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WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE?

Happy Valentine's Day neighbors and friends! Enjoy the kindness in this issue. If you have a photo or story to share, I am easy to reach. I live here too. AND - If you or someone you know has a business we'd all like to know about, let's get them in a future issue of Stroll Oakhurst!



Janalee Grainer, Owner and Resident Publisher
janalee.grainer@strollmag.com; (248) 459-1713



Lisa Villella, The BEST Pub Photographer!
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Janet Wieczorek, Resident Artist/
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feltonthefly@comcast.net



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JOIN THE TEAM

If you'd like to get involved, let's connect. The more of us we can include in an issue, the better the issue will be, right? You can be as involved as you would like and whether it's photography, writing, reporting or sharing ideas, your voice matters.

DEADLINE FOR APRIL CONTENT

If you have a graduate, be the first to submit a photo and you could be on the April cover this year! Are you a gardener or a golfer just waiting for a chance to dig or hit a club? Let's share it in the April issue. DEADLINE: February 20th. Reach out to janalee.grainer@strollmag.com for your chance to win something special from one of our Stroll Sponsors.

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT AN ADVERTISER?

If you're wondering about a business owner in Stroll, just reach out and I can tell you all about why I invited them to be a part of the magazine and if you want, I can connect you personally. That's one of my favorite things to do.

A WORD FROM MY BIGGEST SPONSOR:

"Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love."
- Ephesians 4:2 NLT

ON A POSITIVE NOTE



PAY IT FORWARD

As we find ourselves in February, thaw or not, it's a reminder to pay it forward, be kind and find reasons to smile. I hope you smile while reading this issue sharing gatherings and giving, acts of service and funny, furry cats! Here's to a February filled with love, laughter and yes, cookies!

HELLO NEIGHBORS

As we stay warm, I hope you're finding time to hug a friend or call a neighbor you haven't seen lately just to say hello. I encourage you to catch someone in a random act of kindness. Remember that *Stroll Oakhurst* is a compilation of your photos and stories to keep us all connected as not just neighbors, but friends. Happy Valentine's Day to you and I look forward to helping you share what you like best as the year unfolds.

HELLO PARTNERS

If you're like me, building relationships make each day better than the last. I like to call it planting seeds because sometimes we meet someone and the timing is all off. Move forward a week, a month or even a season,

and the seed planted begins to sprout with new ideas and opportunities. I hope you value your partnership with *Stroll Oakhurst*. Stay in touch, reply to my texts and emails - because they will never overwhelm you - they will help me help you. Stay tuned for networking events that I'm sure you'll want to attend. Now there's a reason to read my emails! Happy Valentine's Day!



Let's grab a coffee this winter!
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My treat!

Janalee

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- Janalee

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Sara Zak & Mi Prime Health HERE TO HELP

In a month where we celebrate the heart, it's only fitting that we feature Stroll Sponsor Sara Zak, owner of MI PRIME HEALTH, Orion Area Chamber of Commerce 2025 IMPACT AWARD WINNER: Entrepreneur of the Year! After you finish reading this, you'll know why she is so deserving of this recognition.

SHARED BY SARA ZAK, OWNER OF MI PRIME HEALTH

BEFORE WE BEGIN

Sara Zak is a widowed mom of three, Ethan (18), Rourke (5), Priscilla (2). Gus (12) is the family dog, a rescued Dalmatian/Pitbull mix. Going back, Sara graduated in 2002 from West Bloomfield High School and soon completed Paramedic training at Oakland Community College. Like so many of us, Sara decided being a paramedic wasn't what she really wanted to do and found herself bartending and waiting tables until she met her late husband and began working with him, running his businesses. The doors of MI Prime Health opened in September 2024.

CHALLENGES MOVE US FORWARD

Sara's own struggles with health and wellness issues, including an infertility journey, planted the seeds for her entrepreneurial spirit. Today, she looks back at a crossroads and recognizes the circumstances that naturally led her to open her own business where she helps others with the same struggles she has since overcome. Sara recognizes that "MI Prime Health is a place where we blend supervised medical programs with holistic supplements so people can take charge of transforming their wellness from the inside out."

SERVICES OFFERED AT MI PRIME HEALTH

Located in the Corewell Health Building along Lapeer Road, just south of Clarkston Road, people can manage GLP-1 treatments for medical weight loss that works for them. Also available, holistic and functional nutrition coaching, red light therapy, vibra-therapy and meal planning with medical grade supplements, electrolytes, and Physician developed skin care.

UNIQUE AND SET APART

If you're considering an ally in your health and wellness journey, at MI Prime Health, Sara and her team take a whole-body approach to healing. "We don't just give you a shot and send you on your way," says Sara. "We have worked extremely hard to create a family atmosphere where we walk with you through your struggles, celebrating your achievements and successes, and offering solutions for every facet of your wellness."



COMMUNITY-ROOTED WELLNESS

"MI Prime Health is more than a new wellness clinic in Lake Orion. It is a place where community can feel supported, encouraged, and truly cared for. From the beginning, our mission has been to offer thoughtful, comprehensive wellness services that help people thrive."

—SARA ZAK, OWNER

"This commitment to care has been felt by the community, and we are incredibly honored by the recognition we've received at our ribbon cutting in early 2025, recognition as Orion Area Chamber's 'Entrepreneur of the Year' and voted 'Best of the Best' in the Lake Orion Review and The Clarkston News in late 2025. As MI Prime Health continues to grow, these early honors remind us why we do what we do: to serve our neighbors with compassion, to uplift our community, and to make sustainable wellness accessible to everyone who walks through our doors."

—SARA ZAK

SPREADING THE WORD

Today Sara is a Certified Weight Management Specialist. Sam is her Clinical Manager and Certified Holistic Nutrition Coach and you will find them working together in the office during business hours when you need them. You'll also find them at wellness fairs, high school sporting events, and volunteering each month to pack food for Blessings in a Backpack. If you're familiar with the local wrestling community, you know Sara also serves as board treasurer for the Clarkston Wrestling Club and co-chairs the club's biggest fundraiser: the golf outing. We're blessed to have Sara as an active community contributor.



