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Volume 3 Issue 15

Chelsea Guardian

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Hamilton Publishing

Featured Listing of the Week
Chelsea Schools

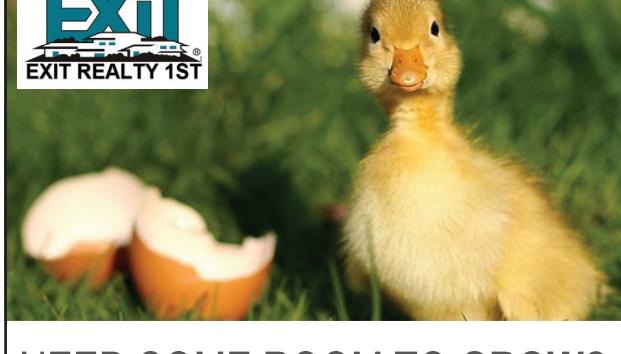


Beautifully updated 3 bed/2 bath historic home in the heart of Chelsea! New asphalt pull through driveway welcomes you to the park-like setting with mature trees on the oversized lot. Big enclosed porch makes for a great entry with sitting & storage space also. Original kitchen with snack bar & crown molding has been tastefully updated with granite tops, tile splash & stainless appliances along with charming ship lap ceiling. Light filled main floor laundry is perfect for extra storage with new cabinets, storage bench & access to outdoor patio & invisible pet fence.

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Ugly Dog Distillery: Caring for the Chelsea Community



Photos Courtesy of Rob Mida

By Charla Hamilton
charlachelsegardian@gmail.com

During these crazy, hectic times it brightens spirits to see local establishments doing their part to help out and give back to the community. Ugly Dog Distillery is doing just that. Since the start of the Covid-19 Pandemic, Ugly Dog Distillery in Chelsea has switched their distillery operations to produce hand sanitizer which they are providing to the community. Manager of the Ugly Dog Distillery Rob Mida said the idea to begin producing

hand sanitizer came from seeing the need on a national level for supplies and wanted to do something to fill this need in the community. "Many craft distilleries around the country are repurposing their facilities to fulfill the need for necessary supplies. We are doing it because we want to give back to our community that we think of as our family. We have a niche skill set and resources that are very important right now," Mida stated.

Mida said the transition to switch to san-

itizer was actually a smooth one. "We have experienced a smooth transition with our biggest challenge being meeting the supply and demand for the FDA approved hand sanitizer that we are producing at our distillery in Chelsea. We are working with local and nationwide partners to get the supplies we need to continue to produce sanitizer for our community, first responders, healthcare facilities and essential businesses. We can't thank the community enough for all of the support. Our staff is

working hard to fulfill orders and support the community. We are thankful for all of the donations to continue ordering supplies and produce hand sanitizer."

Mida stated that the main point behind it all is supporting the community. "Our mission is to give back to the community and to do our best as a small business to provide the supplies we can during this critical time for our country. We are working 7 days a week to provide a product that is necessary and

continued on page 4

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Lessons from the Spanish Flu

By Amy Heydlauff

In 1918 the entire world suffered a pandemic now referred to as the Spanish Flu. Over the last few weeks news outlets frequently compare COVID-19 (Coronavirus) to the Spanish Flu. So, I decided to do a bit of research.

The Spanish Flu occurred during World War I. It is believed 5% of the world's population succumbed (approx-

imately 50 million).

It must have been a frightening time. Researchers don't believe it originated in Spain.

There is good evidence it originated in Asia and spread across the globe when workers were rounded up and shipped to Canada by way of the U.K. Other theories point to the filthy, damp and foreboding trenches soldiers dug and inhabited in France or perhaps

even an army barracks in Kansas. Regardless, high-density communal living was at the heart.

