

Space Coast Area Mensa



NEWSLETTER

Volume 40, Issue 6

June 2022

From Your LocSec

I'd like to extend a welcome aboard to our newest members **Benjamin McCollam** and **Paul Michlitsch**. As events start ramping up again, I hope you both find something interesting to do with the group.

I want to give a shout out to my wife of 31 years. Eileen supports our group behind the scenes as proofreader of the newsletter and she offers up suggestions on content. There are things I put in the newsletter which she convinces me should be removed during her review. Being the good husband, I always abide by her wishes. Additionally, she supplies the content for Recipe Corner. I am the lucky one because we get content for the newsletter and we have to make her dish and consume it. That's a double win for me!

We are in need of some volunteers and I would ask each member to give serious consideration to the various roles detailed later in this issue. These positions include; Deputy Local Secretary, Ombudsman, and three people (minimum) for the Nomination/Election committee.

A second geocaching event was held at Wickham Park attended by the **Subramaniam** family. Three of their children are Mensans and I think we all had a good time despite the heat.

We finally got our score CultureQuest XXXIII; out of the 250 questions, we answered 143 correctly.

Lastly, Brunch with the LocSec on 12 June @ 11:00 AM. Meet at Merritt Island Pancake House, 950 N. Courtenay Pkwy Suite #18 Merritt Island. Please RSVP to me so I can make appropriate reservations. I won't ask you to volunteer for anything.

Jim Fitzgerald

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RVC10—Thomas G. Thomas

The next meeting of the American Mensa Committee (AMC) will be held on Thursday, July 7, 2022 in conjunction with the Mensa Annual Gathering at the Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks, NV. The Annual Business Meeting will be held the next day, on Friday, July 8. The agendas are not yet available, but will be posted at <https://www.us.mensa.org/lead/amc/meeting-reports/> in June.

For those who attend the Annual Gathering, I will be hosting a Region 10 Meet and Greet on Wednesday, July 6 at 3:00 p.m. Come and meet other Region 10 members and discuss topics of interest – I look forward to seeing you there!

In last month's column, I mentioned the clean-up of the Actions Still In Effect (ASIEs) Appendix 23: Policy and Guidelines for Administrators of Internet Communication Services. Following that, Mensa Connect was updated on May 10. This did not have a large impact on the Communities, but did require that users

logging into Mensa Connect sign a one-time agreement to the Terms of Service before they may post or reply to comments (they may still receive posts from their respective Communities).

Included in the Terms of Service were limits to content and behavior for participants in the Communities. Unfortunately, there were some members who immediately tested these limits, but fortunately the moderators were on top of it and blocked and removed the offending comments. It is hoped that this will make the national discussions less toxic and more inviting to our members. I am pleased to say that we have not had any similar problems in the Region 10 Community, or any of the Local Group Communities in Region 10.

To view the Terms of Service, visit <https://connect.us.mensa.org/termsandconditions294>. It may require that you log in to read them. As thorough as they seem, they do

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RVC10—Thomas G. Thomas

(Continued from page 1)

not address all possible circumstances but provide guidelines for how the communities may be used. The moderators have broad discretion, since every bright line rule we may provide tends to invite some gamers to look for ways to get around them, which only leads to endless arguments about rules (which is not conducive to a friendly environment for the rest of the membership).

In last month's column I also mentioned that the proposed Criminal Acts Task Force was committed back to Beth Anne Demeter (RVC 7), who was to be the Chair of that Task Force, for revisions to the charter. I was not persuaded that the original charter as provided addressed the broader concern of member safety that I had been hearing from several members. I am fully in favor of a Member Safety Task Force, because it has become clear that some members have been threatening to others, without clear recourse on how to deal with the issues. We already have a pro-

cess for addressing member complaints (Appendix 3 of the ASIEs), but it is not well-understood or implemented, and that needs to be corrected and enhanced as necessary. The ASIEs can be found at <https://www.us.mensa.org/lead/policydocuments/actions-still-in-effect/>, and can be easily navigated via the table of contents.

