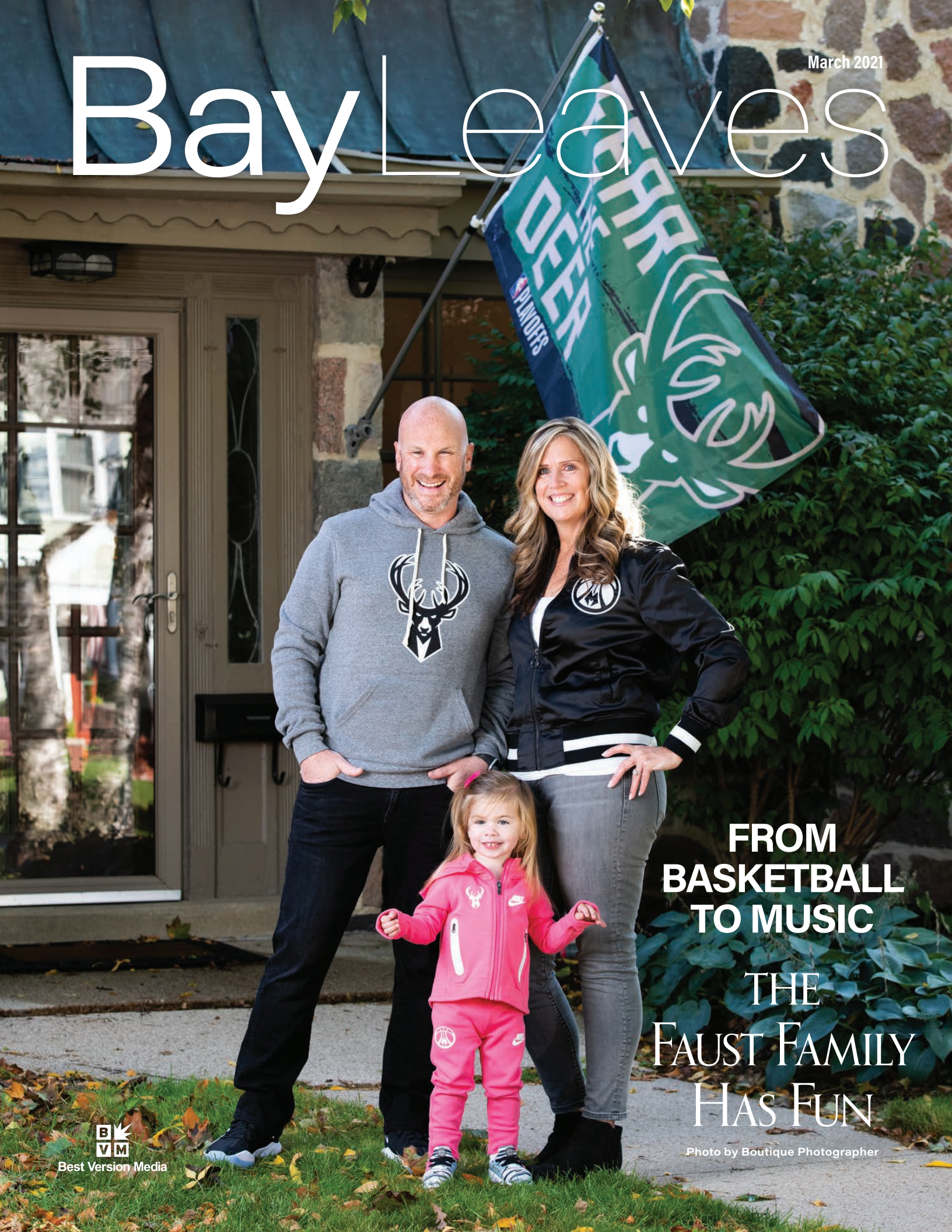


March 2021

BayLeaves



**FROM
BASKETBALL
TO MUSIC**

**THE
FAUST FAMILY
HAS FUN**

Photo by Boutique Photographer



Best Version Media

The Official Village Weekly E-Newsletter:

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Important Property Tax Payment Information:

2nd installment for taxes due March 31st

▶ **WHAT HAPPENS IF I DO NOT PAY ON TIME?**

For any property tax bill where payment is not made timely, the bill is considered delinquent and the remaining balance is subject to interest and penalty. When paying in installments, if a payment is missed, the installment plan is no longer available and the balance is due in full. Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes and Village of Whitefish Bay Municipal Code, delinquent property tax bills are charged 1.5% interest and penalty per month (in the calculation of interest and penalty, a partial month is considered a full month). Interest and penalties are charged retroactive to February 1, 2021.

