

ISSUE FEATURES

STUDENT EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION WEEK ICE CREAM

Enjoy photos of volunteers handing out ice cream to students! more on page 2

REGISTER FOR THE 5^{TH} ANNUAL CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

The 5th Annual GVSU Cornhole Tournament is almost here. Join us for some friendly competition... more on page 4

NO SMOKING POLICY EFFECTIVE MAY 1

Starting May 1, smoking and vaping will not be allowed on any university property... more on page 7

HIGHLIGHTS

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UNION NEWS

UNION DUES - SUMMER 2025 SCHEDULE BY KATIE HAYNES. BUSINESS & FINANCE DIRECTOR

Union dues will not be deducted from your paycheck for June, July, and August (payroll numbers 11-17). Dues deductions will start back up in September, beginning with your 9/9/25 check (payroll number 18).

APSS BARGAINING TEAM UPDATE BY SHAWN EVANS

Thank you all for taking the time to submit such thoughtful responses to the APSS survey as we gear up for bargaining season. Your APSS Bargaining Team has been hard at work—reviewing your feedback, closely examining our current contract, gathering data from GVSU and peer institutions, and participating in online training to prepare for Interest-Based Bargaining. We've been meeting weekly to highlight priorities and plan accordingly.

Our first bargaining session with representatives from the University is scheduled for May 12. We're ready to advocate for your interests and look forward to the work ahead.

APSS is on Facebook:

HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/ APSSGVSU

Please feel free to share information on this page about events, celebrations, or information about your GVSU department.

You are also welcome to share items for sale, fundraisers, community notices, ask for help with a GVSU program (ahem-Workday), etc.!



Thank you to those who volunteered to pass out ice cream to students for student employee appreciation week! The students loved the mid-week treat.





LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

MICROSOFT EXCEL FORMULAS AND FUNCTIONS (PART 1)

May 28, 1P-2P, Virtual

This training is intended for faculty/staff who have a basic understanding of Microsoft Excel and need to understand the basics of Microsoft Excel's formulas and functions in order to manage and organize data more efficiently.

Version note: This training is intended for individuals using Microsoft Office 365 applications and is taught using the Excel desktop application.

Prerequisites: To ensure your success in this training, users should have a basic understanding of Microsoft Excel, including how to enter data and format spreadsheets.

Learning Objectives

After completing this training, the user will be able to:

- Understand the fundamentals of entering formulas
- Utilize the most common formulas and functions

Register through Workday Here.





GETTING STARTED WITH WINDOWS 11

May 14, 1P-2P, Virtual

Windows 11 is Microsoft's newest operating system(OS), offering an upgrade from the familiar Windows experience.

This training is intended to provide a brief overview of the following:

- Detailed instructions on preparing your device.
- Action items to help facilitate a smooth transition.
- Steps to back up your files via OneDrive ensuring your data is backed up is essential to prevent any loss during the upgrade process.
- What's new in Windows 11

Register through Workday here.

MIEA MINDFULNESS FOR GVSU FACULTY & STAFF

4 Sessions starting June 2, 2P-3:15P, Virtual

Mindfulness has been well-documented to improve physiological and psychological wellbeing. This four-session course introduces 10 mindfulness skills from the MIEA curriculum and is suitable for all experience levels, from beginners to experienced pratitioners. MIEA is an evidence-based mindfulness training program originally designed for emerging adults that has been found to be applicable to people of all ages.

Register through Workday here.



BENEFITS & WELLNESS



SIGN UP FOR THE 5TH ANNUAL CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT! BY HUMAN RESOURCES

**Note - the tournament date has been moved to May 22 due to a scheduling conflict.

The 5^{th} Annual GVSU Cornhole Tournament is almost here. Join us for some friendly competition and your chance at becoming the 2025 GVSU Cornhole Champions. \checkmark

Tournament Details

- Date: Thursday, May 22
- Time: 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.
- Location: Lawn outside of MIP Library (near the clocktower)
- Registration is free and open to all GVSU faculty, staff and students.
- The first 32 teams to register will be guaranteed s
 a spot in the tournament. Additional teams may
 join the waitlist.

