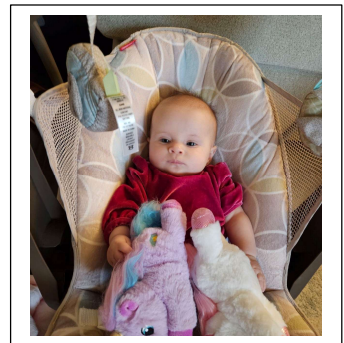
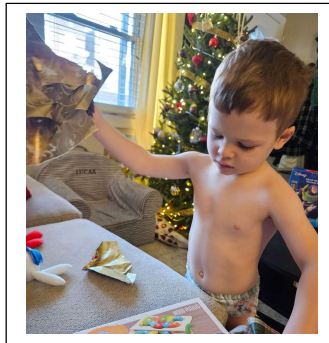
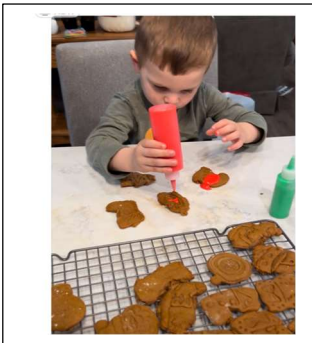


2024

This year's letter picks up a little before Christmas 2023. We had a couple of inches of snow this year before Christmas, and Lucas, with the help of Pappy, made a small snow man.

Lucas was able to help MiMi make cookies.

On Christmas Day, we visited the kids to see Lucas unwrap some presents. Isla just watched.



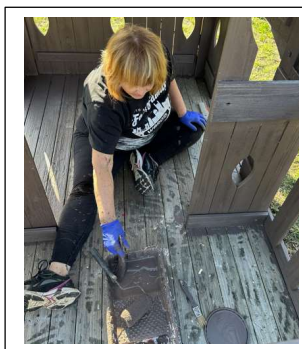
At the very end of December, our neighbor Steve had a shed delivered, and Lucas was here to help supervise. It was hauled on a small cart, down our narrow lane, from the main road. Lucas brought his "construction" helmet. Steve was standing there with his foot on the shed. Lucas did the same.



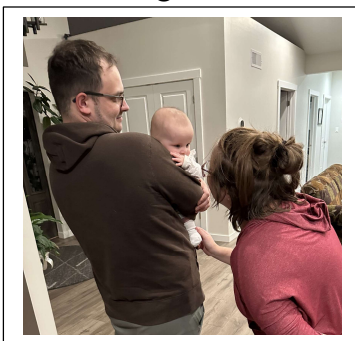
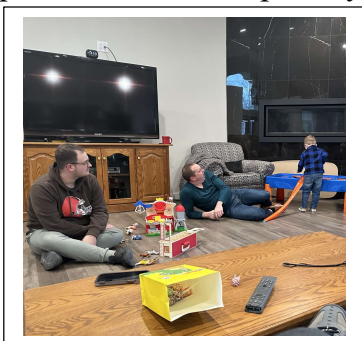
We took a vacation to Cancun in February for a week at the beach. We had great weather.

I was wondering if we would hear anything about the Super Bowl while we were there. Yep, they had a giant screen set up and had a SB Party with typical SB dinner and snacks. It was like we were back in the USA, there were a couple of hundred people there!

The weather was exceptional for March, and we started working on restoring the play set. Andy replaced some of the boards and rebuilt the ladder and climbing wall. Vicki stained the entire structure.



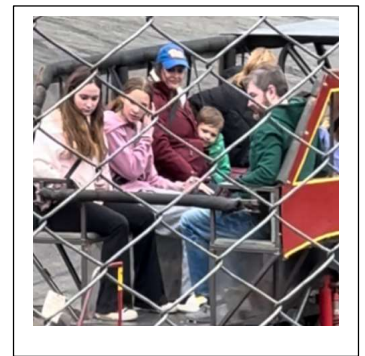
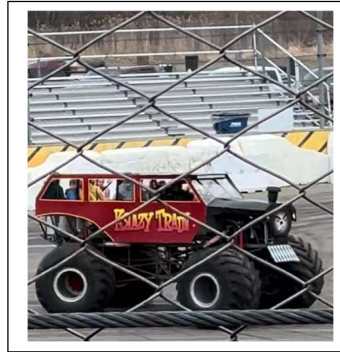
Kelly and Austin came up from Orlando for a serious wedding planning visit at the end of March. We ordered flowers, the cake, and had a food tasting. Lucas was excited to play with Austin. They both enjoyed Isla. Austin had to return for work, Kelly stayed on for a few days to finish up on planning. Vicki also made a trip to Orlando to help Kelly find a bridal gown.



