



Newcomers of Catawba Valley

2425 North Center Street #169

Hickory, NC 28601

Newcomersofcv.com

September 2020

Presidents Column

"Even the darkest night will end and the sun will rise." - Victor Hugo

Hello Newcomers!

I feel like a broken record about this Covid stuff.....but surely, it has got to improve. Hopefully, NC numbers are improving, and we will hear from Governor Cooper around September 11th. Cross your fingers for good news!

At the most recent BOD meeting we received and discussed the results of the survey most of you took earlier this month. Thank you for responding and providing us with information to move us forward. The results (which are included in this newsletter) are hopeful and it is clear many want to get back to some of our Newcomer activities. One decision that was made as a result of the survey is that we will not hold a holiday party this year, so we will have to make up for it next year with a really great party! Our next steps are to put together a few card games at the airport, in the October timeframe. A shopping trip is being planned by the social committee, as well as an outdoor picnic (we have a new corn hole set). Any and all events will have safety measures in place (masks, hand-sanitizers, etc.). Stay tuned for more information.

I would like to join Nancy Geiger, our charity chair, in reminding all that the current quarterly charity, *Robin's Nest*, ends in September. Any donations are greatly appreciated. October 1st starts our season for *Toys for Tots* and the donation boxes will be in the usual spot at the airport. Newcomers are known for their generosity and it is very much appreciated.

Whatever you do, or are doing, please take good care of yourselves, stay healthy, and be happy! Enjoy the days of summer we have left.

Don't forget to use our Sponsors if you need services. Hope to be seeing you all at some activities/events real soon!



