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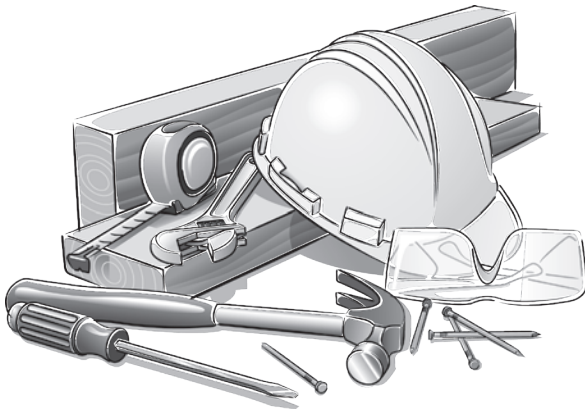
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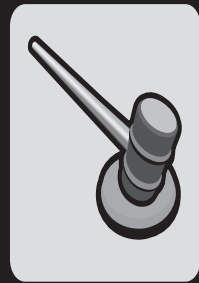
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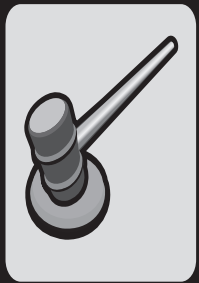


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# We have it so good – and delicious

I was reminded again this past week of how incredibly good we have it here in the good ole United States of America. My wife and I like to take each of our grandkids out on their birthdays for a special meal at the restaurant of their choice. We started this about five years ago and truth be told, we enjoy it just as much – if not more – than the grands do. Since some of our 15 grandkids live over by Rockford, Ill., we have been to some places that we don't often get to, such as Steak n' Shake, Beef-A-Roo, and Portillo's. Another family of grands live over near Janesville, Wis., and so the same applies there and they've chosen places like Red Robin, Chic-fil-A, and Olive Garden. For the rest of the kids who live over near where we live, in more rural southwestern Wisconsin, we have gone to World Buffet, Luna Maya, and last week we even made it to good old A&W in Platteville, Wis. Of all these places we've been to, I would say one of the best sandwiches I have eaten was a fish sandwich



By  
**SCOTT CERNEK**  
Columnist

I found at Beef-A-Roo in Roscoe, Ill. It was called a Mahi Mahi fish sandwich, served with horseradish sauce, lettuce, and tomato. Seeing how I had never eaten at a Beef-A-Roo before, and had no idea what it would taste like, I was amazed at how good this sandwich was. The fish was kind of like a cross between salmon and cod and very tender.

Probably the place we have eaten at the most for these birthday meals is old reliable, Culver's. My wife and I have a unique history with Culver's as we actually ate at the original restaurant in Sauk City, Wis., shortly after it opened in 1984, and we have been hooked ever since. We like that the local Culver's restaurants support local farmers, and they seem to serve food that is fresh and less processed and

preserved as most fast-food places serve. We have found Culver's to be all over the Midwest as we have traveled over the years, even as far south as Texas. When we stop, it feels like we are back at home. Now I didn't mean for this column to be an advertisement for Culver's, what I was really trying to say is that we are so blessed to have something as simple and enjoyable as fast food so readily available here. When I was in Africa in March, it was such a different world. The people were very poor, but very happy. There were no fast food places to speak of at all. We did see one small KFC that was attached to a gas station, but there were only a handful of people eating there. It was just way too expensive for the common folk who lived there. In fact, a normal meal at the KFC costs roughly a half-month's salary and the people can't afford to pay that. It's all they can do to make a little money to pay their rent or food. Lots of people were wearing very worn clothes and tattered shoes. We were so happy

to be able to treat our African friend, Jimmy, to a KFC meal while we were there because he basically never eats meat. It is just too expensive. In fact, he doesn't even have running water or a toilet in his little house because he is so very poor. He loved it! Jimmy is a great young man who has

devoted his life to helping orphan children at a school that is held in their church. What was so inspiring is that Jimmy was an orphan, too, who is now 35 years old and was finally able to get married in March to a young lady who was also an orphan. They both love Jesus with all their hearts,

and they just exude the joy of the Lord. They've learned a great lesson that joy doesn't come from things and money, but from knowing the Lord Jesus as Savior and Lord. Proverbs 17:22 tells us that a joyful heart is good medicine.

Until next week, God bless.

## Slices of life

# Love to pack, hate to pack



By  
**JILL PERTLER**  
Columnist

I have a love-hate relationship with packing.

Not packing as in peanuts. Not packing as in crates. Not packing as in boxes or tape. Not packing as in a wound. Not packing as in heat.

Packing – as in suitcases. I love it.

And then again, I hate it.

I wish I could say I love to hate it, but that just isn't true.

It's the dichotomy that is true.

Loving something and hating it at the same time, it almost feels like a lie. But in this case, the thing that feels like a lie is the truth, as oxymoronic as that sounds.

How can you love something and then hate it all within the same minute?

Here's the deal, I love packing because I love planning and, for me, packing involves a whole lot of planning – and organization – which I love as well. I also love anticipation.

Who amongst us doesn't? And isn't packing the epitome of anticipation – typically of something fun, like a trip to the beach?

Every outfit, every pair of shoes brings with it possibilities. A swimsuit, cover-up and flip-flops promise a sunny day at the beach. Something fancy hints at a night out at an upscale restaurant. Good walking shoes illustrate hopes of a hike in the

mountains or maybe a trip to the zoo. Even a comfy sweatshirt and slippers give a nod to relaxed mornings sitting on the deck with a cup of coffee.

In a nutshell, packing is putting into motion the positive anticipation of vacation. Let's go!

