**COVID-19 CASES AS OF 3/15**

Since tracking began in March 2020

	Cases	Deaths
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Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 83, NO. 11, 52 PAGES
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MARCH 17, 2022
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Mail carrier saves house

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Brian Brenner never complained about the cost of postage.

Now that a mail carrier saved his house from burning down, he never will.

“If you take one second to think about everything that goes into your little letter getting from point A to B, you realize that 75 cents is pretty cheap,” Brenner said.

House fires, even small ones limited to a front foyer, can have an all-encompassing impact due to smoke damage.

As such, the word “every” has a leading place in Brenner’s current

vocabulary.

“Every item in the house has to be removed and either discarded or professionally cleaned,” he said. “Every surface of the house needs to be cleaned and will require repainting.”

Brenner, his wife and two children — a third’s away at college — weren’t home when the contents of a laundry basket located just inside the front door flamed up shortly after 1:45 p.m. Tuesday, March 8. Three pet cats are fine but antsier than before.

The family will relocate to the Park residence of his father, wintering in Florida, while Brenner’s damaged property in the

See FIRE, page 4A

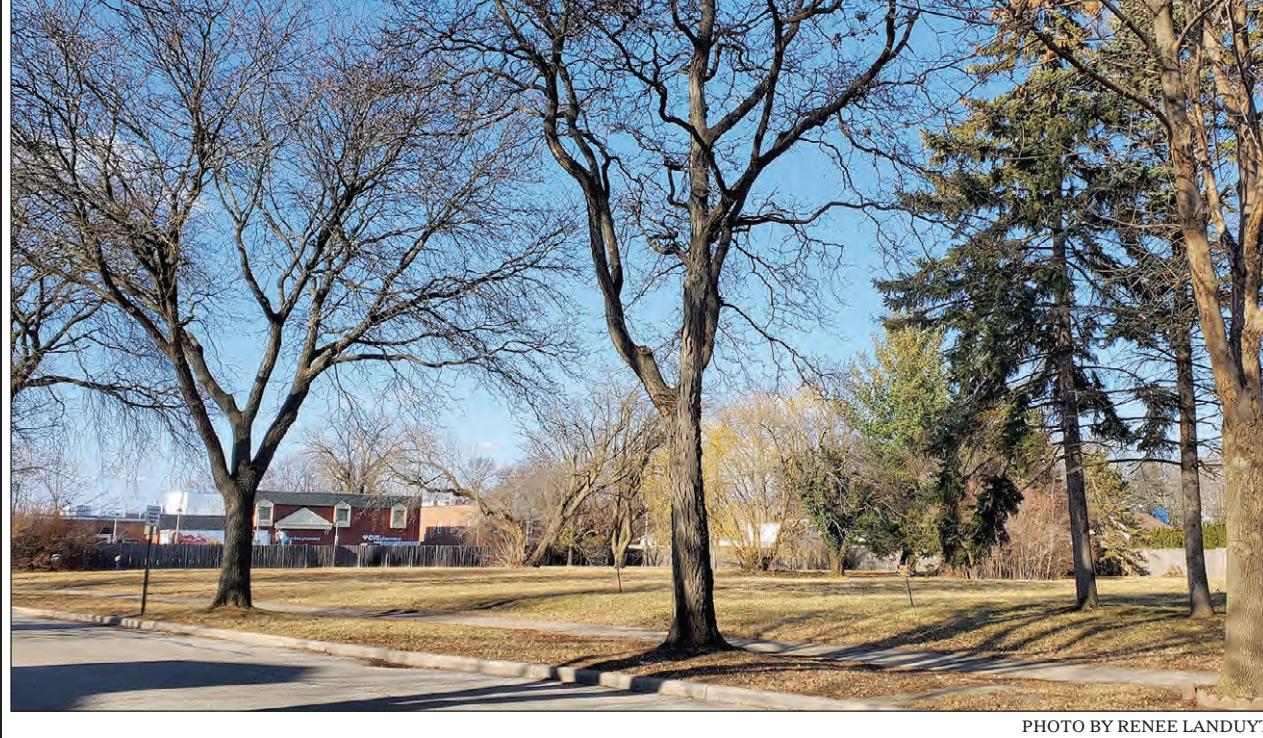


PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

The 1.94 acres at 582 - 606 St. Clair have sat vacant since 2007.

New development planned for St. Clair

Building to house both residential and commercial

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — After sitting vacant nearly 15 years, the property at 582 - 606 St. Clair — known to many in the community as the old Sunrise site — is increasingly appearing as though it soon will have new life.

The 1.94 acres were purchased last year by

developer Michael Bailey of MTB Partners LLC. The developer, who grew up in Grosse Pointe Park, intends to build a mixed-use building with commercial on the first floor facing Kercheval and residential above it and on the side facing St. Clair.

“The City has not received an application yet,” City Manager Pete Dame said. “We are expecting one and once we do, we will schedule a public hearing on the proposed development.”

The hearing likely will take place during the

May council meeting, he added.

While it is yet to be announced how many stories the development is planned to consist of, the zoning allows for up to four.

The transition district zoning permits independent senior living, multi-family buildings and hotels; single-family homes were grandfathered in. There currently is no intention for a hotel on the site, Dame said.

The district was created during the City’s

2012 master plan update, of which one specific goal was to focus on what the community wanted to do with the vacant property.

“It’s been since 2012 that new zoning was established that kind of reflected what we heard from the community and what the council wanted at the time,” Dame said, “so this is a long time in coming.”

Bailey has met with the neighbors around the site twice, which is required

See DEVELOP, page 3A

Pointes tapped for HP water bill

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer**THE GROSSE POINTES** — Pointe officials don’t want their residents picking up Highland Park’s unpaid water and sewer tab.

“Highland Park has not

paid its water bill for several years,” said Steve Poloni, manager of Grosse Pointe Shores. “For whatever reason, they put it on the Great Lakes Water Authority to collect it from everybody else.”

The authority (GLWA) manages drinking water

systems for 88 cities in southeast Michigan. It’s 19 booster stations last week pumped nearly 400 million gallons per day through its 816 miles of mains, according to its website.

GLWA water customers in the Pointes are the

Shores, Woods and Park. Grosse Pointe Farms draws and filters water for itself and the City of Grosse Pointe.

The authority proposed last month increasing water rates 3.7 percent starting with the new fiscal year in July.

Part of the increase is

See BILL, page 2A

Main break sends river through streets

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Just two weeks after suffering a significant Fisher water main break, the Farms was hit with the impact of a 16-inch water main breaking in Detroit along Mack Avenue and near Pointe Plaza at 9:30 p.m. Saturday, March 12.

An estimated 4,000 to 5,000 gallons of water per minute were released from the break, which was ongoing more

than an hour, reported Farms Water Superintendent Scott Homminga.

“You immediately had a river of water coming down Bournemouth, Roland and Allard,” Farms City Manager Shane Reeside said. “It quickly flooded streets and really created a mess.”

One Bournemouth resident reported as much as a foot of standing water, with similar cases along the other affected streets.

See BREAK, page 2A



COURTESY PHOTO

Standing water on Bournemouth flooded as high as one foot during the main break.

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Lily Morgan

Home: City of Grosse Pointe
Leaving the lake to pursue lifelong dreams in the ocean.

6 56525 10011

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2A | GOVERNMENT WATCH NEWS & ANALYSIS

Green initiative has hint of implicit liberal indoctrination

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK

— Some of the criteria needed to be rated an environmentally sustainable city have nothing to do with the environment and everything to do with liberal politics.

Michigan Green Communities, a conglomeration of state agencies, government associations and the Michigan Municipal League, challenges cities to vie for various degrees of environmental stewardship based on compliance with a range of action items characterized as nurturing sustainability.

Most action items in the organization's annual Challenge program have to do with Earth-first paladins. Examples are climate resilience, energy efficiency and water conservation.

Also on the list is less of an environmental action item and more of a political or societal call to action.

Under the heading, "Integrate equity into community sustainability," municipalities are encouraged to mandate staff, elected representatives and volunteer board members "attend regular diversity, equity and

inclusion training."

Regular attendance is to be "part of their service (or) employment."

During 2021, Grosse Pointe Park proved itself environmentally and politically savvy to earn enough Challenge points (23) to win a bronze rating for stewardship. In the crosshairs are silver and gold status.

"Our goal for this year is to achieve the silver level," said Brian Colter, city forester. "We need 60 points."

The city's already up to 31 points due, in part, to folding the former sustainability committee into the beautification committee, Colter said.

"Just looking into building a rain garden at city hall earned us points," he said.

So did city staff attending lectures March 11 and 12, 2021, about diversity, equity and implicit bias,

the latter being about how white people are inherently racist.

Colter, who also is forester in the City and Farms, is a University of Michigan grad with graduate study at Michigan State University, a board member of Keep Michigan Beautiful and the first to diagnose emerald ash borer on the eastside, doesn't know



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

"Why is that in there?" wonders Nick Sizeland, manager of Grosse Pointe Park, reading online that the Michigan Green Communities Challenge considers employee equity training when rating communities for environmental stewardship.

how attending equity lectures safeguard the environment.

"That's a great question," he said. "It was just an option I used to worm my way to getting a couple points."

City Manager Nick Sizeland was surprised, too.

"Why is that in there?" he wondered to himself, reviewing line-by-line the Challenge's eight main categories of action items containing a total 127 smaller-print options.

Sending employees to equity lectures wasn't pre-meditated to capture Challenge points.

"We did that training specifically after the KKK flag incident," Sizeland said.

In February 2021, the city took heat when a resident hung a Ku Klux Klan flag inside a window of his residence. The Wayne County prosecutor lacked evidence to press charges for ethnic intimidation or anything else.

Later, Colter, assigned to administer the Challenge application, noticed the city could earn two points toward bronze designation by employees having attended diversity, equity and inclusion sessions. He considered it a

layup.

"I figured I could get an easy two points," he said. "I was just reaching to get points any way I could."

The Challenge, established in 2009, is funded by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. In 2020, the private foundation allotted 94.3 percent of its Congressional political donations to liberal candidates, according to Open Secrets, Following the Money in Politics.

Along with equity sessions, cities earn Challenge points by:

◆ Passing a policy or resolution affirming the community's commit-

ment to equity,

◆ Ensuring diversity on volunteer boards and commissions,

◆ Incorporating environmental justice implications in planning and zoning and

◆ Requiring an environmental justice assessment for any new municipal police or infrastructure projects.

Not every environmental organization trades contrivance for credit.

Based on stewardship of the urban forest, the Arbor Day Foundation has named the Park as a Tree City USA for 38 years.

"A lot of people don't realize the city has been actively doing earth-friendly things for decades," Colter said. "A good example is leaf collection. None of those leaves go into a landfill. We compost them. After a few years, it turns into black gold. We utilize it as dirt."

The Michigan Green Communities website lists the organization's offices in Ann Arbor. The telephone number has a Lansing area code. When called, a voicemail recording identifies the recipient as being with the Michigan Municipal League, who didn't return an interview request.

BILL:

Continued from page 1A

due to Highland Park reportedly owing a decade of unpaid bills totaling \$52 million.

"Highland Park has a bad debt," said Nick Sizeland, Park manager.

"Communities are having to incur those charges. We are actively working with the other Grosse Pointes to dispute those charges and seeing if the state could assist for that."

Sizeland and others received the rate notice while preparing municipal budgets of their own.

"This is going to increase our costs," he said. "I attended a GLWA meeting about this. There were a significant number of communities concerned about paying this increase due to Highland Park. We, the Grosse Pointes, are scheduled to meet with GLWA to further understand why we are required to pay this."

"So, we're paying their debt," Poloni said. "Let the state pay their bill. Why should we be subsidizing them?"

"I believe Highland Park was under emergency management when some of this took place," Sizeland said. "There's

state involvement here. From our initial purview, it looks like the state should be stepping in. It has a part to play in this as well."

GLWA also announced a 2.4 percent price increase to treat wastewater from the 125 communities in its service area, including all five Grosse Pointes.

Highland Park's payment history for this critical service is troubling," Farms Mayor Louis Theros wrote to Gov. Gretchen Whitmer March 7. "Highland Park paid approximately 50 percent of the sewer services charges from 2013 through March 2021."

The Farms is expected to pay \$440,800 of Highland Park's bill, Theros said.

"Those costs have to be made up somewhere," Farms Manager Shane Reeside said. "The authority has allocated that bad debt towards member communities."

Highland Park shut its water plant in 2012, citing an inability to pay for delayed maintenance, and arranged to obtain water from Detroit's system, according to media reports at the time.

Reeside said, "My understanding is when the state decertified Highland Park's water filtration

plant because of the emergency (financial) situation, the state required the GLWA system to add Highland Park. If the state required GLWA to provide the water and Highland Park is unable to make payments, the state should make good on that mandate."

For the second time in two stories, no one from GLWA responded to an interview request.

"On behalf of Grosse Pointe Farms and other impacted member partner communities, we are asking for greater involvement from the State in resolving this dispute," Theros wrote Whitmer.

BREAK:

Continued from page 1A

"Once they were able to valve down the break and isolate it, that water from the streets receded, but it was significant and it took some time for it just to be able to drain into the system," Reeside said, "and I think the

drainage probably was hampered somewhat because of the freezing conditions. The temperature at the time was in the low 20s, so it really created a slush in the water that probably impeded water getting down storm drains."

Public works crews were out at the time salting the roads to prevent the water from freezing in place.

Reeside added the storm sewers in the northwest portion of the Farms have restricted catch basin covers by

design to reduce the potential for sewer line surcharging causing basement backups, which is another factor that may have slowed the draining process.

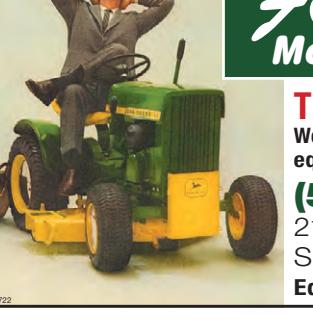
The city's consulting engineering firm currently is working on the basis of design for a project to include adding separate storm sewers in the affected area to more quickly move stormwater.

As it was near the site of the main break, Ascension St. John Hospital experienced a low water pressure level

for a brief period of time.

"All water safety protocols were followed," read a statement from the hospital. "Care was not interrupted. Once pressure returned, out of an abundance of caution, the system was flushed and all operations continue to run normally. The city never instituted a boil water advisory and continues to inform us that the water remains safe."

The Farms did not receive any reports of damaged vehicles or basement flooding as a result of the incident.



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Donation drive for Ukraine

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — In light of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Grosse Pointe Woods will accept donations from Woods residents to assist Ukrainian families who have fled to Poland through the end of March.

"Hopefully this is not a crisis that's going to go on forever," Councilwoman Vicki Granger said, "but we all know from TV what we're looking at."

Running from Wednesday, March 9, to Sunday, March 27, items accepted include: jackets and sweaters for women and children; blankets, hats and gloves; diapers; towels; toothpaste and toothbrushes, combs, soap, shampoo and deodorant; non-perishable food items; baby food and packets; baby bottles and wipes; children's clothes for all ages; children's vitamins and Tylenol; menstrual products; foil blankets; underwear; pajamas; boots and backpacks. All donations must be new.

Donations will be sent to Ukrainian families in



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe Woods residents may donate new items to city hall to benefit Ukraine. Accepted items include jackets and sweaters, blankets, hats, gloves, diapers, baby bottles, towels, non-perishable food items, Tylenol and more.

Poland via the Ukrainian-American Crisis Response Committee of Michigan, a grassroots informal organization comprised of various

Beaumont Hospital Director of Volunteers Betsy Schulte, Woods City Administrator Frank Schulte's wife, said drives to help Ukraine via the Ukrainian-American Crisis Response Committee of Michigan are ongoing around the Grosse Pointes. Anyone who wishes to start a drive as a personal effort or as part of an organization may reach out to Betsy Schulte via email at betsyschulte1@gmail.com for more information on how to get started.

organizations and individuals with a passion to respond to the Ukrainian crisis.

To donate, leave items in the drop box located in the community center between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays, or the public safety department after 5 p.m. and on weekends.

Councilman Mike Koester suggested the idea for a donation box to stay year round, something the city may look into.

"Hopefully this crisis ends," Koester said, "(but) there's always a need."

— Kate Vanderstelt

Pointer faces scam charges

Officers seek to warn other victims

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — In the weeks since a City of Grosse Pointe resident was charged for allegedly scamming a fellow Pointer out of \$4,000, officers on the case have discovered multiple additional and potential victims.

Sarah Arbulu was arraigned on felony charges of larceny by false pretense and using a computer to commit a crime Feb. 11, after a local father reported her for acting as though she was a paralegal helping him alter a custody agreement over the course of a year and a half, despite never actually filing any of the paperwork.

"She claims to be a paralegal, but a paralegal can't actually do any legal work for people unless they're working under the direction or umbrella of a certified attorney," Detective Mike Narduzzi



Sarah Arbulu

said. "She always told people that she worked at a law firm in St. Clair Shores and she did, for six months, but strictly as a legal secretary."

Through the course of the investigation, a forensic extraction of Arbulu's phone revealed the potential of many other victims, detectives said, from text messages, emails and Google searches.

"That was her M.O.," Detective Sgt. Joe Adams said. "She didn't file anything. She would tell them what she was doing and then next, we'd look in her search history and she'd search everything

See CHARGES, page 5A

Shores offers advice on coyotes

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — As the poet Alfred, Lord Tennyson wrote, spring is when "a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love." The same goes for coyotes.

It's mating season for coyotes and litters of four to seven pups will be born in about two months, meaning even more sightings.

To that end, Shores Public Safety Director Ken Werenski put together a fact sheet for the city's March newsletter on how to deal with the critters.

First and foremost, he suggests, is to get used to them.

"They were around long before I started with

the department 30 years ago," Werenski said. "They aren't going anywhere soon."

One way to limit the existing coyote population, however, is to let the ones already here establish their territories naturally. Since coyotes will not cross into another coyote's territory, the theory is that the numbers would be limited to the current population.

"We get a lot of calls from people who are concerned, especially if they've never seen one before," Werenski said. "I put the piece together to educate people about the history of coyotes in our area. It's something that is normal and there's no need to worry.

It comes and goes in cycles."

Sightings likely will increase in the coming months after pups are born, as the mother and father care for their newborns for about eight months. While they are mostly nocturnal, daytime sightings won't be out of the ordinary as they hunt for enough food for their pups.

While coyotes mate for life, the pups will disperse after about eight months as an adult coyote needs about 10 square miles of hunting ground to secure enough food.

Their main food source is rodents, such as mice and rats, along with squirrels and rabbits. Werenski said he has never seen a report in the Shores about a coyote attacking a dog, but cat owners may want to be more cautious.

"Back in the early 90s we had reports of feral cats roaming around and we also started to see more coyotes," he said. "That solved the cat problem."

Residents who encounter a coyote can scare it off by making it feel uncomfortable. That includes things like yelling, making loud noises and clapping your hands.

Steps also may be taken to prevent them from establishing a den on your property by getting rid of brush piles, securing sheds and adding chicken wire from the bottom of a deck to the ground.

Limiting their food source is important," he said. "Make sure trash bins are always closed and if you have bird feeders it's important to clean up the seeds and shells that fall on the ground."

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

◆ Grosse Pointe Farms Pier Park play structure presentation, 3 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 21

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation annual meeting, 7 p.m.
◆ City of Grosse Pointe City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Compensation and Evaluation Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Planning Commission meeting, 9 a.m.
◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
◆ Grosse Pointe Farms Beautification Advisory Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

◆ Grosse Pointe Library Board of Trustees meeting, 6:30 p.m. at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

DEVELOP:

Continued from page 1A

by the City's public participation guidelines council adopted in 2021, as part of the process to become a Redevelopment Ready Community.

In contrast to the ongoing development of the old school administration building at 389 St. Clair, which faced waves of critics spilling out the door at each council hearing, Bailey met first with the residents, not to present anything, but to simply gather thoughts and opinions.

The consensus, Dame said, made it easier for the developer to present a project that was well-received at the second meeting.

"The neighbors who attended the meetings were pleased with the project," he said. "It's probably the best meeting I've ever been to on a development project."

The property at 582 - 606 St. Clair has stood vacant since 2007, when Sunrise Development tore down six homes in preparation for a 79-unit senior condominium development.

With all the necessary permits approved, including the construction of a larger water main to service the site, the housing crash hit. Sunrise Development went through a bankruptcy and never picked up the building permits.

"The hearing on the Sunrise project was the first meeting that I attended after I was appointed 16 years ago," Dame said. "It would be great for the community to have something productive happen with this long-vacant property."

As the current development project at 389 St. Clair is a renovation of a long-standing building, Dame noted, this development could be the first new multi-family building constructed in the City of Grosse Pointe in more than 60 years.

Likely, he added, the last were the condos at Jefferson and St. Clair and the Neff Lane Apartments in the '60s.

"People's desires at the time are for much different housing," Dame said. "... This would be geared toward empty nesters who no longer want to take care of their beautiful, large Grosse Pointe

homes and also younger people out of college. Both young people and empty nesters are a market that's unserved here."

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Bigger fish in the sea: Pursuing marine dreams in Florida

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

When City of Grosse Pointe native Lily Morgan was young, it became her dream to attend the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Fla., to study marine biology.

Morgan grew up visiting Florida every year with her family, which quickly fed her lifelong dreams.

"My dad's a big fisherman," Morgan said, "and he would always take us on fishing trips. I thought it was just so cool seeing all the animals we would see on those fishing trips."

On the annual Florida trips, Morgan fell in love with marine wildlife — from tarpon to manatees, sharks to crabs, dolphins to stingrays — and their habits; something she said just couldn't be found at home in Lake St. Clair.

To accompany her love for wildlife in the real world, Morgan strayed toward movies about the ocean, namely "Dolphin Tale" and "Free Willy."

"In these shows they would talk about marine biologists and I had no idea what it meant at age 8," Morgan said, "but I was always like, 'Oh, I want to be a marine biologist,' even though I just thought it meant you get to play with dolphins all day."

"I always said I wanted to be one," she added, "and then I finally realized later what it actually was and I still wanted to do it."



COURTESY PHOTO

It has been Lily Morgan's dream since she was a little girl to become a marine biologist.

izized later what it actually was and I still wanted to do it."

But when it came time for Morgan to choose a college, University of Miami was a harder choice than she initially thought.

"I always knew I couldn't see myself anywhere else," she said, "but part of me still wanted to try out other options closer."

A big factor on Morgan's decision was her grandmother, who had cancer at the time. Though Morgan didn't want to leave the family in a time of need, her grandmother encouraged her to follow her dreams at University of Miami. Shortly after her decision to attend, her

grandmother passed.

Less than a year later, Morgan's decision to attend the school was reaffirmed by a sign she attributes to her grandmother.

While her grandmother said she would come back as a cardinal to visit her, Morgan said she had not seen any cardinals in Florida.

"I always kind of knew anything else out of the blue would be from her," she said.

On her grandmother's first birthday away from Earth, Morgan spent an afternoon reflecting at the beach. A man kayaking yelled to shore that two manatees — a baby and its mother — were swimming through the water.

"I literally have not seen a manatee in years and apparently they're very rare because they're going extinct," she said. "... That was just such a cool experience to see on my grandma's birthday."

Another of Morgan's favorite experiences studying at Miami was when she and other freshmen were on the university's research vessel in October 2021, just a month into her studies, and a pod of dolphins played around the ship.

"A whole pod of dolphins went under the boat and it was like, there were probably like 10 of them," Morgan said.

"They were full jumping, like out of the water, like what you would see in a movie. That was like the coolest thing I've ever seen. ... I just remember being like, 'I can't believe that was just my real life.'

"Her first college football game experience was on the sideline at Mercedes-Benz Stadium, where the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl is played.

Atop surreal marine life experiences, Morgan threw her name into the running to be on the university's dance team the day before auditions were due. A Grosse Pointe dancer her whole life, Morgan used Kercheval Dance — her native studio — to film her audition tape.

Auditioning for one of two teams that had the easier audition process, Morgan found herself dancing for the football team weeks later.

"I didn't really think (making the team) was that big of a deal," she said. "I guess I just didn't realize that this team was actually good. In my head I feel like I thought it was the club dance team."

Her first college football game experience was on the sideline at Mercedes-Benz Stadium, where the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl is played.

"It was insane," she laughed. "That was really, really cool."

Morgan's first semester of college was filled with Saturdays spent at the Miami Dolphins' NFL stadium, where she cheered on her home Hurricanes.

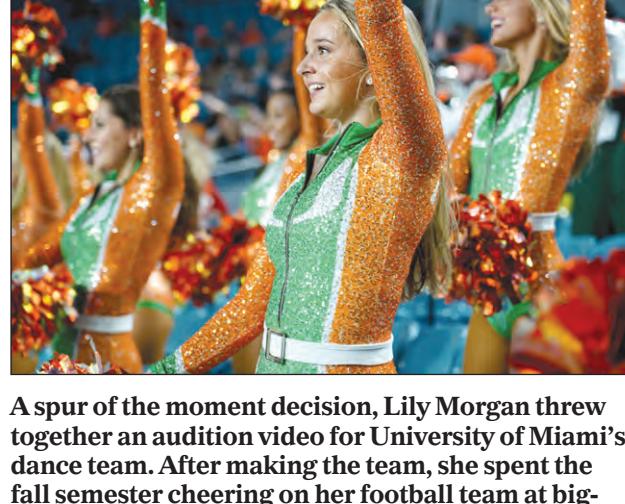
"It was just so crazy," she said. "Every Saturday for all of September and half of October, I was going to the NFL stadium to dance."

Keeping herself busy, Morgan has gotten certifications in scuba diving and marine mammal rescue, which she hopes to use for experiences in helping stranded marine mammals. She also is a member of the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority.

As a freshman, Morgan doesn't know what her future holds, but she's enjoying her pursuit of the marine biology degree.

"I do really like how this school has a lot of research opportunities," she said, "and they're very hands-on and in the field, which is really cool. Hopefully as I get further in my undergrad I can do some of them."

While she's unsure she'll return to Grosse Pointe — Lake St. Clair may not lend as well to her studies as the Florida Keys — Morgan reflected that she's noticed the difference in being away from home and her love for the community has grown fonder with distance.



A spur of the moment decision, Lily Morgan threw together an audition video for University of Miami's dance team. After making the team, she spent the fall semester cheering on her football team at big-league stadiums.

FIRE:

Continued from page 1A

600 block of Lakepointe is restored.

"We have to gather everything we need to live for the next three months, because everything is removed, cleaned and the remediation company

stores all of that stuff until the house is ready," said Brenner, appointed this year to fill a vacancy on the city council. "All things considered, we have a soft landing."

"Yes, it could have been a lot more tragic," said Sherri Wright, a postal carrier based at the Aretha Franklin Post Office on

Jefferson at Algonquin in Detroit.

Wright was on routine rounds the day of the fire. She was ready to break for lunch when for no real reason she decided to complete one more block, the block on which the Brenner family lives.

"As I was coming up the block, I smelled smoke but it wasn't bad," Wright said. "It could have been somebody barbecuing. As I got closer to the house, I smelled more smoke."

Closer still, she heard a fire alarm.

"As I was going to put the mail in the box, I could see fire inside the house," Wright said. "The front door is pretty much made of glass, so I could see into the house. I saw flames and black smoke. It looked like it was just getting started."

She called 911 to summon public safety.

"It took them no time,

less than five minutes," she said. "I was still on the phone when they arrived."

"We had to break the door in," said Bryan Jarrell, Park public safety director. "We extinguished the flames and tore the wall out to make sure fire didn't penetrate the wall or upstairs. We used our heat meter to check for hot spots."

"God bless the public safety guys," Brenner said. "By the time I got home, everything was under control. A good friend of mine is on the Hamtramck fire department. He said they'd have torn the place up. The Park was very professional and deliberate with their actions. Fire was contained to one area. They did minimal axing into walls."

"I'm just happy it wasn't a lot worse," Wright said.

She knows the family among many on her route. For the Brenner family, the last nine months have been a battle with the elements. Their basement flooded twice during rain storms last summer.

Trouble continued upon relocating to his father's house.

"They're always nice," she said.

The cause of the fire is quirky.

"It looks like spontaneous combustion," Jarrell said. "There were towels in a basket. We had the state police arson crew verify it. I don't think it was suspicious. There were no accelerants, matches or cigarette butts or anything like that. My detective shadowed the arson investigator, who said he's seen it a couple times in his career. It just happens."

"Nobody knows how a basket of laundry sitting inside my doorway could self-ignite," Brenner said.

For the Brenner family, the last nine months have been a battle with the elements. Their basement flooded twice during rain storms last summer.

Trouble continued upon relocating to his father's house.

"When you leave for winter, you turn the water off, right?" Brenner said.

"What happens when I turned the water on? It starts raining in the place. Despite turning the water off, somehow a pipe had burst. So, we are back in limbo, back in my house, basically quarantined to the two upstairs bedrooms least affected with smoke, with air purifiers going and hoping this next problem can be fixed before we have to find a short-term rental until we move into my father's house. It just keeps going on."

Wright has been walking in her ancestors' footsteps during 23 years with the U.S. Postal Service.

