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# Grosse Pointe News

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Complete news coverage of all the Pointes



FILE PHOTO

Santa Claus returns to Grosse Pointe this Friday, along with new and returning parade favorites.

## GP Santa Claus Parade is Nov. 25

**THE GROSSE POINTE** — “Christmas in Toyland” is the theme of the 2022 Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade, presented by the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce. Thousands of spectators, young and old, will line Kercheval for the big event, which kicks off at 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 25, to cheer on a variety of community participants, among them for the first time the Budweiser Clydesdales. “We’ll also have new floats from The Parade Company and new floats built by Susie At Home and Apple Blossom Baby & Decor,” said Jennifer Boettcher, executive director and president of the chamber. “The Detroit Highland Bagpipers are new, too.

See PARADE, page 3A

## BOE considers health clinic at North

By Michael Hartt  
Schools Reporter

**THE GROSSE POINTE** — At the Nov. 14 Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting, a proposal to open a health clinic at Grosse Pointe North High School

was presented to the school board by Jeff Cook, senior director of community health and health equity at Corewell Health, formerly known as Beaumont Health. Superintendent Jon Dean said a proposal for the clinic has been dis-

cussed by district administration for more than a year, but it recently was presented to the board after the district became eligible for a school clinic grant from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. “In the most recent bud-

get agreement in the state of Michigan, they significantly increased the numbers of these clinics,” Dean said. “These clinics are funded based on grant applications almost solely determined by a survey

See HEALTH, page 10A



DRONE PHOTO BY JACK RYAN

**KICK OFF THE HO-HO HO-LIDAYS** with our Holiday Gift Guide!

Only in today's issue

## Council to vote on four-story apartment complex in December

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — If all goes well with approvals and ongoing supply chain issues, construction of a four-story apartment complex at 582-606 St. Clair could begin next year, according to developer Mike Bailey with MTB Partners LLC.

A public hearing to consider planned unit development approval — necessary for the allowance of up to 4,000 square feet of commercial space on the first floor facing the CVS parking lot, special use approval of the four stories and reduced setbacks — was held before city council Nov. 14, but council will not vote on the PUD approval until next month.

“In large part, the council refrained from making any comments one way or the other, because it’s all going to come back for consideration at the

December meeting,” City Manager Pete Dame said, adding there will be no further opportunity for public comment before the vote takes place.

Being proposed is a tentatively 81-unit apartment complex — 33 one-bedroom units, 34 two-bedroom units, five three-bedroom units and nine townhomes — on the 1.9 acres of land that has sat vacant more than 15 years; however, the number of units may see a slight reduction to compensate for the city’s parking requirement.

While the current plans provide 117 parking spaces for residential use, the City’s ordinance requires one and a half parking spaces for each apartment, as well as two for each townhome, creating a need for 126 spaces. As such, the developer is considering combining some of the one-bedroom

See COMPLEX, page 4A

## Lighting the way

Hundreds attended the City of Grosse Pointe’s tree-lighting ceremony in The Village last Friday. The event included hot chocolate, s’mores, carols, live reindeer and more. The Village Christmas tree was planted in fall 1988, in memory of Amy Duke Harris. Her daughter, Danny Harris, had a business in The Village at the time and donated the money for the planting of the Christmas Tree.



PHOTO BY OLIVIA MONETTE

## 3-step complaint process for dog park

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Some people can’t or won’t control their dogs at the municipal dog park, forcing the city into master mode.

A three-step noise complaint process is now posted on the city website, grossepointepark.org, under the recreation department subsection, “Dog park information.” A further click on “Click here for dog park pass application, rules and our complaint/rule violation process” produces a three-page docu-

ment, two pages of which spell out regulations and a three-step process of handling complaints, including barking of the incessant kind.

“We’re going to send out a mass email about it,” said Chad Craig, recreation director. “The goal is to do the best we can working with neighbors and users of the dog park. It’s a challenge, it is.” “Barking should be kept to a reasonable level,” according to the rules, “both for the com-

fort of other park users as well as nearby neighbors.”

It’s not like Craig is a killjoy. “Occasional barks of joy are acceptable,” the rules read.

The problem is loud-mouth dogs, do-nothing owners and fed up third parties who may have a hard time defining when too much barking is too much, but know it when they hear it, especially when the dog park at

See DOG, page 2A

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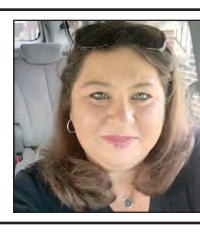
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**Pointer of INTEREST**

See story, page 4A



**Kimberly Clextion**  
Home: Grosse Pointe Park Athletics academic advisor in the Wayne State University Athletics Department



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# Pointer seeks to increase awareness of pancreatic cancer

By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTE** — Speaking from his hospital bed last week — his second stay this month — Aaron Binder has a message about pancreatic cancer: Pay attention to what your body is telling you.

“November is Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month, so I kind of wanted to get the word out,” he said. “There’s just not as much attention compared to other types of cancer.”

Binder, a 1996 Grosse Pointe South High School graduate, was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer in August. That forced him to step away from his job as manager at Teknicolor Paints on Mack.

“That was a sad day,



COURTESY PHOTO

Aaron Binder and MaryAnn Paolucci.

when he had to turn in his keys,” Binder’s wife, MaryAnn Paolucci, said. “All of his customers were his friends, too.”

The couple, who have

been together six years, had what they call a ceremonial wedding during a February trip to Mexico, then made it official in September.

“There’s no screening for pancreatic cancer and at first, my symptoms were very minor,” Binder said. “The research has come a long way, but by the time most people are diagnosed, it’s usually stage 4 and can already have spread to the lymph nodes.”

Binder said he attributed the symptoms he started experiencing earlier this year to changes in his lifestyle.

“I’ve lost 125 pounds in the last three years,” the Farms native said. “I started working out and eating better. I was having some back pain and some digestive issues, but I thought that was from working out and changing my diet.”

It wasn’t until he noticed a change in his urine that he saw a doctor.

“He had hernia surgery

in March and at the six-week checkup the surgeon told him he could get back to his old routine slowly,” Paolucci recalled. “After a while he was still having pain in his stomach so the doctor did an ultrasound.”

The ultrasound wasn’t able to detect the cancer because the pancreas is surrounded by other organs. Seeing blood in his urine sent Binder to his primary doctor, who sent him immediately to the emergency room after doing a blood test.

“They did an MRI and then a biopsy and that’s when they found it,” Paolucci said. “At first I thought, this has to be wrong.”

Binder has since had to be admitted to the hospital several times.

“They started him off on the strongest chemo

because he was so physically fit, but it’s really taken a toll on his body,” Paolucci said. “It’s caused some internal bleeding, so they’re going to start giving him a lower dose.”

The couple’s friend, Annie Kordas, set up a gofundme page for Binder — gofundme.com/f/p9rgg-help — that so far has raised \$4,500 of its \$15,000 goal.

“We are so thankful for all of our friends and family,” Paolucci said, “all the support and cards and prayers and meals being dropped off.”

Common symptoms of pancreatic cancer include abdominal pain, weight loss, jaundiced skin, nausea, fatigue and pale, oily stools.

Risk factors include obesity, smoking and a diet high in red and processed meats.

## Everything’s at West Park Winter Social

**THE GROSSE POINTE** — There’s something to satisfy every sense during the West Park Winter Social, noon to 10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26, on Kercheval between Wayburn and Maryland in the Park.

Attendance is free.

Fun, food, drink, music and holiday shopping fill a lineup starting with tailgating before the University of Michigan vs. Ohio State football game, broadcast on a giant LED screen.

There’s:

- ◆ heated tents and six fire pits;
- ◆ marshmallow roast-

ing and s’mores kits presented by Saros Real Estate Services;

◆ dozens of local artists, craft and clothing vendors to help celebrate Small Business Saturday;

◆ a children’s fun and games tent featuring crafts and family activities sponsored by GTS;

◆ a holiday market tent sponsored by Dedicated Senior Medical Center;

◆ cocktails and craft beer;

◆ four of the area’s most in-demand food trucks: Detroit Panserotti, Delectabowl, Tacos El Rodeo and Smoke Ring BBQ; and

◆ evening concerts by two of the Midwest’s best-known live tribute bands, Echoes of Pink Floyd and The Insiders — a tribute to Tom Petty.

“The West Park Winter Social is a great time for families to kick off the holiday season together with friends and neighbors,” said Joe Hebeke, president of the Grosse Pointe Park Business Association.

Information is posted at westparkwintersocial.com and at Facebook.com/WestParkWinterSocial.

West Park Winter Social is sponsored by

Grand Circus Media; the Cotton family of Grosse Pointe, a member of which owns the Grosse Pointe News; the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Foundation; the Grosse Pointe Housing Foundation; and the Richard and Jane Manoogian Foundation.

Providing support are the city of Grosse Pointe Park, Dedicated Senior Medical Center, Jim Saros Real Estate Services, GTS, Brine Oyster House, Modelo Especial beer, Topo Chico Hard Seltzer, Coors Light, Griffin Claw Brewing Co., Captain Morgan, Bulleit Bourbon Frontier Whisky, Smirnoff, Park Grill and the Grosse Pointe News.

“Offering substantive programming that brings our community together is something we can’t do alone,” Mayor Michele Hodges said. “Working in partnership leads to a great result that allows us to gather and enjoy one another.”

### Music

Echoes of Pink Floyd sounds like the real thing, as evidenced by videos.

“We have performed on many of the Midwest’s largest stages and theaters, including Detroit’s Riverwalk Festival, Port Huron’s Blue Water Festival and others,” according to the band’s website, echoesofpinkfloyd.com. “There is simply no way to describe in words what a live Echoes show is like. It has to be taken in in the live concert setting to resonate, as good music does.”

The Insiders, a Tom Petty tribute band, not only sound authentic, the lead singer looks like the namesake.

“Close your eyes and you won’t know the difference,” according to theinsiderstribute.com. “Open them and you still might be fooled.”

Interactive music for children and families is provided by Hummingbirds Music Together, a music program for babies, tod-

dlers, preschoolers and kindergartners.

### Vendors

Making the holiday market memorable are:

◆ The Campus Shop, featuring witty, local-themed apparel and accessories;

◆ Dwaar Chocolate, a craft chocolate company featuring unique flavors from around the world;

◆ Harper North Designs handcrafted and minimalist jewelry and accessories;

◆ Hell Fire Detroit, a small-batch hot sauce company using fresh, fire-roasted chili mash;

◆ Heidi & Matt, specializing in unique gifts, including ornaments, puzzles, magnets and home décor handmade in their Detroit-based work-

See SOCIAL, page 3A

### DOG:

Continued from page 1A

Patterson Park opens daily at 7:30 a.m.

According to the rules, verified complaints and violations trigger the following process.

◆ First incident — review by the recreation department, verbal warning.

◆ Second incident — review and written warning.

◆ Third incident — suspension of dog park privileges up to and including permanent revocation of dog park privileges.

“Depending on the severity of the incident,” according to the rule, “Grosse Pointe Park parks and recreation department reserves the right to prohibit the use of the site to any user who is in violation of the dog park rules.”

— Brad Lindberg

# Grosse Pointe News

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# Woods hands out beautification awards

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — Hard work and sweat were recognized as 11 homeowners and seven businesses were honored Wednesday, Nov. 9, at the 48th annual Beautification Awards Night.

“We have a beautiful town and these winners are doing their part to help make our city even more beautiful,” said Matt Wettsein, a member of the Beautification Advisory Commission who co-chaired the event. “This is a chance to recognize folks who

have gone above and beyond.”

Residential winners were 2017 Country Club, Brian and Nicole Brumme; 1670 Fairholme, Joseph and Karri Youngblood; 1467 Hampton, Suzanne Schmidt; 1720 Huntington, Michael Moukalian; 983 Lochmoor, Randall Rutkofske and Valerie Ellis; 837 Moorland, Rick and Deanna Kent; 1053 Moorland, Phillip and Jill Bush; 1953 Norwood, Trevor Clor and Kathryn Kingsley; 1372 Roslyn, Ronna

Gillis; 1764 Severn, Jim and Paula DeCarlo; and 677 Shoreham, Amy and Krzytof Pennar.

Businesses recognized were IRIS, Da Edoardo, Ferlitos, The Cheese Shoppe, Alternative Health Care Center, Spa in the Woods and Delight Bakery.

The process begins in June when the 15 members of the BAC begin driving around the city to find houses to nominate. Each member also nominates up to five businesses for consideration.



1953 Norwood, owned by Trevor Clor and Kathryn Kingsley.

Homeowners can win once every 10 years, while businesses are eligible to win every year. Funding for the program comes from the BAC's annual May flower sale, held each Mother's Day weekend.

“It's a hard decision,” Mayor Art Bryant told the crowd, noting his first involvement with city government was as a member of the BAC.

Centerpieces for the dinner tables were provided by Moehring-Woods Flowers, and Chocolate Bar Cafe donated a large cake.

— Ted O'Neil



Above, 983 Lochmoor, owned by Randall Rutkofske and Valerie Ellis. Right, IRIS was one of seven businesses recognized.

COURTESY PHOTOS

## SOCIAL:

Continued from page 2A

shop;

- ◆ Hugh O'Connor Designs original artwork;
- ◆ Ink Detroit and its selection of stylish Detroit-themed apparel;
- ◆ Jodi Lynn's Emporium of Doodles, whimsical illustrations inspired by pop culture, nature, science and her local neighborhoods;
- ◆ Junk From the Garage wood furniture, home and pet décor;

- ◆ Lorraine Kolasa jewelry, a combination of textiles and metalsmithing to create casting handmade lace into metal, embroidery into armor and more;
- ◆ Matthew's Bonfire BBQ and the company slogan, “Food. Fire. Friends. Better Together.” A portion of the proceeds from his sauces is donated to the University Participant Program at the proprietor's alma mater, Western Carolina University, and Ruby's Rainbow, which provides

- ◆ Quai Designworks,

scholarships to individuals with Down syndrome;

- ◆ POST(and Outpost) handmade goods, contemporary crafts and gifts plus a production studio for local artisans and classes in art and textile;
- ◆ PupCraft, designer and seller of dog bandanas, dog bow ties, dog toys, customized dog leash hooks, organic cat nip toys and enamel pins designed to spark joy in pet owners and give their pups flair;

- ◆ Quai Designworks,

woodwork inspired by nature;

- ◆ Savage Handcraft stained-glass home goods handcrafted in Grosse Pointe Park; and
- ◆ Unalome Organics, where each product wholly consists of certified organic ingredients.

## The Week Ahead

**SUNDAY, NOV. 27**

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores village tree-lighting ceremony, 6 p.m.

**MONDAY, NOV. 28**

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

## PARADE:

Continued from page 1A

Returning favorites include the Redford Unicycle Group, golden retrievers, Detroit Ghostbusters and, of course, everyone's favorite, Santa.”

The parade begins at Lewiston Road in Grosse Pointe Farms and meanders along Kercheval to Cadieux in the City of

Grosse Pointe. Staging the lengthy lineup of participants always brings a smile to Boettcher's face.

“This is my opportunity to see it all come together after weeks of putting the parade together,” she said. “Watching the excitement in the faces of the participants is just fantastic, too.”