Until next month (or until I see you online),

Thomas George Thomas

Email: RVC10@us.mensa.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thomas.g.thomas>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MensaRegion10/>

Achieving the Impossible

By Steve Schneider

If It's Truly Impossible, Why Waste Your Time?

For centuries, perhaps millennia, runners had been trying to break an impossible barrier. Those runners all wanted to be the first human being to run a mile in less than four minutes. Unfortunately, it was something that a human being was simply not able to do. Numerous experts believed that it was not only dangerous to attempt, it was just not possible to achieve. The best anyone in the world could do was four minutes and 1.3 seconds, a record set by Swedish athlete Gunder Hagg (1918-2004) in 1945. Almost 10 years later, Roger Bannister (1929-2018), a 25-year old British medical student, decided he might be able to break the impossible four-minute barrier. His friends laughed and shook their heads. Few believed it could be done, but Roger was willing to try it and began training. At an Oxford track event, Bannister did the impossible. On May 6, 1954, he ran a mile in three minutes and 59.4 seconds. It was a phenomenal achievement, a once in a lifetime event, that might never be duplicated. After all, the Gunder Hagg's over-four-minute record had stood for almost a decade.

However, after Roger Bannister actually did it, everyone else apparently had an epiphany and realized that, gosh golly, a four-minute mile actually **was** possible. What a concept! One of those enlightened people was John Landy (b. 1930), an Australian runner who, inspired by Bannister, ran a mile in three minutes and 57.9 seconds on June 21, 1954, breaking Roger Bannister's record only 45 days after it was set. A decade later, in 1964, American John Ryun became the first high school student to run a mile in less than four minutes. In 1975, New Zealander John Walker ran a mile in less than three minutes and 50 seconds. The current record for the mile was set in 1999 by Moroccan Hicham El Guerrouj with a time of three minutes and 43.13 seconds, over 16 seconds faster than the "impossible" record set by Bannister in 1954.

To date, about 1,500 people have done the impossible and run a mile in less than four minutes. So, the next time somebody tells you that something just can't be done, ask yourself if it is truly the impossibility of the task, or a mental limitation you have placed on yourself.

I think we all have been seeing quite a bit of advertising promoting the '5G Revolution'. How it is the 'next best thing' we all need. Some may not be familiar with the terminology or why it may be of importance to them, here is some information that may be helpful.

Some Background

LTE (Long Term Evolution) is the project name given to development of a high-performance air interface for cellular mobile communication systems. It was the last step toward the 4th generation (4G) of radio technologies designed to increase the capacity and speed of mobile telephone networks. While the former generation of mobile telecommunication networks are collectively known as 2G or 3G, LTE is marketed as 4G.

Although there are major changes between LTE and its 3G predecessors, it is nevertheless looked upon as an evolution of the UMTS / 3GPP 3G standards. LTE uses a different form of radio interface (OFDMA / SC-FDMA instead of CDMA),* but there are many similarities with the earlier forms of 3G architecture and opportunities for re-use of some elements of 3G network architecture. LTE can be seen as providing an evolution of functionality, increased speeds and general improved performance compared to 3G.

The next generation is labelled '5G'. This is the generation that the companies are hoping consumers will begin to start buying into so they can make some more money.