"My grandfather was a mail carrier," she said. "My aunt was a mail carrier. Both of them retired. It's a good job. I like talking with the customers and being out on my own to work."

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"I saw flames and black smoke. It looked like it was just getting started."

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Grosse Pointe Shores

Medical issue

An officer noted a vehicle traveling well below the speed limit shortly after 11 p.m. Wednesday, March 9, on southbound Lakeshore Road near Oxford Road. The vehicle began swerving and at one point jumped the curb.

The driver, a 57-year-old Detroit woman, told the officer she was diabetic and was not feeling well. She was taken by ambulance to Ascension St. John Hospital for treatment.

— Ted O'Neil
Report information about this and other crimes to the Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety Department, (313) 881-5500.

City of Grosse Pointe

Kindness in spades

Officers came to the aid of a stranded motorist at 1 a.m. Tuesday, March 8, by pushing her vehicle off Jefferson Avenue and then charging its dead battery.

Later that same day, officers also assisted a stranded motorist who had run out of gas at Cadieux Road and Kercheval Avenue, taking her to fill a gas can and back to her car.

Account fraud

A Grosse Pointe woman discovered an unknown suspect opened a Verizon account in her name Tuesday, March 8.

Excessive speeding

After being pulled over for speeding 61 mph in a 35 mph zone at Mack Avenue and Cadieux Road at 2 a.m. Saturday, March 12, a 23-year-old Detroit woman was arrested for operating while intoxicated.

— Laurel Kraus
Report information

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

about these and other crimes to the City of Grosse Pointe Public Safety, (313) 886-3200.

Grosse Pointe Farms

Disappearing diamond

In early December, a diamond inlay white gold cross worth \$90,000 was discovered missing from a residence in the 200 block of Country Club Drive.

Business fraud

In late March, the owner of a local restaurant discovered \$4,090 in transactions made from the business bank account without his knowledge.

Airsoft attack

While skating with his friends on Kercheval Avenue at 4:45 p.m. Sunday, March 6, a 10-year-old Farms boy

was shot on the elbow by an airsoft gun pellet by teenagers in a black GMC who drove by laughing.

The suspect — a white male in his 20s, approximately 5 feet, 11 inches and wearing a gray sweatshirt and blue jeans — was caught on surveillance camera and officers seek help identifying him.

Striking a child

A 69-year-old Detroit woman was captured on surveillance footage striking a 5-year-old with special needs twice in the upper back inside a business in the 18000 block of Mack Avenue at 5:36 p.m. Thursday, March 10. The woman told the child's mother that he hit her first, but the footage does not reflect that.

All turned around

After being pulled over for traveling eastbound in the westbound lanes of Mack Avenue at 12:46 p.m. Sunday, March 13, a 40-year-old Pontiac man was arrested for operating under the influence of alcohol third offense, open liquor transport and driving while license suspended.

Death threats

A 64-year-old Detroit man threatened to kill a former employee of a business in the 18000 block of Mack Avenue at 5:15 p.m. Monday, March 7, while claiming he'd also killed others in the past. The man previously was reported in December for making sexual comments about another store employee.

Explicit extortion

After receiving an Instagram friend request

Life is a journey, not a destination

Officers noted the odor of intoxicants after pulling over a 38-year-old Warren man for driving on Moross Road without headlights at 11:47 p.m. Sunday, March 13.

When asked multiple times where he was coming from, the man stated "driving" each time.

He was arrested for operating with a blood alcohol content of 0.17 percent or more.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Protect your passwords

A resident reported \$30,000 stolen from her Chase Bank account Saturday, Jan. 15. The resident was reimbursed.

Almost a month later, \$1,000 more was taken from the account Friday, Feb. 11. She closed her account and switched banks, but another attempt to steal money was made on her new account Monday, Feb. 14.

The resident realized the perpetrator had accessed her password manager program. She changed all her passwords and has not reported any more fraud occurrences since.

Parisian ID theft

When a resident was informed by a friend that her Instagram account was hacked, she found other accounts hacked including an AOL email, Gmail, Twitter, Facebook, PayPal, Chase Bank,

Venmo, Cash App, LinkedIn, Michigan Government Schools and Credit Union and Bank of America.

A security alert informed the resident the accounts possibly were hacked by someone in Paris, France. She changed all of her passwords.

1800, wrong way

A 31-year-old Harper Woods resident was seen driving south in the northbound lanes of Mack before she turned into a business parking lot at Roslyn, where she drove over a curb and through landscape bedding before exiting the lot and continuing north on Mack.

She was pulled over at Aline and asked if she was operating under the influence of alcohol or drugs, to which she responded "no."

Slurring her speech, she refused a preliminary breath test and field sobriety tests. Half a bottle of "1800 Tequila" was found in her backpack.

She was arrested, though she resisted when officers attempted to handcuff her.

At the station, a Breathalyzer test read a 0.16 percent blood-alcohol content.

Trespassing

A 31-year-old Detroit man approached the front door of a residence in the 1400 block of Sunnyside, attempted to open the door and then left at 4:55 a.m. Monday, March 14.

Three hours later, officers were sent to the 700 block of Sunnyside on a report of a black male matching the earlier description walking through backyards.

A resident confronted the man about being in

his backyard and the man responded that people were trying to kill him and asked the resident not to call the police.

The Detroit man was located at Morningside and Coventry and was arrested and taken to the station for processing.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Night school

A 16-year-old Park male learned last week why the right to drive a motor vehicle requires a level of proficiency represented by earning an operator's license.

At 12:10 a.m. Saturday, March 12, a patrolman saw the teen walking away from a damaged vehicle at the intersection of Charlevoix and Maryland.

"Investigation revealed the subject was driving the vehicle without a license," according to police.

Two for one

A traffic stop for speeding on Mack at Outer Drive at 11:10 p.m. Wednesday, March 9, resulted in two arrests.

Police took into custody the driver, a 51-year-old Detroit woman, for violating a suspended license.

A male passenger, 23, also from Detroit, was wanted on an outstanding warrant.

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

CHARGES:

Continued from page 3A

BUDGET:

Continued from page 1A

that she was telling these people."

Officers are encouraging anyone who may be concerned over past financial dealings with Arbulu to reach out.

"She has a long history of fraud and if anybody else has been a victim, please call the Grosse Pointe City Police Department," Narduzzi said.

Convicted of a non-sufficient funds check felony out of Grosse Pointe Park in 2018, Arbulu also currently is facing two additional felony charges out of St. Clair Shores for non-sufficient funds checks more than \$500.

"She is a suspect in several cases around town," Narduzzi noted, "outside of Grosse Pointe as well."

Since being charged in the Grosse Pointe case, Arbulu has returned the \$4,000 to the victim, as well as an additional \$12,500 to another victim who emerged out of Eastpointe and on whose behalf she claimed to be negotiating in a bank dispute.

Elias Muawad, retained attorney for Arbulu, did not respond to requests for comment by press time.

streaming," Poloni said. "They (cable companies) are getting less, so we get less."

Census numbers also continue to be a concern when it comes to the city's finances. The numbers from 2020 show the city's population fell about 12 percent between the 2010 and 2020 counts, from just over 3,000 people to 2,570.

Administrators are trying to get as many resi-

dents as possible to fill out a park pass application in hopes of securing a more accurate count.

Poloni said that according to the Michigan Municipal League, some 300 municipalities across the state lost population.

Michigan as a whole grew by 2 percent from 2010 to 2020, to just over 10 million residents, but higher growth in other states resulted in Michigan losing one con-

gressional seat.

Based on the 2010 census, the city received \$307,000 in revenue sharing from the state last year. That is expected to drop to \$277,000 next year.

The first step in contesting the census numbers was to approve the maps the federal government used, which the city did.

"Now it's just a matter of trying to figure out how they got their numbers,"

he added. "We think our numbers are significantly higher."

Poloni said the city now has to figure out how many residents are technically considered residents of Florida or other warm weather states if they live there more than six months out of the year.

"If they are home-steaded somewhere else, we can't count them," he said. "We know there are a lot, but not 300 or 400."

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OUR VIEW

Summa cum laude in clean

For anyone who has had the distinct pleasure of walking past a fraternity house after a party, you have gotten a live look at the word "squalid." In what mirrors a homeless encampment, empty bottles of booze, discarded food containers and all manner of trash grace the circumference of the frat house's lawn.

It eventually makes its way down the road, once the wind gets a hold of the party's aftermath.

The hope is that the young men inside have the pride and wherewithal to pick up said trash and wipe the slate clean, at least until the following weekend.

So how come on the heels of our recent snow melt, our neighborhoods and streets in the Pointes resemble Phi Kappa Garbage after its annual toga party?

C'mon folks, we can all do a little better than this.

Whether it's the ignored piles of dog waste, discarded vape cartridges, gaping potholes or even graffiti — the likes of which has graced two building facades in the Farms and City for months, and inexplicably remains there — our cities won't be winning any beauty contests in March, brown grass and bare trees aside.

The graffiti is especially bothersome. It is considered a "nuisance crime" by our local police forces, but its track record shows it is much more damaging than what meets the eyesore.

Throughout his run as New York City mayor from 1994-2001, Rudy Giuliani cut off the head of the snake by addressing Gotham's larger issues of muggings, gang violence and murder by turning his police force's attention to small, quality-of-life concerns like litter and graffiti, among others.

Guiliani's approach was wildly successful, thanks to refocusing the city's law enforcement activity on a "broken windows" mentality.

The theory, originally published by Dr. James Q. Wilson and George Kelling in 1982, suggests that a society, or even a neighborhood, which has the appearance of lawlessness will itself breed lawlessness. New York cleaned up and cleared out whatever they could.

You created the grime, you did the time.

By the end of Giuliani's last term, New York City saw a 56 percent drop in its overall crime rate.

We implore leadership in the Pointes to proactively embrace this theory that neighborhoods that appear broken down (potholes) and disordered (garbage and graffiti) invite more delinquent behavior and crime. In the simplest of terms, no "nuisance" crime exists in a vacuum. The small crimes and misdemeanors lead to much bigger problems.

If our cities' proverbial broken windows go unaddressed and unrepaired, it will display an image of disorder that encourages further disrespect. In effect, it will show residents and visitors that not enough of us care about where we live.

In a 2009 study, "Littering Behavior in America," researchers found that 81 percent of all littering was intentional, such as flicking a cigarette butt or dropping gum to the ground. Researchers found that "individuals are much more likely to litter into



ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

OUR VIEW

Mad for March

Oh, month of March, how do we love thee? Let us count the ways.

While we can't exactly verify that Elizabeth Barrett Browning was a hoops fan (even though the reigning 2021 NCAA Basketball Champions, Baylor University, holds the largest collection of her works this side of England), we believe we can safely assume the poet would get wrapped up in all the basketball madness this month offers, even for the most casual of fans.

From buzzer beaters to Cinderella stories to Loyola University's Sister Jean, we find college basketball's tournament to crown its season champion tough to beat.

The heart-racing, blood-pumping drama makes for some late nights and, if you are so inclined to fill out a bracket, a few dollars poorer in your bank account.

But we are getting ahead of ourselves before this year's championship game on April 4.

We start with today's noon tip-off, where bars in the Pointes are likely to have countless folks with a Guinness in one hand and at least one eye toward the TVs airing No. 11 University of Michigan's first-round game against No. 6 Colorado State. And since you asked, yes, it's time to quit complaining about Michigan's seeding. Analyst Seth Davis did enough of that for all of you. (We think he is still talking, in fact.)

And did we mention today is St. Patrick's Day? For many of us who see March 17 as our Holy Day of Obligation to eat our weight in corned beef and cabbage, today's NCAA tip-off doubles the fun.

Of course tomorrow night draws all of our attention to No. 7 Michigan State University and their game vs.

No. 10 seed Davidson. Thanks to the game's 9:40 p.m. start, coffee pots will be working overtime, but hopefully not the Spartans.

Now, this all leads us to an uncomfortable conversation. Many of us at this time of year find ourselves not only rooting for our specific alma mater or teams we picked to advance, but we also actively root against some of them.

We are looking at you, Spartan and Wolverine fans. You know it's true.

But thankfully, there is something that unites State and U of M fans alike — the loathsome Duke Blue Devils. No. 2 Duke will face the Spartans this weekend, should both teams win. The Men of Izzo have the chance to end Mike Krzyzewski's glorious 42-year run as Duke's head coach with a loss before Coach K heads into retirement.

Look, we aren't saying we are rooting against Duke. But we're also not not saying that.

We also see no valid reason to pull the "root-for-the-Big-10-because-it's-good-for-the-conference" card. This is primarily because there is just no justification whatsoever to pull for the Ohio State Buckeyes. We apologize if this is your alma mater, but you are now in Michigan. Them's the rules.

We also think it's completely fair and smart, frankly, if you pick a team to win it all, based on where you also happen to spend tuition dollars for your children. That's just good business.

Based on that premise, some of us in this newsroom just might be rooting for the Baylor Bears. Hey, even Mrs. Barrett Browning knew enough to pick Baylor, albeit for books not a ball.

Either way, Sic 'Em!

a littered environment."

It concluded: "Once there, it attracts more litter."

The March 7 ordinance approved unanimously by Grosse Pointe Park council members is a solid, no-nonsense example of how to fight residential blight. City code Section 15-1 helps ease the burden on city resources by allowing Park police to immediately fine residents responsible for their overgrown vegetation, rubbish or shelter for rats, in lieu of a court appearance.

To be clear, we recognize the endless differences between the Pointes and a metropolis like New York City. But a particular difference we can pride ourselves on, historically speaking, is our community's unparalleled cleanliness, beauty and safety.

We have the relative luxury to focus on the smaller stuff, by and large.

Just a five-minute drive on Moross or Cadieux to I-94 illustrates how litter multiplies. That should scare us straight to be more responsible for our yards, streets and shopping districts.

It's time we re-up as a proactive city that keeps our neighborhoods clean and enforces laws and ordinances that ensure a blight-free environment.

Our educated guess is that few among us want to live in a dirty disaster, orbiting around John Belushi-types in "Animal House." This spring, Grosse Pointers should refocus on earning summa cum laude honors in community cleanliness and civic pride.

Wayne County vaccinations*

As of 3/15	Initiation**	Completions***
Vaccinations	747,453	681,659
% of residents 5+	74.0	67.5
% 5-11 years old	29.0	25.6
% 12-15 years old	56.4	52.2
% 16-64	76.4	69.4
% 65+	93.1	86.0

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

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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@grossepoincenews.com.

Conflict is real

To the Editor:

With the Russian invasion of Ukraine well underway, and no stoppage nearing as the leaders of all involved global powers turn up the heat and increase the tension, the media has been swamped with coverage of this conflict.

This media attention,

however, can often blind or soften our eyes to the truly appalling violence.

It's easy to be almost indifferent to the conflict in a part of the world that most haven't seen — when as footage of shells and tanks sprawling across Kyiv, CNN intermixes a poorly timed Applebees commercial, it's easy to become almost casual about something

that has and will take the lives of so many men.

We must remember this conflict is real.

Mothers mourn sons, sisters mourn brothers — still more men will give the ultimate sacrifice for their freedom.

I use men as an appraisal, not because of an earned seniority of these soldiers, for many are still in the springtime of their lives. I use men because of the bravery these soldiers demonstrate when they are willing to fight, even die, for their own country and their fellow citizens.

So as you watch and read about the conflict, I only plead that you stay vigilant and cognizant of the grim actuality of the situation.

That you might realize those videos that play on your office TV screen or those stories and news

spoken on your car radios are someone's reality.

And always: Stand with Ukraine.

RONAN MACMASTER
Grosse Pointe Woods

'Woke Pointers'

To the Editor:

It is said many readers of the Grosse Pointe News do not engage with social media such as Facebook. As such, they might not be aware of many of the community issues that present on social media. This disconnect can cause a lack of awareness or understanding by the community of important issues.

By reviewing many social media comments, here are some issues that concern "Woke Pointers."

Woke Pointers take out full-page ads dispelling

See LETTERS, page 8A

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

I SAY By John Minnis

Just a weekly newspaperman as he reaches -30-



"absentee aunt." So we headed north.

I interviewed for a staff writer position at the Grosse Pointe News under then-editor Pat Paholsky. Pat and I hit it off immediately. Publisher Butch Edgar was skeptical. He was impressed with the letter of recommendation from the Neighbor Newspapers executive editor, but was concerned Terry would get another lucrative assignment elsewhere and I would be leaving. I assured him that was a one-time deal and that Terry was determined to stay home and become a great aunt.

A couple of days later, Pat called and offered me the job. I was thrilled. I knew of the Grosse Pointe News through Wilbur "Bill" Elston, who was head of the journalism program at Wayne State when I earned my bachelor's degree there. Retired Detroit News editorial page editor, Bill went on to write editorials for the Grosse Pointe News.

I began covering the Farms and the Park and took over the "police beat." The first controversy to land on my plate was when a Farms resident pushed the council and mayor to upgrade its EMT ambulance service to paramedics. I dutifully quoted the resident to the

point then-Mayor Joe Fromm told me, "Son, you're a glutton for punishment." She didn't succeed, as I recall, but paramedics did come along eventually. She was just ahead of her time.

I got my first "scoop" when I noticed a legal advertisement in the Grosse Pointe News from the Farms seeking to renew "CSO Outfall" permits from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. When I asked the Farms public service director about it, he said, "You don't want to write about that; it will just get people all worked up." I knew I had a story. That led to the end of dumping sewage into Lake St. Clair during heavy rains — a triumph of investigative reporting, I thought at the time — and to flooded basements today.

I was later named assistant editor, which only meant I filled in for the editor when she went on vacation. When Pat Paholsky left, I was made editor and later, editor and general manager, the same title held by Robert B. Edgar, Butch's father, when the paper was founded in November 1940. I was proud of that and it also gave an overall appreciation for newspaper operations that would help me when I later became publisher of

the Grosse Pointe News.

During this time, I earned my master's degree in journalism at Michigan State University, driving two hours two days a week to East Lansing for 6 to 10 p.m. classes for some five years. It was another proud accomplishment.

When Butch died in April 2007, the paper was

in the process of being sold to Robert G. Liggett Jr. of Grosse Pointe Shores.

I was called upon to help the family complete the sale, which, of course, I did. Mr. Liggett later replaced me with his own editor and general manager, not unusual in a change of ownership, but it still stung.

The largest financial crisis since the Great Depression occurred a year later. I was 53 years old with no job prospects. Thanks to the Park's Andrew Richner, I found work with the Detroit Legal News and affiliated papers in Oakland and Macomb counties. I also took the time to co-author two Arcadia Publishing history books with my niece, Lauren McGregor (nee Beaver) and, later, another with Terry. They were about the Michigan State Fair, Old Newsboys' Goodfellows and Roseville, where Terry grew up.

We struck a deal and the rest is history. Without Sean and Nancy Cotton stepping up, there would most likely be no Grosse Pointe News today.

I write all this not to blow my own horn (well, maybe a little), but to show how no one succeeds without others helping them along the way.

Also in 2010, Terry and I founded Grosse Pointe Magazine, which is popular — and profitable — to this day.

At a funeral for the

News employee's daughter, Mr. Liggett approached me and said, "We need to talk publisher to publisher." We met and he said he wanted me to run the paper either as a manager or an owner. We chose the latter and on Aug. 18, 2017, Terry and I became owners of the Grosse Pointe News.

It was great to be back, but after 2 1/2 years, on the eve of the worst pandemic in 100 years, we knew we needed financial help. Sean Cotton's name came to mind.

I knew his mother and twin brother. I knew he and his family had done well selling their business, Meridian Health, so I knew he had the resources to keep the paper afloat. I had not met Sean, so I asked a mutual friend to introduce us.

What I didn't know at the time is Sean had approached Mr. Liggett shortly after we purchased the paper offering to buy it. "I just sold it to the Minnises," Mr. Liggett told him.

I would like to say my final farewell to the wonderful Grosse Pointe News staff I have had the privilege of working with; they will all be missed and their memories cherished.

Lastly I would like to thank our readers and advertisers who keep the paper going and make it such a worthwhile occupation. Your support has always been appreciated and, hopefully, never taken for granted.

So I will sign off as the famous war correspondent Ernie Pyle did:

-30-

I'll never forget that day in September 1988, when I went for a job interview with the Grosse Pointe News. I remember driving through Grosse Pointe's lovely neighborhoods on my way to what I would learn was called "The Hill."

Terry and I had recently returned from Atlanta, where she worked at a General Motors assembly plant.

I was an associate editor in charge of several metro Atlanta weeklies known as The Neighbor Newspapers. When Terry's GM assignment ended and we prepared to move back to Michigan, I was offered the executive editor position in charge of all 21 Neighbor newspapers, circulation 350,000 at the time. (They have grown to nearly twice that circulation today!)

It was a great offer, and we loved living in cosmopolitan Atlanta, but Terry's sister was pregnant with her first child and Terry was determined not to be an

I SAY By Terry Minnis

Emotions of retirement



when I was in grade school.

John, on the other hand, devoted his entire career to community journalism. After a brief stint working in the engineering field, he returned to college and got both his bachelor's and master's degrees in journalism.

For nearly 40 years — 34 of them here in the

Pointes — he has lived by the Society of Professional Journalists code of ethics, which is guided by the values: Seek truth and report it, minimize harm, act independently, be accountable and transparent.

I am so proud of the career he has had and his devotion to this community.

See RETIRE, page 9A

Retirement. I didn't think it would be so emotional. It is something we work toward for years and now that it is here, I'm left with a very strange feeling.

Newspapers were not my career choice. The origin of my career path couldn't have been further from where it ended up. I started as an electrical draftsman and spent years testing software, training users and writing user manuals. Newspapers were, though, a big part of my life. Growing up, my family always subscribed to multiple newspapers and I started reading them

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LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

myths of critical race theory and identify the local groups that question its value;

Woke Pointers use Facebook to call out those whose activities they disagree with;

Woke Pointers only like the sources that support their views — seldom is another perspective considered. A source conflicting with their narrative is called misinformation;

Woke Pointers attribute racist practices such as the point system and red lining — which have been illegal for 60 years — as evidence of current racism in Grosse Pointe;

Woke Pointers accept any information that is published by the school district, even if the sources are entirely subjective;

Woke Pointers create Facebook groups to combat out-of-state groups they believe have extremist agendas to divide the community;

Woke Pointers advocate for making our parks open to non-residents;

Woke Pointers support diversity while criticizing every comment or questions by our Muslim school board members;

Woke Pointers believe the only stakeholders in the school district are those who have children

in the school system. Those who are homeschooled or sent to private schools or residents are not ever to question or criticize the actions of the district because their concerns are invalid.

Draw your own conclusions, but take the time to inform yourselves about issues in the community from many sources. The Grosse Pointe News can't report on the attitudes and opinions of everyone.

After all, every stakeholder pays taxes to the district and the state. Stakeholders, it might be best if you put the politics of Woke Pointers on your radar.

CHRIS KACZANOWSKI
Grosse Pointe Woods

Progressive vs. classical

To the Editor:

What parents would not wish their children to learn what is good, true and beautiful as they are growing up? As adults, these young men and women would manifest courage, gratitude and wisdom.

Instead, the Grosse Pointe Public School System is promoting a mistaken strategic plan that holds up skin color and sex as critical metrics so students see someone who "looks like me" in order to be inspired by music, sports and classroom curriculum.

But a student doesn't

need to be a young farm girl like Fern in "Charlotte's Web" to understand her desire to save a piglet runt from slaughter; a student doesn't need to be formerly enslaved, black and a prominent orator like Frederick Douglass to sympathize with the struggle for human rights; a student doesn't need to be Greek, male and lost at sea to identify with Homer's "Odysseus" along his obstacle-laden travels.

Our district's illogic is what makes the option of classical education so valuable.

Classical education is a system of education that underscores our common humanity; it values knowledge for its own sake, as a way of shedding light on the human condition. With its concurrent emphasis on character development, it teaches not only about science and literature, but also about freedom of choice and how actions have consequences, and how with each freedom comes a corresponding responsibility.

A progressive education might present things from a perspective of moral equivalence; a classical education presents history and the humanities such that students learn there is a clear difference between right and wrong, good and evil.

At a time in history when we are witnessing freedom of speech being limited through corporate and government censorship and freedom of belief being suppressed via lockdowns and mandates, perhaps parents would appreciate the option of a local, tuition-free classical education for their children.

Classical education adheres philosophically to the idea that our country was founded on eternal, true principles and that the gifts of equality and freedom achieved through self-government

are worth understanding. Classically educated students are enabled to transcend the narrow boundaries of their own individual experiences to share in the richer understanding of what it means to be one human among all humanity.

KELLY BOLL
Grosse Pointe Park

A recipe for success in GPPSS

To the Editor:

The raising of a child is the top priority for any parent. A child's security, education and character-building are all necessary ingredients with which a parent surrounds their child. Lifelong values are instilled first and foremost by the parent.

In order for a parent to be most effective in their job of raising their child, they must possess the information necessary to make the BEST decisions that are in the BEST interests of their child. This information includes what is being taught in the school their child attends and how that teaching is delivered.

Children are not "one size fits all," so a parent must understand how their child learns in order to make the right decisions about where best to send their child for their education.

Parents must be engaged to both drive and support their child's learnings, from inside and outside the child's classroom. For parents to be successful, the child's school must be willing to engage the parent with the knowledge of what is being taught in the classroom so the parent can support the curriculum at home, assisting in the educational process. Conversely, if the methods used in the classroom become incongruent with the best interests of a child, as determined by the parent, then it is the parent who must act in the best

interest of the child and make changes on behalf of that child.

SANDY HUDSON
Grosse Pointe Woods

Buyer beware

To the Editor:

Caveat Emptor is perhaps as old as the hills, but never applied more to buyers of real estate in Grosse Pointe and surrounding areas plagued by recurring basement flooding since August 1972. According to a Grosse Pointe News article of that time, a city official predicted heavy rainfalls could be expected to continue every few years. That being the case, one has to wonder why in the 50 years since, the problem has not been corrected. The solution is simple. The stormwater has to be diverted back to the lake where it has gone for thousands of years before manmade "improvements" changed all of that. The sewers would then easily handle the sanitary and save the treatment of stormwater. How to achieve this "diverting" solution is perhaps a bit more challenging.

Back to how it affects real estate. State law requires flooding and recurring flooding to be disclosed to the buyer. Clever Realtors bury this disclosure on the second page of a long, fine-print form under item 5, "Settling, flooding, drainage, structural grading problems. Yes No," plus a line to describe it. Trying to hide or downplay this important issue is fraud and could entangle you in a very costly litigation.

The buyer of real estate in Grosse Pointe and surrounding areas should look for flooding in the disclosure (there were a huge number of homes affected). Then ask questions and if you wish to go through with the purchase, adjust your offer accordingly. Research shows with coastal flooding, property values drop by as much as 15 percent for about five years if there is no recurrence in that time. Buyers should think seriously about this problem. If you have never gone through this, believe me, you don't want to. You will never be whole again and never not worry about when the next time will come.

It is not my purpose with this letter to point fingers, as that will not fix anything. This is a problem that can be fixed, but according to city officials, it is going to have to be a regional solution and will take many years to accomplish. Meanwhile, it is human nature to forget about things like this or push solutions to the back burner. This is what I suspect happened since 1972. We need to keep on our elected officials and demand regular reporting of progress toward a viable solution, not because they have to, but because it is the right thing to do. This is an excellent campaign issue and should be at the top of the list and if incumbents can't show that they are 100 percent behind this issue, we should put our vote behind someone who can.

Property values have dropped for those of us who were victimized by the flood. Our property taxes, however, continue to go up. I would liken this to kicking someone when they are down. I was one of the most devastated flood victims with 6 1/2 feet

of water in my basement and over \$90,000 of uninsurable loss in my unfinished basement. The emotional injury by any of us who had water enter their basement is devastating, be it six inches or six feet. What the assessor does is an annual sales study to determine increases or decreases in property values. This is the most common form of assessment, yet when flood victims' property is grouped with non-flooded properties, the averages negate the actual drop in value. There are other influences that exacerbated the devaluation from the flood. None of these are considered in assessing. It would take extra work for the assessor to group these affected properties separately, but isn't that the right thing to do to achieve a fair assessment? Assessment notices have just come out. I encourage each of you to appeal to the board of review based on flooded homes not being evaluated separately in the sales study. I would also implore our elected officials to direct that our assessor evaluate flood victims' homes separately for a more accurate and fair assessment. Is this required? No, but it is the right thing to do for the residents who elected you and rely on your to do the right thing.

BARRY DICKSON
City of Grosse Pointe

An unmodified opinion

To the Editor:

I know that sometimes when I come to speak at the Grosse Pointe Public School System school board meetings or send email letters to the board and administration, they probably think I have lost my mind. I am OK with that because I always speak with data and I am confident that my assessment of the data is correct.

In November 2021, after another "unmodified opinion" or "clean audit" as our board members like to claim, I reminded the GPPSS board and administration that an unmodified opinion only implies that the auditor was satisfied with the financial statements audited. This means the statements met the requirements demanded by the regulations and they were prepared in accordance with accounting principles, criteria and standards. A clean audit does not imply any valuation on how well or poorly a district plans their budgets or spend their money. It only means they accounted properly. So why is it important to understand the distinction?

