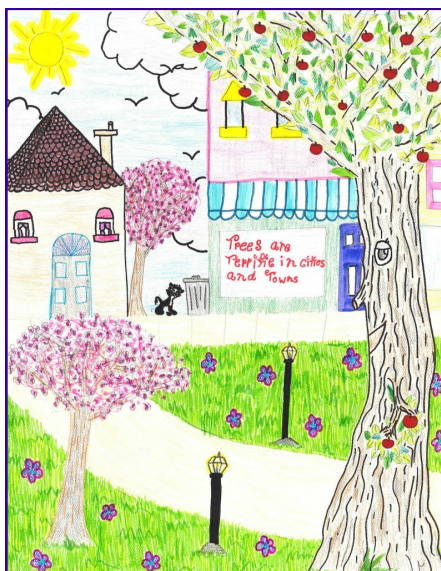
Wanda and Ray Search are pleased to announce the graduation of their grandson, **Zachary Search**. Zachary graduated from Rising Sun High School in Maryland and plans to attend West Virginia University in the fall where he will major in computer engineering.

Congratulations to Barbara and Joe Strasser, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June! They shared this happy occasion with their family in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Kathy and Paul Karthaeuser celebrated their 46th anniversary on May 18th. Kathy says, "Imagine, we still like each other after all this time and we actually enjoy each other's company. Go figure!" Kathy also reports that their grandchild, **Tyler**, has learned to ride a 2-wheeler and now rides side-by-side with his daddy. Another milestone! Congratulations to all the Karthaeusers!

Congratulations!

The Delaware Forest Service has announced the winners of its annual Arbor Day School Poster Contest. The 2014 contest theme was "Trees are terrific... in cities and towns!" This year's statewide winner is **Isabella Garber**, a fifth-grader at Christ the Teacher School in Newark and granddaughter of **Pete and Maria deArmas**. Her poster was judged the best overall on the following qualities: artistic expression, originality, neatness, and use of theme.



Noah, grandson of **Donnie and Carol Thompson**, graduated from preschool on Thursday, June 12th from the Goddard School in Wilmington. The happy (and handsome) graduate will be attending kindergarten at Holy Angels school in the fall.

In the Spotlight **Lois Hallett**

By Patti Abernethy

Lois Hallett hit a special milestone on Father's Day 2014: 34 years of dedicated service as the organist at Peninsula-McCabe United Methodist Church in Wilmington, DE! Her entire church community feted her with a luncheon after the service. When talking with Lois about this retirement, I found out that she actually has many more years in this "gift" we call music. Lois' Mom, Dad, and siblings were musicians—wind instruments, piano, organ, etc. Music has always been an important part of her life.

Lois studied at Lowell College and then U Mass so that she was qualified to be both a musician and a teacher of music (student teaching in grades K-12). When it came to the final recital for her degree, Lois dressed up in her full-length gown, came out onto the stage, bowed, and saw the entire football team in the first few rows—they had been her students and were there to support her. She still smiles when she remembers that experience. Prior to playing the pipe organ, her favorite, Lois was a soloist (contralto) and played with the Billy Vale Greek Dance Band in Lowell, MA. If only we took pictures back then...

Dick's position with DuPont had them moving from MA, to DE, to NJ (when his office was in the Empire State building—touch him!), back to DE again in 1952 to this area and their current church. Lois was a soloist and in the choir for many years. In 1960 she became an organist in another church for a short time and served as a pre-school teacher. She kept herself busy doing her solos, choir work, and taking care of her three daughters—Meredith, Karen, and Libby. In 1980 Lois became the organist at the United Methodist Church in Wilmington, participating in thousands of events for families, church celebrations and other needs. This Church has been an extended family for Dick and Lois over these many years.

Making the transition after these years of service is easier for them as they leave for "The Libby

(Continued on page 8)

This & That!

On May 17, six VOLC ladies gathered in the clubhouse for a creative **Craft Corner** afternoon. Led by **Maria Tricarico**, each participant designed and decorated at least one pair of flip flops with colorful fabric scraps and ribbons. No two were alike - but, all came out great!

Pictured are **Dot Dube**, **Nancy Weldin**, **Maria Tricarico**, and **Wanda Search**.

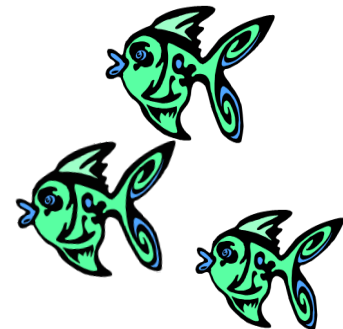


The **VOLC Clubhouse** underwent an instant upgrade with flowers purchased by **Maria Tricarico** with **Donnie Thompson**. Beautiful, multi-colored petunias, vincas, and runnículas now adorn both the front and back of our community building.

Answering a last-minute call, 10 residents assembled on the morning of May 28 and got down on hands and knees in the dirt. After a morning of hard work, they were rewarded with fresh fruit, donuts and coffee. AND the beautiful new clubhouse landscape! Great job, All!