Following the parade, Santa and Mrs. Claus will visit with children of all ages in Santa's work-

shop, housed in the former Calico Corners space at 17101 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe.

More is in store after the parade, too, Boettcher said.

“The chamber will begin the process of having a float made just for Santa by The Parade Company, which will be done for next year's parade,” she said. “More exciting news to follow.”

— Jody McVeigh

## The 2022 Santa Claus Parade lineup

Police cars and fire trucks  
Wayne County Community College District fire truck  
Detroit Mounted Police  
Mayors of the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods  
Detroit Highlander Bagpipe Band  
Kercheval Dance  
Grosse Pointe South Blue Devil dance team  
University Liggett School dance team  
Mother Goose float  
Coreander's Children's Bookshoppe  
Apple Blossom Baby & Decor float  
Detroit Ghostbusters  
Golden retrievers  
Glitter & Scotch float  
I Want Piano  
Focus 313 Eyecare float  
Chandler Park Academy marching band  
Grosse Pointe Moving & Storage cart  
Grosse Pointe South men's and women's basketball team  
IEP Urgent Care float  
Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts

Girl Scouts, Brownies and Daisies  
Ecorse Mighty Marching Raiders band  
Bulldogs Hockey Club Zamboni  
Redford Township Unicycle Club  
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe float  
Grosse Pointe Sail Club float  
Casali Dance Team  
Grosse Pointe Academy float  
Grosse Pointe Red Barons float  
Detroit School of Art marching band  
Our Lady Star of the Sea float  
Part of Your World Princess float  
Lions Club float  
America's Boating Club float  
Fitzgerald High School marching band  
Grosse Pointe Theatre float  
Susie at Home float  
St. Clair Shores Figure Skating Club  
Eastside Westies white terriers  
Grosse Pointe News trolley  
The Parade Company Big Heads  
Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South marching band  
Christmas Carol  
Budweiser Clydesdales  
Santa and Mrs. Claus



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## 4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

## Helping students, gardens bloom

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

Kimberly Clepton knows her priorities.

"My family and my job come first," she said.

When her middle-aged mother enrolled in college to study social work, Clepton, holder of a master's degree in business and one class shy of another in sports administration, helped her cut through the academic bureaucracy.

"She didn't have to figure it out all by herself," Clepton said.

When her husband was hired to direct the U.S. Virgin Islands public library system more than 2,000 miles away in Saint Croix, Clepton said, well, OK.

"I felt I had to let him do it," she said.

She wouldn't permanently relocate the family until their youngest of three children, a 17-year-old daughter at the time, completed studies at Grosse Pointe South High School.

"I didn't want her to miss her senior year," Clepton said.

Yet, Clepton, quiet, smiling most of the time and with dark, sparkly eyes that hint she has a secret worth telling, is no pushover.

She drew the line when her husband realized he didn't like hurricane-soaked Caribbean libraries. A job search drew an offer as a prison librarian in Michigan's Upper



COURTESY PHOTO

Kimberly Clepton is at the wheel and raring for Gladwin.

Peninsula.

"I said I have no desire to live in the UP," Clepton said.

He thereby accepted the directorship of libraries in Gladwin, about halfway short of the Mackinac Bridge.

Clepton lives in Gladwin four days per week while spending the balance at the family home in Grosse Pointe Park. She splits working in the office and remotely as academic advisor in the athletic department of Wayne State University.

"I truly love my job and I love Wayne State," Clepton said. Education is more than memorizing nuts and bolts.

"There's one thing I always talk to students about: the best education they're going to get is the ability to think critically,"

Clepton said. "All the subject matter they learn, in many cases, is not going to be as important as the ability to manage their time, organize themselves and think critically through different types of things."

Her best overall advice to everyone, in or out of school, is to define their passion.

"It's a fine line," she said. "You can spend a whole lifetime searching for your passion and miss what you're in the middle of. Sometimes, be happy with what you have."

She's pragmatic, knowing some students just want to check the boxes needed to get a degree. No highfalutin urge to burst the boundaries of knowledge.

"I think all academicians want the best learning and growing

experience for students," Clepton said. "But, for some students, that's not what they're there for."

Being an academic advisor sometimes means laying it on the line to ill-focused students.

"I've absolutely been a dream killer," said Clepton, inspired to enter the profession, conversely, by suffering lousy counseling a few times during her school days.

"Because of the reputation of Wayne State's medical school, there's a high percentage of freshman coming in who want to be doctors," Clepton said. "That comes to a crashing halt pretty quickly for a lot of people. They're just not as prepared in the sciences and are not willing to put in the hard work to get the background they need."

She started working at Wayne State 20 years ago as an advisor in the business school. Nearly six years later, she switched to general advising before transferring to the athletic department in 2014.

College athletes spend 20 to 30 hours per week during competitive seasons practicing, exercising, attending meetings, traveling and competing. It's a job in itself.

"That's almost exactly what I tell them at their freshman orientation," Clepton said. "But I do find as the freshmen come in, if they were recruited at the Division 1 or 2 level, they probably have had some pretty

hectic schedules along the way anyway — getting up and working out in the morning, going to school all day for seven hours, having a limited amount time to get homework done and then getting some rest."

Some first-year college athletes mistakenly assume they'll have more free time. After all, they're no longer in class all day, every day, as in high school.

"The way students learn in college is very different from the way they learned doled-out information in high school," Clepton said. "They're really going to have to use time wisely."

One of her students is having a hard time balancing sports with an engineering major.

"He hasn't proven that he can't do engineering," Clepton said. "It's just hard for him to take all of those classes at one time. We're trying to figure out if there's a minor he can do that will allow him to take classes that will be applicable, given the space he needs for the harder engineering classes he has now."

She can't simply register struggling students for easy electives to relieve their academic burden.

"If classes don't count toward their degree, they don't count for NCAA eligibility," she said.

Clepton grew up in a first-generation American family that settled in southwest Detroit. Her late mother was 14 when the family immigrated from Ireland. Her father's family arrived from Malta

when he was 5. He's retired and works as a gate guard at Windmill Pointe Park.

"My grandmother from Malta explained that when people talked to her in English, she'd translate it into Maltese in her head, think about her answer and translate it out in English," Clepton said. "She never really answered anything completely without all that thought process. It's amazing to me that she was able to do that."

Clepton is self-deprecating about chairing the Park Beautification Commission since 2019.

"I plant impatiens once per year and really don't do much with my garden, but I can run a meeting, my friend," Clepton said. "I keep those commissioners moving along. If you look at members of the commission, we've been trying to create a lot of diversity of interests and diversity of intention; taking it out of the arena of pretty gardens to doing things like getting kids involved so we bring in young families to do more."

Sustainability is now integral to the commission's mission.

"We're talking with the mayor about how we're going to restructure things to make sustainability a pretty big role," Clepton said. "It's not like we're trying to be brain surgeons or solve world peace, but it's nice to have a focus that is going to, hopefully, bring knowledge and awareness of some of those issues to the Park as well."

## COMPLEX:

Continued from page 1A

units into two-bedroom units. He predicts the overall number of units then may fall somewhere in the mid-70s.

"It's not going to be a wholesale change to the design," clarified Bailey, who will meet with archi-

itects this week. "It's internal, just in terms of the combination of one and two bedrooms."

While some residents who chose to speak at the public hearing were in favor of the development, citing an interest in themselves or their parents living there, others were opposed and brought forward concerns such as an

increase in traffic.

"We had commissioned a traffic study by a local engineering company to make sure that we weren't going to negatively impact traffic," Bailey reported, "so the results of that study suggested that we would not have a negative impact on any local traffic."

The traffic study can be found on the city's website — [grossepointecity.org](http://grossepointecity.org) — within the city council agenda for Monday, Nov. 14.

Other concerns from neighbors on St. Clair related to the height of the building.

In regard to the concerns, a shade study also previously was conducted by the developer.

"Since the adjacent residential areas are predominantly east and south, the only real affected area is



COURTESY RENDERING

Construction of the four-story St. Clair apartment complex is tentatively planned to begin next year.

to the east," reads part of a community impact study submitted with the PUD application. "As our study shows, much like the previously approved Sunrise development, the impact of shading will be limited to winter solstice

in the afternoon to dusk, a very limited impact in relation to the overall year. In fact, whether we were a four-story or even a lower-scaled building of two stories, the winter solstice, late afternoon would cast shadows to the east. This represents an impact on daylighting of less than 0.1 percent in the course of a year."

Contrary to a similar public hearing held last

year for site plan approval of apartments and townhomes at 389 St. Clair, the public hearing remained cordial and didn't include residents flooding the hallway waiting their turns to speak.

"It was pretty balanced and people made relevant comments," Dame said. "It was a very respectful crowd. There were people opposed and supportive."

## Grosse Pointe News

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## Racking up revenue

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Kayak racks at Patterson Park turn a nice profit.

They cost \$800 each, but rental revenue makes up for it fast, especially since each rack is big enough to rent space to four people at \$200 per summer.

"It's a very nice revenue stream," said Chad Craig, Park recreation director. "Basically, after the time and material of (buying) one rack that holds four slots, we make a couple hundred dollars after we pay that. The next season, it's a straight profit of \$800."

Each renter can store up to three kayaks.

"We've tossed around the idea of an additional fee depending on the number of items that are put on," Craig said.

Larry Haggart, a member of the municipal recreation commission, asked during the group's meeting Nov. 9, if the city's kayak storage rental rates are in line with the other Pointes.

"With the durability of what we have, the amount and space we have, it's a fair price," Craig answered. "We

See REVENUE, page 5A

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## City of Grosse Pointe

## Forgery

A 28-year-old City resident is suspected of stealing, forging and cashing a check belonging to his mother's boyfriend Monday, Nov. 14.

## Larceny

An unknown person stole a silver 2017 men's mountain bike, which was secured with a cable lock, from a bike rack in the 16000 block of Kercheval, between 12:50 and 11:15 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12.

— Jody McVeigh

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

## Grosse Pointe Shores

## Costly mistake

A broken brake light resulted in a trip to jail for a 30-year-old Eastpointe man.

He was pulled over around 12:20 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, on Lakeshore near Hawthorne after an officer spotted the defect.

Not only was the man ticketed for driving with a suspended license — for the eighth time — and no insurance, he was turned over to Southfield police on an outstanding felony warrant for uttering and publishing.

## Not so smooth sailing

A 40-year-old Macomb County man was arrested after an officer

## PUBLIC SAFETY

saw him drive through a red light on eastbound Vernier at Lakeshore and pull into the driveway of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club around 2:40 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 20.

Due to his combative nature, officers had to obtain a warrant so the man's blood could be drawn at a local hospital. He was jailed after the results showed his blood alcohol content to be 0.17 percent.

— Ted O'Neil

Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety, (313) 885-5100.

## Grosse Pointe Woods

## False claim

A resident in the 1300 block of Brys filed a report around 5:45 p.m. Monday, Nov. 14, after receiving a letter from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services regarding benefits for which he had not filed.

The letter had the man's name, address and Social Security number, but a phone number and email that were not his. The state closed the account and listed it as fraudulent.

## Nice try

An officer on patrol noticed a Kia on Stanhope near Harper around 10:45 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, with a broken window but no

other damage. An anti-theft device on the steering wheel prevented the vehicle from being stolen.

## Stolen pistol

After an officer stopped a vehicle on Vernier near Marter for going 62 mph, a LEIN check showed the 20-year-old driver from Detroit to have a suspended license.

As the officer was searching the vehicle to impound it, he found a loaded pistol under the front seat that the driver said he did not know was there. A further check showed it to have been stolen, for which the man was arrested and jailed.

— Ted O'Neil

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

## Grosse Pointe Park

## Collision

A drunken 23-year-old woman from Grosse Pointe Farms wasn't injured when driving a vehicle that hit a DTE Energy light pole at the intersection of Jefferson and Bedford shortly after 1 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 20, according to police.

A patrolman responding to the single-vehicle wreck determined she was intoxicated.

"Follow-up investigation revealed (her blood

alcohol level) was nearly three times the legal limit," according to police.

— Brad Lindberg

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

## Grosse Pointe Farms

## Open invitations

A string of unlocked vehicles in the Farms were discovered to have been rummaged through the morning of Tuesday, Nov. 15.

◆ A GMC Sierra in the 200 block of Lewiston was found with its door ajar and the contents of its glovebox and center console strewn about. The owner is unsure if anything was taken.

◆ A backpack was discovered stolen from a Chrysler Pacifica in the 300 block of Cloverly. The backpack contained the owner's wallet with identification, credit cards and gift cards.

◆ A purse containing identification, credit cards and \$70 was stolen from a GMC Yukon in the 200 block of Lothrop.

## Groundhog Day

A 51-year-old Detroit man with multiple prior citations for trespassing at a business in the 19000 block of Mack, was reported to officers for being on the property at 10:23 p.m. Tuesday, Nov.

15.

After receiving an additional citation and courtesy ride to an area hospital, the man was again reported for returning to the business at 5:08 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16.

The man was arrested, but upon his release, found himself back at the business at 10:56 p.m. that night.

## Suspended license

A 21-year-old Detroit woman was cited for driving while license suspended after being pulled over at Mack and East Warren at 4:16 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, for illegal window tint and an expired registration tab.

## Wrong way

After driving westbound in the eastbound lanes of Jefferson at 8:47

p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, a 25-year-old Detroit woman was pulled over and found to have 0.18 percent blood alcohol content.

She was arrested for operating under the influence of alcohol and not having vehicle insurance.

## Power nap

Officers were called to the intersection of Lakeshore and Moross at 3:47 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 20, for a driver who appeared to be asleep in a car stopped at the traffic signal.

A preliminary breath test found the 27-year-old Detroit woman to have 0.18 percent blood alcohol content, for which she was arrested.

— Laurel Kraus

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

## REVENUE:

Continued from page 4A

don't want to gouge (kayakers) for something that's a fairly low-maintenance item."

Based on consumer demand, the price is

right.

"We have a significant wait list to get in," Craig said. "About 100 or so are on the wait list. Looking at some (more) racks might be a good thing to do for next summer."

— Brad Lindberg



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6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

Why Detroiters have the country's best Thanksgiving

Millions of people around the country will wake up Thanksgiving morning, pour a piping-hot mug of coffee or cocoa and perhaps get cozy by a fire as they prepare themselves to watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City.

Newsflash, America: Detroiters have had one up on you since 1924.

Here, we know the only parade to watch takes place on Woodward Avenue at the America's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

It's a 93-year tradition of which Detroiters are very proud. In fact, when you think about it, Thanksgiving Day is one of the most special days of the year in this town. There are so many "uniquely Detroit" events to enjoy today, we need to acknowledge how thankful we are for them.

For starters, we have the "parade before the parade," known as the Turkey Trot, a precursor to the main event that has been around 39 years. Thousands of participants wake up in the wee hours of Thanksgiving morning — some in fun costumes including turkey hats, feather boas and tutus — to complete races of various distances like the 10k Turkey Trot, 5k Stuffing Strut or Michigan Mashed Potato Mile.

Last year, nearly 2,456 brave souls completed the 10k. Runners in this event say they believe calories don't count for the day once they cross the finish line. We won't debate that. It's arguably the healthiest way to start Thanksgiving Day. Most of us, however, will just be raising our Bloody Mary or mimosa in your honor, in our PJs, from the comfort of our couches.

