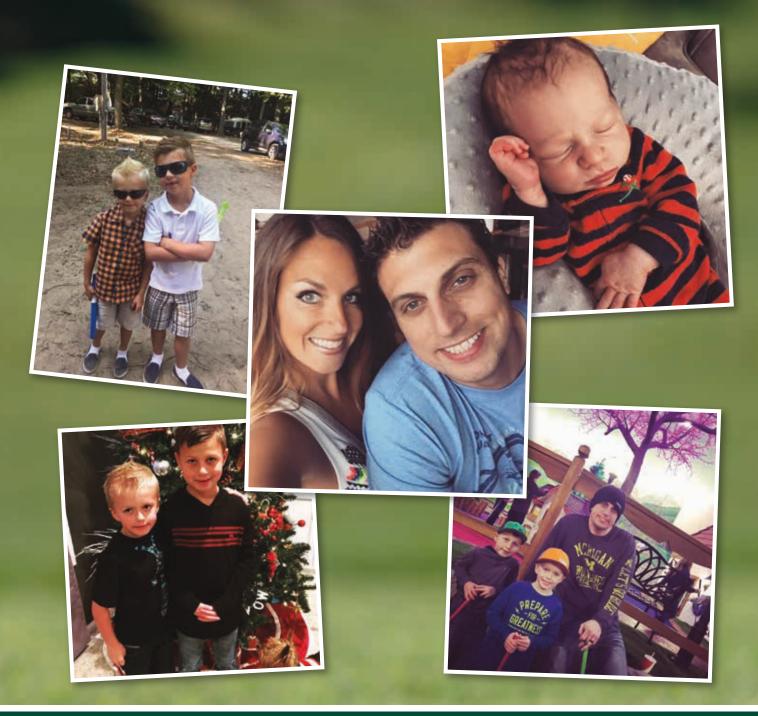
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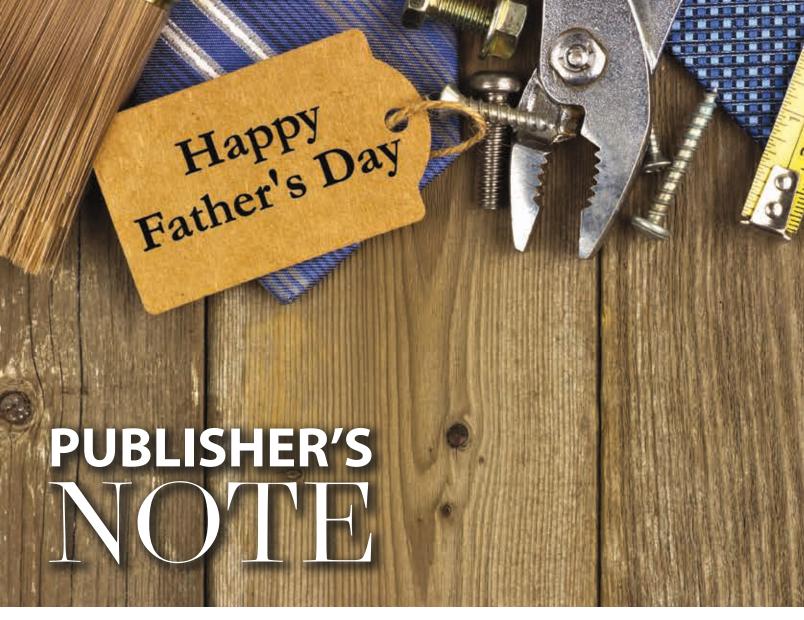
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As the school sessions end and summer begins, my wish for you all is to appreciate and enjoy the time you have with your children. They are only young once and in the blink of an eye they are grown up and on their own. A good friend of mine recently wrote this poem on behalf of all fathers.

Happy Father's Day! Written by Hannah Bowmeester

A Father is one whose arms open wide, to hug away fear or congratulate with pride! He's one who will hold tight a fat little hand, and lead the way to a mystical land! A dad can make fears scurry away, make night shine as bright as a bright summer day. Though some have stayed and some have gone, Many a man has journeyed along. They never gave up or ran away, A hero was made with each passing day. Saturday pancakes, Sunday drives, school sports to cheer you made it happen, you got us there! Blessed are the children with fathers to care, blessed are the children with fathers to share, All of their love, their dreams and their fears, to these dear men, Happy Father's Day, cheers!