How did Spain get stuck with the flu moniker? They just happened to be the country willing to talk about the impact of this virulent strain of influenza on their population. Other countries were engaged in the world war and didn't want

continued on page 6

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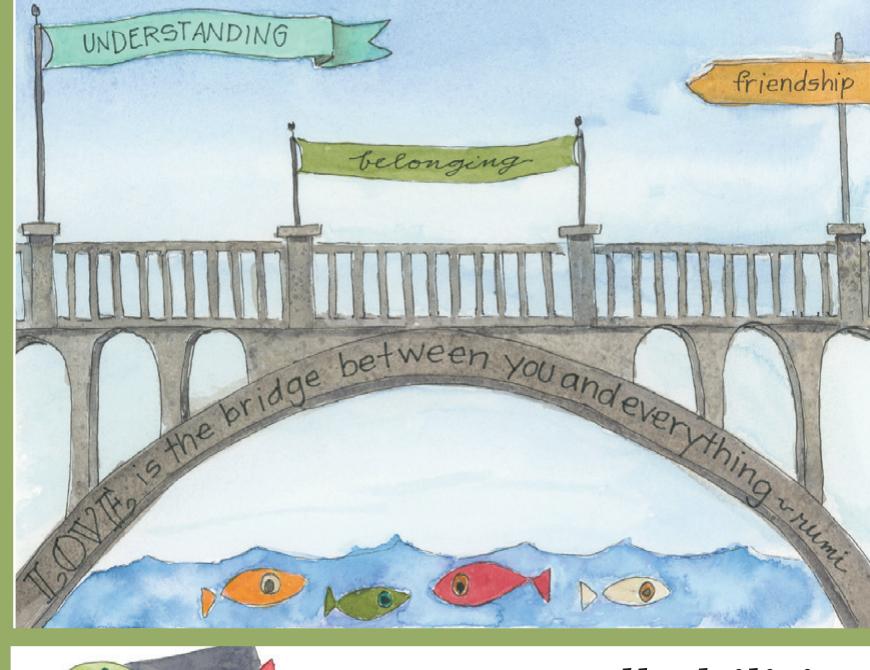
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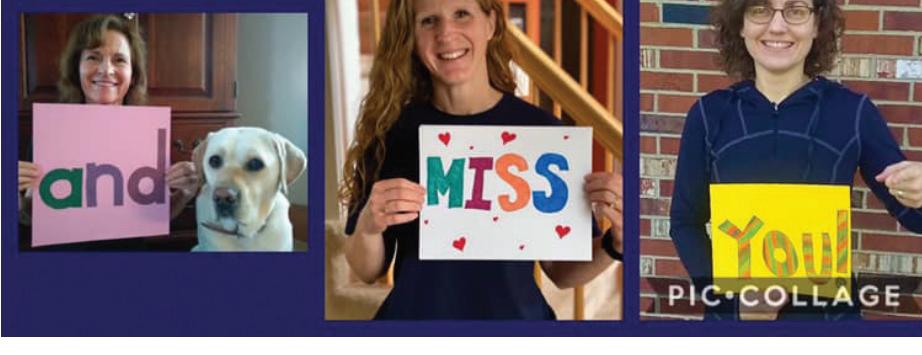


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special message for
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MAY 8 CAROL KING "TRIBUTE"
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MAY 23-26 GRAND HOTEL-MACKINAW ISLAND

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JUNE 2 SHIPSHEWANA SHOPS...OR..FLEA MARKET

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JULY 29 "MAN OF LA MANCHE" & LUNCH GARDEN SIDE
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SEPT 16 "ROCKIN OLDIES" AT ZEHNDER'S

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AUG 19 NATIONAL QUILT SHOW

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AUGUST 22-28...NEW YORK

AUG 25-28 HOLMES COUNTY OHIO "AMISH"

OCT 1 "3 MEN & A TENOR" ZENDERS LUNCH

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Humane Society of Huron Valley Pets of the Week!

Adopt a Pet-of-the-Week this week, and get 10% off your adoption fee!

The Ann Arbor's 107one Pet-of-the-Week is Bray
Meet Bray! This kitty is ready to be your new best friend. Bray will seek you out for attention, hoping to hang out with you and get some love, but he is also a quiet fellow and would appreciate a home without children under 5. If this sounds like your home, and if you've been waiting for a social, affectionate cat, come meet Bray today!