Find a teammate, create a team name (put those puns to work!), and get <u>signed up!</u> 'Corny' team names and matching team outfits are *highly* encouraged!

All are welcome to attend the games as spectators. Cheer on your coworkers and meet colleagues from across campus!

SUPPORTING STUDENTS OF CONCERN: MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING PART 1 BY HUMAN RESOURCES

Join colleagues from the UCC as they talk about using Motivational Interviewing as an intentional approach to supporting students who may be struggling, and outline how this approach may be helpful for our work here at GVSU. Motivational Interviewing is an empathetic approach that helps staff and faculty meet students where they're at and move toward positive change.

May 13, 10A-12P, Kirkhof Center 2270 Learn more and register.



Set up notifications in WorkDay to alert you to new internal-only job postings (or any new job postings!).

<u>View instructions on how to set these</u> notifications.

BEST PRACTICES FOR EFFECTIVE INTERVIEWING

BY HUMAN RESOURCES

This interactive training course equips employees with the skills needed to conduct effective interviews. It covers the interview process, choosing the right format, and using GVSU Core Competencies to assess candidate alignment with organizational values. Participants will practice creating tailored questions, applying structured techniques, and making informed, fair hiring decisions.

May 13, 10A-11A, Virtual Register via Workday Learning.





FISCAL YEAR-END DEADLINES

Purchasing and Invoicing

- June 1, 2025 Requisitions for future dated purchases open for FY 2025-2026
- June 30, 2025 ALL FY 2024-2025 requisitions will be closed. All purchase orders with inactivity of 13 months (as of 5/31/24) will be closed regardless of obligation balance.
- **July 3, 2025** Last day to submit invoices with a purchase order number to Accounts Payable for FY 2024-2025.
- July 11, 2025 Last day to approve invoices in Workday for FY 2024-2025.
- July 15, 2025 FY 2024-2025 purchase orders with remaining balances will be rolled to FY 2025-2026.

Technology Acquisition Purchasing Deadlines

- June 9, 2025 Last day to submit Tech Acquisition quote orders
 Internal Service Deliveries for Technology Acquisition quote orders must be submitted and approved by your cost center manager no later than 12:00 p.m./noon on Monday, June 9, 2025. If the items ordered have not arrived to campus by June 30th, the ISD will be moved and billed in the next fiscal year.
- June 23, 2025 Last day to submit Tech Acquisition orders for catalog/stock orders
 Internal Service Deliveries for Technology Acquisition catalog/stock orders must be submitted and approved by your cost center manager no later than 12:00 p.m./noon on Monday, June 23, 2025. Any catalog/stock items ordered before Monday, June 23rd at noon will be billed to the current 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Orders for fiscal year 2025-2026 will be accepted on July 1, 2025. Please visit the <u>Technology Acquisition</u> website for quidelines and policies.

Supplier Invoice Requests

- June 30, 2025 Supplier invoice requests need to be submitted for approval in Workday.
- **July 3, 2025** All supplier invoice requests must be fully approved in order to be processed in the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Miscellaneous Payment Fund Requests

• July 3, 2025 - Miscellaneous payment fund requests must be submitted to Erica Herwig or Brian Thompson

Expense Cards and Expense Reports

- June 27, 2025 Last day to submit expense reports for FY 2024-2025.
- July 1, 2025 Expense reports for FY 2025-2026 can be submitted.
- **July 3, 2025** Last day to approve expense reports for FY 2025-2025. All cash advance reconciliations for cash spent in FY 2024-2025 must be approved or repaid.
- July 16, 2026 Process begins for July expense reports.

Visit https://www.gvsu.edu/purchasing/fiscal-year-end-181.htm for additional information.



ONLINE SCAM TACTICS BY INFORMATION SECURITY

Scammers are becoming more sophisticated and aggressive. A recent personal example reminds us just how vulnerable anyone can be: a friend received a text message about a fake bill from "Apple Tech Support", prompting them to respond. What followed was a carefully orchestrated scam involving gift cards, instructions to send photos of the codes, and even a trip to a bitcoin ATM. By the time they realized what had happened, it was too late — they had lost a substantial amount of money.

Sadly, stories like this are far too common. We can help prevent them by talking to our friends and family. Make sure they are aware of the threats.