Have a wonderful Month~

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Some travel companies like Tauck Bridges and Adventures by Disney exclusively offer family vacations. Others like Trafalgar have a few family friendly options. While the details of each escorted family journey vary by destination and tour operator, they generally have a few characteristics in common. A knowledgeable and friendly tour director will choreograph every detail making sure you can be fully present on your family vacation. You will stay at centrally located, kid friendly accommodations which often include pools and game rooms. Meals will make provisions for picky eaters. To ensure non-cranky travelers, early mornings are avoided where possible; and the pace is a bit more leisurely than a typical escorted tour. Also, there is usually some built in free time for families to explore and enjoy on their own.



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Engaging family pursuits for all ages feature authentic hands-on experiences that include adventurous activities, awe-inspiring sights, meeting fascinating locals, and spotting wildlife. Special care is taken to provide interaction with local culture. For example, you may have lunch with real cowboys, learn to make your own pizza in Florence, pan for gold in Alaska, or learn to waltz in a Viennese palace. Moderately adventurous activities can include such things as biking, horseback riding, whitewater rafting, kayaking, ziplining, off-roading, fishing and archery to name a few.

Family escorted tours span the world, but there are a few extra popular destinations: the West- National Parks and cowboy country; Europe and Great Britain; and the exotics- Africa, Machu Picchu, Galapagos and Costa Rica. The newest hot ticket is European river cruises designed especially for families.

What are the benefits of a multigenerational escorted family vacation? Kids love spending one-on-one time with their parents and grandparents. Tours organized and managed by experts in family travel allow you to be on vacation, too. Traveling with other families reduces a lot of the pressure of traveling with children. While your kids are enjoying the vacation of a lifetime, they will be learning about the world though first-hand experience, always the best teacher. You are creating memories your family will revisit for the rest of their lives.

tour & travel



business beat

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" Carey Bisonet and family When did you start with the business? I purchased the business on April 1, 2016.

How did you know this is what you wanted to do? I had been travelling extensively for the past nine years with a firm that bought and sold businesses around the country. When this opportunity opened up, it was great timing to branch out on my own. To do so locally in Grand Rapids, in a community my wife and our children love to be a part of, it was too good to pass up.

How many employees are there? We fluctuate with seasonality, but employ a staff of about ten throughout the year.

Tell us about the services that are offered with the busi-

ness? Alpine has a tremendous team that strives to take care of every customer that calls or comes in to see us. Our Store Manager, Aron, has tremendous experience – he and his staff can answer almost any question a DIY'er might have. Some of our most popular equipment rentals include Bobcat Skid Steers, John Deere Tractors, Dump Trailers, a wide variety of Lawn and Garden equipment, floor sanders, concrete saws and more.

Danielle Espinoza, also a resident of Crystal Springs, is responsible for all of our event reservations and planning. Danielle does a fantastic job helping our customers with graduation parties, weddings and major corporate events and festivals throughout Grand Rapids. As an East Kentwood Graduate she's excited to get the word out about Alpine in our community and we both hope to serve more customers in Crystal Springs and our immediate area.

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Another great service we provide is small engine sales and service. As an authorized retailer and service center for Toro lawnmowers and snow blowers and carrying the largest

line of Stihl products in Grand Rapids, our mechanics have combined experience of over sixty years selling and servicing these trusted brands.

What would you like the residents of *Life on the Course* to know at the company? Alpine has been servicing Grand Rapids for over 50 years. Because of our variety of services and our team's tremendous experience, we have enjoyed the best, most loyal customers. Now, we want to provide the same type of service to even more people in and around Grand Rapids.



meet your neighbor



Welcome To The Family

Meet Jason, Holly, Walker, Bryce and newest family member– baby boy, Cash Freese. This wonderful family has lived over on Old Lantern Dr. since 2014



and is very active. Jason – Senior Loan Consultant for Alliant Credit Union in Chicago, IL (works from home) and Holly is a stay-at-home Mom and Owner of Expression Rings of Hope Jewelry. Jason and Holly both attended Western Michigan University, which is where they met. After graduation, they both moved to Chicago and lived by Wrigley field for eight years. Walker & Bryce were born downtown Chicago and after a few years, moved to Grand Rapids as a family to settle down and raise their kids.

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When asked what they like to do to relax since moving from the hustle bustle of Chicago – we have a hard time relaxing and sitting still. We like to be on the move and always doing something! We like to travel on the weekends, visit friends and family, attend events downtown GR or watch the boys play sports! In the summer we love to relax by swimming and laying at the pool.

As a family they love taking mini-road trips on the weekends and traveling to various places, hotels and events! Chicago is one of their favorite cities to visit as they lived there for eight years and the two eldest sons were born there. So attending Cubs games as a family in the summers is a favorite of theirs! Jason loves to golf and is a member at Stonewater. They love spending summers at the pool swimming and hanging with friends!