The W4 Country Pet-of-the-Week is Kitty
Kitty is a devoted sun worshiper who will adapt easily to a variety of homes. She's happy to sit on your lap for hours making lazy muffins, but also doesn't mind time alone. She ADORES treats and eagerly accepts all food with tiny meows. Kitty isn't shy about asking for pets when she wants them, and once you get to know her she'll be requesting nose rubs and butt scratches daily - rewarding you with a beautiful loud purr and sometimes kisses and glimpses of a pretty white heart on her belly! Her foster family would adopt her in a heartbeat if she was comfortable with other cats, but unfortunately cats and young children are scary for her. She's looking for a patch of sunlight and someone to love - Kitty is a perfect stress reducer, low maintenance and happy just to be with you!

The Lucy Ann Lance Show Pet-of-the-Week is Minx
Meet Minx, a 1-year-old bunny looking for a forever home! Have you considered sharing your home with a domestic rabbit? Rabbits are intelligent, sensitive, and joyous creatures that love to share their exuberance for life with the humans that they trust and love. Rabbits will greet you at the door after a long day of work, sit in a trusted human's lap, and can easily entertain themselves in an appropriate shelter with enough toys - the best of both dogs and cats! Rabbits are clean and rarely need grooming, and can be litter-trained as well.

For more information call: 734-662-5585 or visit www.hshv.org

Chelsea Area Garden Club Cancels Spring Plant Sale

From Mary Jo Frank

The Chelsea Area Garden Club (CAGC) has cancelled its 22nd annual plant sale, scheduled May 9, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In announcing the cancellation, CAGC President Cathy Gillem said, "We believe it is important for all of us to stay at home

and practice physical distancing, to protect our family, friends and community."

For 21 years, club members have gathered each spring to dig up and pot plants from members' and friends' gardens for the sale, a community event that attracts hundreds of customers each year. Sale proceeds are used

for horticulture-related community projects and scholarships.

"We appreciate the community's support and are sorry to disappoint our many loyal customers," Gillem said.

For more information, call Plant Sale Co-Chair Mary Randolph at 734-475-9748.

Being part of
the community
means CARING

In times like these,
we rediscover the
importance of our
RELATIONSHIPS.
Happy Easter!

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The Real Estate Corner

By: Michelle Elie,
Realtor, GRI
Charles Reinhart
Realtors
734-637-6376
michelleelie912@gmail.com

Well, not surprising that in addition to the whole world being different since I last wrote this article, the real estate market has changed as well. There's no real pattern that can be interpreted by last month's figures, so I'll just give you the statistics for your information, then discuss the changes the Corona pandemic has made on the real estate industry.

Currently, Realtors are considered "non-essential" workers, so therefore we cannot enter a house to either show it or list it. Our professional photographers can't enter a home, however home inspectors and appraisers can (with owners approval to do so). For sellers moving forward, the bottom line is **you can't sell your house**

Here's the 2020 March Chelsea Real Estate recap;

	2020
Number of new listings	24
Average list price	\$380,922
Number of homes sold	18
Average sale price	\$255,917

	2019
Number of new listings	21
Average list price	\$345,748
Number of homes sold	9
Average sale price	\$297,298

if it's not on the market, and believe it or not, homes are selling with multiple offers using "virtual showings" (video walk-through showings recorded by the sellers and posted on the listings), contingent upon the buyers walking through the house and accepting that the house meets their expectations.

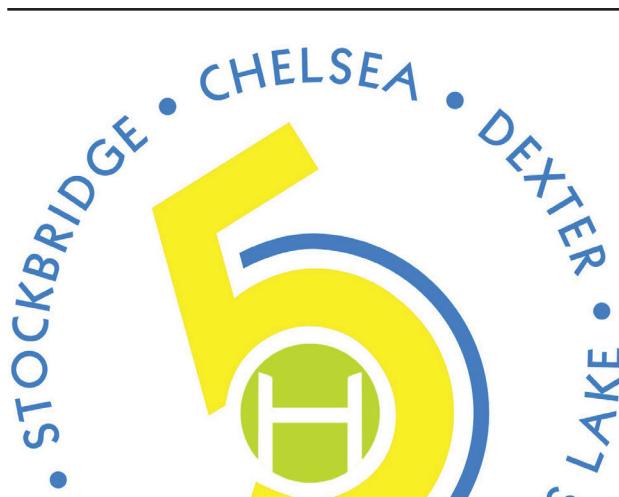
Moving forward for buyers, now is the time to be shopping online for homes and coming up with your shopping list for showings once your agent is able to access homes again. Now more

than ever it's important to make sure you're pre-approval letter is up to date and your lender is on stand-by ready for action once the flood gates are lifted and showings begin.

