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Grosse Pointe News

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Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

EERV application spells relief

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — There's no guessing when the installation of an emergency relief valve will start protecting the community from sewer water backups into basements during big rains, but if the new council's efforts to do so continue at the current pace, it will be sooner than later.

"My philosophy has always been to under promise and over deliver," said Max Wiener, one of six new members, including the mayor, elected in November to the seven-seat Grosse Pointe Park council. "We had an EGLE (the Michigan

Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy) meeting immediately after the election. It was a benefit knowing the new team shared the priority."

City Manager Nick Sizeland announced during the council meeting Monday evening, April 11, the city submitted a state environmental application to attach an extreme emergency relief valve, or EERV, to the city's sewer system.

"I officially signed the Part 41 permit for the EERV today," Sizeland said, referring to a section of state law governing construction of sewage systems.

See EERV, page 2A

Park's new AM nearly homegrown

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — There's a curious sameness about the living and working localities of the city's new assistant manager.

He grew up in St. Clair Shores, on the banks of Lake St. Clair.

He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in political science and public policy, respec-

tively, at Michigan State University, bisected by the Red Cedar River.

His first job after college was manager of Lakeview, a village nearly surrounded by Tamarack Lake west of Mount Pleasant.

In his next job, situated beside a waterway, of course, he managed St. Clair.

Now, in the Park, he's back near the lake beside which he grew

up.

"The presence of water makes a community what it is. I'm excited to continue that trend," said Warren Rothe, new to the relatively rare job as second in command of the Grosse Pointe Park administration.

"The Park had an assistant city manager for only about three months of the last 20 years," said Nick

Sizeland, manager of the Park. "Considering how big the Park is and all that we have going on, now that we have an assistant, the Park's going to get even more done than before."

Rothe beat 32 applicants.

"He has management experience," Sizeland said. "He's from St. Clair Shores, so he

See AM, page 4A

New tot lot coming to town

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — After initial plans for Chene-Trombly Park's renovation were discussed at a committee of the whole meeting in October 2021, the Grosse Pointe Woods Foundation has taken on the task of fundraising for the tot lot portion of the park, located at the corner of Ridgmont and Mack.

Developers Stucky Vitale Architects, along with the Woods planning commission, have mapped out a tot-focused activity area, something the city currently doesn't have.

"We have no tot lot equipment anywhere in the parks," Councilwoman Angela Coletti Brown said, noting all existing equipment is geared toward 5- to 12-year-olds.

The new tot lot will feature a fenced-in area containing a natural stone stepper, dino fossil dig, log crawl tunnel, dinosaur see-saw, mushroom climbers, educational panels and playground equipment, among other things. The ground primarily will be sand.

A \$60,000 project, excavation will cost \$8,000; the playscape, \$17,000; see-saw, \$6,000; sand pit, \$5,000;

See LOT, page 2A



COURTESY PHOTO

Hoppy Easter!

A sure sign of spring — and fertility — rabbits also are symbolic of renewal, dedication to self-improvement and good luck. As we celebrate this season of rebirth and growth, we wish you a happy Easter and playful spring, as depicted in Yan Macs' "Antic Rondo for Rabbit Rollo."

Developer speaks on St. Clair project

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — In the months since purchasing the nearly two-decade vacant property at 582-606 St. Clair Avenue in August 2021, Mike Bailey with MTB Partners LLC has been gearing up to present a formal site plan application to city council: a step he now plans to take in late spring or early summer.

What he calls a "multi-family resident upscale renter property," will offer apartments for rent at market rate within a three- to four-story building.

"We're still doing a little bit of work on the unit mix and want to make sure we have that down before we submit something and then have to start all over again, so we want to be very thoughtful in our process," Bailey explained. "It's a great piece of real

estate and we're proud to own it and we want to do something that's very thoughtful and meaningful and desirable by the community."

Thanks to input from owners of neighboring properties during two meetings that Bailey and City Manager Pete Dame said went significantly well, the developer also is considering the incorporation of first-floor commercial space facing the parking lot and CVS. The intent, he said,

would be for a live/work scenario for tenants on the upper floors.

This would follow a trend created last year when the first residential living space on Kercheval in The Village in decades was constructed and subsequently rented out to a small business owner working below.

"Those are the things we're still weighing," Bailey said. "In certain communities, it's done

See PROJECT, page 3A

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Week Ahead 3A
Opinion 6A
Schools 8A
Features 1B
Obituaries 4B
Sports 1D
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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Bill Fleming

Home: City of Grosse Pointe
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Trees memorialize loved ones

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The Grosse Pointe Woods community gathered Wednesday, April 6, for an evening of memorializing loved ones through the dedication of six trees to be planted throughout the community.

The evening began with a dedicatory prayer, written by the 1961-92 city administrator Chester E. Peterson and read aloud by Councilman Michael Koester.

Tree Commission member Peter Groschner shared comments about the importance of the tree memorial dedication ceremony in the community.

“Tonight we gather to

remember loved ones and recognize family and friends who have made a generous gift of a tree to the Grosse Pointe Woods community,” Groschner said. “... It reminds us that our loved one’s life mattered and had meaning and value, and the person lives on in our memories. Even more, by honoring a loved one in this way, it suggests that your loved one is still contributing to the life of the community through the growth, beauty and shade that the tree offers.”

“This program is our community’s invitation to join in commemorating loved ones with trees,” he added. “Therefore it is fitting that by planting trees in memory of loved ones,

we recognize their vitality, insight and love that has shaped our lives and left us richer with their presence.”

Memorial trees dedicated for 2020-21 were a flowering crab planted at city hall in honor of Philip J. Koufos, a pin oak planted at Lake Front Park in honor of the Connolly family and a red maple planted at Lake Front Park in honor of Robert and Jane Brown.

Rick Brown, Robert and Jane Brown’s son, said the decision to plant the red maple at Lake Front Park was to commemorate his father’s love for tennis, something he played often at the Woods park.

Three trees also were dedicated for 2021-22,

including a locust at city hall in honor of George Washnak, a weeping cherry at Paget Court and Fairford Road for Patricia Koller and an oak tree at Ghesquiere Park for Patrick F. Scoggin.

Christie Scoggin, Patrick Scoggin’s wife, explained she thought it fitting for his tree to stand at the edge of the main field in Ghesquiere Park.

“I thought to myself, ‘What a perfect place for my Pat to have a memorial tree in his name,’ for so many significant reasons,” Scoggin said.

The Scoggin boys played Woods-Shores Little League and Junior League baseball games there for years, she noted, something her



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Jeanne Kowalske, Christie Scoggin and Rick Brown hold their certificates for the trees they dedicated for their loved ones.

husband always was there to watch.

“I can picture Pat coming straight from work to the weeknight games, still wearing his business suit, and watch, with much pride and joy, our boys and their teammates play

ball,” she said. “He never sat down in the bleachers, but instead he always stood off to the side fences or in the outfield fence line to watch them play so he would have no interrup-

See TREES, page 3A

LOT:

Continued from page 1A

sand excavator, \$2,500; sand fossil exhibit, \$4,000; staking and supervision, \$9,000; concrete foundations, \$4,000; and fencing and gates, \$4,500.

Though initial plans

were set to come in three installation phases, with the tot lot added during phase three, city administration agreed if funding was available, the new lot for younger kids could be installed at any time and would not have to wait until phase three begins.

“We have launched

our fundraising campaign with hope the amount can be raised quickly and given to the city so equipment can be ordered, the site prepared and there will soon be new fun for the younger members of our community,” Foundation President Lisa Fuller said via email.

In keeping with the dinosaur theme, donation brackets have been split up into dinosaur levels: \$50 to \$199 is a brachiosaurus donation; \$200 to \$499, alligator; \$500 to \$999, spinosaurus; \$1,000 to \$2,499, stegosaurus; \$2,500 to \$4,999, velociraptor; \$5,000 to \$9,999,

triceratops; and \$10,000 and more, tyrannosaurus. While all donors will receive recognition on the foundation’s website, velociraptor, triceratops and tyrannosaurus donors will be included on a permanent plaque onsite at the tot lot.

For more information

about the project and to view the site design, visit gpwfoundation.org.

Donations to the project may be made through the site, or checks may be made out to Grosse Pointe Woods Foundation and mailed to P.O. Box 361068, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

EERV:

Continued from page 1A

“The Part 41 permit is the lynchpin that allows everything else to progress,” said Wiener, an engineer and chairman of the infrastructure committee. “To get to this point, we had to produce a working model using standard operating procedures. From this, we’re doing cost analysis so we can go out to bid.”

Twice during thunderstorms last summer, sewer and storm water backed into thousands of basements in the Park, the Grosse Pointes and a 64-square-mile area of southeast Michigan.

Even without power and equipment failures at sewage pumping stations in Detroit operated by the Great Lakes Water Authority, the downpours — up to 15.5 inches per hour during a five-minute period — were too big for existing sewer systems to handle, according to a

GLWA analysis released last November and December.

Knowing it is unaffordable for every community in the region to expand the capacity of their sewer systems, Park officials have been pestering regulators for a less costly but still multi-million-dollar alternative in the name of EERV.

Plans are to connect the valve and new piping to an underground storm water retention tank at Patterson Park.

When a backup looms, the valve is opened manually to divert excess water — runoff combined with untreated sewage originating not only in the Park, but also upstream communities and in Macomb County that flow through the Pointes to a GLWA treatment facility in southwest Detroit — directly into Lake St. Clair.

“The design we’re using is a large diameter pipe that goes from the intersection of Essex and

Three Mile to the wet well at the storm water pumping station,” said Patrick Droze, an engineer with OHM Advisors, the Park’s consulting engineers.

Droze proposed two methods of installation.

One, a traditional open cut involving digging a trench and laying a 66-inch diameter pipe, costs an estimated \$1.8 million.

The other is expected to cost \$2 million and is accomplished by boring a tunnel through which a pipe is set.

“We’ll continue to refine that cost estimate,” Droze said. “This is based on a project I bid last year.”

“I’m more excited about a valve than a dozen roses,” Mayor Michele Hodges said.

Yet, even in flood control there are downsides.

For Park resident Roger Garrett and his neighbors, the downside is literal.

“We are very fortunate to live on the lake,” Garrett told the council. “We’re also not so fortunate to live directly



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE PARK

Grosse Pointe Park’s two top administrators and a consulting engineer are all smiles upon submitting a state application Monday, April 11, to install a flood relief valve to protect against sewer backups into basements. From left are Patrick Droze, an engineer with consultant OHM Advisors, Warren Rothe on his first day as the city’s new assistant city manager and City Manager Nick Sizeland.

downstream of the storm drain. We are extremely concerned about the EERV. Unless you’ve been down to our homes, you cannot appreciate where we sit relative to that drain. When there is a significant rainstorm, what comes out of that storm drain is like Niagara Falls.”

“We are committed to working closely with our residents and making sure EGLE holds us accountable to make sure those releases only occur under certain circumstances, so folks like our lakefront residents are not unnecessarily impacted,” Hodges said. Park officials sought

advice, counseling, direction and influence from a number of counterparts, agencies, state administrators and lawmakers about how to design the valve for maximum effectiveness and draft the application for the best chance of approval.

Thanks all around

Hodges credited Sizeland.

“You know how to GSD: get stuff done,” she told him. “Nick, you’ve done such a great job of bringing GLWA and EGLE to the table and making them allies rather than opponents. (State) Sen. (Adam) Hollier, (D-Detroit), and Rep.

(Joseph) Tate, (D-Detroit), certainly have been helpful. St. Clare of Montefalco is part of the solution.”

Turning to Wiener, Hodges said, “We cannot forget our Max. Your skillset couldn’t be better timed; your tenacity and willingness to pull a team together toward a really important goal.”

Wiener said the application process was a multi-pronged effort.

“Give credit to OHM, the mayor and city manager,” Wiener said. “There was a lot of outreach to neighboring communities, to state and federal representatives. A lot of credit is due the Great Lakes Water Authority. It’s become an excellent partner to exert pressure, because this isn’t something just impacting our city. This relief, if utilized, also benefits neighboring communities, both up and down stream. So, everybody recognized the value and utility of it.”

The infrastructure committee, on which also serve first-term councilmen Brian Brenner and Thomas Caufield, was scheduled to meet Thursday, April 14, after the Grosse Pointe News deadline.

“I want to stress that just because we’re advancing the process on the EERV, in no way are we letting off the gas with all the other work we’re doing,” Wiener said.

“The words that matter are ‘focus, accountability, performance and result,’” Hodges said. “That’s what this team is committed to. None of us have forgotten the devastation that occurred in our community less than a year ago. We’re never going to let that kind of crisis happen again.”

“A great thank you to our residents, too, for just being patient through all this and trusting we’re going to get this done. We have a lot more work to do, but this is a huge milestone. It bears a high five.”

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Farms withholds Highland Park debt charges

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — After being required to cover a portion of Highland Park's water and sewer debt, a majority of the 87 Great Lakes Water Authority member communities are attempting to get the state's attention by withholding their future allocated costs, with Grosse Pointe Farms joining their ranks Monday night.

Since Highland Park's water plant closed 10 years ago due to decay, and the state subsequently required the

GLWA to provide the city with water, the city paid approximately half of its charges from 2013 to March 2021.

The other member communities have been required to cover the costs Highland Park would or could not.

With the Farms expected to pay \$55,200 toward Highland Park's debt in fiscal year 2022-23, council voted 6-0, with Councilman John Gillooly absent, to place its portion in escrow until the matter is resolved.

"The goal at the end of the day is that we wouldn't have to pay it

because the state fixes it," Mayor Louis Theros said.

Although the Farms already has paid money toward Highland Park's debt in previous years, Farms City Manager Shane Reeside said, "it's something that historically had been a very miniscule portion of our overall charges, but it just recently became much more significant."

The sharp increase may be a result of Highland Park ceasing to make any payments toward GLWA's sewer services since April 2021, according to a letter Theros wrote to the state

in early March. Aside from notice the letter was received, there has yet to be a response, he reported.

City administration emphasized the Farms will continue to pay its own sewage charges to GLWA as normal. The city does not pay water charges as it supplies its own water through the Moross plant.

While it is the first of the Grosse Pointes to vote to withhold the payment, Reeside reported, three of the other four Pointes have communicated intent to bring the issue before their city councils

for consideration.

"I think this will bring it to head," Theros said, "when you have the vast majority of communities out there saying to the state, saying to GLWA, fix it (and) not on our backs either. This is a problem that goes beyond just the Grosse Pointe cities and goes to all of southeast Michigan."

Among other GLWA member communities, the Farms has a unique connection with Highland Park. A decade ago, the two cities shared an intake out of Lake St. Clair, which fed water to

the Highland Park water plant and the Farms water treatment plant at Moross and Lakeshore.

When the Highland Park plant closed, the city essentially abandoned the shared infrastructure in the Farms, leaving the Pointe to solely cover all maintenance costs.

While the amount doesn't compare to the GLWA debt the Farms currently is being asked to pay, Reeside said, "It's several thousand dollars a year now over the last 10 years that we haven't gotten any reimbursement for those shared costs."

Farms Public Safety report reflects on 2021

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — After its officers largely avoided getting COVID-19 for almost two years of the pandemic, nearly the entire Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety Department tested positive at the end of 2021, with as many as 10 to 12 people off work at one point.

During the struggle to fill positions in November and December, the department finished out a year highlighted both by major project completions and new initiatives that came with significant rank changes and personnel turnover.

The city's one incident of major violent crime — a category encompassing criminal homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault and

arson — in 2021 was due to an unarmed robbery Nov. 18, at a Kercheval business.

The suspect requested five \$30 lottery tickets, but as the cashier was ringing them up, he grabbed them out of her hand and ran. A man, who officers believe has a high chance of being the same person, later was arrested and charged for the same crime in Grosse Pointe Park and Troy.

"In terms of our case ... he could not be positively identified," Director John Hutchins said, "so in our particular instance, we weren't able to charge him, but (detectives) are 99 percent sure it was him just because of the M.O. and similar circumstances."

The incident was classified as a violent crime because it was an unarmed robbery.

"An unarmed robbery

typically would be (when) you pull a necklace off someone's neck," Hutchins explained, "or you grab a purse off a girl's arm or you reach across the counter and snatch lottery tickets out of someone's hands."

In the category of major property crime, the city saw one robbery, five burglaries, 40 larcenies and six motor vehicle thefts in 2021.

The year also marked six structure fires, two car fires and four miscellaneous fires, with a total estimated loss of \$2,942,750, which is up from \$769,175 in 2020.

K-9 Officer Duke participated in policing efforts 27 times last year, as he completed his seventh year of service May 5, 2021. These included one narcotics case, 15 tracks, one building search and 10 evidence searches, 22 of which

were for mutual aid services.

While K-9 uses and calls for service were down due to the pandemic, he and partner Tim Harris successfully completed three live finds of suspects and six evidence finds.

It is anticipated Duke may retire this year.

The retirements in 2021, including that of director Dan Jensen after 43 years of service, created the biggest department turnover since 2006. With the new leadership, the department now is focusing on certification through the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Program and the exploration of building improvements.

"We just want to get better here in many different ways," Hutchins said. "We want to get better in our training. We want to get better in

our equipment. We want to get better in our building. We want to get better in updating policies and adding policies."

The department also is facing the repercussions of a mass exodus from law enforcement over the past two years, brought on by the pandemic and an anti-police sentiment that took off across social media.

"The biggest challenge right now for law enforcement is recruiting and hiring," Hutchins said. "... We're faced with less people going into the academies, less people applying than we

used to get and the pickings are slim. So we're trying to figure out ways to attract people, but every agency only has the ability to give so much.

"It's a real challenge," he continued. "We have interviewed some folks here in the last month. We feel we have some strong candidates and we're also looking at the possibility of internally promoting if people are interested."

The department is anticipating the additional retirement of a lieutenant and detective this summer.

TREES:

Continued from page 2A

tions. It was one of his favorite places to be."

The oak tree in Patrick Scoggin's name was planted just beyond the fence line of the main field's left field, where Christie Scoggin said he would have been standing.

"... He always said that a ball field is a divine place," she said of her husband. "At his dad's funeral, so many years ago, Pat eulogized to the many friends and family attending that he imagined his dad's entrance into heaven was like walking to your seats at Tiger stadium. Through the dark tunnel, out into the bright lights, hit with the smell of fresh grass and buttery popcorn, viewing the pristinely manicured field and



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Laura Gaskin, Tree Commission vice chairwoman; Christie Scoggin; Tyler Scoggin; and Paul Lechner, chairman, memorialize Patrick Scoggin with an oak tree to be planted at Ghesquiere Park.

feeling the excitement of a ball game about to be played.

"To him," she said,

"that was heaven. And now, a large tree stands in a small ballpark in Grosse Pointe Woods

with a brick inscribed with Pat's name, the date and the words, 'Play ball.'"

PROJECT:

Continued from page 1A

very well on the live/work, so we're still doing a little bit of research on that, but that's a possibility."

Because of his personal history in the area, Bailey said he may hold a better understanding of the Grosse Pointe communities than other potential developers.

His parents grew up on Barrington Road and he was born at Bon Secours Hospital, with

the family living in Grosse Pointe Woods until he was 12. Many of his close friends and cousins still live here.

"(It's) a lot of history and (I) just love the community and would love to build something that'll stand the test of time there," Bailey said. "... We're looking forward to being a part of the community and are excited about a project in one of my favorite cities."

Previously, MTB Partners LLC completed a four-story mixed-use development with 40

condominium units in East Lansing, as well as commercial developments in the hospitality and restaurant industries.

The company also currently is undergoing a similar project — a 75-unit, four-story building in Grand Rapids near Calvin University.

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The Week Ahead

MONDAY, APRIL 18

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Infrastructure Committee meeting, 9 a.m.
- ◆ City of Grosse Pointe City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the DPW yard, 1200 Parkway, at Marter.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Lifelong Pointer gives back through coaching

By Mike Adzima
Staff Writer

From his own high school playing career to nearly four decades of coaching experience, Bill Fleming's roots in Grosse Pointe sports are deep. Spending decades with both the Norsemen and Blue Devils and working with various athletic programs, for Fleming, it is all about giving back to his hometown.

Fleming began his high school sports journey while attending Grosse Pointe North High School. An athlete in his own right, he was a member of the football, baseball and wrestling teams. During college, Fleming played baseball at Albion College before attending law school at Wayne State University.

His journey into coaching began around the same time in 1983, when Fleming started coaching football, wrestling and softball at North. Work and other things put his coaching career temporarily on hold, but Fleming got right back into doing what he loves as soon as the opportunity arose.

"After law school I was hired by the FBI and was moved around for about 10 years before I got enough seniority to get moved back home," he said. "I couldn't coach during those years, but as soon as I got back home, I immediately got back into it. I was at North, then at De La Salle for football, then moved over to South in 2007."

For more than a decade now, Fleming's biggest coaching role has been head varsity softball coach for the Blue Devils. It has brought him to the other side of the cross-town rivalry and given him plenty of opportunities to coach against his



Bill Fleming and his daughter, Megan, celebrating a MAC Gold championship in 2014. Megan later returned as an assistant coach for Grosse Pointe South High School softball in 2021.

alma mater. As a lifelong member of the community, Fleming has realized there is nothing wrong with a good, friendly rivalry.

"It was kind of funny when it first happened," he said. "My wife also went to North and we ended up moving in on the south side and I started coaching at South. Now it's my home. It's a great rivalry and a healthy rivalry that's great for the community. I'm one of the lucky ones who's gotten to experience it on both sides."

Fleming's passion for coaching really began during his days as a young athlete. Role models from his playing days inspired him to follow their path and helped build some of the coaching philosophies Fleming still carries today.

Most importantly, Fleming sees his work coaching as a way of leav-

ing an imprint on his hometown. Being able to do things like coach family members of friends and neighbors — and even coach alongside his own daughter — are just some of the experiences that make Fleming see the true value in coaching.

"I had some coaches when I was in high school who were great mentors," Fleming said. "I feel strongly that it's important to give back to your community ... being in the community where you live and coaching while seeing the kids and families and their development. I was able to coach my daughter at South and she came back and was able to be an assistant coach for me. It's been a wonderful experience."

Things like coaching his daughter as a player and then having her coach alongside him

years after they have left the program.

"To me, the greatest memories are seeing your players later on," Fleming said. "After they go to college, they come back to the program, whether it's to coach or just to stop by. Seeing them being successful and as coaches, our job is mentoring, so that's the most important thing and if you can have an impact on something, that's where I get the most joy."

In nearly 40 years of coaching in and around the Pointes, Fleming has had plenty of opportunities to see the impact he has had on various young athletes. Perhaps that sort of great impact has come from the way Fleming approaches being a coach.

Fleming prides himself on maintaining confidence and positivity among his teams. Whether it is in softball, football or any other sport, he remembers that high school sports are really a learning experience. Being able to provide lessons athletes will take with them for years after high school is one of

the things that keeps Fleming's passion for coaching strong.

"We should be building people up," he said. "We're teaching them skills that they're going to take with them the rest of their lives. We're not an NFL factory or a pro softball factory. What we do have are smart kids who go to great schools."

With a coaching career that began in the 1980s, Fleming believes he might enjoy coaching now more than ever. With even more time on his hands, one of the most constant coaching figures in the world of Grosse Pointe high school sports has no intention of stopping soon.

"I just retired from the FBI after 33 years and I'm going to coach as long as I'm physically able," Fleming said. "I love coaching at South. The administration is great because they're so supportive of the programs. The kids work hard and I get as much, maybe more, joy out of coaching now than when I first started and I'm going to keep going as long as I'm able to."

COURTESY PHOTOS

have created some of Fleming's greatest memories in his coaching career. Wins and losses can be great, but what truly stands out is seeing the impact a coach can have on an athlete even



Fleming holds the 2018 district championship trophy. He has been the head varsity softball coach at South since 2009.

AM:

Continued from page 1A

knows the Grosse Pointe area. He has an analytical background, is policy driven and is very humble, collaborative and a team builder."

"I'm a projects person," Rothe said. "Something that attracted me to the assistant role is being able to dive into some of the more technical things I enjoy."

"Mr. Rothe comes to us with great experience in line with our needs, including dealing with marinas, pensions (and) signage," said Mayor Michele Hodges during Rothe's debut at the April 11 city council meeting. "I feel fortunate that we've been able to bring you to our team. Mr. Sizeland, thanks to you and your team for attracting such talent."

Rothe described himself as analytical.

"I like to be informed by numbers, if possible, especially when dealing with budgets," he said. "I absorb as much information as I can and apply it to decisions on a day-to-day basis."

"Warren's main focus is going to be planning, zoning, building and the TIFA (Tax Increment Finance Authority)," Sizeland said. "He'll be assisting me with special projects and priorities."

"I want to make a dif-

ference," Rothe said. "At the local level you can see the fruits of your everyday work."

Sizeland now has more time to focus on improving infrastructure, such as the extreme emergency relief valve for which the Park submitted an application for state approval less than three hours before the council meeting.

The valve is designed to thwart sewer backups into basements, as happened twice last summer, by diverting otherwise overwhelming volumes of storm and sewer water into Lake St. Clair.

Rothe managed

Lakeview for one year and St. Clair for 2 1/2.

"I hate to see him go," said St. Clair Mayor Bill Cedar in the Port Huron Times Herald March 23. "He's a hard worker."

Rothe made his farewell to St. Clair during its April 4 council meeting, posted on YouTube:

"I've always been fond of the phrase 'city upon a hill,'" he said. "The phrase comes from the gospel of Matthew and over time has been used by various political leaders to describe America's role — the role of being the shining example of government in the world."

"Each of his refer-

ences that I contacted had nothing but 110 percent good things to say about what a great individual I was taking away from St. Clair," Sizeland said.

Sizeland and Rothe have parallel backgrounds.

"Warren has a master's in public administration," Sizeland said. "Mine is in public policy. He'll be the yin to my yang."

"Nick and I interned with the city of Grand Ledge, although at different times," Rothe said. "A lot of his mentors also mentored me. So, I think he'll be a fun manager to work for and together with."



Joe Ricci Councilman/Mayor Pro Tem Ex Facto

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- Concession Stand Update
- Lifeguard search

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Grosse Pointe Woods

Suspended

A 2019 Dodge Caravan with expired plates was pulled over at Vernier and Mack at 11:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 5.

A LEIN check showed the 42-year-old Sterling Heights driver had one current and seven prior suspensions, as well as several arrest warrants for traffic.

She was issued citations for driving while license suspended and expired plates.

Alcoholic tantrum

When customers at a restaurant in the 20500 block of Mack got a little too rowdy at dinner Saturday, April 9, their server refused to serve them more alcoholic beverages.

The diners began using derogatory language toward the server and the restaurant's manager, and they were asked to leave.

They continued to verbally abuse the server and manager. Once outside, the male customer picked up a chair from the outside patio, throwing it against the building. The chair broke into

multiple pieces.

The couple fled south on Mack. The investigation is ongoing.

— 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 crimes to Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety, (313) 881-5500.

Grosse Pointe Park

Footprint

Instead of taking something, it looks like an unknown home invader last week left behind a footprint inside an attached garage in the 15000 block of Windmill Pointe Drive.

The homeowner reported the incident around 9:45 p.m. Tuesday, April 5.

Breaking into an

attached garage, rather than just a stand-alone garage, bumps up the crime to home invasion of a dwelling instead of breaking and entering.