Trying new places to eat in the area are a pastime – they have found some new favorites since living here! A couple of their favorites are Rockwell and Republics downtown and, of course, sitting on the patio at Firerock in the summertime!

For vacations, they love to take mini-road trips on the weekends with their boys and find new waterparks to attend for weekend fun! They also like traveling to Yogi Bear Camps and other campsites during the summers and staying in the cabins! – Jason and I love traveling to Vegas occasionally and Cabo San Lucas!



Their favorite sports Team? Go Blue! Michigan fans! They are also huge Chicago Cubs fans and hoping for a World Series Win this year! The Freese boys are all huge sports fans and love watching the games on TV!

Music? They love listening and dancing to music together! The boys have a great time finding tunes on the IPAD and blasting music and dancing in the house!

Dinner? Grilling outside and hanging on the deck and in the backyard is one of our favorite things to do in the evenings. We love grilling all types of meats and veggies and just being together as a family.

How are they involved in the Community? Jason loves to coach and help out with the boys' sports teams. He is currently head coach for Walker & Bryce's Coach Pitch Baseball Team. He also enjoyed assisting during their Upward Basketball and Football games. Walker plays baseball, Upward Football and will be starting Golf Clinics this summer. Bryce plays baseball, Upward Football, Upward Basketball and will also be attending Golf clinics this summer.



They are also huge Chicago Cubs fans and hoping for a World Series Win this year! The Freese boys are all huge sports fans and love watching the games on TV!

Our favorite part about living in the neighborhood is the friendly neighbors and new friends that we have met since moving here! Everyone has been so welcoming and nice. It's so great watching our kids be able to play with the neighbor kids, ride bikes and make memories! It just feels like home.

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ESSENTIAL GOLF TIPS FROM YOUR SPOUSE YOU SHOULD COMPLETELY IGNORE



By Scott Seifferlein, Author, Speaker & PGA Golf Guru

My good friend from high school is coming to visit and I am reminded of a few years back when my wife and I played a couple's match against him and his wife. We were not even half way down the first hole and he was already giving his wife advice on how to aim. In Champion Success Strategy I highlight why it is not a

good idea to take advice from your spouse.

Excerpted from "7 Essential Golf Tips from Your Spouse You Should Completely Ignore," you can download the full publication at http://www.grandrapidsgolflesson.com/learningprograms-nav/tools/

Manly Golf Advice #3: Aim over there.

Really, you'd take advice on aiming from a man?

This is classic "man" advice for his spouse when she is not hitting them straight down the middle of the fairway. You know the drill. He stands behind where you are hitting, dramatically closes one eye and points to try and determine where you are aimed.

There is an inherent problem with taking advice on aim. Golf is not a face on sport. It is a side on sport where you stand various distances from the ball depending on the length of club you are using. This variance and side on positioning continually changes your perception of where you are aimed. Thus, the common conversation heard on the golf course between you and your spouse ... Him — "Honey, you are aimed too far to the right." You — "No I'm not! I am aimed right down the middle." Him — "What do I know?"

You — "That's right. What do you know?"

Regardless of who is right or wrong on this topic, it is simply a lose-lose scenario. Only when you truly understand the vision-tricks used by the top golfers will you begin to understand how to position your eyes to see correct alignment from a side on viewpoint.

Scott Seifferlein is a local Celebrity Golf Ambassador and founder of the Business Golf Mastermind Group. He is a featured contributor to Donald Trump's Book, "The Best Golf Advice I Ever Received," and four-time publisher himself including, "The Game of Golf & The Art of Business." Scott is

golf tip of the month





the coach to many successful and well-known West Michigan business leaders and is often seen and heard on television and radio celebrating the vibrant and popular game of golf. Connect with Scott and download your free golf gifts at www. GrandRapidsGolfLesson.com and www.Breaking90Golf.com.