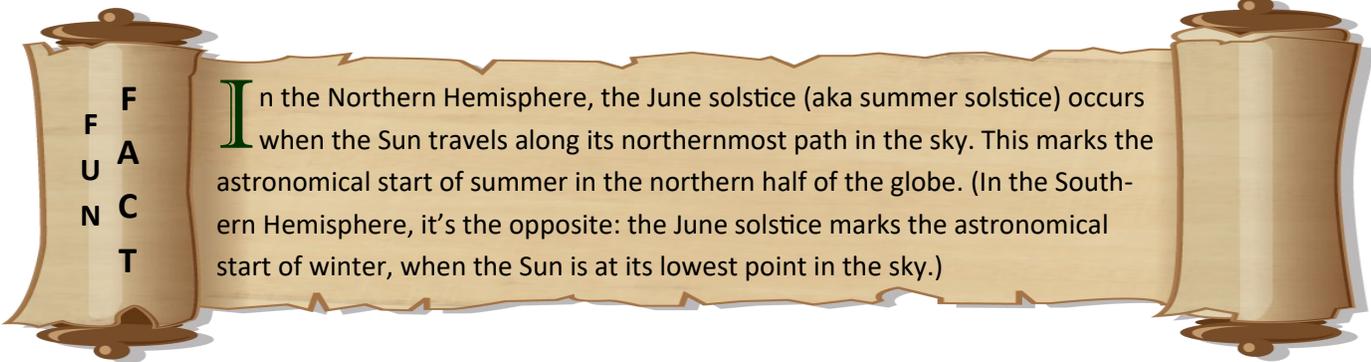
5G versus 4G

What you probably haven't heard or seen much of is real explanations of what benefits 5G (5th Generation) will bring to everyday people versus the 4G service we almost all have today.

Sure, you may have heard or seen a few comments on speed improvements that come with 5G, but they're exceedingly short on details and, frankly, don't really give a complete (or accurate) picture of what you can expect right now in normal use. So, here's a short talk on what 5G can do for you right now.

Not much maybe. Ok, that's a bit too extreme to say that. But for most people in most locations, the reality is that even if you go to the effort of buying one of the few 5G-capable phones now available for purchase (and remember, you have to do that before you can even start talking about the potential benefits of 5G), your day-to-day experience isn't going to be much different. Except for a few locations in a few cities around the country, the download speeds on most 5G phones will not be noticeably different from what you experience with your 4G LTE (Long Term Evolution) phone today. So, if you think your shiny new 5G phone will give you a leg up on friends and family when it comes time to download Season 4 of "Stranger Things" on Netflix, well, think again. It may not be true.

(Continued on page 4)



F
A
C
T

In the Northern Hemisphere, the June solstice (aka summer solstice) occurs when the Sun travels along its northernmost path in the sky. This marks the astronomical start of summer in the northern half of the globe. (In the Southern Hemisphere, it's the opposite: the June solstice marks the astronomical start of winter, when the Sun is at its lowest point in the sky.)

The 5G vs 4G Decision

(Continued from page 3)

Why should I buy a 5G phone?

The real reason to buy a 5G phone today (or in the near future) is to prepare you for what is still to come in the world of communication technology.

The 5G networks offer some solid improvements over today's 4G LTE networks, but most of those benefits are a bit in the future. However, industry trends show that most people are now holding onto their phones much longer than they used to – in some instances because of how expensive the latest smartphones have become. So, when it does come time to replace your current phone, getting a 5G-capable model is a good future-proofing decision.

Why? First, the speed benefits of using a 5G phone on a 5G network will start to become more apparent as time goes on. It's important to understand, however, that those benefits aren't necessarily going to be equal on all devices or on all carriers or in all locations, due to a number of different factors.

All 5Gs are not the same

Most significantly, there are multiple "flavors" of 5G that use different types of radio signals to send and receive data and each of these different flavors has very different characteristics.

The two main types of 5G service are typically referred to as millimeter wave – often shortened to mmWave – and sub-6 GHz. Just to make things more confusing, the sub-6 segment can be broken down into two sub-segments, typically called low-band and mid-band. The technical details behind all this can get very confusing, but the bottom line is that mmWave technology (which is the only version of 5G that Verizon currently offers but also is being used to a lesser degree by AT&T and T-Mobile) can go very fast, as in up to about 50 times faster than standard 4G, but not very far. In addition, while it's possible to use mmWave 5G inside certain locations, such as sports and concert venues, it's generally restricted to outdoor use and it's subject to a lot of interference. As a result, coverage is very limited and the process of increasing that coverage so far is very slow.

Sub-6 5G, on the other hand, is more robust and capable of traveling long distances, particularly the "low-band" sub-segment of the technology. In fact, it's what T-Mobile and AT&T are using for their nationwide and broader 5G coverage networks, respectively.