OVERCOMING CHALLENGES

With so much experience running online businesses, the face-to-face that comes with brick and mortar businesses was a huge change for Sara. There were so many differences. The marketing, the customers, and the staffing. "I spent a lot of time re-learning these areas in business, but today, I truly feel that having to modify the way I do business helped me to build a welcoming and supportive community at MI Prime Health - where everyone that walks through the door feels right at home."

FUTURE VISION FOR MI PRIME HEALTH

Sara has dreams of expanding into a full service med-spa that offers unique, cutting edge treatment options. Being a leader in innovative treatment in Southeast Michigan will be very achievable; after all, in December, she was awarded the 2025 Impact Award for the Orion Chamber of Commerce - "Entrepreneur of the Year." When you meet Sara, you'll know exactly why she was chosen. She reaches for her dreams on tiptoes and touches them, one after another.

SARA'S ADVICE FOR YOU:

"There's no reason to wait for a Monday, a new year, or a life event to take control of your health. Everyday you wait is a day you could have been working on a healthier you. Start today and feel more confident by Monday, Valentine's Day, or that milestone birthday." If you're a reader, you'll want to pick up her book - available soon!

START TODAY

So why not go to the website, www.miprimehealthlo.com and get started today. Sara and her team can help you on your wellness and weight loss journey. You'll look forward to receiving Sara's weekly newsletter that includes education, tips and tricks, recipes, special offers, and yes, even free gifts!

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"I've been going to MI Prime Health for six months, and I couldn't be happier with the results. I've lost 46 pounds with the help of tirzepatide, and I feel more in control of my health than I have in a long time. One of the highlights of my experience has been their red light therapy sessions. They're incredibly relaxing and feel like a reset for both my body and mind. It reduced my acne after just 2 visits! The team at MI Prime Health has been supportive, informative, and genuinely invested in my progress. If you're considering a medically guided weight loss program, I highly recommend checking them out!"

—SHARON N.

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Paleo Slice and Bake Cookies

BY SAM KIMBALL, CLINICAL MANAGER AND CERTIFIED HOLISTIC NUTRITION COACH



With allergen-friendly ingredients and a crowd-pleasing flavor, this recipe is perfect for sharing – an ideal choice for cookie exchanges, holiday parties, and gatherings where dietary needs vary. Made without gluten or dairy and finished with a smooth dark chocolate coating, these treats are both inclusive and visually stunning, proof that “better-for-you” desserts can be just as festive and indulgent as traditional favorites.

INGREDIENTS: COOKIE DOUGH

- 1/2 cup ghee or vegan butter, softened
- 1/2 cup maple sugar or coconut sugar
- 1 large egg at room temperature
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 2 cups blanched almond flour
- 1/2 cup tapioca flour or arrowroot

INGREDIENTS: CHOCOLATE COATING

- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt
- 1 cup dairy free dark chocolate chips
- 1/2 teaspoon ghee or vegan butter
- 3/4 cup dark chocolate chips

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. In a large bowl using an electric mixer, cream together the ghee (or vegan butter) and maple syrup until creamy, then beat in the egg and vanilla until smooth.
2. In a separate bowl, combine the almond flour, tapioca flour or arrowroot and salt. Stir this mixture into the wet ingredients to form a thick dough, then fold in the chocolate chips.

3. If the dough is too sticky to form into logs, you can chill it until it's more manageable.

4. On two sheets of plastic wrap or parchment paper, separate the cookie dough into two logs about 2 inches in diameter.

5. Chill in the refrigerator for at least 4 hours or overnight. Once ready to bake, preheat your oven to 350 degrees and line two baking sheets with parchment paper.

6. Using a very sharp knife, slice the logs into 1/2 inch circles, placing each one on the prepared baking sheets about 1 1/5 inches apart. NOTE: Using quick motions with a very sharp knife makes slicing easier. you will make 18-20 cookies.

7. Bake each batch for 11 minutes. Once done, allow cookies to cool on the baking sheets for about 5 minutes, then transfer to cooling racks.

8. Use a microwavable bowl to melt the chocolate chips and ghee (or vegan butter) in the microwave on high for 30 second increments, stirring in between. Once melted, line a baking sheet or large tray with parchment paper. Dip half of each cookie in the melted chocolate, then place on the parchment paper to set.

9. Store the cookies at room temperature, loosely covered for up to two days, or keep in a sealed container in the refrigerator for longer. Enjoy!

SAM'S NOTES:

ALMOND FLOUR: A GLUTEN-FREE BAKING STAPLE

Almond flour is made from finely ground blanched almonds and is naturally gluten and grain-free, making it ideal for those with gluten sensitivities or celiac disease. It adds moisture, healthy fats, and a subtle nutty flavor while keeping baked goods satisfying and nutrient-dense without relying on refined grains.

NATURALLY SWEETENED WITH MAPLE & COCONUT SUGAR

Maple sugar and coconut sugar are minimally processed sweeteners that retain trace minerals like potassium and zinc. While they're still sugars and should be enjoyed in moderation, they avoid the heavy refining process of white sugar and offer a more balanced sweetness, making them a thoughtful choice for allergy-friendly, whole-ingredient baking.

EGGS (AND FLAX EGG ALTERNATIVES)

Eggs play an important role in baking by providing structure, moisture, and richness. For those with egg allergies or following a plant-based approach, a flax egg can be used as a substitute. While it works well for binding, flax eggs tend to create a slightly denser texture compared to traditional eggs, so the final result may be a bit more hearty, but still delicious.

HOW TO MAKE A FLAX EGG

A flax egg is a simple, plant-based alternative to a traditional egg and works well in many baked goods. To make one, combine 1

tablespoon ground flaxseed with 2 1/2 tablespoons of water and let it sit for 5–10 minutes until it thickens and becomes gel-like. Flax eggs help bind ingredients together but tend to create a slightly denser texture, making them best suited for cookies, bars, and more hearty baked treats.

