

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 8/3			
	Cases	Deaths	
All Pointes	3,501 (+30)	66 (+0)	
Harper Woods	1,334 (+10)	52 (+0)	

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Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 82, NO. 31, 26 PAGES ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 86¢) *Your community newspaper since 1940* AUGUST 5, 2021 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Annexation nears final settlement

GROSSE POINTE WOODS AND FARMS — Following the annexation of seven Provencal homes from the Woods to the Farms in 2019, the two cities may have finally put the matter to rest, contingent upon approval by Farms council. An agreement signed at a Woods council meeting Monday, Aug. 2, settled that the Farms will

pay the Woods \$160,000, to be spread out as payments of \$40,000 over four years. "When the annexation happened," City Administrator Bruce Smith explained, "part of the statute under annexations allowed for payments from the city that's regaining the property to the other city for things that were there, like

long-term debt, pension. There's all kinds of various things that our city had debt on that these people have a responsibility to reimburse us for. So, we worked with the people in the Farms together and came up with that amount (\$160,000) and that will settle any kind of money that the Farms would owe Grosse

Pointe Woods because of the properties that left." "I am extremely disappointed at the way this whole thing shook out," Woods Councilman Todd McConaghy said as the agreement was approved. "This is the best possible result at this point. I accept that. ... But, I think we all wish this hadn't turned out quite this way."

If the agreement is not signed by both parties, further discussions would take place and the matter could eventually be brought to court. The Woods passed the agreement unanimously. The Farms anticipates discussing the matter at a meeting Monday, Aug. 9.

— Kate Vanderstelt

News to launch 'Best of the Best' contest

Vote Aug. 12-26

There's a certain comfort in knowing where to go for a good meal, the perfect outfit or a strong drink — from coffee to cocktails.

Everyone has businesses they love, places they visit where they are known as regulars. Most everyone has suggested to friends their go-to restaurant for a favorite dish, that fail-safe shop for a last-minute gift or a stylish clothing store whose selections never disappoint.

Whatever the reasons for your regular patronage, the Grosse Pointe News wants to know who tops your list. That's why next week the newspaper officially launches its inaugural "Best of the Best" contest, featuring 33 categories that range from Best Martini to Best

See BEST, page 8A



Above, Lisa Sicklesteel inserts her vote into the ballot machine to be counted. At press time, the Farms received approximately 1,500 absentee ballots. Right, as of Aug. 2, the Park received 1,557 of the 2,162 absentee ballots it issued.

To the polls

Votes cast for the Aug. 3 primary election were not counted by press time. Find results online at grossepointenews.com and in next week's paper.



Forgotten Harvest volunteer Carmen Sluter; Cathy Ireland, a DTE employee volunteering with Forgotten Harvest; and Grosse Pointe Woods Detective Kyle Seidel with one of the donation boxes at the Kroger on Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Food drive success

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Forgotten Harvest, a nonprofit organization based out of Oak Park, produced a food drive outside Kroger stores throughout southeast Michigan Saturday, July 31. The Woods public safety team partnered with the nonprofit for a "first responders food

drive." Woods Detective Kyle Seidel, along with 99.5 WYCD's Holly Hutton and Forgotten Harvest volunteers, posted outside Kroger on Mack to receive nonperishable donations. As shoppers walked

See DRIVE, page 5A

Design engineering begins on infrastructure projects

By Laurel Kraus Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — During its May meeting, Shores city council adopted a notice of intent to issue bonds, not to exceed \$16,300,000, for major water and sewer infrastructure projects. The city now is moving forward with the next steps in the process, including the development of design engineering plans for replacement or rehabilitation of the Cook Road Pump station; replacement of the Lakeshore water main; and pavement, sewer and wa-

ter main rehabilitation for Oxford Road, as well as citywide smoke testing.

Cook Road Pump Station replacement or rehabilitation Labeled the biggest portion of these projects, the Cook Road Pump Station is in need of improvements — these could come in the form of rehabilitation or full replacement of the station, depending on the findings of a basis of design report — to keep it within the maximum allowable flow limit of 3.0

See DESIGN, page 5A

GLWA CEO resigns; firms hired

By Kate Vanderstelt Staff Writer

MICHIGAN — After leading the company five years, Great Lakes Water Authority Chief Executive Officer Sue McCormick announced her official resignation Wednesday, July 28, at a board of directors meeting. At the meeting, the board also decided on engineering and law firms to pursue an after-inci-

dent investigation into the company and provide a report on what may have occurred during recent rain events.

McCormick's resignation came in the midst of the organization coping with massive flooding attributed to GLWA-controlled regions.

"For the past year and a half or so, I have been contemplating my retire-

See RESIGN, page 2A

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Chin Rivard
Home: City of Grosse Pointe
Florist turns hobby into flourishing small business



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DTE now defendant in flood suits

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTE — As grows the chain of apparent infrastructure failures contributing to basement sewage backups during the nighttime storm June 25, so do resulting lawsuits.

Attorneys who two weeks ago acted against the regional water authority and others for failing to operate at least two eastside pumping stations properly during the storm now charge DTE Energy with neglecting to provide those stations reliable electrical power during or about the same time.

“They had problems with the power and it sat there for two or three days,” said Steven Liddle, managing partner of Liddle & Dubin and who successfully pushed for legislation to end government immunity for dam-

ages caused by sewage and stormwater backups.

Liddle doesn't give the Great Lakes Water Authority, Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and, now, DTE a pass due to the downpour's unprecedented volume of up to 8 inches. Some 125 southeast Michigan communities contract with GLWA to handle storm and sewer water.

“They knew it was going to rain a lot,” Liddle said of the public authorities and utility. “We're trying to get justice for the people who had a bunch of sewer water in their basements.”

Of the DTE suit's 14 plaintiffs, 11 live in the Grosse Pointes (three each in Farms, Park and Woods and two in the City). Two are from Detroit and one from Harper Woods.

According to the suit: “Despite knowing about

defects and major cable and conduit damages at the Ludden substation at least two days in advance of the catastrophic flooding event on June 25-26, defendants failed to take reasonable steps to repair and maintain the power instrumentalities at the Ludden substation that provided electricity to the critical Freud Pumping Station in Detroit.

“Further, over the course of at least two days of power outages, defendants also egregiously failed to warn and notify the appropriate governmental agencies or the public about the source of the power outage or the likely duration of its impact on critical sewer and stormwater infrastructure that is necessary to prevent widespread sewage disposal system events.”

GLWA CEO Sue

McCormick, who last week gave 60 days advance notification of her resignation, cited the Ludden substation during a July 2 initial finding of things that went wrong at the Freud and nearby Connors Creek pumping stations and elsewhere before and during the storm.

“On Friday (June 25) at 6:52 a.m., GLWA was informed by its service provider that the Ludden substation, which feeds power into the pump station, was damaged and out of service,” McCormick said. “At the time of notification, our service provider indicated it was working to correct the issue, but the issue was not resolved before the rain event.”

The outage came at the wrong place and time. Freud's backup generators aren't wired to compensate for interruptions from DTE's Ludden facil-

ity.

“(Freud) is configured to provide redundancy to the Porter substation feed only,” McCormick said at the time. “It should be noted that generator power can support only two pumps. Running three pumps on the external feed was the maximum capacity available and that was achieved and sustained.”

Freud is outfitted with six 3,000-horsepower pumps. They operate only during storms. Each pump can move 290 million gallons of water per day, or 1.74 billion combined. By comparison, Lake St. Clair contains about 900 billion gallons.

The power outage cut the station's pumping capacity in half, according to McCormick and the suit.

“Defects in the Ludden substation, which defendants controlled, operated and/or maintained,

were a substantial legal and proximate cause of the flooding and damage of plaintiffs' properties by sewage, water, feces, dirt, debris and noxious odors that occurred on June 25-June 26,” according to the suit. “Defendants failed to take reasonable steps in a reasonable amount of time to repair, correct or remedy the defect.”

“We always want to operate at our firm capacity,” said Navid Mehran, GLWA chief operating officer, wastewater operating services, during a press conference outside Freud station July 22. “However, there are restrictions. If the utility is not available to energize the pumps, there is no ability to operate those pumps. After one or two feeds were down, that restricted the number of pumps we were able to put online.”

RESIGN:

Continued from page 1A

ment,” McCormick said in a letter to GLWA employees. “However, when the COVID-19 pandemic hit, I postponed making this decision because of the challenges placed in front of this organization. Now, as we approach our reconstitution and a return to the office environment this fall by those who have been working on flexible work arrangement, and given all that we have accomplished the first five years of this organization, I believe the time is right.”

McCormick said she attempted to meet with the board prior to the June 25-26 flooding, but it didn't work out.

“While I am extremely

proud of the many accomplishments that we have made during the first five years of GLWA's operations,” McCormick said in a letter to the board, “I intended to inform you during that meeting that I had reached that point in my career where I wished to pursue other options available to me and was not sure I would continue as GLWA's chief executive officer for the full term of a subsequent contract, if it was offered. ... Unfortunately, the June conversation could not take place as scheduled. Shortly thereafter, on June 25 and 26, 2021, this region suffered an unprecedented rain event that defied predictions.”

McCormick's resignation was unanimously accepted at the July 28 meeting. Board of

Directors Chairman John Zech will work with McCormick to set a date for her official departure, as well as set up a process to select an interim CEO. The board hopes to name a transitional CEO during its next scheduled meeting, Wednesday, Aug. 11.

McCormick told the board she will continue to be invested in the water sector.

“We are asked to be taking on a better, perhaps a more challenging role,” she said at the board meeting, “to move from the role that we've had as (wastewater) utilities. ... Certainly as a society, as we have focused on environmental protection, we've closed many of those natural vents that the system had to relieve itself. ... As we begin to talk about flood control and the environment, in which we've had significant changes in storms, I believe we have to reconsider some of that.”

“And that's certainly a platform that I will be talking about in my private life,” she added. “... There will always be a larger storm. We can expand and enlarge local pipe systems. ... But that

water's going to go somewhere. And perhaps it won't be combined sewage in people's basements, but it could be still water in people's basements and equally able to do damage to property. ... This is a system issue. ... It's going to require a lot of partnerships and I think some reconsideration of how we do that in our current regulations, but I'm committed to that in my afterlife when I leave the GLWA.”

Also at the July 28 meeting, the board selected firms to investigate the company in efforts to find reasoning behind flooding during recent severe rain events. Selected was AECOM, a global infrastructure consulting firm, supported by Applied Science Inc., a consulting engineering firm. Attorney Jeffrey Collins of Collins & Collins PC was selected for legal representation.

According to a press release, the firms will focus on “root cause analysis of the pumps and electrical system, electrical power redundancy, an assessment of the entire wastewater system to inform long-term planning and investments to ensure system resiliency for future wet weather events.” They also may give short- and long-term recommendations on how to improve the infrastructure and system as a whole.

McCormick addresses council

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Just days before announcing her resignation, Great Lakes Water Authority CEO Sue McCormick attended the first Grosse Pointe Farms City Council meeting since the June 25-26 rain event.

Following a presentation by City Manager Shane Rees on the event and current mitigation efforts — a basis of design report is about 50 percent complete for an inland district sewer separation north of Moross, partial separation south of Moross and a stormwater pump station and force main — McCormick took the podium to “have a conversation” about what took place with the GLWA pump stations, as well as answer questions from council and residents.

What occurred at the Freud Pump Station during the event, she said, were operational issues related to power deficiency. Because two of the three power lines in the station were down during the storm, only three of the station's seven pumps could run.

According to reports

by Suzanne Coffey, GLWA chief planning officer, a GLWA field team identified a loss of power to the station Tuesday, June 22, after the power supplier had conducted maintenance. When GLWA contacted the supplier about the status of the power supply Wednesday, June 23, it was advised the supply had been damaged and a repair was being worked on. At 6 a.m. Friday, June 25, the power supplier said it would send staff immediately to test the lines. At 2:45 p.m. it reported the repaired lines had failed a performance test and the matter would need to be troubleshooted further to identify the problem. That night the storms hit.

The Connors Creek Pump Station, McCormick said, experienced “a little mechanical failure on a very challenging, old pump station.”

Because there has to be flow in the system for the pumps to run in both stations, the pumps currently do not have the capability to be tested outside of a storm event.

With this in mind, the GLWA is out for design

See COUNCIL, page 3A

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Upcoming 2021 Elections

<p>City of Grosse Pointe (313) 885-5800 grossepointecity.org No salary for Mayor or Council Filing deadline: July 20, 4 p.m. *Terms expiring: Mayor: 2-year term Sheila Tomkowiak Council Members 4-year terms (vote for 3) Maureen Juip Christopher D. Walsh Daniel J. Williams</p>	<p>Grosse Pointe Park (313) 822-6200 grossepointepark.org No salary for Mayor or Council 4-year terms for Council Members; 2-year term for Mayor Filing deadline: April 20, 4 p.m. *Terms expiring: Mayor Michele Hodges Lauri Read Council Members (All face Aug. 3 Primary) Darci McConnell Max Wiener Tim Kolar Brian Brenner Jeff Greer Christine Gallagher Thomas Caulfield Municipal Judge, 4-year term – salary \$23,000. Expires 12-21 Carl F. Jarboe (I) Charissa Potts</p>	<p>Municipal Judge, 4-year term - \$15,000 Charles T. Berschback* Dean C. Metry* Kevin M. Smith* *Aug. 3 Primary</p>
<p>Grosse Pointe Farms (313) 885-6600 grossepointefarms.org Salary: Mayor, \$900, Council Members, \$600 4-year terms for Council Members; 2-year term for Mayor Filing deadline: April 20. *Terms expiring: Mayor: Louis Theros Council Members (vote for 3) Sierra Leone Donaven John Gillooly Beth Konrad-Wilberding Municipal Judge* 4-year term – salary \$30,000 Charles T. Berschback* Dean C. Metry* Kevin M. Smith* *Aug. 3 Primary</p>	<p>Grosse Pointe Shores (313) 881-6565 greshoresmi.gov No salary for Mayor or Council Members 4-year terms for Council Members and Mayor Filing deadline: July 20, 4 p.m. *Terms expiring: Council Members Robert H. Barrette Jr. Sandra Cavataio Matthew Seely Donn Schroder</p>	<p>Grosse Pointe Woods (313) 343-2440 gpwmi.us Salary: Mayor, \$6,000; Council Members, \$3,750 4-year terms for Council Members and Mayor Filing deadline: July 20, 4 p.m. *Terms expiring: Mayor Art W. Bryant (appointed) Council Members Angela Coletti Brown (appointed) Victoria Granger Todd A. McConaghy Thomas Vaughn (appointed)</p>
<p>City of Harper Woods (313) 343-2500 harperwoodscity.org Salary: Mayor, \$2,700, Council Mem- bers, \$2,400 4-year terms for Council Members; 2-year term for Mayor Filing deadline: April 20, 4 p.m. *Terms expiring: Mayor Valerie Kindle Council Members Ernestine Lyons Vivian Sawicki Ivery Toussant Jr. *Unless otherwise specified, all seats expire in November and will be on the Nov. 2, 2021 ballot. Source: LWV-GP</p>		

GROSSE POINTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS:

THE POINTE ART FESTIVAL

Aug. 7th + 8th / 10am-6pm

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Grosse Pointe Farms

WHAT ▼
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Dog Adoption + Beer/Wine Tent

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Beyond Juicery + Eatery, Detroit Wing Co, Grosse Pointe Theatre

Sign up for 'kindness calls' Pointe's Art Festival planned this weekend

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — “A friendly call each morning can make a world of difference for a homebound resident or an elderly person living alone in Grosse Pointe Woods.”

This statement by the public safety department, showcasing its efforts to protect residents' well-being, is from a descriptor of “kindness calls,” a program the Woods invests in to keep residents safe.

Elderly residents living alone can sign up for the calls, made each morning between 7:30 and 9:30 a.m. If the resident does not answer the call after three attempts, an officer is dispatched to their residence to make sure they are OK.

Woods public safety communications dispatcher Agnes Burcar, known around the office as Aggie, is usually the day-dispatcher on duty making the phone calls. She said the program has been in place since before she started in 1987.

“Every morning, you're going to talk to a person that day,” Burcar said of residents who may be considering adding their name to the list. “And it's going to really change your attitude and brighten your mood. Really. It really, really, really works.”

“We're like their lost friend,” she added. “Their lost friend that they really need in a time of need.”

Currently, the department has only one resident on the list, though it's had up to 10 on the list before. The current resident, born in 1933, told Burcar she is “very



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Dispatcher Agnes Burcar makes calls each day to seniors on her list to make sure they are OK and doing well.

happy to talk to someone every morning. The call actually gives (her) importance and value.”

Burcar said the call usually consists of chit-chatting and reminders of things going on in daily life.

“She is witty,” Burcar said of the resident currently on the list. “She is sharp. The way she talks, she just makes me laugh. We laugh for hours. ...

And then, you know, I ask, especially when there's a storm, ‘Did you have any issues at your house? Is your power on? Electric on?’ (I) tell them about the daylight saving time (change). I find things to chit chat about. If there's any prominent phone scams ... I pass that information on to them. On Sundays, it's quieter, so we talk a little longer.”

Burcar said it's a special service for residents and it has its own kind of impact on her life as well. She recounted attending many funerals of resi-

dents she called daily.

The department aims to protect and serve, according to Burcar, and therefore will assist in any modifications to help better serve residents through the service.

She said having to wait around for a call shouldn't stop people from signing up.

“If they don't want to hang around for two hours, if they're going out, they can call us,” she said. “Or if they're up at four in the morning, they can call and tell the dispatcher they are on the call list.”

“I'm just trying to make it work for more seniors, because it's awesome.”

Residents may sign up for just a few months, if they'd like. The service also may be easily suspended if the resident is leaving on vacation or visiting with family.

“Just try it and if it's not working out for you, you can always just say you don't want to do it

anymore,” Burcar said.

If elderly residents living alone do not want to receive phone calls, Burcar encourages them to bring a spare house key to the public safety department and fill out a contact card. That way officers can access the home and know who to contact in case of an emergency.

The City of Grosse Pointe has a similar initiative to kindness calls, called S.A.L.E. After many residents were impacted by recent flooding, City officers went by elderly residents' homes after hours to assist them in cleaning out their basements. Grosse Pointe Park discussed making a database of dependent residents for the next emergency, so they know who to check on.

Woods residents may be registered to receive calls each morning by contacting the direct line for public safety dispatch at (313) 343-2410.

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Featuring 35 local artists and a lineup of music, the first Pointe's Art Festival runs 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 7, and Sunday, Aug. 8.

Open to the public with a \$5 admission fee, the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce festival will be held at The Hill municipal lot at 41 Kercheval.

“Because of COVID, these local artists haven't had the opportunity to sell their work,” Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce President Jenner Boettcher said, “and so in our efforts to promote local small businesses, we wanted to help them out as well.”

Offering performances over the two-day festival will be Festival of Flutes, Forge The Sun, GG Music, GP Theatre, Jordan Kenneth McIntyre, Laurie & the Lefties and Uncle Brown and Me.

Food trucks on site will be from Andiamo's, Delray Barbecue, Estia, Little Saints, Raquel's Cocina, Village Nutrition and Wing Snob, with Atwater sponsoring the beer and wine tent.

Additional attractions will include Grosse Pointe Zoology with Lou's Pet Shop, children's art activities with Posterity Gallery and pets available for adoption through the Midwest Small Breed Rescue. A portion of the festival's proceeds will be donated to the rescue.

The chamber plans to

turn the festival into an annual event, continuing to benefit local artists in the years to come.

“It's going to be a great event,” Boettcher said, “... and we're hoping each year it'll grow larger and larger.”

— Laurel Kraus

Who you'll see

This year's artists include:

Barb Quenneville
Benjamin Herman
Beth Doyle
Claudia Stieber
Delphine & Don Johnson
Edith Benoot
Ellen Doyle & MaryAnne Perry
Erika Windisch
Hugh O'Connor
Isabelle Donnelly
Janet Abdenour Dabney
Jeff Lockhart
Julia Boettcher
Kim Lapolla
Laura Rodin
Linda Boyle
Lisa Chalker
Michelle Boggess-Nunley
Molly Murphy
Rosi Triano
Sherry McInerney
Thomas P. Kliber
Valarie Davis
Wallace Campbell
Will Schippert
Zoie Abrams
Beth Kozik
Nick Roncone
Deadra Bell
Carley Kott
Josette Grimske
Liz Ballinger
Karen Liederbach
Kelly White
Joyce Cucchiara

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, AUG. 9

◆ Grosse Pointe Farms City Council meeting, 7 p.m. at city hall, 90 Kerby.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 11

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Beautification Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUG. 12

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Historical Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Promoted

Judge Ted Metry, left, officiates the promotion of John Jebrael to the rank of sergeant in the Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety Department. Jebrael has been an emergency medical technician 31 years and a certified firefighter 30 years. He is a firearms instructor and member of the Firearms Committee. He has received 15 department commendations, the director's award for distinguished service in 2017, and a life-saving award for a medical emergency on Hawthorne in 2019. Jebrael has been an officer at the Shores through six chiefs, four mayors, four city managers and six municipal judges. He began his career when there were no cell phones, in-car cameras or electronic fingerprinting. Director of Public Safety Ken Werenski said Jebrael is educated, trained and field tested for the past 31 years.

COUNCIL:

Continued from page 2A

services with an intent to replace the Connors Creek Pump Station within eight years and upgrade the Freud station. Design of the new Connors station includes exploring how to bring river water into the station to allow for testing of the pumps.

The two projects will be an investment of \$250 million.

“This is the reality (of) where we are,” McCormick said. “These systems, the local systems and the regional systems, were designed for wastewater operation and some storm mitigation. ... And what we find ourselves in the situation of today is we have these significant rains and these significant flooding issues and together we have to figure out how to solve that.”

She explained the outfalls in Detroit which dis-

charge the most frequently and at the largest volumes are attached to either combined sewer overflow treatment facilities or treatment retention basins, following a question by Councilman Lev Wood on whether the GLWA used outfalls during the June event.

“Asking for bypasses to protect public health, we're on that same page, but it's a difficult process as we go through particular regulatory

agencies who have a primary concern about the environment,” McCormick said. “I will tell you every operator, whether it's local or regional, would always choose to protect our constituents and public health if we have those kinds of decisions available, so we're having those kinds of conversations, as well.”

Staff Writer Kate Vanderstelt contributed to this report.

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No Appointments Necessary for Oil Changes

4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Resident's hobby blossoms into floral business

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

"Florals? For spring? Groundbreaking."

It's this sarcastic phrase from Meryl Streep's character in "The Devil Wears Prada" that laid behind Chin Rivard's decision to name her small business Groundbreaking Florals when her hobby began taking off in May 2020.

The City of Grosse Pointe resident, whose favorite movie just happens to be "The Devil Wears Prada," was working as a professional life coach after leaving a 16-year sales career, when she brought a flower arrangement to a barbecue as a hostess gift and friends began asking her to provide similar arrangements for upcoming events they were hosting.

"As they say, you'll fall into something or something will fall onto your lap, and this is the perfect example," Rivard said. "It was a hobby of mine that kind of grew into a little business."



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Chin Rivard runs her small business, Groundbreaking Florals, out of her home.

Groundbreaking Florals offers arrangements, of which no two are the same, for occasions such as birthdays, to show gratitude or sympathy, or send well wishes, as well as floral subscriptions for those who'd like fresh flowers in their home every few weeks.