"A landscape brick was located inside the garage which had been used to break the window," reported an officer. "A footprint inside the garage appears to show someone made entry."

Minivan stolen

Sometime overnight Friday, April 8, a dark blue 2015 Chrysler Town & Country was taken from a driveway in the 1000 block of Cadieux.

Trespassing

In the 1300 block of Wayburn this week, police arrested a 44-year-old Grosse Pointe Park woman for trespassing.

Officers logged the incident at 1:30 a.m. Monday, April 11.

"Officers attempted to convince the subject to leave the residence but she refused," reported a patrolman.

It was the third tres-

passing incident on the block in six weeks, the prior two involving a 28-year-old Detroit man in February.

— Brad Lindberg

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Fraudulent check

An unknown suspect attempted to cash a fraudulent \$1,000 check from a Kercheval Avenue business Wednesday, April 6.

Lack of license

After being pulled over for driving without headlights or taillights at Mack Avenue and Shelbourne Road at 9:08 p.m. Friday, April 8, a 26-year-old Detroit man told officers he has never had a driver's license.

He was arrested for driving while license suspended and the vehicle

was impounded.

Switch-around

After a 26-year-old Detroit man requested an ambulance for mental issues and pain in his legs at 1:57 a.m. Saturday, April 9, officers found him to be in sound condition and instead arrested him for a felony warrant out of Macomb County.

Broken window

The rear hatch glass was broken out of a vehicle parked in the 18000 block of Mack Avenue between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Saturday, April 9. Officers observed what appeared to be an impact point in the corner of the glass as if struck by a rock.

Speeding

A 22-year-old Detroit man was pulled over for speeding 45 mph on Moross Road at 8:14 p.m. Saturday, April 9, and cited for speeding, no insurance and driving while license suspended.

Headlights

Pulled over at Mack Avenue and East Warren because his vehicle's headlights were out, an 18-year-old Detroit man was cited for defective equipment and not having a license at 8:48 p.m. Saturday, April 9.

— Laurel Kraus

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

City of Grosse Pointe

Bicycle justice

A 39-year-old Detroit man was arrested Monday, April 4, after cutting the lock from a bike rack in the 17000 block of Waterloo Street and stealing the bike.

At his arraignment, he pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 90 days in the Wayne County Jail.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Getting a move on the master plan

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Absent yeehaws, the latest planning commission meeting had the feel of a cattle drive.

Three city council members attended the meeting Wednesday, April 6, as drovers, urging progress on drafting a new municipal master plan, a process that began in late 2018, before any current commissioner took office.

"The purpose of (council comment) is so we can integrate or respond to those (council) comments in the next draft and, hopefully, avoid a ping-pong of the master plan, a back and forth between commission and council that will drag this out for longer than we hoped," said Erica Shell, assistant city attorney for Grosse Pointe Park.

A special concern is completing the master plan in time for the city to qualify for state and federal stimulus money, for which there is high demand.

City Manager Nick Sizeland said Michigan has \$700 million in requests for infrastructure grants.

"They expect close to \$1 billion in requests from communities looking at water infrastructure," he said.

"There's nothing more important in the next few years than infrastructure," said Mayor Michele Hodges, a commissioner per city charter. "It needs to be punctuated as an important priority. Testimony to that was provided in a recent meeting Manager Sizeland and I had with SEMCOG (Southeast Michigan Council of Governments). The director is willing to look at our (master plan) draft and circulate it amongst her staff to ensure the language allows federal stimulus dollars that are coming down the pike."

"Leveraging federal and state dollars is going to be crucial," Sizeland said. "Once the master plan is adopted, we'll be able to go to an entity and say, 'We support this within our master plan.'"

Councilman Tom Caulfield submitted written comments that Hodges read in summary.

Caulfield rated infrastructure a priority and, along with Hodges, wants an inventory of all city-owned property, improved crosswalk safety and for the city to have welcoming gateways.

Caulfield and Councilman Max Wiener agree that results of public surveys, conducted at least twice to help planners put municipal goals in line with resident preferences, weren't incorporated rightfully into the master plan's various drafts by a municipal planning consultant, MKSK, retained for about \$50,000, according to Sizeland.

"I'm a little bothered by the seeming disconnect between MKSK and public comment," Wiener said. "This commission has done an excellent job engaging (and) listening to the community, putting together priorities. It seems that when this goes to MKSK, they have priorities that seem a little disconnected from what we're hearing from the community. The point of public engagement is to make sure people living in the community and are most directly affected by all of this have a larger seat at the table for input."

The MKSK planner assigned to the Park declined last November to be interviewed except by email. Doing so, the planner said, lets Sizeland receive a copy of answers, a requirement with which Sizeland said he doesn't agree, hasn't imposed nor implied.

An interview request

left on the company's Detroit answering machine wasn't returned.

"I wanted high-priority items to be reflective of the survey MKSK had done with the community," added Commissioner Michael Vethacke, who is praised by many of his municipal associates for being organized and attentive to detail.

He said the current draft lacks urgency about the fate of the Trombly Elementary School prop-

erty. The matter appears in the draft as a mid-range priority in terms of timing.

"I encourage it to go to high priority, short term, because I'm not sure what their (school officials) schedule is," Vethacke said. "I want us to be involved with that and not get caught unawares."

"I agree," Commission Chairwoman Michele Lindsay said.

"I'm having conversations with the school dis-

trict, looking at opportunities for Trombly," Sizeland said.

"Any community going forward is going to have to embrace all forms of mobility, including bike lanes," Hodges said. "The

wisdom comes in doing it properly, in a way that respects our resources, too. We had a fruitful meeting recently with our partners, which

See PLAN, page 10A



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6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

This old town is worth it

Last week, we provided ample coverage on the Pointes' various sewage upgrades and infrastructure plans. This got us thinking about the sometimes-harsh financial reality of living in a city that continues to age, much like the homes that make up our beloved community.

And just like an old house, it can occasionally feel like everything is falling apart at once. Yet, apropos of our collective decision to live in a place devoid of McMansions and manufactured homes, we pay the literal price for its upkeep.

Living in an older, non-cookie-cutter community requires maintenance similar to that of a unique, architecturally distinct older home. We could instead live in brand new tract housing out in Macomb County or a Pulte-built "neighborhood" in Oakland County. But we choose to live here because we appreciate the architectural diversity you can't find in these new developments.

Being interconnected by sidewalks, with countless streets to walk, bike or drive on that directly lead to Lake St. Clair doesn't hurt either. But each of these factors that create our neighborhood charm require funding to repair and upkeep.

We don't hesitate to fight Father Time in our own battle against aging. That's just a fact. Take a quick stroll down the cosmetic aisle at Notre Dame Pharmacy or Rite Aid and the sheer amount of "anti-aging" products will show you it's a priority for many.

Dealing with aging infrastructure is a price we Grosse Pointers pay as well, hopefully with the maintenance dollars we already have in place. Many people we know, whether friends and family from around the country, throughout metro Detroit or those in our workplace, insist on living in a new home and are committed to living no other way.

It isn't wrong. It's just different from what most of us here have eschewed, with the payoff coming in the form of living in a community and home with a deep history, within walkable neighborhoods.

We appreciate the increased chance of our houses having an old butler's pantry or carriage house, or understanding the reference when someone mentions "Cecil Fielder's old house" on Kenwood or "the house that looks like a French Chateau" on Vendome.

We also love our special brand of pinpointing a location by explaining it's "two doors down from the Ross house," or up the block from "the Smurf house" on Bishop.

See? It's just a Grosse Pointe, if-you-know-you-know type of thing that is only possible thanks to our old, historical style.

But our uniqueness and age require significant financial resources toward upkeep, flooding issues included. Just as we invest the time and money to maintain and improve our homes, our cities will continue to need that same level of attention, ranging from a little municipal Botox to an occasional full facelift.

All in all, we think this old town is worth it.

| GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST | | | | | | | April 14-20, 2022 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| THR | FRI | SAT | SUN | MON | TUE | WED | |
| | | | | | | | |
| 55° 43° | 56° 39° | 48° 31° | 48° 34° | 45° 35° | 48° 32° | 52° 38° | |
| Partly cloudy | Partly cloudy | Partly cloudy | Mostly sunny | P.M. showers | Partly cloudy | Partly cloudy | |
| 15% | 22% | 10% | 6% | 36% | 24% | 22% | |
| SUNRISE 6:52 am SUNSET 8:12 pm | SUNRISE 6:50 am SUNSET 8:13 pm | SUNRISE 6:48 am SUNSET 8:14 pm | SUNRISE 6:47 am SUNSET 8:15 pm | SUNRISE 6:45 am SUNSET 8:16 pm | SUNRISE 6:44 am SUNSET 8:17 pm | SUNRISE 6:42 am SUNSET 8:18 pm | |

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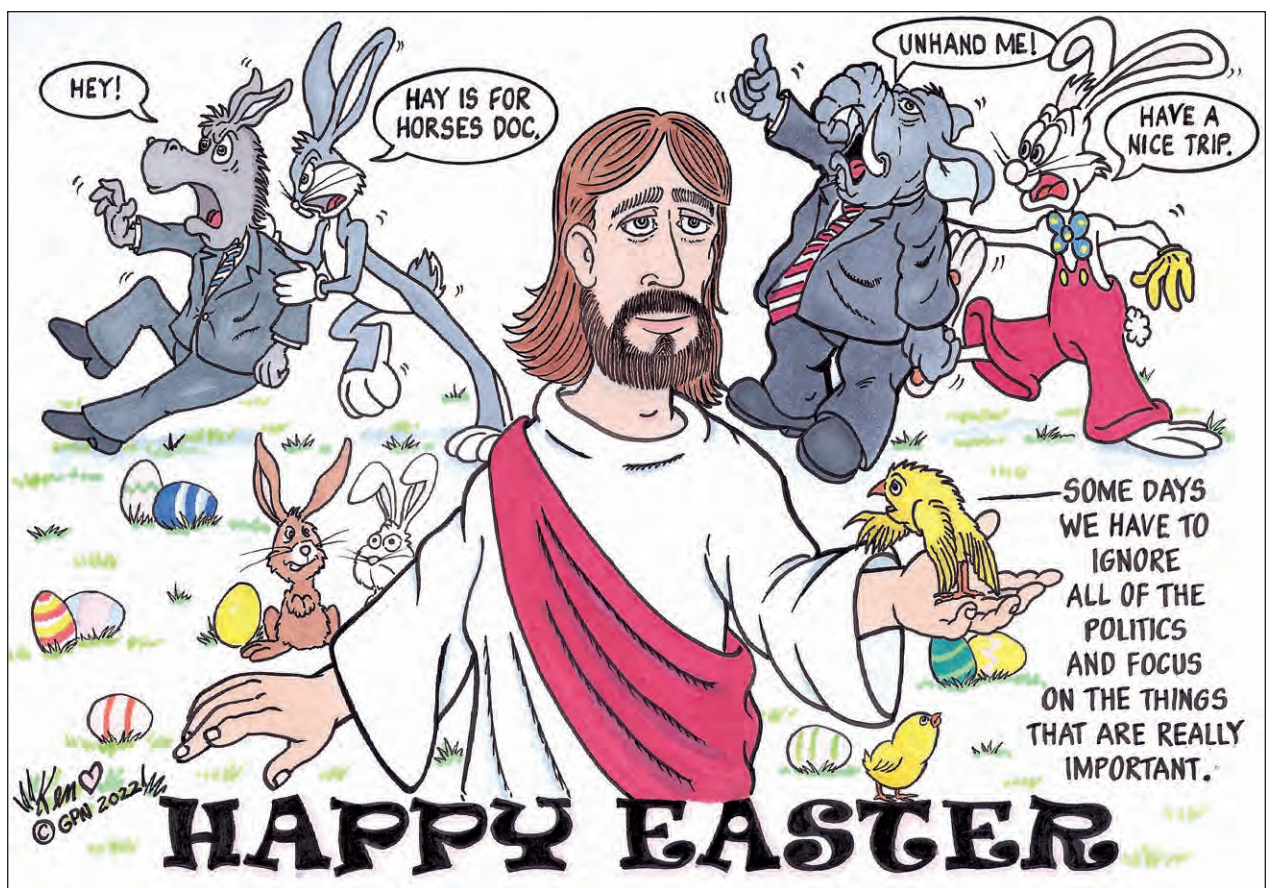


ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

OUR VIEW

Off the charts

We suspect many of you may have noticed we discontinued publishing our weekly, front-page COVID infection-rate chart March 24. We also stopped running Wayne County's vaccination chart March 31.

We also suspect just as many of you didn't even notice this change.

Such is the nature of all things COVID, where camps of the impassioned and indifferent quickly develop to form vastly different schools of thought on everything from vaccination efficacy and disease risk to engaging in full-blown verbal brawls about the color of sky.

Safe to say, we are downright relieved about our recent change. Happy to not type in the same five

letters in all caps in nearly every story we write. Pleased to restore our keyboards to full use. Eager to fill the space with stories about the new and interesting people and places that make our community great.

This change is not an indictment on how seriously we take a pandemic or not. It's simply a reflection of our assessment on the newsworthiness of letting you know how many people in Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods are infected or vaccinated, week after week after week, with only incremental change.

We are not alone in this shift. Most colleges around the country have dropped their COVID dashboards. The state of Michigan reduced its case and death-data reporting from daily to once a week. Mask mandates have dropped, concerts and sporting events are at full capacity and proof of vaccination status is losing its prominence.

We hope these changes stick. The more COVID moves off the front page and transforms into yesterday's news, we consider that a collective win.

OUR VIEW

Thank you for being a friend

We received the following voicemail last Friday from longtime reader Pat Setter of the City of Grosse Pointe:

"Yes, I was reading some of the past newspapers. I always save them and read what I can, and I just wanted you to know how pleased and proud I am of the Grosse Pointe News.

"I've been getting it for many years, I can't remember how long. I am 92 (years old) and it's been a long time, and I always get a yearly subscription for me and my son for his birthday. I'm very, very pleased with the Grosse Pointe News and the fact that you are complimenting the people that should be compli-

mented. "Thank you very much for being here in Grosse Pointe and helping us. Thank you!"

Mrs. Setter's voicemail truly heartened us. We have to admit, sometimes it's just nice to hear some positivity for the work you are doing. But most importantly, her voicemail motivates us and reminds our whole staff of the reason why we do what we do every week: to serve our community by informing, entertaining and engaging our readers.

We appreciate her taking the time to let us know we do, in fact, have friends in the community we cover. Chalk this one up under something that absolutely made our day, our week, our month and even our year.

LETTERS

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

Unheard

To the Editor:

I am submitting the letter I sent to the BOE meeting (Monday) night, as I was in attendance at a convention as an elected precinct delegate. I asked Trustee Ahmed Ismail to deliver my comments and when he asked President Joe Herd how it should be done procedurally, President Herd did not read the letter or give time to do so. Had I been there in person, I would have had the opportunity to give my comments to the public. I am very disappointed that

my comments were not read at the meeting. Below is the letter that I sent with Trustee Ismail.

To GPPSS Administration, Board of Education Colleagues and Community:

I have asked Trustee Ismail to read a statement on my behalf tonight as I have another commitment as an elected official outside of my position as BOE trustee.

I had to make a choice between events tonight and felt that I needed to prioritize the other event tonight.

I would like to issue a

public statement on several timely and important issues.

1. The use of BOND funds that were allocated for the currently closed — but not sold — Poupard and Trombly school buildings. I was shocked to hear Dr. Jon Dean and Ms. Amanda Matheson admit during our facilities meeting this past Thursday that the funds for those buildings have already been spent. There was over \$13.5 million allocated for those properties and I am quite disturbed that those funds were used towards our other bond projects with no information to the BOE. I have repeatedly asked about those BOND funds and have never received a straight answer until last Thursday.

Perhaps the discussion about adding on or enhancing the Trombly property for an ECC might have gone differently if we knew that we could have used \$13.5 million.

While the use of those

funds may have been needed to cover additional work that was discovered on the other properties, the use of those funds should have been transparently shared with the BOE.

2. The tearing down of the IA building at South. As a member of the facilities committee, I do not recall any discussion on tearing down the IA building at GP South. This is an issue the BOE should be voting on. Most worrisome to me about this proposed demolition is the fact that it will require significant funds to relocate boilers to the main building and require outside renovation to the Boll Center after the demolition. The administration has planned to take down this building, but have no plan for what will go in that space. It is irresponsible to demolish a building without any clear plan for what will go into that space.

3. Finally, today I was

See LETTER, page 7A

I SAY By Laurel Kraus

A little thank-you note



Does it take a village to raise a child? Perhaps. Or perhaps it simply takes a few key people who are willing to step up and make an effort in the life of a child who they may only know for a brief moment in time. As I was blessed enough to continue my education through college, I've had too many teachers to easily count over the years. Many I remember, most rarely come to mind and a few I've remained grateful

to long after graduating. One such person hails from the experiences and memories of Elementary School Laurel: my fourth-grade teacher, Mrs. Filip. My earliest memory of Mrs. Filip, although I clearly knew her beforehand, was while crafting on the floor of the school hallway in third grade. Mrs. Filip came walking by and I charmingly declared that I hoped she would be my teacher next year. I got my wish. Mrs. Filip filled me with encouragement and inspiration. From such a young age, she instilled a sense that I would do great things in the world of writing. Oftentimes, when I've gone back to see her over the years, she's asked me when I'm going to publish my first novel. Not quite yet, Mrs. Filip, but it's only

a matter of time. I haven't retained many concrete memories from that time in life — my memory's always been lousy and I often joke that I've simply forgotten my childhood — but feelings remember what thoughts won't. I feel love, comfort and thankfulness when I think of Mrs. Filip. Skipping my middle school years, which were altogether bad and not worth mentioning, brings us to the teacher essentially responsible for my high school experience. Sophomore year was when I met Mr. Flanagan, who unknowingly set off a chain reaction that ultimately led to me having this job at the Grosse Pointe News. Long since having a passion for reading and writing, it was a no-brainer

that I would take his Intro to Journalism class. That said, I never had even the slightest intention of joining the school newspaper staff, convinced I was far too shy and introverted for something that required social interaction at its core. So when the end of the school year rolled around and it was time to fill out my junior year class schedule, the paper didn't make the list. Yet, the same day I was meant to hand in the schedule to my seminar teacher, a note was delivered from Mr. Flanagan. The gist was that he hoped I'd sign up for the paper. In this case, flattery got me everywhere. I replaced a random class that isn't worth remembering and two years later, was co-editor-in-chief of the paper and on my way

to a journalism degree and managing editor position at Oakland University. Next stop, Grosse Pointe. I'm a sentimental hoarder, so to this day I still have that note. It's stuck to a framed copy of my first article ever published in that high school newspaper. Last, but farthest from least, I couldn't possibly talk about teachers who have greatly impacted my life without mentioning Mrs. Wheatley, a woman who so embodied the idea of a teacher that my siblings and I affectionately nicknamed her "Teacher," addressing her with the single word and sticking with it so long that it now sounds like a name in my head. She was our piano teacher and Sunday School teacher for years, but most commonly I describe her as my grandma not by blood. From her, I learned to sight-read, was given the example of a person who

leads with patience and kindness, grew in my commitment to God and received more love than I could ever give back. I could certainly think of a few other teachers to thank. Also. There was Mrs. Cook, a high school English teacher, who paid attention not only to her students' coursework, but to their mental health; and Mr. Norgrove, a high school gym teacher, who told me he respected me amid a frightening time when I stood up for my beliefs. I've often thought of writing letters to some of these teachers, but never got around to it because life always seems to get in the way. I'll now consider this my letter and encourage others to consider writing one or two of their own. It's somewhat remarkable how often those who played a significant role in our lives may have no idea they did.

LETTER:

Continued from page 6A

notified by multiple people in the community about the survey that was used as a classroom assignment in GP South history classes. The learning target was to teach the students about McCarthyism and government intrusion.

There are several things that are problematic about the way this assignment was conducted. First of all, the survey was printed on official letterhead stationery, so it appeared to be coming officially from GP South.

Second, the surveys included intrusive questions about personal information: the family's religion, political beliefs, use of controlled substances and mental health history.

Most disturbing, the surveys were collected by the teachers. I spoke with Dr. Dean and he states the surveys were destroyed.

While the intentions of the teachers may have been honorable, we have only the word of the school that the information was destroyed.


Teachers are mandated reporters by law. If a teacher saw information on that survey, would they be required to report it to counselors or social workers?

If this was truly a class exercise, why weren't the students instructed to tear up their own papers without having them collected?

Why did the teachers feel the need to use official GP South letterhead with the names of all the administrators?

The surveys allowed the teachers access to very private information. This assignment is a breach of trust between the teachers and the families. The school has stated that the surveys were destroyed, but the potential for that information to be seen by others has already happened. The damage has been done. Other students could easily have seen that information as well.

Who allowed the teachers to have access to the official letterhead paper to use for this assignment? Are we to



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Answer the following questions completely not discuss any question or answer with anyone change any answers once you have written questionnaire.

Moussa Hamka
Principal

.....

Cindy Parravano
Assistant Principal

Joseph Spryszak
Assistant Principal

Brandon Wheeler
Athletic Director

1. What is your complete name? Do not abbreviate.
2. What is your home address?
3. Do you have a mailing address that is separate from your home address? If so, write your mailing address here.
4. How many people live in your home?
5. Do you live with both your parents? If not, with whom do you live? Explain why you do not live with your parents.
6. Do you attend a church on a regular basis? If yes, write the name of the church. If no, explain why not.

assume the South administration team approved this? Or is official letterhead available to all staff for anything they might choose to use it for?

I showed this survey to a teacher colleague. That colleague was horrified by what he saw and I had him read it without any context or information from me. He couldn't believe this was given to students and collected by the teachers.

I am concerned about the decision regarding the design of this assignment and believe there are many ways we can teach students about historical subjects like the McCarthy era without submitting them to this kind of intrusive assignment.

LISA PAPAS
GPPSS Board of Education Trustee

The questionnaire:
 The following is the assignment to which Ms. Papas is referring in her letter to the editor.

Answer the following questions completely and honestly. Write only on this paper. Write only in ink. Do not discuss any question or answer with anyone. Do not skip any questions. Do not mark out or attempt to change any answers once you have written them on this paper. You will have 15 minutes to complete this questionnaire.

1. What is your complete name? Do not abbreviate.
2. What is your home address?
3. Do you have a mailing address that is separate from your home address? If so, write your mailing address here.
4. How many people live in your home?
5. Do you live with both your parents? If no, with whom do you live? Explain why you do not live with your parents.
6. Do you attend a church on a regular basis? If yes, write the name of the church. If

no, explain why not.

7. How many bedrooms are in the house in which you live?

8. Has anyone in your family ever been accused or convicted of a crime? If yes, explain.

9. Have you ever been in trouble at school? If yes, explain what you did wrong to get into trouble.

10. Do the adults in your family regularly vote in elections? If yes, for which political party (Democrat, Republican, other) do they usually vote? If no, explain why they do not vote regularly.

11. Does your family have a car? What kind of car do they have? Is it paid for?

12. How often do you visit a doctor? What reasons do you have for visiting a doctor on a usual basis?

13. Have you ever talked to a counselor at school or been to a psychologist? Has any member of your family ever been to a psychologist? If yes, why were these visits necessary?

14. Have your parents (or guardian) ever lost their jobs? If yes, explain. If no, have your parents (or guardian) worked at more than one place? If yes, why have they been unable to keep working at the same place?

15. Is alcohol allowed or served at your home?

NOTE: The photo and survey questions were taken from a Grosse Pointe South parent's post circulating on social media.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1947 75 years ago this week
1997 25 years ago this week

LIBRARY BUILDING BEING RELOCATED: The City branch of the Grosse Pointe Public Library was closed Monday preparatory to moving the building to a location about 150 yards away on Notre Dame, adjoining the tennis courts between Vernor and Kercheval.

MUIR RESIDENTS APPLAUD PERMIT PARKING: Hard pressed to find a parking space sometimes in the Hill shopping district or near Grosse Pointe South High School? Sorry, but don't even think about parking on Muir Road. And perhaps in the near future those words will ring true, too, for several other streets if these streets' residents push for similar parking policies.

1972 50 years ago this week
2012 10 years ago this week

NORTH HIGH FIGHTS CUTS: The importance of the total program at Grosse Pointe North High School can be measured by the fact the students and the parents will not let any of the parts be abandoned — at least not without a fight. The loss of funds through the defeat of the millage proposals has threatened the extracurricular programs and some of the special education programs in the schools.

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT CAN MOOR IN MARINA: The equivalent of waterborne motorcycles can be moored this year in the City of Grosse Pointe municipal marina. Personal watercraft, such as Jet Skis and WaveRunners, can be clustered in 30-foot wells.

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8A | SCHOOLS

Academy auction promises to be an amazing night

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

In its 54th year, The Grosse Pointe Academy Action Auction 2022, welcomes the community to an evening of dinner, dancing, auction opportunities and paying it forward.

Saturday, May 7, will see a silent auction, live auction, seated dinner and afterparty, featuring a premium bar and live music from The Mega 80s.

This year's theme, "Amazed and Enthused," is a play on words inspired by the 1993 coming-of-age comedy "Dazed and Confused."

"It's 'Amazed and Enthused,' because I think that all of us, as parents, as staff (and



COURTESY PHOTO

The Grosse Pointe Academy's 54th Action Auction takes place in person May 7, but starts online May 2.

administration, feel this school is an amazing place for our children to

be educated and make friends and memories," Auction Chair Annie

Green said, "and every day they come to school enthusiastic about what

they're going to learn and who they're going to interact with."

The Action Auction festivities begin at 6 p.m., while the silent auction opens Monday, May 2, and closes at 8 p.m. the night of the event.

Of the more than 250 silent auction items and 19 live items up for bid, included are a private tour of Christie's in New York City with the president of Christie's America; a private dinner at the London Chop House for 10 people; an experience in Napa; a painting by local artist Jane McFeely; and jewelry pieces from Edmund AHEE jewelers and LaLonde Jewelers & Gemologists.

The funds raised from

the academy's largest fundraiser of the year go toward the bottom line of the school, with the exception of a paddle raise to go toward a new playscape and sports court. Currently, grades one through eight don't have these amenities.

"These can be used at recess, because it's so important for them to get out and burn off energy and (it) helps them concentrate in the afternoon and makes their day more pleasant," Academy Director of Development Emily Scupholm said.

Tickets, available for \$200 each, can be found at bit.ly/3OdXjZ8.

"It is fun for the whole community," Scupholm noted, "not just parents of our school."

Board discusses sup't, administration contract extensions

By Michael Hartt
Schools Reporter

At the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting April 11, a proposal was discussed to extend the contract of Superintendent Jon Dean and six of his executive administrator colleagues by one year.

If passed, Dean's contract would expire June 30, 2025, and the contracts of Deputy Superintendent of Business Services Amanda Matheson, Deputy Superintendent of Education Services Roy Bishop, Director of PreK-Elementary Instruction Keith Howell, Director of Student Services Stephanie Hayes, Director of Instructional Technology Christopher Stanley and Director of Human Resources Nicole Pilgrim would expire June 30, 2024.

The master agreement with the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education, in comparison, is set to expire June 30, 2023.

Dean, in his letter to the board requesting the contract extensions, said this action is routine in nature and that the board typically extends these individual contracts by one year each January. This, he said, allows the administrators to have a

contract that extends through two school years after the end of the current school year.