Case in point. The Birmingham School District entered the 2021-22 school year with a small projected budget deficit just over \$1.2 million. Their fund balance at the beginning of the year was at 19 percent or \$19.75 million. Their end-of-year balance, even with the slight deficit, was projected to be 14.94 percent or \$18.32 million. Personally I don't think any district should ever operate at a deficit, especially when the state and feds are handing out COVID money like candy, but let's continue. On Monday, Nov. 22, 2021, auditors from Plante Moran (that name should ring a bell) presented the



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See LETTERS, page 9A

LETTERS:*Continued from page 8A*

Birmingham City Commission with an unmodified statement of the city's 2020-21 fiscal year budget, which included their approved 2021-22 budget, considered the highest form of assurance. All great news right? Not so fast.

On Tuesday, March 1, Birmingham Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Embekka Roberson sent out a letter to the school community announcing that while working on budget amendments, it was determined the district has a \$14.3 million shortfall due to a variety of factors — including an “over-leveraging” of residential property taxes and overestimation of head count. Sound familiar? Just to clarify, that is \$14.3 million over the original \$1.2 million deficit projected at the beginning of the year. Birmingham schools will end the year with approximately a 3 percent fund equity of just under \$4 million. How does a school system with a “clean” audit three months ago now find themselves with an additional \$14 million deficit in a single year? As I told the GPPSS board in November 2021, a “clean” unmodified audit from Plante Moran does not mean anything. It certainly should never be the basis a school district uses to equate to sound fiscal policy. Interestingly enough, Birmingham has now brought in a CPA and retired assistant superintendent of finance to perform a thorough review and collaborate with the district’s auditors from Plante Moran.

Last June, the Grosse Pointe Board of Education signed off on a 2021-22 budget with a headcount of 7,047 after being told repeatedly by myself and others that that number was completely unrealistic. The number provided by Plante Moran last year for headcount was closer to 6,700, which is very close to the 6,637 actual headcount announced in November 2021. The time to demand a forensic audit of GPPSS in now. \$100 million spent per year in general fund and another \$100 million bond over the last three years. We cannot afford to have any surprises in the GPPSS budget.

Please act now before GPPSS becomes Birmingham.

TERENCE COLLINS
Grosse Pointe Park

Lessons learned**To the Editor:**

Have we learned our lessons yet? In 2018, the Grosse Pointe Public School System administration, led by Dr. Jon Dean, asked Plante Moran to put together district enrollment projections and reconfiguration proposals based on the administration’s

guidelines.

Those proposals resulted in the closure of two elementary schools — Trombly and Poupart — and subsequent early child care programs, even though early-age K-2 enrollment was the only segment of student enrollment rising at that time.

Recently, school board member David Brumbaugh reported that “only 27 percent of area students enrolled in Pre-K programs attend the GPPSS compared to the state average of 68 percent.” Factually, the GPPSS could double the Pre-K student enrollment and still not reach the state average of 67 percent.

This reinforces the idea that the GPPSS could undertake significant growth in the ages 0-5 space. Further it highlights that closing elementary schools and Pre-K programs do not encourage student enrollment. And the purported savings are way less than anticipated, when add-ons like Poupart busing are included.

Have we learned the lessons of reactive policies based on this administration’s projections? Are we willing to close additional schools to chase failing policies? Or will open enrollment be the only way to stem the enrollment losses and huge budget deficit?

It is time for a change.

We need proactive policies that address the goals of growing enrollment in the district. And it seems that early child care and elementary are the obvious places to start.

KEN SANBORN
Grosse Pointe Park

Eyes on the prize**To the Editor:**

In 1921, a group of concerned parents worked together to bring the five independent school districts serving the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods into what is now the Grosse Pointe school district. They realized that together, a single district could provide a better educational opportunity for every child. One hundred years later, this district continues to have a very engaged community of parents.

For decades we have supported the Grosse Pointe Public School System when it reached out on a number of fronts, from in-class volunteering to voting in favor of multiple bond initiatives — time and again to make sure our schools were well cared for and offered the most

up-to-date instructional tools for our students.

Generations of families have put their children through Grosse Pointe schools. Many families, including mine, have three and four generations of students who have gone through the school system. We have shown that we understand how important our schools are to our children and our community. This attracts new families to move to Grosse Pointe and have kept generations returning to GP to raise their families.

As parents, we look to our schools to uphold the values of the community, keep the schools safe, demand academic standards and instill strong fiscal responsibility. There are many good opportunities, both private and parochial, from which parents can choose. A strong school district will provide solid choices for parents from which to choose our GPPPS and ensure necessary funding for our district.

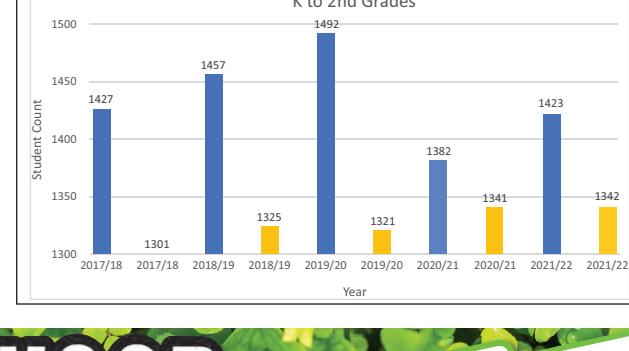
Another important note for taxpayers to note is this: According to Michigan Law, the role of the school board is to educate students, provide safety and welfare, set courses and curricula, control expenditures, levy taxes and adopt a budget.

A note on which we all may agree: The parent(s) role is to work with their children on their core values. The school’s role is to educate. After school, clubs are available, to share your personal/religious or non-academic interests. When these roles get mixed, families leave the school district and academics falter. This is what we are seeing now. Do you know we are behind Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham, Troy, West Bloomfield, Novi, Rochester and Northville in average SAT scores? Do you know we have lost 17.4 percent of our students from 2011-21 vs. 10.2 percent statewide and 3 percent in comparable districts?

Let’s build on our public schools, on the core, on what our own website describes as the role of the school board. Let’s strive for academic success, by focusing on just that. If we do, we can drive enrollment and fund an eventual balanced budget.

Strong communities are built on attending to priorities. And our eyes are on the prize: Our kids’ educations and their futures.

KATE HOPPER
Grosse Pointe Farms



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1947

75 years ago this week

1972

50 years ago this week

1997

25 years ago this week

2012

10 years ago this week

FARMS BOND ISSUE DEFEATED:

A total of 433 votes cast against the proposed \$350,000 bond issue to improve the sewer and drainage system of the Village of Grosse Pointe Farms defeated the proposal at the polls. While 563 voters cast their ballots for the bond issue, a two-thirds majority is required by law and thus less than one-tenth of the total qualified electors in the village were able to defeat the measure.

Obituaries: Winifred Bennage, Mrs. William Fitzpatrick, Lena Meininger Davis, Nat Howard

PLAN DRASTIC SCHOOL CUTS:

Superintendent Theos I. Anderson asked the Board of Education to grant the administration permission to plan a reduced program for the '72-'73 school year. Two major issues discussed repeatedly as of late throughout the state have been those of school financing and busing.

Obituaries: Sheila Catherine DeJohn, Edwin B. Bornmann, Karl A. Dietrich, John Henige, Nicholas "Herman" Hillenbrand, Mavis M. Nash, Margaret M. Nally

Obituaries: William Tade Walsh Jr., Adah Elizabeth Torbett Page, Rose J. Mualem, Armand Kerber, Molly Moran, Anthony J. Danna, Dr. Wilfred Andrew Riddell

Obituaries: Victor H. DeBaeke, Edwin B. Bornmann, Karl A. Dietrich, John Henige, Joyce Leon, Frank P. McBride Jr., Gordon MacKenzie, Harriett Millies

RETIRE:*Continued from page 7A*

nity. He worked hard at understanding what makes this community tick and how to best serve it. Has he gotten things wrong? Of course. But he has never intentionally written an untruth. Has he angered people who didn't see the truth in what he wrote? Absolutely. But that was his job — to write the truth. He believes in the right to free speech, but has always understood that words said or printed may also incur consequences.

I've learned a lot from John's perseverance and diligence in this industry.

And though we are both abundantly grateful to a list of people far too long

to list here, I will do my best.

I want to express the sincerest thank you to the Edgar family — the founders of the Grosse Pointe News. It was the opportunity Butch Edgar gave John in 1988 that led us to this amazing community. My appreciation also goes out to the late Bob Liggett and his wife Vicki, who in 2017 sold the paper to us. I would also like to extend my gratitude to Sean Cotton and his wife Nancy, who have devoted so much to this community. We are leaving the paper in good hands; it is thriving. We are excited to see its growth.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to those we work with every day. The years here at the paper have been amazing. We

built a great staff, people we are proud to be associated with and consider friends. That is where this gets emotional. It is hard to say goodbye.

We will continue to publish Grosse Pointe Magazine and Detroit River Living Magazine, two publications that we are very proud of. We plan to spend more time in Florida, especially the cold months of winter. John will golf more and we will both pursue hobbies that in the past we had no time for.

So, strange feelings aside, we are truly excited to take this next step. It is one filled with pride at the culmination of a newspaper career, hope for a happy retirement and gratitude for this special, supportive community.

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A year of business in a pandemic

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

For Gary Mui and Alicia Sanchez, opening a dream business meant traversing through a pandemic to do so. Now more than a year into operations, Alma Kitchen owners Mui and Sanchez reflect on the business's opening and look to more years of prosperity to come.

Alma Kitchen, which celebrated its soft opening Dec. 1, 2020, boasts a "borderless cooking" menu to satiate various cravings. Mui and Sanchez said this has led to certain days of the week being popular for certain menu items among diners; one day of the week, for example, sliders will be sent out to diners in the masses, while another day might see a plethora of curry coconut chicken orders.

"You see so many different things going out," Mui said, "and certain



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Alicia Sanchez and Gary Mui opened Alma Kitchen, 15402 Mack, in Dec. 2020, and have operated in the midst of a pandemic since.

days are more popular have added a specialty for certain items than other days."

Atop the standard "borderless" menu the duo crafted for its opening, they are constantly updating their menu to introduce new items and

have added a specialty brunch program.

"We want to try to incorporate everything that we kind of grew up with, or things that kind of touch on our heritage, too," Mui said.

Weekend brunch, run

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, features churro waffles, French toast, pancakes, egg dishes and more. A noticeable brunch favorite is the El Benny — Alma Kitchen's take on

the classic eggs Benedict dish with a Mexican flare. The most popular drink on the menu is the MI chelada, a spinoff of the michelada.

Along with the brunch program, the duo hopes to soon introduce an expansive happy hour program. They also look forward to the summer dining season, where they hope to use two patio areas and potentially bring in live music.

"One's kind of a lounge side, one's more of a dine-in side," Mui said. "So we want to be able to introduce that type of (outdoor dining) thing."

While initial hopes for opening the business included rooftop dining, cost turned out to be expensive for the project. Mui said it's something they'll likely reconsider in years to come.

Being in the Grosse Pointe Park business community a little over a year now, the community has been excellent, the

partners said.

"I like the community," Sanchez said. "I really like the people here. That's the main thing for me."

"(We want to) just keep on continuing supporting the community and have the community support us," Mui said. "It's a great partnership that we have with the community, where I just feel like people really responded to us being in the neighborhood and supporting us, so we try to support any kind of programs that go on with the schools or anything else that may be going on."

"We just enjoy the neighborhood so much that it's something that we want to just be a part of," he added.

Alma Kitchen, 15402 Mack, is open 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday and noon to 7 p.m. Sunday. Visit mialmakitchen.com to view the menu or place a reservation.

313 Lacrosse: Play to honor the game

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

"My philosophy is really simple: Play for the love of the game. Play to honor the game."

Thus reads the philosophy of 313 Lacrosse founder Ken Brubaker, known by his athletes as "Coach B." In 2005, Brubaker officially started his business coaching a group of lacrosse players from Grosse Pointe North High School, Grosse Pointe South High School and University Liggett School.



The storefront features lacrosse gear and equipment, including Brubaker's personal brand of uniforms and apparel.

When the travel team began, North, South and

Liggett lacrosse kids played in the summer as Grosse Pointe Select. What was once one of four travel teams in the state, now the team, expanded to include athletes around Detroit as 313 Select, plays against hundreds in the state in tournaments and competitions.

Now the head of a lacrosse brand, Brubaker actually was a lifelong basketball player, only getting into lacrosse when his son was interested in playing and the Neighborhood Club needed coaches. Years later, Brubaker has

coached more than 500 games and even plays himself.

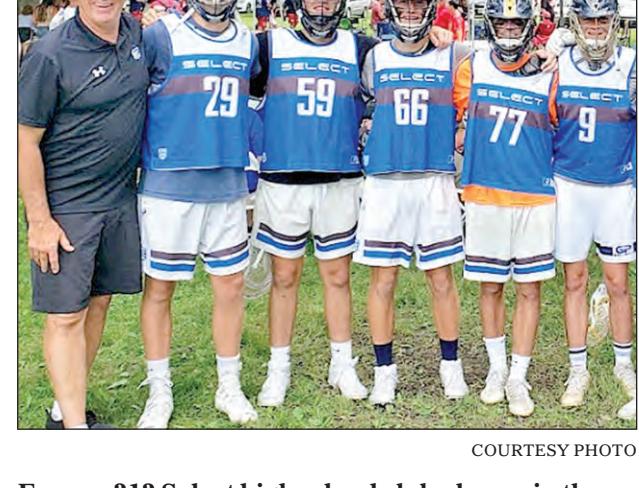
"There's something about the game that gets into your soul," Brubaker said. "It's a unique game. It's a combination of a lot of different sports. There's a spiritual aspect of the game ...

"I see it in the kids," he added. "It's that kid that just doesn't really like sports, or (isn't) tall enough to play basketball, (isn't) big enough to play football. He finds this sport and the sport connects."

For kids in the area looking to explore the world of lacrosse, Brubaker's business encourages them to come play.

"We have a different philosophy than kind of the normal travel teams," Brubaker said. While he described the stereotypical travel team as more geared toward getting kids to play at Division 1 college programs, Lacrosse 313 prides itself in playing to love the sport and grow as a person.

Ken Brubaker holds a handmade goalie stick made by Alfie Jacques, a Six Nations stick builder. This goalie stick was made for him in 2009.



COURTESY PHOTO

Former 313 Select high school club players in the summer 2019. From left, Ken Brubaker, Thomas Smith, Tommy Campau, Miles Dingamen, Mickey Kuchta and Henry Shields.

"I like to coach not only to make people good at lacrosse," Brubaker said, "but good at life."

313 Lacrosse specializes in travel play, training and events. In the off-season, from November to March, the teams practice indoors at Eastside Tennis and Fitness Club, focusing on drills and training. Training is open to boys and girls of all ages.

In the summer and fall, the teams compete in travel tournaments.

Along with the coaching aspect of the business, Brubaker has added a retail element: 313 Athletics opened at 21035 Mack Avenue in Grosse Pointe Woods. The store features lacrosse equipment and gear, and Brubaker's own brand of uniforms and apparel, called LBLC athletics, frequently sold to school lacrosse teams.

The storefront is open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information about Brubaker's lacrosse travel teams and training, or to register an athlete, visit 313lax.com. To visit the store online, go to 313laxstore.com.

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Signage resolution upcoming

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — On the back of a project to improve and modernize the traffic signals at Moross and Kercheval, abnormally large street signs were added to the intersection about two months ago.

The project used a Michigan Department of Transportation safety grant, with a 20 percent match from the Farms, to place new mast arms and traffic signals, LED crosswalk signals and pavement markings.

Similar efforts through these grants previously were implemented in the Farms near McMillion and on Kercheval.

"This was another safety grant that we applied for and we were able to limit some of the overhead lines and wood poles and put in more ornamental traffic signals," City Manager Shane Reeside said.

The signage was implemented because of current MDOT safety standards.

The city's engineers are reviewing the standards,

Reeside reported, and exploring whether the actual size of the street signs can be reduced.

"The scale is excessive

for the area and we are exploring options for something that's more appropriate in terms of scale," he said.

Following the city's efforts, he added, "I think it will be visually acceptable to everybody."

— Laurel Kraus

New system for better broadcasts

GROSSE POINTE PARK — As social distancing declines in league with the weakening COVID pandemic, the broadcasting of city council meetings is being enhanced.

Upon installation of a permanent video system at city hall within two months, meetings of the Grosse Pointe Park council, boards and committees will be live-streamed with images and audio clearer than has been the case since the city went viral early in the pandemic with a temporary setup.

"Pre-pandemic meetings were entirely in person and not televised," said Nick Sizeland, city manager. "This new system would affix a camera, hardware and software for the system and wireless microphones to allow streaming and pick up sound."

"We did a tour with all three companies," Sizeland said. "They reviewed our council chambers. We talked about the challenges of this building. Above (chambers), we have concrete flooring. It's not like your typical drop ceiling you can pull a conduit through."

"(The) system will incorporate a 4K pan-tilt-zoom camera supported with two flush-mount microphones to capture clear audio and video of chamber meetings," according to the company's bid.

— Brad Lindberg

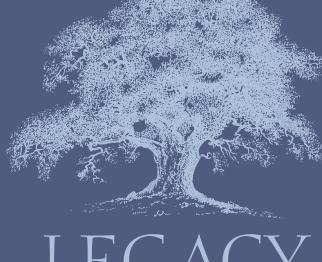
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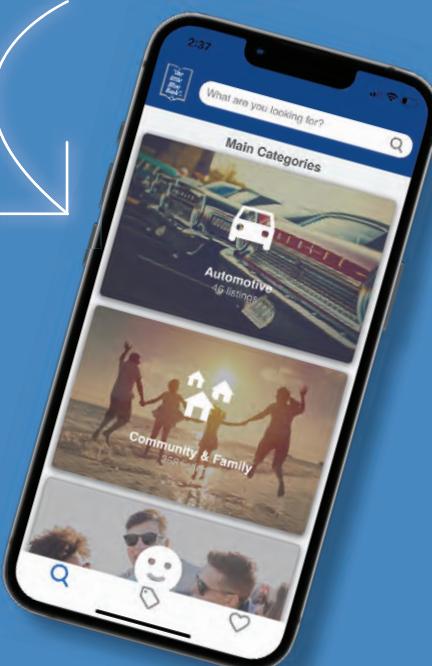
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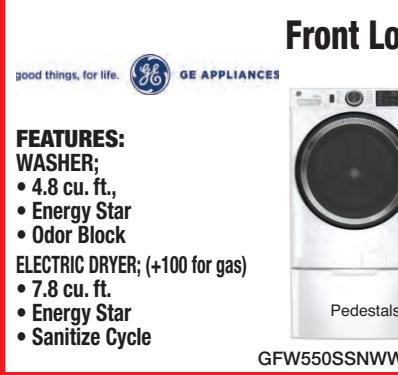
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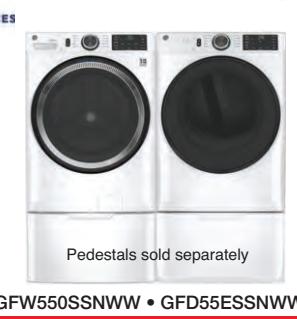
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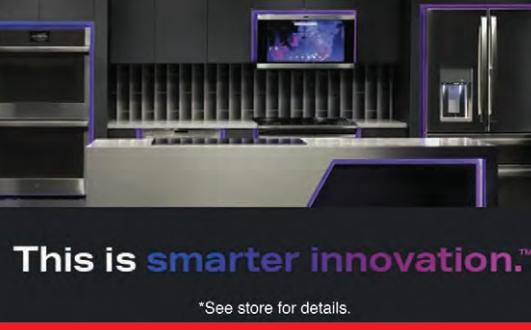


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North's Byrne named adviser of the year

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe North High School teacher Jonathan Byrne takes his role as student association adviser seriously: He's an adviser, not the leader.

"I want you to feel empowered," Byrne addressed his advisees. "That's why I take the idea of adviser really seriously. I'm not the leader. I'm not the one who's doing the stuff. I'm advising my wisdom and connections and knowledge to help you become the leaders, so that when you go out into the world you'll be ready to do that and make the world a better place."

Byrne's words to his mentees came as they and North's administration celebrated him in honor of an award he received.

Byrne was named Adviser of the Year by MASC/MAHS Michigan Student Leadership, an organization committed to growing leadership in staff and students.

"To be recognized by an organization like that is really cool," Byrne said.

"To have been nominated by my students means a lot. For them to want to put my name forward as somebody who they believe in means a lot to me."

Byrne was presented the award at a banquet during a leadership conference Saturday, Feb. 26. His wife, son and mother surprised him at the banquet to celebrate the honor.

"It was really special," Byrne said.

He joins the ranks of past North winners: Pat Gast, who earned the award in 2016, and Rod Scott, in 2001.

"I get to work with the best kids in the building,"



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Student activities director Peggy Bonbrisco, Student Association Adviser Jonathan Byrne, holding the compass he received from North's administration, and North Principal Kate Murray.

Byrne said of what makes his position as adviser so special. "It's the kids who are most excited to be at school and they feel like their job is to help other kids get excited to be at school. That's the most rewarding part."

North administration and the student association celebrated Byrne before school Wednesday, March 2.

"Besides all (his) many other talents, (the one) we want to highlight is Mr. Byrne's incredible talent to empower kids," Principal Kate Murray said Wednesday morning.

"To empower kids to not just take care of this place, but to take care of your community, and I know when you leave us that you have the capacity, the will and the skill and the heart to take care of the world, and that comes all the way back to Mr. Byrne's inspiration."

"But it hasn't been easy to be an educator ever,

much less these last few years," Murray added, "and I don't think we're out of the woods yet, and there (may) be some years in the future where you might doubt, question, reflect (on) your impact, your decisions and your dedication to this place."

Murray and her team at North presented Byrne with a gold-plated compass, to "always point you in the right direction and remind you that North is always home."

"I've been fortunate to know (Byrne) for 10 years as both a parent and as a school administrator," Superintendent Jon Dean said. "He is just a great human being who cares about every kid at this school."

"It's something that all of us ... associated with this school know," Dean added, "that this is a place where all kids feel welcome and all kids are valued. But it's really great, it's great to get validation

(through this award). It's validation from your peers, validation from the public, so that's all really good stuff."

Byrne, a co-chair of the English department at North, said his favorite experience with the student association is an adopt-a-family program they get involved in every holiday season.

"When I get to see the kids not just in the student association but throughout the building take care of families in Grosse Pointe that need a little bit of support during the holidays," he said, "that's always really exciting."

Though 10 years in, Byrne doesn't have any intentions to step down from the adviser position just yet. In years to come, he hopes the student association grows to represent more students by partnering potentially with groups like the Black Student Alliance, Diversity Club or Interact Club.

District updates community on strategic plan

By Michael Hartt
Schools Reporter

In the first quarterly strategic plan update, several Grosse Pointe Public School System administrators updated the community on the progress that has been made since the plan was approved in December 2021.

Many aspects of the plan initiated updates in current district policy, while others caused new measures to be created.

Deputy Superintendent of Educational Services Roy Bishop detailed updates in the district's code of conduct and emergency operations plan.

While he said the review of the code of conduct is still occurring and therefore not available, he said it is being undertaken by administrators and that much of it consists of removing information no longer applicable to students, such as the district's policy regarding electronic pagers.

The emergency operation plans still are being updated as well, Bishop

said. So far, administrators have met with all six of the local police chiefs and did site walkthroughs during midwinter break. He also specified that safety training for staff members is planned for the end of next August, before the next school year starts.

In regards to the district's goals of furthering restorative action; race, equity and inclusion; and social emotional learning,

Keith Howell, director of Pre-K and Elementary Instruction, said the district has been focusing on expanding professional development opportunities for staff members and communicating their offerings effectively. Furthermore, new race, equity and inclusion goals have been established for each district building.

During the public comments section of the meeting, district parent Terrence Collins said he was concerned about the transparency of many of the topics presented, particularly in regard to the

See PLAN, page 18A



Byrne opens his gift from Grosse Pointe North administration — a compass, so he will always be able to find his way home.

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There's a wide variety of camps planned at Assumption School. Check out this lineup: cheerleading, crime scene investigation, art mediums for various grade levels, physical education, archery and even a camp for mazes, games and coding. These camps are all in addition to vacation Bible school. Pick a favorite or try a few, there is plenty of fun to be had and lots to learn. Visit assumptionbvm.org/summer to find our more or register.

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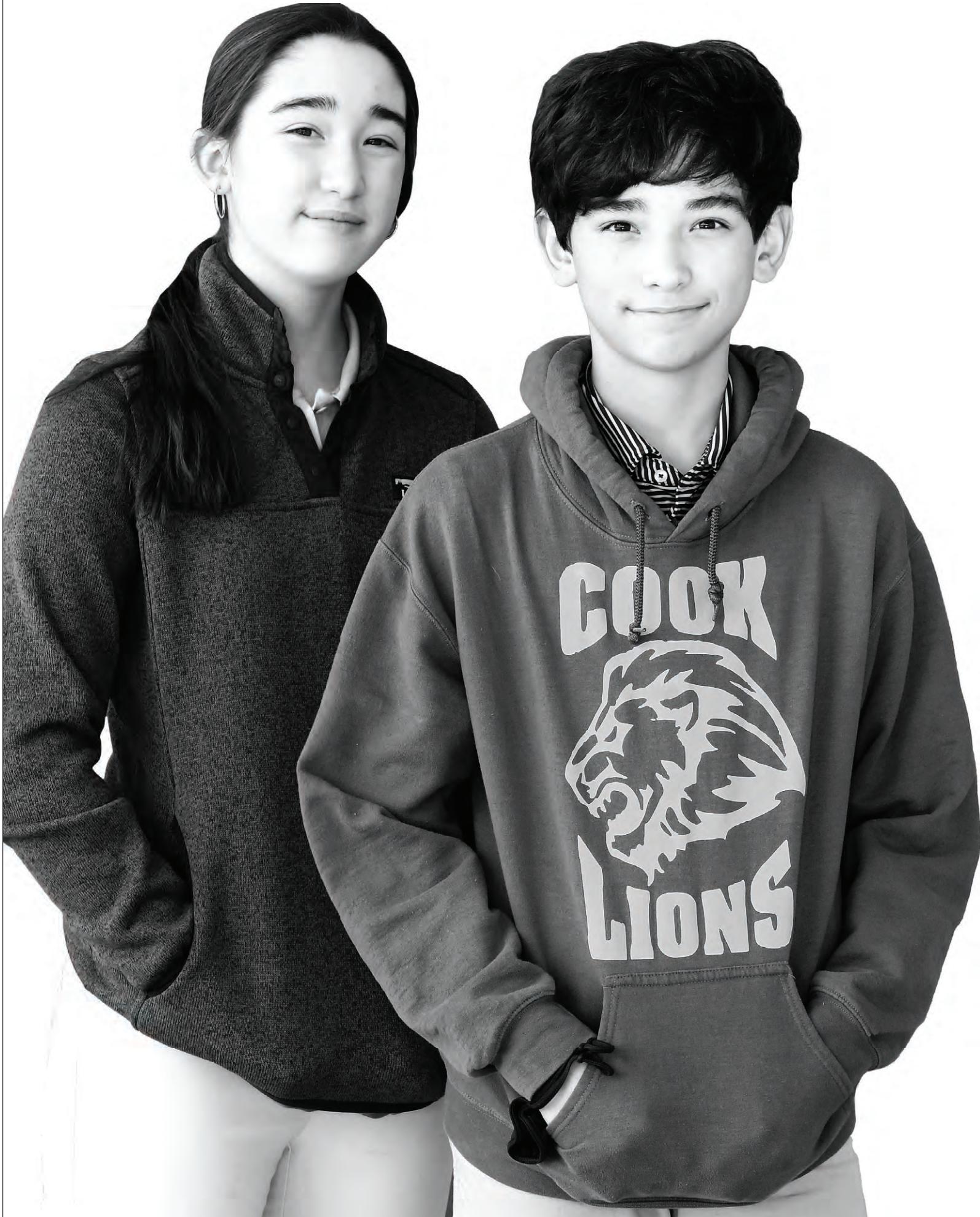
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PHOTOS COURTESY OF ST. PAUL

Left, the cast includes, on the platform, Nico Abuel and Payton Shock, and standing, from left, Lucy Wujek, Teresa Romanelli, Lucy Gill, Catie Juip and Caiton Wilder. Above, the Banks children are played by Payton Shock and Nico Abuel.

St. Paul students to perform 'Mary Poppins Jr.'

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Bubbles were burst among St. Paul Catholic School students two years ago when their much-anticipated, well-rehearsed production of "Mary Poppins Jr." was shut down one week before opening night.

While COVID-19 put a damper on the performance, the promise of one day retaking the stage helped spark a comeback for many hopeful students.

The school's production of "Mary Poppins Jr." will be presented at 7 p.m. Friday, March 25, and Saturday, March 26, in the school gymnasium.

"We resurrected our set," said Sharon Kuchta, the show's producer. "We're excited to have this show."

