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# **Cover Features**



#### 16 DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

Our annual issue about our beloved furry friends, including Moss



#### BAYVIEW MACKINAC RACE The 99th race launches

on July 15

# **Pointe Personalities**



### LAWRIE

Lawrie Horst, marketing executive with long history in the Pointes





10

### WILLIAM & EMELIA

William Walker, a sweet and active brother, and Emelia Walker, little sister and happy baby



### BRODY

Brody Yeloushan, South student, avid sailor and gear head

# **Pointe Extras**

- 14 PAWNIX
- 18 Detroit Dog Rescue
- 20 Summer in The Village
- 28 America's Boating Club
- 30 Bayview at Home in New Clubhouse
- **32** Little Tony's
- 42 The Pointe's Art Festival
- 43 Live Inspired Magazine
- 50 At Home in the Pointes
- 52 Gro-Town Celebrates 5 Years
- 54 Driving Grosse Pointe
- 56 The Whiskey Six and WaterMark
- 58 Cheese to Please
- 60 Greekfest
- 62 Summer in the Park
- 64 Christmas in July at Ford House
- 70 Grosse Pointe Scholars Take a Bow
- 72 Racing for Kids
- 78 GPPSS School Pointes

# **In Every Issue**

- 8 On Pointe with the Publisher & Editor
- **12** Book Buzz
- 19 Pointe Estate Attorney with Jon Gandelot
- 22 Pointe Fitness
- 23 Pointe Health
- 24 Pointe Financial Planner
- 25 Pointe Landlord
- 26 Great Lakes Log
- **33** Dining Guide
- 73 Paparazzi
- 76 Pointe Pets
- 77 Pointe Veterinarian



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July-August 2023 Volume 14, Number 4

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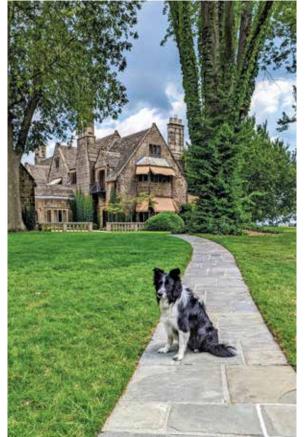
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On the Cover Ford House's Director of Wildlife Management, Moss

Photo by Lauren McGregor

# Where in the Pointes?



Where in the Pointes is this? On Monday, July 24, we will ask this question on our Facebook wall. The first person to comment with the correct answer will win a family pass to African Safari Wildlife Park. Participants MUST wait for the question to be posted by Pointe Magazine. Good luck! (Last issue: Grosse Pointe Historical Society headquarters)

To find us on Facebook, search "Grosse Pointe Magazine"

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Devin Scillian & Arizona Son July 28 at 7 p.m.



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### POINTE | on pointe



John Minnis Publisher





Lauren McGregor Editor

# But like of each thing that in season grows

n the line from Shakespeare's "Love's Labours Lost," above, I am killing two birds with one stone – or headline, as it were. First, I am giving a hat-tip to Lauren and her son, Graham, on their planting wildflowers at their home, as she relates in her adjacent column.

It reminds me of when Lauren, at a much younger age than Graham, helped me plant vegetable seeds in my garden some three decades ago. (Sorry, Lauren!) Planting seeds and watching them grow into something beautiful (in Lauren and Graham's case) or nourishing (as in mine and Lauren's) are good family things to do. I am happy Lauren is passing it on to the next generation.

Another reason for the headline is a nod to the Bard in anticipation of our trip to Stratford, Ontario, this summer. Of course, we will once again be seeing one of our Shakespeare favorites — "Much Ado About Nothing."

Going to Stratford is another tradition we had with Lauren when she was growing up and through college and into adulthood, with our last trip there shortly after she and Corey were married — and before having kids!

"Back in the day," the famous and accomplished Canadian actor Christopher Plummer was among the Stratford Festival players. Not only did we enjoy his performance, it was a special treat to run into him in a York Street restaurant having dinner, like us, after a performance. He was just like a "regular person." Plummer was starring in "The Tempest" at the time.

We're pretty excited about going back to Stratford-upon-Avon — Canadian-style. Yes, there is an Avon River running through Stratford. I don't recall it carrying canal passenger boats as in Stratford, England, but the river is lovely.

There is a grass boulevard area along the river and the road coming out of town where artists gather on Sunday afternoons in the summer to paint and sell their artwork. We love wandering among the artists and talking to them. I envision something similar on the boulevard along Windmill Pointe Drive on beautiful Sunday afternoons here in the Pointes (hint, hint)!

So we have what looks to be a great summer planned, both here and "abroad." As always, be sure to patronize our many loyal advertisers and businesses this summer and tell them you saw them — or not! — in *Pointe Magazine*.

See you around the Pointe! 9

John

y son had been holding onto the seeds since last year. They were an easy-grow mix of Midwest wildflowers from Gro-Town's Seed Station. The packet sat atop a *— somewhat —* neat pile of seed packets we'd been collecting for spring planting. Every so often he would snatch the packet, shake it and listen to the sound of tiny seeds rattling inside the paper sleeve. Finally, the day came. Late May, and nature-willing, beyond a wintry freeze.

He carefully selected a spot in the garden and planted them with enormous care. As I write this, the sprouts are about an inch tall and Graham gasps every time he spots a new one. I don't have the heart to tell him that about a third of those new 'sprouts' are weeds.

It's one of those memories I hope remains vivid over time — for him and me. These real, slow, rich moments. And there is a woman and organization right here in Grosse Pointe that is fostering and celebrating these moments in a way that children will understand and parents will appreciate.

Through Gro-Town, Danielle Carlomusto shares not only seeds, but albums, music videos and a podcast that celebrate and honor the simple moments in a child's life.

My kids are drawn into her YouTube videos the way that I was drawn into shows like 'Reading Rainbow.' Danielle recently told me about 'Hot Fudge.' The trailer to the documentary she is currently working on shares fascinating information about not just this Detroit program from the late 70s, but about the worrying evolution of children's entertainment. I had no idea that most municipalities had a localized 'Sesame Street' type of program. Today, children's media is dominated by cartoons and primarily non-human ones at that. Where did all the people go? Where did the celebration of everyday life go? The documentary will explore this and more.

Danielle is looking for funding to complete the documentary. The trailer is deeply moving, a call to action. If you or anyone you know would like to help support this ground-breaking documentary, reach out to Danielle at heygrotown@gmail.com and read more on page 52.

Here's to a summer of growth and slow, rich moments.

Lauren



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### POINTE | personality

# Meet **Lawrie**



## A Pointe of History

It's no wonder Lawrie considers Michigan — and Grosse Pointe — home. Her roots run deep here. "My maternal greatgreat grandfather was Dr. Herman Kiefer, a distinguished physician who arrived from Germany in the 1840s and became a prominent advocate for public health and a Regent of the University of Michigan." Dr. Kiefer also aided in the Underground Railroad. "He was committed to doing right and doing good, which has sort of become our family motto." His son, Guy Kiefer, Michigan's first State Health Commissioner, founded the Herman Kiefer Hospital in Detroit.

Her paternal great-great grandfather, Judge Stephen Williams, was also a Regent at University of Michigan. Her grandfather, Martin Owens, Sr., was a post-WWII real estate developer in Detroit.

"My mother, Patricia Owens, was a Cottage Hospital volunteer and founding member of the Bons Secours Auxiliary. My father, Martin Owens, Jr., was a longtime newspaper advertising executive in Detroit. My sister, Shelley Owens, also became an advertising executive, she in Macomb County and Grosse Pointe," says Lawrie.

"I have a vivid memory of riding down Lake Shore every morning with my dad, he on his way to work at the Free Press and me on my way to Grosse Pointe High. That kind of memory becomes part of who you are and draws you home."

Photo by The Portrait Place

Name Lawrie Horst
City Grosse Pointe Park
Career Marketing, advertising and organizational management

# Lawrie's **Favorites**

#### Season

Summers in Michigan and winters in Georgia

#### Local organizations

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, Deeplands Garden Club, Detroit Institute of Arts, Ford House, The War Memorial

#### Vacation

Europe, especially Scandinavia, Italy, France and England; Georgia Sea Islands and western North Carolina; Rocky Mountain states and provinces

#### Interests/Hobbies

Art, architecture and design; urban planning and development; history of Michigan, the West and exploration; travel; biking; the environment; current events; college football — Go Dawgs! Go Blue!

## About Lawrie

Born and raised in Grosse Pointe Woods, Lawrie was in the last graduating class of Grosse Pointe High, from which her father also graduated in 1938. Lawrie went on to attend Miami University, Ohio, where she met her husband, Doug. She earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Miami University and a master's degree in social work from Wayne State University.

She and Doug moved to Atlanta in 1972 when its population was just 600,000 (today, it is six million). There, they built a business, InfoPro, Inc., their dream home, and raised their daughter, Alexandra.

"Alex and I would always spend summers in Michigan, as my sister, Shelley, still lived in the Woods. Despite time and distance, Grosse Pointe never ceased to feel like home."

Alexandra attended the University of Georgia and then obtained a master's degree in urban and regional planning at the University of Michigan. After five years of working in Atlanta, she decided to move to Michigan. She accepted a job in Detroit and is now settled in Grosse Pointe Farms.

"I felt like it was time to come home," says Lawrie. She and Doug relocated this spring and now live in the Park. "We love the small town feel in such close proximity to the water and Detroit, such a great city in resurgence."

She and Doug, who have been married 50 years, continue to run their business remotely and enjoy participating in organizations and events in Grosse Pointe and the metro area.

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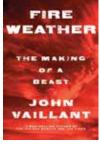
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# Book Buzz



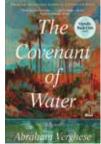
### By Jessie Schenk Woods Branch Manager

heck out one of these recent releases for your summer reading enjoyment, and don't forget to sign up for the Library's Summer Reading Program (www. grossepointelibrary.org).



Fire Weather By John Vaillant In 2016, wildfires wiped out Fort McMurray in Canada, which is the center of Canada's oil industry and a major supplier of US oil. Vaillant

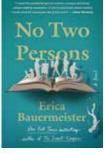
looks at the history of the oil industry as well as climate changes that intersected to create perfect conditions for a fire storm with devastating consequences. He looks at the lives of those impacted by this unprecedented fire and warns that it may be a preview of things to come.



#### The Covenant of Water

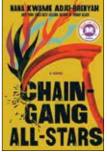
By Abraham Verghese Abraham Verghese (*Cutting for Stone*) returns with another epic story that will keep you enthralled. This family saga spans three generations from

1900 through the 1970s. Set in Kerala in Southern India, we meet a family that all suffer an unusual 'condition': in each generation someone dies by drowning. We see the struggles and triumphs of this family through the eyes of family matriarch Big Ammachi, along with her son and granddaughter. The changes in politics and medicine that impact all of India during this time period are interwoven throughout the book.



No Two Persons By Erica Bauermeister Can one work of fiction change nine lives? Alice is an aspiring writer who finally writes a brilliant and emotional debut

novel, that goes on to have a profound impact on many people. Bauermeister shares the stories of nine of these people, and we learn how reading Alice's work has changed their lives. Books and reading can impact us in the most unexpected of ways.



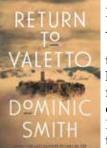
### Chain-Gang All-Stars

*By Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah* In this debut novel, Adjei-Brenyah presents a dystopian America in which prisoners fight for their freedom

gladiator style. The chain-gang all-stars are the most popular fighters and are the backbone of the controversial and brutal Criminal Action Penal Entertainment (CAPE) program. A compelling read



that forces us to consider whether this dystopian world is that far removed from our reality.



Return to Valetto By Dominic Smith Valetto is a fictional town in Umbria, known as a hub for the resistance during World War II. In modern times, the town is nearly abandoned. Widower

Hugh Fisher returns to Valetto where his aging aunts still live, and to his familiar family cottage. Upon arrival, he finds Elisa Tomassi already there. She insists Hugh's grandfather gifted the cottage to her family for helping him during the war. Long held secrets are slowly revealed, and our characters struggle with the question of whether we can truly make amends for past wrongdoings.



Same Time Next Summer

By Annabel Monaghan

Sam is engaged to the perfect man, but a trip back home to plan the wedding has her questioning everything. Wyatt

was her first love and seeing him again in her hometown stirs up all sorts of memories and emotions. A second chance romance in the perfect summer setting.

