



Michigan's Great Southwest Note of the south

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November 16, 2019

Moody on The Market



Pat Dess than six months after dropping anchor along Main

Street in downtown Benton Harbor just days before Memorial Day, Rachel Collins has pulled up the anchor and will sail out of the harbor, returning to her original Flagship in Harbor Country as a sole site for the time being. It turns out that Collins decision to lease the landmark diner with the soaring "Food" sign out front instead of buying the building was fortuitous, inasmuch as her Benton Harbor venture ended just 167 days after setting up shop. Flagship True North Fish Market is permanently closed. A letter was placed into the windows at 325 W. Main Street, followed by public notice on Rachel's personal Facebook page, and later in the day on the officials Flagship True North Facebook fan page, telling of the decision to cease operations in Benton Harbor. Here is what Rachel posted and shared online: "REGARDING FLAGSHIP TRUE NORTH - A PERSONAL LETTER FROM RACHEL COLLINS, PRINCIPAL AND CHEF, FLAGSHIP SPECIALTY FOODS. To all our beloved customers, it is with a heavy heart that I type this. As of vesterday. Flagship True North is permanently closed. All of the staff and I want to send out a HUGE thank you to everyone who made True North a success, even if our tenure was brief. Please know that our original location in Lakeside, MI is only 20 minutes away, and we are 100% here for you at Flagship Specialty Foods & Fish Market. Although we only have casual outdoor seating in the summer, several items you've enjoyed from our menu are available here to-go, including Fish & Chips! The same premium-quality seafood is available, and we post on Facebook daily to let you know what's on-hand. Again, please accept our heartfelt thanks for all the support we got while open in the Twin Cities, and we hope to be up there and available to you again in 2020, one way or another. With gratitude, Rachel" The outpouring response on Facebook was filled with sadness and chagrin from the fans that had taken to the fresh fish market and Hampton's-style Clam Shack menu for ready-made options. It's a sad ending for what Collins had hoped would be a grand adventure. Back in May she said, "We've had a wonderful experience since opening a fish market and gourmet to-go store in Lakeside, not far from New Buffalo, and we had a lovely group of people over the past three years coming in from Benton Harbor and St. Joseph a half hour each way just to get our fresh fish - so, I thought why not serve the local market?" She started the process last Labor Day, saving, "We looked around and finally found a really great place that seemed to be

Continued on page 7







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Holiday Gift Packs and Seasonal Selections

Brrrrr!! What is happening out there? It has been a frigid week here, and one that I can't recall ever happening this early! With that being said, I guess with all the snow it feels like we can finally talk about Christmas ales and winter seasonals that are sure to keep you warm! **Goose Island**

Bourbon County Brand Stout: BCBS Let's start with Black Friday! Every year, beer lovers await the release of Goose Island Bourbon County Brand Stout. It is literally the forefather of barrel aged beers. Make sure to check your local stores and restaurants on

Continued on page 2

Inserts & Promotions

- Martin's Super Markets
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November 29th for it. I will say though, that finding packaged product of this will be limited so make sure to get there early!

Christmas Cheer

We have many highly anticipated winter seasonals that are here and rolling into the market. Sierra Nevada's Celebration, which is probably one of the most looked forward to seasonal from them, is hitting shelves and taps everywhere. This Fresh-Hop American style IPA has been Sierra's Winter Seasonal since 1981. It is definitely one of my all-time favorite beers! Frankenmuth's Christmas town Ale is one of the best-selling holiday brews (Frankenmuth is literally Christmas town). The packaging is great because it highlights the landscape of Frankenmuth. Also, the liquid inside is exceptional! It is super easy to drink yet has so many "holiday-ish flavors" that give you all the Holiday feels. Perrin Brewing Company has also made a holiday flavored drink called Clear Coast Cran-Raspberry Hard Seltzer for all you seltzer lovers out there. Perrin also has a limited release Clear Coast Hard Seltzer Variety 12 pk, and a Winter Warmer Variety 12 pk. Breckinridge Brewery has their holiday strong ale available now called Breckenridge Christmas Ale. Check these gems out while they last!

