

December 2021

# Bay Leaves



**AUSSPRUNG FAMILY** *Created Their Own Backyard*

*Winter Wonderland!*

**The Official Village Weekly E-Newsletter:**

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**Holiday Refuse and Recycling Collection Schedule:**

- ▶ Refuse and recycling normally collected on Thursday, November 25, 2021, **will be collected on Tuesday, November 23, 2021.**
- ▶ Refuse and recycling normally collected on Friday, November 26, 2021, **will be collected on Wednesday, November 24, 2021.**
- ▶ Refuse and recycling normally collected on Thursday, December 23, 2021, **will be collected on Tuesday, December 21, 2021.**
- ▶ Refuse and recycling normally collected on Friday, December 24, 2021, **will be collected on Wednesday, December 22, 2021.**

**Tax Bills Coming Soon**

Tax bills will be sent out to homes in mid-December. Please see the tax insert letter for payment options and due dates.

**Village Roadway Snow Removal Procedures**

Village crews are responsible to clear all public streets of snow, starting with the main thoroughfares. They then proceed to remove snow on streets adjacent to schools, followed by snow removal on the remaining residential streets and alleys. Sidewalks that abut Village-owned land, such as parks and government buildings, as well as public parking lots, are also the responsibility of Village Staff. At times a liquid anti-icing agent is applied to streets prior to a snow event to prevent ice from bonding to the pavement.

**Where Do I Park in the winter (12/1/21 through 3/31/22)?**

Alternative Side—Even/Odd—Parking: In the winter, monthly permit holders and free nightly permissions will be required to follow alternate side parking. Vehicles should park on the even-numbered side of the street with an even calendar date before midnight, and on the odd-numbered side of the street on those nights with an odd calendar date before midnight (unless an exemption applies). Vehicles with monthly overnight parking permits must be moved once every 24 hours. Visit <http://www.wfbvillage.org/189/Parking-Permits> for more information.



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**Publisher:** Kathy Durand  
**Bay Leaves Project Coordinator:** Beth Raab

**PUBLICATION TEAM**  
**Content Coordinator:** Christine McBride  
**Designer:** Laura Wire  
**Contributing Photographer:** Boutique Photographer

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**Contact:** Kathy Durand at (262) 716 4788, or [kdurand@bestversionmedia.com](mailto:kdurand@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](mailto: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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**DEAR RESIDENTS,**

There was a news story covering the last "normal" photo you had on your phone before the world had to deal with lockdowns and social distancing. During the March - May 2020 time period, these two photos of myself with friends in the Benelux domes always brought back fond memories. Our feature family had a similar experience, so much so, that they decided to purchase their own dome for future winter months. Read more about how this young family is determined to keep the winter blues away by staying active outdoors.



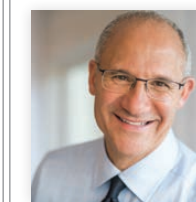
**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**  
*Christine McBride*



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# AUSSPRUNG FAMILY *Created Their Own Backyard*

## Winter Wonderland!



**W**ith the Wisconsin winters being frigid and long, Brent Aussprung and his wife Serene Sahar, have found unique ways to make the most of the season. Having both grown up on ice rinks, Brent as a hockey player, and speed skater, and Serene a figure skater, it's no wonder these two gravitate towards ways to remain active outdoors all winter long.

Both Brent and Serene were born and raised in Wisconsin, with Serene a first-generation born in America, since her parents immigrated from Palestine when they were teenagers. "While I don't speak Arabic, we have kept a lot of the traditional foods and celebrations in our family," said Serene. She made her parents proud by becoming a patent attorney, which also led her down the path to meeting Brent.

Having finished both her undergraduate and law degrees, Serene was interested in becoming a patent attorney, which also requires an undergrad major in either engineering or physics. Since Serene had originally majored in math, when she was working as a law clerk for Judge Martens, she became a part-time student to earn her second major, this time in physics from UW-Milwaukee.

With Brent being a non-traditional older student, the two naturally connected during a shared class. Brent went to undergrad later due to his speed skating career. "My mom taught me how to skate on the creek in our backyard when I was 4 years-old," recalls Brent. Growing up around Madison, he gravitated towards playing hockey. However, he switched to speed skating shortly after Madison-native and speed skating legend Casey FitzRandolph spoke at Brent's school about his 1998 Olympic experience. "I followed in Casey's footsteps and became a proud part of Team USA from 2006-2010." One of Brent's most satisfying moments was finishing top 10 in the world during the 2010 Olympic year. Being on the National Team required Brent to relocate to Utah to live and train there with the

team. He qualified for the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver, but had a heartbreaking injury three weeks prior, and was eventually replaced by the next qualifying athlete.