As for the actual parade, generations have enjoyed this event for just more than nine decades. Nearly 1 million hearty Detroiters, willing to brave the elements, will watch it in person, making it one of the country's largest spectator parades. Elaborate floats, paper mache Big Heads of celebrities, a clown corps, high school bands and dance teams drum up early-morning excitement, serving as our city's special rite of passage to kick off the holidays.

Bonus for Grosse Pointers — we get to see some of these fantastic floats and spectacular performers Friday morning at our day-after Thanksgiving parade along Kercheval.

And if you have lived here for a while, you know what comes next: the Detroit Lions game. Yes, we could be considered masochists for investing time to watch the Motor City Kitties. But Detroiters are nothing if not loyal masochists. It's a badge we wear with pride to accompany our Honolulu Blue and Silver attire. Lions head coach Dan Campbell is a likable guy and if you tuned in to HBO's football documentary series "Hard Knocks," which featured the Lions this preseason, many of us found ourselves reclaiming our fandom for the team.

A win would delight us. A loss most likely means we move up dinner time and have the loathsome Dallas Cowboys on in the background, instead of discussing the various scenarios that could get us into the playoffs. Detroiters are dreamers, that's for sure.

So let's get excited. Take advantage of all of the sights and sounds Detroit offers on Thanksgiving Day. It's our version of the Oscars, Super Bowl (gulp!) and Oprah's Favorite Things, all rolled into one.

There's nowhere we would rather be than the "D."

GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST							November 24-30	LOCAL 4
THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED		
50° 38°	48° 34°	48° 35°	46° 32°	43° 28°	44° 35°	44° 34°		
Mostly Cloudy	Scattered Snow	Winty Mix	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	AM Showers		
0%	70%	40%	0%	0%	0%	40%		
SUNRISE 7:33 am SUNSET 5:03 pm	SUNRISE 7:34 am SUNSET 5:03 pm	SUNRISE 7:36 am SUNSET 5:02 pm	SUNRISE 7:37 am SUNSET 5:02 pm	SUNRISE 7:38 am SUNSET 5:01 pm	SUNRISE 7:39 am SUNSET 5:01 pm	SUNRISE 7:40 am SUNSET 5:00 pm		

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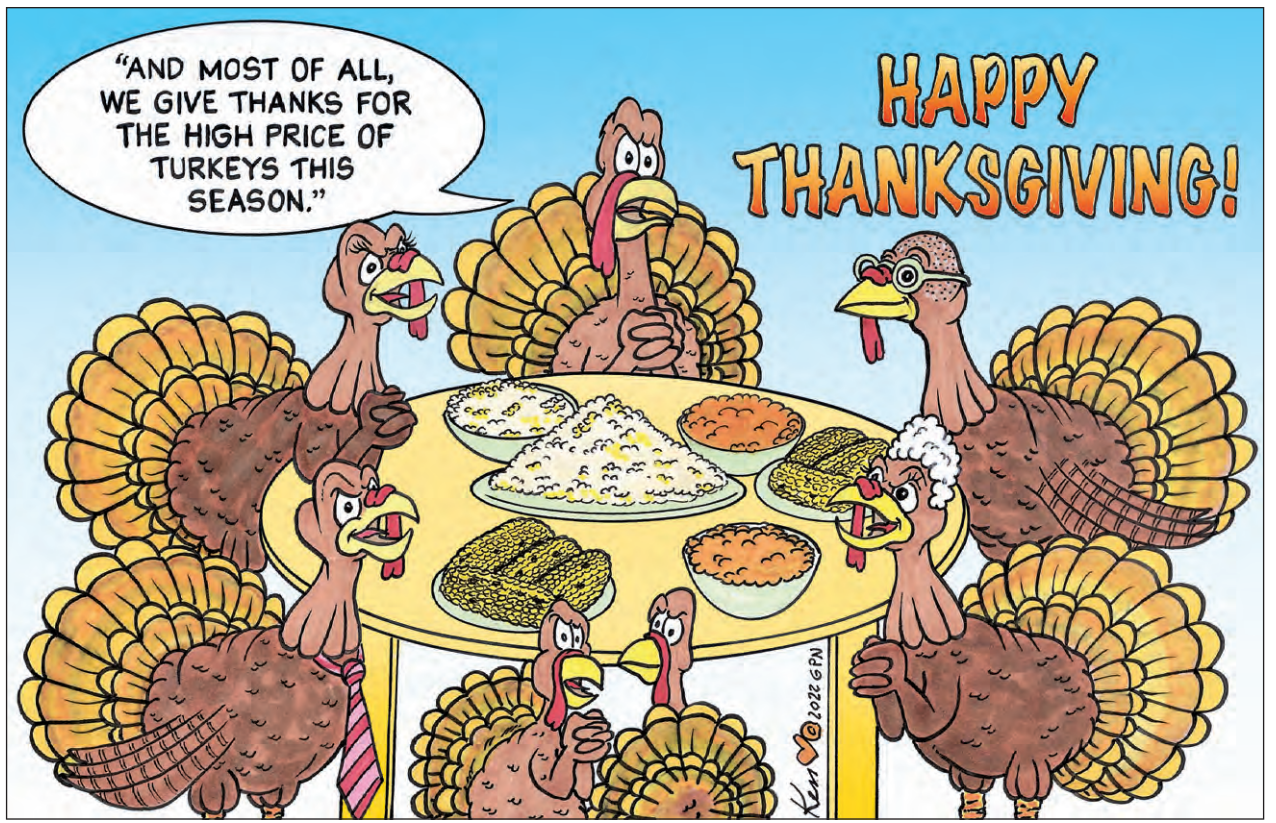


ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

Whether it's the steep prices of everything, the job market, rising interest rates or political tensions, don't let the turkeys get you down. We still have so much to be grateful for this holiday season. So breathe in the crisp fall air, watch a parade, take in some football, enjoy a delicious meal and let's give thanks for our shared love of friends, family and country this Thanksgiving Day.

GUEST VIEW By William K. Broman

Don't make GP a case study

In 2005, the new science building opened at Grosse Pointe North. At a cost of \$10.5 million, this new building had 14 classrooms with lab space and amenities you might not even find on a college campus. As a North student, it was because of these amenities that my love of science grew and laid the foundation for much of my professional life.



Now, the Grosse Pointe Public Schools administration is asking the board to spend \$700,000 to turn one of those classrooms into a health clinic for Beaumont.

But Grosse Pointe is not devoid of healthcare options, and our district does not resemble other districts where Beaumont already has school-based clinics. The need for a school-based clinic is not suggested in the Strategic Plan, nor do the community survey results presented last month support such an

endeavor. In short, now is not the time to spend \$700,000 of taxpayer money to subsidize a clinic.

The proposed clinic came about after Beaumont was awarded a grant from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), which will cover the costs of services for patients who don't have health insurance. The grant does not cover the build-out of the clinic, which the district would pay for out of the sinking fund. The clinic will be located at Grosse Pointe North in one of the current, state-of-the-art science building classrooms and will be accessible to all Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods students — including those not enrolled in GPPSS.

The agreement, which the board will vote on at its

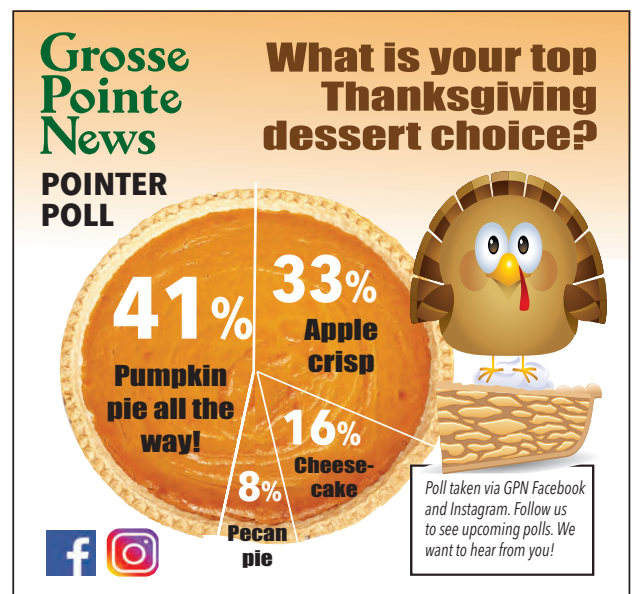
See GUEST, page 8A

Pumpkin pie reaches upper crust in 'favorite desserts' poll

Color yourself shocked or delighted with these intriguing results, but our Instagram and Facebook followers have pronounced pumpkin pie as Grosse Pointers' favorite Thanksgiving dessert. The classic pie beat out apple crisp, cheesecake and its less famous

cousin, pecan pie, as the preferred sweet treat to stuff oneself after a big turkey dinner.

Whichever one you choose to indulge in, be sure to savor every bite. The scale won't discriminate between these delectable desserts the next morning. Happy Thanksgiving!



Polled taken via GPN Facebook and Instagram. Follow us to see upcoming polls. We want to hear from you!

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.

Raising an alarm

To the Editor:

I attended a meeting Nov. 15, about a proposed charter school for Grosse Pointe. I want to raise an alarm about the negative impact this will have in our community.

Charter schools may be good for communities with failing schools. This is emphatically not our case. We are fortunate in having one of the best school sys-

tems in the country. Not perfect, for nothing is, but indisputably one of the best, and we enjoy vigorous community engagement.

We moved here from Birmingham partly because of the comparable school systems. The academic success of our daughters in four of the nation's best universities justifies our decision. Additionally, they developed into conscientious citizens and virtuous human

beings.

If the charter school's envisioned 300 initial students materialize for 2023-24, and if they come from public schools, this will siphon off (initially) almost \$3,000,000 of state funding from GPPSS. Of course no one knows how many actually will leave GPPSS. But the potential for damage is real and great.

Weakening GPPSS affects everyone, because it saps a key reason for living in GP — the excellent schools. Thus, it affects property values.

Private schools exist here and nearby, not to mention charter schools. In fact, since private schools don't take state funds, they actually strengthen the community. Parents who disapprove of GPPSS have options.

I wish the new Board members, Cotton, St. John and Jeup, all pos-

sible success. For the sake of the GP community, however, I do not want to see a charter school succeed here.

KATHLEEN MCNAMEE  
Grosse Pointe Farms

A bad-faith proposal

To the Editor:

Readers should oppose the proposed adolescent health clinic at North High School — grant or no grant. The GPPSS has wasted vast amounts of taxpayer money and failed to achieve its core mission of teaching basic skills like reading, writing, and calculation — despite constant bogus assurances of excellence. Instead, they focus on political fads like emotional-social learning and race-based theories that undermine meritorious achievement. We've

See LETTERS, page 7A



I SAY By Mike Adzima

# World Cup shows why ‘sportswashing’ needs to end



I was 13 years old in December 2010, when FIFA announced that the 2022 World Cup would be held in Qatar. I still remember the shock and confusion that happened back then. Qatar? Really? My 13-year-old self wouldn't have been able to pick out Qatar on a map.

If you have followed the news since, you most likely already know about the myriad scandals surrounding this year's World Cup. From bribery to human rights violations in the

treatment of migrant laborers working to build the stadiums, this tournament has been doomed from the start.

With the tournament now underway, we are sure to get more stories in the coming weeks or months about what the Qatar World Cup actually has been like. Things even started to look more sour in the weeks leading up to the event.

Pictures and videos have surfaced online showing “fan villages,” where tourists can stay during the World Cup, looking similar to the accommodations that went viral at the infamous Fyre Festival in 2017. Just last week, a video went viral of Qatari officials seemingly threatening a Danish news camera crew filming in Qatar in

a public space.

What could characterize this World Cup best is “sportswashing.” An article published in Sports Illustrated in April defined “sportswashing” as “the use of sports to represent a sanitized, friendlier version of a political regime or operation.”

This World Cup is by far not the first example of sportswashing and probably will not be the last — even though it very much should be.

From corruption and human rights violations to Qatar's conservative laws surrounding topics like homosexuality, this tournament has and is putting lives at risk. We could very well be seeing news stories about foreign tourists traveling to Qatar being detained or punished for unclear reasons.

Some might say, “If you're going to that country, you have to respect their laws and values.” However, it comes back to the fact that a nation like Qatar should not be rewarded with events like a World Cup in the first place.

What is almost certain is, as viewers around the world tune in to watch the tournament, Qatar will seem like a paradise. There will be no mention of the laborers who died enduring brutal conditions while building the new stadiums. There also will not be anything said about the deals behind closed doors that Qatari and FIFA officials allegedly made to have this all happen in the first place.

That is what sportswashing is all about. To the outside

world, everything in Qatar surrounding the World Cup will be perfect.

Thankfully, with social media in our modern world, it is easier to capture the darker side of things in situations such as this. It already has happened with the aforementioned examples of the hospitality conditions and the Danish news crew.

It is not as easy for places like Qatar to hide their flaws anymore. Compared to the 1978 World Cup held in Argentina, which was then being ruled by a violent military dictatorship, we have practically up-to-the-minute access to see what is going on behind the scenes.

Perhaps that is what could one day lead us to a world where sportswashing is not as

prevalent. Unfortunately, as long as greed is present in sports, so is sportswashing. Greed is the main reason Qatar is hosting the World Cup in the first place. Greed likely will be the reason why host sites for events like the World Cup and Olympics are chosen in the future.

The World Cup is an event made special because of its soul. The passion of the host nation and fans who travel from around the world to support their teams. This World Cup cannot help but feel soulless because of greed. It could be hard to sit down and watch this World Cup and remember everything surrounding it. It might be difficult to find joy in the competition after realizing what got us here.

## LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

just witnessed the absurd spectacle of its destructive, unscientific COVID lockdown and mask-wearing fiasco, which crippled student outcomes at these tax-stuffed monopoly schools.

The SAT and M-STEP scores are abysmal and show that GP schools lag far behind successful schools like the International Academies of Oakland and Macomb — whose worst SAT scores match GPPSS' highest! It would be a

bad joke if not so expensive and destructive. Yet now they seek to pile waste upon waste by dumping cash on an unnecessary medical industry special-interest project that will drain even more resources from the already-failing core mission. Taxpayers must not be forced to fund this latest episode in nonsense-on-stilts. Taxpayers are the ONLY people whose opinion should matter here, not a money-pit fever-dream that has colonized the attention of Jon Dean and other members of the failure brigade. It's time to halt unethical

support for this latest shiny-object boondoggle.

The last-minute inclusion of this bad-faith proposal in the agenda before the new board members take their seats will prompt a well-deserved backlash. Vote NO on this absurdity.

LAWRENCE LUDLOW  
Grosse Pointe Park

### Schools not in healthcare business

To the Editor:

I am writing today as a member of the community, and not a trustee-elect on the GPPSS

Board of Education, in opposition to the school board's plan to commit us to spending \$700,000-plus upfront and then additional yearly costs to outfit a healthcare clinic inside of North High School. Superintendent Jon Dean is rushing the current board to approve a binding contract in the lame duck session and during the holidays. The vote is set to take place Monday, Nov. 28, at 7 p.m.