▶ **HOW DO I MAKE A PAYMENT?**

- ▶ *By Mail*
Make check payable to the Village of Whitefish Bay
Send check to Village of Whitefish Bay,
5300 N. Marlborough Drive, Whitefish Bay, 53217
- ▶ *On the Village Website, www.wfbvillage.org*
Click "Pay Property Tax Bill Online" on the bottom of page or visit: <https://client.pointandpay.net/web/VillageofWhitefishBayWI>

User Fees Do Apply:

- » Credit/Debit Cards – 2.39% per Transaction, \$1.50 minimum
- » Electronic Check – \$1.50 flat fee
- ▶ *Village Hall 24-Hour Night Depository*
Located in entrance of Village Hall
Deposits made prior to midnight will be processed using that day's date
- » **Please note:** Associated Bank will not be collecting taxes this year.
- ▶ *Want to view your property tax receipt online?*
Visit the following link to watch the video walkthrough: <https://youtu.be/u4DBP44jcu0>

Election Information:

Spring 2021 Election April 6, 2021

▶ **Election Information:**

Polls will be open on April 6, 2021. Polling places are open from 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. Please use the Ward Map (PDF) link to see where your polling place is: <http://www.wfbvillage.org/DocumentCenter/View/508/>.

▶ **Offices to be elected for the April 6, 2021 election include:**

State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Court of Appeals Judge, Circuit Court Judge, Village Trustee

▶ **How to Request and Absentee Ballot:**

- ▶ *You may request a ballot online at www.myvote.wi.gov.*
- ▶ *You also may request a ballot be mailed to you by emailing the Village: elections@wfbvillage.org.*
- ▶ *Your request must include a copy of WI photo ID and be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 1, 2021.*

▶ **Your options to return your ballot:**

- ▶ *Place your ballot in the mail. The U.S. Postal Service sorts and delivers official election mail in an expedited fashion.*
- ▶ *Use the dropbox just inside the Village Hall vestibule door. The box is checked regularly during the day.*
- ▶ *Drop your ballot off at the Village Hall front desk during regular business hours.*
- ▶ *Please remember that your ballot must be received at Village Hall (not postmarked) by 8:00 p.m. on April 6, 2021.*

▶ **In-Person Absentee Voting:**

In-Person Absentee Voting will occur on weekdays from Tuesday, March 23 – Friday, April 2, 2021, during regular business hours (until 5:00 p.m. on April 2, 2021).



Publishers: Christa Banholzer and Kathy Durand
BayLeaves Project Coordinator: Beth Raab

PUBLICATION TEAM

Content Coordinator: Christine McBride
Designer: Laura Wire
Contributing Photographer: Boutique Photographer

ADVERTISING

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Contact: Kathy Durand at (262) 716 4788, or kdurand@bestversionmedia.com and Christa Banholzer at cbanholzer@bestversionmedia.com

FEEDBACK/IDEAS/SUBMISSIONS

Have feedback, ideas or submissions? We are always happy to hear from you! Deadlines for submissions are the 20th of each month. You may also email your thoughts, ideas and photos to Christine McBride at cmcbride@bestversionmedia.com

CONTENT SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Content Due	Edition Date
December 20	February
January 20	March
February 20	April
March 20	May
April 20	June
May 20	July
June 20	August
July 20	September
August 20	October
September 20	November
October 20	December
November 20	January

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency	911
Police Administration	(414) 962-3830
Police (non-emergency)	(414) 351-9900
North Shore Fire Dept. (non-emergency)	(414) 357-0113
Village Hall	(414) 962-6690
Public Library	(414) 964-4380
Dept. of Recreation & Community Education	(414) 963-3947
Whitefish Bay School District	(414) 963-3921

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Photos by Boutique Photographer



DEAR RESIDENTS,

Within the last year life has dramatically changed for all of us. One of the questions I have found myself asking people is, aside from travel what is the one thing you are looking forward to doing the most when life is back to normal? Answers have ranged from hug family members, hosting a large house party, returning to an indoor sport they love playing.

My honest answer is that I cannot wait to take my son to a Milwaukee Bucks game again. He loves basketball and we typically attend about ten home games each year. In fact, we had tickets to attend the Bucks game on March 12th, 2020 which was the same date the NBA season was officially put on hold. We were able to be a virtual fan for one of the playoff games, which actually was a pretty neat experience.

In the meantime, I enjoyed learning more about Scott Faust and his cool position with the Milwaukee Bucks. Enjoy reading their story and fingers crossed we all have the option to attend an in-person Milwaukee Bucks game in the near future.

FEAR THE DEER!

Christine McBride



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FROM BASKETBALL TO MUSIC

THE FAUST FAMILY HAS FUN



WHEN MILWAUKEE BUCKS fans spot Scott Faust working on the sidelines with the players as the head athletic trainer, they will think that Scott has one of the best jobs. Then add in the surprise fact that Scott loves to jam on stage with his guitar, and his 'cool points' go as high as Fiserv Forum's roof.