Board Treasurer Margaret Weertz echoed Dean's sentiment regarding the contracts, saying she would support the extensions.

"I intend next week to vote for the administrative contracts. We have a small administrative team who does very good work and they work very hard," Weertz said. "I want them all to stay here for the next two or three years."

Community member Terrence Collins said he disagrees with the proposal of the contract extensions, because he does not believe all of the members of the administrative team are improving the school district.

"I don't understand how you can approve an extension to a superintendent's contract with (everything) that is happening in the schools," Collins said.

Dean's letter further specified that, if passed, each of the extended contracts would have the same terms and conditions, salary and merit pay as the current contracts.

The proposal will be further discussed and voted on at the board meeting Monday, April 25.

Superintendent hosts listening sessions

Following positive feedback on the listening sessions hosted last spring, Superintendent Jon Dean is hosting another series in April and May.

◆ 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 20, at Defer Elementary School, 15425 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park;

◆ 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 27, at Parcels Middle School,

20600 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods; and

◆ 6 to 7 p.m.

Wednesday, May 11, at Grosse Pointe South

High School, 11 Grosse

Pointe Blvd., Grosse

Pointe Farms.

Each session is open to the public and participants are encouraged to bring a lawn chair and questions. Listening sessions will be held indoors in case of inclement weather.

School district policies getting makeover

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

A rewriting of policies and administrative guidelines for the Grosse Pointe Public School System is nearing completion.

Several sections were reviewed by the Board of Education's Policy Committee at its meeting Thursday, April 7, including administration, curriculum, personnel and the student code of conduct.

"The result will be a substantial reduction in the number of pages," Superintendent Jon Dean said. "We're going from more than 1,600 pages to less than 300 by taking out a lot of things that just weren't necessary."

Still to be reviewed are policies regarding finances and facilities.

Dean said the finished product will be posted on the district website and each policy section will have links to the companion administrative guidelines.

One area that won't change much is the curriculum policy.

"That section is longer because that's our core business," Dean said. "That has a lot of pull-overs from our current policy."

One addition is the process for handling parental complaints about textbooks and assigned reading materials, which was moved from community relations to curriculum. Dean explained the

process includes a review by the district's director of curriculum and other staff members chosen by the director. The panel reviews the complaint and can meet with the parent who filed it if necessary, then submit a written response to the superintendent, who makes a final decision.

"We just went through this last month with 'To Kill a Mockingbird' and the process works well," he said. "It's a matter of if you like it (the policy), you keep it."

Dean said a decision on the book should be announced soon.

There are no changes to how grades are assigned, graduation requirements or dual enrollment parameters.

"We don't have a lot of dual enrollment because our teachers are very rigorous and we offer 26 AP classes," Dean said. "A student has to exhaust all the classes we offer in a given course of study before being able to dual enroll."

The student code of conduct has been streamlined and each infraction has an explanation of expectations, violations, consequences and appeals.

"We're unique in that we give our administrators a lot of discretion," Dean said. "Many districts are more absolute as far as assigning the punishment up front, like four days for fighting, three days for a food fight and such."

St. Clare students are essay winners

Three students from St. Clare of Montefalco School in Grosse Pointe Park have been named local winners in the 53rd annual America & Me Essay Contest, sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance.

The three top award winners for their school are Darla Sherry, first place; Taneya Louis, second place; and Noah Shannon, third place. All three received award certificates for their achievement.

As the top prize winner at St. Clare, Sherry's name also will be engraved on a plaque for permanent placement at the school.



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, Farm Bureau Insurance agent Colleen Dyer, third-place winner Noah Shannon, second-place winner Taneya Louis, first-place winner Darla Sherry and teacher Mary White, who was the subject of the essay.

St. Clare's participation in the contest was sponsored by Farm Bureau

Insurance agent Colleen

Dyer of Grosse Pointe

Woods. Sherry's first-place essay now advances to the

state competition, where the top 10 essays in Michigan will be selected. The top 10 statewide winners, who will be announced in April, each will receive a plaque, a medallion and \$1,000 cash. Farm Bureau Insurance also will present each top 10 school with a \$1,000 check and an additional \$500 if the school was sponsored by a Farm Bureau agent.

Several thousand eighth graders from nearly 200 Michigan schools participated in the 2021-22 America & Me contest, the topic of which was "My Personal Michigan Hero."

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Second GPPSS budget amendment presented

By Michael Hart
Schools Reporter

Deputy Superintendent of Business Services Amanda Matheson updated the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education on the most recent proposed budget amendment at its April 11 meeting.

The amendment details the differences between the budget appropriated by the board at its Dec. 20 meeting and the functional level on which the board adopts the budget.

Both revenues and expenditures went up for the district, with the difference between the two providing a net positive impact of \$111,173 to the district's fund balance. Accounting for the increase in expenditures, the fund balance as a proportion of the expenditures is projected to be at 10.39 percent.

The fund balance estimate has decreased from the 18.2 percent the district saw in the 2020-21 financial statement and is now projected to be lower than what the

Michigan School Business Officials considers healthy — a balance between 15 and 20 percent. If the district's fund balance were to dip below the 5 percent threshold, it would be required to comply with some state oversight.

Matheson discussed some significant aspects of the budget amendment in detail, like changes in the community services fund, which incorporates revenue and expenditures related to Kids Club, preschool, Camp-o-Fun, Safety Town and community

swim programs. The district, she said, recently received a childcare sustainability grant, which accounts for the increase in revenue in that fund. Prompted by a question from Trustee Ahmed Ismail, Matheson further explained the expenditures in that fund are rising closely with its revenue because the district is attempting to spend the grant money it recently received in order to be eligible to reapply for the grant in the near future.

The largest expenditures in the sinking fund,

Matheson said, are related to the softball and baseball field renovation projects at North and South high schools. However, she specified that because those projects are not starting until after the end of the school year in June, they will largely fall under next year's fiscal budget.

Board members' comments regarding the budget varied, with David Brumbaugh viewing the recent updates positively.

"I was just glad to see that our fund equity overall is in a slightly stronger position than

we originally anticipated," Brumbaugh said.

Ismail did not explicitly express how he felt about the budget at this meeting, but questioned Nicole Pilgrim, the district's director of human resources, about whether or not the district is expecting to execute a large group of layoffs this year, due to the position of the budget and the continuing enrollment decline.

Pilgrim said the administrative team has not gotten that far in the staffing process yet to answer his question.

Students awarded for artwork

Hundreds of community members filled the multipurpose room at Grosse Pointe South High School last month to enjoy and purchase artwork created by South students during ArtFest 2022.

The highlight of the long-running event, the ArtFest 2022 Awards Ceremony, took place in South's auditorium.

One of many community members to support ArtFest with grants and awards is The Portrait Place of Grosse Pointe Woods. This year, The Portrait Place awarded four grants and two awards to South students.

"My wife (Mary Ann) and I have always been strong supporters of the arts in our schools," said The Portrait Place's Ahmed Ismail, a school board member. "Many years ago, we created a series of grants to cover the cost of printing student work so that the cost of printing their work wouldn't be a concern for them or their parents."

South students Remie Rivel and Steven Gloudemans received The Portrait Place "Emerging Photographer" grants, giving them each \$500 in

complimentary printing of their images for the coming school year.

South students Margot Murphy and Vivian Leech received The Portrait Place "Super Star Photographer" grants, giving them each \$1,000 in complimentary printing of their images for the coming school year.

In addition, Ismail announced awards for seniors Ian Ward and Justin Flores. Both students will work with Ismail for a day, selecting a site for their family portraits and capturing a family portrait of each of their families, which will then be enlarged and printed on canvas in any size the family desires.

"Both Ian and Justin show exceptional skill and an eye for photography in their ArtFest portfolios," Ismail said. "I wanted their families to have a special remembrance of each student's senior years with a family portrait their student helped create."

The Portrait Place hopes to develop a similar grant program for Grosse Pointe North High School students in the coming year.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AHMED ISMAIL

Above, Margot Murphy's "Autumn Eyes." Right, from left, The Portrait Place's Ahmed Ismail, students Vivian Leech, Steven Gloudemans and Margot Murphy, South art teacher Amber Mades and student Remie Rivel. Not pictured are students Justin Flores and Ian Ward.



GPPSS mulling athletic fieldhouse

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

Talks are underway about the possibility of the Grosse Pointe Public School System getting an indoor athletic facility that would primarily be used by track and field teams.

Local businessman Ed Lazar, who also is the boys track and field coach at Grosse Pointe North High School, pitched the idea to the Board of Education's Facilities Committee Thursday, April 7.

If Lazar's idea works out, the project would be done at no cost to taxpayers.

"If you commit to having an architect come up with some plans, I'll

underwrite that," Lazar said.

Lazar envisions the entire project being paid with donations.

"I think the local foundations and hospitals would be very interested," he said. "I've already talked to about eight private donors who are interested in the naming rights."

The fieldhouse would cost about \$20 million to build and Lazar wants to create a \$15 million endowment to sustain it. At 120,000 square feet, the facility would be two stories. The ground floor would include a 200-meter track, as well as areas for field events such as high jump, pole vault, discus and shot put. The infield of the track would

include two courts for basketball and volleyball.

A weight room, training room and commercial kitchen also would be on the first floor. The second floor would include two conference rooms, two sky boxes and bleachers.

"There's nothing like this within 50 miles," Lazar noted. "Macomb Community College has a fieldhouse but no track team, but it's not available to rent. This could be used to train year-round."

Lazar added that the facility would be used to support what he calls the "complete" student-athlete.

"We already know our academics are second to none, but I like to focus on overall life skills, things like financial liter-

acy, culinary adequacy, arts and culture," he said. "Teams could use the kitchen, for example, to prepare their own meals under the guidance of a professional chef."

Lazar said he thinks 70 percent of the money could be raised before a public funding campaign opens.

"You don't want it to be totally private," he said. "You want to give parents and boosters and alumni the chance to feel involved."

Two possible locations are behind Barnes Early Childhood Center or next to Parcels Middle School.

Superintendent Jon Dean said more discussion will be needed by the full board before moving forward.

GPA students named essay contest winners

Three students from The Grosse Pointe Academy have been named local winners of the 53rd annual America & Me Essay Contest.

Academy eighth graders Wesley Roberts, Madeline Hexter and Addison Price placed first, second and third, respectively, in the essay contest sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance.

Writing about the topic "My Personal Michigan Hero," the students were three of several thousand eighth graders from nearly 200 Michigan schools who participated in the essay contest.

Roberts' first-place essay, titled, "My Mom is My Saving Grace," will advance to the state level competition. Writing about his mother,

Lindsay Roberts recounts not only the impact his mother had in helping him personally thrive as a middle-schooler during the COVID pandemic, but also her efforts in reaching out to help others. "I want to follow in these footsteps and help others in my community," he wrote.

Sponsored locally by Grosse Pointe Woods Farm Bureau agent Colleen Dyer, Farm Bureau created the writing competition "to encourage young students to consider how their future roles can impact their community." The top 10 statewide winners will be announced in April, culminating in an awards day in Lansing in May.

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On the Gogh in 2022

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

After a hiatus due to the pandemic and flooding that swept through southeast Michigan last summer, Grosse Pointe Woods artist Michelle Boggess-Nunley has great plans for the return of her mobile business, On the Gogh Studio, in 2022.

The biggest addition she hopes to bring to the studio in the calendar year is a brick-and-mortar location, potentially on Kercheval in Grosse Pointe Park, though she's open to different locations as long as where she settles feels right.

"I just love our area," she said of the Pointes. "There's a lot to offer. I try to bring a lot of artists into Grosse Pointe. ... For some reason, I've got this drive to connect all of our art communities. I figured a physical location might

help that."

The project of securing a physical storefront in the Pointes began for Boggess-Nunley just before the pandemic sent the world into a shutdown, putting a halt on her search. During the pandemic, she held a community gallery in partnership with Posterity Gallery, but never gained her own permanent space to call On the Gogh's home.

With a physical storefront, Boggess-Nunley anticipates holding weekly classes in the shop, potentially grouped by ages, and with drop-in class features, as well, for parents to drop their kids off while they shop the downtown district.

"Maybe every week we'll feature a different project or a different kind of craft to work on," she hypothesized. "That could be fun."

She added she could bring in local artists for networking and offering other class opportunities. After the departure of Mini Picassos from Grosse Pointe Woods to Harper Woods to, currently, St. Clair Shores, Boggess-Nunley said, the Pointes lack a physical art space she believes On the Gogh could fill.

In the meantime, On the Gogh's normal programming is back up and running as of a few months ago, with Boggess-Nunley back in the community holding classes, entertaining birthday parties and more.

"I'm trying to focus on the places that we need art most, like senior centers and (with) children (in) afterschool programs and such," she said. "I feel like with COVID there was such a void with a lot of the arts and a lot of the creativity, and I'm really



COURTESY PHOTO

On the Gogh features step-by-step painting classes, like the one pictured here.

trying to focus on bringing some of that energy back. That's kind of the business model, is trying to bring art to everybody who needs it."

Her at-home painting kits, a project launched just days before flooding ruined many of the involved materials, are

available as well, for artists who want to complete a project on their own time. Called Paint the Pointes, each kit features a step-by-step guide on how to paint scenes such as the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, Cook Schoolhouse, Grosse Pointe South High School

or Belle Isle, among others.

To stay up to date on what On the Gogh has to offer, subscribe to the business's weekly newsletters via onthegoghstudio.com.

On the Gogh also may be found on Facebook, at OnTheGoghStudio.

Eco-friendly store opens in SCS

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

Everyone has heard the saying "reduce, reuse, recycle," but a new store in St. Clair Shores wants to make that "reduce, reuse, refill."

Located at 21524 Harper Ave., a few blocks north of Vernier Road, Refill Emporium offers a range of home, cleaning and beauty products aimed at reducing the environmental impact of single-use disposables.

It is the first such store in Macomb County and the 16th in Michigan.

"It's a popular thing on the East and West coasts, but it's relatively new in the Midwest," co-owner Whitney Wagner said.

The store opened Jan. 15, with hours of 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Wagner and co-owner Shannon Sweetwood

spent the first several months of 2021 researching products and figuring out how viable such a business would be, then spent the fall of 2021 visiting farmers markets around the area.

"We were selling items out of the back of my Equinox, but the busier we got, we realized we needed a brick-and-mortar location," Wagner said. "We're St. Clair Shores born and raised and we wanted to do something to help our community."

Wagner said she and Sweetwood are environmentally conscious and want to protect natural resources, especially growing up so close to Lake St. Clair.

While Wagner has a background in retail management, Sweetwood has a scientific background and previously worked in medical research.

"We figured that was a good combination and we try everything first before we decide to sell it," Wagner said. "That helps with answering customers' questions. If we wouldn't use something on ourselves or our families, we don't carry it."

Customers can bring clean, dry containers to refill with products such as dish soap, body wash and laundry detergent. Personal care items, all sold with no plastic packaging, include lip balm, skin lotion, bath bombs, shampoo and a cream deodorant that is aluminum- and baking soda-free.

The store also offers delivery in the Pointes, St. Clair Shores, Harper Woods, Roseville and Eastpointe. For a flat rate of \$10, Refill Emporium will ship anywhere in the country.

"We think we picked a pretty good location,"

Wagner said. "We're next to Bulk Foods, so people coming here already share that mindset."

All items are purchased from companies in the United States and Canada, including several from Michigan, that are made cruelty-free and 90 percent are vegan.

Among the more popular items are tooth tabs, which are a replacement for buying toothpaste in plastic tubes.

"You bite down on it and it foams up and then you brush your teeth," Wagner said. "Kids really love the bubblegum flavor and it's an interesting sensory experience."

Liquid products are sold by the ounce at a price comparable to

what one would pay in a grocery store. Laundry detergent, for example, can be as low as 22 cents per ounce, while shampoo is 92 cents per ounce.

"When you buy something at a chain, you have to buy the amount the company says you have to buy and if you don't like it, you're stuck with it," Wagner said. "Here, you can buy a couple ounces to see if you like it first."

DIY workshops also are in the plans. The first was April 7, making spring wreaths out of dried flowers so customers don't have to buy one made of plastic.

Partnering with TerraCycle, customers also can drop off items to be recycled that curbside programs don't generally accept. That company uses the material to produce and sell things such as compost

bins, flower pots and tote bags.

While Refill Emporium is not a franchise, Wagner said they get that question a lot.

"Customers ask that all the time and say they thought it was a franchise because our logo is so clean and nice," she said.

Wagner and Sweetwood, who have been best friends since meeting in first grade and graduated from Lakeview High School in 2008, would eventually like to expand.

"It's too soon right now, but eventually we'd like to have a second location," Wagner said. "We're both pretty hands on, so we'd have to figure out how that would work with hiring a staff and everything."

The store can be reached at (586) 210-0455 or online at refillemporium.com.

PLAN:

Continued from page 5A

include Jefferson East Inc., in wanting to connect with our neighboring jurisdictions."

"We had discussions with Jefferson East Inc. about potentially (creating) watershed management with Detroit and neighboring Grosse Pointe," Sizeland said. "Currently, we're part of the Clinton River Watershed group. We're at the bottom of that watershed. We can look at Grosse Pointe Park's infrastructure needs, but if we're able to tie that in with other communities, those dollars are a lot easier to get."

"In the SEMCOG meeting, it was clear there's tremendous opportunity out there, especially for a community like ours that's willing to lead and wants to push these initiatives forward," Hodges said.

"We're working now with the Great Lakes Water Authority on a regional basis," Sizeland said. "They're looking at our assets, the City of Grosse Pointe (and) Detroit. Partnering with GLWA is going to be humongous for Grosse Pointe Park."

SEMCOG officials also indicated the state needs help allocating the mas-

sive amount of stimulus money, according to Hodges.

"It needs partners at the local level to help see where those dollars should go, then fulfill the grant requirement," she said. "SEMCOG will be a hugely important partner that we need to be in alliance with because they'll be making those crucial decisions on our behalf. We were told very directly: water infrastructure is one of their top priorities in addition to mobility, which are two of our top priorities, as well as borders, gateways and planning efforts that are already underway that we can continue to build off of and be part of that momentum."

Michigan law requires communities to review, but not necessarily update, their master plans at least once every five years.

The Park's current plan dates to 2013, hence the current review process starting five years later in 2018.

Although the planning commission reviews and drafts the master plan, approval is by the city council with comments from neighboring jurisdictions.

"The purpose of the master plan is to be the look, feel, the spirit of what we want," Commission Vice Chair

Amy Chesterton said. "It is intended to be high-level, aspirational guidelines and to be very community-forward."

Master plans aren't enforceable, like zoning ordinances, which are the province of city council.

"The master plan is the spirit," Chesterton said. "Zoning is the vehicle."

Lindsay said the commission has been working deliberately.

"In our initial timeline, we would have been at that voting stage by now, but we chose to take extra time and really refine the action items," she said.

Relevant comments made during the meeting are being folded into the draft, which is returned to the commission prior to a public hearing, most likely in June.

If commissioners approve the plan, it goes to council for review, evaluation, rejection or enactment.

"It's important that every member of the commission and council have the opportunity to look at the draft plan, absorb it and reflect upon what they hear from the community," Lindsay said. "Sometimes, an individual member of the community sees how that impacts them, which is of course of the utmost importance."



CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING SUMMARY

Regular Meeting

Monday April 11, 2022

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Grosse Pointe Farms was held at City Hall, 90 Kerby Road and called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 11, 2022, by Mayor Louis Theros.

Present: Mayor Louis Theros, Councilmembers Sierra Leone Donaven, Neil Sroka, Beth Konrad-Wilberding, Joe Ricci and Lev Wood. Absent: Mayor Pro Tem John J. Gillooly.

Council excused the absence of Mayor Pro Tem John J. Gillooly.

Council approved the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on March 14, 2022.

Council approved request from Administration to enter into an agreement with Penchura LLC. to install a new play structure at Pier Park.

Council approved a request from Administration to approve budget amendment #2 for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.

Council discussed Great Lakes Water Authority's assessment of Highland Park's bad sewer debt on municipal customers.

Council approved the Consent Agenda.

- Consideration of a request to schedule a Public Hearing for the proposed Fiscal Year Ending 2022 Budget for the May 9, 2022 Regular City Council Meeting.
- Consideration of a request to schedule a Public Hearing for an amendment to the Election Precinct Ordinance for the May 9, 2022 Regular City Council Meeting.
- Consideration of a request from the Richard Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization to approve their Local Governing Body Resolution for Charitable Gaming Licenses.
- Consideration of a request from the Grosse Pointe South Athletic Booster Club to hold the 2022 Run the Pointe race on October 1, 2022.
- Consideration of a request to approve March 2022 invoices.

Council approved a request from Administration to enter into an agreement with American Fireworks to perform a fireworks display at Pier Park on September 3, 2022.

Council received the March 2022 Public Safety Report.

Council held public comment.

Upon proper motion Council went into Closed Session.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Derrick Kozicki, Assistant City Manager and City Clerk

Published: Grosse Pointe News 04/14/2022

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IMPORTANT DATES:

April 18, 2022 application deadline, no exceptions.

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DISHWASHER: OrbitClean®, 14 place settings, 47 dBA quiet (FGID24795F)

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- OVER-THE-RANGE MICROWAVE: 1.9 cu. ft., Sensor cooking, 1000 watts (JMW7195SKSS)
- DISHWASHER: Dry Boost™, Steam + Sani, 46 dBA quiet (GDT6655SNS)

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4-5B OBITUARIES | 5B CHURCHES

Connection to The King

Park police badge among collection at Graceland

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

"I'm going to Graceland, Graceland, Memphis, Tennessee, I'm going to Graceland"
— From the title track on Paul Simon's 1986 album "Graceland."

How did a Grosse Pointe Park police badge end up on display at Graceland? It's a long story.

The badge was brought to the News' attention when a Park family was at Graceland during winter break and took a picture of it hanging in a display with several others and posted it on social media.

It belonged to Paul Konefke, an officer in Grosse Pointe Park for 26 years until his retirement in 1993.

According to his widow, Pat Konefke, the couple visited Graceland on several occasions.

"We were both big Elvis fans, but him more

so than me," she said. "He even wore his sideburns just like Elvis. We never made it to see him in Las Vegas, but we saw him in concert several times in Detroit and Ohio."

On one visit, in 1975, they pulled up in front of the guardhouse and the man inside noticed their Cadillac. That was Vester Presley, Elvis's uncle, who he hired to run the guardhouse. Graceland was not open to the public back then, but fans would flock there and stand on the sidewalk, hoping to catch a glimpse of "The King" coming or going.

"We had a black Cadillac and it was the same color and model as the one Elvis had bought his uncle," Konefke recalled. "Paul was very outgoing, and he and Vester started talking about cars, as guys will do, and the conversation eventually turned to police work and how Elvis appreciated law



COURTESY PHOTO

Paul Konefke's Grosse Pointe Park police badge on display at Graceland.

enforcement."

The official Graceland blog has a post from 2015 detailing how much Elvis respected first responders and how he liked to collect badges from various departments when he toured.

"Next thing I know, Paul is offering to give Elvis his badge," Konefke said. "Vester took it up to the house but asked Paul to sit in the guardhouse because they were expecting a delivery.

"Sure enough the delivery guy showed up and Paul got to open the gate," she continued. "He was thrilled beyond belief getting to do that. Vester came back and said he put the badge on the kitchen table. I don't think Paul ever got in trouble with the department. I think he just told them he lost it."

The silver, metal shield says "Grosse Pointe Park

Police" above an embossed state seal of Michigan with the number 101 below.

In a case of sheer coincidence, the couple was back at Graceland in mid-August 1977.

"We met this couple from Indiana staying at the same Holiday Inn as us around the corner," Konefke said. "That evening we went back to Graceland because at the time they would open the gate at night and let fans mingle on the driveway, sharing stories and listening to Elvis on transistor radios."

The next day — Aug. 16, 1977 — they made a quick stop at Graceland before heading to downtown Memphis.

"We were going to get the kids some ice cream and on the way this ambulance comes screaming down the road going the opposite way

that we had to pull over for," she said. "We walked into this art store and there's a lady behind the counter on the phone, bawling like crazy. I asked her what was wrong and with tears running down her face she told us Elvis had died."

Back at the hotel that night, the couple from Indiana said the body was covered with a sheet on the stretcher when they brought it out of the house.

"The guards were telling everyone it was Elvis's grandmother, but this couple said they could see his hair sticking out at the top of the sheet," she said. "We left town early. It was just too depressing."

By 1982, Graceland had opened for public tours and the Konefkes returned.

"We saw a display of badges, but Paul's wasn't

in there," Konefke said.

After her husband retired, the couple moved to their Caseville vacation home in the Thumb, where he started working for the local police department and eventually became chief. He passed away in 2000.

"I went to the cemetery up there to look for a plot," Konefke said. "The guy was showing me around and I just couldn't make up my mind. He showed me plot 100 and said it was available."

As it turned out, plot 101 also was available.

"He and his badge led me to it," she said.

Konefke wondered over the decades what became of the badge. She got her answer last year.

Detective Ryan Willmer of the Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Department and his wife were supposed to go to Graceland in 2020 for his 40th birthday.

"I'm kind of a throwback as far as being an Elvis fan since not many younger people are into his music," Willmer laughed.

They had to delay the trip until 2021 because of COVID.

"I took a photo of a bunch of police badges in a display case and sent it to some of the guys who had retired from the department," Willmer said. "I didn't even notice the Grosse Pointe Park badge and one of the guys spotted it and texted me back that it was Paul's badge."

Willmer said there had been stories about what happened floating around the department over the years, but no one knew the real story until the retiree put him in touch with Konefke.

"He was very proud of being a police officer, both in Grosse Pointe Park and Caseville," Konefke said. "Paul was a man who just loved life, whether it was fishing, playing with the grandkids or collecting antique jukeboxes."

"I have reason to believe

We all will be received In Graceland"



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAT KONEFKE

Paul Konefke, left, and Vester Presley, Elvis's uncle, outside the guardhouse at Graceland in 1975.

Bicknell lecture looks back at 100 years of Detroit Historical Society

The Grosse Pointe Historical Society presents its next Dr. Frank Bicknell Lecture Series lecture at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 20, at Cook Schoolhouse, 20025 Mack Plaza, Grosse Pointe Woods. Joel Stone will present "100 Years of the Detroit Historical Society."

Since its founding in 1921, the DHS has been dedicated to safeguarding the history of the region so metro Detroiters can better understand the people, places and events that helped shape the lives of all residents of southeastern Michigan.

"100 Years of the Detroit Historical Society" captures in words and photographs the little-known story of the people who have been telling Detroit's stories and preserving its material culture for the last century.

More than 100 Grosse Pointers can be counted among the DHS staff and board of trustees during the past century.

The DHS, first intended as support for the Burton Historical Collection, then as stewards of a growing artifact collection in a "cabinet of curiosities," became the primary support organiza-

tion for a new municipally owned and managed historical department.

Eventually, the DHS would assume stewardship of the Detroit Historical Museum and Dossin Great Lakes Museum, as well as a massive collection of artifacts stored at Detroit's Fort Wayne.