Warm regards,

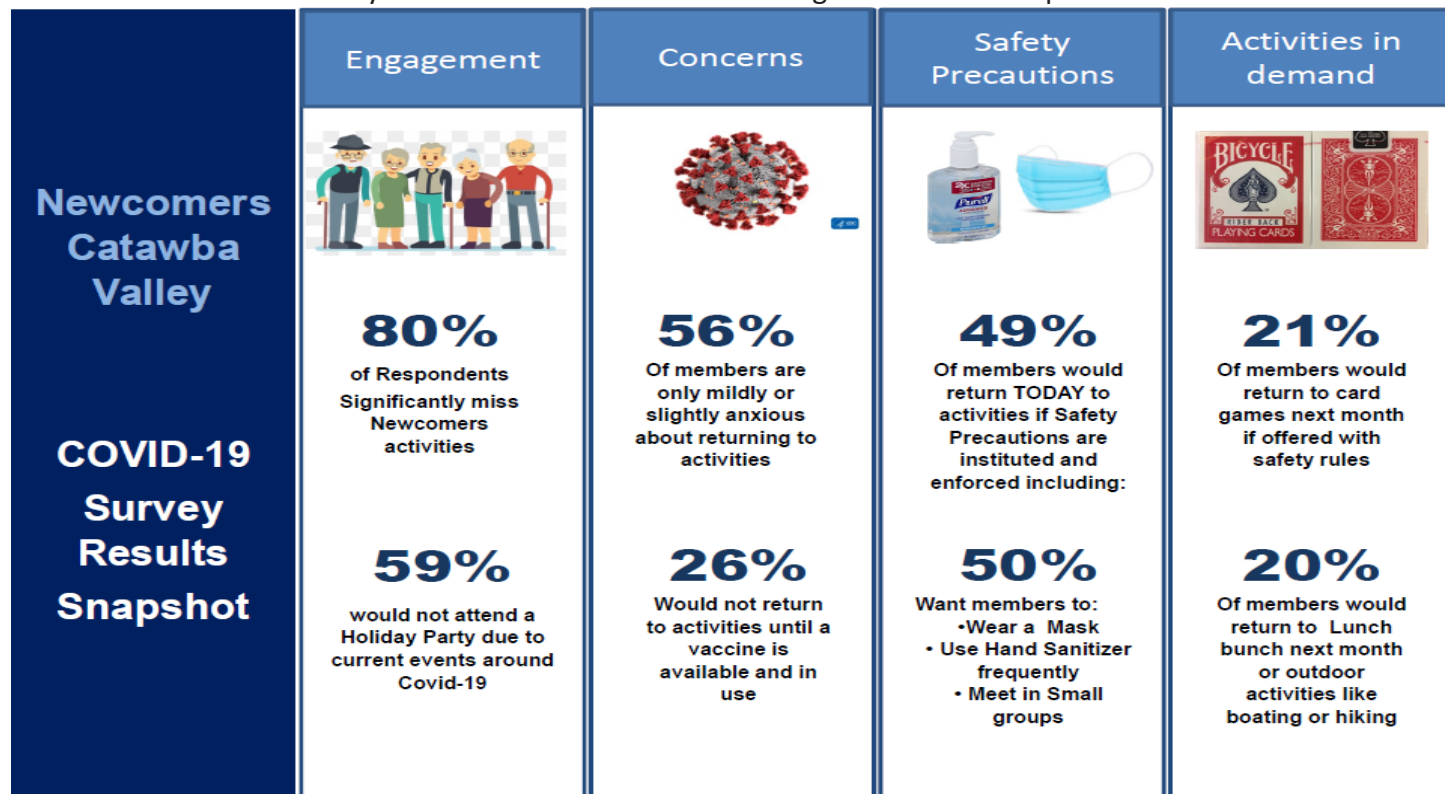
Cathi Montgomery

President, NC



SURVEY-Covid-19 RESULTS

Thanks to all who took the Newcomers Covid-19 Survey. We had over 90 members take the survey representing 41% of the club. This great representation helped the BOD determine the next steps as we dance around this insidious virus. Find a quick summary of the results in the newsletter. I want to thank all who gave comments as well. Please don't hesitate to send any comments or concerns about starting-up activities to me. As we seek to ensure that this club meets your needs and concerns as we begin the start back process.



Special Events Committee

The Special Events Committee is BACK!

Although we are taking things slow and easy, we are hoping to get in a couple events in the coming months. The governor will be making his next "Phase Announcement" on, or around, September 11th, so plans could change, but let's give it a shot! We are hoping this will be an opportunity for us to try some things, make adjustments, and have comfort levels reached for future activities.

AN OUTING!!! Last month I mentioned going to the Concord Mills Mall in Concord, NC. And we're off on September 22nd! The mall is open from 11 AM to 7 PM with lots of stores open during those hours. We'll meet at the Hickory Airport no later than 9:45 AM so we can be on the road by 10 AM. It's just over an hour away so we'll get there as they are opening up. Keep in mind, the stores will be requiring masks. Carpooling will be arranged and all will be expected to comply with wearing a mask during the car ride. To join us, RSVP to chizenamy@gmail.com or call (860) 428-6786 by September 20th. I will be a driver and have room for 5 besides myself. Please let me know if you would be willing to drive as well and how many. And remember our motto ladies – "CHARGE IT!!!"



LET'S TRY A PICNIC! Outdoor activities seem to be the best and safest way to start getting back together, so how about our delayed Annual Picnic? We will have it outdoors, limit the attendance to 25, require masks except when eating, have plenty of hand sanitizer available, and provide box lunches. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 30th from 11 AM – 2 PM. Watch your email for details as we get closer!

Make sure you watch (or record) the **Kentucky Derby on September 5th!** You will want to see what the ladies are wearing on their heads to get ideas for your own topper! You have time now to design and create your special, original Kentucky Derby hat! Check out ideas online, too! Gentlemen, we haven't forgotten you. One tradition of the Kentucky Derby is for the men to wear bow ties. We are twisting this tradition a bit because we don't feel the men

need to be dressed up for our party. We will be looking for creative bow ties AND creative ways/places to wear them!



We have been in touch with the trolley company again and find that they are going to be running the **Leaf Peeping Trolley trips in October**. However, because of the restrictions and the advance commitment necessary for this activity, we have decided to take a look at this for next Fall. If you are interested in going yourself, they will be running the Trolley Tours, but limiting the number of participants per trip and lunch will be a box lunch rather than at a restaurant. To get details, go to www.RidgelineTrolleys.com. If you go, let us know how it is!