Scott grew up in Alabama where country music is popular and he always had a passion for music. He originally planned on attending the prestigious Berklee College of Music located in Boston, but ended up at the University of Alabama-Huntsville. While he began as a music major, a random favor requested by his brother changed his career path.

"My brother was a really good basketball player, even being part of the Harlem Globetrotters for a few years. He was always needing various minor injuries looked at, or taping his ankle. One day he mentioned that it would be cool if I learned how to tape his ankle properly for games. That motivated me to take an athletic training class. I ending up loving it so much that I switched my college major," said Scott.

After earning his degree in biology Scott landed his first athletic position with a minor league team in Quad City. He moved teams a few times and was eventually a trainer for the Philadelphia 76ers. While his dream job was to be the head athletic trainer, it was through the 76ers that Scott met the girl of his dreams, Lee.



Scott and Lee worked together because Lee would perform cardiac studies on the 76ers players. After a few years of friendly interaction, Scott invited Lee and her two sons, Nicholas and Matthew, to attend 76ers games. A romance bloomed from there. "My goal had always been to be the head ath-

letic trainer and after years of applying and being denied by various teams, I was thrilled when I received the job with the Milwaukee Bucks," said Scott. "The only issue I had was that I would have to relocate to Milwaukee. At the time all I knew of the city was that it was cold in the winter."

While the prospect of moving to Milwaukee was nerve wrecking for Scott and Lee, they were determined to embrace it. "When I used to travel with the 76ers to Milwaukee we would spend time in our hotel room and in the stadium and that was my only exposure to Milwaukee. When I actually rented a car and drove around the various suburbs I got to

experience much more of the area," said Scott. "I just felt right at home in Whitefish Bay. I would just drive up there, find an empty bench at Klode Park and enjoy looking out at Lake Michigan."



Scott enjoyed the backdrop of Lake Michigan so much that he proposed to Lee while at the beach area of Klode Park. "Being born and living my whole life in Pennsylvania, I was nervous about moving away from everything and everyone I knew," said Lee. "All worries were erased when we came home and found that packages of furniture we ordered were missing. We thought someone had stolen all our packages, but it ends up that a neighbor had kindly moved all our packages into our garage because they had the code from the previous owner. That type of kindness happens everyday with our friends and neighbors in Whitefish Bay."



Scott and Lee were married in 2017 and their daughter Cadence was born in 2018. Pre-Covid, Lee and Cadence would attend every Bucks home game. Cadence has sweet little traditions with some of the players including sticking out her tongue with Pat Connaughton. In 2019, Cadence made headlines when Giannis held her during a press conference.

Even though Scott did change his career plan, a passion for music never left him. With over 20 guitars, Scott makes time to practice guitar most days. For Cadence's first birthday they gave her a special guitar with her name on it. Scott and Lee have also formed a group of good friends with some country music stars including Vince Gill and Jason Aldean. They often take road trips to Nashville to visit friends and enjoy concerts.



"Now that we have been here for five years, I know that this is where we are meant to be," said Scott. "I love being a part of an organization as great as the Milwaukee Bucks. The part that made us the most nervous about the job, being the move to Milwaukee, ended up being the best unforeseen benefit of the job. We love it here!"

BY CHRISTINE MCBRIDE
PHOTOS BY BOUTIQUE PHOTOGRAPHER



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Katie Corcoran

striving to change the public persona of what a realtor is and show the client that their goals are our goals, and they are the priority. Our team aims to provide top notch service, superb real estate aptitude and a trusted companion for each client."

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Corcoran Realty & Co. specialize in the North Shore, Ozaukee County and South Shore areas, including but not limited to Shorewood, Whitefish Bay, Fox Point, Glendale, Mequon, Thiensville, Grafton, Cedarburg, Port Washington, a specialty niche in Bay View and crossover into the Wauwatosa/Brookfield neighborhoods.

The real estate business gives our team the ability to lead lives that are fulfilled by helping others while surrounded by the people they love the most, family and clients. "We really do love our clients," Katie smiles. "Buying and selling homes is about compassion, patience and compromise. It's personal, and our life experiences and industry knowledge have prepared us to help families navigate through an emotional and financially important time in their lives."

Corcoran Realty and Co. provides virtual and socially distanced buyer, seller and home styling consults. Working hours are from 8am-8pm and the office is located at 6055 N. Flint Road, #3, in Glendale. Additional information and a virtual tour of the warehouse can be found at www.CorcoranRealtyCo.com, or contact them at hello@CorcoranRealtyCo.com or by calling 414-214-0335. Let's do this!

