

# Allendale Lifelong Learners

June 2021

**Allendale**  
Charter Township est. 1849

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## From the Director's Desk

I'm so excited to see some of our restrictions lifted as we continue moving towards being able to do some of our favorite things again!

We had our trip to Hart to hear Dale and Gale in May. We are going to Shipshewana this month. In July I'm going to take you out to the Whitecaps ball game, and in August we are setting up a trip to the race track at Berlin. There's also Tuesday night "Music in the Park" and Friday night "Movie Nights" coming soon. Mystery Trips are being planned for August and October. Summertime is in full swing and I want to make sure we take in some of the best things that West Michigan has to offer!

We will also have our Bunco nights with the Fire Department returning in July. We will try to do this at least once a month as well as some dinner and movie nights. It does my heart good to plan again. I hope you can join in some of these activities and events.

I sure do appreciate your understanding and patience during the past 15 months, or so. We didn't know from month to month, let alone day to day, what the plan was always going to be. But here we are, ready to move forward! Thank you!

As always, let me know if you want to sign up for an activity or event. You can text, call and leave a message or email me to sign up. If you need me to call you back, please let me know. Until next month, Hugs...

*Kathy*



I hope you live louder.

I hope you laugh more. I hope you sing at the top of your lungs. I hope you drive with the windows down and let the wind rustle through your hair. I hope you hug.

I hope you kiss. I hope you surround yourself with people who make you feel alive. I hope you become the type of person that brings good energy wherever you go, and the type of person people want to be around. I hope you speak what's on your mind, that you raise your voice for injustice, that you tell others that you love them, instead of waiting until it's too late. I hope you live louder, shine brighter. From this moment on.

Marisa Donnelly

If people stopped looking for things that offended them and started looking for things that inspired them, i'm sure we would have a better country 🇺🇸



First I threw away the outside, and cooked the inside, then I ate the outside and threw away the inside. What did I eat?

Sometimes the thoughts in my head get so bored they go out for a stroll through my mouth. This is rarely a good thing.



When Franklin Roosevelt started a foundation to fight polio, Comedian Eddie Cantor came up with the "March of Dimes", asking people to mail a dime to the White House. They were soon overwhelmed with 2,680,000 dimes mailed to them, literally truckloads, mostly from children. These dimes went directly to research that resulted in the Polio vaccine. This is why Roosevelt is on the U.S. dime.

**A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, 'What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?'**

Call Kathy at 616-843-0572 or email [khanes@allendale-twp.org](mailto:khanes@allendale-twp.org) if you would like more information on the Allendale Lifelong Learners or any of the activities listed in this newsletter.



## A Little Bit of this and that...



Give me a sense of humor, Lord—Give me the grace to see a joke.  
To get some humor out of life and pass it on to other folk!

- It's okay to talk to yourself. It's even okay to answer yourself...but when you ask yourself to repeat what you just said, then you have a problem!
- I tried a little beginner's yoga earlier. The ambulance should be here any minute!
- Based on the amount of laundry I do each week, I'm beginning to think there are people who live here that I haven't met yet!
- Yesterday my husband thought he saw a cockroach in the kitchen. He sprayed everything down and cleaned thoroughly! Today I'm putting the cockroach in the bathroom!
- I was having a great Friday until I realized it was only Wednesday.
- I don't like to think before I speak. I like to be just as surprised as everyone else about what comes out of my mouth!
- If a bag of chips is not resealable, then it contains one serving. I don't make the rules, I just follow them...
- Man injured in bizarre peek-a-boo accident. He's in ICU!
- What do you call a guy who inherits a ton of cows? A Dairy heir!
- Next week has been exhausting!
- Did you hear? They aren't going to be making yardsticks any longer.
- Spring is here! I'm so excited I wet my plants!
- Have you seen the dog bowl? No, but he's pretty good at skating!
- I asked my date to meet me at the gym today. She didn't show up. That's when I knew we weren't going to work out!
- If you get lost in the woods, find a possum and follow it. You'll be in the middle of the road in no time.
- Good moms let you lick the beaters. Great moms turn them off first!
- When I was young, I was poor. But after years of hard work, I am no longer younger!



They're cute and look harmless, but they are loud, incredibly expensive to keep and absolutely untrainable! The other one is a kangaroo. I don't know anything about kangaroos!

### YESTERDAY

Did my hair and make-up,  
put on my good jeans and a nice  
shirt. Saw no one.