"By 21, my body had taken a beating so it was time to give my body much needed rest and my life goals changed a lot from that moment," Brent noted. "I moved to Milwaukee to be closer to family, started undergrad, and luckily met Serene. We not only built a life together, but she also shed light on a career path I hadn't thought of before, and am now also a patent attorney after originally being an engineer." The couple got married in 2014 and purchased their house in Whitefish Bay in 2015. They now have two boys, Andreas (4) and Beckham (2) who helped motivate a unique backyard purchase for the winter months.

"When the Covid situation first began, we had two young boys always looking to stay active and have fun outside," Brent said. "The summer of 2020 I knew that the situation would be carrying on for a while, and remembering a past trip to Iceland where there are a lot of winter domes set up, I looked into purchasing one for our family to have. Winter is great but also has plenty of drawbacks. This was one way we tried to improve the winter experience."

Purchasing the dome in summer ended up being a smart move, because come fall they were all sold out. They set up the dome in their backyard and made it nice and cozy with a rug, tables, chairs, fairy lights and a decorative fireplace. "The dome is one of our favorite parts of winter now," said Serene. "The kids go out there during the day to play, and we will enjoy dinner or a glass of wine. It was great to have our parents join us for fun dinners in the dome."

In addition to enjoying the dome, they still love lacing up their skates and going to ice rinks together as a family. When the ice conditions are just right Brent and his former speed skating teammate, Brian Hansen, can be seen skating around the Calatrava on Lake Michigan. Obviously we don't recommend this for our readers, but a unique activity for these two seasoned ice skaters.

BY CHRISTINE MCBRIDE  
PHOTOS BY BOUTIQUE  
PHOTOGRAPHER





# Coping with the **STRESS** of the Season

THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR is drawing near. Yet for some, all the holiday cheer is accompanied by heightened stress and anxiety. This increase in stress could be attributed to many factors, including disrupted schedules, additional time commitments, high expectations, increased consumption of alcohol and unhealthy foods and financial stress, among other things.

Managing stress and anxiety in healthy ways can help you more thoroughly enjoy the holiday season.



- ▶ **Anticipate stress.** Have a strategy ready for those moments when you need to destress, like taking a walk, reading or meditating.
- ▶ **Find free local activities to celebrate,** like taking a drive to look at holiday decorations and lights!
- ▶ **Be cautious of excessive drinking,** as it will likely only increase your feelings of stress or anxiety.



- ▶ **Surround yourself** with supportive and caring people.

With the start of the new year, the holiday induced stress will likely subside. Yet for some people, Wisconsin winters pose an even greater concern due to symptoms of depression they experience during this time. Depression that sets in during specific seasons is called Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), and winter is a particularly common time for people in Wisconsin to experience SAD. Seasonal Affective Disorder is a mood disorder associated with depression and related to seasonal variations of light. Feelings of depression, heightened anxiety, mood changes, irritability, sleep problems and fatigue are all symptoms that someone with SAD may experience. If you identify any of these symptoms during the winter months, it is recommended you talk to your doctor or other healthcare professional about Seasonal Affective Disorder.

BY KAYLA BONACK, PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIALIST



- ▶ **Take time for self-care.** Planning something fun every hour of your time off can seem like a great idea, until you realize there is no time left to unwind. Set aside time for yourself and share some of the planning and prepping responsibilities with others to reduce the pressure on yourself.



- ▶ **Strive for fun, not perfection.** Keep expectations manageable by setting realistic goals and prioritizing your time.