TAPIOCA FLOUR & ARROWROOT STARCH: LIGHT, ALLERGY-FRIENDLY BINDERS

Tapioca flour and arrowroot starch are naturally gluten-free starches that help improve texture in grain-free baking. They add lightness, chew, and structure without common allergens, making them ideal for paleo and allergy-conscious recipes. Both are gentle on digestion and help create baked goods that feel more traditional without using wheat-based flours.

ALLERGEN-FRIENDLY CHOCOLATE MATTERS

Not all chocolate chips are created equal. Many brands on the market now offer allergen-friendly options made without dairy, soy, or common allergens. Enjoy Life is a favorite for good reason: their chocolate is free from the top allergens, making it a trusted choice for those with food sensitivities, while still delivering rich, chocolatey flavor that works beautifully in baking and coatings alike.

WHY GHEE (OR VEGAN BUTTER) WORKS

Ghee is a clarified butter with the milk solids removed, making it naturally lactose-free and often better tolerated by those with dairy sensitivities. It provides a rich, buttery flavor without the heaviness of traditional butter.

I reach for ghee when I want a rich, buttery flavor and a dairy-free option that's still made from real food. Because the milk solids are removed, ghee is often well tolerated by those sensitive to dairy. When I'm baking for someone who avoids all animal products or has a true dairy allergy, I choose a high-quality vegan butter instead. Both work beautifully in these recipes, it really comes down to who you're baking for and what feels best for their needs.

WHY I MAKE THEM THIS WAY

When I bake for others, I'm always thinking about who might be at the table.

I choose ingredients like ghee, eggs, coconut sugar, and Enjoy Life chocolate chips because they allow me to create something that feels comforting and indulgent while being mindful of common food sensitivities. Using simple, real ingredients lets me share treats that look beautiful, taste familiar, and can be enjoyed by more people without a second thought.

SHOUT OUT FOR ULMAN SERVICES

I love hearing good news about neighbors and our Stroll Oakhurst sponsors! Here's just one of many recently shared with me!

I hired Keith from Ulman Services to replace the weather stripping on my doors and to repaint several doors. He was consistently on time, communicated clearly, and was respectful throughout the entire process. His work was thorough, diligent and completed with great attention to detail. I would highly recommend Keith Ulman for any home project; you'll be in great hands.

—YOUR NEIGHBOR, NATALYA

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For Oakhurst members considering future Invited events, Nicole and Barbara's enthusiasm says it all: "Don't hesitate - these experiences create memories that last a lifetime."

AS PART OF INVITED CLUBS' premier culinary event, Nicole and Barbara experienced what can only be described as a food lover's dream destination.

"From the moment we arrived at Casa de Campo, we knew this would be special," Nicole shared.



A Culinary Paradise

Our Casa de Campo Food & Wine Festival Experience.

When Oakhurst Country Club members Nicole Tate and Barbara Teach returned from the Dominican Republic, they couldn't stop raving about their extraordinary week at the Casa de Campo Food & Wine Festival.

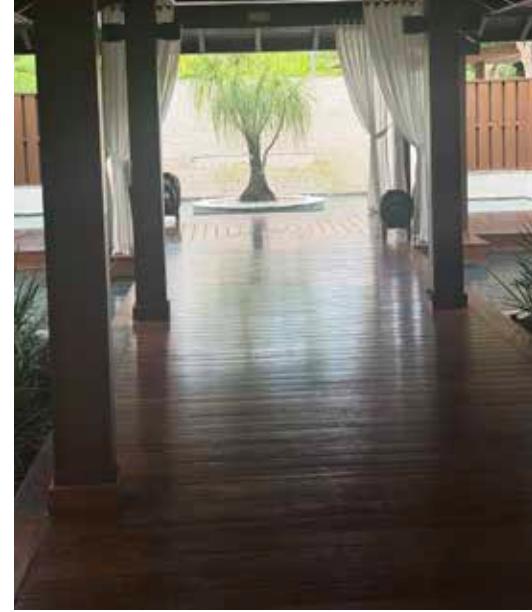
WRITTEN BY NICOLE TATE, RESIDENT



"The resort's stunning beauty combined with world-class amenities created the perfect backdrop for an unforgettable culinary adventure."

The week-long festival brought together members from Invited clubs across the country, creating

an instant community of food and wine enthusiasts. "We met incredible people from everywhere," Barbara noted. "There's something magical about bonding over exceptional meals and shared experiences in such a beautiful setting."



CULINARY EXCELLENCE AT EVERY TURN

The highlight of each evening was undoubtedly the dining experiences. Featured chefs showcased their talents through carefully crafted menus, each paired with exquisite wines that elevated every bite. The ladies had the unique opportunity to interact directly with the culinary stars, including Mixologist of the Year Sammi Jo, whose creative cocktails became the talk of the festival.

"Watching the Chef of the Year Cook-Off was absolutely thrilling," Nicole explained. "Seeing these talented chefs compete and create masterpieces right before our eyes - you could feel the passion and creativity in every dish."

ADVENTURE BEYOND THE PLATE

While the food and wine was extraordinary, the resort offered endless opportunities for adventure and relaxation. The duo enjoyed a round of golf on "The Links" course, where Pete Dye's legendary design provided both challenge and breathtaking ocean views.

"The skeet shooting was fun," Nicole laughed. "This wasn't my first rodeo, but the instructors were fantastic, and I actually hit quite a few targets!"

Their Catalina excursion revealed the Dominican Republic's natural beauty

from a new perspective, while the world-class spa provided the perfect respite between activities. "After days filled with adventure, unwinding at the spa felt like pure luxury," Nicole added.

A PERFECT BLEND

What made the Casa de Campo Food & Wine Festival truly special was how seamlessly it combined culinary excellence with resort luxury. Each day offered new discoveries - whether trying a signature cocktail, meeting fellow food enthusiasts, or experiencing the island's natural beauty.

"This wasn't just a vacation," Barbara reflected. "It was an immersive experience that celebrated everything we love about food, wine, and travel. We're already planning to return next year."

For Oakhurst members considering future Invited events, Nicole and Barbara's enthusiasm says it all: "Don't hesitate - these experiences create memories that last a lifetime."

