The Ali Family Loves Traveling the World
“Why has my rate gone up? If my car is getting older, why am I paying more?” These are questions you have probably asked yourself at least once over the last few years. Being a consumer myself, I also ask these questions and have concerns about rising costs and increased premiums. From a professional standpoint, I’d like to provide some insight with what’s occurring in the auto insurance industry and why there is a need to adjust rates.

Over the past several years the auto insurance industry has been negatively affected by several factors; all of which drive rate upward. Gas prices are very low, repair costs are increasing, there are more vehicles on the road and people are driving more than ever before. In addition, distracted driving has also increased significantly. These factors collectively have contributed to a noticeable increase with auto insurance claim frequency and severity. In order to maintain financial balance, when more money is being paid out in claims it needs to be offset with more money coming in with premium.

While the general concept of insurance is all about pooling risk with everyone else, there are some things you can individually do to help control increases and make sure you are not overpaying.

- Have a licensed agent review your coverage and deductibles to make sure you have the coverage you need at the most affordable price. Having a low deductible or physical damage coverage on an old vehicle may not be the most affordable option and may not be needed.
- Check to see if you can save money by bundling your insurance. Having multiple policies with the same company may qualify you for discounts you wouldn’t receive by having them with different companies.
- Ask a licensed agent what discounts you are not receiving and make sure you cannot qualify for them. Sometimes a small change like choosing to receive your bills electronically may qualify you for discount that you were not aware of and were not receiving.

Auto insurance doesn’t have to be overwhelming or confusing. Working with a local licensed agent will not only give you an opportunity to review your needs with someone local that knows the needs of the area, but it will also provide peace of mind knowing that have the coverage that you really need at an affordable price.
Dear Residents,

Traveling is a passion that my husband and I share and make a priority in our lives. We enjoy taking in new sights and experiencing different cultures as often as our schedule allows. This past October we went to Iceland and Ireland, and created numerous memories over the course of the trip. We like to say that we collect memories, not things. This month’s feature family, Barbara and Abdul Ali, also enjoy traveling and come back from their trips with shared experiences as a family. Enjoy their story, and if you are toying around with the idea of a future trip somewhere, my advice is to just go, always take the vacation!

Cheers,

Christine McBride
Content Coordinator
cmbride@bestversionmedia.com

EXPERT CONTRIBUTORS:
To learn more about becoming an expert contributor, contact Kathy Durand at (262) 716 4788 and kdurand@bestversionmedia.com, or Christa Banholzer at cbanholzer@bestversionmedia.com

VILLAGE OF WHITEFISH BAY WISCONSIN

Julie Siegel ................................. Village President
Jenny Heyden ............................ Communications Specialist

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Notice:

Final Property Tax Bill Due Date is May 31, 2017
Property Tax Installment Due Dates & Payment Information

When is my Final Property Tax Installment due?
• If you pay your property taxes in installments, the final installment is due by Wednesday, May 31, 2017.

What if my payment is late?
• Interest & penalties of 1.5% per month will start to accrue on delinquent balances dating back to February 1, 2017, until the full amount of the tax bill is paid.

How Do I Make a Payment?
Preferred:
• By Mail
• On the Village Website (user fees apply) www.wfbvillage.org
• 24-Hour Night Depository (located in entrance of Village Hall)
• In person – Business Hours are Monday through Friday, 8am – 4:30pm.

How Do I Obtain a Receipt?
• Use the Village website, www.wfbvillage.org
• Include a self-addressed stamped envelope with payment sent via mail or dropped in night depository. Receipts will not be sent if self-addressed stamped envelope is not included
• Receive receipt at time of payment in person