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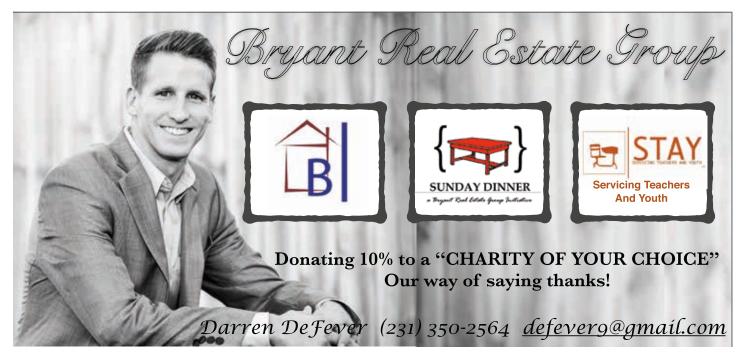
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1423 Silver Springs Ct Se		\$399,500	18	5	3.5		4,514
2051 Glenn Canyon Se		\$249,900	11	4	2.5		2,930
2250 Glenn Canyon Se		\$259,900	11	4	2.5		1,991
7237 Mountain Knoll Ave		\$259,900	5	4	2.5		1,989
6907 Old Lantern Dr Se		\$288,000	4	3	3.5		3,283
7326 Royal Ridge Dr. SE		\$415,000	41	5	4		5,424
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7378 Crystal View Dr SE		\$278,000	10	4	3.5		3800
7183 Cornerstone Dr SE		\$175,000	3	3	2		1858
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6886 Cornerstone Dr Se		\$199,900	4	3	2.5		2,372
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Why Community?

As a company, we are a COMMUNITY FOCUSED | COMMUNITY DRIVEN organization. We encourage and develop organizations through our "Sunday Dinner Initiatives", where our primary focus is bettering communities in an organic fashion. As REALTORS®, we want nothing more than to create long term relationships by developing and growing communities. Within our organization, we strive to cutivate organic, grassroot efforts towards community angled organizations.

What Is Sunday Dinner?

Sunday dinner is simply a concept that encompasses every way that we give back now and in the future as BRYANT Real Estate Group. When the phrase Sunday Dinner is mentioned, thoughts and memories of our family's past, our enjoyment of the present and hopes for the future fill our mind. Each of our families are filled with the emotions of happiness, joy, peace, sorrow and pleasantries. It's is our goal to strengthen our community using Real Estate as a vehicle. We know that each real estate transaction is linked to those feelings, those life transitions, and to our family.

Whether we are assisting schools, contributing to food pantries, or assisting non-profits, the ultimate goal in providing a charitable donation is to allow our clients to express a commitment to a mission that matters to them. This is the sole purpose for the development of our Sunday Dinner Initiative. -You are Welcome to the table-

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CHERYL STAATS – Polaris Realty

Where did you grow up? How long have you lived in the area? Tell us about your family. I grew up on the other side of the state – specifically, Westland -and raised my family in Canton. Canton is a really cool, diversified community located between Ann Arbor and Detroit. It was and still is a great place to raise a family. I permanently moved to the Grand Rapids area in the summer of 2013. Everything I've learned about this wonderful city is true and I'm so happy to call West Michigan home.

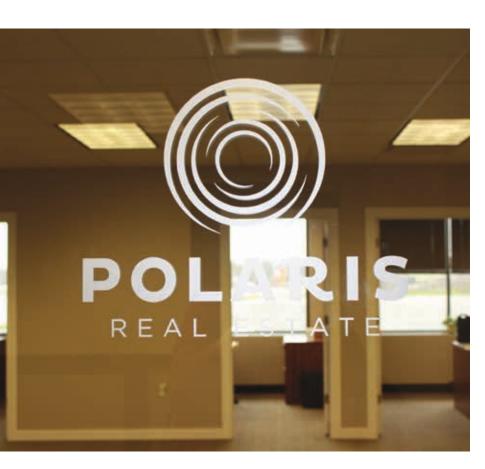
I have two wonderful children -- a son, Chad, who lives with his wife and three children in Alaska. Yes, our 49th State! They moved to Wasilla in 2006 and really like their life there. I miss them tremendously though. My daughter, Chelsea lives in Cedar Springs and teaches school. She will be getting married late summer to a wonderful man, John, who is a firefighter. I'm single, having become part of the divorce statics in 2010.

Tell us about the events that led up to where you are now (i.e. education, career path). I've always been into real estate in some way, shape or form for most of my life. I personally bought and sold many homes throughout my life and in my mid-thirties started managing home and condominium associations. I've not only done this in Michigan, but in Arizona and Florida, too. This is a fun and interesting part of the real estate industry that has given me so much knowledge and experience that enables me to share it with not only the communities I managed, but now with my real estate clients as well.

What is your business and how/why did you start your business? I found

that while homeowner and condominium association homes can be sold by all Realtors, not all of them truly understand the fundamentals and nuances of these types of communities. I can't count the number of times agents have neglected to find out information for their clients, failed at communicating with them on certain laws and guideline requirements and overlooked educating their clients about the community they are moving into. I feel for the new owner when they discover their dog isn't allowed in the community. Yes, that has happened too many times to count. It's so sad and unnecessary. Plus the Board of

Directors job of enforcing those laws and guidelines and having to deal with the new owner and the circumstances of their pet is not an enjoyable task or the predicament a board member wishes to be in. These types of things happened so many times and it became something I wanted to educate my buyers and sellers on, so I became a Realtor in 2013. While I work with clients in buying and selling non-association type homes all of time, I like to call myself the 'Association Guru' because I know what questions to ask and what information my clients need to make a truly informed decision when thinking of purchasing a home in these types of communities. Not only has my background been an asset to my buying clients, but those clients that are selling their association property, too. I'm able to market it so that the potential buyer is more informed and is truly happy when they move into these types of communities. (and they don't have to get rid of their beloved dog!)