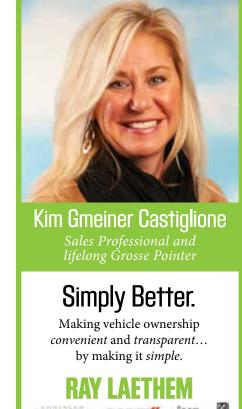
Top photo by The Portrait Place

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CANINE HEADPHONES DESIGNED TO CALM AND COMFORT

### **By Margaret Carroll**

ittery dogs can channel their inner Zen and chillax, even during loud thunderstorms and fireworks, thanks to PAWNIX Noise Cancelling Headphones.

PAWNIX Headphones are designed to play soft music at 50 decibels max through speakers inside a headset. The headset comes into contact with key pressure points around the muzzle and neck.

"All the places your dog likes

"PAWNIX reduces loud noises by 30 decibels, while allowing your pooch to hear sounds they need and want to hear such as your voice."



to be petted," says Grosse Pointer Kirsten Brand, who invented PAWNIX after her beloved dog Emma bolted the night of the Petoskey Fireworks several years ago. "PAWNIX reduces loud noises by 30 decibels, while allowing your pooch to hear sounds they need and want to hear such as your voice."

Brand relied on her professional research and development experience (plus a bachelor's degree in packaging engineering from Michigan State University) to come up with a solution that dogs would love. The headphones come with Bluetooth and will pair with your streaming service within seconds.

On the PAWNIX website, you can find a curated playlist, so you can play classical arrangements by composers like Beethoven (Moonlight Sonata, not Symphony No. 5), and a selection of reggae. Data indicates these are most soothing. "Studies show that dogs respond to music with slower tempos, 50 to 60 beats per minute," says Brand.

PAWNIX Headphones come in five sizes and a variety of colors. Brand's team will work with clients to get the

Photos courtesy of Kirsten Brand

sizing just right, with free exchanges and full refunds during a 60-day trial period.

"We go above and beyond for our clients," says Brand. "As a dog lover and owner of a service animal, I knew what the customer needed."

Each device comes with instructions for introducing the headphones to your dog using a treat reward method, with brief videos on the website, plus telephone and email support.

"The key to success is to begin the process before a stressful event," Brand says, adding PAWNIX provides relief for dogs suffering from PTSD (common among former shelter dogs).

Future plans include Doggie PJs for a full-body system to reduce stress. For purchases, videos or to check out the playlist, visit www.PAWNIX. com. PAWNIX donates \$5 to charity (including Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society) for every device sold. Now, that's something to get tails wagging!



Opposite page, top, and this page, below, Kirsten Brand and dog, Emma, inviting pups to try on PAWNIX





### POINTE | feature

# MOSS DIRECTOR OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT



o one, perhaps, knows Moss's story at Ford House better than Karl Koto, Director of Landscapes.

"We searched for about a year to find the right dog. We were trying to find the right personality," says Koto. "It's not just about the training."

"He's a mascot too," says Digital Marketing & Communications Specialist Malea Howard of the eightyear-old goose dog.

They found Moss in Canada, with trainer Lisa Wright of Training Without Trying. The twoyear-old border collie was flown to Toronto, where Koto picked up him. In fact, Koto was picking up his superior.

"Moss is actually my boss," says Koto. As Director of Wildlife

Above right, Moss and Karl Koto; middle left, Moss; middle right, the unveiling of Moss's portrait at his birthday party in May with Director of Communications & Engagement Tommy Karr speaking and Karl Koto to the right





Management, Moss is above Koto on Ford House's business organizational chart.

Though Moss's primary responsibility is to chase geese from the property, he does so much more.

"Moss is an ambassador. For the past six years, Moss has met with school groups, with families who are visiting. People stop and chat with him," says Koto. "A lot of people think that because Moss is working, they can't visit him. But we enjoy when people say hi to him."

Despite what it may look like, "Moss doesn't roam the property," says Koto. "He's always out with a purpose and always with me. Even if it's in a meeting or in the office."

In fact, when not working, Moss lives with the Koto family in Grosse Pointe Park. "Moss is an ambassador. For the past six years, Moss has met with school groups, with families who are visiting ... A lot of people think that because Moss is working, they can't visit him. But we enjoy when people say hi to him."

At work, Moss has shadowed Koto's many illustrious projects on the estate. The Director of Landscapes oversees a team of seven full-time staff members, not including seasonal summer employees.

"My team manages the entire estate, from snow to the lawn, everything," says Koto. "It's much more than property management."

Most recently, Koto managed the Pool and Lagoon restoration, including extensive research for the project. He was also project manager for the new Visitor Center and Administration Building.

But, sadly, Koto doesn't have a plush resembling himself in the Ford House shop. That would be Moss, and his many other gifts available.

> "We are in the process of creating a Moss storybook," says Koto.

Moss isn't just visitors' favorite, he's the staff's favorite as well. "He gets to express sometimes what we're feeling in meetings. A long stretch, a look out the window," laughs Koto.

"He represents a piece of home," says Howard. "He reminds you that you have a friend close by who will always put a smile on your face."

Countless of those smiles were in attendance at the impressive community showing for Moss's birthday party on May 6. At the party, a special commissioned portrait by UK artist Marianne Mantovani was unveiled and is now available in the Ford House gift shop.

Want to see Moss in action? Purchase a grounds pass and you'll likely spot him chasing a goose or two.

For grounds passes, memberships and more information, visit fordhouse. org. 9





Left, some Moss items at the Ford House gift shop, including his portrait by Marianne Mantovani and plushes

Opposite page: top photo by Jennifer McCallum; middle left photo by Firefly Photography; middle right photo by Lauren McGregor; This page: photos by Lauren McGregor

## Adopt, foster or donate to help Detroit Dog Rescue make an impact

### **By Susan Bollinger**



n May, the new DDR West location in Redford officially opened after five years of planning and building. The shelter can house 68 to 75 dogs, with space for training, daily activities, intake, adoptions, a Mutt Maternity Room and the Peppler Puppy Preschool. The Senior Lodge is a quiet space where older dogs can relax. Now, renovations to DDR East in Detroit are underway and expected to be complete in spring 2024. It will serve as an outreach hub, offering pet food and shelter assistance and other affordable

"There is no better place than a foster home for a dog to learn about love and daily living. When a dog is fostered, we have space to help another dog in our shelter." services, like spay and neuter clinics.

"So many people want to know how to help DDR," says Janet Peppler, president of the DDR board of directors. "A few ways are adopting, fostering and donating."

The DDR website makes it easy to find out more. Visit detroitdogrescue.com and click on Adopt, Foster or Donate. Adoptable dogs are featured with a photo and short description. The first step in adoption is completing the online adoption form.

Fostering is another hands-on way to connect personally with a dog and make an impact. "Fosters are always needed," says Peppler. "There is no better place than a foster home for a dog to learn about love and daily living. When a dog is fostered, we have space to help another dog in our shelter."

Sometimes families adopt their foster dog. Others provide respite until the dog finds their forever family. To become a foster, complete the foster form at detroitdogrescue.com. DDR provides fosters with all the food, supplies, and veterinary care their furry guest needs.

A 501(c)3 organization, DDR is supported by the generosity of donors. Every year, Peppler raises funds by sponsoring the annual golf outing. This



Above left, Pierre was fostered in a Grosse Pointe home, where he won the hearts of his family and was adopted permanently. Above, Janet Peppler and Jerry Gadette's DDR rescue Melani takes her role as DDR ambassador seriously, helping out at DDR and accompanying mom to work at The Peppler Agency.

year, it's Monday, Aug. 14 at Lochmoor Golf Club and is already at capacity.

Additional support comes in other ways. "I am astounded by the generosity of animal lovers," says Peppler. "We received eight legacy donations this year from donors who left funds for DDR in their wills, IRAs and 401Ks. Talk to your attorney or financial advisor if you wish to designate DDR as your beneficiary." Learn more about other ways to donate at detroitdogrescue.com or by calling (313) 458-8014.





# Homework

By Jon B. Gandelot

hen an estate plan is completed by an attorney, the client has several tasks to do before the plan is actually "completed."

**Location:** Where are the original documents stored? In the closet under a pile of shoes or somewhere that is known and easily accessible in the event they are needed?

Who is in charge: The family should know who to turn to in an emergency. A family meeting after the documents are signed is a



good time to inform your family of your decision on who will be your successor trustee, agent under a power of attorney and medical power advocate.

**Memorial instructions:** Detailed directions as to memorial wishes, cremation/burial, church services, etc., make post-death decisions easier on loved ones.

**Important documents:** A detailed list of bank accounts, insurance policies, car/boat titles, military service records, brokerage accounts, retirement benefits, deeds to real estate, etc. will reduce the chances that the designated person will go on a "morbid scavenger hunt" looking for documents.

**Key advisers:** A list of insurance agents, bankers, brokers, life insurance agents, tax preparer, clergy and funeral director will save time for loved ones.

**Digital identity worksheet:** A list of all entities with whom you deal via the internet, including usernames and passwords.

We have forms that assist in this process. If you wish a set of these forms, our firm will email them to you at no charge. Just email me at jgandelot@ trowbridgehouse.com.

Jon B. Gandelot is senior counsel at Trowbridge Law Firm, P.C., with offices in Detroit and Grosse Pointe.

# The Peppler Agency

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### POINTE | feature



*usic on the Plaza* is back! Concerts take place outdoors at the corner of Kercheval Avenue and St. Clair Avenue, rain or shine.

Though performances don't start until 7 p.m., you're invited to grab your lawn chair or blanket and come down early to enjoy The Loop social district and more! Concerts will take place on St. Clair on the north side of Kercheval until Parking Lot #4 construction is completed.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for Friday, July 28 and Saturday, July 29 for the annual *Sidewalk Sale-ebration*. In preparation, Paint the Windows returns on July 27, featuring budding artists' creations on windows throughout The Village.

Additional information is available on The Village website, Facebook or Instagram.







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NEW.

# POMTE | fitness Presbyphonia

### By Ken Welch

o you and your spouse accuse each other of not listening, ignoring or misinterpreting something said?

Do you get accused of being preoccupied, dismissive or just plain hard of hearing?

Maybe it's not all you!

Presbyphonia is a condition in which the larynx undergoes changes as part of the aging process. It influences a person's ability



to communicate. Because it comes on gradually over time, a person may not realize they're not being heard or understood as clearly as they think they are. We consider hearing loss and treatment very important, but equally important are the issues with voice and the whole vocal cord system.

Symptoms are:

**Vocal thinness or vocal asthenia.** There's a less rich, less resonant sound to the tone of the voice. Vocal cords suffer muscle loss over time. They become thinner and less pliable resulting in the voice having less strength and resonance.

Hoarseness. Vocal cords get stiffer with age therefore they don't vibrate as clearly as they once did.

**Changes in volume.** Aging affects the projection of the voice. For many people they don't have the breath support to maintain the force and volume to be heard.

**Changes in pitch** are also common. For women, the pitch of their voice drops and men sightly rise. Add a little hearing impairment and let the fun begin.

What to do?

Maintain good health, stay in good shape, drink the right amount of water, be more aware and talk more directly to people and look into a voice evaluation, (think, hearing test for the voice) and above all:

Keep a sense of humor.

Ken Welch is owner and trainer at Pointe Fitness on Harper south of Allard. Online: pointefitness.com.

### POINTE | health

# Fatigue

By Dr. Saima A. Khan

t seems that most everyone I meet complains about feeling tired. There are many reasons for ongoing fatigue. Some are easy to spot and fix; others may require a trip to your doctor.

One of the most common reasons for feeling tired and rundown is simply not getting enough sleep. Aim for 7 to 9 hours

every night. "Sleep Hygiene" refers to habits that promote healthy and restful sleep: sleep and wake at the same time every single day even on weekends. Do nothing other than sleeping and



sex in bed. Don't watch TV, work or play on the computer or even read a book in bed.

Eat properly: never skip breakfast, drink plenty of water, eat light, low-fat meals and limit caffeine (coffee, tea, sodas) and sugar. No liquids or a heavy meal 2 to 3 hours before bedtime to prevent heartburn and frequent bathroom trips.

Get regular exercise. Even a short stroll any time during the day can help you get a good night's sleep but avoid vigorous exercise within 2 hours of bedtime.

Eat or take your vitamins. If you eat a varied diet with plenty of fruits and vegetables you probably don't need a daily vitamin; however a good multivitamin and/or a B-complex supplement taken several times a week can be good insurance.

After you have tried all these things and you still feel tired, see your doctor. More serious problems can also cause fatigue. These include: depression and grief, sleep disorders such as sleep apnea and narcolepsy, thyroid disorders, anemia, diabetes and even heart problems.