Amy Chizen, Chair, SEC

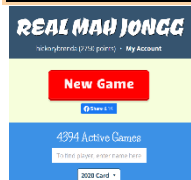
BOOK CLUB



Book Club is reading *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See. Mi-ja and Young-sook, two girls living on the Korean island of Jeju, are best friends who come from very different backgrounds. When they are old enough, they begin working in the sea with their village's all-female diving collective, led by Young-sook's mother. As the girls take up their positions as baby divers, they know they are beginning a life of excitement and responsibility but also danger. Despite their love for each other, Mi-ja and Young-sook's differences are impossible to ignore. *The Island of Sea Women* is an epoch set over many decades, beginning during a period of Japanese colonialism in the 1930s and 1940s, followed by World War II, the Korean War, and its aftermath, through the era of cell phones and wet suits for the women divers. Throughout this time, the residents of Jeju find themselves caught between warring empires. Mi-ja is the daughter of a Japanese collaborator, and she will forever be marked by this association. Young-sook was born into a long line of *haenyeo* and will inherit her mother's position leading the divers in their village. Little do the two friends know that after surviving hundreds of dives and developing the closest of bonds, forces outside their control will push their friendship to the breaking point.

Book Club meets every other month on the 4th Wednesday of the month, except for this November. Our next meeting is September 23, at Women's Resource Center (probably, if not we will zoom) at 1:30 PM Cindi Williamson will facilitate our discussion. The Book Club Coordinator is Mary Bucy at mebucy@hotmail.com

MAH JONGG



Many members of the Mah Jongg group have continued to play Online Mah Jongg. <https://realmahjongg.com/>

The photos here are what the opening page and sign in/up page looks like.

Just like in the old days - pre-Covid 19 - Newcomers' mah jongg enthusiasts play every Tuesday and Friday. But instead of playing at Pinecrest retirement center, we play in our own homes online.

Look for other Newcomers, many who have used Hickory in front of their name, hickorybrenda, hickorydianne, hickorychris, hickoryhoover...(we have several Carol's..lol)...come online and join us!!



MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS-----Sandi Johnson



Members Helping Members is a way that we can help each other during **any** particular hard time. I'm not just talking about the Corona 19 virus. I am speaking about any time that someone needs help with a day-to-day activity or a once in a month activity. For example, we're just going to the store for groceries or prescriptions. Please reach out and contact me for whatever you might need. If you need someone to walk your dog or you need a ride to the doctor or if you need a house cleaner . . . anything that you might need help for, we're here for you. You don't have to worry we don't charge for our services sometimes some of the people that end up doing the work may charge but you'll be fully aware of that if that should occur. For the most part if it's one of our members helping another member I don't expect there'll be a charge. So, let's see what we can do to help each other in times of need. It's hard enough to be alone or sick during this period that we don't want you to have to suffer not being able to achieve something that you need done.

My phone number is 828-228-4016. Please feel free to contact me by phone, text or email at ncvalegirl@gmail.com. I look forward to speaking with you and even if it's just to say "hi."



Just a quick note to THANK all who have taken the time to send me notes, pictures and stories to share. As we continue to experience these unprecedented times and deal with Covid-19 and the way we are navigating our lives, I am comforted and heart warmed by all that you share. Another **SHOUT OUT** needs to go to **Bob Jones** and **Adra Kryszczuk** who have wonderful weekly news and messages that are sweet, uplifting, humorous, and thoughtful. They each have a great flair for words, fonts and have FUN sharing what's happening in their "worlds" and to give us a glimpse of what we might try to do if we want to get out and about a bit!!

Lynne Montgomery sent out an email early in August, asking for help with her HVAC. I responded with letting her know we have a sponsor who could help her...HICKORY HEAT AND AIR...here is her comment back to me:

I called them due to instructions from Brenda. They were very good at timing and information when they were on the way.

I was low on Freon and had some other quick fixes. They said I have an expensive valve or could replace the entire unit. Have to think about that.

Quite pleased with the service and they carried the 90 pounds to my car. YEAH!