What is unique about your business (what sets you apart from the

rest)? I shared that I've also done association management in Arizona and Florida. Arizona was similar in many ways to Michigan in how associations are managed. Many of their legal documents had similar requirements and it was an easy transition to manage Arizona properties after doing so in Michigan. Florida on the other hand is much different. To be a manager of associations in the State of Florida, you must hold a CAM (Community Association Management) license. Florida deals with many absentee owners in both homeowner and condominium associations. There are many more duties and obligations a manager has. I was a bit nervous at first having to be licensed with all of the additional laws to follow, but after working in Florida, I think many states should require association managers to be licensed. This would give those managers additional training in the state they reside in and the associations would have a bit more peace of mind in who is managing their property. Many Realtors in Florida hold a CAM license, too, which makes it great for clients to know if your broker is knowledgeable about associations when they are hiring them.

Given your business expertise and the nature of what you do, what advice (whether general or specific) can you offer to the residents? I counsel

anyone who lives in an association to really look at who you are hiring to help you sell or buy your type of property. How many of these types of properties have they sold? While most agents don't have the knowledge and experience I do from managing associations, some agents have sold dozens of them. Those agents should have an elementary understanding of what is involved in living in these types of neighborhoods that they can pass on to their clients. Has there been any issues with past clients in purchasing or selling in an association? You will want to know if they've had a past client who moved into a community with little to no understanding of that type of community and subsequently had issues like their dog not being allowed in it. Have they ever lived in or would they live in an association? I do. I live

in a traditional condominium association and enjoy it. It fits my life style right now. While this may not seem to be important, it will tell you how much they know. Ask them why or why not and it will give you additional insight into the person you are looking at hiring to sell or help you buy into an association.

By the way, I live in Caledonia, too. I love it and when I move out of my condo, I plan on moving to another home in the area. I can't see myself living anywhere else but Caledonia! It has a great warmth of people who are caring and giving. There is so much to do here, too. The Paul Henry – Thornapple Trail is way cool! There are great restaurants, too, that I enjoy. I just love Caledonia.

I also handle helping my clients rent their home or condo. Something not many people think about is that if they hire a broker to manage their rental property in an association, that person really should have knowledge and experience in this part of the industry. Of course, anyone renting in these types of communities must also abide by the laws and guidelines of the association. I've found that while the legal documents are generally disclosed to the new tenant, they are not always fully explained to them. This creates many issues and problems throughout the term of the lease which hurts so many.

What else we should know about you, your family, or your business? One of my favorite hobbies is antiquing and going to thrift shops. I love the unique finds and history that can be found in these places. Plus the people you meet have such wonderful stories to share. I love hearing about people and the memories of their items. I enjoy repurposing those wonderful finds to decorate my home with. When I find those rare and distinctive items, I get to bring a bit of that history into my home. This turns into the fun part of my real estate career, too -- visiting my selling client's home for the first time. Listening to their memories of the home and what made it special for them. I can then weave those stories into something special for the new owner to experience for their family! Then my client and I get to find a new place for their family to call home to make a new history, to make new memories with love and laughter for years to come.

Business contact information (phone, address, website, email, etc.):

Cheryl Staats 616-540-9229 **Cheryl.Staats@polarisns.com** www.polarisns.com



Kimberly Bento, Megan Forman, Trista VanderVoord, Tracy Lawrence, Mark VanderVoord

Crystal Springs Takes On A Novel Challenge

Kimberly Bento, Megan Forman, Trista VanderVoord, Tracy Lawrence, Mark VanderVoord

A group of five Crystal Springs residents from Misty View Court decided to step out of their comfort zones for a month and successfully tackled the National Novel Writing Month challenge. They were faced with the task of writing a 50,000-plus word novel in thirty days, otherwise known as the NaNoWriMo challenge. It took late nights and perseverance, but when the thirty days were over the software engineer, accountant, statistician, detective and stay-at-home mom could each proudly cross "write a novel" off their personal bucket lists.



RICHARD J. CHORYAN, O.D.