How do I use the Village website to make a payment?
• Go to the Village website www.wfbvillage.org.
• From main page, click Online Payments icon near bottom of page.
• Select “Pay Property Tax Bill.”
• Enter payment type, parcel number, name and address and amount of payment.
• Payments made via website are processed next business day (user fees apply)
Both front and backyards of this garden feature year-round enjoyment with annuals, perennials, edibles and succulents. A vine-covered, hand-crafted pergola provides shelter and shade amid a stunning garden setting. In addition, a backyard greenhouse makes it possible to grow hundreds of seedlings that are shared with family and friends. Decorative arches, obelisks, bird baths and a fountain complete this soul calming landscape. And don’t miss the vertical herb and raised-bed vegetable gardens!
Participation in regular physical activity has been shown to have benefits to both physical and emotional health. Per the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans, adults need at least 150 Warmer weather means nice, long walks with our pets. As a reminder, there are simple steps to avoid the pain and cost of an animal bite. An individual bitten by an animal is at risk of developing rabies, which is almost always fatal after neurological symptoms have developed. In Wisconsin, state law (s.95.21) requires any dog or cat that bites a person to be quarantined for 10 days, during which it must be examined three times by a licensed veterinarian to observe for signs of rabies. If a pet is not current on its rabies vaccine, the quarantine must be at an isolation facility (such as Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control—MADACC). The Health Department works with the police department to ensure that quarantine and checks are enforced. To avoid the health risk and expense associated with an animal bite, follow these tips.

**Do:**
- Remain motionless when approached by an unfamiliar dog.
- Curl into a ball with your head tucked and hands over ears and neck if a dog knocks you over.
- Notify MADACC of any stray dogs or dogs behaving strangely.

**Don’t:**
- Approach an unfamiliar dog.
- Run from a dog.
- Panic or make loud noises.
- Disturb a dog that is sleeping, eating, or caring for puppies.
- Pet a dog without asking owner’s permission
- Encourage your dog to play aggressively.
- Let small children play with a dog unsupervised.

---

**June 2017 Clinics**

**Immunization clinics:** Appointment required
- Tuesday, June 13th 10:00-11:00am -Brown Deer
- Wednesday, June 21st 3:30-4:30 -Brown Deer
- Thursday, June 8th 3:00-4:30-Shorewood
- Tuesday, June 20th 7:30-9:00-Shorewood

**Adult Health:** Appointment required
- Wednesday, June 21st 8:00-10:00-Brown Deer
- Tuesday, June 27th 8:00-10:00-Shorewood

**Blood Pressure:** No appointment needed
- Wednesday June 28th 3:30-4:30-Shorewood
- Tuesday, June 6th 1:30-2:30-Lydell Community Center-WFB

Please call the North Shore Health Department for an appointment at 414-371-2980. For the most up-to-date information on upcoming clinics and screenings, visit the Clinics page of our website: http://www.nshealthdept.org/Clinics.
By Karen Sparapani, Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission

Can I see your ID?

A visible collar and ID tag with current information is your first and fastest way to get your animal home should it get away from you. Most neighbors will see a loose animal and check for a collar and tag and bring the dog or cat back to their home.

Microchips can also play an important role in reuniting you with your lost pet. It is essential to make sure that whoever has inserted that chip into your animal not only has accurate information, but also has registered that chip with the manufacturer.

Animals are not happy at the shelter and it is not because MADACC is not a great place. It has loud sounds, unfamiliar smells, and even the happiest dog at home can act totally differently in a shelter. Go to www.madacc.org for more information on tags and microchips.

Every day at Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission (MADACC) we have animals brought into the facility by Good Samaritans, or our Animal Control Officers pick up stray animals. Sadly, 95% of the time, the animal is not wearing any identification and with only 3% of cats getting reclaimed by owners and 25% of dogs going back home, we need more owners to be proactive when it comes to keeping ID on their animal. All dogs and cats in Milwaukee County are required to wear their license at all times, which requires a collar.