First and foremost, the school system should not be in the healthcare business. Our mission is education. Our limited

resources should only be spent to help the students of our system achieve academic success.

I just took a tour of a similar clinic run by the same healthcare provider at River Rouge High School. This provider stated clinic staff work collaboratively with schools and reach into student classrooms to promote the clinic. I believe this violates parental rights and potentially breaks the trust between parents and the school district.

Lastly, GPPSS has been told that Dr. Stephen Warnick Jr., will

oversee our clinic. Community members might recall his antics at board meetings wearing a jester's outfit, where he put himself on the extreme side of universal masking. He has not shown himself to be a neutral advocate for our children.

This clinic is being shoved down taxpayer and parent throats with little input by the community and with zero show of need for our community. Please attend and comment at the board meeting on Nov. 28.

GINNY JEUP  
Grosse Pointe



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GUEST OPINION By Janette Phillips

# Giving back in Grosse Pointe

This year, GivingTuesday, the Tuesday after Thanksgiving dedicated to “unleashing the power of radical generosity,” falls on Nov. 29, and metro Detroit nonprofits are counting on you to help them give back to your communities. A worldwide phenomenon, GivingTuesday takes place in over 80 countries across the globe. In the United States last year, there were 260 united community movements on GivingTuesday. And in 2021, metro Detroiters donated nearly \$9 million to nonprofits on GivingTuesday and are on track to pass that number in 2022.



SHARE Detroit spans Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties and has over 300 nonprofits on its website with a wide variety of missions to choose from. For example, if supporting Grosse Pointe charities is important to you, here are five local nonprofits to consider donating to on GivingTuesday.

- ◆ Food Rescue US — Detroit uses its web-based app to engage volunteers to transfer fresh food surpluses from local businesses to social service agencies serving the food insecure.
- ◆ The Grosse Pointe Artists Association is an advocate for the power of art, working to improve the quality of life in the Pointes by making art an integral force in the community.
- ◆ Kevin’s Song is a charitable organization dedicated to generating public awareness about the causes of suicide, its prevalence in our society and possible preventative measures to

empower communities to prevent suicide and offer hope and healing to survivors.

- ◆ The Family Center is a nonprofit community organization that provides resources and education to empower Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods families to successfully navigate life’s social, emotional and physical challenges.
- ◆ Therapy Ranch brings together horses with humans in psychotherapy, affecting mental health to decrease the severity of depression, anxiety and suicidality in those they serve.

You can find each of these nonprofits on SHARE Detroit’s platform at [sharetetroit.org](http://sharetetroit.org), where you can browse countless other nonprofits and find the ones that speak directly to your heart to give to on GivingTuesday.

Share Detroit connects nonprofits with members of our community. The website provides free information on hundreds of local Detroit area nonprofits. If you are looking for one-on-one support, staff are available to help by talking to you about the nonprofit, your volunteer or donation goals, or to connect you personally with nonprofit leadership.

*Janette Phillips is the executive director of SHARE Detroit.*

## GUEST:

Continued from page 6A

next meeting on Monday, Nov. 28, also allows either party to terminate the agreement, for any reason, with a 30-day notice. And in the event the agreement is terminated, there is no provision reimbursing the district for its costs to build out the clinic and no provision reimbursing the district for its costs to convert the mothballed clinic back into a state-of-the-art science lab.

We have been told repeatedly that the most recent Strategic Plan was a comprehensive assessment of the district’s vision and priorities, with input from an array of community members, and yet the building of a clinic was not included. Similarly, the recent com-

munity survey responses do not provide support for the building of a clinic.

In fact, the board’s own actions with a recent resolution to support career and technical education, tell the administration that if not spent on critical infrastructure, sinking fund money should go to projects like a robotics lab, welding training center, improved culinary facilities, etc.

One of the reasons the administration offers in support of this project is that Grosse Pointe has a population of economically disadvantaged students that “struggle with access to healthcare.” And yet, there is no explanation of why the current options in the Pointes aren’t meeting the needs of those students, nor has the administration detailed how previous

efforts to address these unmet needs have failed.

A taxpayer-subsidized clinic is a risky bet for the district. Even if we accept some risks because they are remote, there are other more imminent risks to the clinic actually succeeding and fulfilling its stated purpose.

In its guidance to existing clinics that are struggling, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services suggests one reason students might not be using the clinic is because they are “using their own primary care provider or other sources of care.”

Grosse Pointers have fairly straightforward access to three hospitals, at least four urgent care centers, a CVS Minute Clinic, multiple primary care providers and more than half a dozen pharmacies offering a full

array of vaccinations/immunizations. As you can see, the barriers to success for a fully-utilized taxpayer-subsidized clinic are aplenty. And yet, the district has yet to articulate how these current options are not meeting the needs of the district’s students.

The MDHHS guidance to existing clinics seems to caution against starting one of these clinics in a large district, such as ours, and with many community offerings, such as we have.

MDHHS notes that health centers in large schools, those with more than 860 students, have a harder time getting to know and earn the trust of students, parents and school staff. Grosse Pointe North, alone, has more than 860 students, making it harder for this new clinic to build trust within the school, not to mention throughout the district. Grosse Pointe has a vast array of health care options as noted above. This is bound to result in lower utilization of the clinic than in a district without similar options.

The administration also points to Beaumont’s experience in other districts to support the benefits and viability of the clinic. This should bother all of us, because the other six districts where these school-based health clinics are located aren’t remotely comparable to Grosse Pointe’s. These clinics haven’t been attempted by Beaumont in a district like ours.

We’re bigger than every district in which Beaumont has demonstrated success, except for Wayne-Westland. The other districts where

these clinics exist have an average of five total schools, only one high school and limited health care providers. Grosse Pointe has 12 schools, including two high schools and three middle schools and healthcare options as listed above.

We must ask ourselves a critical question: Are we as a community and a district, in a position to spend \$700,000 in taxpayer money to be a case study?

As noted above, the administration points to the high number of economically disadvantaged students in the district. In the district’s FAQ, the administration notes 26 percent of students at North and 10 percent at South are economically disadvantaged. These numbers correspond to eligibility for the free and reduced lunch program — so let’s compare Grosse Pointe’s eligibility to that of the other schools that currently have these clinics for the 2021-22 school year.

Nearly 90 percent of students are eligible for free and reduced lunch at two out of the six existing school-based clinics. At the other four schools, eligibility is at or above 65 percent.

Meanwhile, only 26 percent of Grosse Pointe North students are eligible.

Perhaps more alarming than the eligible percentage of students is the actual number of eligible students. The combined eligible students at North and South total just over 400. River Rouge High School has a school-based clinic and roughly the same enrollment as Grosse Pointe North. River Rouge also has

nearly 900 students eligible for free and reduced lunch — about 2.25 times more than North and South’s combined eligibility.

In short, it makes sense for other districts to want these clinics. They often have one high school to serve and more than half of their students are economically disadvantaged. In at least one instance, a school-based clinic also offers a first-time and early juvenile offender diversion program.

Grosse Pointe simply isn’t comparable to the other districts and doesn’t have remotely the same magnitude of needs as these other communities.

There is no doubt in my mind that a student with a healthy mind and body will have better performance in school than one who doesn’t. But our district has a finite pool of money, and our current strategic plan does not indicate that student access to health care has been a significant issue in our district.

The board has a fiduciary duty to demand a detailed reasoning for how spending \$700,000 on this clinic will have a better and longer-term benefit to academic performance versus, for example, improving facilities to accommodate CTE courses and programs, or fixing a leaky roof or deteriorating pools, while partnering with existing sources of care in the community to address unmet health-care needs as they arise.

In my view, the board should vote no on this proposal.

*William Broman is a patent attorney and engineer. He resides in Grosse Pointe Farms.*

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# RAMP Athletics ramps up for business

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — Whether you're looking to recover from an injury, get a post-race massage or increase performance, RAMP Athletics has you covered.

The facility had a soft opening in late September and its grand opening last month.

The business is the brainchild of Erin Johnson, who first came up with the idea in 2014 after spending several years working in physical therapy, personal training and massage therapy.

"I must have applied six times to the Motor City Match program before getting approved," Johnson said. "It pairs businesses with empty buildings through a mix of city, state and federal dollars."

She opened the first iteration of the idea in 2019, in the Detroit City Fieldhouse, and still provides training there for the Detroit City Football Club.

"We closed down for about five months during the pandemic, but when we reopened, we started growing like crazy," Johnson said. "And it was all millennials — these people 25 to 35, who were working from home, laying on the couch with a laptop and they started having all kinds of back and neck pains."

A large turf area allows for performance training, which Johnson thinks should appeal to high school athletes. That area of the building also is used for personalized stretching and struc-

tural work aimed at decompressing joints, increasing range of motion and supporting functional alignment.

Physical therapy services are provided by Peak Performance.

For recovery, RAMP offers sports massages, including two infrared saunas.

"With a traditional massage, you've got the steam and you climb in and start sweating," Johnson explained. "An infrared sauna allows the waves to penetrate about three inches into your muscles, which gets rid of metabolic waste and makes for a faster recovery."

RAMP also is in the process of adding what is called a vitality booth — which Johnson said will be the first in Michigan



COURTESY PHOTO

Owner Erin Johnson, center, and her team at RAMP Athletics.

— a glass chamber with salt therapy that can offer relief from colds, help with sinus problems and reduce symptoms of COPD, emphysema, asthma, psoriasis and acne.

The hot and cold plunge ice bath can be used at the end of a workout or as a stand-alone appointment. It features three built-in

tubs that are set to 45, 104 and 50 degrees.

"You start off in the hot water, then get into the cold water," Johnson explained. "You do that three times for three minutes each. It helps with recovery after a workout or maybe the day after a big game."

RAMP also is home to Detroit IV Experience, which offers a variety of

IV hydration and vitamin therapy.

RAMP Athletics is located at 4849 Canyon and technically has a Detroit mailing address, but is drawing most of its clients from the Pointes. It's visible from Mack but can be difficult to find at first, located south of Great Lakes ACE Hardware and behind EZ Storage.

# Kroger donates full cost of Maire playground privacy fence

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Addressing the need to prevent customers from interacting with school children, Kroger will cover 100 percent of the cost of constructing a privacy fence between its parking lot at 16919 Kercheval and the Maire Elementary School playground.

"The Kroger Company of Michigan is proud to fully fund our shared fence with Maire Elementary School," a statement by Kroger reads. "We recognize and understand the safety and privacy concerns of the students while on the playground and wanted to further show our commitment to the families and citizens of Grosse Pointe. We look forward to the completion of the project in the coming months."

Replacing the current chain-link fence will be a \$28,453 six-foot wooden fence along the section of lot with parking spaces that directly border the playground equipment. The section of fence between the Kroger lot driveway and ball field will remain in place in consideration of the line of sight for both drivers and children who may exit a gate there.

The fence's construc-

tion comes after a year of advocacy for its need by the Maire PTO.

"We're really thankful to Kroger for stepping in and helping us out with that," Maire PTO President Eileen Proudlock said. "This was a big expense that would have eaten away at a lot of other things we like to do within our school."

Because the fence is less than seven feet in height, it does not require state permitting. The Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education approved its construction 6-0 in October.

"I think going back six to eight years and various discussions about what the city might do with that piece of property or Maire parents' concerns about

the parking lot there, that chain-link fence between the parking lot and the playground has been a concern for a long period of time," Trustee David Brumbaugh said prior to the vote, "so big kudos to the PTO and to Kroger for stepping up and looking for a solution."

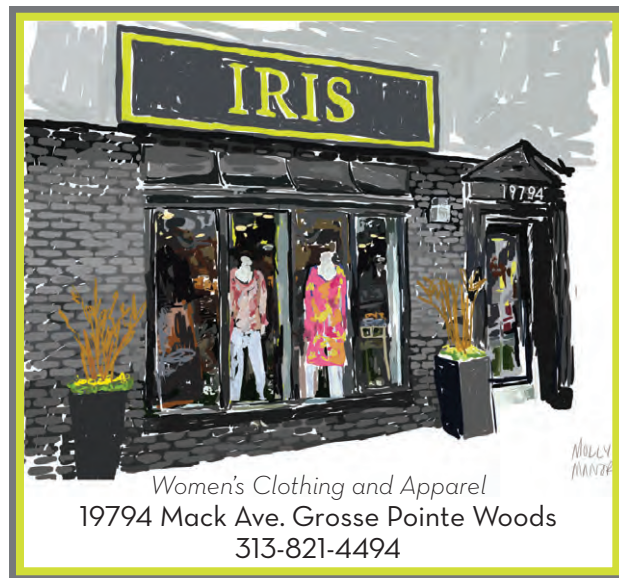
Main Street Grosse Pointe, working in collaboration with the City and school district, has long-term plans to extend the fence down the length of the alley behind Kercheval businesses, an effort which could include the incorporation of public art or similar aesthetic additions.

"One of the things that we always look at is not just how businesses and how our downtown looks from the front, but also

how does it appear from the back," MSGP Director Cindy Willcock explained, "and in these areas where there's parking behind,

we especially want to make sure that our rear alleyways and entrances are just as attractive and pedestrian-friendly and

aesthetically pleasing." While the project likely is a few years out, she added, it is within MSGP's five-year plan.



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10A | SCHOOLS

# GPFPE elects new board members, executive board

The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education Board of Directors recently announced the election of three new board members, as well as a new executive board. The new board members are Ben Burns of Grosse Pointe Park, Sarah Gough of Grosse Pointe Farms and Clare Pfeiffer of Grosse Pointe Woods.



**Ben Burns**



**Sarah Gough**



**Clare Pfeiffer**

The GPFPE also elected a new executive board. Cynthia Sohn was appointed board president, taking over from longtime president Robert Bury, who will remain on the board of directors. Robert Montgomery will serve as vice president,

Caroline Marks will assume the duties of secretary and Kiana Rose will remain treasurer. "It's an exciting time of transition for the GPFPE with new board members

joining us and a new executive board assuming leadership responsibilities," Sohn said. "Each member of the GPFPE board brings a unique viewpoint to our organi-

zation and we are all brought together by our commitment to the students and teachers of the Grosse Pointe Public School System. We look forward to furthering the

mission of the GPFPE, bringing our community together and providing extraordinary opportunities for our school district."

Ben Burns lives in Grosse Pointe Park with his wife, Laura, and their children. He is a GPPSS alumnus and his children currently are enrolled in the district.

Sarah Gough lives in Grosse Pointe Farms with her husband, Bill, and their children. She is an active and visible community volunteer and she and her husband are both GPPSS alumni.

Clare Pfeiffer lives in Grosse Pointe Woods with her husband, Dustin,

and children. She is the content studio manager for Crain's Detroit Business. Their children include current students and recent graduates of GPPSS.

The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education is an independent, nonprofit organization that funds extraordinary educational opportunities for GPPSS students. Since 2007, it has provided more than \$4 million in funding to GPPSS, supporting a diverse roster of programs and projects at every school and grade level across the district.

For further information, visit [gpfpe.org](http://gpfpe.org).

## Liggett awards Thelma Fox Murray scholarships

Five University Liggett School students have been honored with the Thelma Fox Murray Scholarship for the 2021-22 academic year.