Holiday Editions

Many of you may know that Stella Artois has one of the biggest imports "the original Christmas beer", brewed only for the holiday season way back in the 1500's in Belgium. It is a no brainer that this beer is highly celebrated over the holiday season. This year, with a very limited supply, they are releasing Stella Midnight Lager. This is a dark Lager with notes of Belgian Chocolate with a crisp dry finish. Did someone say Belgian chocolate?! I am really excited to try this holiday edition brew

The Budweiser Clydesdales seem to always make an appearance around the holidays. Whether its commercials or in display pieces, they warm your heart during this time of the year. The annual tradition of the Budweiser Holiday Stein is also another nostalgic holiday tradition, and they usually feature the beautiful animals. With that being said, we are super excited to have a Budweiser 24 pk can that features years past holiday steins as the artwork on the cans in that package. A great pick up for this holiday season! It is also offered in the 25 oz single serve can as



well!

Well there you have it folks! Hope you have some good suggestions if you are attending holiday gatherings or just want to have some new holiday brews to try at home. As always, please enjoy responsibly! As they say in Game of Thrones....Winter is coming!!!

Hope you all stay warm and safe. Lenna@buddistributing.com Read more at www.MailMaxOnline.com

Call today and let's set up your Holiday appointments. Thanksgiving and then Christmas..... will be here before you know it!

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MailMax for Michigan's Great Southwest



Seasons Collide Photo by Bailey Gruss

Please email your favorite photo with a brief description to Photos@MailMaxOnline.com Photos must be horizontal orientation to be considered for Photo of the Week.



I've made a regular habit of being self-centered in these weekly columns, writing about me me me, or things that happen to me me me, or trivial things that interest me me me. Not this column. This is about my

dad, Tom Stuart, who passed away ten years ago, November 19, 2009. He was 87 years old. Here's all I could think to write at that time, offered up again, however weakly, to remember him on the anniversary of ihis passing

Poise, maturity and eloquence are wonderful qualities to possess at a time like this. I haven't enough of any of them right now to write about dad the way he deserves.

My mom has these qualities. She expressed them in the simple, sweet words she softly spoke to dad as he lay in a hospice bed during his last couple days. Those words would make a great column, but they'll stay private, reserved for mom and dad. But having been wed for over 60 years, rest assured they expressed an enduring love and commitment.

Dad packed a lot of life into his life. He was devoted, first and foremost, to mom. He was faithful to family, dedicated to community, and loyal to country. He was an educator, respected and remembered fondly by former students, not just at his memorial service, but throughout his life. He never stopped pursuing knowledge; Mom rattled off (from memory!) the 25 Elderhostels they journeyed to in their retirement years.

This isn't to say his life was a series of Norman Rockwell paintings, or a Hallmark Channel movie. It's just to say that he made his life count.

Around Veterans Day each year, I offer up a column thanking dad and mom for being people who helped put the "Greatest" in the term "Greatest Generation." Dad's service in World War II meant a great deal to him, and he read and studied about that conflict ever after, filling shelves throughout the house with book upon book about it.

Remembering a Stalwart Soldier

What follows may have appeared in one of those books, I don't know. Lacking eloquence of my own, I'm borrowing words written by someone else. They were fashioned by persons unknown, at times and places unknown, to accompany a wordless tune that was composed in 1862. They aren't "official" lyrics, and maybe you've heard different versions.

As for the tune, you're welcome to imagine its sound in your head if you wish. And it won't be difficult - it's a tune that virtually adult knows. Twenty-four notes, sounded on a bugle, and called "Taps." Day is done, gone the sun. From the hills, from the lake,

From the sky. All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.

Go to sleep, peaceful sleep, May the soldier or sailor,

God keep On the land or the deep, Safe in sleep.

Love, good night, Must thou go, When the day, and the night Need thee so? All is well. Speedeth all To their rest.

Fades the light; and afar Goeth day, and the stars Shineth bright.

Fare thee well; Day has gone, Night is on.

Thanks and praise, for our days, 'Neath the sun, neath the stars, 'Neath the sky, As we go, this we know,

God is nigh.

Love you always dad.

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Page 4 November 16, 2019



Ruth Whippman is an accomplished writer, journalist, and documentary filmmaker. She is also someone who has devoted time and

thought to the concept of contentment in our twenty-first century. What she's written makes for a good read. For instance, did you know that in the United States alone, people spend \$10 billion per year on books, programs, and techniques that promise to deliver contentment?