Photo: **Paul Wellborn**, **Cheryl Werner**, **Wanda Search** and **Debbie Carr** look on as Maria does all the work!! **Mugsie** supervises the entire project.

A great community effort! Photos courtesy of **Bob Greenblatt**.



OMG! Is that a fish they caught in Pond #4?



Memorial Day



Over 50 people attended the annual VOLC Memorial Day picnic on May 25. The event began with the ceremonial folding of the American flag conducted by **Patti Abernethy**. The significance of each fold was explained in a reading by a VOLC resident. Following the pledge of allegiance, attendees viewed a video of residents and family members who have or are serving in US armed forces. **Dennis Sabato** grilled up dozens of hamburgers and hot dogs to accompany the potluck dishes provided by residents. The picnic was a mix of respectful solemnity and great fun - a perfect way to kick off summer for VOLC!

Food Drive

The Village of Long Creek conducted a **food drive** from April 7 to May 5 to benefit the Food Bank of Delaware, Newark location. Delivery was made on May 7, and the donations were weighed. We are proud to announce that 251 pounds of non-perishable food items were donated! Well done, VOLC! Another food drive is planned for later in the year.



Spring Fling

The Clubhouse Gang," a barbershop quartet with **Don Hobson** (# 24) at baritone, made their debut at the Spring Fling dessert social held on April 25th at the clubhouse. The "Gang" entertained with a variety of tunes and commentary relating the historical context of both the songs and harmony singing. Attendees were treated to a delicious array of desserts while singing along. All in all, a sweet spring fling! Members of the group (L to R): **Billy Cole, Bill Tilton, Dick Funk, and Don Hobson.**



Up, up & away!

Debbie Carr snapped this terrific photo taken the Sunday morning of Memorial Day weekend, looking across farmers field. The balloon headed for landing along 896 fields near the church!

More on Wisdom

"By three methods we may learn wisdom: first, by reflection, which is noblest; second, by imitation, which is easiest; and third by experience, which is the bitterest." — Confucius

Wisdom Our Parents Taught Us:

My parents taught me about **WEATHER**.

"Your room looks like a tornado hit it."

My Parents taught me about **RELIGION**.

"You better pray that comes out of the carpet."

My parents taught me about **TIME TRAVEL**.

"If you don't straighten up I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week."

My parents taught me about **OSMOSIS**.

"Shut your mouth and eat your supper."

My Parents taught me about the **CIRCLE OF LIFE**.

"I brought you into this world, I can take you out."

My parents taught me about **ENVY**.

"There are millions of less fortunate children in the world who don't have wonderful parents like you."

My parents taught me about **RECEIVING**.

"You are going to get it when we get home."

My parents taught me about **JUSTICE**.

"One day you'll have kids. I hope they turn out just like you!"

My parents taught me about **LOGIC**.

"Because I said so. That's why."

My parents taught me about **STAMINA**.

"You'll sit there until your plate is empty."

My parents taught me about **IRONY**.

"Keep crying. I'll give you something to cry about."

If we knew then what we know now. . .

"If you could write a note to your younger self using only two words, what would they be?"

Bob Greenblatt: Buy Microsoft.

Joe Strasser: integrity, discipline

Cheryl Werner: Carry on.

Jean Skelly: Nothing's forever!

Grace Hobson: Self, relax!

Kathy Karthaeuser: Stay 25!

Maria Tricarico: Miracles happen!

Patti Abernethy: Kindness wins!

Ginny Pelachick: Live same.

Cheryl Ford: Study hard!

Carol Thompson: No regrets.

Donnie Thompson: Jeep Wrangler

George Middleton: More questions!

Barbara Strasser: Faith, service

Ron Peeples: Live life!

Bobbie Peeples: Enjoy life!

Tom Skelly: Think first.

Sharon Dickol: Learn patience.

Joan Marie Powers: Don't sunbathe!

Jim Powers: Keep learning.

Jo Ann Skidmore: SHUT UP!



HAPPY Birthday!

July

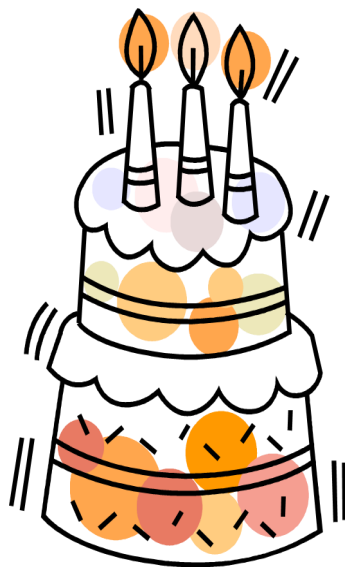
Nancy Ferrara 18th
Guy Werner 17th
Irena Lapurka 25th

August

Kathy Karthaeuser 1st
Linda Middleton 10th
Gary Legreid 14th
Mary O'Hara 28th
Tom Skelly 31st