LYNNE



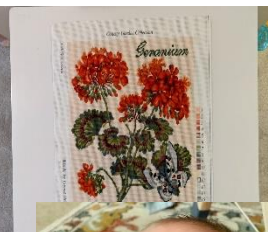
Adra shared this with me...an email from Sheri Binning...

How do you like this beauty? It "picked" itself so the rind isn't hard enough for storage. We'll have to dig into it this week. I'm thinking plain squash, pumpkin sausage soup and pumpkin bars. Notice my coffee maker and 4-slice toaster behind it. Sheri

WOW...what an amazing pumpkin!!!!

Sue BumgarnerHere are some photos of how we are enjoying this time:

Hiking near Blowing Rock with our dog, Emily
Sightseeing on the Parkway, Baking sourdough bread, Sewing masks, Needle pointing, Knitting, Selling on Ebay and Gardening.....



Betty Stone... photo of my granddaughter, Allissain, since I knitted the sweater she is modeling during the Covid isolation

Cindi Williamson: This is what's keeping me busy. My first grandchild

Kevin McCutcheon recommended:

This is a very touching video, actually a piece of film that has been made into a video, this is one that is NOT Photo-shopped, it is REAL!

Notice in the opening shot of the plane landing on the carrier deck the gunner's position is all shot to hell while the pilot's cockpit ahead of it is undamaged. Later on notice the corpsman taking a fingerprint of the deceased gunner, before the film continues, then shows the chaplain saying final prayers, followed by taps, then the sailors push the aircraft and this patriotic airman over the side

and watch it sink into the sea. This is what 18 year old "kids" were doing in 1944. Just dying for their country. <https://www.youtube.com/embed/jpt6Bvr2L-s?rel=0&controls=0&showinf>



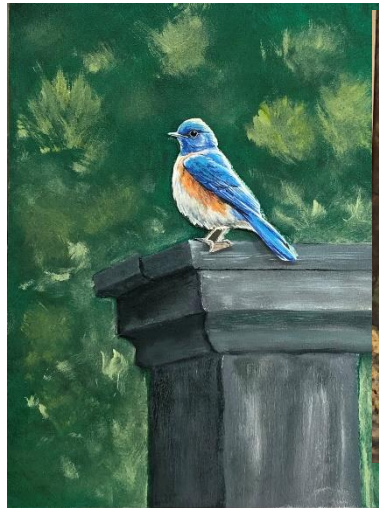
NOT Your Normal NEWSletter.....con't



Carol Hoover sent in this sweet pick of her on her boat out on Lake Hickory....and another one of some of us social distancing this past month.



Lonnie McSherley sent in some fabulous PHOTOGRAPHS he has taken and also PAINTINGS that he has painted...we have some very talented Members in our midst!!



Connie Yokum

Staying home has given me time to focus on my quilting. I think the only place I have shopped is mom and pop quilt shops. I made my two grandsons a college quilt to take with them to school. They both loved them. Jack is off to NC State majoring in Chemistry and Josh is going to University of Cincinnati majoring in Biology. Both want to go into the medical field. When they were opening their packages my granddaughter Georgia expressed that she really wanted a quilt but would like to sew it herself. So we spent about a month, picking out her pattern, going to pick out her fabric. She came over and learned my machine, laying out her design and sewing. I think she did really well for her first quilt. It was a great way to bond and she is so proud of her quilt.

What beautiful Heirlooms !!....and I hope Georgia has been bitten by the quilting "bug"!!



City of Hickory City Tour and More by Dianne and Paige Straley

Members Paige and Dianne Straley lead driving tours of the partially completed City Walk and four other trails being designed and built by the city of Hickory. The hour-long tour focuses on how the five trails will be connected and shows major construction sites along City Walk.

So far about 30 people have taken their tours, which are at safe social distances because members drive their own car while hearing a narrative by cell phone. Some past tour members were so excited about what they learned that they lead their own tours for their friends. **Tours are limited to a caravan of three cars** - the Straleys and two other cars. They meet at 5 pm most Sundays at the overflow parking lot of Patrick Beaver Memorial Library. Paige and Dianne walk 3 miles on City Walk each day and have learned a lot about its construction from job superintendents and city officials they have met along the way.