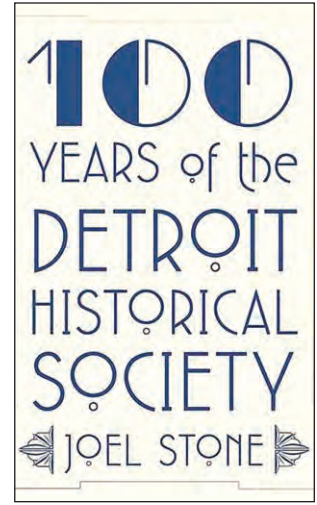
The lecture will be presented by Joel Stone, who recently retired from his position as senior curator for the Detroit Historical Society, which oversees the Detroit Historical Museum, Dossin Great Lakes

Museum and a quarter-million artifacts in Detroit's historical collections.

Raised in the Detroit area, Stone studied journalism, history, archaeology and archival management at the University of Detroit, Wayne State University and the University College in Cork, Ireland.

This will be his fourth Bicknell presentation. He previously presented programs relating to his book, "Border Crossings: The Detroit River Region in the War

See LECTURE, page 2B



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Miss Grosse Pointe aspires to help others

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Helping those in need has been life-changing for Imani Smith, 22, of Grosse Pointe Park.

She's been on both ends of the spectrum and is paying it forward by supporting those facing adversity.

It's part of her platform as the reigning Miss Grosse Pointe. The Farmington Hills native soon will compete for the title of Miss Michigan USA, scheduled May 27 and 28, in Port Huron.

"It's been a wild road," she said.

When Smith moved to Grosse Pointe two years ago, her life didn't quite look the way it does now.

"I know the struggle," she said. "Before I moved to Grosse Pointe, I wasn't in the right space. My mom and I had a rocky relationship. I went to college on my own. I couldn't afford it. I was living in hotels and motels. I was going to work as a tutor. That's why kids mean so much to me; they would bring me happiness."

To fund college, she needed a job. To get a job, she needed a car.

"There I was, no credit, low income, begging



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

City of Grosse Pointe Public Safety Officer Jake Carpenter, Miss Grosse Pointe Imani Smith and City of Grosse Pointe PSO Drew Prueter hold the custom doughnuts Smith brought to the station. "I brought the treats to the station because I wanted to show support and appreciation for the police," Smith said. "I know, working in the hospital, how hard it can be working with the public. The police are always there, smiling, helpful and available when we need them."

dealerships to help me buy a car," she recalled. She finally found someone willing to work with her.

"Today, I'm still driving the car I bought with my own money," Smith said.

"That was the last two years of my life," she continued. "My story needs to be heard. I was in a place where I thought the world was against me and look at what I have now. I'm living the dream

I had as a kid."

The Wayne State University student is studying pre-medicine with hopes to become a pediatrician. She also would like to be a spokesperson and role model for youth.

"It's important for people to know when they set standards high, it's achievable," she said. "There will be challenges, but when you break through, you feel

liberated and accomplished. And you know then you can follow your dreams."

A nurse assistant at Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe, Smith recently volunteered at food drives and to sort supplies destined for Ukraine refugees.

"It was a great experience to be there, in the shipping center, sorting medical equipment for Ukraine," she said.

Prior to working at Beaumont, Smith tutored children in Lincoln Park schools for three years. She created the Shining Star program, in which students share what makes them special through a star-making craft.

"It helps bring out the better parts of who we are as a person so when we go through life, we can remind ourselves how great we are," she said.

Smith received the title of Miss Grosse Pointe in January and now is preparing for the Miss Michigan USA event. She said her focus is on giving back to the community. Should she be crowned Miss Michigan USA, she has a plan to promote a variety of charities.

"Every month, I want to put on my social media accounts a different charity to donate to," she said, "from Toys for Tots to breast cancer awareness."

Smith noted it's important to her to give off positiv-

ity and optimism, no matter the circumstance.

"When you're faced with adversity or something rough, it's hard mentally to overcome it, but that's the opportunity for you to prove it to yourself that you can do it," she said. "There's so much going on in the world, but we can still think about bettering ourselves so we can go out and benefit others."

Voting for the Miss Michigan USA People's Choice Award opens next month. Visit missmichiganusa.com for more information.



COURTESY PHOTO

Smith recently volunteered at a food drive for Ukraine.

Comerica Bank's Prom Dress Drive benefits Hope Closet

The Comerica Bank located at 415 Fisher, City of Grosse Pointe, is among the 11 Comerica locations participating in

its fourth annual Prom Dress Drive, through Friday, April 15.

Individuals and businesses alike can drop off

new or gently-used dresses to any participating Comerica location, to benefit southeast Michigan students.

Participating locations also will accept accessories such as jewelry, shoes, purses and wraps. Comerica will supply the donated dresses and accessories to Hope Closet, a nonprofit that

presents high school students the opportunity to attend special events with a dress of their choice regardless of financial constraints or limitations.

"Hope Closet provides

a special opportunity to teens by allowing them to experience one of life's most memorable events by removing barriers," said Patricia McCann, Comerica Bank Michigan vice president and Social Impact and National Employee Volunteer Program manager. "We value opportunities to bring people together and the Prom Dress Drive strives to accomplish that. This creates a community bond from start to finish. As we've learned over the past few years, we must continue lifting each other up and delivering on these truly cherished moments."

Since 2017, Comerica has donated nearly 5,000 dresses to Hope Closet in support of the event. This will mark the first Prom Dress Drive since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

LECTURE:

Continued from page 1B

of 1812," the Detroit Historical Museum's book, "Detroit 1967: Origins, Impacts and Legacies," which he edited, and "The Centennial of National Prohibition & The Detroit/Windsor Funnel."

Stone's other books include "Interpreting Maritime History at Museums and Historic Sites," "Revolutionary Detroit: Portraits in Political and Cultural Change, 1760-1805" and "Floating Palaces of the Great Lakes: A History of Passenger Steamships on the Inland Seas."

Due to a lack of internet availability in the Cook Schoolhouse, the lecture will not be live-streamed; however a recording of the lecture will be available on the Grosse Pointe Historical Society's YouTube channel the following week.

For more information, visit gphistorical.org.

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Park resident brings business savvy to Beyond Basics board

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

All it took was a phone call — and few statistics from Beyond Basics founder Pamela Good — and David Van Elslander was hooked on helping fight illiteracy in Detroit schools.

“I was blown away by the statistics, how big a problem it was, what the state was doing to solve it and what Beyond Basics was doing to fill the void,” he said. “I was super impressed.”

Beyond Basics is a child-centered, literacy-focused nonprofit that partners with schools and principals to help students in pre-K to grade 12 achieve proficiency in reading. Tutors work with students one-on-one for one hour a day.

Van Elslander, a resident of Grosse Pointe Park, is among the newest members of the Beyond Basics Board of Directors.

“When I met with Pam and she told me about the epidemic with illiteracy in the city, I was absolutely blown away,” he said. “It seems like a solvable problem.

“... When I think about how important reading is — it’s a launchpad for everything,” he added. “Without it, you’re



David Van Elslander

stuck. That’s why I feel it’s extremely important.”

Van Elslander, who enjoys reading John Grisham and James Patterson novels, serves on a subcommittee tasked with salability.

“There are so many kids that need help. We need to grow the organization to serve the kids that need it,” he said. “... What I love about the board is they’re not there to sit on a board; they’re there to work. They give opinions, but these are solid business people on the board with different strengths. Moving forward, we need to get the word out that this works, it’s effective, it changes lives.”

Aside from Beyond Basics, Van Elslander sits on the board of Mi BANK, as well as the A.A. Van Elslander Foundation, carrying

forward the philanthropic legacy of his father, Art Van Elslander, founder of Art Van Furniture.

Having worked for his father’s business in a variety of capacities — from sweeping floors at age 12, to joining the merchandising office at age 24, and later running the Art Van Clearance Centers and Art Van Pure Sleep until the company was sold in 2017 — Van Elslander currently is a partner in D3 Products. He and his wife, Sue, have four children.

Not long after joining the Beyond Basics board, the board of the A.A. Van Elslander Foundation committed to donating \$1.5 million to further develop the Beyond Basics program at Denby High School.

“It was in keeping with the intent and values my father set out for the foundation,” the University Liggett School alum said. “Denby already had participated at some level with Beyond Basics. We stepped in with a fairly large donation at his, my father’s, alma mater.”

The A.A. Van Elslander Foundation provides grants within the state of Michigan in the areas of children, health and human ser-

vices, and is guided by the values and intent of its founder, Art Van Elslander. Those values include a commitment to giving back to the people of Michigan; a desire to help those with impaired eyesight; supporting education and treatment of people with substance addiction; improving the lives of children and adults with cognitive and developmental disabilities; favoring organizations that are entrepreneurial-minded and seek to be self-sustainable; treating everyone with respect and dignity, and acting with kindness; and encouraging personal responsibility.

Supporting Beyond Basics was a natural fit for the foundation. Just as the foundation’s reach has grown, Van Elslander hopes Beyond Basics does the same.

“There’s work to be done in this state, but I would like to take the program national,” he said. “You can change one person’s life by teaching them to read. If they can read, now they understand math, they’re engaged in school, they graduate high school and are a more productive member of society.”

On the flip side, he noted, those who do not

graduate high school are more likely to turn to drug use and criminal activity.

“Then they end up in the system, which costs the taxpayers in the long run,” Van Elslander said.

It costs \$35,000 per year to house one prisoner. Michigan’s economy would see a combination of crime-related savings and additional revenue of approximately \$554 million each year if the male high school graduation rate increased by half, according to Alliance for Excellent Education. The alliance also reports the state would save more than \$750.2 million in health care costs over the lifetimes of each class of dropouts had they earned their diplomas.

“We want to turn them into productive members of society,” Van

Elspartner stressed. “It’s not their fault. They slip through the cracks and never catch up. The schools aren’t equipped to do it themselves.

“By attacking the literacy problem at a grassroots level, Beyond Basics is helping to change the trajectory of life for so many, providing assistance to help close the literacy gap,” he added. “Regardless of what path a young person wants to pursue, almost nothing is possible without literacy.”

Van Elslander said he believes Beyond Basics is changing lives. He encouraged others to visit beyondbasics.org to learn more, make a donation or sign up to volunteer.

“You’ll see exactly what we do, how we do it,” Van Elslander said.

“School districts’ eyes are being opened by what we’re doing.”

Anything but basic

The goal of the Beyond Basics literacy programs is to improve reading proficiency for all. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Beyond Basics continues to pilot a virtual version of its tutoring program with students in the Detroit Public Schools Community District.

A total of 256 students fully completed the Beyond Basics program. Among the highlights of their participation:

- ◆ 90 percent experienced positive improvement at grade level reading.
- ◆ On average, students who participated in the virtual reading program experienced reading improvement of two grade levels.
- ◆ 22 percent of participating students tested out of the program three or more grade levels higher than they tested into the program.
- ◆ Nearly one-quarter, or 23 percent, of students were able to achieve grade level reading or higher.
- ◆ One student met Top Honors criteria, achieving reading competency movement of six grade levels.
- ◆ Six students met High Honors criteria, achieving reading competency movement of five or more grade levels.
- ◆ Sixteen students earned Honors criteria, achieving reading competency movement of four grade levels.

Learn more at beyondbasics.org.

Bestselling author returns to The War Memorial with new book

Wednesday, April 20, bestselling author A.J. Baime returns to The War Memorial to speak about his new book, “White Lies: The Double Life of Walter F. White and America’s Darkest Secret.”

Baime is coming to The War Memorial under the auspices of the American Democracy Initiative, an ongoing War Memorial effort to produce better informed, more effective and more responsible citizens. He will appear at a ticketed VIP reception beginning at 6 p.m. with his author talk to follow at 7 p.m. His talk also will be available as a free online program.

Released in February to positive reviews in the New Yorker, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times and other publications, “White Lies” is a true story of undercover investigations, political organizing and racial identity. The book explores the complexities of Walter White’s life and illustrates his lasting impact on American life.

Baime called White the most influential civil rights leader of the first half of the 20th century.

“Walter White was a minor character in the last four books I’ve written and every time in my research I came back to him, I found his story got more and more incredible,” Baime said.

“I’m always excited to come to Detroit and even more so for this book,” he added.

He went on to explain that “White Lies” has a Detroit connection through the Dr. Ossian Sweet trials, which riveted the nation in 1925

and 1926. Baime said Sweet was a prominent black physician who, in 1925, moved into a largely white section of Detroit with his wife and 14-month-old baby. On the night the Sweet family moved into their new home, Ku Klux Klan-inspired mob violence broke out and a man was shot and killed. Sweet, his family members and friends were charged with murder, but successfully defended by a defense team organized by Walter White and including the famous Clarence Darrow.

The VIP reception with Baime will be held in historic Alger House on the War Memorial campus, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

That event includes food, beverages, a signed copy of the book and a seat at Baime’s 7 p.m. talk. The cost for the VIP reception is \$75.

The 7 p.m. author talk also can be streamed to

a computer or other device. That option is free, but registration is required.

To purchase tickets for the VIP reception or register for the free online talk, visit bit.ly/3LJBQFg

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Holy Week & Easter 2022 at St. Ambrose Parish

THURSDAY, APRIL 14 — HOLY THURSDAY
Mass of the Lord’s Supper - 7:00 p.m.
Private adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the church until midnight.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15 — GOOD FRIDAY
Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion and Death - 1:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16 — HOLY SATURDAY
Blessing of Easter Food - 12:00 noon
THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL MASS - 8:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 17 — EASTER SUNDAY
Easter Mass at 8:30 a.m.
Easter Mass at 11:15 a.m.

St. Ambrose Parish is located at 15020 Hampton in Grosse Pointe Park, one block north of Jefferson and one block east of Alter.
(313) 822-2814 • stambrose@comcast.net • stambrosechurch.net

OBITUARIES

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

Joan Nyetta Whitman

Joan Nyetta Whitman, 82, passed away Friday, Jan. 7, 2022. She was predeceased by her husband, Gerald Whitman, Jan. 4, 2015.

Joan was born May 17, 1939, in Caraway, Ark., the oldest of three siblings. Joan and Gerald were longtime residents of Grosse Pointe Farms.

Joan graduated from Waterford Township High School in 1957.

She spent many years working for Coastal Corporation in Detroit and was an active member in the EWI Woman's Business Council. Upon retiring from Coastal, she pursued a second career in interior design and applied her skill to many homes in the Pointes.

Joan is survived by her sons, Michael Rieves (Anne) and Gregory Rieves (Samer); sisters, Nora Rieves (Phil) and Sandra Applebee; as well as grandchildren, David Rieves, Eric Rieves, Patrick Rieves and Emily Rieves.

A memorial service for Joan will be held at a later date.

Kimberly Ann Detrick

Kimberly Ann (nee Dembeck) Detrick, 65, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away peacefully Tuesday, March 8, 2022, surrounded by her husband and children.

She was the loving wife of Lawrence Detrick for 41 glorious years; dear mother of Jared Detrick (Taryn) and Chelsea Detrick (Bryan Rodgers); cherished grandmother of Ava Grace and the late Palmer Jones; beloved sister of Monica Squarcia (Christopher), Christopher Dembeck (Nancy) and Mark Dembeck (Carla); and loving aunt of many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her father, Frank Dembeck, and mother, Sylvia Dembeck.

Kim was dedicated to her medical career in nursing at Harper Hospital for 30-plus years. She was her children's biggest sports fan and loved going on road trips to cheer them on. Kim had an endless love for the sun and water. She enjoyed spending weekends on the waters of Lake St. Clair with her family and friends. Many memories were made vacationing with her family in Lupton and Port Sanilac that will forever be engrained in her family's minds and hearts.

In her spare time Kim enjoyed gardening and decorating her home to perfection, for all seasons. Kim was loved by many and will truly be missed by all who knew her.

The family requests in lieu of flowers donations be made to the Arthritis Foundation, arthritis.org.

Memorial greetings take place from 1 to 7 p.m. Saturday, April 16, with a memorial service at 6 p.m., at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Jeannette Stronski Brooks

Jeannette Stronski Brooks, 64, of Eastpointe, passed away Monday, April 4, 2022.

A former resident of Grosse Pointe Park, Jeannette was born Jan. 17, 1958, in Detroit, to Gerald E. and Jean Stronski, both now deceased.

Jeannette graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School in 1976, and then attended Northern Michigan University. She worked as a controller at Oakland Mall, the practice manager for Drs. Murray & Stronski, P.C., and was a jewelry associate at JC Penney.

Jeannette served as registrar for the AYSO and was involved with the Outdoor Woman Association. Her interests included hockey, NASCAR, gardening and swimming in her pool.

Jeannette is survived by her husband, Steven C. Brooks; daughters, Jenny Lyn Choukeir (Bilal) and Kristin Lee Huggett (Brandon); six grandchildren; and her siblings, Mary Mooi (Robert), Suzanne Prewitt (Kenneth), Margaret Tuttle (Richard), Carole Stronski, Sarah Hammons and Gerald W. Stronski. She was predeceased by her brother, Karl Stronski.

A funeral service takes place at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 16, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 32000 Schoenherr, Warren.

John G. Cameron Sr.

John G. Cameron Sr., passed away Thursday, Feb. 24, 2022, in Cape Canaveral, Fla.

He was born Aug. 14, 1924, to Frances I. and Frank C. Cameron, both now deceased.

John was the loving husband of the late Helen Jane Cameron (nee Schueler); brother of the late William and Frank Robert Cameron; father of John Jr. (Ann) of Vero Beach, Fla., David of Fort Worth, Texas, Don of Harbor Springs and Kenneth Cameron (Patricia) of Grosse Pointe Farms; and grandfather of Clara Katherine, Kenneth Jr. "Rob," David Jr. "Brian," Andrew "Drew," Cal, Courtney and Grace Holton.

Mr. Cameron grew up in Detroit. He graduated from Cass Technical High School in 1943, and promptly enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving as a naval aviator until April 1946. Following the war, he attended Michigan State University. In 1948, he married Helen, of the Indian Village. The couple settled in Birmingham, where they raised their four sons. In a long career as a manufacturing engineer, he held positions with several companies, his last for 15 years before retiring from the Champion Spark Plug Co.

Except when he was in the service, John spent every summer on his beloved Harsens Island. As a youngster, much of his time was spent fabri-

cating "inventions" and racing hydroplanes with his best friend, Dick Chute, who predeceased him. In 1953, he embarked on a journey to secure his own cottage, starting with his late father-in-law's boat-house, which he had moved from the river to the family lot on the island. Over the years, largely because of his own handiwork, the "boathouse" evolved into a permanent residence. Later in life, John and Helen migrated to Cape Canaveral, Fla., for the winter months.

In recent years, John lived with his companion, Judy Jessup. The couple spent summers on the island and wintered in Cape Canaveral, where he passed away.

Mr. Cameron also was a lifelong member of the Freemasons and an 80-year member of Detroit Commandery No. 1 KT — he proudly marched with the Commandery in the presidential inaugural parade of 1957 — eventually becoming a member of its Old Guard in 1977.

A celebration of life is planned for Aug. 6, on Harsens Island.

Donations in John's memory may be made to the Detroit Commandery No.1 KT, C/O Masonic Temple, 500 Temple St., Detroit, MI 48201; or St. Paul's Church, P.O. Box 144, 208 Orchid, Harsens Island, MI 48028.

Theresa Margaret Bertelsen

Longtime Grosse Pointe Woods resident Theresa Margaret Bertelsen, 94, passed away Friday, April 8, 2022. She was born Jan. 12, 1928, to Gilbert J. and Anna (née Mott) LeBeau.

In 1948, Theresa married the love of her life, Jack G. Bertelsen. They went on to have five beautiful children and were happily married 42 years. For 33 years, she was a charismatic saleswoman for Hudson's department store at Eastland Mall. Theresa also was a longtime member and past president of the AMVETS Post 57 Ladies Auxiliary of Harper Woods and an active member of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church more than 70 years.

Theresa loved spending time with her family and, with most of her children living out of state, she valued those precious moments when everyone could be together at the same time. In her spare time, she enjoyed gardening, golf, traveling and playing cards/euchre.

Theresa is survived by her loving children, Jacquelyn A. (the late Michael S. Domenici), Pamela S. (Thomas H. Roth), Marcie A. (David A. Glassner) and Kevin G. (Marilyn V., née Brown); daughter-in-law, M. Jane (née Moesta); 13 cherished grandchildren; 13 precious great-grandchildren; her brother, Emmett LeBeau; and many nieces and nephews.

Theresa was prede-



Joan Nyetta Whitman



Kimberly Ann Detrick



Jeannette Brooks



John G. Cameron Sr.



Theresa M. Bertelsen



David Case

ceased by her beloved husband, Jack G. Bertelsen; loving son, Gregory J.; parents, Gilbert LeBeau Sr. and Anna E. LeBeau; sister, Elvira LaLone (née LeBeau); and brother, Gilbert J. LeBeau Jr.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Solanus Casey Center, 1820 Mt. Elliot, Detroit, MI 48027, solanuscenter.org.

David Case

Grosse Pointe resident David Case, 80, died peacefully at home Friday, April 8. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and family man to his extended family of seven brothers and sisters and multiple nieces and nephews.

He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Joanne; his adoring children, Amy, Jeff (Suzanne) and Mike; and precious grandchildren, Elle, Clio and Cael. His siblings, Joanne (the late David), Jane (the late Andy), John (Marilyn), Earl (Peggy), Joyce (Jon) and Marty (Lisa), will miss him dearly.

He was predeceased by his brother, Edward (Janet) and his wonderful parents, Earl and Marcella Case. In his younger years, David enjoyed coaching his boys' Little League teams and attending his children's multiple activities such as soccer, tennis, choir and theater. Simple pleasures were important to him: cooking, grilling, eating barbecue and deserts of any kind — especially pie — hearing or telling jokes and visiting with friends and family.

He loved traveling with his family to Arizona, South Carolina, Hyannis Port, Fla., the Cayman Islands, Seattle and, of course, his beloved "Up North" Michigan.

He proudly served his country during the Vietnam era and continued his affiliation with veteran organizations. He was a proud 1960 graduate of University of Detroit High School and a 1967 graduate of Wayne State University, where he majored in political science and business. During his long career, he established his own recruiting firm, Case and Company, successfully placing hundreds of quality candidates into high-level positions, mostly in the auto industry. He

often advised family members, friends and even the occasional stranger in a Kroger's checkout line in their own searches for an entry level position or career change.

David is leaving his family with a loving legacy of peace, kindness, gentleness, patience and devotion to each and every one of them.

A funeral Mass took place Wednesday, April 13, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church.

Donations in David's memory may be made to Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 154, 18025 E. 15 Mile Road, Clinton Township, MI 48035.

J. Richard Dunlap

J. Richard "Dick" Dunlap, 74, of the City of Grosse Pointe, passed away Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022, after bravely fighting pancreatic cancer. He was born Oct. 1, 1947, in Akron, Ohio, to Joseph H. and Carol K. Dunlap. He is survived by his wife of almost 50 years, Connie Dunlap.

Also surviving are their three sons and daughters-in-law, Brad (Stephanie Davis) of Evanston, Ill., Todd (Molly McKenzie) of Wilmette, Ill., and Eric (Katie Cirre) of Raleigh, N.C. He also is survived by his nine beloved grandchildren, Will, Abby, Ella, Ben, Jake, Cole, Anna, Nick and Reagan. He is further survived by a brother, Thomas (Katherine) of Cincinnati, Ohio, and numerous nieces and nephews. His parents and sister, Barbara Dunlap Kamm, predeceased him.

Dick grew up in Toledo, Ohio, and attended Miami University, where he was active in the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. He graduated in 1969, with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. He received his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from The Ohio State University in 1973. While there he met Connie Zimmerman of Defiance, Ohio; they married in 1972, and upon graduation moved to San Diego, Calif., where Dick was a lieutenant and dentist in the U.S. Navy.

After serving two years in the Navy, Dick moved back to the Midwest to complete his master's degree in orthodontics from the University of Michigan. He established a solo orthodontic practice on Mack Avenue in



J. Richard Dunlap

Grosse Pointe, where he set about working hard to improve the smiles of the community. He loved his work, his staff and his patients and had a genuine interest in their young lives. Dick retired from his practice in 2015.

Dick was very involved in his boys' sports and activities. Many remember his love of photography, especially sports photography, as he was a fixture at Grosse Pointe South High School games for many years. He truly enjoyed sharing his photos with the players and their families.

Dick had many interests, including gardening, golf, watching sports and most recently playing euchre at The Helm. After retiring, he became a Realtor to assist his wife with her real estate career. Above all, he loved and enjoyed his family. He especially loved watching his grandchildren grow and compete in various sports and activities.

Dick had a caring and gentle spirit, a great sense of humor and was quick to laugh. As his grandchildren will attest, "He brought the fun!"

Dick belonged to Grosse Pointe Memorial Church and served as a deacon and church photographer. He also was a member of the Men's Club of Grosse Pointe and Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe.

A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 23, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Mothers' Club of Grosse Pointe South for an athletics or photography scholarship, 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236; Hospice of Michigan, hom.org/donations/; or the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church Music Fund, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

OBITS:

Continued from page 4B

Neil Thomas Curtis

Neil Thomas Curtis, a native of Cadillac, passed away Wednesday, April 6, 2022, at Green Acres Retirement Living. He was 93.

Neil was born Oct. 2, 1928, in Cadillac, to Harry and C. Elizabeth (nee Barry) Curtis. He was a 1947 graduate of Cadillac High School. He attended the University of Michigan and Central Michigan University, earning a teaching degree before receiving his master's degree from Michigan State University. He married the former Geraldine Marie Larson on March 24, 1951, at the Rectory for St. Ann's in Cadillac. Neil proudly served his country as a member of the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

Neil was a member of the National Education Association, Elk's Lodge, AMVETS, Knights of Columbus, American Legion, Michigan Education Association and St. Ann Catholic Church in Cadillac. He made his career teaching, starting in Cadillac from 1953-60, and eventually moving to Grosse Pointe until his retirement in 1986. Following retirement, he continued as a substitute and an instructor at Kirtland Community College, as well as taught adult education at Pine River and McBain schools. Neil also could be found coaching football, skiing and serving as a coun-



Neil Thomas Curtis

selor over the years.

Neil is survived by his loving daughters, Carol Bahorski, Colleen Curtis Bodnar (John), Christine Dobias and Connie Kurtz (Karl); grandchildren, Michael Morin (Kathy), Timothy Bahorski (Sara), Megan Cynar (Jeff), Carly McCall (Jake) and Evan Kurtz; eight great-grandchildren and many others.

He was predeceased by his wife, Geraldine "Gerrie" Curtis; parents; brother, Rex Curtis; and son-in-law, Gary Dobias.

A memorial Mass takes place at 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 19, at St. Ann Catholic Church in Cadillac, with visitation beginning at 10 a.m. The Rev. Michael Janowski will officiate.

Neil's urn will be laid to rest next to his wife at Maple Hill Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan, hom.org; or St. Ann Catholic Church, 800 W. 13th St., Cadillac, MI 49601.

Condolences and memories may be shared with the family online at hitesman-holdship.com

The family is being served by the Hitesman-Holdship Funeral Home.

Creating Confident Caregivers begins April 21 at The Helm

Being a caregiver can be demanding and stressful. The Creating Confident Caregivers program provides tools that will improve caregiving quality for both the client and caregiver.