Common Scam Tactics to Watch For

Scammers prey on urgency, fear, and trust. Here are a few red flags to share with your loved ones:

- Urgent threats: "You owe money! Pay now or face legal consequences!"
- Gift cards or cryptocurrency: No legitimate organization asks for payment via gift cards or bitcoin.
- Fake identities: Scammers often pose as utility companies, government agencies, tech support, or even a grandchild in trouble.
- Requests for secrecy: "Don't tell anyone just do it now."

Start the Conversation

Sometimes the hardest part is knowing how to bring it up. Here are a few ways to start:

- "Hey, have you heard about the scams going around where people are told to buy gift cards?"
- "Can I show you something I read about avoiding scams? I just want to make sure you're protected."
- "If you ever get a strange text or call asking for money, would you promise to check with me first before doing anything?"

Tips for Staying Safe

- 1. Verify independently: If someone says they're from a company or agency, look up the official number and call them directly.
- 2. **Don't rush**: Scammers want you to act fast. Slow down and think it through.
- 3. **Never share codes**: Gift card numbers or crypto wallet details are like cash once they're gone, they're gone.
- 4. **Report scams**: Encourage friends and family to report scams to local police and the FTC at reportfraud.ftc.gov.

Let's Protect Each Other

Awareness is the first line of defense. Take the time this week to check in with a parent, sibling, or friend — especially those who may not be as tech-savvy — and have a friendly, nonjudgmental conversation. Let's work together to make sure no one else falls victim to these cruel schemes.



SUPPLIES NEEDED! BY GVSU TRIO UPWARD BOUND

The GVSU TRIO Upward Bound programs are looking forward to a fun filled summer residential program in Allendale this June and July. Each high school aged student will receive a supply bag to welcome them on campus and we are requesting your help with providing them with some GVSU swag!

Highest need items:

- Bags (drawstring/reusable/backpacks)
- Water Bottles
- Notebooks
- Pencils
- Pens
- Highlighters
- Markers
- ChapSticks
- Umbrellas
- Sunglasses
- Hand Sanitizers
- · GV Clothing or Accessories

If your department has any of these items to spare, or any other fun GV branded items, we would love to have them for our students. We tentatively plan to have 150 students participate, but welcome and are thankful for donations of any amount.

If you are able to contribute, please email Bonnie Jaracz (peterbon@gvsu.edu) to arrange a pick up, or items can be sent inter-campus, attention to:

Bonnie Jaracz TRIO Upward Bound 366C DeVos

We would like to have all items collected by the first week of June.

Thank you for supporting our TRIO Upward Bound students!

WOMEN'S COMMISSION ANNUAL PLANNING RETREAT

BY WOMEN'S COMMISSION

If you've been thinking about getting involved with the Women's Commission, the Annual Planning Retreat is the perfect opportunity to jump in at the start of a new cycle.

During the retreat, we'll reflect on our achievements from the past year, set strategic goals for the future, and plan events for the 2025–26 year like our next Community Read.

Join us as we identify key areas for committee support and determine how we can best serve the campus community through our focused efforts.

Wednesday, May 28: 11A-2P RSVP to Receive a Calendar Invite



NO SMOKING POLICY EFFECTIVE MAY 1 BY GVSU FORUM

Starting May 1, smoking and vaping will not be allowed on any university property. This enforcement follows the <u>interim policy</u> that was established in April 2024 to be in effect for one year.

Smoking cessation resources are available at local pharmacies, primary health care providers and local health departments. The GVSU Alcohol and Other Drugs Services office has an <u>online nicotine</u> <u>assessment posted</u>. There are other resources listed on the policy webpage, including <u>this from the National Cancer Institute</u>.



REACH HIGHER

Shannon Owen presented at the April APSS Board Meeting on the university's strategic plan initiatives. The following information is available for review reference the Reach Higher 2025 Strategic Plan, which is ending this year, and the upcoming Reach Higher Strategic Plan, as well as an opportunity to provide feedback and ideas.

Reach Higher 2025 Strategic Plan

Our current strategic plan, Reach Higher 2025, is ending. We are now beginning the important work of envisioning and planning for the university's next strategic direction.