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- Personal Care
- Dementia Care
Join us for this year’s summer reading program at the Whitefish Bay Public Library, “Build a Better World.” We’ve got summer reading for all ages, from babies up through adults. Registration begins on June 9. What better way to Build a Better World than to celebrate Bike to the Library week from June 18-24. Biking is a great way to help the environment and is also good for your health. We have a number of bike themed events so check our website for the details. The fun continues that week with our after-hours Harry Potter Summer Reading Kickoff Party on Saturday, June 24. Enjoy Harry Potter themed activities, food and fun. Costumes are welcome! This is open to all ages, a perfect event that the entire family will enjoy. Visit our website to see all the summer reading events and to register. To put on all these programs we’ll need some help. Are you a teen that needs volunteer hours? Want to help out at the library? If you’re in seventh grade or up, you can join our Teen Volunteer Team and get valuable experience working on the Whitefish Bay Public Library’s Summer Reading Program. Each year we sign up over 1,500 kids, and we need your help to staff our registration table, hand out prizes, and assist the librarians at special programs. We’d go crazy without you! Applications will be available online and at the Youth Services desk starting May 16. E-mail k.hutley@wfblibrary.org with questions. View the full calendar of events at the Library at wfblibrary.org.

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SUBMITTED BY KATIE KIEKHAEFER, HEAD OF YOUTH SERVICES AND SCOTT LENSKI, COMMUNITY & ADULT SERVICES LIBRARIAN

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ALUMNI
Are you a Whitefish Bay alumni? If you have good news to share we would love to hear from you! Please email: districtnews@wfbschools.com

School’s out for summer – last day of school June 9

New District Policy
For liability reasons drone usage is not allowed on school grounds, except with prior approval.

High School
Congratulations WFB High School graduating Class of 2017 - Once a Blue Duke Always a Blue Duke!

Athletic Hall of Fame
The sixth class of the Whitefish Bay High School Athletic Hall of Fame was inducted.
Jim Bourne (Athlete, Class of 1988)  
David Pelisek (Athlete, Class of 1977)  
Tiffany Stone (Athlete, Class of 1987)  
Earl “Blacky” Zamzow (Coach)
All Hall of Fame information is available at: http://www.wfbschools.com/schools/high/athletics-activities/athletic-hall-of-fame.cfm

Cumberland School and Richards School
Kindergarten Registration for 2017-18 is in Progress
Junior Kindergarten: 4 years old on or before September 1, 2017
Senior Kindergarten: 5 years old on or before September 1, 2017
Contact the school offices for more information.
Cumberland School (414) 963-3943
Richards School (414) 963-3951

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NEW PATIENTS!
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School is Out! Time for Recreation!

The Whitefish Bay Recreation and Community Education department is here to serve the summer recreational, educational and enrichment needs of your entire family. For youth entering K4-8th grades, try one of our great summer day camps located at Richards and Cumberland Schools. These programs offer weekly fun outdoor and indoor camp activities plus optional field trips at great prices. For active adults, there is Pickleball, Pottery Throwing, Sunset Paddle Trips and various Fitness Classes to help you stay busy. There is something for everyone. Summer program registration is currently taking place. Visit our website at www.wfbschools.com to view our full Summer Recreation Bulletin and to register online or stop in and see us at Lydell Community Center, 5205 North Lydell Ave. to register in person.

Connects Before and After School Program
Currently Accepting Registration for the 2017-2018 school year.

The Whitefish Bay School District through its Recreation Department provides Before, After and K4 Wrap-Around Care for its students that attend Richards and Cumberland Elementary Schools. Families looking for care in the upcoming school year are encouraged to register by June 30th to take advantage of the FREE registration period. This is a savings of up to $50.00 per family or $25.00 per child.

WHITEFISH BAY SENIOR “55 AND BETTER” PROGRAMS
... In the Community for the Community

By Carolyn Noori, Senior Program Supervisor for Recreation and Education Department for the WFB School District

Tuesday, June 6th
Indoor Summer Picnic with live music!
Menu: Salisbury steak in gravy, mashed potatoes, California blend vegetables, coleslaw, rolls, apple pie, milk and coffee. Cost $9.00. Pre-registration and payment is required by June 1.

June 12-August 18, Mon., Wed., and Friday mornings
Low impact aerobics
8:00-8:45am Fun easy way to get the blood flowing and the heart pumping!
Strength and stretch
8:50-9:35am Functional fitness, resistance, balance, stretching and core!