Because two classes graduated since the play was initially cast in 2020, the production was recast.

"But we invited some of the high schoolers to come back and help with this year's program," Kuchta said. "We do that every

year — invite alumni to participate as ushers, to work backstage, run concessions or even emcee. It's a nice way to keep them connected with the school and the parish."

Students who were set to perform two years ago and who are still at the school were offered the original role they won or the option of auditioning for a new one.

"Also, to make sure the show would go on, we did COVID double casting," Kuchta said. "We gave every junior high school student two roles. No two students have the same role."

Of the 31 sixth, seventh and eighth graders participating, each has two different roles so one student can fill in for another if needed. Barring any quarantines or unforeseen circumstances, one cast will perform Friday and the second cast will perform Saturday, allowing twice as many students a chance to play a lead role.

"All of the kids are in the show both nights," Kuchta added. "And kids in fifth grade and below are in the



ensemble both nights."

The all-school production includes some 100 students in the cast and crew, but also incorporates students not directly part of the action. Special projects allow every St. Paul student the chance to participate.

For example, students in kindergarten through eighth grade, during lunch and recess, painted kites that will be used as props in the production.

"So they all have a hand in it," Kuchta said. "It's one of the things that makes our program unique and extra special for the kids."

Another unique angle of

the school's musical theater program is its outreach. Through partnerships in its Christian Outreach Program, St. Paul welcomes churches and other organizations to an invitation-only viewing of the show, which this year takes place the morning of Thursday, March 24.

"It's a way for students to perform for people who might not have the opportunity to see our show or any show," Kuchta said. "We invited senior centers and schools with whom we partner."

Thursday afternoon, a sneak peek musical revue will be performed for the



Above, these prop "spoonfuls of sugar" were created by students at St. Paul Catholic School. Left, Lucy Wujek, left, as Miss Andrew and Teresa Romanelli as Mary Poppins. Below, Lucy Gill, left, as Bert, and Catie Juip as Mary Poppins.



Tickets are available online at showtime4u.com.

The Friday night cast includes:

Catie Juip as Mary Poppins; Lucy Gill as Bert; Payton Shock as Jane Banks; and Nico Abuel as Michael Banks.

The Saturday night cast includes:

Teresa Romanelli as Mary Poppins; Lucy Wujek as Bert; Katy Boyle as Jane Banks; and Ben Bieri as Michael Banks.

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Analysis series: Test score averages

By Michael Hartt
Schools reporter

In a new series of articles, Schools Reporter Michael Hartt is supplementing his regular coverage of Grosse Pointe's private and public schools with analysis of commonly asked questions regarding schools in the community. Email him at mhart@grossepointenews.com with questions you would like covered.

Q: Why is there a difference in standardized test score averages between Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South, and what is being done about it?

When evaluating the long-term trend of standardized test scores at both Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South, I considered it important to look at the only series of tests that have been

uniformly and officially administered to almost all Michigan high school students from 2011 to 2021: the ACT or SAT taken during a student's junior year of high school.

From 2011 to 2016, ACT scores were used and, from 2017 to 2021, SAT scores were used. Different tests were considered during different years because the official standardized test score for students in the state of Michigan changed starting in 2016. However, the fact different tests were used is not significant because in each year, a proportion of the school's average ACT or SAT score compared to the average ACT or SAT test score throughout the state was used to evaluate trends. Test scores from 2020 and 2021 were not used because of their cancellation by the state of

Michigan in 2020, and the smaller-than-usual proportion of students taking the tests in 2021.

Data evaluated by the Grosse Pointe News shows that from 2011 to 2019, the average ACT or SAT test score at Grosse Pointe South was 8.9 percent higher than the average ACT or SAT test score at Grosse Pointe North. Furthermore, during that same time period, the average ACT or SAT test score declined by 7.2 percent at Grosse Pointe South and 3.3 percent at Grosse Pointe North.

Grosse Pointe Public School System Superintendent Jon Dean, when asked about disparities in test scores between North and South, said some of it is simply due to chance, but there also is a component of North having more students with less financial means, which he said

has historically been correlated with lower standardized test scores.

"So, you know, any school district with two high schools will inherently (have schools with different average test scores) and that's just the nature of having two high schools," Dean said. "Student achievement scores (also) are positively correlated with affluence. That is the truth in schools. It doesn't have to be that way, nor should it be that way. But, Grosse Pointe North High School has (more at-risk students and) more students with more needs."

Data from the state of Michigan shows that 26.4 percent of Grosse Pointe North students are considered economically disadvantaged by the state's standards, compared to 10.6 percent of the stu-

See SCORES, page 19A

University Liggett School students announce fundraising partnership with Shoes that Fit

University Liggett School juniors Ally Metry and Summer Orlowski recently announced they are again partnering with the non-profit Shoes That Fit for the 2022 Liggett Shoes That Fit Challenge.

During the 2021 Liggett Challenge, the pair led the charge to raise \$6,720, which was used to purchase 270 pairs of new athletic shoes that were donated to students at Hamilton



Liggett students Summer Orlowski and Ally Metry are teaming up with Shoes That Fit this summer.

Academy, a kindergarten through eighth-grade school in the Chandler Park section of Detroit. Metry and Orlowski decided to partner with Shoes that Fit during the 2020-21 school year after learning about students who did not have shoes that fit or even a pair of shoes they could wear to school. So they decided,

with help from Kirsten Hibbs, support staff specialist and dean of ninth grade life, to connect with Shoes That Fit.

Shoes That Fit is a California-based organization whose mission is to address one of the most visible signs of poverty in America. It provides new athletic shoes to children in need so

they can attend school with dignity and joy, and prepared to learn, play and thrive.

Metry and Orlowski agreed that they felt so inspired by the way the Liggett community supported their fundraising efforts in 2021 that they have been planning and brainstorming new ideas and ways to raise aware-

ness and money for the 2022 Shoes That Fit Liggett Challenge.

This year, Metry and Orlowski have set a fundraising goal of \$8,000. Metry, a junior member of Tau Beta, applied for and received a grant of \$2,500 from Tau Beta to kickstart the campaign.

The official campaign kickoff was Monday, March 7. The pair have a variety of fundraising ideas planned through the end of the school year, including a June 6 evening event at Pepperoni Grill in St. Clair Shores. Proceeds from the evening's sales will be donated to the Shoes That Fit Liggett Challenge. There also will be a school raffle.

Those interested may follow their fundraising journey on Instagram @STFVSLIGG.

Additionally, donations are welcome at bit.ly/3J0Bl8N.

Brownell threat case sees rehabilitative resolution

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

A slew of school threat incidents in early December involving students around metro Detroit, and in the Pointes, resulted in various juvenile charges as prosecutors took each occurrence seriously.

One such case reached its resolution outside of the courtroom last week, with an agreement by all parties for dismissal without prejudice — meaning no judgments are made as to whether the defendant is guilty or not — in exchange for participation in Wayne County's Right TRAC Program.

The 13-year-old Brownell Middle School student was facing misdemeanor charges of intentional threat to commit an act of violence against a school, school employees or students, along with malicious use of a telecommunications device.

According to a press release at the time, the boy made threats in early December to shoot at two separate Grosse Pointe schools.

"These are very serious charges," referee Sean Kerman told the student during the final court hearing. "The reason you go to school is to learn. You need to treat your teachers, your principal and other students with respect."

The Right TRAC — Taking Responsibility and Accepting

Consequences — Program is a diversion program for youth who are first-time offenders of more minor crimes.

The process, which generally lasts three to six months, is tailored to each juvenile's individual needs and could include mental health services, anger management counseling, restorative justice practices such as a letter of apology to the victim, community service and mentoring or tutoring for school.

"When they enter the program, both the juvenile and a parent or guardian takes an assessment test that provides a framework or a roadmap to the types of services that they might need," said Robert Heimbuch, chief of the Wayne County Juvenile Unit. "That's used by youth assistance program case workers to get them ... the kind of structure or rehabilitative services that they need to get on the straight and narrow."

Successful completion of the program means the youth can walk away without having a juvenile record; as such a record could make it difficult to secure scholarships or jobs in the future.

"The underlying philosophy here in the juvenile system is one of rehabilitation rather than punishment or retribution," Heimbuch said.

Going back to at least 2004, he reported, the program has seen an annual recidivism rate of 10 percent or less.



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Ukrainian native visits GP North

With the Russian invasion of Ukraine in the news, Grosse Pointe North High School social studies teacher Dan Gilleran invited Ukrainian native and longtime friend, Dmitry Koublitsky, to visit his AP European history and Exploring Global Issues classes March 8.

Koublitsky was born and raised in Ukraine, which, up until he was 18, was part of the former Soviet Union. He grew up bilingual, speaking both Russian and Ukrainian as a child. He has lived in the United States since 2001, becoming a U.S. citizen in 2006, but retains his Ukrainian citizenship.

He told the students, "With all that is going on in my land, with Russia unleashing all-out war for the first time on this scale since World War II, this is the first time when I can say honestly I am Ukrainian and proud. Not just loyal, not just respectful, but proud because I am observing the resistance my fellow

Ukrainians are putting to Russia, the largest country in the world."

While he admits he was not always a fan of President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who, "all his professional life was a comedian, an actor, a clown," he now views him as "the leader we always needed in Ukraine and never had."

Koublitsky grew up in the western region of Ukraine near the border of Poland. He still has family members in this region he checks on regularly, including his father, stepmother, sister, niece and 96-year-old grandmother. For now, his family is safe, but things change hourly, he noted. The biggest adjustment they are facing, he said, is mental, emotional and psychological.

"There are air-raid sirens that go off a couple times a day, but the bombs are not falling," he said.

Other areas of the country are not as fortunate, with cities com-



COURTESY PHOTO

Dmitry Koublitsky visited social studies classes at Grosse Pointe North High School on March 8.

pletely bombed and charred, the "unimaginable depths of destruction" similar to what took place during WWII.

Admitting his own bias as a Ukrainian citizen, Koublitsky urged students to seek their own information before forming an opinion about what is happening in his

country.

"Mr. Gilleran and I have been friends for 20 years," he said, "so with him as your teacher, I know that you are taught how to think and how to think critically.

Regarding what is going on in my land, if you are interested, start with TV networks on all sides of

the spectrum."

He also recommended watching BBC as well as European networks available on YouTube to get a perspective from all angles to gather and synthesize the information.

When asked what he most wanted people to know, he said, "I would

like people to know that Ukraine, my land, is literally fighting, bleeding and dying not just for Ukraine, but for Europe and the collective West. By the same token, they are fighting for the United States.

"Americans and other people from other nations of the democratic world may know very well what freedom is," he added, "but it is my fellow Ukrainians who now know and have experienced what freedom costs."

Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South's Interact Clubs are working with a Ukrainian church in Detroit to ship supplies to freedom fighters in Ukraine. The greatest need is medical supplies, including gauze, bandages, tape, gloves, syringes, burn cream, Tylenol and saline. Donations may be dropped at the front office at Grosse Pointe South, 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

Nate Stieler, a Grosse Pointe South High School graduate and freshman at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, was named to the College of Engineering fall 2021 Dean's Honor List.

Bridget Clark and Jack Michaud of Grosse Pointe Park were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2021 semester at Marquette University.

♦♦♦

Adrian Martinelli of Grosse Pointe Farms was named to the 2021 fall Dean's List at Endicott College. Martinelli plays on the men's ice hockey team.

♦♦♦

Audrey Leo of the City of Grosse Pointe was named to the fall 2021 Dean's List at Iowa State University.

♦♦♦

Susie Moesta of Grosse Pointe Farms, and

Grosse Pointe Woods student Dylan Cardinale was named to the fall 2021 Albion College Dean's List.

♦♦♦

Grosse Pointe Woods student Christopher Marshall was named to the fall 2021 Albion College Dean's List.

♦♦♦

Grosse Pointe student Sarah Stovall was named a new Albion College Fellow at the end of the fall 2021 semester. Stovall is majoring in

PRIDE OF THE POINTES



Nate Stieler



Adrian Martinelli



Sarah Stovall



Nicholas Miller

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PLAN:

Continued from page 13A

new REI goals.

"In page 4 again, you talked about the REI work goals at each building. What are the REI work goals that have been developed in each building?" Collins asked. "Publish them and let everyone see them."

Career and technical education has been broadened as well. Director of Secondary Instruction Maureen Bur detailed several classes in the district in which pro-

fessionals recently were invited to speak to students so they could have a better understanding of the careers they are considering.

"They really captured what their hearts might want to do," Bur said. "And we (hope to) broaden their idea of what work and what the learning that they're doing in class could lead to in college and in their career beyond."

In terms of the strategic plan's goals of expanding the district's reach and communication with the community, which are connected to similar goals relating to the recapture of district enrollment, Community Relations Specialist Rebecca Fannon said the district worked on communicating with the organizations within the community and expanding channels of communication to the community as well.

Fannon provided metrics on the district's expansion of its email and social media outreach. She said the district's relatively recently launched newsletter, School Pointes, is sent to nearly 8,000 people every week, with more than 500 of those people being community members not affiliated with the school district. There also are

more than 8,000 followers on the district's three social media platforms: Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

For those in the community who are not active online, Fannon said a fall and spring newsletter still is sent to every household within the district boundaries, with additional copies dropped off at local libraries and coffee shops.

Overall, board member Margaret Weertz said she is pleased with the updates provided from the quarterly strategic plan update.

Board member Ahmed Ismail, in contrast, said he is still concerned about the objectives of the plan. He said specifically that the plan is not doing enough to engage community members who do not have children in the school district.

"What my big concern about this strategic plan and the way in which we are taking this school system is that we do not forget about the people who do not have kids in the school system," Ismail said. "Everything that we do should be focused on that there is this silent 80 percent (of the community) that makes magic happen for these kids in school and we cannot ignore them."

Derby for Kids set May 7

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

Break out your favorite bow ties and fanciest hats.

The sixth annual Derby for Kids is slated for 4 to 8 p.m. Saturday, May 7, at the Country Club of Detroit.

A signature event of The Children's Foundation, funds raised will help support the launch of a new clinic to address adolescent mental health and substance abuse.

"We just finished a three-year commitment of donating money from the event to support research for pediatric cancer," said Larry Burns, president and CEO of The Children's Foundation. "This year begins a three-year commitment for a new clinic in Troy focused on substance abuse and mental well-being for youths. It will be open to all families, regardless of insurance or their ability to pay."

Co-hosts of the event are Donna and Brian Satterfield of Grosse Pointe Park.

Derby for Kids will feature southern cuisine, mint juleps, a silent auction and live viewing of the 148th running of the Kentucky Derby. The silent auction consists mainly of packages donated by local businesses.

The event has raised \$592,000 so far, including \$115,000 last year.

Tickets, which go on sale soon, are \$200 per person, with "pony pricing" at \$100 per person for those younger than 40. Tickets will be available Monday, March 21, at <https://yourchildrensfoundation.org/event/derby-for-kids/>.

Various sponsorship levels also are available. The highest, at \$20,000, includes 20 tickets to the event, logo recognition in e-newsletters and on the derby website and an appearance on "Caring for Kids," which Burns hosts the

fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. on WJR-AM760.

The first Derby for Kids was held in 2017, at The War Memorial and drew about 100 people.

"We put it together quickly and The War Memorial was an ideal location," Burns said. "The next year, having more time to plan, we knew our attendance numbers would go up so we needed more space to spread out and switched to the Country Club of Detroit."

About 300 people attend each year now.

The past two years, however, attendance was down a bit due to the COVID pandemic.

"The 2020 Kentucky Derby was postponed until September, so we followed suit," Burns said. "It was smaller, but we still had a nice time. Last year we were at about 80 percent and being outside we were able to spread out. Our hope this year is to return to pre-COVID normalcy."



COURTESY PHOTO

Michelle and Fred Minturn of Grosse Pointe Shores are past co-hosts of Derby for Kids; Fred Minturn also is a trustee at The Children's Foundation

PRIDES:

Continued from page 18A



Grosse Pointe Woods student **Katherine Flynn** was named to the fall 2021 Albion College Dean's List.



Grosse Pointe Woods student **Peter Loch** was named to the fall 2021 Albion College Dean's List. Loch is a member of the Prentiss M. Brown Honors Program.



Grosse Pointe Farms resident **Dominic Carozza** was named to the Dean's List of Academic Honors at Sam



John Allen



Sophia Iafrate



Jessica Boehmer



Victoria Boykin

Alexis Reed and Shane Fitzpatrick of Grosse Pointe Farms; and Sophie Iafrate of Grosse Pointe Park.



Grosse Pointe Farms residents **Morgan Buchko, Jessica Boehmer and Victoria Boykin** were named to the President's List for the fall 2021 semester at Central Michigan University.



Jennifer Crowley of Grosse Pointe Farms was named to the Dean's List at John Carroll University for the fall 2021 semester.

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SCORES:

Continued from page 17A

dents at Grosse Pointe South.

To compensate for differences in each school's student body, Dean said there are programs in place that attempt to bridge achievement gaps.

"At Grosse Pointe North, for example, there is a freshmen assist (program). That is a program for 20 of our ninth-grade students that have been identified through a variety of factors as having really unique needs and really needing that leg up so they can be successful," Dean said. "Now, at Grosse Pointe South, they have AVID, which (is a) program designed to meet kids' needs."

Dean said while he is proud of the caliber to which students continue to perform in GPPSS, he expects new district initiatives, such as the new strategic plan, to help bridge the gaps between standardized test score achievement between North and South. The social and emotional learning aspect of the plan, he contended, will allow all of the district's students to be successful learners.

Sandy Hudson, a community member and leader of the Grosse Pointe-based education advocacy group Know Your Classroom, in contrast, said he thinks many aspects of the plan have caused and will continue to cause a decline in educational caliber in GPPSS.

"(The decline) is perhaps (related to) the content that has been built more recently into the

curriculum," Hudson said. "You've only got so many hours in a day and so many hours per classroom. And if you're seeing a decline, it may mean the content that's being taught in the classroom is incongruent with the testing that is being asked for and done on the standardized tests. The district has chosen to pretty much focus its efforts around race, equity and inclusion, as opposed to really understanding the academic achievement that both schools have enjoyed over the last several decades."

Overall, while Dean said he believes standardized test scores are important, they may not be as vital as they once were when evaluating the success of students.

I'm really happy that in general, (in) our country, in our state, in our local area and in our district, (we) are not focused just on test scores any longer," he said. "I'm not saying they're not important. But most colleges (are) willing to consider you without your test scores and I think that that's interesting. I think that reminds us that test scores are not the most important thing when we're trying to figure out if our kid (is) successful. They're an important thing, but they're not the most important thing."

Kate Murray and Mousa Hamka, Grosse Pointe North's and Grosse Pointe South's respective principals, declined requests to provide comments for this story.



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20A | SCHOOLS

PRIDES:

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Jake Hannon of Grosse Pointe Park was named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at Western Michigan University's Haworth College of Business. He is a 2019 graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School and member of the Class of 2023.



Joelle Reich and **Elizabeth Acker** of Grosse Pointe were named to the fall 2021 President's List at the College of Charleston. Reich is majoring in biology and Acker is majoring in political science.



Kerrigan Dunham of Grosse Pointe Park was named to the Dean's List at Millikin University for the fall 2021 semester.



Dillon Webb of Grosse Pointe Woods was named to the Dean's List at Saginaw Valley State University for the fall 2021 semester.



Paul Boyer of the City of Grosse Pointe and **Michael French** of Grosse Pointe Farms recently earned degrees from Miami University. Boyer graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in strategic communication, entrepreneurship. French graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business degree in marketing.



Paul Gusmano of Grosse Pointe Farms, a mechanical engineering major, was named to the fall 2021 Dean's Honor List at Cedarville University.



Joelle Reich



Kerrigan Dunham



Paul Gusmano



Sylvia Hodges



John Walton



Cassidy Kline



Chloe Kline



Wilson Moin



Keagan Mulcahy



George Burke



Garrett Hudson



Claire Dalian



George Daudlin



Christopher Cassidy



Timothy Meyers



Grosse Pointe Park resident **Sylvia Hodges**, a junior at Michigan State University's College of Arts and Letters, earned a 4.0 GPA and was named to the Dean's List for the fifth consecutive semester. The 2019 graduate of Grosse Pointe South is majoring in English, creative writing, with a minor in arts and cultural management.



John Walton of Grosse Pointe was named to the fall 2021 Dean's List at Roger Williams University.



Cassidy Kline and **Chloe Kline** of Grosse Pointe Park were named to the Dean's List list for the fall 2021 term at The University of Alabama.



Wilson Moin of Grosse Pointe Woods was named to the President's List for the fall 2021 term at The University of Alabama.



Keagan Mulcahy of Grosse Pointe Park was named to Curry College's fall 2021 Dean's List.



George D. Burke of Grosse Pointe Farms was named to The University of Scranton's Dean's List for the 2021 fall semester. Burke is a senior political science major in the University's College of Arts and Sciences.



The following graduates recently earned degrees from Grand Valley State University: **Garrett Hudson** and **Natalie Rizza** of the City of Grosse Pointe; **Claire Dalian**, **George Daudlin**, **Jack Liagre** and **Joseph Veneri** of Grosse Pointe Farms; **Charles Calcaterra** and **Christopher Cassidy** of Grosse Pointe Park; **Timothy Meyers** of Grosse Pointe Shores; and **Riley Crook**, **Kyle Gloster**, **Michael Vogt** and **Carmen Weinkauf** of Grosse Pointe Woods.



Wheaton College recently named the following students to its Dean's List: **Kate Beardslee** of Grosse Pointe Park; **Kait Gray** and **Claire Sheeren** of the City of Grosse Pointe; and **Stephen**



Riley Crook



Kyle Gloster



Michael Vogt



Carmen Weinkauf



Stephen Stapleton

See PRIDES, page 21A

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PRIDES:

Continued from page 20A



The following Miami University students are ranked in the top 3 percent of undergraduate students for the fall semester 2021-22 and have been named to the President's List: **Katherine Gebeck** of Grosse Pointe Farms and **Michael Mrsan** of Grosse Pointe Woods.



John Standish of Grosse Pointe Farms was named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire for earning highest honors for the fall 2021 semester.



Grosse Pointe Farms residents **Lloyd Dennis** and **Lauren Fleckenstein** were named to the Dean's List at Fairfield University for the fall 2021 semester.



Miami University named the following students to the Dean's List fall 2021 semester: **Henry Ayrault** of Grosse Pointe Park; **Abby Blyth**, **Casey Jackowski**, **Oscar McWood**, **Lielyn Mercer** and **Regan O'Brien** of the City of Grosse Pointe; **Mia Eugenio** of Grosse Pointe Shores; and **Kathryn Leonard** and **Lainey Rahm** of Grosse Pointe Farms.



Frederick Berg of the



Katherine Gebeck



Michael Mrsan



John Standish



Lloyd Dennis



Lauren Fleckenstein



Henry Ayrault



Lielyn Mercer



Mia Eugenio



Kathryn Leonard



John Poplawski

City of Grosse Pointe graduated from the University of Mississippi in December 2021. He received a Bachelor of Accountancy degree in the Patterson School of Accountancy.



John Poplawski of Grosse Pointe was named to the College of the Holy Cross fall 2021 Dean's List. A member of the Class of 2023, Poplawski is majoring in economics.



The following students were named to the Dean's List at Albion College for



Bridget Doyle



Emily Ebenhoeh



Claire Koeppen



Anders Stoehr

the fall 2021 semester: **Dylan Cardinale**, **Katherine Flynn**, **Colin Gudenu**, **Peter Loch** and **Christopher Marshall** of Grosse

Pointe Woods; and **Nicholas Miller** of the City of Grosse Pointe.



The following students were named to the

Dean's List for the fall 2021 semester at The University of Wisconsin-Madison: City of Grosse Pointe residents **Bridget Doyle**, **Adam Ebenhoeh**

and **Emily Ebenhoeh**; and Grosse Pointe Farms residents **Claire Koeppen**, **Anders Stoehr** and **Aaron Vyletel**.



Back in business

Mini Picassos recently opened its new drop-in art studio at 21520 Harper in St. Clair Shores.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Ellie Fooks, Savanna Werely, Amelia Fooks and Lucy Werely paint their canvases of a leprechaun and unicorns.



Above, the Tinker Bar. The bins on the ground and the lower shelf are included in the drop-in price. Anything on the middle shelf costs extra and the top shelf features ready-to-make kits. Right, customers can choose from a rotating selection of paintings to create their own.



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Pointers nominated for 2022 Detroit Music Awards

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Supporting metro Detroit musicians since 1988 — and awarding them since 1992 — is only a part of the mission of the Detroit Music Awards Foundation. The 501(c)3 nonprofit also serves to nurture the music community by creating a network for musicians that cuts across genres and styles.

The organization was formed by a distinguished group of music and media professionals; it's the members of the foundation — musicians and music industry professionals in southeast Michigan — who nominate and vote for their peers in the annual Detroit Music Awards.

This year's nominations were submitted by



COURTESY PHOTOS

RJ Spangler has won eight Detroit Music Awards and is up for four more this year.

Jan. 23; voters narrowed the field in each category — covering 11 genres of music — by Feb. 20. Among this year's finalists are several Grosse Pointe residents whose musical contributions

stood out among the best in the metro area.

Grosse Pointe Park resident RJ Spangler, the founder of several blues and jazz bands, has four nominations this year. The RJ Spangler Band

was nominated for Jazz Artist and Outstanding Blues Recording for "A Tribute to Louis Jordan." The T Bone Paxton/RJ Spangler Septet was nominated for Outstanding Modern

Jazz Recording for "Anthem for a New Nation." Lastly, his swing band, Planet D Nonet, was nominated for Outstanding Traditional Jazz Artist.

Spangler and his cronies have won eight previous DMAs.

"I'd be thrilled if I won just one," he said of his 2022 nominations. "It is really cool to be recognized by your peers in the music industry. I've always loved being a part of the greater Detroit music community. There is a lot of love out there."

Spangler's longtime friend Chuck Bartels, a Grosse Pointe Woods resident, was nominated for Outstanding Bass Instrumentalist. Like

Spangler, this is not the first time Bartels has been singled out for his talent.

Aside from past nominations and wins, in 2019 Bartels was named a Special Honoree — a designation for an artist who won the same category two consecutive years — for Outstanding Country Instrumentalist.

"I've been nominated in different musical genres — country instrumentalist, rock and blues," he said. "I'm pretty happy that (the nomination) is for my instrument this time."

Bartels, who has been touring with Sturgill Simpson since 2016, said it's nice being recognized for his work. He's happy just being nominated — and will be happy for whoever snags the honor.

"I'm honored to be nominated," he said. "It's nice to be recognized by my fellow peers, for sure."

All the players nominated are excellent. They're all in demand and stay busy with various projects. ... This town is filled with musicians that are more than deserving of this kind of recognition and hopefully they'll get their turn."

Fellow Woods resident JC Whitelaw, also no stranger to winning

See DMA, page 7B

From Ukraine with love: Pointers grow families through adoption

By Meg Leonard
Associate Editor

When Dan Temrowski first walked through the orphanage gates in Volodarka, Ukraine in February 2005, the deafening screech of the iron turnstile caught everyone's attention.

"I looked up to the orphanage's windows and I saw these Kermit-the-Frog green curtains move to the side," he said. "And lots of tiny faces just showed up."

On that fateful day,

unbeknownst to Temrowski, his future daughter, Lana, was among the dozens of kids checking to see who was making such a loud entrance.

"I remember seeing (Lana) for the first time," said Temrowski, of the City of Grosse Pointe.

"She had on a red jacket, red gloves and big black boots that didn't fit her."

He and his wife, Julie, arrived in Ukraine with the intention of adopting a child, but it was Lana who instantly captured

Lana sort of ran that orphanage," Julie Temrowski laughed.

For example, when they asked the orphanage director if Lana could go out to lunch with them, the young girl insisted the Temrowskis also take her two teachers and two roommates.

"I remember just about everything from that orphanage," said Lana Temrowski, who was 7 years old when she came to America. "I got candy when (the Temrowskis) would visit me."

Ultimately, Dan and Julie Temrowski traveled back and forth to Ukraine three times before Lana's adoption became official, with Julie Temrowski handling the final trip on her own due to her husband's work schedule.

For each visit, they dutifully brought gifts from America to authorities, who more or less expected it.

Finally, the Temrowski's little girl arrived in the United



From left, Dan Temrowski holds his daughter, Lana, on his lap, while wife, Julie, holds tight to two of Lana's friends from her orphanage, sisters Nina and Alona. The Temrowskis adopted Lana from Volodarka, Ukraine in 2005.

States on April 25, 2005. From the initial paperwork to the final adoption, the process took two years.

Back in 1992, the family welcomed biological twin boys, Mikael and Matthew. However, Julie Temrowski suffered from infertility and all the related disappointments for years after. At times she would question why the adoption process was taking so long.

"I had a feeling that

God was calling me to someone. It was an overwhelming feeling," she said, "But obviously now, I know it took so long because God knew that it was Lana that needed to be placed with us."

Dan Temrowski agreed.

"Lana is the joy of my life," he said.