BY GAIL MACKIEWICZ PHOTO CREDIT: CALFA PHOTOGRAPHY

IN THE FALL OF 2019, Corcoran Realty & Co. and sister company, Style Space, launched their innovative real estate model in an airy warehouse space in Glendale. Enter to find a stylish meeting space for consults and closings, while the warehouse is filled to the brim with furniture and home accessories. Upstairs, you'll find the team of six working away in a bright and open concept office loft. If they're not out in the field, that is.

Broker Owner Katie Corcoran (Fox Point resident and Whitefish Bay alum) got her real estate license at 25 and has never looked back. She began in 2006 with a top producing team at a nationwide company and later delved into a solo agent role at a local boutique firm where her career really took off. It was at that time that her husband, Dan, quit his job to become the family's full time, stay-at-home parent for Sam (now age 13) and Charlie (8), who attend Holy Family and are Jr. Blue Dukes baseball players. It was also around this time that Katie identified a gap between what brokerages offered and what the market was demanding.

Savvy buyers were beginning to seek out their own HGTV-esque experience. And sellers, well, most didn't have the know-how, time or resources to provide it. Katie began including staging and styling services to her clients in 2010. She knew first-hand how home staging led to better marketing, more showings, less days on market and home sales at a premium price. Katie wondered, "Why don't all brokerages require this service for their clients?"

"We are an indie, full-service brokerage where home staging, beautiful photography and exceptional marketing are always included. And while our imagery is literally scroll-stopping, it is our keen negotiation skills, industry knowledge, relationships and home anatomy expertise that gets our clients to closing day."

"We're extremely excited to share that we are ranked as the #1 New Local Brokerage in Milwaukee in 2020," says Katie. "We're

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Whitefish Bay Library



IF YOU'RE CURIOUS about the history of your home, neighborhood or community, we may have just the resource to pique your interest: The Mimi Bird Historical Collection.

Mimi Bird was a resident of Whitefish Bay since the age of four. Mimi compiled historical materials on the area, photographed homes, businesses and landmarks, and organized them



into a set of 39 volumes which she donated to the library. In her Milwaukee Journal Sentinel obituary, Bird was praised as "the undisputed expert on local history, both in the village and the greater North Shore area."

While not all homes are represented in the collection, there is a plethora of information on everything from real estate records to early details of village life, cemetery plots and even the flora! She also included research on the old Town of Milwaukee, which includes what is now the North Shore area, and the adjacent town of Granville.

The print volumes are available for supervised viewing and are kept in the Mimi Bird memorial bookcase. Can't come into the library? This same collection is available online—just visit the library's website, find Read & Research and choose "Historical Mimi Bird Collection" or contact the library for assistance.



BY SCOTT LENSKI,
COMMUNITY & ADULT SERVICES LIBRARIAN

Image: Pabst Whitefish Bay Resort on the shores of Lake Michigan from around 1900



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FROM Faye's FASHION FILES

So...what exactly is a **STYLIST?**

It's the perfect time in your fashion lifetime to find out!

By definition, a stylist is an experienced professional who provides fashion advice, chooses & coordinates outfits.

During the pandemic, our lifestyles have changed drastically, and we've lost touch with our closets! The GOOD NEWS is that "all bets are off", and we're probably more open to experimentation. It's the perfect time to evolve your fashion sense and your style. Visit your favorite boutique and ask a stylist whose style you admire to help you. She/he are the experts - let them do your job.

Some of the most gratifying moments of my 30-year fashion career have been helping clients step out of their box and exercise their fashion muscle (yes, you have one!). Step-by-step, little-by-little, a sense of style emerges. Experimentation with your wardrobe and improved self-esteem can lead to changes in other areas of your life.

Or, as they say, "CHANGE YOUR LIPSTICK, CHANGE YOUR LIFE!"



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Whitefish Bay Summer Recreation Guide Delivered to Homes in March

The anticipated Summer Recreation Guide filled with summer youth and adult opportunities in recreation, exercise and sports is scheduled for delivery late March. All of our youth summer camps will be BACK...Watch your mailboxes!