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The collection of their efforts is the five book Magnificent Mamas Series. Each book in the series was written by a different author to highlight a different character's point of view. The novels follow the wild and fun adventures of a group of friends from a fictitious country club neighborhood very similar to Crystal Springs bringing a humorous perspective to *Life on the Course*. There are five years of charming stories, fun illustrations and heaps of local flavor.

Grab yourself a copy today and get to know the Magnificent Mamas of Manatee Court. Follow this special collection of suburban women through years of book clubs, bulk cooking and babysitting. Be warned, it's not all casseroles and carpools. These are cautionary tales of the mischief and mayhem that inevitably occur when women get organized.

Find The Magnificent Mamas Series on Facebook to learn how you can get your hands on a copy of these entertaining novels set right here in your neighborhood!

The Magnificent Mamas Series

Book 1: "The Magnificent Mamas of Manatee Court" by Kimberly Bento Book 2: "The Magnificent Mamas Documented Mayhem" by Megan Forman Book 3: "The Magnificent Mamas Work It Out" by Trista VanderVoord Book 4: "The Magnificent Mamas Clean House" by Tracy Lawrence



The authors believe everyone has a story to tell. Could you be the next one to take on the National Novel Writing Month challenge? You can learn more about the exciting world of National Novel Writing Month at www.nanowrimo.org.





event review EB Coffee & Pub

On April 25, Crystal Springs residents were invited to EB coffee & Pub for a review of the venue. The night was sponsored by Mandie Dodgson from Wadell and Reed, and all guests that attended were able to enjoy a light dinner and two samplings of beer, as well as some amazing desserts. Justin and Blair Nichols are owners of the restaurant and pub. They have owned the place for close to six years. When they first took over, it was known as Essential Bean coffee house. Together, the couple turned it into an awesome Brewery and Coffee house. So, in the morning before you're off to work or go about your day, you can stop

in, grab a "Cup of Jo" and when your day is finally through, stop back in for a relaxing home brewed beer and enjoy some of their awesome sandwiches or soups. It's a win, win for all!

On the 25th guests enjoyed their choice of Roast Beef on an Asiago Bagel, A Bacon Lettuce Tomato wrap or a Vegetarian Hummus wrap. It was paired with chips and a Black Bean Salsa. Guests were also given their amazing desserts to try to finish off the night -- a Creamy cheesecake drizzled with chocolate and caramel sauce or an Oreo Ball, vanilla ice cream rolled in Oreo crumbs drizzled with a raspberry sauce. If you are wondering how the beer is? Its great! Normally there are six beers on tap from the lightest to the dark and heavy. EB Coffee and Pub makes Beers to go along with the seasons. For the summertime you'll probably find some fruit flavored assortments, in the fall look for the pumpkin and Harvest flavors and at Christmas, you'll find their 12 days of Christmas beers! If you would like to see a full list of everything that EB Coffee and Pub has to offer, please go to their website at ebcofeeepub.com. They will host special events and





on a regular basis hold a brews and brushes class! Thanks so much, *Mandie Dodson,* Justin and Blair Nichols for having the residents from Crystal Springs out for the neighbor's night.

Here are some of the comments our guests had to say.

- Love the Brick look, will definitely stop back for breakfast and coffee.
 – Karen Gill
- Loved the Oreo Ball -- Robbie Bosch
- Everything was great! Already planning a brews and brushes trip! Coffee stout a favorite. -- Carlie Troyer.
- Everything was excellent! Looking forward to coming back -- Dr. Rick Choryan, O.D
- The salsa was great and I loved the craft beer -- Megan Forman

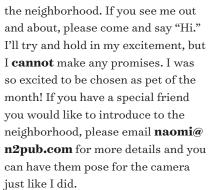
DISCLAIMER: The business reviewed in this section provided products and/or services free of charge in exchange for this review.

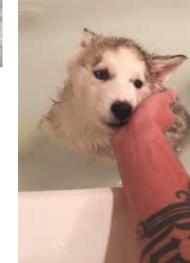


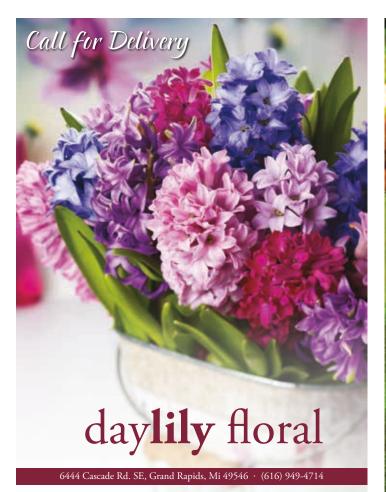
pet perspective Maicoh

My name is Maicoh. I am a five-month old Husky that lives over on Crystal View. My owner, Austin Rios, and I just moved into the neighborhood a couple of months ago. My name means wolf in Navajo. I am what you would call a typical puppy. I love lots of attention, love to be walked, car rides and baths. I also like to chew on things -- some things that I probably shouldn't. My newest feature is howling! I think it is fun to howl at everything! -- the moon, the T.V, whatever ... I may even howl at you. It's my way of saying "Hello." It's so fun being a puppy in