So there's the love part.

You might be wondering where the hate comes in.

But then again, it's probably pretty obvious: I hate that I am not better at packing.

First, I pack too much. Too many socks. Too much underwear. Too much of any sort of clothing, jewelry, shoes, hair products, and beachwear that I'm not going to need, but think I might need and you never know so you might as well stuff it into the suitcase until nothing else will fit and then you just hope for the best in weather, activities and everything else that might or could come up in the next seven days.

I hate the uncertainty of seven days (also known worldwide as a week). What if the temperature is colder than expected? Or warmer? What if it rains? Or snows?

Second, I pack too little. How does one possibly prepare for an entire week away from one's closet – with only one suitcase? I've yet to answer that question – philosophical or not. But the conundrum does thwart me.

A memory of a trip to the happiest theme park on the planet still haunts me. My kids were young. It was March. The happiest place on earth was supposed to be warm. It was not. And I had failed to pack sweatshirts for anyone in the family.

Of course we could buy sweatshirts, but that does not negate the ineptitude involved in not packing sweatshirts for your family in March just because the average temperature is non-sweatshirt-worthy, and sweatshirts take up a fairly significant amount of valuable real estate in the average carry-on suitcase – not to mention the conundrum of where and how to pack those newly-acquired sweatshirts upon returning home.

I love vacation, and I love packing.

I love vacation, and I hate packing.

Much like I love vacation, and I hate vacation.

When it ends.

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright and author. Don't miss a slice; follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.

## Page 2 puzzle answers

PUZZLE 1

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 8 |
| 9 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 3 |
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| 4 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 7 |
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| 6 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 1 |
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PUZZLE 2

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| 8 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 4 |
| 6 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 2 |
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WHOLE SEEDLESS WATERMELON **5.99 ea**

## THURSDAY FRIDAY 2 Day Sale MAY 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> 2025



US Gov't Insp COUNTRY STYLE PORK RIBS Family Pack **1.88 lb**



US Grade A BONELESS CHICKEN THIGHS **2.49 lb**



Bakery Fresh GOURMET BROWNIES 6 ct **3.99**



USDA Choice Angus Beef T-BONE STEAKS **10.99 lb**



Deli TWICE BAKED POTATOES 4 ct **\$5**



Locally Grown ASPARAGUS **2.99 lb**



Kingsford CHARCOAL 16 lb **9.99**



Fiora TOILET TISSUE OR PAPER TOWELS Select Varieties 6 - 12 ct **2/\$7**

## FRESH MEAT



Sullivan's Signature FRESH GROUND BEEF SIRLOIN BURGERS **6.99 lb**



Sullivan's Signature SMOKEHOUSE BBQ PORK BURGERS **3.99 lb**



Sullivan's Signature SMOKEHOUSE BBQ PULLED PORK Heat & Serve **5.99 lb**



US Gov't Insp TRIMMED PORK BUTT ROAST **1.88 lb**



US Grade A CHICKEN BREAST TENDERS **2.99 lb**



Certified Angus Beef® brand BONELESS SIRLOIN TIP STEAK **6.99 lb**

## GRADUATION TIME!

# 2025

### Graduation Sheet Cake

**\$72.99**

Includes: Floral Spray, Cap, and Diploma  
Choice of White, Chocolate, or Marble Full Sheet | Serves up to 80



Single Personal Graduation Cake **\$5**  
Pick the one or two colors to make it your own.

### Graduation Bakery Packages

Cake, Cookies, & Cupcakes



### Graduation Combo Packages

Luncheon & Decorated Cake



CALL YOUR STORE TO ORDER.  
Fillings, Photos, and Custom Work Available for Extra Charge.  
Graduation specials effective thru June 30, 2025.



## Deli Fresh Daily Menu

|                  |   |               |
|------------------|---|---------------|
| <b>MONDAY</b>    | 5 PC FRIED CHICKEN                          | <b>\$8.99</b> |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>   | CHICKEN POT PIE                             | <b>\$4.59</b> |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b> | 5 LEGS, 5 THIGHS FRIED CHICKEN              | <b>\$5.55</b> |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>  | 1/2 BUCKET SPAGHETTI                        | <b>\$6.99</b> |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>    | 1 PC COD DINNER W/ COLE SLAW & POTATO SALAD | <b>\$5.99</b> |



Scan QR Code to view entire ad

[www.sullivanfoods.net](http://www.sullivanfoods.net)

Sullivan's Foods | 103 W North Ave, Stockton | 815.947.3318  
Sullivan's Foods | 201 Dods Dr, Lena | 815.369.2311  
Sullivan's Foods | 703 N Elida St, Winnebago | 815.335.1501  
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Vicki Vanderwerff, Director of Advertising  
Email: [vicki@southernlakesnewspapers.com](mailto:vicki@southernlakesnewspapers.com)  
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**Rock Valley Publishing LLC**

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### Help Wanted

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AND EVANSVILLE AREAS.  
WEEKLY CONTRACT PAY.  
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**MAIL ROOM/WAREHOUSE**  
**WORKERS** 2-3 DAYS PER  
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262-725-7704 TO INQUIRE.

## Auction Deadline is Noon Friday!

Contact  
**Rhonda at**  
[rmarshall@rvpublishing.com](mailto:rmarshall@rvpublishing.com)  
for information on advertising.

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### Burial Needs

**7 CEMETERY PLOTS** Willing to sell as a group or individually. Located at Roselawn Memory Gardens 3045 WI-67, Lake Geneva, WI 53147. **This is a private sale. Contact Randy, the seller at [randy@spublishers.com](mailto:randy@spublishers.com).**

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### Misc. For Sale

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