Dr. Saima A. Khan, MD, MPH grew up in Grosse Pointe Farms and lives in the Woods with her husband and three daughters. She practices internal medicine in Warren, 28351 Schoenherr, (586) 393-6500.



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### PONTE | financial planner

# Sailing into retirement

By Lina Bowman

ow that summer's here, it's time to take out the boat and hoist the sails high to catch favorable winds. But winds will inevitably shift or fade. The deft sailor has many

tactics they can employ to keep the momentum going through potential lulls.

Like the experienced sailor, the experienced wealth manager



has many strategies they can utilize to help keep financial momentum going for their clients. Adapting to your financial life's changing tides requires some extensive expertise. A strategic view of your overall situation is necessary.

Comprehensive planning includes analysis beyond simple investment choices, such as how much to invest in stocks, bonds or cash. It's more than whether mutual funds, CDs, money market funds or annuities are best. These are financial tools. The comprehensive wealth manager should have every tool available to navigate the many challenges, such as interest rates or market and volatility risks, to help best meet your needs.

An independent advisor is vital when preparing for the "Seasons of Your Life": creating and growing wealth; protecting and preserving wealth; creating a retirement income plan; and finally, creating a legacy plan. Implementation should be tax-efficient wherever possible because what counts is not what you make but what you keep!

Are you prepared for every Season of Your Life? Talk to your financial advisor to discuss how you're positioned and prepared to navigate the changing winds. Do you have a comprehensive plan? If not, it may be time for a second opinion.

Lina Bowman is a financial adviser in Grosse Pointe. She can be reached at (313) 343-0800 or Lina@BowmanAsset. com.

# PONTE | landlord Seller financing

### **By Anna Bartolotta**

am seeing more and more homeowners that do not have a mortgage. These homeowners do not owe money monthly to the bank, and the home has been completely paid for.

I was 19 years old when I bought my first home. It was purchased with the seller

financing the entire transaction, and it was a cute one bedroom condo.

The property didn't have a mortgage, so the sellers could selffinance the sale to me and make



the money through the interest that the bank would make during the term of the agreement. When done properly, a land contract sale can be a win-win for everyone involved.

Let's pretend you find a \$55,000 home that the seller is willing to sell on land contract at 7% interest over five years. You would have a completely paid off home in around 60 payments, and the seller made over \$10,000 in interest. Everyone is happy. (As in any agreement, do not default on your payments, because that home can be easily taken from you during an eviction process.)

Make sure if you are thinking about buying or selling a land contract you do the following: Ensure the home does not have a current mortgage; contact a real estate attorney for advice; and hire a title company to perform a title search for any lingering claims to the home; employ an inspector to look over the property and also check on the taxes to make sure they are up to date.

Remember that a mortgage company can and will call a mortgage due if they get wind that you have sold your home under land contract while they are still owed money. A home simply cannot be sold land contract if money is currently owed to a bank. This is a tool for homes without a mortgage.

Anna Bartolotta is owner of Grosse Pointe Apartments and Property Management. This area's original dedicated, full service, full time rental agency staffed with licensed agents.

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### POINTE | Great Lakes Log



Photos by PhotoElement

### 99th Bayview Mackinac Race

### **By Ted Everingham**

he 99th consecutive Bayview Yacht Club Mackinac Race from lower Lake Huron to the Straits of Mackinac will begin at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 15.

Kevin Thomas, Bayview's 2023 Mackinac Race Chair, reports that more than 200 sailboats are expected to answer the starting cannon, an increase from about 175 that started the 2022 race as the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic continues.

Just over 100 boats started the 2000 race. While there were more boats in 2021, because of border restrictions, they could sail only the 204-nautical mile (nm) Shore Course that follows the Michigan shoreline, and only 77 boats were permitted in the Mackinac Island Harbor.

This year, as before the pandemic, competitors will sail either the Shore Course or the longer Cove Island Course (254 nm) that requires boats to sail through a virtual "gate" in Canadian waters in northern Lake Huron before turning toward the virtual finish line at Mackinac Island.

Competitors love the return to the pre-pandemic normal, but Thomas says, "The most exciting thing is that there are more than 50 boats in this year's fleet that either have never sailed in our race or are returning after an absence of a year or more."

So the stage is set for Bayview's 100th consecutive Mackinac Race in 2024. This year's competitors were encouraged to pre-register for 2024, and Thomas says that "about 75% of the boats in this year's race are signed up for next year."

As for Thomas, he'll be sailing his 23rd consecutive race in July, well on his way to becoming an Old Goat when he finishes his 25th, and his father (Commodore Greg Thomas) and John Trost will be sailing their 50th consecutive Mackinac Race together, all of them aboard a boat named "Pendragon."

Follow the race online at byc.com. 📍





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## America's **Boating Club** Grosse Pointe

# By Margaret Carroll

oating safety is more convenient than ever, thanks to free and confidential boating safety checks, a new app and a choice of online or in-person classes, all courtesy of America's Boating Club (ABC) Grosse Pointe.

ABC Grosse Pointe is a division of the U.S. Power Squadrons which was founded in 1914 to teach safe boating. This volunteer 501(c)3 organization provides boat owners/operators with the information and resources needed to operate their

vessels in compliance with all federal and Michigan state laws. "Helping boaters stay safe while enjoying the water is our top priority," says ABC Grosse Pointe Past Commander Rose Stano, who with her husband, Bill, has been involved with the nonprofit for more than 20 years. "Education and safety are more

important post-pandemic, since 30 percent of boat operators are new." Michigan requires anyone born after 1996 to hold a Boater's Education Certificate.

That's where ABC Grosse Pointe can help, with basic and advanced classes and meetings at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. Classes are in-person, or online through americasboatingclub.org. Boaters can use the new free app to file a float plan, check nautical references, maintenance records, weather and more, all on their cell phone.

"Our free vessel safety checks ensure onboard safety equipment is compliant, and it is as easy as scheduling by email at vscgpps@gmail.com," says Stano.



The award winning America's Boating Channel shot a boating safety video called "Border Crossing" with America's Boating Club on June 12-15 on Lake St. Clair.

"Marty and Sari Lafferty are the producers, in their seventh year of producing boating safety videos in conjunction with the Coast Guard under a grant from the Sports Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund," says Stano, The video will be part of a 24/7 streaming service on everything boating.

America's Boating Channel is the official online showcase and repository for multiple formats of digital media focused on safe boating and boater education.







Left, Marty and Sari Lafferty; above and middle left, cast members included Tom Fisher, McKenna Fisher, Sally Lemus, Natasha Duvall and Matthew Chambliss

"We are an organization for boaters, by boaters," says Stano. "We try to have fun and provide community service."

There are currently 146 members

"We will

come right

to your boat and provide

the sticker

pass." It is

important,

according

to Stano.

because U.S.

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of the all-volunteer club. Dues are approximately \$100/year for individuals, \$150 for families. Boating safely is priceless.

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# Bayview at home in new clubhouse

### **By John Minnis**

ow, two years after Bayview Yacht Club christened its new clubhouse on the Detroit River at the foot of Conner Creek, members are feeling comfortable and familiar in their new surroundings.

The old clubhouse, having been built piecemeal since the Great Depression, was razed in December 2019. In June 2021, the new clubhouse was opened with a grand party and fanfare.

Bayview celebrated its centennial in 2015. Founded in 1915, the clubhouse has come a long way since its first corrugated-iron shack.

Those familiar with the floor plan of the old clubhouse will readily notice the layout is roughly the same. The bar is in the same place as is the restaurant. The fireplace remains in place as the only structural element salvaged from the old building. Some of the old planking is being used to make furniture.

"Yeah," General Manager Matt Prost agrees, "the physical space of the club, if you walk back into this clubhouse as a member who was here for 50 years, generally speaking is the same. Other than hallways being wider and the Mackinac Room being shorter in storage and stuff like that. It's very much like what they did with Yankee Stadium. They knocked the whole building down, put home plate where home plate was and put the outfield where the outfield was, but it's all new seats, bleachers, stadium, field. And that's pretty much Bayview. So if you walked in here, this is where the Commodore Room used to be. The dining room is the exact same dimensions and square footage. The bar's a little bit longer, but it's exactly where it used to be. It does feel very spatially like the old clubhouse home.

"So if you were at the old clubhouse, it was old. You know, we've been here for 60 to 70 years, it was broken in. Now it's like that new pair of shoes. Just takes a little time to put some things on the wall and make things feel a little bit more historic versus brand new."

But everything else about Bayview stayed the same. It's core mission is sailing. It still hosts the Port Huron to Mackinac race, beginning on July 15 this year. Of course, its bar and restaurant are legendary.

How can nonmembers experience Bayview?

"There's a few things," Prost says. "We do a program called Hitchhiker Thursdays that's open to the public. You can just come down and hop on a sailboat. That's certainly something that could be appealing. The Bayview One Design which happens right here on the river and a little bit up on the lake. We're open. We have live entertainment, and people come down and just watch the racing and be part of that."

Or, you could come down and learn to sail, and if you become experienced, you, too, may be able to crew someday in the Mackinac! 9

For more information, visit byc.com online or call Jennifer Miracle-Best at (313) 822-1853, option 0.



# It's all about family – and consistency – at Little Tony's

### **By Lauren McGregor**

hen Carol Alfonsi decided to sell Little Tony's five years ago, son Tony couldn't let the establishment his parents had started in 1970 leave the family. Though he and wife Ellen were already busy with their business Print Xpress, they bought the Mack Ave. mainstay.

Today, Tony works with son Anthony and nephew Jack McLauchlan.

"It's a blast. We're close knit. It's easy to work for family. This family, at least," Anthony laughs.

His father agrees, "The best part about buying the restaurant from my mom is getting to see my son on a daily basis."

Though he may be manager, Anthony also works as cook, bartender, busser whatever is needed. There is a small staff of 13, though they are looking for more. "We treat everybody like family," says walls — images of the Stanley Cup making a stop at Little Tony's, the restaurant's astounding survival of two fires, old photos of the popular raised seating as a funky 70s lounge and then piano stage.

The family-oriented bar and restaurant is welcoming to all. "This is a nice, neighborhood family bar," says Tony.

"We get so many local groups, North and South baseball teams, hockey teams, coming in regularly," says McLauchlan.

"We've been called the Cheers of Grosse Pointe by customers," says Tony.

It's a place where the owner is present daily and quality is key.



its beginning.

Though founder Anthony 'Little Tony' Alfonsi passed away in 2002 and Carol in August of 2022, their influence lives on.

Carol, her son says, was an enormously talented golfer, with three holes-in-one under her belt. She often teased Tony about his lack of one.

"My first round of golf after she passed, I got my first hole-inone," Tony smiles.

Perhaps making her presence further known, 'Carol's Chili' won its first award just a few months later. The 94.7 WCXS Chili Bowl Bracket had 32 contenders from around metro Detroit. Little Tony's came out on top.

Carol's influence lingers also on the large patio. "We love the patio. It's a large, semi-enclosed space that was my mom's doing," says Tony.

The three men continue the family legacy of offering good food, friendly service and a

welcoming atmosphere. "I've been following them around here since I was 10," says McLauchlan. "It's wonderful working for family."

"It's a blessing," says Anthony. "It's an honor."

To learn more about Little Tony's, check out its Tuesday-Friday lunch specials and explore the menu, visit LittleTonysLounge.com.



Top right, Jack McLauchlan, Tony and Anthony Alfonsi; above, Little Tony's patio; above right, the Stanley Cup visiting Little Tony's in 1997

#### Tony.

Anthony agrees, "For me, it's about bringing these young workers up. I'm encouraging and preparing them for their futures."

All three men are passionate about preserving the restaurant for the community. Its history is hanging on the "We buy the best ingredients. Our sandwiches are very popular, the Reuben, the tuna melt. Our appetizers." Their burger is also award winning.