This year's recipients are seniors Alison Cone of Grosse Pointe Farms, Alexis Gormely of Grosse Pointe Woods, Alexandria Metry of Grosse Pointe Woods, Gabriella Noble

of Mount Clemens and Giuliana Luffy of Grosse Pointe Park.

The Thelma Fox Murray Scholarship is awarded each year to students who display integrity, humility, sense of humor, athletic achievement, academic excellence and leadership qualities. Murray, a 1917 Liggett School alumna,

left a lasting personal commitment to education in her endowment gift to University Liggett School upon her death in 1987.

Since that time, the scholarship has been awarded each year to deserving students at the school. The ULS scholarship committee and scholarship trustee S.

Gary Spicer Sr. select the students.

**Winners of University Liggett School's Thelma Fox Murray Scholarship for the 2021-22 academic year include, from left, Alexis Gormely, Giuliana Luffy, Alexandria Metry, Gabriella Noble and Alison Cone.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY LIGGETT SCHOOL

## HEALTH:

Continued from page 1A

that involves access to health care, insured families (and) the school poverty rates," Dean said. "So initially, none of our Grosse Pointe high schools were a good match for this program ... but as they've expanded this program, Grosse Pointe North, based on the data, ended up qual-

ifying for this need."

Kate Murray, principal of Grosse Pointe North, also spoke, enumerating the benefits a school health clinic could have for GPPSS students. She said the clinic would not only provide free medical care for students, regardless of whether or not they have medical insurance, but also would limit the geographic barrier to healthcare, both of which she believes will

improve academic outcomes.

"I deeply believe that this clinic will make all of our students healthier and we know when our students don't feel good in their bodies and in their minds that it becomes much more difficult to learn," Murray said. "So if we take care of their physical and mental health, we're actually taking care of their academic health as well."

The clinic, if approved, will be in a classroom in the science wing at Grosse Pointe North. It would be open every school day and one night per week, in line with the specifications required by the grant. There would be an exterior entrance for students from other GPPSS schools — as well as anyone from outside of the GPPSS community who wants medical care — to access the clinic. The doors between the clinic and the instructional space of Grosse Pointe North would be locked.

The clinic would be supervised by a board-certified physician, who would visit periodically, and would have a full-time board-certified nurse practitioner — either a pediatric nurse practitioner or family nurse practitioner. There also would be a full-time master-level therapist, social worker or licensed professional counselor at the clinic.

Anticipating concern from community members, Dean specified that the parental consent guidelines for adolescents' access to healthcare services are governed by state law. Parental consent would be required for a minor to receive any form of medical care, except for some confidential services. These services include STI testing, pregnancy tests or mental health care; up to 12 sessions over four

months can be provided before a guardian must be notified.

In addition to providing the traditional facets of a clinic, it also would use more uncommon strategies to combat health problems. Cook discussed how, through the clinic, a community-based board would be started to break down health disparities. It would be composed of community health workers that would work on various social determinants of health, including food and housing insecurities.

Trustee Lisa Papas said while she thought the intention behind the clinic was good, she had several concerns about it. Given that the project requires a \$700,000 infrastructure investment by the district, she is concerned that, because of staff shortages, the clinic may never be staffed properly for it to be used optimally. Overall, she added, it may be too expensive for the district to take on, given its other critical infrastructure needs.

"We just had a leaky roof at North (and we) just talked earlier tonight about all the critical needs these old buildings have. ... We have multiple urgent care (centers and) hospitals (in the community)," Papas said. "And my concern too is that this clinic is really only going to be convenient for the North students. (This clinic is going to)

serve a very small percentage of our school population for a lot of money."

Papas said she also was concerned about the district spending money on a project that will not exclusively benefit the children it educates. It is her understanding that anyone, even if they do not have children in GPPSS or live in the boundaries of GPPSS, can use the clinic. She said while she supports measures to expand healthcare access for everyone, the district has a responsibility to spend its funds on projects that exclusively benefit its own taxpayers.

Vice President Colleen Worden and Treasurer Margaret Weertz, though, concurred on their support of the clinic in their closing comments, saying they believe it will provide essential medical care for the school district.

"I do know how expensive it is if you don't have health insurance or access to Medicaid funding," Worden said. "So I am never going to be opposed to something that provides access to affordable healthcare for our families and I know there are a lot of families in this community that don't have access to it."

Board members will vote on the interagency agreement between GPPSS and Oakwood Healthcare, the first step to opening the clinic at North, during the Nov. 28 board meeting.

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Right, Ford Motor Co.'s two-legged robot, Digit, was designed and built by Agility Robotics to not only approximate the look of a human, but to walk like one, too. Below, attendees had the opportunity to design and make their own STEAM Faire buttons.



COURTESY PHOTOS

## Liggett hosts 1st Community STEAM Faire

More than 700 community members had their minds blown at University Liggett School's inaugural Community STEAM Faire on Saturday, Nov. 5.

"Teachers, students, families, local businesses and national and international companies came together to engage children," said Mike Medvinsky, dean of pedagogy and innovation.

STEAM — an approach to learning that uses science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics as access points for guiding student inquiry, dialogue and critical thinking — is an integral part of a University Liggett School education. The objective of this first-time event was to give children of all ages a forum for experiencing STEAM through more than 20 do-it-yourself, make-and-take booths and live science demonstrations.

"Through this event, we invited children into the world of endless possibilities, which would not have been possible without the help of more than 100 volunteers and our booth facilitators," Medvinsky said. "We owe a tremendous thank you to each and every one of the event sponsors for sponsoring booths and contributing their expertise to this event. We could



not have done it without them."

Activities such as the Michigan Science Center's new Discovery Dome were so popular that all the tickets to enter the dome were handed out 30 minutes into the event. The Discovery Dome is a portable planetarium that allows those inside to see the constellations, stars, planets and galaxies in the night sky close up. To extend the excitement of the Discovery Dome, visitors could then visit the "Look Up!" booth to use two high-powered astronomical telescopes with a variety of oculars to see distant stars and planets. This booth was facilitated by a University Liggett School grandparent.

During the four-hour event, attendees were able to:

- ◆ build a LEGO structure and use a shake-table to see if it would survive

an earthquake;

- ◆ build and launch stomp rockets;

- ◆ interact with the Ford Motor Co. robot, Digit;

- ◆ create Art-Bot art;

- ◆ get a picture taken with Sunny, the DTE mascot; and

- ◆ contribute a painted square to the Van Gogh crowdsourced art installation.

Monetary and in-kind sponsors for the STEAM Faire included CHRO Solutions; Tara and Jody Ingle; Shaina and Neal Gram; John Cameron; American Cycle & Fitness; Bikes, Blades and Boards; DTE, Einstein Bagels; Lowe's; Rainy Day Art & Framing; St. Clair Tooth Company; and Staples. Community partners included The Center for Innovative Teaching & Learning, College for Creative Studies, Detroit Institute of Arts, Ford Motor Co., and Michigan Science Center.



ULS science teacher Scott Brunner got the audience involved as he explored the science of rotation and angular momentum.



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## Pierce fifth graders honor military veterans

Pierce Middle School fifth graders in Michelle Orhan's social studies class recognized Veterans Day with a Veterans Wall of Honor.

Each student selected a veteran in their life for whom they were grateful to feature on the wall, sharing information about their branch of service, military rank, job while in the military, length of service and, if applicable, the war in which they served and medals they were awarded.

Represented on the wall were multiple generations and wars going as far back as the Civil War, including World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam War, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Thanks to a DNA test, Marcus Suryadi was able to trace his ancestry back to his great-great-grandfather, Gen. William Sherman, on his father's side. In his research, Suryadi discovered his relative served as com-



Olivia Armitage's parents served in the U.S. Navy and met on a ship during their first deployment.

COURTESY PHOTOS

manding general of the Army from 1869 to 1883.

Both of Lucy Nyenhuis's grandfathers served in the Vietnam War. Larry Wyniemko, or "Papa," served two years in Vietnam in the Army as a construction engineer, and Ken Nyenhuis, or "Grandpa," also was in the Army for two years as a staff sergeant.

Eli Messman also chose his grandfather, Alan Brenner, who was in the military while the Vietnam War took place, working as a specialist 5th class and earning a marksman-ship award. His job with the U.S. Army was Nike-Hercules missile electron-

ics maintenance.

Messman was fortunate to meet with his grandfather to complete his project, giving him the opportunity to thank his grandfather in person.

The project also made him reflect on the importance of Veterans Day.

"It made me think that they did a lot to serve the country and they did a lot to make sure everybody is free here," he said.

Olivia Armitage recognized both of her parents, who were deployed together and met on a ship. Her mother, Amanda Armitage, was deployed twice, first for Operation Iraqi Freedom and then for Operation Enduring Freedom. Her father, Joe Armitage, was a petty officer in the U.S. Navy working as an information technician specialist. He was deployed for Joint Task Force Katrina to serve as relief in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Armitage said she and her brother, Liam, a third grader at Defer Elementary School, "always try to make a card and thank them for their service."



Pictured, from left, are Pierce fifth graders Eli Messman, Lucy Nyenhuis, Marcus Suryadi, Rowan Blunden, Lila Wachler and Sophie Byrn.

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**OVER-THE-RANGE MICROWAVE:** 1.7 cu. ft., Fast Cook, Sensor Cooking (PVM9179SRSS)  
**DISHWASHER:** Dry Boost™, Built-In Third Rack, 45 dBA quiet (PDT715SYNFS)

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2B AREA ACTIVITIES | 3-5B BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS | 6B OBITUARIES | 7B CHURCHES

## Hollyfest celebrates community, honors supporters

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods welcomed guests Nov. 17, to The War Memorial's newly opened Fred M. Alger Center in celebration of Hollyfest 2022.

For 22 years, The Family Center has served the community through its mission of empowering families to successfully navigate life's social, emotional and physical challenges. This year alone, The Family Center hosted 22 in-person programs, including two community book clubs, 15 new parent get-togethers and presentations about suicide prevention, substance abuse prevention, child development and teen mental health.

It also provided 24 on-site programs along with mental health services for students, teachers and staff at Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and Harper Woods schools. It hosted more than 400 people for meditation and yoga classes during its Wellness Series and partnered with other nonprofits to plan and participate in nine community events, including the sixth annual Suicide Prevention Walk, Harper Woods National Night Out and Yoga for Pride.

The Family Center also recorded 16 virtual programs, which have been watched and listened to by more than 4,000 people. Additionally, staff have answered more than 300 phone calls for mental health referrals, housing support, parent-

ing resources and autism services.

All of its services and programs are offered free of charge to anyone in the community who has a need. Through Hollyfest, funds are raised to further support its offerings.

The evening included a strolling dinner and silent and live auctions, as well as a performance by The Grunyons. Longtime supporters of The Family Center, John and Terry Minnis, also were recognized during the event.

The Minnises, residents of Grosse Pointe Woods, are owners of Grosse Pointe Magazine and former owners of the Grosse Pointe News.

"John and Terry are longtime friends and supporters," said The Family

Center founder, Diane Strickler. "John's career started in Grosse Pointe in 1988, when he was hired as a staff writer for the Grosse Pointe News. He would go on to be editor and general manager of the newspaper and under John's leadership and beyond, The Family Center has always found a welcome home in the Grosse Pointe News.

"In 2010, as The Family Center was celebrating its 10th anniversary, John and Terry founded Grosse Pointe Magazine, featuring the best of Grosse Pointe — and that very much includes The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods," she continued. "At about the same time, John was a volunteer as a member of The Family Center's publicity committee. John would go on to serve many years on The Family Center board, including two terms as president. Terry and John continue to serve as ambassadors of The Family Center, which includes devoting precious space in their magazine.

"... Thank you, John and Terry, for your dedication to The Family Center and your outstanding contributions to our community."

"Terry and I were honored, and humbled, to be chosen this year's honorary chairs of Hollyfest," John Minnis said. "When thinking about The Family Center, the African proverb, 'It takes a village to raise a child' comes to mind. The Family Center has been



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LAUREN MCGREGOR

**Grosse Pointe Magazine owners John and Terry Minnis, former owners of the Grosse Pointe News, were honorary chairs of Hollyfest.**

very much a part of that village, first with Play Central, drop-in play for toddlers at Barnes School, to Preschool Playtime at The War Memorial where The Family Center is located today.

"The Family Center's offerings grew with its children to 'big girl' and 'big boy' elementary-age programs to 'transitioning to middle school,' a difficult time that begins two grade levels sooner than in our day," he continued. "The Family Center entered the high school years with programs on depression and suicide, of which, sadly, even we are not immune. "Entering college was,

obviously, the next logical step for Family Center programming. As parents aged with their children, the 'sandwich generation' — those caring for both their families and their elderly parents — became a focus for The Family Center.

"So, indeed, it does take a village to raise a child. From its co-founder, Diane Strickler, its supportive board and 'dream team' administrators, Jen Bingaman and MaryJo Harris, and many volunteers, The Family Center is poised for an even more promising future in support of our families and our community. We are proud to be a small part of that effort."



A well-attended Hollyfest took place in the newly renovated Fred M. Alger Center at The War Memorial.

## Independent bookstore launches holiday pop-up at historic Alger Theater

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

Book lovers in Grosse Pointe and the surrounding community will have a new shopping option this holiday season.

Sarah and Jay Williams, of Redford, are opening a pop-up bookstore at the historic Alger Theater. Next Chapter Books will welcome customers beginning Friday, Nov. 25, offering Friday, Saturday and Sunday hours through Dec. 18, and into the Christmas week.

"My husband and I have had a longterm dream to have a bookstore," Sarah Williams said. "We're both passionate about it. We both love to read and want to own a business."

The couple — she's a journalist and he's earn-



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAROLINE WILLIAMS

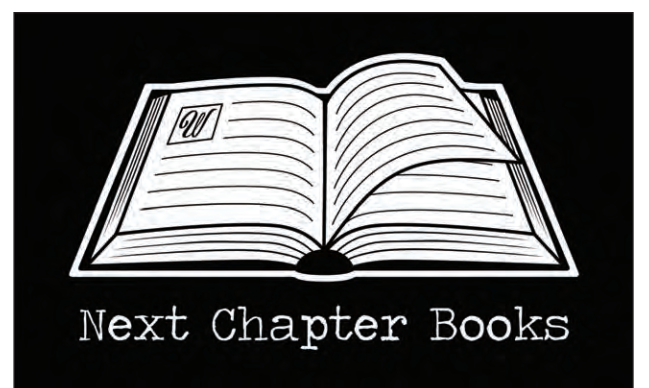
**Sarah and Jay Williams open their holiday pop-up bookstore, Next Chapter Books, on Friday.**

ing a master's degree in public history — set aside the dream in order to raise three daughters, but now that they're

empty nesters for the first time, their bookstore is becoming reality. Over the summer, they took a business class, created a

business plan and set about finding a location.

"We've wanted to move to the city for years, but we just weren't sure



LOGO COURTESY OF JOSIE CURTIS

exactly where," Williams said. "There are a lot of wonderful independent bookstores in the city and we wanted to give them space. We saw room to explore on the east side."

Speaking with representatives from different communities, their plan was embraced by the East Warren Development Corp., which is working to revitalize the East Warren corridor.