The program takes place from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursdays, April 21 to May 26, at The Helm, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Creating Confident Caregivers is for those caring for someone with Alzheimer's disease, dementia or memory loss. It provides information and tools to manage and reduce stress and increase effective skills by improving caregiver confidence in managing behaviors caused by dementia. Program participants also

will learn how to create a more positive caregiving environment.

This event is free for members and nonmembers. Registration is required.

Members and regular guests of The Helm are asked to register online at helmlife.org. Others may call (313) 882-9600 for assistance.

Gubernatorial candidate Tudor Dixon to speak to Eastside Republicans

Tudor Dixon, former small business owner and popular western Michigan news anchor, speaks to the Eastside Republican Club on Tuesday, April 19, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Dixon is a candidate for the Michigan Republican gubernatorial nomination.

"Tudor Dixon has consistently ranked in the top tier of GOP contenders," said Marie Hackleman, Eastside Republican Club chairwoman. "As a woman, she is uniquely positioned to take on the governor. With her media background, she's a good communicator and as a cancer survivor, she's a fighter. She also brings business and manufacturing experience, which is so important in Michigan."

Forum doors open at 7 p.m. for a cookie and coffee reception with Dixon before the 7:30



Tudor Dixon

p.m. meeting. The forum is open to the public at no charge.

Dixon believes in limited government and holding it accountable. She advocates, "reining in the out-of-control executive branch, strengthening ethics and transparency laws, and ensuring government officials don't get special treatment when

they break laws and rules."

Of the 12 candidates vying for the nomination for governor in the GOP primary, Dixon was the only one to get a "shout out" from former President Donald Trump at his April 2 rally in Washington Township.

Dixon began her professional career in

Chicago with an industry-leading public relations and marketing firm after graduating from the University of Kentucky with a degree in psychology. Later, she spent a decade working in the steel industry, first with her father's foundry and then with other companies.

She subsequently returned to her roots in public relations and built a successful media business and career as a conservative commentator and news host.

She and her husband, Aaron Dixon, have four young daughters and make their home in Norton Shores.

The Eastside Republican Club Forum meets the third Tuesday of each month, September through May, at The War Memorial. Admission is free and the public is welcome. Follow the ERC on Facebook and learn more at eastside-republican-club.com.

CHURCH EVENTS

St. Michael's

Rosann Kovalcik, owner of Wild Birds Unlimited and a board member of Detroit Audubon, will speak at the next Lunch, Laugh and Learn program at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods. Her topic is "What Birds are Singing in my Backyard?" The program begins at noon Thursday, April 21. All are welcome, but reservations are required by calling (313) 884-4820. A free-

will offering will be collected at the door.

St. Paul on the Lake

St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School, 170 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, hosts a free screening of Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ," at 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 15, in its Canfield Center. The film is rated R for content.

St. Paul on the Lake hosts Easter Sunday Mass at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and noon Sunday, April 17.

Grosse Pointe Theatre 2022 scholarship auditions set

Grosse Pointe Theatre will host its 2022 scholarship auditions at 315 Fisher, City of Grosse Pointe, on Saturday, April 30.

Grosse Pointe Theatre created a scholarship program in 1972, designed to help high school seniors planning to attend an accredited college or university, and high school juniors enrolled in a recognized summer theater or performance camp. This year marks GPT's 49th year of granting scholarships to students in the community.

The past three years alone, Grosse Pointe Theatre has given

more than \$23,000 to 16 winners. The student does not need to be majoring in a performance or technical role in college to apply for the scholarship.

Applications, rules and regulations are available at gpt.org for any interested high school student graduating with the classes of 2022 or 2023, and who meet one of the following criteria:

- ◆ Must be a junior or senior at one of the Grosse Pointe high schools;
- ◆ a Grosse Pointe resident;
- ◆ a child or grandchild of a Grosse Pointe Theatre member or

season ticket holder;

◆ has performed in or worked backstage for a GPT show and was acknowledged in the program; or

◆ has participated in GPT's Youth on Stage program.

Scholarships are awarded for theatrical performance or technical theater work.

Students will audition with a choice of two pieces: a memorized dramatic monologue, a memorized comedic monologue, a song or a dancing talent demonstration.

See THEATRE, page 6B



He is Risen!
Join us in worship:
Easter Day at 10:00 a.m.
Music for voices, organ and brass.
With Easter Eggs for everyone!

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(313) 884-4820 www.stmichaelsgpw.org

Worship Service





St. Matthew Catholic Church
Harper at Whittier
Holy Week Liturgies
(Masks Optional)

Palm Sunday Masses,
Saturday, April 9, 4:30 pm and
Sunday, April 10, 10:00 am

Monday, April 11, 7:00 pm ~ Lenten Penance Service
Holy Thursday, April 14, 7:30 pm ~ Mass
9:00 to 10:30 pm ~ Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Good Friday, April 15, noon ~ Stations of the Cross
1:30 pm ~ Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday, April 16, 9:00 pm ~ Easter Vigil Mass
Easter Sunday, April 17, 10:00 am
~ Mass of the Resurrection ~



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21336 Mack Avenue (On the Corner of 8 Mile & Mack)
Good Friday Service at 7:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday Services at 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
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9:30 am - Worship Service
9:45 am - Spark Church
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www.christthekingpp.org

SUNDAY
8:15 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service
9:30 a.m. - Bible Study
10:45 a.m. - Sunday School

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

WEDNESDAY
10 a.m. - Bible Study

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

Students learn about governments through American Legion program

American Legion Grosse Pointe Post 303 invites current high school juniors to attend American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State educational programs. Boys State is held at Grand Valley State University in Allendale and Girls State this year will be virtual. Both will take place June 12 to 18.

These “mock government” programs are designed to teach students how state government works while developing leadership



Marissa Stinson at the U.S. Naval Academy.

skills and an appreciation of their rights as a citizen. Attendees get a fast-paced experience immersed in politics and civic responsibilities, while having fun and making lifetime friendships.

Both Boys and Girls State programs also select two outstanding Michigan students to go on to Boys Nation and Girls Nation programs, held in Washington, D.C., later this summer. Both the state and national programs are opportunities for students aspiring to college, as many universities and military academies offer admission preference for attendees of Boys or Girls State.

THEATRE:

Continued from page 5B

Technical theater applicants should prepare a presentation of their work such as videos, PowerPoints, models, pictures or binders of work. This will be presented and evaluated as a whole body of work.

All applicants will receive immediate feedback from the judges.

GPT consistently reviews and updates its COVID-19 policies. At the current time, face masks are optional; however, that may be subject to change depending on the situation at the time. Applications are due by Friday, April 22, and may be sent to scholarship@gpt.org or put in the mail slot at 315 Fisher.

For more information, call Linda Zublick at (313) 320-4325 or scholarship chair Beth Teagan at (313) 421-6363 or email scholarship@gpt.org.

Academy in Annapolis, Md., from Grosse Pointe North, something Stinson said was in large part thanks to her experiences at Girls State and Girls Nation.

“The experiences I had at Girls State and later at Girls Nation shaped my future,” Lt. j.g. Stinson said. “It led me to my degree in political science and my career in the military. It helped me see myself as a leader.”

Stinson graduated from the Naval Academy in 2019, and is a surface warfare officer serving on the USS San Antonio.

Neal Jeup, a graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School, also attended both Boys State and Boys Nation representing Grosse Pointe and Michigan. Jeup recently mentioned the experiences the American Legion provided him were “absolutely priceless.” He currently is studying management at the London School of Economics and will return to Grosse Pointe to manage a logistics company he founded.

There are many famous attendees from both Boys State and Girls State programs: former NBC News anchor Tom Brokaw, radio host Rush Limbaugh, 42nd U.S. President Bill Clinton, U.S. Sen. Gary Peters, U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, U.S. Senate candidate John James, NBA star Michael Jordan and actor Mark Walberg, to name a few.

Dubbed “A Week that Shapes a Lifetime,” the attendee experience was documented in a feature film by the same name in



COURTESY PHOTOS

Grosse Pointe South High School grad Neal Jeup attended both Boys State and Boys Nation, where he met President Barack Obama.

2020, about the “raucous journey into the heart of democracy ... 1,100 teenage boys from across the state of Texas as they come together to build a government from the ground up.” The film is available online through many streaming services and gives great insight to the Boys State program, which mirrors the Girls State program.

Applications for Girls State must be completed by Saturday, April 30, and applications for Boys State must be completed by Monday, May 9. For applications and information about Boys State, visit michiganboysstate.org/ and for applications on Girls State, visit michalaux.org/girls-state/

For more information about programs and scholarship opportunities, contact American Legion Post 303 Commander Dan McCrary at (313) 492-7462.

More about the program

The motto is, “Learn by doing.” The educational staff’s goal is to facilitate the learning process by giving the citizens of Boys State and Girls State an opportunity to govern themselves and run their own state.

Every year the American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State teach young men and women during the summer between their junior and senior years in high school a glimpse of life in a college dorm setting, leadership, management and communication skills. Students must be in 11th grade or an equivalent in-home school program or have a half semester to complete as a senior and must be a U.S. citizen.

Delegates can learn more about their city, county and state government in one week at Boys/Girls State than in an entire semester in a formal classroom setting. Participants meet with elected and appointed officials to learn more about the duties and responsibilities of a variety of positions in government from people on the “inside.” Topics covered throughout the week are current and range from judicial cases, security in schools and immigration to health care, taxes, legislative and executive branch and more. Delegates hold offices in all branches of government, pass laws and run municipal governments.

Each program selects two outstanding participants to go to Boys Nation and Girls Nation programs in Washington, D.C., later in the summer. Those interested in this opportunity should visit the following websites to obtain more information and complete applications.

Boys Nation: legion.org/boysnation

Girls Nation: legion-aux.org/ala-girls-nation

Participants in both programs who are direct descendants of veterans have an opportunity to win a \$1,000 scholarship at the state level and up to \$10,000 from Samsung Corp at the final level of contestants. Those interested should visit michiganboysstate.org/ or legion.org/scholarships/samsung for more information.

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Detroit Riverfront Conservancy, partners break ground on Southwest Greenway

The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy and partners broke ground Tuesday, April 5, on the Southwest Greenway, a major milestone in the transformation of the West Riverfront that will provide community access to beautiful public spaces in Detroit. The future greenway is nearly a mile long, spanning from Bagley to Jefferson, connecting the Detroit Riverfront and the future Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park with the Michigan Central mobility innovation district and neighborhoods throughout southwest Detroit, Mexicantown and Corktown.

The project is an \$8 million investment and will be completed this fall. Partners include the city of Detroit, Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, Michigan Central, Michigan DNR and Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Michigan Department of Transportation and the Walters Family Foundation.

Detroit Riverfront Conservancy Chairman Matt Cullen and President and CEO Mark Wallace were joined at the groundbreaking ceremony by Michigan Central chairman Mary Culler and business leaders, dignitaries and community partners.

"The Southwest Greenway will make it easy and fun for people living and working on the west side of Detroit to get to the Detroit Riverfront," Cullen said. "The Southwest Greenway will provide a similar experience to the Dequindre Cut. We are tremendously grateful for Michigan Central's partnership in this project and all of our partners for working together to make this a reality."

The Southwest Greenway is a key part of the Joe Louis Greenway, a 27.5-mile greenway in Detroit that will provide the community with greater connectivity throughout the city, as well as access to the riverfront. Southwest



A rendering of the Southwest Greenway, planned as part of the transformation of the West Riverfront.

Greenway and Joe Louis Greenway are a part of 160 miles of greenways in southeast Michigan.

"This really is an extraordinary time in Detroit with so much work being done to create beautiful new recreational opportunities that connect our neighborhoods to our riverfront and to each other," Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan said. "When it opens this fall, the Southwest Greenway will provide a beautiful and critical link between the new Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. riverfront park, Corktown and Mexicantown, as well as to the Joe Louis Greenway. We are fortunate to have such a great partner in the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy to lead much of this work, which will improve Detroiters' quality of life for generations to come."

Additionally, Michigan Central announced a \$5 million commitment to the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy for the Southwest Greenway that will connect the riverfront with the Michigan Central mobility innovation district and to neighborhoods throughout southwest Detroit and Corktown.

"We are proud to partner with the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy to make this historic link to the Detroit waterfront a

reality," Culler said. "We're all about building a better, more accessible world for the communities surrounding Michigan Central and the Southwest Greenway is a great example of how we are working to increase accessibility for all. This greenway will not only provide a beautiful amenity and increased connectivity for residents and visitors, but as an extension of the open innovation platform we are creating at Michigan Central, it will also provide opportunities for innovators to pilot new solutions that will result in greater mobility access for everyone."

Next month, the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy will break ground on the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park, a 22-acre park located on the West Riverfront. The park is one of the most significant projects on the horizon for the conservancy and a major step forward in completing its goal of developing 5.5 miles of revitalized riverfront. It will dramatically change the landscape along the downtown riverfront and is expected to boost economic benefit in the area as well.

In October 2018, the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation announced a \$50 million commitment to the conservancy for the

future Ralph Wilson Park. The foundation also provided additional capital support to ensure key connections to the park could be made between the East Riverfront and West Riverfront and beyond with the addition of the Southwest Greenway.

"The development of both Ralph Wilson Park and the Southwest Greenway, as part of the

Joe Louis Greenway, have been guided and informed directly by community voice and the residents who are the ultimate beneficiaries of these public spaces," said David Egner, president and CEO of the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation. "Parks and trails contribute greatly to quality of life in our region, bringing with it better public health outcomes and helping people

connect more to one another and places."

The park will feature a water garden, the William Davidson Sport House with basketball courts, the Delta Dental Play Garden with an array of animal structures and an expansive lawn for special events. When the park opens in 2024, users of the Southwest Greenway will have easy access to it.

"Southwest Detroit is full of amazing neighborhoods and amazing families," Wallace said. "When you look at the demographics of Mexicantown, Corktown and the other communities in southwest Detroit, you see that they are full of children, families and seniors. This trail will make it very easy for them all to get to the Detroit Riverfront."

Named the best Riverwalk in America by USA TODAY, the Detroit Riverfront attracts 3.5 million visitors annually. 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.

Early spring fishing in Grosse Pointe

By Brian Owen
Special Writer

In advance of the Grosse Pointe News's second annual fishing contest, we introduce Brian Owen, who will keep the community updated throughout the tournament.

This time of year, the easiest way to fish is to hit one of the Grosse Pointes' neighborhood piers. On calm days, a kayak is a great way to get in on the action before your boat is in for the season. From Pier Park to Windmill Pointe Park, Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River are occupied by several species right now and they are getting ready to bite.

The early spring is highlighted by a unique visitor, the coho salmon,

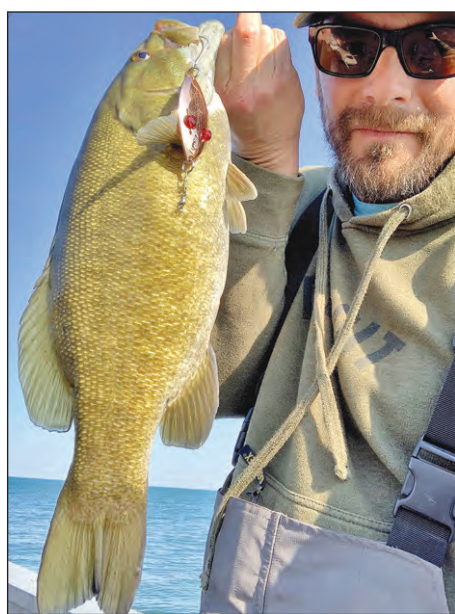


PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIAN OWENS

See FISHING, page 4C Brian Owen and a fresh catch.

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Entry deadline: 4/18/2022

Entry fee: \$40 (up to 3 works)

Grosse Pointe News annual subscribers can enter free of charge, please contact us for a discount code at media@grossepointenews.com.

IMPORTANT DATES:

April 18, 2022 application deadline, no exceptions.
April 28, 2022 finalists will be notified.

For full contest rules and dates, please visit:

grossepointenews.com/art

Grosse Pointe News and Paragon Art Collective

The Science Advice Goddess

by Amy Alkon

Amy Alkon's science-based syndicated advice column, RIP: 1995 to March 31, 2022

My column, for years, ran in over 100 papers across the US and Canada, and in the military paper, the Stars & Stripes.

It is "applied science," meaning I read and vet scientific studies, translate them from the professor-ese into clear, understandable language, and then use them as a springboard to help people reframe their thinking and change their behavior.

Sadly, the newspaper industry is struggling, and during COVID, long-profitable and successful papers that had run my

column for over 20 years went out of business. Others suffered huge declines in ad revenues and were forced cut their page count to the bone.

I love writing this column, which won many first-place awards in the Southern California Journalism Awards (via LA Press Club) -- along with an honorable mention for me for "Journalist of the Year": simply unheard of for an advice column.

I'm so, so grateful to all the papers that ran me and ran me -- but especially

those whose editors picked it up first...gave me a chance before anybody else believed in me. (Hi, Bob Downes of Northern Express and Linda Xiques of the Pacific Sun!)

I am especially grateful for all the readers who trusted me with their problems and gave me the material to put out the science and reasoning that were an integral part of this column. And thank you, all of you, who wrote me to tell me I made a difference for you. It means the world to me.

It was really hard for

me to come to this: to finally call it a day. I was writing the column at a serious financial loss for longer than I'd like to admit, hoping to find a way to subsidize it. (I've trained to become an ace speaker -- as I hope you'll see in my TED talk on conflict resolution that should be out soon -- but COVID dried up any hope of my doing applied science speaking events, and that has yet to change.)

I'm now completing two vitally important books for awesome BenBella Books that I hope will change

medical practice standards in two areas of our healthcare to be more evidence-based. (Will disclose the exact subject matter when we're a bit closer to publication.)

I will continue to do private sessions for individuals: both mediations and advice sessions. (http://www.advicegoddess.com/private_sessions/ if you're interested.) I've also been hired by the Los Angeles City Attorney's office to do behavioral science-based video training sessions for new and



continuing mediators. Thank you all for reading me, fighting with me, and telling me when I made a difference for you with my work. -Amy Alkon

Networking: the only way to get hired after a felony

Q: I had an excellent career for more than 14 years in information technology, but I made a serious mistake that damaged my career. In my most recent position, the first four years were productive with excellent performance reviews, salary increases and a promotion. In my fifth year, I reported to a new manager who held a different management philosophy. I eventually realized he was trying to force me out to bring in his own team and I didn't know how to handle it.

After leaving the company, I was angry and engaged in activities that resulted in a felony charge for unauthorized access. I received a one-year probation. I wrote the manager an apology for my actions. I also went through voluntary counseling. My resume is well prepared, I have excellent communication skills, a good work history minus the felony, great ref-

erences and a wealth of IT experience. I have been upfront about my felony, but employers backed off. I changed my tactics and waited to explain my record after receiving a job offer. Each company rescinded its offer. How do I undo the damage? I sincerely regret my angry actions.

A: You were more than angry. You were vindictive, which signals emotional immaturity and is a worrisome personality trait for hiring managers. Getting a job with a felony on your record is difficult but not impossible, especially since you voluntarily went through counseling.

Your best approach is to rely on networking to increase meaningful contacts. Networking is not the superficial activity of handing out business cards or connecting online to people whom you have nothing in common with.

Sign up for Zoom and in-person conferences on IT systems, hiring processes, human resource trends, the state of employment, and any subject related to



areas sponsored by companies large and small setting the trends.

Get involved with the Q&A sessions at the end of the conferences and keep a record of the names and positions of those involved. Even one person who believes in you can make all the difference.

The key is to meet people for informational interviews who, as they get to know you, might be recep-

tive to overlooking your conviction and giving you a second chance.

Authors Billy Dexter and Melissa G. Wilson, in "Making Your Net Work +

Networkling = Career and Business Success," joined together to help job hunters understand real networking. They share the view that meetings are two-way business and social exchanges. The key is to meet people for informational interviews who as they get to know you might be willing to overlook your conviction.

You are still a person of value who can offer help to

those willing to meet you where you are. Few people like to feel used, so start with information exchanges where you take time to share something that could be of value to a person you know is interested in networking.

Wilson was able to help more than 3,000 six-figure earners in transition learn a networking system she created leveraging LinkedIn as a free, powerful tool to connect networkers quickly and effectively.

Here is how to use it: In the LinkedIn search bar, type LION Open Networker, then choose Groups to connect you to local and international members interested in networking. Target a member to connect with and ask for a 15-minute interview.

Make sure to read the member's profile before your interview time and look for things you share with that member. Then find another open net-

worker your targeted member has yet to meet.

The second open networker will be your referral to your first open networker. As you repeat this process, you will be building a vibrant and meaningful network.

As you add value through all your information exchanges, emphasize your professional experience to gain interviews. It's then time to be patient.

A company willing to give you a second chance is going to want the felony conviction kept under wraps. Your best bet will likely be at a smaller company that doesn't have rigid hiring policies.

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

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At Work

by Lindsey Novak



Dad signals he may bring girlfriend to guys weekend

DEAR ABBY: My father, who has been a widower for 17 years, has been dating a woman on and off for 12 years, a couple years after my brother and I left for college.

My brother and I have never cared for her, but we live three hours away from them in opposite directions now. We figure if he's happy, then it's none of our business. I try not to be rude, but I simply do not enjoy spending time with her.

I've been planning an out-of-state sports weekend with my dad and brother. I have been looking forward to it, because with three small kids, I have little time for these

kinds of activities. I got us all tickets and hotel rooms, but my brother now has to skip it because of a family medical issue.

Dad has just hinted he may bring his girlfriend to take my brother's spot, because "she's upset and not talking to me because I didn't take her to my brother's son's birthday." I can't imagine a more excruciating weekend.

I told him plainly, "I expected this to be a 'guys' weekend." But, like always, he was cagey, and I'm terrified he is going to show up with his girlfriend. How can I impress upon him that I don't want her to use my brother's unused ticket

because I do not want to spend the weekend with her? -- BAD SPORT IN OREGON

DEAR BAD SPORT: Is your dad unaware of how you feel about his lady friend?

The solution to your problem would be to tell your father that while you are pleased he has found happiness with this woman, you do not enjoy her company, which is why he doesn't see more of you.

While you're at it, tell him what it is about her that you cannot tolerate. Then "remind" him that her presence would change the character of

the "guys weekend," and if he plans to bring her, he will spend the weekend alone with her -- your treat -- because you, too, will change your plans.

DEAR ABBY: In seven months, my 43-year-old son will be married for the second time. Because of his fiancée's problem drinking, I am absolutely against the marriage. I hate the idea of going to the wedding. Should I go anyway, and have the most miserable day of my life? I doubt that I would be able to hide my sadness. Or should I decline, tell my son I wouldn't be a good guest to have on his happy day and wish



Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

them "all the best"? -- HESITATING IN WASHINGTON

DEAR HESITATING: I will assume that your son is aware of your concerns about his fiancée's drinking. Do not boycott this wedding. If you do, you will create a wedge between you and your daughter-in-law that could last for decades. Plaster on a smile and

attend so you can wish them all the best in person. Then cross your fingers that your wish comes true.

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

Dear Ann Landers: I hope you can answer a question for me. Why do car manufacturers build automobiles that can go over 85 mph? Every day, newspapers print hair-raising stories about auto crashes caused by speeding. The speedometer on my own standard sedan goes up to 120 mph. I am not a race car driver. Under what circum-

stances could I possibly need to go that fast?

You know a great many experts, Ann. Please ask someone why car manufacturers create cars that can attain speeds that too often cause death and destruction. -- M.M.

Dear E.M.: We took your question to Terry Rhadigan, a spokesperson for General

Motors. He said the policy of car manufacturers is: Give the customers what they want. Most people apparently want the assurance of knowing their cars can go fast enough for any emergency, regardless of whether they will ever need it. While newer vehicles have better safety features that can handle faster speeds, some smaller mod-

els have limits on their speedometers because anything over 90 mph can make the car difficult to manage.

Unless drivers let car manufacturers know that high speeds are unnecessary or undesirable, these powerful 120-mph automobiles will continue to be cranked out every year. The mantra "give the people what they want" holds true

Classic Ann Landers

in the automotive industry, as it does in all other industries where the profit motive reigns supreme.

ANN LANDERS
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A vibrant spring dessert Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Grandma Hodkinson would eat a garlic clove each day. She would lift heavy objects by herself at 80 years old. She was an incredible mother and a wonderful pie maker. Most importantly, she could never say no to her grandchildren.

Each grandchild would request their favorite pie for birthdays and she would whip up anything and all of them that they wanted. Someday I'll share her pie crust recipe, but today I'm going to share my favorite pie that she used to make.

Graham cracker pie has always been my favorite. It's a vanilla custard based pie with a graham cracker crust. I added a raspberry coulis as a sauce on top.

This pie is looser than most pies and tastes

absolutely delicious. The coulis has a sweet kiss from Grand Marnier and brings a lovely orange taste to the sauce drizzled over top.

Lots of whisking is involved so make this when your arms need a workout. I hope you enjoy it as much as our family does.

Cheers, Mombeau

Grandma Hodkinson's Graham Cracker Pie with Raspberry Coulis

Crust:

2 sleeves, graham crackers

6 tbsp butter

¼ cup sugar

Using either a large

freezer bag and rolling pin or a food processor, crush the crackers into fine crumbs. Add to a mixing bowl with the sugar and bake at 375 degrees for 6-8 minutes. Remove from the oven and let cool.

Filling:

4 tbsp butter

⅓ cup flour

¾ cup sugar

¼ tsp salt

2 cups milk

1 tsp vanilla

3 egg yolks, lightly whisked

In a small saucepan, start by melting the butter over

medium to low heat. Once melted add the sugar, flour and salt. Whisk together to get rid of the flour taste, about 1-2 minutes.

Next, slowly pour the milk in. Continue whisking until the mixture thickens, about 3-5 minutes. Don't let it boil, just scald. (Which means keep the mixture just under a boiling point.)

Now you want to temper your egg yolks. Have the yolks, whisked, in a small bowl then add a ladle of the hot custard mixture to your yolks and stir vigorously until combined.

Then add the mixture back to your saucepan. Keep whisking for another 3 minutes until it firms up even more.

Add to your cooled crust and chill in the fridge overnight. Once



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAREN FERGUSON

completely cooled, pour the chilled coulis over the top and serve.

Raspberry Coulis

2 pints fresh raspberries

1 tbsp water

1 tbsp Grand Marnier (optional)

3 tbsp sugar

1 tsp cornstarch

1 tsp water

Use a food processor or

blender to puree the raspberries until smooth.

Use a fine mesh strainer and a rubber spatula to push the pulp out into a small saucepan. Once separated, add 1 tbsp water, sugar and Grand Marnier. Bring to a boil and let simmer for 3 minutes.

Next, in a small bowl, combine the cornstarch and remaining tsp of water. Whisk together and add the saucepan to thicken the sauce. Cook for another 2 minutes and take off the heat.

Once cooled, pour over the top of the pie.

Wine Club
Village Wine
15228 E. Jefferson
Grosse Pointe Park

Wine's of Italy

Italy is one of the most challenging and most rewarding regions for wine. Especially if you believe there's no such concept as too much of a good thing. You can aim to try them all! After 4 years of wine club, we still have new grapes and regions to explore within Italy. This month's selection is a great balance of some of the more obscure styles as well as great representations of the classics.

Wines available on April 15 (Friday PM, due to delivery schedule).

This Month's 6 for 70

These wines have a value of 12-18 dollars retail. Retail value total averages \$90. Many of the wines have been well rated by the critics for many years, and all have been approved by Zack and Stacey!