### TODAY

Woke up looking like Jack  
Nicholson in *The Shining*,  
never got of my pajamas.  
Saw every neighbor I know  
when I took out the trashcans.  
I think I heard someone scream.

### FUNNY OXYMORONS

FOUND MISSING  
OPEN SECRET  
SMALL CROWD  
ACT NATURALLY  
FULLY EMPTY  
PRETTY UGLY  
ORIGINAL COPY  
ONLY CHOICE  
LIQUID GAS

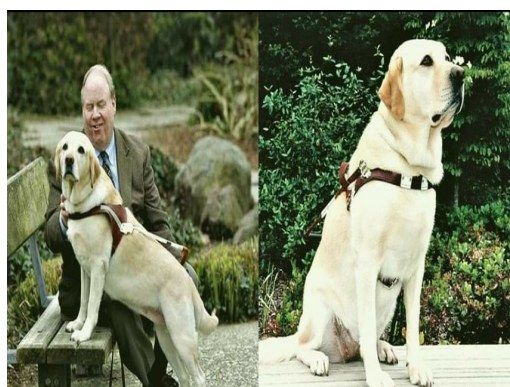
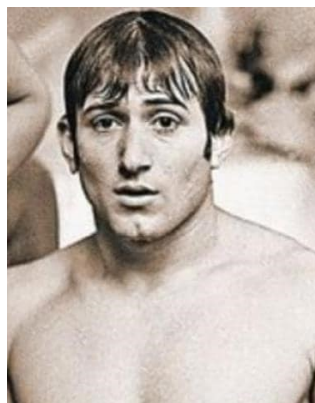
1. A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
2. I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.
3. She was only a whiskey maker, but he loved her still.
4. A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.
5. The butcher backed into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work.
6. No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
7. A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
8. A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.
9. Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.
10. A backward poet writes inverse.
11. When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion.



# Rambling Thoughts

In 1976, Shavarsh Karapetyan, an Armenian Olympic swimmer, had just completed a 12-mile run with his brother when they saw a trolley bus crash into a dam reservoir. The trolley bus sank 80 feet offshore at a depth of 33 feet. Shavarsh immediately dove in and swam to the bus and despite zero visibility, managed to kick in the back window, injuring himself in the process. He proceeded to save twenty people trapped in the bus, as he worked for hours to bring each person to the surface.

The combined effect of the cold water and his injuries from breaking the glass window led to his hospitalization for 45 days after the incident, during which time he developed pneumonia, sepsis, and lung damage which ended his athletic career. For years, his story wasn't known, until an article about the event identified him by name in 1982. In 1985, he happened to pass by a burning building and rushed inside, again saving people trapped inside one at a time until he collapsed. He was again hospitalized with severe burns and lung damage. He's still kicking it at 66. Just an awesome person I learned about today and thought I'd share.



A guide dog named Roselle led her blind owner and 30 other people down 78 flights of stairs before the North Tower collapsed during the 9/11 attack. While everyone ran in panic, Roselle remained totally focused on her job and stayed calm. She only stopped to give kisses to a woman who was having a panic attack. Roselle went on to be posthumously named American Hero Dog of the Year 2011 by American Humane, and has a book written about her.

This dog's name was Gunner. My uncle brought him back from WW2. He was raised and slept under my uncle's anti-aircraft gun. The gun crew shared their rations to feed him. By the time he was 18 months old, my uncle said he would stand up and look at the sky. If he laid back down they knew all was ok. If he growled and put his hackles up they got at the ready. He knew the sound of the German aircraft and my uncle said he never got it wrong. He said Gunner was better than any early warning system. I'm probably the only one left in the family that knows that story now, so I thought I'd tell it before it's lost forever, like many stories must be from that time. Thanks for reading it.

Ian Brown



## Reasons to drink Pickle Juice

It soothes muscle cramps.  
It helps you stay hydrated.  
It's a fat-free recovery aid.  
It won't bust your budget.  
It contains antioxidants.  
It helps control blood sugar levels.  
It boosts gut health.  
It sweetens your breath.



## The Positive Side of Life

- Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.
- How long a minute is depends on what side of the bathroom door you're on.
- Birthdays are good for you; the more you have, the longer you live.
- Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you left open.
- Ever notice that the people who are late are often much jollier than the people who have to wait for them?
- Most of us go to our grave with our music still inside of us.
- You may be only one person in the world, but you may also be the world to one person.
- Some mistakes are too much fun to only make once.
- Don't cry because it's over; smile because it happened.
- We could learn a lot from crayons: some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some have weird names, and all are different colors....but they all exist very nicely in the same box.
- A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.