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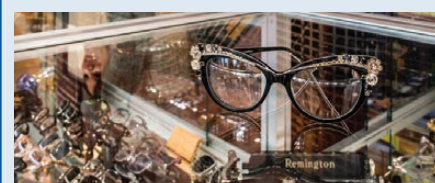


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# Convention Center Finds New Roads with UNCONVENTIONAL EVENTS

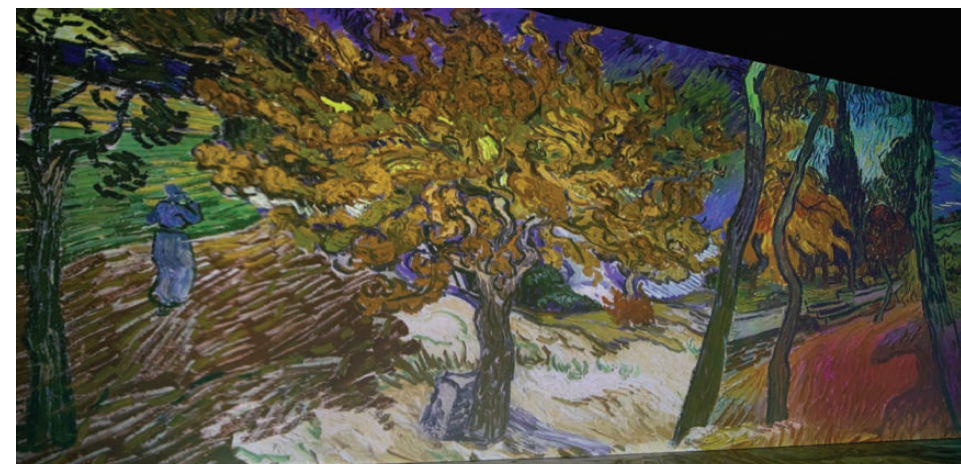


Few industries went untouched in 2020, but the hospitality and service industries were among the hardest hit. With phrases like 'physical distancing' in everyday context it was hard to know how to get together, much less how to create memories around special events like milestone birthdays, retirements, and weddings. For the venues of the Wisconsin Center District (WCD) – owners and operators of the Wisconsin Center, Miller High Life Theatre, and UW-Milwaukee Panther Arena – it was time to rise to the challenge of having wide open calendars for their wide-open spaces.

"We knew that our COVID mitigation strategies throughout each building, including fresh air exchange and hundreds of thousands of square feet of open space, were going to be our superpower," said Megan Seppmann, vice president of sales for the WCD. "We already work under the mantra of Be Bold. Be Proud. Be Experience Obsessed. Applying those values to creating safe, unique event spaces gave us the chance to really be available to our clients."

While locals may not often think of a convention center, theater, or arena for hosting a

private event, the venues of the WCD provide unique, creative backdrops that turn an average event into something truly memorable. "My favorite recent private event was a phenomenal 800-person wedding reception we recently hosted in the ballroom of the Wisconsin Center," said Katie Ragan, special events sales manager for the WCD. "The bride and groom had an all-night open-house, including unique food stations all evening, to keep their guests guessing at what was next. On paper the attendee list was long, but in 37,500 square feet, there




was plenty of room for everyone to stay physically distanced while socially together." Most recently the Wisconsin Center announced the second extension of Beyond Van Gogh: The Immersive Experience. Now running through January 9, Katie and her colleagues are working with clients to incorporate the Beyond Van Gogh experience into private and corporate holiday parties.

"Imagine having your own private party in our third floor glass atrium, then treating your guests to the full immersive experience," said Katie. "The lights of downtown combined with the lights of Beyond Van Gogh – wow, what a special way to get everyone back together to celebrate the holiday!"

Katie says she is booking corporate and private parties now through January 9 for holiday celebrations. For more information and to curate your own unconventional event, email her at [kragan@wcd.org](mailto:kragan@wcd.org).

BY SARAH MAIO  
PHOTOS: WENDY SCHREIER PHOTOGRAPHY



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Wendy Schreier Photography

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BY SCOTT LENSKI, HEAD OF ADULT SERVICES

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- ▶ Saturday, December 11, 8:00 to 11:00 a.m.
- ▶ Dominican High School, 120 E. Silver Spring Drive, Whitefish Bay

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# BACK TOGETHER AGAIN FOR THE HOLIDAYS WITH THE MERCHANTS OF WHITEFISH BAY!

BY KATIE COMMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID)



IT WAS SO GREAT HAVING THE HOLIDAY STROLL BACK THIS YEAR—thank you for joining us! Many people came out to enjoy Whitefish Bay's winter celebration. We're honored that the annual event is a part of your holiday tradition. This special evening would not have been possible without you or our sponsors and volunteers; we are very grateful for the community's continued support. The lighting of the Christmas tree at City Market, accompanied by a performance by the Whitefish Bay Cantorei Choir, was a wonderful part of the evening. Plus, you can enjoy the tree throughout the holiday season; it will be lit every day.