June 19-August 11, Mon., Wed.
12:15-1:05pm and Friday 10-10:50am
Fun Fitness- Combination of low impact aerobics, weights, balance and mat work!

Wednesday, June 28th
Tour Ten Chimneys
Lunch at Delafield Brewhaus, shopping at Ebert’s Greenhouse Village and Elegant Farmer! Cost includes deluxe transportation, lunch and tour $99.00. Depart Lydell at 8:00am and return approx. 7:00pm.

Please look in Recreation guide for all upcoming tours! All programs require pre-registration, for additional program and registration information, contact Carolyn Noori, WFB Senior Program Supervisor at 963-3992 or email carolyn.noori@wfbschools.com.
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Save the Date!

Sounds of Summer on Saturday, August 19
A musical street festival on the east end of Silver Spring presented by Whitefish Bay’s Civic Foundation!

5:30-7pm - Extra Crispy Blues Band
7-8pm - Rhythm Method (80s Tribute)
8:30-10pm - Light Up!

A Tribute to Styx
Plus food, beer and great music!

About the talent:
Extra Crispy Brass Band celebrates New Orleans-style brass band music inspired by great contemporary bands such as the Dirty Dozen, Hot Eight, Rebirth, New Birth Brass Bands and traditional outfits, such as, Olympia and Mahogany Brass Bands. The band’s repertoire includes pieces by Louis Armstrong and Sidney Bechet, modern funk tunes, and originals.

Rhythm Method is a 70’s and 80’s classic rock band from Milwaukee. The band has been a staple of the Milwaukee music community since 1992, and continues to be a top drawing act today.

Light Up - A Tribute to Styx
The Nation’s #1 Tribute to the Music of STYX! STYX was one of the biggest album-rock bands of the late 70’s, capable of producing monster hits with their stadium rock, power ballads and concept albums. LIGHT UP captures the excitement of both the music and the era. Close your eyes and you’ll swear it’s the real thing. LIGHT UP is not just a band performing the hits of STYX. They are a sound and visual experience. Comprised of some of the area’s finest musicians, Light Up delivers concert style sound that separates them from the rest.

I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream for Ice Cream!
The 2017 Ice Cream Socials will take place Wednesday, June 14 and Wednesday, August 2 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Old Schoolhouse Park. Indulge in a free sundae or root beer float while enjoying live music from the Whitefish Bay Community Band.

Mark Your Calendars
4th of July Celebration – July 4
Sounds of Summer – August 19
The Great Pumpkin Festival – October 25-29
Holiday Stroll – November 24


Whitefish Bay Memorial Day Ceremony
May 29th at 11:00 am (rain or shine)
Armory Park - 1225 E Henry Clay St, Whitefish Bay, WI

The community is cordially invited to Whitefish Bay’s 3rd Annual Memorial Day Ceremony. The ceremony will be an opportunity for Veterans to connect with one another and for the community to honor our country’s fallen service members. The event will also give Whitefish Bay families a way to teach children the meaning behind Memorial Day and to witness traditional military customs. The 2016 program attracted nearly 800 Whitefish Bay residents and veterans, and was a meaningful tribute to those who gave their lives serving our country. For questions regarding the event, please contact Dan Carey (dan.carey516@gmail.com) or Sarah Chapman Wilson (sarahchapmanwilson@gmail.com).
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- Whitefish Bay Resident

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Ali Family Learns Life Lessons Through Their Travel Adventures

Story By Christine McBride | Photos by Boutique Photographer, Linda Smallpage
“Diversity maybe be the hardest thing for a society to live with, and perhaps the most dangerous thing for a society to be without” — quote from peace activist William Sloane Coffin in the 1950s.

In our world today, those words still ring true and serve as a reminder to not only accept, but embrace, one another for our differences. Abdulhamid and Barbara Ali have found this to be true in their journey through life together.