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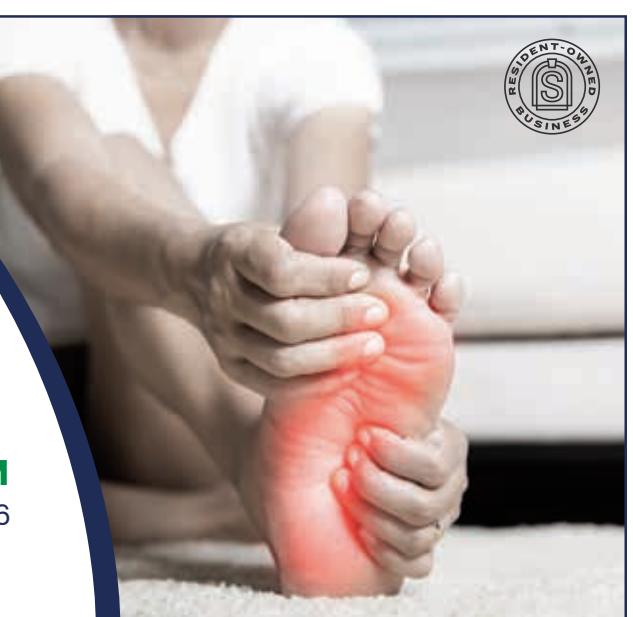
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Feline Snuggles, Cuddles & Giggles

Seems like the dogs always take the spotlight. Not this month: here are a few felines that warm our hearts living among us in Oakhurst! Thanks neighbors for sharing these sweet photos with all of us! Remember, if Pet Wants doesn't have what you're looking for, Joe can order it for you!

NO CORN | NO WHEAT | NO SOY
NO BY-PRODUCTS | NO DYES

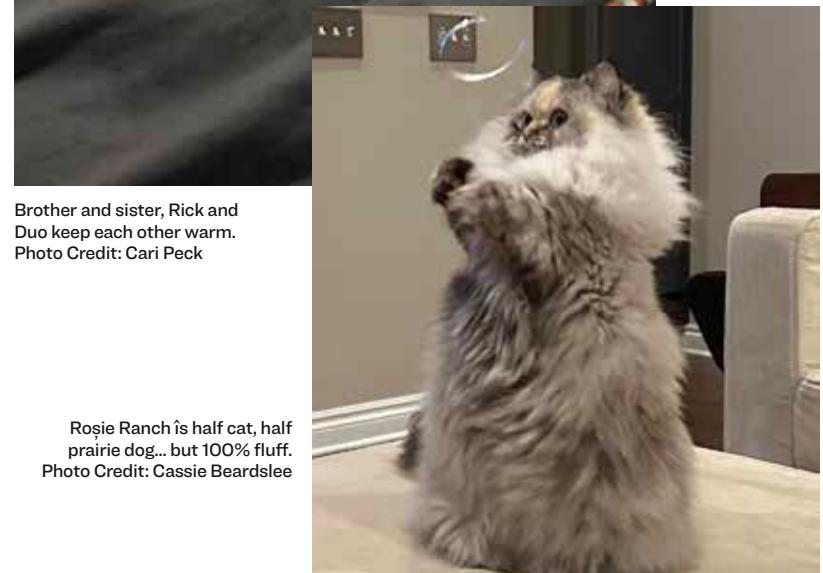
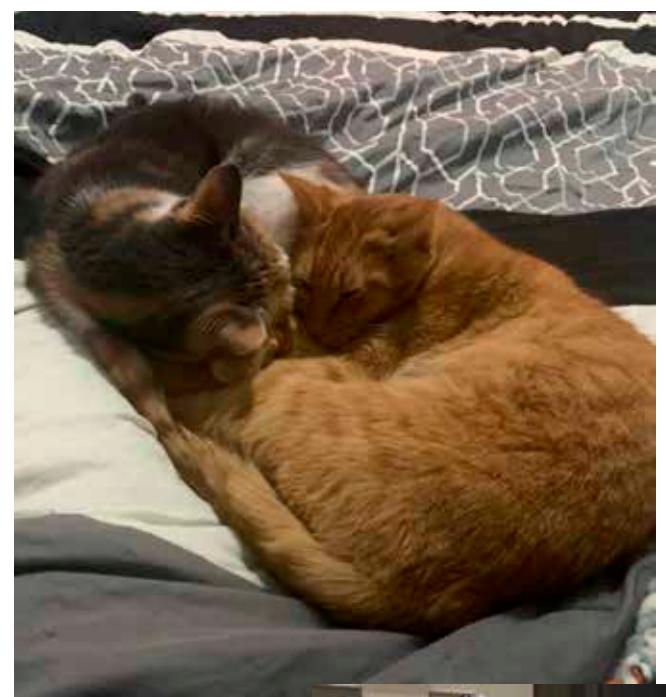


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FEEL LIKE FEATURING YOUR FELINE?

If you would like to feature your furry feline in Stroll Oakhurst, it's easy to do. Reach out to me at Janalee.grainer@strollmag.com and I'll send you a short template to complete. Be sure to include a couple of your favorite photos too. Everyone loves our Pawsitive Pets. Month after month, year after year: we never seem to run out of fur family fun!



SKI SEASON IS HERE!

If you ski, you must love living in Oakhurst and being so close to Pine Knob Ski & Snowboard Resort. If you're a parent of children who ski, you're even happier: it's never too far to go - any day of the week!

February is a great month for snow skiing and snowboarding. While skiing isn't for everyone, for those who love to hit the slopes, we're lucky to have a place to do that so close to home. Did you know there is a ski and snowboard school at Pine Knob? It's been awhile since I sat in the lodge and watched my kids ski and snowboard, but here's some news for you in case you didn't already know:

From beginning to advanced, Pine Knob can teach all ages and abilities. Learning how to ski and snowboard properly, keeps you safe and able to ski all season long. For more information on lessons and lift tickets, rental equipment and more, contact Pine Knob Ski and Snowboard School at (248) 625-0800 or email info@pineknobskischool.com



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COOKIES GALORE

The 2nd annual Stroll cookie exchange did not disappoint. Thank you Sponsor Kelly Richardson (Farm Bureau Insurance) help me host an evening of soup and salad (from Sam Kimball recipes - Sponsor MI Prime Health). There was plenty of good food, fellowship and yes, cookies to share!