Thank you to Bango, our Grand Marshall, who reminded us how fun it was to have the Bucks as NBA Champions after 50 years, and a Central Division Title for the Brewers! Two more reasons for everyone to celebrate. We just need to add a Super Bowl to the list!

Thanks, also, to the Merchants on Silver Spring Drive for participating in the evening's festivities and adding holiday hours throughout December. Each of the businesses greatly appreciates your patronage throughout the year and is well poised to meet your needs this season. Collectively, the stores on Silver Spring Drive have something for everyone on your gift list!!

## Join us for special events on Silver Spring throughout the month of December:

- ▶ **Santa's Mailbox** will welcome letters to Santa right up until Christmas!
- ▶ **Nov 28, 2021-Dec 6, 2021:** Celebrate Hanukkah with the Menorah in front of Yellow Wood.
- ▶ **Dec 18, 2021:** Enjoy an Ice Sculpting Demonstration from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., and again this year participate in the Ice Sculpture Crawl down Silver Spring, starting at High Brow Boutique and finishing at Keller Williams.

Shop the Bay is happening again, and you have an opportunity to win \$50 Gift Certificate to be used at any of the Merchants on Silver Spring Drive. We are going high tech again this year with QR Codes – look for posters to scan the code!

Make sure you follow us on [www.MerchantsOfWhitefishBay.com](http://www.MerchantsOfWhitefishBay.com) for daily promotions that businesses will be doing throughout the month to help you with your holiday shopping. Also "Like" us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ShopWFB/> for daily and weekly updates. Remember to Shop\*Eat\*Enjoy Local for the Holidays!

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5048 N Berkeley Blvd.	\$374,900	\$362,500	5800 N Kent Ave.	\$569,000	\$555,000
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Whitefish Bay Resident families of students who turn four on or before September 1, 2022, are invited to a Virtual 4K Overview at Cumberland or Richards Elementary School on Friday, December 10, 2021. This event will be hosted by the Elementary School Principals and include a welcome from the 4K teachers, a short story with the Library Media Specialists and a Question and Answer session. Please visit our website (wfbschools.com) to register for this Zoom event. Contact Cumberland (414-963-3943) or Richards (414-963-3951) with any questions. 4K Enrollment will open on Monday, December 13, 2021. Enrollment forms are available in the main office at Cumberland or Richards and on the elementary schools Registration/Enrollment webpage at wfbschools.com. Families that submit completed enrollment paperwork (including proof of residency and verification of your child's original birth certificate) by noon on January 7, 2022, will be included in a random drawing for placement in the morning session.

**Save the Date!** No School, Winter Break: December 23-31, 2021

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

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# TIME TO RENEW Dog and Cat Licenses for 2022



Your annual dog and cat licenses expire every December 31. Licensing is often overlooked until your best friend ends up at your friendly, local animal control! Unlicensed animals cost more to reclaim and it is harder to reunite animals without tags, such as a license. Licensing your pet is not only required by state law, but there are great reasons to keep it updated each year:

- ▶ Keeps you compliant with state and local laws and ensures all residents and their beloved pets are protected from rabies
- ▶ If your pet is wearing a license when it is found as a stray, MADACC gives them ONE FREE RIDE HOME each calendar year on the day of capture only. This saves you money and prevents a stressful visit to MADACC when we can reach you immediately.

- ▶ Current licenses are a great way for Good Samaritans who may find your dog/cat to call and find out where they belong, again, saving your animal some stress and saving you some money.
- ▶ Licenses are only \$12 for all spayed and neutered pets, and \$24 if they are intact—a great value and the funds go to support animal welfare in your community.

Get your license at your City or Village Hall, or at MADACC (3839 W. Burnham Street, W. Milwaukee), where we do low cost rabies vaccines. You can also go online on our website [www.madacc.org](http://www.madacc.org) and renew or apply for a new license from the comfort of your home.

BY KAREN SPARAPANI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# Blood Drive

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M. | 600 E. HENRY CLAY ST., WHITEFISH BAY, WI

Make an appointment today to donate blood at the Whitefish Bay Women's Club, located at 600 E. Henry Clay Street, on Wednesday, December 15. Though it may seem small, your donation can have a huge impact—and even help save a life. As Versiti Blood Center says on their website, "Sometimes the greatest gifts are free, give blood!"