The wines are:

Gorgo Ca Nova Corvina

A wine of great purity obtained from the most important and renowned grape of the Verona area: Corvina. An intense, ele-

gant and structured flavour demonstrates the great value placed on the bond with the territory of provenance.

Corvina is usually blended in the wines of the area into Amarone, Valpolicella, and other red blends. We found this 100% varietal wine very charming.

Fruity, with hints of cherry, bilberries and plum together with hints of cinnamon and pepper, with a soft, rounded, powerful and savoury taste with fine acidity drawn from our morainic soil.

This is your wine to pair with grilled or roast meat. It will also complement hard and or aged cheeses.

Tenuta di Sticciano Chianti

A lively ruby red colour, it shows nice red fruit and violet notes at the nose and a good freshness on the palate which makes it pleasant. The great tannins of the Sangiovese are

mixed with the softness of the Canaiolo that makes it velvety like and well balanced.

Ideal with pasta with meat or mushroom sauce.

Poderi dal Nespole Campodora Albana

The Albana variety is strongly connected to the Romagna tradition and territory, with a remarkable record: it has been the first white wine in Italy to receive the DOCG appellation in 1987.

This wine has a deep yellow color and the typical golden highlights of Albana di Romagna. The notes consist of acacia flowers and stone fruits, such as peach and apricot, in addition to citrus fruits.

This wine will pair well with Fish and seafood recipes in the lighter styles.

Etichetta Blu Tuscan Red Blend

Sangiovese, Canaiolo, Syrah, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon.

Wine with a very clean scent, with very intense dark fruit notes and flowers, cocoa, vanilla and spices which define its complexity.



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We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



Unlike most of the cool stuff we test out for this column, this one was recommended by a coworker rather than an online ad. During a long day of proof-reading and working with a horrible headache, my office neighbor threw me two little packets of powder called "Liquid IV." Great name! I had to try it.

Truth be told, I didn't even read the ingredients I ripped it open and poured into a cold glass of water. I had the watermelon flavor and my first impression was that it tasted very

refreshing.

I didn't measure the water-to-powder ratio and mine was very potent, so I just kept adding water to the same glass. Yummy.

As with any gimmicky product, I didn't think much about it after that, except for the fact the headache felt a little better. Coincidence? Probably. Because I still had an extra packet, I put it in my purse for future use, which came up quickly.

I had a 3 a.m. wake-up call for a really early flight to a newspaper conference. My mouth and throat

felt so incredibly dry and I just overall felt almost hungover with tiredness.



I'm glad I had my Liquid IV! I popped that sucker right in my \$5 airplane bottle of water and felt an almost instant improvement.

Because I had so much spare time on the flight, I had a chance to dig a little deeper about the product and why it claims to work. I Googled "Is Liquid IV better than Gatorade?" and, according to its website and several articles, the answer seems to be yes.

Liquid IV uses something called CTT (cellular transport technology) to get the good stuff into your bloodstream faster. One stick of powder contains three times the electrolytes of traditional sports drinks and also contains no GMOs.

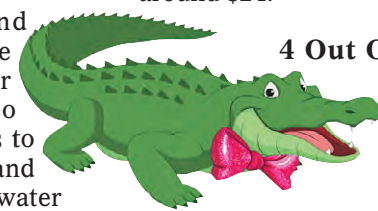
The only downside in my opinion is that it does contain sugar. But it is cane sugar, not something fake.

Liquid IV has expanded its line of products to include sleep, energy and immune support products. I have not tested those yet. The product I tested was Liquid IV Hydration Multiplier in both watermelon and lemon-lime flavors.

I recommend these because the powder packet is so handy, it seems to actually work and drinking more water

is always a good thing.

So with that, we give this four out of five alligators. It's great! I'm taking away a star because of the sugar and the fact it isn't a miracle, just a tool in the toolkit to stay refreshed and hydrated. It's available online, at most drugstores and on good old Amazon. You can get a bag of 16 for around \$24.



4 Out Of 5

FISHING:

Continued from page 1C

recently known to make a random run close to shore. These fish offer a fun fight in late March and early April. If you're lucky enough to land one, they are delicious table fare. Smoked or grilled, it will be one of the freshest and tastiest bites of the season. A deep diving crank bait stirring up the bottom seems to agitate them just enough to strike. They have a softer mouth, so don't horse them in.

Native to our waters and always present, smallmouth bass are in their pre-spawn phase and starting to approach shallow water. This is the time of year to get your smallmouth trophy patch if you have

the patience. You won't catch large numbers of bass just yet, but they will be stout when you do. A copper Dardevle or a deep diving crank bait can get their attention.

If you want a really delicious catch and are willing to do a little walking for it, drop a minnow in the marinas for some perch. If you miss last ice, don't fret, the jumbos can still be found without having to get in the boat during the blustery, unpredictable spring weather. Don't be surprised if you catch a fat bluegill or two in the process. They are sweet and delicious and definitely worth dropping in the Drake's Crispy fry mix.

And let's not forget about the walleye run in the Detroit River. Drop your heavy jigs



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIAN OWENS

Local fisherman Brian Owens shows off the walleye he caught off of the Pier at Grosse Pointe's Norbert Neff Park.

down and bounce them off the bottom and you are sure to land the biggest walleye you've ever caught. The walleye bite is big this time of year. Trophy big. Be

sure to toss those big ones back though so they can reproduce (14 to 17 inchers taste the best anyway). You can also catch them off the piers starting just

before sunset. They tend to be light sensitive, but that doesn't mean you can't bring one or two in on a sunny spring day.

Last but certainly not

least, pike and muskie are lurking in the shallows chasing anything that moves and attacking at will. Johnson Silver Minnows, Mepps in-line spinner baits and perch pattern Husky Jerks will get the job done. Shallow weeds on a warm spring afternoon are the perfect feeding ground for these ferocious predators.

Good luck out there and don't forget to stay in the strike zone!

Grosse Pointe resident Brian Owen has documented much of his experience fishing in the local waters. He has competed in amateur bass tournaments for many years on Lake St. Clair and has close to 20 seasons of fishing experience on this incredible fishery.



THURSDAY, APRIL 14

- » **ArtLab - Stuck on Poetry**
Central Library, 4-5 p.m.
- » **Horror/Thriller Book Club**
Offsite, 1-2 p.m.
grossepointelibrary.org
- » **Jessie James Decker**
The Fillmore Detroit, 7 p.m.
2115 Woodward Ave.
- » **The Main Squeeze with Cloudchord**
Magic Stick, 7 p.m.
4120 Woodward Ave.
- » **Rodney Whitaker at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,
6:30-8:30 p.m.
97 Kercheval.
- » **Storytime with Miss Jane (via Zoom)**
Central Library,
10:30-11 a.m.
10 Kercheval Ave.

- » **Teen Advisory Board**
Offsite, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
grossepointelibrary.org

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

- » **Delfeayo Marsalis & The Uptown Jazz Orchestra**
Aretha's Jazz Cafe, 8 p.m.
350 Madison.

- » **Detroit City FC vs. Birmingham Legion FC**
Keyworth Stadium, 7 p.m.
3201 Roosevelt St.

- » **Digital Marketing Strategies For Small Businesses**
MotorCity Casino Hotel,
10 a.m.-2 p.m.
9009 SE Adams St #1911.

- » **Lil Tecca - Tecca Loves You Tour**
Saint Andrew's Hall, 7 p.m.
431 E Congress St.

- » **Motown Mic: The Spoken Word Competition**
Motown Museum, 7 p.m.
2648 W Grand Blvd

- » **Rodney Whitaker at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,
6:30-8:30 p.m.
97 Kercheval

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

- » **Archery: Try-It**
Outdoor Adventure Center,
2:30 p.m.
1801 Atwater Street.

- » **Easter Egg Hunt**
Johnston Park,
10-10:30 a.m.
20221 Beaconsfield St

- » **The Fab Four: The Ultimate Tribute**
Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 8 p.m.
350 Madison St.

- » **Fran Lebowitz**
Fox Theatre, 8 p.m.
2211 Woodward Ave.

- » **Greektown Casino Presents "The Fab Four: The Ultimate Tribute"**
Music Hall Center, 8 p.m.
\$25.00 - \$50.00.
350 Madison.

- » **Poetry & Music: The Healer & The Heartbreaker**
The CUBE, 8-10 p.m.
3711 Woodward Avenue.

- » **Rodney Whitaker at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,
6:30-8:30 p.m.
97 Kercheval.

- » **Snow Tha Product - Dale Gas Tour**
Saint Andrew's Hall, 7 p.m.
431 E Congress St.

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

- » **The Attic Dwellers Acoustic Music Club**
PLAV Post #6, 12-4 p.m.
9545 McDougall St.

- » **Detroit Red Wings vs. Florida Panthers**
Little Caesars Arena, 1 p.m.
\$65.00 - \$325.00.
2645 Woodward.

- » **Don Broco**
Saint Andrew's Hall, 6 p.m.
431 E Congress St.

- » **Kowloon Walled City, PuppetART Presents: KOLOBOK**
Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 3 p.m.
350 Madison St.

- » **Sky Covington**
Woodbridge Pub
5169 Trumbull,
7:30-11 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 18

- » **Indoor Storytime with Miss Jane**
Central Library,
10:30-11 a.m.
10 Kercheval Ave

- » **Nardo Wick - Who is Nardo Wick? The Tour w/ Slimelife Shawty & Rob49**
The Shelter, 7 p.m.
431 E Congress St.

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

- » **5th & 6th Grade Book Group**
Offsite, 7-8 p.m.
grossepointelibrary.org

- » **Blue Man Group**
Fox Theatre,
7:30-6:30 p.m.
2211 Woodward Ave.

- » **Detroit Hot Radio Epic Nights**
Bert's Marketplace,
7-10 p.m.
2727 Russell.

- » **Detroit Tigers vs. New York Yankees**
Comerica Park,
2100 Woodward Ave.

- » **GP Badminton Association**
Parcells Middle School,
6:30-8 p.m.
20600 Mack Ave.

- » **Read, Rhyme & Play on Zoom**
Offsite, 10:30-11 a.m.
grossepointelibrary.org

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

- » **Yoga Traning**
800 Woodward Ave,
1-2:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

- » **Blue Man Group**
Fox Theatre,
7:30-6:30 p.m.
2211 Woodward Ave.

- » **Brit Floyd**
Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 8 p.m.
350 Madison St.

- » **Detroit Tigers vs. New York Yankees**
Comerica Park,
2100 Woodward Ave.

- » **Dr. Frank Bicknell Lecture Series**
The Historic Cook Schoolhouse,
7:30-8:30 p.m.
20025 Mack Ave.

- » **Riverside with Keith Semple of The Cyberiam**
Magic Stick, 7 p.m.
4120 Woodward Ave.

- » **The World's Greatest Pink Floyd Show Brit Floyd-World Tour 2022**
Music Hall Center, 8 p.m.
350 Madison.

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

Set sail to Sindbad's

Over 70 years of delicious dockside dining



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

DETROIT — The fictional sailor Sinbad is said to have had seven adventures, but the iconic Sindbad's Restaurant and Marina, located at 100 St. Clair Street in Detroit, can top that.

Now in its eighth decade, it celebrated its 73rd anniversary in February.

"If not for our core group of employees, it would have been difficult to survive the past few years," co-owner Marc B. Blancke said of the pandemic. "The employees who have been with us a long time really are like family."

If Sindbad's can be described in a single word, family is it.

It was founded in 1949 by brothers-in-law, Prudent "Buster" Blancke and Hilaire "Van" VanHollebecke.

"Uncle Van was married to my dad's older sister, who just turned 100 on Christmas Day," Marc B. Blancke said.

Other co-owners include his sisters, Denise Blancke and Linda Blancke, and nephew Matthew Blancke. Marc A. Blancke, Marc B. Blancke's son, has also gotten involved.

"He's learning things little by little to eventually take over from me," Marc B. Blancke said.

Marc B. Blancke came aboard in 1980, after college, and his father, Buster, passed away in 1984.

"After that, my uncle asked me to buy him out," Marc B. Blancke said.

Matthew Blancke joined the team after his father, Brian Blancke, passed away in 2019.

"Customers came back when we were able to open back up because we only buy the best food and we serve good sized portions," Marc B. Blancke said. "We used to be open seven days a week, but COVID certainly changed that."

The restaurant started back with hours of 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday, and recently added Tuesday to the schedule.

"We just hired two new servers, but we're still having some trouble finding summer help," Marc B. Blancke said.

Popular dishes include perch, shrimp and walleye, as well as burgers and steak. The restaurant does not take reservations, but its three dining rooms can seat 240 people.

The upstairs was remodeled recently and can seat 170 people for special events. It is called the Sohar Room, named for the city in Oman that was said to be Sindbad's birthplace.

The marina has 82 boat wells, including 52 that are rented out and 30 that are reserved for visitors.

"There's no charge if you want to come by boat and have a meal," Marc B. Blancke said. "If they decide they want to spend the night, we'll charge them a couple bucks a foot."

From early April through mid-May, several wells are rented to anglers who want to take advantage of walleye fishing in the area.

"There are cleaning stations out there and for a small fee we'll cook it up for them and throw in a couple of side dishes," Marc B. Blancke said. "Those guys are pretty intense and don't mind being out on the water no matter how cold it is."

At right, top and center, Sindbad's on St. Clair Street is nautical inside and out. At right, fresh seafood and steaks are on the menu for new and longtime loyal customers.

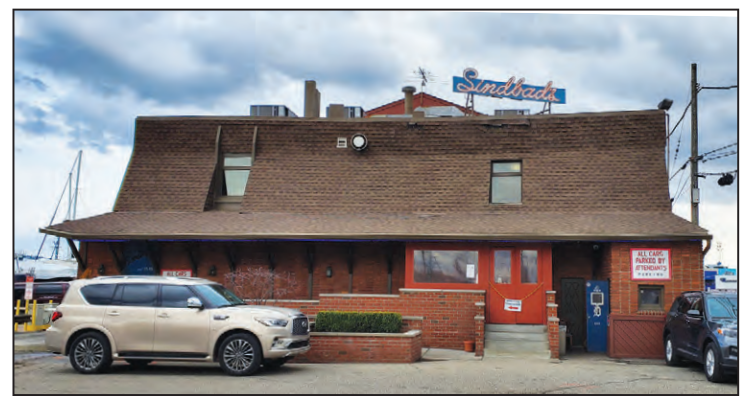


PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT



COURTESY PHOTO



COURTESY PHOTO

Kayaking paddlesport is healthy, popular and local

Kayaking is a water sport that really gives back. Going well beyond being a lot of fun, turns out it's also beneficial for the mind and body. This rewarding paddlesport offers a solid upper body workout, while the fresh air and tranquil surroundings of kayaking are a great way to de-stress.

The sport has an interesting history. The word "kayak" means "hunter's boat." The Inuit people used to rely on these small vessels to catch food by using them stealthily to sneak up on their prey from the water's edge. Some people still hunt and fish from kayaks, but most are happy to simply enjoy them for sightseeing and exercising.

"Paddlesports are increasing in popularity among Americans who desire to connect with the outdoors," said Christine Fanning, executive director of The Outdoor Foundation. Over 21.7 million Americans have enjoyed paddling on rivers, lakes, streams, and other waterways. Paddlesports include canoeing, rafting, kayaking, and stand-up paddling.

The outdoor experts at REI recommend renting a kayak a few times before purchasing a boat of your own. It's important to first get familiar with the sport before making your own investment. It's also recommended for novices to take paddling lessons to prep them for a day on the water. Learning the proper paddling techniques can help avoid strain on the neck and back while safeguarding arms from fatigue.

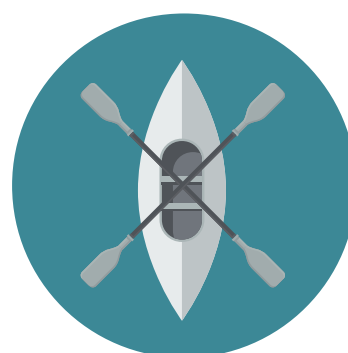
Newbies should practice on calm waters until skills are honed. Lakes are a great place to learn, since rivers with even mild currents can overwhelm those new to the sport.

One of the easiest ways to get introduced to kayaking is going with an experienced paddler or tour company. They'll charge a set price for an excursion that will provide transportation to the drop site as well as all the equipment needed for the voyage. Tours may include travel down several miles of a relatively calm waterway, allowing novice kayakers to get a feel for paddling while taking in the scenery.

Getting in and out of a kayak can be challeng-

ing for beginners. The resource kayakpaddling.net offers helpful illustrations and animated tutorials about entering and exiting kayaks as well as paddling techniques and safety tips.

Kayakers should bring some essentials along. A dry pack can keep electronics, food and equipment from getting wet. Sunscreen and a sun hat are must-haves to keep safe from the sun. A life vest also is essential gear.



*SOURCE: 2014 report by The Outdoor Foundation and The Coleman Company.

- The City of Grosse Pointe offers Kayak rentals at Neff Park from April through October during the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 8 p.m. The cost is \$5 per hour and it is requested that renters limit their usage time to two hours maximum. Rentals are open to City residents 18 or older (or 13 or older with a parent or guardian.) Contact City of Grosse Pointe Parks and Recreation at (313) 343-5257 for reservations.
- Already have a kayak? The Grosse Pointe Woods Parks and Recreation Department unveiled a kayak launch at Lake Front Park on Jefferson just last year. Resident kayakers can enjoy easy access from the new designated space.
- For expert assistance, kayak tours with experienced guides are available at detroittriversports.com. Several tours to choose from include a Belle Isle tour, historic canal tour and sunset canal tour. Contact them at (313) 908-0484.

6C | LIFE & ENTERTAINMENT



From left, Shia LaBeouf as Tyler and Zack Gottsagen as Zak in the 2019 movie "The Peanut Butter Falcon" written and directed by Tyler Nilson and Michael Schwartz.

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin



MOVIE REVIEW
"The Peanut Butter Falcon"
 2019 - PG-13
 1 hr 37min

I saw this film a couple years ago and just loved it. The oddball title intrigued me, and sure enough, it lived up to its quirky name. I thought I'd give it another watch before reviewing it, and it was just as delightful the second time around.

It's described as a modern-day take on the "Huckleberry Finn" story, and I think that's an apt description. But it's a whole lot more.

I remember reading Mark Twain's classic novel as a kid and wanting to run away from home and travel by raft through the Great Lakes. Watching *The Peanut Butter Falcon* may have the same effect on you.

We first meet Zak (Zach Gottsagen), a Downs syndrome patient who's been placed in a nursing home.



While dining in the facility's lunchroom, he surreptitiously slips the older woman across from him a note, telling her to fake choking to create a diversion so he can escape.

Well, he's immediately caught and when he returns to his room, there are now bars on the window. Not five minutes into the film, I knew I was in for something special.

Zach's roommate is Carl (Bruce Dern), who's in cahoots with him. He helps Zak flee and the adventure begins.

We then meet Tyler (Shia LaBeouf), in one of his finest performances to date. Tyler is a down on his luck fisherman who gets into a

bit of trouble. After committing arson, he's on the lam. As luck would have it, he and Zak run into each other. Not only do the two of them become partners in crime, they quickly form a close friendship.

I have to say, these two are so convincing, I quickly forgot they were acting and just being themselves. Tyler sort of becomes a big brother to Zak.

The duo builds a raft and continues on their way to freedom. Tyler's dream is to settle down and buy a charter fishing boat while Zak fanaticizes attending wrestling school with the "Salt Water Redneck" and become a big time wrestling champion.

Behind the scenes, they're being pursued by a couple of fishermen whose traps Tyler has destroyed. And Zak is being tracked down by Eleanor (Dakota Johnson), a sweet, good-hearted nurse from his nursing home. To add to the story, the two of them meet a number of characters along the way. And they spend a lot of time talking about life and their futures.

The Peanut Butter Falcon is one of the most delightful movies I've seen in quite a while. Just about everything about it is perfect—beautiful scenery in the Outer Banks, excellent acting, a charming story, and noteworthy cinematography. There are also quite a few laugh out loud moments, and several tender scenes as well.

The only criticism I have is that I felt the ending was a bit abrupt. Especially considering the rest of the movie had such a subtle, gentle pacing to it. But if that's the only negative, that's still pretty good!

I'd be remiss if I didn't mention the story behind how the movie came to be—it's absolutely magical. Apparently the directors met Zach Gottsagen at a camp for disabled people and he told them

he wanted to star in a movie. They were so taken with him; they ended up writing a movie around him and his dreams and aspirations. Thus, *The Peanut Butter Falcon* was born. How great is that? Ah, and where does the title come from? You'll just have to watch this little gem and find out for yourself.

Currently streaming for free on IMDB TV and on Prime Video.

My rating system:
 ★ A real stinker. A movie that is so bad, you're embarrassed to admit you've seen it, but you have to rate it nonetheless.
 ★★ So-so. Not a total waste of time, but you would have been better off reading a good book.
 ★★★ Pretty good. In fact, if there weren't any other movies in your queue, you might watch it again.
 ★★★★ One you'd recommend to friends.
 ★★★★★ So good you'd actually go out and buy it!

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From left, Dakota Johnson as Eleanor and Shia LaBeouf as Tyler.

Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or important decisions from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. EDT today (11 a.m. to 2 p.m. PDT). After that, the Moon moves from Virgo into Libra.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, April 14, 2022:

You are positive, courageous and ready to take the bull by the horns. You are also gracious, charming and playful. You have a strong spiritual side. This year is about service to others, taking good care of yourself and your responsibilities to family. You might want to explore the arts or the possibility of a makeover.

ARIES
 (March 21-April 19)
 Guard against a tendency to be nitpicky today, especially at work. Or you might be this way when dealing with a pet or with issues related to your health. Instead, decide to go with the flow and let it be. Sometimes perfection is overrated. Tonight: Relax.

TAURUS
 (April 20-May 20)
 This can be a creative, fun-loving day, unless you decide to fine-tune everything to a point where you have taken the joy out of something. Don't do this. Let the chips fall where they may, because in all likelihood, things will turn out just fine. Relax. Tonight: Teamwork!

GEMINI
 (May 21-June 20)
 In order to keep the peace at home or when talking to family members today, your best option is to go along to get along. Of course, with your fast-moving mind, you see better options. But maybe others don't want to hear of these possibilities. Keep it simple. Tonight: You're focused.

CANCER
 (June 21-July 22)
 When talking to others today, you might insist on something being correct, perhaps even correcting someone's grammar. (People love that.) Keep the spirit and general intent of what someone means in mind and don't get hung up on the details. Tonight: Explore!

LEO
 (July 23-Aug. 22)
 People are never casual about money, and even though you are a very generous sign, you're not casual about money either. However, if you become a stickler today about financial matters or perhaps something that you own, someone else might be annoyed. Tonight: Passionate.

VIRGO
 (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 Be patient when talking to partners and close friends today, because your penchant for getting things correct and observing little errors or seeing "what's wrong with this picture" might hurt someone close to you. Relationships with others will be much better if you cut them some slack. Tonight: Patience.

LIBRA
 (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 More than any other sign, you are affected by your surroundings. Lighting, colors, smells -- they affect you. Today you might feel a bit uncomfortable or critical about something that is bothering you. This might be external; it might be internal. Fortunately, it's brief. Relax. Tonight: Work.

SCORPIO
 (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 It's easy to be critical of others, not only our enemies but also our friends. Naturally, this means we are looking at the world with a critical eye, which means we're coming from a point of criticism. It's a choice. The flipside is you could come from a point of

SAGITTARIUS
 (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 Today you might feel that someone is raining on your parade, especially someone in a position of authority like the police, a boss, a parent or a teacher. Bummer. However, don't let this affect you. It's just for today. Tonight: Cope at home.

CAPRICORN
 (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 You might be discouraged by the news today or something in the media. Some of you also will be discouraged because a planned trip seems to be threatened or impossible. This can be disappointing. After the Full Moon on Saturday, things might change. Tonight: Lively conversations!

AQUARIUS
 (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 Financial matters and issues related to shared property, inheritances, taxes or debt might be discouraging today. Things are not the way you hoped they would be. Relax. Join the club -- we number the millions. In fact, your finances will improve! Tonight: Take stock.

PISCES
 (Feb. 19-March 20)
 Relations with partners and close friends might be stiff today because one of you is critical of the other. Well, if one is critical, then the other will be critical, creating a vicious cycle. The secret is this cycle is easily broken by offering a compliment. Tonight: You're energized!

BORN TODAY
 Actor Adrian Brody (1973), actress Abigail Breslin (1996), actor Peter Capaldi (1958).

Contract Bridge

THERE'S NO SUCH ANIMAL

South dealer.
 Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ J 7 6 5
 ♥ Q 9 3
 ♦ K 8 2
 ♣ A 7 4

WEST
 ♠ 4
 ♥ A 8 2
 ♦ 6 5 3
 ♣ K Q J 9 6 3

EAST
 ♠ A Q 10 9 8 2
 ♥ 6
 ♦ 9 7
 ♣ 10 8 5 2

SOUTH
 ♠ K 3
 ♥ K J 10 7 5 4
 ♦ A Q J 10 4
 ♣ —

The bidding:
 South West North East
 1♥ 2♣ 2♥ 2♠
 4♥ Pass Pass 4♠
 5♥

Opening lead — four of spades.

Bridge is mostly a game of reasoning and logic. Of course, there are other factors, such as psychology, temperament, imagination, deception and so on, but basically the player who reasons well is the one who will wind up a winner.

For this reason, very few plays in

bridge can legitimately be termed "brilliant." If a play is the correct play, how can it be brilliant? A hand might be bid or played well, but from the standpoint of par, that's to be expected. A player who meets that expectation is therefore only doing what he is supposed to do.

Consider today's deal where West led the four of spades against South's five-heart contract. East won with the ace, on which declarer played the king! East naturally thought the king was a singleton and so shifted to a club. South gratefully discarded his three of spades, gave up a trump trick and so made the contract.

Had declarer followed with the spade three at trick one, East would surely have returned a spade for West to ruff, and South would have gone down one.

South's play of the king is certainly to be commended, but all it proves is that he was alert. He realized from the bidding that East had to have six spades and that a ruff was imminent. He also realized that by dropping the king, he might talk East out of returning a spade, which is exactly what happened.

But brilliant? Absolutely not. South simply made the right play, that's all.