This financial pursuit has become so pronounced that marketers have designated a new category for it. They call it Spiritual Spending.

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1 Timothy 6:6

"The idea," writes Whippman, "is that if you just to be carried out completely alone." put in enough emotional elbow grease, slog out enough hours of positive thinking, mindful coloring, gratitude-journal keeping, and self-help book

reading, you will ultimately be rewarded." But then she delivered the bad news. Spiritual Spending has not delivered as promised. Studies reveal that, if anything, people are more anxious and disappointed than ever. And while she does not claim to have all the answers, Whippman does suggest where the problem lies. Increasingly, she says, people are "looking inward into their own souls, rather than outward..." In addition, she notes that "many recent happiness trends, from self-help books to meditation, are designed

All of this echoes a foundational Christian truth: I will not find the answer by looking inward because the answer is not in me.

The answer is in a relationship with the one who created us. An early Christian by the name of Augustine once prayed, "Lord, you made me for yourself. Our hearts are restless until we find our rest in you." God could see how restless and lost our own sinfulness had made us. And so he sent his Son. On our behalf, Jesus sought and found perfect contentment in his relationship with his heavenly Father. Then, in love, he carried our failures to the cross. There he endured the abandonment we deserved. Through faith in him, we not

only have full forgiveness, we have him. He is with us each and every day, no matter where our lives take us. Knowing that he has taken care of our greatest need, we can be sure that he will take care of our every need. And we can be content.

Praver: Lord, I know that you are with me this day. No matter what it brings, may this make me content. Amen.

> Submitted by:Pastor Glenn T. Rosenbaum Administrative Pastor Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Joseph Originated by: www.What AboutJesus.com

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MailMax for Michigan's Great Southwest **MOODY** Continued from the cover

conducive to our set up, and thought, I'll just take the plunge." There was some negotiating that had to take place, because the building owners, Mosaic on Main, wanted to sell the property outright, but she wanted to make sure there would be a good market for her product first by leasing for a while. Turns out to have been a smart option, because now, the experiment is over and Rachel returns to her original Flagship Specialty Foods & Fish Market in Lakeside which has been open since 2016 at 14939 Lakeside Road in Harbor Country. That enterprise will continue its great success of selling fresh fish from around the world to buyer's in Michigan's Great Southwest. Rachel tells me that her team is considering becoming a vendor at the St. Joseph Farmers Market next summer, and leaves open the possibility for other future options in the local marketplace to continue to reach clients who have gained a taste for her broad array of offerings. She asked me to reiterate her thanks to those who patronized Flagship True North, and offers up a "Stay tuned," for the future.

When the hundreds of luminaries lining the streets of downtown St. Joe are lit and the streetlights go down, the magic of the upcoming holiday season comes alive for thousands who take time to pay a visit to the bricklined streets for a welcoming launch to the holidays. Plan now to be there on Friday, November 22nd. Warm candlelight will herald the holiday season in the city's central business district as St. Joseph Today hosts their 25th Annual Luminary Festival welcoming shoppers to the downtown fun from 5 pm to 8 pm on Friday, November 22nd. The holiday season always begins with the warm glow of hundreds of luminaries lining the streets of the Victorian-era downtown when the Luminary Festival is celebrated. The 25th Annual Luminary Festival is sponsored by The Boulevard Inn & Bistro, and is designed to create a joyful atmosphere for all ages to enjoy the refreshments, special prices and gift ideas galore from participating restaurants and shopkeepers. Amy Zapal, Executive Director of St. Joseph Today, says, "All ages are invited to head downtown for this festive event," and adds, "Whether you're