However, it's currently not any faster than 4G. In fact, as one of Verizon's ads points out, it's even possible for it to be a bit slower than 4G in some environments – though to be completely fair, those are the exception and not the rule. The most interesting opportunity in the near-term is for the "mid-band" sub-6 flavor of 5G, which is currently only being used by Sprint in a few locations (but which will become part of T-Mobile's networks). Mid-band 5G currently offers a combination of somewhat faster download speeds (more along the lines of five times) than 4G, while still maintaining reasonable coverage areas and offering the benefit of working indoors.

Building 5G out will take time

In addition to the different types of 5G, it's important to remember that as with any wireless network technology, the build-out of 5G networks can vary significantly by not just what city you're in, but what part of a city you're in. It's still early on-going development for 5G and, while the network carriers are all working feverishly to expand their 5G footprint around the country, these things don't happen overnight.

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The 5G vs 4G Decision

(Continued from page 4)

An important thing to remember about network speeds is that it isn't just for downloads. One of the more intriguing 5G-specific applications for mmWave, for example, is that it has enabled the creation of applications that you can use at sporting events or live concerts where you can switch among multiple different HD camera views within the app.

While this obviously isn't something you're going to use all the time, it does offer a glimpse into how companies are starting to think about new types of applications that 5G can enable.

Along the same lines, when we start to see 5G-equipped virtual reality or augmented reality headsets, it will be possible to start offering much better viewing experiences on these devices, thanks to the amount of data that can be sent to the onboard displays via a mmWave 5G connection.

Other benefits of 5G wireless

In addition to speed, there are some other benefits that 5G can bring versus 4G, although, again, many of them aren't yet available.

One of the most important will be reductions in what's called latency, or the lag time that occurs between when you start an action and when the network responds. Down the road, this could prove to be a big benefit for applications like cloud-based gaming.

Another benefit inherent in the updated standards behind 5G is improvements in the reliability of the service. To be honest, though, today's 4G LTE service is pretty reliable, so most people probably won't notice much there. Where these benefits will be more apparent are business applications, factory automation and other types of machine-to-machine connections.

Over time, we'll start to see other benefits that only 5G can enable, such as dedicated "lanes" of network traffic, likely for an extra fee, that can offer even faster, more reliable and more consistent connections than anything available today.

The truth is some of the biggest benefits of 5G will likely prove to be things we can't even foresee right now. Remember that services like Lyft, Uber, Airbnb and others that were woven into the day-to-day fabric of our lives couldn't exist until 4G networks started to mature. But, nobody predicted them when 4G first arrived on the scene about 10 years ago. Similarly, there will likely be a number of incredibly important new services and applications that 5G will enable once it starts to mature.

*OFDMA=Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiple Access, SC-FDMA=Single Carrier-Frequency Division Multiple Access, CDMA=Code Division Multiple Access

*Stacy Strickland
Member of SCAM*



Volunteer Opportunities

Your Chapter Needs You

We have a few opportunities for those wanting to volunteer to help out your chapter. Without further ado:

First opportunity: We need three volunteers for Nomination & Election committee. This will require very minimal effort. The three person committee would vet anyone wishing to run for a position on the ExComm and publish that list through the newsletter as the list of nominees. That needs to be accomplished in the June/July timeframe. The same committee would then meet again and tally the votes. That's it. Real simple and it won't take much time at all. Contact me directly if you wish to be on the Nomination & Election Committee.

Second opportunity: The ExComm Deputy LocSec position is vacant and needs to be filled. I would very much like a volunteer to step forward and take this position. The role would be held at least until election results for 2022 have been determined. In the last 3 years or so, I've asked absolutely nothing of the Deputy LocSec so this should be a pretty low impact role. I can't promise that I won't ask for help at some point but it wouldn't be for anything that would take major time from your regular life. This position is important to maintain continuity in leadership should that proverbial bus get too close to me.

Third opportunity: Ombudsman. More than just a cool word, in this position you would act as mediator for any disputes within our chapter or with other chapters. This would not be demanding of your time but it is important we have someone to turn to if necessary.