# June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 11:30 AM—Lunch Bunch. Meet at the restaurant we choose. Call if you would like to car-pool.	3 11:00 AM—Exercise in the park.	4	5 
6	7 8:30 AM—Breakfast Club at Murphy's. Join us as we celebrate your birth-day this month.	8	9 12 noon—Picnic in the park. Bring your own lunch and I will provide desert.	10 11:00 AM—Exercise in the park.	11	12
13	14	15	16 7:30 AM to 7:30 PM—Day Trip to Shipshewana.	17 11:00 AM—Exercise in the park. 5:00 PM—Supper club. Meet at the res-taurant for dinner	18	19
20	21	22	23 12 Noon—Monthly luncheon. Meet at Main St. Pub and enjoy a delicious lunch and catch up with one another.	24 11:00 AM—Exercise in the park.	25	26
27	28	29	30			

You can text or call and leave a message @ 616.843.0572 or  
send an email to [khanes@allendale-twp.org](mailto:khanes@allendale-twp.org)

An old German Shepherd dog starts chasing rabbits and before long, discovers that he's lost. Wandering about, he notices a panther heading rapidly in his direction with the intention of having lunch.

Noticing some bones on the ground close by, he immediately settles down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching cat. Just as the panther is about to leap, the old German Shepherd exclaims loudly, "Boy, that was one delicious panther! I wonder, if there are any more around here?"

Hearing this, the young panther halts his attack in mid-strike, a look of terror comes over him and he slinks away into the trees.

"Whew!," says the panther, "That was close! That old German Shepherd nearly had me!"

Meanwhile, a squirrel who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree, figures he can put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the panther. So, off he goes. The squirrel soon catches up with the panther, spills the beans and strikes a deal for himself with the panther. "Here, squirrel, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine!"

Now, the old German Shepherd sees the panther coming with the squirrel on his back and thinks, "What am I going to do now?," but instead of running, the dog sits down with his back to his attackers, pretending he hasn't seen them yet, and just when they get close enough to hear, the old German Shepherd says...

"Where's that squirrel? I sent him off an hour ago to bring me another panther!" Don't mess with the old dogs... Age and skill will always overcome youth and treachery!

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please follow guidelines regarding the establishment we are meeting in. If you are not comfortable joining us, we will understand and await the time we can meet without restrictions. Thank you for understanding.

We are meeting again in area restaurants. If you're not ready to meet up, please know that I understand. You need to take care of you and you will know when you're ready! If you need anything, please reach out and let me know. Have a blessed month and stay healthy!

**8:30 AM—Monday, June 7 at 8:30 AM, Breakfast**—Join the group as we gather for breakfast at Murphy's restaurant in Allendale. No more free breakfast, but warm your heart and tummy with good food, good fellowship and hot coffee! No need to call, just show up!

**Wednesday, June 2 at 11:00 AM**—Lunch Bunch Peppino's Restaurant—Let's go out to lunch and try some trivia for prizes. Always a fun time when this group gets together!

**Thursdays at 11:00 AM**—Exercise class!!! Join the group as we meet in the township park for exercise class, let by Northern Ivy PT staff and interns. This class will continue through the end of summer and into fall. Hope you can join us! FREE!!

**Wednesday, June 9 at 12 noon—Picnic in the Park.** Bring your lunch and we will meet in the Allendale Township Park for lunch and fellowship. I'll bring dessert. Call Kathy if you have questions. 616.843.0572.

**Wednesday, June 16 from 7:30 AM to 7:30 PM—Day trip to Shippshewana**—Family Style dining and a play at the Blue Gate Restaurant, plus other stops for \$60.00 per person. If you signed up to go and haven't paid yet, please do so ASAP!

**Thursday, June 17 at 5:00 PM—Supper Club at Stable Inn** on US 31, south of Grand Haven—Meet for supper at the restaurant and order from the menu. Save room for dessert! They have some awesome carrot cake! Please call Kathy to save a seat! 616.843.0572.

**Wednesday, June 23 at 12:00 noon**—Luncheon at Main St. Pub. We will order off the menu, visit with one another and hand out next month's Newsletters. Let me know if you can join us! We will be bringing in some guests again, so let me know if you hear of something of interest to the rest of the group. I hope you can join us!