September

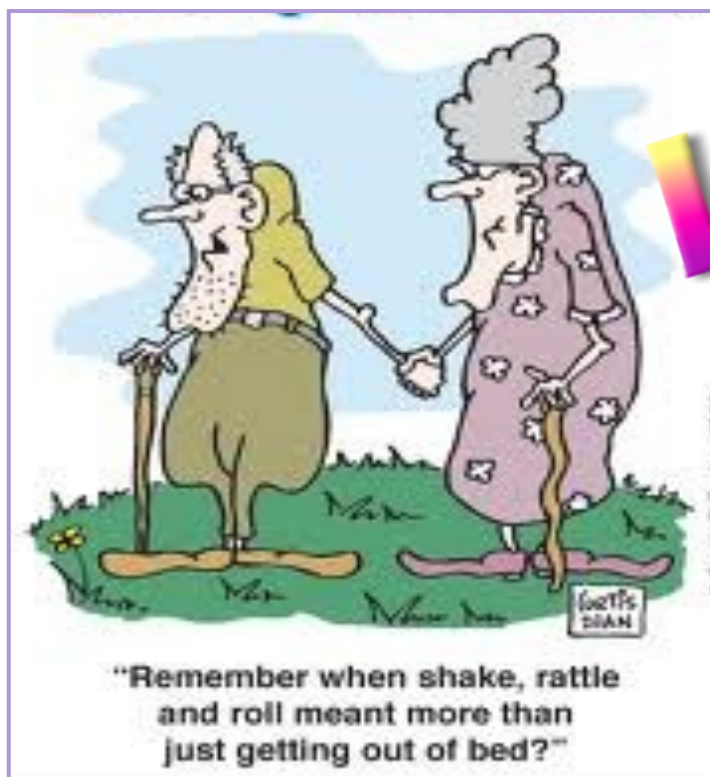
Joe Strasser 3rd
Cheryl Werner 6th
Vinnie Maricone 9th
Nancy Halbedl 12th
Christine Killian 18th
Grace Hobson 25th



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

If you need assistance from your neighbors, contact anyone on the list below. Call Barb Carter for more information.

Patti Abernethy (31)	302-836-8447
Barb Carter (49)	302-836-3023
Richard Cutone & JoAnn Skidmore (18)	302-595-4348
Jim & Judy Davis (5)	908-295-1001
Jackie & Eric Dean (47)	302-838-1805
Sharon & Bob Dickol (62)	302-836-8575
Barb & Joe Doto (37)	302-836-3262
Nancy Ferrara (25)	302-834-3205
Dick & Lois Hallett (50)	302-838-0652
Kitty Heston (73)	302-595-2902
Don & Grace Hobson (24)	302-838-1771
Kathy Karthaeuser (119)	302-365-6067
John & Christine Killian (70)	302-454-1098
Valerie Landon (35)	302-365-6685
Marty Lyon (96)	302-838-1631
Anna & Vinnie Moricone (101)	302-595-4688
Ginny Pelachick (59)	302-834-8504
Joan Rowland (54)	302-595-2090
Dennis & Joann Sabato (43)	302-365-6713
Donnie & Carol Thompson (58)	302-595-2717
Lenny & Maria Tricarico (9)	302-595-2712
Peg & Paul Wellborn (55)	302-836-8524



LOL!
Pun Fun!

A soldier who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.

How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Then it dawned on me.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I can't put it down.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

Lois (continued from page 3)



Lois at the pipe organ, Peninsula-McCabe United Methodist Church in Wilmington

Home" in Maine soon for about six weeks. Libby, Dick's grandfather, built this home in 1881 in Ocean Park, ME. Lois has done recitals there in the eight-sided temple which seats 850 people—another venue for her talents. FAMILY is the real focus while in Maine when everyone schedules times to come and be together making those loving memories we all need and value so much! **CONGRATULATIONS to our LOIS HALLETT!**

Last words on WISDOM

"The older I grow, the more I distrust the familiar doctrine that age brings wisdom." — H.L. Mencken

"I am not young enough to know everything." — Oscar Wilde

"As you get older, you don't get wiser. You get irritable." — Doris Lessing

"I'm gonna enjoy being old. I think I'll be awesome at it." — Craig Ferguson

"We can know only that we know nothing. And that is the highest degree of human wisdom." — Leo Tolstoy



On Saturday, June 14, 18 novice painters gathered in the VOLC Clubhouse to "Discover Their Palette." They donned aprons, grabbed a glass of wine or maybe a mixed or soft drink, and followed the instruction of Terry Brennan to produce variations of the artwork, "Two windy." For over two and a half hours, they labored and laughed, and, then, laughed some more. And, when it was over, they each took home a unique painting and a lot of memories.

Discover Your Palette, located in Kennett Square, provides a full calendar of classes for the uninitiated as well as themed events. Saturday's group enjoyed the experience so much that another class is being planned for the winter. Don't miss out on the fun next time! Photo courtesy of Guy Werner.