If you are interested in any of the above positions, please contact your LocSec



Father's Day

Father's Day, is celebrated in the United States on the third Sunday in June. Credit for originating the holiday is generally given to Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington, whose father, a Civil War veteran, raised her and her five siblings after their mother died in childbirth. She is said to have had the idea in 1909 while listening to a sermon on Mother's Day, which at the time was becoming established as a holiday. Local religious leaders supported the idea, and the first Father's Day was celebrated on June 19, 1910, the month of the birthday of Dodd's father. In 1924 U.S. Pres. Calvin Coolidge gave his support to the observance, and in 1966 Pres. Lyndon B. Johnson issued a proclamation that recognized the day. It became a national holiday in 1972, when Pres. Richard Nixon signed legislation designating the third Sunday of June as Father's Day.

The title of this section uses a common cipher

7 F J < 3 J > > O F V

Which number doesn't belong?

6318		6848		5935
	7428		2918	
		8756		3927
9654	5735	9436	4520	4832

Answer is at the bottom of page 12

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Punny Times

By Stacy Strickland

An anthropologist was cataloging remedies of South American cultures with the assistance of a tribal elder. The elder indicated the leaves of a particular fern were a cure for any case of constipation. When the anthropologist expressed his doubts, the elder looked him straight in the eye and said, "Let me tell you, with fronds like these, you don't need enemas."

King Ozymandias of Assyria was short on cash after years of war with the Hittites. His last possession was the Star of the Euphrates, the most valuable diamond of the ancient world. Desperate, he went to Croesus, a local pawnbroker. Croesus said, "I'll give you 100,000 dinars for it." The King protested; "But I paid a million dinars for it! Do you know who I am? I am the king!" Croesus replied, "When you wish to pawn a Star, makes no difference who you are."

Here are some of the incentives to promote testing at the local group level. For those of us promoting Mensa with friends and colleagues, this is great information to impart if any of them are interested in testing.

- June 1-15: \$1 Mensa Practice Test—Practice Test promotion to generate candidate leads
- July: 50% off Local Group Testing—Half-price (\$30) LG testing incentive
- Aug. 10-24: \$1 Mensa Practice Test—Practice Test promotion to generate candidate leads
- September: Free Prior Evidence Review—Promotion to coincide with back-to-school season.
- October: 50% off Local Group Testing—Half-price (\$30) LG testing to promote nationwide during Mensa Membership Month.
- November: Free Prior Evidence Review—Promotion held annually.
- Nov. 28: Cyber Monday Promotion—Single-day 99¢ Mensa Practice Test promotion on Cyber Monday.
- Dec. 1-15: \$10 off Private Testing—Timely promotion to supplement window where groups have trouble scheduling testing.

Testing conducted in May

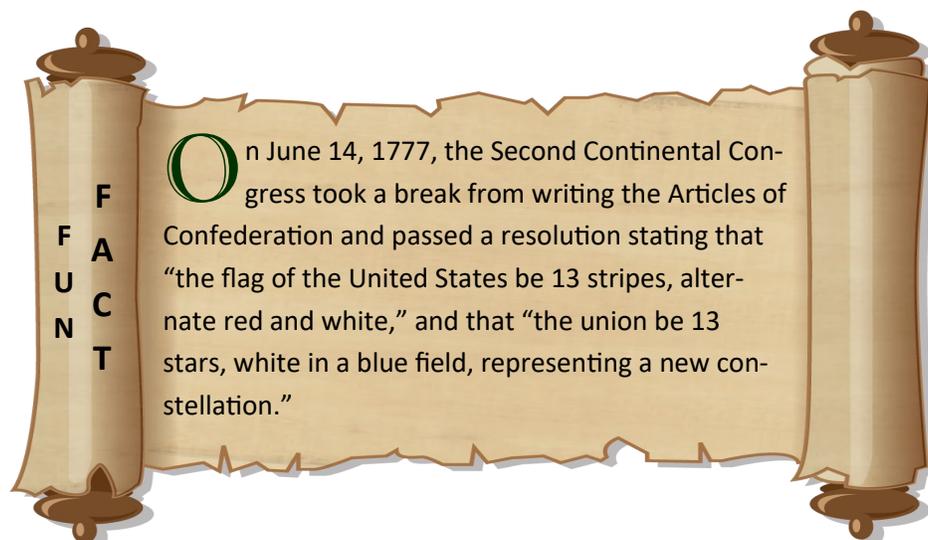
Initial Contacts: 1

Follow-up Contacts: 0

Tested: 1

Next test session at the Central Brevard Library in Cocoa (Catherine Schweinsberg Rood Central Library) is scheduled for: June 18, 2022.

