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Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Shores PS by the numbers

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — The overall crime numbers in Grosse Pointe Shores rose in 2021 compared to 2020, but the numbers can be a little deceiving.

The number of Part II Non-Index Crimes, defined by the FBI as less serious offenses such as identity theft, stolen property and drunken driving, increased from 100 to 139. All 39 of the additional cases were arrests for operating a vehicle while intoxicated, which jumped from 41 in 2020, to 80 last year.

"Crime is up, but what does that mean?" Public Safety Director Ken Werenski told the Grosse Pointe Shores City Council in presenting the annual report at its March meeting. "The raw numbers can look misleading."

Part I Index Crimes, defined by the FBI as the most serious criminal offenses such as homicide, assault and arson, rose from nine in 2020, to 21 last year. That increase was due to five more cases of burglary, including attempts, six additional cases of larceny and six vehicle thefts as compared to two in 2020.

Larceny is defined as taking another person's property, while burglary involves breaking into another person's property to commit a crime.

"Of the six auto thefts, we recovered five and put an end to things after we

See CRIME, page 3A



COURTESY PHOTO

Lifeguards from Lake Front Park in Grosse Pointe Woods undergo Emergency Action Plan training last summer to prepare them for a variety of rescue situations. The Woods park generally hires upwards of 100 lifeguards to cover its massive aquatics facility. This year, they have hired around half that number to date.

Parks face lifeguarding shortage

By Meg Blondin Leonard
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — Due in part to a two-year run of COVID-influenced limits at local parks and pools, combined with greater academic and extracurricular demands on high school and college students, applications to become a lifeguard throughout the Pointes are at a virtual

standstill.

"Yes, we are having trouble," said Michele Eickhorst, recreation and marina supervisor in Grosse Pointe Farms.

"I have very few staff coming back from last year and I have only received one new application so far," she added.

In a normal year, Eickhorst said she hires 30 lifeguards, five swim team coaches and four to

five synchronized swim team coaches.

Rebecca Jenzen, the City of Grosse Pointe's parks and recreation coordinator, agrees this year is bringing extra challenges in hiring guards.

"We have actually been incredibly lucky in the last two summers to be well-staffed and not hurting for workers, which makes this summer all

the more difficult," she said.

"For the first time, we are struggling to get staff."

Jenzen said usually by the end of February, she has a stack of eight to 12 applications and begins interviewing by mid-March. This year, she has received applications from only three potential

See SHORTAGE, page 2A

Cutting living fences down to size

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — About 15 years ago, a turf war started over a view of Lake St. Clair. A lakeside resident planted a hedgerow that blocked a neighbor's view of the water. Game on.

"It was bitter," said Brian Colter, Grosse Pointe Park city forester. "It went to the city council."

From that dispute grew this month's insertion of a living fence component to the municipal fence ordinance.

A living fence, defined in the ordinance as "made of organic growing materials such as bushes, shrubs, hedge-rows or landscape berms," was updated to mandate a four-foot height limit in front yards, or six feet in side and back yards.

See FENCES, page 4A

Library dropbox going in at city hall

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Approved at a city council meeting Monday, March 21, Grosse Pointe Woods residents soon will be able to return all Grosse Pointe Public Library books via a dropbox to be installed at the city's municipal center.

"Grosse Pointe Shores and Grosse Pointe Park have already put boxes at their municipal sites," City Administrator Frank Schulte said at the meeting, adding the Woods to the list of cities making library returns more convenient for its residents.

With a central location on Mack, GPPL Director Jessica Keyser said in a memo to council, the Woods' city hall horseshoe drive is an ideal location for the third dropbox to be placed in the Pointes.

The Woods plans to install the dropbox in city hall's horseshoe drive next to city and postal service boxes. The box will stand 38 inches by 38 inches by 56 inches, with a stainless steel appearance and the library logo on its side.

See DROPBOX, page 5A

Concessionaire sought for Pier Park

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — It seemed a new life had started for the Pier Park concession stand last year when 40-year concessionaire Dick Graves retired and City of Grosse Pointe resident Holly Rutherford, known for her work with the Grosse Pointe Farms-City Little League, opened the Fishfly Café.

The journey was short lived, however, with Rutherford recently announcing plans to move out of state with family and the city putting out a notice for applications to run the Pier Park staple late last week.

"It's unfortunate for



COURTESY PHOTO

The concession stand runs from the Friday prior to Memorial Day until the Tuesday after Labor Day.

the city, because I think Holly did a great job last year (during) her initial year," City Manager Shane Reeside said. "I think she was successful and we were looking forward to her return this

year. ... We hope there's other people out there who will be able to fit the bill and provide that service to our residents."

With a deadline of

See PARK, page 3A

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



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One year of Main Street

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — It's been one year since Executive Director Cindy Willcock came on board to lead Main Street Grosse Pointe in its five-year vision to revitalize The Village.

During what Willcock called "a whirlwind of a year," the organization held a formative focus as the groundwork was laid to begin tackling more tangible projects.

Despite the multiple floods over the summer, as well as small businesses entering a second year of the pandemic, it was a successful year in The Village, Willcock said.

Seven new businesses opened in the downtown district — The Village Groom Room, Village Nutrition, Glitter & Scotch, Beyond Juicery & Eatery, Kercheval Company, Ridge Crest Outfitters and Wildflower & Company — and existing business Savvy Chic Boutique moved to a larger space on the strip due to its success, even during the pandemic.

These changes created 20 additional full-time and 40 part-time jobs.

"This resulted in the types of investment in ... improvements by property owners and business owners of almost \$900,000," Willcock reported. " (This), coupled with \$150,000 in public funds for updates to the parking system and the new kiosks, (created) over \$1 million worth of investment into The Village during the pandemic."

As a volunteer-driven, grassroots organization, MSGP recorded nearly 1,500 volunteer hours in 2021, which Willcock said have a value of \$41,000 and of which she also anticipates seeing an increase.

While paying close attention to pandemic safety concerns, MSGP also was successful in holding a few scaled-back events in 2021 — Sidewalk Sale-ebriation, Paint the Windows, Buy Nearby Weekend, Get Your Pink On, Small Business Saturday and Santa's Workshop — for the sake of engaging the community.

"The budget that was set, was set not projecting those events to make any money and to actually lose a little bit of money," Willcock said, "but we ended up, because we scaled them

See MAIN, page 4A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

The Village flower beds should see new life through the project around June.

Village flower bed replanting OK'd

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — With the Sunday before last marking the first official day of spring, The Village is gearing up for a significant planter bed redesign and replacement project.

Focusing on the planter beds along Kercheval, as well as in the St. Clair

Plaza areas, the project will incorporate new native plant materials and ground covers, along with transplanting some existing plantings.

The goal is to create better sustainability and more consistent color year-round, while reducing the need for seasonal maintenance.

"One of the main goals of the Main Street revital-

ization strategy is to improve the physical environment of The Village and make it inviting for everybody," Main Street Grosse Pointe Director Cindy Willcock said. "One of the ways we can do that is by enhancing the planting beds."

Kercheval flower beds will see the maintenance

See BEDS, page 3A

SHORTAGE:

Continued from page 1A

hires, though more have informally inquired.

"I am feeling the pressure and will need more staff for the upcoming summer," she said. "I would like to hire between 10 to 12 new lifeguards."

Nicole Gerhart, Grosse Pointe Woods recreation supervisor, generally employs upwards of 100 lifeguards to cover Lake Front Park's massive aquatics facility. Currently, she has hired about 70 guards for the upcoming summer.

She said the last two years have affected hiring numbers.

"Due to COVID-related pool closures, we hired

less than in the past," said Gerhart, who herself worked as a Woods guard, starting in high school in 2006. "We expect so much more out of kids than ever before. They have heavy homework loads, AP classes, sports and volunteer work to manage, in addition to a job."

"We need more guards to accommodate everyone's schedules. It's a puzzle, but we make it work."

Jen Serra, Osius park and pool director in Grosse Pointe Shores, said she usually targets having between 20 and 25 guards to fully staff the pool. Last year, the park operated understaffed compared to previous years, but "functioned with about 14 or 15

guards," Serra said.

Less than half of the guards from last year have committed to returning this year, she added.

"The selling point of living in this community is our parks," she said. "But we need people working in order to have our parks fully open and operational."

Another issue in hiring lifeguards, according to Serra, can be ensuring the staff goes through the required American Red Cross lifeguarding certification before the swim season kicks off.

"We have to pool a ton of different resources to offer the necessary courses to get our lifeguards ready," she said, "and that adds an additional challenge."

Chad Craig, Grosse Pointe Park's director of Parks and Recreation, said his city hopes to get close to hiring a staff of 36 lifeguards. Currently, he has about 20 returning guards and applicants combined.

Calling all candidates

All five of Grosse Pointe's parks and recreation departments are seeking lifeguards to staff its pools and coach its swim teams this summer. High school and college students, including recent college graduates, are encouraged to apply. Hours and pay vary among the parks.

Interested candidates should send inquiries, resumes and cover letters to the following contacts in each city:

City of Grosse Pointe:
Rebecca Jenzen
Parks and Recreation Coordinator
rjenzen@grossepointecity.org
(313) 343-5257
grossepointecity.org

Grosse Pointe Farms:
Michele Eickhorst
Recreation and Marina Supervisor
meickhorst@grossepointefarms.org
(313) 343-2405
parks.grossepointefarms.org

Grosse Pointe Park:
Mary Beth Hathaway
Activities Manager
hathawaym@grossepointepark.org
(313) 822-2812, Ext. 302
grossepointepark.org

Grosse Pointe Shores:
Jen Serra
Parks and Pool Director
jserra@gpshoresmi.gov
(313) 884-2305
gpshoresmi.gov

Grosse Pointe Woods:
Nicole Gerhart
City Recreation Supervisor
ngerhart@gpwwmi.us
(313) 343-2408
gpwwmi.us

for the City from 2014-18, said she is finding it hard to imagine the lack of interest among teenagers in lifeguarding.

"That seems so crazy to me," said Walsh, who is now a University of Michigan graduate working for IBM, while also attending graduate school at Loyola University in Chicago. "I would trade the world to relive a summer working at the park."

Jenzen agreed how special a lifeguarding job can be.

"For many years, the staff here at Neff Park has been a real team unit," she said. "... All members are

willing to step up when needed, take on different roles and everyone works toward the same goal — making summers at Neff Park as positive an experience as possible for our residents and staff."

Head to page 6A to read our guest editorial on the benefits of lifeguarding and to page 1B for more stories on personal lifeguarding experiences throughout the years in the Pointes.

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Saunders is 2021 City officer of the year

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — After being in the final running for officer of the year in the City of Grosse Pointe each year since he joined the department in 2016, Sgt. Christopher Saunders has been selected for the honor in 2021.

“It was definitely an honor to receive an award like that,” he said after being recognized during a recent city council meeting. “We have a great group of guys within the department, so to receive that kind of recognition’s really an honor.”

While the officer of the year award can be given for a single action or arrest, a year of noteworthy investigations or arrests, or the completion of a difficult task or project done for the good of the city and department, Director of Public Safety John Alcorn noted Saunders has fit into all three categories on multiple occasions since 2016.

This year, the sergeant also earned recognition in the form of a unit citation for his part in efforts during the June flooding, a commendation for his arrest of a known felon



COURTESY PHOTO

Sgt. Christopher Saunders, honored as the 2021 City of Grosse Pointe Officer of the Year, joined the department in 2016.

who was wanted for home invasion, an individual citation and a chiefs letter.

Saunders, who plans to “spend the next 20 years in the City,” serves as the department’s field training officer, standardized field sobriety instructor, accident investigator, member of the Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods Crisis Intervention Team and volunteer for the Seniors and Law Enforcement program.

“Sgt. Saunders is always one of the first to volunteer for any assignment and I’m glad every time he does,” Alcorn

said, “because I know it’s going to be done completely and thoroughly and well done every time. It’s a great honor for me (and) I’m very pleased to award Chris with officer of the year for 2021.”

2021 public safety awards

For his work leading the department in 2021 drunken driving arrests, Officer Austin Giarmo was awarded the Mothers Against Drunk Driving, or MADD, award.

Sgt. Chris Cotzias, Sgt. Michael Herrgott, Officer Jacob Gentile and Officer Muhieddine Turk

received a unit citation for stopping the June fire at the Koi Nu Asian restaurant. Reports at the time noted the quick response time in preventing the spread to other Village businesses and putting out the flames just as they were reaching the ceiling.

Officer Mark Yanis received a commendation for his arrest of a larceny suspect who stole from multiple businesses in The Village. All items were recovered and returned.

Lt. Alan Gwyn and Detective Mike Narduzzi received a commendation for stopping and apprehending a suspended drunken driver who fled the scene.

Nine officers were awarded a unit citation for their efforts during the June flooding, when they faced flooded basements with live electricals, multiple fires and submerged vehicles.

Sgt. Justin Strohmeier, Sgt. Joseph Srebernak, Officer Lucas Rucinski and Gentile were on duty that night, while Lt. Thomas Martindale, Saunders, Herrgott, Officer Joshua Ina, Officer Andrew Prueter and Turk — who lost his own vehicle to the flooding while trying to get to

the City — were called in to assist.

“When I was talking to some people about this award, they were like, ‘Yeah, that’s your job,’ and absolutely,” Alcorn said, “that’s our job. That’s what we do. But it doesn’t make it any less hard for officers to leave

their homes and be concerned about their homes when they’re coming in to fill their duties here. ... They did a fantastic job.”

Rucinski, Saunders, Martindale, Detective Sgt. Joe Adams, Turk and Herrgott earned chiefs letters. Giarmo received two.

Field closures

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Though it may be tempting to host a nice game of baseball at the local park on a sunny spring day, Grosse Pointe Woods officials are asking residents to stay off fields one through four at Ghesquiere Park until Little League’s opening day Sunday, May 1.

“The fields are normally still very wet and haven’t been properly cleaned yet,” Director of Public Services James Kowalski said via email. “The concern is when we get a few warm days in a row there are usually a few people and sometimes groups that want to go out and use the fields for a pickup game.”

Recently, Kowalski mentioned, substantial damage was sustained after a pitching screen was dragged to the infield

in wet conditions, leaving ruts and sunken footprints throughout the field.

Grosse Pointe Woods Shores Little League currently is undergoing an extensive field upgrade project and, with grading and seeding recently having taken place, staying off the field is especially important now to allow the seed a chance to germinate, Kowalski said.

“The best case scenario would be to get some much needed sunshine and mild rain and hopefully open them sooner,” he added.

In the meantime, baseball lovers may visit Parcels Middle School, Mason Elementary School or Monteith Elementary School to use their fields.

— Kate Vanderstelt

BEDS:

Continued from page 2A

of existing roses, daylilies and maiden grass, while adding autumn joy sedum, Walker’s Low catmint and native tuberosa milkweed.

In the St. Clair beds, the existing roses, daylilies, patriot hosta, lady’s mantle and purple coneflower will be transplanted. New additional plantings of the same varieties also will be added.

The budget, not to

exceed \$25,000, already was set aside by the City for the replanting work two years ago, but it was put on hold until MSGP was and running.

Despite the price quote needing to be updated from the original in 2020, Willcock reported, it didn’t change significantly.

“There were slight increases, but really not anything even as much as I anticipated with supply chain issues and changes post-pandemic two years later,” she said.

While professionals with Tocco Mannino Landscaping will handle the work, this project also marks the beginning of a transfer of responsibilities from the city’s beautification commission to MSGP.

As many members of the group, also known as Project Bloom, are getting older, the intent is to provide Main Street volunteers to do the heavy lifting while continuing to follow the oversight and advice of those who have successfully contributed

to the beauty of The Village for years.

“The beautification commission’s done a wonderful job for many years,” Councilman John Stempfle said. “I’ve attended some of the meetings and helped out a few times. It’s not a young group and it’s becoming more and more difficult to do this, so I’m glad someone else is taking over to a large extent.”

Dependent on weather and availability, The Village replanting project may begin by June.

CRIME:

Continued from page 1A

noticed a pattern at the (Grosse Pointe) Yacht Club,” Werenski said. “We also have times during the summer when people are walking around at night trying unlocked cars and taking things like spare change or sunglasses. This is not Shores residents stealing from each other. We don’t have the real serious problems like homicide or rape or drug houses. Even the one case of aggravated assault was between two people who knew each other.”

As for arrests nearly doubling for drunken driving, Werenski said it’s a sign of a staff that is

proactive.

“Part of it is being in the right place at the right time, and part of it is being aggressive and pounding the pavement,” he said. “Lakeshore gets a lot of traffic and a lot of times when you stop someone for speeding or running a red light, there’s a good chance they’ve been drinking.”

On the firefighting side, there were 58 calls for service in 2021, down from 64 in 2020. Calls included dwelling fires, smoke investigations, fire alarms, downed wires, vehicle fires and natural gas emergencies, as well as 10 mutual aid responses to neighboring communities.

EMS had 102 hospital transports last year, compared to 108 in 2020.

Werenski said he attributes the drop to the pandemic as some people did not want to risk going to the hospital.

Total violations last year were 1,548, up from 1,091 in 2020, with municipal court collecting \$238,579 in fines and fees.

The Director’s Award, which goes annually to an officer who exceeds expectations, was given to Officer Jeffrey Roybal, who joined the department in 2019.

Werenski said Roybal was selected to manage the department’s motor division and also completed 80 hours of riding instruction from the Midwest Advanced Motorcycle Training School. He also was selected by the command

staff to be a field training officer, overseeing probationary officers during their first 12 months for in-service training and mentoring. In addition, Roybal serves on the Grosse Pointe-Harper Woods Crisis Intervention Team, which handles individuals dealing with a mental health crisis.

In the personnel area, Sgt. James Wardowski and Officer James Tassie both retired in 2021, after 25 years of service each, and another officer left the department. Officers Dillon Taylor, Paul Morang and Derek Wood all joined the department, and Werenski said another candidate will join later this year after completing the police academy.

PARK:

Continued from page 1A

3 p.m. Thursday, April 14, the request for proposal form can be found at bit.ly/3uu1BT1. City officials aim to have the stand up and running Friday, May 27, in time for Memorial Day weekend.

“I can’t say enough good things about it,” said Rutherford, who will be providing the city with information to help the next concessionaire,

including a list of the staff that was working for her and were set to come back this season. “My family had a blast. We were definitely looking forward to running it this next year. ... I really would like to see somebody from the community go and take that over.”

Among the qualifications required are experience and a track record of success in the food industry, as well as being able to obtain Wayne County permits for food

service and insurance.

National Coney Island, which submitted a proposal last year only to withdraw citing a labor shortage, already has reported it remains unable to take on the stand this year for the same reason.

“They feel by next year they would be in a position,” Reeside explained, “but obviously we felt that we at least give other vendors an opportunity to submit a proposal this year.”

In case the city is

unable to find a qualified applicant, it could take a similar route to what happened last summer before Rutherford opened Fishfly Café: food trucks.

“That would be definitely something that the city could fall back on,” Reeside said, “and clearly something that was very popular.”

However, if the city secures a concessionaire, he added, it does not plan to continue using food trucks at the same level as last season.

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, APRIL 4

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Finance Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Spring Beautification Committee meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Community Tree Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Farms Easter Egg Hunt, 9:45 a.m. at Pier Park.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Egg Stroll, 10 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at Lake Front Park. Cost is \$5 per child; registration is required in advance.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m. at Osius Park.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Pointers promote the path to peace

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Yoga is more than a practice to Roy and Mary Ann Thibodeau of Grosse Pointe Woods. It's a lifestyle. A culture. A way of life.

It's what initially brought them together nearly 50 years ago and it's a passion they continue to share with others as two of the area's longest-teaching yoga instructors.

Between the two of them, the Thibodeaus teach 14 classes each week, some at the Grosse Pointe Woods Community Center, others at the Neighborhood Club, The Rivers and Wayne County Community College District. Mary Ann also substitutes at The Helm at the Boll Life Center from time to time. And they offer yoga classes through the St. Clair Shores and Clinton Valley adult education programs, as well as independent meditation workshops out of their home.

They also stay active at Song of the Morning Ranch, the retreat center in Vanderbilt where they met in 1974.

"My first job was teaching in Gaylord," said Mary Ann, who hails from Alpena and earned a teaching degree from Central Michigan University. "A friend told me about this yoga place,

so I started going. Roy was on staff at the time."

"I had been into Edgar Cayce, reading about the meta-physical, ESP," said Roy, who grew up in Sterling Heights and earned degrees in mathematics and physics from Western Michigan University. "When I graduated from Western, two of my friends gave me a book. I didn't have a job when I got home, so I read it pretty quickly and it struck a chord."

The book was "Autobiography of a Yogi" by Paramahansa Yogananda. Roy met the guru in 1972, during a meditation service at the Detroit Institute of Arts. He also learned of Yogananda's retreat center in Vanderbilt.

"I went up there and really got immersed," he said.

With Roy on staff and Mary Ann a student, dating wasn't allowed between the two. However, when Roy left the ranch, he was quick to call her. They began dating and in 1976, were married at Song of the Morning.

Yoga is such a strong presence in their lives, two of their three children — Matt, Jess and Jaye Lynn — are yoga



COURTESY PHOTO

Continuing a way of life that brought them together in the first place, Roy and Mary Ann Thibodeau are two of the area's longest-teaching yoga instructors.

teachers.

"It's the only thing our children have ever known," Roy said. "They were raised in it. It made sense to them, so they ended up following the same path."

After their children were grown, Mary Ann enrolled at Oakland University and earned a degree in special education. She put it to use teaching at Ferry Elementary, Brownell Middle and Grosse Pointe North High schools until her retirement in 2013.

Roy, who had an electrical contracting business in Gaylord before the couple moved to Grosse Pointe in 1985, next worked at EDS, then left the field to become a

financial advisor.

"I still have a small practice, though I'm semi-retired," he said, noting he keeps up-to-date on his licensing.

Though their careers have fluctuated, their love of and dedication to yoga has only grown stronger. It's not just the physical benefits that have had an impact.

Mary Ann said the physical and spiritual aspects of yoga resonated with her from the start. Though she was raised in the Lutheran faith, she had questions that went unanswered, but yoga brought her "an understanding of why things are the way they are," she said. "There can be such insanity in the world, but

I have an understanding that things are as they should be. That helped me. The physical aspect helps keep us physically and mentally healthy. The breath and focus and meditation help with depression and anxiety. Physically, mentally, spiritually, it gives you an understanding most people don't have. They aren't aware of the deeper aspect of things."

The spiritual side of yoga is the predominant side, her husband agreed.

"Nothing else seems to make much sense," Roy said. "I've never seen anything so commonsensical and fulfilling. It's commonsensical, but with lofty spiritual ideas."

"... Everybody's searching for something — for joy or bliss or happiness. They do it through various methods which are mistakes — drugs and alcohol, food, relationships. None of those have the power to give it to you. The oversoul is pure joy and bliss. Through contact with that, you bring joy and bliss into your own life."

Yoga, he added, not only leads to a longer, happier, healthier life, but also a fulfilling spiritual life achieved through meditation and one's con-

duct — doing good works, helping people, being generous, he said — all practices that have brought joy to the Thibodeaus.

They hope to share the joy they've gained with others, through their classes and as board members at Song of the Morning Ranch, where they help train new yoga teachers.

"It keeps us busy and it keeps us healthy," Roy said.

Apart from their yoga avocation, the Thibodeaus walk every day and enjoy spending time with their grandchildren. Thirteen-year-old Ella plays soccer and 9-year-old Weston plays hockey. A third grandchild is on the way.

The Thibodeaus offer two independent meditation classes at their Grosse Pointe Woods home.