Call the Versiti Blood Center, at 877-232-4376, or visit their scheduling page (<https://donate.wisconsin.versiti.org/donor/schedules/zip>) to reserve your time. For a FAQ about COVID-19 safety precautions, visit [versiti.org](http://versiti.org).

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# FAMILY AND FRIENDS JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF ROBOTICS!

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

6:45-9:00pm - presentation  
begins at 7pm

Cumberland Elementary School  
Great Room, South Entrance

4780 North Marlborough Drive

Please visit [BayRobotics.org](http://BayRobotics.org)  
to learn more about us.

ARE YOUR CHILDREN INTERESTED in robotics, coding and marketing skills? Whitefish Bay Robotics wants to help! Here at Whitefish Bay High School, we are looking to inspire new teams through the international organization FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) which offers opportunities for kids in grades kindergarten through high school. Students learn how to work as a team, use real-life applications for STEM, and of course, build robots for competition! Each robotics team functions similar to a tech company, with the students and coaches working together on engineering, programming, marketing, finances and community outreach tasks. We are excited to host an in-person informational meeting to share how you and your family can get involved in robotics! It will be a night of interactive fun. Please mark your calendars for this event!

BY WILLIAM  
TOLLEFSEN,  
WFB HS  
STUDENT



# Give The Gift of History



IT'S HOLIDAY GIFT-GIVING TIME, and the best gift you can give to a Whitefish Bay resident who loves this community is the three-book compendium of Whitefish Bay history: *Images of Whitefish Bay*, *Chronicles of Whitefish Bay*, and *Historic Whitefish Bay*, available at the Whitefish Bay Library and area merchants.

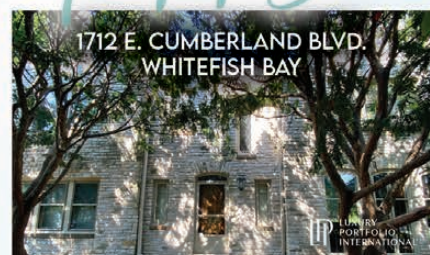
- ▶ **Images of Whitefish Bay** contains more than 200 photos – some nearly 150 years old – of Whitefish Bay's fishing, farming, industrial, and summer resort history.
- ▶ **Chronicles of Whitefish Bay** was inspired by *Images* after dozens of readers volunteered family photos and personal stories of those bygone days. It is a collection of yarns, memories, and remembrances that is the perfect companion to *Images*.

▶ **Historic Whitefish Bay** takes readers through the Bay's 185-year history from when the first settler arrived in 1835, telling the Village's story through the historic homes, the distinguished citizens, and the characters who made our community what it is today.

All three books are available at Milwaukee booksellers and at Winkie's, Village Ace Hardware, and other fine neighborhood stores. You can also buy the books at the Whitefish Bay Library at a discount of \$20 each, or the three-volume set for \$50. Royalties from all sales and all proceeds from library sales are pledged to the Whitefish Bay Library for historic education and preservation projects.

BY JEFF AIKIN AND TOM FEHRING

# Happy Holidays!



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# THANK YOU

## For Another Great Year!

**THANK YOU** to our neighbors from throughout Whitefish Bay who volunteered, attended or enjoyed a Whitefish Bay Civic Foundation event. It was so nice to see you all in person this year! That sense of community and togetherness is what makes Whitefish Bay such a special place.

We also want to thank those businesses who have supported a Whitefish Bay Civic Foundation event in 2021, many of whom are long-time supporters. Their generosity has made so many events, grants, scholarships and civic activities possible. Simply put, we couldn't do it without you!

We are grateful for each of these sponsors and the support they've shown the Civic Foundation:

Sendik's Food Markets, Merchants of Whitefish Bay, Ellenbecker Investment Group, Essam Elsafy Team - Shorewest Realtors, Story Hill Renovations, Shorewest Realtors, Keller Williams Realty, Town Bank, Milwaukee Admirals, Creative Construction and Tarpey Franz Team - Shorewest Realtors.

We wish these partners and all of our Whitefish Bay neighbors a joyous and happy holiday season. May it be merry and bright.