Reach Higher Commitments

These commitments are reflected in our daily work, but we're seeking honest feedback to guide the future. Key questions include: "Where have these commitments fallen short?" and "What additional commitments should GVSU consider?"

Collaborative Leadership Network

This group is tasked with gathering input from as many voices as possible—faculty, staff, students, alumni, and stakeholders. Broad and inclusive engagement is essential to shaping the next plan.

Feedback Form

I strongly encourage everyone to submit their ideas—especially those that are bold and creative! If you've already submitted feedback but have additional thoughts, you're welcome to submit again. Yes, the form allows for anonymous feedback; the only required field is the submission date. We'll be collecting input throughout April and May, with review of data starting in June.

UPDATE: STEELCASE LIBRARY CLOSED SUMMER 2025: TRANSFORMING SERVICES

We shared the news last month that Steelcase Library will be closed for the summer. If you want books delivered to Grand Rapids you can pick the Frey Learning Commons as your pickup location. Books may still be returned at the DeVos Center (Winter St.) parking lot book drop. Downtown pick up will only be at Frey. Mary I Pew Library on the Allendale campus is also a pickup location option.



GV TECHNOLOGY SUMMIT 2025 - CALL FOR PROPOSALS BY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The inaugural GV Technology Summit will take place on October 2, 2025, from 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the DeVos Center for Interprofessional Health, Health Campus.

Be part of a university-wide celebration of innovation and progress, sponsored by Information Technology in collaboration with colleges and departments across the university.

Information Technology is seeking passionate presenters to showcase technology advancements and explore future opportunities.

<u>Submit a proposal</u> by June 30, 2025 to help make the Summit a success. Learn more and register at <u>gvsu.edu/it/summit</u>.

CAMPUS SAFETY TIPS: SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS
BY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



This article discusses sexual assault and interpersonal violence and may be distressing to some readers.

If you have experienced interpersonal violence, consider these first steps: Get help, get medical attention, preserve evidence, consider reporting. There are a lot of options for victims/survivors and it is always your choice to decide which options are best for you.

Things to always keep in mind: Consent is permission that is clear, knowing, voluntary and expressed prior to engaging in and during a sexual act. Consent is active, not passive. Silence, or lack of resistance, in and of itself, cannot be interpreted as consent. **Consent can be given by words or actions.**

Being an Active Bystander: The behaviors that make up gender-based violence exist on a spectrum. While some behaviors, such as inappropriate sexual comments, innuendos, catcalling or vulgar gestures aren't illegal, this does not make them any less threatening or harmful to the person experiencing them. An active bystander is someone who interrupts a potentially harmful situation, especially when it comes to gender-based violence. You may not be directly involved but you do have the choice and opportunity to intervene. Taking action can make all the difference, but it should never put your own safety at risk. Below are ways you can be an effective, active bystander without posing risk to yourself:

- 1. Consider whether the situation demands action.
- 2. Identify a responsibility to act.
- 3. Ask yourself, "If I were in this situation, would I want someone to help me?" Only intervene if it is safe to do so. If you believe you or someone else is in imminent danger, dial 911.
- 4. Choose what form of assistance you can use to intervene.
 - a. Direct. If you are comfortable doing so, you may confront the situation directly. Name the harm being caused and talk to the person causing it.
 - b. Distract. Distracting from the tension is the main goal with this tactic. In the moment, you can change the subject.
 - c. Delay. If you aren't able, or don't feel comfortable in the moment, call, text or approach the person who experienced the harm to see how you can support them. You can also have a conversation with the person who caused the harm, especially if you know them.

You don't have to do everything, just do something. Actions that can increase feelings of safety & empowerment:

- Trust your instincts. If something doesn't seem right, it probably isn't.
- <u>Know your resources</u>. Who can you contact if you or a friend needs help? Memorize emergency phone numbers in case your phone dies.
- Create a safety plan if you are ever in a potentially unsafe situation.
- If possible, get out of the situation as soon as you sense danger or feel afraid.
- Look out for each other. If you see someone who could be in trouble, intervene in any safe way that you can, or call 911.