Shortly after Lana Temrowski settled into her new home, she walked into Richard Elementary School as a

first grader who spoke little English. On her first day, she said she would not get out of her mom's car, resisting going into the building with all of her might.

But once inside, she said, "the kids were all so welcoming," making special note of teacher Yvette Vetro, who tutored her and became her second-grade teacher the following year.

See UKRAINE, page 10B



COURTESY PHOTOS

From left, the Temrowski family — Mike, Heather, Mat, Julie, Dan, Lana, Macy and Lana's boyfriend of four years, Alan Jurek — attended a family wedding together in Rhode Island last July.

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2B | FEATURES

AREA ACTIVITIES

Ford House

The Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores, offers the following programs:

- ◆ Nooks & Crannies Tour, select times Tuesdays and Sundays, through March 31.
- ◆ Storytime: "Lulu & Rocky in Detroit," 10:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays during March.
- ◆ Talk: "Last Ice" with Amy Sacka, 7 p.m. Thursday, March 24. The Detroit-based photographer will discuss her journeys on the ice.
- ◆ Coffee with Collections, 9:30 and

10:30 a.m. Thursdays, March 31 and April 28. These members-only tours include coffee and tours with the Ford House Collections team.

- ◆ Eleanor's "Greenhouse" tour, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 31.
- For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

Library

The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts a variety of programs. To register for the following, visit grossepointelibrary.org.

- ◆ Family Yoga, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 17, via Zoom.
- ◆ Nonfiction Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 17, via Zoom.
- ◆ Adults Love Storytime Too, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 17, via Zoom.
- ◆ Meet the Pets: Presidential Pets from A to Z, 11 a.m. to noon

◆ 1,000 Hours Signs of Spring Scavenger Hunt Walk, 3 to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 20, at Patterson Park.

◆ Online Learning @ the Library, 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, via Zoom.

◆ ArtLab—Journal Wreckoration, for ages 11 to 13, 4 to 5 p.m. Thursday, March 24, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Thoughts to Action Discussion Group, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 24, via Zoom.

The War Memorial

The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, presents the following events:

◆ Live at the Alger: Brad Phillips, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 17. VIP tickets are \$45 and

include a pre-concert reception; concert-only

tickets are \$30.

◆ "The Wine Counselor: Bourbon's Bigger Than Ever," 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 23. Tickets are \$59.

◆ "Cocktails by Candlelight," 6:30 to 9 p.m. Thursday, March 24. Cost is \$20 and includes one drink ticket, light charcuterie and complimentary board games. A full cash bar is available.

◆ Spring Break Cocktails with Tammy's Tastings, 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, March 31. Learn about the art of mixology, technique instruction and more. Cost is \$50.

Register online at warmmemorial.org.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 20, St. Thomas Lutheran Church, 23801 Kelly, Eastpointe.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, St. Clair Shores City Hall, 27600 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, March 24, St. Basil Catholic Church, 22860 Schroeder, Eastpointe.

◆ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, March 28, Triumphant Cross Lutheran Church, 22360 13 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

Register online at redcrossblood.org.

Audubon Society

Grosse Pointe Audubon hosts its next free meeting Monday, March 21, in the Grosse Pointe Unitarian Thrift Store building, located behind the church at 17150 Maumee, City of Grosse Pointe. Rosann Kovalcik,

owner of Wild Birds Unlimited in Grosse Pointe Woods, will explore eight species of woodpeckers that are regularly found in Michigan. Doors open at 7 p.m. for social hour; the meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to be vaccinated and masked.

Contact brapai@aol.com or visit gpaudubon.blogspot.com/.

The Helm

The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers a variety of classes and programs. Registration is required at (313) 882-9600 for the following:

◆ Mindfulness and Meditation, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Tuesdays, March 22 and 29, with Dr. Lakshmi Saleem. Cost is \$6 for members, \$8 for nonmembers.

◆ Creative Writing, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, March 30 and April 6, with instructor Nancy Solak. The program is free for members, \$15 for non-members.

◆ The Benefits of Sleep, 1 to 2 p.m. Thursday, March 24, with Kathy Housey.

◆ The movie "Murder on the Orient Express" is shown, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Friday, March 25. Cost is \$2 for members, \$3 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.

◆ Beaumont Cooking Demonstration, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 30. Registered dietitian Andrea Hageman and Chef Dan Kellogg lead a presentation about bone health.

◆ Rosa's Fitness Combo Class, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Thursdays, with instructor Rosa Hunter. The class includes tai chi, yoga, ball exercises, cardio and balance, as well as brain exercises, sign and foreign language, affirmations and more.

◆ Ask the Physical Therapist, 9:15 to 10 a.m. the second Thursday of each month. The facilitator is Jessica Malfa of David Gilboe & Associates.

◆ Free blood pressure screenings, 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. the third Thursday of each month.

◆ Grief Work support group, 2 to 4 p.m. the first and third Thursdays of each month, with psychotherapist Frank Wilberding.

◆ Alzheimer's Caregivers support group, 5 to 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month, with facilitators Carolyn Van Dorn of Nursing Unlimited and Marian Battersby of Home Instead.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 23. The speaker is to be determined. Visit grossepinterotary.org for information. Those who wish to join the meeting via Zoom should email grossepinterotary@gmail.com.

Men's Club

The Men's Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next lunch and speaker meeting at 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 22, at the Tompkins Community Center, located in Windmill Pointe Park. Jeff Laethem and Mary Sue Lannigan of the Michigan Parkinson's Foundation speak. Visitors are welcome. The club encourages attendees to wear face masks when not eating, drinking or speaking to the group. Cost is \$20, paid at the door. To reserve a seat, email gmcattendance@gmail.com or call (313) 550-9661.

Family Center

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods hosts a meeting of its Community Book Club from 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, at The Whiskey Six, 646 St. Clair, City of Grosse Pointe. The group will discuss "Man's Search for Meaning" by Viktor Frankl. This meeting, led by therapists Marquita Bedway and Frank Wilberding, was rescheduled from Jan. 25. Call (313) 447-1374 or email info@familycenterweb.org.

Alliance Francaise

The Alliance Francaise de Grosse Pointe is an organization that promotes French culture through monthly activities for members. The group seeks members for its new membership year, which begins in September. It also offers French lessons for adults at Assumption Cultural Center, from September to May each year. Detailed membership and French classes information may be found at addegrossepointrance.org.

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6B | FEATURES

Bunnyville returns to the Detroit Zoo April 15-16

One of the Detroit Zoo's most popular events is hopping back into town with two days of "egg-citing" family fun this spring.

Presented by Meijer, Bunnyville will be hosted from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 15 and 16. Included with regular zoo admission, guests of all ages can look forward to "ed-zoo-cation" stations, habitat chats, spring-themed animal enrichments, complimentary bunny ears, live entertainment and exclusive photo opportunities.

Returning this year is the fan-favorite Golden Egg Hunt, sponsored by Kinder Joy. During the hunt, children can search for one of 150 eggs hidden throughout the zoo each day. One egg per visitor group may be redeemed for one prize. Those who can't wait for the festivities to begin can get an early start on the fun by taking an "egg-citing" quiz from Kinder Joy — found at bit.ly/3HYAC6C — that enters guests for a chance to win a one-year family membership to the Detroit Zoo.

Bunnyville also is dedicated to helping those in need. Those who join in on the fun



are encouraged to bring canned goods for donation to Gleaners Community Food Bank, while the Detroit Zoological Society will donate a portion of the weekend's ticket sales directly to Gleaners.

Guests won't want to miss out on the "egg-cellent" opportunity Bunnyville provides to celebrate the spring season while supporting the zoo and the greater community.

"By attending Bunnyville, you are supporting your local community and by attending events hosted by the Detroit Zoo, you are directly supporting the DZS's mission of Celebrating and Saving Wildlife and Wild Places," said Dr. Hayley Murphy, executive director and CEO for the DZS. "Your event admission provides support so that the DZS can continue to demonstrate extraordinary leadership in conservation, animal welfare, education and environmental sustainability."

Alongside Meijer and Kinder Joy, Bunnyville also is supported by Michigan Educational Credit Union, Doetsch Environmental Services and Aqua Tots.



COURTESY PHOTOS

A red panda greets a guest during Bunnyville.



A chill in the air couldn't keep these kids from having fun during a past Bunnyville event.

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Women leading in the Grosse Pointes, Harper Woods

The League of Women Voters Grosse Pointe hosts a fireside chat with the three female mayors in its communities. The program takes place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March

23, at the Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross Road, Grosse Pointe Farms.

The program features

Tomkowiak, Harper Woods Mayor Valerie Kindle and Grosse Pointe Park Mayor Michele Hodges. They will talk

about the opportunities

local municipalities, as well as provide ideas for developing future female leaders.

Those who wish to attend should register at lwvgrossepoinewoods.org.



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DMA:

Continued from page 1B

DMA's, earned two nominations this year — one for Outstanding Record Producer and one for Outstanding Guitar Instrumentalist.

"It's always an honor to get recognition from your peers and I suppose it feels like what I'm doing as a recording artist/musician is appreciated and supported," said Whitelaw, who believes himself in good company.

Whitelaw, who's proudest DMA win was for songwriting, said he often puts the list of DMA nominees to good use.

"I like to do my research and learn more about the nominees," he said. "For me, it's great to get turned on to other new-to-me songwriters and musicians. I use the DMA nominee list as a road map to what people are considering worthy of mention."

"I don't always have the time these days to go check out music groups as much as I would like, especially over the last couple of years," he added. "... With the way technology is these days, it's great to be able to listen to what's currently popular in this Detroit music scene as it's a lot more accessible, because anybody that's playing music has something out there."

It takes effort to find the gems, he said, but they're definitely there.

"I know a lot of people that have been nominated and it's great to see them get recognition for their work," he added. "There are some truly gifted people playing music around here."

Among them, he noted, are east-siders Chris Degnore, nominated for Outstanding Guitar Instrumentalist, and Todd Glass, nominated for Outstanding Percussion Instrumentalist. Other local nominees include Park resident Devin Scillian, who is up for Outstanding Country Artist/Group, and Park native John Rutherford, nominated for Outstanding Speciality Instrument — trombone.

Park resident Ron Pangborn, nominated for Outstanding Percussion Instrumentalist, said he's honored by his nomination.

"We have such a rich history here in Detroit and southeast Michigan and I've always felt blessed to be a part of it," said Pangborn, whose music career spans more than 50 years. "Peer recognition is cool."

Pangborn said he sees the competition as similar to the Screen Actors Guild: "A solid 'way to go' from your mentors, peers and industry-type movers and shakers," he said.

He's been a part of several groups that have earned DMAs in past years.

"I was with a band in the '80s called the Buzztones," he said. "We won a bunch the first or second year they were held. After that, I played with Jill Jack and she's won a boatload of them for recordings and live performances, almost every year. I'm on all that. The Corktown Popes won one last year; I'm a CP, too. So while my name isn't always on the statue, I'm very happy and honored to have been a part of award-winning artist projects."



COURTESY PHOTOS

JC Whitelaw is nominated for two Detroit Music Awards this year.

Outstanding Guitar Instrumentalist nominee Brett Lucas of Grosse Pointe Woods — who has his own band, as well as plays guitar for soul legend Bettye Lavette and performs with Toshia Owens, Ben Sharkey, Thornetta Davis and two tribute bands — is no stranger to the Detroit Music Awards.

In 2020, he won Outstanding Blues Recording for his album "Soul and Courage." He also received awards in 2018 and 2017, for Outstanding Americana Instrumentalist; in 2004 and 2009, for Outstanding Blues/R&B Songwriter.

"They are all displayed proudly above my record collection," he said of his awards.

"It's an honor to be nominated in this category," he added. "Recognition is very important for all artists. To be recognized for the hard work that I've put forth every year with practicing, writing, booking gigs, all while balancing life's responsibilities, truly means a lot."

Lucas said he considers himself in good company in a slate of deserving nominees.

"Detroit is a great musical community and most of the other nominees are not only guitarists that I admire, but they are also friends of mine," he said. "I'm a big guitar fan, so anyone that picks up the guitar is cool in my book."

Another Woods resi-

dent, Danielle Carlomusto, joins fellow nominees in the Outstanding Family/Children's Music category for her project, Gro-Town, which uses music, videos and Seed Stations to inspire children to start their own vegetable, herb and flower gardens.

"Each nominee in this category is so singular and varied in what they bring to the local musical landscape," Carlomusto said. "From choirs to kid-friendly rock 'n' roll to Gro-Town's multi-genre smorgasbord, there isn't a bad banana in the bunch."

Carlomusto's Gro-Town has been nominated nine times for Detroit Music Awards — all of them an honor, she said.

"Much of my musical process occurs behind the solitude of individual creativity, so being recognized by the Detroit Music Awards is a fantastic acknowledgment and community-wide 'atta boy' of sorts," she said. "To be at the receiving end of this musical pat on the back feels absolutely lovely ... and with the release of my latest album this summer, the timing of this nomination feels propitious."

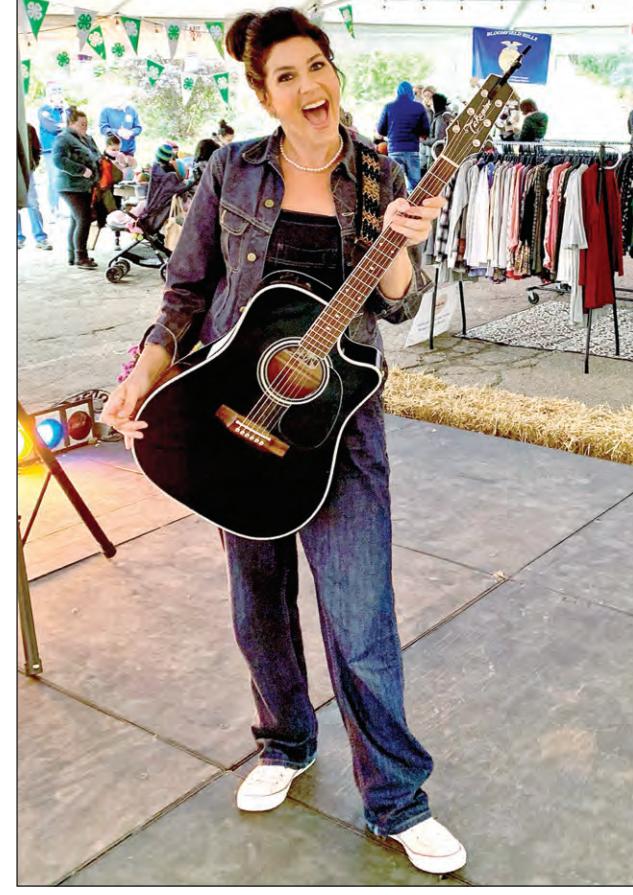
Apart from the numerous musicians up for awards, a handful of venues are in the running for Outstanding Local Venue with a maximum capacity of 2,500. Among them are Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe in Grosse Pointe Farms and Rutherford's Cadieux Cafe, located just outside of Grosse



Brett Lucas is in the running for Outstanding Guitar Instrumentalist.



Ron Pangborn is up for Outstanding Percussion Instrumentalist.



Danielle Carlomusto's Gro-Town is up for Outstanding Family/Children's Music.

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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.

Harry Edward Burkey Jr.

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Harry Edward Burkey Jr. passed away Sunday, March 6, 2022.

Father, husband, educator, actor and filmmaker, but most of all a man who cared about others—that was Harry Burkey. His sincere desire was to give back to the world by helping others gain confidence to move forward in life.

Harry was born Nov. 10, 1937, in Pennsylvania, to Harry and Margaret Burkey. His family moved to Michigan when his dad got a job in an auto factory during World War II.

He attended Denby High School, where he was involved in the drama and art clubs, the student radio station, newspaper and yearbook.

After graduation, Harry worked at Federal's department store to attend college. Realizing he was on the eight-year college plan, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served four years on a submarine. With his duty complete, he enrolled at Wayne State University, attending on the G.I. Bill. He put aside his earlier desires of becoming an actor and earned a master's degree in education. He taught middle school English, reading and social studies for 32 years in parochial and Detroit Public Schools.

Harry also ran youth bowling leagues. Though schools had bowling teams, bowling wasn't considered a varsity sport. After he retired from teaching, he began working to make bowling a high school varsity sport. Harry developed competitive tournaments for middle school and junior varsity bowlers around the state and founded the Michigan High School Bowling Coaches Association, serving as vice president/president for five years. He also started Texas Hold 'em competitive poker lessons and tournaments at The Helm in Grosse Pointe Farms.

His love of acting never went away. He appeared in commercials and independent films, as well as many local theatrical productions. He was a long-time member of Grosse Pointe Theatre and in later years, wrote and produced small movies.

Harry is survived by his wife, Janie; children, Marissa Principe (Mike), Harry Burkey and Michael

Burkey; step-children, Debra Oleksy, Pamela Ferguson, Stacie Longo and Eric Vreeland; sister, Pat Martin (Roy); sister-in-law, Carol Burkey; and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Remembrance donations may be made to Grosse Pointe Theatre, 315 Fisher, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230; or The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

Theresa L. DesRivieres Edwards

Theresa "Terry" Louise DesRivieres Edwards was born Oct. 11, 1927, in Detroit, to Irene Dumontier and Jean Baptiste DesRivieres. She passed away Wednesday, March 9, 2022.

Terry is survived by her children, Leslie Thomas Filbert (Palle) of Copenhagen, Denmark; Tracy Murtagh (Patrick) of Aspen, Colo.; Susan Walker (Gregory) of Breckenridge, Colo.; Mimi Michaud (Gerard) of Marblehead, Mass.; and Allen F. Edwards III of New York, N.Y. She also is survived by seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her husband, Allen F. Edwards Jr.

Terry graduated from Eastern High School in 1945. She began flight instruction at Detroit City Airport in July 1945. In March 1946, she earned her private pilot license while attending Michigan State College, where she was a member of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

Terry was the founder and first president of the Michigan State Flying Club, "Winged Spartans," which had 25 members and purchased a new Taylorcraft airplane for \$2,500.

Skiing became her passion when the new ski areas began to open up around the state. She was a founding member of the Metropolitan Detroit Ski Council and was active in the production of the first Ski Convention in Detroit in 1957. Terry wrote a weekly ski column for the Detroit Free Press, which contributed greatly to the growth and popularity of the sport among recreational skiers.

As a member of the Continental Flying Club, she had a one-tenth interest in a Cessna 172 air-

plane, which later was traded in for a Beechcraft Bonanza. She flew to ski areas in Michigan and Colorado during the winter months when her partners in the plane were not as active. She was the only female member. In 1962, Terry married her soulmate, Allen, a pilot and a skier.

Terry was a Girl Scout leader and was active in her children's athletic activities, including baseball, soccer, field hockey, ski racing and other pursuits. She was an active downhill skier until she was 87 years old, making annual trips to Colorado where she loved to ski in the mountains. She often drove north to Boyne Falls, where she loved the peace and the outdoors all season and would stay for weeks at a time in their ski house.

Terry also was a member of the Clinton River Ski Club and Grosse Pointe Club. She lived in Lakewood, Colo., where she spent the last five years among new friends and close to her children and grandchildren, with whom she enjoyed spending as much time as possible. She died following a long stretch of various illnesses. She was 94.

Funeral services will take place 10 a.m. Saturday, April 9, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Interment is at Elmwood Cemetery, Detroit.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Carol Jean Nault

Carol Jean Nault, beloved wife, loving mother, grandmother, sister and loyal friend, passed away peacefully Thursday, Feb. 17, 2022, surrounded by family. She was 80 years old.

A Detroit native, she was born Carol Jean Joyner on Aug. 24, 1941, to Pauline Helen (nee Nowicki) Joyner and Gerald Samuel Joyner.

She attended St. Anthony's High School, where she excelled academically, was part of the cheerleading team and was a proudly appointed member of St. Anthony's Homecoming Court in 1958. After graduating high school in 1959, she earned a nursing degree from St. Joseph's Nursing School in Pontiac and pursued her passion as an emergency room and neonatal nurse at St. John



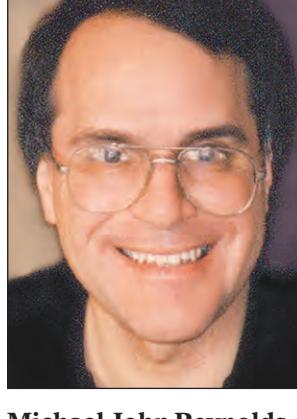
Harry E. Burkey Jr.



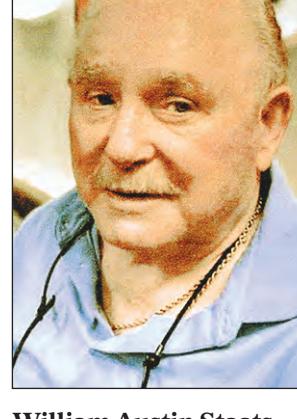
Theresa L. Edwards



Carol Jean Nault



Michael John Reynolds



William Austin Staats



Janis W. Race

Hospital in Detroit. There she met her future husband, Albert G. Nault Jr., a resident physician who was called away to serve in the U.S. Army as a medic during the Vietnam War. He courted her through love letters until they married in 1966.

Carol was incredibly talented and creative, and had a charismatic and unapologetic wit about her. Her greatest love was her children and she took great pride in doing all she could to support and encourage their talents and passions. A true lover of the arts, she enjoyed music, theater, painting, creating ceramic dolls and baskets, sewing and knitting. She loved gardening in her backyard, playing tennis and bridge, cooking, birds, collecting seashells and spending time at the beach and her summer home on Cape Cod with her family and close friends.

A spiritual and devout Catholic, she expressed her faith in numerous ways in and outside of St. Paul on the Lake Parish and frequently visited St. Bonaventure Monastery in Detroit for prayer service with friends.

She gave freely, volunteering her time to causes close to her heart. Carol served as wardrobe mistress for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's "Nutcracker," enjoyed being a part of the Garden Club of America's Grosse Pointe Chapter and contributed to numerous other organizations such as the National Audubon Society, Veterans of America, Ford V8 Club and The War Memorial. She had a generous heart and was always thinking of others.

Carol, or "CC" as some liked to call her, was truly one of a kind. She will be missed deeply by those who were touched by her kindness, spirit, honesty, sense of humor, love and appreciation of life's simplest pleasures.

Carol is survived by her children, Michelle Hoffman (Jesse), Christopher John Nault, Kathryn Harrison and Elizabeth Rose Nault (Chris Falco); beloved grandchildren, Sage Nault-Phillips and Morgan Emery Harrison; siblings, Jimmy and Barbara (Joyce); and nephew, Paul Joyner. Carol was predeceased by her husband, Dr. Albert George Nault Jr., and brother, Gerald Joyner.

A memorial Mass takes place at noon Friday, April 29, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 137 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. A celebration of her life will follow the ser-

vice.

In lieu of flowers, donations in honor of Carol may be sent to the National Audubon Society, audubon.org, or the American Breast Cancer Foundation, abcf.org.

Share a memory at ahpeters.com.

Michael John Reynolds

Michael John Reynolds, 67, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away Tuesday, March 1, 2022.

He was born May 13, 1954, in Detroit, to Syd and Sally O'Connor Reynolds, both now deceased. Michael graduated from University of Detroit Catholic High School in 1972, the University of Michigan in 1976 and Wayne State University School of Law in 1979.

A former resident of Grosse Pointe Park, Michael became an assistant prosecutor with the Wayne County Prosecutors Office, serving there from 1980 until 1994. Next, he became a partner with the firm of Barris, Sott, Denn and Drinker until 2011, when he rejoined the Wayne County Prosecutors Office as an assistant prosecutor.

Michael is survived by his wife, Kathleen Schacht Reynolds; daughters, Shannon Reynolds and Brigid Paul (Kevin); grandson, Thomas Paul; and sister, Cindy Reynolds Connors (Mike).

Visitation begins at 9 a.m., followed by a funeral Mass at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 26, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22421 Overlake, St. Clair Shores.

Contributions in Michael's memory may be made to Wayne State University Law School, law.wayne.edu.

William Austin Staats

Former Grosse Pointe Woods resident William Austin Staats, 83, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022, following a brief illness, with his wife, Brenda, and children by his side.

Bill was born June 12, 1938, in Detroit, to Glennell and Harold Staats, both now deceased. He graduated from Austin High School in Detroit in 1958, then from the University of Detroit with a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration in 1962.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorial donations in Jan's honor may be made to The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236; or the Salvation Army, 16130 Northland Dr., Southfield, MI 48075.

See OBITS, page 9B

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OBITS:

Continued from page 8B

Jeanne Alice Thorne McLeod

Jeanne Alice Thorne McLeod, 95, passed away Saturday, Feb. 19, 2022.

She was born Sept. 24, 1926, in Toledo, Ohio, to Hazel Donnell Thorne and Wilson Ambrose Thorne. She grew up in Toledo until she moved to Grosse Pointe, where she attended public high school. She went on to study at the University of Michigan, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1945, and a Master of Arts degree in political science in 1946.

In 1951, she married J. Donald McLeod, whom she met when he was a student at the University of Michigan Law School.

**Jeanne A. McLeod**

They settled in Grosse Pointe, where they had four daughters — Mary (William Brown), Kate (Terrence McAvoy), Jane (Steven Krahne) and Sara (William Braverman), who survive her. She also is survived by eight grandchildren, Julia Limage, Emma Brown, Sophie Krahne, Nell Krahne, Anna Braverman, James Braverman, Eve

Braverman and Kate Braverman.

An avid reader, Jeanne also was active in her community and church. She had a particular interest in quality preschool education, which she considered vital to success in adult life.

After the death of her husband, she moved to Bloomington, Ind., and lived in Meadowood Senior Living Community. There she enjoyed attending the Indiana University opera and women's volleyball games, and spending time with friends.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory in Bloomington handled the arrangements. Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at allencares.com.

CHURCH EVENTS

St. Paul on the Lake

St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, welcomes the community Friday evenings during Lent. A simple supper prepared by the Knights of Columbus

is available from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m., for which a freewill offering is accepted. Stations of the Cross take place from 7 to 7:30 p.m. in the church, followed by reflections

from Seminarian Charlie Giroux from 7:30 to 8 p.m., based on "The Art of Living" by Edward Sri. A limited number of books are available from the parish office.

For information, call (313) 885-8855 or email agraves@stpaulonthelake.org.

'Red, White, Blue & Green' slated April 3

Chamber Music at the Scarab Club presents the concert "Red, White, Blue & Green" at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 3, at

Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, 17150 Maumee, City of Grosse Pointe. The program salutes the colors of the American, French and Italian flags, celebrating music by composers from all three countries.

Mezzo-Soprano Alta Booher, violinist John Madison and pianist Mary Siciliano will perform "Quatre Poemes, Op. 5 for mezzo-soprano, viola and piano," by computer Charles Loeffler.

On the French side, the "Sonata for violin and piano" by Francis Poulenc and "Sonata for two violins and piano" by Darius Milhaud will be performed by Siciliano and violinists Laura

Roelofs and Velda Kelly. Both pieces are rarely heard on concert programs.

The Italian section features "Duet for cello and bass" by Gioacchino Rossini, performed by cellist Sarah Cleveland and bassist Jean Posekany.

Seating for this concert is limited to 60. Tickets are \$30 at the door, \$25 in advance and \$10 for students. A

livestream option is available for \$15.

Proof of full vaccination or proof of a recent negative test must be shown at the door. Masks covering the nose and mouth must be worn inside the venue, regardless of vaccination status.

For tickets or information, call (248) 921-3193, email chambermusic@scarabclub.org or visit scarabclub.org.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Chilly Fest fun

Grosse Pointe Park hosted its annual Chilly Fest this year on Kercheval, Charlevoix and Mack. The event included a chili cook-off, carriage rides, axe throwing, games, wood carving, food trucks and more. Above, Lonnie Glines of Timber Art carves a bear with a chainsaw and the wood chips are flying. Left, Lilia Nowaczok performs on "ice" to music.

Emily Adams took on the mini ropes course high above the parking lot at Alma Kitchen as part of the festivities for Chilly Fest.



Nicholas and Tara Blake play box hockey while their friends cheer on.



Adam Rogensues
throws an axe
while his
friend Scott Szamatowicz
waits his turn.



A colorful train took kids and adults alike for a ride.

Worship Service

Saint Ambrose Catholic Church
15020 Hampton Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan 48230-1302

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

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Rev. Sean Motley, Senior Pastor
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8:15 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service
9:30 a.m. - Bible Study
10:45 a.m. - Sunday School

MONDAY
7 p.m. - Worship Service
2nd & 4th Monday of the Month

WEDNESDAY
10 a.m. - Bible Study

Randy S. Boelter, Pastor
Making New Disciples - Building Stronger Ones

10B | FEATURES

UKRAINE:

Continued from page 1B

Now 24, Lana Temrowski said she understands her birth family's complicated circumstances and profound poverty gave them little choice but to place her for adoption. Her older brothers, Sasha, Andre, Yuri and Roma, were considered adults once they reached age 16, and did not live in the orphanage with her.

Today she stays in touch with them, thanks to the power of social media and Google translator, as she has lost her fluency in her native language.

"We never really talked about America growing up, but my brothers told me to go because they knew I would have a better life (in America)," she said. "But Andre always gave me the sense of family and would walk to the orphanage to come see me."