If you have a need or any questions I can help you with, please text or call and leave a message @ 616.843.0572 or send an email to [khanes@allendale-twp.org](mailto:khanes@allendale-twp.org)

THEN	NOW
Long hair	Longing for hair
Disco	Costco
Crop top	Muffin top
Praying for a BMW	Praying for a BM
Hairstyles with wings	Upper arms with wings
Going to a new, hip joint	Getting a new hip joint
All nighter:	All nighter:
Out with friends	Insomnia
Acid rock	Acid reflux
Passing the driver's test	Passing a vision test
KEG	EKG
Rolling Stones	Kidney Stones
Hot guys	Hot flash

Coming up...

- **Wednesday, July 7, 4-7PM—Bunco returns!!** Join us for some fun and food as we welcome back one of our favorite games. Member of Allendale Fire Department will join us.
- **Wednesday, July 21, 11AM to 3PM**—Day trip to White Caps Game vs. Lansing Lugnuts. Box seats, lunch vouchers and transportation for \$25 per person.
- **Wednesday, August 18**—Mystery Trip returns! Details in the July newsletter.
- **Wednesday, October 20**—Mystery Trip.
- Annual Dues will be collected beginning in September.





## Just to Warm your Heart...

"Mom, can I sleep at Grandma's tonight?" I heard in the car, this morning. When I managed to turn around, to see my child, it made me go back to the past, with just one sentence. I had travelled far. When did time go by and make us adults full of boring priorities? We fight every day, for something we're not even sure we really want. When in fact, grandma's house, is what everyone needs to be happy.

Grandma's house, is where the hands of the clock take a vacation with us and the minutes unhurriedly, go by.

Grandma's house is where a simple pasta and homemade bread seem to have different flavors, delicious.

Grandma's house is where an innocent afternoon, can last for an eternity of games and fantasies.

Grandma's house is where the cupboards hide old clothes and mysterious tools.

Grandma's house is where the closed boxes become chests of secret treasures, ready to be unveiled.

Grandma's house is where toys rarely come ready, they are invented on the spot.

Grandma's house, is where everything is mysteriously possible, magic happens and without worries.

Grandma's house is where we find the remains of our parents' childhood and the beginning of our lives.

Grandma's house, on the inside, is the address of our deepest affection, where everything is allowed.

That luxury no longer belongs to me - unfortunately - it will live with me, only in memories.

Even so, if I could place an order now, any order of all orders in the world, I would order the same thing. "Can I sleep at Grandma's tonight?"

~ Author unknown

When children think their parents are perfect, they believe they need to be perfect too.

So, cry in front of them.  
Mess up and then apologize.  
Show them how you cope.

Be open and honest with them and show them empathy and understanding when they come to you.

*Living A FULL Life*

That's how we teach our kids not to waste time striving to live up to the world's standards—*because no one's perfect.*

From Andy Stanley:

"Sometimes I just want it to stop. Talk of COVID, looting, brutality. I lose my way. I become convinced that this "new normal" is real life. Then I meet an 87-year-old who talks of living through polio, diphtheria, Vietnam protests and yet is still enchanted with life.

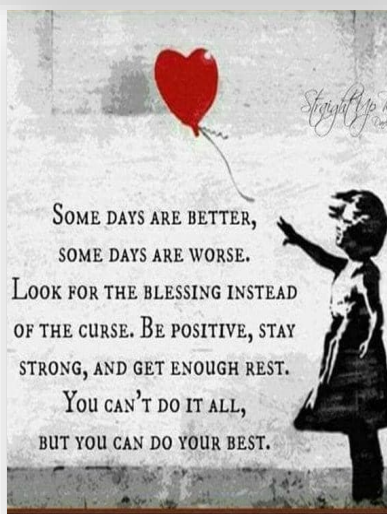
He seemed surprised when I said that 2020 must be especially challenging for him. "No," he said slowly, looking me straight in the eyes. "I learned a long time ago to not see the world through the printed headlines, I see the world through the people that surround me. I see the world with the realization that we love big. Therefore, I just choose to write my own headlines:

"Husband loves wife today." "Family drops everything to come to Grandma's bedside." He patted my hand. "Old man makes new friend." His words collide with my worries, freeing them from the tether I had been holding tight. They float away. I am left with a renewed spirit and a new way to write my own headlines."