Aside from specifying if a client doesn't like a certain flower type or color, each arrangement is a surprise, as Rivard prefers to let her creativ-

ity go to work based on what looks great the day she selects the flowers from a local wholesaler.

"The best is to see the client's reaction when you deliver the arrangement and it's a complete surprise and it just makes them smile," she said.

Incorporated this spring, a candle component now offers clients the opportunity to gift 11-ounce candles along with the flowers. In keeping with the "Devil

Wears Prada" theme of the business, the first collection's scents are named Miranda, Emily and Florals for Spring.

Most recently, Rivard launched Luxe candles on a limited basis. At 16 inches high and 20 pounds, the luxury splurge items are considered a statement piece.

With many other great area florists able to service larger events, Rivard said, she prefers to keep her business



A recently incorporated candle component to the business offers clients the opportunity to gift candles along with the flower arrangements.



COURTESY PHOTOS

No two of Rivard's arrangements are the same.

it."

Along with her husband, Greg, stepsons, Kyle and Sam, and daughter, Amy, Rivard has lived in the City almost 14 years.

"We absolutely love the community," she said. "I think Grosse Pointe is absolutely special and I can't think of a better place to raise a family."

Groundbreaking Floral's services can be explored at groundbreakingcollection.com and [@groundbreaking_florals](https://www.instagram.com/groundbreaking_florals) on Instagram.

Detective simulates crime scene for kids

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A parent for a group of homeschooled students asked Park Detective Sgt. Mike Narduzzi to give her students a lesson in crime. Narduzzi brought out his creativity to give the kids a lesson they'd talk about for weeks to come.

Narduzzi brought Detective Ryan Willmer with him to Lake Front Park in Grosse Pointe Woods, where they set up

a scenario to teach the kids realistic, daily detective work.

"The scenario is this," Narduzzi said. "A teenage girl goes to the Grosse Pointe Woods park. She's sitting at the pool, on her phone, and she starts getting notifications that her credit card is being used at a liquor store in another part of town. She ultimately discovers that she's missing her keys. She goes to her car. She finds out that her car is wide open, it's been ran-

sacked and her wallet's missing. She calls 911, we come up and we interview her and we backtrack, and we find out that she left her keys on the (hot dog) cart."

To find the thief, Narduzzi walked students through the forensic steps they take as detectives. He taught the students crime photography, interviewing victims and eye witnesses and fingerprinting techniques. To teach them fingerprinting, Narduzzi had the kids dip their thumb in ink and press it on a balloon, then blow up the balloon to magnify the arches, loops and whorls, emphasizing no one's fingerprints are exactly alike.

Ultimately, the make-believe thief was located from video footage at the liquor store and identified by the victim as the hot dog cart worker.

"This is a scenario that could happen, 100 percent," Narduzzi said. "Teenage girl leaves her keys getting a hot dog and she's too engrossed in her phone to realize that she forgot her keys.



COURTESY PHOTO

Detective Sgt. Mike Narduzzi set up a crime scene with the help of Detective Ryan Willmer, left, at Lake Front Park in Grosse Pointe Woods to teach a group of homeschooled students a lesson in detective work.

Next thing you know, someone takes her wallet out of her car."

Narduzzi said the kids were talking about it for weeks.

"This was actually really well received," he said, "a lot better received than I thought it would be. The coordinator of this was telling me she was getting rave reviews for a couple of weeks after."

They put together detective kits for the students to take home after the presentation, including a pencil, notepad, "DNA sampling" and "fingerprinting kit."

"Apparently one kid brought in some bird poop from the outside and said here's my DNA sample," Narduzzi said. "It just shows that they were into it. It was really good."

"I think these kids got interested in police work or detective work or forensic type stuff. These kids were really interested and they asked excellent questions and answered them. They're a pretty smart group. I think they just became more aware of what detectives do. They come after the uniformed officers and they do the follow-up and the crime-scene investigation. I think they were really interested in that. They really kind of took to it. Some of these kids

took their little detective kits out in the backyard. ... It hits home when they do that, when they keep talking about it at home."

Colleen Narduzzi, the parent who requested the programming, raved about it.

"It was nothing short of an amazing hands-on cross-curriculum lesson," she said. "The parents and students who participated were actively involved for 1 1/2 hours of hands-on learning. The parents were impressed by the level of professionalism and authentic replication of an actual larceny from a vehicle. The aim was to allow students to participate in a real-world event which brings multiple subject areas together in order to solve a real-world problem. As a trained secondary educator, I always attempt to place students in an environment whereby the textbook learning is the introduction and the world is the ultimate classroom, bringing learning full circle: why students must master a variety of subject areas."

"... Hats off to the Grosse Pointe Park public safety for bringing community education and safety to a new level by fostering a proactive environment of empowering parents, students, teachers and community leaders in working

together to become a safer Grosse Pointe."

Narduzzi said new Director of Public Safety Bryan Jarrell has been aiming toward more community engagement and he thinks this fits the bill.

"Chief Jarrell wants officers out in the community doing community projects," he said. "This is the perfect example of that, I think, just working with a local homeschool group. It doesn't even have to be homeschool. It could be a Boy Scout or a Girl Scout class. ... It really is exactly what Chief Jarrell is looking for. More community involvement, more community interaction."

Narduzzi also has given talks to teenage girls regarding the dangers of and best practices for social media. He said he plans to stay open to introducing more of this curriculum in the years to come and will make himself available to give safety talks when he can.

"His talks warn parents of the dangers to students about social media and overall screen time as it relates to crime," Colleen Narduzzi said. "Needless to say, at all presentations the parents were stunned and left wanting more information as to how they can better protect their kids in the age of technology."

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City of Grosse Pointe

No crimes to report per dispatch.

— Laurel Kraus

Report information about crimes to the City of Grosse Pointe Public Safety, (313) 886-3200.

Grosse Pointe Farms

Road spill

While turning from eastbound Moross onto Kercheval Avenue, a commercial vehicle spilled 50 gallons of a cement curing compound onto the road at 9:46 a.m. Tuesday, July 27.

The intersection was closed while the department of public works cleaned up the substance and the 49-year-old Shelby Township driver was issued a hazardous traffic citation.

Thief with a grudge

While having appliances delivered to her residence at 10:24 a.m. Wednesday, July 28, a 42-year-old Farms woman's Beats headphones disappeared after one delivery man remained in the house an unusual amount of time.

After notifying the company of who she believed stole them, the woman received multiple calls to her cellphone from the suspect saying he had been fired because of her.

Give and take

After Provencal residents witnessed a 40-year-old Harper Woods man ride a bike up their driveway and pull on their car doors at 10:41 a.m. Thursday, July 29, the man was arrested for larceny from auto.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

It later was discovered the man was arrested wearing a pair of shoes stolen from the garage of another Provencal homeowner, where he had left his own behind.

Bike accident

When a 32-year-old Hamtramck bicyclist hit a pothole on Lakeshore Road at 7:19 p.m. Thursday, July 29, he lost control of the bike and swerved into the passenger side of a vehicle, suffering a fracture to one leg.

Tangled tales

A 23-year-old Clinton Township woman, who was pulled over at 5:49 p.m. Friday, July 30 at Mack Avenue and East Warren because her vehicle was reported stolen out of Detroit, told officers she did not know where she got the vehicle.

Continuing to say it was given to her by a friend, but she didn't know where the friend lived and that she was taking it back to the car rental business from which it had not been returned, the woman was arrested for possession of and receiving a stolen vehicle.

Back to the start

While being pulled over at Mack Avenue and East Warren for using high beams, illegally tinted windows, fraudulent insurance and an incorrect plate at 9:43 p.m. Friday, July 30, an 18-year-old Detroit man told officers he was just released from jail for driving without a

license and driving an unregistered vehicle.

A search of his vehicle turned up an unregistered handgun on the floor with a magazine inserted and holding 25 rounds of ammunition, for which he was arrested.

Operating while intoxicated

A passenger was passed out in the front seat and a strong odor of intoxicants came from a vehicle pulled over at Moross Road and Chalfonte for traveling with a headlight out and no working brake lights at 3:10 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 1.

A preliminary breath test showed the 37-year-old Detroit driver had a blood alcohol content of .15 percent.

He was arrested for operating while intoxicated, as well as cited for driving while license suspended.

— Laurel Kraus

Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety, (313) 885-2100.

Grosse Pointe Shores

Driving while license suspended

After a vehicle was pulled over at Lakeshore Road and Edgewood Drive when a Secretary of State/LEIN search showed it was not insured, the 42-year-old Warren driver was arrested for driving while license suspended at 2:38 p.m. Sunday,

Aug. 1. The vehicle was impounded.

Unwelcome shadow

A 31-year-old Livonia driver was pulled over at Lakeshore and Vernier roads at 12:26 a.m. Wednesday, July 28, when he was seen following the vehicle in front of him too closely.

Although he first told officers he was following his friend home, the man later said he was following home some girls he met at a bar.

A preliminary breath test showed his blood alcohol content to be .194 percent, for which he was arrested. The man also was cited for speeding 48 mph and following another vehicle too closely.

— Laurel Kraus

Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety, (313) 881-5500.

Grosse Pointe Woods

Unlocked car theft

A resident in the 1200 block of Fairholme reported a console tray, unknown gift cards, change and keys missing from his car at 4:44 p.m. Tuesday, July 27.

He last remembered his car intact at 8:30 p.m. Monday, July 26. The car was left unlocked and the next morning he found his center console ajar, missing the items listed.

Decline on a warrant

A 25-year-old Detroit

resident was stopped at Mack and Manchester for a plate violation at 1:57 p.m. Wednesday, July 28.

He was found to have a suspended license and warrant from Hazel Park.

The driver was issued citations for driving with a suspended license and no valid plate. Hazel Park did not pick up on the warrant.

— Kate Vanderstelt

Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety, (313) 343-2400.

Grosse Pointe Park

Pizza fraud

A resident was in the 15000 block of East Jefferson when he ordered pizza at 1:15 p.m. Friday, July 16. He relayed his credit card information to the employee over the phone.

Over the next 24 hours, seven fraudulent charges totaling over \$300 showed on the resident's statement.

Fake agent

A resident in the 1000 block of Beaconsfield lost nearly \$10,000 to a person claiming to be an IRS agent at 4:18 p.m. Wednesday, July 28.

The woman was swindled into withdrawing \$9,800 from her bank account. She wired the money to the fraudulent IRS agent.

Stolen wallet

A white man wearing an Adidas hat and camouflage shorts is sus-

pected to have stolen a wallet and used a Discover card at various locations in Canton.

The victim, a resident in the 1000 block of Bishop, discovered her wallet missing from her car overnight Tuesday, July 27. She was notified her card was used at Home Depot and Kroger in Canton.

Photos of the suspect were obtained. The investigation is ongoing.

Stolen wallet, stolen car

Overnight Tuesday, July 27, a resident in the 1200 block of Berkshire awoke to his 2017 Chrysler Pacifica missing from his driveway.

Glass was found at the scene. Officers believe the suspect likely is the same man who stole a wallet the same night.

Speeding and swerving

An officer stopped a man speeding and swerving down Jefferson from Maryland at 11 p.m. Thursday, July 29.

When stopped, the officer found the driver to have a suspended license and warrants.

Gift card duping

A resident in the 1100 block of Beaconsfield purchased \$800 worth of gift cards and emailed them to someone committing fraud at 3:15 p.m. Thursday, July 29.

— Kate Vanderstelt

Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety, (313) 822-7400.

DESIGN:

Continued from page 1A

cubic feet per second to the Grosse Pointe Interceptor.

As the existing station is housed within a small easement in the front yard of a Lakeshore home, presenting concerns that additional land space for a replacement or even improvements could be difficult for the city to obtain, Hubbell, Roth & Clark will conduct the basis of design report to explore options, followed by the creation of actual designs of the preferred method.

A Cook Road sewer permanent meter vault is among the plans to be designed, which would maximize the in-line storage in the Lakeshore Interceptor and Cook Road sewer, presenting the capability to handle a 25-year, 24-hour storm event.

With the current configuration of the pump station, "it's unfortunate that we do not and cannot

take advantage of the over 1 million gallons of storage that exists in the existing Lakeshore Interceptor," HRC Vice President Jesse VanDeCreek said. "Currently, the pipe needs to reach approximately 60 percent of its capacity before the first (Cook Road) pump can kick in and that's primarily due to the configuration of the station."

While the project has an estimated total construction cost of \$5 million, the basis of design report and actual designing of the pump station and meter vault are set at a cost not to exceed \$497,000.

The three phases are anticipated to take around a year to complete, with the basis of design portion expected within the first 120 days.

Lakeshore water main replacement

The 92-year-old water main which runs the length of the city along Lakeshore Road on the inland side, is set to be

upgraded from an old eight-inch cast-iron main to new 12-inch piping.

With the design costs not to exceed \$210,000, the project will be bid out in January and completed by November 2022.

The construction is planned to be conducted by means of pipe bursting, where workers only excavate at various pits and break the old pipe out of the way to lay the new one.

"It won't require full excavation of Jefferson," VanDeCreek said. "There'll still be plenty of excavation, but it won't have to be opened up like a normal sewer job would."

The work is necessary to increase water pressure throughout the pipes, which currently could interfere or compromise fire suppression efforts.

Oxford Road rehabilitation

The existing Oxford Road sanitary sewer, formerly a combined sewer, is in significant need of

rehabilitation, along with the replacement of the six-inch deteriorated cast-iron water main with a new eight-inch pipe. The project also includes rehabilitation of the existing pavement, as well as curb replacement/capping and driveway approach replacement as required.

With a budget not to exceed \$143,000, HRC will conduct survey work, pavement cores and plan and specification building, before competitively bidding out the project in January and bringing a recommendation back to council for approval. The work then should begin as soon as weather allows in April 2022.

"It's a big project," VanDeCreek said, "(It's) 2,700 feet, over a half mile long, and includes all those utilities, so we do expect that including the completion of the restoration, that it would run nearly the entire construction season, but be completed by November of 2022."

Citywide smoke testing

Approximately 22 percent of the city was smoke tested in May 2020, which identified .20 cubic feet per second of ground water infiltration and inflow into city pipes. With the maximum allowable flow to the Grosse Pointe Interceptor being 3.0 CFS, this equates to around 7 percent of that flow.

"Doing the math, if we were to complete the remaining 78 percent of the city, even if we only found similar defects, that would equate to .9, almost 1 CFS of infiltra-

tion or inflow," VanDeCreek said, "so this is a very eye-opening procedure and would not be able to be identified in any other form or fashion."

With council's approval of an estimated budget not to exceed \$120,000 to conduct the work, the smoke testing should take approximately two to three weeks, with a maximum of five months budgeted for data analysis and reporting.

Plans to fix found defects in the system then will be presented to council, with corrective work likely to begin in 2022 or 2023.

DRIVE:

Continued from page 1A

into the store, Seidel and other volunteers handed out flyers with lists of nonperishable items they could buy in store and drop off as donations in the bin outside the exit door. He said by the end of the day, the bin was

overflowing.

"It ended well," Seidel said. "It was a good turnout. A lot of people donated."

Forgotten Harvest also accepted cash donations.

The department will participate in another round of the drive from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 7.

"Even though we did

really well this Saturday — like I said, we overflowed the bin — I'd like to, if I could, almost challenge the residents to beat the first day," Seidel said of his hopes for the Aug. 7 drive.

Money and food donations received will be provided to local area food pantries.

— Kate Vanderstelt

6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

City, Park on same page re: redistricting

At least two of the Grosse Pointes have passed official council resolutions making it clear they want the Pointes and Harper Woods kept together during the redistricting process.

Both the City of Grosse Pointe and Grosse Pointe Park put their names on record, along with other groups and individuals who had already submitted comments to the new Citizens Redistricting Commission.

The wrong that most needs fixing occurred in the last round of redistricting, when the Pointes were split into two different districts in the Michigan House of Representatives. That's the chief level of representation where the Pointes and Harper Woods can hope to have some clout, but it's also important that they stay together in districts drawn for the state Senate and U.S. House.

The commission resulted from a voter-approved ballot initiative in 2018, removing the power of reapportionment from the state Legislature — which all too often fashioned districts so as to retain the strength of the party in control in Lansing. That led to the other big redistricting grievance: gerrymandering, which resulted in this corner of Wayne County having a U.S. representative from Oakland County. The commission is expected to draw more compact districts.

The Grosse Pointe City Council passed its resolution unanimously June 21, with the Park Council also acting unanimously July 12. The official voices of the councils join other pleas, including from the local Republican and Democratic organizations, to keep the communities together in state and federal districts.

The commission has held one round of statewide hearings and will hold more hearings once it receives population data and draws maps. Census problems, caused by the pandemic, have delayed the schedule for designing the districts. There's still time for councils and others to have a say, with details available at michigan.gov/micrcr.

FROM THE PUBLISHER

Correction

In last week's editorial, "Partisan \$\$ Back Park's McConnell," I incorrectly reported that Grosse Pointe Park City Council candidate Darci McConnell's campaign committee engaged Thomas "T.J." Bucholz for \$500 for unspecified services.

Following publication online Wednesday, but after we went to press Tuesday night, Ms. McConnell informed me of the mistake. I immediately corrected the editorial online.

I take full responsibility for the mistake as I failed to notice the "Return Contributions" label in the Itemized Expenditures section of the campaign's finance report filed with the county and state.

I apologize to Ms. McConnell for the mistake.

Wayne County vaccinations*

As of 8/3	Initiation**	Completions***
Vaccinations	606,557	555,662
% of residents 12+	66	60.5
% 12-15 years old	37.4	31.4
% 16-64	63.3	57.6
% 65+	87.2	82.9

*Excluding Detroit **1 of 2 doses *** 2 doses or J&J

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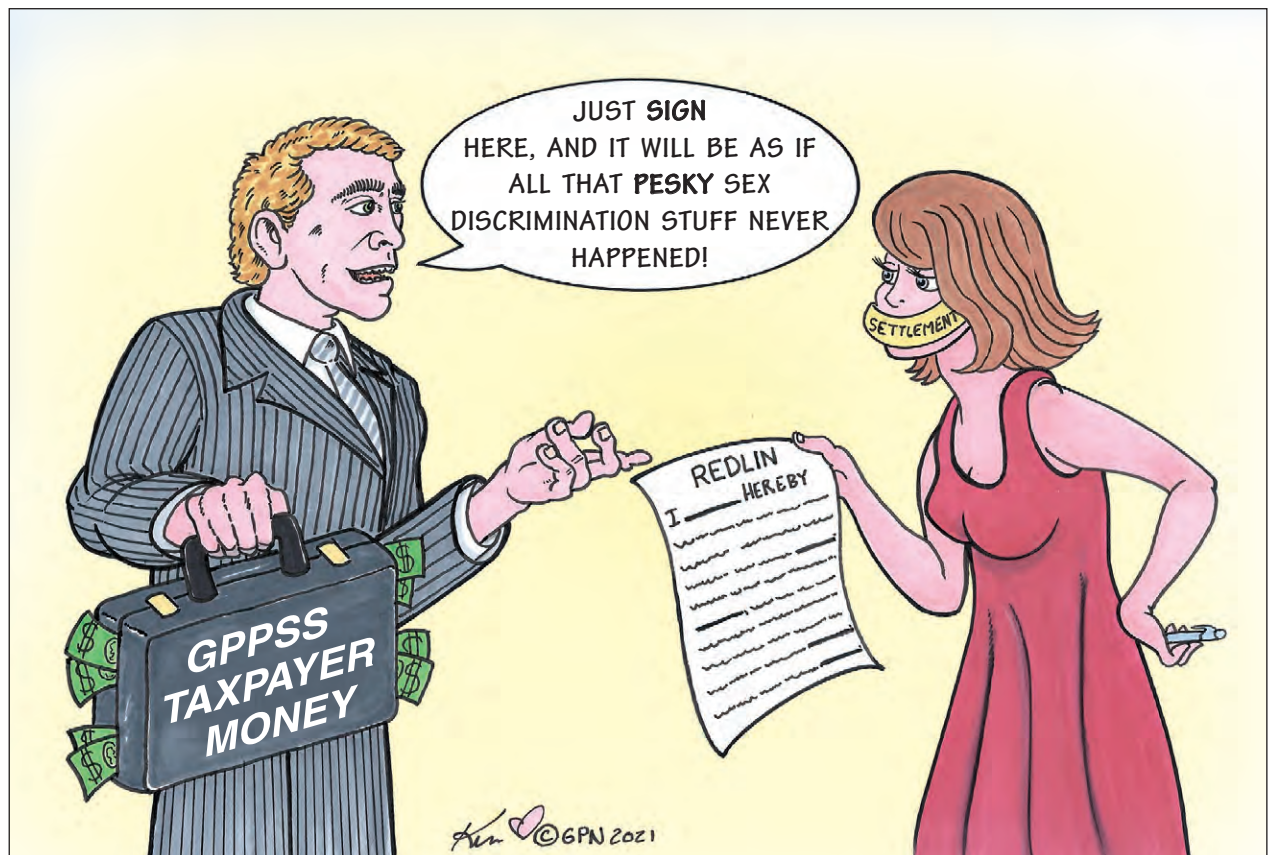


ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

OUR VIEW

Redlin settlement evades scrutiny, cost

The recent settlement of Debra Redlin v. Grosse Pointe Public School is unsettling in many ways. Because the settlement is sealed, it evades adjudication of the facts and actions of individuals in the case, and it keeps from public disclosure the cost to the school district, i.e., taxpayers.

It appears Ms. Redlin, as assistant principal at Grosse Pointe South High School in 2014 when the saga began, was treated differently than her male counterpart at the time, also an assistant principal at South.

Both tipped off employees to scrutiny from upper management — alleged drinking on the job in one case and getting “nailed” in an evaluation in the other. However, when confronted, the male assistant principal lied, denying he tipped off the employee; Ms. Redlin did not. Both assistant principals did not disclose rumors of an affair between the South principal and a teacher.

For these offenses, Ms. Redlin received a “minimally effective” rating at the end of the 2014-15 school year, was to be put on an “Individualized Development Plan” for the following year and faced termination if she did not get an “effective” rating at her next year-end evaluation. Her “minimally effective” rating also prevented her from getting a rolling

two-year contract and merit pay or step increases.

(The district, knowing Ms. Redlin was looking for a position outside the district, submitted an “effective” rating as a “placeholder” with the state of Michigan in order to facilitate her job search. Sometime in 2015, she was asked to resign, which she refused.)

The male assistant principal, for his similar conduct and lying, received an “effective” rating. A “Letter of Concern” was placed in his employment file but later removed, according to court documents.

Ms. Redlin was then transferred to Parcels Middle School, a demotion and at less pay. Her pay was later restored retroactively to her high school assistant principal salary and she did ultimately get an effective rating and a two-year rolling contract.

The U.S. district court initially ruled in favor of the defendant, GPPSS, but the appellate court remanded the case for trial. Due to the pandemic, the trial was not expected until 2022, but with Superintendent Gary Niehaus's retirement and Jon Dean being named his replacement, the school board and attorneys fast-tracked the settlement discussions.

The Redlin case gives us a rare look into the inner workings of the school district administration. It isn't pretty and, unfortunately, we will never know the cost to taxpayers.