Prospective candidates should contact us at mensatest@cfl.rr.com



Meeting was called to order at 5:31 PM on 5/15/22. In attendance:

Jim Fitzgerald: LocSec

Val Valek: Treasurer

Julie Costopoulos: Membership Chair

Thomas Thomas: Regional Vice Chair

Robert Roth: Area Coordinator for Indian River County

Evan Smith: Chapter Member

Minutes from ExComm meeting held on 4/16/22 were read and a motion was made to accept. Motion passed.

Discussions and Motions:

Short discussion held regarding the vacancy of the Deputy LocSec position. LocSec to take action to seek a volunteer for the vacant position in the June newsletter.

Julie Costopoulos announced she has been provided the opportunity to become a professor at FIT and regretfully resigned from her position as Membership Chair. ExComm accepted the resignation and the LocSec will seek a volunteer to fill the position in the June newsletter. Julie will retain her role as Scholarship Chair. Update as of 5/25: **Ann Carter** has volunteered to fill the Membership Chair position. Ann, thank you very much!!

Discussion on creation of a Nomination & Election Committee (NomEl) whose members would be approved by the ExComm. LocSec will seek three volunteers in the June newsletter.

Financial report was provided by Treasurer **Val Valek**. General account contains \$7,651.53 and the reserve account contains \$860.82. A total of \$1,374.28 has been spent on printing newsletters this year.

Discussion on what events might generate interest and participation from the membership. Ideas that were discussed include:

Brevard Zoo: A special tour of the Brevard Zoo which would be subsidized in part by Chapter funds. LocSec to get with Brevard Zoo representatives to discuss options.

Keep Brevard Beautiful: Suggested by LocSec based on the excellent participation Palm Beach Mensa had with a similar event. LocSec to get with the Keep Brevard Beautiful organization to determine where we might be able to fill a need they have.

Indian River County Parks and Recreation: May have opportunities for trash pickup on beaches or other efforts. **Robert Roth** to provide information on opportunities available in Indian River County.

New Chapter Logo/Banner: LocSec suggested a contest to our members on design of a new logo for our Chapter. ExComm would vote for the winning submission. Guidelines and rules yet to be established and the National Office will also need to approve a new logo/banner. Motion made to move forward with this idea. Motion passed.

Member Buttons: Discussion on purchasing Mensa buttons for members so that we can more easily find one another at events. The buttons were approved by ExComm some time ago but no buttons were ever ordered. LocSec will reengage and order buttons. Buttons would be provided to members upon their attendance at an event.

Discussion on getting a little more publicity for our Chapter with the purpose of increasing membership. Suggestions of having a table at the Hurricane Expo in Vero and/or a booth at one of the larger festivals at Wickham Park were opined. Both events are heavily attended and may be an effective way to raise awareness.

Motion made to adjourn at 6:28 PM. Motion passed.

Newsletter Submissions

To submit articles, events, SIGs, announcements, please email locsec@scam.us.mensa.org

All submissions must be received by the Editor before the 15th of the month preceding publication.

Upcoming Events

11 Jun: Game Night: 5:00 PM. Host: Ann Carter. Bring your competitive spirit to the Vista Room on the fifth floor at Indian River Club, 1025 Rockledge Dr., Rockledge. We've been drawing a crowd with folks bringing a snack to share. RSVP appreciated to anncarter@rocketmail.com or 954-471-5758 **RSVP**

12 Jun: Brunch with the LocSec: 11:00 AM meeting at Merritt Island Pancake House, 950 N. Courtenay Pkwy Suite #18 Merritt Island **RSVP**

15 Jun: ExComm Meeting: 5:30 PM meeting via [Zoom](#) Passcode: 719659

25 Jun: Weekend Walkers: 9:00 AM. Host: Ann Carter. Lace up some comfortable, supportive shoes and join Ann Carter at Merritt Square mall for a bit of exercise. We'll meet about 8:55 at the mall entrance just west of Macy's, walk a mile or two in the comfort of AC, then adjourn to a nearby eatery for calorie replacement. Join us to walk, talk or eat. Depending on turnout, we may have a couple of groups at different paces. As I'm relatively new to the area, I'll take suggestions for breakfast, preferably not a chain.