Consistency, Tony says, is the business motto. "The quality is always the same. Every time you come in." That's a lesson and a value instilled in the family since

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### **Bogart'z Food and Spirits**

### 17441 Mack Avenue, Detroit • (313) 885-3995

Bogart'z Food and Spirits was established in 2005 and was started by Gary Van Biervliet. Gary's son, Jason, quickly began helping his dad out in the kitchen. Before he knew it, Jason realized that the kitchen of any restaurant is the main vein in the business. He later quit his second job to focus more on the dining experience. Seeing the passion that his son had to change and redevelop the business, Gary made an offer to his son to inquire about buying the restaurant from him. Jason accepted and saved up for a few years, working harder to make a down payment. After finishing culinary school at the Art Institute of Troy, and three years of hard work and savings, Jason's vision of serving up delicious, real, honest food came true. Since the switch, Bogart'z has exemplified the eatery experience by mixing Detroit's Eastern Market resources with in-house freshness and skill. From the infamous Bogart'z Burger, to the raved about Bread Knots, Bogart'z has become a hot spot right at Detroit's Grosse Pointe border. Jason changed the name to Bogart'z Food and Spirits after expanding the menu to feature a larger variety of craft beer, wine and liquor. He is set on making the next 10 years even better and making Bogart'z a great staple for anyone looking to watch the game, grab a beer with a friend, enjoy a delicious pizza, or for anything in-between. We look forward to serving you soon!

Hours: Tue–Sat 3-11pm; Sun 4-9pm Web: bogartzfoodandspirits.com











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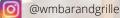


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## Pepperoni Grille

#### 22411 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores • (586) 774-3998

As its name implies, Pepperoni Grille is a cheerful spot set in a welcome, casual atmosphere. The eatery features a small bar and dining room on one side of the central open kitchen, and a second dining room on the other side. It offers notable pizza along with a number of popular dishes from Calamari and Chicken Picatta to Filet Mignon and New York Strip Steaks. The staff is friendly and courteous. The full bar offers wine, liquor and beer. Tuesday is half-off pizza all day, dine in or carry out. Come see our remodel and have dinner! We are so excited! Make TONIGHT date night! (Reservations recommended.)

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# DINU (UIDE

## Sierra Station La Cantina — Celebrating 40+ Years!

#### 15110 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park • (313) 822-1270

The Sierra Station was established in 1977 and has transformed into a favorite Grosse Pointe Park destination. The Sierra Station prides itself as a family-style Mexican restaurant, offering affordable dinners. Most impressive is the food! Few restaurants survive 45 years unless they have great food. The entrée menu features more than 30 dishes served with the standard rice and beans. House specialties are the Verda Sauce and Chili Relleno. It is one of the few places you can sit down, eat authentic Mexican food, have a Margarita, enjoy the South-of-the-Border ambience and bric-a-brac and let your kids run free. The patio veranda is an ideal space to throw your wedding party, family celebration or business luncheon. Prefer an indoor setting for your event? Sierra Station has a private dining room filled with beautiful authentic decorated space capable of seating 40 guests. Join us on Thursdays for \$3 Jumbo Margaritas. CARRY-OUTS AVAILABLE.



Photo by Donald Schulte

#### Hours: Open Tue-Sun at 5pm; Closed on Mondays Web: www.sierrastationgp.com



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#### 20791 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods • (313) 881-3985

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Hours: Mon-Sat 11am-Close; Sun 4pm-Close; Kitchen closes at 10 p.m. Web: tellysplace.com

## **The Continental at Ford House**

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**Reservations recommended.** 

Hours: Lunch: Tue-Sat: 11am-3pm; Dinner: Thu-Sat: 4-8pm; Brunch: Sun: 10am-4 pm (Closed Mondays) Web: www.fordhouse.org



## **Village Grille**

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Hours: Open daily 11am Web: www.villagegrillegp.com

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## The Whiskey Six — Under New Ownership!

#### 646 St. Clair Ave., Grosse Pointe • (313) 939-2403

Located in The Village of Grosse Pointe, The Whiskey Six is a family friendly gastropub that serves great food alongside classic cocktails, craft beer and boasts a well provisioned wine cellar. The name and establishment pay homage to a day when Detroit was the nation's rum-running port. Under new owner Dino Ropotos, the emphasis is on not just fine whiskey, wine and craft beers, but also on a friendly, family environment with great menu items — including amazing Salads and Shareables (Butter Board, Caprese Bites, Lettuce Wraps) Burgers and Tacos (including the crowd-pleasing Smokehouse Burger), Pastas, Pizzas and unforgettable Entrees, including Filet Mignon, Atlantic Salmon, Pork Chop Marsala, Fish and Chips, Kabobs, Octopus Char Grilled, Chicken Milanese and Hunan Shrimp. Menu prices range from \$10-\$39. Keeping with the emphasis on families with a menu for kids as well. Clearly, there is something for everyone at The Whiskey Six, including the atmosphere!

Hours: Closed Mondays. Tue-Sun 4-10pm; Web: www.thewhiskeysix.com



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## Brian J. Hunt, D.D.S.

ocated on the Nautical Mile, along the banks of beautiful Lake St. Clair, is the office of Dr. Brian J. Hunt, who has been practicing dentistry for 25 years. His practice prides itself on individual patient service and comfort. "Each patient is unique, with their own needs and concerns. I take the time to listen to, and individually address, each of their issues. This one-on-one approach helps me produce the excellent results each patient expects and deserves," Dr. Hunt says. In his chair, Dr. Hunt's patients receive the highest quality cosmetic and general dentistry available.

Dr. Hunt believes this is a very exciting time to be a dentist. "There are several new techniques available for smile-enhancement, and there's no reason for a patient to be anything but delighted with their smile," he says. Dr. Hunt is quick to point out that achieving Top Dentist recognition is a team effort. With the help of his experienced and dedicated staff, and a highly skilled group of specialists, he is able to successfully transform smiles and restore dental health.

"I value each patient as a personal friend, appreciate the confidence they have in my ability, and am thankful for the support they have afforded me over the years," Dr. Hunt says. During these difficult economic times, Dr. Hunt reassures his patients that his office doors will always be open to them, regardless of their current employment status or financial situation.





Brian J. Hunt, D.D.S. 24641 E. Jefferson Ave., St. Clair Shores, MI 48080 586-772-7373 www.brianjhuntdds.com



## The Pointe's Art Festival growing atop The Hill

**By Anne Erickson** 

n Saturday, August 5, The Pointe's Art Festival, by Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce, will mark its third event with a massive change — moving from a parking lot near The Hill to The Hill itself.

"Moving the Art Fest from the parking lot to the street is an exciting and strategic move," says President Jenny Boettcher. "Closing Kercheval on The Hill between McMillan Road and Hall Place allows us to expand the number of artists, crafters, activities and entertainment. It also allows us to provide a safer environment for the thousands of people who come out to enjoy the day. There are endless possibilities with the extra space!"

"This year, we will have more than 70 artists," says Membership and Events Coordinator Abigail Turnbull. "More vendors allows for an expanded reach to the networks of the participating artists. We have also decided that we will not have food vendors to encourage visitors to enjoy the fabulous eateries on The Hill.

"Bringing people together from outside of Grosse Pointe to showcase local talent and a thriving community supports the business and restaurant owners alike."

Attendees can expect a wide variety of artists and mediums.

"From classic paintings to carefully repurposed materials, the talent that The Pointe's Art Festival is bringing together will be a delight to see and shop," Turnbull says.

"The festival creates a vibrant atmosphere, bringing people together from all walks of life to celebrate culture and creativity while enjoying live music and great food," says Boettcher.

For more information, visit www. grossepointechamber.com.



"Closing Kercheval on The Hill ... allows us to expand the number of artists, crafters, activities and entertainment.There are endless possibilities with the extra space!" **LIVE INSPIRED** MAGAZINE A PUBLICATION OF THE WAR MEMORIAL JULY | AUGUST 23

## SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Enjoy a diverse range of performances.

Fred M. Alger Center at THE WAR MEMORIAL

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EDITORS: Brett Pulte | Leah Celebi

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**PHOTOGRAPHY:** John Martin Photography Inner Circle Photography

### The War Memorial Welcomes New Board Members

The Grosse Pointe War Memorial Association Board of Directors will have a new look in July, when four new members come aboard.

Incoming board members are Aaron Turk, Dr. Rick Swaine, Jessica Taub and Dr. Jodie Rappe. The War Memorial would like to thank the outgoing board members for their service - Betsy Creedon, Ed Lazar, Ted Everingham, RJ Wolney and Mary Lamparter. The five combined to serve on the board for over 40 years.

"We went from a quiet and nice place, to making a statement about our country, our democracy, and the arts," Creedon, who spent over 10 years on the board, said. "The forward and openmindedness of what we've done is what is really important."

In response to how she would summarize her time on the board, Creedon said she is very proud of what's happened to The War Memorial.

"We've become a relevant organization, and I don't think we were relevant 10 years ago," she said. "We've come a long way."

Turk, of Grosse Pointe Park, is currently the director of corporate strategy at General Motors, where he works on future-focused topics that support and accelerate the transformation of the company. He served in the U.S. Navy for nearly a decade, including several combat deployments as a Naval Flight Officer and a staff tour at the Pentagon.

Swaine is the chief financial officer for the University of Toledo Medical Center. Prior to working at the Medical Center, he was employed by Beaumont Health for over 34 years. Positions there included vice president of finance, and president of the Grosse Pointe hospital for a decade.

Rappe is the chief medical officer at Corewell Health, who also spent time in the Navy. She served in several key clinic and hospital leadership positions in Washington, D.C., California, and Japan. Before assuming her current role, Rappe was the medical director of the Beaumont Grosse Pointe Family Medicine Residency program.

Taub works as associate general counsel for PVS Chemicals, Inc. Prior to joining PVS, she worked for the Michigan Attorney General's Office in its Licensing and Regulation Division, and for the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office in its Major Drug Unit.

On behalf of The War Memorial Association, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to each community member who attended our Memorial Week celebrations, our admirable supporters who generously donated or sponsored our events and to our team who worked meticulously to put on such a momentous week.

From an evening of Red, White and Blue where we celebrated the ongoing devotion to our mission and commemorated the generosity of Fred M. Alger, to everyone who joined us at the celebration and dedication of Les Braves II: At Water's Edge, to our annual Memorial Day service where we remembered the sacrifice and bravery of those who selflessly served in our armed forces. It was a privilege to see the community come together. I am incredibly honored to be a part of a transformative organization such as The War Memorial!

- Maria Miller, Interim CEO | The War Memorial

## Memorial Week HIGHLIGHTS

The week leading up to, and including, Memorial Day brought about the culmination of a few significant events at The War Memorial in Grosse Pointe Farms.

The new Fred M. Alger Center at The War Memorial was officially dedicated during the return of the annual gala- An Evening of Red, White & Blue. Next, the Midwest's newest public art installation, Les Braves II: At Water's Edge was dedicated, and finally the annual Memorial Day ceremony was held to honor and remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country.

An Evening of Red, White, & Blue, held on May 24th, featured the dedication of the Fred M. Alger Center. Highlights included a cocktail hour, remarks from board members, staff, and donors, a formal dinner, dessert, and a fireworks display over Lake St. Clair.

On May 25th, the art sculpture was dedicated at a ceremony that was attended by approximately 500 people, including four World War II Veterans. French artist and sculptor of Les Braves, Anilore Banon spoke at the event with Professor Greg Jackson serving as keynote speaker. The night also included a performance by the U.S. Army Herald Trumpets and jazz clarinet player Dave Bennett.

The 50-foot-wide and 25-foot-tall art piece is the first of its kind in North America, similar to the original Les Braves in Normandy, France – located on Omaha Beach. Les Braves was created for the 60th anniversary of the D-Day invasion and sculpted by Banon.

Born in Casablanca, Morocco, Banon moved to France when she was a few months old. She describes her artwork as abstract, "monumental, large-scale sculptures," carefully choosing where a piece is displayed, and determining what she is trying to express in a sculpture.

"I see the people that fought there and brought freedom and honor back," Banon said when asked what she sees in Les Braves II. "I see the courage of these young people leaving their country for others."

Les Braves II consists of three thematic elements: The Wings of Hope; Rise, Freedom; And The Wings of Fraternity.

Also at the Les Braves II dedication, The U.S. Army Herald Trumpets performed the National Anthem, a few fanfares throughout, Taps, and closed the program with a full performance. The group receives plenty of requests to perform each year, but events that have national and/or international significance are given top priority for the ensemble to perform at. The dedication ceremony for Les Braves II fit the criteria.

"In the United States, there's not a lot of full herald trumpets ensembles," Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy McBride said. McBride is part of the U.S. Army Herald Trumpets, joining in 2013. "We might be the only one that is our size."

The Herald Trumpets are a performing element of The U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own." Based at Fort Myer in Arlington, Virginia, the Herald Trumpets are the official fanfare ensemble to The President of The United States.









What Lee Newby Jr. wants younger generations to know about World War II is that Americans were a fighting machine, a country that "really got it together after Pearl Harbor."

Born in 1923 in Tennessee, Newby is a World War II veteran who served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1942-1946.