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Congratulations 7086 Summit Hill Ct. Your home was chosen as our Home of the Month. This beautiful home with gorgeous view of the course is simply stunning!



real estate tips

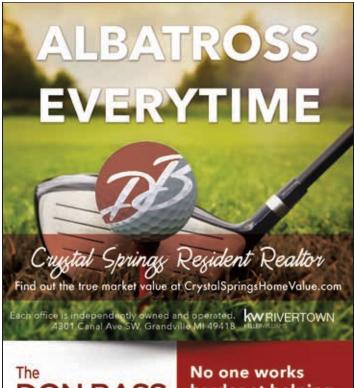
11 Questions TO ASK A REALTOR BEFORE **YOU HIRE THEM**

Written By Resident Writer Don Bass

What percentage of your clients are sellers (vs. buyers)? Each of these takes a different set of skill in order to be an expert at it. An agent who works mainly with buyers won't necessarily have the best experience or know how to properly price or market your home to make sure that you don't leave money on the table.

Which neighborhoods do you primarily work? The best choice would be an agent that lives, works and plays in the same community. Ones that are heavily engrained into the community, charities and school district. An agent who knows these so well that they can sell the idea of living here to anyone that they encounter.

Do you work full-time or part-time as a real estate agent? With this hot real estate market, we are getting people flocking into this business from all walks of life ... many of whom are still





harder at helping you fullfill your real estate dreams like we do.



working full-time jobs as teachers, loan processors and factory workers to name a few. I can't imagine being able to complete all of the necessary day-to-day tasks and being there for clients on a part-time basis.

How many homes have you sold in my neighborhood in the past 12 months? This is a great question because many agents claim to be the neighborhood expert somewhere and when you check it out for yourself you find that they might've sold few over the years.

Are you licensed as a broker or just a salesperson? In the State of Michigan you may be surprised to learn that it takes more schooling to be able to cut hair than it does to be able to help people buy and sell what is usually the most valuable asset to most. A 40-hour class and a three-hour exam is all it takes to become a real estate sales person. In order to become a broker, one has to not only become a salesperson in the first place but then be in the business for at least three years with a minimum of 18 sales in that time and an additional 90 hours of class.

How many sellers are you representing now? Buyers? An agent who is busy isn't necessarily a bad thing. However, buyers take much more time and effort so agents who work more with buyers will have less time to give your home the attention it deserves.

Do you hold open houses or broker tours? What do you do to get buyers in the house? Many agents don't believe open houses work because they fail to get any significant amount of traffic to them to make it worth their time and the seller's time. To hold a successful open house all of the work is done before the day of the event. It's in the planning, marketing and signage that is used to get the word out about the event. Most agents use three signs and wonder why only two neighbors showed up. Find out what the agent plans to do to make it worth your time to leave your home for a few hours.

Do you hire professional photographers, interior designers and other marketing do you use?

It amazes me that we still see terrible photos on the Multiple Listing Service. Or that the home is not staged properly. Or that we don't see the use of 3-D photo tours or Drones more when the situation calls for it. Most of these things are very affordable and when you're paying an agent, these should be expected as a cost of doing business and representing the client and the home correctly.

healthy living SUMMER SMART SUN SAFETY

Break Out The Sunscreen, Sunglasses And Sun Hat!

To tan or not to tan? That is the tantalizing question that sun worshipers face. It is hard to resist basking in the sun to achieve that bronze, sun-kissed glow. But what else is the sun doing to your skin in the process?

Unfortunately, the harmful rays of the sun can result in wrinkles, premature aging and even skin cancer. Instead of turning to Botox and anti-aging remedies, all you really need is a bottle of sunscreen. According to the Skin Care Foundation, a staggering 90 percent of visible aging comes from the hours you spend in the sun (not your age) -- shocking, but true.

Another misconception is that sunscreen is only necessary when the sun is shining. Unfortunately, ultraviolet rays come with cloud cover too. Protection is needed on all days; the sun's rays know no mercy. If you think you are safe because you have a dark skin tone, think again. Those with darker skin are more likely to get more serious kinds of skin cancer when diagnosed; all the more reason to lather up when going outside. Fairskinned people aren't immune from the UV rays of the sun either. They are more likely to develop skin cancer when exposed to the sun's damaging rays.