Golden Lotus Meditation and Wisdom Teaching takes place from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Sundays.

Golden Lotus Meditation Group takes place 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays.

All levels of experience are welcome to these sessions, which are in the Raja and Kriya yoga traditions. To register or for more information, call (313) 882-3877, email roythib@glysa.net or visit meetup.com/grosse-pointe-meditation-group.

FENCES:

Continued from page 1A

The revised ordinance, Sec. 27-100 of the municipal code, won unanimous city council support Monday, March 7.

"No fences except living fences are permitted on the water view side of any residential premises abutting Lake St. Clair," according to the ordi-

nance. "Any living fence in existence before adoption of this ordinance is grandfathered in, but must be modified to be in compliance with the 4-foot height restriction."

Height restrictions comport with restrictions on inanimate fences.

"The fence ordinance was always four feet, the standard height of a chain-link fence," said Councilman Thomas Caulfield, chairman of the ordinance committee. "Previously, there was no height limit for arborvitae and other trees," Colter said. "Those continued to grow and completely block a line of sight at intersections."

The amended ordinance is intended to eliminate over-planting at crossroads, where clear sightlines protect pedestrians and motorists.

"Over the years, there hadn't been much enforcement until of late because of safety concerns," Caulfield said. "People were planting shrubs and bushes on side lots that exceeded the four-foot threshold. We made verbiage that a living fence is essentially the same as a four-foot fence."

"What if I have a 10-foot-high arborvitae wall along the sidewalk?" Councilman Vikas Relan asked.

"If it's along the front line of the property, it cannot be 10 feet tall," said Erica Shell, assistant city attorney.

Technically true as written in the ordinance.

"All ordinances allow some discretion by the ordinance officer," said Nick Sizeland, city manager. "At a corner, the line

of sight is four feet. The rest of the arborvitae will be left as is. The overall intent is not to make people cut down their tall shrubs, unless it disrupts sightlines for safety, both traffic and pedestrians. However, the city has always had a four-foot height requirement for front-yard fences."

"I was the prosecuting attorney several years back," Shell said. "I dealt with issues related to street crossings and corners."

They were handled under the catch-all nuisance code, she said.

"We attempted to develop something more specific and also be uniform," Shell said of the updated code. "The goal is to treat two types of fences (inanimate and living) in a consistent, fair manner and make

sure a safety concern can be addressed by code enforcement with a specific standard without appearing to pick and choose some fences over others."

"(Enforcement) has been a challenge," Sizeland said. "Not only for code enforcement, but also for public safety."

"It gives our public safety and ordinance people the ability to say you want to see oncoming traffic, so even a four-foot fence might need to be removed because it's in a line of sight," Caulfield said.

A row of bushes or hedges that aren't a living fence today could become one in the future.

"As they grow, and if they are on a corner and there becomes a line-of-sight problem, they'd have to be cut to four feet," Sizeland said.

MAIN:

Continued from page 2A

back (and) because we were able to cut costs by using volunteers and in-house, we actually made a little bit of money and ended up that year in the black. So, although revenues are down, expenses are down more than revenues."

With a budget of \$10,500, the organization saw a net income of \$5,398.

To guide efforts going forward, MSGP adopted an experience-based retail economy strategy, which will encourage businesses toward the offering of a social experience or escape from routine, providing unique products or services, tending toward local ownership and differentiating from big chains to be valued as authentic by consumers.

This could take physical form through examples such as a coffee shop with a bookstore inside; a combination bike shop and ice cream shop; a business where patrons can buy candles and soaps, but also take a class at the same time; or a current business hosting classes and events.

The various upcoming projects and programs in 2022 include incorporating public Wi-Fi, speakers and street music; the exploration of a social district; Lot 4 resurfacing and aesthetic improvements; and developing a marketing campaign.

"I think we're in a place (where) we should all be really excited about what's coming in The Village and to the Main Street program," MSGP Board Director Kasey Malley said.

Clarification

The article, "Employee retention may prove difficult with city income," published in the March 24 Grosse Pointe News, should have stated the roughly 15 percent pay increase within the five-year forecast is for part-time employees.

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City of Grosse Pointe

The long game

A 49-year-old Grosse Pointe woman wrote three checks using non-sufficient funds to a business in the 17000 block of Mack Avenue over the last two years.

Delivery disaster

A maroon and white semi-truck caused damage to city-owned property, including a portion of the sprinkler system, at Kercheval Place and Notre Dame, while making a delivery at 12:38 p.m. Wednesday, March 23.

Failed theft

A 45-year-old Detroit man stole \$169 of merchandise from a business in the 16000 block of Kercheval Avenue at 2:20 p.m. Thursday, March 24, before fleeing down Cadieux Road.

The man was arrested, the merchandise returned and an active felony warrant from Wayne County was discovered.

Drunken driver

After being pulled over for driving without a rear taillight at Mack Avenue and Washington Road at 3 a.m. Saturday, March 26, a 61-year-old Woods man was found to be intoxicated and was arrested.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Suspended license

A 42-year-old Georgia man was cited for driving while license suspended after being pulled over at Mack Avenue and Bournemouth Drive at 12:06 p.m. Wednesday,

March 23, for an expired license plate and non-functioning brake light.

Child neglect

After being pulled over for speeding 12 mph over the limit at Country Club Lane and Moross Road at 2:12 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, a 23-year-old Detroit man was found with brass knuckles and was arrested.

Four young children and their 31-year-old mother also were in the vehicle. The children showed signs of neglect, including a lack of warm clothing, and the two babies were in significantly soiled diapers.

The case worker on an ongoing Child Protective Services case was contacted.

Backup plan

After being told the cashier couldn't sell him a can of alcohol past midnight, a man grabbed one and ran from a business in the 19000 block of Mack Avenue at 4:50 a.m. Thursday, March 24.

The suspect is described as a 6-foot, 1-inch, black male with a medium to thick build and scraggly beard, who was wearing a red hat, blue jacket with red trim and blue sweatpants.

Obvious evidence

A 27-year-old Detroit woman was pulled over at Mack Avenue and Allard Road at 8:02 p.m. Friday, March 25, because her vehicle had tinted windows and an expired license tab.

As officers ran the woman's information through LEIN, an empty pint of alcohol was observed between her legs.

A preliminary breath test showed she had a

blood alcohol content of 0.21 percent, for which she was arrested.

Stolen flowers

After yelling racial and homophobic slurs inside a Kercheval Avenue business at 12:09 a.m. Sunday, March 27, a 41-year-old Farms man stole flowers from a memorial for an employee who passed away and handed them to the woman he was with as they left.

Officers were able to locate the suspect's vehicle and retrieve the flowers, but the vase, which also was stolen, could not be found.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Identity theft on three accounts

A resident reported receiving an email from Bank of America at 3:35 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, which informed her of three new accounts opened in her name.

When she told the bank she did not open the accounts, they told her the only information that did not match the resident's was the telephone number.

She closed the accounts and reported them to the bank's fraud department.

Try again

An unknown person opened a bank account in a resident's name Friday, Feb. 25. She closed the

account and filed an identity theft report with the Federal Trade Commission.

A month later, she was informed that someone again was using her identity via her email address Wednesday, March 23, and Saturday, March 26.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

No crimes to report per dispatch.

— Ted O'Neil
Report information about crime to Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety, (313) 881-5500.

Grosse Pointe Park

OWI

A 37-year-old Detroit woman faces a charge of drunken driving resulting from a traffic stop near the intersection of Jefferson and Grand Marais shortly before midnight Saturday, March 19.

A patrolman investigated her for allegedly

texting while driving.

MPD

Two cases of malicious destruction of property were reported during the final two weeks of March.

Shortly before 1 p.m. Monday, March 21, a woman living in the 1300 block of Beaconsfield discovered what appeared to be deliberate scratch marks on the trunk lid of her 2014 Honda Accord. The car was parked in her driveway.

The morning of Monday, March 28, a man found the tires flattened on his car parked in the 800 block of Nottingham.

Package taken

A thief stole a FedEx package containing prescription medication deposited on a front

porch in the 1000 block of Wayburn.

The victim reported the theft at 1:12 p.m. Friday, March 25.

Video evidence

At 7:54 p.m. Saturday, March 26, security video shows an unidentified bearded, black male stealing a cell phone that a woman mistakenly left on the hostess stand of a restaurant in the 15000 block of Kercheval.

The suspect wore a black jacket, black hat and blue jeans.

"(He) is seen stealing the phone and fleeing on foot," reported police.

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



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DROPBOX:

Continued from page 1A

The city's department of public works will facilitate installation, both with a cement pad and the box itself.

"I wish that this had happened six months ago when the Woods (library) branch was closed," Councilwoman

Vicki Granger said.

She added, "I'm glad we've got this in the works."

As soon as the box arrives, anticipated in May, installation will occur and the box will be available for public use. Library staff will maintain the box, emptying it daily.

— Kate Vanderstelt

financial confidence

[ˈleg·ə·cy ˈwelth ˈman·age·ment] noun phrase

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6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

The Case of the Grosse Pointe House Gobblers

For any fan of children’s literature, the “Michigan Chillers” series is a bookshelf staple. The series of scary novels for kids, written by author Johnathan Rand, places each story in a different Michigan city where the action and subsequent mystery-solving unfolds.

Each tale is coined with a catchy title, such as “Poltergeists of Petoskey,” “Strange Spirits of St. Ignace” or “Bionic Bats of Bay City.”

Little did any of us know until a March 14 Board of Education meeting that we have a potential Michigan Chiller unfolding in our own fair city — “The Case of the Grosse Pointe House Gobblers.”

In a captivating story told by Plante Moran to board members and residents during that meeting, 590 housing units in Grosse Pointe have disappeared into thin air between 2018 and 2021. As in gone. Poof! They no longer exist. And no one really knows what happened to them yet.

This mystery’s suspense is only slightly mitigated by our pure disbelief that nearly 600 houses, apartments and condos could vanish over that time without someone within the Pointes taking notice.

According to Board President Joseph Herd, there have been discussions with Plante Moran regarding this surprising housing figure. In Michael Hartt’s March 24 Grosse Pointe News story, (“Analysis: GPPSS enrollment projections and the state of the school system”) Mr. Herd said the board expects Plante Moran to provide context to this number, which will be presented at an “upcoming” board meeting.

Like all good mysteries, we are faced with imagining possible explanations for such a bizarre circumstance. By Plante Moran’s accounting methods, were carriage houses zoned out of a city? Was our entire school district suddenly rezoned? Did monsters arrive in the night, gobbling up houses throughout the Pointes to satiate their supernatural hunger? And not so much as one protagonist witnessed it and sounded the alarm?

This one’s a real page-turner.

But alas, we wait for Plante Moran to provide us with context and an explanation to help solve this whodunit.

We certainly hope this does not end with a big, “Whoops, did we say 590 houses? We meant 59,” from Plante Moran. The loss of 590 houses may in fact become a validated number. But could it be that the original 2018 housing data was overstated and no one questioned it? Until we get solid answers, with more specificity, this puzzling number has shaken our confidence in all of the data within this report.

As the saying goes, if we can’t trust you with the little things, how in the world can we trust you with the big ones? Let’s hope we can close this chapter by getting to the bottom of this enigma, sooner rather than later.

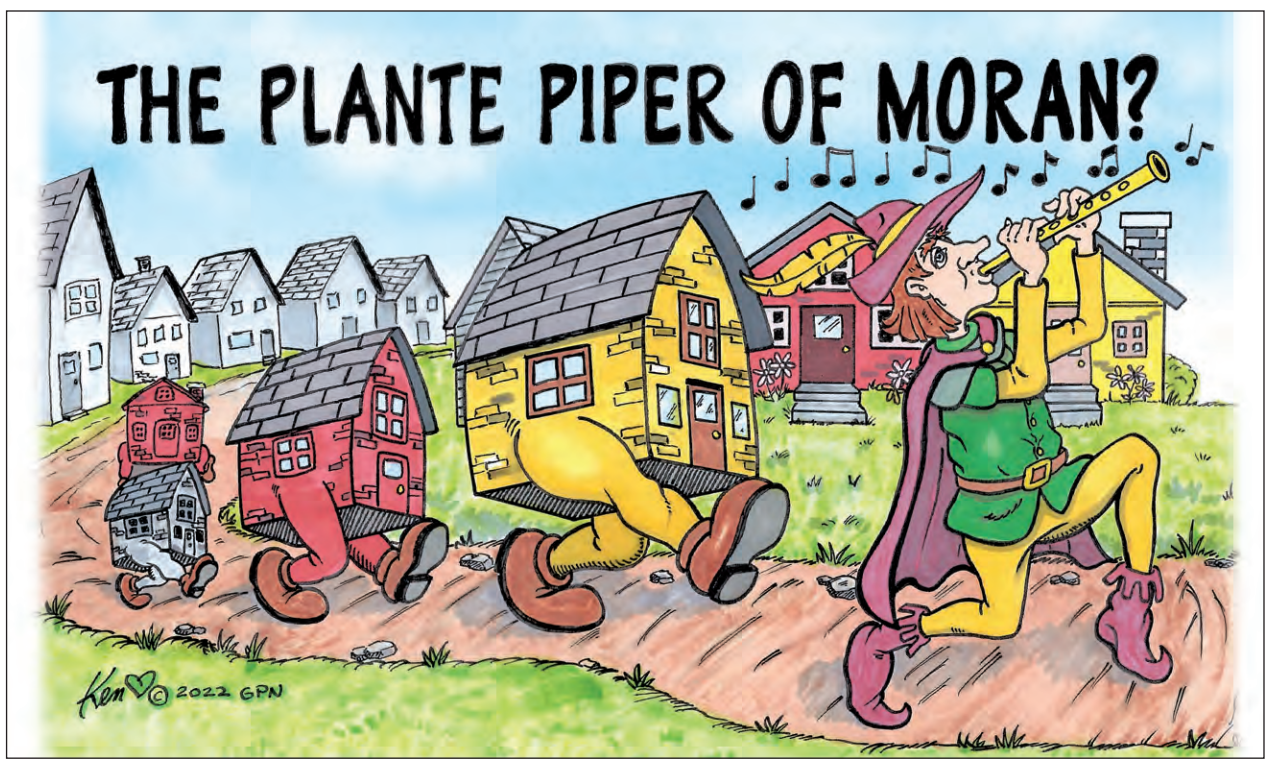


ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

It has been more than 700 years since the disgruntled rat catcher took out his frustration on the town of Hamelin. We wonder if we have raised the ire of a relative.

GUEST VIEW By Liz Rohan

Lifeguarding labor crisis

Our community is facing a lifeguard shortage this summer.

Being a lifeguard and swim instructor literally shaped my life. It helped me manage the drama of adolescence, helped me learn to manage money at a young age, taught me soft skills when dealing with John Q. Public, inspired my career as a teacher, shaped my work ethic and made me lifelong friends.

In fact, my lifeguard friends Jane Fisher, Kurt Halsey and I weathered the social isolation of the past two years when we gathered on our back patios solving the world’s problems and reminiscing about the good old days.

I had spent most of my childhood summers at the Woods park pool. By eighth grade, that was becoming less enjoyable as the dominant activity switched from swimming to chasing boys around the park. When I was taking a break from the chase at the drinking fountain one day, a girl, whom I admired as a role model, Dee Dee, walked out of the lifeguard room. She put on her sunglasses and marched to her guard chair post. She looked magnificent and confident.

“That,” I thought, “is how to spend time at the park, with a job, looking cool and beautiful.”

The epiphany stuck with me. As soon as I was eligible, I got my life-saving credentials, which were held at Brownell Middle School. At 16, I got a job at the Woods park and actualized my vision of becoming Dee Dee.

I was right. Working at the park was one way to have a life beyond boy chasing. I had a new identity when I began teaching swimming, which I enjoyed. I even sold an article to Seventeen Magazine for \$25 about it (unfortunately, it never got published).

As a lifeguard, I also took up the habit of swimming a mile nearly every day. Many of my lifeguard friends were swim team members and their tips made me a better swimmer. I maintain this habit to this day.

I worked four summers at the Woods park. Meanwhile, I pursued my Water Safety Instructor certification, which gave me the credentials to teach lifesaving. That credential led to a big job running the swimming program for Harper Woods Recreation when I was a senior in high school. Although this was maybe too much responsibility for someone my age, I think it kept me out of trouble and helped me manage my time.

This led to higher grades and me achieving my dream of being accepted to and attending the University of Michigan.

My life-saving credentials allowed me to pursue a job as a lifeguard on campus, even though I did not

qualify for a work study position. This was a great job for a college student as I could work as much or as little as I wanted when taking on sub jobs if I had the time or needed the money.

By my junior year, I was promoted to building manager at a solid wage. University of Michigan recreation employees were able to get time-and-a-half during off times, like before school started and during breaks. I earned all my own spending money, plus money for vacations, without hitting up my parents who did not like to be asked.

During my college summers, I worked as a lifeguard and swimming instructor at a camp in Upstate New York. Here I met and became friends with fellow co-workers from all over the world. I also worked at a camp near Los Angeles, where I met famous artists and some very crazy-but-maybe-charming California people, which broadened my horizons. I made substantial money teaching swimming and made some big purchases like a flute. Again, by not hitting up my parents.

Thereafter, my life-saving credentials helped me get jobs whenever I needed extra money to float me through times when I was between jobs or in graduate school. These side gigs helped me pay off my student loans from my master’s degree. They helped me finance my summer spending when I was getting my Ph.D., so I did not need to take out a loan.

I am grateful I entered the world of work at a young age. Lifeguarding was a fun enough job close to home that I did not have to grow up too fast, while still learning a bit about what it meant to be an adult. Teaching swimming was work — a special challenge at the beginning of a Michigan summer before the heat kicks in — but it became my calling.

I would love to see community members who had positive experiences with lifeguarding share them with our young people in conversations or on social media. Perhaps the pay could also be bolstered to recognize the commitment required to gain a credential and to attract more people to this wonderful job.

We need each and every idea to solve this labor crisis.

Liz Rohan, Ph.D., is a professor of composition and rhetoric at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Born in Minneapolis and raised in Grosse Pointe Woods, Rohan began lifeguarding at Lake Front Park as a sophomore at Grosse Pointe North High School. She continued lifeguarding throughout college and while earning her master’s degree before earning her doctorate. Today, Rohan lives in Grosse Pointe Farms and regularly swims a mile day, a habit she developed as a lifeguard.



7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST March 31-April 6

THR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
56° 31°	43° 29°	48° 35°	48° 33°	50° 35°	52° 43°	53° 42°
Scattered showers	Mostly cloudy	Mostly cloudy	Mostly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Scattered showers	Scattered showers
50%	10%	10%	20%	15%	40%	40%
SUNRISE 7:16 am SUNSET 7:57 pm	SUNRISE 7:14 am SUNSET 7:58 pm	SUNRISE 7:13 am SUNSET 7:59 pm	SUNRISE 7:11 am SUNSET 8:00 pm	SUNRISE 7:09 am SUNSET 8:01 pm	SUNRISE 7:07 am SUNSET 8:02 pm	SUNRISE 7:06 am SUNSET 8:03 pm

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Seekers of truth

To the Editor: There were a number of false statements made by Dr. Jon Dean in his opening off-agenda remarks at the beginning

of the March 21 Board of Education meeting. His remarks referenced a gathering of over 125 concerned parents and community members on March 16, assembled by Know Your Classroom

(KYC), a community coalition that seeks to bring transparency of information to the community regarding the status of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, of which Dr. Dean is superintendent.

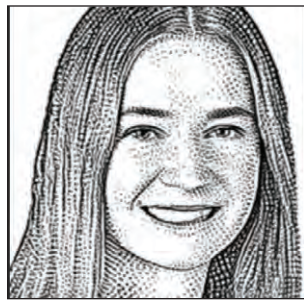
KYC exists out of necessity. The misinformation the GPPSS generates regarding its version of the state of affairs for the GPPSS is misleading the community, just as his opening statements at the board meeting intended. First, there were no “outsiders” leading the March 16 event. A longtime community member with a student in fourth grade led the event and pre-

sented factual information regarding the state of declining enrollment, growing budget deficits and major shifts in academic priorities as defined by the GPPSS’s most recent strategic plan. Following the presentation there was a speaker panel that included a member of the state’s Board of Education who gave perspective on what is happening across the state of Michigan in public school districts and emphasized for the audience the severity of the GPPSS situation as it relates to enrollment, finances and academic

See LETTERS, page 7A

I SAY By Kate Vanderstelt

'Spring cleaning' your mind and body



So we're finally in spring, as of Sunday, March 20, whether Michigan wants us to feel like it or not. It's lighter longer, there isn't snow on the ground (most days, anyway) and the

promise of summer is so close you can almost feel the sunshine warming your skin. The time of spending every free waking second outside to soak up the sun is almost upon us.

Commence "spring cleaning," a time where we rid our houses of unnecessary things and clean up winter's accumulated dirt in preparation to show off and feel cleansed for the summer. Apparently, the idea of spring cleaning originated when families used to have to light fires to warm their homes all

winter long. When it was warm enough to stop burning the fires, they'd take to deep cleaning the whole house, where soot buildup littered the home throughout the winter.

Maybe we, like our houses, need a little "spring cleaning" attention, to rid ourselves of the behavior our winters indulged in. We devote so much time and energy to spring cleaning our homes and our yards, but what about our bodies, our minds?

For me, habits that need to be left with the turn of the season include

binge watching television shows because it's "too cold outside to do anything else" and not getting out of bed in the morning to go to the gym because it's dark and cold, to name a few.

This spring, especially, I've fallen into some really good habits — habits I'm not sure would have lasted if it wasn't springtime. The spring, even if it is still 20 degrees when I walk outside in the morning, just gives a promising breath of fresh air into life — it feels like a revival, almost.

One of the biggest

"spring cleaning" personal gains I've made has been getting up each morning to go to the gym. While I have always loved working out, I've been bad about making a long-lasting habit of it in the last year or so. Finally, in the past month, I've been happily going consistently and I can tell it makes a big difference in the way I feel and perform each day.

I've also used the extra energy I have due to more daylight to take up reading again, a more fulfilling pastime than the frequent Instagram

scrolling I took up in the wintertime when the outside world was bleak. There's something about Saturday mornings spent sitting on the sofa, book in hand, while the warm sun shines in through the window — something this spring has already successfully shown me in its first week.

It's been rejuvenating, dedicating some time to reinvest in me at the start of this spring. I'd recommend picking a couple things you'd like to leave in the winter and doing a little "spring cleaning" yourself.

GUEST VIEW By Jeffrey D. Brasie

National Vietnam War Veterans Day

I am old enough to recall the anti-Vietnam War takeover of the Central Michigan University's ROTC building.

When on active duty, at the Pentagon, I viewed thousands of anti-war protesters from my fourth-floor window.

I recall two- or three-day-old television nightly news films covering the war.

At Delaware's Dover Air Force Base, I saw stainless steel flag-draped caskets returning the remains of soldiers, sailors, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard members to American soil.

Vivid in my mind, the April 29 and 30, 1975 film and photographs of Americans and Vietnamese fleeing Saigon from the U.S. Embassy roof. Passenger-filled boats and helicopters met offshore U.S. Navy ships.

Years later, I met the Saigon deputy police chief who has worldwide shown a photo of him shooting a captured North Vietnamese prisoner in the head.

I had personal friends returning from the war face intense hate and scorn.

Five times I visited The Memorial Wall, located near the Lincoln Memorial. I intensely sobbed as I viewed the 58,156 names. Two of the names I personally knew.

Later in my health care career, I saw the physical and mental damage this war created.

From August 1965 to May 1975, nearly 3.5 million military personnel served in Southeast Asia. Nearly

a third of those serving were drafted into active duty. The average military member's age was 19 years old.