OUR VIEW

Honest mistake hardly a ‘narrative’

We categorically reject the assertions made by Darci McConnell in her letter to the editor (below) that she has demanded we print in order to correct anything we “have made up.” Her hyperbole is only matched by the vehemence of her denial to aspirations of a higher office.

During the interview with our reporter, she demanded to know twice whether the story revolved around her seeking higher office. He assured her his article did not have to do with a higher office, and indeed it never once mentioned her running for state representative or any other office.

She then refused to answer his questions in the interview and provided a written response, frustrating any efforts to have follow-up questions to a meaningful story.

After the printing of the article what ensued is the printed letter which states that reporting on her campaign is only pursuant to an agenda of the Grosse Pointe News. She evades and ignores any newsworthy aspects of her relatively enormous campaign war chest — one of the largest in the history of the Pointes with campaign contributions given by political professionals from D.C. to Lansing. A war chest designed only to win the elected position of town councilperson? An unpaid position that meets 12 times a year to set broad policy for city

management? (The council can meet more than that, especially when its majority is in a mood to micromanage the daily business of a city, which is usually prohibited as is the case of Grosse Pointe Park.)

Ms. McConnell further claims we engaged in unsubstantiated gossip and in making inferences that she may be seeking higher office on our editorial page. As a former journalist with the Detroit Free Press and The Detroit News, as Ms. McConnell's resume states, we would expect she would know the difference between an editorial column which engages in opinions and a reporter's article which states facts as was done by our reporter.

At the end of the day, we do admit there was an error in the original editorial that stated Darci McConnell's campaign engaged a lobbyist in Lansing that is under siege by allegations of sexual misconduct. The lobbyist in fact was being returned the donation he made to Ms. McConnell's campaign. We made the correction immediately online and stated to Ms. McConnell that a retraction would be made in print, which has been done this week.

This error is hardly in the realm of unreality, and we challenge Councilmember Darci McConnell to be forthright with questions by the public surrounding her campaign and to state her policy positions as is expected in a robust democracy.

McConnell response

To the Editor:

The biggest in-kind donation to those who oppose my candidacy is clearly the Grosse Pointe News, which never lets the facts get in the way of its desired narrative.

First, let me set the record straight:

I have never made any plans to run for any office but the Grosse Pointe Park City Council, and when I spoke with your reporter, I made that clear. I asked the reporter

LETTERS

The Grosse Pointe News welcomes your letters to the editor. All letters should be typed, double-spaced and signed. Letters longer than 250 words may be edited for length. All letters may be edited for content. We reserve the right to refuse any letter. Include daytime phone number for verification or questions. The deadline for letters is 3 p.m. Monday. Letters to the editor may be emailed to editor@grossepointenews.com.

directly about whether such an inference would make the paper and was assured it would not. Yet,

here it is anyway.

While it's true that my campaign received a donation from T.J.

Bucholz, it is also true that immediately upon learning of the sexual harassment allegations, the donation was refunded. He was never hired by the campaign. A simple read of the campaign finance report should have made that clear. But, once again, the facts don't seem to matter.

When I asked for a correction, here's the response from the editor: Sorry, Darci. I did not notice that in the filings. I

See LETTERS, page 7A

The opinions expressed in letters and guest columns are not necessarily views shared by the Grosse Pointe News.

I SAY By John Minnis

CCD to host 1st USGA event since Arnie



I am really excited about the U.S. Senior Amateur being held Aug. 26-Sept. 2 at the Country Club of Detroit.

It will be the first USGA event at CCD since a young Arnold

Palmer won the U.S. Amateur there in 1954.

Palmer called the win the "The Turning Point" in his career and authored a small, hardcover book on it by that title. I have a copy.

In fact, I got the book along with a golf shirt and cap at Arnold Palmer's Turning Point Invitational in 2004 at the Country Club of Detroit.

Palmer, who died in 2016 at the age of 87, always had a sentimental feeling about the

Country Club of Detroit.

"There's certainly some sentiment," the 74-year-old Palmer told the Grosse Pointe News at the 2004 event marking the 50th anniversary of his U.S. Amateur win at CCD. "Just a lot of memories and things that have happened over the years. It's very difficult to believe it's been 50 years."

An "army" of 4,000 fans welcomed Palmer, Phil Mickelson and fellow professionals Bruce Fleisher, Lanny

Wadkins, Mark O'Meara, Nathaniel Crosby, Billy Mayfair and Hank Kuehne, as well as Detroit-area VIPs at the invitational.

Co-organized by my good friend Clark Durant, some \$6 million was raised to support Cornerstone Schools in Detroit.

Palmer was worried he would not be able to hit the fairways at CCD's challenging finishing holes 17 and 18. Not to worry, both drives were right down the

middle.

Given CCD's length and excellent condition, golf director George Forster told our sports writer, Mike Adzima, little needs to be done to prepare for the U.S. Senior Amateur. He said the biggest challenges will be CCD's deep bunkers and fast greens.

I can attest to both. I've spent far too much time in the sand there, and I give myself a maximum three-putt rule on all the greens — other-

wise, I would be

ashamed to keep score! I can't wait to see the U.S. Amateurs teeing off at our beloved CCD.

By the way, if you are curious as to who won Arnold Palmer's Turning Point Invitational in 2004, it was Ryan Moore, the then-reigning U.S. Amateur champion. He shot a three under par 67.

For more information on the U.S. Amateur at the Country Club of Detroit, visit CCofD.com.

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

will correct it online (sic) put a correction online.

Thanks for the correction; but if you noticed that, why did it still make the paper?

As I told the paper, I'm proud of the donations that I received from Park residents, friends, family and acquaintances who believe in the work I've done and support my bid.

Dismissing allies who believe in me simply as outsiders diminishes my widespread support and further ignores the ongoing importance of regional cooperation — which is more important than ever as we've seen with the recent storm events.

Your narrative implies something untoward; but I have operated in this position with integrity and will continue to do so.

And, yes, it's true that I raised significant funds, but that's an indication of my broad base of support and what it takes to pay for lawn signs, creating, printing and mailing literature, advertising, T-shirts, campaign finance compliance and staff.

My fundraising shows that despite this being a volunteer position, I take nothing for granted and am running a serious campaign.

I've accompanied that with efforts to connect with as many residents as possible by going door-to-door, attending meet-and-greets and picking up the phone.

I've also operated in a very nonpartisan fashion from day one, tackling each issue as it came, offering up solutions and trying to work collaboratively both with my colleagues as well as the city's leadership. I've communicated openly about those efforts through virtual coffee hours, sharing information directly on social media and once again, speaking directly to constituents.

As a former journalist, it is abhorrent to witness a paper's willingness to allow any item to run on its pages without being fact checked or without the story resembling reality.

I once again challenge the Grosse Pointe News to uphold the most basic of journalism principles: Provide accuracy and balance in reporting, not unsubstantiated gossip.

DARCIMCCONNELL
Councilmember/
Candidate, Grosse Pointe
Park City Council
Editor's note: Obviously we meant we would publish a correction online and in print.

Hopeful in the Park

To the Editor:

Walking my dog down Kercheval in the Park, I noticed a sea of signs posted at local businesses for certain Park city council candidates.

Evidently these businesses are going out on a limb to support candidates who prioritize city businesses and infrastructure, a balanced city budget, and who appreciate philanthropy and the utilization of talents of qualified resident volunteers for projects.

Replacing council members who have espoused an activist agenda over the basic needs of our city is the crux of our election. I am hopeful.

KELLY BOLL
Grosse Pointe Park

Social media feud

To the Editor:

I'd like to respond to the article Mr. Lindberg wrote ("2-Year Social Media Feud Spills Over to the Newsroom," July 22), since he "claims" my voicemail was full. I also was reachable by email, as that is how I submitted my letter to the editor that somehow morphed into an article.

I served 12 years on the Board of Education. I was harassed by community members both publicly and privately. Anonymous letters were sent to my place of employment; I was stalked by a community member.

I took care of my ill mother, sister-in-law and my dear friend during my tenure and lost all three of them to cancer. I continued my career as a nurse during the pandemic.

I have been booted off of swap pages, or never admitted to them, and other forms of social media. I survived two recall attempts as well.

My family was sometimes targeted and yet I never called anyone a terrorist or trash while I was an elected official. I never excused my behavior due to those stressors. I never used hashtags declaring any political party liars or terrorists (that was left out of the article) as it was part of Ms. Papas's response.

Until this episode I've not bothered myself with Ms. Papas. I don't have time to "be" after someone, other than I asked her to apologize for vilifying our high school principals. I never participated in bringing an extremist militia group to our community that spews violent rhetoric.

As an elected official

she needs to own her behavior and accept responsibility for it.

JUDY GAFA
Grosse Pointe Woods

Following is Ms. Gafa's original "letter to the editor" that "morphed" into a news story.

Subject: Trustees unprofessionalism

Good Morning
Below I have attached a screen shot that Mrs Pappas sent a message to a community member calling her trash and a leftist terrorist. This paper ran two entire front page articles about a principal liking a tweet. I look forward to your coverage of an elected official calling a community member a terrorist and trash

Thank you for your time
Judy Gafa

Flooding in The Village?

To the Editor:

Did you get flooded? Did your insurance fully cover the damage?

If not, who is covering the difference?

Did your city show you compassion, give you emotional support and help you file for other reimbursements? Did they do it for you? Are they going after the responsible party? If not, why not? Are they taking or returning your phone calls?

In The Village of Grosse Pointe we now have to sandbag our business front doors every time it rains. The intersection Cadieux/Kercheval gets flooded every time it rains hard. That is nothing new, it has been going on for years.

Why would anyone want to open a business or own property in The Village or, for that matter, in any of the Pointes under these latest flooding conditions?

What if the insurance companies refuse to insure you? Property taxes are due. How do you feel about paying them? Are you planning to attend the city council meetings?

ANNELIESE BAJER
Tire Systems Engineering
16825 Kercheval
Grosse Pointe

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1946

75 years ago this week

MRS. FORD SETS TERMS: Following the examination of the proposed lake front park site on the Edsel Ford property, the Woods Village Commissioners held a special meeting for further consideration of the matter. Mrs. Ford has let it be known that she is deeply concerned with a number of matters in connection with the conduct of the place if it should be acquired by the village as a public park and bathing beach. She will insist that it be administered in a quiet and orderly manner and that no offenses against morals or public decorum be tolerated.

VERNIER GETS ADDITION OK: The Board of Education received an approval of its amended request for permission to erect a small one-room addition to the Vernier School.

1971

50 years ago this week

AGREE ON TEACHER PAY: The Grosse Pointe Board of Education and the Grosse Pointe Education Association are pleased to announce that agreement on a new contract has been reached. Agreement, which still must be ratified by the Board of Education, came after 400 hours of negotiations, which encompassed not only salary items, but 26 other items that had to do with educational improvement.

ATTEMPT TO HALT HOSPITAL PROJECT: The Bon Secours Hospital expansion issue, which appeared to be finally settled after 10 years of litigation when Circuit Judge George E. Bowles entered a judg-

ment permitting expansion, has once again been challenged. Several interveners contend the court erred when it authorized and permitted the hospital to enlarge its facilities.

Obituaries: Esther M. Nelson, Harold E. Walton, Dr. Ross J. Slinger, Charles J. Mallen, Rose W. Schureman, George B. Shaeffer, Constance M. Hull, Harold V. Scott

1996

25 years ago this week

WOODS TO FUND PARK IMPROVEMENTS: As a part of the city's continuing effort to improve Lake Front Park, the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council has approved \$60,000 for new gazebos and improvements to the park's playscape.

FARMS HOUSE NOT MOVING: A home on Moross in Grosse Pointe Farms that was supposed to be moving to a lot on Oxford in Grosse Pointe Woods is staying put for now. A temporary injunction to prevent the house from being moved was filed by two neighbors of the home.

Obituaries: Wallace H. Moeller, Ghassan and Nina Haurani, Peter Angelo Masouras, William G. Ehrlich, George A. Nicholson Jr., William A. Frutig, Basil Demetrios Kavadas, Christopher Gerald Rooney, Duncan A.S. Pirie, Mathilde Irene Duell

2011

10 years ago this week

FARMS AIMS TO REDUCE STORM FLOW: A second round of downspout disconnections is intended to reduce the flow of storm water into the sewer system. Public service department employees are conducting exterior inspections of the city's 4,000 houses to ensure compliance with the 10-year-old ordinance requiring downspout disconnections where practical.

MEIER CAPTURES NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP: Grosse Pointe South juniors Hannah and Haley Meier competed in the USA Track & Field World Youth Trials in Myrtle Beach, S.C., against many of the fastest runners between ages 15 and 17 in the United States.

Hannah Meier ran to a dominant victory in the 1,500 with a time of 4:24.9, which factored in her selection as one of 40 members of USATF's Team USA. Three days later, during the International Association of Athletics Federations World Youth Championships in Lille, France, Hannah Meier finished ninth in the world with a personal-best time of 4:20.6.

Obituaries: Frances Gowen, Thomas David Lester, William P. Kalb, David Scott Kiley, Charles Allen Petrie, Edward Charles Roney Jr., Joyce M. Mabarab, Debra Cole-Bahanovich, Malcolm McColl, Judith Smith

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Little boys' clothing boutique opens on Mack

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

As a breath of fresh air for parents of young boys, an all-exclusive little boys' clothing boutique opened July 11, at 18499 Mack Avenue.

Ja'Hir Collection offers good-quality clothing designed for boys, newborn up to roughly 11 years of age, at affordable prices of \$15 to \$60.

The boutique's name is derived from the name of owner Jada Edwards' son, Miguel Ja'Hir, who inspired its creation.

"The store really is for him," Edwards said. "When I was pregnant, I couldn't really find anything for little boys at



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

From left, Dedric Johnson Jr., Rayshawn Johnson, Dedraena Edwards and owner Jada Edwards.

all. It was so hard for me to find affordable clothes and then something that wasn't just

cheesy. I wanted him to be stylish and have things to wear like that, so I had started working

on it then and it just came to life."

Welcoming input from the community on parents' needs, Ja'Hir Collection also offers fitting and sizing; customization individually or for events; and soon will include a stock of shoes, belts and other accessories.

An exclusive upcoming fall and winter collection will be designed hands-on by Edwards and for the month of August, going into September, the boutique will offer sales on summer clothing.

While the store's focus is clothing for young boys, a men's collection soon also will be incorporated, providing a fun opportunity for children

to match their dads.

"There's not really a lot of places out here in Michigan, or period, that have just a store for little boys, so we're trying to make sure that we have everything set on all ends," Edwards said, "and we're still taking feedback to try to see what moms are looking for (and) what we can do to help more in the community, as well."

Through a fundraiser at Ja'Hir Collection's grand opening last Saturday, Edwards is giving back to one local mom who lost clothes during the recent flooding.

She plans to continue similar donation and community outreach efforts going forward,

with donations currently set for a youth boys' home and The Salvation Army.

"There's a lot of youth that don't have any family members or anybody to help them, so we're really trying to focus on giving back to the boys and making sure that they feel loved and happy," Edwards said, "so that's one of my big things too is really just to give back. To let people know that we're here. We support you."

Ja'Hir Collection is open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays.

Purchases may be made online through the boutique's catalogue at jahircollection.myshopify.com.

BEST:

Continued from page 1A

Manicure. Beginning with the Aug. 12 edition, readers will be invited to cast their votes for the best of the best.

Categories include:

Best Food & Drink

- ◆ Best Brunch
- ◆ Best Pizza
- ◆ Best Salad
- ◆ Best Cupcake
- ◆ Best Milkshake
- ◆ Best Juice Shop
- ◆ Best Coffee
- ◆ Best Happy Hour
- ◆ Best Bloody Mary
- ◆ Best Martini
- ◆ Best Margarita
- ◆ Best Restaurant/Bar for Craft Beer
- ◆ Best Waterfront Dining
- ◆ Best Outdoor Dining
- ◆ Best Live Music
- ◆ Coziest Restaurant
- ◆ Best Place for a Date
- ◆ Best Bartender

Best Retail Shopping

- ◆ Best Last-Minute Gift Shop
- ◆ Best Made in Michigan Gift Shop
- ◆ Best Men's Clothing Shop
- ◆ Best Trendy Women's Boutique
- ◆ Best Classic Women's Boutique

- ◆ Best Clothing Shop for "Grosse Pointe style"
- ◆ Best Children's Clothing Shop
- ◆ Best Toy/Hobby Shop
- ◆ Best Boating/Water Sports Shop
- ◆ Best Record Shop
- ◆ Best Place to Buy a Diamond
- ◆ Best Place to Buy a Hostess Gift

Best Pampering

- ◆ Best Manicure/Pedicure
- ◆ Best Facial
- ◆ Best Day Spa

Ballots will be printed in the Aug. 12 and Aug. 19 editions, then may be delivered in person or mailed to GPN Best of the Best, 16980 Kercheval Place, City of Grosse Pointe, MI 48236. Votes also may be cast online at grossepointenews.com/best

Voting comes to a close Aug. 26.

See if your favorite businesses top the list in a "Best of the Best" special section, slated for the Sept. 23 edition.

For more information about the contest, email media@grossepointenews.com, visit grossepointenews.com/best/ rules or call (313) 882-6900.

Banners mean business

The Grosse Pointe Park Business Association has taken a visible step toward improving the city's business district. Banners now grace poles along Kercheval, encouraging people to "visit the Park."

"We've started on a few beautification projects," said Joe Hebeke, association president and owner of Belding Cleaners. "We hope to follow suit with banners on Charlevoix and Jefferson. We wanted to showcase what the association is doing for businesses in the area."

The association also is working toward adding a second entrance sign to the Park. One such sign stands near Red Crown — and was installed around a decade ago by the then-business association, of which Hebeke also was a part.

"We're looking to do one on the other end of Grosse Pointe Park," he said.

Plans also are underway for a Halloween event in the Park, he added.

"We're planning an event for fall, for kids to trick-or-treat," he said. "It'll be something

where merchants will be open, passing out candy. There will be activities for kids and adults."

Membership to the association has grown since its relaunch in May, Hebeke said.

"It's going really well," he added. "Our social media is quite active. We're growing followers. There's increased traffic to the website. We've got more members."

"The staff at the city and the city manager especially have been very helpful with everything. They're making things easier to do for these businesses to thrive and grow."

For more information, go to visittheparkgp.org or follow its social media pages on Instagram and Facebook.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Banners welcome visitors to Park businesses along Kercheval.

— Jody McVeigh

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PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Space available

The Nott, 15324 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park, is a community co-working and event space. The membership-based business offers 24-hour access for members; a room for Zoom calls; private telephone booths; a conference room and work stations. For more information, visit thenott.space. Pictured during a recent Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting event are, from left, Chamber President Jennifer Boettcher, The Nott owners Kevin and Suzanne Quasarano, with their children Nathan and Kristian Quasarano; and Chamber Administrator Regan Stolarski.

New center expands Liggett's mission

By Michael Hartt
Staff Intern

This summer, University Liggett School hosted its first staff workshops through the recently created Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning.

The center, funded through a grant from the Edward E. Ford Foundation, was the brainchild of several Liggett faculty members who wanted to expand the school's mission. In addition to teaching students locally, they wanted to collaborate with educators globally for their mutual benefit. The two workshops this summer were based on that overarching goal, but had different aims.

The Inquiry Workshop, held July 12 to 15, attempted to allow teachers to reflect on the past year through a forward-thinking lens while also diving deep into the idea of student inquiry and how to implement it into classrooms. To learn more about inquiry, the workshop included presentations from guest authors and educators. The last day of the workshop, participants were given time to plan out the first 10 days of the school year in hopes they could start the year through an inquiry-based lens.

Workshop participant Julie Borushko said in addition to teaching her more about fostering curiosity and passion for learning in students, the workshop energized and

prepared her for the upcoming school year.

"I feel like this year has been a difficult year in education with everything that has happened with COVID-19," Borushko said. "The (workshop) completely rejuvenated me and made me excited to get back into the classroom this fall."

Participants in the workshop from places as far away as India and the United Arab Emirates learned and taught simultaneously, as their schools still were in session. Mike Medvinsky, an Inquiry Workshop coordinator, said it was interesting to work with these teachers who could actively test what they were learning.

"The things that we were talking about in the workshop, they were going into their classrooms the next day and trying out," Medvinsky said. "Then they would come back and tell us how their learners (reacted) to the methods."

The second workshop, held July 12 to 23, centered on place-based humanities, an educational practice used at Liggett to teach certain subjects through the lens of the local community.

Through 10 days of programming, the workshop taught participants what place-based humanities learning is; gave participants examples of what types of resources they could use in their own communities by



COURTESY PHOTO

Participants in University Liggett School's Place Based Humanities workshop toured the Reuther Library at Wayne State University.

going on offsite tours; and allowed participants to create plans for how they are going to integrate place-based humanities learning into their classrooms.

The offsite tours included visits to the

Edsel and Eleanor Ford House, Detroit Historical Museum, River Raisin National Battlefield Park, Ossian Sweet House and Reuther Library at Wayne State University, among other locations.

The tours, according to

workshop facilitator Adam Hellebuyck, were meant to teach participants how to find resources for place-based learning in their local communities.

"Not everyone in our workshop was from

Detroit. We had people from Texas, Pennsylvania, Kansas and New York," Hellebuyck said. "So, all of those (tours) were kind of the archetypes of how you approach place-based learning wherever you are."

Scott Edwards, a history teacher at Pierce Middle School in the Redford School District, said the site tours and planning period in the workshop were incredibly helpful in providing him direction in how to teach his newly created black history class.

"Prior to the workshop, I had some more (traditional) ideas on how I wanted to teach the class," Edwards said. "But now, I'm going to teach about the black experience in the United States through a Detroit lens and utilize the many places in the metro Detroit area that relate to black history."

Now that both workshops are complete, both Hellebuyck and Medvinsky are looking to the future, when more offerings will take place through the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning.

"(What we did) this summer is just the beginning of what the center will be doing," Medvinsky said. "We're already in the works of expanding our workshop offerings into consultancies and things that go beyond the summer workshops throughout the school year."

Wayne State University scholar named Outstanding Medical Student in Michigan

Anthony Seely of Grosse Pointe Shores was recognized with the 2021 Outstanding Medical Student in Michigan Award during Michigan Academy of Family Physicians' annual awards celebration, live-streamed July 24.

Michigan Academy of Family Physicians — the largest medical specialty organization in the state, representing and led by family physicians — presents this distinguished award to medical students in recognition of academic excellence, leadership, community service and dedication to a career as a family physician.



Anthony Seely

Seely has a strong desire to pursue a career in family medicine and is recognized as one who goes above and beyond in his clinical skills, effective patient-centered care-team collaboration and relationships with

patients, whom he treats as people, not numbers.

"Family medicine is one of the few fields that encompasses the entirety of the human condition," Seely said. "You can deliver a baby and speak at a funeral in the same day. Experiencing such an intimate connection with patients is what made family medicine stand out to me when considering which specialty to pursue."

In addition to his clinical and academic achievements, Seely is an engaged volunteer who is dedicated to improving the wellness of his community. Beginning when he was in high school in Detroit and continuing

nearly a decade, Seely was involved with the local Manna Community Meal, Gleaners Food Bank and Neighborhood Service Organization.

Upon entering medical school, he joined Detroit Street Medicine, whose mission is to ensure access to quality medical care for Detroit's unreached and service-resistant homeless population. During his first two years of medical school, he spent hundreds of hours leading street runs to provide local outreach and hosting patient seminars to educate the community on common medical problems. He ultimately served as director of

patient care for Street Medicine Detroit, identifying high-risk patients and coordinating specialized care plans with multiple organizations.