If you have any questions about all of this, please reach out to your Realtor, or feel free to give me a call. I believe the term "unprecedented" is used to describe everything right now, and that includes the real estate market. As with everything else these days.....stay strong, be safe, stay home.

Reinhart REALTORS

The data used in these articles is obtained from the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors ML



5 Healthy Towns Foundation (5HF) is administering an online survey in April. They are reaching out to residents ages 18+ in the school districts of Stockbridge, Manchester, Grass Lake, Dexter and Chelsea. Those who complete the survey and submit contact information will be eligible for a prize valued at \$200 or more. One prize will be awarded in each community. All responses to the survey are 100% confidential. Data will be analyzed by a third party and only be available in aggregate reports.

According to Amy

idents. We like the idea of hearing from everyone."

The survey, which takes five minutes or less to complete online or on a mobile device, is already underway. "So far, Chelsea is out front in terms of participation. We hope the other four communities are competitive enough to jump in quickly!" said Amy. The information will help the foundation, its community coalitions and other partners understand where they should invest more than \$1,000,000 a year.

A survey postcard will be mailed to all area households with information on how to access the online survey link. If you haven't already, we encourage all residents to take the survey – for the health of it.

For More Information
Matt Pegouskie
734.433.4599
Matt@5healthytowns.org



Updated Community Events List Coming Soon

If you have any Community Events you would like listed here please email charlachelseaguardian@gmail.com

Chelsea Senior Center Update



Chelsea Senior Center

From Chelsea Senior Center:

"We will continue to remain closed until at least April 30th. While our activities continue to be on hold, we have staff in the office to take calls and assist as best we can. The Meals

on Wheels program continues throughout this crisis.

Should you or any senior in the greater Chelsea community need any assistance with meals, groceries, medicines, transportation or any other

vital service, please call our team at 734-475-9242 and we will do our best to help you through this ordeal.

Please also visit our website, www.chelseaseniors.org to catch the latest updates."

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Home, Garden, & Lifestyle Show is postponed until June 6th and 7th

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Due to increased isolation,
our residents need cards and letters to
brighten their day!



Send cards to:

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805 W Middle St.

Chelsea, MI 48118



Spring has Sprung

Spring is here! Or is it? To many of Michiganders who are motorcyclists it time to start riding again. Thousands of motorcyclists are going to be hitting the streets; hopefully not literally hitting the streets. Car drivers need to do their part and, "Look Twice to SAVE a Life-Motorcycles are Everywhere." ABATE of Michigan urges car drivers turning left not to attempt to judge the speed of oncoming motorcyclists. Many car/motorcycle accidents occur in intersections. Motorcyclists need to have a cycle endorsement and ride to survive, accord-

ing to State Police 2018 records, which show an increase in unendorsed motorcyclists fatalities. Unendorsed motorcyclists are 15-20 percent of the motorcyclist's population, and in 2018 they accounted for over 50% of the fatalities.

Michigan motorcyclists pay for motorcycle safety training. \$5.00 of every motorcycle plate fee goes to the Michigan Motorcycle Safety Fund. ABATE of Michigan President, Mr. Vince Consiglio, states "Michigan has a shortage of qualified Motorcycle Safety Instructors. Experienced Skilled Motorcyclists,

will be stuck with the car drivers choice for medical coverage." Out of State motorcyclists will go to their choice in medical coverage. Only Michigan motorcyclists will be stuck with the car driver's choice for medical coverage. ABATE will continue to work with the Michigan Legislature to correct this bizarre situation, but time is running out as SB 1 takes effect July 1, 2020. ABATE of Michigan urges all motorcyclists to contact their state representative, state senator, and the governor.

Distribution by: Brandy Perdue for ABATE of Michigan.