Vietnam Veterans of America research reveals, of those who served in Vietnam, 88.4 percent were white, 10.6 percent were black, with 1 percent representing Hispanics and other races.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs states well over 265,000 women served in Vietnam.

Those of us who served during this era are now well into 60 and 70 years of age.

Additional research from the Vietnam Veterans of America revealed 82 percent of veterans who saw heavy combat believe we lost the war due to a lack of political will. Coupled to this research group, 90 percent stated they were proud to have

served with 66 percent commenting they would again serve.

Eighty-seven percent of the American public now view Vietnam-era veterans with high esteem.

It was an ugly and sad era for America. The popular music of the 1960s and '70s reflected the angst of this war.

March 28 was National Vietnam War Veterans Day. Should you have a family member or friend who served during the Vietnam era, render them a hand salute, thank them and toss in a hug.

Jeffrey D. Brasie is retired health care CEO and frequently writes op-eds and feature stories. He is a former Alpena resident and resides in Grosse Pointe Woods and is a USN and USNR veteran.



YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1947

75 years ago this week

THE TIME IS NOW: It is high time that some community-wide decision was reached on whether or not Grosse Pointe is going to have a suitable memorial to its soldier dead of World War II and for the permanent preservation of the names of the more than 3,000 of our young men and women who were active participants in that war. When this matter was under discussion an honest effort was made to learn what the wishes of the people were and, if in favor of a memorial, what form it should take. The questions was never satisfactorily answered.

1972

50 years ago this week

Obituaries: Grace P. Kiernan, Harriet C. Krimmel, Thomas J. Cox, John H. Cornish, Della B. Dillon, Josephine M. McCabe, Earl L. Bowman, Arthur L. Stuart, Edyth Kay

1997

25 years ago this week

Obituaries: Francis Ernest Edyvean, Edward D. Bober, George T. Stevenson, Bert Emanuele, Craig Haynes Curtiss, Marie B. Elliott, Henry Ledyard, Benjamin F. Haddad M.D.

2012

10 years ago this week

Obituaries: Lee Davis Zosel, Aurelia E. Verbeke, Kiki Ann Herfert, Richard P. Kost, Sheila Marie Wilson

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

achievement standards. Another expert panelist from Jackson County shared her perspectives about what concerned community members and parents can do to influence the BOE and district leadership to make decisions that reflect the best interests of the children in our district and not the political agendas of activists seeking to create major changes without demonstrated cause.

Furthermore, Dr. Dean attempted to paint the KYC event as "anti-teacher." KYC is very pro-teacher and there were no anti-teacher

comments made at the event. In fact, KYC continues to receive feedback from numerous teachers concerned about changes being made in the district's curriculum and the mandatory training to indoctrinate this new curriculum.

In addition, Dr. Dean implied the "clean audit" means the district's finances are healthy. Saying a clean audit makes a district's finances "healthy" is misleading and yet another example of the district's efforts to distort the truth. KYC never questioned the district's audit. An audit confirms the district's accounting was correct; it doesn't signify the district is financially

healthy. In contrast, the audit clearly showed the district's disturbing financial trajectory, with expenses exceeding revenues and fund balance declining.

Dean also encouraged people to "just call him" for the information they are looking for. The number of community members who have been forced to submit multiple Freedom of Information Acts to obtain the information they have sought and failed to receive through meetings, phone calls and emails is staggering. It is fact that this board and leadership operate in opacity with the Grosse Pointe community, not in the transparency that Dr. Dean self-proclaims.

Know Your Classroom will continue its work of sharing truthful information with parents and the community at-large so they all can make the best decisions for their children and themselves when in November they decide who should lead their school district. Know Your Classroom is wise to the propaganda campaign the district has underway. If the district and its leadership were to reverse its present course, admit its significant challenges and genuinely ask the entire community, including all parents and community,

for its input as how to reverse enrollment decline, then Know Your Classroom would not need to exist. Because if we don't address these issues, who else will?

SANDY HUDSON
Grosse Pointe Woods

Work needed now

To the Editor:

OK, the "Fix the Damn Roads" campaign was a failure, but how about a new one: "Patch the Damn Roads."

Yes, it is only a temporary fix, but anyone who has traveled or walked roads in the Grosse

Pointes knows it is desperately needed.

Our roads are a disgrace, so has been the effort to patch them.

My road was "patched" about three weeks ago. It was a joke. It was one worker. He did not barricade the block, so he spent most of his time dodging traffic. He also filled in one out of every three potholes and left.

This needs a full-court press effort. Almost every road — take a look at Lakeland, Fisher, Cloverly, Mack, etc. — needs work. And now.

PHIL LACIURA
Grosse Pointe Farms

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Grosse Pointe News

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Superintendent's evaluation approved

By Michael Hartt
Schools Reporter

The results of the evaluation of Dr. Jon Dean, superintendent of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, were completed and approved unanimously at the March 21 board meeting. Dean was given a highly effective rating from the process.

While the evaluation primarily acts as a way for Dean to measure his performance in the district and receive feedback, because he was given a highly effective rating, he also is entitled to a \$10,000 bonus.

The evaluation — which, according to comments by Board of Education President Joseph Herd at the meeting, began last October — started with a training session in which Rod Green of the Michigan Association of School Boards familiarized the board with the evaluation process.

Following the training, the board met in two closed sessions in February. The first gave an opportunity for Dean to provide insight regarding what he had done to benefit the district. The second meeting, of which Dean was

not a part, was an opportunity for board members to compile the superintendent evaluation.

Board member Colleen Worden commented on the evaluation process specifically, saying the reason for the closed session meetings was purely statutory and not because the board did not want the public involved in the process.

“There’s a reason why we do it the way we do in a closed session — not because we want to be secretive or because we don’t want people to hear what we’re saying, but (because) there are

certain things that the Open Meetings Act deems to be more effective in closed session,” Worden said. “One (of these things) is the evaluation of a superintendent of a school district. So I just want the members of the public to understand why we do it that way. It’s what the statute requires us to do.”

In regard to the results of the evaluation, there was no debate among board members about whether or not the highly effective evaluation was valid based on the metrics used, but several of them disagreed about

the importance of the benchmarks in the evaluation process.

Board member Ahmed Ismail said he hopes to see more detailed evaluations with more measurable components used from now on.

“I think that the document itself is flawed,” Ismail said. “It is very hard not to get a highly effective rating based on the way (the Michigan Association of School Boards has) got the document structured. I don’t think we’ve ever had a superintendent not get a highly effective rating. I think some of the things we need to focus on as a

board (are) benchmarks for Dr. Dean to follow that are measurable and relevant to the concerns that the community has.”

Board member Margaret Weertz disagreed and said she was satisfied with the metrics used in this evaluation.

“Regardless of the (evaluation) tool, our superintendent is performing superbly and we are happy with him,” Weertz said. “And that’s why the results of this score are so high — because of his performance. Not because the tool is skewed a certain way.”

South soloist honored



By Jody McVeigh
Editor

When the grand champion of the Churubusco Show Choir Invitational was named, at least one person onstage was taken by surprise.

“I thought I heard it wrong,” said Lillian Hunwick, whose name was called for the honor. “I was in disbelief. I wasn’t expecting it at all.”

Hunwick was singled out for the award from a field of 65 soloists, five of them her classmates at Grosse Pointe South High School.

Senior Ethan Vernon took best male soloist honors at the competition. Seniors Lilly Geer and Isabel Constand and freshman Jolina Hutchinson also each received best performer awards.

Overall, The Pointe Singers earned second runner-up and the South Singers won third runner-up in the small mixed division. The choirs are under the direction of Vince Matia and assistant director Richard Wolf.

“It was a really good experience — the most fun I’ve had this year,” she said Hunwick, a junior. She said once the

shock of hearing her name wore off, she felt proud of herself and the support she received from her friends and family.

The honor was exciting and unexpected, but certainly not the only way in which Hunwick’s talents have been recognized of late. She also recently earned a 30 out of 30 perfect score with the Michigan School Vocal Music Association.

“I was very surprised,” she said. “I had a really nice judge who gave me good tips and good vocal advice.”

And most recently, Hunwick brought home best female soloist honors from the Fairfield Crystal Classic, featuring 28 of the country’s best high school and middle school show choirs.

“We were all cheering for each other,” she said of the March 19 event. “My two best friends were also competing in the solo competition. It was fun cheering them on. It was a good experience.”

Hunwick, who also plays piano and violin, has been singing as long as she can remember.

“It’s my comfort,” she said. “It makes me really happy. It’s fulfilling.

Whenever I get home, it’s what I focus on.”

The 16-year-old City of Grosse Pointe resident, the daughter of Brownell Middle School Principal Rodger Hunwick and Maire Elementary School teacher Michelle Hunwick, plans to study musical theater in college.

“After that, anything goes,” she said.

Above, Lillian Hunwick performs during the Churubusco Show Choir Invitational. Top right, Hunwick poses with her Grand Champion trophy. Right, Hunwick reacts as she is named Grand Champion.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MICHELLE HUNWICK



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COURTESY PHOTOS

Guards at the City of Grosse Pointe's Norbert Neff Park are living their best lives as they get ready for the 2016 annual Talent Show. Back row, from left, Alissa Martin, Liesel Lagrou, Allison Graff, Ellie Connors and Meghan Moran, and front row, from left, Catherine Hartz, Calyx Turco, Molly Walsh and Mackenzie Stapleton gave a show-stopping performance, set to a Beyonce medley, for swimmers and their families to enjoy later that evening.

Lifeguards reminisce about lake life, summers of work, fun

By Meg Blondin Leonard
Associate Editor

The Grosse Pointe News asked former lifeguards to send in photos and reminisce about their special summers ruling the pools throughout the Pointes. A common theme emerged from these tales: the lifelong friendships and memories created while working poolside.

The following are just some of the stories and photos readers submitted.

City of Grosse Pointe

"When I was applying to college, I had to write an essay describing a community I belonged to and my place within it. Without hesitation, I chose to write about Neff Park. Growing up, I swam for the Norbs and dreamed of the day that I'd have the opportunity to be a lifeguard and a coach there. For several summers throughout high school and college, I spent my days in the sun

and taught kids how to swim alongside some of my best friends — what could be better? It was the best summer job ever. I made lifelong friends and memories that will last a lifetime."

— Molly Walsh, City of Grosse Pointe lifeguard and Norbs swim coach, 2014-18

Grosse Pointe Park

"Just a quick story ... that turned into a lifetime! My husband and I met at Windmill Pointe Park while lifeguarding in the summer of 1991. We started dating in the summer of 1993, and lifeguarded together through college.

"Tim was the Mutant head coach and they won Lakefront Finals while he was at the helm.

"That beautiful summer romance is entering the 25th year of marriage — and we have four kids, all of whom have been lifeguards and swim team coaches at Windmill Pointe Park. Three out of the four have been head-



Grosse Pointe Farms lifeguard and Barracudas swim coach Mia Kinkade proudly shows off her Lifeguard of the Week award last summer, while co-worker Skylar McCrindle gives her nod of approval from the guard office.

coaches when the Mutants have won the Lakefront championship. The fourth is entering her first year of coaching, so maybe this is her year.

"The Park park has truly been our most favorite place on Earth. We now call it the 'cottage' and practically live there all summer.

"Fun story — all because of lifeguarding!"
— Colleen Dailey Jogan, lifeguard from 1991-96, who also served as pool supervisor from 2015-18

Grosse Pointe Farms

"The Farms park was a great place to work in my teen years. I started when I was 16 as a lifeguard. This upcoming summer is going to be my fifth one returning and second one as a swim coach. Every

day is a new experience and you get to meet and work with some very amusing people.

"Being able to work outside in the summer is always a plus and we always find a way to make the work day more enjoyable. Being a swim coach is one of the things I look forward to, the kids always keep me on my toes and I get to participate in a sport I love while getting to have lots of fun at the same time. It's amazing to watch the progress of swimmers throughout all ages from the beginning of the summer to their final swim."

— Mia Kinkade, lifeguard and swim coach, 2018-present

See SUMMER, page 8B



Throughout the years, several guards on staff, including, from left, Connor Mallegg, Mackenzie Stapleton, Molly Walsh and Calyx Turco, also serve as coaches for the Norbs Swim Team, as they did here in 2017 on "Drag Day." The annual event requires swimmers 11 and older to swim in street clothes and compete in relays against the coaches.



Seated, from left, Windmill Pointe Park lifeguards Zach Due, Matt Barrett and Henry Leto take a quick timeout from their guard chairs to Adirondack seats, while co-worker Bennet Aretakis, front, takes his break to a whole new relaxing level in 2015.

First Lady of Lifeguards

Groundbreaking story influences generations of family, friends

By Meg Blondin Leonard
Associate Editor

In 1955, City of Grosse Pointe Mayor Norbert Neff made the groundbreaking decision to hire the Pointe's first ever female lifeguard, Rose Ann Blondell.

Blondell's father, Bob Blondell, was head of the City's Department of Public Works and best friends with Neff. Her uncle, City Manager Neil Blondell, got the nod from Neff to hire the city's newest lifeguard, Rose Ann Blondell, a rising junior at Michigan State University, who needed to earn some money for school.

The rest is an important piece of Grosse Pointe history. While Rose Ann Blondell — now Rose Ann English — became the first female lifeguard, the hire did not come with limitations.

"They only would



Rose Ann Blondell English became Grosse Pointe's first female lifeguard in 1955.

allow her to guard the baby pool because she was a woman," said her daughter, Patti Willard. "They only trusted the men to guard the big pool."

Even so, according to Willard, park guests loved this new female lifeguard and welcomed

See FIRST, page 8B



From left, Jeff Jogan, Tatyana Matich, Colleen Dailey and John Rondini competed in the TOP GUARD competition in 1993. Jogan later became Colleen Dailey's brother-in-law after she married his brother, Tim Jogan.

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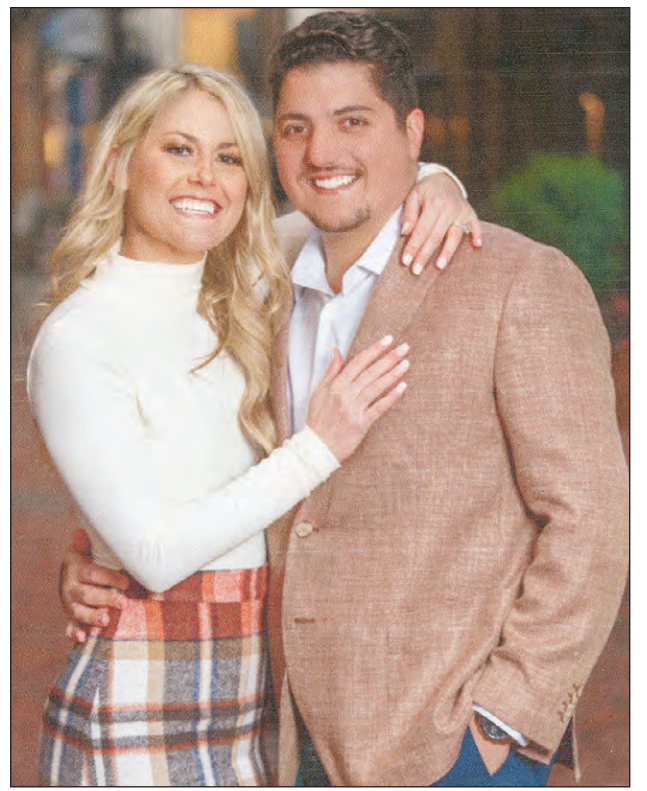
Russell—Selheimer

Gregg and Brittany Russell of Grosse Pointe Farms and Margaret Traverse of Houston announce the engagement of their daughter, Olivia Russell, to Caius Selheimer, the son of Matthew Selheimer and Polly Flowers of Houston.

Miss Russell earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from the University of Houston and is on track to earn a Master of Science degree in physician assistant studies from the University of Texas Medical Branch School of Medicine in August.

Mr. Selheimer earned a Bachelor of Science degree in digital marketing from the University of Houston and is an e-commerce marketing specialist for SBM Life Science.

A February 2023 wedding is planned.



Jennifer Czerniawski and Dr. Michael DiRezze

Czerniawski—DiRezze

Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin Czerniawski of Grosse Pointe Woods announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Czerniawski, to Dr. Michael DiRezze, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Antonio DiRezze of Grosse Pointe Shores.

Miss Czerniawski graduated from Michigan State University School of Education and earned a master's degree in occupational therapy from the University of Findlay.

Dr. DiRezze majored in philosophy at the University of Detroit Mercy and earned a doctorate in dentistry from the University of Detroit Mercy Dental School.

Miotto—Apfel

John and Gretchen Miotto of Grosse Pointe Woods announce the engagement of their son, Mark Bernard Miotto, to Jamie Margaret Apfel, the daughter of Don Apfel and Beth Lennie of Aurora, Ill.

Miss Apfel earned a Bachelor of Science degree in education from Central Michigan University and a Master of Science degree in special education learning disabilities from Concordia University Ann Arbor. She is a Reading Recovery teacher with Brighton Area Schools.

Mr. Miotto earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in advertising from Michigan State University. He is an account/project manager with Next Creative Co.

A July 2022 wedding is planned.



Mark Miotto and Jamie Apfel

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Gustin—Meldrum

Marty and Patti Meldrum of Grosse Pointe Woods announce the engagement of their son, Christopher Meldrum, to Carine Gustin, the daughter of Greg and Deb Gustin of Washington, Mich.

Miss Gustin graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in human biology and from the University of the Cumberlands with a Master of Science degree in physician assistant studies. She is a physician assistant with the Hurley Medical System.

Mr. Meldrum earned a Bachelor of Science degree in economics from Michigan State University and is an account executive with Rocket Pro TPO.

A September 2022 wedding is planned.



Christopher Meldrum and Carine Gustin

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Garden Center series focuses on the basics

The Grosse Pointe Garden Center presents the first of a series of basic gardening programs for adults and families.

Basic Gardening, Session 1 takes place at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 7, via Zoom. The speaker is Mil Hurley, a well-known horticulturist and landscape architect in Grosse Pointe and the surrounding area. The presentation will include topics to help gardeners plan and prepare beds for planting, select plants and maintain gardens. At the end of the presentation, attendees will have the opportunity to ask Hurley questions.

Admission is free for Garden Center members, \$10 for nonmembers, plus a processing fee.

Register for the presentation online at gpcgardencenter.org/basicgardening.

This live presentation may not be recorded.

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Auditions for 'Sound of Music' are April 9-10

Auditions for the beloved musical "The Sound of Music" take place at Grosse Pointe Theatre headquarters, 315 Fisher, City of Grosse Pointe, on Saturday, April 9, with callbacks Sunday, April 10, including

specific times for youth and adult roles.

"Grosse Pointe Theatre is thrilled to bring this beautiful show to audiences," said Tim Higgins, director and choreographer. "Many are familiar

with the beautiful music by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, including 'Climb Ev'ry Mountain,' 'Do-Re-Mi,' 'Edelweiss' and 'The Sound of Music,' just to name a few; and the story of the von Trapp family who had to flee their homeland of Austria when a dictator took power in 1938. We hope this inspirational love story of family and homeland will be a beacon of light in these challenging times.

"All are welcome to audition for the more than 30 roles available, or volunteer and support Grosse Pointe Theatre's production of 'The Sound of Music.'"

Apre-audition workshop for youth takes place the evening of Wednesday, April 6. Registration is at 6:30 p.m., followed by the workshop from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Youth who would like to audition for the roles of Rolf, Liesl, Friedrich,

Louisa, Kurt, Brigitta, Marta or Gretl are encouraged to attend to learn music and dance routines for auditions.

The youth workshop is not mandatory, but strongly encouraged for youth wishing to audition for any of the youth roles.

Youth auditions take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 9. Adult auditions take place from 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 9.

Callbacks for youth and adults run between 1 and 7 p.m. Sunday, April 10.

The show will be performed eight times, June 24 through July 3.

Registration forms, character descriptions, script readings, music cuts and information about performance dates and times are available at gpt.org/auditions.

For more information, visit gpt.org/auditions, or call Higgins at (248) 770-0998 or producer Chris Kaiser at (313) 923-5704.

BIRTHS



Adler Gregory McGandy

Adler Gregory McGandy

Danika and Michael McGandy of Grosse Pointe Farms welcomed a son, Adler Gregory McGandy, Sunday, Feb. 6, 2022.

Maternal grandparents are Tony and Karla Stone of Grosse Pointe Park.

Paternal grandparents are Debra Vanderveen of Hastings and the late Gregory McGandy.



PHOTO COURTESY OF OLIVIA WENZEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Jamie and Jacob Law

Baranek—Law

Jamie Marie Baranek and Jacob Michael Law were married Dec. 11, 2021, in the chapel at The Grosse Pointe Academy. The Rev. Jim Bilot officiated the ceremony, which was followed by a reception at Colony Club in Detroit.

The bride is the daughter of Marsha and Gary Baranek of Grosse Pointe Woods. The groom is the son of Maureen and Vincent Law of Canton.

The bride wore a custom Jenna in White ballgown with a sweetheart neckline, covered in layers of sparkly tulle, hand-beaded appliqué and removable off-the-shoulder beaded lace sleeves, as well as a matching cathedral-length beaded veil, sparkly Kate Spade sneakers and a white fur.

Her bouquet consisted of 16 pink roses, winter pine and berries, and baby's breath, held together by ivory beaded ribbon displaying the Alpha Xi Delta quills of her sorority sisters.

Kelly Baranek, the bride's sister, was her maid of honor. Bridesmaids were the groom's sister, Colleen Janness; the groom's sister-in-law, Libby Law; the bride's Alpha Xi Delta sisters, Lyndsey Lampe, Racquel Smeebly, Mariah Anderson, Amoreena Most and Elizabeth Boshoven; and the bride's friends, Claire Truskowski, Maura Griffith and Mikaela Gustine.

The bride's attendants wore emerald, floor-length, sequined gowns with brown fur wraps, and carried pink roses.

The flower girls were Rosie Janness, the groom's niece and the couple's goddaughter, and Rowan Law, the groom's niece.

Andrew Law, the groom's brother, served as best man. Groomsmen were the groom's brother, Brad Law; the groom's brother-in-law, Brandon Janness; friends of the

groom, Kyle Eggenberger, Garrett Denniss and Daniel Bleyaert; and the groom's Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity brothers, Colin Ulrath, Connor Schrank, Jon May, Josh Stocking and Kip Biby. The groom's nephew, Dylan Janness, served as ring bearer.

Ushers were A.J. Kusch, the groom's fraternity brother, and Patrick Maher, friend of the bride.

The bride earned a bachelor's degree in public relations from Ferris State University. She currently is studying for a master's degree in communications at Wayne State University. She works at Ford Motor Co.'s Rouge Complex as a communications coordinator.

The groom earned his bachelor's degree in political science and government affairs from Ferris State University and his master's degree in urban planning and development from Wayne State University. He is the property manager for Kingman Holdings.

The couple live in St. Clair Shores and spent their December honeymoon in St. Lucia.

Hall—Rudisill

Caroline Elizabeth Hall and Lt. Michael Schaffer Rudisill were married Monday, Dec. 20, 2021, at San Marco Catholic Church in Marco Island, Fla. The ceremony, officiated by the Rev. Timothy Navin, was followed by a reception at the Marco Beach Ocean Resort.

The bride is the daughter of Maura McKeever of Grosse Pointe Park. The groom is the son of Dr. Janet Schaffer and Gregory Rudisill of Woodbury, Minn.