As kismet would have it, Andre is now a father to twin girls, while Lana Temrowski grew up with twin brothers in her adoptive family.

One of the Temrowski twins, Mike, is better known to many by his stage name, "quinn xcii." A popular singer and songwriter, quinn xcii has topped the music charts with songs like, "Straight Jacket," "Love Me Less" and "Stacey."

Lana Temrowski sees the slight irony in being related to an American pop star.

"I do recall, while I was at the orphanage, I would look out the window and wish to have a pink room full of toys and hopefully get adopted by famous



COURTESY PHOTOS

Paul Koch, left, along with his wife, Ginny Jeup, brought home their new daughter, Marianna, from Ukraine Oct. 28, 2021.

parents," she said.

"I got exactly what I wished for. Not famous parents exactly, but a famous brother," she mused.

Despite all she is grateful for, Lana Temrowski, now a Michigan State University graduate with a busy advertising career, is finding it hard to sleep at night. Russia's recent invasion of Ukraine has her worried about family still living there.

"It's hard to sit back and do nothing," she said. "Putin is the evil in this world. I don't want people to misunderstand that, because it's not the Russian people doing this."

To show her support for her country of origin, she headed down to Hart Plaza Feb. 27, to attend a rally for Ukraine. There, she saw thousands of people waving the Ukrainian flag, with cars parading up and down Jefferson Avenue honking in support.

"Ukrainians are strong and proud," she said. "They are not going to lay down. That makes me even more proud to be Ukrainian."

Neighbors connect

Back in her elementary school days, Lana Temrowski used to ride her bike up and down her block on Washington Road. That is how she caught the attention of then-neighbor Ginny Jeup.

"I used to watch her go back and forth, back and forth," Jeup said. "I knew Lana's story and adoption was something I just had on my heart."

Jeup, who had her eldest daughter, Katie, in 2000, adopted her younger daughter, Caroline, in 2006, as an 18-month-old from Kazakhstan. But Jeup knew she still had room for more in her family.

She connected with New Horizons for Children, or NHFC, a

Christian group that is a member of the Christian Alliance for Orphans. The group's mission is "to share the love of family and the love of Jesus with orphaned and vulnerable children around the world."

In 2019, Jeup and her husband, Paul Koch, agreed to care for a teenage brother and sister from Ukraine, Anastasia and Denys, as part of NHFC's nine-week summer program connecting orphans to families.

"After nine weeks, when they left, we told them we would like to adopt them," Jeup said.

But in short order, COVID hit, causing the adoption paperwork to expire and clearing out their dossiers twice over.

"I said, 'God, please open these doors,'" Jeup said of her daily prayer to get the siblings as official members of her family.

"Eighty percent of these kids are sex-trafficked," Jeup said. "The whole system is crazy corrupt."

Once Jeup got the proper paperwork re-established in September 2021, she went to Ukraine with the hopes the teens were ready to be adopted. But 16-year-old Anastasia would not commit and officials called off the adoption.

But Jeup and Koch had a "very savvy" adoption coordinator, who recommended they drive six hours from Kyiv to Odessa to an orphanage willing to work with them. They arrived at the Andriev-Ivanivka orphanage in the Mykolaivskiy District in the Odessa region.

"We loved our facilitators and their passion. ... They brought us to the orphanage and there we met Marianna," Jeup said. "We spent a wonderful afternoon

together."

During that first visit, Jeup told the sweet, 12-year-old girl that she had 10 days to get to know them and decide if she wanted to join their family.

"She looked down and started to cry and her shoulders were shaking," Jeup said. "But then she looked up and said, in English, 'Yes!'"

Jeup and her husband spent the next several days with Marianna, fully expecting the process to take three visits lasting several months.

But in mid-October, mere weeks after Jeup and Koch returned to Grosse Pointe, they received a surprising phone call from the adoption agency.

"They told me to come back (to Ukraine) in five days. The judge had an opening, so I went back," Jeup said. To her surprise, the judge waived the third required visit.

"God kept opening doors to get me to Marianna."

Oct. 28, 2021, the Jeup/Koch family officially adopted their daughter. That day also happened to be her 13th birthday.

"I just felt a sense of completion for my family," said Jeup, who herself was adopted. "The Lord just put this (adoption) on my heart."

In the 17 weeks since Marianna Jeup arrived in America, countless changes have taken place. She joined the sixth-grade class at Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic School in Warren. She is beginning to speak English, attended Grosse Pointe Wyldlife Camp in January and has traveled

to Florida, seeing the ocean for the first time. She also takes swim lessons at the Neighborhood Club and is a member of a Ukrainian Girl Scout troop.

She also gained two older sisters. Katie, a senior at Baylor University, and Caroline, a junior at Grosse Pointe South High School, celebrated Marianna's first American Christmas together when Katie was home from her college in Waco, Texas, last December.

"Marianna loves the excitement of everyone coming over and getting to know her," Jeup said. "She wants to do everything here. She helps me cook and she wants to learn."

Each day, Marianna Jeup is still experiencing many new and exciting things, but thus far there is a clear winner.

Said her mom: "Being a member of a family is her favorite thing."

As for recent events in Ukraine, Ginny Jeup said it grieves her to watch it unfold.

"Paul and I explored miles by walking the streets of Kyiv and Odessa, attempting to experience everything that we could take in," she says of their time in Ukraine. "No matter anyone's view of the war, we can all agree that the people and children — especially the sweet, innocent orphans — are suffering with a war going on right in their beautiful country."

"Pray for the children whose home country is Ukraine and so many (in Grosse Pointe) who have a piece of this place in their homes and hearts."

Grosse Pointe News

THE FINER POINTES PRESENTS



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IMPORTANT DATES:
April 11, 2022 application deadline, no exceptions.
April 21, 2022 finalists will be notified.

For full contest rules and dates, please visit: grossepointrnews.com/art



Richard Wilson
The Finer Pointes Art Contest Judge

Born and raised in London, Wilson's interest in art began with a passion for graffiti art in the 1980s. Since 2010, he has developed his skills as a portrait painter on walls using spray paint. In the last few years, he has been doing more studio-based work using oils on stretched canvas or panel.

Wilson splits his studio time between commissioned works or on his own personal projects. His work mostly is led by his interest in portraiture and figurative work, while practicing with still-life pieces.

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— Dr. Ken Berkovitz

Something hasn't been feeling quite right for a few months, but you can't put your finger on it. You're wondering whether your medications are still working well for your heart symptoms. And you're feeling out of breath on short walks. Work has been stressful. It's been a while since you have checked in with your doctor. And you might be a little behind on screenings, but you're not sure. Don't ignore these things. Bring them up with your doctor. Now more than ever, it's important to catch up on routine checkups and screenings.

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Dr. Ken Berkovitz

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INSIDE

Spring into wellness

The Family Center's wellness series starts March 22 PAGE 16B

Have you heard of Healthy GP&HW?

The community coalition Healthy Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods meets via Zoom at 8:30 a.m. the third Wednesday of each month. Its mission is to reduce substance abuse among youth and across the community, as well as promote optimal mental health through action, education and collaboration.

New members are always welcome. Those interested in attending meetings should email Sasha Murphy at smurphy@careofsem.com.

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- Most colon cancers are found after the age of 50, but screening early, especially if you have a family history, may help reduce your risk.

Don't delay. Start a conversation with a doctor today at ascension.org.

By the book

Wellness book club guides readers on health journey

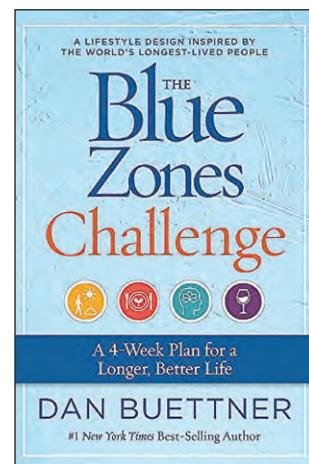
By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer, stroke, obesity and arthritis affect the overall quality of life, not to mention the work and family life, of nearly 50 percent of Americans. These "diseases of lifestyle" can be prevented or reversed through the promotion of healthy lifestyles — a national health priority and top priority at Beaumont Health.

As such, Beaumont Health and Healthy Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods are launching The Blue Zones Challenge, a hybrid book club that incorporates virtual and in-person meetings to explore health and well-being using the book, "The Blue Zones Challenge," by Dan Buettner.

"I really love the idea of the book club right now as we are emerging from the pandemic and reconnecting to others," said Suzy Berschback, a Healthy Communities manager with Beaumont Health. "Our hope is to share these established strategies and foster dialogue and support for those on their health journey."

Group sessions will take place in person and via Zoom, and are led by Brooke Elizabeth, a member of Safe Routes



to Health AmeriCorps at the Michigan Fitness Foundation, serving with Beaumont Healthy Communities.

Each meeting will cover a topic in the book and includes discussion mixed with tips and resources.

Topics range from downshifting and moving naturally to discussions about plant-based diets and wine.

"In four months, participants will create SMART goals (an acronym for Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound) that are in line with the reading," Berschback said, noting participants need not attend every session. "There will be nine opportunities — four in person and five virtual meet-ups — to discuss components of the reading, personal challenges and encouragements to keep reaching for a better, healthier, less

stressed lifestyle.

"This book club is tailored to allow each participant to start just as they are, come when they can and explore a healthier lifestyle," she added.

Sessions take place from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. select Sundays, April 3 to July 31. In-person sessions meet at Detroit Abloom, 248 Manistique, Detroit.

A Facebook page also will be used throughout the program as a platform to further discuss topics, share ideas, interact and provide resources to participants.

Ages 21 and older are welcome to attend.

There is no cost for the meetings or to join the group; however, participants will need to either borrow or purchase the book, "The Blue Zones Challenge."

"Our mission is to equip participants with tools and resources to build a healthier lifestyle that will assist in improving their places and spaces that they spend the most of their time," Berschback said. "It may even help spur community health improvements."

For more information, visit facebook.com/groups/ahealthieryou-bluezoneschallenge or email Brooke Elizabeth at belizabeth@michiganfitness.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Night yoga took place under the tent at The War Memorial last year. Classes move indoors this spring.

Family Center welcomes return of Spring Wellness Series

Programs run March 22 to May 10

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

In October 2020, The Family Center launched its first program focusing on physical wellness, offering an outdoor yoga session to the COVID-weary community.

After the first meeting — which took place in an open-sided tent on the lakeside lawn at The War Memorial — it became clear subsequent sessions were necessary.

"We kept tacking on programs, in the spring and into fall (2021)," said Jennifer Bingaman, executive director of The Family Center.

"We would have 20 to 40 people under the tent each time."

Though last summer's storms destroyed the tent, the free program returns to The War Memorial — this time indoors — every Tuesday

March 22 to May 10.

"We lost the tent, which is sad," Bingaman said. "It was such a beautiful setting. But it gives us the opportunity to start earlier and we don't have to worry about the weather. We're excited to bring it back."

In addition to a new setting for the program, it



also has evolved beyond yoga.

"There are eight classes and four instructors, so each teaches two classes," said MaryJo Harris, director of programs and administration.

While four classes are strictly yoga — taught by

Page Heenan and Colleen Yeloushan — two classes will focus on sound therapy and two others focus on breathing and movement.

Tammy Battista will teach sound therapy, "which I've done and it's super relaxing," Harris said. "And Cass (Ghiorse) is doing breathing and movement, which helps you if you're stressed out. It helps relieve anxiety. It's some yoga, but it's focusing on breath."

"There's a lot of information on breathwork and how it can help regulate," Bingaman added. "There's no equipment, no mats, no special clothes. You just focus on your breath."

The series is free and open to anyone, regardless of age or level of experience.

"We knew the link between physical and mental health," Bingaman said. "These practices in particular — mindful movement, meditation, breathwork — we

See SERIES, page 16B

Meet Our Doctors



Dr. Paul Van Walleghem
DDS, FAGD, D, ABDSM
Diplomate in Dental Sleep Medicine



Dr. David Bartolovic
DDS, MSD
Prosthodontist



Dr. Patrick Latcham
DDS, MAGD



Dr. Kathy Elias
DMD, PhD
Orthodontist



Dr. Chris Degenhardt
DDS



Dr. Kirsten Fanelli
DDS



Dr. Arash Khoshnevis
DMD, MS
Periodontist

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Sleep Apnea Modern dental sleep medicine offers several sleep apnea treatment options. We have a doctor who is a Diplomate in dental sleep medicine, treating patients with oral appliance therapy for obstructive sleep apnea. This type of therapy is covered by most medical insurances including Medicare.



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Explore facials, CBD products at Massage Green

Massage Green Spa, 664 St. Clair in the City of Grosse Pointe, now offers a new line of CBD products by ReThink Wellness, including ingestible oils, gummies, roll-ons, topicals like lotions and creams and even dog treats to help with inflammation and easing stress.

"The roll-ons and the gummies seem to be the two most popular," said January Thomas, franchisee of Massage Green Grosse Pointe and St. Clair Shores locations.

The gummies target overall health and wellness, stress and mood, energy and focus or sleep.

The roll-ons come in five different levels of strength and are meant for muscle and joint pain.

Along with free in-store samples, any products not currently offered can be ordered.

A CBD add-on also can be incorporated into massages.

"We give you this cool, little bottle of CBD," Thomas explained. "The massage therapist uses it in your treatment room and then whatever's remaining, you can take home and use the rest at home."

In addition to various massage offerings, Massage Green Spa also offers one-hour facials customized to the client's skin type or interest.

"We do call it a European facial, but the esthetician will work with you on what you're looking to achieve and then also recommend things based on your skin type," Thomas said. "We have different add-ons for the facial as well. Something simple like a booster all the way up to a chemical peel (and) sheet masks."

Benefits can include unclogging pores and removing impurities, detoxifying the skin for better circulation,



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

relieving tension and stimulating cellular renewal, reducing the appearance of fine lines and blemishes, and hydrating skin for a rejuvenated, youthful appearance.

While the normal rate is \$99.95, an intro offer for facials on the first visit only is \$69.95. Members of the wellness plan facials offering can continue to receive facials for \$69.95.

Using the IMAGE Skincare line, products also are sold in store.

Hours at the Grosse Pointe location are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday.

Book an appointment at the Grosse Pointe location at massagelgreenspa.com or by calling (313) 438-5050.

Skin & Laser Center on the cutting edge of new treatments

Offering specialized skin care for individual patients since 1960, the Skin & Laser Center of Grosse Pointe Woods treats adults and children with comprehensive dermatologic care.

The practice's two board-certified dermatologists, Dr. Richard Ferrara and Dr. Katie Caretti, currently are spreading the word on expanding treatments for patients who have long suffered from difficult skin conditions.

The landscape of treatment options for two very common conditions in dermatology — psoriasis and atopic dermatitis, which is a form of eczema — has both broadened and improved in just the past few years.

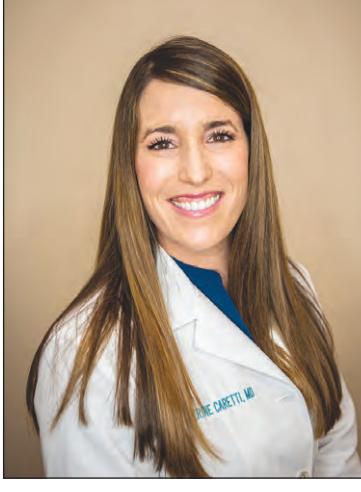
"If you suffer from a condition and you haven't had what's new or what's available, (the) good news is there's lots of options that might do much better than the past," Ferrara said.

For psoriasis, a class of medication called biologic now can target the mechanism that causes the skin lesions.

"As a result," Caretti said, "we can get patients



Dr. Richard Ferrara



Dr. Katie Caretti

ments have emerged the last couple years and now can fill a significant unmet need for targeted therapies.

The doctors hope to get the word out so, "patients realize that they don't have to suffer with these chronic conditions as much anymore now that we have all these new and emerging therapies," Caretti said. "It's a very exciting time to have these options."

In terms of everyday tips, those with sensitive skin should be sure to use a quality, unscented moisturizer each day and especially after bathing to help trap some hydration in the skin. Also, avoid external irritants in general by making sure anything that comes in contact with the skin is unscented or fragrance free.

Skin & Laser Center is located within the Ferrara Dermatology Clinic, 20043 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Available services may be viewed at ferraraderm.com.

To book a consultation, call the Skin & Laser Center at (313) 884-9100.

To schedule a skin check at Ferrara Dermatology Clinic, call (313) 884-5100.

Great Skin Isn't About Luck

It's about consistent and comprehensive care.

Under one roof, Ferrara Dermatology and the Skin and Laser Center of Grosse Pointe offer dermatologic, medical, surgical and aesthetic services to treat and improve a variety of skin conditions.

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SKIN & LASER CENTER

From yearly skin examinations to the management of skin cancer and other skin conditions such as acne, psoriasis and eczema, our board-certified dermatologists, Dr. Richard Ferrara and Dr. Katherine Caretti, provide individualized services to help you maintain healthy skin throughout the stages of your life.

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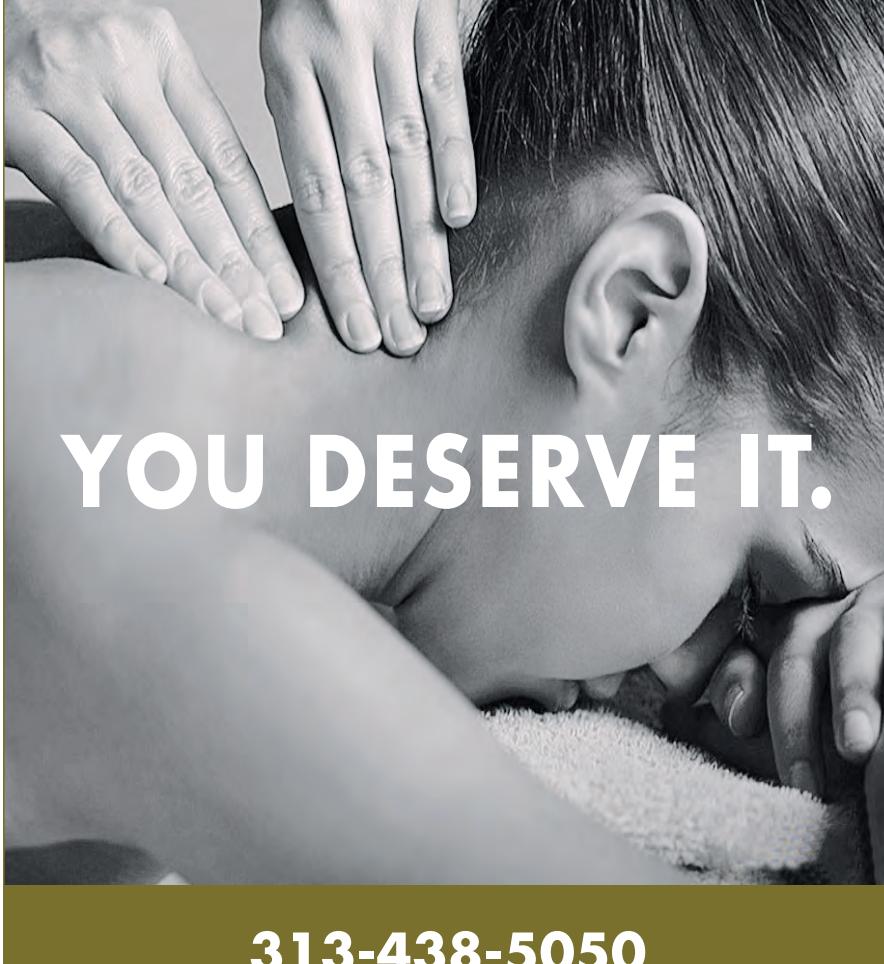
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Family caring for family

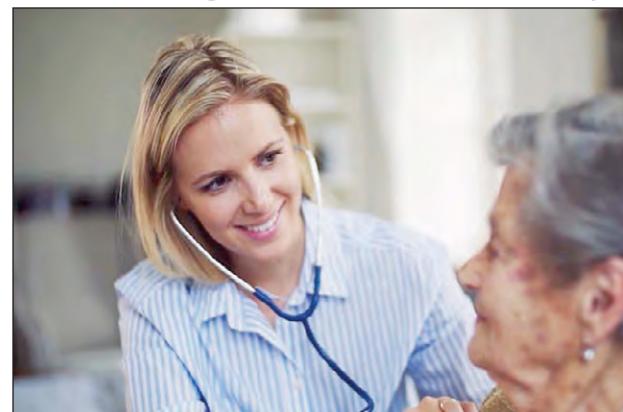
At Hackett Homecare, clients can expect top-of-the-line service, as Hackett has core values of trust, honesty, integrity, experience and compassion. Their slogan, "Our family, caring for yours," demonstrates the personal touch clients will receive.

Founder and owner John Hackett is a Grosse Pointe Farms native with a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. After playing professional baseball, he worked in the medical field and sold pharmaceuticals. The business began as he took care of his own parents, who struggled with issues related to Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease. He decided to create a homecare business for other elderly people.

"It just kind of hit home," Hackett said.

Hackett Homecare specializes in companion care; personal care; Alzheimer's/dementia and Parkinson's care; and traumatic brain injury, ALS and catastrophic injury care.

"If you or a loved one is growing increasingly dependent on others with everyday activities,"



the company's brochure reads, "Hackett Homecare can help regain and restore your quality of life."

Because it's personal to him, Hackett said, he even visits the cases himself. He regularly checks in on clients; however, COVID has changed this some. He also covers for caregivers at times if he is needed.

"I try to handle a lot of the stuff myself, just like a personal-type thing," he said.

A family business, Hackett's wife, Pam, and daughter, Jenn, help keep everything on track.

"It's not just a job," Hackett said. "It's not just punch in, punch out. ... I'm just very fortunate and blessed to have some

really good caregivers who are loving and caring and that's what makes it go around."

Many of Hackett's caregivers have been with him more than 10 years and embody the company's core values.

"They are the best," Hackett said, "the heartbeat of the company and the reason why the company has been successful."

His staff consists of registered nurses, certified nursing assistants and companion aides who provide care from a few hours at a time to 24/7.

Above all, Hackett prides himself on the depth and quality of service the company does, which sets them apart.

"We kind of reach into (our client's) world a little bit farther than maybe others do," he said. "I wouldn't place a caregiver into any client's home unless I felt comfortable enough to have them in my own parents' house."

To learn more, visit hacketthomecare.com. To schedule a consultation for service, call John Hackett at (313) 319-8050.



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*Lifelong Grosse Pointe Resident
John Hackett*

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Growing Smiles offers fun trips to the dentist

Growing Smiles, which specializes in dental care for kids and treats children as young as six months until they turn 18 years old, is dedicated to making visits to the dentist or orthodontist hassle-free and fun.

"We wanted to create a place where children can have a positive dental experience from day one," co-owner Kristy Slanec said. "When this happens, they will lead healthier lives and know how to prevent future dental issues. Pediatric dentists are special people. They

are trained to work with children and have a sense of kindness and fun about them. This is what we wanted to share — specialized care for kids with love, fun, kindness and state-of-the-art equipment."

Training in pediatric dentistry also covers child psychology, growth and development, and caring for special needs patients, making dentists well equipped to help anxious or frightened children feel at ease.

Growing Smiles also is unique in that it houses both pediatric dentists and orthodontists.

"There are a lot of orthodontists in the area, but not a lot of them work with pediatric dentists," Dr. Justin Kammo said. "A lot of kids get lost in

Shores Parks and Recreation and more.

The 22524 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores office is not hard to find: Just look for the angel wings.

For more information, call (586) 800-4769 or visit GrowingSmilesPD.com.



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Carlyle Center:

Family-owned, family-focused

Parents of children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder may find the diagnosis overwhelming, but there is a trusted, family-centered solution close to home. Since 2018, Carlyle Center has provided Applied Behavior Analysis therapy for children with ASD and their families.

"ABA therapy is an evidence-based treatment for kids diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder," said Carly Steiner, M.Ed., BCBA, clinical director of Carlyle Center.

ABA uses different techniques to bring about positive behavioral change in areas including communication, social awareness, language comprehension, school readiness and independent living, among others.

Serving families throughout southeast Michigan, Carlyle Center provides each client family between 15 and 30 hours of therapy per week; staff members also meet weekly with parents.

"Part of ABA is essentially training parents," Carly Steiner said. "Our goal is that we come into the home environment, understand what's going on, what challenges there are, and help parents with their child's success."

Added Carlyle Center CEO Kyle Steiner, "We want to get in, do what we can and exit knowing the child and the family have the tools they need, so everyone feels confident moving forward."

Helping families find their own paths to happy, healthy lives is a major goal of Carlyle Center — a family-owned, family-operated and family-focused organization.

"We've been very well received," Kyle Steiner said. "We've purposely grown at a pretty small clip, to keep the treatment integrity high."

The slow pace is a methodic approach that meets a need for Carlyle Center clients, allowing for the development of comfort, familiarity and trust.

"For families who are just starting on this journey, it can be overwhelming," Carly Steiner said. "If they connect with



us, we'll help them understand next steps. We'd like to be a resource to a lot of families in the area."

"We're moving autism forward, not only with our clients, but with anyone who needs assistance," Kyle Steiner added. "We want to support them on that journey."

"We always talk to parents about doing their homework," he continued, noting that not all ABA centers or BCBA therapists are the same. "Talk to someone until you feel comfortable. If you feel like something is off, keep looking. Parents might feel like they're against a wall. I want to help them navigate, ask the right questions and find out what's right for them."

Throughout the month of April, Carlyle Center and The Campus Shop will collaborate to celebrate Autism Awareness Month. A specially designed T-shirt — featuring a variety of career titles of people who've been diagnosed with ASD — will be sold at The Campus Shop, 17114 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Proceeds will benefit The Family Center, which provides programs and resources that empower families to successfully navigate life's challenges.

"We want to continue the conversation," Kyle Steiner said. "This is a lifelong diagnosis; the spectrum has a wide range. This (T-shirt) shows what that looks like."

Carlyle Center is located at 16824 Kercheval, Ste. 206, City of Grosse Pointe. For more information, call (313) 580-9716, email kyle.steiner@carlylecenter.com or visit carlylecenter.com.

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INVENTOR ACTOR WRITER**

AUTISM HAS NO LIMIT.



Know Your Skin

by Lisa A. Manz-Dulac, M.D.

Do you regularly check your skin?

Everyone should do a skin exam at least every 6-8 weeks. And if you or family members have a history of skin cancer, it is especially important to do regular self skin examinations of your entire body, from your scalp down to the soles of the feet. But what do you look for?

A good tool to use is the ABCDE's. Benign lesions are typically round (symmetrical); an Asymmetric shape (the "A") is often a sign that a mole could be skin cancer. Also, the Borders (the "B") of suspicious lesions are often uneven with jagged or notched edges. Color (the "C") is another important characteristic. Lesions that have multiple shades of colors or are very dark in color should be brought to your physician's attention. Large moles with a Diameter larger than the eraser on a pencil (the "D") may also indicate

malignancy. Watch for lesions that are starting to evolve or change (the "E") in one of these areas. Most benign lesions do not change over time.

Once you bring a lesion to the attention of your doctor, she/he may recommend biopsy, destruction, excision or other complete removal, or you may be advised to continue to watch the lesion, depending on the diagnosis.

If you have a suspicious lesion, or to learn more about self skin exams, contact your dermatologist, or call us at *Eastside Dermatology, Dr. Lisa A. Manz-Dulac and Associates*.

Eastside Dermatology has offices in Grosse Pointe Woods and New Baltimore. You can reach them at (313) 884-3380 or (586) 716-1291.

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We look forward to hearing from you.

SERIES:

Continued from page 12B

know how much that can help with anxiety, depression, put you in a better frame of mind."

Added Harris, "It's about taking care of yourself. Going for a walk is helpful, but stretching and breathwork can help you wherever you are, whoever you're with."

Because the program is indoors, space is limited. Interested participants are asked to register before each session; registration is limited to 20, though two or three walk-ins may be permitted. Classes begin at 7 p.m. Register by calling (313) 447-1374 or emailing info@familycenterweb.org.

"Follow us on Facebook for the most up-to-date information on our programs and what teachers will be there," Bingaman said.



Scan this QR code to sign up for the Spring Wellness Series.

2022 Spring Wellness Series**March 22 and May 3**

Sound Therapy with Tammy Battista

Experience a unique vibrational healing session with Reiki Master Teacher Tammy Battista. Sound therapy helps alleviate pain, stress and anxiety by helping the body at the cellular level return to natural vibration. Atoms, molecules, cells, glands and organs all have a natural resonant frequency. Stress from work, toxic environments, traumatic events and unbalanced relationships cause the body to get "out of tune." This slowed and stuck energy can cause blockages that can manifest into disease. Battista guides participants

through breathwork meditation, then uses crystal singing bowls and chimes to help lift vibrations to allow for release of stress and tension. Even if participants sleep through this "sound bath," their bodies will receive the physical and emotional benefits of a vibrational lift and clearing.