Newby, who now resides in Warren, graduated with honors from Merry High School in Jackson,

Tennessee in 1941. He was drafted into the Marines at age 18 in 1942, part of the 42nd platoon. Newby was a Montford Pointe Marine- the first African Americans to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps after President Franklin Roosevelt issued an executive order establishing the Fair Employment Practices Commission in June 1941.

The 20,000 recruits, like Newby, trained at Camp Montford Point in Jacksonville, North Carolina. He trained at Camp Montford Point for three months, then eventually was shipped off to the Pacific Theater of Operations.

"I went to boot camp in North Carolina, to Camp Pendleton in California, to New Caledonia, to Solomon Islands," he said, recalling the areas he was stationed at during the war.

Newby explained that in his Marine unit as a corporal, he worked in a warehouse, where all kinds of weapons were kept.

"With the guns, I would remove the wax off them, and if a gun broke down, I would call to get new parts and they would send me the parts for that weapon," he said.

It was at Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands in 1944 where Newby was injured, an incident that left over 60% of his body burned.

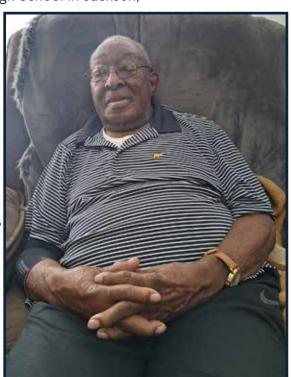
"There was airplane fuel and someone set it on fire and blew up," he recalled. "It hit me in the chest and I started running and was told to hit the deck and roll over to put the flames out. The next thing I know, they bandaged me up like a mummy, and they took the dead skin off."

It wasn't until after the war had ended when Newby recovered from his injuries. He was discharged from the Marines in January 1946.

After the war, Newby worked for the state of Michigan for 12 years, then spent nearly 20 years at the city of Detroit as a janitorial supervisor, retiring in 1986. Newby has four children, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. His wife, Mary, passed away in 1992. The couple married in 1961.



Annette Huldana Squire Henry was born in New Haven, Connecticut on July 29, 1840. She met attorney Russell Alexander Alger in 1860, marrying the following year. Russell Alger went off to fight in the Civil War that September and rose rapidly through the military ranks. He would go on to became governor of Michigan, and in 1897, U.S. Secretary of War. One of Annette and Russell's sons was Russell Alexander Alger, Jr. His home, The Moorings, is what is now called the Alger House in Grosse Pointe Farms and is home to The War Memorial Association. Annette Alger moved into the home, residing on the second-floor southwest corner bedroom until her death in the house on Aug. 24, 1919. She was laid out for viewing at The Moorings.



# SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

The War Memorial's outdoor event venue, Les Braves Park and Gardens, is the perfect location to enjoy the bliss of lakeside breezes and the sense of community that comes from experiencing live, outdoor performances. All are welcome as we turn the back lawn of the historic Alger House into a concert venue with a community greenspace for all to enjoy. Sit back and relax - you're guaranteed a summer evening you won't forget.



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## The Great Crusade Lecture Series at The War Memorial Presented by Steve Mrozek



This summer, we are excited to welcome Steve Mrozek, Executive Director of the Selfridge Military Air Museum, to The War Memorial as he presents three noteworthy lecture topics on Normandy, France. The series began in June with the lecture "The Road to the Great Crusade," where he highlighted the significant events that lead to the Normandy invasion.

Mrozek has had an extensive career working with historical museums where his enthusiasm about military history has fueled his dedication to the field. His 26-year long career serving in the Army National Guard also explains his passion and return to Selfridge. Mrozek served over ten years in

Company F, 425th Infantry, a Long Range Surveillance unit stationed at Selfridge until deployed to Afghanistan in 2007 attached to the 82nd Airborne. In May 2020, Mrozek joined the Selfridge Military Air Museum as a volunteer and later climbed his way to become the Executive Director of the museum in February 2021.

"The Airborne Phase of Overlord" on Tuesday, July 11th will share Mrozek's expertise on the equipment and training that paratroopers and glider-borne troops used in 1944 against the extensive airborne assault as well as sharing what it took to insert three allied airborne divisions within enemy lines.

Tuesday, August 8th will be the final lecture titled "Operation Cobra, The Beachhead Break Out." It will explore the overlooked aspect of the Normandy campaign and the consequential risks that were involved. Mrozek will dive into how the armies of the allied nations fought in the challenging hedgerow in Normandy.

For more information on The Great Crusade Lecture Series, visit www.warmemorial.org/speakers

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## SUMMER WORKSHOPS

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Acrylic Workshop Friday, September 15th

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## at home in the Pointes

#### **By Lauren McGregor**

fter extensive house hunting, Jennifer Barnes was getting anxious.

Finally, she and husband Scott, toured the Grosse Pointe Farms home that would become theirs. The interior of the house was updated, open concept and completely ideal for the family of four.

The exterior, on the other hand, "needed a complete renovation."

Barnes wanted to change so much, in fact, that she didn't know where to begin. Instead of tackling the exterior project by project, she enlisted the help of Jamie Mertz, today of Mertz & Casazza and Maple & Mill.

"It was the best decision I made," says Barnes. "His skills and talent are second to none. His design was love at first sight. I didn't feel the need to change any of his original ideas."

The wish list she provided Mertz included adding dimension, contrast and texture to the façade, changing the color scheme, and completely redoing the walkway. He did all of this and more.

At Mertz's recommendation, Greater Detroit Landscaping redid the landscaping and added a stone walkway and porch. They also found painters to remove and repaint the brick.

"When we took the white paint off, there was a stark orange brick," says Barnes. "We played with whitewash and color on the side of the house and landed on Benjamin Moore's White Dove."

Other changes included the addition of copper gutters, copper roofs to each porch and bay window, a new garage





door, walkway pillars, new electrical and new shutters.

"My favorite element is probably the new pillars and the new porches, the adding of dimension," says Barnes. The pillars are crowned with real copper light fixtures from New Orleans, a testament to the project's level of detail.

"It was a big project," says Barnes. "Neighbors and passersby were constantly watching the progress."

The community at large did indeed notice the change. In fact, the home won a Grosse Pointe Farms Beautification Award. Barnes said it felt great to be recognized for all that they'd invested in the home.

In the end, Barnes ended up with the house of her dreams, "our forever home." 9

#### Left, the copper roofs on the front and side porches and the bay window are a favorite feature

Top and bottom photos by John F. Martin Photography; all photos courtesy of Jennifer Barnes



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Celebrating five years with more Seed Stations, new music videos and — hopefully — a 'Hot Fudge'-inspired children's entertainment documentary!

ive years in and Gro-Town is blossoming out of control. Founder Danielle Carlomusto has taken her children's gardening entertainment hub from her Grosse Pointe Woods backyard to across the country, with appearances on CBS Detroit, Live In the D, TEDx Talk, an upcoming documentary and all the way to the first round Grammy ballot.

About "Green Album" making the Grammy ballot, Carlomusto says, "Most of the nominees are on either coast. It felt like the door softly opening."

The album, like everything Gro-Town

#### **By Lauren McGregor**

produces, is about celebrating, elevating and validating the small moments that comprise the life of a small child.

"Entertainment often focuses on what a child can become, what they're going to be, but I want to communicate that 'you're just a really great kid now.' Honoring the present," says Carlomusto. "A child is a whole, complete person."

She laments the escalating competition for children's attention. "Children's shows are getting louder and faster. What exactly is the end game? I want a child to feel gratitude



New coloring sheet by Brandon Nagy

for these small moments. to celebrate the growth of a pepper, to revel in discovering their shadow on the ground." In her music videos, albums and children's podcast, Carlomusto wants the lessons

to speak

aro-town.com

to qualities innate in every child – empathy, connection, hope, patience, faith.

Her next music video for the song "Peaches and Apples" will be about all the different ways love can look.

Many of the songs, with more videos to follow, focus on her core theme of gardening. Gro-Town's beloved Seed Stations are being planted further and further from their original location in her Grosse Pointe Woods yard.

"To make new Seed Stations this year, I reached out to Michigan Box Company in Detroit and they got back to me right away," says Carlomusto. "They said 'let's design these boxes, put our logo on them, and we will donate them.' Now we have these super sturdy Seed Stations that will last more than a year."

Community, she says, is what it's all about. That was also true in her partnership with local artist Brandon Nagy. "He created the new, free coloring sheet available at gro-town.com," says Carlomusto. "I think it's important to offer free stuff because children need it, something that creates a sense of ownership, and parents need these kind of resources."

Speaking of local partnerships, Carlomusto is thrilled to announce Gro-Town's new partnership with Michigan Science Center and LEGO's Build the Change program.

"Gro-Town is the community example of 'Build the Change.' It's the introduction to the program in Detroit," she says. "The program's upcoming theme is 'Rewilding Urban Areas' and Gro-Town will illustrate how that is being done."

Detroit's agriculturally progressive landscape is unprecedented, says Carlomusto. "As much as we know about other Detroit things, we should know about its farming, its agriculture. There is so much made here, for you, by you."

Also distinct to Detroit is the documentary Carlomusto is currently working on. "The working title is 'The People in Our Neighborhood.' It's about 'Hot Fudge,' a show featuring puppets and people in Detroit, much like Sesame Street. It was beloved and unceremoniously ended." The children's show ran from 1976 to 1980.

Carlomusto was recently watching old episodes uploaded to YouTube and struck by the lack of attention surrounding the show today.

"I sent a message on the show's Facebook page and the daughter of one of the creators got back to me immediately. Original cast and creators are all still around and want to tell their story."

Carlomusto describes some of the fascinating scenes on 'Hot Fudge,' like a ride on a Detroit streetcar. It was a children's television show of great substance. Carlomusto is passionate about telling its story and is seeking financial support for production. Detroit Historical Museum has offered to provide footage and she is receiving guidance for the documentary from Steve



Byrne, former entertainment editor for the Detroit Free Press and Freep Film Fest organizer. Funding, she says, is her only obstacle.

If you would like to help with "The People in our Neighborhood" funding, find Gro-Town albums, music videos, podcast, TEDx Talk, coloring sheets and more, visit gro-town.com.

"Celebrating the small things has led to so many big things for Gro-Town and I can't wait to see what's next! Thank you to all the young families who have grown right along with us. Cheers to five years!"



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## DRIVING GROSSE POINTE

**By Robert Musial** 

he kind of classic car that Harold Ruttan ended up with makes sense. For more than 25 years, he sold Mercedes Benz automobiles, beginning in 1986 with a stint at the Wood Motors dealership on Eight Mile and Gratiot.

Though the dealership is long gone, Ruttan, of Grosse Pointe Woods, has fond memories of the place. "Don Wood and his family were wonderful to work for. They treated their employees great," he says, noting that former staffers still get together even though the store has been closed for many years.

*So, tell me about your car.* It's a 1991 Mercedes Benz 190E,

often referred to as "the baby Benz." It's a straight-six, automatic, fourdoor, five passenger car. The color is "Signal Red", and it has a palomino (tan) interior.

*How did you come to get it?* I actually sold it to my dad in 1991 and it's been in the family since then and we have no plans to get rid of it.

What do you like about the car?

It runs perfectly. It's quiet, there's no squeaks or rattles and everything works. It has a great ride and it's fun to drive. It has a moon roof and power windows and power seats, and the air conditioner still works — it's like a meat locker.

## Have you had any work done to it?

No. It's straight from the factory and all-original. Well, actually, it came with a cassette tape player, and I put in a Kenwood CD player. But that's it.

#### Do you drive it a lot?

No, it's garage-kept. Never out in the snow; it's a fair-weather car. But we go up to Marine City and St. Clair in it and have had it in car shows in Grosse Pointe Shores and Redford.

Any favorite memories of it? Yeah. Seeing my mom and dad in it, seeing my parents driving it. **P** 



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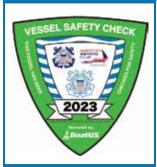
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## BY LAND OR BY SEA The Whiskey Six, WaterMark have you covered

#### **By John Minnis**

estaurateurs faced serious challenges during the pandemic. Just staying in business was considered a success. That is why Dino Ropotos, owner of WaterMark Bar and Grille on The Nautical Mile, initially balked at the idea of taking over another restaurant: The Whiskey Six in The Village of Grosse Pointe.

"I was like, 'Nah, I'm not ready," Ropotos recalls saying when first approached by The Whiskey Six. "And then all of a sudden it came back on my lap and it was kind of a sign for me to say, 'you know what, maybe you need to look into something to go back into Grosse Pointe and be in the heart of Grosse Pointe."