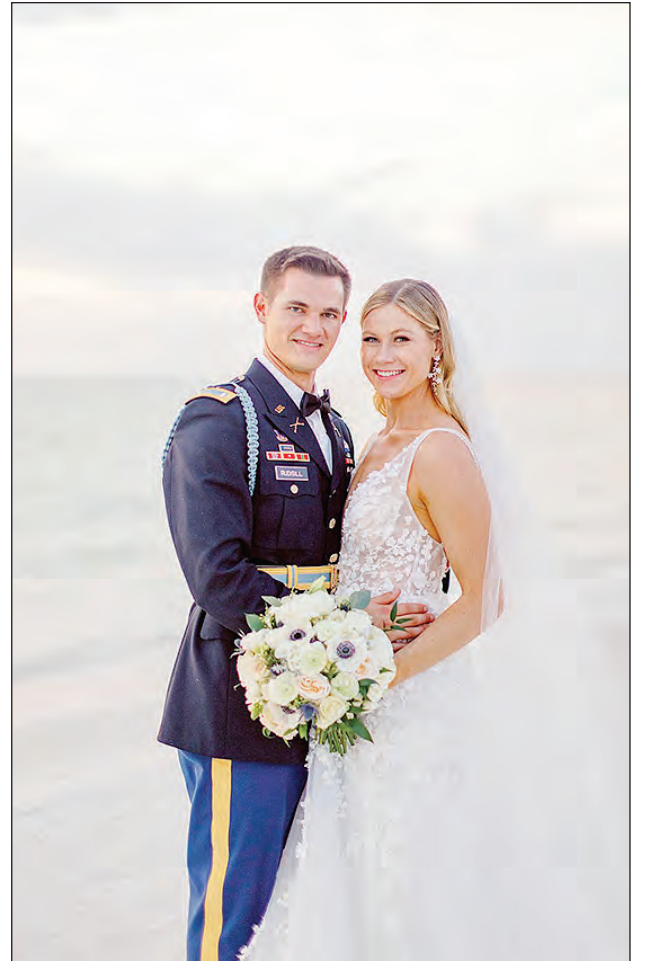
The bride wore an A-line Calla Blanche 3D-floral applique gown and a custom-made, cathedral-length veil with matching lace. She carried a garden-style bouquet of white roses, ranunculus and thistle, hand tied with a dusty blue ribbon.

Danielle Pasalich, the bride's college friend, served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Christina Koehler, Lydia Burton and Aubrea Stoltz, childhood friends of the bride; Hope Dennis, the bride's cousin; Sarah Rudisill, the groom's sister; and Megan Battaglia and Julia Pucillo, the bride's college friends. They wore mid-length, champagne-colored, satin cowl-neck dresses from Show Me Your Mumu and carried smaller arrangements that matched the bride's bouquet.

Samuel Rudisill, the groom's brother, was best man. Groomsmen were the groom's childhood friends, Steven Reamer and Lt. Nicholas Lunsford; the bride's brothers, Dr. Leo Hall and Lt. Brian Hall; and the groom's college friends, Lt. Michael Avallone, Lt. Allen Gong and Lt. Anthony DelTufo.

The bride graduated from Saint Mary's College with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in accounting. She is a consultant with Deloitte Consulting.

The groom earned a Bachelor of Science degree in law from the United States Military Academy at West



Lt. Michael and Caroline Rudisill

Point. He is a lieutenant in the U.S. Army. The couple honeymooned in Antigua and Barbuda, and live in Clarksville, Tenn.

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BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS



SAY "YES" TO THE TRESSES



Bridal hairstyles of 2022 are feminine and natural

The dress may be the focal point of a bride's presence on her wedding day, but her hair will always be her crowning glory. A hairstyle that is on-trend, yet lets a bride's own personality shine through will make her whole look spectacular on the big day.

The Grosse Pointe News fashion team recently consulted with Jill Maks at The Beauty Parlor in Grosse Pointe Park, who shared a showcase of bridal hairstyles to inspire this year's brides. Maks was excited to also share some of her best advice, to help every bride be confident and beautiful as she walks down the aisle.

We discovered that 2022 is all about looking fresh and natural. Loose curls, or waves, easy ponytails or relaxed up-dos and braids are what's hot now.

"Some big trends I am seeing are jeweled (gems and pearls) accessories tucked into the finished hairstyle, with or without a veil. This way, when the veil comes off, the hair is still adorned with something special. Most of my brides lately are staying with (hair) down or half-down styles. If they choose an updo, it's usually loose and romantic-feeling," said Maks.

She also shared a big secret: Extensions. "No matter if you hair is up or down, extensions are the way to go," Maks said.

For those choosing bridal hair extensions, she suggests a consultation at least three months prior to the wedding date.

Regardless of the look you select, it's important to schedule a trial run for you and your stylist. It's vital to make sure you'll

know exactly how you'll look for the wedding, while giving your stylist a chance to get familiar with you and your hair.

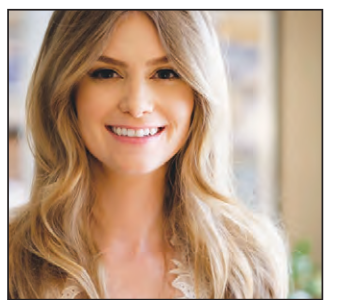
"I never suggest a style that is out of the norm for the bride," said Maks. "It is so important to feel like yourself — only more beautiful — on your big day."

She recommends that if a bride usually wears her hair down, try to choose a style that is down or half down.

"If you are a ponytail girl, and love how your face shape looks with your hair up, then go ahead and choose an 'up' style. The important thing is that you feel comfortable, confident and beautiful," Maks said.

Her tips for the day of the wedding: Show up to your bridal appointment with completely dry hair. This will allow the stylist maximum time to execute your perfect look. Day-old hair is preferable as it is easier to work with, however, if your hair tends to be oily, it is best to wash the day of and then dry. Avoid using flat irons the day before and the day of, and use minimal hair products to prevent any weighty buildup when the stylist creates your final masterpiece. Keep a touch-up kit with you at the wedding with basics hair care tools and products.

Then go out and glow like the gorgeous creature you are, and totally enjoy your special day!



Above, natural waves and a center part make for a dazzling bridal look for long hair. It's simple, natural and captivating. Time to enjoy the day!

At right, loose side tendrils and unconstrained braiding create an exotic elegance. With color variations ranging from soft coppers to light blondes, this look has plenty of warmth and trending style.

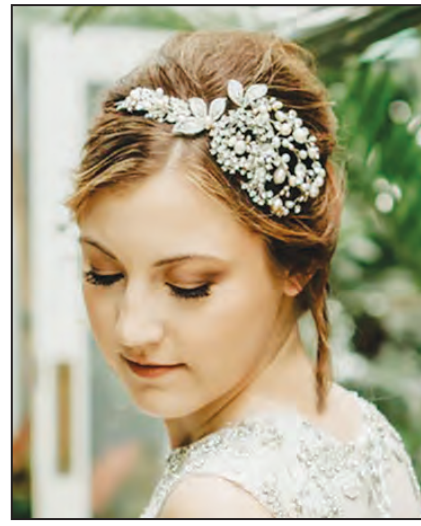
Hair: Jill Maks



Make way for boho brides this year! There are plenty of color and style options for the bride who seeks a break-away look from the traditional. Above is a beautiful cinnamon red color over brunette hair in a semi-loose twist. The sparkly glam barrette creates a beautiful contrast with any shade of dark hair. Exquisite.

Hair: The Beauty Parlor



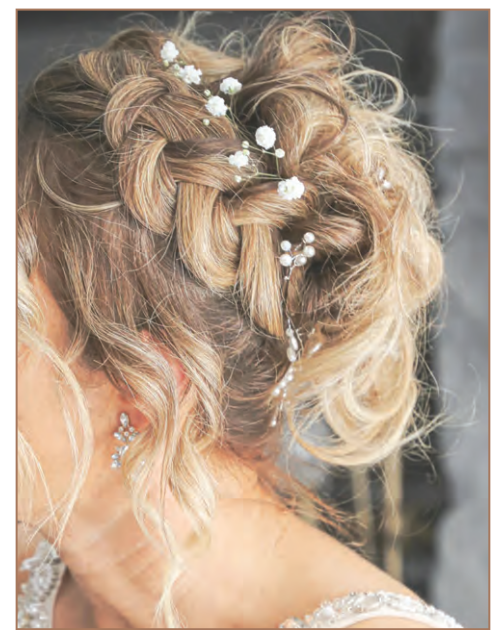


Free-flowing locks, flower accents and ponies

Above left, natural florals have made their way back as an accessory for wedding-day hair. From a dramatic arrangement as seen above, to a simple sprig of baby's breath (and everything in between) flowers bring a fresh and natural vibe to your look that is breathtaking. Above right, the simple messy pony tail as bridal coiffure? Yes! With makeup, dress and accessories, it's a delightfully confident look for today's bride.

Jeweled bridal hair ornaments right on trend

Above, there are as many hair ornament options today as there are dresses, so you are sure to find the one that will complete your bridal vision. For many brides, hair accessories are taking the place of veils or offering an enchanting accent once the veil is off. Your hair stylist can assist you in finding what's available or you may want to search bridal shops or artisan websites for something customized.



This bridal style is pure magic! Loose curly waves in a multitude of soft blonde and ash highlights are accented by a trio of leafy jeweled hair ornaments. The crown is brushed back to create a bit of formal drama.

Hair: Jill Maks
Jeweled comb: The Beauty Parlor

This lovely bride exudes elegance with her gently-highlighted soft auburn waves. The look is authentic and fresh, yet sophisticated.

Hair: The Beauty Parlor
Photography: Breanne Rochelle
Makeup: Danielle Paquin

Moms of the bride get swept up also

As much as the bride is the star of the show on her wedding day, in many ways it's Mom's day too. After all, she has been dreaming of this day even longer than her daughter.

Trends for the MOB are similar to those of brides this year, with many opting for the popular half-updo — which has a way of looking formal but still very relaxed.

Whether sporting a low chignon or a tousled pony-and-braid combo (as shown above), mothers of the brides are rocking jewels and natural flowers tucked in their tresses too.

There are so many beautiful options that it's best to do a trial run with your stylist, right along with your daughter, to find the right one for your hair and face shape. Bring your day-of-the-wedding jewelry (and a picture of your dress if you have it) with you to your appointment, so that your stylist can consider it all when making suggestions for hair adornments like jewel clips or combs. It all needs to work together without going over the top.

It's ideal for stylists to work together for the entire wedding party, so that the styles complement each other and create great group photos. If your daughter has stylists handling hair and makeup for her bridesmaids, see if they can fit you in too. You deserve some pampering at this point in the process.

The goal for you should be to look like a slightly more glamorous version of your best-dressed self. You still want to look like the you that everyone knows and loves, so it's not necessarily a time for a complete makeover. Just enhance your best beautiful features and gleam with pride as you walk your baby girl down the aisle. You will both be absolutely stunning!

At left is the back view of the lovely loose-braid hairstyle on the opposite page. The artistry of twists and tucks creates a gorgeous flow that shows off the subtle color variations and highlights.

The brilliance of a swooping jeweled hair ornament adds an alluring focal point. The overall feel is bold but delicate, detailed but not fussy.

Hair: Jill Maks
Jeweled comb: The Beauty Parlor



The salon:

The Beauty Parlor
15126 Kercheval Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park (313) 926-6767
Instagram: @thebeautyparlorgp
Facebook: @The Beauty Parlor

Page credits:
Photos courtesy of The Beauty Parlor
Style coordination by Anne Gryzenia
Stories by Donna Zetterlund, Special Writer

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.

Christopher R. W. D. Stroh

Christopher R. W. D. Stroh, of Detroit, died tragically in his sleep Tuesday, March 22, 2022, in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., where he shared a second home with the love of his life, fiancée and partner of nearly 10 years, Alexis Julia Walker, and their beloved Labrador retriever, Holly. Alexis and Christopher were busy planning their wedding, which was scheduled to take place in December.

Christopher was born May 16, 1994, in Grosse Pointe, to Vivian W. Day and John W. Stroh III. He immediately took charge of the family and never looked back. A precocious child, full of ideas and opinions, he enthusiastically embraced language and was speaking in full sentences within a few months of his first birthday, no doubt in the determination to have his constant flow of questions and ideas understood. When his sister, Elizabeth, was born in 1996, he spoke for her well after she was able to speak for herself.

At age 3, Christopher started preschool at University Liggett School, where he continued through high school. He played varsity football for Liggett and graduated from ULS with the class of 2012, as a proud "Liggett Lifer." He was a member of the Christ Church Grosse Pointe Choir of Men and Boys and rose to "Head Chorister" under the direction of Fred DeHaven. After starting college out of state, his love for Detroit drew him back to the city where he studied at Wayne State University, from which he graduated in 2017 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in public affairs.

During summers in high school, he worked at the Rattlesnake Club restaurant where he cross-trained as host, runner, busboy and server. While at Wayne State, he worked full time at the Rattlesnake as a server whom regular customers frequently requested by name. After college he became a private investor and had interests in real estate and private equity opportunities. He spent a year as a board intern for the Clearwater Management Company, a large private mutual fund company based in Minnesota. He was a recent past chair of the University Liggett School Alumni Association. In 2021, during a staffing crisis resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, he and Alexis stepped in together for several months to manage and keep the Rattlesnake Club restaurant operating.

Christopher was kind, curious and empathetic. From an early age, he was sensitive to others and quick to offer a kind word or helping hand to people in need. He was an old soul who was as comfortable with his contemporaries as he was with those of his parents and grandparents. He was deeply interested in the world around him

and subscribed to several national and international newspapers and magazines which he read daily with enthusiasm. It was rare to have a current event pointed out to him that he hadn't already studied and considered. He loved dinners with friends and family where topics of business and world affairs were passionately discussed and explored. He gravitated to people who cared as much about the world around him as he did.

Throughout his nearly 28 years, he pursued his many passions with the determination to achieve excellence. He was a strong skier and spent any free moments during the winter in Sun Valley, Idaho, where he visited friends, cousins and his adoring grandparents, Carla and John Stroh. He was a gifted shot from an early age and loved trap shooting. He trained and developed the family Labrador retrievers to hunt upland game around Michigan and especially at his family's beloved camp, The Little Indian, in the Upper Peninsula, where he hunted grouse and woodcock. He raced sailboats with his uncles, Stan and Lincoln Day, alongside his godfather, Clune Walsh, on "First Light" and "Longbow," owned by his uncle, F.K. Day, in several Chicago Mackinac races on the Great Lakes, as well as several seasons racing events in the "Islands in the Stream" series in the North Atlantic. He became a skilled power boat operator while assisting his uncle Lincoln's Nor-Tech dealership in South Florida. He enjoyed cruising around Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River during summers in Michigan.

In recent years he had taken up amateur auto racing with his GT4 Clubsport and other cars at tracks throughout the South. On March 11, 2022, he won his class in the Mint 400 Desert off-road race in Las Vegas. On March 20, 2022, he took two first-in-class finishes in separate races and one second overall finish in the Sunset 300 Enduro Race with his teammate, coach and mentor, Shane Lewis, in the Race of Champions at Homestead Miami Speedway, driving his Porsche GT4, demonstrating his skill in multiple motorsport categories.

He was in constant motion and loved to travel with Alexis and other family members around North America, Central and South America, Africa and Europe. His plans to explore Asia and Australia were disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

He used his skill in the kitchen, or at the helm, for entertaining friends and became an important part of a large group of former classmates and new friends he met through skiing, hunting, trapshooting, auto racing and sailing. He has been described as a "convenor" who helped hold these various friend

groups together. He made sure everyone stayed in touch and never lost connection.

He was predeceased by his grandparents, Lynn W. and Stanley R. Day. In addition to his parents; his fiancée, Alexis; his sister, Elizabeth Stroh and her husband, Tommy Feigel, he is survived by his grandparents, Carla H. and John W. Stroh Jr., and numerous aunts, uncles and literally hundreds of cousins and friends, in addition to his beloved Labrador retriever, Holly, all of whom loved him dearly and are heartbroken by his death.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to University Liggett School, 1040 Cook Road, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, 48236; or the Christ Church Music Fund, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236; or the Race for Mental Health Foundation, bit.ly/3IR1aau

A funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 9, at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

Lindsay A. Wrubel

Former Grosse Pointe resident Lindsay A. Wrubel, 36, passed away suddenly Friday, March 18, 2022, in Coon Rapids, Minn.

A resident of Elk River, Minn., Wrubel was predeceased by her father, James; sister, Kelly Ewald; father-in-law, Gregory; and loving grandparents.

She is survived by her mother, Brenda Wouczynna (nee Bashford); husband, James; sons, Henrik and Thomas; sister, Nicole Pines (Zack); sister-in-law, Jennifer Kaupp (Dustin); brother-in-law, Nathan Wrubel; nephews, Bradley, Richard and William; nieces, Kami and Brooklyn; mother-in-law, Barbara Wrubel; and many other family members and friends.

Lindsay graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School in 2003, and the University of Michigan in 2008. She married the love of her life, James, in 2010. She was a devoted and loving mother to her sons.

Lindsay had an infectious smile, wonderful sense of humor and warm presence. She was a caretaker and always put the needs of others first.

A Mass of Christian Burial took place Friday, March 25, in Elk River.

To view the live stream, visit vimeo.com/690559410.

As Lindsay was passionate about child abuse prevention, the family requests memorials be made in Lindsay's name to Project Ignite Light, 10881 20M St. SE, Rogers, ND 58479-9671 or ignitelight.org.

Arrangements were handled by Dare's Funeral Home, (763) 441-1212, daresfuneral service.com.



Christopher Stroh



Lindsay A. Wrubel



Richard A. Cameron

Richard Allen Cameron

Richard Allen Cameron of Grosse Pointe Park passed away Friday, March 18, 2022, after a lengthy illness. He was 87.

He was the beloved husband of 61 years of Margaret "Marge" Cameron; loving father of David (Rachel) and Drew; and proud grandfather of Ian and Neil.

A family service was held at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church in Grosse Pointe Farms. Memorial contributions may be made in his honor to the Michigan Parkinson Foundation, 30400 Telegraph, Ste. 150, Bingham Farms, MI 48025.

Gerald Soave

Gerald Soave of Grosse Pointe Woods passed away Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at age 93. He was born to Eleanor and Donato Soave, both now deceased. He was the cherished husband of Vera for 68 years; beloved father of Janet Deters (Steve), Carol Mawby-Soave and Beth Soave; loving grandfather of Tim Deters (Kaitlin), Patrick Deters and Emma Bryant (Mitch); and great-grandfather of Clara James Deters.

Jerry was the son of Italian immigrants and had a tremendous work ethic, which he passed on to his three daughters. He was a successful builder and land developer, founding his own company, Canterbury Building Co. He built many homes, apartments, condos and office buildings on the east side.

His passions were faith, family, winemaking, Red Wings hockey and boating. He relished boating with family and friends on Lake St. Clair and took trips as far as Georgian Bay on his boat, The Bella Soave. When younger, he turned his boating passion into service as an active member of the U.S. Auxiliary Coast Guard, assisting boaters on Lake St. Clair. Jerry took much pleasure in family vacations with his children and grandchildren.

Jerry will be remembered as a constant source of love and support to all around him, most especially his "girls." His graciousness and generosity are his legacy. Though successful in business, he never forgot his humble beginnings and consequently, he valued everyone he came across.

The family thanks his caregivers, Mary and Cassie, for the loving care they extended to him, as well as Care Team Hospice for their compassion and support.

A funeral Mass took place March 28, at St.



Gerald Soave



David J. Campbell

Lucy Catholic Church, St. Clair Shores.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, stjude.org.

David James Campbell

David James Campbell passed away Friday, March 11, 2022, after a courageous battle with leukemia. He was born Oct. 29, 1946, and raised in Syracuse, N.Y. David attended Marcellus New York Central High School and graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Science degree. He then attended the University of Michigan and obtained a Master of Hospital Administration degree.

David married the love of his life, Lynne, the summer of 1969; they spent part of their honeymoon at the Woodstock festival in Upstate New York.

David is survived by his wife of 53 years, Lynne; brother, Dick Campbell (Joyce); twin sister, Di Ambrosio (George); son, Jason Campbell; granddaughters, Allison and Lindsay; daughter, Cailin Campbell; nephew, Jeff Campbell (Caitlin); niece, Julie Torrey (Jeff); and numerous cousins.

After completing his graduate work, David served as a mission- and vision-driven healthcare executive for more than 45 years, mentoring many and never faltering from the responsibilities of the significant positions he held. His career included senior-level positions at the University of Michigan Hospital; Henry Ford Health System; Allegheny Health Services in Pittsburgh, where he served as chief executive officer; Detroit Medical Center, where he also served as CEO; St. Vincent's Medical Center in New York, where he was CEO; Oakwood Healthcare System; and several years of consulting in the healthcare industry.

While at Henry Ford, David was a member of the team that created Health Alliance Plan. While the CEO of the Detroit Medical Center, David developed it into a fully integrated delivery system, in 1997 receiving the Crain's Newsmaker of the Year award for this work. He

was the first healthcare executive to receive this recognition. David served as chairman of the Michigan Hospital Association in 1997. While CEO of Detroit Medical Center, David served on the board of New Detroit. As CEO of St. Vincent's, he created the largest Catholic system in New York City through the merger of three separate Catholic systems. St. Vincent's Hospital was the closest trauma center to Ground Zero during the 9/11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center.

More recently, David assisted in the merger of Oakwood, Botsford and Beaumont hospitals into Beaumont Health, the largest health system in southeast Michigan. In addition to his leadership positions in various health systems, he also served as a board member of the American University of the Caribbean.

David loved sports. He was a four-letter varsity athlete in high school. At Michigan State University in 1967, he wrestled on the first Big 10 team to win the NCAA Wrestling Championship. David was an avid golfer, with four holes-in-one. When not playing to his ability, he found it challenging to avoid taking out his frustration on one of his golf clubs, sometimes bending the offending shaft or hurling it in the rough. David traveled extensively, both in the United States and internationally.

Despite all his professional accomplishments, however, David loved most of all being with his family, particularly at their cottage on Lake Fenton. David loved life and lived it to the fullest.

A celebration of David's life will take place at 3 p.m. Saturday, May 21, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

In lieu of flowers memorial tributes are suggested to the Beaumont Health Foundation, David J. Campbell Nursing Scholarship Fund, 26901 Beaumont Blvd., 5D, Southfield, MI 48033, or beaumont.org/giving; or the David & Lynne Campbell Endowed Scholarship for MSU Wrestling, Spartan Fund, c/o Connor Kruse, 550 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing, MI 48823.

OBITS:

Continued from page 6B

**Helen Weiller
Fillion**

Helen Weiller Fillion passed away peacefully Sunday, Nov. 28, 2021, in Bethesda, Md. She was 92.

Helen was born Feb. 5, 1929, in Olten, Switzerland. She and her first husband, Bob Weiller, moved to the United States from Paris with their three children, settling in Grosse Pointe Park in 1966.

After Bob's death, Helen met and married John Fillion, also of Grosse Pointe Park, in 1985. Helen was predeceased by both Bob and John.

Helen is remembered for her kindness and love of family. Together with Bob, she lived in Switzerland, France, Mexico and the United States, and raised a loving family.

In partnership with John, Helen warmly united their two families and, after John's death, Helen continued to host all her children and stepchildren for get-togethers. The last was for her 90th birthday celebration, in Washington, D.C.

Helen served as a hospice volunteer for many years. She loved attending the theater, reading and going to art exhibits, but she held a special place in her heart for the opera.

Helen is survived by her three children, Fenia, Claude and Raoul; two grandchildren; three stepchildren, Tom, Jacob and Roger; five step-grandchildren; and three step-great-grandchildren.