April 12 and April 26

Breathe & Move with Cass Ghorse

Breathing affects everything a person does — how they feel and how they experience life. The integrative breath—body—brain connection will be explored during this session. It will start with an explanation of what breathwork is

and how it easily can be applied to daily life. From there, participants will engage in a practice that will help them embody what they've learned. There will be time for questions at the end. Participants should dress for light movement.

March 29 and May 10

Mindful Movement & Meditation with Page Heenan

Participants will weave together breath, movement and meditation to slow down, soothe anxiety and find a sense of ease.

April 5 and April 19

Mindful Movement & Meditation with Colleen Yeloushan

Participants will move together slowly, gently and with intention. By deepening their breath and tuning into their senses, this guided meditation will bring sweet relief to busy minds and tired bodies.

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'Made in Michigan'

2nd annual Grosse Pointe News 'Finer Pointes' art contest kicking off

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

After a successful inaugural year, the Grosse Pointe News is hosting its second annual "The Finer Pointes" art contest.

The competition returns on a larger scale and with a broader theme, asking artists throughout the state what "Made in Michigan" means to them.

"We are so thrilled about this year's contest," said Anne Gryzenia, the newspaper's director of strategy and development. "Not only does it include everyone in the great state of Michigan, but we get to keep it local by also having a substantial Readers' Choice Award."

The contest invites up to 400 artists ages 18 and

Attn: A. Gryzenia, 16980 Kercheval Pl., McCourt Building, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230, and include a prepaid shipping return label.

This year's contest will be juried by fine artist and muralist Richard Wilson, whose key works include an 80-foot wall portrait of Will Smith in West Philadelphia; an 8,000-square-foot portrait of Stevie Wonder in downtown Detroit; a wall portrait of Cristiano Ronaldo in Santo Antonio, Madeira; and a wall portrait of Roy Ayers in Brockley, London.

"Having Richard Wilson as the juror is the icing on the cake, as his work and reputation bring the competition to a new level," said Gryzenia, who co-created this year's contest with Mary

favorite; the top Readers' Choice vote-getter also will receive \$1,000.

Finalists also will have the option of selling their displayed works; support to help facilitate those sales can be provided.

More rules and guidelines are available at grossepoincenews.com/art.

For additional information, email media@grossepoincenews.com.

About Richard Wilson

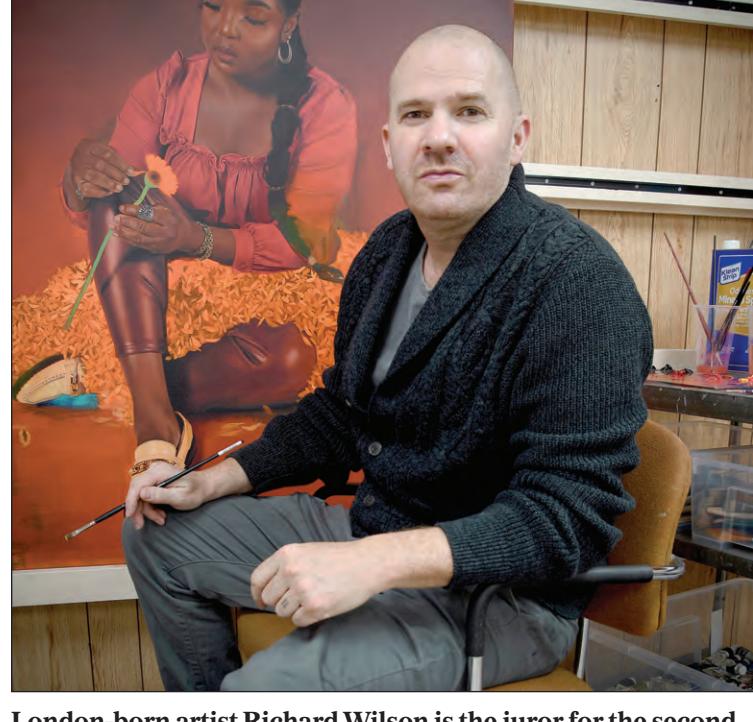
A self-taught artist born and raised in London, Wilson's beginnings in portraiture and figurative work came via street art and mural work using spray paint. His large-scale portraits as big as 100 feet tall have become part of the landscape of the cities in which they reside, becoming landmarks themselves.

Now predominantly focusing on studio works in oil paint, Wilson has been able to transfer his style and technique to canvas, most notably with his painting "songbook," which was shortlisted for the 2020 BP awards and displayed at the National Portrait Gallery in London.

Now living and working in Detroit,

Wilson continues his practice with commission work, a solo show at Collected Gallery Detroit in summer 2022, and weekly portrait painting classes from his studio at Marygrove Conservancy.

Learn more at richardwilsonartwork.com.



London-born artist Richard Wilson is the juror for the second annual Finer Pointes contest.

older, no matter their career stage, to enter paintings, drawings, textiles, sculptures or relief work for a chance to compete for a number of cash prizes.

Up to three entries per artist will be accepted. Digital images of each work may be submitted online at grossepoincenews.com/art until Monday, April 11. Only original two- and three-dimensional works created in the past three years will be accepted. Work from kits or executed in a class or workshop are not eligible.

Cost to enter the contest is free for Grosse Pointe News subscribers, \$40 for non-subscribers. Email media@grossepoincenews.com for a special link.

All finalists' pieces must arrive ready to hang before Wednesday, May 4. Shipped paintings should be addressed to The Grosse Pointe News Finer Pointes Art Contest,

Wysocki of Paragon Art Collective. "I cannot wait to see the finalists and the different expressions of what 'Made in Michigan' means to the creative community."

Added Wysocki, "There's so much talent to be discovered across Michigan and through this contest, artists of all types get a chance to introduce their work to the broader community and maybe even win in the process. As a proud partner and strong supporter of local artists, I can't wait to immerse myself in the many creative interpretations of 'Made in Michigan.'"

Finalists' works will be displayed at the former Scott Shuptrine building, 17145 Kercheval, in The Village. One first-place artist will receive a \$2,500 cash prize and a runner-up will receive \$1,000.

In addition to Wilson's selections, Grosse Pointe News subscribers will be able to vote for their

Dates to remember

Monday, April 11 — Application deadline, no exceptions.

Thursday, April 21 — Finalists will be notified.

Wednesday, May 4 — Finalists' work must arrive in Grosse Pointe for public viewing.

Thursday, May 5 — Finalists are announced in the Grosse Pointe News.

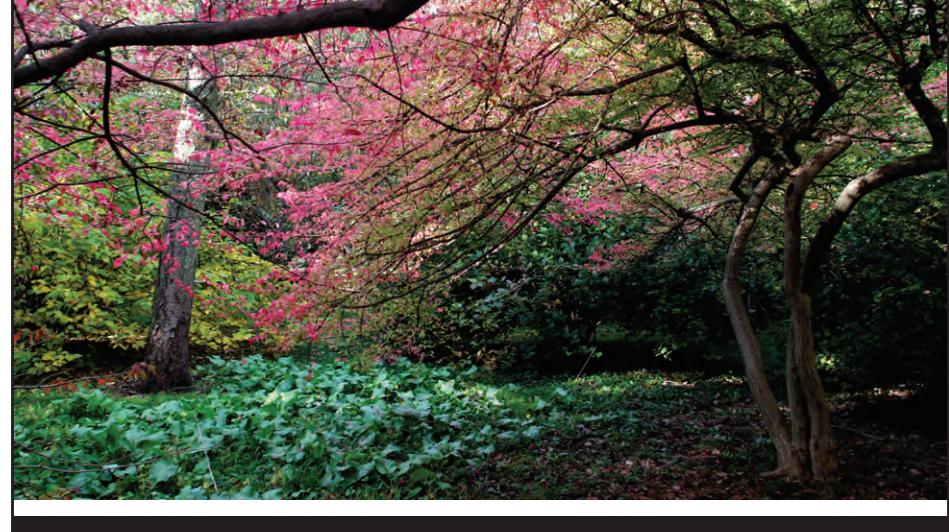
Thursday, May 5, through Saturday, May 14 — Finalists will be displayed in Grosse Pointe for public viewing and Readers' Choice voting.

Saturday, May 14 — Winners will be announced during a public reception at 2 p.m. in Grosse Pointe.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Juror Richard Wilson painted this 8,000-square-foot portrait of Stevie Wonder on a building in downtown Detroit.



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The Science Advice Goddess

by Amy Alkon

Death meddle

I knew my girlfriend wasn't right for me, and I was super unhappy. Friends I confided in kept saying "Relationships take work" and "Take the good with the bad." I listened to them and stayed in the relationship, which led to an ugly breakup. When evaluating a relationship, how much should you take advice and how much should you rely on your instincts?

— Peer Pressured

Every year, it happens. Men who love power tools end up effectively celibate for a year after buying their wife a vacuum cleaner for Valentine's Day.

This gift-giving fail is a cousin of your friends' relationship advice-giving fails. Both stem from how bad we humans are at "perspective-taking." That's psychologists' term for a conscious effort to put ourselves in another person's shoes: trying to see the world from their perspective so we can figure out how they feel and what they need and want. Sounds like a pretty posi-

tive thing, right? And it is -- in concept.

In practice, however, we tend to take the lazy way out, explains psychologist Nicholas Epley. Getting a fix on what would work for another person starts with a good long think about who they are -- and takes lots more mental sloggery after that.

So, we go with what we'd want, customize it ever-so-slightly for them, and then tell ourselves it's what they want.

For example, your friends' "Take the good with the bad," applied to your relationship, became "Take the miserable with the miserable." Chances are your friends aren't secret sociopaths, plotting to ruin your life. But there's (often subconscious) self-interest in advice-giving, like what I call "values-signaling": the showoffy confirmation of the awesomeness of one's principles by shoving them on others. And then there's the "helper's high," the buzz we get from do-gooding -- or the mere belief our do-gooding's done good.

If you find a friend wise and think they fully understand your situation and share your values, it might be helpful to hear them out. However, your best bet is taking stock of your own values and then factoring in what's made you happy (or miserable) in past relationships, along with the likelihood your current relationship will give you enough "good" to make the "bad" worthwhile. In short, the world's best expert on what works for you is you -- because you don't have to imagine yourself in your shoes; you just have to go find the one your hellshow of a girlfriend threw out the window.

Don't Goo Me Like That

My husband's a great guy: an excellent father and provider, dedicated to our relationship. However, if I text him something emotional, like if I'm having a hard time at work, his response doesn't seem genuine or heartfelt. Sometimes it'll be inappropriately robotic, like texting a sad emoji. How can I get him to be more

emotionally engaged?
— Annoyed

You did not marry Oprah. At best, you married Stedman.

Men are generally not as emotionally fluent as women, meaning not as able to identify and express their emotions. Say a woman puts her husband on the spot: "Well, come on...how do you feel about this?" Assuming he loves her, he wants to tell her, but what comes out is "I...um...uhh...um..." (He figures he must have a feeling, but he's not sure what it is, where it is, or how to find it.)

This isn't to say men are broken or deficient. They're just different from women. Psychologist Simon Baron-Cohen explains that women tend to be feelings-focused "empathizers." From toddlerhood on, women specialize in identifying others' emotions and responding with an appropriate emotion. This comes in handy for narrowing down why the baby's howling -- instead of going with a wild guess: "I dunno... maybe he wants a beer?"

Men, in contrast, tend to be engineering-focused "systemizers," driven to figure out the workings of pre-



dictable, rules-driven "systems," like an AM/FM radio. "Predictable" because -- for example -- a radio remains a thing that receives and transmits electromagnetic waves; it doesn't announce in a teary huff, "It's that time of the month!" and spend six days acting like a repeating saw.

What's actually making you unhappy is not your husband but your expectation that he be both your husband and Carrie Bradshaw. Unfortunately, that's unlikely to happen. Bummer, yes, but consider how you describe your husband: a "great guy," an "excellent father and provider," dedicated to your relationship. So...you could continue going around resentful that, well, your man isn't much of a woman -- or decide to

shake your head and laugh at this wonderful man's lame efforts to "speak chick."

You might also consider that men's native language (when among men) is often grunting or just silently coexisting -- which makes evolutionary sense. A guy gabbing it up on the hunt would've scared off the wild boar -- and then pissed off the wife when he brought home the tree bark and tried to pass it off as bacon..

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: blogtalkradio.com/amyalkon. (c)2022, Amy Alkon, all rights reserved.

Man's behavior centers only on himself

DEAR ABBY: I refer to my husband as "the most single married man" I know. He turns off the lights, turns off the heat and turns off the TV while I'm still watching or still plan on being home.

DEAR FORGOTTEN: If this has been going on since you and your husband were married, accept that he is someone who is unusually centered on himself.

If this is something relatively recent, he may need to be physically and neurologically evaluated by his physician.

If there is nothing "wrong" with him, recognize it's time to fend for yourself. Remember

thinking of writing a book titled, "The Most Single Married Man I Know." What should I be doing differently? -- FORGOTTEN WOMAN IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

to monitor the thermostat, keep a flashlight handy and be prepared to explore activities you enjoy in case your husband "forgets" to include you in the future.

DEAR ABBY: My best friend's father recently passed away. A memorial has been planned on the day of a wedding I had agreed to attend with my girlfriend. In this situation involving two significant one-time life events, is it more courteous to defer to the living or the dead? -- UNSURE IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

DEAR UNSURE: Much depends upon your rela-

tionship with both of these people. Because your best friend may need emotional support during this sad time, I am inclined to suggest that you go to the memorial -- and have your girlfriend attend the wedding so you will be represented. If you explain the circumstances to the person who sent the wedding invitation, there should be no hurt feelings.

DEAR ABBY: I recently received a board game as a present. The problem is that I don't like the game. I live alone on disability with a very limited income and don't have anyone to play it with me anyway.



Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

When I mentioned to the giver that I was thinking of returning it, they almost burst into tears. The giver is a relative of a close friend and lives with her. I really could use the money. What should I do? -- WONDERING IN WISCONSIN

DEAR WONDERING: I have said this before, and it's worth repeating: Once a gift is given, it belongs to the recipient to do with as they please. Because you don't like



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAREN FERGUSON

Smoked Cheddar and Ale soup

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Picture a potato leek soup that walked into a bar and met a great ale and a great cheese...in Ireland. That's what I'm going for here. Hearty, a bit naughty and completely satisfying.

After reading about 50 different recipes, I put together this one. Smokey cheddar and bacon give the soup an amazing depth. Adding Harp (or any light ale)

makes it a special occasion. Extra Irish cheddar and potatoes gives the soup the texture it needs.

My job is to encourage readers to cook. This is probably one of the best things I have ever made. My excitement, I hope, is being felt by you right now. It's not hard or scary. It's just plain heaven. I honestly wish you could

smell the picture. It's that good.

Don't worry, it's not heavy, I promise.

It's a soup to eat while

watching basketball and making your stomach happy.

This should serve 4-6 people but in real life I dropped half of it on my mom's driveway to get a picture in the sunlight. Hence, the picture is for 2. Such is life.

Cheers, Mombeau

Smoked Cheddar and Ale Soup (Serves 4)

- 4 slices of thick cut bacon
- 3 large leeks
- 2 carrots, peeled and diced
- 2 celery stalks, diced
- 3 large yukon gold potatoes
- 1 tsp dijon mustard
- 2 tbsp flour

See MOMBEAU, page 3C

Classic Ann Landers

Dear Ann Landers: After reading the letter from "Dog Lover in N.Y." I had to write. "Dog Lover" was amazed that her friends had shelled out \$750 to put their dogs in doggie camps.

You responded with a quote from your grandmother, "Dogs should be

with dogs, and people should be with people." Thankfully, the thousands who work with and benefit from pet-assisted therapy don't share your grandmother's views.

When my mother suffered a severe stroke, I put my dog, Kadie, in an air-

line carry-on bag and flew to my parents' home. Mom's crooked smile told me she was glad to see me, but her eyes reflected anxiety. When Kadie started to lick Mom's face, I saw hope and happiness come back into her eyes.

I then joined a local volunteer organization called Paws Across Texas. Kadie and I work as a registered therapy team, visiting nursing homes and hospitals. I witnessed a hardened street kid turn into a caring child when he gave my tired dog a drink of

water out of a paper cup. I saw a handicapped person bury her face in the dog's fur and laugh with delight. And I've seen how it brightens the day of lonely seniors in a nursing home when Kadie cuddles next to them in bed. -- L.A. in Euless, Texas

Dear L.A.: Get out the wet noodle. My grandmother was wrong. The beautiful, warmhearted letters from dog lovers have convinced me that a dog can indeed be man's best friend.

Dear Ann Landers: A co-worker in my office told me she wanted to see a Broadway show. I have a friend, "Harry," who gets tickets for me. This co-worker (I'll call her "Mary") asked if he could get her two good seats. She gave me the money, and I paid for the tickets. When I handed them to Mary, she said the seats weren't very good and asked for her money back. I called Harry and asked if I could get a refund. He said, "Sorry, no. It's too late."

To keep the peace, I gave

Mary her money back out of my own pocket even though I couldn't really afford it. Am I wrong to feel cheated, or was Mary right to make me take the loss on the tickets? Please respond in the paper. -- Nameless in N.J.

Dear N.J.: Mary treated you shabbily. If she asks you again to get tickets from Harry, I hope you tell her, "Sorry, no" -- and stick to it.

ANN LANDERS
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We Tried It!

When offered a chance to take 30 minutes for myself — to be relaxed and completely horizontal with my eyes closed — I rarely pass it up. So when Jenna at Taylor Reese told me about her new skill, Reflexology, I had to try it.

By all accounts, it's an ancient practice of using pressure points on the foot to alleviate all sorts of blockages, problems, anxiety, etc. Jenna explained that unlike massage, where the focus is muscles,

Reflexology uses techniques and pressure points to impact the nerves — more than 2,000 of them!

With the enthusiasm of a newbie and the hands of an experienced pro, Jenna somehow was able to bring me into a relaxed almost Zen state within minutes.

As someone with occasional crippling anxiety and general everyday high strangeness, this is not an easy task.

It's almost like a massage, but not quite. It's definitely not like a medical-type experience. It's just ... ahhhhh. I learned that people of all types are coming in for Jenna's services. She has quite a few amazing testimonials from clients who sing the praises of reflexology and its benefits.

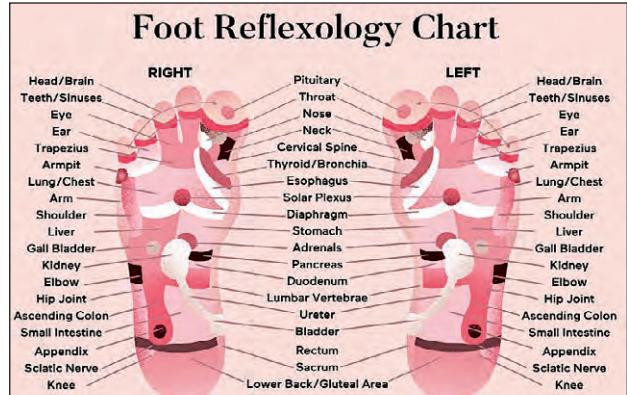
From those with diabetes to Parkinson's disease, young to old, men and women, it's just the thing you need to have in your repertoire for ways

to take a moment to relax and take care of yourself.

You can book by calling Taylor Reese at (313) 571-3323 or going online to taylorreeseshop.com.

You can book 30- or 60-minute sessions for \$40 and \$80, respectively. Pro tip: Request the private room for full relaxation. You can also add on a pedicure with a 15-minute reflexology mini session. All are worth it.

I give it 5 alligators. This is a must-try. Thank



you, Jenna, and to anyone who can help us reduce stress. It truly is important right now.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GRAVITAS VENTURES AND MCKENNA WOLF MEDIA

From left, Claudia Ferri as Carmen, Dana Ashbrook as Pat and Jaime King as Dr. Giselle Cohen in the 2019 film "Ice Cream in the Cupboard".

MOVIE REVIEW "Ice Cream in the Cupboard"

2019 - Not Rated

1 hr 30min

Alzheimer's. Just the word itself is scary. It wasn't that long ago that you rarely heard it discussed, perhaps because not that much was known about it.

Times certainly have changed, and Hollywood has covered the topic in numerous films over the last decade or two. Notable Alzheimer-themed movies include "Still Alice", "A Song for Martin", and "Iris". Add to that group the more recent "Ice Cream in the Cupboard".



The film is based on the autobiographical book with the same title by Pat Moffett. It opens with a charming scene where Pat first meets Carmen. He's totally smitten by her and we follow them in their first awkward moments together. You can sense that they were truly meant for each other. Andrea Londo and Garrett Mercer play the young couple.

We quickly fast forward 17 years to the present day. Pat (Dana Ashbrook) and Carmen (Claudia Ferri) are a

happily married middle-aged couple with two college aged kids.

They live a comfortable life in a well appointed home. Then one day, out of the blue Carmen lashes out in a violent rage and pushes her husband into their swimming pool. She also threatens to stab him. At first Pat shrugs it off as an angry fit in response to his infidelity, which occurred years ago.

Before long there are more troubling signs that something's amiss. One evening, Carmen disappears for several hours. She comes home in the pouring rain and admits that she was lost.

make every effort to deal with this new challenge.

Carmen's memory lapses increase in both intensity and duration. We get her sense of disorientation through the use of fuzzy and blindingly bright shots. It reflects her hazy comprehension of what's going on around her and her groping to make sense of the real world.

The director uses flashbacks sparingly yet effectively—giving us a peak into their happy life together.

Pat makes a tremendous effort to accommodate Carmen while trying to come to terms with the reality that he's slowly losing the love of his life.

"Ice Cream in the Cupboard" is a very realistic portrayal of the devastating effects Alzheimer's can have on a family.

The leads both do a commendable job. I should also add that I feel much of the credit to the effectiveness of the movie goes to the director Drew Pollins. While the film deals with a tough subject, it doesn't leave you feeling sad. But it certainly makes you feel grateful for being mentally sound.

Currently streaming on Hoopla, IMDB TV (both free), and Prime Video.

Just a reminder about Kanopy and Hoopla. About a year ago I was introduced to these two free streaming services available through our local library. They each offer an amazing selection of indie, offbeat, and mainstream movies with your library card.

Sensing the potential seriousness of these events, the couple consults with a doctor (Jaime King), who diagnoses Carmen's illness as early-onset Alzheimer's disease. Needless to say, they're devastated. But they take it in stride and

recently perused their newly added films and

added a bunch to my queue. I now have 270 in my Kanopy queue and over 80 in my Hoopla queue! That's some serious movie watching! ★★★★☆

fact, if there weren't any other movies in your queue, you might watch it again.

★★★★ One you'd recommend to friends.

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

Hoopla, and Kanopy. I'll also review noteworthy new theatrical releases as well.

For movie trailers, visit youtube.com. If you have any suggestions, feel free to email me at: dominmark@yahoo.com. Also, if you're looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com.



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April 1-10, 2022



June 24-July 3, 2022

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From left, Garrett Mercer as young Pat and Andrea Londo as young Carmen.

Spring break

SNEAK PEEK INTO FASHION

Just like you, we can't wait for spring! For those lucky enough to be heading for warmer climes over spring break, it's time to get a preview of what's hot for summer, so you can pack your bags with the latest styles. Look for our fantastic fashion finds next week in the March 24th edition of the Grosse Pointe News!



SEE THE SIGHTS

For checking out the town, shopping or dining al fresco, Glitter & Scotch has the perfect vacation ensemble, starting with this adorable ruched top from Lucy Paris. Paired with white KanCan pants, a tarty statement clutch and comfy shoes, you're good to go, go, go!

BEACHSIDE BONFIRE

If the beach is where you are headed, Ridge Crest Outfitters has the ideal beach sets for men and women by Faherty. Faherty's easy, eclectic vibes mean comfort and a cool, beachy look for you. See the whole great Faherty collection and more at Ridge Crest Outfitters, and start packing...



HANG OUT WITH PALS

Spring break is all about comfort. Ridge Crest Outfitters has lots of comfy quality casual and sportswear, like this cute Faherty white sand beach set. It's perfect for whatever vacation adventures await you and your friends.



SEE MORE SPRING BREAK FASHION IN NEXT WEEK'S

Grosse Pointe News

Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

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

Happy Birthday for Thursday, March 17, 2022:

You are self-motivated and hardworking. You are also perceptive. Many of you are spiritual. Partnerships are important to you, and you believe in trust and loyalty with loved ones. Good news! Expect kudos, praise, a promotion, an award and the applause of your peers this year. You will be busy, and the spotlight will be on you!

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

You don't feel much like working today. Ideally, you would rather kick back and relax. Nevertheless, some ideas percolating on the back burner of your mind might lead to new ways to make money or get the best use out of something that you already own. Tonight: Check your pet.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)

You love your creature comforts, and today is a pleasure-loving day. Enjoy social outings, fun times with kids, sports events and the arts. You might meet a new face today, or perhaps someone younger will surprise you and make you feel younger. Ah, that infectious boost of youth! Tonight: Socialize!

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

This is a feel-good day, partly because you feel that you can rest on your laurels. Parents or bosses and VIPs approve of you, which is why you feel you don't have to knock yourself out today. Nevertheless, someone might have an exciting new suggestion. Tonight: Family confusion.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

An unexpected invitation

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

Travel plans might change suddenly today. Alternatively, you might have a last-minute chance to travel. Something fun might suddenly drop in your lap. Enjoy meeting people from other cultures and different backgrounds. (Think twice before picking up the tab for everyone.) Tonight: Wishful thinking.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

This is a tricky day because something unexpected might arise regarding shared property, inheritances or the financial support that you receive from another source. But at the same time, your financial judgment is a bit fuzzy today. Hmm, tread carefully! Tonight: Clarify your finances.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

This is a great day for you because the Moon is in your sign dancing with Jupiter, which will tend to make you too extravagant and generous with others.

Overindulgence is also likely! Meanwhile, someone close to you might throw you a curveball or do something you least expect. Tonight: Confused communications.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Even though you are focused on getting better organized at this time, today you feel a bit lazy. That's OK. Take time off for good behavior. Be gentle on yourself. Instead of trying to get caught up, focus on the present. The good thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time. Tonight: Fuzzy thinking.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Be careful of financial decisions and shopping today, because you're tempted to make impulse purchases. Meanwhile, your financial judgment is a bit fuzzy today. Oops. It also will be easy to go overboard and be extravagant. You might be overly generous to someone. Tonight: Be discerning.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

Relations with partners and close friends will be pleasant today, in part because you feel warm and generous to others. Something unexpected might occur because an element of surprise and excitement could trigger spontaneous behavior on your part. Be ready for anything! Tonight: Be forgiving.

BORN TODAY
Actor Kurt Russell (1951), soccer player Mia Hamm (1972), actor Rob Lowe (1964).

Contract Bridge

TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ 6 5
♥ 9 8 2
♦ Q 8 7 6 5
♣ A K 6

WEST

♠ A K Q 8 7
♥ A 5 3
♦ A 10 4
♣ 8 4

EAST

♠ J 10
♥ K J 10 7 6
♦ J 9
♣ Q J 7 5

SOUTH

♠ 9 4 3 2
♥ Q 4
♦ K 3 2
♣ 10 9 3 2

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
Pass	Pass	1 ♦	Dble
1 ♠	2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	4 ♣	Dble
5 ♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	Pass	5 ♣	Dble
6 ♦	Pass	Pass	Dble

Opening lead — king of spades.

Generally speaking, there are two schools of bidders. The first is composed of those whose chief goal in bidding is to reach the best possible contract for their side. This group represents the overwhelming majority of bridge players.

Members of the second school are those whose chief purpose is to try to

prevent the opponents from reaching their best contract. The tactics employed by these players can take many forms, but the aim is always the same — to do as much damage to the opponents' bidding structure as possible.

It is evident from this deal, played in the 1978 women's world pair championship, that North-South, who shall remain nameless, were both full-fledged members of the second school.

South opened the bidding in third seat with one diamond, presumably because it was her turn to bid. West doubled, and North, attempting to muddy the waters, bid one spade! East entered the fray with two hearts, employing her partnership's peculiar system of bidding what you have rather than what you don't have.

West raised two hearts to four, and this rolled around to South, who apparently thought she had not yet expressed the full value of her hand. Accordingly, she bid four spades! West, who no doubt could not believe her ears, found a double, and North retreated to five diamonds, also doubled.

Then came five spades and six diamonds, both doubled, at which point the bidding mercifully came to a grinding halt. Declarer finished down six — 1,700 points — and North-South were left with a gnawing feeling that perhaps something had gone wrong with their system.

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by Steve Becker

Puzzles and

Family Circus



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www.familycircus.com

"Leprechauns are like Santa's elves,
except they don't come out of the
woods 'till St. Patrick's Day."