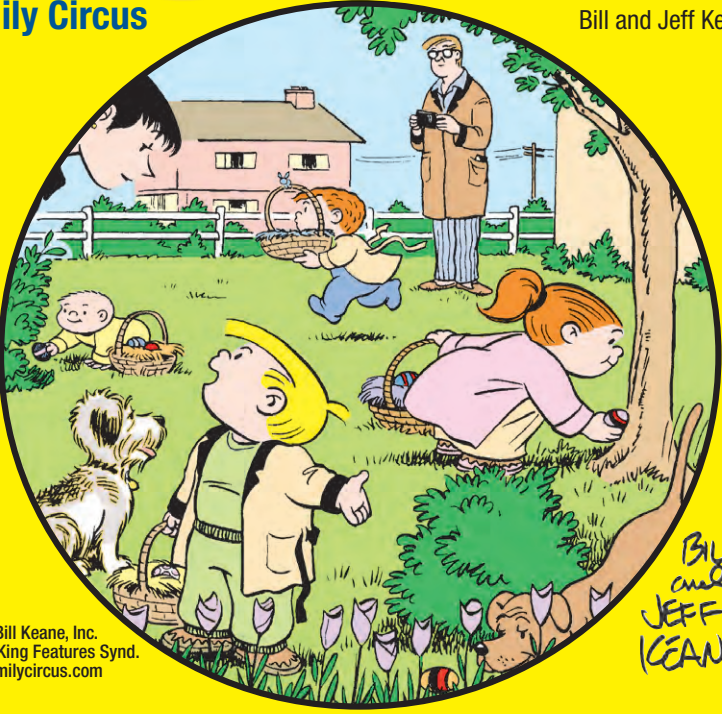
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by Steve Becker

Puzzles and

Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



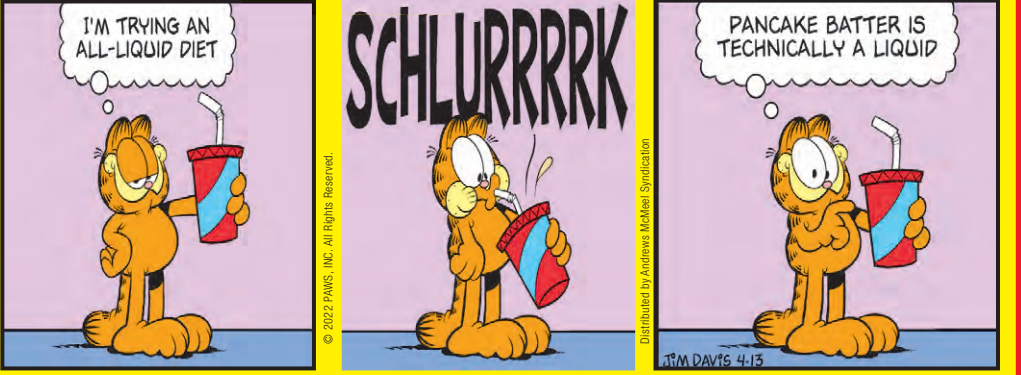
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Bill and Jeff Keane

"How come the Easter Bunny hides the eggs in the same places every year?"

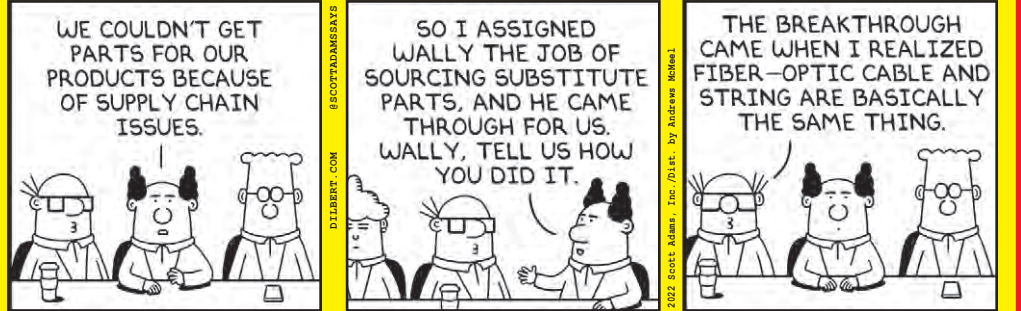
Garfield

Jim Davis



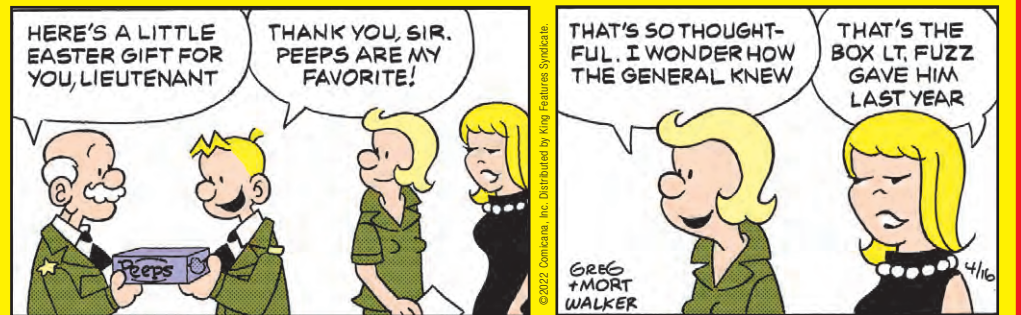
Dilbert

Scott Adams



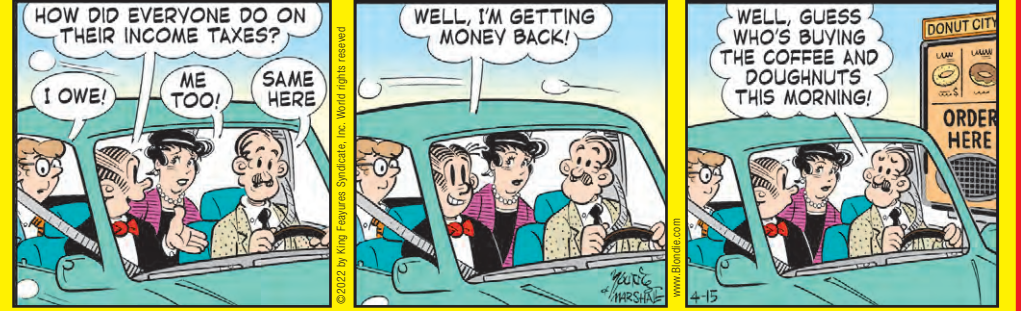
Beetle Bailey

Greg and Mort Walker



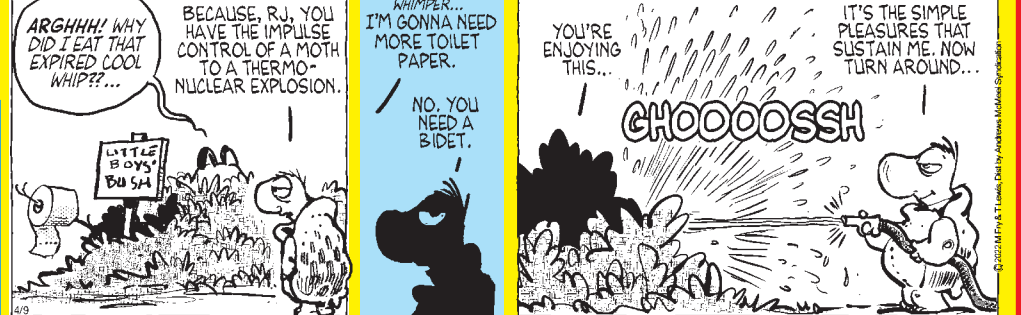
Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



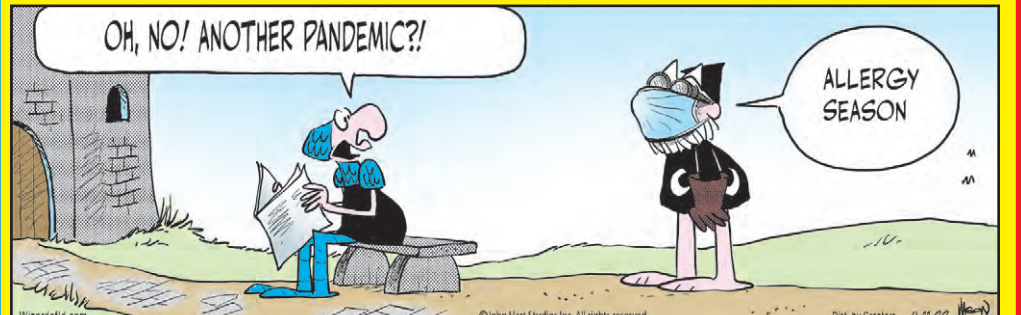
Andy Capp

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

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

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

4/14 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆
© 2022 by Andrews McMeel Syndication 4/7 Solution

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg April 14, 2022

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Noodle," or "noggin," for head
 - 6 Droopy
 - 10 Failed guess in Battleship
 - 14 Chocolate maker's tree
 - 15 Berry in a purple smoothie, perhaps
 - 16 Not pro-
 - 17 Like a bartender tending bar?
 - 19 Declare
 - 20 "___ to Joy"
 - 21 Research money
 - 22 Lots and lots
 - 23 Rides a bike
 - 25 "For Your Eyes Only" singer Sheena
 - 27 Word after "worry" or "prayer"
 - 29 Sent an emoji, say
 - 32 Elisabeth of "Leaving Las Vegas"
 - 35 Actor Davis
 - 37 Fury
 - 38 Walked quietly
 - 41 Organize neatly
 - 43 Dot follower in UNICEF's URL
 - 44 Printing smudges
 - 46 Frankenstein's assistant, in film
 - 47 Ancient empire known for its rugs
 - 49 Coming up
 - 52 Changes for the better
 - 54 Practical
 - 58 Windows precursor
 - 60 Complete and total
 - 62 Was in charge
 - 63 Arab chieftain
 - 64 Like a jockey who's fed up?
 - 66 Strengthen, with "up"
 - 67 Once existed
 - 68 Orange
 - 69 Muppet
 - 70 Baker's dozen?
 - 71 Horse controllers
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Exclusive story
 - 2 Magna cum ___
 - 3 Behaved "worry" or "prayer"
 - 4 Time out?
 - 5 Search engine originally called BackRub
 - 6 Spencer of "Good Morning America"
 - 7 Cold quality
 - 8 Ray in tropical waters
 - 9 Napoleon in "Animal Farm," e.g.
 - 10 Turns alternative
 - 11 Like someone expressing anger while at home?
 - 12 Dish cooked in a pot
 - 13 Lancelot and Mix-a-Lot, for two
 - 18 ___ Major (bear constellation)
 - 22 Certain male cow
 - 24 Be an accomplice to
 - 26 Start to wake up
 - 28 Bird that had a repeating sound?
 - 30 Thus
 - 31 Does and bucks
 - 32 "Cut that out!"
 - 33 Bring on board
 - 34 Like a teacher burning the midnight oil?
 - 36 Wrap at a pageant
 - 39 Awards with a Playwriting category
 - 40 Flair
 - 42 Opera set in Egypt
 - 45 They try things for a living
 - 48 Camping desserts
 - 50 At any time
 - 51 Less stuffy
 - 53 Comforter
 - 55 Pancakes served with sour cream
 - 56 His tomb is in Red Square
 - 57 Lawns' sides
 - 58 Allocate, with "out"
 - 59 "Blanket" over Los Angeles
 - 61 Parker of "South Park" fame
 - 64 Be behind on bills
 - 65 Nickname that anagrams to "red"

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| L | U | S | H | | S | P | A | S | | R | I | L | E | | |
| O | B | O | E | | A | W | A | R | E | | O | P | A | L | |
| R | E | L | | N | I | C | K | E | L | | B | A | C | K | |
| I | R | O | N | | F | I | S | T | | R | E | E | D | | |
| | | | | C | O | O | L | S | | S | E | T | S | | |
| | R | A | W | | R | | A | C | A | | O | H | O | H | |
| J | A | R | | U | T | E | R | O | B | O | N | O | N | O | |
| U | S | E | | M | R | | R | O | B | O | T | | W | I | N |
| M | P | E | G | | A | R | M | A | N | T | | D | O | E | |
| P | Y | R | O | | T | E | A | | M | U | O | N | | | |
| | | | | E | S | T | | | | S | P | I | N | Y | |
| B | A | S | H | O | | L | E | A | D | | F | O | O | T | |
| C | O | P | P | E | R | | H | E | A | D | | A | U | R | A |
| O | D | O | R | | I | M | A | M | S | | I | D | E | S | |
| T | Y | P | O | | A | M | P | S | | R | O | O | K | | |

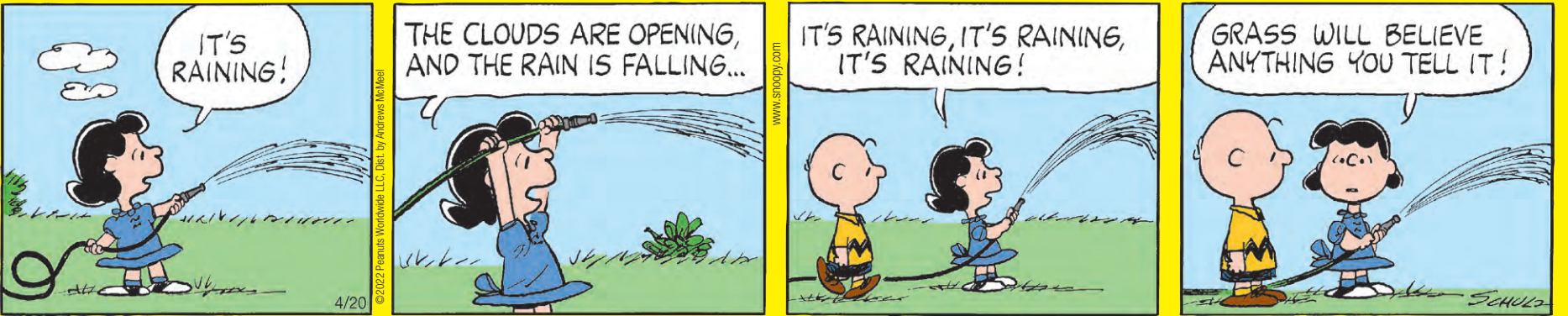
A Word or Two by Gary Larson and Amy Ensz

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 | | | 28 | | 29 | | | 30 | 31 | | |
| 32 | 33 | 34 | | | | 35 | | 36 | | | 37 | | | |
| 38 | | | | 39 | 40 | | | 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 | | | |
| 69 | | | | | | 70 | | | | | 71 | | | |

Comics

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz

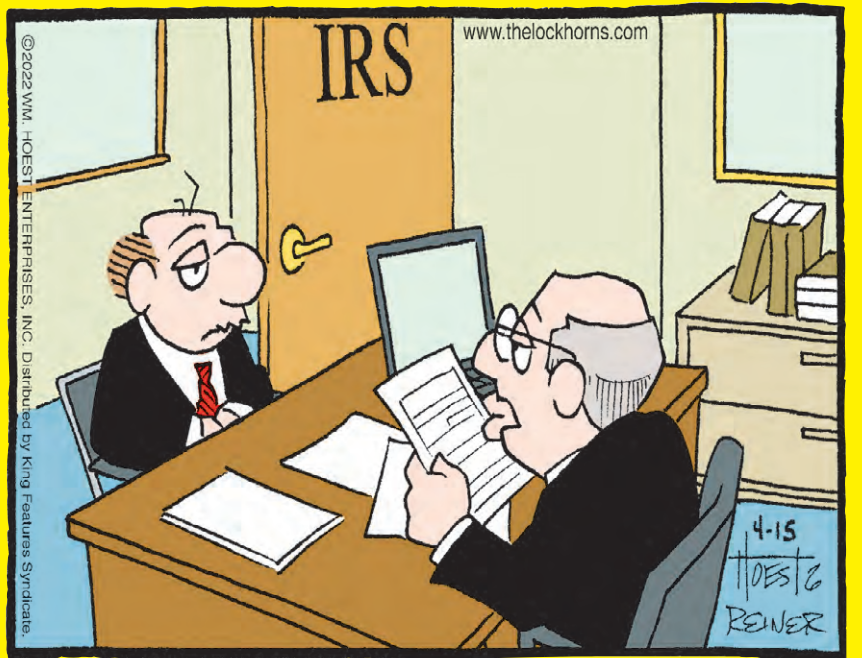
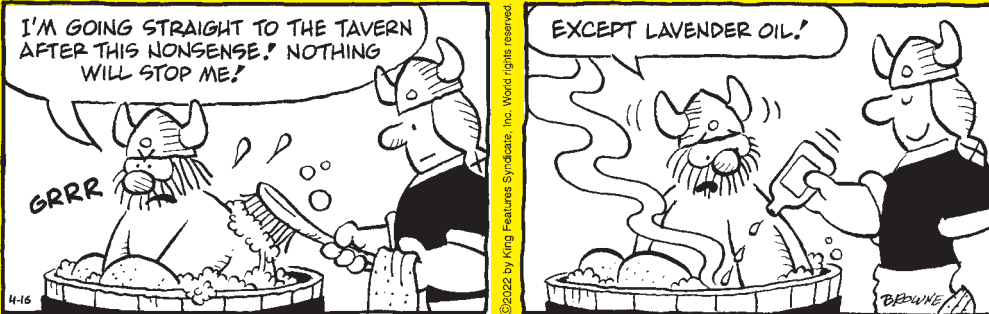


Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne

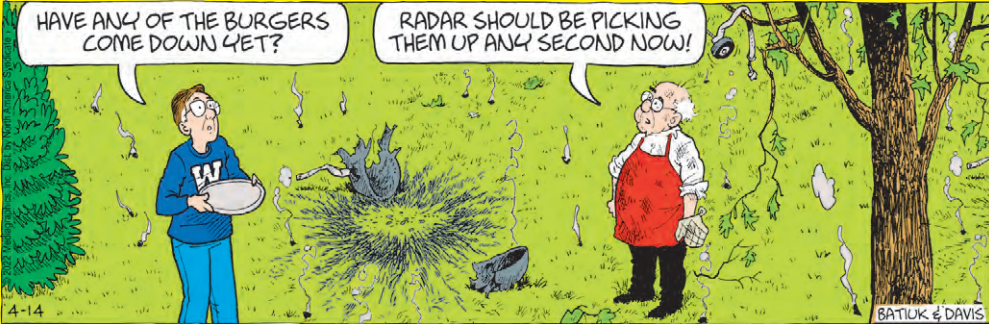
The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



F Minus

Tony Carrilo



Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters

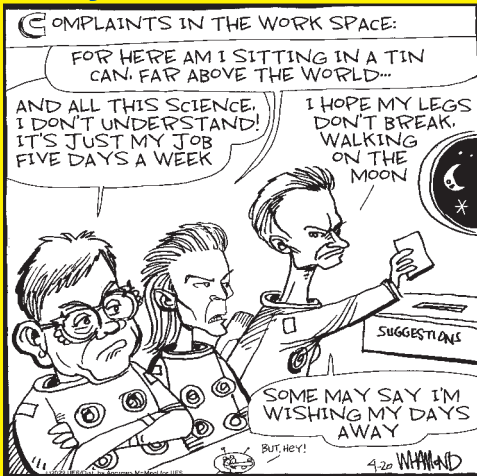


Reality Check

Dave Whamond

Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



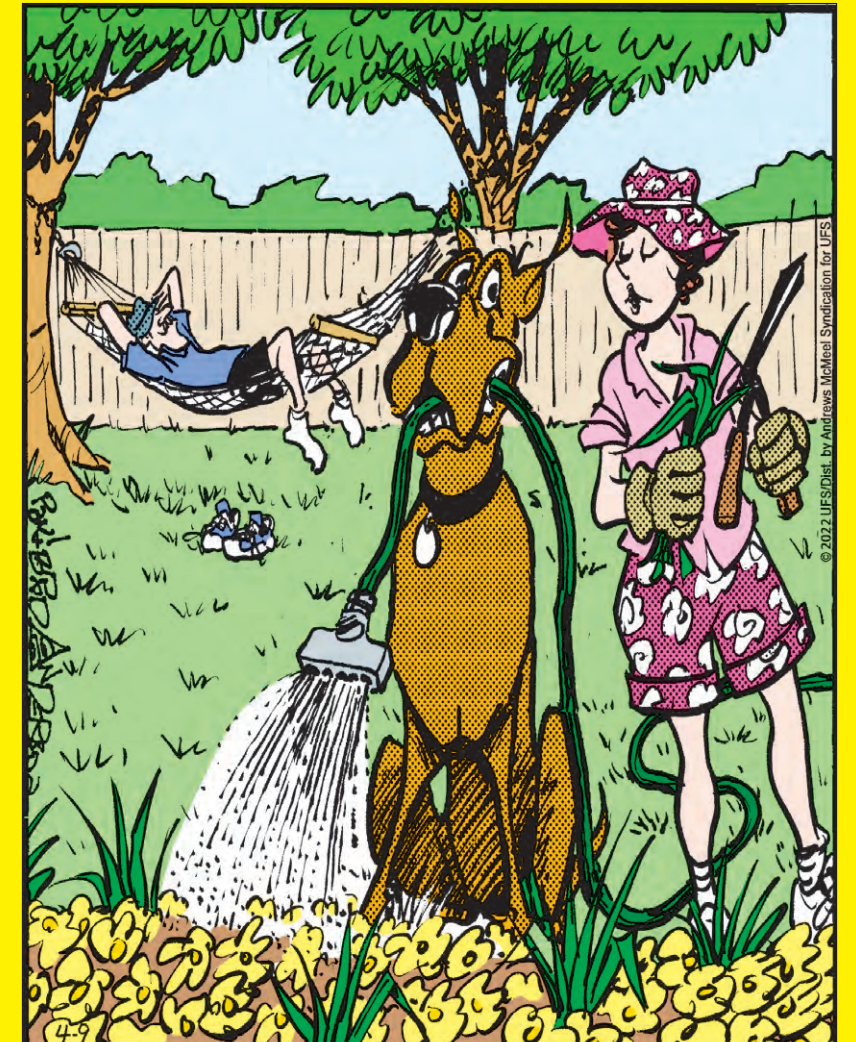
Close To Home

John McPherson



Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



"Do you think a dose of water will get phil out of that hammock?"

SPORTS

SPORTS

North gets rivalry win

Heroic late goal gives Norsemen soccer victory over South **PAGE 2D**

3D SOUTH BASEBALL | 4D TRACK & FIELD | 6D CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Knights get pair of wins in first games

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

As the calendar flipped to April, the boys lacrosse team from University Liggett School began its 2022 spring campaign. The Knights played three games over the course of the past week and were able to pick up two wins in their opening stretch of the season.

Liggett kicked off the season with a win last Wednesday on the road against Ann Arbor

Gabriel Richard. It was a relatively low-scoring affair with the Knights winning 7-5. With how this year's Liggett team is built, lower scores play into its advantage.

"True to form, our defense came up huge," Liggett coach Mike Costanzo said. "Ben Combs had great saves and James Dailey shut down their top scorer on defense."

Combs, the Knights' goalie, came up with 15 saves in the season-opening win. Doug

Wood, Alex George and Michael Eugenio led the way for Liggett offensively with two goals each. The seventh Knights' goal was scored by Campbell Marchal.

The Knights had their home opener Saturday afternoon when they hosted Notre Dame Prep. The first home game of the season also brought Liggett its first loss of the season in another low-scoring, defensive battle.

After getting out to a 1-0 lead, the Knights

would not lead again on their way to a 5-4 loss. George had another pair of goals, while Wood and Marchal each scored once.

A chance to bounce back from the first loss of the season came Monday as Liggett hosted Bishop Foley in another Catholic League showdown. The Knights looked as though they had recovered well, putting on their best offensive performance of the season yet and coming away with the 10-3 vic-

tory.

The Ventures of Bishop Foley got out to an early 2-0 lead in the first quarter, but Liggett proceeded to hold them scoreless for nearly the rest of the game. Wood and Eugenio scored a pair of goals in quick fashion to tie the game 2-2 at the end of the first. Both scored again in the second quarter, with George also adding a goal to put the Knights in front 5-2 at halftime.

Liggett continued to dominate as the second

half rolled around. Rocco Scarfone scored the first goal of the half for Liggett, while Wood added another pair of goals to extend the lead to 8-2 going into the final quarter. Scarfone scored once again in the final 12 minutes, with Dailey's first goal of the season bringing the Knights to double digits.

The Knights play on Monday as they travel to Detroit Cass Tech, then head back home for a game Tuesday against Ann Arbor Greenhills.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

Liggett's Doug Wood celebrates after scoring against Bishop Foley. Wood finished the game with four goals in a 10-3 victory for the Knights.



Ben Combs, a junior goalie for Liggett, allowed just two goals on Monday against Bishop Foley, both in the first quarter. He also recorded 13 saves in a win over Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard.

Athlete of the Week

By Meg Leonard
Associate Editor

When Abby Keane jumped out of an airplane at 13,500 feet over spring break last month, her thoughts weren't just of her bucket list or uncommon boldness,

but, of all things, lacrosse.

"(Skydiving) ended up being a lot like lacrosse is for me, where there is always a new challenge," she said. "Each lacrosse game presents me with something different, whether it's the physical-

ity of the game or just the pure challenge of it.

"I looked at (jumping out of a plane) as just another new challenge for me."

Keane, who along with her mom, Allison, made the jump somewhere over southern Georgia as a joint 18th and 50th birthday celebration, has never been one to shy away from adventure.

In fact, the Grosse Pointe South senior and girls varsity lacrosse captain is eager to embrace her next big challenge: leading the Blue Devils deep into the state playoffs before heading to play lacrosse next fall at DePauw University in Greencastle, Ind.

But before that next momentous chapter, Keane's focus is on her final season at South. Only four games in, the team has started out hot with a 3-1 record, including a dominating 15-1 win over rival Grosse Pointe North on Monday. She already has 25 goals on the season, including seven against North.

Named this week's Grosse Pointe News

Athlete of the Week, Keane also is an eight-time varsity letter winner at South, with four years of varsity lacrosse and four years of girls varsity swim and dive under her belt.

Her mom, who was a collegiate swimmer at Ohio Wesleyan, said she knew how important it would be for Abby's lacrosse career to also stay competitive in the pool.

"Swimming just offers such great physical fitness with low joint stress," Allison Keane said. "It also helped give Abby the chance to compete and set a good foundation for a strong work ethic and time management skills."

A competitive swimmer by age 5, Keane began playing lacrosse in third grade through the Neighborhood Club after watching her older sister, Maddy, get involved.

Just two years after learning the game, Abby Keane was a fifth grader playing on an eighth grade team. From there, she caught the lacrosse bug and hasn't looked

Grosse Pointe News



Athlete
OF THE WEEK

Abby Keane

School: Grosse Pointe South
Sport: Lacrosse

Sponsored by Pointe Capital Management



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

South senior captain Abby Keane earned All-State Honorable Mention during the 2021 season.

back.

As she continued progressing as a player, Keane credits her travel team, Triumph Lacrosse, with planting the seed to become a female college athlete.

"The whole program gives support and encouragement to female athletes that there is a path to becoming a collegiate player," she said. "When I first attended one of the first seminars I thought, 'Maybe this is for me.'"

Soon after, Keane doubled down on developing her full arsenal of skills.

Oddly enough, Keane

said the COVID shutdown in spring 2020 actually helped her in this arena.

"We could really only do private workouts with about six of us at a time because everything was canceled," Keane said. "Mike Bedford, a former assistant coach for (University of Michigan women's lacrosse) did a lot of my training. That's probably where I grew the most."

"I realized during that time that I can definitely (play college) and it's definitely something I

See *ATHLETE*, page 2D



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COURTESY PHOTO

South lacrosse captain Abby Keane, with some help from her instructor, navigates her parachute after jumping from 13,500 feet out of an airplane during her senior spring break.

ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

want to do.”

As a Blue Devil, Keane has led by example with her strong work ethic and encouraging leadership style to help teammates improve and develop alongside her.

“Abby is hardworking, encouraging and tough,” teammate Phoebe Bedsworth said.

“She always uplifts everyone. Even though she is a great player, she is very humble. She is great at making the team feel like one.”

As for the season in front of her, Keane said she is happy about South’s solid start.

“We are all eager and

excited to play,” Keane said.