COOKIES FOR YOUR SWEET TOOTH

Here is a list of the cookies at the exchange...

Sam Kimball's Paleo Slice and Bake recipe is in this issue in the "Nutrition Matters" feature. Need a recipe for some VALENTINE'S COOKIES? Give me a call and I'll help make that happen.

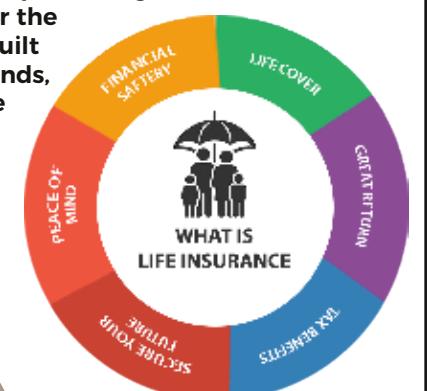
- Shortbread Squares - Raeann Mooney
- Holiday Chocolate Chips - Raeann Mooney
- GF Peanut Butter Kisses - Jaime Pennington
- Sugar Cookies - Kelly Richardson
- Raspberry Bars (Regular and GF) - Staci Saker
- Hot Cocoa Cookies - Heather Favazza
- Grandma's Butter Crunch Cookies - Sara Zak
- Paleo Slice and Bake Cookies - Sam Kimball**
- Chocolate & Butterscotch Chip Cookies - Janet Wieczorek
- Oatmeal, Caramel Chocolate Cookie Bars - Traci Smith
- Russian Tea Takes - Deborah Johnson
- Pumpkin Oatmeal Cookies - Deborah Johnson
- Chocolate Chip Cookies - Jena Sekulich
- Snickerdoodles - Jena Sekulich
- Chocolate Crinkle Cookies - Whitney Crandall
- Traditional Eastside Bakery Cookies - Rada Menjak
- Double Chocolate with Peppermint Crush Cookies (GF)
- Carob Mint Swirls - Shelia Cope
- Pecan Shortbread - Shelia Cope
- Molasses Ginger Cookies (Regular and GF) - Janalee Grainer
- Almond Orange Cookies (GF) - Janalee Grainer



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Light Up the World

You may remember neighbor Alana Asbury-Morley shared the Giving Machines for the Light Up the World holiday campaign. Various charities provided needed items in a vending machine for families wishing to make a difference over the holidays. There were two Michigan locations this year.



We are opening a satellite location in early 2026 to serve even more families....

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Waterford, MI 48329

Jon McGregor
Senior Manager of Strategic Development
Open Door Outreach Center
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248-360-2931(ext 4) jon@opendoormi.org
www.opendoormi.org

LightTheWorld
Giving
Machine

AS CHRISTMAS WAS APPROACHING, Frank and I made my way to the Great Lakes Crossing Mall to go on a scavenger hunt for the big red vending machines I had heard all about and shared in the November issue of our *Stroll Oakhurst* magazine. We found three of them near the Bass Pro Shop and the other machines were in downtown Detroit near the ice rink in Campus Martius Park.

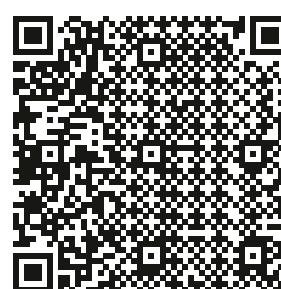
Frank and I each picked out some items to donate from two different charities and had the opportunity to learn more about this unique giving program from a couple of volunteers working that day. While Frank picked out a chicken for a needy refugee family, I chose some wool socks and a pair of warm boots to keep a pair of feet nice and toasty for the winter. A receipt was printed right away and we were off to do a bit more Christmas shopping. I wish we could have shared this with our children when they were little. I am hoping we can participate again next year.

There are so many ways we can give to others that naturally brings joy to our own circumstances. If you would like to share your story with others, let me know.

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Oakhurst References Available!

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An Evening with Chef Mary Brady

February 11 @ 6:30pm

Please join us for an evening with Chef Mary Brady as she shares her long career in the restaurant and culinary world which began as co-owner of Diamond Jim Brady's in Novi.

Chef Mary will be preparing 3 recipes during her presentation which all attending will get to sample! Register @ cidlibrary.org.

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Thank you to those of you who donated toys, joy & hope to The Bottomless Toy Chest through the recent toy drive held in Oakhurst through Stroll! You are appreciated. You made a difference.

Mickey & Staff
The Bottomless Toy Chest

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Oakhurst Member



HOME SAFETY ASSESSMENT

New Stroll Sponsor, Jaime Pennington is here to help us feel safe in our homes. This Home Safety Assessment is just one tool Help Handyman Services uses to identify potential safety hazards that could lead to accidents or injuries in our homes. Take a look and prevent a future fall - or worse!

JAIME PENNINGTON, HELP HANDYMAN SERVICES EXPERT



A HELP HANDYMAN PROFESSIONAL from our team can walk through your home with you to identify potential safety hazards that could lead to accidents or injuries. Common concerns include poor lighting, cluttered walkways, unsecured rugs, and the absence of grab bars in bathrooms. After the assessment, we'll provide personalized recommendations and practical solutions to make your home safer and more accessible. Take a look at our checklist:

1. FALL PREVENTION

- Check for grab bars in bathrooms and hallways
- Check for loose rugs and carpets
- Check lighting in walkways and stairways
- Check to see if non-slip flooring or mats are needed

2. BATHROOM SAFETY

- Check for walk-in tubs or showers and make recommendations
- Check for handheld showerheads and adjustable seats
- Check to see if raised toilet seats and support rails are needed

3. KITCHEN ACCESSIBILITY

- Check to see if lower countertops are needed
- Check for pull-out shelves and easy-grip handles
- Check for anti-slip mats near sinks and stoves

4. ENTRYWAY & STAIRWAY

- Check for sturdy handrails on both sides of stairs
- Check on walkway ramps or threshold ramps
- Check for outdoor lighting and pathway safety

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Our focus is on supporting seniors, assisting busy families, and simply making life a little easier around the house for our neighbors in both Oxford and Clarkston.