Laker Guardian Mobile App: Grand Valley State University Police Department joins over 1,000 campuses nationwide using the <u>Guardian mobile safety app.</u> The emergency call button in the app can send an alert to GVPD with a single click, providing the user's information and GPS location to police. Users can also send text or photos directly to GVPD if they witness something suspicious.



Marisa Vredevoogd, Public Safety, visited the <u>Seed Library</u> in the Mary Idema Pew Library with her daughter, Mikaela. "I wouldn't have even known about it unless it was in the newsletter!"



Lindsey Burns, former Administrative Assistant to the Dean, College of Computing, accepted a new position as the Executive Assistant to Vice President Shorty in People, Equity and Culture (a confidential PSS position). Lindsey said, "I have been a happy member of the union for all 13 years I have been here, serving for 10 years as a building rep. I am very thankful for all the union has done for not only me personally but for all of us here at GVSU."

Thank you, Lindsey, for all your contributions to APSS and to GVSU overall. We wish you well in your new position!





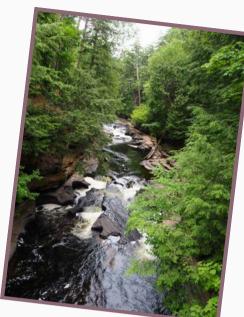
"I will celebrate 38 years at GVSU on April 27, 37 of those years right here at the Annis Water Resources Institute. Summer at the lakeshore is the best time of the year." **Tonya Brown**

Happy work anniversary, Tonya!









From Allison Bazaire, College of Computing. Porcupine Mountains/Keweenaw Peninsula.

From Jenna Bench, Visual & Media Arts

Our favorite vacation spots outside of Michigan are Hilton Head Island, SC and Savannah, GA! The two cities are less than an hour apart, so we choose to stay on HHI and travel to Savannah periodically during our trip. We've taken fall trips, spring break trips and even our honeymoon trip to the island. Hilton Head Island is a popular coastal tourist destination, but the Lowcountry also provides a slower, quiet southern vibe with miles of ocean beaches and nature. Savannah is recognized as the one of the most haunted cities in the U.S. and does not disappoint! We've personally gone on several ghost tours which are equally theatrical comedy and goosebump evoking fear. Our family's favorite part of the southern coast are the Spanish moss-covered live oak trees that cover most of HHI and Savannah. The trees are majestic and truly breathtaking; some of them now over 200 years old!











Destinations!













From Auna Dwelle-Olson, Psychology Department, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore - especially the Port Oneida Farm District Area, Drummond Island, and Marquette, MI - Little Presque Isle State Forest area.

Favorite

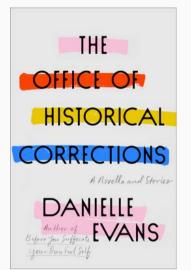








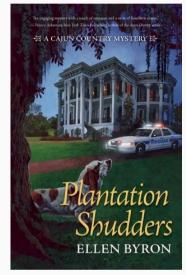






<u>The Office of Historical Corrections by Danielle Evans</u>

Recommended by **Sue Dix, Office of Financial Aid** & **Scholarships.** "A book of short stories like none you will have ever read. Each story is a jewel."



Plantation Shudders by Ellen Byron

Recommended by Sam Condon, Psychology Department. "Cutesy murder mystery."

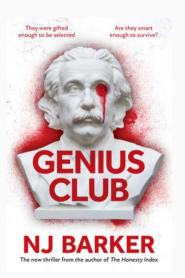


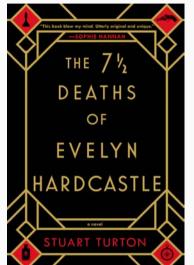
<u>The House in the Cerulean Sea by</u> T.J. Klune

Recommended by **Keri Roth, Visitor Experience.** From Goodreads, "An enchanting story, masterfully told, The House in the Cerulean Sea is about the profound experience of discovering an unlikely family in an unexpected place—and realizing that family is yours."

Genius Club by N.J. Barker

Recommended by **Tammy Brasic**, **Admissions**. From Goodreads, "Genius Club is a dark psychological thriller perfect for fans of T.M. Logan, Alex Michaelides and Michael Crichton."