There will be a celebration of Helen's life at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 30, at Grosse Pointe

**Helen Weiller Fillion**

Unitarian Church, 17150 Maumee, City of Grosse Pointe. People can attend in person or virtually via Zoom. For details, email weiller@aol.com.

Following the service, Helen's ashes, as she wished, will be interred in the church's Memorial Garden alongside Bob's and John's in a private ceremony.

**A. Michael Prus,
M.D.**

A. Michael Prus of Grosse Pointe Farms and Ocean Ridge, Fla., passed away surrounded by family Friday, March 18, 2022, following complications from a stroke. He was 89 years old.

For 45 years, Michael was the devoted husband of Judith Goodnow Prus, who predeceased him. He is survived by his son, Michael Prus (Diane); daughter, Elizabeth Prus Myers (Gregory); son, Jeffrey Prus (Hilary); and his companion of many years, Mary Ann Dinan. He was beloved by his six grandchildren, Lindsey, Charlie, Brooks, Charlotte, Emily and Jeffrey. Michael was predeceased by his sister, Doris Prus Sullivan; and is survived by his brother, Thomas Prus and sister, Kathryn Prus Richardson.

Michael was born Sept.

**A. Michael Prus, M.D.**

14, 1932, in Detroit, the son of Michael A. Prus and Sophia Cichon Prus, both now deceased. He graduated from St. Andrew High School in 1950, Wayne State University in 1954, and Wayne State Medical School in 1958. He completed his internship at Grace Hospital followed by his medical residency at Massachusetts General Hospital, where he earned the post of chief resident.

After returning to Detroit following his residency, Michael joined the anesthesiology practice at Grace Hospital. He was named chief of anesthesia of Grace Hospital in 1974, and Harper Hospital in 1977. Michael was always open to new, innovative ideas and respected for his mentoring and problem-solving skills. Under his leadership, he and his partners expanded their practice to more than 80 anesthesiologists, serving many hospitals across the Detroit area and creating residency programs to groom the best anesthesia talent.

Michael served as medical director of the Grace Hospital School of Nurse Anesthesia and was a driving force behind the inception of the Harper Hospital Same Day Surgery Center, the first outpatient surgery center in

Michigan. He served as its medical director from 1983 to 2002. Michael earned the respect of all his colleagues, including surgeons and staff. After his retirement, he assisted a hand surgery practice in establishing its stand-alone surgery center. Michael was honored to be invited to join the Academy of Anesthesiology, where he played an active role throughout his later career and into retirement.

Michael was an avid golfer, gardener, traveler, fisherman and hunter. He prided himself on his vegetable garden and rose garden and enjoyed growing and experimenting with plants of any kind. He had the opportunity to travel the world with his wife, Judy, and many close friends over the years. He was a voracious reader and enjoyed word puzzles, especially crossword puzzles, and "Jeopardy!" His lifelong curiosity and appetite for knowledge included new pursuits as an octogenarian, such as yoga and guitar lessons. He loved spending time with his family in Florida and Northern Michigan, including annual family deer hunting trips with his brother, sons and grandsons. Michael will be remembered for his warm smile, easy laugh and kind spirit.

A memorial Mass will be held at noon Friday, May 6, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Detroit Cristo Rey High School, 5679 W. Vernor Highway, Detroit, MI 48209; donatenow.networkforgood.org/detristory

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

**Books on the Lake
authors announced**

Three outstanding authors will speak at the 2022 Books on the Lake. They are Bethany Ball, Tayari Jones and Kelsey Ronan.

"We are thrilled to welcome back Books on the Lake this year after being unable to host the event since 2019," said Jessica Keyser, library director. "Once again we have three authors, two of which have local roots."

The traditional luncheon with the authors takes place Saturday, May 7, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. Luncheon tickets cost \$35 each. Tickets go on sale online Thursday, April 7.

Grosse Pointe Park author Kelsey Ronan's debut novel, "Chevy in the Hole," was published March 15. Described as "a gorgeous, unflinching love letter to Flint, Michigan," Ronan's novel follows several generations of two families who made their home in Flint. A Flint native, Ronan's work has appeared in Lit Hub, Michigan Quarterly Review and The Kenyon Review. She teaches for InsideOut Literary Arts.

Metro Detroit native Bethany Ball is the author of "What to Do About the Solomons" and "The Pessimists." Referring to her book "The Pessimists," she said she wrote it, "... because I had not seen anything out there that got to the heart of my anxiety as a mom, my struggles and difficulties fitting into mom culture ..." A New York Times Editors' Choice, "The Pessimists" also was named a New York Times 20 Books to Read for Fall. Born in Detroit and raised in Ferndale, Ball now lives in New York.

This year's keynote speaker is New York Times bestselling author Tayari Jones. Her novels include "Silver Sparrow," "Leaving Atlanta," "The Untelling" and "An American Marriage." "An American Marriage" was a 2018 Oprah's Book Club selection and won the 2019 Women's Prize for Fiction, Aspen Words Prize and an NAACP Image Award. It has been published in two dozen countries.

**Bethany Ball****Tayari Jones****Kelsey Ronan**

Jones, a 2021 Guggenheim Fellow, also received the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award, United States Artist Fellowship, NEA Fellowship and Radcliffe Institute Bunting Fellowship. Her third novel, "Silver Sparrow," was added to the NEA Big Read Library of classics in 2016.

A graduate of Spelman College, University of Iowa and Arizona State University, she is an Andrew D. White Professor-At-Large at Cornell University and the Charles Howard Candler Professor of Creative Writing at Emory University.

Presenting sponsors for Books on the Lake are Wayne County Community College District, Friends of the Grosse Pointe Public Library and the Grosse Pointe Library Foundation.

For more information, visit grossepointelibrary.org.

AREA ACTIVITIES**Blood drives**

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 3, St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 21620 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, April 4, Ardmore Elementary School, 27001 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 6,

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, April 11, Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores. Register online at redcrossblood.org.

Sunrise Rotary

The Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary Club hosts its next meeting at 7 a.m. Tuesday, April 5, at the

Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Conference Center, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores. The club will present PEACE awards to some members of the community. Guests are welcome.

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 meet-

ing, led by therapists Marquita Bedway and Frank Wilberding, was rescheduled from Jan. 25. Call (313) 447-1374 or email info@familycenterweb.org.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 6. Sofia Farah of Global Partners in Peace speaks. Visit grossepointerotary.org for information. Those who wish to join the meeting via Zoom should email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

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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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10:45 a.m. - Sunday School

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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*

8B | FEATURES

SUMMER:

Continued from page 1B

Grosse Pointe Woods

“I have lived in Grosse Pointe Woods my whole life. I remember waiting for the big blue bus to come pick us up on the corner to take us to the park. We would bring coolers with our lunch and take the first bus there, and come home on the very last bus of the night. I don’t know as kids if we appreciated the parks back then.

“My mom told me I had to get a summer job. It was a no-brainer for me to become a lifeguard. If I had a bad day, I wanted to be at the park or pool. It was my happy place.

“Lifeguarding helps shape you for life. You can use any skill you learn here in any job situation that you may face. You learn about lifesaving, customer service and receive training in working with the public, all of it. We teach our guards to take off their sunglasses and make eye contact, for example. These are



From top, clockwise, lifeguards Ethan Kinkade, Kate Duncan, Hannah Thompson and Mia Kinkade add some laughs to their day in the lifeguard office last summer at Grosse Pointe Farms Pier Park. Ethan and Mia Kinkade along with their triplet, Nicole Kinkade, have lifeguarded and coached together beginning in 2020.

things you don’t necessarily learn from a book.”
 — Nicole Gerhart, a 2012 Grosse Pointe Woods Lake Front park lifeguard beginning in 2000, until becoming the park’s rec-

reation supervisor and lifeguard instructor in 2012

Country Club of Detroit

“I’m pretty certain I



From left, Martha Berschback, Stephanie Beckenhauer, Tim Kennery, Mike Woods, Kristin Beckenhauer, Craig Bagno and Sean Hoye hold court as the guard staff at Country Club of Detroit in 1985.

started working there when I was still 15. It was my summer job for seven years. All the way through college. For the last four or five years or so, my job was to open the pool for early lap swim. Six a.m. It felt impossibly early. I remember all the lap swimmers and their random beach towels would be lined up at the fence at 5:57 a.m. waiting for me to unlock the padlock and let them in. (Bob Welchli, who recently passed away, was always first in line. I was intimidated by him but realize now he was a droll, smart, kind man.)

“People ask me all the time if I saved anyone

there. I always laugh and say, ‘It was not that kind of job.’ The job was to be a kind and familiar face for families every summer. Oh — and to wear Ray Bans and Day-Glo orange shorts, and eat a thousand grilled cheese sandwiches and listen to the Violent Femmes and be pretty sure I was cool. That was the job.”

— Craig Bagno, Country Club of Detroit lifeguard, 1983-90

“Lifeguarding was a dream summer job for me — working outdoors and soaking up the sun. I didn’t realize it at the time, but I was learning responsibility, accountability and how to work

with a team. It also turned out to be a great skill as I worked year-round at the local pools guarding for open swims and swim lessons.

“My memories, however, are of bright sunny days that flew by in a flutter of silly kids and grateful parents. Long rainy days listening to music and laughing while bundled up in bulky sweatshirts and wrapped in towels. Slowly fading sunsets and quiet conversations set to the rhythm of lap swimmers. These are the memories I shared with my kids, who then became lifeguards and made amazing memories of their own.

“My sister and I were talking about the loss of those kinds of experiences because of so many kids doing internships so young. The value of that experience far outweighs what you learn doing grunt work as an intern. Like I said, learning to work as a team and take responsibility. Working with parents and kids and everyone in between. Learning how to ‘influence without power.’ And just being a teenager for a little while.”

— Kristin Beckenhauer Mallegg, who along with sisters Stephanie and Tracy Beckenhauer, worked as lifeguards at CCD, ranging from 1986-91



The 2021 lifeguarding staff from Grosse Pointe Woods Lake Front Park is all smiles after completing a day of Emergency Action Plan, or EAP training.

COURTESY PHOTOS

FIRST:

Continued from page 1B

her presence.

“My mom has a very gentle spirit and she took her job very seriously,” Willard said.

Her father’s friendship with Neff aside, English earned her job by virtue of her own athletic prowess. An All-State basketball player and 1953 graduate of St. Paul Catholic High School in Grosse Pointe Farms, English was “confident in her athletic ability,” Willard said. “That’s something that has stuck with our family to this day.”

Her two sons, Sean and Kevin English, both were All-State and collegiate runners. Her two daughters, Willard and Maureen English Carroll, were lifeguards and swim coaches at the Farms Pier throughout the 1980s and ‘90s. Willard also coached the Blue Dolphins synchronized swim team at Grosse Pointe South in the late ‘80s and continues to swim almost daily.

“Swimming is my one, true love,” Willard said.

Marilynn Blondell Benjin, English’s younger sister, described Neff as “a true, good friend and advocate for women.”

She said Neff sent her and Rose Ann to watch MSU play in the 42nd edition of the Rose Bowl in 1956, out of his pure generosity and kindness. The Blondell sisters, who could not otherwise afford the trip to Pasadena, witnessed a Spartans victory over the UCLA Bruins by a score of 17-14.

After lifeguarding two summers, English graduated from State in 1957. “Lifeguarding gave my mom the confidence to enter the working world,” Willard said, adding her mom’s first job was with the company that produced Wonder Bread.



COURTESY PHOTO

Rose Ann Blondell English, front left, frequently spent time with several of her 10 grandchildren at Pier Park in Grosse Pointe Farms, including, back row, from left, Patrick Willard, Kate Carroll and John Willard; middle row, from left, Molly Carroll, Michael Willard and Bridget Carroll; and front row, from left, Ryan English and Alex English.

She married John “Jack” E. English, in November 1960, at age 25, officially becoming Rose Ann English. They eventually had four children, raising their two daughters and two sons in Grosse Pointe Farms. Willard, who along with her husband, John Willard, also raised sons John, Patrick and Michael, in Grosse Pointe Farms, said her mom instilled an appreciation for swimming and water safety at an early age.

“She insisted we learn how to swim,” Willard said. “... She required us to be on the swim team until age 10. ... We always looked up to the lifeguards.”

Willard credits her mom for inspiring generations of her family to embrace the water. Not only did Willard and her siblings work as lifeguards, but also several

of English’s 10 grandchildren now are lifeguards in the Pointes and accomplished swimmers.

“She used to take the grandkids to the pool all the time, teaching them about swim safety,” Willard said.

She also said her mom, who is set to turn 87 this July, is in the “very late stages of Alzheimer’s.”

Despite her mom’s inability to express herself, she said her mom still loves heading down to the park and sitting poolside, watching all of the activity.

“My mom has a great love for Grosse Pointe and a true love of the water,” Willard said. “It gives her such peace.”

When asked how to describe what the pool means to her mom, Willard, without hesitation said: “It is her happy place.”

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PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

An Irish tradition

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Thirty years ago and around the age of 26, brothers Mike and Pat Shanley took the stage at Cadieux Cafe along with their cousin, Tim Burke, to put on a musical show for their families as they partook in St. Patrick's Day festivities. This year, on Thursday, March 17, they upheld the tradition 30 years in the making and performed for family, friends and neighbors on a porch at the corner of Holiday and Torrey.

With a crowd gathered for the porch concert, Pat Shanley said they use the day every year to get the community together and indulge in some fun.

"It's just for a couple hours and it's just nothing but fun and family and love and good cheer," he said.

Though the band — the Jolly Tinkers, named after an Irish song by the Clancy Brothers — originally played at Cadieux for years, COVID-19 forced the tradition to relocate.

"It wasn't the big thing that it normally was, but we didn't want to let the day go by," Pat Shanley said. "We didn't want to do it in an enclosed venue, because we didn't want to create a super-spreader kind of thing, but we wanted to do something, so we decided to take a chance and just do it outside in front of the house, in

front of the neighbors and in front of some friends, whoever decided to come by.

"That was a few years ago," he added, "but now, this is our third year (performing outside) and it's kind of getting bigger and bigger and bigger."

While Burke has been unable to attend in recent years, the Jolly Tinkers have added new performers — John Jacobs and Chuck Bartels, a big name in the Detroit bassist community. The group played a mixture of Irish classics and popular sing-along songs to the crowd of neighbors and friends Thursday night.

"It's good to see all the smiles," Pat Shanley said. "It's always a treat to see the kids, bopping up and

down and stuff like that."

He added the brothers continue to perform in part for their parents, who have been avid supporters since the first performance 30 years ago.

"That's a big reason my brother and I continue to do it," Pat Shanley said. "I don't think my mother would ever forgive us if we decided to stop doing it."

Unless unforeseen circumstances arise, the Jolly Tinkers will be back in March 2023, said Pat Shanley, for a performance to top 2022's, and all the years prior.

John Jacobs, Pat Shanley and Chuck Bartels entertain the crowd in their third year playing a St. Patrick's Day outdoor porch concert.



Three-year-old Asher Sarnovsky had fun dancing and clapping to the music on the lawn.



Ellie Shanley, Brynn Welch, Allie Welch and Shannon Shanley had front row seats to the porch concert.

Detroit Riverwalk in the running for Best Riverwalk in America

Reigning champ invites community to vote to repeat title

After winning the title in 2021, the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy once again is in the running for the Best Riverwalk in the country as part of the 2022 USA TODAY 10Best Readers' Choice Awards contest. The winner will be determined by public daily online voting, which concludes Monday, April 11. The voting site can be reached at 10best.com/awards/travel/best-riverwalk-2022/.

The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy asks supporters to vote often to help the Detroit Riverwalk keep the top spot in 2022. Individuals can vote once a day through the conclusion of the contest.

"We are truly humbled to be nominated for this award for the second year in a row," said Mark Wallace, president and CEO of the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy. "The community really came together to vote us No. 1 last year and we are hoping for a strong run again this year. It would be quite an honor to be named Best Riverwalk in 2022."

Nominees for USA TODAY 10Best

Readers' Choice Awards were selected by 10Best editors, along with a panel of urban planning experts. There are 20 riverwalks across the country in the competition, including Smale Riverfront Park (Cincinnati), Chicago Riverwalk, Charles River Esplanade (Boston), San Antonio River Walk, Canal Walk (Indianapolis) and others.

The Detroit Riverfront attracts 3.5 million visitors annually. This will be a busy year for the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy as it prepares to break ground this spring on the Southwest Greenway and the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park, the latter of which will open in 2024.

Later this fall, the conservancy will celebrate the opening of the Southwest Greenway and the opening of the Riverwalk extension along the Uniroyal site, which completes its vision for the East Riverfront. The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy has invested more than \$200 million in the revitalization of the Detroit Riverfront, which in turn has generated more than \$2 billion in public and private investment.

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Grosse Pointe News and Paragon Art Collective

The Science Advice Goddess

by Amy Alkon

Cower struggle

I'm a 20-something single woman. I just moved to a new city where I don't know anybody. I'd like to meet people, but I work from home, and I'm pretty shy. The idea of having to earn people's acceptance in a new environment (and possibly making a mess of it) leaves me tempted to stay home with Netflix and my cat.

— Afraid

To be human is to err. And err. And err. Personally, I have clogged somebody's toilet, shattered an expensive, um, vase ("Nooo...not Nana's ashes!"), and knocked a guy's red wine the length of a white-on-white living room. In my defense, not all at the same party.

You can't really control what happens to you -- and if you're as graceful as I am, you can't really control what you do. What you *can* control is how you react: whether you "shy away" from public life or put on a brave face, hoping somebody in your circle gets

arrested for bestiality and bumps you from the top of the social newsfeed.

Researchers have spent decades squabbling over how shyness should be defined, and they have yet to agree on a definition. However, shyness, to some extent, is a super-light shade of "social anxiety disorder": a debilitating fear of being "negatively evaluated" by others -- deemed disgusting, stupid, ugly, weird, or otherwise rejection-worthy -- and then being publicly humiliated and socially deleted.

Social anxiety sufferers, desperate to avoid the eyeballs and judgment of others, live shrunken lives. Parties, meetings, and classes are often out of the question, as are situations requiring "public speaking" (like the coffee line, with the ever-looming danger of being asked "You next?").

Though you're merely shy -- meaning you probably just dread and sometimes duck out of parties or talking with strangers -- it's

important to reflect on whether your shyness is standing between you and the life you want -- or... whether it is (or has been) a good thing.

That question -- about the possible *benefits* of shyness -- might sound a little nuts (though it's anything but). Answering it requires exploring shyness from an evolutionary perspective: Why might shyness have evolved -- that is, what might've been its function in an ancestral environment?

Now, maybe you're grumbling, "Ancestral environment?! Who cares what some hairy humans were doing way back when?" Well, we need to care, because our modern skulls are home to an antique psychological operating system -- adapted for the mating and survival problems of our distant human ancestors.

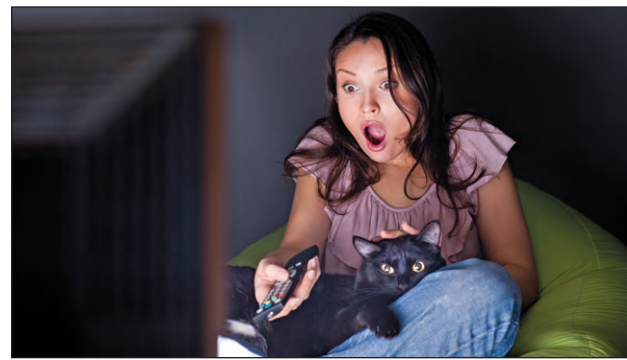
In ancestral times, getting booted from your hunter-gatherer band meant going it alone in a horribly harsh environment, millennia before

DoorDash -- or doors. If you didn't starve to death, you might become the brunch entree for Mr. and Mrs. Tiger. Deeply unpleasant -- and a big dead end for your genes.

That's where our emotions -- including feelbad ones like fear and anxiety -- come in. Psychiatrist and evolutionary researcher Randy Nesse explains that our emotions are motivational tools, driving us to behave in ways that help us survive and pass on our genes. For example, he observes that "People develop a fear of heights after a fall" -- killing the appeal of skydiving, rock climbing, and other sports with a concerning, shall we say, *splat rate*.

Along with our ancestral history, your personal history has shaped your behavior. At some point, it was probably "adaptive" -- functional, protective -- for you to duck and cover; for example, if, like me, you were a little kid bullied by bigger, older girls. ("Out of sight; out of beatdown.")

But...does it make sense now to keep ducking and covering? It's unlikely there



are giant meangirls (or other childhood "monsters") lying in wait for you. Plus, your adult "neighborhood" is vastly bigger than your childhood one: filled with new friends to make, should the ones you have give you the shove.

Changing a habit is seriously hard -- but doable. It takes repeatedly behaving as the person you want to be. Scary -- maybe even terrifying -- but here's a tip: You might *feel* shy, but you don't have to *act* shy. "Your feelings are not the boss of you." (Just because you have a feeling "doesn't mean you have to go all 'Yes, your lordship!' in response.")

We tend not to unpack our fears -- ask ourselves, "Yo, Self? What's the worst that could happen if I go say hi to

Hot Strangerdude?" Unless you can truthfully answer, "I'll be snatched up and pecked to death by a pterodactyl!" there's really no good reason not to take the plunge.

Nobody's liked by everybody, but let's be real: Contrary to your worst fears, other guests at the cocktail party aren't waiting for you to leave so they can compare notes on how stupid you look trying to eat a mini quiche.

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.

Forsaking the family business

Q: I have worked on automobiles all my life. I was so experienced that after high school, I opened my own auto repair shop. I have built a solid business through word of mouth based on my good reputation for being knowledgeable and honest. I taught my son repairs along the way, assuming he would take over the business. When he would get home after school each day, I had him assist me so he could learn from someone who knows. What could be better than to walk into an established business and take over?

My son recently announced he wants to go to school to be a chef. I exploded at him. I will not have my son be a cook or a chef, and I will not help him with money to study it. He argues that it's a creative career, that he doesn't like working on cars and refuses to do it. That business has supported my

family for years.

I don't know where he got this idea that he has to be creative. He might as well have told me he wants to work at a beauty shop.

and built a successful auto repair business, only to have your son disrespect your profession and refuse to be a part of it.

So, let's look at every-

tinkering in engines to find the problems that commonly plague drivers.

You were problem-solving daily and getting great results. It was a creative profession, even if you didn't see it as such until the industry changed everything. Now computer systems guide the functions.

Your son most likely has your creative mind and is drawn to a field where he can experiment and create his own edible masterpieces.

You feel disrespected because his disinterest and rejection of the automobile industry is a slap in the face. But it really isn't.

He is directing his creative thinking in a different direction than you did, but he has likely inherited his creative mind from you. He wants the same independence you had when you chose to work on automobiles, only he wants to work



We argue every day now and I don't know how to put some sense into his head. I can't let him throw his future away on silliness.

A: Of course you are angry and frustrated. You worked hard all your life

thing affecting his decision. You were attracted by cars, perhaps all types of vehicles before you focused on automobiles. That fascination led you to want to learn how to repair them. Perhaps you were a natural mechanic,

At Work

by Lindsey Novak



with food.

Whether he attends a cooking school to first learn the basics or learns from various types of cooks by working in a series of restaurants, he will be in a field of his choosing.

Once he learns to cook the standard dishes and sauces, he can then experiment with different foods and spices to create new and unusual meals.

Just as your repair shop grew because of your good reputation for a job well done, your son could be known for consistently creating great dishes where he is recognized for a signature delivery of flavors.

When he has established a highly successful restaurant as the result of his hard work and creativ-

ity, you will be proud of your son having inherited your creative mind.