Seely is beginning his fourth and final year of medical school.

"The best advice I can give to incoming medical

students is to get involved early in something you are passionate about," he said. "Street Medicine gave me a chance to meet so many wonderful people and hear their stories. It made me realize how much I valued longitudinal care long before my clerkships began."

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COURTESY PHOTO

Poll positions

During the July 24 After 6 on Kercheval event, St. Clare of Montefalco School hosted a booth that collected data about what subjects young people love in school.

"We were surprised about the results," Principal Ann Crowley wrote in an email. "Conversations with parents gave us insight into what we already knew. Teachers and program funding support make a difference. We were told about this wonderful math teacher in Grosse Pointe and were made aware funding for music was cut. So disappointing."

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2B AREA ACTIVITIES | 3B SENIOR LIVING | 4-5B OBITUARIES | 5B CHURCHES

Full Circle welcomes new executive director

Former volunteer excited about new role

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

After years of volunteering for Full Circle Foundation — at its galas and, more recently, sidewalk sales — Stephanie DiVirgil was eager to take on her new role with the organization.

The Grosse Pointe native jumped right in as its new executive director, kicking off Full Circle's summer program a week after her official start date, June 15. The program ended last week with a party at its Learning Garden, where students were recognized and then performed in a talent show, with acts ranging from singing and dancing to stand-up comedy.

"They had fun," DiVirgil said. "Their families were there. ... Every time we get together with the Full Circle community — the students, their families, our donors — it's the most amazing group of people."

Though technically the garden party was her first official Full Circle event, DiVirgil is no newcomer to the local special education community.

"I have been a part of

Full Circle for years and years," she said. "My brother is autistic, so I've been familiar with the Grosse Pointe special education system since he was going into high school at South."

After DiVirgil's mother retired from the special education program at Barnes School, she took on an administrative role with Full Circle.

"That was around 2017," DiVirgil said. "That started my involvement here. ... Being in the building, I met a lot of students. I developed relationships with some of them."

"... I don't know how anybody could look at what happens here and not have a smile on their face," she added. "It's an amazing organization. Any way I could be a part of it is huge."

DiVirgil helped after COVID shut down operations, lending a hand during summer 2020 sidewalk sales.

"This place, when you come here, it's a happy environment," she said. "That summer, it truly was my happy place."

The timing was perfect to step into her new role, as DiVirgil was looking



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Stephanie DiVirgil is the new executive director at the Full Circle Foundation.

for work after several years as a stay-at-home mom. The Michigan State University graduate, who has a degree in human resources, currently lives in Dearborn with her husband, Andy; step-daughter, Isabelle, 13; and son, Max, 8.

She said she's excited to rejoin the workforce, especially in a field that has "always been a huge part of my heart. Seeing what Full Circle does for students and their families, I think it's such an important resource. Without this, I can't even

imagine what these students would do on a daily basis."

Apart from Full Circle programs — which foster a sense of self-worth and independence in persons with disabilities — participants greatly benefit from the social aspect of the organization.

"Socialization is the biggest part," DiVirgil said, "especially coming off the pandemic. Last year was really hard for them. They had Zoom, but it was still hard on them. This really is a necessary thing for this com-

munity."

The foundation's Upscale Resale Shop reopened last fall. While its Team 26 program stayed up and running during the pandemic thanks to Zoom, DiVirgil said next on the agenda is bringing participants back together in person.

"Little by little, depending on what we're allowed to do ... I want to get back to what we were, if not bigger," she said.

"We didn't lose our focus," she added, "but we're really trying to focus on the students,

especially after the hard year they had. That's the most important thing, being centered on them."

Getting back to business includes once again offering document shredding and laundry services, online sales and other student-centered micro-enterprises. As that happens, DiVirgil said she's enjoying settling into her new post and learning about her students.

"Each of them are so unique," she said. "Watching them evolve ... stuff like that is what makes you say, 'Wow.' ... That's my favorite part, watching and engaging with the students. That's what it's all about — them. When it's all about them, it's all about fun, smiles and laughing."

In addition to bringing Team 26 participants together, DiVirgil said plans already are underway for Full Circle's fall gala, planned Nov. 4 at The Roostertail.

Anyone interested in volunteering with Full Circle should call (313) 469-6660 or email fullcirclefoundationgp@gmail.com. Visit fullcirclefdn.org for information.

"I'm thrilled to be a part of this officially," DiVirgil said. "I'm looking forward to everything that's going to happen in the future."

Heavy Hitters owner earns national title

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Vanessa Bernardo was long overdue for a bit of good fortune.

Like many business owners, she struggled through the pandemic when her business, Heavy Hitters Kickboxing Gym in Grosse Pointe Woods, was forced to close in March 2020.

She started teaching outdoor classes at Brys Park, "just to keep afloat," she said.

And though she applied for every grant she could, "I didn't get one dime."

Things took a turn for the worse May 23, 2020, when an electrical fire caused severe damage to her Mack Avenue gym.

"The actual structure of the building was OK, but I lost everything inside from the fire or from smoke damage," she said.

It took four months to rebuild. It was a frustrating time, but Bernardo knew just what to do with those frustrations. She started training for a National Physique Committee bodybuilding competition.



PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

Vanessa Bernardo poses with her daughters, Lydia, left, and Maria, and her state championship trophy.

After placing first in her division — wellness — she qualified for nationals.

She took top honors in the national competition as well, earning professional status in the International Federation of Bodybuilding.

Bernardo said she's excited about the accom-

plishment, especially that it came so soon.

"It's what I worked for," she said. "I felt like it was something I had to do. ... It wasn't a matter of getting it; it was a matter of when. I wasn't expecting to win my first time out."

The former City of Grosse Pointe resident is

no stranger to competing; however, this was her first time showing in the wellness division, which debuted in the United States in 2020.

Competitors in wellness focus on the lower half of the body, Bernardo explained.

"Wellness is bottom heavy and smaller on top," she said. "I'm too big for bikini. ... And there was a large population who couldn't compete because they're too small for bodybuilding. There was a big gap. Wellness filled that gap."

Her state and national titles mark a return to competing for Bernardo, who first started hitting the gym after graduating from Grosse Pointe North High School in 2002. She attended Wayne State University in pursuit of a physical education degree, but found the pull to train too hard to resist.

"I started going to the gym right away because there were no sports," she said. "Then I was spending so much time at the gym, it had to make sense. I ended up competing because I went to



COURTESY PHOTO

Vanessa Bernardo is all smiles after winning a national championship in her division.

the gym so much."

As soon as she turned 18, she became a certified personal trainer. She worked at Bally Total

Fitness and then Next Level Fitness, establishing herself and her client-

See TITLE, page 3B

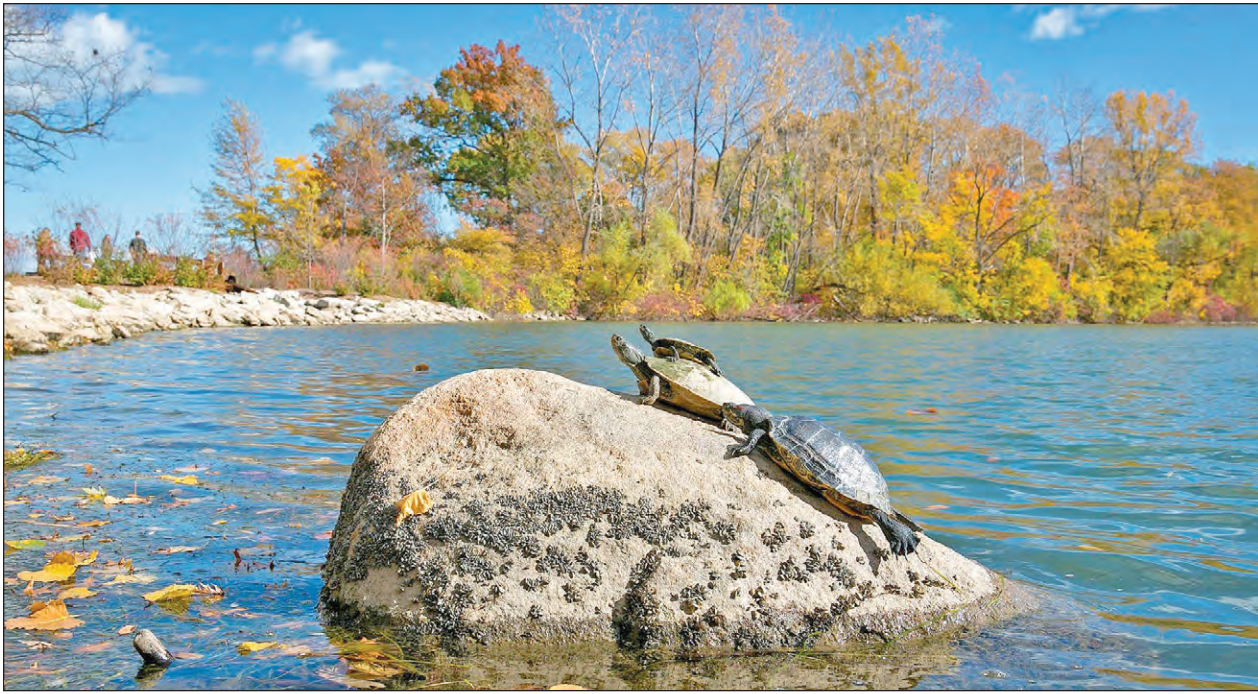
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COURTESY PHOTO BY KARL KOTO

Turtles sunbathe on rocks in Ford Cove.

Ford House hosts science fair Aug. 14

The Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores, will host a fun day of STEM exploration during its first Lake St. Clair Science Fair, from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 14.

All ages are invited to learn about the geology, habitats, invasive species, water quality and ecology of Lake St. Clair, as well as the different ways the lake is used for recreation and artistic

inspiration.

Participants will be able to:

- ◆ try their hand at water testing and other water-based experiments;
- ◆ see an underwater drone demonstration;
- ◆ learn about the Ford House shoreline restoration;
- ◆ listen to stories about lakes;
- ◆ try LEGO water-dam building;
- ◆ listen to interesting

speakers;

◆ and engage in fun activities.

All ages are welcome. Admission is \$5; ages 3 and younger are admitted free.

The Lake St. Clair Science Fair is made possible through the generosity of the Ralph C. Wilson Funds.

Partners include Clinton River Watershed Council, Six Rivers Land Conservancy, Great Lakes Commission,

award-winning Great Lakes scientist and guest speaker Dr. John Harris, and others.

"The Fords loved the lake and used it for boating and recreation," said Clare Pfeiffer, Ford House director of communications and engagement. "They also created Ford Cove in part to serve as a sanctuary for waterfowl and other birds. Being a steward of our piece of the Great Lakes ecosystem is part of our legacy."

Tickets are available online at fordhouse.org/events/lake-st-clair-science-fair/

The Helm offers help navigating Medicare maze

Those about to turn 65 soon will be eligible for Medicare. Those same people probably have received numerous correspondence from different insurance companies urging them to sign up for prescription drug, Medicare Advantage or Medicare Supplement plans.

What's a person to do? The Helm can help.

New to Medicare — where Medicare counselors provide a comprehensive overview of Medicare, including coverage, costs, pros and cons of different optional plans and how to sign up — is a 90-minute class. The next session is at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 12, at The Helm, 158 Ridge,

Grosse Pointe Farms. The class is free, but space is limited. Call The Helm at (313) 649-2110 or email asaigh@helmlife.org to make a reservation.

The last session of 2021 takes place at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9.

The Helm also offers free, individual appointments with Medicare counselors to help people understand their options, choose the best plans for them and answer any specific questions.

The best time to meet is during the three months before one's 65th birthday.

Contact Aurelie Saigh at asaigh@helmlife.org or (313) 649-2110 to get in touch with a Medicare counselor.

DCC auditioning new singers

Under the leadership of Michael A. Mitchell, Detroit Concert Choir looks forward to its 35th concert season and is scheduling auditions for skilled choral singers who have the desire to be moved, inspired and challenged.

Detroit Concert Choir is

housed at Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church and performs throughout the metro Detroit area. Auditions are by appointment only and take place in August.

For more information or to schedule an audition, visit detroitconcertchoir.org.

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AREA ACTIVITIES

<p>Library</p> <p>The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts the following programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Craft-to-Go, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 9, while supplies last. ◆ Outdoor Storytime with Miss Rachel, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 11, at the Woods branch, 20680 Mack. ◆ Science Fiction Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 11, via Zoom. The group will discuss "Robocalypse," by Daniel H. Wilson. Register on grossepointelibrary.org or call (313) 640-4775. <p>Men's Club</p> <p>The Grosse Pointe Men's Club hosts its next meeting at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 10, at Fishbone's at 9 Mile and Jefferson, St. Clair Shores. David O. Egner, of the Ralph C. Wilson Foundation, speaks.</p> <p>The Family Center</p> <p>The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods offers free yoga at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, under the tent from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Aug. 11.</p>	<p>Rotary</p> <p>The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 11. Kerrie M. Mitchell of Matrix Human Services speaks. Visit grossepointerotary.org for information. Those who wish to join the meeting via Zoom should email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.</p> <p>Mini Picassos</p> <p>Mini Picassos, 20801 Lennon, Harper Woods, offers the following camps and programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Kinder Camp, 1 p.m. Monday, Aug. 16, and Tuesday, Aug. 17. Cost is \$60. ◆ August Art Pop Up, 9 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 18. Cost is \$50. ◆ Tie Dye Camp, 1 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 19. Cost is \$28. ◆ August Weeklong Half-Day Camp, noon to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, Aug. 23 to 27. Cost is \$150. <p>Reunion</p> <p>Grosse Pointe North High School's Class of 1971 is hosting its 50th reunion at 6 p.m. Sept. 18, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores. Tickets are \$55. Visit gpn1971.org</p>
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The Encore Years: Dr. Lakshmi Saleem

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

It's been two years since Dr. Lakshmi Saleem and her husband settled in Grosse Pointe Farms to be closer to their daughter, a 10-year Farms resident.

To make the move, Saleem retired from and sold her business, packed her belongings and made her way to Michigan.

While this may sound like a typical retirement transition, it was anything but.

Saleem, 72, hails from Vijayawada, India. The career from which she retired was in plastic surgery; she was the first woman in the state of Andhra Pradesh to become a plastic surgeon. The business she sold was her hospital, Salaja, which opened in 1984 as the first exclusive plastic surgery center in India, she said.

"It was not an easy decision for us to leave the busy surgical practice, friends and family and to blend into the new community, with differences of culture, environment, weather and social norms," she said. "My husband and I had built for ourselves a home in India with robust respective surgical practices, friends and family."

Despite knowing she wanted to be close to her daughter, Saleem flew to the U.S. with a sense of uncertainty and nervousness. She wondered who she would be in this new country and what her life would be like.

"But here in Grosse Pointe, we found ourselves at home, amidst a caring community and happy friends," she said. "Nationality, caste, creed or religion were insignificant differences while we learned making new friends that love has no boundaries; it speaks a universal language. We cooked together, shared food, celebrated marriages, learned about each other's cultures. I found joy in teaching the art of meditation and yoga, to be able to help others find their center. I enjoy talking to people, learning about what is important and sharing



COURTESY PHOTOS

Dr. Lakshmi Saleem was the first woman in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India, to become a plastic surgeon.

my perspective. Together, I believe that we build a happy community."

Since landing in Grosse Pointe, Saleem has gone to great lengths to share her culture and traditions with new neighbors and friends. Some of this she does through LASA Wellness; she and other health experts offer nutrition guidance, lifestyle practices, yoga, meditation, Ayurveda and naturopathic medicine counseling.

"After spending four decades as a busy plastic surgeon, treating many victims of burns, accidents and birth defects, I have realized that most of them can be prevented with proper understanding and lifestyle modification," she wrote on the LASA Wellness website. "I was burnt out, disillusioned by the medical world and looking for something more meaningful. ... For me, yoga is a tool to balance between the personal, professional, emotional and social life. I sincerely believe in the committed yoga practice to heal from inside out, to inspire a joyful, productive, meaningful life."

Saleem helps spread awareness of yoga and mindfulness in schools, with outdoor classes and for local clubs. She offers cooking classes online and in person at Detroit Abloom.

But her outreach extends beyond teaching. During the Indian festival Diwali, she presented samosas and gulab jamun to residents of Merriweather, where she lives.

"I distributed them to

all the families on this road, just to meet everyone," she said. "And at Thanksgiving, I made (Indian) food for 10 American families to thank them for helping us to blend into this community."

Saleem also created the Mother's Day meditation, DEAR MOM, which stands for Drop Everything and Reflect Moments of Mindfulness.

"It's for becoming aware of what we are doing without being overreactive or overwhelmed by what is going on around us," she said.

Saleem even has opened her home to guests, offering free yoga and meditation classes in her basement. During International Yoga Day, June 21, she offered classes at the Neighborhood Club and Detroit Abloom, as well as online and in her home.

This fall, she'll share her culture at The Helm during vegetarian cooking classes and meditation classes.

She also would like to teach Kolam art, which uses flour and flowers to create art; the process, she said, is a form of meditation.

"There is so much to share with each tradition and each philosophy," she added. "The only thing is people have to be willing to learn."

Saleem, who has been published in medical journals and authored books, said offering free yoga and meditation classes, as well as feeding friends and neighbors, not only helps introduce her culture to others, but it's part of her journey.

"In the beginning, you learn," she said. "The next 10 years, you pick what you like best. In the third phase, you concentrate and become an expert in it. The fourth stage, you give back to society whatever you have learned ... through charity work. That's what I've been doing."

"... You do everything like it's your duty but don't expect anything in return," the karma yogini added. "Never expect,

never assume, never ask, never demand. Just let it be. If it's meant to be, it will happen."

Saleem said she believes it's important to relax, restore and do everything with a good heart.

"We came to Detroit to live, not to make a living," she said. "We did not leave India. We brought India with us in our DNA as a potpourri of love, yoga and food."

Saleem also is fond of gardening. Some of the ingredients with which she cooks come from her vegetable garden, but she also tends to plants, flowers and herbs.

And though retired, she continues to offer medical expertise through humanitarian trips to India. Practicing medicine always was part of the plan.

"I was fond of being a doctor since childhood," she said. "I thought I

could serve people more as a doctor than anything else. ... This is what I am since the beginning. I am never scared. I am always brave. The universe inspires to help you achieve it."

At her hospital, Saleem mostly served female patients, who often are hesitant to visit male doctors, she explained. There she was introduced to burn victims, suicide survivors, acid attack victims and survivors of other extreme circumstances. Her work with them led to the creation of Salaja Trust, a charitable organization that serves the victims of accidents, burns and acid attacks in Vijayawada.

"Over 10 years we have treated 400 patients," she said of her free plastic surgery camps. "Everything is free. Sometimes they receive multiple operations. And it's not only surgery, but

rehabilitation too. ... I want to help rehabilitate them to get them back to normal instead of just doing the surgery."

Saleem shares her story in "Dreams, Determination and Triumph: Life of an Indian lady plastic surgeon," which was published in 2016. Proceeds from book sales benefit Salaja Trust and are used to conduct free screenings and surgical camps in some Andhra Pradesh villages.

As part of Salaja Trust, Saleem will return to India in November to provide free medical procedures at a missionary hospital. So passionate about sharing her culture, Saleem said anyone interested in traveling to India with her should come along.

"Come and see India," she said. "Experience, that is a type of teaching."



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUZY BERSCHBACK

Dr. Lakshmi Saleem, left, leads a yoga demonstration in her yard on Merriweather.

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Continued from page 1B

tele.

She also competed in figure competitions, where she did well, but didn't place.

She stopped competing when she and her husband, Sherwin, decided to start a family. The couple are parents to Maria, 9, and Lydia, 8.

Bernardo opened Heavy Hitters four years ago. She specifically got back into competing, "because the wellness division came out," she said. "It's worldwide, but it wasn't in the United States yet. When the fire happened, I thought, 'It's now or never.'"

Bernardo's IFBB pro status now allows her to compete in her first professional show, the IFBB/NPC Tahoe Show, Aug. 14-15 in Nevada.

"The training is the same, but I need to get leaner, so I'll be dieting," she said. "Stage presentation is everything. That's the toughest area. I have a coach for that."

For someone who wears gym shoes every day, walking gracefully in heels can be a challenge. There are certain quarter turns to make and poses to strike as well, she said.

"It's all amped up on this level," she said.

However, the pressure isn't as strong, she noted, because she only has to focus on her lower half.

"I don't have to be muscular up top," she said, "and genetically, I have muscularity on the bottom."

To keep up her physique, Bernardo trains twice a day — an hour of weight lifting and an hour of cardio — on top of teaching classes at her gym.

Also important is her diet: "eating a certain amount, eating at certain times of the day, balancing protein and carbs."

Rest also factors into the plan, as does balance. She balances training with time spent with her family, as well as work; her gym has been up and running again since September.

Though the close of construction coincided with gyms being allowed to reopen, Heavy Hitters faced some restrictions when it welcomed back clients. In addition to social distancing and mask requirements, classes were not allowed.

"This is a class-based gym, so I had to change the structure of how I taught," Bernardo said. "Everyone had to stay in their own area. I let people come and go as they pleased, but still gave direction. I had to run it like an open gym."

Today, Heavy Hitters is back to running like it was pre-pandemic, offering six days a week of personal training, bootcamp and kickboxing classes.

"We're very low-key on kickboxing," she said. "It's not scary. It's fun, but it's not easy. We're very welcoming. You can make it how you want it — it's for all ages and all sizes."

For more information about Heavy Hitters Kickboxing Gym, visit its Facebook page.



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4B | FEATURES

OBITUARIES

Obituary notices are purchased and often prewritten by family or friends. While we try to run obituaries as submitted, we nevertheless reserve the right to edit for accuracy, style and length.

Joan Schutter Sholty

Joan Schutter Sholty, 98, passed away Friday, July 9, 2021, in Naples, Fla.

She was predeceased by her husband, Robert, in 2000.

She is survived by her children, Robert Jr. "Peter" (the late Francine) of Prescott, Ariz., Stephen (Marcia) of Grosse Pointe, Elisabeth "Lisa" Sholty of Coral Springs, Fla., Paul (Susan) of Northbrook, Ill., and David (Jade) of Easley, S.C. She also was the loving "Momma Joan" to her grandchildren, Kathleen and Kristine Sholty, Michelle and Stephen Sholty and Robert, William and Anthony Sholty.

Joan had a wonderful life. She loved to entertain, make elaborate meals, spend time with her family and travel throughout her life.

A funeral service takes place at 11 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 12, at Saints Faith, Hope & Charity Catholic Parish, Winnetka, Ill.

She will be buried next to her husband and parents in Appleton, Wis.

Anne Williamson

Anne Williamson lost her battle with cancer Friday, Jan. 15, 2021, in New York City.

She was born Dec. 2, 1946, in Detroit, and grew up in Grosse Pointe Park with her parents, George and Ellen Williamson (nee Zimmerman) and her older brother, George.

After attending Michigan State University, Anne settled in Houston where she raised her three children, Wendy, Lorrie and Steven. She was a very loving, giving, adventurous and caring mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Anne was a free spirit who loved a new adventure. Over the years she was a preschool teacher, sales person, TV audience coordinator, workers' compensation adjuster and entrepreneur. In 1985, she finally made her way to her favorite city, Los Angeles. She was thrilled to work in the TV industry at Universal Studios, while living the RV life all over L.A. and its beaches.