Summer Youth Work and Volunteer Recruitment

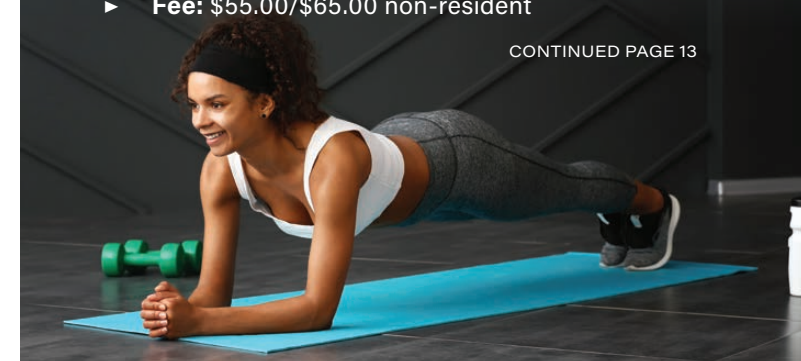
The summer of 2021 Bay Volunteer and Counselor-In-Training program is accepting applicants. Youth interested in the Bay Volunteer program must be entering 9th grade in 2021 to be eligible. The Counselor-in-Training (CIT) program is geared toward incoming high school 2021 seniors. CIT positions are paid. If you are a teen and love working with kids, we need you! Application packets can be found online at www.wfbschools.com. Application deadline is March 17, 2021.

RUN FIT MIX

Join Certified Running Coach Kate Cahill in this dynamic class that combines running and strength training. Runners and walkers of all speeds and abilities are welcome to join for this cross-training program designed to help get you into the best-running shape of your life.

- ▶ **Location:** WFB High School Field House
- ▶ **Days:** Mondays/Wednesdays
- ▶ **Time:** 7:15- 8:00 a.m.
- ▶ **Dates:** March 29-May 5
- ▶ **Fee:** \$55.00/\$65.00 non-resident

CONTINUED PAGE 13



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Whitefish Bay BID *Shop Local!*

IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE, March is usually considered the first month of spring—wouldn't we all like that? Days are getting longer, and the Merchants on Silver Spring Drive in Whitefish Bay can help you celebrate some of your favorite upcoming holidays.

March brings St. Patrick's Day, and everyone is a little Irish that day—make sure you get creative with decorations, find fun St. Patrick's Day clothing and find out who is cooking up corn beef. Mathnasium will be celebrating Pi Day (3/14) in their new location, with math jokes, pi-reciting competitions, and (of course) freshly baked pie. The Merchants of Whitefish Bay have what you need to enjoy a fun and safe celebration. Each business is so grateful for your local support—it means a world of difference to them!

The WFB Business Improvement District's mission is "to champion the downtown Whitefish Bay business district as an exceptional place to shop, live and conduct business." In 2021, we are excited to welcome Charlie Stallé (Keller Williams) as the new BID President, and Jon Sagrillo (Refresh Aesthetic Center)

has also joined the Board as the new Treasurer. Thank you to Jeff Commer (Swipeworks), who served as BID President for the past three years, Kevin Schuck (Breadsmith), who served as Treasurer for the past two years, and Phil Aiello, who served on the BID Board for the past four years.

This year, the BID Board is strategically working with Graef and the Village to collaboratively cultivate and maintain a diverse portfolio of businesses on Silver Spring Drive. We want to promote Silver Spring Drive as a destination for residents and shoppers to gather. Summer is around the corner, and the Merchants of WFB are hoping to be back in action with our events. Watch for more details on Bay Day, the Art Festival, Side Walk Sale and more.

Plus, make sure you are following us on www.merchantsofwhitefishbay.com, where you can also sign up for our monthly newsletter, @ShopWFB on Facebook, and @WFBID on Instagram.

**KATIE COMMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

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Whitefish Bay Senior "55 and Better" Programs
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Senior Virtual Fitness

Join us for this at-home strength and light cardio for seniors ages 55 and up. The course will combine strengthening exercises using household items along with stretching to improve flexibility, posture and tone and light cardio exercise to improve endurance and overall health. A Zoom link will be sent to you upon registration.

- ▶ **Location:** Virtual - Zoom
- ▶ **Days:** Mon/Wed/Fri
- ▶ **Time:** 7:00-7:45 a.m.
- ▶ **Dates:** March 22-June 11 (Skip April 2, May 31)
- ▶ **Fee:** \$30.00

NEW! Senior Grab 'N Go Drive-Thru Dining

Grab 'n Go Dining was created to enable our seniors to stay safe while grabbing a hot meal provided by Nicolet Catering Services. Pre-Registration is required. No meals will be sold on-site. Save your receipt and place it in your window when you arrive to pick up your meal. Recreation Department staff will bring your meal to your car. Lunches are served hot in a microwavable to-go container. Eat hot when you get home or refrigerate and reheat later!

- ▶ **Pick-up Time:** 12:00-1:00 p.m.
- ▶ **Location:** Lydell Community Center Parking Lot
- ▶ **Cost:** \$6.50 per meal

March 17, 2021 - St. Patrick's Day!

- ▶ Traditional Corn Beef and Cabbage Boil, Rye Bread and Butter, Coleslaw, Shamrock Poke Cake
- Register online <https://wfbrec.iscorp.com/wbws/wbstrac/wsc/splash.html?> or in-person at the Whitefish Bay Recreation Department.