Letting your child find his own way to unleash his natural talent will lead him to his personal road to success. There is no limit to creating unique dishes and he will have the freedom to experiment and grow in the field forever.

Your reward will be when you bring all your friends to his renowned restaurant so you can take pride in seeing his accomplishments being enjoyed by many.

Email life and career coach LindseyNovak@yahoo.com with all your workplace questions and experiences. For more information, visit www.lindseyparkernovak.com.

Wife's abuse of medicine imperils a family in pain

DEAR ABBY: I am on hydrocodone for my back pain, and my wife keeps taking my medication because she says her back hurts. I have threatened to leave her, turn her in to the police and tell our children.

She quits stealing the meds for a while and then starts up again. What can I do? Should I turn her in to the police or what? -- IN PAIN IN INDIANA

DEAR IN PAIN: Do not turn your wife in to the police. Take control of your medications and keep them somewhere she can't pilfer them until you no longer need them.

Inform your doctor that your wife has been stealing your pain meds and appears to have developed an addiction. If she hasn't already, she should have a doctor diagnose

and treat her back pain separately from yours.

DEAR ABBY: An adopted family member tragically lost a close member of her biological family a while ago. Her grief has been intense, and she continues to air it on social media. The rest of us have been drenched in her tears long enough. She needs to get on with her life, which includes a husband, two kids and an adoptive family that has loved and supported her through her time of grief.

What would be a kind and tactful way to let her know she has overstayed her time on the pity potty? -- ENOUGH ALREADY IN MONTANA

DEAR ENOUGH ALREADY: NO! Please don't do that. Everyone grieves differently. Some heal quickly; others

never get over their loss. Because you can no longer cope with the poor woman's grief, quit reading her posts.

The most helpful thing you could offer her would be to suggest she ask her doctor or her spiritual adviser about the various grief support groups in her area.

DEAR ABBY: When I met my boyfriend several years ago, he had a long mohawk nearly reaching his shoulders. He likes having long hair, and frankly, it suits him. However, during the last couple of years he has taken the pandemic as license to let it grow as long as it can get. His hair now reaches more than halfway down his back.

The issue is that my grandmother recently passed away. She was a devout Catholic, and I'm worried my boyfriend's

hair won't be appropriate for the funeral. I don't want to hurt his feelings, but the thought of him looking so unruly at the service really bothers me.

I'm thinking about asking him to cut it to collar length, but I don't want to overstep since it's his hair. Should I say something or let it go? -- GROOMED IN THE EAST

DEAR GROOMED: Do not ask your boyfriend to cut a foot off his hair for the funeral. Suggest instead that he wear it slicked back into a ponytail or a man bun. I have seen young men similarly coiffed, and it looks fine.

DEAR ABBY: My first wife and I married in 1989, divorced in 1994 and eventually married others. My second marriage also ended in divorce; hers ended with the death of her husband.



Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

A year and a half after his passing, she invited me to dinner. We talked for hours, and we both admitted there is still love between us.

We decided to start seeing each other, but she told me she needs to go slow, which I understand. We have been seeing each other for seven months now, but she has been running hot and cold. She gets close, then pulls back. I haven't said anything about it because I'm trying to be understanding.

Last month, she REALLY pulled back, and we haven't seen each other since then. We text, but that's all. Now I don't

know what to think. I'm sure last month was hard for her because it marked the anniversary of her husband's death. This is also hard on me. I don't know what to do. I would greatly appreciate any advice you may have. -- HOPING FOR THE BEST

DEAR ABBY: Your ex-wife may still be grieving the loss of her husband and, although she has feelings for you, may not be ready to make the kind of commitment you're looking for. You are overdue for a face-to-face conversation with her about

See ABBY, page 3C

Simple springtime dessert

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Even though it's March 31st, I'm bringing April in now! I think we all deserve it.

My focus in April is bringing you my family's most treasured dessert recipes. You may be thinking I should have been doing this theme in the winter months but honestly, we eat dessert year round. I'm proud and happy to share these with you.

We're beginning with the best lemon cake I have ever had.

I have so many memories that revolve around this recipe that I'm sharing today. I could take up an entire page to tell them to you.

My uncle makes it for my family everytime we see them. My son always

thought this recipe was named after him because his middle name is Harold. Alas, it is not named after him.

The story of how this cake got its name is almost as good as how the cake tastes. Cue 1970, in Niagara Falls, NY. Now, I'll set the scene for you. My aunt's sister-in-law brought a gentleman home named Harold.

He had come to meet his girlfriend's family for the first time and went wild for this cake.

He said, "this is the best cake I have ever tasted!" Once they were married, his mother-in-law made it happily for him for the next 10 years until they got divorced.

When they finally parted

ways he said with great gusto, "I never liked your mother's lemon cake anyways!"

From there on out, the cake was properly and hilariously named, Harold's Lemon Cake.

It's probably the most moist, lemony and biggest family favorite that we have in our pocket. And honestly a light and refreshing ending to a hearty dinner.

My aunt tells the story of a block party they had in Boston. They brought the cake and nobody would touch it.

It took one neighbor to have a bite and the entire block came rushing over once they heard how good it was. Trust me on this one.

Best of all, there are just a few steps. It's the

epitome of a great family recipe that's tried and true and also with the best story. I have been lucky enough to enjoy this for at least 20 years and can't wait for you all to try it.

Cheers, Mombeau

Harold's Lemon Cake

Mix together:

1 box Lemon Supreme Cake mix

¾ cup vegetable oil

¾ cup water

1 pkg lemon pudding (not sugar free)

4 eggs

Preheat your oven to



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAREN FERGUSON

350. Butter a 9x13 inch baking pan and pour the batter in. Bake according to the directions for the cake mix. It generally takes between 35-40 minutes.

Next mix together:

1/4 cup lemon juice or ½ cup of Realemon

2 cups confectioner sugar

Once the cake has been removed from the oven, pierce all over with a fork. Pour the lemon juice mixture over top.

Best served at room temperature with a dollop of fresh whipped cream.

Wine's infinities

When I first began to consume wine as a novice in the 1960s, I had no idea how many forms it could take and how complicated the subject can be once you get into it even on a cursory basis.

The confusing nature of wine really hit home after I had been writing a wine column for about 20 years. I became friendly with a couple that adored wine. The wife was enamored with chardonnay, but after several visits to their home, it was evident that she really liked only one kind of chardonnay.

She had never been exposed to anything else. So, she was confused when I brought over a bottle of a French Chablis. "What's that?" she asked with a frown, obviously not pleased with the wine.

"It's a chardonnay from France," I said. She said something disparaging about how it had nothing to do with the chardonnays that she had always consumed.

drink this stuff?" I said I did and loved it.

This tale opens a discussion of wine's various infinities, and it gets even more byzantine when you begin to explore just one of the grape varieties that some people may think they know. Such as cabernet sauvignon.

Start with the fact



that it's consumed young and old, the latter including 50-year-old examples of Bordeaux.

Then there are younger wines, many aged in small barrels. But what kind of barrels? French oak? American oak? Acacia wood? Purists say there's a significant difference.

cabernets that smell as if they were aged in a barrel, but instead were treated with oak chips, or charred oak staves, or had oak extracts added.

That's only the beginning. Where the fruit came from plays a significant role too. Everyone knows how famous Napa Valley is

for its cabernets, which can be expensive and command the attention of wine collectors around the world.

But the entire North American west coast grows exceptional cabernet -- including Canada's British Columbia, most of eastern Washington, southern Oregon and Idaho's Snake River Valley. And I've had some great Colorado cabs!

And many other locations in the world also produce excellent cabernets, including dozens of districts in France and Italy, a dozen locales in Australia, another dozen in other southern hemisphere places (including New Zealand), a half dozen places in Spain and recently even China.

Moreover, global climate change has given some Scandinavian locations hope they will be able to ripen cabernet sauvignon!

Those who think they know cabernet might be surprised to learn



"It's the way chardonnay comes out in Chablis," I said, to which she responded something along the lines of, "People really

Then there are cabernets that are not aged in barrels, with winemakers choosing to simply mature them and upright vats. Or

ABBY:

Continued from page 2C

the fact that when you feel you get close, she backs away.

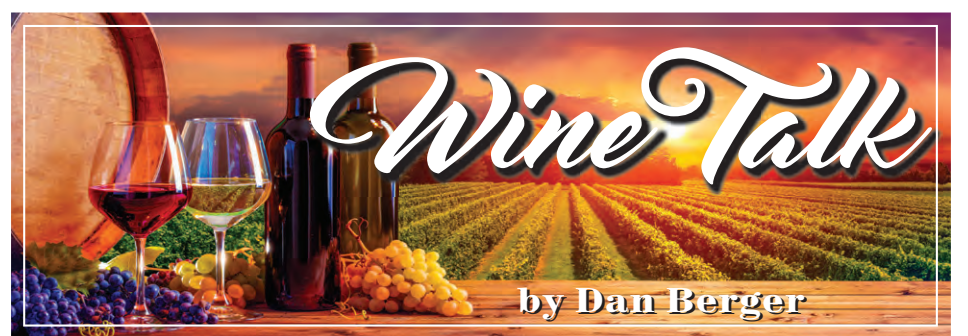
A lot has happened to both of you since your long-ago divorce. There could be any number of

reasons for her behavior, and you deserve some honest answers before deciding whether or not to continue pursuing her. If she's honorable, she will give them to you.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren,

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

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that a wine website recently had an article on the top 25 cabernets from Uruguay. And one of the world's most sought-after red wines is Chateau Musar, a red wine blend that includes cabernet and is made from grapes grown in the Bekaa Valley of Lebanon!

What you've just read is a brief look at one grape. Consider that several thousand grape varieties are made into wine around the world, some in places that most people didn't even know were places.

Then there are the different styles of wines -- Chardonnays that run the gamut of dry to treacle-y sweet; wines with bubbles; Beaujolais; sherry; port; nonalcoholic; low-alcohol; flavored; orange wine; natural wines.

An infinity of infinities?

Wine of the Week: N.V. Giesen Zero Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough (\$14) -- This nonalcoholic sau-

vignon blanc is about it as authentic a glass of wine as I have ever seen that has no alcohol. It is from an extremely high-caliber New Zealand winery. Its main aroma is grapefruit, with hints of tropical and leafy notes. It is surprisingly dry, and excellent for those who cannot

consume alcohol.

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

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Familiar faces at Detroit Opera House

Grosse Pointers take the stage for 'La bohème'

A handful of Grosse Pointe residents will grace the stage when Detroit Opera — previously Michigan Opera Theatre — presents “La bohème,” opening this weekend.

Grosse Pointers Oscar DeLuca and Roxanne Norris will perform in the Children’s Chorus, while Diane Rae Schoff of Grosse Pointe Woods and Claire Chardon Kahl of Grosse Pointe Park are choristers.

Schoff, who recently performed in “Frida,” is in her 15th production as a chorister, in addition to other work with the Detroit Opera, on stage and in the community. This is Kahl’s 14th production as a chorister with Detroit Opera.

In this new arrangement, director Yuval Sharon and Detroit Opera reappraise the ways in which audiences and artists can interact with repertoire, bringing fresh eyes and ears to a classic while extracting hope from tragedy, life from death and love from loneliness.

This performance



MUSIC BY GIACOMO PUCCINI
LIBRETTO BY GIUSEPPE GIACOSA
AND LUIGI ILLICA
DIRECTED BY YUVAL SHARON
CONDUCTED BY ROBERTO KALB

spins Puccini’s opus on its head, presenting the opera in reverse order. The story will be told from finish to start, from death to the promise of new love, from loneliness and despair to the joy of friendships, wine and song, presenting audiences a story of hope, life and love.

“The music that begins Act I and Act IV is almost identical,” Sharon said, “and even in its normal chronology, ‘La bohème’ isn’t a connected linear narrative, but a collec-

tion of short episodic narratives. So a reverse chronology comes more easily than you might expect. But the effect is profound: Suddenly, ‘La bohème,’ this classic, archetypal opera, becomes a bit of a mystery. We know there’s a darkness to it, we watch the death and tragedy unfold. But where does it start? As we move through the world of memory, we witness a resurrection and a new love blooming. When the audience leaves the

theater, they won’t be left with the heaviness of inevitability. Instead, they’ll be left with a notion that the pain was worth the fleeting moments of joy. We move backward, so our audience can move forward.”

To keep the narrative of the reverse staging cohesive, Sharon introduces a new role: The Wanderer, portrayed by George Shirley. The Wanderer will give a spoken introduction to each act, helping the

audience follow the reverse chronology of the story.

The new text is drawn from the original source material for the opera and stage directions, allowing the opera to remain true to its artistic and historic milieu.

“La bohème” includes set design by John Conklin, costume design by Jessica Jahn and lighting design by John Torres. A co-production of Detroit Opera, Boston Lyric Opera and Spoleto Festival USA, “La

bohème” will run 100 minutes with no intermission.

Shows are scheduled at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 2; 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 6; and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 10.

Tickets start at \$29 and are available to purchase online at detroitopera.org.

Information about COVID-19 safety protocols also is available on the website.

— Jody McVeigh



THURSDAY, MARCH 31

- » **Detroit Pistons vs. Philadelphia 76ers**
Little Caesars Arena, 7 p.m.
2645 Woodward.
- » **Greektown Casino Presents The O’Jays**
Music Hall Center, 8 p.m.
350 Madison.
- » **Nooks & Crannies Tour**
Ford House, 10 & 11 a.m.
1100 Lake Shore Road.
- » **il Volo Sings Morricone And More!**
Fox Theatre, 7:30 p.m.
2211 Woodward Ave.
- » **The O’Jays**
Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 8 p.m.
350 Madison St.
- » **Roger Jones & Higher Calling**
Cliff Bell’s, 7:30-11:30 p.m.
2030 Park Ave.
- » **Zen Zdravec**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
97 Kercheval.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

- » **Detroit Red Wings vs. Ottawa Senators**
Little Caesars Arena, 7:30 p.m.
\$65.00 - \$325.00.
2645 Woodward.

» Nooks & Crannies Tour

Ford House, 10 & 11 a.m.
and 5 & 6 p.m.
1100 Lake Shore Road.

» Joel Greene’s Where Joy Is A Road

Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 8 p.m.
350 Madison St.

» Kadim Al Sahir

Fox Theatre, 9 p.m.
2211 Woodward Ave.

» Roger Jones & Higher Calling

Cliff Bell’s, 7:30-11:30 p.m.
2030 Park Ave.

» Schumann & Sibelius

Detroit Symphony Orchestra,
8-5 p.m.
3711 Woodward Ave.

» Sibelius Symphony No. 5

Orchestra Hall, 8 p.m.
3711 Woodward Avenue.

» Zen Zdravec

Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
97 Kercheval.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

- » **Detroit City FC vs. Memphis 901 FC**
Keyworth Stadium, 4 p.m.
3201 Roosevelt St.

» Earth Day is Every Day with Joe Reilly

Detroit Symphony Orchestra, 10 a.m.
3711 Woodward Ave.

» Nooks & Crannies Tour

Ford House, 10 & 11 a.m.
and 5 & 6 p.m.
1100 Lake Shore Road.

» Mozart’s Magnificent Voyage

Detroit Symphony Orchestra,
11 a.m.-12 p.m.
3711 Woodward Ave.

» Raheem DeVaughn

Music Hall Center, 8 p.m.
\$59.00 - \$95.00.
350 Madison.

» Randy Rainbow: The Pink Glasses Tour

The Fillmore Detroit, 8 p.m.
\$39.50 - \$69.60.
2115 Woodward Ave.

» Schumann & Sibelius

Detroit Symphony Orchestra,
8-5 p.m.
3711 Woodward Ave.

» Sibelius Symphony No. 5

Orchestra Hall, 8 p.m.
3711 Woodward Avenue.

» Trevor Noah: Back To Abnormal

Little Caesars Arena, 7:30 p.m.
2645 Woodward.

» Zen Zdravec

Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
97 Kercheval.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

» Dr. Jordan B. Peterson: Beyond Order

The Fillmore Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
2115 Woodward Ave.

» Haha Davis and Friends

Music Hall Center, 7:30 p.m.
350 Madison.

» Schumann & Sibelius

Detroit Symphony Orchestra,
8-5 p.m.
3711 Woodward Ave.

» Sibelius Symphony No. 5

Orchestra Hall, 3 p.m.
3711 Woodward Avenue.

» Sky Covington

Woodbridge Pub
5169 Trumbull, 7:30-11 p.m.

» The Ugly Duckling

Music Hall Center, 3 p.m.
350 Madison.

» Nooks & Crannies Tour

Ford House, 10 & 11 a.m.
1100 Lake Shore Road.

MONDAY, APRIL 4

- » **Jojo**
The Fillmore Detroit, 7 p.m.
2115 Woodward Ave.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

- » **1st Tuesday Book Group**
Central Library, 2-3 p.m.
10 Kercheval Ave.

» Detroit Red Wings vs. Boston Bruins

Little Caesars Arena, 7:30 p.m.
2645 Woodward.

» GP Badminton Association

Parcells Middle School, 6:30-8 p.m.
20600 Mack Ave.

» The House

Ford House, 8 a.m.
1100 Lake Shore Road.

» Read, Rhyme & Play on Zoom

Offsite, 10:30-11 a.m.
grossepointelibrary.org

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

- » **Detroit Pistons vs. Dallas Mavericks**
Little Caesars Arena, 7 p.m.
2645 Woodward.



Check out the online calendar on our website for more details & registration links

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



I've never witnessed a scene quite so tragic as my kids' clothing drawers. The time and effort spent organizing and folding and replacing the too-small stuff with the just-right stuff is like a part-time job. And yet, after one day of it looking great, it reverts back to a chaotic, embarrassing mess.

One search for the perfect T-shirt leads to the complete destruction of the entire drawer.

Frankly, it's exhausting.

Lately on my Facebook page I've been seeing ads for plastic drawer cubbies. They seem so simple — too good to be true. The ads I was seeing looked expensive, so I turned to Amazon and searched "clothing drawer organizers." Sure enough, I found almost the exact item and ordered a four-pack.

As expected, they are pretty much nothing but a one-piece organizer

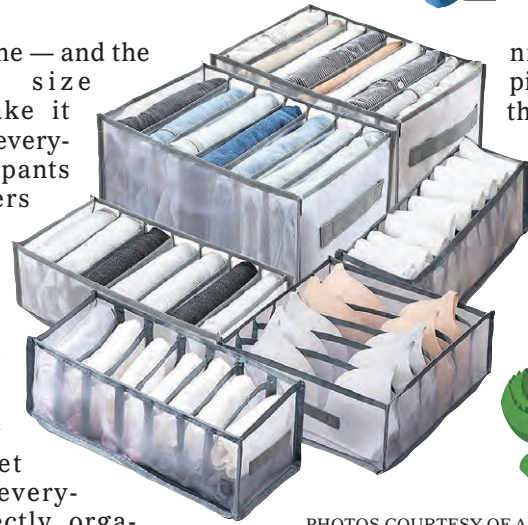
that fits into your regular-sized dresser. They have eight separate compartments, so you can fold an item, put it in its own little cubby and then repeat with seven more items. This way, when your child (or yourself) pulls one thing out, there's no domino effect. I have two words for you: GAME CHANGER.

This will save a lot of time and possibly your sanity.

I highly recommend getting drawer organiz-

ers for anyone — and the different size options make it perfect for everything from pants and sweaters to underwear and socks.

I feel so inspired that my latest plan is to revamp my linen closet and have everything perfectly orga-



nized by fitted, flat, pillowcases. We'll see if that ever happens, but one can dream.

We give this 5 out of 5. Low cost, high satisfaction. Spring cleaning, here we come!

5 Out Of 5



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AMAZON



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SCREEN AUSTRALIA AND EMBANKMENT FILMS

Kate Winslet as Tilly Dunnage returns to her small home town of Dungatar Australia and uses her skills as a high-end dressmaker to get well acquainted with the local townsfolk in order to uncover a hidden truth about her childhood.

MOVIE REVIEW
"The Dressmaker"
2015 - R
1 hr 59min

This is another one of those films that fall into the "under the radar" category. It's based on Rosalie Ham's best-selling novel and stars Kate Winslet, Judy Davis, Liam Hemsworth, and Hugo Weaving.

I've long admired Ms. Winslet for the range and variety of roles she's played over the years. Sure, she was in the sappy Titanic but she's challenged herself by acting in movies like The Reader, Revolutionary Road, and Sense and Sensibility.

My guess is this film was largely ignored because it's Australian, which is a shame because the country has a robust film industry and has produced some real gems.

The setting is Dungatar, a small Australian town in the 1950s. It's a dumpy place that time forgot and could easily be a Western American town in the late 1800s. In fact, much of the film has the feel of a classic western movie,

complete with all the stereotype characters, heroes and villains. Only in this case, it's mostly villains.

Tilly Dunnage (Winslet) returns to her hometown. She was sent away when she was 10-years old as punishment for a crime she really doesn't remember committing. The town is convinced she was responsible for the death of a boy her age, and nothing can shake them of this belief. Tilly is out to discover the truth and to either make amends or extract revenge.



"Mad" Molly Dunnage, Tilly's mother played by Judy Davis.

Tilly arrives at her childhood home, which is literally the house on the hill. Her mother,

"Mad" Molly (Davis) is a loopy drunk who's totally out of it. Her house is a veritable pigsty and she's scorned and ignored by the entire town.

Tilly is the epitome of haute couture. After living in Melbourne, she fled to Europe where she studied high-end dressmaking in some of the finest fashion houses in the world. Throughout the film, she's dressed in outfits the town could only dream of.

Once she cleans her mother's home, and sobers her up (mostly), she gets back to making her stunning outfits.

Soon the whole town is interested in her fashionable dresses and they line up to have her custom design and sew outfits for them.

One person who's especially interested in her work is Sergeant Ferrat (Hugo Weaving). He's a closeted cross-dresser back when this type of behavior was almost unheard of—especially in rural Australia. Some of the scenes with him interacting with Tilly are laugh out loud funny!

While trying to uncover



the truth, the absolute worst behavior of the townsfolk surfaces. Old feelings and hidden truths bubble to the surface. While all this is transpiring, Tilly falls in love with Teddy (Hemsworth), one of the only decent people in the entire town. He cares deeply for her and wants her to make peace with herself and the town. Their relationship helps add depth and emotion to the film.

The events unravel at such a quick pace, it's almost hard to keep up with what's transpiring. But it's guaranteed to put a smile on your face and is certain to make you want to read the book. I've been told this is a fairly good interpretation of it, however, I've learned that the book is always better.

Note to parents: For the life of me, I don't know why the movie is rated "R". There are a



you're embarrassed to admit you've seen it, but you have to rate it nonetheless.

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

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

★★★★ One you'd recommend to friends.

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

About this column:
My main focus is on films that I feel have gone under the radar and deserve more recognition.

They include both mainstream and indie films streaming on services like Netflix, 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.



Kate Winslet with Hugo Weaving as Sergeant Ferrat.

I thought the film was very amusing, full of eccentric characters, and quirky plot twists and turns. Audiences have been accustomed to the now standard hour and a half length movie. The Dressmaker is two hours long, but the time really flies by—especially the last half hour of the film.

couple tasteful implied sex scenes (no nudity) and if there was any cursing, I missed it.

Currently streaming on Hoopla (for free with your library card) and on Prime Video.

★★★★☆

My rating system:
★ A real stinker. A movie that is so bad,



Kate Winslet (Tilly) at a movie theatre with love interest Teddy McSwiney played by Liam Hemsworth



Classic Ann Landers

Dear Ann Landers: I have been going with a man for three years. "Jerome" has a 5-year-old daughter, and I don't know how much longer I can tolerate that child.