5. MOBILITY & ACCESSIBILITY

- Check on widening doorways for wheelchairs and walkers
- Check for stair lifts or mobility aids
- Check pathways for obstacles

6. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

- Check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Check for emergency lighting and easy-access switches
- Check medical alert or emergency response systems

HELP HANDYMAN SERVICES

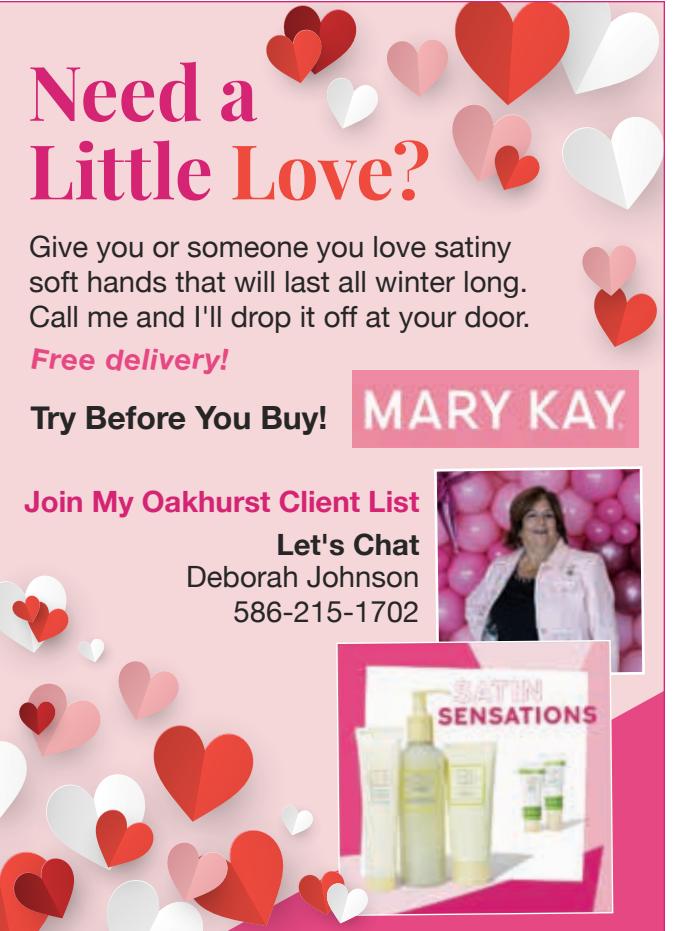
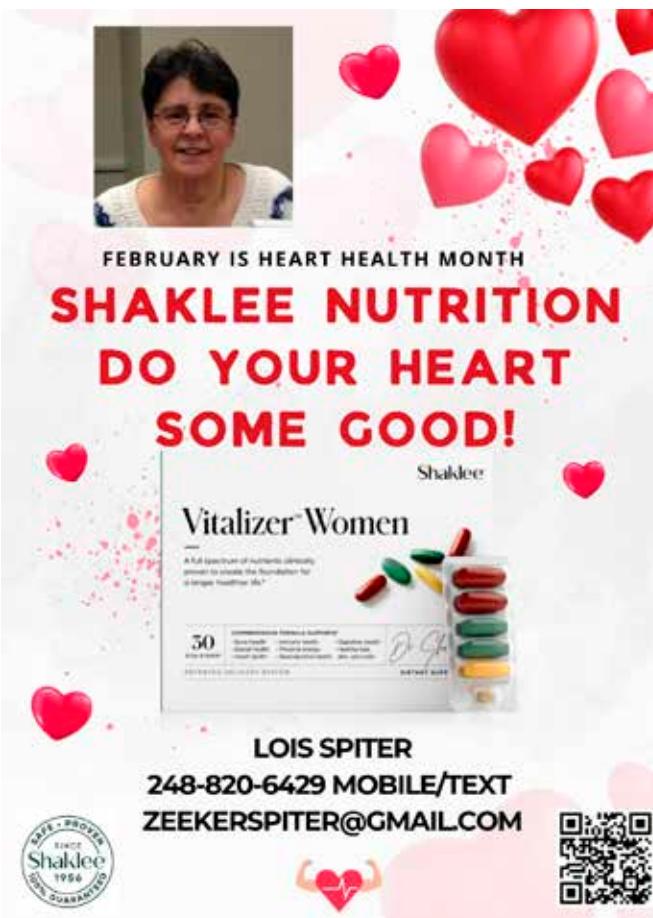
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HELLO FEBRUARY!

Winter's midpoint is here—longer days, Groundhog Day on February 2, and Spring is in sight!

KATIE HESS, CONNECTING CLARKSTON

This month, I'm excited to share something close to my heart. What started a few years ago as a small Souper Bowl can drive has grown into a weeklong community effort, and this year we've invited local dental offices to join us in supporting Lighthouse of Clarkston, located inside Calvary Lutheran Church. It's been encouraging to see offices come together to help neighbors right here in our community.

February is full of chances to stay connected—through local events, shared efforts, and the many ways our community continues to support one another as we move toward spring.

Scan the QR code below to learn more, view participating dental offices, or join the collection.

Katie



Exciting - 3



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38 February 2026

WINTERFEST | DEPOT PARK (DATE UNKNOWN?)

Enjoy ice skating (bring your own skates), s'mores, hot chocolate, DJ music, and a cozy winter atmosphere in Downtown Clarkston. Hosted by the Clarkston Area Optimist Club.



GIRL SCOUT BOOTHS & COOKIE SALES

Cookie season is here. Watch for Girl Scouts around town and at local businesses as they sell their famous cookies—supporting leadership, teamwork, and confidence-building programs along the way.



Exciting - 3



CAMP OAKLAND TOPGOLF FUNDRAISER | FEB 5

Hit a few balls for a great cause. This Topgolf fundraiser supports Camp Oakland, a nonprofit in Oxford that has served at-risk youth for more than 70 years. Proceeds from this Topgolf fundraiser help fund trauma-informed programs focused on healing, growth, and long-term success for the youth they serve.