RSVP appreciated to anncarter@rocketmail.com or 954-471-5758. **RSVP**

Picture of the Month



Geocaching with the Subramaniam Family at Wickham Park

Photo by: Jim Fitzgerald

For the high resolution image, visit the *Picture-of-the-Month* channel on our Discord server

Have a Picture of the Month for the newsletter? Submit to locsec@scam.us.mensa.org.

All submissions must be the original work of the person submitting the image.

Recipe

Contributed by Eileen L.

Corner

Vegetable Skillet Sauté

Serves 4

Preparation:

3 tbsp. butter, divided
1/2 red onion, chopped
1 Garlic clove, minced
1 medium zucchini, halved and quartered
3 ears corn, kernels cut off
1 1/2 c. halved grape tomatoes
1/4 c. freshly chopped basil, plus more for garnish
kosher salt
Freshly ground black pepper

Directions:

- 1) In a large skillet over medium-high heat, melt 2 tablespoons butter. Add onion and garlic and cook until beginning to soften, 2 to 3 minutes, then add zucchini and cook until tender and golden, about 5 minutes. Add corn and remaining tablespoon butter and cook 3 minutes more. Add tomatoes and cook until beginning to soften, another 3 minutes, then stir in basil and season with salt and pepper.
- 2) Serve, garnished with more basil.



SPACE COAST AREA MENSA

Officers and Appointees

Local Secretary	Jim Fitzgerald	locsec@scam.us.mensa.org
Deputy Local Secretary	Vacant	asstlocsec@scam.us.mensa.org
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Recording Secretary	Rick Bugado	recsec@scam.us.mensa.org
Area Coordinator		
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Indian River County	Robert Roth	robverobeach@aol.com
Testing Coordinator	Hank Rhodes	mensatest@cfl.rr.com
Testing Proctor	Julie Costopoulos	
Testing Proctor	Harold (Bud) Long	
Testing Proctor	Hank Rhodes	
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Calendar Coordinator	Jim Fitzgerald	locsec@scam.us.mensa.org
Discord Administrator	Jim Fitzgerald	locsec@scam.us.mensa.org
Webmaster	Karen Freiberg	webmaster@scam.us.mensa.org
Membership Chair	Ann Carter	membership@scam.us.mensa.org
Scholarship Chair	Julie Costopoulos	scholarship@scam.us.mensa.org
S.I.G.H.T Coordinator	Karen Freiberg	sight@scam.us.mensa.org
Social Media Chair	Jim Fitzgerald	locsec@scam.us.mensa.org
Regional Vice Chair (Area 10)	Thomas G. Thomas	RVC10@us.mensa.org
Gifted Youth Coordinator	Vacant	
Ombudsman	Vacant	

Mensa Links

SCAM Web Site

<http://www.spacecoast.us.mensa.org>

SCAM on Discord

<https://discord.gg/s82uBqPTj4>

American Mensa

<https://www.us.mensa.org/>

Mensa Connect

<https://www.us.mensa.org/connect/mensa-connect/>

Your Membership Profile

<https://www.us.mensa.org/my-mensa/my-membership-profile/>

Receiving the newsletter electronically is easy. Just follow these simple steps:

1. Go to <https://members.us.mensa.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=CommPref>
2. Edit the top box "Publication Preferences" and set 'Local Group Newsletter' to "Electronic" and click 'Save'
3. Done. Told ya it was easy and you save our chapter print costs. Win-win.

In the others, the first two digits multiplied together gives you the last two digits. The cipher used in the title of this section is called Pigpen and translates to **Gray Matters**. You may run into this in an escape room.

Answer from Page 7: 5935