Megan and Tyler invited us and Amy and Dennis (our in-laws) on an Easter excursion in the strip district to visit the Easter Bunny. [2]

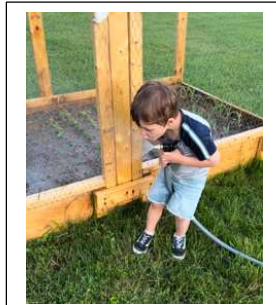
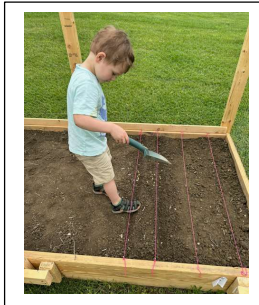
We along with Megan, Tyler and the kids went up to Erie to watch the eclipse. We went to a local Raceway. They had set up several bouncy toys for kids to play on and a pirate ship. On the track they had a few monster jam cars. Lucas enjoyed his ride, it really whipped around on the track.

The weather was very overcast all day. But it amazingly cleared up about 15 minutes before the eclipse and stayed clear until after the eclipse passed. It was the first eclipse that any of us had seen! It was great!!



At the end of April, a FedEx truck took out our mailbox. I will give them credit. On the second day after the accident, they had a crew here to rebuild the mail box. It was done by the end of day.

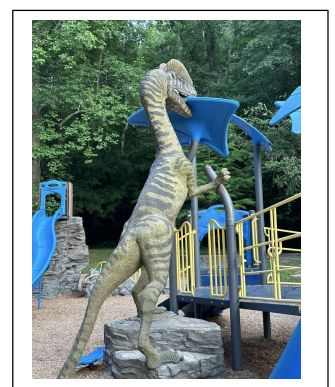
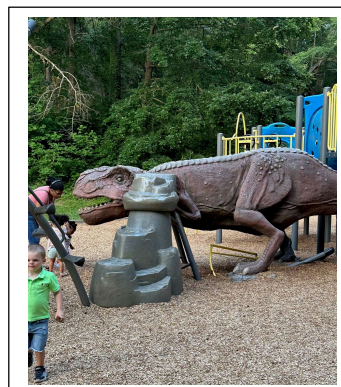
Andy had a small garden in the back yard, and Lucas planted seeds. A few weeks later Lucas did some watering of the plants, and of himself.



We have breakfast out a few times a year. Piper Bay is one of Andy's favorite places.

Megan brought the kids out for Monroeville community day. They had bouncy house, face painting, food, and a foam machine.

Towards the end of June, we headed to Pawley's Island for our summer vacation. We all take two days to travel there, each way. This year we visited a Dino Park at the end of the first travel day.



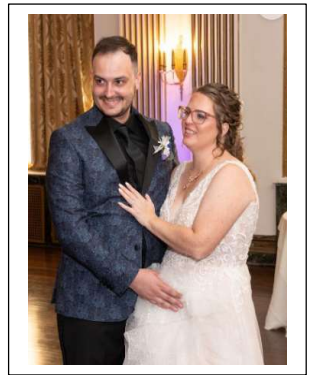
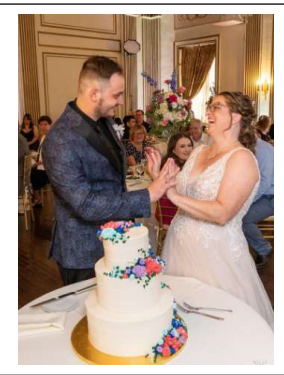
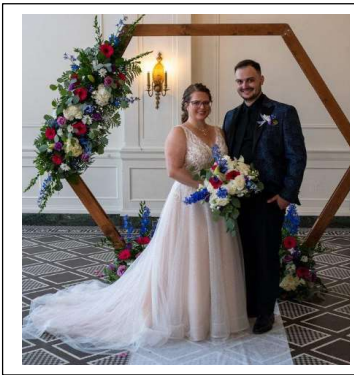
We enjoyed the week on the beach, while Lucas made a few friends. On the way home the second [3]
day we stopped for the Rerko Hunchuck Vrabel Reunion.



Local Beach

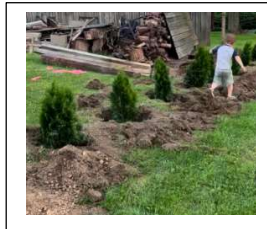
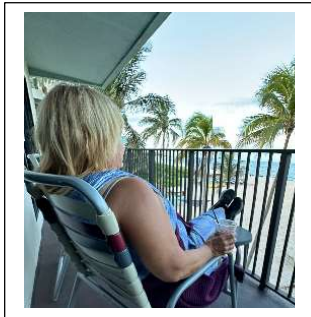
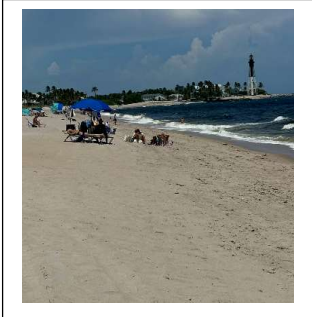
We also attended our first Trump Rally. It was cut short by an attempted assassination!
This summer we also visited a local beach about 40 minutes from our house. It is a sandy beach on a lake.

August 10 was Kelly and Austin's wedding. It was held at the George Washington Hotel, in Washington PA. Everything went very well on schedule. The entire Lojek family came from Virginia. Several members of Austin's family traveled in from California.