In 1997, she moved north to Modesto to be near her family. Her childhood dream of owning a ranch was achieved when she opened Merrylegs Farm, a horse and pony riding place for kids. She also created Goldenheart Farm to breed and care for her dogs. She was a founding member of a new AKC dog breed, the Miniature American Shepherd.

She was so happy to be surrounded by her horses, dogs and farm animals and to share that joy with others. Her lifelong love of animals also connected her with people all over the world, many of whom became very dear friends. The family she built was her greatest pride and joy.

She is survived by her brother, George Williamson (Mary); children, Wendy Spurgat Payne (Glen), Lorrie Spurgat Williams (Daniel) and Steven Spurgat (Shane); grandchildren, Jessica Skube, Amanda Newsan, Benjamin Shafer and Benjamin Newsum; and 11 great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life is being held Saturday, Aug. 7, at the Newport Dunes Resort in Newport Beach, Calif.

Michael C. Passage

Michael C. Passage, 72, of Grosse Pointe, died Sunday, July 25, 2021, after a hard-fought battle with small cell bladder cancer. He was surrounded by his loving family in his final moments.

He was born May 29, 1949, in Detroit, to Clayton and Frances Passage (nee Giammona). He and his older sister, Mary Banka (nee Passage), grew up on the Eastside of Detroit and Grosse Pointe. In his youth, Mike had a love of fast cars, rock music and boats. He loved spending hours on his dad's boat on Lake St. Clair and driving his Corvette (too fast) through the streets of Grosse Pointe.

He graduated from Grosse Pointe High School — "The High" — in 1967, and joined the Army Reserve, where he served six years. In 1972, he joined the Detroit Police Department. During his 36-year career with the DPD, he worked all over the city and rose to the rank of lieutenant, retiring in 2006.

On May 17, 1980, Mike married the love of his life, Susan Greene. They had two daughters, Jennifer Breedlove (Scott) and Dr. Julie Zaituna (Andrew), along with several beloved German shepherd dogs, a couple of mutts and a few cats he never really wanted. Mike's girls were his world and he was proud to be able to see them both grow into successful women, wives and mothers.

The absolute joys of Mike's life were his four grandchildren, Charlie and Lily Breedlove and Josephine and James Zaituna. He was a devoted grandpa who spent much of his time watching them from their infancy until the time of his death. He was insistent that "Grandpa's Daycare" was the only option for his grandkids while their parents were at work. If he wasn't holding his grandchildren, one could often find Mike with a good book in hand, sitting by a roaring campfire he built or on the back of his Harley with other Warthog Motorcycle Club members.

Family was very important to Mike. He was the beloved uncle of Clayton and Frances Banka, Natalie and Stephen Barstys and Zachary Charlesworth. He also is survived by his sisters-in-law, Kim Barstys, Carole Greene, Sue Williams and Kathy

Vought; and brothers-in-law, Kevin Greene, Greg Greene, Dave Barstys and Dan Banka.

Not only was Mike adored by his family, but he also was loved by a wide circle of friends and colleagues whom he held dear. He will be deeply missed but never forgotten; his loss is immeasurable.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to A.H. Peters Funeral Home and St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church.

Memorial donations may be made to Leader Dogs for the Blind, 1039 S. Rochester Rd., Rochester Hills, MI 48307, or a charity of choice.

Nancy Marie Peterson Maxson

Nancy Marie Peterson Maxson, 82, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away Tuesday, July 27, 2021.

Nancy was born in 1938, to Paul and Margaret Peterson.

Raised in Battle Creek, Nancy graduated from Battle Creek Central High School in 1956. She went on to attend Hillsdale College, where she joined Kappa Kappa Gamma, the sorority with which she remained proudly affiliated the rest of her life.

After graduating from Hillsdale College in 1960, Nancy moved to metro Detroit with her then-husband, Clarke. Nancy obtained her Master of Science degree from Wayne State University. She worked as a teacher and librarian for Van Dyke Public Schools from 1970 to 1999. Nancy was recognized for her dedication to her students and school with "Outstanding Teacher" awards in 1989 and 1999.

Following her retirement from Van Dyke Public Schools, Nancy worked as a part-time librarian for the public libraries in the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods.

Nancy was a member of Grosse Pointe Congregational Church since 2006, where she was active in the Women's Fellowship and the Martha Committee.

Nancy was predeceased by her parents, Paul and Margaret Peterson; brother, Jerry Peterson; and nephew, Todd Peterson.

Nancy is survived by her daughter, Michelle Maxson of Grosse Pointe Woods; son, Bryan Peterson of Grosse Pointe Woods; and beloved Shih Tzu, Sammie. Nancy also is survived by her sister-in-law, Patricia Peterson of Battle Creek and Lady Lake, Fla.; and nephews, Matthew Peterson of Dublin, Ireland and Troy Peterson, St. Petersburg, Fla.

The family will receive visitors from 1 to 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 6, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

A memorial service



Joan Schutter Sholty



Anne Williamson



Michael C. Passage



Nancy M. Maxson



Richard John Belanger



Elizabeth Davis

celebrating Nancy's life is being planned for a later date.

Richard John "R.J." Bélanger

Richard John "R.J." Bélanger, 65, beloved partner, son, brother, uncle, grandpa and friend, joined his heavenly family Sunday, July 25, 2021. He is preceded in eternal life by his parents, Francois "Joe" and Patricia "Pat," and brother, Stephen.

He was born March 31, 1956, in Grosse Pointe. R.J. attended St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School and Austin Catholic Preparatory School. In 1974, he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Grand Valley State University, subsequently pursuing careers with various Michigan travel and tourism agencies.

A long-time resident of Detroit, Wolverine and Bay City, R.J. led an animated life full of travel and adventure. He was known for his signature handlebar mustache, vibrant smile and infectious laugh. You could often find him emceeding events and gatherings for family and friends with a zeal for being the "host with the most." His passion for entertaining left many with wonderful memories and perhaps some pyrotechnic envy. R.J. was famous for dinner and dancing with his many friends.

R.J. is survived by his partner, Danny Johnson; daughter, Amanda (Jason); beloved granddaughter, Faith; and siblings, Aimée, Eugene "Bo" (Lois), Janine (Ron), Carrie and Mark (Cris). He also is survived by many nieces, nephews and cousins from around the Great Lakes, coast to coast and beyond, as well as his dear sidekicks, Sir Herschel P. Waggs, Duke of the Sout'end, and fashion icon, Myrna.

The family will plan a Celebration of Life in the Bay City and Grosse Pointe areas.

Private arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Skorupski Family Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

Memorial contributions are welcome to the Childhood Leukemia Foundation of Michigan at leukemia.miamichigan.org; or the Michigan Humane Society at michigan

humane.org.

Expressions of sympathy may be shared with the family online at skorupskis.com.

Elizabeth "Betty" Davis

Elizabeth "Betty" Davis, 87, passed away peacefully Tuesday, July 27, 2021.

Betty was born Halloween Day in 1933, in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. She attended Ryerson University in Toronto, where she studied retail management.

In 1953, she married the love of her life, Hal "Dave" Davis. Betty and Hal met at a party and thereafter were inseparable. Together they raised three girls, traveled the world and enjoyed 61 wonderful years of love and companionship.

In 1965, Betty and Hal moved from Toronto to Grosse Pointe. They were members at Lochmoor Club and the Country Club of Detroit. An excellent golfer, Betty won the Women's Club Championships at both clubs and more scrambles than she could count. She also was an avid curler and proud member of the Detroit Curling Club. In addition, researching and investing in stocks was a great passion. She spent hours pouring over issues of "Value Line" and watching FNN.

Betty was known to Hal and their close friends as "Slim," thanks to her slender, athletic figure. They loved entertaining; the cocktail parties they threw for friends were legendary. Betty also loved to dance, especially to big band classics, but also loved to do the Hustle to "Saturday Night Fever."

Later in life, Betty and Hal enjoyed traveling abroad. Often, they would include their grandchildren on trips, which created cherished memories for all. Their adventurous spirits took them to Egypt, Africa, Southeast Asia and all across Europe. Eventually, they settled into their beautiful retirement home in Naples, Fla., where they continued to invite and entertain family and friends during the winter months.

Betty is survived by her daughters, Kelie McMillan (Ron) and Alex Davis (Eric Head); grandchildren, Justin



Mary Hindle

McMillan, Christopher McMillan (Madison), Emily, Evan and Olivia Davis; and sister, Helen Moser (George). She was predeceased by her husband, Dave; daughter, Lee Davis Zosel (Fred); and sister, Margaret Eaton.

Mary E. Hindle

Mary E. Hindle (nee Sparr), 92, of St. Clair Shores, passed away Sunday, July 18, 2021.

A native of Manitowoc, Wis., and a graduate of Eastern Michigan University, Mary began her career as a kindergarten teacher at Lake Forest Schools in Illinois. She continued her teaching career at The Liggett School in 1966, under Frank Sladen and moved with the school in 1969, as a second grade teacher. Mary's husband, William P. Hindle, taught upper school science at University Liggett School until his death in 1977. Mary retired from ULS after 26 years of teaching.

Mary was devoted to her husband, family and her faith. She loved music and entertaining her family and friends.

She is survived by her children, Susan Hindle Ryan, Therese Chouinard (Ric), Margaret Hindle, Tom Hindle, Jean Hindle and Edward Hindle. She was predeceased by her son, John P. Hindle and brother, Maurice Sparr. Mary also is survived by nine grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass takes place at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 14, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores. The family will greet guests at 9:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church or the charity of the donor's choice.

See OBITS, page 5B

OBITS:

Continued from page 4B

Peter John Hanna

Peter John Hanna, 70, passed away Tuesday, July 27, 2021.

He was born Sept. 16, 1950, to Cameell and Florence (nee Cavataio) Hanna, both now deceased.

Peter attended Our Lady Star of the Sea School, Austin Catholic Preparatory School, Class of 1968, and the University of Dayton.

He was voted "most likely to succeed," participating in speech festivals and sports. Peter excelled in football and math. He was exceptionally great with numbers and enjoyed gambling. Peter was a fair-minded person who loved black coffee, vanilla ice cream and Wendy's Frosty. His favorite meal was spaghetti with meatballs. He loved starting his day with Shirley's scrambled-egg sandwich in pita bread.

Peter and his five brothers celebrated their relationship with numerous fishing trips, often accompanied by his brother-in-law, George, and his nephews, Robert and George Jr. He was celebrated for catching the biggest fish, but they all told stories about their "biggest fish" that got away.

He was well known



Peter John Hannah



Roland Lawrence Olzark

with the Mack Avenue businesses, especially Irish Coffee and Mr. C's Deli. Peter was very social. He entertained with his impersonations of other people and by making humorous family references. He made friends with postal workers, employees, Comerica bank tellers and customers.

He also worked at Pointe Auto Wash, a carpet store and Lochmoor Club. More recently he made himself useful by running errands and taxiing people around. He loved to drive his car and used his driving to pay for his "Lotto scratch-off luck."

Peter was a kind man, generous and charming, his family said. He always found a compliment, especially for the many women who looked after him.

He was the loving brother of the late Sylvia Adams and the late Grace Arnold (George Sr.). He is survived by Diane

Edwards, Shirley Nagel, Fred Hanna (Louise), Cameell Hanna Jr. (the late Laurie), Dr. Donald Hanna, Joy Hanna, Dr. William Hanna, Patricia Hanna and Mark Hanna (Hildur). He is the cherished and adored "Uncle Pete" by his favorite niece, Jeanne-Marie Beaupre (Zac Ethridge); dear uncle of Wayne, George Jr., Alissa, Robert, Hanna, Adam, Elise, Hanna, Adam, Elise, Comeall III, Carly, Sarah, Lauren, Zach, Rebecca, Audrey, Bo, Grace and Peter; and great-uncle of eight.

Visitation takes place from 3 to 9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 6, at Wujekcalcaterra & Sons Inc., 36900 Schoenherr, at Metro Parkway. Instate is at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 7, until Mass at noon at Our Lady Star of the Sea, 467 Fairfield Rd., Grosse Pointe Woods.

Memorial contributions are appreciated to National Alliance on Mental Illness, 4301 Wilson Blvd., Suite 300,

Arlington, VA 22203.

Share memories with the family at the online guestbook at wujekcalcaterra.com.

The Honorable Roland L. Olzark

The Honorable Roland Lawrence Olzark, 93, passed away Monday, Dec. 28, 2020, joining his eight siblings, their spouses and his parents, Michael and Anna. Roland, aka "Ollie Olzark," was born in 1927, the youngest boy in the Owczarczak family. Two of his sisters married two Fekin brothers, creating an incredible bond between the two families that lasted generations.

Roland graduated in 1945 from Catholic Central High School. While there he played the lead role in plays, was an honor student all four years, played on the varsity football team and was a member of Fr. Martin's All-Star CC baseball team. Roland spent time playing in the minor leagues. In 2015, he was inducted into the Catholic Central Athletic Hall of Fame.

Roland continued his education at the University of Western Ontario, graduating in 1951 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. In 1954, he received his law degree from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. He passed the

Michigan state bar exam that same year and began his practice of law. He also served as law clerk for Michigan Supreme Court Justice Harry F. Kelly, former governor of Michigan. In 1970, he was appointed by Gov. Milliken to become a Wayne County Circuit Court judge. He retired from the bench in 1996, but remained active as a visiting judge and conducted settlement conferences.

Judge Olzark belonged to numerous organizations, including the Old Newsboys Goodfellows of Detroit, an organization whose sole mission is to ensure there are no kids without Christmas. He served as a member for 55 years and was president in 1977. He also was president of the University of Detroit Mercy Law Alumni in 1977, and the Michigan Trial Judges and Michigan Retired Judges Association. He was a member of the Polish Advocates Association, The Old Time Baseball Players, Knights of Columbus, DeLaSalle Council, Catholic Lawyers Association and Senior Men's Club of Grosse Pointe. Judge Olzark had a lifelong love of both boating and skiing. Winters were spent on the slopes of Boyne Mountain and summers on his Chris Craft cabin cruisers on Lake St Clair. During his retirement

years, Judge Olzark enjoyed singing in the choir and accompanying his wife, Halina, whenever she was cantoring.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Halina; children, Steven, Alexa, Maureen and Elena; and grandchildren, Kirin, Sophia, Natalie, Brinn, Jackson, Claire and Spencer.

Life is not about the number of years spent on this earth; it is about the dash in between those years. Judge Olzark's dash was fulfilled with kindness, generosity and accomplishments, his family said; his was a life well lived.

A gathering will take place at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 10, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. A Memorial Mass will take place at noon.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Memorial

Ann Sullivan Kay

A funeral Mass for Ann Sullivan Kay will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Friday, Aug. 13, at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, 15020 Hampton, Grosse Pointe Park. Ann's obituary appeared in the Grosse Pointe News Dec. 23, 2020.

Memorial's 313 Calling inspires acts of kindness

The Grosse Pointe community stepped up with tens of thousands of good deeds this past year to make Grosse Pointe Memorial Church's "313 Calling" program a success.

Begun in the depths of the pandemic in July 2020, the program had a stretch goal of 313,000 acts of kindness in one year by church members and the Grosse Pointe community. The need was great. During the hardest days, it made a big difference.

"The food drives have been a blessing beyond my wildest dreams," said Pastor Ruth Azar, founder and director of The Second Mile Center in Detroit. Although Second Mile shut down normal operations during the pandemic, it was able to keep providing food, socks and underwear to eastside resi-



COURTESY PHOTO

Donations of food and other essentials were collected at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church and donated to the Second Mile Center in Detroit.

dents and beyond, she said.

As part of the 313 Calling program, volunteers regularly made nearly 1,500 sandwiches

a week. Drive-thru food drives brought in 2,000 to 4,000 items every month. Socks and underwear drives brought in nearly 900 items each

time. And more than half the donations and volunteers came from the wider Grosse Pointe community, especially via the help of the Grosse

Pointe Rotary Club.

"We truly have realized that the community is ready to answer the bell and we'll continue some of the activities where people found it easy to volunteer," said elder Steve Tengler, former project manager for 313 Calling at Memorial Church.

After one year, the 313 Calling program has ended after recording more than 125,000 acts of kindness. Organizers know many community members did far more than that for strangers and neighbors. In addition, distant volunteers from Rochester Hills, Livonia and Sterling Heights gave their time to make sandwiches, while other donations came from places as far away as Florida, Illinois and Tennessee.

"While the full 313,000 acts of kindness weren't

reported, we are confident that many good people went beyond the call and continue to do so," said church member and elder Joe Masinick. "This is highlighted by the programs that were created to reach the goal and still continue after the project's completion."

The name "313 Calling" is not just in reference to the local area code, but to the concept that serving one's neighbors is a calling, not just a duty, Tengler said.

Anyone who wants to continue to contribute socks or underwear can do so through happycheeks.org. Those who want to contribute time to the ongoing peanut butter sandwich effort can sign up at bit.ly/2WMPyC; sandwiches are distributed to four different shelters by Grosse Pointe Memorial Church volunteers.

Worship Service

<p>Grosse Pointe Congregational Church (United Church of Christ) www.gpccong.org</p> <p>Sunday 10AM services are on Zoom Meeting online and phone https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4105997963 415-762-9988, then enter 4105997963</p> <p>AND with a Drive-in service in the parking lot</p>	<p>FIRST ENGLISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 800 Vernier Road (Corner of Wedgewood) (313) 884-5040</p> <p>'Celebrating 125 years of ministry in Christ'</p> <p>10:00 am - Worship Service 10:15 am - Spark Church</p> <p>Summer worship service is at 10:00am in the sanctuary. Communion is served each week using pre-filled cups.</p> <p>Rev. Sean Motley, Senior Pastor ~ "Go Make Disciples" ~ www.feelc.org</p>	
<p>Saint Ambrose Catholic Church 15020 Hampton Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan 48230-1302</p> <p>Masses Saturday Vigil — 4:00 p.m. Sunday — 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Tuesday — 8:30 a.m. Thursday — 7:00 p.m. Friday — Noon</p> <p>On Holy days of Obligation, Masses are at 10 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. (313) 822-2814 • stambrose@comcast.net • stambrosechurch.net • facebook.com/stambroseparish</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p style="text-align: center;">ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MI</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Join us for Summer Worship at 9:00 a.m. <i>Holy Communion and Music</i> Sundays in August</p> <p style="text-align: center;">August 8th Worship on the Front Lawn <i>Weather Permitting</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">20475 Sunningdale Park (313) 884-4820 www.stmichaelsgpw.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN <small>Sharing God's grace through Christ, we love, pray, rejoice and serve</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rev. Krister Ulmanis, Interim Pastor</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sanctuary Worship Sundays at 9:30 a.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Online Worship & Zoom Communion www.stpaulgp.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All are Welcome!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">375 Lothorp at Chalfonte Grosse Pointe Farms 313.881.6670</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Christ the King Lutheran Church and Preschool Mack at Lochmoor • 884-5090 www.christthekinggp.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUNDAY 8:15 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study 10:45 a.m. - Sunday School</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MONDAY 7 p.m. - Worship Service 2nd & 4th Monday of the Month</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WEDNESDAY 10 a.m. - Bible Study</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Randy S. Boelter, Pastor <i>Making New Disciples - Building Stronger Ones</i></p>		

YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

Time to let the community know who are YOUR favorites...

Grosse Pointe News

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of the

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20 ★ 21

The Grosse Pointe area is full of unique and treasured businesses, from bars and restaurants to gift shops and day spas...and so much more! For the first time ever, we'll be polling the community and showcasing *their* favorite places.

From the categories at right, choose who deserves the honor in each category. Then vote online or by mail and watch for the upcoming winners. They just might be your top picks!

VOTING BEGINS:
August 12, 2021.

VOTING DEADLINE:
August 26, 2021

Winners will be announced in the September 23rd issue of the Grosse Pointe News.

TO VOTE ONLINE:

Visit grossepointenews.com/best

TO VOTE BY MAIL:

Print ballots will be available in the August 12th and 19th editions of the Grosse Pointe News.

Completed ballots can be dropped off in person or mailed to:

GPN Best of the Best
16980 Kercheval Place
Grosse Pointe, MI 48236

For more information, see contest rules online at grossepointenews.com/best/rules or call (313) 882-6900.

Best Brunch

Best Pizza

Best Salad

Best Cupcake

Best Milkshake

Best Juice Shop

Best Coffee

Best Happy Hour

Best Bloody Mary

Best Martini

Best Margarita

Best Restaurant/Bar for Craft Beer

Best Waterfront Dining

Best Outdoor Dining

Best Live Music

Coziest Restaurant

Best Place for a Date

Best Bartender

Best Manicure/Pedicure

Best Facial

Best Day Spa

Best Place to Buy a Hostess Gift

Best Last-Minute Gift Shop

Best "Made in Michigan" Gift Shop

Best Men's Clothing Shop

Best Trendy Women's Boutique

Best Classic Women's Boutique

Best Clothing Shop for "Grosse Pointe Style"

Best Children's Clothing Shop

Best Toy/Hobby Shop

Best Boating/Water Sports Shop

Best Record Shop

Best Place to Buy a Diamond

LIFE & ENTERTAINMENT

2C WE TRIED IT! | 3C WINE TALK | 4C MOVIE JUNKIE MARK | 5-6C COMICS & PUZZLES

A master in metal: Sculptor's work installed in Trial Garden

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Max Rybinski is making quite a name for himself.

Not only can his artwork be found in gardens and on patios throughout the Grosse Pointes, but now it's visible at The War Memorial as well.

The 2013 graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School recently was commissioned to create a sculpture for the Grosse Pointe Garden Center's Trial Garden at The War Memorial. His silhouette of William Shakespeare was installed last week and likely will be the first of more to come for the 27-year-old.

"Max said he could do anything they wanted and this is what they wanted," his mother, Jackie Rybinski said. "They gave us a drawing and he did the work."

It took less than a hour to create, Max Rybinski said. He used quarter-inch steel for the project. It's not galvanized, his mother added, so it will rust.

"They wanted something that would change color," she said.

Max Rybinski learned the skilled trade of metal cutting and welding during his junior and senior years at South, while attending half-day classes at Golightly Career Technical Center, under the direction of teacher Juan Whiting.

"Mr. Whiting is the one who first said Max is an artist," Jackie Rybinski said.

One of his first pieces was a three-dimensional dinosaur. A pair of follow-up pieces were featured in South's



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Max Rybinski poses near the silhouette of William Shakespeare he created for the Trial Garden at The War Memorial.

Art Fest and won awards. He was awarded for his work in a Grosse Pointe Artists Association exhibition as well.

His natural talent for working with metal was accentuated by classes at College for Creative Studies. His work appeared in a CCS art show and catalog as well.

"He's gotten a lot of notice and a number of people, when they see one, they'll ask him for something," Jackie Rybinski said. "He enjoys coming up with ideas."

Max Rybinski's love of metalwork has led to some changes at the family home. The garage is now a welding studio; the backyard, a sculpture garden.

He specializes in making animals — peacock, chicken,

tarantula, armadillo and frog are among his accomplishments — but also has made robots, cars and other items. Currently he's working on a miniature Eiffel Tower, which he plans to give to his cousin as a wedding gift.