To schedule a tour in your own car, email Dianne at dfwhit@gmail.com.



Photo cutline: The abutment for the east end of the pedestrian bridge over NC 127 is complete. Girders spanning the roadway will rest on the abutment's lower ledge while the walking service will be at the upper level. The four slanted pillars are decorative. The bridge should be complete in September.

Brenda (that's me!>) and Scott Ireland live near Geitner Park...so we periodically walk over and around the construction area...wherever we can safely get a good

look...and here are a few shots we were able to get last week...it was pretty mucky from all the rain..and they had more "secure" security fences



up...lol...so we really couldn't get as close as we had hoped!! These 4 pictures are of the pilings that have been going into place for that walkway and "floating" bridge that will go out over Lake Hickory as RIVER WALK takes you thru Geitner Park.



Quarantine has turned us all into dogs. We roam the house all day looking for food. We are told 'no' if we get too close to strangers. And we get really excited about car rides.



CHARITY Robin's NEST

A note from our CHARITY Coordinator, Nancy Geiger:

Happy September!

This month is the end of our 3rd quarter and our last opportunity to donate to our charity of the quarter; Robin's Nest. Below is information about Robin's Nest and their wish list. If you want to donate items, since we aren't meeting in the near future, you could bring them to me, or if you live in Lenoir and want to drop them off at Robin's Nest, either would be great.

What might be easier for you is a check. And if you would like to donate that way, please mark it as a donation to Robin's Nest and mail it to our treasurer, Kathy Rozea at
Newcomers of Catawba Valley
2425 N Center Street #169
Hickory, NC 28601



Robin's Nest is a nationally accredited Children's Advocacy Center. Child victims of sexual and severe physical abuse are provided child specific services that include compassionate forensic interviews, medical examinations, counseling and advocacy services. Providing these services at a single site helps decrease the trauma these children face, speed the healing process, and increase the likelihood of conviction of offenders.

Wish List

GIFT CARD

\$10 Wal-Mart Gift Cards

\$10 Grocery Store Gift Cards (Fair Value, Food Lion)

\$10 Gas Cards

SNACKS

Juice Boxes

Individual Size Snack Packs - Chips, Cookies, Gummy Snacks,
Applesauce, Crackers, Little Debbie Cakes

GENERAL SUPPLIES

Copy Paper 8 1/2 x 11

Paper Towels & Toilet Tissue

13 Gallon Tall Kitchen Trash Bags

Antibacterial Cleaning Wipes & Spray Cleaner

Air Freshener Spray

Heavy Duty PAPER Plates & Plastic Forks, Knives, Spoons

12oz Disposable Coffee Cups, K-cups for Keurig, Flavored Creamer Cups/Powdered Creamer/Sugar
Lysol

ALFIE'S WISH LIST (Robin's Nest received Alfie through the Canine Companions for Independence Program in February 2020)

Alfie can only accept the following items. *This is a mandate through the Canine Companions program*

Dog Food: Eukanuba Large Breed, Kong toys, Lint rollers, Oatmeal Pet Shampoo, Mango Tango Cleansing wipes for dogs.



BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays in September		Birthdays in October	
Rose McLaughlin	9/5	Lonny McSherley	10/2
Cherie Stewart	9/6	William Boyd	10/3
Lisa Travis	9/7	Zig Kryszczuk	10/3
Beth Osbahr	9/8	Edward Sawicki	10/3
Bob Dennis	9/7	Cindi Williamson	10/3
Priscilla Carney	9/11	Mike Sigmon	10/5
Elizabeth Strickland	9/13	Jerry Johnson	10/7
Adra Kryszczuk	9/14	Susan McGowen	10/8
Therese Winslow	9/14	Karen Peppers	10/9
Debbie Wrigley	9/15	Kathy Bethany	10/11
Paige Straley	9/16	Thomas Cuddy	10/12
Lori Allen	9/17	Linda Monroe	10/13
Jane Duralia	9/17	Rege Duralia	10/14
Nancy W. Prushinski	9/17	Cathi Montgomery	10/16
Richard Wagman	9/17	Tom Hilliker	10/20
Dell Liggett	9/18	Lynne Hines	10/20
Carole Reising	9/19	Larry Goonan	10/21
Walter Murawski	9/20	Shari Kidd	10/21
Victoria Staton	9/22	Linda Dunn	10/23
John Schafer	9/23	Scott Ireland	10/23
John Bates	9/24	Bob Stone	10/23
Haydee Pujdak	9/25	Connie Yokum	10/27
Mary Bucy	9/26	Christine Almeida	10/28
Lynne Montgomery	9/26	Shirley Moore	10/28
Francine Gissy	9/28	Cindi Williamson	10/30
Ron Glover	9/29	Louise Mason	10/31