Abdulhamid (Abdul) was born in Somalia, the son of a respected clan leader, making him a prince. He is also a practicing Muslim. Whereas Barbara was born in Wisconsin, and led the typical American lifestyle until 2003 when Abdul entered hers. The couple met while at work, and went out for dinner one evening. “After we had dinner a few times, Abdul explained that Muslims do not “date” but we could get to know each other, and if we were both interested in pursuing a long-term relationship, there would be a marriage almost immediately. We had our first dinner in May, and we were wed in August that same year,” said Barbara.

Their children are a mixture of “yours, mine, and ours” as the couple likes to say. There are five adult children, two grandchildren, and then together the couple had Omar (11) who is in fifth grade at Cumberland. Omar has Down Syndrome but his parents are happy that his classmates and neighborhood children treat him as just another kid.

We’d like to thank Molly Judge for bringing you this month’s cover story.
When Omar was born, Barbara was retired from the Air Force, and then left her position at the Department of Transportation to stay at home with Omar. It was during this time that Barbara started to write and learn more about photography. “I have written a number of books, the first one about my park adventures with Omar, 101 Things to do in Milwaukee Parks, and that led to the Milwaukee Bucket List, and then Omar’s Adventures Series, which detail the fun Omar has while traveling, showing that a child with Down Syndrome can enjoy the same things everyone else does,” said Barbara.

An interesting side story to Omar is that someone with his exact name is on the federal terrorist list. As a result, every time the Ali family travels, Omar ends up being questioned, and often detained. “I often wonder about the common sense of security personnel, who would detain a 6 year-old with Down Syndrome as being a terrorist. But we always just plan on extra time for the airport, and have been able to travel extensively as a family,” said Barbara.

Although rather modest, Abdul has made quite a name for himself since entering the United States. He first came here to attend Marquette University, and didn’t even speak English. After earning his degree in Civil Engineering, he worked at the Department of Transportation, until he began his company, Daar Engineering in 2001. The firm has grown into five offices throughout the state and now employs over 100 people. They have

**What’s your story?** Email me at cmcbride@bestversionmedia.com and I’ll help you tell yours!
won numerous awards, including being named one of the Top 100 Black Entrepreneurs in the USA by Black Enterprise on two occasions.

The family loves traveling as a hobby, and has been to six continents. Barbara said, “Last summer was spent in Morocco, and I’ve written a book that will be out this summer, “Journey to Fez,” about our summer road trip during Ramadan. I started writing about our travels at my blog, www.justanotheramericanprincess.blogspot.com, and just returned from a travel blogger’s conference in Jerusalem, along with side trips to Jordan and Dubai. A highlight of my trip to Jerusalem was spending an emotional day with Jews, Muslims and Christians praying. First we visited the western wall with Jewish women. Then I went to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, where Jesus was crucified and entombed. Then the Mosque of Omar, where I met Muslim women. We all prayed for the same things, and I realized how we are all more alike than different. Travel opens my mind a little bit more with each person I meet and it’s been interesting to see my own personal growth as I get out of my comfort zone.”

As a family, each member believes everyone should be treated with kindness and respect. “There are a lot of new families moving to Whitefish Bay, and sometimes they will dress differently, pray differently, or eat different foods. We all need to help them feel included and respected,” are Abdul’s words of wisdom for our community.

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Suzanne Powers is what they call a “disrupter” in her industry. Few top producing real estate agents open their own companies and fewer yet in the middle of a recession. As a 15 year leader in her industry, Powers took a chance in 2011, and opened up her own brokerage firm Powers Realty Group, Inc. In an age where 90% of small business fail in their first 5 years Powers was a standout with her amazing client base and community support. Milwaukee has embraced Powers unique Boutique Style of brokerage and Powers gratitude for her success shines through as she discusses how it all began.

“In true start-up fashion, we opened Powers Realty Group in my home, and gratefully started the company with 29 listings in Milwaukee’s North Shore. The company was built on grit, determination and passion to give buyers and sellers something better than what was already being offered in Milwaukee Real Estate. The success is in the numbers, and there is no denying how successful we are,” said Powers.