"They connected us with the Alger Theater," Williams said. "The Alger Theater is building out retail space along East

Warren." "Bookstores are a cornerstone of a thriving small business corridor and the Alger is the heartbeat of our commercial corridor," said Joe Rashid, executive director of East Warren Development Corp. "We are thrilled we could help facilitate this pairing of great spaces."

The location couldn't be more fitting.

"My early childhood home is around the block from the Alger on Three Mile Drive," Williams said. "The theater was

See BOOKS, page 2B

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## 2B | FEATURES

## Young professionals kick off committee to combat illiteracy

More than 100 metro Detroit young professionals came out to the first event in late September to learn about the mission of Beyond Basics, Michigan's leading provider of structured literacy intervention. The event, held at the Riverside, launched the newly formed Leaders for Literacy, a committee of adults ages 25 to 40, who want to do their part to

eradicate the crisis of illiteracy in America.

Committee chair Abigail Turnbull felt moved to become part of the solution after learning about Beyond Basics at a nonprofit showcase in 2021. Currently two-thirds of fourth graders nationwide are reading below proficiency and pandemic learning losses have only added to their ranks. Turnbull was

heartened to learn there is a remedy: Beyond Basics' multi-sensory approach helps students achieve grade-level movement in an average of six weeks.

Turnbull's passion to become a literacy advocate quickly drew her peers to join her in forming Leaders for Literacy — and the committee's enthusiasm is contagious, as evident by the many

young professionals who milled about the venue, enjoying cocktails and music, curious to learn more.

"I'm blown away by the generosity of our attendees," said Turnbull, an account manager at leading insurance broker NFP. "I'm very much looking forward to keeping the momentum to continue to make a difference and work to eradicate illiteracy."

The Beyond Basics model for intervention helps K-12 students in the "literacy gap," reading below their grade level, find their way out. Following a diagnostic assessment, a trained tutor delivers an individualized reading plan, working one-on-one with a student, in daily hour-long sessions embedded within the school day. Once literate, students can access their curriculum across all subjects,

pursue college and workforce opportunities and connect to life's possibilities.

Gen Z'ers and millennials are outspoken, entrepreneurial and often lead with the heart by placing values ahead of material gain. As such, a solution that meets students where they are, swiftly produces measurable results and paves the way toward a just and equitable society resonates with them as they consider charitable giving and advocacy. Leaders for Literacy creates a new cohort of champions who are passionate about ending the epidemic of illiteracy in America and lays the groundwork to engage Beyond Basics' next generation of supporters.

Young professionals who would like to be informed of future Leaders for Literacy events and activities

should email Executive Outreach Manager Katie Nienstedt at [nienstedt@beyondbasics.org](mailto:nienstedt@beyondbasics.org).

## Up next

Leaders for Literacy is hosting its next event, "Holiday Sip & Shop," from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, at Village Palm, 17133 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. A portion of all sales will be donated to Beyond Basics Leaders for Literacy. For more information, email [adorothyturnbull@gmail.com](mailto:adorothyturnbull@gmail.com).

## About Beyond Basics

Since its founding in 1999, Beyond Basics has grown to become Michigan's leading provider of structured literacy intervention working in more than 20 locations, helping students advance in reading in an average of six weeks. Learn more at [beyondbasics.org](http://beyondbasics.org).

## BOOKS:

Continued from page 1B

closed in the late '70s and early '80s when I lived there, but I have memories of walking with my mother to the Jefferson branch of the Detroit Public Library next door for storytime and to the Wine Basket for quick groceries across the street. My older brothers and I also walked to school at Peace Lutheran on East Warren. It's a joy to be able to launch our bookstore in this neighborhood where I have wonderful memories."

Next Chapter Books will feature nearly 2,000 new and contemporary used titles.

"We aim to be a 70/30 secondhand to new bookstore, offering both affordability and relevance through a diverse selection of contemporary titles," Williams explained. "All the titles we're excited about and hope other people will be as well. ... Hopefully people will get lost in the stacks with titles they hadn't even thought to come in for."

The Williamses are committed to highlighting local authors and authors of color within their selection, which includes genres for everyone's taste — contemporary fiction, social justice, biographies, memoirs, cookbooks, history, politics, science fiction, fantasy, poetry, young adult, middle grade and children's books.

"We believe reading builds compassion and understanding for others and the experiences we haven't had," Williams

said. "Owning a book allows us to reignite our imagination, revisit challenging ideas and share them with others. A neighborhood bookstore invites human connection, nurtures a love for reading and creates investment in a community that can't be found by purchasing books online."

## The next chapter

"The reason it's Next Chapter Books is because this is the next chapter for my husband and I in terms of what's next in our lives," Williams said, adding that Jay Williams left a 24-year career at an automotive manufacturing plant to pursue his master's degree.

The family affair doesn't end there. Each of the couple's three daughters has had a hand in Next Chapter Books. Emma Williams of Been There, Baked That will sell sweets — from decorated sugar cookies to pumpkin muffins — at the shop. Photo prints by Caroline Williams, a Wayne State University photography and education major, will adorn the walls. And Taylor Williams is adding her artistic touch on signage throughout the store.

"The kids have heard us talk about a bookstore for a long time," Williams said. "We couldn't have done it without them."

The Williamses have been met with positive responses so far and hope to have a better understanding by the end of December whether the East English Village/Morningside/Cornerstone neighborhood will embrace and support a community

bookstore.

"After the new year, we'll also have pop-ups in nearby communities ... until we find the right space," Williams added. "Right now, we feel encouraged by the response from East English Village."

"And we hope, being so close to Grosse Pointe, that this will be something Grosse Pointers will come to as well," she continued.

Noting Coreander's Children's Bookshoppe and Shaw's Books in Grosse Pointe Park, Williams said her bookstore will offer something a bit different.

"To our understanding, we didn't see something like (Next Chapter Books) in Grosse Pointe. This is a great opportunity to reach both communities."

When they find the perfect permanent home, the Williamses already have programming in mind, including author talks, book-signing events, storytime sessions and more.

"We love the idea of interacting with neighbors and we would love to do that around books," she said. "With how welcome we've already felt in this community, we're encouraged to consider it as a possible location permanently. ... The Alger Theater and East Warren have welcomed us with open arms. We're grateful for the opportunity and looking forward to getting to know our neighbors."

Next Chapter Books is temporarily located at 16451 E. Warren, Detroit. For more information, visit [nextchapterbkstore.com](http://nextchapterbkstore.com).

## AREA ACTIVITIES

## Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25, Ascension St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25, Pointe Fitness, 19556 Harper, Harper Woods.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25, Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church, 28250 Rockwood, St. Clair Shores.

Register online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

## Reunion

Grosse Pointe South High School's Class of 2002 will have its 20-year reunion at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores. Find more information or reach out with questions to Kelene (Soltesz) Kaplan or Jason Bargnes on Facebook at [fb.me/e/2MdAdqdfL](https://fb.me/e/2MdAdqdfL)

## Library

The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts a variety of programs. To register for the following, visit [grossepointelibrary.org](http://grossepointelibrary.org).

◆ Registration begins for Gingerbread House Take-Home Crafts, 9 a.m. Monday, Nov. 28, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Kelly Fordon's Podcast — Let's Deconstruct a Story, noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, via Zoom. Fordon interviews Toni Ann Johnson about "TimeTravel" from her book, "Light Skin Gone to Waste."

## GPAA

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association hosts Imitating the Masters: Oil Painting Workshops with Donald Cronkhite. A Rembrandt workshop takes place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 30 and Dec. 7, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Cost per workshop is \$100 for GPAA members, \$120 for nonmembers. Register at [grossepointeartcenter.org](http://grossepointeartcenter.org).

## Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30. Phil Gilchrist, executive director of the Anton Art Center in Mount Clemens, speaks. Email [grossepointerotary@gmail.com](mailto:grossepointerotary@gmail.com).

## The War Memorial

The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, presents the Dave Sharpe Worlds Quartet, featuring Elden Kelly, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1. VIP tickets are \$48 and include a private reception and preferred seating; concert-only tickets are \$25. For tickets, visit [warmemorial.org](http://warmemorial.org).

## The Helm

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

◆ Medicare Open Enrollment, through Dec. 7. Schedule an appointment by calling (313) 649-2110.

◆ The movie "12

Mighty Orphans" is shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.

◆ Holiday Cookie/Dessert Competition, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6. Cost is \$6 for members, \$8 for nonmembers.

◆ Meet the Author, 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7. Stefan Szymanski, Ph.D., author of "City of Champions: A History of Triumph and Defeat in Detroit," speaks.

## Ford House

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

◆ Drop-In Studio: Holiday Cards, 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 3.

◆ Cookies with Santa, 2 to 7 p.m. Dec. 3, 6, 7, 10, 13, 14 and 17. Cost is \$20 for members, \$30 for nonmembers.

◆ Holiday Tea & Tour, noon, 12:15 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. Thursdays, Dec. 8 and 22. Cost is \$55 for members, \$75 for nonmembers.

◆ Talk: Detroit's Design DNA: The DIA's 1949 For Modern Living Exhibition, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8.

For tickets and information, visit [fordhouse.org](http://fordhouse.org).

## Ecumenical Breakfast

The Grosse Pointe Men's Ecumenical Breakfast meets at 7:45 a.m. Friday, Dec. 9, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Jeff Lincicome, pastor and head of staff at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, speaks. Cost for breakfast is \$7. Registration is not required and first-time guests eat free.



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# Harper Woods engaging community

## Platform opens communication between city, residents

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

Making its debut in the state of Michigan, a new platform has been implemented in Harper Woods to streamline communication between the city and its residents.

Engage Harper Woods launched early October and is designed as a central hub to share information, as well as get input and feedback. Active projects — which currently include the city's ongoing master plan update, plans for the former Eastland Center and a future pocket park — are listed on the homepage and include varying forms of engagement, from sharing new ideas to answering survey questions.

The platform allows the small municipality to connect in a way larger cities do, but



without having to hire a full-time community engagement staff.

"In some ways, we're limited in the way we can share information on the city's website," said Stephen Lindley, economic and community development deputy director for Harper Woods. "This allows us to share photos, videos, seek input. And we're just scratching the sur-

face of what we really can do with it."

The first project disseminated on the platform was the city's master plan. Harper Woods and municipal planner McKenna, who is assisting in the process, will be able to use information gathered on the platform — where residents are asked to share their ideas for Harper Woods and/or

take a survey — to better update the master plan. "The ability to use this platform to have an effective master plan process is something that lined up perfectly with the timing," Lindley said.

A second project, the Eastland Commerce Center, currently is solely providing information as a means to

clear up confusion or misinformation about the project, Lindley said.

"It's helpful to direct people to this when they have questions," he added. "We're not allowing comments on Eastland, just sharing information. On other projects, we'll be open to sharing ideas. It can be moderated in a way social media is not."

A third project was added last week — information about a potential pocket park. "There's a vacant lot on Roscommon the city has owned since 2016," Lindley said, noting this project comes with a timeline. "First, we'll ask what we should name the park, then we'll ask what type of structures should be in it. Then we'll open it up to comments."

Depending on the project, platform engagement can range

from sharing information to complete ideation, Lindley said. Another benefit is that Engage Harper Woods is open to multiple departments within the city. "A lot of us can use it," he explained. "Once we're rolling, for instance, there will be a Harper Woods Public Safety icon, so if they want to do a survey about speed humps ... someone can drop a pin on a street where they feel people are driving way too fast. Or the library could solicit information about what workshops they should have for kids. Or Parks and Rec can ask what types of programs they should offer in the spring."

Though Engage Harper Woods is the first CitizenLab platform in the state, Lindley

See ENGAGE, page 7B

## Soft opening of GPHS HQ includes photography exhibition

The Grosse Pointe Historical Society invites the public to the soft opening of its new headquarters at 375 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms, with an exhibition and sale of the black-and-white landscape photography of Eric Stroh.

"Please celebrate with us on Small Business Saturday, Nov. 26; Museum Sunday, Nov. 27; and Giving Tuesday, Nov. 29," said Leslie Wagner, GPHS president. "We think you will love the new building and these beautiful works of art."

Hours for the opening receptions are 3 to 7 p.m. all three days. Admission

is free, with complimentary wine, coffee and punch. Children are welcome. The artwork and other GPHS items are available for purchase.

"This is a great way to kick off your holidays and holiday shopping," Wagner said.

A lifelong Grosse Pointer, Eric Stroh retired from his family's business after 30 years in 1985. He then pursued his passions and hobbies, including nature and landscape photography. He traveled with his mentor and teacher, renowned photographer Monte Nagler, a student of

See EXHIBIT, page 7B

## ENGAGEMENTS



Caroline Sweeny and John Watkins Jr.

### Sweeny—Watkins

Mr. and Mrs. Donald N. Sweeny III of Grosse Pointe Farms announce the engagement of their daughter, Caroline Barnes Sweeny, to John Randolph Watkins Jr., the son of Mr. John Randolph Watkins of Franklin and the late Patricia Sharpe Watkins.

Miss Sweeny is a graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School and the University of Virginia and works in IT services.

Mr. Watkins graduated from Brunswick High School in Greenwich, Conn., earned a degree in economics from Davidson College and a master's degree in civil engineering from Wayne State University. He is a civil engineer.

A February 2023 wedding is planned.



Megan Fleming and DJ Brinton

### Fleming—Brinton

Laura Sanom and William Fleming of the City of Grosse Pointe announce the engagement of their daughter, Megan Fleming, to DJ Brinton, the son of Jeni and David Brinton of Harrisburg, Pa.

Ms. Fleming is a graduate of Pennsylvania State University and works in corporate and executive communications.

Mr. Brinton is a graduate of Pennsylvania State University and a fourth year medical student at the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, specializing in anesthesiology.

A June 2024 wedding is planned.

## League hosts 'Private Wealth and Public Bodies' program

The League of Women Voters, Grosse Pointe presents a program about philanthropy titled "Private Wealth and Public Bodies" at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7, at Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, 17150 Maumee, City of Grosse Pointe.

Americans pay taxes to support public institutions that serve everyone, but wealthy individuals have also long sought ways to share their resources with their communities. This often means donating to support projects in local cities, school districts and library districts. Is this a healthy practice for communities? What steps do communities need to take to ensure it's a healthy practice? What challenges

face public bodies when they are offered private money? What best practices are recommended to protect both the donors and the recipients?

Speakers include:  
◆ Mariam Noland, retired president of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

◆ Dave Egner, president and CEO of the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation

◆ Christian Fenton, retired deputy superintendent for business and operations for the Grosse Pointe Public School System

Registration is required. Find the link at [lvvgrossepointe.org](http://lvvgrossepointe.org).

For more information, contact the League at [lvvgrossepointe@gmail.com](mailto:lvvgrossepointe@gmail.com).