CARIN KELAND,
DIRECTOR OF RECREATION AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION



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Historic Tax Credits for the Rest of Us

THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION TAX CREDIT is among the greatest tax breaks the Wisconsin Legislature has made available to homeowners in communities like Whitefish Bay.

The October and February *Bay Leaves* told how former Trustee Ted Matkom and his wife Beth obtained \$30,000 in state income tax credits for \$120,000 in upgrades to their home over the last eight years. The Matkoms' home had been deemed individually eligible for the credits by the Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) due to its distinct architecture. There are 105 homes in Whitefish Bay that qualify in this way.

There are also an additional 2,000 homes in the Bay that qualify for the tax credit in a different way. In 2010-11, the WHS surveyed all properties in Whitefish Bay and proposed the creation of 12 residential historic districts. They range in size from 11 homes to 397 (See the map here: <https://www.wfbvillage.org/DocumentCenter/View/1356>).

The WHS found nearly every home "historically contributing properties" and eligible for the credits. Homes not eligible were less than 50 years old, too recent to qualify, but may qualify now 10 years later.

But there is a catch. To qualify for the credits, the historic district must be placed on the National Register of Historic Places, a federal designation obtained by applying to the WHS. The process typically requires the aid of an architectural historian. Once obtained, all homeowners in the district who do work on their property such as painting, tuckpointing, roofing, plumbing and electrical upgrades or repairs will get a 25% state income tax credit. The credit carries over to future tax years until exhausted.

To obtain historic designation, homeowners in each district collectively will need to apply. The Whitefish Bay Historic Preservation Commission will be working with the Village to determine the feasibility for obtaining historic designation for various neighborhoods.



BY JEFF AIKIN, CHAIR, WHITEFISH BAY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

GETTING TO KNOW DAVID MACKLIN JR.

The Beloved UPS Driver



David originally covered this route over 10 years ago in a floater position. When the Whitefish Bay route was being retired by a driver, David put his bid in to get the route full-time. While there are a lot more stops on this route compared to more suburban routes, David loves interacting with people.

"I've come to love the people on my route," said David. "A lot of drivers don't take the time to talk to the customers and I find that's a mistake. My job is actually that of a service provider so when you think of UPS you think about the drivers. Many joke that delivery drivers play ding dong ditch and then hop right back in their trucks. I've found that by having a personal connection with people if there's an issue I can try to solve it from my end with the customer first."

In October when *Bay Leaves* was photographing the Mattkom family, David spotted the fun scene and asked the family to take a picture with him in their costumes. He used

that lighthearted image for his Christmas card. Each month he also delivers the extra copies of *Bay Leaves* to Village Hall. They quiz him on where the featured family lives. Most of the time he knows the family and exactly which house on his route they live in.

"I've really come to embrace this community and I get a lot of love back. It feels really good for doing my job appreciated. I've made some friends around here and they'll text me if they need something or a package left in a specific spot. We'll talk about random things from fantasy football, to life in general."

So next time you see David, give a friendly wave, he'll be sure to return one back!

BY CHRISTINE MCBRIDE



For the last five years, Whitefish Bay residents have been lucky to have cheerful David Macklin Jr. as one of our dedicated UPS drivers. Obviously many residents have been seeing more of him within the last year due to the surge in the demand for items being delivered. Even with the additional workload, David is always seen around the Bay with a package in one hand and a friendly wave from the other.

SOLD

Address	List Price	Sold Price	Address	List Price	Sold Price
4785 N Diversey Blvd.	\$299,000	\$285,000	4751 N Marlborough Dr.	\$399,900	\$394,900
6051 N Lydell Ave.	\$299,900	\$295,000	749 E Beaumont Ave.	\$525,000	\$525,000
5156 N Marlborough Dr.	\$325,000	\$325,000	5817 N Lake Dr.	\$569,000	\$580,500
5855 N Shoreland Ave.	\$329,900	\$307,500	321 E Lexington Blvd.	\$600,000	\$600,000
4740 N Idlewild Ave.	\$329,900	\$345,000	318 E Lexington Blvd.	\$650,000	\$656,000
4720 N Idlewild Ave.	\$330,000	\$339,000	4751 N Woodburn St.	\$769,900	\$764,000
6081 N Lydell Ave.	\$349,900	\$360,000	4975 N Woodruff Ave.	\$799,900	\$838,314
5844 N Shoreland Ave.	\$369,900	\$400,000	826 E Sylvan Ave.	\$899,000	\$890,000
4906 N Elkhart Ave.	\$399,900	\$415,000	6006 N Lake Dr.	\$1,100,000	\$1,050,000