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looking to enjoy a delicious cup of hot chocolate, grab a sweet treat, or get a jump start on your holiday gift shopping it's a great way to kick off the holiday season." Festival participants and sustaining sponsors include: 4A Song Vinyl...Alley Cuts...Baroda Founders...DK Boutique...Edgewater Gifts... Elephants Breath Antiques...Forever Books... Freedom Boat Club...Friends by Design...Fusion Center for Dance...FuzzyButz Pet Bakery...G&M Variety...Gallery on the Alley...Glik's...Grins of St. Joseph...HarborTown Interiors...Kilwins...Lazy Ballerina Winery...Nosh Village...Olive Cart... Perennial Accents...PurelyMichigan...ReVive Spa...South Bend Chocolate Café...State Street Stuff...The Boulevard Inn & Bistro...Third Coast Surf Shop...Wanderlust Outfitters...Waterfront Framing & Design...The Whitcomb Retirement Community...and White Pine Winery. A variety of participants will host businesses and/or offer specials in house. For example: Wanderlust Outfitters will feature a preview of their Black Friday sales...White Pine Winery will offer mulled wine samples...Third Coast Surf Shop will offer 40-percent off select items and new snowboarding gear in store...Perennial Accents will offer a free gift with purchase...and Forever Books will offer hot chocolate and cookies. Zapal says that the Luminary Festival is the kick-off to holiday shopping and that many downtown businesses will offer free gift wrapping throughout the holiday season, noting "Shopping locally is a great way to get unique and special gifts for everyone on your list while

supporting our local businesses and community. As if Luminary Festival wasn't enough, everyone is encouraged to join us on Saturday, November 30th for **Small Business Saturday** for additional specials." St. Joseph Today is a 501(c)(3) membership-based organization dedicated to developing and promoting events and businesses in St. Joseph and its surrounding communities. For more information about upcoming events, you can visit online at stjoetoday.com, facebook.com/stjoetoday, stop by the **Welcome Center** or call 269-985-1111.

Berrien County Treasurer Bret Witkowski does not want to enter the New Year still owning nearly half of the New Harbor Condominium development along Riverview Drive in Benton Harbor. When 43 of those condos were placed on the auction block back in July with a minimum bid of \$144,000 the county got no bidders. Rather than carry over into the new year with those condos still on his plate, Witkowski is now willing to accept bids on those units as a single sale. You cannot individually select a unit and bid, your bid will have to be for all 43 of the 90 condo units in that complex overlooking the St. Joseph River. Witkowski's office foreclosed on those 43 condos back on April first of this year. The New Harbor development is located at 655 Riverview Drive in the City of Benton Harbor. The foreclosure was forced when taxes remained delinquent on the units for three full years. Even though the units were placed in the July foreclosure auction at the D.A.N.K. Hall in Benton Harbor, no bids were forthcoming, leaving the county as the prop-





Continued on page 8



1956 Pipestone Rd. • Benton Harbor • tel: 269-934-8388 • fax: 269-934-8546

MOODY Continued from page 7

erty owner. Witkowski says, "The goal of the Treasurer's office is not to own property and this is no different, so I am accepting bids for the 43 units." The other 47 units are not owned by the Berrien County Treasurer's office. Here are the requirements to be included in the bid of the 43 units only: 1) State the price you are willing to pay for the full contingent of 43 units...2) Describe your plan for the units (for which City of Benton Harbor approval is required)...3) Show your ability to provide financial proof to pay monthly dues and for the work that would be proposed...4) Provide a timeline for the work to be completed. Bids will be accepted until a bidder who is able to demonstrate they can, and will, improve the property in a positive way so as to have a positive effect for other businesses along Riverview Drive and for the City of Benton Harbor overall. Questions regarding the process should be directed to Berrien County Treasurer Bret Witkowski.

If you are headed over the river and through the woods to grandmother's house for the Thanksgiving holiday and don't want to go empty-handed, you might want to consider a trip to Harbor Country to gather up some traditional Greek pastries and other fall holiday favorites next Friday through Sunday. November 22nd through the 24th. That's when the Annunciation and Agia Paraskevi Greek Orthodox Church Social Hall located at 18000 Behner Road in New Buffalo will roll out their annual Fall Holiday Bake Sale, a massive effort year after year that has put such amazing offerings as Baklava, Koulourakia, Kourambiedes, and Galaktoboureko onto the market for eager fans across the region. The big sale will happen on Friday the 22nd from noon until 5pm...again on Saturday the 23rd from noon until 5pm...and will wrap up on Sunday the 24th from noon until 3pm. The tradition continues with fans far and wide