So last fall, Ropotos quietly bought The Whiskey Six.

"I've just kind of got my feet wet," he says. "I wanted to see what's really going on here, what the people are really looking for. You know, I'm all about the food, so I've really just been concentrating on my menu, our food, and trying to move it into not just a bar atmosphere but into a restaurant. So you can come in and have a great dinner instead of just a standard old chicken wings and nachos."

The Whiskey Six was opened in the summer of 2015 as an homage to Detroit's — and Grosse Pointe's — rich Prohibition-era bootlegging history and serves Michigan whiskeys and craft beers.

The name, The Whiskey Six, reportedly refers to the workhorse six-cylinder engines powering the bootleggers' Buick and Studebaker trucks hauling Canadian whiskey, as illustrated by the iconic photo of such a truck falling through the ice on Lake St. Clair/Detroit River.

While Ropotos, a lifelong Grosse Pointer, is fond of the rum-runner history, he wants The Whiskey Six to be about more than booze.

"I am still keeping the name," he says, "but looking into having more of a restaurant instead of just whiskey. You can still get that. We gave 25 great taps and on top of it be able to get a really good meal.

"So it's not just great whiskey and







drinks but also just great food. I'm in the restaurant business. I'm not into the nightclub and that kind of thing."

Ropotos took the same good food and family approach when he acquired the defunct Tin Roof, a known nightspot on The Nautical Mile, in the summer of 2016. The first things to go were the disco balls hanging from the ceiling.

"It just needs a lot of cosmetic work. This building has good bones," Ropotos said at the time.

Originally the Beach Grill, the 20,000-square-foot building with massive wooden deck and tiki bar was built in 1997 at a cost of \$6.5 million. After 15 years, the Beach Grill owner retired in 2012. The building was purchased by Jefferson Beach Marina. Tin Fish operated the restaurant/nightclub until 2015.

"We've really evolved after COVID hit us; it really took a toll tremendously, especially on the boating industry," Ropotos says of WaterMark. "We've struggled through, but fast forward and here we are, 2023. The boaters and marina have been extremely good to work with. We've been working totally on our service and our food. So we're really excited about this year, especially because we are finally getting people to come back in the workforce. There's a little light at the end of the tunnel."

Going forward, WaterMark manager Cindi Methric says they will be revamping their website to make online ordering and carryout more convenient for residents and boaters.

With WaterMark Bar and Grille sailing along and The Whiskey Six firing on all cylinders, Ropotos is looking forward to a great post-pandemic summer.

Speaking of The Whiskey Six menu, Ropotos says, "I must have taken out items and added items a good four times so far. I finally nailed it down to what I really think is a good menu. It's a good solid menu. It's got everything from a nice

octopus to Arancini balls, which are the rice balls. We have butter boards. Just a good core of apps. You can still sit at the bar and have some appetizers that are really good and filling. And if you're looking for a nice filet, we do that also. We run a lot of specials, so every day there are new specials happening."

Back at WaterMark, its claim to fame besides its gorgeous banquet room — is the "largest deck on The Nautical Mile."

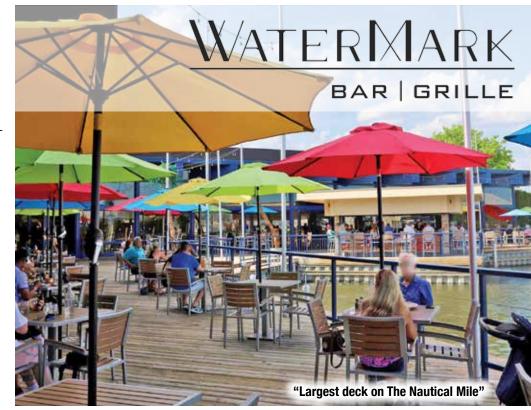
"Everyone wants to be outside," Methric says. "We also do entertainment. Every Thursday we have Jody Raffoul, we're full. So that's also really nice. And then I've got some other bands peppered in on the weekends, either Fridays or Saturdays throughout the year."

Oh, did we mention? WaterMark is open year-round!

Follow WaterMark and The Whiskey Six on Facebook/Instagram or online: watermarkbarandgrille.com, thewhiskeysix.com.



The Whiskey Six reportedly got its name from the six-cylinder 1928 Studebaker, featured in the restaurant, that was a favorite among Detroit bootleggers.



## Choosing a new path and the birth of a luxury brand

#### **By Lauren McGregor**

hen we last spoke to Missy Kordas Stines, owner and founder of Cheese to Please, she was tailoring the business to the needs of the pandemic and only hinting at the possibility of a brick and mortar store. Now, two years later, Stines is seated on the booth of her luxury chic boutique and the exhale is audible.

The community reception, she says, has been, "Incredible. It has been an overwhelmingly supportive response."

When she opened the doors at 19583 Mack Ave. in Grosse Pointe Woods, Stines was so excited to watch someone enter the boutique that she started a customer photo series on social media. The trend continues today, with many a happy customer documented on Cheese to Please's popular Instagram account. It wasn't always smiles though.

"It started as the hardest time in my life, going through a divorce. I found myself in a devastating place. Either I was going to bury myself in the sand or I was going to start a new path in life."

She chose a new path.

"Never in a million years did I think this is where I'd be." Stines has a long family history in the food industry and her father warned her against

joining it, she laughs. Her passion for food and design won out and Cheese to Please was started in 2019.

"There were several times I wanted to throw in the towel, but I couldn't give up. It was a challenge. I didn't sleep a lot. But I kept seeing a bigger picture," says Stines. "I knew if I just kept going for it, I could make it happen."



When she toured the space that would become Cheese to Please, Stines had to use her imagination. "It was a dog wash, with pink walls and the tubs still installed. But I could see the physical space, what it could be."

With the renovation, Stines "took it down to the studs." The process, during the pandemic, was laborious and behind schedule. "But I wasn't going to open the doors until it was exactly what I





Middle far left, the store 'before' with the tubs from its days as a dog grooming business; bottom left and middle, Cheese to Please today; left, Missy with children William, Bradley and Peyton in her iconic Volkswagen Beetle envisioned," she says. "A little oasis Napa chic boutique on Mack."

That time came in October of 2022. She soon joined the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce and celebrated the ribbon cutting this May.

Today, the boutique is bustling. Not just with online order pickups, but with a boutique of hand-picked gifts, grab-andgo grazing boards and more. And Cheese to Please still offers delivery. Anything you can send flowers for, you can send a Cheese to Please board for, points out Stines.

She is particular about the term 'grazing board.' "It's not just charcuterie or cheese. These are conversation pieces. They offer people a chance to try new things and enjoy the company they are with. I love that these are there for people during their special moments."

However, these meticulously curated materials come at a price. The cost of ingredients has more than doubled. Even so, Stines hasn't doubled the prices.

"Cost is important. I want people to feel they are getting true

value. I want all customers to love each board as much as I do and to feel like they're getting something luxurious."

Her signature rounds are a major seller and a personal favorite. "They travel well, the lid makes an excellent tray, and they hold up well in the refrigerator."

Stines first set her hours to match her children's school schedule. With the added staff, she is now able to extend her hours, as well as fulfill orders with 24 hours' notice as opposed to the previous 48 hour minimum. Of course, holidays will sell out before that timeframe.

"The team, who have become my friends, has made all the difference," says Stines.

But instead of reveling in a successful first year and resting, she is amping up the offerings.

First, there's a featured wine every month, paired

to match boards. The featured bottles of wine start at \$25 and top out around \$40. "We always want to offer something affordable but very tasty."

Stines is currently having a wine wall installed for higher priced wines. "It will always be a specialized selection of artisan wine you can't find everywhere."

Another exciting addition to Cheese to Please is a monthly workshop. The first Thursday of every month, the shop hosts a two-hour build-a-board and wine tasting experience. For \$75, the workshop includes all materials and instruction to build a grazing board and for an additional \$25, a wine tasting. It's a laid back and intimate atmosphere, where attendees are invited to sip, shop and socialize.

Stines is already thinking beyond these new offerings. "We'd love to expand to other locations. We have a ton of westside customers, a lot of loyal customers."

Where does her inspiration come from? "My children are my biggest motivation. They're so excited about Mommy starting a business. It's a family business.

"I can't dream small," she adds. "When my kids say they want Cheese to Please all over the world, I say why not?"

To learn more, visit cheesetoplease. com or visit the boutique at 19583 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Woods.

Top, Liz Bsharah, Sheri Reith, Missy Stines, Kathy Driscoll and Megan Corey; middle, the many shapes and sizes of grazing boards; bottom, Missy, Peyton, Bradley and William at the ribbon cutting this May Opposite page: Top photo and bottom right photo by Kat Stevenson Photography; 'Before' photos and bottom left courtesy of Missy Kordas Stines; bottom middle photo by Lauren McGregor; This page: Top and bottom photos by Kat Stevenson Photography; middle photos by Missy Kordas Stines

59





#### **By Anne Erickson**

Center enters its 16th year in 2023.

The longstanding event raises funds for the Assumption Cultural Center community programs, as well as various charities. It takes place

Aug. 17-20 at 21800 Marter Road in St. Clair Shores/Grosse Pointe Woods.

Greekfest offers a wide variety of events for all ages. There's Greek dancing, music, delicious food and pastries, entertainment, rides for the kids, giant slides, inflatables, magicians, clowns, games, jugglers and more. The event's raffle features a bevy of great prizes, including a \$10,000 Grand Prize; Second Prize – Meira T Gold Diamond necklace, donated by Ahee Jewelers

"We are proud to be putting it on every year. Especially now that the pandemic is over, we're getting back to normal and expect this year to be a banner year!"



(\$3,170 value); Third Prize — \$500 and Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Prizes — \$200. New this year is a daily 50/50 Raffle!

"It's a very exciting event, and it's electric and enjoyable," says Tom Thomas, who is co-chair along with George Dallas, Bob DeWaele, Nick Moschouris and Achilles Papakonstantinou. "We are proud to be putting it on every year. Especially now that the pandemic is over, we're getting back to normal and expect this year to be a banner year! Church tours provide a view of the interior Iconography and history. The Marketplace brings vendors from the U.S. and Greece who provide a unique variety of items for shopping, including Icons, art, photography, jewelry, oil paintings, handmade crafts, home accessories, imported women's clothing and more!

"It's become a giant class reunion for the community," adds Administrator Joan DeRonne. "So many people get together with friends they haven't seen in years! Many out of state family members

Photo courtesy of Assumption Cultural Center

come home to visit during the festival."

Of course, the Greek cuisine is super popular and many guests attend every day to enjoy the variety of food offered. For those who want to grab and go, the festival has a drive-through where you can order all of your food online or call and pick it up.

As for where the funds go, the event is mainly a fundraiser for the church's great community programs, including the Assumption Nursery School and Assumption Cultural Center. In addition, the event's charities this year include Focus Detroit, Cops for Kids and Cass Community Social Services.

The event always draws a great crowd — usually around 10,000 attendees. Good memories are had by all.

"We look forward to seeing our friends and neighbors, and the great joy of the many volunteers who make this event possible," says DeRonne.

For more information, visit https:// www.assumptionfestival.com/ or call (586) 779-6111.

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Photo by Lauren McGregor

## SUMMER IN THE PARK

ummer has arrived in Grosse Pointe and along with it the various summer festivals and activities in the Park. However, staple events like After 6 on Kercheval will be running with a few changes this year due to budget adjustments, demographic shifts and staff losses.

Grosse Pointe Park Director of Parks and Recreation Chad Craig believes that changing up the routine and some of the activities will increase engagement and ensure a good time.

"This year's big focus is local bands," says Craig. "We'll also have a lot of activities like carnival rides

#### By Sofia Boddy

and our fundraiser. The dunk tank, for example, is something usually Little League teams will do to raise money. We'll also have food trucks, entertainers and a bunch of street vendors selling a variety of goods from T-shirts to soaps to jewelry and more."

The dates for After 6 on Kercheval are July 22 and Aug. 26.

"Due to the budget, we're only doing one Charlevoix street party where we used to do three. It's going to rotate in different areas and that one's going to be on September 16," Craig says. "It's being geared more toward adults, whereas After 6 is much more familyfriendly."

The ability to balance the offerings between adults, children and mixed event settings is a benefit of Grosse Pointe Park.

"Our motto is, "This is the place to raise a child', so we put a lot of emphasis on family-friendly activities. That's why we try to do a lot of stuff in the park and out in our business district. It's nice having a business district. It shows the community what they're getting when they come to us."