Powers Realty’s cozy beginnings included meeting with clients at her dining room table, and conducting buyer presentations in the living room of Suzanne’s home. “Being at my own home for the beginning of Powers’ journey made it very personal for both me and our clients, and they loved it! We humanized the experience with our family and theirs,” said Powers. Many of Powers’ clients today miss coming to her house for late night offers, and remember those days as the beginning of something special. Powers’ devoted fans and clients built the company, and never cared where the business was being done, but that it was being done with great care. It would be another six months before Powers Realty Group established the business in a run-down duplex on Oakland Avenue in Shorewood.

“I remember those early days with great sentimentality. I staged the office to match the cozy, comfortable feeling of home and brought the dining room table and living room to our office as the customers’ introductory experience with our company,” said Powers. Cozy and comfortable, just like home.

With Suzanne Powers’ vision, nine months of planning, and numerous meetings, Powers transformed the duplex on Oakland into a two-story commercial development for Shorewood. Each detail of the process required careful execution and patience. Picky about every detail, even the Powers commercial sign took over half a year of planning and design. Powers Realty Group is the first two-story commercial building on the 4200 block of Oakland, and proudly won Shorewood’s 2013 Façade Improvement Award for the Village.

Powers Realty Group is now entering its sixth year in business. “I am proud to say, we are Wisconsin’s fastest growing independent brokerage firm and Wisconsin’s number one Boutique Brokerage with 72% growth and nearly $200 million in sales for 2016,” said Powers.
Powers. The company is on target for considerable growth with three offices to serve the Metro Milwaukee area in Wauwatosa, Mequon and Shorewood.

The future is bright for Powers. High touch and personal service is the hallmark of our business. We are authentic, hardworking and caring agents serving the public through every step of the home-buying or selling process.

“We thank Southeast Wisconsin for a wonderful first six years and look forward to many more,” said Powers with a smile. To learn more about Powers Realty Group please visit www.powersrealty.com or call 414-963-0000.
Dehumidifier Safety
By Lieutenant Dan Tyk, North Shore Fire/Rescue, EMS Manager & Community Relations Officer

A recent national uptick in the number of fires likely caused by the use of dehumidifiers has led fire departments and organizations like the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to take a closer look at what the public knows about their safe operation.

While the high humidity during the summer can wreak havoc on your home, the improper use of a dehumidifier can have more severe, if not deadly, consequences.

Following a few simple safety tips can help keep you and your family safe:

• Always read the user manual and follow manufacturer instructions for use. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the unique features and requirements of your dehumidifier.

• Set up your dehumidifier properly. Make sure your unit is placed on a level surface, clear of other objects and that there are no obstructions to its air intake. Blocked air intakes can cause dehumidifiers to overheat and lead to increased fire hazard risk.

• Inspect power cords and replace when necessary. Thoroughly check all cables and cords to ensure that there are no exposed wires or worn cords. This is common in places where the cords/wires bend around corners or rub against any other objects. Never use a dehumidifier with a damaged power cord, as this could pose an electrical shock hazard or fire risk.

• Regularly clear or replace filters per manufacturer instructions.

For a full list of recalled dehumidifiers, please visit the Consumer Production Safety Commission website at www.cpsc.gov. For more safety tips or for information on other services offered by North Shore Fire/Rescue, please visit www.nsfire.org.

For more information about other safety or health related topics, visit our website, www.nsfire.org, or call our Community Risk Reduction Bureau at (414) 357-0113.
Welcome Summer to Silver Spring Drive

By Whitefish Bay Business Improvement District

Congrats to high school and college graduates and welcome Summer!! As you make your summer plans, continue to enjoy great shopping and dining on Silver Spring Drive. Summer activities in the Whitefish Bay Business Improvement District include the July 4th parade, the return of the Whitefish Bay Farmers Market in early July and a Sidewalk Sale-A-Bration July 21 and 22. These are all “don’t miss” events.