SUPER BOWL / SOUPER BOWL

(FEB 8, FEB 2-6)

Game day meets giving back. Local dental offices are hosting Souper Bowl can drives to support Lighthouse of Clarkston, turning Super Bowl weekend into a weeklong fundraiser benefiting Lighthouse of Clarkston located inside of Calvary Lutheran Church on Bluegrass. (scan qr code above for more info)



VALENTINE'S CRAFTS DROP-IN | CLARKSTON

INDEPENDENCE DISTRICT LIBRARY FEB 14

A relaxed, family-friendly way to celebrate Valentine's Day. Stop by the library for a drop-in craft session that's creative, low-pressure, and perfect for kids.

SONGS & CHEFS | ECHOES IN THE IRON SERIES

FEBRUARY 26TH, 6:30-10:00PM

This month features a multi-course meal professionally prepared by Chef Erich and accompanied by folk and Americana music from Aaron and Ashley Markovitz. This is an intimate, unreplicable evening limited to 20 tickets. Please visit echoesintheiron.com to purchase tickets at \$150 per person.



SNOWMAN BUILDING CHALLENGE

FEB 28TH

This month, gather your family, get outside and build a traditional snowman or get creative and build a snow sculpture! Once you have your snowman or sculpture constructed, email a photo of your creation to mwozniak@indtwp.com and enter either the "Traditional Snowman" or the "Non-Traditional/Creative" category. One entry per category per family. Deadline: February 28, 2026 at midnight. Winners will be notified in March.



COMEDY NIGHT AT THE FOUNTAINS

FEB 28TH

Featuring Tom E. Thompson with Nicole Melnyk, this is a great night out for laughs. Tickets are \$25. Seating begins at 6:15 PM, with the show at 7:00 PM. Call 248.625.3731 ext. 105 to reserve.

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Oakhurst Girl Scouts Make an Impact During Clarkston Impact Weekend

Oakhurst pride was on full display as three local fifth graders — Valentina Montano, Whitney Wagner, and Charly Laurence — joined their Bailey Lake Elementary Girl Scout Troop in lending a helping hand during Clarkston Impact Weekend last November.

JEN MONTANO, RESIDENT MOM, SCOUT LEADER AND BUSINESS OWNER



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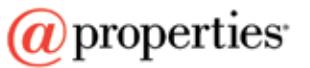
AS PART OF EARNING their Agent of Change Community Journey Badge, the girls spent nearly two hours on Saturday, last November 1, cleaning up Clintonville Road. Together, the troop collected over five bags of trash, plus old metal signs and several wooden beams — leaving the area cleaner, safer, and more beautiful for everyone.

The troop is led by Katie Kable and Oakhurst's own, Jennifer Montano, who has proudly served as troop leader for six years — since the girls were in kindergarten! Both leaders couldn't be prouder of their Scouts' teamwork and enthusiasm.

"It was amazing to see the girls so engaged and eager to give back," Montano shared. "They learned that even small acts of service can create real change — and that's exactly what the Agent of Change journey is all about."

It was a wonderful reminder that when young people come together with heart and purpose, they can make a lasting difference right here in our Clarkston community.

If you would like to join us the troop to help with Spring Clean Up, reach out because Community Matters!



OAKHURST REAL ESTATE

| ADDRESS | LIST PRICE | SOLD PRICE | SOLD DATE | BEDS | BATH | SQ FT | TYPE |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------|------|------|-------|-------|
| 7252 Ardsley Lane | \$975,000.00 | \$975,000.00 | 11/3/2025 | 4 | 3.1 | 2,862 | Home |
| 6847 Oakhurst Ridge Road | \$685,000.00 | \$685,000.00 | 10/24/2025 | 4 | 3.1 | 2,810 | Home |
| 4687 Oakhurst Ridge Road | \$650,000.00 | \$645,000.00 | 10/22/2025 | 3 | 2.2 | 2,662 | Condo |
| 5007 Rockaway Lane | \$990,000.00 | \$950,000.00 | 9/26/2025 | 3 | 2.1 | 2,845 | Home |
| 5166 Springdale Court | \$950,000.00 | \$1,165,000.00 | 9/10/2025 | 4 | 3.2 | 3,738 | Home |
| 5015 Rockaway Lane | \$1,349,000.00 | \$1,300,000.00 | 8/28/2025 | 4 | 4.2 | 4,755 | Home |
| 4995 Highland Court | \$1,050,000.00 | \$1,030,000.00 | 8/20/2025 | 4 | 4.2 | 4,333 | Home |
| 4013 Ardsley Court | \$499,000.00 | \$485,000.00 | 7/3/2025 | 3 | 3.1 | 1,912 | Condo |
| 4804 Eagle Springs Court | \$695,000.00 | \$678,000.00 | 7/3/2025 | 5 | 3.1 | 3,337 | Home |
| 4735 Oakhurst Ridge Road | \$750,000.00 | \$715,000.00 | 6/30/2025 | 4 | 3.1 | 2,744 | Condo |



This real estate update is provided by your neighbor Jennifer Montano Homes - Luxury Service Realty. This information can be useful when trying to compare property values or for just keeping a pulse on the real estate market in our area. Data provided as of December 19, 2025. Supplied by Jennifer Montano Homes.

26th Annual Tree of Dreams “Fire and Ice Gala”

This year's festivities were held at Pine Knob Carriage House on December 6, 2025. The evening included a strolling dinner, dancing and of course, a gathering of generous friends and neighbors who donated toys, gift cards and financial support to local non-profit Neighbor for Neighbor.

BY ANDREA BEAUCHAMP, RESIDENT AND TREE OF DREAMS BOARD MEMBER

PHOTO CREDIT: JOHN RANSOM, WHITE GLOVE PHOTOGRAPHY AND KATIE HESS, PHOTO BOOTH SOIREE

CLARKSTON Cakery

Happy Valentine's Day!

Lots of Oakhurst References Available

It's always the right time to eat cake!