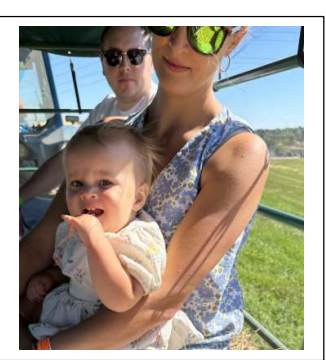
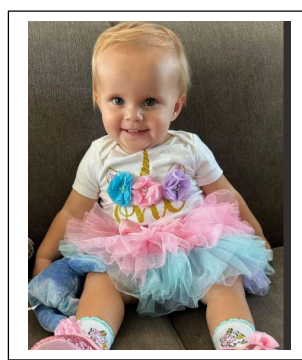
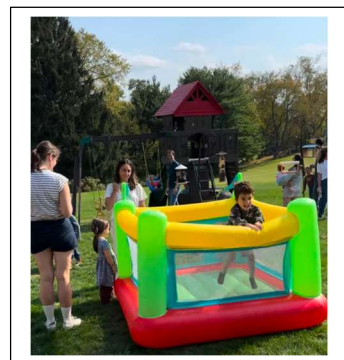


At the end of August, we took a trip to our timeshare, Lighthouse Cove Resort in Pompano Beach, for a well-deserved rest for a busy year. The view from our balcony was wonderful.

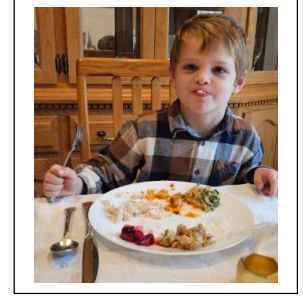
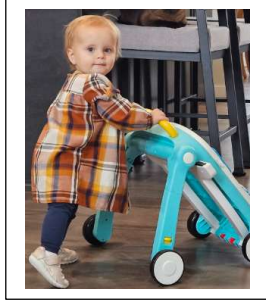
Doing some yard work kept us busy, and cleaned up the walnuts from our yard. Just a few! We dumped them in the small strip of woods by the park for the squirrels. Andy and our neighbor planted a row of trees.



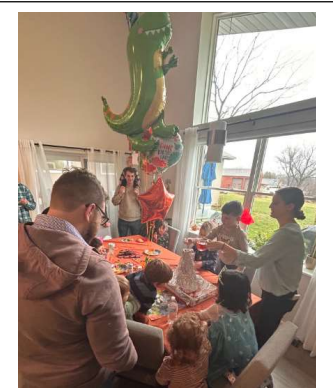
We held Isla's first birthday party at our house. Megan & Tyler brought a bouncy house. We had a cupcake birthday cake. A few weeks before we went on a hay ride. Andy gave her a piece of straw to chew on.



Megan and Tyler go all out for Halloween. We hosted Thanksgiving at our house. You can see that [4] both Isla and Lucas enjoyed dinner. We had turkey & gravy, stuffing, Vick's cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, sweet potato casserole, green bean casserole, pumpkin pie, pecan pie, coconut cream pie. Isla is learning to walk; she can really move with the walker.

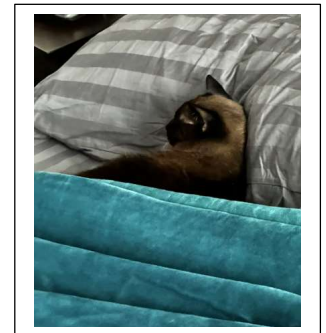
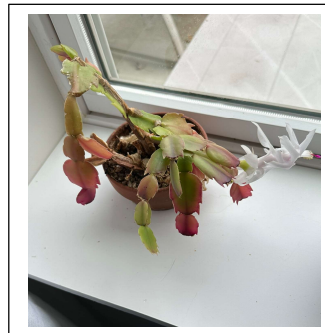


We also held Lucas' fourth birthday party at our house. He wanted a volcano cake and dinosaurs. Vicki ordered a cupcake cake which was in the shape of a volcano, it really looked great. Megan had a volcano demonstration. Tyler held up a piñata and each kid had a turn to smack it with a stick, not much progress. Megan laid the final blow, and candy went everywhere. Kids knew what to do.



Isla's first visit to Santa did not yield a friendly visit. Looks like Lucas is talking up a storm.

We have had a Christmas Cactus for many years. It has been amazing that it always bloomed around Christmas. Three years before last it did not bloom at all. Last year and again this year it bloomed a week before Thanksgiving. It is the fourth year in the new house and it is back on schedule. It lives on the window sill facing the back of our house, getting the morning sun.



Whenever Vicki gets up, Piper makes bee-line to her pillow and takes a nap. Piper is happy and doing well.

Merry Christmas!

We wish everyone a safe and healthy new year and hope we can keep on the path back to normal

If you are in the area, give us a call if you would like to stop by for a visit. We would love to hear from you!

Vicki 412-874-3623

Our new address:

107 Rabbit Run Ln

Andy 412-874-0672

Monroeville, PA 15146

Please visit our website www.rerko.com A copy of this newsletter is posted there as well as many of previous years letters.