The 2016 Whitefish Bay Farmers Market season runs July 8 through October 7. Farm fresh produce and flowers, every Saturday morning (8am – noon) are offered in our cherished traditional outdoor market. Want to help with the market? We are looking for market volunteers, cooking demos, people willing to host a yard sign, musicians for our 10am performances, celebrity chefs and more!

The Whitefish Bay BID will kick off the annual sidewalk sale with a real Sale-A-Bration!! The sidewalk sale (Friday and Saturday, July 21 and 22) will include live music by the 5 Card Studs on Friday evening to accompany the great deals and bargains offered all along the street. Saturday afternoon during the sidewalk sale will include an ADVENTURE ZONE with plenty of great (and free) offerings for kids of all ages! Mark your calendars now!

To subscribe to monthly BID updates, email marketing@shopwhitefishbay.com. You may also connect online through our website (www.shopwhitefishbay.com), follow “ShopWFB” on Twitter or check out “Shop Whitefish Bay” on Facebook.

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Dancing Horses, Animal Gardens

www.animalgardens.com

By Alec Barnes

Located between Delavan and Lake Geneva, WI, Animal Gardens offers incredible surprises for both young and old. The Dancing Horses Theatre presentation boasts an enchanting performance that is unparalleled. From the show opener to the finale, audiences of all ages sit spellbound, applauding each equine performer and trainer, exclaiming in wonder, chuckling at the humor, and even wiping the occasional tear when a moment of connection touches a heartstring.

Get up close with the trainers at the newest park feature: the Backstage Tour. During the tour, visitors are given a demonstration about liberty-style horse training and will then be invited into the stables to meet the equine performers.

Exiting The Dancing Horses Theatre, visitors witness the 30-minute Exotic Bird Show which follows. A delightful treat, this performance features several different species of exotic birds that amaze witnesses with their incredible abilities and antics. Echo, a parrot who, with his trainer, appeared on television’s America’s Got Talent, is a highlight of the show.

A visit to the Baby Animal Barn furthers the fun. The Baby Animal Barn is filled with both domestic and exotic baby animals that children can hold and feed. Staff members are present to answer any questions about the baby animals. In close proximity is an outside petting zoo and several charming rides for children to enjoy.

Walk or take a ride through the Wildlife Exhibit, a natural-setting zoo featuring animals, many of which are indigenous to Wisconsin. The exhibit culminates in the Deer Park where you can pet and feed white-tailed deer. Take a tractor-pulled wagon ride though the park to see larger animals.

Take a train ride though Indian Village, complete with teepees, Native American art, and an oral history lesson about the area’s indigenous people. Boat rides, camel rides, and other unique experiences are offered on a regular basis at Animal Gardens as well.

A visit to Animal Gardens is unforgettable. Get all the details to plan your visit at www.animalgardens.com.

By Alec Barnes

Formerly Change of Address
Life is busy. It might seem like the family is always divided by school, work, sporting events and music recitals with no room for quality family time. For some, the idea of “family time” might mean planning that long-awaited road trip or visiting relatives in another state. Though trips are great for family bonding, spending time with your loved ones doesn’t have to take place over the course of a week-long vacation. Family fun can take place in your own community or even in your living room and backyard. Sounds more realistic, right?

**Volunteer Together**
Volunteering as a family not only allows you to spend time with one another, but it also fosters growth and awareness in you and your children. Helping others is a great reminder to cherish what your family has to be grateful for. To make it fun, choose activities that jive with your kids’ interests. Are you raising animal lovers? Sign the family up to work at your local pet shelter. If you have younger children, aim for a child-friendly activity, like making cards and delivering them to a nursing home. For older kids, opt for more hands-on roles, like collecting supplies or running a fundraiser.