When he's not getting creative in his garage, Max Rybinski works at Saline Manufacturing in Roseville, making auto part racks.

"He gets scrap metal from the job," Jackie Rybinski said, noting most of what he uses is raw material rather than "an accumulation of parts that are already made."

"Through this, Max has gotten to meet a lot of people," she added. "He's very generous if people ask him for something."

And his rates are low: \$10 an hour.

"When he gives these to people, it makes them happy," his mother said. "Whenever I see him working in the garage, he has a big smile on his face."

"The Garden Center has said, as the themes change, they'd like Max to do something according to the theme. ... They want to keep Max involved in the garden."



John Kim and his daughters, Margo and Johanna Kim, cracked up when their dog Kodi stopped to cool off during the sidewalk sale.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Sale-ebrating

The Village held its Sale-ebration sidewalk sale Friday, July 30, and Saturday, July 31. Along with sales, the event included music, crafts, food trucks, dog treats, a mini pool for dogs, a prize wheel and demonstrations.



Siblings Ava and Clair Munerantz show off the new water bottles they got at Ridge Crest Outfitters, the newest store in The Village.

ASK THE EXPERTS By Mary Beth Garvey

Coping with an empty nest

Q: I'm going to have an empty nest. Now what?

A: While you have been preparing to launch your children, it may not be without mixed feelings. As one mom recently put it, despite being delighted about her daughter's transition, "I feel like I just lost the best job I ever had."

Typically, launching is thought about developmentally as the stage where young adults separate and individuate from their parents. My training in family therapy gave me another way to think about this though: to focus on re-affiliation. As our children move toward greater independence and new transitions, we serve them best not by separating, but by renegotiating or redefining what our relationship

will look like going forward. This mindset embraces fluidity and finding new ways to connect as our children — and our relationship with them — evolve.

Re-affiliation is the way we adjust our parenting roles as kids become more competent. It's how we move from hands-on teacher to close collaborator to trusted adviser. It reinforces our faith in their ability to master new challenges, or to recover successfully when they struggle. Re-affiliation does not signal distance — or being needed any less as a parent — but it is about parenting and reconnecting in new ways. We still have our jobs; they just look a little different than they have in the past. For a lot of parents, this is a time of mixed

feelings. Optimism and uncertainty. Excitement and apprehension. Joy and sadness. Gratitude. Even loss. There is room for all of it and there is no right way or wrong way to feel about it. This is the end of some growing up years that were extraordinary. The next chapters will look different. Still good, presumably, but different. And that's usually hard. Be gentle with yourselves and hold on to re-affiliation as a touchstone as you navigate the next stages.

Mary Beth Garvey, LMSW, is a licensed social worker with more than 25 years of experience providing individual, group and family therapy in the private and public sectors. Check out her blog at marybethgarveytherapy.org/.

The Family Center provides free programs and resources that empower families to successfully navigate life's social, emotional and physical challenges. Learn more at familycenterweb.org.

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We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



I think we've all been there. You see a compelling ad for a product you just so happen to "need." You add it to your online cart, start going through the checkout process and then abandon ship when you come to your senses.

Well, here at "We Tried It," we are taking the risk so you don't have to! We will buy and test products and/or services that we find — or even better — that YOU find and want us to try (more on that later). We will give 100 percent honest feedback.

For week one, we went with a well-established product — around since 1938 — but one that has achieved an online gold status lately thanks to TikTok. The Pink Stuff bills itself as "the miracle cleaning paste." You can basically use it on anything, from pots and pans to sinks to boats to ceramic to rust. The list is endless. First of all, it's \$7.99. Not terrible, but sort of expensive for a small tub of cleaner you aren't sure will work.

Second, it's very smooth and does not smell at all — which is very nice and unusual in the cleaning world. I am always suspect of natural cleaning products. I want to like them,

but they never seem to work as well. This product claims to be made up of 99 percent natural ingredients, environmentally non-toxic, non-hazardous, vegan and not tested on animals — so right off the bat I was suspicious.

So on to the testing. For the first test, we cleaned the oldest, most hideous cookie sheet you have ever seen. We are talking 50 years of cooking baked on — a castoff from my mother's kitchen. Result: We give it an 8 out of 10. It took a LOT of elbow grease. It made a huge difference, but it wasn't perfect. It's pretty simple to do: Use a sponge or rag to smooth The Pink Stuff on whatever surface you are cleaning and then wash it off with hot water. Again, 10 out of 10 for the smell and non-abrasive qualities.

Secondly, we cleaned a very greasy splatter screen. Great results. To throw a competitor in the mix, we cleaned half with The Pink Stuff and half with Bar Keeper's Friend. Similar results.

Lastly, we tackled a glass oven window that was so dirty you couldn't see inside the oven. It worked very well — in fact, a lot better than actual oven cleaner that



Cookie sheet before.

smells unbelievably toxic.

My husband was very happy with this review as our kitchen ended up looking markedly better when all was said and done. You have to put in a lot of effort, but it's

overall a very solid product and we love the natural, non-smelly aspect. It's available at Amazon, Aldi, Walmart and other retailers.

What products would you like us to review? Please send



Cookie sheet after.

all suggestions to media@grossepointenews.com or feel free to DM us on Instagram or Facebook.

Overall rating: 4 out of 5



Oven door before.



Oven door after.

The Science Advice Goddess

by Amy Alkon

Brawl Straps

I'm a woman in my early 20s. The guy I'm dating brought me to meet his friends. His male friends were warm and friendly. The women were awful. One deliberately kept saying my name wrong (it's not exactly exotic), and two others glared at my miniskirt. Another said something about how low-cut my top was. She made it sound like a compliment, but it was a mean dig. How can these women be so nasty when they don't even know me? How do I diffuse situations like these?

—Upset

When a man has a beef with another man, he'll be direct about it: hurl insults at the guy's face and maybe try to renovate his jaw with a barstool. Women fight sneaky-dirty with other women, using covert tactics, explains psychologist Anne Campbell. These include mobilizing a group of women to ostracize a woman, talking trash to men about her looks and how "loose" she is, and offering "compliments" that are actually nasty digs. Give a woman's confidence a beatdown and she might dim her shine (cover her miniskirt with a shawl and

wipe that sexy red lipstick off on her sleeve).



Psychologist Tracy Vaillancourt separated female research participants

into random groups. She compared one group's reactions to a 20-something woman walking into a classroom dressed "conservatively" (in a loosely fitting

shirt and khaki slacks) with the other group's reactions to the same woman dressed

"provocatively" (in a very short skirt and a tight, low-cut shirt). Dressed conservatively, she was "barely noticed by the participants." When she entered in skin-baring sexywear, almost all the women "aggressed against her." They rolled their eyes at her, gave her "once-overs," and shot her "death stares." After she left, many laughed at her, ridiculed her appearance, and/or suggested she was a man-hopping sleaze.

You're a target for the she-hyenas whenever you wear sexy clothing and makeup (like an intense smoky eye with winged eyeliner). Decide whether you have the emotional strength and social capital to bear the glares and backbiting, or

whether you need to, say, stock up on some floor-length prairie dresses. This isn't to say you should immediately assume the worst of all women. However, understanding what you can expect from some might help you stand tall in the face of an attack -- remembering that it's about them, not about you, when they imply that your bedroom's visitors log rivals Ellis Island's.

Got a problem? Write Amy Alkon, 171 Pier Ave, #280, Santa Monica, CA 90405, or e-mail AdviceAmy@aol.com. @amyalkon on Twitter. Weekly podcast: blog-talkradio.com/amyalkon. (c)2021, Amy Alkon, all rights reserved.

Husband's past affair with musician strikes a sour note

DEAR ABBY: My husband of 49 years had an affair two years ago with a woman younger than our daughter. The affair is over now, but I no longer trust him.

The "other woman" is a musician who performs with an adult ensemble that he conducts. He refuses to talk to her about discontinuing her involvement in the group, and is, in fact, including her in a tour in which many of our friends and I are involved. I find this demeaning and disrespectful, but he doesn't think there's a problem.

I am dismayed, but I haven't spoken to friends or family about the affair because I don't want my children or

grandchildren to be hurt. What should I do? -- OUT OF TUNE IN THE SOUTH

DEAR OUT OF TUNE: If the affair is really over, the young woman is an integral part of the group and you will be accompanying your husband on that tour, do nothing. (I hope it's a big bus!)

If, however, the affair is not a thing of the past, schedule an appointment with an attorney to discuss what your options are and talk with your adult children. They should be warned there may be stormy clouds on the horizon.

DEAR ABBY: I recently contacted a man I dated 32

years ago, when I was 17. He told me he was widowed 13 years ago after a 13-year marriage. Since then, he hasn't dated anyone, talked to anyone or had any kind of human intimacy whatsoever.

He is 58. It isn't normal and it doesn't seem like anyone in his family has helped him get through this, so he is stuck.

We have been talking for the last seven months. We live 6 1/2 hours apart. It seems like rather than "rock the boat," he has let other people rule his life. His children are all in their 20s. He tells me he wants to visit and vice versa, to see where things go. We both say marriage is not on the table. I can't even imagine it.

His daughters have



Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

referred to me as his girlfriend when he has had me on the phone and they are in the background. Please advise. -- NO DEFINITE PLANS YET

DEAR NO DEFINITE PLANS: You said your old beau has been living like a monk for the past 13 years. Ordinarily, I would advise you to invite him for a visit. However, in this coronavirus era, you need to know whether he has been vaccinated for COVID before you do that. Discuss this with him during one of your conversations and see how

he feels about it.

DEAR ABBY: After 18 years of happy marriage, my husband came to me the other day and asked me to order some "leggings," or what I call "yoga pants." He said he had seen them on TikTok. Mind you, we're both 40. He said they're sexy and he'd love to see me in some. I'm not sure how to feel about this. I am 5'7", weigh about 115 and I have no booty. Should I order the pants or be offended? -- NO BOOTY IN NEW MEXICO

DEAR NO BOOTY: Order the pants! If he'd

like to see you in them, what do you have to lose? While you may feel self-conscious about your posterior, never forget that it's the booty he married. Please, let that reassure you. (If you're unsure, consider wearing a tunic top with them.)

PS. You may find them very comfortable.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dear Ann Landers: I was run over by a drunk driver 21 years ago. As a result, my right arm is paralyzed, and my right leg is partially paralyzed and shorter than the left. I walk with a crutch.

I am completely independent and self-sufficient, but whenever I am out in public, someone asks, "What happened to you?" Not a day goes by that some ignorant jerk doesn't confront me with that rude question. Recently, a neighbor's 7-year-old grandson imitated the way I walk in front of his friends. They thought it was hilarious. Parents should teach their children that it is cruel to make fun of a handicapped person.

The able-bodied cannot comprehend the embarrassment, humiliation and struggle we must endure. Please tell your readers that

we should be treated with respect, not stared at or questioned. Thank you. - Managing in Mesa, Ariz.

Dear Mesa: Your letter should go a long way toward educating those who are insensitive to the disabled. I hope parents of young children will take special note of what you have written.

Dear Ann Landers: I would like to address this message to the grown children of widowers who are involved in relationships with widows in the evening of their lives. Many of these children do not understand how important we are to one another, and they treat us as if we were "intruders." To these children, I would like to say:

I am the one who makes sure your father takes along a jacket so he doesn't get

Classic Ann Landers

chilled in an air-conditioned movie theater.

I am the one to whom he tells all his life stories, often more than once, and I still listen to them respectfully.

I am the one who goes to the doctor with him, at his request, to help him remember what the doctor says.

I am the one who plays cards with him as we listen to music, just to keep him company and because I like him.

I am the one who watches that he doesn't eat the foods the doctor has told him he shouldn't have.

I am the one who sits by his bedside in the hospital, mak-

ing sure he is cared for, fluffing his pillow, speaking to the doctors, reporting back to you and, finally, driving him home to his apartment.

I am also the one who respects and admires your father, values his opinion, appreciates his kindnesses, loves his affection, revels in his compliments and needs his companionship.

You should call me now and then and let me know you are pleased that I am in your father's life. -- Florida Widow

Dear Florida: I wonder

how many sons and daughters who read your letter today will make that phone call? I'll bet it will be more than you think.

To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Grapefruit, fennel and goat cheese salad with pistachios

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

This is my take on a traditional Sicilian antipasto. Grapefruit and fennel are a pretty stellar pairing. This salad hits almost every note on your palate. It's clean, bright, crunchy, and creamy. Peppery arugula and goat cheese give you everything else you crave. Pistachios? Why not. They're salty and a nutty perfection. It involves some cutting technique but don't worry, I'll walk you through. Make sure to squeeze the extra juice out from the grapefruit after you segment for the dressing.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE NELSON

in sections removing all of the white pith. Glide your knife through each segment as close to the membrane as possible to get the slices removed. Slice the fennel thinly and make sure to remove the core.

Layer the sliced fennel, arugula, and red onion. Toss gently to combine. Top the salad with sectioned grapefruit, goat cheese and pistachios. Drizzle balsamic over top.

- 1 fennel bulb, thinly sliced
- 2 pink grapefruits, segmented
- 4 oz goat cheese
- ½ cup chopped, shelled pistachios
- ¼ cup thinly sliced red onion
- 5 oz arugula
- ¼ cup fresh squeezed grapefruit juice
- 2 tbs balsamic vinegar
- ¼ cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tbs dijon mustard
- 1 tsp honey
- ½ tsp salt

Start by making the dressing. Whisk together the fresh grapefruit juice, honey, olive oil and mustard together in the bottom of a large salad bowl. Add salt to taste. Next, segment the grapefruit. With a sharp knife, cut the top and bottom of the grapefruit. Cut the peel off

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Wine and food

Excluding breakfast, I consider a meal without a glass of wine to be a missed opportunity. I think of wine as an enhancement of food and a simple way to improve almost all victuals.

Not every wine has to be great. Sometimes, a simple glass of simple wine is just fine. And though making the proper food and wine pairing is fun, it's by no means necessary.

In fact, I don't believe in rigid rules when it comes to wine and food pairing. For me, there is one rigid rule I live by: wine with food beats the alternative, which is food without any wine.

The old food/wine rules were designed with simplicity in mind. Sure, "white wine with fish, red wine with meat" can work, but not always. Like baked halibut with lemon butter. But what about halibut in a dark red-wine reduction sauce seasoned with tarragon and thyme? A medium-weight red would be better.

Want rules? Let's start with some basics:

- Either a complement or a contrast should be considered. A complementing wine should have flavors that are not incompatible with the main dish; a contrasting wine could well be a tart wine with a rich creamy dish.
- The dominant flavors in the main dish are usually matched to the wine, so roasted lamb leg with rosemary traditionally would be matched with older red Bordeaux and its slightly gamey or earthy complexity. But the rosemary is in play, so a very ripe, youthful zinfandel could also work.

- Beef isn't always prepared the same. A medium pinot noir best complements rare prime rib, but if you're having a rump roast covered in herbs and garlic, a shiraz might be better. The roast's exterior will have a load of flavors including pepper.
- Keep in mind the other dishes on the table. When preparing a turkey with sage dressing, herbal wines may do best, such as cabernet or pinot noir. But at Thanksgiving, remember the other dishes typi-

cally on the table: cranberry sauce (sweet), yams (sweet) and even raisins in the dressing.

Since the sweetness in the dishes will make some reds taste sour, try Beaujolais or zinfandel. Also, consider an Extra Dry sparkling wine, with its slight sweetness.

- In doubt? California sparkling wine and quality dry rose wines are all-purpose matches for a wide variety of cuisines. Rosé really is an all-purpose wine, especially when one person at the table is eating seafood, another is having steak and others are vegetarians. Grenache and sangiovese are popular grapes making stylish rose wines these days.
- With Asian foods, keep in mind the heat (peppers and other spices) and the sweetness (especially if fruit is used in the preparation). If the main dish is either sweet or hot, choose an off-dry wine, preferably with lower alcohol, such as a German riesling.

- With salty foods, pick an off-dry wine with flowery character, such as a gewurztraminer.
- Chilled dishes usually have less overt flavors, so a delicate wine would work well. Try a pinot gris or pinot blanc from Alsace or from the Alto Adige of Italy.
- Don't try to match wine with foods containing noticeable amounts of vin-

egar, such as salads. For salads with cream dressings, try sauvignon blanc.

- Most soups gain added interest with a tiny splash of a dry or off-dry sherry. And serving sherry alongside soup is an elegant accompaniment.

Of all the systems pairing wines with foods, I still like my No. 1 rule best: dinner without wine is dreary.

Wine of the Week: Nonvintage Fre Red Blend, California "Alcohol Removed" (\$6): Making any wine without any alcohol is an extremely difficult task, and it is far more difficult to make a red than a white. This zero-alcohol wine is relatively tasty, particularly if it is reasonably well chilled. The aroma is typical of an inexpensive red, and the residual sugar that was intentionally left in the wine helps with the texture that the alcohol would have provided had it been there. Chilling it helps the structural balance, allowing it to work nicely with various foods.

To find out more about Dan Berger and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

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Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

MOVIE REVIEW
“The Last Letter From Your Lover”
 2021 - 1hr 50min

The days of Hollywood dominating the Oscars are long gone. Over the years, indie films made significant inroads into the spotlight. Today, the studios of the major streaming companies have been pumping out films on a par with the traditional studios. Take Netflix for example. Last year, the streaming giant had 37 films nominated for Oscars including noteworthy ones like “Mank”, “The Trial of the Chicago 7”, “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom”, and “My Octopus Teacher”.

an English newspaper that uncovers some old love letters from a society matron (Woodley) in the paper’s vault. Intrigued, she works with the archivist to unearth more letters.

The story jumps back in time to the late 1960s where we see Woodley’s character on holidays with her wealthy, entrepreneurial, jet-setting husband. Anthony O’Hare (Callum Turner), a financial journalist from the same paper, joins them while doing research for a story about them. With her husband largely absent, she begins a torrid yet ill-fated love affair with the journalist.

As expected, Jones starts falling for her archi-



depicted was absolutely spot on.

In closing, let me just say that I felt the pandemic has made the last year and a half a bit grim. I think the Oscars reflected that feeling—all the Best Picture contenders were pretty dark. I know we’re all ready for some brighter movies in our lives and I wouldn’t be surprised if this one was nominated for an Oscar or two. Remember, you heard it here first!

Streaming on Netflix.
 ★★★★★☆

My rating system:

★ A real stinker. A movie that is so bad, you’re embarrassed to admit you’ve seen it, but you have to rate it nonetheless.

★★ So-so. Not a total waste of time, but you would have been better off reading a good book.

★★★ Pretty good. In fact, if there weren’t any other movies in your queue, you might watch it again.

★★★★ One you’d recommend to friends.

★★★★★ So good you’d actually go out and buy it!

About this column:

While I watch a lot of movies, this column will feature those I feel have gone under the radar and deserve more recognition. They’ll include both mainstream and indie films streaming on services like Netflix and Kanopy, as well as theatrical releases. For movie trailers, visit youtube.com. If you have any recommendations, feel free to email me at dominmark@yahoo.com. Also, if you’re looking for more movies, be sure to check out my blog: moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BLUEPRINT PICTURES

From left to right, Nabhaan Rizwan, Felicity Jones, Shailene Woodley, Callum Turner and Joe Alwyn.



“The Last Letter From Your Lover” stars Shailene Woodley and Callum Turner.

If you enjoy a well-written and acted romance, I think you’ll enjoy the recently released Netflix movie “The Last Letter From Your Lover”.

It stars the sweet and charming Felicity Jones and the remarkable Shailene Woodley. Jones plays a young columnist at

and their affair soon blooms into an all-out romance. I thought the movie was quite enjoyable and in spite of some of the reviews I’ve read complaining that the book was much better than the movie, it’s great for a couple hours of escapism. The way the 1960s was

Lincoln and Shinola work together to create unique Aviator concept

DEARBORN, Mich., – The story of the Lincoln Aviator Shinola concept started with a watch, a duffle bag and a bike seat, and it took off from there. Two iconic brands with a shared passion for design, Lincoln and Shinola have teamed up to create an Aviator SUV concept.

After a visit to Shinola’s flagship showroom in Detroit, Lincoln designers set out to explore the brand’s popular lifestyle products on display, then found ways to incorporate some very compelling design elements into a unique theme. The result is an Aviator concept that blends the design principles of Lincoln with the modern aesthetic of Shinola.

The collaboration was an opportunity for Lincoln to test and learn, while exploring the use of different colors and new materials in designing vehicles.

“After our initial meeting with the Lincoln team, it was clear we shared the same passion for well-designed, beautifully crafted products,” said Shannon Washburn, Shinola CEO. “Designers from both brands came



together to create an ultra-luxury vehicle that still embodies Shinola’s aesthetic of approachable luxury with thoughtful details. You can see this in the touches of copper inspired by our bike seats and the brand strip incorporated into the leather seats.”

The Lincoln Aviator Shinola concept’s soft white exterior is inspired by Shinola’s iconic mother

of pearl stone watch dials, with hints of blue. Copper accents, inspired by the copper-plated structure that attaches to a Shinola Runwell bike seat, give off a rose-gold hue, for an exterior that highlights progressive utility.

The seats feature crème suede that beautifully matches the inserts, brightening up the cabin and giving off a pearl hue that mimics the unique exterior color.

Taking cues from the Shinola brand stripe, a woven textile sewn into the seats in all three rows makes for a unique, textural look. Liam Butler, Lincoln color and material designer, says he took each stitch of the original stripe then scaled to proportion, adding a blue tone that acknowledges Lincoln’s many signature blues.

Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Cancer.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Aug. 5, 2021:

You are a natural leader and excellent at managing and directing others. Ever adventurous, you are self-assured and diplomatic, which is why others listen to you. You have humanitarian values at heart. In a nine-year cycle, this is your ninth year, which means it is a time of endings and letting go of what is no longer really relevant in your life.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Today is the perfect day to cocoon at home or relax with family members. A discussion with a female family member might be significant for both of you. However, you might want to “hide” in comfortable, familiar surroundings. Tonight: Home surprise.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

In discussions with others today, you want a genuine connection with whomever you are talking to. This means you will be disappointed if the conversation remains at a superficial, chitchat level. You want a real exchange. Something meaningful. Tonight: Change of plans.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Financial matters are on your mind today, which is why this could be a tricky day if you are shopping. You might make purchases based on emotional decisions rather than practical decisions. The best way to protect yourself is to save your receipts, and the box. Tonight: Watch your money.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Today the Moon is still in your sign, which makes you more emotional than usual. However, it also increases your good luck just a tiny bit. (And as we all know, every little bit helps!) Therefore, ask the universe for a favor today. Tonight: You’re restless!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

With the Sun and Mercury in your sign now, you are powerful and busy relating to others. However, today you have a chance to seek some solitude and escape from the busyness around you, if you choose to do so. Welcome any opportunity to replenish and restore yourself. Tonight: Something unexpected.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

This is a good day to have a heart-to-heart talk with someone, perhaps a female acquaintance. It might benefit you to share your hopes and dreams for the future with this person, because quite possibly, their feedback will help you. Tonight: A surprising encounter.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Once again, today the Moon is sitting at the very top of your chart, which seems to put you in the public eye. In other words, at some point people will notice you more than usual, and they will be talking about you. Tonight: A boss or parent might surprise you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Because you feel a bit restless today and eager for adventure, give yourself a chance to explore something new. Do something different! Go someplace you have never been before. Obviously, travel will appeal to you. Learn new things

and meet unusual people! Tonight: Sudden travel!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Although you have a desire to travel and “get away from all this,” today you cannot ignore certain details regarding shared property, taxes, debt, insurance matters or something to do with inheritances. Whatever calls to you. Tonight: Check your finances.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Because the Moon is in the sign that is 180 degrees opposite from your sign, the best way for you to handle this is to be ready to go more than halfway when dealing with others. In other words, you have to cooperate and be supportive. No biggie. Tonight: A friend or partner will surprise you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Very possibly, you will have to perform a service for someone else today or help them in some way. You also might be more involved than usual with a pet. At work, you might find that a co-worker wants to confide in you. Tonight: Avoid computer glitches. Be aware of your pet.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

You’re in a playful frame of mind today, which is why you will enjoy fun activities with children, the arts or any kind of mental, intellectual games. You also will be attracted to sports events and the entertainment world. Tonight: Social plans change. Be vigilant about your kids.