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

3/17 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

© 2022 by Andrews McMeel Syndication 3/10 Solution

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg March 10, 2022

ACROSS
1 Evolved into
7 Org. for
leaders of
red states
10 Start of a
musical
14 Like meta-
phorical
ducks,
hopefully
15 It's taken
after a vote
17 Discontinued
handheld
Nintendo
console
18 *Annoyance,
literally?
19 Show
that had a
Wayne's
World sketch,
briefly
20 Movie
theaters
21 "Offensive
surprise,
literally?"
25 Put up, as
a statue
28 Baltimore
baseball
pros
29 "Whoa there,
let's relax"
31 Examine
again
32 Tail motion
33 As well
34 "Cocooning"
at a spa, and
a hint to the
starred clues'
answers
38 Well-chosen
41 Buffoon
42 It's passed
around in
winter
46 Moves to a
different wall,
say

DOWN
1 Attempts
to buy at
auction
2 Tangle up
3 Successfully
predicts
something
4 Name hidden
in "Kia Rio"
5 Bon ____ (bit
of wit)
6 She bleats
7 Wish granter
8 Animals in
a yoke
9 Word before
"cleaner" or
"dream"
10 Buzzing
spot?
11 Permission
12 Group
that sang
"Creep"

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

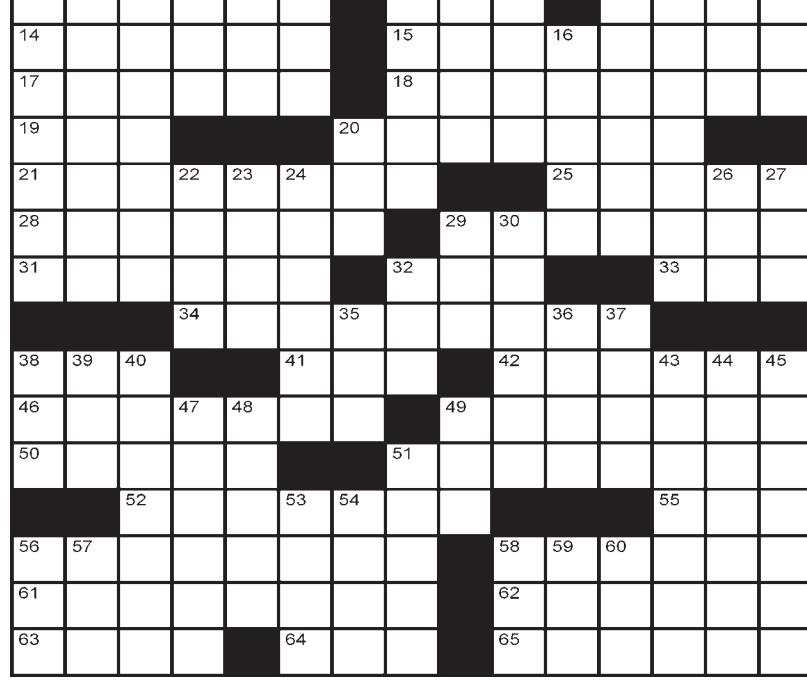
M	M	A	P	S	I	N	D	I	C	T
C	O	B	D	A	T	A	N	E	A	E
R	Y	P	L	A	Y	E	G	I	N	G
I	N	S	T	A	R	E	S	I	N	C
B	A	S	G	U	T	I	N	C	H	A
E	R	A	S	I	T	S	A	L	A	M
L	O	S	P	A	D	L	O	C	M	I
P	A	D	L	O	C	K	T	O	P	E
L	A	P	D	O	G	A	K	A	M	E
A	E	I	S	E	H	R	E	M	N	S
S	T	A	N	T	C	L	E	R	G	Y
W	E	N	T	H	I	F	L	O	W	R
E	N	T	H	I	T	A	B	O	V	E
F	A	N	T	S	Y	T	E	M	V	I
T	W	E	Z	E	H	L	P	E	T	C
W	E	D	D	E	K	E	S	N	A	H

3/10 Solution

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3/17

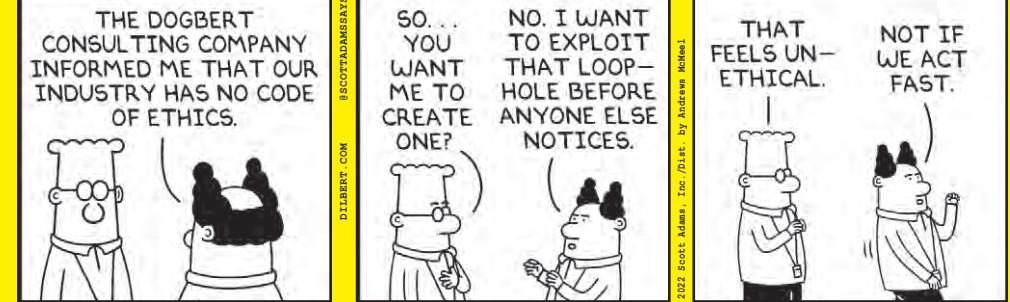
I'm Torn! by Taylor Johnson



Garfield



Dilbert



Beetle Bailey



Blondie



Over The Hedge



Andy Capp



Wizard of Id



Carpe Diem



Ziggy



Flying McCoys





Charles M. Schulz

Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne

**Crankshaft****Crock**

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker

The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner

"LORETTA ISN'T SHY ABOUT SHOWING PDA WITH ME...
'PERSONAL DISPLAYS OF ANNOYANCES.'

F Minus

Tony Carrillo

Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler

Close To Home

John McPherson

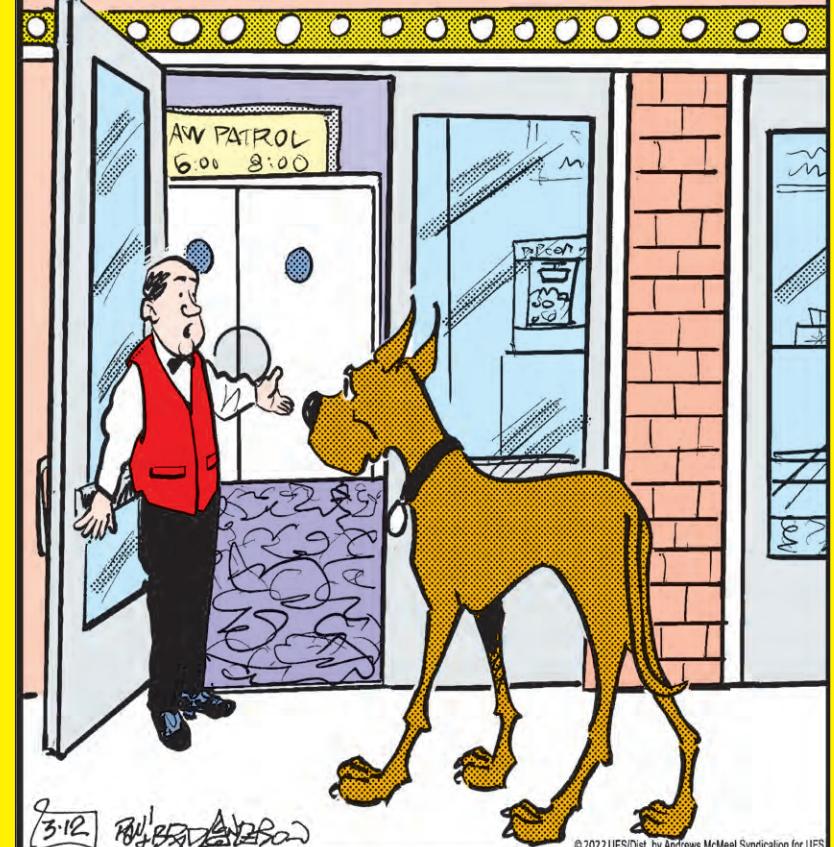
B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni

"I'm having him work off a \$700 vet bill."

Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters

Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson

Reality Check

Dave Whamond

Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno

"Come on in. Anything on the floor is yours."

SPORTS

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Knights finish perfect season with second consecutive state title

By Alexis Bohlinger
Staff Writer

The University Liggett School girls varsity hockey team has done it again, bringing home the state championship title for the Michigan Girls High School Hockey League two years in a row, with a 7-2 win over Livonia United. They won in front of a packed crowd filled with family, friends, students and supporters from other teams in the league on Saturday at USA Hockey Arena.

"Each year I feel the city of Grosse Pointe finds a team to rally behind and these last two years it's been us," Liggett head coach Cassie Jaekle said. "We have been very fortunate to receive players that came from amazing programs like the Grosse Pointe Bulldogs and the St. Clair Shores Saints."

Finishing the season with a league record of 16-0-0, Liggett advanced directly to the quarterfinal game, beating

Washtenaw United 5-0 to advance to the semi-finals versus Northville, where it won 7-2. These two victories put the Knights back in the finals versus Livonia United for the second straight year.

While both teams felt prepared to play in the state championship, it was Liggett that was able to generate the most offense, winning numerous puck battles and capitalizing on scoring opportunities.

Liggett took a 1-0 lead early on with a goal from Anna Claire Doppke, assisted by Sullivan Estes. They put up two more goals in the second period to take the 3-0 lead. Goals were scored by Sofie Ancona, assisted by AC Doppke and Elle Quinlan, and Maddie McKee, assisted by Allyson Doppke and Allie Roth. Coming back for the third, it appeared the fate of the game was sealed as Knights' Sophia Secco and Quinlan buried two more goals on Livonia

goalkeeper, Annelise

Pearce, extending the lead 5-0.

It was 10:40 in the third period when Livonia seemed to make an offensive push earning back-to-back power play goals from Tymmarie Gromm, tightening the score 5-2. The Knights, however, would hear nothing of it and scored two more on their opponent from AC Doppke and Giuliana Lufty, finishing the game with a final score of 7-2.

"The girls were resilient at playoffs and Liggett is a tough opponent. Their goalie was on and we couldn't buy a goal in the first or second," Livonia head coach Janine Martinez said. "These two quick goals were great, but by that time we were in too big of a hole to dig ourselves out of. In the end I'm proud to have coached these young ladies and especially being back-to-back state finalists, only completing our fifth season of existence."

At the other end of

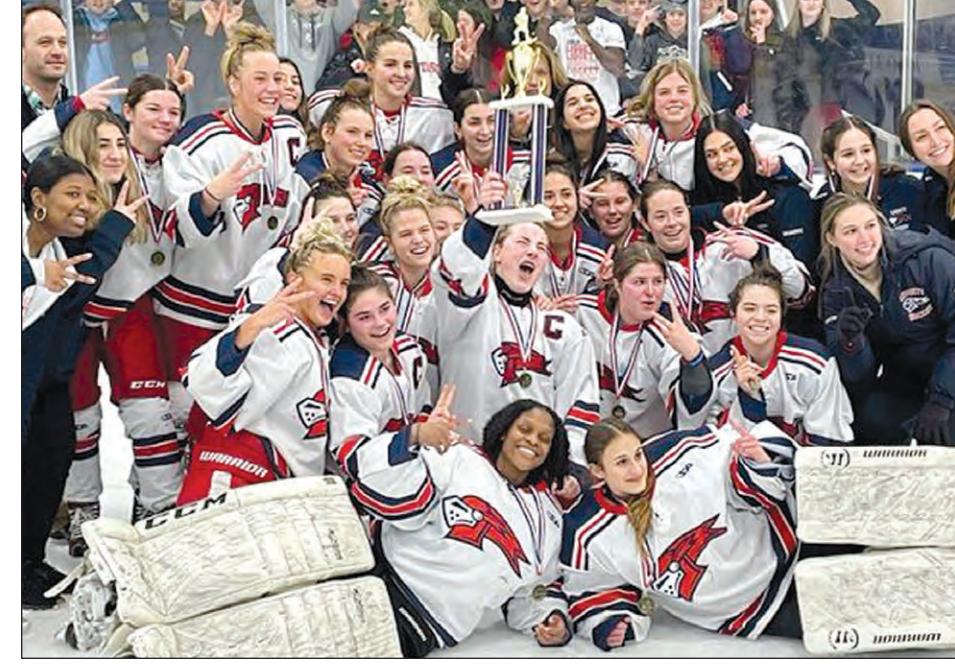


PHOTO COURTESY OF LIGGETT ATHLETICS

The University Liggett School girls hockey team defeated Livonia United 7-2 to win its second state championship in a row. The Knights also finished the season without losing a single game.

Knights celebrated their win with exuberance.

"This season was truly like no other," Knights captain Ally Doppke said. "Each and every girl on the roster was one another's closest friends. We soaked in every second we could have together as a team and winning the state

championship game was just the cherry on top to an all-around amazing season."

Doppke believes the connection her team had on and off the ice was one of the big advantages they had over other teams this season.

Jaekle commended all three of the team captains — A. Doppke, Natalie Dragovic and Maddie McKee — on their leadership this season.

"Each of our captains brought something different and special to the table. This was truly an amazing team with solid leadership."

Athlete of the Week

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The start of spring means the beginning of a new softball season. Here in the Pointes, it means Maraina Smith is ready to get back on the mound for Grosse Pointe North and lead the Norsemen to another successful season.

This season is especially important for Smith as it will be her last time putting on the green and yellow at North. The senior trains and plays softball year round to constantly improve her game, which has led to Smith becoming one of the top pitchers in the state and an opportunity to continue playing at the Division 1 level in college. For now, Smith is focused on staying healthy and helping lead the Norsemen to as much success as possible this spring.

"The past two years, I've had injuries," she said. "I want to focus on staying healthy through the season and coming out and winning a state

championship. Those are my goals for the year."

Smith got her start in softball when she was 6 years old. Her early days saw her playing for the local Little League team before moving on to travel teams and high school. Through travel softball and playing at

started playing competitive, national travel for the past three years and have been traveling all around the country. With high school, I've put in a lot of work and training to get to where I am."

The pitcher's mound is where Smith feels the most at home while on the softball diamond. She has experience at every position and can contribute on offense with the bat in her hand. However, pitching has become Smith's specialty and what has gotten her noticed.

What stands out about pitching for Smith is that the pitcher gets to control the game. Feeling comfortable on the mound means she can set the tone of a game with every pitch she throws.

"When I first started, I tried every position, but really fell in love with pitching," she said. "As a

pitcher, you're the main person running the field and have the power to control what happens. I really liked that and taking that all in is how I decided I really wanted to be a pitcher."

Smith competes in travel tournaments around the country during the summer and fall when she is not playing with the Norsemen in the spring. During winter, she focuses on conditioning as well as pitching and hitting lessons.

Her hard work and dedication to the sport have been catching the eyes of scouts and college programs for years. Continuing her softball career into college always was a goal for Smith, but the question was where she would end up playing. Smith

realized months ago, after a long recruiting process, her ideal softball school was not far away.

"The recruiting process really started when I was in seventh grade," she said. "I picked out schools around the area that I was interested in and Oakland was one of them. At first I thought I might not want to go to



COURTESY PHOTO
Grosse Pointe North senior pitcher Maraina Smith is preparing for her final softball season with the Norsemen before continuing her career at Oakland University.

Oakland and go somewhere farther away from home, but as recruiting went on and toward my sophomore year and junior year when COVID hit, there was a dead period and not a lot of schools were looking. ...

I had a game over the summer and Oakland watched, then asked me to come for a visit. I just fell in love with the campus."

Smith will be a valuable addition to the Golden Grizzlies' pitching staff at Oakland University next season. That is what made Oakland a truly special opportunity for the North senior. Instead of having

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Athlete of the Week proudly sponsored by Joe Ricci Automotive

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PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Rocco Scarfone is one of several seniors on what is a very experienced and determined Liggett boys lacrosse team this spring.

Knights season ends in regionals

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Winning a district title over Detroit Central a few weeks ago gave the University Liggett School girls basketball team a shot at even more hardware during the postseason with a trip to the regional tournament. The Knights set off to Madison Heights last week for the regional semifinals with an opening matchup against Bishop Foley. Liggett's slow start on offense put the team into an early deficit from which it wasn't quite able to recover, with Bishop Foley ending the Knights' playoff run in a 62-25 finish.

Things looked lopsided from the beginning as Liggett allowed Bishop Foley to go on a 15-0

scoring run to start the game. The Knights managed to score one basket in the entire first quarter, ending the opening eight minutes 15-2.

Liggett scored more in the second quarter, but still not enough to keep pace with Bishop Foley's offense. The Ventures scored 20 in the quarter and continued widening the gap. By the halftime break, Bishop Foley was in front by 24.

The momentum stayed with the Ventures starting the second half as Bishop Foley was firmly in the driver's seat. Liggett once again allowed its opponent to score 14 unanswered points to begin the half and only managed one basket the entire quarter.

A Chloe MacFarlane three-pointer put the only points on the board

for the Knights in the third, bringing the score to 56-14 in favor of Bishop Foley. The deficit was too large to overcome in the fourth, as the Ventures cruised to a win by 37.

No Knights players were able to reach double digits during the loss. Hallie Marcero led Liggett with eight points, while MacFarlane and Olivia Jacque each had six.

The loss in the regional semifinals ends what was an overall impressive season for the Knights. Liggett captured a district title earlier in the playoffs and finished the season with an overall record of 13-6, which included a 10-game winning streak that lasted from December into early February.

Experience, defense are key for Liggett lacrosse success

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

If there is one thing the University Liggett boys lacrosse team will not be lacking during the upcoming spring season, it is experience. The Knights return a large group of seniors for the 2022 campaign that is right around the corner.

As Liggett enters its final weeks of workouts and practices before the beginning of the season,

having an experienced team this spring is sure to help the Knights hit the ground running.

"It's a senior-led team, so we're very excited because they know they had some success last year and can build upon that," Liggett coach Mike Costanzo said.

"Overall they know what to do to get ready because they've been here before."

One of the biggest and most experienced key players on this year's Liggett team is senior James Dailey.

The defender was a USA Lacrosse All-American in 2021, and is expected to be the driving force behind the Knights' defense this spring.

Dailey's coach praised the senior's all-around skill, including his ability to play during man-up situations even as a defender. His leadership and work ethic have gotten him noticed by the next level and earned him a special role on the field.

"He's a captain and was a captain last year and is planning on playing college next year at Kalamazoo," Costanzo said about the senior defender. "He trains year round lifting and playing lacrosse and is very dedicated. It's like having a coach on the field because he knows what to do and can anchor the defense."

Liggett's strength this season is certainly going to be defense. However, that does not mean the Knights will be without firepower when it comes to scoring.

With a senior like Dailey leading the defense, the Knights will look to another experi-

enced senior on the attack.

Doug Wood returns as one of the top players on attack for the Knights this spring. A star in soccer and hockey as well as lacrosse, the senior is a gifted athlete in many areas. His abilities as a scorer with the lacrosse stick in his hands are going to be key for a Liggett team that needs as much help as it can get offensively.

"He's such a well-rounded athlete and when we need a big goal, we look to him to help us out when we need some offense in a tough key situation," Costanzo said.

Also expected to be a leader on attack alongside Wood is fellow senior Rocco Scarfone. With experience playing together on the attack, the relationship between Scarfone and Wood could be the key to Liggett's offense in 2022.

"The chemistry he has with Doug is vital to our offense because of how well they play off each other," Costanzo said.

Other key contributors for the Knights this year include familiar names such as Campbell Marchal and Alex Georgie. Liggett also can look to sophomore Kobe Donaldson to potentially take some big leaps this season after showing promise as a freshman last spring. Junior goalie Ben Combs also returns to hold down the fort in net.

Having a strong returning group of not just seniors, but sophomores and juniors as well, is helping the Knights approach the upcoming season with plenty of hope. The level of experience this year's Liggett team brings can help with everything from confidence to physicality. Having gone through seasons at the varsity level and playing in big games means this group has what it takes to win.

"They trust one another and believe in one another because they've been through it together," Costanzo said. "When you play games

and see that you're bigger, then you're not afraid to take hits and be physical. There's a confidence that you gain from having been there before."

The Knights enter the season mostly confident in their abilities on defense. With plenty of talent on the back end and an experienced goalie in net, Liggett should not have to worry about surrendering too many goals.

Surrendering goals wasn't really the problem for the Knights in 2021. Many of the issues were on the offensive side, where Liggett sometimes struggled to produce.

In the eyes of Costanzo, picking up the pace on offense and correcting those issues on the attacking side could be the difference between this year's Knights team being good and being great.

"Last year we had a few games that we lost like 4-3 or 3-2," he said. "I don't think I've ever coached a team where we've let up three or four goals a game and have lost. We need to get the offense going this year because our defense will be more than capable.... If we can score 10 goals in a game, then we can win."

Our defense is going to allow nine or fewer, so it's something we have to figure out how to work well together.... Overall, we need to be a tight team and that will result in good offense."

Liggett had a strong season last spring, but ultimately came up short of winning any trophies. The Knights lost to Shrine Catholic in the CHSL Cardinal Division championship, Liggett's first ever appearance in a Catholic League title game, and were eliminated by crosstown rivals Grosse Pointe South in the first round of the state playoffs.

The experienced core of this spring's Knights team is going to be on a mission to make sure that does not happen again. Winning a Catholic League title and gaining some momentum going into the playoffs will serve as a benchmark for what this generation of Liggett lacrosse players can accomplish.

"I think we would be disappointed if we didn't get that one," Costanzo said. "That's not the way it always is, but I think we have the team that can win the Catholic League this year and maybe get hot when playoffs come."

The Liggett boys lacrosse team opens the season Wednesday, April 6, with a road contest against Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard. The Knights have their home opener a few days later Saturday, April 9, when they take on Notre Dame Prep.

City of Grosse Pointe, Michigan

2022 March Board of Review

The 2022 March Board of Review will convene in the City Hall at 17147 Maumee Avenue, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

The meeting is scheduled as follows:

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

March 21, 2022 @ 1:00 PM

APPEAL HEARINGS

March 21, 2022 @ 1:30 PM to 9:00 PM

March 22, 2022 @ 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. Hearings are by appointment only. COMPLETED 2022 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY, and must be submitted to the Assessor's Office, prior to your appointment. The deadline for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal before the Board of Review is Tuesday, March 22, 2022.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer and done by a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner and it must be submitted to the Board of Review on the form prescribed by the assessor's office. Written petitions must be received by the end of day Tuesday, March 22, 2022 to be reviewed by the Board. Postmarks are not accepted.

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted and published in the local newspaper.

All Board of Review meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's Office at (313) 885-5800.

GPN: 3/3/22, 3/10/22, 3/17/22

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC LIBRARY COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN

Notice of Availability of Library Board Trustee Positions

Four vacancies on the Grosse Pointe Public Library Board of Trustees will exist as of June 30, 2022: a representative from the Grosse Pointe Farms; a representative from Grosse Pointe City; and representative from Harper Woods; and an At-Large representative. The term for these positions will expire on June 30, 2025. Applicants must be registered voters and reside in the municipality that will be considering their appointment.

Applications are available at the Central Library Administrative Office (313-343-2325), 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday or on the Library's website, grossepoincelibrary.org.

Applications must be submitted to the Secretary of the Library Board, no later than April 7, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Submit applications to:
libraryboard@grossepoincelibrary.org

Or:
Secretary of Library Board
Grosse Pointe Public Library Central Branch
10 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

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ATHLETE:*Continued from page 1D*

to wait for her chance at another program, Smith will be able to hit the ground running in her college career by taking the diamond with the nation's best.

"They're playing the top teams in the country and competing with them and when I get there I'll be able to actually play and have an opportunity instead of being behind five or six other pitchers," Smith said.

Competing against the top teams and players from around the country will be nothing new to Smith. Her travel softball career has taken her around the nation already and earned her recognition on both the national and international level. For example, Smith will be competing with the Netherlands 18U team for the second year in a row this June at the Triple Crown International Challenge in Denver, Colo.

An invitation to a tournament like that shows just how much potential Smith has to accomplish even more great things in her softball career. Whether she is on the mound for the Norsemen or a travel team, her true pride is being a natural leader.

"I have confidence and like to think that I'm an overall strong team player when I'm on the mound because I have a lot of energy," Smith said.

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, visit grossepoincenews.com/athlete-of-the-week.

Ups and downs of basketball season help Norsemen grow

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The 2021-22 season for the Grosse Pointe North boys basketball team was full of ups and downs. From an impressive hot start to struggles down the stretch, a relatively young group for the Norsemen this winter had plenty to learn. The team fought through injuries, big wins and heartbreaking losses to grow stronger physically and mentally for the future.

North finished the season with an 8-12 record and lost seven games in a row to finish the campaign. The final loss was a 68-63 defeat at the hands of Hamtramck in the district semifinals. The Norsemen competed hard against one of the top teams in the state during that final game, which served as a testament to the team's heart throughout a long season.

"Our season from a win-loss standpoint probably looks like a disappointment, but losing two scorers during the regular season certainly didn't help us," North head coach Andy Ayrault said. "A lot of kids had the chance to step up and grow a bit because of that experience. ... That changes a lot that you can do during the season when two guys go down, but given them coming back, you can see how

well we can play when we're at full strength."

Leading the Norsemen much of this year were sophomore James Phillips and junior Adam Ayrault. Phillips had a breakout season, making his presence felt on both ends of the court, while Ayrault met and often exceeded expectations as a leader.

At the conclusion of the regular season, Ayrault was named MVP of the MAC White Division. The junior scored 34 points in the district semifinals to bring his team close to pulling off an upset against Hamtramck. His performance in that game and throughout the season sets him up for a strong senior season next winter with his dad and coach there to see him develop.

"(Adam) worked really hard last summer on his shooting and being able to create his own shot," Coach Ayrault said. "We run some stuff that's designated to get him open because we know that part of his game, he worked really hard to develop that part of his game. Now that everybody can key on him and set a defense around him, I think that's the biggest reason he got the MVP of the White Division, because there probably isn't another player that teams would have to prepare for like they do for him."

Overall, the Norsemen have plenty of returning talent for next season. Ayrault and Phillips were not the only players who made big jumps in their skill levels this season.

A pair who stood out for North this winter were the Hill brothers. Junior Drew Hill and sophomore Brennan Hill are skilled three-sport athletes who might be better known for their prowess on the football field or baseball diamond. However, Ayrault believes the Hills have shown that their potential on the basketball court is high as well.

"Drew Hill really improved over the course of the season," he said. "His skills got better over the course of the season and I think his brother, Brennan, who's a sophomore, will keep developing well because those guys are such good athletes."

North has a strong core returning for the 2022-23 season next winter. However, a couple of the few seniors on this year's Norsemen team were able to have a major impact. Those seniors will be missed, but also helped lay a foundation for the next couple of years and have left a legacy thanks to their hard work.

"We had guys who do a lot that don't show up on the stat sheet," Ayrault said. "Ben Bessert, who's a senior that we're losing,

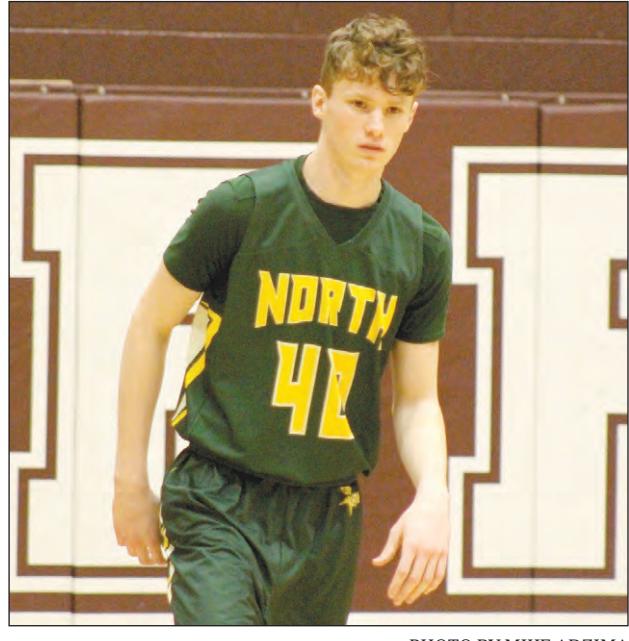


PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

North's Adam Ayrault was named MVP of the MAC White Division this season.

he's a great leadership guy and does all the unsung things like setting screens and always knows what play we're running. Nick Robie is another senior (who) stepped up in the absence of the guys who got hurt and had some great games scoring points and getting to the rim like he should."

The impact those seniors had on and off the court provides an example for how the young Norsemen core can achieve success in the future. North's younger players also learned through tough situations faced in many games this year.

"We had four overtime games and one buzzer beater, so there was never a game we were really out of," Ayrault said. "When you play in those games, you learn how to stay calm in that situation and how to win those games. I'm not upset that happened this year, because I think it pays off in the long run when guys have had that experience."

Be prepared for the madness

It's the most wonderful time of the year. The NCAA basketball tournament is here and it's once again time to fill out your brackets.

The odds of achieving a perfect bracket are nearly impossible — one in 9,223,372,036,854,775,808 to be exact—but it doesn't mean you can't try to get as close as possible.

Of course, one could pick the final four to be all the top seeds from each region. That wouldn't be any fun though. Upsets are what make the tournament great and give March its madness. Picking upsets can be tricky. If you don't pick enough, your bracket can be busted. Pick too many and it's not as much fun.

I watch my fair share of college hoops, but am far from being any kind of expert. Plenty of people end up having the best brackets among all their family and friends without knowing much about college basketball at all. Having your bracket busted by a Cinderella team has become one of the best parts of the tournament anyway. In the end, it's all about having fun and enjoying the ride while the madness unfolds.

Mike's final four picks: Texas Tech, Kentucky, Arizona and Kansas

Mike's national champ: Kentucky

—Mike Adzima

2022 NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL BRACKET