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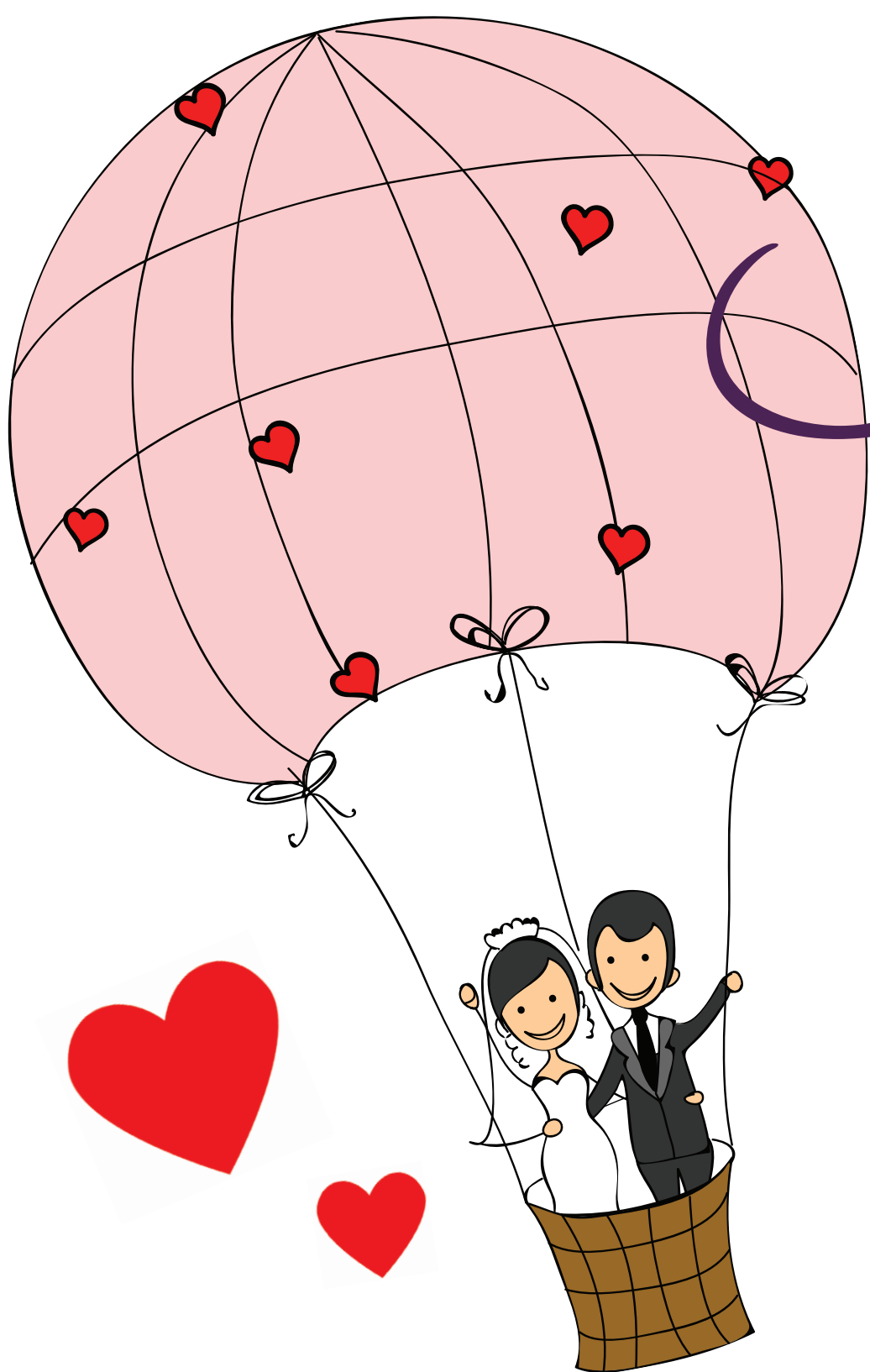
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## BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS



# Idos (and don'ts)

*Be the best wedding guest ever with these helpful tips from a local etiquette pro*

**P**rofessional etiquette coach, **Danielle Kovachevich** offers this handy Q & A on the basic questions everyone has regarding weddings. Keep her answers ready throughout the wedding season, and your manners will always be on point.

## Destination weddings

**If wedding travel is too expensive for me, how do I politely decline an invitation while still being sincere and keeping our relationship intact?**

Guests who cannot attend a destination wedding may want to send a note or make a phone call ahead of their written decline explaining how disappointed they are and wishing them all the best on their upcoming wedding. There is no need to give a longwinded response. Sometimes longer explanations with multiple excuses for why you can't attend can seem ingenuine.

## Wedding cards

**What are some thoughtful well wishes I can include in my wedding card that aren't generic?**

A few sweet sentiments for a wedding card are: "Here's to the love that brought you together." Or "I love to see two people who deserve happiness so much find it with each other." Or "I'm seeing a fun-filled life in your future."



## Plus ones

**If I didn't get a "plus one" on the wedding invitation, but my significant other and I have been together for multiple years, is it rude to ask the bride and groom to add one more guest?**

As a rule of thumb, married, engaged or couples in a serious relationship traditionally receive a plus-one invitation. If a plus-one is not indicated on the invitation, you likely are not meant to bring one. If you really feel as though you should bring a date, you can call and ask the bride and groom. Be prepared for a NO and be sure to respond with kindness and understanding. They may be looking to host a more intimate event or may have budget restrictions.



## Timing

**How late does a guest need to stay at a wedding? For example: Is it inappropriate to leave after dinner if a guest isn't very interested in dancing?**

If a guest does not want to stay the duration of the wedding, they should at least try to stay until after the bride and groom cut the cake. If they decide to leave early, be sure to get a few minutes of face-time with the couple to express your well wishes.

Note: You do not have to say good-bye when you leave if you had the opportunity to connect with them earlier in the evening.







## Gifts

**When attending a friend's wedding, what is the appropriate amount to give for a wedding gift? Shower gift?**

If you are involved in multiple wedding events, such as an engagement party, shower, and the wedding, each event requires a gift. Each event does not require an elaborate gift. Follow the 60-20-20 rule. 20% of your wedding budget goes to the engagement party gift, 20% to the shower gift, and 60% to the wedding gift.

The formality of the wedding impacts a number of elements, such as dress and time of day, but there is no tie into the cost of the gift. Your gift to the couple exclusively depends on your relationship to the couple and your financial means. A good reference for a wedding gift is as follows: Co-worker/distant relative – \$50-\$100, friend/relative – \$100-\$150, close friend/close relative – \$150+.



## Tech use

**Is it rude to use my phone to take pictures and document the evening? How do I remember the moments while still being present?**

It is not rude to take pictures at a wedding with your cell phone unless you are attending an "unplugged wedding," which is a newer trend and may be indicated on the invitation. The number one rule to be cognizant of is to avoid posting pictures UNTIL the bride and groom have posted pictures. This rule also applies to other special life moments. We wouldn't want to ruin someone's big moment or share their big news prematurely.

## Dress code

**Sometimes the dress code can be a little vague and difficult to understand. Do you have any attire recommendations that are typically safe and appropriate for weddings?**

Wedding invitation wording can sometimes leave a guest feeling confused or unsure of the dress attire. If unsure, a guest should start with researching the venue. Usually, this backdrop will set the tone for the event. Other factors that help indicate the dress code would be time of day, the season, and the invitation. When in doubt, a knee-length cocktail dress for a woman and a dark suit for a man will usually suffice.



## Danielle Kovachevich

**Founder and Lead Coach  
Detroit Academy  
of Etiquette**



Certified Etiquette Instructor, Danielle Kovachevich specializes in helping professionals navigate the modern business world with social graces bringing dignity to daily work. Her expertise includes: international business protocol, digital decorum, corporate consulting, and fine dining programming.

Danielle's wide-ranging client list includes a number of national and international corporations, a "who's who" of Detroit's top executives as well as entry level professionals, service staff professionals, recent graduates, elementary and secondary school age children, or anyone looking to level up and outclass the competition.

Danielle earned her undergraduate and master's degree in Curriculum and Education from Michigan State University and is certified in Etiquette Instruction by the Etiquette Institute of St. Louis. Danielle also studied in the south of France providing her an international experience and an appreciation for cultural differences.

Danielle founded Detroit Academy of Etiquette after witnessing firsthand how targeted programming positively impacted her clients and helped them achieve a new level of success, in both their professional and personal lives as well. "When given the right tools, participants feel a new sense of confidence that helps them conquer any new venture, whether it be a new client, a new job, a new position, a sophisticated social soiree, or a first date. We've got you covered!" says Danielle.

# It only takes a minute to respond "yes" or "no" to an invitation

By Grosse Pointe News Staff

According to the etiquette experts at the Emily Post Institute, failure to RSVP has become common – no matter if it is a birthday party, dinner party or wedding. The Institute goes on to say that relationships often suffer due to hosts' frustration and hurt feelings.

Being on the fence as to whether or not you can attend is no reason to delay your response past the requested RSVP date. Make a decision, and honor it. You have only to put yourself in the bride and groom's shoes to understand why it's so important.

Hosts await responses so they can determine how much food and beverages to have on hand, and to coordinate other details of the party. If you've ever planned your own wedding or helped someone else, you know there are a million details to juggle. It seems that every decision hinges on something else! When invited guests do not respond, it can lead to emotional stress and possible financial losses among party hosts.

With the exception of "regrets only" invitations, it is absolutely essential to let hosts know if their invitation will be ac-

cepted or not – and to do so within the time frame expressed on the invitation. It may be uncomfortable to say no, but it shows you respect the party host.

Mail back response cards promptly so they arrive by the RSVP date. Be sure if you receive a "regrets only" invite that you give your regrets if you can't go. If the host doesn't hear from you, your presence is expected.

It is also considered poor form to submit your response late. Be prompt when accepting or declining an invitation and you exhibit to your hosts that you appreciate the invitation and are about their needs.

Everyone is busy and sometimes overwhelmed these days, but don't let that be the reason you show poor manners. A good habit is to respond promptly, as soon as you receive the invitation, and before it gets lost in that stack of mail and 'to do' paperwork. More than once a response card and envelope have been found months later, too late to do any good.

Being a great friend or relative means occasionally going out of your comfort zone to accommodate others. Always RSVP to wedding invitations promptly and you can ensure you'll be invited back for a whole lifetime of parties!





# 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.

## Linda Bauer

Linda Bauer (nee Sassaman), 79, passed away Friday, Nov. 11, 2022, in Macomb Township.

Linda was born Nov. 27, 1942, in Allentown, Pa., to Maurice and Helen Sassaman. She lived most of her life as a resident of Grosse Pointe Woods.

A graduate of Grosse Pointe High School and Wayne State University, Linda studied organ, harp and string bass performance. She touched many lives with her beautiful talent. A devoted church musician, Linda's family is certain she was escorted to heaven with choirs of angels singing, trumpets sounding, pipe organs playing and church bells ringing.

Her first job as an organist was at age 14, at Faith Lutheran Church in Detroit. For most of her career, Linda served the congregation of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe Farms as organist, music director and bell choir director. Linda was integral in replacing the electric organ at St. Paul with a pipe organ. She also founded and directed the church's first bell choir. Linda shared her talents as a substitute organist and a ringer in the Classical Bells handbell choir.

Linda's passion was music, but she was also a devout Christian, participating in multiple Bible studies and prayer groups. An intelligent woman, Linda never stopped learning, avidly reading and taking French classes. She was tenacious and endured breast cancer treatments without a complaint. Linda was a wonderful mother and grandmother and loved to cheer on her children and grandchildren at their concert,

recitals and games. Linda was loved and admired by all who knew her; she will be sorely missed.

Linda was predeceased by her parents and her brother, John. She is survived by her children, Ron (Karen Anderson) of Scottsdale, Ariz., Lisa Wade (Bryant) of Rochester Hills and Amy Mendelijan (Grant) of Prosper, Texas; and grandchildren, Lindsay, Brock, Cade, Carter, Caitlyn, Ryan and Reese.

Visitation takes place from 2 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. A second visitation takes place at 9:30 a.m. Monday, Dec. 12, at St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms, followed by a memorial service at 10:30 a.m.

Interment will follow in the church's columbarium.

In lieu of flowers, donations are suggested to St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church, [stpaulgp.org/give](http://stpaulgp.org/give).

## Vonnie Willis

Vonnie Willis, 93, of Grosse Pointe, passed away Saturday, Nov. 12, 2022.

Vonnie was born Oct. 3, 1929, to Raymond G. Wegman and Dorothy Wegman (nee Arnold). She graduated from Grosse Pointe High School and then studied home economics at Michigan State University.

Vonnie loved the fashion industry and worked at J.L. Hudson's in Detroit, then at Jacobson's in Grosse Pointe. In the 1960s, she managed the Village Store on The Hill in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Vonnie volunteered many years at both Harper and Beaumont

hospitals. She also volunteered at Martin North Hospital in Stuart, Fla., during the winter months.

Both Vonnie and her husband of 47 years, Doug, were active members of the Indian Village Racquet Club, Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and the Nomad Travel Club.

Vonnie was predeceased by her former husband of seven years, Robert Clare, and her husband, Doug.

She is survived by her daughter, Lori Clarke Willis-Knoska; son-in-law, James Knoska; brother, Richard Wegman (Celeste); grandchildren, Carys Crist-Carys (Tyson), Declan Crist (Emily) and James Knoska, all three of whom affectionately knew her as G-Voni; and three great-grandchildren.

A gathering for family and friends takes place from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27, at Chas. Verheyden Funeral Home, 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park.

In lieu of flowers, contributions are suggested to Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. A private memorial service is being planned for a later date.

Share a memory at [verheyden.org](http://verheyden.org).

## Merry Jo Eleczko

Merry Jo Eleczko, 80, of St. Clair Shores, passed away peacefully Saturday, Nov. 12, 2022, surrounded by her loving family.

Merry Jo was born June 7, 1942, in Salem, Ohio, to Donald and Beverly Wilson (nee Berry), both now deceased. She attended the University of Akron School of Nursing and met her husband shortly after she started working at Mount Sinai Hospital. They were married in 1965, in Sebring, Ohio, and spent most of the children's formative years in Grosse Pointe Woods, where they lived more than 30 years. Merry Jo worked as a registered nurse on the



Linda Bauer



Vonnie Willis



Merry Jo Eleczko



Gladys Marie Goschka



Lynne Martin Kilgus

obstetrics floor where she enjoyed working with mothers and babies throughout most of her lifetime.

Among her many interests were gardening, sewing, knitting, playing euchre and playing poker at The Helm at the Boll Life Center. She loved hanging out at the pool with her friends and enjoyed family trips to numerous Lake Michigan destinations. She always enjoyed her unsweetened iced tea with extra ice and extra lemon.

Merry Jo was predeceased by her beloved husband of 46 years, Ronald Eleczko. She is survived by her brother, Brent Wilson (Debra); loving children, Ronald Eleczko (Sarah), Beth Clingan (Douglas), Sally Botwick (Seth) and Jeffrey Eleczko (Tina); and beloved grandchildren, Allen, Emma, Elizabeth, Caroline, Nicholas, Sarah, Robert, Parker, Carson, Mason, Zachary and Marissa.

Visitation takes place from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

A funeral service takes place at 11 a.m. Monday, Nov. 28, at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Helm, [helmlife.org/donate](http://helmlife.org/donate), or Gilda's Lake House, [gildasclubdetroit.org/get-involved/donate/](http://gildasclubdetroit.org/get-involved/donate/).

## Gladys Marie "Glad" Goschka

Gladys Marie "Glad" Goschka, 74, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2022.