PENDING

Address	List Price	Address	List Price
4834 N Santa Monica Blvd.	\$260,000	731 E Lake View Ave.	\$725,000
4937 N Woodburn St.	\$409,500	5506 N Lake Dr.	\$2,500,000

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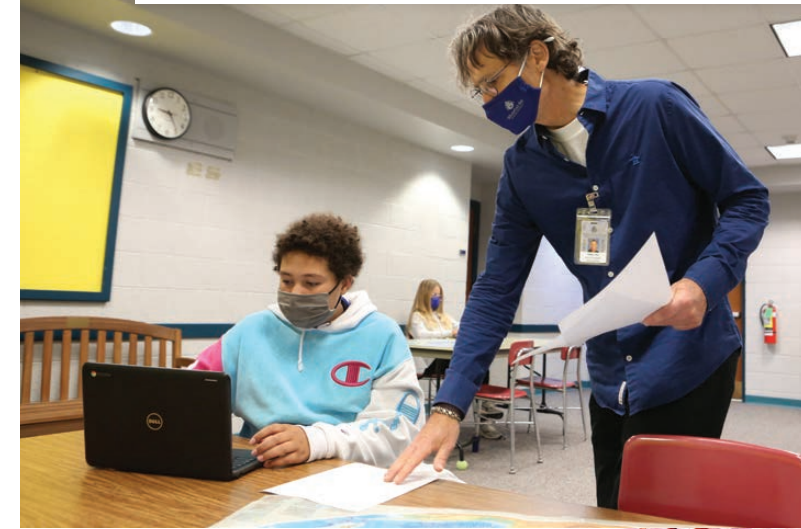
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School District

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District Communications and COVID-19 Information

The Whitefish Bay community is invited to view District updates and safety information on the District's website at www.wfbschools.com.

Our Community E- Newsletters are one of several ways the District works toward comprehensive communications with the community. Sign up on the District website to receive these monthly during the school year.

BY MCKENNA SHAFFER, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR & BOARD OF EDUCATION



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NORTH SHORE FIRE/RESCUE (NSFR) is proud to share with its stakeholders that we have received re-accreditation from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI). This is the first re-accreditation process since achieving accredited status during our 25th anniversary in 2015. Accredited status is valid for five years and requires an organization to show progress toward improving opportunities identified in the previous accreditation process. NSFR continues to join less than 285 other agencies across the world who have reached accredited status.

According to CFAI, less than 11 percent of the U.S. population is protected by an accredited agency. Accreditation takes a comprehensive look at several areas of a fire/rescue organization when determining whether to award accredited status. These areas include:

- ▶ Governance and administration
- ▶ Assessment and planning
- ▶ Goals and objectives
- ▶ Financial resources
- ▶ Community risk reduction programs
- ▶ Physical resources
- ▶ Human resources
- ▶ Training and competency essential resources
- ▶ External system relationships
- ▶ Health and safety

The process of accreditation is arduous, but the benefits are innumerable. Community members are surveyed, and data is collected and analyzed regarding current operational efficiency and the expectations of customers throughout the service area. Next, a standards-of-cover document is created that includes a well-defined mission, vision and strategic plan, as well as a

thorough assessment of the population, community risk, topography and infrastructure of the communities serviced. The accreditation process includes ongoing assessment and improvement of performance metrics, operational standards and community engagement.

North Shore Fire/Rescue Fire Chief Robert Whitaker states that, "while the journey to get to this point has been challenging, the value the process brought to our agency is incredible. While achieving initial accreditation is an achievement, it is simply a milestone in the accreditation process; as an agency, accreditation is about continuous improvement in our effort to provide the best service possible to our stakeholders."

It is important to note that the process would not have been possible without the support of the North Shore Fire/Rescue communities. We are indebted to them for the continued support and look forward to continuing to improve over this next five-year accreditation period.

To learn more about accreditation, as well as the programs and services offered by NSFR, please visit our website, www.nsfire.org.



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BY BATTALION CHIEF DAN TYK

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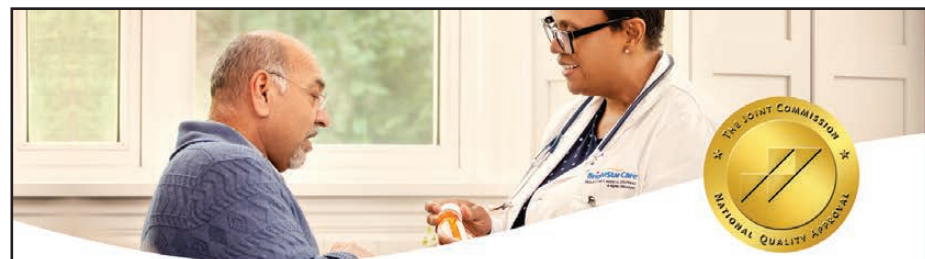