Visit grossepointepark.org for event updates and listings of each festival's offerings. 9

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## CHRISTMAS IN



### at FORD HOUSE

t might be peak summer temperatures outside but at Ford House, the jolly old elf himself and Mrs. Claus are stopping by as part of their summer vacation! And they are bringing special news about this winter's holidays at Ford House.

On Tuesday, July 25, at 12 p.m., Ford House will host "Christmas in July" with a special experience featuring Santa and Mrs. Claus. Arriving at the historic estate in their red Ford Mustang convertible, the beloved Christmas couple will spread holiday cheer as they announce Ford House's new winter holiday event, "Home for the Holidays at Ford House."

"Home for the Holidays at Ford House" is a new winter experience, combining the best features from several years of Christmas programming. From November 24 to December 31, visitors can enjoy an evening walk throughout the historic estate with glittering white lights surrounding them. They can then explore the first floor of the Main Residence and marvel at its understated elegance, a look inspired by Eleanor Ford's tastes and wishes.

"We are so thrilled to bring this new event to our guests," says Mary Ann Bauman, Ford House Public Events and Engagement Manager. "Our guests have shared their favorite moments from previous years, and we've gathered those together to make 'Home for the Holidays at Ford House' a truly magical experience the longtime visitors and first-time guests will all enjoy."

"Christmas in July," which will take place outside the Ford House main residence, is a way for folks to snag those coveted holiday event tickets early. Tickets to the July event are free, but reservations are recommended. Visitors can sign up to attend by visiting www.fordhouse.org/ christmasinjuly.

Tickets to "Home for the Holidays at Ford House" go on sale to Ford House members at 12:30 p.m. on July 25, immediately following the "Christmas in July" celebration. Tickets for the public go on sale on Tuesday, August 1.

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## Meet William

Name: William Walker

Age: 3 1/2

City: Grosse Pointe Woods

God Bless You and Good Night

Parents: Jenny & Tyler Walker

Siblings: Jacob, 2, and Emelia, 2 months

### **Favorites**

Outdoor Activity Riding his tractor Food Cereal, Lucky Charms

Game Pretend swords School Subject Recess and Music Vacation

Book

Going to grama and grandfather's cottage

What do you want to be when you grow up? Work with Jacob in our own company cutting grass and picking weeds Thing to do with family

Going on walks every night (either to the park or to Aunt Sammy's house to see Alex and Jocelyn)

Who do you look up to and why? Jacob because he is a good listener and plays nicely

## About William

William loves to play with his little brother, Jacob, and loves to hold his new sister, Emelia. He loves seeing his neighbors Sara and Kenny on the other side of the fence. He also loves playing with his cousins, especially Alex and Jocelyn who live in the same neighborhood.

Meet Emelia

Name: Emelia Walker City: Grosse Pointe Woods

Parents: Jenny & Tyler Walker Birthdate: May 8, 2023

Siblings: Jacob, 2, and William, 3 1/2

### About Emelle in Mommy and Daddy's words



Photo by Caitlyn Thomas Photography

This little one was so eager to meet us, she was born two weeks early. She is the happiest little baby and is adored by all who meet her. She only fusses when she is hungry or needs her diaper changed. She has the cutest dimple on her left cheek. She loves being held by her big brothers and snuggling with Mama and Da.



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# Meet Brody

## What unique skill do you possess and what skill would you like to learn?

I am considered a throwback 'gear head.' That means I understand mechanical and electrical systems and can get just about anything working. Since I was a little boy, I would scavenge trash days to find electronic devices being thrown away, and summarily rip them apart to see how they worked. I graduated to engines and am currently working on doing an electric motor conversion to a '50s marine engine for a dingy.

My ambition is to learn naval architecture and marine engineering at the college level.

#### If you could have three wishes granted, what would they be?

Own my own marina, and live my days surrounded by boats and everything related to boats.

Eat cold pizza for breakfast and lunch, and mac and cheese for dinner every day.

World peace ... but I would settle for people just treating one another with a modicum of humility.

#### What accomplishment are you most proud of?

Assuming the Grosse Pointe South Solar Car Club Presidency and assembling a diverse team of talented students in various areas, creating a working vehicle by the end of the school year. During the process, I taught myself how to TIG weld, which means fabricating an aluminum frame from scratch. Senior year will focus on refinement and ensuring the solar system is robust enough to power the vehicle in national competition.

#### What are your favorite qualities about yourself?

Kind, compassionate and super low maintenance in general. Give me a t-shirt, shorts and flip flops, and I am good to go.

Name	Brody Yeloushan
Age	17
City	Grosse Pointe Farms
School	Grosse Pointe South
Parents	Colleen & Adam Yeloushan
Sibling	s Adam II, 19, and Camille, 13

## Brody's Favorites

**School Subject AP** Chemistry Book 10 Little Rubber Ducks by Eric Carle Movie Captain Ron **Musical Artist** Billy Joel **Outdoor Activity** Being on Lake St. Clair, anyway, anyhow Food Mac and cheese Vacation Thailand

**Extracurricular Activity** Grosse Pointe South High School Solar Car Club

## About Brody

"I am your average, everyday, easygoing dude. I am the product of my parents moving me all over the country for corporate moves, which means I am highly resilient and take things in stride.

My passion is sailing, and anything associated with boats. I love my family, as well as my cat, Vader, and dog, Obi Wan.

I find respite in Facebook Marketplace, where there is a neverending supply of 'free stuff' where I can tinker to my heart's content."





GROSSE POINTE MAGAZINE JULY-AUGUST 2023

## GP Rotary scholars take a bow

**By John Minnis** 

he Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe awarded scholarships to seven students from the class of 2023 at Grosse Pointe North and South High Schools.

Recipients of the Frank J. Sladen Scholarships were Desmond Charlet, Martin Daher and Heavenly Reeves from North and Savanna Cardaris, Madison Duff and Jane Kuhnlein from South.

Charlet plans to study aviation technology at the MIAT College of Technology and, after graduating from the two-year program, hopes to be employed by Delta at Detroit Metropolitan Airport. Daher will be enrolling at Notre Dame University in electrical engineering, and Reeves plans to study psychology at Michigan State University.

Cardaris is a co-op student at South working to be an esthetician and make-up artist and plans to study business at Oakland University. Duff will major in applied mathematics at Brown University. Kuhnlein plans to



From left, Grosse Pointe Rotary Frank J. Sladen Scholarship recipients: mother Lauri Read representing her daughter Jane Kuhnlein and Savannah Cardaris from Grosse Pointe South High School; Heavenly Reeves, Grosse Pointe North; Madison Duff, Grosse Pointe South; and Desmond Charlet and Martin Daher, Grosse Pointe North.

study economics at the University of Michigan.

The Frank J. Sladen Scholarship recipients were introduced by club Scholarships Committee Chair Mark Weber, who told the story of beloved past club President Frank Sladen, a decorated World War II veteran who lost a leg while rescuing a fellow soldier. "Despite his debilitating injuries, his personal commitment and philosophy was 'have faith and be of good courage.' And we've named our Rotary scholarships, Have Faith and Be of Good Courage."

The Max Gardner Interact Scholarship was introduced by past President Judy Masserang and Kevin Cox, South teacher/Interact Club adviser and club Rotarian. The scholarship is named after the past president, district governor and active club member for 41 years. "He was a psychiatrist by profession and helped Rotary and our community in many ways, especially with youth," Masserang said of Gardner.

This year's Max Gardner Interact Scholarship was awarded to Meredith Tiderington, president of the Interact Club at Grosse Pointe South High School.

"I'm proud to honor Meredith Tiderington as this year's Max Gardner Scholarship recipient," Cox said. "Meredith helped guide the club through many service projects this year." P

Photos by John Minnis



Max Gardner Scholarship recipient Meredith Tiderington with Gail and Mark Zmyslowski, daughter and son-in-law of scholarship's namesake, Max Gardner. Mark Zmyslowski is a past club president and district governor of Rotary.



Grosse Pointe South Interact Club members Jane Maxwell, vice president; Meredith Tiderington, president; and Maeve Hix, treasurer. Not shown: Anamaria Garberding, Rotary intern.

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There are many reasons that premiums for homeowners and auto insurance are increasing in 2023. This also affects how the insurance carriers pay claims. Inflation is partially to blame for across-the-board price hikes, experts say, but climate change and fraud are also behind major premium increases in certain areas.

When claims go up in your area, everyone's premiums can be impacted, even if you didn't have an accident or make a claim. Rates might stabilize in the future, but for now, insurance companies have to raise premiums to compensate for this overall higher risk.

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here is nothing like seeing the checkered bunting strung over Kercheval on The Hill. And it can only mean one thing — Racing for Kids to The Hill.

This marks the 17th year for the popular street festival, which will take place Wednesday, Aug. 30. In recent years, attendees have been dazzled by the addition of motorcycle stunts in this constantly growing event.

"We're so excited for the 17th year of Racing for Kids to The Hill. It is an amazing community event that directly benefits children in our region," says Co-chair Tom Buhl. "Over the years, we have raised \$2 million and that number is growing. Please join us and show your support. It's all about the kids!"

The street fair runs from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and includes live music, exciting motorsports demonstrations, art stations, a scavenger hunt and more. The evening VIP reception from 6-9 p.m. will have more heart-stopping demos, live and silent auctions, food, cocktails and live music. Racing For Kids® is a 501(c)3 national charity, which supports children when they are most vulnerable — sick and hospitalized. Racing For Kids uses its distinctive position within the racing world to bring attention and funding to child health institutions.

At the heart of the program are visits to children's hospitals around the country by the Racing For Kids celebrity racecar drivers.

Visit racingforkids.org to learn more and purchase tickets for the VIP reception.



#### POINTE | paparazzi

#### St. Paul Catholic School Auction Feb. 4 @ Grosse Pointe Yacht Club

#### Photos by Christine M.J. Hathaway



Jane Cracchiolo, Christi Cracchiolo and Rev. Colin Frick



Faye Maribao, Victor Abuel, Luis Guvara, Jennifer Kenyon and Allison Bieri



Kathryn and Sean Crotty and Amy and Rick Muzingo



John and Jane Kronner and Jill and Ken Andrews



Tina Forsythe, Carolyn Wujek, Rev. Jim Bilot and Sean Schotthoefer



Katie Cichowski, Kristin Shock, Carol Nehra and Maureen Shock

Photos by Christine M.J. Hathaway

#### Over the Moon\* March 4 @ The War Memorial

\*Our Lady Star of the Sea auction



Br. David Preuss, Msgr. Gary Smetanka and Br. Gary Wegner



Julie Barushko and Beth and Greg Ahee



Br. George Kooran, Gerarda Tobin, Br. Mark Joseph Costello, Br. Igor DeBliquy and Brian Joseph



Br. Richard Merling, Chuck Thomas and Br. Gary Wegner



Joette Liamini, Linda Ascenscio and Cathy Saracino



**Connie Smith and Greg DeMars** 

#### POINTE | paparazzi

#### Action Auction May 13 @ The Grosse Pointe Academy



Andre Ahee, Casey Sanders and Stefan and **Brielle Ahee** 



Anthony and Theresa Selvaggio and Joe Ricci



Beth Ahee, Joe and Maureen Kaiser and **Greg Ahee** 



Hon. Dana and Hon. Nick Hathaway



Theresa Sanya and Florence Odunlami



Alexis and Jed Elley



Adetoyinbo Kunle and Kayode Liadi





Powell Corbet, Alexis Elley and Julie Kaiser



Joe and Chloe Jensen



Maureen and Joe Kaiser



#### POINTE | paparazzi

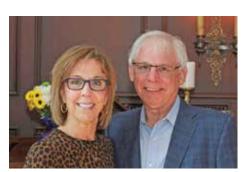
#### An Elegant Evening Of Appreciation\* May 18 @ Manoogian home

#### Photos by Christine M.J. Hathaway

\*Full Circle Foundation



Jane Manoogian, Tom Schoenith and **Richard Manoogian** 



Patty DiVirgil and Mike Locricchio



Mike LeFevre and Susie Starnes



Julia and Don Hoffmann and Stephanie DiVirgil



Sue Banner and Mary Fodell

#### Summer Breeze\* May 19 @ Grosse Pointe Yacht Club

\*Grosse Pointe Youth Nautical Education Foundation



**Past Commodore and GPYNEF President** Jim Morrow



Tom Young, Richard Manoogian and Dr.