Ugly Dog Distillery: Caring for the Chelsea Community

continued on page 1
we have the facility, resources, partnerships and the supply chain to support our community. We greatly appreciate all of the local support and donations from businesses and our valued customers who we consider friends and family."

Follow Ugly Dog Distillery on Facebook at facebook.com/UglyDogDistillery

lyDogDistillery for updates and continued information. Ugly Dog Distillery is located at 218 South Main Street in Chelsea. They are now open Monday-Friday from 2pm to 8pm and Saturday from 12pm to 4pm. They will be passing out 375ml bottles of their hand sanitizer every day for free, one per person.



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Mission Statement:

Hard work, good work and creating and fostering great relationships are the keys to community success.



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Things to do in Chelsea

Shopping:
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Chelsea Antique Mall
Chelsea Hometown Pharmacy
Heydlauff's Inc. • Jewelry Set in Stone
La Jolla Fine Jewelry • La Maison
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Vintage Barn Boutique
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The Potting Shed • Violet & Moss
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Dining:
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Chelsea Big Boy • China Garden
Cleary's Pub • Common Grill
Cottage Inn • Jet's Pizza
Los Tres Amigos • Mike's Deli
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Thompson's Pizza • Zou Zou's
Arctic Breakaway • Valiant Bar & Grill
Ugly Dog Distillery

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CHELSEA ATHLETICS



CHELSEA BULLDOGS SPORTS SCHEDULES ALL SPRING SPORTS ARE CANCELLED AT THIS TIME

ON THE SIDELINE:

"PITCH PERFECT," FLASHLIGHTS, GERMAN AUTOBAHN AND QUARANTINE



By Don Richter
drichter101@comcast.net

Day 23 of quarantine.

Or is it Day 233?

I don't know, I've lost track of time during this "pause."

What I do know, however, is I've watched the movie "Pitch Perfect 2" approximately 1,678 times during the three weeks or so I've been stuck at home. I swear this movie is on EVERY DAY and on EVERY CHANNEL of my cable TV package.

"When tomorrow comes

I'll be on my own
Feeling frightened of
Things that I don't
know..."

The "no speed limit" German autobahn is similar to local freeways in amount of traffic and fast cars during the quarantine.

"Cause you're my flashlight

You're my flashlight

You're my flashlight..."

Someone please help me. I need an intervention from my own self. I'm having Hailee Steinfeld nightmares. I'm sure she's a lovely young lady, but if I hear her singing her "Flashlight" song at the end of "Pitch Perfect 2" one more time, I don't know what I'm going to do. I've already thrown out all my flashlights in my house. I now regret my impractical, impulsive, highly emotional, overly dramatic fit of

"Pitch Perfect 2" rage.

We're approaching thunderstorm season, and I might need my flashlights during the impending power outages.

What's even sadder is I actually was a little excited when I noticed "Pitch Perfect 3" was on last week. I never knew there was a "Pitch Perfect 3." The Barden Bellas are reuniting? Overseas? For a USO benefit? I'm so there. Count me in. I wonder if Becca will show up?

With no sports on TV right now, I need something to cheer



If anyone out there has an extra flashlight, this columnist could use one.

about. I need some kind of competition to watch and some "team" to root for.

I know, I so need help.

Enough of my mental issues at the moment.

When I'm not writing a column or quarantining myself, I actually have an "essential" job out in the real world. I know, I can hear all of you saying in unison -- "Really?"

Special Announcement from Chelsea Athletics

The Michigan High School Athletic Association has made the decision to cancel spring sports for the remainder of the school year. The Chelsea Athletic Department supports this decision for the safety and wellness of our students. Spring sports coaches will be reaching out to their athletes in the near future with more information.

BRAD BUSH, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Yes, really.

And I must say, it's extremely odd driving the local freeways and roads each and every night in relative isolation.

As someone who has to drive all over Washtenaw County every night, it's nice seeing the substantial drop in gas prices late-

ly. I never knew putting \$20 of gas in my tank could get me so far. Imagine that...