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If you joined in any of Berrien County's community recycling events over the past year, give yourself a big pat on the back. You were part of a record rate of participation saving literal tons from local landfills or otherwise unsafe disposal. Jill Adams, Environmental Property Manager for the Berrien County Parks Department tells us that her line up of events enjoyed record breaking participation at her Community Recycling Events over the past year. She issued today, 'Kudos to the over 2,560 Berrien County residents who took extra efforts to ensure their hard-to-handle waste items were recycled or disposed of properly, protecting both public and environmental health, at the six County sponsored collection events." Residents brought in 117,000 lbs of household hazardous waste, which includes items like oil-based paint, spent batteries, unwanted yard chemicals, and unused household medications. Think about it. That's nearly 60-tons of waste. Residents also recycled 82,500 lbs of electronics waste, which includes TVs, computers, appliances, dehumidifiers, and the like at those events. Furthermore, the County coordinated Spring Residential Scrap Tire Collection saw approximately 5,800 passenger tires collected for recycling from county residents. The county has offered these collection events to residents since 1996. The program has changed and grown over the years, along with the change in residential waste streams. Although these community collection events are done for 2019, those services are available to Berrien County residents year around in a variety of different forms. The Kalamazoo County Household Hazardous Waste Center is available for Berrien

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W/2 Adult Runch Buffets

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Benton Harbor

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County residents to use, free, year around. When utilizing the Kalamazoo HHW Center, Berrien County residents must show an ID with an address. Accepted items there include household, yard & garden, garage, and workshop chemicals, cleaners, and liquids. You can see the full list of accepted and not accepted items, the hours of operation, the location, and more online www.kalcounty.com/hcs/eh/hhw/?qpdsdf=hhw Additionally, Green Earth Electronics Recycling, the company that provides the electronics recycling services at the community events, is located at 4200 Niles Road in St. Joseph. They are open Monday-thru-Friday from 8 am to 3 pm, excluding holidays, for electronics drop-off. You can contact Green Earth at 269-326-1232, or go to www.greenearth1.com for more information. The 2020 Berrien County Community Recycling Events will kick off on Tax Day next April 15th with the 11th annual Reduce Reuse Recycle Day held at Lake Michigan College. Next year's event dates and locations are now posted at www.berriencounty.org/564/Berrien-County-Community-Recycling-Event. More information will be added through the cold months as event details get confirmed. That's it for this week. Please Shop Local and we'll see you Saturday right here!

> Pat Moody Morning Radio Personality WSJM Radio moody@wsjm.com (269) 925-1111

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Ramse **Double for** couples? Dear Dave,

Does the amount you advise saving for a beginner emergency fund in Baby Step 1 dou-

ble for a couple, or does it stay the same?

Charlie Dear Charlie

Whether you're single or married, Baby Step 1 of my plan is to save \$1,000 as quickly as possible for a starter emergency fund. This may not sound like a lot of cash to have on-hand in the event of an emergency, but you need to remember the \$1,000 figure is a temporary thing.

Baby Step 1 is saving up \$1,000 for a beginner emergency fund. Baby Step 2 is paying off all debt, except your home. The vast majority of folks working my plan are debt-free, except for their mortgage, in two years or less. Then, you move to Baby Step 3, which is increasing your emergency fund from \$1,000 to three-to-six months of household expenses.

In reality, we're talking about a pretty short period of time where you'd have just \$1,000 in emergency savings. Plus, it serves as an exercise



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NATIONAL

FN

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suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Dave Says

in financial discipline. A lot of people have nothing saved before beginning the Baby Steps.

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If that makes things seem a little scary at the start, it's not necessarily a bad thing. A healthy level of fear can be a fantastic motivator. I don't want anyone constantly living their lives in fear, but that added push-that sense of urgency-can make you work harder to get out of debt, and move on the Baby Step 3, as quickly as possible! -Dave

Baby Step for weddings? Dear Dave.

We recently started following your plan, and it has made a huge difference in our financial

outlook and our marriage. When it comes to the Baby Steps, when do you recommend setting aside money for a wedding? We have a daughter, and we want to be able to do as much as possible for her when the time comes. Jim

Dear Jim,

That's a good question. There's not really a Baby Step specifically for weddings. In my mind, it should probably come after Baby Step 5-setting aside a college fund for your kids.

Maybe part of this is the dad in me, but in prioritizing these things I think a good education is more important than a big wedding. Don't get me wrong, a wedding is a wonderful event and cause for lots of joy and celebration. But it's also a one-day event. Plenty of people have inexpensive, beautiful weddings, and enjoy long, wonderful lives together! -Dave

* Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored seven best-selling books, including The Total Money Makeover. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 16 million listeners each week on 600 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at @ DaveRamsey.

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