Marissa Zile

(248) 766-1325 | clarkstoncakery@gmail.com



BECOME A SUPPORTER

Neighbor for Neighbor supports local families in-need through various types of donations: food, household items, toiletries, gently-used clothing, monetary gifts, gift cards, and the gift of volunteers' time. You may go to neighborforneighbor.net to learn how you can become a supporter.

According to their website, Neighbor for Neighbor serves approximately 1,300 local individuals in a fiscal year, distributing more than 50 tons of food through their food pantry and thousands of bags of clothing through their clothing closet and paying more than \$31,000 in utility bills to prevent service shutoffs.

With 90 cents of every donated dollar going toward program services for North Oakland County residents in-need, you can rest assured that your contributions are being put to good use, right here in the local community. A testament to their success is that some of Neighbor For Neighbor's best supporters are families who once utilized the services provided.

Food is distributed on Wednesdays only from 9:00am to Noon. Neighbor For Neighbor serves individuals and families residing in Springfield, Holly, Groveland and Rose Townships and limited areas of Independence and White Lake Townships.

Legacy Through Generosity: Giving Back to the Communities We Call Home

BY MATTHEW DEFINIS, SENIOR MARKETING SPECIALIST, OXFORD BANK

For generations, wealth has symbolized not only prosperity but also responsibility. At Oxford Bank, we've had the privilege of walking alongside families who understand that true legacy isn't measured solely by what is accumulated—but by what is given, nurtured, and left behind for others.

In today's world, the call to give back is louder—and more important—than ever. As stewards of capital, our clients are uniquely positioned to make a profound and lasting impact on the communities they care about. Whether through philanthropy, volunteer leadership, or strategic community investments, giving back is more than charity. It's legacy-building.



WHY COMMUNITY INVESTMENT MATTERS

Communities shape us: our values, our relationships, our opportunities. Investing in them strengthens not just local economies, but the social fabric that allows all individuals to thrive. Education, healthcare, affordable housing, and cultural institutions all depend on visionary donors and engaged community members.

At Oxford Bank, we believe giving back is both a moral calling and a strategic opportunity. Philanthropic giving can offer tax advantages, strengthen family bonds, and build a legacy that transcends generations.

WAYS TO GIVE BACK — MEANINGFULLY

1. Family Foundations

Establishing a private foundation offers a structured, enduring way to manage charitable giving. Many Oxford Bank clients use foundations to involve their children and grandchildren in the grantmaking process, teaching stewardship and values along the way.

2. Donor-Advised Funds (DAFs)

For those seeking flexibility, DAFs provide an immediate tax benefit while allowing donors to recommend grants over time. They're a powerful

tool for those who wish to make a difference now while planning for the future.

3. Local Partnerships

Supporting community organizations, sponsoring local events, or funding small businesses through micro-loans or investment funds are meaningful ways to directly support the neighborhoods that matter most to you. Our very own Jeni Sherby, Branch Manager at the Clarkston branch, is a board member of the Clarkston Area Youth Assistance. This is one of many Oxford Bank engages with the communities we serve.

4. Strategic Volunteering

Time is one of the most precious gifts you can give. Many of our clients choose to serve on nonprofit boards, offer pro bono services, or mentor aspiring entrepreneurs. These contributions often prove just as impactful—and rewarding—as financial donations.

BUILDING A LEGACY TOGETHER

At Oxford Bank, we understand that wealth management and finances extends beyond portfolios and balance sheets. We help families define what wealth means to them—and how it can serve a larger purpose.

Whether you're looking to create a philanthropic plan, start a family foundation, or explore community-focused investment opportunities, our Wealth Advisory team is here to help you align your financial goals with your values. Because at the end of the day, legacy is not just about what we leave to our communities—but what we leave in them.

Thank you for being part of our community.
Thank you for banking with Oxford.

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Delivering value. For life.

COMMUNITY FOCUSED
WITH A MODERN TOUCH

OUR COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

In 2024, Oxford Bank commemorated its 140th anniversary by donating \$150,000 and contributing 750 volunteer hours to local non-profits. These efforts benefited numerous organizations, including Food Gatherers, Habitat for Humanity Michigan, and Covenant House Michigan. The bank's team members participated in activities such as food collection drives and fundraising events to combat homelessness.



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Jennifer Sherby,
Clarkston Branch Manager

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resident business guide

If you are a business owner living in Oakhurst, you may list your business here. While the listing is free for all resident business owners, we encourage supporting Stroll Oakhurst and would love to hear from you. Reach out at (248) 459-1713. Thank you.

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WE HAVE 2026 GRADUATES TO CELEBRATE IN JUNE!

For several years now, we have gathered senior photos and messages from seniors in high school and college graduating and shared them in our special June issue of Stroll Oakhurst. This year is no different.

I KNOW IT'S ONLY FEBRUARY and everyone is thinking Winter Break, but it won't be long before graduation day is here. Our June issue celebrates Oakhurst graduates so don't delay in sending the following information on your graduate to janalee.grainer@strollmag.com no later than April 15, 2026.

The first graduate to send in their information will be featured on the cover of the April issue.

1. First and last name of your graduate;
2. Name of school graduating from with (a) favorite memory or (b) advice for future grads;
3. Name of school attending next and plans to study; and
4. A photo 300 dpi or greater with photo credit listed (required).

Simple enough, right? It doesn't take long to collect the information needed and we all know I don't go door-to-door. All graduates featured must be submitted by you! If you have any questions or would like to feature your graduate in a separate article, let's find the best way to do that! It's their time to shine! There will be time to refresh or make a change to the content provided too. So don't delay - send today.

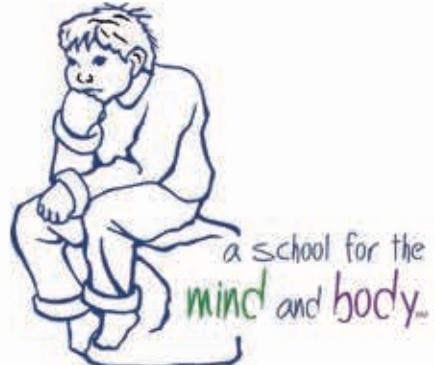
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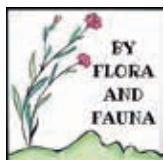
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