Story by Andy Stanley.

If the mountain seems too big today  
then climb a hill instead.  
If the morning brings you sadness  
it's ok to stay in bed.  
If the day ahead weighs heavy  
and your plans feel like a curse,  
there's no shame in rearranging,  
don't make yourself feel worse.  
If a shower stings like needles  
and a bath feels like you'll drown,  
if you haven't washed your hair for days,  
don't throw away your crown.  
A day is not a lifetime  
a rest is not defeat,  
don't think of it as failure,  
just a quiet, kind retreat.  
It's ok to take a moment  
from an anxious, fractured mind,  
the world will not stop turning  
while you get realigned.  
The mountain will still be there  
when you want to try again,  
you can climb it in your own time,  
just love yourself til then.

— Laura Ding-Edwards



SOME DAYS ARE BETTER,  
SOME DAYS ARE WORSE.  
LOOK FOR THE BLESSING INSTEAD  
OF THE CURSE. BE POSITIVE, STAY  
STRONG, AND GET ENOUGH REST.  
YOU CAN'T DO IT ALL,  
BUT YOU CAN DO YOUR BEST.

My grandmother once gave me a tip:

"In difficult times, you move forward in small steps. Do what you have to do, but little by little. Don't think about the future, or what may happen tomorrow. Wash the dishes. Remove the dust. Write a letter. Make a soup. You see? You are advancing step by step.

Take a step and stop. Rest a little. Praise yourself. Take another step. Then another.

You won't notice, but your steps will grow more and more. And the time will come when you can think about the future without crying."



# All Things Michigan...




You know you're from Michigan when...  
You measure distance in hours.  
Your snowblower has more miles on it than your car.  
You have 10 favorite recipes for venison.  
You know that a "Party Store" isn't a place for birthday décor!  
You find the weather channel useless.  
There are four main vacation spots: Up North, Michigan's Adventure, Cedar Point and Florida!  
You don't realize that other states don't have Superman ice cream!  
Your parents would design your Halloween costumes to fit over a snow-suit.  
You'd rather park 2 blocks away than parallel park.  
Driving is easier in winter because the potholes get filled with snow.  
You can pronounce Mackinac, Charlevoix, Ypsilanti and Sault St. Marie without batting an eye.  
You get a little emotional during Pure Michigan commercials.  
You pronounce you T's as D's ("Little" vs. "Little")  
Any time it's over 50 degrees you tell everybody you see that we're having a heat wave!

## How Michigan are you?

You get one point for each item that applies to you

- Crossed the Mackinac Bridge
- Played euchre
- Made fun of Ohio
- Tried at least six flavors of Faygo
- Rode a bicycle around Mackinac Island
- Ate a Coney dog
- Ate a pasty
- Argued about where "Up North" starts
- Went to a U-M vs. MSU football game
- Own a piece of clothing with the word "Michigan" on it
- Wore shorts while snow was on the ground
- Pointed to your hand to show someone where you live
- Swam in Lake Michigan
- Found a Petoskey stone
- Went to a Tigers game
- Say "pop" but never "soda"
- Used Vernors as medicine
- Described distance in minutes instead of miles
- Went hunting on opening day
- Went to an apple farm for cider and doughnuts

Add up your score. How did you do?

0-5	6-10	11-15	16+
Opel! You're just a fudgie!	You're a one-peninsula gander, eh?	You totally say 'yes' to Michigan	Winner, winner, Frankenmuth chicken dinner!
			

## You Might Be A Michigander if:

← State Bird →

1. You use the palm of your hand as a state map
2. Octopus and hockey go together as naturally as hot dogs and baseball
3. You think a Big Mac is something you drive across
4. You bake with "soda" and drink "pop"
5. You think there are only TWO seasons: Hockey Season and Off-Season
6. You go "Up North" for every possible holiday
7. Thumb is a geographical term not anatomical
8. "Vacation" is a trip to Cedar Point
9. Your bumpersticker says "Fudgies go home"
10. You know how to pronounce Mackinac
11. You refer to the mosquito as the state bird

**Michigan was the first state to plow it's roads and the first to adopt a yellow dividing line.**

### How to protect Rhubarb

When picking rhubarb, always grab it at the base of the stalk and give it a good tug and twist to pull it out by the root. NEVER CUT RHUBARB!! The brains of the rhubarb plant are its roots. When you pull the stalk out by the root, the rhubarb feels it and says to itself, "Oh, I have lost a stalk, I'd better grow more stalks!" and it does!