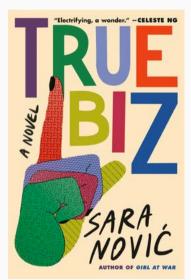


The 7 ½ Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle by Stuart Turton

Recommended by Kerry
Hawley, CCEL & CLAS.
From Goodreads: "The most

From Goodreads: "The most inventive debut of the year twists together a mystery of such unexpected creativity it will leave listeners guessing until the very last second."

True Biz by Sara Nović
Recommended by Alisia
Neubeck, University
Libraries. "While taking
American Sign Language
(ASL) classes, I read
True Biz by Sara Novic.
The story explores
generational struggles,
intersectionality, and
even civil rights, all while
focusing on Deaf culture.
The author pointedly
demonstrates that the
importance of equity."



GEORGE ELIOT W Middlemarch

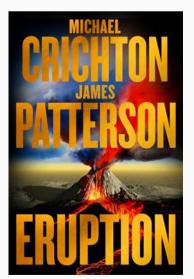


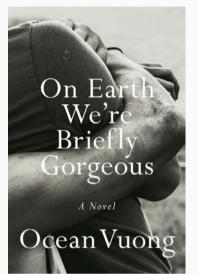
<u>Middlemarch</u> by George Eliot

Recommended by Sue Dix, Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships. "This classic novel concerns the inhabitants of Middlemarch and their interactions. Very much worth reading. Don't let the length intimidate you. If you like the Brontes or Jane Austen, this is your cup of tea."

<u>Eruption by Michael Crichton</u>
(<u>Jurassic Park</u>) and <u>James</u>
Patterson

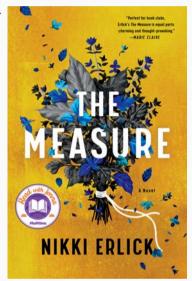
Recommended by Sam
Condon, Psychology
Department. "End of the world
meets volcanoes meets the
classic thrill of two great
writers."







On Earth We're Briefly
Gorgeous by Ocean Vuong
Recommended by Allison
Bazaire, Graduate Studies.
"This is a great read if you
need a good cry and a
different way of looking at
life. Also, the way this book
is written is in such an
interesting style."



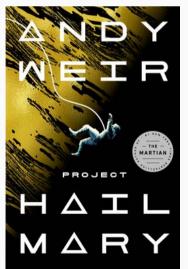
The Measure by Nikki Erlick
Recommended by Tammy
Brasic, Admissions. From
Goodreads: "Enchanting and
deeply uplifting, The Measure
is an ambitious, invigorating
story about family, friendship,
hope, and destiny that
encourages us to live life to
the fullest."

The Sun is Also a Star by Nicola Yoon
Recommended by Kerry Hawley, CCEL & CLAS.
From Goodreads
reviews: "This is a book about how the smallest gestures can form the biggest pictures, how the smallest actions can change the course of a life."



<u>Project Hail Mary by Andy</u> Weir

Recommended by Sam
Condon, Psychology
Department. "If you've seen
The Martian movie, this is very
similar to that - outer space and the new movie adaptation
starts Ryan Gosling."





2024-2025 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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ASH GODIN

EC

CAMPUS DATES 26TH - MEMORIAL DAY GVSU.EDU/EVENTS

BIRTHDAYS

21ST - CHERILYN DENOMME 14TH - MELISSA KUREK

GVSU ANNIVERSARY

7TH - MELISSA KUREK 29TH - TERRI KENNEY 29TH - BRIAN DENUYL

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

7TH - KIMBERLY REEVES-JORGENSEN 16TH - ERICA BAKER-BRINGEDAHL

IRINA GROUGAN

JENNA BENCH

CAC, KC

TC REGIONAL CENTER, BATTLE CREEK CENTER, MUSKEGON

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HHLC. HRY. PAD

TRACY LONDON

CON, HON, JHZ, LMH

DENISE GROSS

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MARISA VREDEVOOGD

ASH, AGS, LHH, LSH,

PAC

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BIK, CEC, IDC, KEN, WAT

THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY. FOR SUBMISSION INFORMATION, CONTACT THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR.

SHARE PHOTOS OF YOUR GARDEN/FLOWERS AND OF THE GRADUATES IN YOUR LIFE FOR

THE JUNE NEWSLETTER!