**Clark Okulski** 

Mark and Judy Weber, Sloane and Cheryl **Barbour and Sherri and Tymon Totte** 



Photos by Christine Semmler

Tom and Cherie Ritter and Timothy Groustra



Wendy Gutermuth, Patti Anderson and **Renee Seago** 



**Tricia Groustra and Brian and Dana** Schaupeter



Geoff and Katie Horst

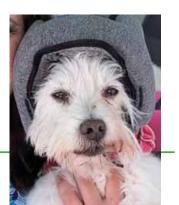






#### AnaBeth Wednesday

AnaBeth Wednesday is the sweetest girl in the world. Unless her body is touching someone else's, she is not happy!



#### Emma

Emma loves wearing PAWNIX to keep her feeling calm and safe during summer storms. She is one happy pup with mom Kirsten Brand in Grosse Pointe Park.



#### Rocco

Rocco was adopted from Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society in April of 2022. He quickly worked his way into his family's home and hearts after they had lost their beloved Silky Terrier, Kerby, in 2021. Rocco loves walks, belly rubs, treats and his family – and they love him right back!



## Teddy

Teddy is Emma's little brother and also a PAWNIX lover. He is active, sweet and always ready to play!



## Melani

Melani was rescued by Janet Peppler and hopes you'll help her mom out by donating to Detroit Dog Rescue today! She's loving life in her forever home.



## Mia

Mia is a sweet dog, as lovable at 13 years old as she was at one. She's older sister to Emma, a rescued pup, and loves her home with Amy Cyrklefsky Jorgensen.

1

## Warm weather dangers for pets

Dr. Jennifer Khalifah

he warm weather is finally here, and it's time to get back outside with your pets! With these hotter temperatures, however, there are also some dangers.

Heat stroke (hyperthermia) is an elevated body temperature and can be life-threatening. It is caused when a pet is left outdoors in hot, humid conditions without adequate shade, left inside a



vehicle without adequate ventilation or even exercising in hot weather. If you think your pet has heat stroke, remove them from the hot environment and seek veterinary care immediately.

Many dogs enjoy swimming, but not all dogs know how to swim! If you have a pool, make sure your dog knows how to get out of it. Use caution if your pool has a cover, and make sure your pet is supervised when in or near the pool.

Mosquitos are not only pests for humans, but can cause heartworm disease in dogs. A simple blood test is recommended annually to test for heartworm and heartworm prevention is also recommended. Fleas and ticks are also a problem and can spread disease, including Lyme's Disease. As with heartworm disease, a simple blood test can screen for such diseases, and flea and tick preventatives are recommended.

Finally, with summer also comes fireworks. Anxiety caused by fireworks can be extreme for some pets. Talk to your veterinarian about the many different options which are now available to help keep your pet calm.

Be sure to get outside and enjoy some beautiful Michigan weather while keeping you and your pets safe!

Dr. Jennifer Khalifah graduated from Michigan State University in 1997. She joined Harper Woods Veterinary Hospital in 2016.

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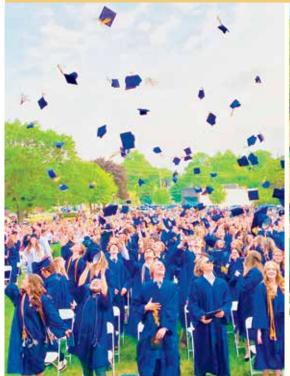
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SUMMER 2023 | ISSUE 10



# SCHOOL POINTES

Good news from the Grosse Pointe Public School System



## GRADUATES AT A Glance

- 607 seniors in the class of 2023
- 119 graduates with a cumulative GPA of 4.0 or higher
- 3 National Merit finalists, 4 semifinalists, 11 commended
- 156 graduates attending college out of state in 35 unique states, 4 countries, 1 territory and DC
- 56 headed to U of M, 109 to MSU
- 3 military including Naval Academy
- 70 attending a top 50 college or university (US News & World Report)
- 15 to trade school (8 last year)
- 33 committed to a college level athletic team or junior hockey



#### HOW DO WE MEASURE SUCCESS?

June is a busy time in our school system. It is a time to celebrate our graduates and their accomplishments, and a time to develop the next year's budget ensuring our fiscal allocations move us closer to the first goal of our strategic plan: GPPSS will cultivate a robust and equitable educational community where all learners are empowered to reach their unique potential.

June is a time to take stock. Did we nurture staff and students' intellectual, physical, mental, and social-emotional growth in healthy, safe, and supportive learning environments? Are we cultivating a talented and diverse workforce who support, nurture and grow all students? Are we providing experiential learning for career and life readiness preparing students for their future? Did we foster effective and meaningful connections among GPPSS community resources?

Our graduates and their accomplishments highlighted here show that we are. And each grade level along the way builds toward their individual successes. Now, as I told our graduates, we get to see them go out and do better than my generation has. I am excited to see what they bring to our world even as we continue our work here. Your voice is important as we seek to continuously improve. Attend our graduations, promotion ceremonies, concerts, parades, open houses, and listening sessions. Help us create the kind of learning environment our students deserve and our community expects.

## GRADUATE QUOTES



North harpist Allicea Sommerville

"Today, we become North graduates," Student Association President Isabella Yoakam concluded. "The home of the Norsemen is now also the home of tomorrow's doctors and lawyers, teachers and psychologists, musicians and engineers, architects and nurses. No matter what challenges we faced these four years, what is important now is that we are all here tonight to celebrate our triumphs, our achievements, our victories both individually and as a school, and the journey on which we have all embarked toward our future destinations." South senior class president Lilly Stidham talked about "stolen moments." "While they may not be quantifiable, we hold on to these memories with white knuckles because they serve as a reminder of why we are here — to live, and experience,"

Trey Russell, pictured below, introduced himself as "the under-achiever, runner-up representing the 80% of our class" in a speech titled "Uncertain, Overjoyed." "But there's merit in being the runner-up, because most of us for most of the time — won't be the best, but it's that place between failure and success that character blossoms."



### COMMUNITY CAMPUS & FULL CIRCLE



#### SAVE THE DATE

9/5/23First Day of School9/22/23North Homecoming Game9/29/23South Homecoming Game10/20/23North South Game/Tailgate

James Gallagher, pictured here with his teacher, Joe Finazzo. participated in an end of the year celebration. Joe helped Jimmy make connections and find meaningful work-based learning opportunities at places like Ace Hardware and Ascension St. John, where he will continue to volunteer. Those interested in learning more about Community Campus or work-based learning (for students or as a job site) may email our transition coordinator Kimberly King kingk@gpschools.org.

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POINTES OF PRIDE

Here are some of the reasons our graduates are so successful:

- Over 90% of parents including at the high school level participate in parent/teacher conferences
- We have a robust curriculum
  - with a 126-page Program of Studies
  - 27 Advanced Placement Courses
  - 7 Career & Technical Ed programs
- Student activities are diverse:
  - 2 Spartan Award winning Student Newspapers
  - 2 Grammy Winning Music Programs
  - 30 Varsity sports, 120 teams
- 18:1 student-to-teacher ratio
- Our teachers are the best
  - 100% of core classes are taught by a highly qualified teacher
  - Music Educator of Year Quarterfinalist (GRAMMY)
  - MSBOA District 16 Orchestra TOTY 2023
  - MSBOA District 16 Band TOTY 2022
  - MI Social Studies Teacher of Year (TOTY) 2022
  - DAFT (Digital Arts Film & TV) Teacher of The Year
     2023

#### THANK YOU

Residents 60+ and GPPSS retirees may obtain a Gold Card for free/reduced price admission to home games, concerts and plays by calling 313-432-3003 or emailing info@gpschools.org. Attending events is also a great way to see your bond and sinking fund dollars at work.

School Pointes is a publication of the Grosse Pointe Public School System. To subscribe to a weekly email, or to submit story ideas or Pointes of Pride, email info@gpschools.org.





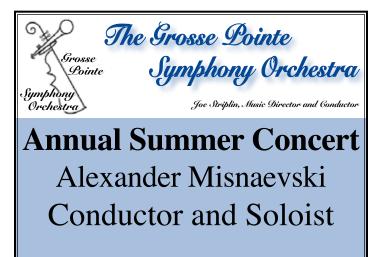
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Wednesday, August 2, 7 p.m.

Lakeside terrace of The War Memorial 32 Lakeshore Road in Grosse Pointe Farms

#### Details and tickets available online at gpsymphony.org



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## Saturday, September 16, 2023

On Lake Shore Road in Grosse Pointe Farms

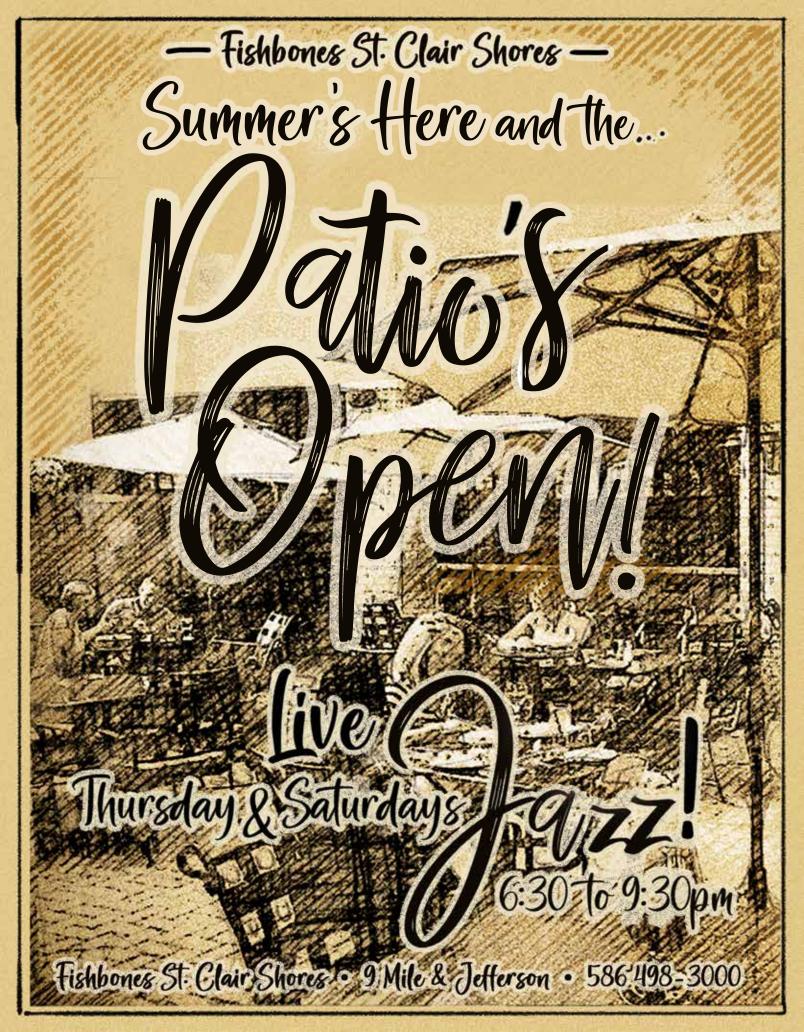
5K & 10K Run • 5K Competitive Walk & 5K Wheelchair • 1 Mile Fun Run & 5K Leisure Walk

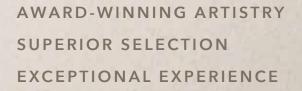
## **IN-PERSON RUN REGISTRATION FORM**

Regis	tration: 7:00 a.m 8:30 a.m	<ul> <li>• 1 Mile Fun Run starts at 8:30 a.m.</li> <li>• <u>5K and 10K Events start at 9:00 a.m.</u></li> </ul>	
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Phone:	E-Mail:		
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EVENT:	ENTRY FEES:	NOW	AFTER 9/1
□ 10K Competitive Run	1 MILE FUN RUN	\$15	\$20
<ul> <li>5K Competitive Run</li> <li>5K Competitive Walk</li> </ul>	ALL OTHER EVENTS	\$30	\$35
□ 5K Wheelchair	SORRY, CAN'T RUN THIS YEAR/DONATION ENCLOSED		
<ul> <li>1-Mile Fun Run</li> <li>5K Leisure Walk</li> </ul>	I CHOOSE TO SKIP THE SWAG THIS YEAR - NO T-SHIRT		
LOCATION:	TOTAL ENCLOSED		
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**NOTE:** ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST WEAR BIB TO BE SCORED • 1 MILE FUN RUN AND 5K LEISURE ARE CLOCK TIMED • EACH PARTICIPANT WILL RECEIVE A T-SHIRT





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