The one drawback -- or is it a positive? -- I haven't decided yet -- is that on the local freeways there basically seems to be no speed limit. It's condi-

continued on page 6

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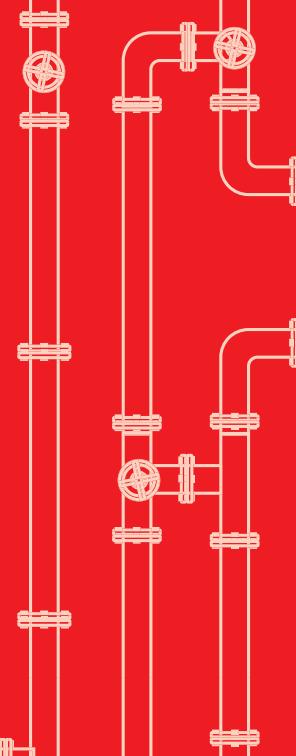
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@WashtenawRoads

Lessons from the Spanish Flu

continued from page 1
their enemy to know they were weakened from fighting disease on the home front. Politics and spin aren't new.

The Spanish Flu spread rapidly in 1918. It came in three waves with the second wave being the deadliest, probably because the virus was mutating along the way. There was a third wave that was less deadly than the second. Researchers believe the virus reversed the virulence of its mutations. Viruses can do that if they become too deadly. They don't want to kill their hosts too quickly because they need the host to survive.

Spanish Flu spread quickly through military encampments, displacement camps and the over-crowded tenements in major cities across the globe. In the U.S. many of those tenements were packed with the destitute (think Gangs of New York). Many deaths are believed to have been secondary pneumonia - both viral and secondary bacterial pneumonia. It is interesting to note, the Spanish Flu was an H1N1 virus, as are many modern-day influenzas.

While there are epidemiologic similarities between the 1918 pandemic and Covid-19 (a very basic definition of epidemiology is the study of frequency and spread of disease) there is no reason to assume the outcome will rival the Spanish Flu in spite of sensationalizing media. Two major things

contribute to our likely ability to prevail over COVID-19. Health and wealth.

Population health is much improved. Utilities like running water and sewage treatment (including proper disposal of sewage) were spotty or even non-existent in 1918. Militaries across the globe billeted in camps and barracks we would consider squalid, today. Interventions to prevent the spread of bacteria and viruses were not widely understood. Many people went days without washing, even their hands. And there was no way to spread the word to keep your distance.

In 1918 most of the world's people were poor. Just since 1990 the global, extreme poverty rate has been reduced from 36% of the population to less than 10%. That means we have significantly more clean hospitals, superior medical equipment (albeit slow in coming), antibiotics for secondary bacterial infections, extraordinary communication channels, and well-educated medical staff. In the U.S. we

have world-renown, highly educated experts - some we are getting to know like Doctors Fauci and Birx - but thousands of others work behind the scenes. All these facilities, medicines, communications and educated people exist because poverty is no longer prevalent.

We can't put our heads in the sand. This is serious and there will be illness and death. Especially in high-density communities. Health care systems in many places will be strained. But we are well-equipped to curtail COVID-19 in ways they couldn't in 1918. I find this heartening.

In 1918 we learned a lot about how pandemics work. Those lessons will save millions of lives this time around. We will learn a lot from the COVID-19 pandemic, too. And because of strides in health and wealth, we are learning quickly, on the fly. Every day the upside information increases and informs next steps. I'm glad I'm alive for this century's pandemic, and not the last.



Chelsea Police Department Weekly Summary

Incident #: 20-928

Date: April 3, 2020

Location: 400 block of Antique Court

Time: 1:15 am

I N F O R M A - TION: While on routine patrol officers responded to the 400 block of Antique Court locate in the Fairways Subdivision for the report of a malicious destruction of property complaint in progress involving the damaging of multiple mailboxes. The complainant ad-

vised that she heard lots of loud banging and discovered her mailbox had been damaged. The complainant said that she could see two male suspects walking down the road. Upon arrival the officers located the suspects in question and when the suspects saw the officer pull up the took off on foot between some neighboring houses. The officer gave chase however, lost track of them and was unable to find them. The case remains open pending some further investigation regarding some potential suspects and further review of nearby surveillance footage in the area.