BORN TODAY

Director, writer, actor James Gunn (1966), actress Loni Anderson (1945), actor Jesse Williams (1981).

Contract Bridge

MAXIMUM SECURITY

East dealer.
 Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH			
♠ A Q			
♥ 6 5			
♦ A 7 6 4 2			
♣ 7 5 3 2			
WEST		EAST	
♠ 8 7 6 2		♠ 9 4 3	
♥ A 9 3 2		♥ Q J 10 7 4	
♦ —		♦ J 10 8 5	
♣ Q J 10 9 4		♣ K	
SOUTH			
♠ K J 10 5			
♥ K 8			
♦ K Q 9 3			
♣ A 8 6			

The bidding:
 East Pass South 1 NT West Pass North 3 NT
 Opening lead — queen of clubs.

A safety play is an effort by declarer to overcome a potentially unfavorable distribution of the defenders’ cards. There are so many different kinds of safety plays that it is better to try to understand the principle behind them than to rely exclusively on memory or past experience.

Take this case where West leads the queen of clubs against three notrump,

and East plays the king. South has no choice but to take this trick with the ace because he can’t run the risk of East shifting to a heart. This brings him to the critical play at trick two.

If declarer makes the mistake of playing the king of diamonds at this point, expecting to score five diamond tricks, he goes down. As it happens, East has all four missing diamonds and now has a stopper in the suit. South still has a chance to make the contract if East has the ace of hearts, but, as the cards lie, the best he can do is finish with eight tricks.

Before doing anything at trick two, declarer should first ask himself: “What can defeat me?” It shouldn’t take him long to realize that the only threat to the contract is a 4-0 diamond division. His next step is to look for a way to deal with that division if it exists.

Declarer notes that he cannot overcome the J-10-8-5 of diamonds in the West hand regardless of how he broaches the suit, but that he can overcome four diamonds in East’s hand. Accordingly, he leads the three of diamonds to the ace at trick two, exposing the 4-0 break. He then returns a diamond toward his hand. No matter how East chooses to defend, his diamonds are neutralized, and South makes the contract.

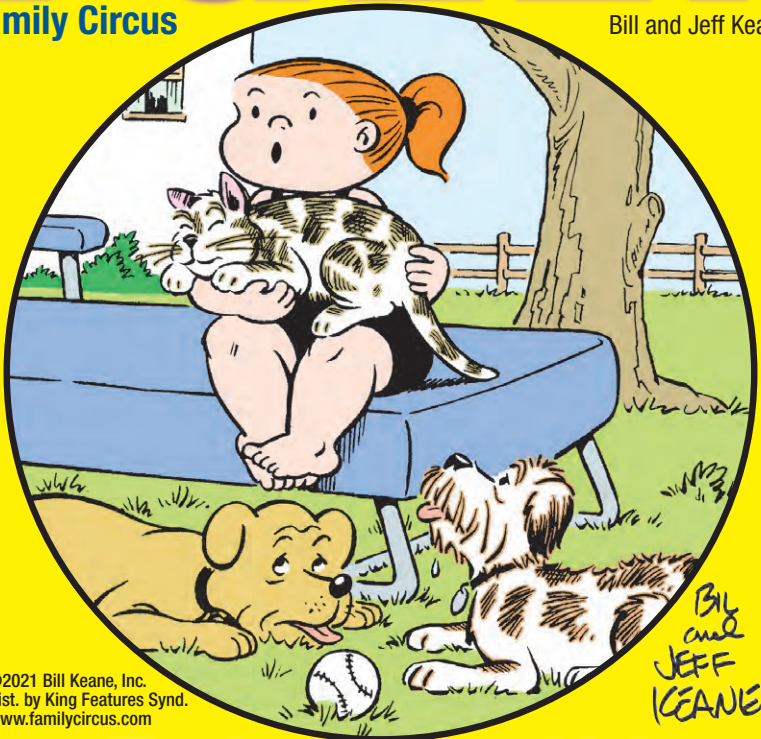
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by Steve Becker

Puzzles and

Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane

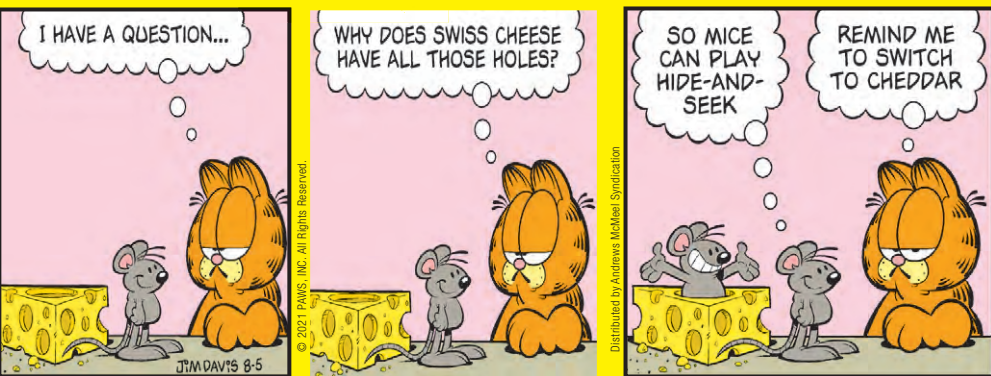


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"Dog days are in August, but when are cat days?"

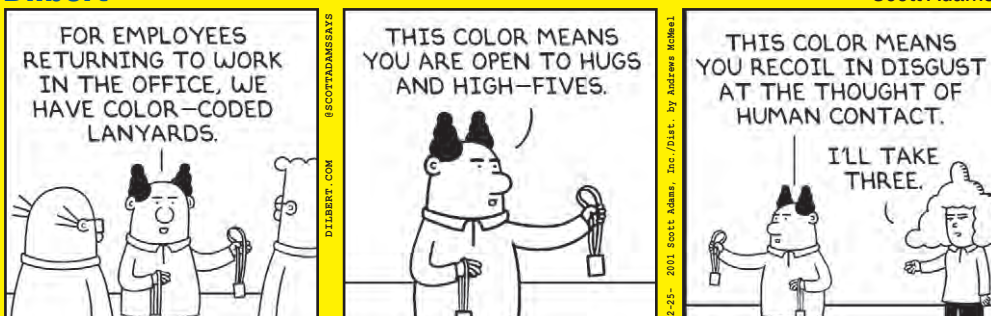
Garfield

Jim Davis



Dilbert

Scott Adams



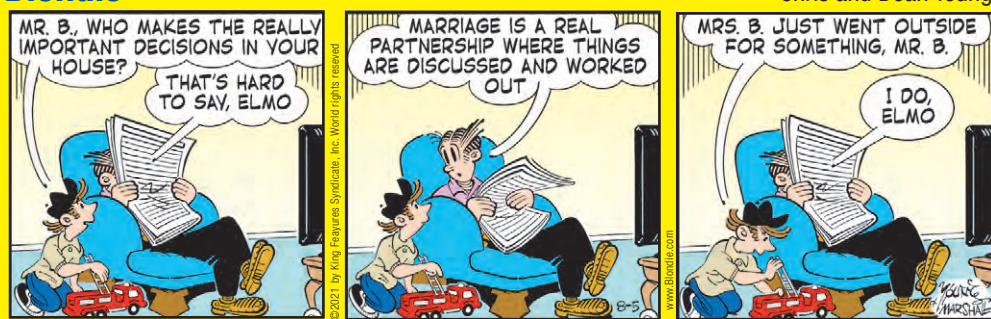
Beetle Bailey

Greg and Mort Walker



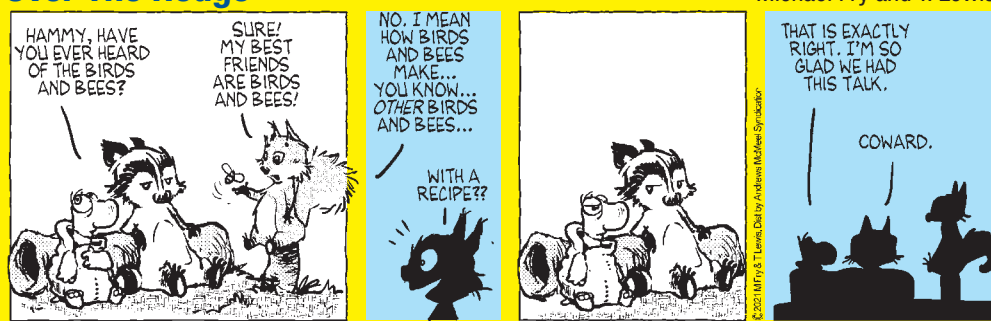
Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



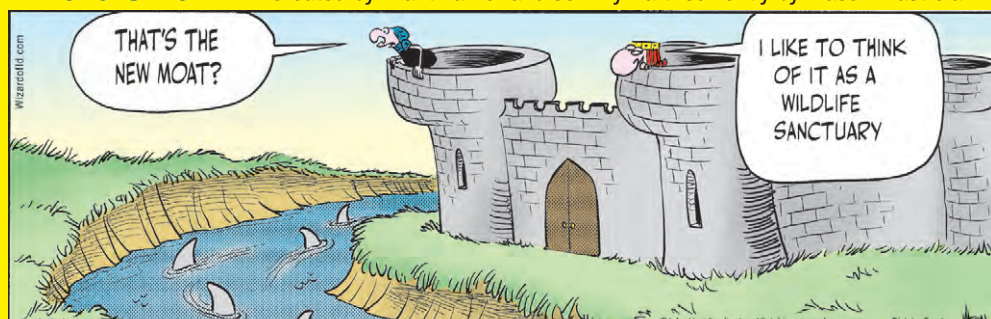
Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



Wizard of Id

Created by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart. Currently by Mason Mastroianni



Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



Ziggy

Tom Wilson

Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

1	6	9	2					
			1			8	9	
	4	5	3					
4		9	8					
	7	3		5				
	5	2	1					
2	1		4					
		1	7	3	2			

Complete the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Previous puzzle solution

3	7	9	1	4	2	6	8	5
5	2	6	7	8	3	4	9	1
1	4	8	9	6	5	7	3	2
2	1	7	5	9	6	3	4	8
6	3	4	2	7	8	1	5	9
9	8	5	3	1	4	2	7	6
8	9	2	6	3	7	5	1	4
4	5	3	8	2	1	9	6	7
7	6	1	4	5	9	8	2	3

8/5

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

© 2021 by Andrews McMeel Syndication 7/29 Solution

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg July 29, 2021

ACROSS

- 1 Prepares, as a table
- 5 Popular corn chip
- 10 Bench press muscles, for short
- 14 Complain
- 15 Ancient fabulist
- 16 ___ year (2024, for one)
- 17 Solo at the Met
- 18 Grannies
- 19 Actress Hathaway
- 20 Movement that empowered African American creators (Hint: Unscramble this answer's last word and think "Toronto")
- 22 Vacuum brand
- 23 Piglet's milk source
- 24 Like many hippies' shirts
- 26 Degree within "in the end"
- 28 Jeopardy
- 31 In the style of
- 32 Fa follower
- 33 Tasks assigned at a meeting (... "New York")
- 38 Kermit, famously
- 40 Annoy
- 41 Physical, for one
- 42 One doesn't work in a calm environment (... "Chicago")

- 47 Virtuoso
- 48 ___ Jordan sneakers
- 49 "That hurts!"
- 50 Relay race section
- 51 They come with a kids' menu
- 55 "War and Peace," e.g.
- 57 Damages Interstate oasis (... "Washington")
- 63 ___ mater
- 64 Ragu competitor
- 65 Certain pop star
- 66 Casino machine creators (Hint: Unscramble this answer's last word and think "Toronto")
- 67 Yo-Yo Ma's instrument
- 68 Head ___ heels
- 69 Bronte heroine Jane
- 70 Shower with too many gifts, say
- 71 FedExed

- 8 Maid of honor's duty
- 9 Photo ___ (media events)
- 10 Toddlers' get-together
- 11 So, so tiny
- 12 White water boat
- 13 Go on a shopping spree
- 21 Tech journalist Swisher
- 22 Place to buy a hero
- 25 Novelist McEwan
- 26 (Don't watch this in the office)
- 27 Singer Amos
- 29 Mix around
- 30 Vanessa of "The Crown"
- 34 "___ dokie!"
- 35 "\$#@!," e.g.
- 36 Colt's mom
- 37 Skyline obscurer

- 39 Greeting Down Under
- 43 Uncles, in Oaxaca
- 44 Large coffee vessel
- 45 "That crossed the line"
- 46 "Return of the Jedi" furball
- 51 Pursue
- 52 Campaign event
- 53 Knight's protection
- 54 ___ throat
- 56 Precursor to Windows Move, in real estate parlance
- 60 Wrinkly tangelo
- 61 Word before "timer" or "thermometer"
- 62 Dividing line?
- 64 IBM products that ran 56-Down

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

A	B	A	T	E	A	L	T	O	A	C	D	C	
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8/5

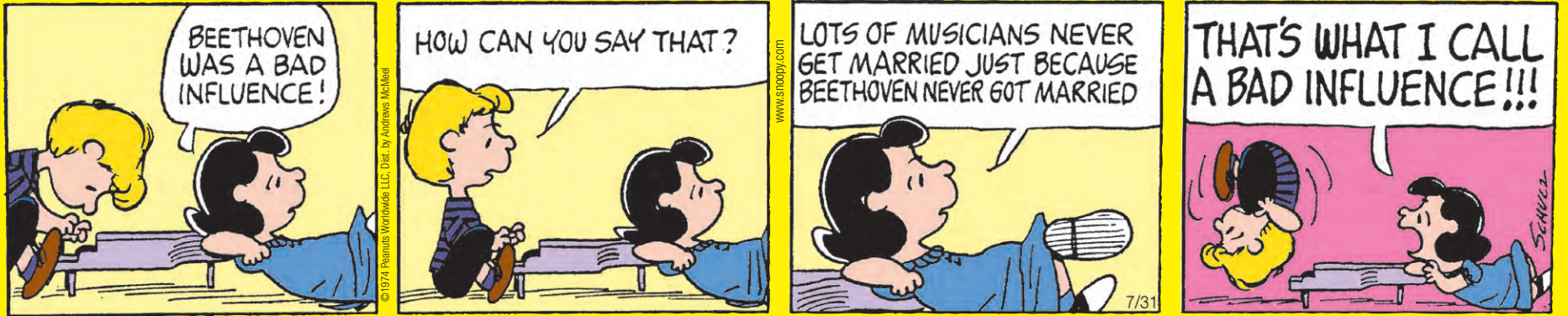
Shuffling Papers by Drew Schmenner

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69					70					71		

Comics

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz

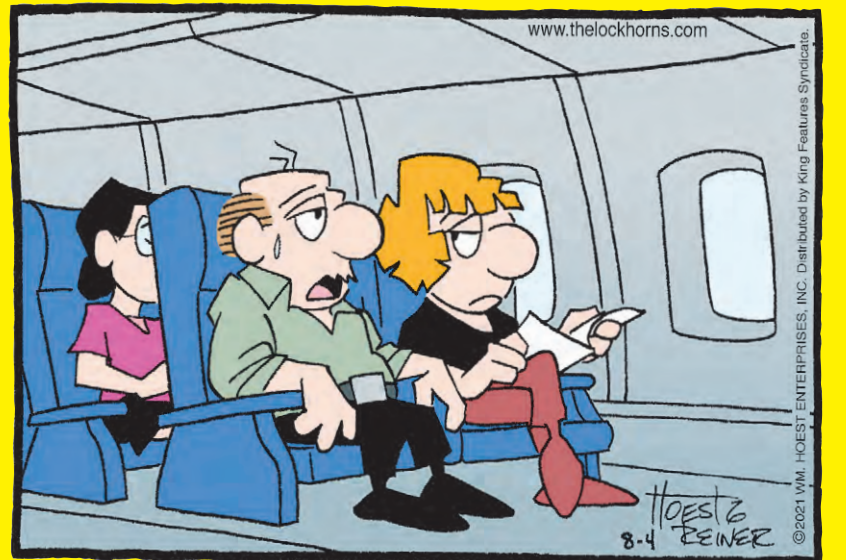
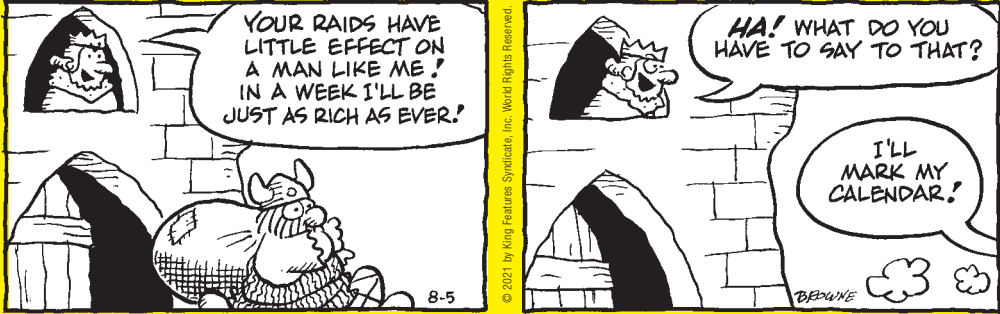


Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne

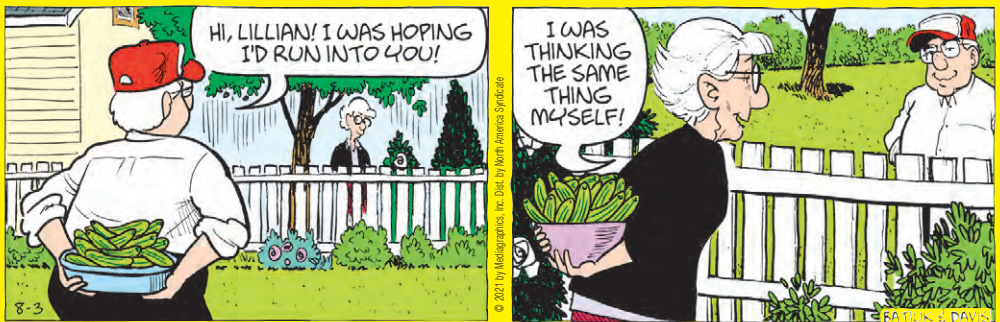
The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis

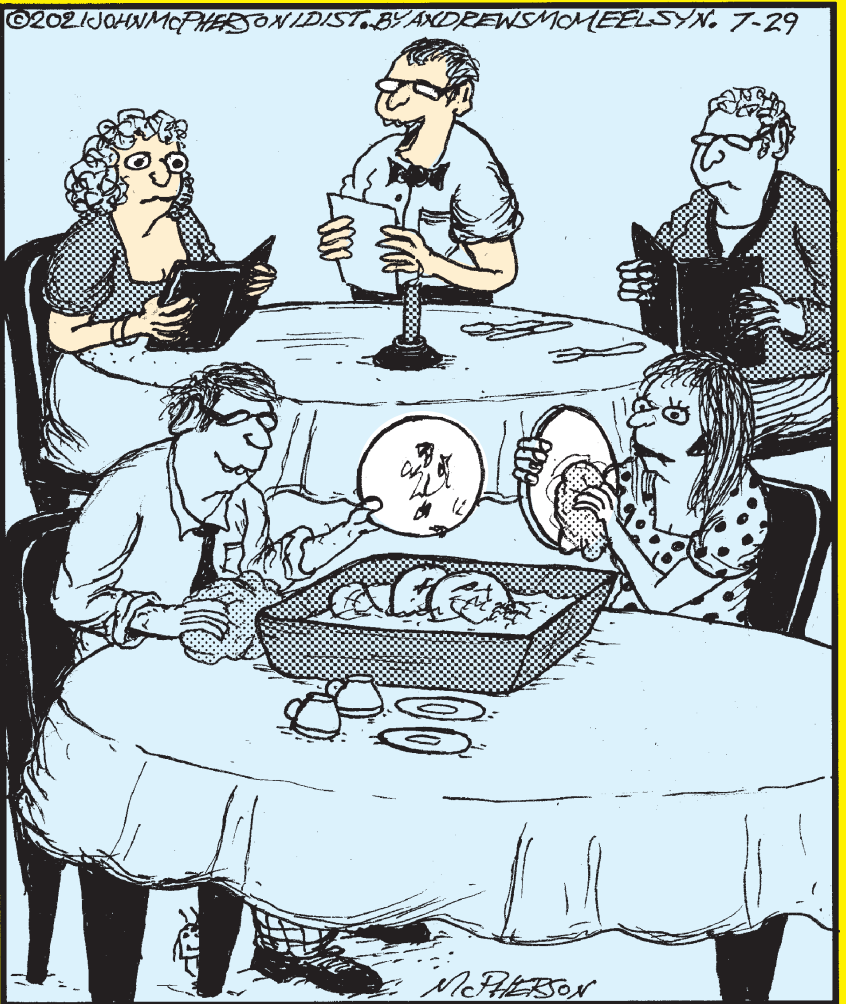
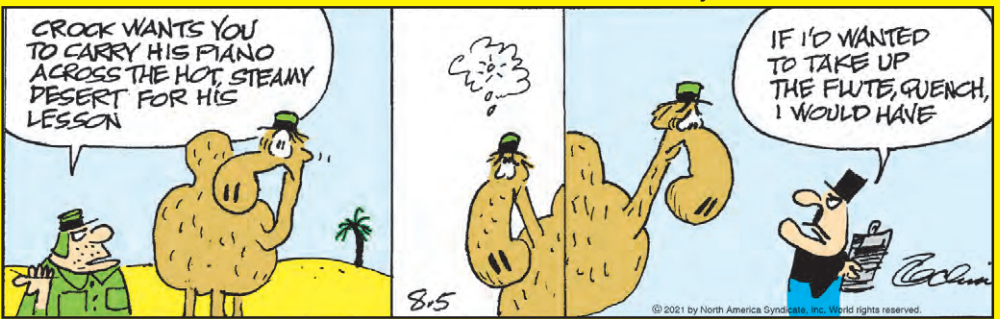


Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker

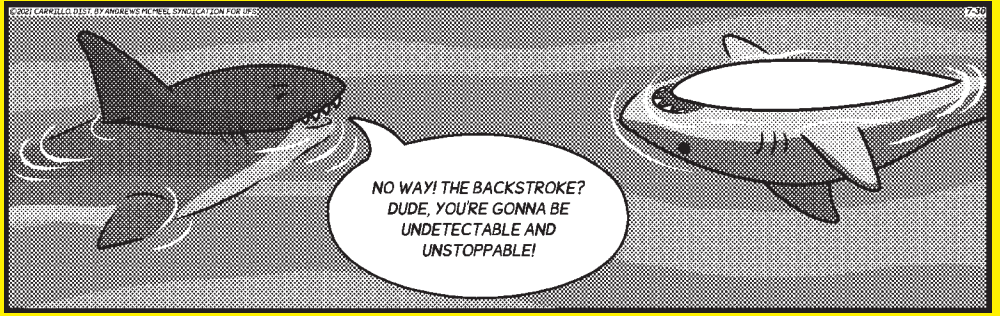
Close To Home

John McPherson



F Minus

Tony Carriolo



Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters

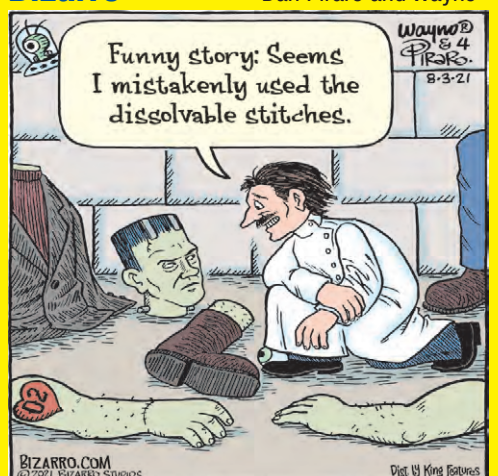
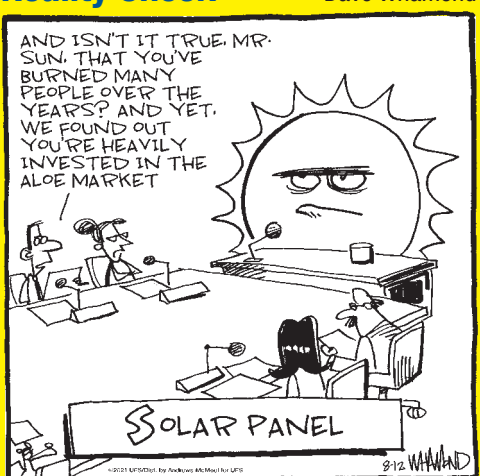


Reality Check

Dave Whamond

Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayne



Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



"The dog days of summer doesn't mean you can sleep in my chair all summer."