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COVID-19 Tests: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Not all COVID-19 testing is the same, and it is important to understand the difference in order to know what test might best fit your needs. There are two different kinds of diagnostic tests that detect SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19: molecular (aka PCR, NAAT) tests and antigen (aka rapid antigen) tests. A positive result on either of these tests diagnoses current infection with SARS-CoV-2, but they cannot indicate where you are in the arc of the infection or if you have had COVID-19 in the past. Molecular (PCR, NAAT) tests detect the genetic material (RNA) of the virus, whereas antigen tests look for pieces of viral proteins to determine if the person has an active infection. PCR tests are considered reliable regardless of symptoms or exposure, and antigen tests are most reliable in people with symptoms and somewhat less so in those with no symptoms or exposure. For instance, it is recommended that a negative antigen test result on a symptomatic person be followed up with a PCR test within 48 hours for confirmation. If you receive a positive PCR or antigen test, you should isolate for 10 days starting from when symptoms first appeared, or from test date if asymptomatic.

Antibody tests are not diagnostic, meaning they cannot be used to definitively confirm current or even prior infection. While a positive antibody test likely indicates a past infection by detecting antibodies specific to COVID-19 in your blood, it cannot determine exactly how long ago the infection occurred, or if you are immune to or protected from future COVID-19 infection. If you are exposed to someone with COVID-19, it is still recommended that you quarantine and monitor for symptoms even if you had a positive antibody test. Only those that previously had a positive diagnostic test (PCR, and in some situations antigen) and are not symptomatic may avoid quarantine if re-exposed within 90 days of their positive diagnostic test. Additionally, a negative antibody test cannot be used to shorten the quarantine period of those exposed, as antibody tests are not used to indicate the presence or absence of current infection.

Additional information is available on the WI Department of Health Services website: www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/testing



SUBMITTED BY KAYLA BONACK,
PUBLIC HEALTH ASSISTANT



MARCH is Pet Poisoning Awareness MONTH



EVERY MARCH, we try to educate pet owners about how common pet poisoning can be. Thousands of pets are accidentally poisoned each year, and without swift and proper treatment, many of these cases can be fatal.

The top 5 toxins last year were:

- 1. OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATIONS:**
They include vitamins, OTC pain medications (acetaminophen, ibuprofen, and naproxen), herbal supplements, antihistamines and cold and flu medications.
- 2. HUMAN PRESCRIPTIONS:**
Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder medications, antidepressants and heart medications make up a significant amount of these cases.
- 3. FOOD:**
Xylitol, grapes, raisins, onions and garlic make up most of these cases.

- 4. CHOCOLATE:**
The popularity of chocolate gifts for occasions like Christmas, Valentine's Day and Easter adds to the danger.
- 5. VETERINARY PRODUCTS:**
Flavored medications and misread labels are a big reason pets run into trouble with veterinary products, and all pet owners should be reminded that childproof does not mean pet-proof when it comes to containers.

Some common signs your pet may have ingested a toxin are vomiting or diarrhea, lethargy, neurological symptoms such as lack of balance, seizures and shivering. It is important to keep anything that is not safe for a pet to ingest locked away in a safe place and to immediately call your vet if you believe your pet has ingested anything that might be causing illness. The quicker treatment can be started, the more likely your pet can fully recover from an accidental poisoning.

BY KAREN SPARAPANI

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CONGRATULATIONS! You've survived a tumultuous 2020 and are looking forward to 2021. Perhaps this is the year to upsize, downsize, or "rightsized". The question is what should be considered if this is the year to sell your home?

The Market
 Conditions are in your favor. Low inventory, pent up buyer demand driven by attractive interest rates, and a rising stock market (as of this writing) all work in your favor. That's not to say that you can coast to an easy sale. You still have to be smart and strategic about timing, pricing, and preparation. But the good news is that there's a little wind at your back to help you along.

The Timing
 I'm often asked about the best time to put a home on the market. Let's begin by reminding ourselves that homes sell year-round. Truly, the best time is when you feel ready! However, in terms of strategy the best outcomes occur when you seize upon pockets of increasing demand and low inventory. We often overlay the historical listing chart and the demand chart to find those advantageous opportunities.

The Preparation
 Like so many things in life, success lies in proper preparation. Buyers have high expectations, and the competition is fierce. Your home isn't sold in a vacuum - it's compared to the handful of other homes in the same price range. The one that looks good, smells good, feels good, and is priced right is the one that buyers choose. It's not enough to be just good. You have to be "better" than the competition. A good Realtor will share important competitive data and guide you through how to prepare the right way. Wishing you a safe, healthy and sunny spring!

BY ESSAM ELSAFY



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