She tells her father where to sit, where to stand, when to go out and what to eat. She walks around his apartment and insists on holding his hand, no matter what he's doing. She even goes to the bathroom with him. (He says she cries if she locks her out.) If she awakens in the middle of the night, he allows her to sleep with him.

Jerome is divorced, and his daughter spends two nights a week at his place. I realize she misses her father, but this seems to me a very unhealthy attachment. This child has so many hang-ups, it saddens me. What do you say, Ann? -- Ready to Give up in Richmond, Va.

Dear Richmond: Dump Jerome unless you are willing to play second fiddle to that pathetic spoiled brat for the rest of your life.

Unfortunately, her brattiness is not her fault. Her father (probably guilty about the divorce) has catered to the child to the extent that he is totally under her thumb. Adios, Jerome, and the sooner the better.

Dear Ann Landers: My

husband is a wonderful man, 56 years old and highly intelligent. He had an ingrown toenail that was red and swollen and looked infected. I suggested he soak it in hot water and try to cut as much of the nail as he could.

Well, Ann, I caught him soaking his toe in my good crock pot. I went ballistic. He insisted that a little hot water and soap would clean the pot up just fine and I had no reason to fly off the handle. I threw the contaminated pot in the garbage.

The next morning, I discovered he had put the pot back in the cupboard. I took it with me to the office and threw it out there.

Was I wrong, Ann, or am I married to a man with the brain of a flea? -- Grossed Out in Stockton, Calif.

Dear Stockton: Sorry, dear, but you threw out a perfectly good piece of crockery that would have been OK after a thorough scouring.

It could be that after seeing your husband's infected foot in the pot, you could not bring yourself to cook in it, but actually, the problem was more in your head than in the pot. Should your husband get another ingrown toenail, ask him to use an aluminum pail instead of a cooking utensil.

Dear Ann Landers: I thought you might enjoy

these tidbits of cowboy wisdom that I picked up from the internet. -- Dave from Cumberland, Md.

Dear Dave: Those "tidbits" are solid hunks of wisdom for the population at large, not only cowboys. I'm pleased to pass them on. Here they are:

1. Don't squat with your spurs on.
2. Don't interfere with something that ain't bothering you none.
3. Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.
4. The easiest way to eat crow is while it's still warm. The colder it gets the harder it is to swallow.
5. The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with watches you shave his face in the mirror every morning.
6. A woman marries a man thinking she can change him, but she can't. A man marries a woman thinking she will never change, but she does.
7. Never ask a barber whether you need a haircut.
8. Never miss a good chance to shut up.

ANN LANDERS
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New 2023 Ford F-150 Rattler offers customers distinctive styling

DEARBORN, Mich., March 29, 2022 — Ford introduced the F-150 Rattler, a distinctive, rugged, entry-level addition to its 2023 F-150 lineup for adventure-seeking customers looking for a stylish truck with standard four-wheel drive for exceptional off-road capability. "Our new F-150 Rattler offers aspiring adventurers an off-road option with expressive looks and capability in one package," said Todd Eckert, Ford truck group marketing manager. "This truck builds off the F-150 off-road legacy while allowing us to introduce new customers to the right blend of styling and value in the F-150 lineup."

The F-150 Rattler package is built off the XL series, with FX4 content featuring skid plates to help ensure Built Ford Tough protection for a confident off-road experience, electronic rear-locking differential for pre-

cision throttle and braking on steep descents, and specially tuned off-road shock absorbers for increased stability over tough terrain. In addition, F-150 Rattler features rugged all-terrain tires for versatility and capability.

Distinctive looks reflect the capabilities of the F-150 Rattler package, with a dual exhaust system that combines aggressive styling with a bold sound, plus painted 18-inch aluminum wheels that add to the truck's solid, sporty stance. F-150 Rattler badging on the fender vents and rattlesnake-inspired graphics amplify its unmistakable appearance.

Onyx seats featuring burnished bronze accents and impeccable stitching match the trim on the instrument panel to create a unique interior in keeping with the desert-inspired theme of the new F-150 Rattler. Exterior colors include Oxford White, Avalanche, Iconic Silver, Carbonized

Gray, Antimatter Blue, Stone Gray, Agate Black and Rapid Red TriCoat*.

• Expressive style inside and out plus exceptional off-road prowess in the new Rattler package introduces adventure-seeking customers to a unique blend of capability and value in the F-150 lineup

• New package for 2023 F-150 is based off the XL series, with FX4 content featuring skid plates, hill descent control, specially tuned off-road shock absorbers, plus electronic rear-locking differential for enhanced traction and greater confidence over tough terrain; rugged all-terrain tires ensure versatility and capability.

• Bold exterior features painted 18-inch aluminum wheels, F-150 Rattler badging on fender vents, rattlesnake-inspired graphics and a dual exhaust system, while unique interior accents make for distinctive style.

The 2023 F-150 Rattler goes on sale this fall.

*Extra-cost paint



Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: After 5:45 a.m. EDT today (2:45 a.m. PDT), there are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions. The New Moon is in Aries.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, March 31, 2022:

You have a quirky sense of humor that makes you likable. You have a fine, discriminating mind plus major creative talent. You are always genuine. This year is the last year of a nine-year cycle for you, which means it is appropriate to downsize and let go of what is no longer relevant in your life.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

This New Moon is in Aries, which makes this the best time of year for you to take a realistic look in the mirror and ask yourself how you can improve the impression you create on your world. How can you improve your appearance? Ideas? Tonight: Communicate.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)

The New Moon today is in a hidden part of your chart, which means you will have a heightened interest in the hidden meaning of things and mysterious subjects like the occult, paranormal activity, spiritual explorations and things that go bump in the night. Tonight: Investigate.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

Each New Moon is a chance to make resolutions. This New Moon is all about friendships for your sign. Are you a good friend to others? Would you want to have you as a friend? If you want more friends, be friendly! Hang out with quality people, because your friends will influence your future. Tonight: Be friendly.

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

Once a year, the New Moon takes place at the top of your chart. That time has arrived! It's the perfect opportunity to give serious thought to your long-term direction in life. Are you headed where you want to go? Do you want to go somewhere different? Tonight: Be dutiful.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

This New Moon is your perfect opportunity to think about what further education you can get to boost your chances in your job or your life enjoyment. Also consider how you might travel and explore more of the world to enrich your life. Tonight: Explore!

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

This current New Moon is a great chance to clean up loose details and paperwork regarding taxes, debt, inheritances and insurance issues. You might negotiate a new arrangement about shared property or how to deal with your responsibilities for someone else. Tonight: Check your finances.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

This is the only New Moon all year opposite your sign, which means it's the best time to think about how to improve your relations with spouses, business partners or close friends. For your own benefit, you must be as good for your partner as he or she is for you. Tonight: Cooperate.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

This New Moon is a great chance to think about how you can get better organized and be more efficient in everything you do -- your work, your job, your hobbies, your home and your pursuit of knowledge. Crank it up a notch! Tonight: Work.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Once a year the New Moon is in a playful part of your chart urging you to create a healthy balance between work and play in your life. We are a work-oriented society. Some countries enjoy two-hour lunches with a siesta! Explore your creative talents. Tonight: Socialize.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Each New Moon is an opportunity to make resolutions. This New Moon is your chance to think about how you can improve your home and where you live, as well as how you can improve your family relationships. These things matter. Tonight: Home and family.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

This is the perfect day to explore how you can improve your everyday communications with others. This is the opportunity the New Moon brings you. Are you a clear communicator? Do you listen to others? Or are you simply waiting for your turn to speak? Tonight: Study.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

Today's New Moon is a wonderful chance to think about your values and what really matters to you in life. It's important to know this so you don't put your money on the wrong horse. You have to know what is important to you. Tonight: Review your assets.

BORN TODAY

Ewan McGregor (1971), film director Chloe Zhao (1982), actor Christopher Walken (1943).

Contract Bridge

RUGGED INDIVIDUALISM

West dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ 7
♥ K Q 10
♦ A Q 10 9 7 3
♣ Q 4 2

WEST

♠ A K J 9 5 3
♥ A 9 7 2
♦ 5
♣ 10 6

EAST

♠ 6 4 2
♥ 6 5 3
♦ K 4
♣ K J 9 8 5

SOUTH

♠ Q 10 8
♥ J 8 4
♦ J 8 6 2
♣ A 7 3

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	2 ♦	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Dble	

Opening lead — king of spades.

The poker player who boasts that he's never been bluffed has his counterpart in the bridge player who claims that he's never missed a game. Both styles of play are expensive luxuries, largely because strict adherence to this philosophy is bound to result in substantial losses over the long haul.

In the accompanying deal, South lived up to the highest traditions of this school of players. Though his two-notrump bid might conceivably

have led his side to a sound game contract had North held a somewhat better hand, his skimpy values nevertheless did not justify his optimistic outlook.

South could have passed two diamonds without criticism, or he could have raised to three diamonds. Either action would have been reasonably acceptable. But his actual two-notrump bid was too gross an exaggeration of his values. He should have had at least three points more for this bid.

Declarer was severely punished for his optimism, which often happens to players with rose-colored glasses who push the envelope on just about every deal.

West led the king of spades and shifted to the ten of clubs, East covering with the jack when declarer followed low from dummy. South took the ace, led the jack of diamonds and finessed. East won with the king and returned a spade, and the walls came tumbling down. East-West cashed all their remaining spades and clubs, as well as the ace of hearts, and the outcome was that South was down eight — 2,300 points!

All of which goes to prove that if you venture into space without wearing a spacesuit, you'll frequently end up with something more than a touch of frostbite!

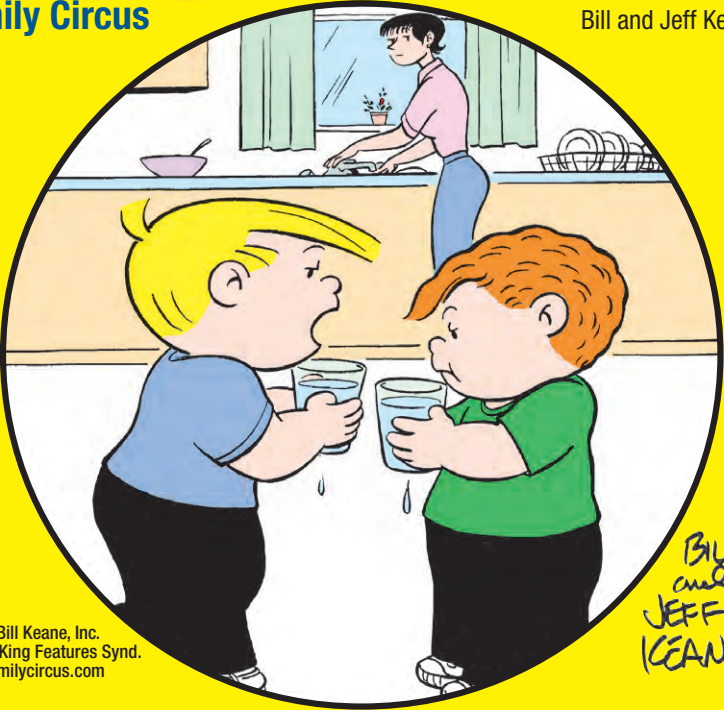
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by Steve Becker

Puzzles and

Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



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Bill and Jeff Keane

“When we ask Grandma for a drink we get soda, but Mommy just gives us RAW WATER.”

Garfield

Jim Davis



Dilbert

Scott Adams



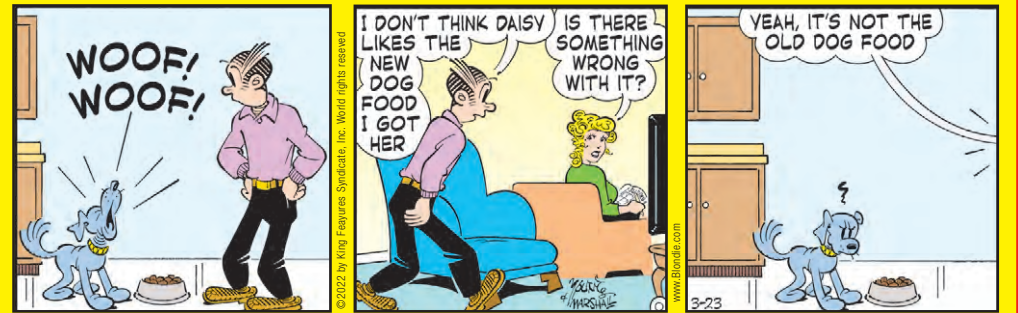
Beetle Bailey

Greg and Mort Walker



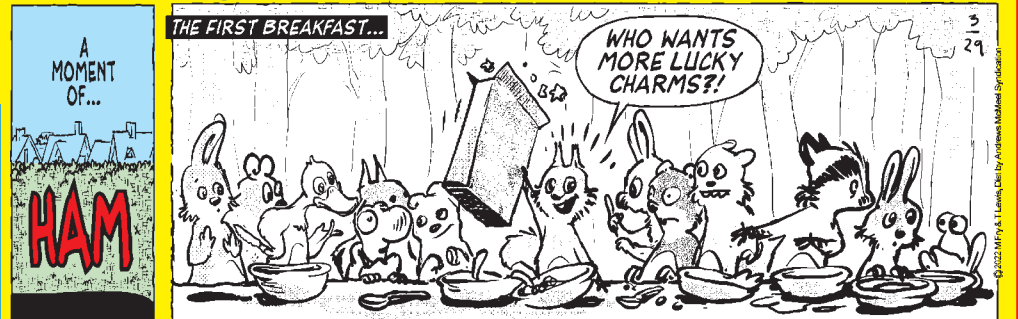
Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



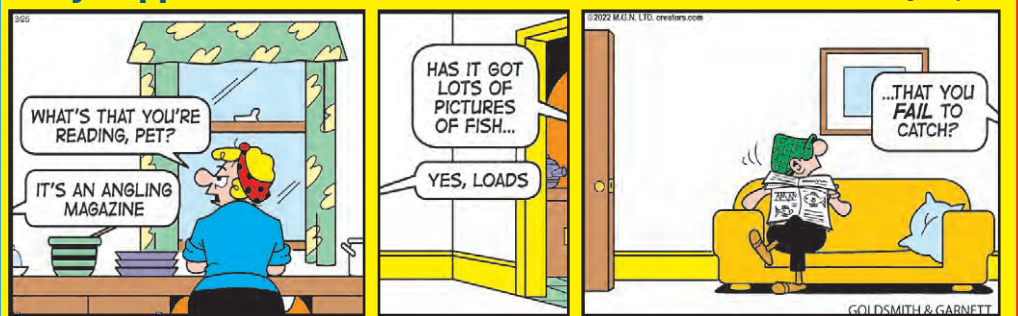
Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



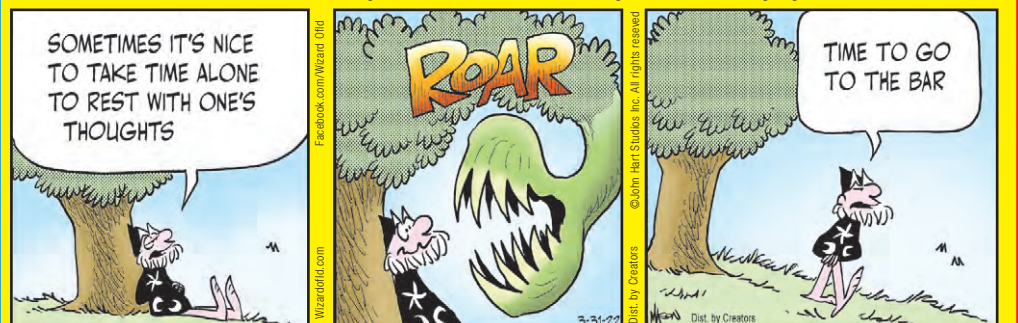
Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



Wizard of Id

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



Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



Ziggy

Tom Wilson

Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

3/31 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆
© 2022 by Andrews McMeel Syndication 3/24 Solution

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg March 31, 2022

- ACROSS**
- 1 They're opened and closed at bars
 - 5 It has a Priority Inbox feature
 - 10 Shindig
 - 14 Chicken cordon
 - 15 Blessed sound?
 - 16 Voice lower than soprano
 - 17 Mix that contains baking powder (In this clue's answer, see letters 2-4 and 7-10)
 - 20 Gross or net gain
 - 21 Singer/actress Gomez
 - 22 Annoying person
 - 23 "The Addams Family" cousin
 - 26 Go the distance
 - 27 Ship's storage space (... letters 2-5 and 7-9)
 - 30 Participate in a poll
 - 33 Exposed publicly
 - 34 A bad movie may merit only one
 - 38 Imagine Peace Tower designer Yoko
 - 39 UFC combat discipline
 - 40 "Mamma ...!"
 - 42 "Mrs. America" Emmy winner
 - 43 Bach piece published together with his "French Overture" (... letters 3-5 and 9-12)
 - 47 Extinct birds
 - 48 Back in time
 - 49 They're often in tiers at weddings
 - 50 Blueprint parts, briefly
 - 51 Evil act
 - 52 Standing upright
 - 53 "Squid" (Netflix hit)
 - 55 In a lazy way
 - 56 What Moses did with a staff (... letters 4-6 and 8-10)
 - 63 Giddy delight
 - 64 Its gecko is named Martin
 - 65 Owned by us
 - 66 Brews that may be sour
 - 67 Finish with
 - 68 Many execs earned them
- DOWN**
- 1 Half a fl. oz.
 - 2 Warning
 - 3 Downstairs, on a yacht
 - 4 Be enough
 - 5 Manner of walking
 - 6 Rap batters
 - 7 Sashimi tuna
 - 8 Electrolyte particle
 - 9 Cabin components
 - 10 Songs for slow dances
 - 11 Healing plants
 - 12 Daredevil's feat
 - 13 "Hava Nagila" dance
 - 18 EGOT winner
 - 19 Topped over
 - 23 Lizards with crests
 - 24 Grocery cart rider, often
 - 25 Thing to "shoot," in hearts
 - 28 Kind of tomato
 - 29 Thor's father
 - 30 Renders worthless
 - 31 Ahead of the pack
 - 32 Partly
 - 35 Hero that's not chicken?
 - 36 Tenochtitlan dweller
 - 37 Hen's perch
 - 39 "Happy I'm back?"
 - 41 ___ to the throne
 - 44 Turns up or pins down
 - 45 Superhero feature, briefly
 - 46 Certain nobleman's jurisdiction
 - 54 Fringe
 - 55 Do a pressing chore?
 - 56 Puerto Rico Open's org.
 - 57 Word indicating a tied score
 - 58 Two hours before noon
 - 59 Laid low
 - 60 Green prefix
 - 61 Particular period
 - 62 Pompous person

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

P	O	R	E	L	A	P	U	P	S	P	A	M
E	V	I	L	I	D	O	S	O	W	I	N	E
P	E	G	S	E	A	S	E	L	A	C	T	S
U	N	H	A	N	D	M	E	L	A	T	K	E
P	S	T	Y	E	S	P	A	S	S	E		
T	A	C	T	D	I	G	S	D	O	T		
C	O	N	E	K	I	N	G	T	U	B	E	
T	O	W	N	C	O	V	E	R	O	P	E	N
A	L	O	E	T	R	A	D	E	S	T	Y	
P	A	R	H	O	E	S	G	A	S	H		
K	E	I	R	A	L	A	T	E	B	B		
A	T	L	A	S	T	P	I	T	V	I	P	E
C	H	A	R	E	C	O	N	O	S	A	G	E
D	O	W	N	S	U	P	E	R	N	C	A	A
C	U	S	S	T	E	E	N	S	T	E	N	D

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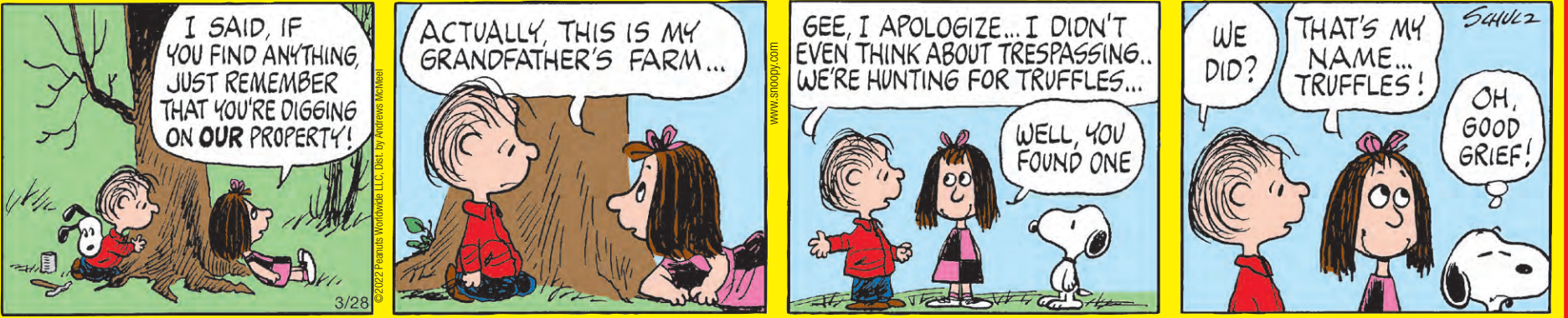
21st-Century Double Feature by David Distenfeld

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20								21				
22						23	24	25		26		
27									29			
30	31	32							34	35	36	37
38				39					41		42	
43			44				45				46	
47						48			49			
50						51			52			
53						54			55			
56	57					58	59	60			61	62
63						64					65	
66						67					68	

Comics

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz

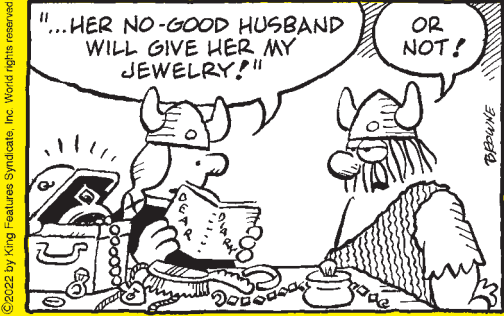
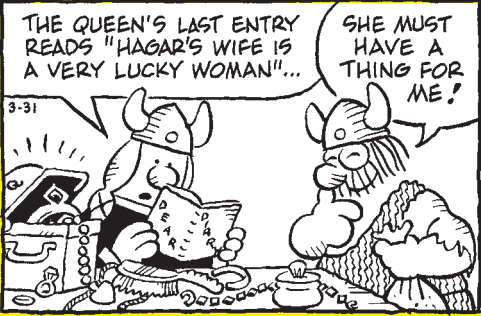


Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne

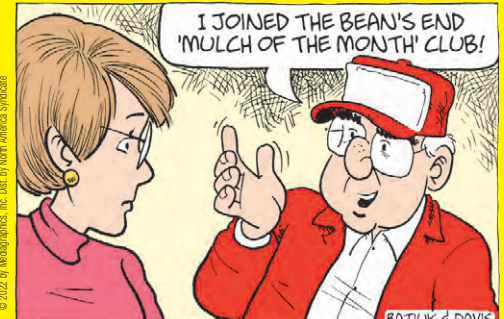
The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



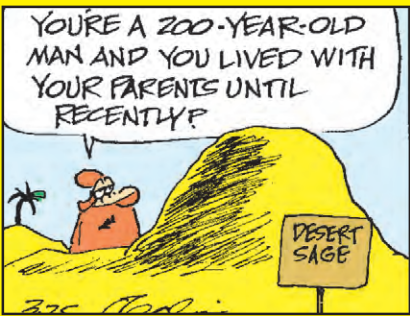
Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