**Cook Together**
Look no further than your own kitchen for a night of family bonding. Choose a recipe that requires some teamwork and divide roles amongst yourselves. Not only will everyone learn some new skills, but you’ll get to enjoy the finished product together. Older children can help you with bigger tasks, while little ones can set the table and help measure out ingredients. Make it a weekly tradition and let a different family member choose the recipe each time.
Draw Self-Portraits
Drawing is fun—and challenging—at any age. Have everyone in the family draw a self-portrait and reveal your artwork to one another. Unless you live in a household of art prodigies, the results are guaranteed to be entertaining. To make the creations more permanent, frame the portraits and hang them in a collage. Perform this activity yearly to see how everyone changes.

Host a Scavenger Hunt
There’s nothing like an at-home scavenger hunt to help you reimagine uses for your household items. Pair up younger children for the challenge and let older kids fend for themselves. Set clues that inspire imagination, such as “Find an object that starts with the letter K” or “Locate something with stripes.” If you have a competitive household, give the winner a fun prize like movie theatre passes or a gift certificate to the ice cream shop.

Have a Staycation
Who says you have to venture outside city lines to see the sights? Treat your town like a tourist destination by attending local events, museums, pools, and libraries. Research your own city the way you would a new location by reading up on history, beautiful spots for sightseeing, and local hangouts. Planning a staycation is a great way to explore your own town and have fun as a family!

By Emma Riehl

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At Home DATE NIGHT

By Tori S. Bevens

Whether a couple is short on time or money, has small children or just a desire to stay home, dates out of the house can be out of the question. Luckily, that doesn’t mean that date night can’t happen. Every now and then, it is fun and romantic to set aside time to do something out of the ordinary, even if it does not involve leaving the house.

IDEAS FOR DATES IN:

• Pick a new game to play and pair it with a glass of wine or homemade hot chocolate. Borrowing a game from friends is an easy way to test it out without the investment.

• Pick a theme and plan the night around the theme. Enjoy Mexican food and margaritas and then watch the 1960s classic *Macario*.

• Look through photo albums or pop in your wedding video and enjoy reliving timeless memories.

• If kids are in the mix, feed them dinner and put them to bed. When the house is quiet, cook a meal together and enjoy it just the two of you.

• Make a platter of your favorite snacks or pop some homemade kettle corn on the stove and cozy up for a movie.

• Create a slumber party by piling blankets and pillows on the floor. Feeling really creative? Build a fort!

• Get artsy. Grab a canvas and some paints and put your hands to work creating a piece of art together.

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@Hart Park
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Cost: $10 (13 and older)
Time: 9am-10pm rain or shine
www.milwaukeehighlandgames.com

Sun., June 4
UPAF Ride for the Arts
Sponsored by Miller Lite
@Summerfest Grounds
Support the arts by riding your bike. The event includes short and long distances, as well as a family ride. The party at the finish line is not to be missed.
Time: 7am
Cost: $60+
www.events.upaf.org

Sat., June 10
Summerfest Rock ‘n Sole Run
@Summerfest Grounds
Time: 7am
Cost: $85
www.rocknsolerun.com

Fri.-Sun., June 16-18
Lakefront Festival of Art
@Milwaukee Art Museum
Enjoy a day or weekend of art for the whole family.
Cost: Advance tickets $10; at door $17
Time: 10am-10pm; Sunday closes at 8pm
www.mam.org

Fri.-Sun., June 16-18
Polish Fest
@Summerfest Grounds
Enjoy Polish culture at its finest. Check the website for daily deals!
Time: 12pm-12am; Sunday closes at 8pm
Cost: Advance tickets $10; at gate $12
www.polishfest.org

Sat.-Sun., June 24-25
Cedarburg Strawberry Festival
@Downtown Cedarburg
Time: 10am-6pm; Sunday closes at 5pm
Cost: Free
www.cedarburgfestival.org

Sat., June 3
Party in the Park
@Lapham Peak Park
Join the season-opening fundraising concert. The featured band will be Funhouse, back by popular demand. Funhouse plays high energy, danceable covers.
Time: 6:30-8:30pm     Cost: $8
www.summerstageofdelafield.org

Sat.-Sun., June 3-4
Holy Hill Art and Farm Market
@Holy Hill Road
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Time: 9am-4pm
Cost: Free
www.holyhillartfarm.com

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