Incident #: 20-938

Date: April 4, 2020

Location: 1500 block of South Main Street

Time: 3:35 pm

I N F O R M A - TION: While on routine patrol officers responded to the 1500 block of South Main Street for the report of a former employee who had been fired recently and was refusing to leave the property. The sus-

pect a 27-year-old Grass Lake man was served with a formal trespass notice 3 weeks ago. This order prohibited him from coming on to the property for a period of one year. After the officers made contact with the suspect, he still refused to leave the premises. The officers stood by until the subject eventually decided to leave the property. The case was submitted to the Washtenaw County Prosecutor's Office for review on a charge of trespassing.

ON THE SIDELINE: "PITCH PERFECT," FLASHLIGHTS, GERMAN AUTOBAHN AND QUARANTINE

continued from page 5
tions I would imagine the German Autobahn being like, speed-wise and traffic-wise. With mainly light truck traffic in the right lane, the left lane is a free-for-all. And once the freeways open up to three or four lanes in some places, look out. I mean, the freeways around here are always filled with speeders, but since the quarantine, there is definitely a different vibe out on our local roads. With the unusual amount of space and lack of traffic, however, I've actually felt safer in my vehicle, despite the much-higher than average speeds of most drivers.

I want the quarantine to end. I want to go back to normal, whatever that actually means. I want to complain about the Tigers and how they should've never let Justin Verlander go to another team. I want to see if Tom Brady can

turn the Tampa Bay Buccaneers into a Super Bowl contender or if the G.O.A.T. was just part of the "system" in New England.

I want gas prices to continue dropping and the freeways to remain basically empty of traffic. Heck, I don't even mind the speeders as much anymore.

But more than anything, I want to watch "Pitch Perfect" -- the first movie. I've never seen it. I need to know how it all started. Why did Becca decide to join the Bellas? She always

seems to loathe being in the group. It's so weird... Wait...what?

Did I just say that? No, say it ain't so.

I will heretofore be turning in my "Man Card" as of tomorrow.

No seriously, does anyone know when the first "Pitch Perfect" movie will be on TV?

I'm asking for a friend.

Day 23 of quarantine.

I need help.

I need a flashlight.

"When tomorrow comes

I'll be on my own..."



The movie "Pitch Perfect 2" has been the bane of this columnist's existence during the quarantine.

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52 weeks of design

Kitty & Company



Photos submitted by Aubree Shemwell



By Kitty Golding

Kitty & Company has been conducting a series of short interviews with Chelsea Residents and will continue to publish them for the period of one year. We have enjoyed learning about the differing personalities and design styles in our community and hope you have as well. Stay tuned and follow us each week – we look forward to introducing you to more Chelsea Individuals in the future weeks- it may just be YOU! This week we introduce you to Aubree Shemwell!

What is your profession and for how long?

A mortgage broker for 25+ years.

Your family members:

My children, Cheyenne, Travis, Thomas, Jonathan and partner Chris Tarasow and step children Mikey and Maggie Tarasow.

People think of me as: Organized but the truth is I have piles of

chaos on my desk

When did you move to Chelsea? Where did you live prior to this?

We moved to Chelsea in 1988 when my mother re-married and relocated. I am originally from West Palm Beach, Florida.

What do you love about where you currently live?

Chelsea is an eclectic community full of unique and quaint shops. It gives me a good feeling when driving through our little downtown. I love that I can drive to work, to my kid's school, the store, and back home all in a few minutes. I love how the community of Chelsea and the schools all play positive and supportive roles in my family's lives.

If you could have a second home anywhere, where would it be?

I definitely plan to retire (or second home) on the ocean. There's something so peaceful and calming to hear the sound of the ocean.

What three words describe your style?

Conservative, comfortable and warm.

As you think about the home in which you grew up, what ele-

ments did you like and do you think you have incorporated some of them in your own home?

I try to make my home comfortable and inviting. I'm not sure if I took that from my parent's home but definitely my Nana's home, which I loved to visit.

What is one trend in design you do NOT like?

While I'm often intrigued of the shiplap and distressed furniture look, it's just not a style I like in my own home. I also do not care for the modern European furnishing look.

Have you ever built a new home or remodeled an existing one?