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

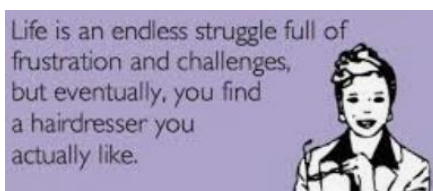
Welcome

Attitude Salon

Attitude Salon and owner Alan Elrod are our newest sponsors and we want to welcome them and also thank them for their support. Attitude Salon, opened in 2015, and located in beautiful downtown Hickory, is also a full service Salon, offering haircare, skincare and nail care services. When I visited Alan several months back, I saw numerous pictures of past Miss North Carolina's, which Alan has had the distinction of being their hairdresser for over 24 Miss North Carolina's. Alan has done hair for over 42yrs, and Attitude is not only one of the largest in Catawba Valley, it has also been BEST OF THE BEST of Catawba Valley for 3 years in a row!!

They are open Monday thru Saturday from 9am to 7pm. Phone 828-327-9010

Please be sure to check out our SPONSORS on the Newcomers website and also their ads are in every Newsletter. When a need for a service arises, looking to see if one of our SPONSORS can help is a great way to thank them for their support, along with mentioning that you are a Newcomer.



COVID -19 Safety Information Websites and Services



Please be sure to get all your information about the Covid-19 Virus and what is happening in our State and our area from **FACTUAL and RELIABLE** sources. There have been numerous misleading articles on social media and even sent through emails and texts that are just plain wrong and harmful.

Below are some websites with accurate and timely information on the corona virus:

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/counterterrorism-and-emerging-threats/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

<https://www.nih.gov/health-information/coronavirus>

<https://www.wfae.report/breakingnews/>

<https://www.wbtv.com/news/catawba-county/>

<https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/>



Staying apart brings us together. Protect your family and neighbors.

Stay home if:



You are sick.



You are at higher risk of serious illness from COVID-19.

If you leave home, know your Ws!



WEAR

a cloth covering over your nose and mouth.



6 FEET

WAIT

6 feet apart. Avoid close contact.



WASH

hands or use hand sanitizer.



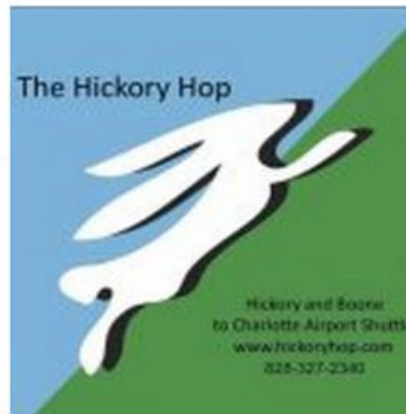
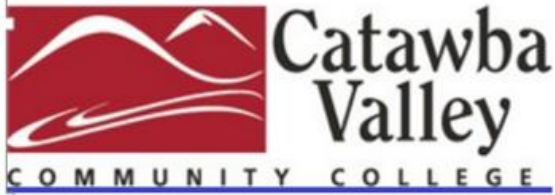
#StayStrongNC

Learn more at
nc.gov/covid19.