The 2021 honorable mention All-State midfielder said she likes what the team is showing so far, particularly in a recent game against Rochester Stony Creek.

“We beat them by a goal. It was a really back-and-forth game,” she said. “We showed we have grit and we have the ability to win tough games.”

Keane, who is a prolific goal scorer, hopes to work on being an equally strong assist specialist, known as a “feeder” in lacrosse.

“I like assisting,” she said, “I want to get our team cutting across the net and getting more one-on-one drives. And

for anyone that lacks confidence, I want to build that confidence up in everyone.”

Whether on the lacrosse field or jumping out of a plane, Keane’s teammates say she is someone you want by your side.

According to Bedsworth, Keane brings a lot of weapons to the team, including her positive attitude, which is contagious.

“(Abby) always knows what to do when we are playing a good team and coaches all of us up,” Bedsworth said. “She is always helping the team in a positive way.”

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, visit grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week.

Streberger’s goals lift North over Blue Devils

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

It was nearly two weeks since their respective season openers before the girls soccer teams from Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South took the pitch again. The sides were back in action last Wednesday night against each other in the first of two crosstown rivalry matchups scheduled this spring.

A slow first half gave way to an exciting, back-and-forth final 40 minutes. In a close game to the end, it was sophomore Amelia Streberger who ended up the hero for North as the Norsemen took the victory 2-1.

North and South fought evenly in the first half. Neither side was able to break onto the scoreboard despite having chances. The Norsemen had chances near the end of the first

half to be the first on the scoreboard but came up short, leaving the match in a scoreless tie after the first 40 minutes.

It only took five minutes into the second half for one side to finally break through. Streberger scored her first of the night in the 45th minute to put the Norsemen in front 1-0.

The lead did not last particularly long. Seven minutes later, South freshman Ava Pappas was able to find the back of the net to once again bring the game back to even. The score remained tied at 1-1 for more than 20 minutes, with the match looking like it could be headed toward a draw.

Streberger once again came up in the clutch for the Norsemen. The sophomore scored her second of the night in the 72nd minute to put North in front with just minutes to go. The Norsemen were able to hold off a late

push by South and emerged with their first win of the season.

“I was really happy with the effort, particularly after a layoff for spring break,” North head coach Olivia Dallaire said. “It was another very competitive rivalry game against a well-coached and talented South team. One highlight for the coaches was the way we bounced back after South’s equalizing goal in the second half and competed for all 80 minutes.”

The victory over the Blue Devils brought North’s record to 1-0-1 following their season-opening draw in March. South fell to 0-2-0 with back-to-back losses to start the spring. The Blue Devils travel to L’Anse Creuse this coming Monday for a road matchup in the MAC White. North is on the road at Stony Creek Thursday, then travels to Dakota Monday.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Players from North and South get ready in front of the net for an incoming corner kick during the Norsemen’s 2-1 win over South last Wednesday.

Grosse Pointe News

High School SPORTS HOME GAMES

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Thursday, April 14

4:30 pm Girls JV Softball vs Fraser @Messner
4:30 pm Girls Varsity Softball vs Fraser @South Softball Diamond
4:30 pm Boys JV Baseball vs Utica @South Baseball Diamond

Saturday, April 16

8 am Girls Varsity Tennis Quad @Elworthy @ GP North Courts
10 am, 12 pm & 2 pm Girls Varsity Softball Round Robin @South & Messner
11 am & 1 pm Boys Varsity Baseball DH vs GP North @South Baseball Diamond
11 am & 1 pm Boys JV “B” Baseball DH vs GP North @Elworthy

Monday, April 18

4:30 pm Girls Varsity Softball vs Stevenson @South Softball Diamond
4:30 pm Boys JV Baseball vs Henry Ford @South

Tuesday, April 19

4 pm Girls JV Tennis vs Rochester @Elworthy
4:30 & 6 pm Girls JV Softball DH vs Berkley @Softball Field
4:30 pm JV B Baseball vs Lake Shore @Elworthy
6 pm Girls JV Lacrosse vs TBD @Stadium Field
7:30 pm Girls Varsity Lacrosse vs ULS @Stadium Field

Wednesday, April 20

4 pm Girls JV Tennis vs Eisenhower @Elworthy
4:30 pm Boys Varsity Baseball vs Henry Ford @South Baseball Diamond
6 pm Girls JV Soccer vs Chippewa @Stadium Field
7:30 pm Girls Varsity Soccer vs Chippewa @Stadium Field

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Thursday, April 14

4:30 pm Girls Varsity Softball vs Dakota @Softball Field
4:30 pm Boys Freshmen Baseball vs GP South @Ghesquire
6 pm Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs L’Anse Creuse @Football Field

Saturday, April 16

11 am Boys JV “B” DH vs GP South @Baseball Field

Monday, April 18

4 pm Girls Varsity Tennis vs Berkeley @GP North Courts
4:30 pm Boys Varsity Baseball vs L’Anse Creuse @Baseball field
7 pm Girls Varsity Lacrosse vs Chippewa @GP North Turf

Tuesday, April 19

4 pm Boys & Girls Varsity Track vs GP South @Football Field
4:30 pm Girls JV Softball vs Romeo @Softball Field
4:30 pm Boys JV Baseball vs L’Anse Creuse @North Baseball Field
4:30 pm Boys Freshmen Baseball vs Lakeview @Ghesquire

Wednesday, April 20

3 pm Boys Varsity Golf vs Cass Tech @Lochmoor
4 pm Girls Varsity Tennis vs St. Clair @GP North Courts

UNIVERSITY LIGGETT SCHOOL

Saturday, April 16

11 am Boys Varsity Baseball vs Richmond @ULS

Tuesday, April 19

4 pm Boys Varsity Baseball vs St Mary @ULS
5 pm Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs Greenhills @ULS
5 pm Girls Varsity Soccer vs Greenhills @ULS

Wednesday, April 20

4:30 pm Girls JV Tennis vs Grosse Ile @ULS Courts
5:30 pm Girls Varsity Lacrosse vs Eisenhower

Grosse Pointe News



Do you know an outstanding high school athlete?
Nominate them for Athlete of the Week and put
them in the running for Athlete of the Year.

All weekly winners will be invited to the end of year Athlete of the Year
Awards Gala – with top athletes winning scholarships!

Submit online at:

grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week

Grosse Pointe News

Norsemen fall just short in home opener

By Alexis Bohlinger
Staff Writer

The Grosse Pointe North boys varsity lacrosse team played its home opener Monday against Troy High School. Anticipating a close game, the Norsemen delivered, falling short by just one point with a final score

of 16-15 in Troy's favor. The Norsemen saw points from senior Jason Michalski (eight goals, one assist), senior Mitchell Mills (seven goals, three assists) and senior Chase Reinhard (four assists). Junior goaltender Nick Northey made 13 saves.

According to North head coach Mark

Seppala, this was expected to be a close game.

"We had a couple of tough losses to start the season," he said. "My guys just couldn't seem to play defense without getting penalties."

Seppala expressed his frustration seeing 10 penalties in their first game and 14 in their second game.

"We saw slashing penalties, unnecessary roughness and illegal hits for plays that I believed were fair," Seppala said. "We knew that if the refs were going to call the game this way, then our guys needed to make some adjustments in how they defend."

The team is coming into the season with an experienced roster heavy with upperclassmen. There are five seniors, with Michalski and Mills as the returning captains. The team also boasts an experi-



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

The Norsemen regroup during a timeout in the second quarter of Monday night's home loss against Troy.



North junior Ethan Michalski brings the ball across midfield.

enced junior class with both strong offense and defense.

Seppala said his team's strengths right now are that they are coming into the season with a year of lacrosse under their belts.

"Last year we started with a team made up primarily of brand-new players," he said. "We had to teach the skills to play the game. This sea-

son we can take what we learned last year and apply it to refining our game play and strategy. Moving forward, we just need to be more focused on executing game plans."

According to Seppala, the guys improved tremendously from the first game to the third.

"We were running around a lot in the first game, not making a lot

of good plays," he said. "The second game, we started to click and the third game could have gone either way. I believe overall we have a lot more skill and a much more athletic team than we have had in the past. We are already playing much better lacrosse than we did last year, so I look forward to seeing what this team can do."

South copes with cold bats, weather

By Meg Leonard
Associate Editor

In a week they may want to soon forget, the Grosse Pointe South baseball team battled cold, wet weather, nagging injuries and early season inexperience against some tough competition, just a few weeks into their young season.

The team fell behind quickly against Warren DeLaSalle April 7, as the Pilots found hits early and often, costing the Blue Devils a 9-0 loss.

"The bats were pretty silent for us, only four hits," head coach Dan Griesbaum said. "They made their eight (hits) count. We were not real sharp on the mound, but made a few errors that

hurt and they took advantage."

DLS got things going in the first and found themselves up two, thanks to two plays from two juniors — a Matthew Bartoy ground out that knocked in a run and an Eric Anton homer.

South senior Jonathan Drake singled in the second, but after that it was all about the purple and gold Pilots, who racked up eight hits on the day and committed no errors in the field.

DLS junior pitcher Seaton Heilman surrendered no runs on two hits over two innings, with one strike out and no walks. The bullpen of James Milkey III, Jayden Conklin and Rhett Roeser closed out the shutout for DLS.

For the Blue Devils, Ben Domzalski managed to get the team's only extra base hit, driving the ball to deep left in the bottom of the sixth. Seniors Cam Braithwaite, Alex Tigges and Drake each eked out a single in the game, which featured blustery, early April weather.

After a weekend cancellation due to cold and rain of a double header at Jimmy John's Field, South headed west to take on Detroit Country Day Monday.

The Yellowjackets swarmed the Blue Devils from the first pitch, handing them a 15-0 loss. Country Day started things off with a home run from lead off hitter and senior Cole Wilhelm.

DCD added six more runs in the third and eight more in the fourth, including the team's second homer on the day from senior Chyran Humphries. DCD sophomore pitcher Tyler Inge, son of former Detroit Tigers third baseman and catcher Brandon Inge, threw an efficient game, allowing only one hit from South's River Kraus, a double that served as South's lone bright spot on the day, with no runs and one walk.

Country Day threw plenty of fastballs at South's hitters and,



South coaches and players look on from the dugout during a cold and rainy matchup with De La Salle last Thursday afternoon.

according to Griesbaum, too many got caught looking.

"When you see a fastball up the middle, you gotta swing," Griesbaum said. "Taking pitches tells me you aren't confident up there. You have to have a 'yes, yes, yes' mentality of wanting to get after those (pitches)."

Senior Chase Campbell took the loss for South, while junior Ben Frakes and senior Jordan Bruetsch pitched in relief.

"We just haven't played up to our potential. We are a lot better than this," Griesbaum said.

He also said three of his starting pitchers are working through some minor injuries and illness.

"We need to get healthy and confident. ... Our younger guys still need time to adjust to this level of play. It's night and day from what they saw last year on JV."

"We will get it together, as we always do,"

he said. The Blue Devils plan to regroup with a scrimmage against Utica Thursday, April 14, and a double header against GP North at home Saturday, April 16. The team begins MAC Red league play on Tuesday, April 18, in a three-game series against Utica Ford.

The games at Jimmy John's Field have been rescheduled for 4 p.m. Friday, April 22, with a double header against L'Anse Creuse North.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

South's Chase Mazey surrendered two earned runs on five hits through three innings last week against Warren De La Salle.

City of **Grosse Pointe**, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2022 SINGLE LOT ASSESSMENT ROLL

The City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe, Michigan, 17147 Maumee Avenue, Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48230, 313-885-5800, will hold a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 18, 2022 on the proposed 2022 City Single Lot Assessment Roll. Copies of the Single Lot Assessment Roll will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the City Hall Building (17147 Maumee) beginning April 14, 2022.

Public comments, oral or written, are welcome at the public hearing on the proposed Single Lot Assessment Roll.

Julie E. Arthurs,
City Clerk

GPN: 4/14/22

EASTER BRUNCH SPECIAL MENU!

Easter Sunday,
April 17, 11am-3pm
Adults \$25/ Kids \$10
• Eggs, potatoes, bacon
• Brioche French toast
• Brisket • Pulled pork
• Southern fried chicken
• Smoked ham • Salads
• Mac-n-cheese • Fruit
• Biscuits and gravy
• So much more!



WED. & THURS. 4-9 PM
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4D | SPORTS



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE ZARANER

The South girls track & field team earned first place out of 10 teams at the Patriot Relays hosted by Livonia Franklin.

South runners take top spot at Patriot Relays

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The spring season got off to a fast start last week for the girls track and field team from Grosse Pointe South. After hosting their first meet of the season last Thursday against Mercy, the Blue Devils traveled to Livonia Franklin over the weekend to be one of 10 teams in the Patriot Relays.

South showed up in dominant fashion and scored points in each of the 15 relay events. The strong performance put the Blue Devils on the top of the leaderboard at the end of the day, taking first place in the Patriot Relays with 100 points, 13 more than second place South Lyon East.

“This was an excellent start to our season,” South coach Steve Zaranek said. “With MAC Red competition starting this week, we were hopeful of a solid

showing at this invitational. Our girls were eager and excited to compete in all 15 events. One goal was to score points in every single event and we accomplished that.”

The day started with a third-place finish by Morgan Deenik, Savannah Spangler, Ava Carr and Kloie Roy in the 4x1600 relay. Deenik, Roy and Spangler later teamed up with Madison Duff for another third-place finish in the distance medley relay. Duff also finished second in the 400 sprint relay, along with Slega Jansons, Sofia Guevara and Claire Zurowick.

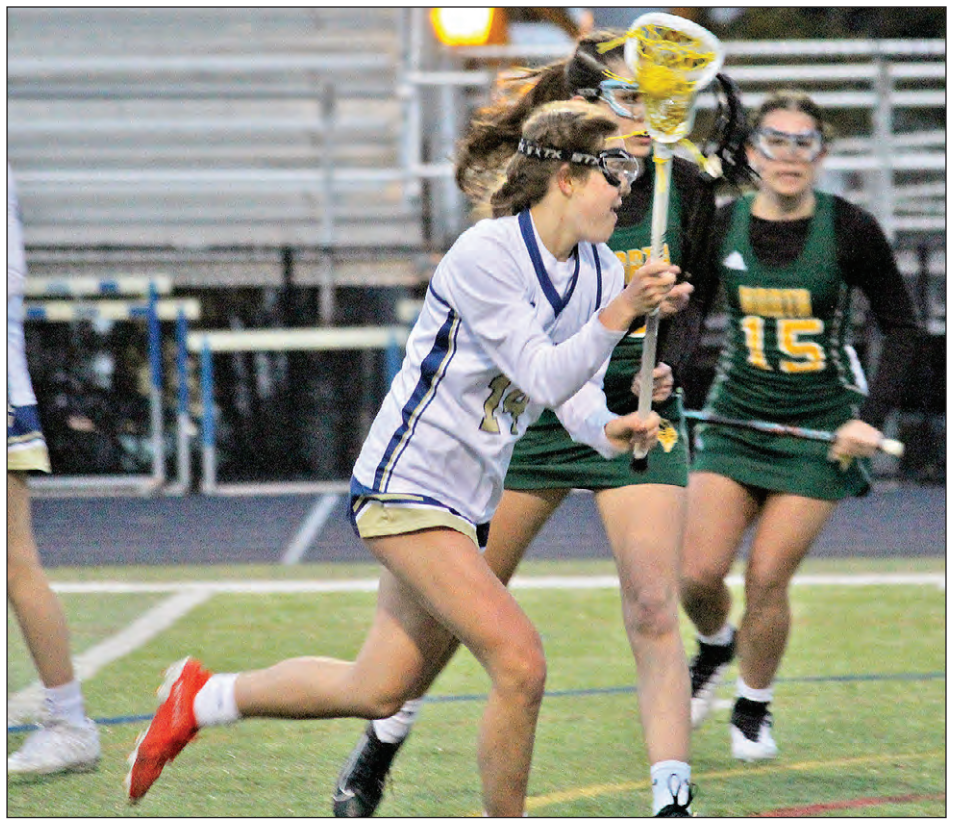
South got another second-place finish in the 3200 relay with the team of Carr, Grace Winger, Chloe Caufield and Sarah Koval. Jansons, Zurowick, Guevara and Ella Pazuchowski finished second in the sprint medley relay. Both Jansons and Zurowick also were part of the sec-

ond-place 800 sprint relay team alongside Pazuchowski and Megan DeGrand.

The only first-place finish of the day for the Blue Devils came in the field when Winger took top spot in the high jump. Another highlight in the field came when DeGrand, Bella Koch and Ava Rowgowski finished second in the pole vault relay.

“Our team depth prevailed as we won the meet with only one individual event victory,” Zaranek said. “By placing high in all the events, our depth was on display. The work the girls have put into our team, to date, has been exceptional.”

MAC Red competition begins this week for South with a meeting against Anchor Bay. The Blue Devils also get a chance to meet their crosstown rivals next Tuesday for a meet hosted by Grosse Pointe North.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

South sophomore Lily Petz makes a run toward the goal during Monday's 15-1 win for the Blue Devils against North.

Blue Devils get big win over North

The Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South girls lacrosse teams had their first of two scheduled rivalry meetings this month Monday night. With the Blue Devils playing host, they collected their third win of the season in dominant fashion with a 15-1 victory over the Norsemen.

South's Abby Keane kicked off the scoring just two minutes into the first half. The Blue Devils scored three more unan-

swered goals, one from Keane, one from Phoebe Bedsworth and one by Meg Kelly, to take a 4-0 lead before Ella Maltby scored the only goal of the evening for North.

Mia Craporatta scored for South just a couple of minutes later, with Bedsworth adding her second of the night after that. Keane ended up scoring five of South's nine goals in the first half.

The Blue Devils continued to be in control in

the second half. The defense shut down the Norsemen while the offense scored six more times to close out the 14-point win.

The win for South brought the Blue Devils' record this season to 3-1. South is back in action Thursday on the road against Detroit Country Day. North falls to 0-3 after the loss Monday and also is on the road Thursday to face Bloomfield Hills.

— Mike Adzima



Olivia Palacio stands tall in net for the Norsemen against South.



CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING SUMMARY

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Regular Meeting | Monday March 14, 2022 | 7:00 p.m. |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------|

A regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Grosse Pointe Farms was held at City Hall, 90 Kerby Road and called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2022, by Mayor Pro Tem John J. Gillooly.

Present: Mayor Pro Tem John J. Gillooly, Councilmembers Sierra Leone Donaven, Neil Sroka, Joe Ricci and Lev Wood. Absent: Mayor Louis Theros and Councilmember Beth Konrad-Wilberding. Both absences were excused.

Council approved the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on February 14, 2022.

Council viewed the presentation of the 2021 Public Safety Department Merit Awards.

Council temporarily adjourned the City Council and reconvened as the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA).

The Board of Zoning Appeals held a Public Hearing and approved a request for a dimensional variance for 64 Meadow Lane to construct an attached garage that encroaches into the required side yard setback.

The BZA adjourn the BZA and reconvened as the City Council.

Council approved the Consent Agenda.

- Consideration of a request from the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce to hold the "Pointes Art Festival" in the City's Richard Parking Lot the weekend of August 6-7, 2022.
- Consideration of a request from the Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe Sunrise Foundation to hold the "43rd Annual Grosse Pointe Run" event on September 17, 2022.
- Consideration of a request to reschedule the second meeting of the Board of Review from March 15, 2022 to March 8, 2022.
- Consideration of a proclamation declaring April 29, 2022 Arbor Day in Grosse Pointe Farms.
- Consideration of a request from the Director of Finance and Operations to approve February 2022 invoices.

Council received the February 2022 Public Safety Report.

Council received 2021 Grosse Pointe Farms Annual Planning Report and 2022 Work Plan from the City's Planning Consultant.

Council held public comment.

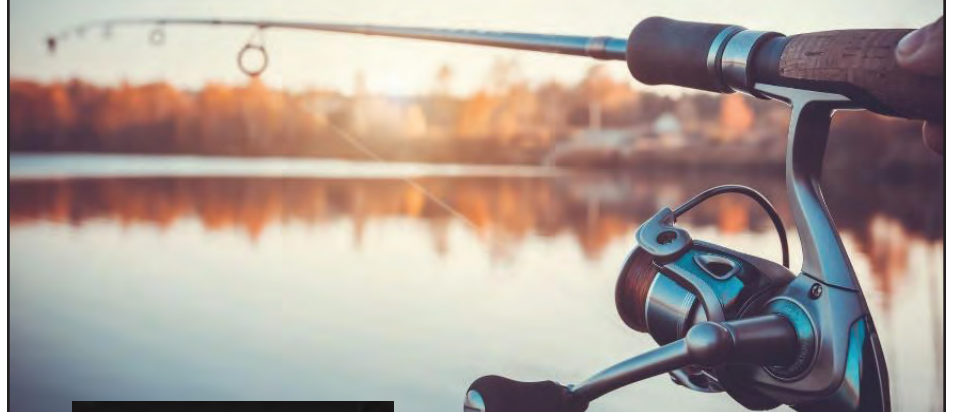
The regular meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Derrick Kozicki, Assistant City Manager and City Clerk

Published: Grosse Pointe News 4/14/2022

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The (Mother) Nature of things

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

A wise man once said, “If you don’t like the weather in Michigan, just wait five minutes.” In the early days of spring, it seems like we’ve experienced the epitome of that expression the past couple of weeks. Rain, snow, sunshine, clouds and more have been all over the place recently in the Pointes and across southeast Michigan, and have caused some mayhem in the start of the spring sports season.

We had plenty of coverage planned to highlight the first major weekend of high school baseball and softball season. Many of our local teams, including baseball from North, South and Liggett, along with

softball from North and South, were scheduled to play some of their first games of the season here in the Pointes over the weekend.

Unfortunately, Mother Nature had something to say about that.

Players and fans alike were left without any real baseball or softball action over the weekend in what was supposed to be one of the first major weekends of spring high school sports. Nasty weather from the days before left many fields unplayable and left everyone in town hungry for more action

on the diamond. It is still the first half of April and we can only

we still might be waiting a couple of weeks for that. In a community that

mond and start playing, the better.

Many highly anticipated moments that were supposed to happen over the past week or so were taken away: the season openers of both the North and South softball teams; Liggett baseball taking Orchard Lake St. Mary’s, in a premier matchup between two

header for the Blue Devils baseball squad in front of a big crowd at Jimmy John’s Field.

All of those great moments, unfortunately, now have to wait for another day. And it disappoints me to have to write an editorial like this instead of being able to provide the sort of full baseball and softball coverage we had planned. But as I have come to learn in this business, sometimes Mother Nature has the final say.

As those various cancellations get rescheduled, then we will be able to start fully enjoying the baseball and softball action everyone has been craving this spring. That is why I say, “Rain rain, go away. Let the baseball and softball teams play.”



hope the weather will start improving from here on out — though based on the forecasts,

loves baseball and softball as much as Grosse Pointe, the sooner teams can really get on the dia-

of the top teams in the state; opening day for the Norsemen baseball team; and a double-

Getting ready to set sail

By Peggy Walsh-Sarnecki
Staff Writer

Been curious about trying sailing but didn’t know where to start?

Two local clubs, Crescent Sail and Yacht Club in Grosse Pointe Farms and Bayview Yacht Club in Detroit offer sailing lessons for nonmembers.

The lessons are avail-

able to children, teens and adults and are offered through a variety of sessions.

Why teach sailing to non-members?

“We want to grow the sport,” said Laurie Bunn, Bayview’s fleet and regatta director. Bayview members also take the lessons, Bunn said. “They want to learn from more seasoned instructors.”



Bayview Yacht Club and Crescent Sail and Yacht Club are helping people set sail with lessons for children, teens and adults.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ELEMENT PHOTOGRAPHY



PHOTO COURTESY OF JEAN LEONARD

From Blue Devil to Bulldog

Grosse Pointe South senior and right-handed pitcher Robbie Leonard, third from left, signed his National Letter of Intent in February to play baseball for the Adrian College Bulldogs. His mom, Jean, South Varsity Baseball Head Coach Dan Griesbaum Sr. and Leonard’s father, Brian Leonard, attended the signing ceremony. Leonard, who at 6 feet, 1 inch and 195 lbs., is expected to be a key part of South’s starting pitching rotation this season.

Cost of each program varies, depending on the length and skill level of the program. Bayview offers two, six week sessions for adults. The lessons are on Wednesday evening and cost \$490 per session.

Youth lessons for 8 ages 8 to 18 at Bayview cost \$400 for a half day, \$550 for a full day or the learn to race lessons, and \$1,450 for the full racing season.

Crescent’s adult class will be 10 weeks this year, said program head Loretta

Rehe, on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

The program is geared for beginners who’ve never sailed before, Rehe said, but experienced sailors also can take the class.

“They know they can get a boat, have someone to sail with and improve their skills every time,” Rehe said. The cost is \$445.

Crescent’s youth program is for ages 8 to 18, said youth program director Sergei Lee, with the majority

of the students in the 10 to 13 age range. The cost is \$800 per session.

Crescent also has a youth racing program. The cost of the racing program is \$1,700.

Registration is going on now for all of these programs. To register for the Crescent programs, visit crescent-sail.org and choose sailing classes.

To register for classes at Bayview, visit bayclubyachtclub.com. Then go to “shop” and then “event or class registration.”

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

The District is requesting Proposals To Purchase the property located on the north side of Lennon Street and the west side of Harper Avenue in Harper Woods, Michigan. The Prime Residential Infill site also has frontage on Duprey Avenue and Van Antwerp Street.

The District is looking for Proposals to demolish the existing vacant building and redevelop the property with Missing Middle/Step housing with density in the 14 to 19 units per acre range. A concept plan has been provided as a guide prepared by McKenna Associates, the planning consultant for the City of Harper Woods. However, developers are encouraged to use their own market experience to develop a plan and specific product type for the subject Site.

As a Core Community, the City of Harper Woods has indicated the potential of Brownfield Tax Credits for projects that meet community planning goals. These include credits for demolition and project infrastructure. Further, the City will consider working with the successful developer to create an affordable real estate tax structure for the project.

Great Northern Consulting Group is marketing this Site for the Grosse Pointe Public School System on a fee basis as consultants. The School District is seeking Proposals to purchase that must be submitted to Amanda Matheson, Deputy Superintendent for Business Operations, Grosse Pointe Public School System, 20601 Morningside Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan 48236 on or before 3:00 P.M. Local Time on May 6, 2022. No phone, fax or electronic transmission Proposals will be accepted. If mailed, no responsibility is assumed for postal delays.

Request for Proposal documents may be viewed and downloaded at www.gpschools.org under “District News.”

Please note that all Proposals must include a detailed concept plan for the proposed project and be provided on the Proposal Form provided in the RFP.

The School District reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Proposals, in whole or in part. The School District also reserves the right to waive any irregularities contained in any proposal or requirements of the RFP.

Developer interviews with selected finalists will be held on May 17, 2022.

Published: GPN, April 14, 2022

CITY OF HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN 19617 HARPER AVENUE HARPER WOODS, MI 48225

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Harper Woods will be holding a Public Hearing on Monday, May 2, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of obtaining public input on the distribution of the special assessment levy.

Residents who are unable to attend this hearing may submit their written comments regarding this matter to the City Clerk’s office prior to the hearing date.

Leslie M. Frank
City Clerk

POSTED: April 5, 2022
PUBLISHED: April 14, 2022