See you around the Bay!  
BY TOM GLEASON, PRESIDENT

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## Getting Ready

— FOR —

## Winter

**W**hether we want to admit it or not, winter will soon be upon us. The thoughts of the holiday season and a start of a new year are surely on the minds of many. While we prepare to hunker down through the coldest months of the year, we can take some time to ensure we are best prepared to be safe in and around our homes. The National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) has some tips to ensure we are "Fire Smart" this season:

- ▶ When thinking about electricity in our homes, it is important to ensure that we plug only one heat-producing appliance into a wall outlet at time. This appliance should ALWAYS be plugged directly into the wall. Using extension cords or power strips can increase the risk of overheating/shorting significantly. Be sure to also check the immediate area of the appliance for any items that may catch fire. It is best to keep at least a three-foot perimeter on all sides of the appliance.
- ▶ Ensure your furnace is serviced annually by a licensed technician. This not only maximizes the efficiency of the appliance, but it also allows any preventative maintenance to be completed, preventing any potential electrical or fire problems.

▶ More than half of all home electrical fires involve home wiring or lighting equipment. Have an electrician install additional wall outlets where you need them instead of using extension cords or power strips. Also ensure that light bulbs being used in fixtures match the recommended wattage of the fixture itself.

▶ Think about using battery operated flameless candles this holiday season. More than one-third of home decoration fires are started by candles.

North Shore Fire/Rescue is proud to offer a Home Safety Assessment program. Our Community Risk Reduction Specialist visits your home to offer recommendations on improving the overall safety within your residence, including an assessment of your smoke and carbon monoxide alarm coverage. If needed, she will even install replacement alarms for free. To learn more about this program or the other programs and services offered by North Shore Fire/Rescue, please visit our website, [www.nsfire.org](http://www.nsfire.org).



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BY BATTALION CHIEF DAN TYK

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### Community Fitness Center Membership On Sale Now!

#### Community Fitness Center

Community members can purchase a seasonal membership and enjoy a rigorous workout on our new state-of-the-art cardio equipment and weight machines. All new participants must attend an on-site fitness center orientation facilitated by a fitness attendant prior to use. Locker rooms are available on Saturdays only.

- ▶ **WFB High School Field House Balcony**
  - ▷ Monday–Thursday, 6:00–8:00 p.m.
  - ▷ Monday, 5:30–7:30 a.m.
  - ▷ Saturday, 8:00–11:00 a.m.
- ▶ **Jan. 3–May 28 (Closed April 14, 16, 18 and May 30)**
  - ▷ Adult Fee (Resident/Non-Resident) \$120.00/\$130.00
- ▶ **Jan. 3 – May 28**
  - ▷ WFB Senior 55+ Fee (Resident/Non-Resident) \$110.00/\$120.00
- ▶ **Lap Swim Add-on**           **\$15.00**
- ▶ **Walk Fit Add-on**           **\$15.00**

### Lydell Preschool Open House and Enrollment for the 2022-2023 School Year

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- ▶ **We offer two different sessions:**
  - ▷ Monday/Wednesday/Friday OR Tuesday/Thursday from 9:00–11:30 a.m.
- ▶ **Early Childhood Program Age Requirement:**
  - ▷ Children must be 2 years old September 1, 2022
- ▶ **Preschool Program Age Requirement:**
  - ▷ Children must be 3 years old September 1, 2022
- ▶ **2022/2023 School Year Open House**
  - ▷ Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 5:30–7:00 p.m.
  - ▷ Registration Will Be Available In-Person at The WFB REC DEPT.
  - ▷ Wednesday, January 12, at 8:00 a.m.

### HOLIDAY OPEN SWIM

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS? COME OUT OF THE SNOW AND INTO THE POOL!

- ▶ **Whitefish Bay High School, Fieldhouse Pool**
  - ▷ Dec. 28 and 29, 1:00–3:00 p.m.
  - ▷ \$3.00 per student, \$4.00 per adult
  - ▷ Note: Seniors and children 3 years and under ARE FREE! Please bring exact change.
  - ▷ All children under 7 years of age must be accompanied in the water by a parent or guardian. Any child 7 years or older, but under 48" in height, must prove their swimming ability to the satisfaction of the lifeguards. The pool will be cleared 10 minutes prior to closing.



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Bringing Community Together

BY CARIN KELAND, DIRECTOR OF RECREATION AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

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