Summer smart sun safety is paramount for children and adults alike. According to the American Academy of Dermatology, everyone should wear sunscreen daily, regardless of skin tone. Apply sunscreen at least 30 minutes prior to sun exposure for the best results to allow the product to be fully absorbed into the skin.

While you're at it, don't forget to break out the sunglasses and the hat. Protect your eyes from sun damage by purchasing sunglasses that shield against UVA and UVB rays. Wearing sunglasses without UV protection is a no-no. Darkened lenses cause the pupil to let in more light, allowing more UV light into



the back of the eye. Sun hats are another form of protection from skin cancer. With every extra inch of hat brim, reduce your risk of skin cancer by 10%. It's worth it!

Enjoy the summer but not without summer smart sun safety. Slather on the sunblock, don a pair of UV-blocking sunglasses, and invest in a sun hat. Your skin will thank you later!



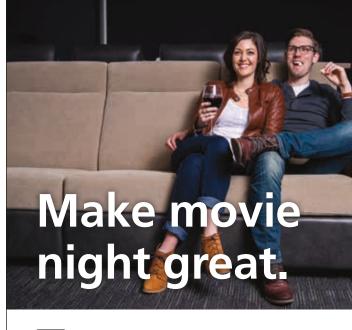
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home matters

SUMMER home **IMPROVEMENT** IDEAS

create the perfect outdoor space

By N2 Staff Writer, Megan Weatherly Lynn





Summertime is perfect for spending warm nights grilling out by the pool with family and friends. Need to get your outdoor spaces ready for entertaining? These are a few summertime projects to make your home the hot spot for backvard barbecues.

1. build a deck

Nowhere to set up your grill? Build a simple platform-style deck on-grade. You'll only need basic tools, lumber and a few concrete piers, plus whatever stain or paint you choose.

2. create an outdoor kitchen

Speaking of that grill, consider bringing in a designer to help plan out the perfect outdoor kitchen. Many home improvement stores also offer pre-designed outdoor kitchen sets. With a sink, refrigerator and bar top, you'll be ready to host your first summer party in no time.

3. buy new patio furniture

With all of the time you'll be spending outside, be sure to invest in some high-quality patio furniture. Consider a dining set with an anti-corrosive finish and weather-proof fabric to ensure that it will withstand the elements and changing seasons.

4. build a raised garden

Warm weather is perfect for growing your favorite fruits and vegetables right in your own backyard. Build a raised garden bed with stones or simple 2x4s purchased from your local home improvement store. Fill with soil and start planting your tomatoes, lettuce and peppers.

5. add landscape lighting

Nothing adds evening ambiance like accent lighting. Complement the fireflies in your backyard by installing some exterior lighting to pathways, decks and pools. Your family and friends will thank you for making your outdoor spaces easy to navigate once the sun goes down.

6. install a fire pit

While some summer nights may be too warm for sitting around a fire, this is the perfect time to install a brand new fire pit. Whether you choose to build a custom structure or purchase a pre-assembled one, a fire pit will make your outdoor space livable well into the autumn months.

7. add a screen

Are pesky mosquitoes keeping you from enjoying your back porch to its full potential? Add new posts and screening to create a barrier. This will allow you to enjoy the sunsets and breezes while minimizing the uncomfortable bug bites.

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RESIDENT BUSINESS GUIDE

Attention Crystal Springs Residents: Do you own or run a business? To have your business featured free in the resident business guide in an upcoming issue of Life on the Course, please send an e-mail to naomi.riley@n2pub.com. This is open to residents of Crystal Springs only.

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HOUSEMATE WANTED: A person who hates sugar to share a house with. Please call The Gingerbread Man at 555-9876

SUITS FOR SALE: I have outgrown many of my clothes. Would make great Halloween costumes. Contact Spiderman at 555-1111

NEIGHBORHOOD REEF SALE: Many of us on Coral Way will be having a reef sale on Friday. If you are interested in participating, find Nemo and let him know. No sharks allowed. **HOUSE SITTING:** The Princess and I will be leaving the marsh next month and would like someone to watch over the place. If anyone is interested, call Shrek at 555-5555

BRIDGE FOR SALE: I've decided to retire from the business and sell the Brooklyn Bridge up in New York. Price negotiable, must pickup. Call Tony at 550-5000

FREE TO GOOD HOME: Skunk family raised from an abandoned litter in our backyard. Absolutely adorable creatures! Must take whole lot, glands still intact. Call 555-7772



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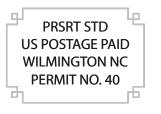
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