Yes, twice.

What is the one biggest interior design issue you struggle with?

I struggle with the flow of colors and furniture from room to room, as well as where to hang art work, etc.

While I have a certain idea of how I want my home to look, it is a slowly evolving process. One day, it would be nice to complete an entire room (or house) at one time.

Have you ever sought professional help with the interior

design of your home - if so, what did you find most helpful?

Design is not my forte. In light of that, I value Kitty's opinion on everything design, such as colors, the location of furniture, and where to hang art work, etc.

Which room in your home gets the most use? Please give any explanation as well

We have an open kitchen-dining-family room. It is where we watch TV, get warm by the fireplace, eat, play family games, and have

family movie nights.

If you were moving and could only pick one item from your home to keep, which would it be and why?

Besides my kids and their treasure boxes....I'm not really attached to my furniture or belongings I'd have to say the big leather chair. Is very cozy and elegant looking so I would keep that for my next home's design inspiration. Leather couches may not be cozy to all but they remind me of my Nana and Grandpa's house. It's such a comfortable and cozy feeling. This is where I love to sit and read.

No room is complete without:

A comfy chair and an ottoman!!!!

I tend to be: a Collector of things, not a minimalist

A few of your favorite things!

Movie:

I have too many to count....Hidden Figures, Shawshank Redemption just to name a few.

Historical Place You Have Visited:

St. Andrews in Scotland

Scent:

Cinnamon and

spice

Song, Artist or style of Music:

Old school: Steve Miller Band, Van Morrison, Queen, Eagles, Rod Stewart, Sting, Eric Clapton

Food:

Ice-cream
Travel Destination

On Your Bucket List:
Italy, Croatia and Spain

Things to Collect:

Playing cards and magnets to the places we have visited

Color:

It depends on the items....but usually warmer colors like shades of burgundy, blues, blacks.

Favorite Design Style:

Elegant but warm (not glass or metal)

Hobbies:

Time with my kids and reading

Pets?

No thanks!

Kitty's note: I have known Aubree for a long time now, our boys became friends back in kindergarten. Aubree, even though she says she isn't - is one of the most organized and efficient women I know with a giving heart and helpful attitude. She is a hard worker and a loving, involved mother.

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"He has Risen!"

No. 6 will be missed

By Dave Merchant

dmerchant9701@yahoo.com

One of the greatest Detroit Tigers that ever played the game of baseball in my lifetime has passed away.

Al Kaline died at the age of 85 on April 6. He was drafted by the Tigers just out of high school and he began his career in the majors at the tender age of 18.

He was voted into the Major League Hall of Fame in 1980 on his first ballot. Kaline finished with 3,006 hits. He was known for his bat as well as the rifle of an arm he displayed from right field. Two years into his long career he won the batting championship.

In 1968 the Tigers won the World Series against the St. Louis Cardinals. Kaline was a big part of that win.

Two other great Tigers were Ty Cobb and Hank Greenberg.

I was able to meet him on two separate occasions.

The first was to get an autograph from him at a baseball card show. The same ball would

have Hank Aaron and Mickey Mantle's autographs on it. Quite impressive for a young collector.

He was a nice person with a smile who seemed to be having fun.

At the ground breaking for Comerica Park I was working as a reporter and I got to interview Al Kaline and Ernie Harrell. Both were very nice and it was exciting to talk to them and get quotes for my article.

Kaline or "Mr. Tiger" as his nickname suggested, was baseball and he was Detroit.

Growing up I heard rumors he lived in Southgate. People would come to his

house and ask for autographs during dinner.

Kaline being the gentleman he was, was always happy to give them what they wanted.

He was my dad's favorite Tiger. We might not have loved him as an announcer with George Kell but he certainly always got us talking and yelling at the screen.

It seems hard to believe he is gone and the baseball season is delayed. It also seems hard to believe what is going on in the world.

Some of the great Tigers played with him like Norm Cash, Gates Brown, Willie Horton, Mickey Stanley, Bill Freeman, Jim Price, Denny McClain and Mickey Lolich. Who could forget the skipper Mayo Smith.

God Bless the Al Kaline family and God Bless us all.

