

onnected VOLUNTEER VIBES the neighborly thing to do

March Newsletter 2025



St. Patrick's Day was first celebrated in America in the early 18th century. The earliest recorded celebration occurred in Boston in 1737, organized by Irish immigrants eager to display their heritage in a new land. At a time when the Irish faced significant discrimination, the festival provided an opportunity for the community to unite and show their strength and pride.

As more Irish immigrants arrived throughout the 19th century, particularly during the Great Famine of the 1840s, the celebration of St. Patrick's Day only grew more prominent. Cities like New York and Chicago began hosting larger parades, with New York's first official parade occurring in 1762. The parades became a focal point for the Irish community, allowing them to showcase their culture, pride, and resilience amidst challenges.

Today, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated with elaborate parades, festivals, and a surge in everything green. From the iconic Chicago River dyed green to the country's largest St. Paddy's Day Parade in Savannah, the day has transformed into a vibrant homage to Irish culture and a testament to the enduring spirit of immigrants in America.

So, as March 17 approaches, take a moment to reflect not only on the fun and festivities but also on the rich history that has shaped this beloved holiday in America. Whether you don a shamrock or enjoy a hearty meal, remember the journey of the Irish and the spirit of community that continues to thrive on this special day.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!





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Hands that Help

Bill Miles, Manager, Home Maintenance

I spent my younger years in Baltimore Md. With the Vietnam War looming, I enlisted in the Air National Guard/Air Force when I was 20. After my time in the service, I went to work for an 🖈 appliance business in Towson Md. learning sales and was the service manager.

In 1975 I married my wife, Eileen, and moved to Shrews-★ bury PA. I started Miles Appliance and was President of the business for over 40 years and grew the business. My son is now the president of Miles Appliance and I assumed a consulting role.

We gradually tried to retire and moved to North Carolina for 8 years. During that time, I was very active in PCFLO food bank, while still consulting. Four years ago, we moved to Sun City. Soon after I became active in the AGAPE food bank, Staying Connected and am still consulting in the appliance business.

In May of 2024, I was asked to be the Home Maintenance Coordinator. With the growth of Home Maintenance calls, it is sometimes challenging to complete all the calls on time. I am very lucky to have 27 active and devoted volunteers to work in Home Maintenance.





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Daylight Savings Time ends March 8th, turn clocks ahead one hour.



Become an IT Staying Connected Volunteer and join a dedicated group of **Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

Staying Connected has the following IT positions open:

- 1. Website Support (Webmaster): Requires experience with WordPress using Divi Theme.
- 2. Google Workspace Administrator (Backup): Requires familiarity with the Administration function of Google Workspace. Training available.
- 3. Hardware/Software Support for the Resource Hub: Requires experience with Mini desktop Hardware, Windows Operating System including (Windows 11) and Google Workspace.
- 4. IT Trainer: Requires Training experience and familiarity, with Google Workspace. Will work closely with Google Workspace Admin and others to create an IT training program for Staying Connected Volunteers.
- 5. Forms Designer: Requires Form Design experience and the ability to create form templates for all Staying Connected forms (paper, fillable and online forms).

If you are interested in any of these IT Positions, Please email Tom Pope at: tompope@stayingconnectedschh.org



Corned beef and cabbage originated in the United States in the 19th century as a result of Irish immigrants substituting corned beef for bacon.



How many Staying Connected Volunteers does it take to change a light bulb?

(see answer below)





March 7, Launch into Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show, 11AM Pinckney Hall. Tickets are \$45 and include lunch and complimentary wine. Tickets can be purchased on the Staying Connected website.



Home Maintenance Volunteer Lunch, March 10, 1PM in the Edisto Room. There will be free food and beverages along with a presentation by Ryan Altman from the Beaufort Fire Department.



At least 4...#1 A volunteer in the Hub to record the request, #2 another volunteer in the Hub to Fax the request to the scheduler, #3, the scheduler who enters the request into VicNet, #4 the Home Maintenance Volunteer who performs the task.

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