If you cut the stalk, the plant doesn't know to grow more stalks. What is left below your cut rots into the root. The rhubarb doesn't grow another stalk.

When you have a great picking of rhubarb and the plant bed is almost depleted, give them a couple of weeks of recovery time and you can usually get a second and even third cutting in one season! Now you know!



## FUN FACTS ABOUT MICHIGAN LIGHTHOUSES

• LIGHTHOUSES

**129**

Number of Michigan lighthouses, more than any other state

**12**

Offer lighthouse keeper programs

**6**

Are bed-and-breakfast inns or arrange free accommodations for volunteering services

**1** Oldest lighthouse is Ft. Gratiot Light in Port Huron.

**2** The William Livingstone Memorial Light on Belle Isle in Detroit is the only marble lighthouse in the nation.

**3** New Presque Isle Lighthouse is the tallest lighthouse in Michigan that is regularly accessible to the public.

SOURCE: Great Lake Lighthouse Keepers Association

# THE REST OF THE STORY...

I believe in the rest of the story. I believe there's still ink in the pen.... and someday all that's hazy through a clouded glass will be clear at last.

## TRUE STORY

My mother and father would do their weekly grocery shopping on Saturday at the grocery store where I worked. They usually kept my twins on the weekend so it wasn't unusual for dad to stop by the floral department and request 2 latex helium balloons with extra long strings, they were always free for children. He would tie each balloon to their wrist. My mother would buckle each child into the 2 seater basket then she would pull out her long shopping list and be on the move.

My mother would get frustrated that she was pushing this heavy cart while navigating each aisle and picking up everything on her list while dad just walked behind doing nothing.

The store was extremely large and it would take her over a hour to get her shopping done. She finally decided to give 2 specific items for my dad to go and get and return them to her basket and she would check it off her list then give him the next two items. This worked perfectly and was cutting her shopping time in half.

Before long the twins got too big for the double child carts and no longer wanted balloons. Moms shopping time now seemed to take forever again even with dads help.

This was long before mobile phones were something that everyone had so he couldn't just call her up and ask what aisle she was on, instead he gave away his secret. He went to the floral department and got a helium filled balloon and returned to the cart and tied the balloon to the handle on the cart.

My mother was furious. "I'm not a child and will not be treated as one"! My father begged her to stop yelling and he would explain.

He told her that "My beautiful bride (he called her that everyday for 45 years) We aren't spring chickens anymore. We are in our 60's and this store is HUGE and when we both split up and shop it cuts our shopping time in half. So when you send me on my journey to collect my 2 items I then have to walk every aisle to find you and add my items to the cart.

The balloon is not for you but for me so I can stand back and look over each aisle and find you by following the moving balloon with a string long enough to show several feet above each aisle." My mother's only reply was "Oh, my mistake". It got to the point where the florist knew them by name and had their balloon waiting for them every Saturday.

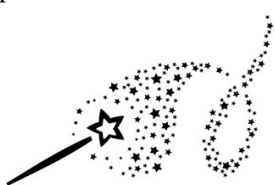
They continued to shop together until dad got cancer but refused to ride in the electric carts. I don't know if they knew it or not but their actions taught me a life long lesson about love, patience, compassion and empathy. It is now up to me to continue by teaching my children the values and ethics that they taught me.

So if anyone has trouble with getting separated from your shopping buddy stop by the floral department and get your helium balloon with the extra long string. They are no longer with us but even when I get to heaven I will easily recognize them, they will be the ones with a long string balloons tied to their wrist!!!



After watching the movie Cinderella, five-year-old Sarah started using her pinwheel as a magic wand, pretending she was a fairy godmother. "Make three wishes," she told her mother, "and I'll grant them."

Her mom first asked for world peace. Sarah swung her wand and proclaimed the request fulfilled.



Next, her mother requested for a cure for all ill children. Again, with a sweep of the pinwheel, Sarah obliged.

The mother, with a glance down at her rather ample curves, made her third wish, "I wish to have a trim figure again."

The miniature fairy godmother started waving her wand madly. "I'll need more power for this!" she exclaimed

But where was I to start? The world is so vast, I shall start with the country I know best, my own.

But my country is so very large.

I had better start with my own town.

But my town too, is large.

I had best start with my street.

No: my home?

No: my family?

Never mind, I shall start with myself!