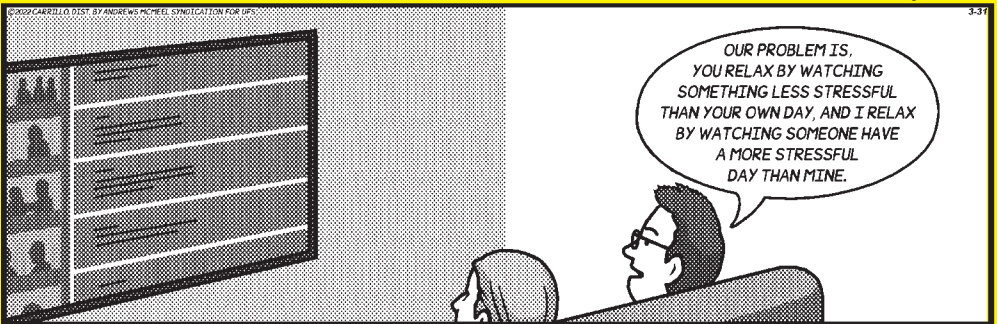
Close To Home

John McPherson



F Minus

Tony Carrilo



Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



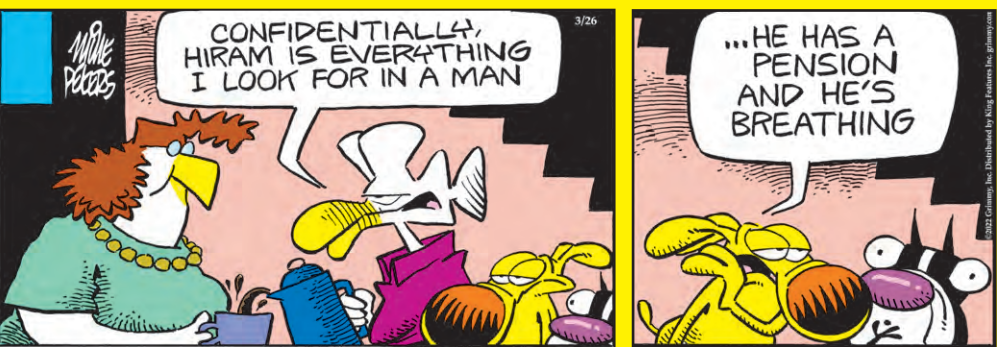
B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



Reality Check

Dave Whamond

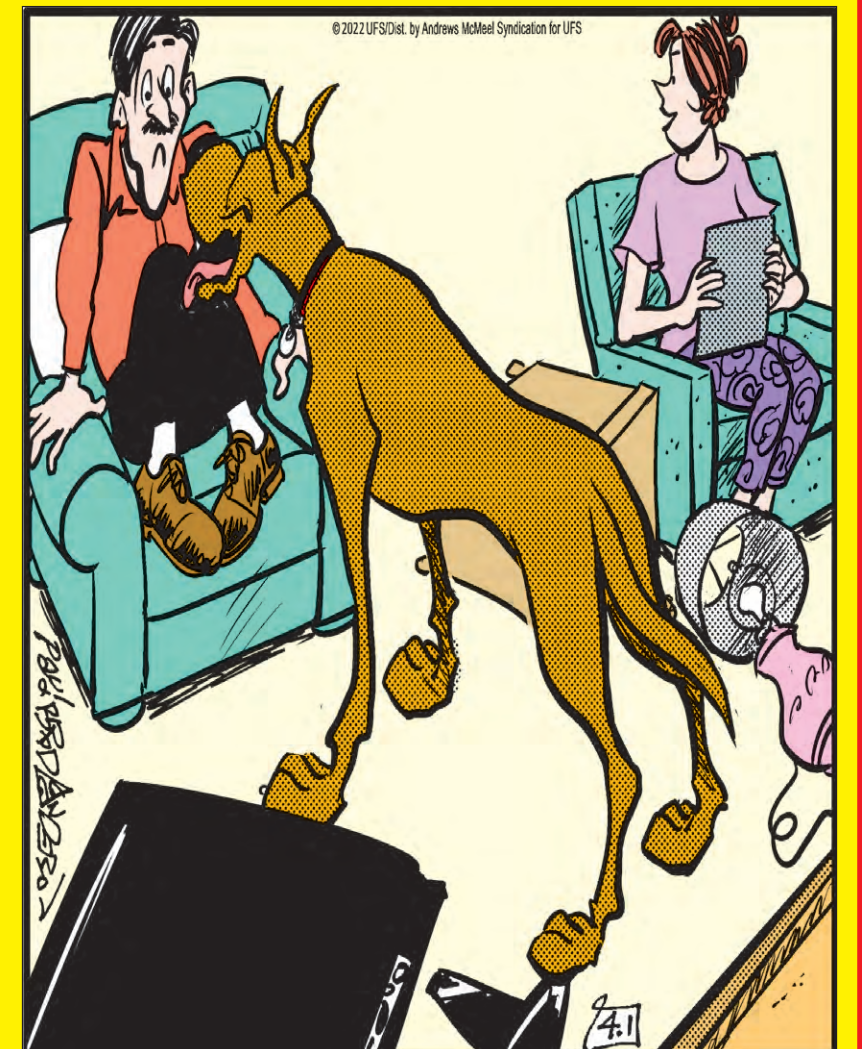
Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



SPORTS

SPORTS

All-State

South seniors receive hockey post-season honors PAGE 3D

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Norsemen ready for MAC Red move

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

In just its third year in the MAC White Division last spring, the Grosse Pointe North softball team pulled off one of the program's biggest achievements in recent memory by taking the division title. Much of the same group that reached the top of the MAC White in 2021 are back this season looking to do even more. The lineup may look similar, but a step up in competition is going to show if a talented group of Norsemen can stand up to the test.

North is making the move up to the MAC Red

Division this season after its MAC White championship. The Norsemen are no stranger to this type of strong competition, having played plenty of non-division games against MAC Red teams in past years. Going up against Red Division teams on a consistent basis this season still will be a huge test for North, but head coach Ron Smith sees stepping up a division as giving the Norsemen even more to prove.

"Moving up to the Red is a big move," he said. "We're excited about the move. Competition is going to be even stronger. The White was strong but now it's going

to be even stronger this year. ... We're excited and we think we can compete and others wanting us to move up says a lot."

North has had a whole offseason to prepare for the move to the MAC Red. Months of hard work in the offseason are ready to be shown off, with plenty of tough tests ahead this spring. Consistent hard work and dedication to the game have made the Norsemen even more confident they can stand up to anything in front of them.

"They've been working very hard in the offseason especially with their travel teams," Smith

said. "They're very excited about playing and there's no apprehension. They feel like they belong with the best and are ready to go. Eight of our 13 players are returning from last year's varsity, which is a major help."

The 13 players making up North's roster this year include four seniors, seven juniors and a couple of sophomores. All of them bring at least some level of varsity experience to the table this season, with that experience expected to especially show on the defensive side of the diamond.

What could end up being the biggest factor this season for the Norsemen is pitching. North brings in a rotation that includes veteran arms like Maraina Smith, Kaitlyn Barr and Sarah McCloskey. If North's pitchers are able to get the job done on the mound, everything else could fall into place around them.

"In softball, you have to have pitching," coach Smith said. "If you don't have pitching, you can think you're the best team ever but it all starts with delivery on the mound. And we're blessed with girls that can go out there and set it up for us to be successful."

Having strong, consistent delivery on the

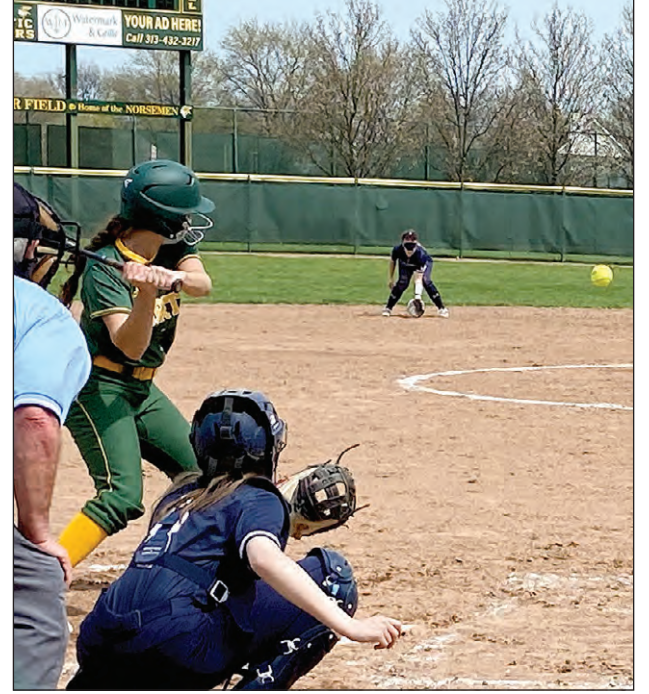


PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Junior Lizzy Rheame is one of the many returning varsity players for North this spring.

mound might be what leads North to success this season. The Norsemen have their eyes set on building upon last year's success while continuing to grow as a group.

The team could have up to nine players coming back beyond this season, creating a solid core capable of accomplishing many things. The real key to success this year and in the future is the confidence North has as a group. Smith sees the determination and spirit each of his players have and knows the Norsemen can stay men-

tally tough no matter what happens this spring.

"They're not going to get down and they're not going to let their teammates get down if things don't go right," he said. "They pick each other up and the talent that they have is strong enough to do that."

Opening day for North softball is Saturday, April 9, as the Norsemen host two games against Livonia Franklin and St. Clair. The team has its first MAC Red Division game scheduled Tuesday, April 12, at home against Chippewa Valley.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RON SMITH

North's 2021 team after winning the MAC White Division. The Norsemen have moved up to the MAC Red Division for the 2022 season.

Athlete of the Week

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The University Liggett Knights baseball team enters the spring with its eyes on winning another state championship. Among the group of Knights who are back this year looking to repeat as champs is Preston Barr, a sophomore with an already impressive set of skills on the diamond and plenty left to prove.

Barr can do a bit of everything as a baseball player. Pitching, hitting and playing the infield are all areas in which the Liggett sophomore excels. A diverse skill set allows Barr to help make his team better in a variety of ways, with his versatility coming from years of growing his love for baseball and chemistry with his teammates.

"My dad has always

been passionate about baseball and I grew up around it," Barr said. "I love the game so much and am so passionate. Growing up, I always loved playing it and I played in the Little League World Series when I was 13. ... I've already known all my

Grosse Pointe News



Preston Barr

School: University Liggett
Sport: Baseball

Sponsored by Expert Heating & Cooling

teammates from Little League, so being able to connect with them and play with them, I love it so much."

A lifetime in the game of baseball has brought

Barr where he is today, being one of the key pieces in Liggett's championship-caliber lineup. It also has helped to earn him his new status as a future Division I college baseball player.

Barr recently announced his commitment to play college baseball at the University of Michigan. He is not the first player from this current Liggett team to commit to the Wolverines and is not even the first player in his own family. Barr's older brother, Kurt, will join the Michigan baseball team after playing his senior year at Liggett this spring.

With some of his teammates and his older brother all heading to Ann Arbor over the course of the next few

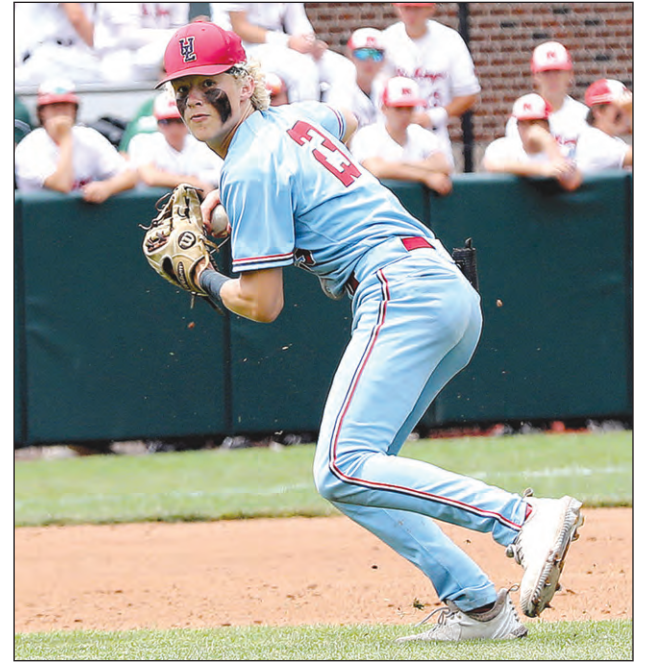
years, Barr's connection to U of M felt natural.

"I was at a PBR event and put up some pretty good numbers," Barr said. "I was fortunate enough to start talking to Michigan. They invited me to a baseball game a few days ago and then they offered me."

When he gets to Michigan in a few years, Barr knows he will have the opportunity to continue playing at different positions around the diamond. He easily could be considered part of the growing generation of two-way baseball players who do it all either on the mound or at the plate.

"I love hitting and being able to do everything really, so I'm fortunate that I get an opportunity to do that," he said.

Part of last year's championship team, Barr is among the many young players who are forming the core of what could become a dynasty for the Knights. It will only be his second sea-



COURTESY PHOTO

Liggett sophomore Preston Barr was part of the Knights' run to a state championship last spring during his first high school baseball season.

son on varsity this spring, but the chemistry with his teammates has them all looking like seasoned veterans.

Putting together a strong sophomore campaign after an impressive freshman season last year is what Barr hopes to accomplish this spring. Along with his teammates, Barr has worked throughout the offseason with the goal

of getting better both individually and as a whole to help Liggett maintain its status as the team to beat in Division 3.

"I've been working really hard and my team has been working really hard," he said. "We don't lose much from last year. Our team is looking very good and we've grown

See *ATHLETE*, page 3D

Athlete Of The Week Proudly Sponsored By:



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PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Sophomore Amelia Streberger takes the ball up field for North in the team's season opener against Chippewa Valley.

Girls soccer season kicks off

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

In some of the opening events of the spring sports season, the girls soccer teams from Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South high schools kicked off their seasons last week. Neither the Norsemen nor the Blue Devils were able to come up with winning results in the first games of the spring.

North opened the season Thursday taking on Chippewa Valley. Offense was at a premium in that

matchup, with chances coming on both sides but nothing ending up in the back of the net. The Norsemen and the Big Reds fought to a draw as the game ended 0-0 and North opened the season with an 0-0-1 record.

Offense was a bit easier to come by in South's game; however, the offense was largely one-sided. The Blue Devils traveled to L'Anse Creuse North for their season opener and ended up falling 6-0.

The Crusaders scored just once in the first half,

leaving the door open for South to potentially come back from a 1-0 halftime deficit. L'Anse Creuse North ended up scoring five unanswered goals in the final 40 minutes to leave the Blue Devils with a season-opening loss.

North and South now prepare to face each other once the schools return from spring break next week. The Blue Devils host the Norsemen for the first of two scheduled meetings this season next Wednesday night, April 6.

Offense, veteran leadership biggest keys for South softball

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

On the heels of a 20-win season last spring, the Grosse Pointe South softball team is just a few days away from beginning the 2022 campaign and trying to build on that success. Several key starters from last year's Blue Devils team are eager to return to the diamond and get back to work.

Experience will be key for South this year. The starting lineup this spring should look pretty similar to 2021, and those athletes also are ready to lead the next generation of Blue Devils. Head coach Bill Fleming sees the leadership and work ethic shown by the team's veterans as key for both the present and future of South softball.

"We return 11 players on varsity and they all worked really hard in the offseason, especially in strength and conditioning," Fleming said. "There's about nine or 10 freshmen this year and they've all bought in. The whole group has worked really hard up to this point and I'm excited for us to get on the field. It's a good group with great senior leadership."

Among those key returning players are captains Peyton Grieser, Ellie Budziak, Audrey Smihal and Lily Stidham. Budziak and Grieser, alongside shortstop Shannon Dame and catcher Meredith Kramer, are part of a veteran group of infielders who could play a major role for South defensively.

"Our infield is all returning and everyone knows each other,"

Fleming said. "They've played together for a year or two years and that could be a key for us."

The experienced infield might be the biggest factor for the Blue Devils on defense. However, the biggest strength of this year's South team most likely is going to be in the batter's box.

South was a highly skilled hitting team last spring and expects the same this season. The lineup has explosive ability at the plate from top to bottom, so do not expect runs to be at a premium in many Blue Devils games. After a record-breaking year last spring when it came to hitting, South has only worked harder to make sure its opponents have trouble keeping up in 2022.

"This team hits a ton and they did last year when they broke the school record for most runs scored by a team," Fleming said. "They've worked hard with our hitting coach, Molly Clepton, in the offseason to get better. We're going to be a tough team to get out because we have speed and power hitters. We also have players who can get down and bunt and get to first base because they're so fast. It'll be tough for defenses to read what we're going to do."

It would be hard for South to not be confident in its ability to produce runs with much of last year's lineup back for another season. With that experience also comes great leadership.

This year's Blue Devil captains also are part of the mentoring program Fleming and his staff put together each year to help veteran and

younger players bond and grow as a team. Fleming and his team know that even with many great individual talents, bringing the roster together as a whole with a collective mindset for success is the biggest key. Getting the team to embody that mindset every day has been a focus throughout the offseason.

"Every year, the leaders of the team pick a motto and this year the motto is, 'We is greater than Me,'" Fleming said. "This is a team sport and we've all got to play together, but we've also got to get along. They've done team building and have done a great job getting to know each other even better."

Experience on defense and consistent production on offense seem to be the biggest factors that could lead the Blue Devils this spring. With a strong schedule in both the MAC Blue Division and non-league opponents, South is going to be tested week in and week out. Maintaining a strong group with its eyes on the prize is how Fleming sees the path to success.

"Fun is what high school sports is all about and we can achieve that and along the way we can reach the goals that the players set in our team meetings before the year," he said. "That would be like icing on the cake and I think this group has potential to reach all of their goals."

The Blue Devils begin the season Saturday, April 9, with a double-header at home against Algonac. South also hosts an early-season rivalry matchup against crosstown foes Grosse Pointe North Wednesday, April 13.

Grosse Pointe News
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2 pm Boys JV "B" Baseball Double Header vs. Royal Oak @South Diamond

Saturday, April 2
11 am Boys JV "B" Baseball Double Header vs. De La Salle @South Diamond
1 pm Boys JV "B" Baseball Double Header vs. De La Salle @South Diamond

Monday, April 4
4:30 pm Boys Varsity Baseball vs. Stoney Creek @South Diamond
4:30 pm Boys JV "B" Baseball vs. Stoney Creek @Elworthy

Tuesday, April 5
4:30 pm Boys JV Baseball vs. De La Salle @Elworthy
6 pm Girls JV Lacrosse vs. Rochester Adams @Stadium Field
7:30 pm Girls Varsity Lacrosse vs. Rochester Adams @Stadium Field

Wednesday, April 6
3:30 pm Girls Varsity Track vs. Mercy @Stadium Field
7:30 pm Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Grosse Pointe North @Stadium Field

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Wednesday, April 6
5:30 pm Girls JV Lacrosse vs. Oxford High School @GPN Turf
7 pm Girls Varsity Lacrosse vs. Oxford High School @GPN Turf

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Saturday, April 2
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Wednesday, April 6
4 pm Boys Varsity Baseball vs. De La Salle @ULS Fields
4:30 pm Girls Varsity Lacrosse vs. Divine Child @ULS Fields
6 pm Girls JV Lacrosse vs. Divine Child @ULS Fields



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Shortstop and leadoff hitter Shannon Dame is among the 11 returning varsity softball players for the Blue Devils.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN MCKENNA

South senior River Kraus was named a Division 3 All-State honorable mention as a forward. Kraus scored 13 goals and had 17 assists this season.

Blue Devils make hockey All-State teams

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Last week, the Michigan High School Hockey Coaches Association released its All-State teams for the 2021-22 season. Among the players honored from across the state were two Grosse Pointe South Blue Devils, senior defenseman Jake Spitz and senior forward River Kraus.

Spitz received First-Team All-State honors in Division 3 as a defenseman. The captain of South was one of six players to be named to the Division 3 First Team. Being named First-Team All-State this season also marks a special milestone for Spitz as it is his third year in a row being named to the team.

"I want to thank my coaches for what they've done over the past three years," Spitz said. "It shows that hard work

pays off and gets the team some recognition as well."

With 15 goals, 28 assists and 43 points, Spitz led the Blue Devils in all three categories this season. His efforts as a captain both on and off the ice helped lead South to a 13-8-2 record over the winter and a second place finish in the MIHL South Division.

Spitz also received First-Team All-Division honors in the MIHL South, along with Kraus and South goalie Dougie Cowan. Kraus was named an All-State honorable mention in Division 3 by the MHSCHA.

Kraus was second on the Blue Devils in goals with 13 and in points with 30 on the season. As a longtime friend and teammate, Spitz was happy to see his fellow senior get the recognition he deserves.

"Us playing together

for three years and throughout our youth, we've been working together for many years," he said. "We have that chemistry and being able to work together so well really led us to success."

Both Spitz and Kraus were captains of this year's South team as well. On a team that had plenty of young talent, the pair of seniors had this season to leave their legacy with the South program for years to come. Having players receive All-State honors sets a standard of excellence for a program and the captains hope even more success is yet to come based on the lessons they helped teach.

"The captains had a big role this year because of how many underclassmen we had," Spitz said. "We helped develop them and let them know what their job is in the coming years."



Blue Devils captain Jake Spitz received First-Team All-State honors from the MHSCHA for the third season in a row.

Falcons soar as CYO champs

The St. Clare of Montefalco Girls Junior Varsity basketball team recently won the CYO league championship, finishing their season at an impressive 19-3. The Falcons topped the overall records of St. Paul, St. Germaine, St. Joan and Holy Family to capture the title. The team also grabbed first place trophies at the St. Clare Thanksgiving tourna-

ment, as well as the Star of the Sea and St. Margaret's post-season tournaments. The team, consisting of eight fifth graders and five sixth graders, primarily played against sixth grade teams throughout the season. Point guards Lauren Harris and Emily Vassel lead the team on offense, while Addy Brownsberger, Keegan

Price, and Sofia Beacham lead the defense. On March 6, coaches honored Lauren Harris with the Sportsmanship Award and Micah Kennebrew as the Most Improved Player on Award Night. "Each player on the team improved tenfold and were outstanding teammates," head coach Clare Conway said.

— Meg Leonard



PHOTO COURTESY OF CLARE CONWAY

Back row, from left: St. Clare JV head coach Clare Conway, Micah Kennebrew, Ava Beverly, Keegan Price, Addy Brownsberger, Sofia Beacham, Claire Tocco and assistant coach Milan Manriquez. Front row, from left: Luna Coyro, Norah Brumbaugh, Rebecca Corbett, Nadia Richardson, Lauren Harris, Emily Vassel and Cala Coyro.



COURTESY PHOTO

Barr, left, and his older brother Kurt are both committed to play college baseball at the University of Michigan.

ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

as a whole. The chemistry is great and I think we can have a great year this year with the plan to go back-to-back. ... We play for each other and we help make each other better."

The start of the season

is just days away for Barr and the Liggett baseball team. That means it is time for the effort in the offseason to start paying off. For Barr, it means putting his constant training to good use to help the Knights on offense and defense.

"I've been trying to develop and gain strength for everything,

both hitting and pitching," he said. "One thing I've been focusing on lately is my hitting. I want to have a great hitting year this year and improve my average to help make the team better."

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, visit grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week.

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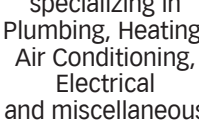
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