SPORTS



2D LIGGETT BOYS SOCCER PREVIEW | 3D CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

After winning last year's District championship, the Blue Devils have their eyes set on making it even deeper into the postseason in 2021.

South looks to keep building on previous success

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Entering the 2021 season, the defending district champion Grosse Pointe South boys soccer team is looking to replicate last year's success and more. With the new season on the horizon, the Blue Devils already are working on what they believe can be the biggest key to a great season: team chemistry. "Every year our strength is going to be us working together as a family," South head coach Francesco Cilano said. "Don't give up. That's the best momentum and then all the soccer comes together."

The Blue Devils come into the fall season after capturing the district title over Grosse Pointe North in 2020. Following the district championship victory, South was eliminated in the regional semifinals with a 1-0 overtime loss to Berkley.

After last year's playoff exit, the Blue Devils feel the bar is now set for what they hope to accom-

plish in the future.

"We want to be at regionals again and be winners this time after going there for almost six years straight," Cilano said. "But the playoffs are just one game. You can have a perfect season and then a bad day one day and that's it."

The beginning of the season is just a few weeks away and South is going to be tested right out of the gate. The Blue Devils begin their season playing in Detroit Country Day's Paul Bartoshuk Tournament, which includes opponents such as Country Day, Royal Oak and Farmington.

The Blue Devils know facing tough competition early on is a good way to prepare for the biggest games later in the year. Learning strengths and weaknesses by taking on good teams at the start of the year could be a major key in helping South reach the sort of postseason success it is hoping for.

"I always look to play stronger teams like

Country Day to learn from them," Cilano said, "experiment and try everything we can to try and find the keys to the game, especially in high school, when it's such a short time."

With hopes of going even further in the postseason in 2021, Cilano hopes there is another factor that can help South build on its success: experience. After winning a district title last year, the Blue Devils already know they have what it takes to make it back to where they were last season and even further.

"We learn from being there," Cilano said. "The team learns and has the bones to be in the playoffs and be in the district final. We know what it takes to be there and last year we were very close to winning at regionals."

South begins the season with the Paul Bartoshuk Tournament at Detroit Country Day Aug. 20 and 21. The Blue Devils' home opener is scheduled Aug. 23, against Chippewa Valley.

Norsemen prepare for early season tests

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The fall sports season is right around the corner and Grosse Pointe North boys soccer is preparing to take the pitch in just a matter of weeks. With a new group of upperclassmen getting ready to lead the Norsemen this year, North hopes to continue its path to becoming a highly competitive program.

One way to do that is by taking on the best of the best. For Norsemen coach Brad VandeVorde, the early part of North's season this year will help give his team an idea of what they need to do to have the best chance at collecting trophies in later on.

"Our non-conference schedule, I believe, is one of the best in the state," VandeVorde said. "We're playing the defending state champs. A team that's been to the final four in Troy Athens. A team that went to a regional final last year in Anchor Bay. I think playing these teams not only makes us better, but gets us ready for the postseason."

To open up the season, the Norsemen certainly are going to be tested early on. The squad's first stretch of games includes Troy Athens, Anchor Bay and defending Division 1 state champions Detroit Catholic Central. Even

their first game of MAC league play is a rivalry showdown against Grosse Pointe South, the team that defeated the Norsemen in last year's district championship.

Even with a tough group of opponents to begin the season, VandeVorde knows these games serve as a benchmark for where North's program is headed.

"Starting off with tougher tests, especially with the teams we're playing, it helps to see where we're at and see where we want to be at the end of the season," he said. "Are we competing at the highest level? Are we getting better and getting ready to improve and take on the next competition? It's a test for us to see where we're at and see where we want to get to, not only as a team but as a program."

As the Norsemen take the practice field over the next few weeks in preparation for the season, it also is an important time to see how the team will grow together. North is coming off of a successful 2020 season that saw the program finish with a 10-4-3 record and as co-MAC White champions.

However, as it is with all high school sports, the Norsemen are going to see a good amount of new faces on the roster and familiar faces step-

ping into new roles. Going into a fresh season, VandeVorde said he wants to keep things open when it comes to strategies and gameplans.

"Every year is different because you have seniors that graduate and you can play a formation that might have worked for last year but may not work this year," he said. "I wouldn't really say we stick to one formation. It varies year by year. ... Whatever makes us better as a team, that's the formation we usually go after."

Even with some key departures from last

year, North will return one of its biggest impact players. Senior Tom Sheffield is going to be looked at as one of the main leaders of this season's Norsemen squad and will be a captain for the second year in a row.

Other big names to look out for include Finn Marshall, a junior coming into his second season on varsity, and Martin Daher, who will be looked to as a defensive anchor and center-back. As certain players get ready to take on bigger leadership positions, the team's expectations remain mostly consistent.

"The big thing for this

year is a lot of the upperclassmen, the juniors and seniors, are going to be taking on a bigger role," VandeVorde said. "The expectations will stay the same, but I think everyone, for us to be successful, is going to have to have some sort of leadership whether they're a captain or not."

As the season gets closer, VandeVorde knows the expectation for the Norsemen is, like many teams, to compete for trophies and make it as deep into the postseason as possible. North looks poised to do just that, but knows the key to success is taking everything one step at a

time.

"It's going to be the same thing as every year and that's to be competitive in every single game and we have our goals, that are to win a league championship and district championship and go as far as we can," VandeVorde said. "I think overall this year can be really special, but we have to just take it game by game and go off that; that's all we can do."

Grosse Pointe North boys soccer opens its season Aug. 18, with a road game against Stoney Creek and has its home opener Aug. 23, hosting Anchor Bay.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

The Norsemen hope that early contests against tough opponents will prepare them for big late-season matchups this year.

2D | SPORTS

Swimmers honored as All-Americans

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

When the National Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association announced its list of All-Americans just a few weeks ago, a number of swimmers and one diver from Grosse Pointe were honored among the best in the country.

Grosse Pointe North High School's Gianni Carlino received All-American honors in the

500-meter freestyle. Carlino's time of 4:32.94 earned him a spot on the All-American list and the MHSAA Division 2 state championship in the event.

As he prepares for his senior year with the Norsemen, Carlino knows his success and that of his team would not be possible without the dedication and support of his teammates and coaches.

"Swimming is a sport

that takes a lot of dedication and knowledge and without these people, I wouldn't be where I'm at today," he said. "I'd like to give a shout out to the rest of the Grosse Pointe North state team for breaking multiple team records and securing an 11th place finish at states — our best result in years. I'm excited for my last year before college and I am determined to show what North swimming can do"

Logan Hepner from Grosse Pointe South High School made the list of All-American divers, one of 14 divers honored from the state of Michigan. After finishing second in one-meter diving at this year's state finals, being named an All-American serves as motivation to repeat that success and more next season.

"I am so grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this amazing swim and dive program along with so many motivated and talented athletes," Hepner said. "... The All-American

award only motivates me to achieve bigger and greater goals."

The Blue Devils' 200-meter freestyle relay team was also honored as All-Americans. The team includes Ryan English, Tucker Briggs, Keiran Rahman and Andrew Vandeputte.

With a time of 1:25.24 at states, the four swimmers were crowned state champions and were among the top 100 in the nation in the event. For senior English, becoming an All-American is the perfect way to cap off a high school career.

"None of us really expected that we would get this," he said. "It was kind of a far-fetched dream and none of us really paid attention. We got to states and figured maybe we can give this a shot. ... It represents our school well and I think it means we're one of the best and it's a cool feeling to know that the guys on the team and I are among the best swimmers in the country."

English's teammate,

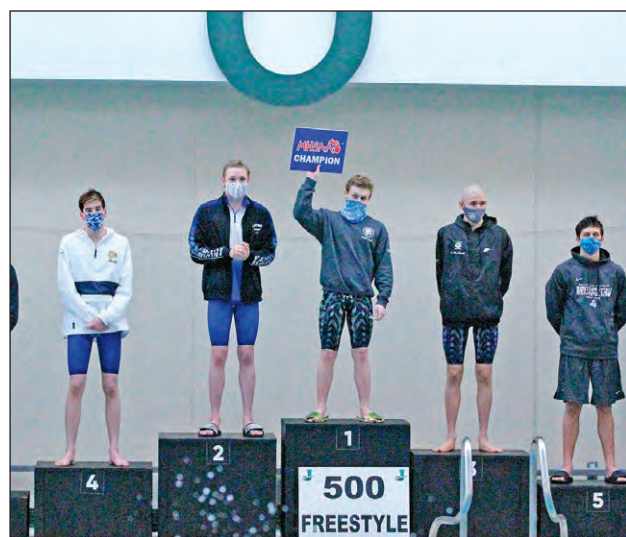


PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN CARLINO

North's Gianni Carlino, center, won the state championship in the boys 500-meter freestyle and was named All-American for his performance.



PHOTO BY STEWART PHOTOGRAPHY

South's 200-meter freestyle relay team received All-American honors. From left: Tucker Briggs, Drew Vandeputte, Keiran Rahman and Ryan English.

Briggs, also was part of South's 200-meter medley relay team that was named All-Americans. The team also included Rahman, Vandeputte and senior Jackson Jogan.

The team made the list after its state finals finish of 1:34.08, which won second place. With one more year to go with the Blue Devils, Briggs knows being named All-Americans sets the bar for what he and his teammates can achieve next year.

"It's great to say that we've accomplished that and my teammates and I have reached that goal," Briggs said. "It kind of just gets me more excited because I've got another year at South so I want to see what we can do. It's really just fuel for the fire. ... I think it got a lot of the guys on notice that we're really turning into a very solid team and it's the fuel to get through those long practices by knowing that this is what we want."

Knights to focus on chemistry, fundamentals

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Getting ready for the 2021 season, the boys' soccer program at University Liggett School once again looks to be a powerhouse in MHSAA Division 4. Two years removed from a state championship game appearance, the Knights' roster might look a bit different this season, but coach David Dwaihy believes the new key players on this year's squad are more than ready to step up.

"We graduated an awesome group, two of whom were first-team All-State players ... so big shoes to fill there,"

Dwaihy said. "But we had a very strong group of underclassmen last year and juniors who are becoming seniors ... many of whom played in a state championship and are used to playing in really competitive games."

The Knights saw their season come to an end in the regional finals in 2020, after making it all the way to the Division 4 state title game the year before. With no JV team at the school, Liggett's returning juniors and seniors already have been able to play in very big games. Now this is their time to be leaders.

With players who are

prepared to handle the big matchups, Dwaihy wants the main focus coming into this season to be on building strong team chemistry.

"I'm really most looking forward to the chemistry of the team with the culture and dynamic we've built with these last few years," he said. "I think we'll have a really enjoyable group and that's what you always hope for as a coach. Wins and losses mean a lot less when you have a really good team culture."

One of those seniors expected to step up in a big way is Doug Wood. Wood is widely known for his success on the

ice with Liggett's hockey team, but also is one of the hardest working players for the Knights on the soccer pitch.

"He's a stud hockey player, but also a really strong soccer player and a great leader by example," Dwaihy said. "He's unparalleled when it comes to work rate and courage and fight, and I think a guy like that really brings out the best in those around him."

One of the leaders for the Knights this year when it comes to the attack is sure to be Claudio Cavallo. The sophomore scored an incredible 33 goals last season as a freshman, coming just short of the Liggett team record.

Cavallo could finish the year once again at the top of the stat sheet for Liggett, but the young star also has the capability to be the total

package for the Knights offensively.

"He's a really impressive attacking player who doesn't just score, but creates chances for everyone," Dwaihy said.

When it comes to the defense, Dwaihy expects a solid, collective group of talented defenders to hold off opposing offenses this year. Senior goalkeeper Alex George returns and could be splitting time with fellow keeper Langston Evans.

The rest of the defensive unit goes back to what Dwaihy wants to build the team on, which is chemistry. Liggett's backline should have plenty of chemistry, led by seniors who are ready to step up and lead.

"The other thing that will make us really competitive is we have a really strong defensive unit that played together

as juniors last year now coming in as seniors that can keep the goals off the board for the other team."

As Liggett looks to contend for a state and Catholic League championships this season, Dwaihy hopes the fundamentals will carry his squad far: Get back to the basics and let his players do the rest.

"My philosophy is always try to keep it as simple as possible," Dwaihy said. "You don't really have a lot of time to create multiple systems of play. ... We have a lot of guys who understand the game well and have good technique, so we can play a bit more of a passing game and keep possession, but of course, we want to attack as much as possible but do it in a somewhat deliberate way, moving the ball from player to player."



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Two years removed from an appearance in the state championship, the Knights are looking to be title contenders in Division 4 once again.

CCD prepares to host U.S. Senior Amateur

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

After more than 60 years, a major USGA event is returning to the Pointes and the Country Club of Detroit. Later this month, the club will host the 66th U.S. Senior Amateur Golf Championship, the first USGA event to be held at the club since the 1950s.

The last USGA event hosted by CCD was the 1954 U.S. Amateur Championship, which was won by legendary golfer Arnold Palmer. In 2016, it was announced the club would host the 2020 U.S. Senior Amateur, but the pandemic resulted in the cancelation of last year's event, rescheduled for this year.

With less than a month

to go before the tournament gets underway, the club feels like it is the perfect place to host an event of this caliber.

"We were given a couple of options and we felt the Senior Amateur was really the best fit for us," said George Forster, director of golf at CCD. "We felt that the clientele for this championship were individuals who are prominent members at great clubs across the country and would really appreciate the things we have here."

The Senior Amateur Championship is a national tournament for amateur golfers ages 55 and older. This year's event will be the first Senior Amateur in Michigan since 1991, when the tournament

See GOLF, page 3D



**BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
90 KERBY ROAD, AUGUST 9, 2021, 7:00 PM**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on August 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Grosse Pointe Farms City Hall located at 90 Kerby Rd. to consider an application from the owner of the property located at 242 Provenal. The applicant requests the following variance in order to construct an accessory building;

- Approve a dimensional variance to allow an accessory building that exceeds 15';

All interested citizens are requested to attend the Hearings. Public comments will be received during the Public Hearing, orally. If you are unable to be present at the Public Hearing, please submit your written comments to the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 90 Kerby Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, by August 6, 2021. For detailed instructions on how to observe or participate in the meeting please contact the City Clerk office at 313 885-6600 or visit the City website.

For further information regarding the application please contact Matthew Baka, Public Services Director, at (313) 885-4285. Plans are available at City Hall for review.

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Grosse Pointe Public Library will receive bids for construction, renovations and addition for the implementation of its Phase II capital improvements.

The Request for Bids and related documents can be found at www.grossepointelibrary.org. Bids are due August 24, 2021 at 1:00 PM.

Grosse Pointe Public Library reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids, waive any informalities in the bids received and to accept any bid which, in its opinion, may be for the best interest of Grosse Pointe Public Library.

GOLF:

Continued from page 2D

was played at Crystal Downs Country Club in Northern Michigan.

Big USGA events often are considered some of the toughest tests in all of golf and this Senior Amateur should be no different. Going into the tournament, there are a couple of things Forster and the crew at CCD feel will put the players to the test.

"The two biggest things that will be the biggest challenges for

the players are, No. 1, our bunkers," Forster said. "We have very deep, penalizing bunkers and our greens, which are pretty complex ... there's some speed to them and we're going to have some pretty tough pin locations."

When preparing to host a big tournament, some clubs have to find ways to make the course more challenging or use it as an opportunity to change things around. For CCD, this was not the case and was another big reason why the club felt the Senior Amateur was the perfect

event to host.

"There haven't really been any changes to the golf courses besides a mowing pattern here and there," Forster said. "We didn't have to go under the knife and move this or expand that. That was another reason we decided the Senior Amateur was a good fit for us."

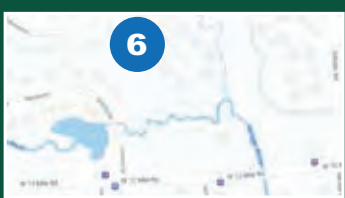
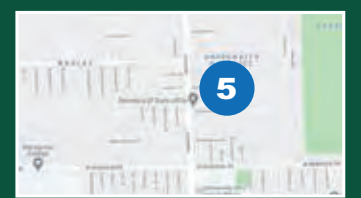
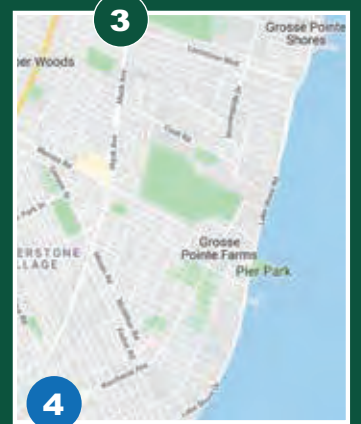
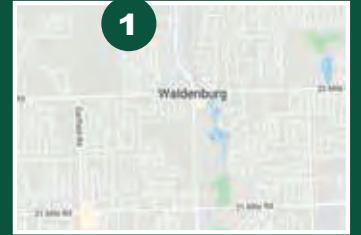
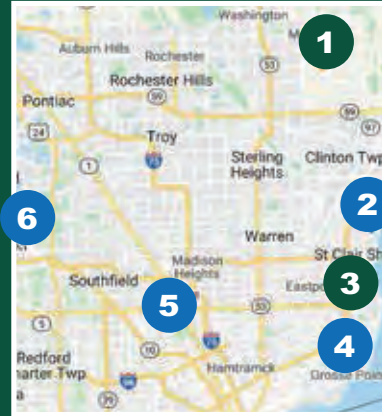
The U.S. Senior Amateur begins with practice rounds Aug. 26, and concludes with the championship match Sept. 2. For more information about the tournament, including how to register as a volunteer, visit ccofd.com.



COURTESY PHOTO

Hole no. 1 at the Country Club of Detroit. The club will host this year's U.S. Senior Amateur, the first USGA event held there since 1954.

**Grosse Pointe News
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ESTATE SALE
Map**



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- 1. 17471 Birch Tree Ln. Macomb
- 2. 29900 Greater Mack Ave. SCS
- 3. 2033 Lennon St. GPW
- 4. 1041 Yorkshire Rd. GPP
- 5. 18000 Oak Dr. Detroit
- 6. 29203 Bradmoor Ct. Farmington Hills

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200 HELP WANTED GENERAL

ANTONIO'S in the Park. Experienced server needed or someone willing to train. Please call Brain at (313)821-2433

BELDING CLEANERS needs Cashier/Counter help. Grosse Pointe. Part-time, mornings and afternoons and some Saturdays. Flexible Schedule. Great work atmosphere. Excellent pay \$15+ an hour. Send resume to: info@beldingcleaners.com Or come in and fill out application. 15139 Kercheval

200 HELP WANTED GENERAL

CDL-A Drivers Wanted 3 months minimum experience, excellent pay, benefits, sign on bonus, 401K, dedicated routes Romeo and Wayne dispatch. Call Kirt (586)752-4529 Ext 1032

HOUSE and Home business is seeking general house help in Grosse Pointe. Non smoker, own reliable transportation is a must! Good at multitasking, must be friendly and detail oriented. Experienced, and willing to train Please call Darina (313)598-0264

200 HELP WANTED GENERAL

EDWIN Paul Salon has a chair open for a full or part time stylist. High pay, No tiered requirements, high retail scale, tax match so you retire much better, 37 years of excellence. Best part is a year end start bonus of \$1000.00! Call (313)885-9001 Edwin Paul

Read the FINE Print
See The Classifieds
Grosse Pointe News
(313)882-6900 ext. 1

200 HELP WANTED GENERAL

ENJOY working with young children? Want to participate in their growth and development? Private child care center providing care and education of young children in the community for over 30 years is seeking caregivers and Lead Teachers to work with children from Infant - Preschool age. Full and part-time positions available. Onsite training. Must provide clear TB test and criminal background check. CPR and First Aid Training a plus. Please call (586)776-4442 for more information. We can't wait to meet you!

200 HELP WANTED GENERAL

FORD House is looking for all positions for full-time and part-time, year round work. Great opportunities for Line Cooks, Dishwashers, Prep-Cooks, Servers, Bussers and Cashiers. Please call Robert Mauck at (248)729-1296 for details. We not only offer competitive pay, but the ability to have a stable career.

210 HELP WANTED RESTAURANT

IRISH COFFEE Bar & Grill now hiring ALL POSITIONS Apply in person 18666 Mack Avenue Grosse Pointe Farms

WAIT PERSON needed Experienced. Apply within: Village Grille 16930 Kercheval. Great Hours, Great Pay.

210 HELP WANTED RESTAURANT

FORD House is looking for Servers, Bartenders Prep/Line Cooks and Dishwashers for Year Round employment. Come work at one of the hottest restaurants in Grosse Pointe. We offer a flexible schedule and excellent pay. Please call Robert Mauck at (248)729-1296 or r.mauck@continentalserver.com for additional details.

211 HELP WANTED MANAGEMENT

HELP WANTED CIRCULATION/CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING MANAGER
Customer service and inside sales experience required. Must have strong computer skills, highly proficient in Microsoft Office software, and ability to problem solve and multi-task.
Send resume and salary requirements to: publisher@grossepointenews.com