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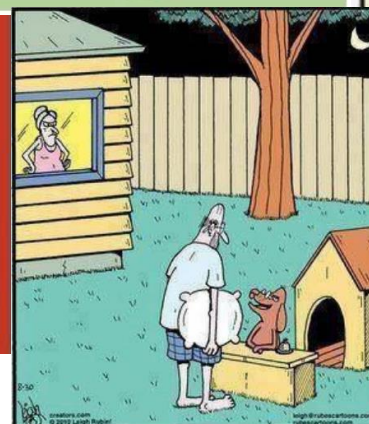
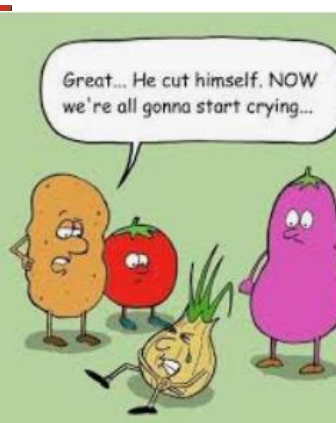
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The LIGHTER SIDE.....or in OTHER words.....my Thanks to YOU for reading this far!!!!!!!!!!!!

I still can't believe people's survival instincts told them to grab toilet paper.	I'm going to stay up on New Year's Eve this year. Not to see the New Year in, but to make sure this one leaves.	If I had only known in March it would be my last time in a restaurant, I would have ordered dessert.
At the store there was a Big X by the register for me to stand on... I've seen too many Road Runner cartoons to fall for that one.	Having some states lock down and some states not lock down is like having a peeing section in a swimming pool.	Until further notice, the days of the week are now called, thisday, thatday, otherday, someday, yesterday, today & nextday.
THEY SAID A MASK AND GLOVES WERE ENOUGH TO GO TO THE GROCERY STORE THEY LIED, EVERYBODY ELSE HAD CLOTHES ON	The dumbest thing I've ever purchased was a 2020 planner.	When Does Season TWO of 2020 Start? I Do Not Like Season ONE.
Keep in mind, even during a pandemic, no matter how much chocolate you eat, your earrings will still fit.	The buttons on my jeans have started social distancing from each other.	I never thought the comment "I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6 foot pole" would become a national policy, but here we are



MOST PEOPLE DON'T THINK I'M AS OLD AS I AM UNTIL THEY HEAR ME STAND UP

I miss the 90s when bread was still good for you, and no one knew what kale was.

Officers, Directors, Activity Chairs and Committees 2020

Officers	Position
Cathi Montgomery	President
Rob Herman	Vice President
Kathy Rozea	Treasurer
Chris Beckom	Secretary
Delilah Bragg	Past President
Directors	
	Amy Chizen
	Nancy Geiger
	Adra Kryszczuk
	Addie McSherley
Activity	Chair
Book Club	Mary Bucy, Donna McDermott
Bowling	Vince LeGrand
Bridge	Gloria Berg
Canasta and Games Day	***** Position Available *****
Canasta and Games Night	Zig and Adra Kryszczuk, Addie and Lonny McSherley
Charity Coordinator	Nancy Geiger
Coffee & Conversation	Sheri Binning
Dominoes	***** Position Available *****
Events Committee	Amy Chizen (chair), Chris Beckom, Dottie Demarest, Mary Ellen Glover, Shari Kidd, Jon Kiser, Kevin McCutcheon, Audrey Rozzelle, Sharon Snellings and Paige Straley.
Items of Interest	Bob Jones
Hospitality	Sharon Snellings, Carol Sawicki, Judy Dostall
Lunch out	Chuck Bethany, Francine Gissy
MahJongg	Dianne Straley
Membership	Rob Herman
Members Helping Members	Sandi Johnson, Hazel Poppe
Newsletter Editor	Brenda Ireland
Programs	Dianne Straley
Publicity	Amy Chizen
Rummikub	Michele LeGrand
Samba Day	***** Position Available *****
Samba and Games Night	Paige and Dianne Straley, Audrey Rozzelle
Shooting Practice	Vince LeGrand
Sponsors	Brenda Ireland
Team Cuisine	Chris and John Almeida, Jon Kiser and Rob Herman
Webmaster Team	Adra Kryszczuk (site and calendar), Greg Gervasio (site advisor)



.....and last, but never least.....