She was born Oct. 7, 1948, in Detroit, to William Carl and Gladys Myrtle Slemmer (nee Klein). Glad graduated from Marian High School in Birmingham, earned a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and taught

Spanish, French and art at the high school level. Glad continued her education at the University of Detroit, receiving her Juris Doctorate degree. She had a long and successful career in banking law.

Glad had many interests and hobbies. She loved gourmet cooking, the color pink, tomatoes, traveling and all things French. She and her husband, Dennis, were active members of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. They loved sailing on their Morgan 38, "Gotcha Now." Glad was a Spartan through and through, and her bubbly personality will be missed by her family and friends.

Glad married her loving husband, Dennis, Dec. 20, 1969, at St. Regis Church in Birmingham. They enjoyed 52 wonderful years together. She will be dearly missed by her sister, Sharon Ann Davis (Bobby); brothers, Carl Slemmer (the late Celeste) and William Slemmer (Gemelia); and several nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be held for Glad at a later date.

## Lynne Martin Kilgus

Lynne Martin Kilgus, 77, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2022, at Ascension St. John Hospital, surrounded by loved ones.

Lynne was born June

12, 1945, in Detroit, to Jack and Myrtle Martin. She earned undergraduate degrees from Michigan State University and Wayne County Community College and a master's degree in library science from Wayne State University.

Lynne worked as a librarian at University Liggitt School and was the head librarian at The Grosse Pointe Academy for 17 years. She was a member of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and Grace Community Church in Detroit more than 30 years. She developed a working library at the church and was head librarian there more than 20 years. Lynne was a standing member of the Petoskey Bridge Club, as well as bridge clubs in the Grosse Pointe area. She enjoyed reading, playing bridge and sharing her faith in Jesus Christ.

Lynne is survived by her husband, Frederick Kilgus; daughter, Kathy Driscoll (Todd); son, Todd Kilgus (Lisha); brother, John "Chick" Martin (Kris); and grandchildren, Max, Mackenzie, Lucy, Charlie, Sterling, Sofia, Kingston and Preston.

Visitation will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at Grace Community Church, 21001 Moross, Detroit. A Celebration of Life service will follow.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to 1:17 Ministries, Grace Community Church, [gracewired.com/giving/](http://gracewired.com/giving/).

## Correction

The obituary for James Howe Campbell, which appeared in the Nov. 17 Grosse Pointe News, should have read his memorial will take place at 4:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

# Wild Lights returns to Detroit Zoo

Make the holiday season merry and bright with an after-hours trip to the Detroit Zoo.

Celebrating its 10th consecutive year, Wild Lights at the Detroit Zoo kicked off its season Saturday, Nov. 19.

Presented by Strategic Staffing Solutions, this annual event features millions of twinkling holiday lights across dozens of expertly designed displays throughout the zoo. Dates and times for the Wild Lights season are:

- ◆ 5 to 10:30 p.m. Nov. 25-26
- ◆ 5 to 9 p.m. Nov. 27
- ◆ 5 to 10:30 p.m. Dec. 2-3, 9-10 and 16-23
- ◆ 5 to 9 p.m. Dec. 4, 11, 14-15 and 26-31
- ◆ 5 to 9 p.m. Jan. 2 to 8

For 35 magical nights this winter, guests can



experience the zoo like never before and explore all-new features, including:

- ◆ Enchanted Trail: an area where guests can stroll through a forest of lights while listening to the sounds of the season;
- ◆ Toyland: an immersive installation featuring larger-than-life, lighted toy sculptures, such as a 40-foot-long

train — along with a Wishing Tree, where families can make their holiday wishes come true, and;

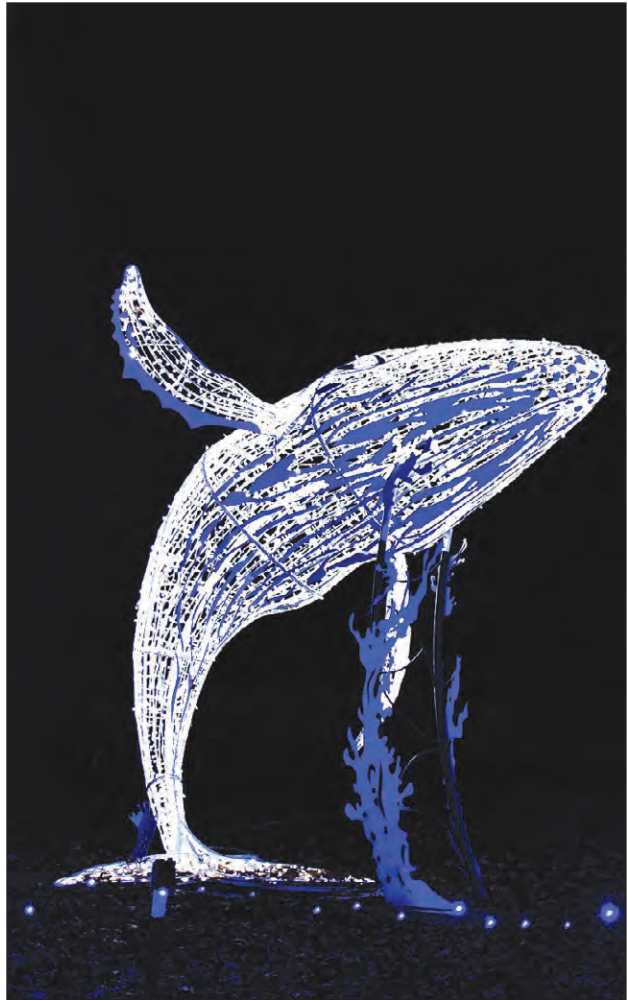
- ◆ The Wild Lights Lodge: a festive, indoor oasis where guests can warm up and take in holiday décor, bar service, s'mores and more.

"Wild Lights is one of our most successful and fun events of the year

and it's easy to see why," said Megan Gregg, senior events manager for the Detroit Zoological Society. "The incredible new activities we have planned for this year, along with all the traditional festivities that are part of Wild Lights, are what make this family-friendly event so popular. Visiting the zoo will no doubt get you into the holiday spirit this year."

Wild Lights guests also may check out the Wildlife Photographer of the Year art exhibition, which is included with admission to any Wild Lights event. Owned by the Natural History Museum in London, this exhibition celebrates the best of nature photography and photojournalism using the emotive power

See LIGHTS, page 7B





# Optimist Club presents scholarships

The Lakeshore Optimist Club recently honored 12 local high school seniors with Youth Appreciation awards during a ceremony Thursday, Nov. 10.

While several Optimist activities and donations benefit "at risk" youth, the club makes a point to recognize "the cream of the crop" through its Youth Appreciation awards. It's the club's opportunity to celebrate the good in local youths as they approach the milestone of high school graduation. All of the honorees are achievers, willing workers and helpers who are focused and disciplined.

This year's honorees are:

◆ Zoey Crossley, Nathan Hicks, Lauren Veitengruber and Mya Jackson from Grosse Pointe North High School;

◆ Caya Craig, Margot Murphy, O'Hara Diamond and Christian Potts from Grosse Pointe South High School; and

◆ Emmanuel Coates, Summer Orlowski, Alexandria Metry and Neil Murphy from University Liggett School.

Additionally, the Lakeshore Optimist Club announced the establishment of its memorial scholarship program, in honor of club members Dave Litchfield and George McMullen, who have passed away.

Four of this year's student honorees — Margot



The Lakeshore Optimist Club's 40th annual Youth Appreciation Awards included 12 high school recipients. Four winners earned memorial scholarships in honor of two club members who have passed away.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Murphy, Zoey Crossley, Lauren Veitengruber and Emmanuel Coates — each received a \$595 academic grant to use toward their collegiate search.

Litchfield was an Optimist Club member who exemplified selfless service to others. He was a 50-year member of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church and over the years served as chairman of the endowment fund, elder, deacon, trustee, chairman of the board of trustees, usher and on other church committees. He also was active in numerous organizations such as committee member of the Ducks

Unlimited Grosse Pointe chapter; president of the board of directors of Lost Lake Woods Club; member of the Detroit Yacht Club; and vigorous supporter of the Lakeshore Optimist Club. Litchfield willingly took on the fundraising tasks that were the most inconvenient and least-liked positions as his way of contributing to the kids in the community.

McMullen grew up in Grosse Pointe and attended Grosse Pointe South High School. He was dedicated to his hometown and served on the Board of Review and as a councilman in Grosse Pointe Woods, on

the board of the Grosse Pointe Library Foundation and Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce, and regularly attended meetings of the Grosse Pointe Public School System. McMullen also participated with numerous nonprofits around Grosse Pointe including Grosse Pointe Theater, Grosse Pointe Historical Society, League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Rotary Club, The Family Center and Full Circle Foundation. He was a member of the Optimist Club a couple of years, but was an incredibly supportive and effective member.

## EXHIBIT:

Continued from page 3B

Ansel Adams.

"Stroh's first wife, Gail Stroh Marantette, is a past president of the Grosse Pointe Historical Society," said Stuart Grigg, GPHS vice president of development. "Now living in New Jersey, she felt the collection would be best appreciated in Grosse Pointe and donated them to sell for the benefit of GPHS. It's a special opportunity to own a piece of Grosse Pointe history 'with a story' and contribute to the work of GPHS — col-

lecting, preserving, educating about and sharing our special Grosse Pointe stories."

Added Wagner, "We are thrilled to invite you into the building and get a first glimpse of the art and all the possibilities for showcasing the history of the beautiful Grosse Pointes. Posterity Gallery has also donated Grosse Pointe photographs and art and will offer discounted framing coupons. Please come have fun with us."

The exhibit and sale also may be seen by appointment. Call (313) 884-7010 for more information.

## LIGHTS:

Continued from page 6B

of photography to inspire wonder and create advocates for the natural world. The Detroit Zoo is the first stop in the United States for the exhibition.

General admission tickets for Wild Lights range from \$17 to \$24, based on the time and day, and may be purchased in advance by visiting [wildlights.detroitzoo.org](http://wildlights.detroitzoo.org). Guests can make their Wild Lights visit even more magical by purchasing one of an additional four special ticket packages available, including two new options for 2022: the Brilliant Bundle Package for \$35 and the Wild Lights Total Experience Package for \$65.

The Detroit Zoo also is partnering with Mittens



for Detroit throughout the duration of Wild Lights. Wrapped collection boxes will be located at the zoo's entrance for guests to donate, if they wish, any new, unused mittens and gloves to give the gift of warmth to those in need this holi-

day season. Mittens for Detroit is a nonprofit dedicated to collecting and distributing new mittens for metro Detroiters. The organization has delivered more than a quarter million pairs since 2010.

Wild Lights is spon-

sored by Burns & Wilcox, Kroger, Ford, Buddy's Pizza, Children's Hospital of Michigan, Doetsch Environmental Services, KeyBank, DTE, IBEW Local 58, Gray's Outdoor Services, Genisys Credit Union and Aqua Tots.

## ENGAGE:

Continued from page 3B

hopes more local communities will follow suit. Already popular in Europe, the platform is new to North America, but has successfully been implemented in larger cities such as Seattle and Philadelphia.

Signing up is easy — the process involves answering a few simple questions to set up a user profile — and necessary for those who want to get involved.

"We want that barrier to entry to be really simple," Lindley said.

Anyone interested in taking action with Engage Harper Woods — residents, business owners or people from neighboring communities — is welcome to join. Around 100 participants currently are

involved, with that number "climbing pretty quickly," Lindley said.

While Engage Harper Woods is simplifying communication and making engagement easy, other "old-school" options still are in play. An in-person master plan public workshop is slated for 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, at the Mary Ellen Stempfle Center, 19305 Vernier, Harper Woods.

Those who are not able to attend the workshop, or those who aren't comfortable making statements in public, are encouraged to sign up for Engage Harper Woods so their voices may be heard, too.

"This platform allows people to speak up who may not feel comfortable attending a council meeting," Lindley said.

To sign up for Engage Harper Woods, visit [harperwoods.citizenlab.org](http://harperwoods.citizenlab.org).

# Worship Service



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

**Masses**  
Saturday Vigil — 4:00 p.m. (☞)  
Sunday — 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.  
Tuesday — 8:30 a.m.  
Wednesday (Thanksgiving Eve) — 7:00 p.m.

(313) 822-2814 • [stambrosechurch.net](http://stambrosechurch.net) • [facebook.com/stambroseparish](https://www.facebook.com/stambroseparish)  
☞ Saturday Vigil is streamed online at 8:00 a.m. Sunday on our facebook page

**ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MI

**Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.**  
*followed by Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall*

20475 Sunningdale Park  
(313) 884-4820 [www.stmichaelsgpw.org](http://www.stmichaelsgpw.org)

**FIRST ENGLISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
800 Vernier Road  
(Corner of Wedgewood)  
(313) 884-5040

**9:30 am - Worship Service**  
**11:00 am - Worship Service**  
Everyone is Welcome!

Amanda Onoro,  
director [preschool@feelc.org](mailto:preschool@feelc.org)

Rev. Sean Motley, Senior Pastor  
~ "Go Make Disciples" ~  
www.feelc.org

**Christ the King Lutheran Church and Preschool**  
Mack at Lochmoor • 884-5090  
[www.christthekinggp.org](http://www.christthekinggp.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

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



# Wayne County Community College District

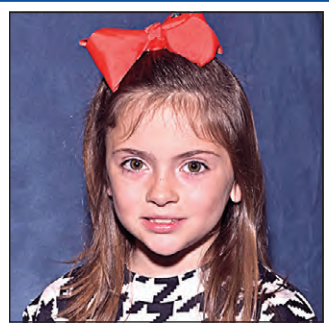


# 2022

## HOLIDAY FAMILY TRADITIONS

# Art & Essay

## Contest Winners



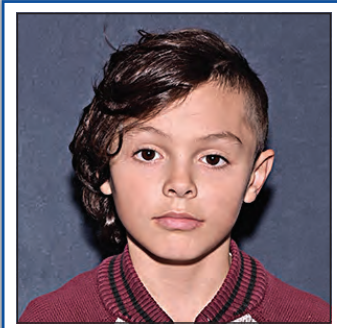
**Abigail Ciccarelli**  
*Ferry*



**Anna Runk**  
*Kerby*



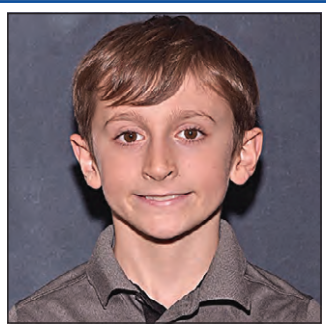
**Casiel Pittman**  
*Monteith*



**Casper Chrobak**  
*Maire*



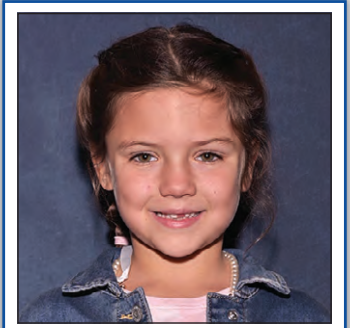
**Eli Johnston**  
*Ferry*



**Francesco Ball**  
*Kerby*



**Hannah Brumbaugh**  
*Defer*



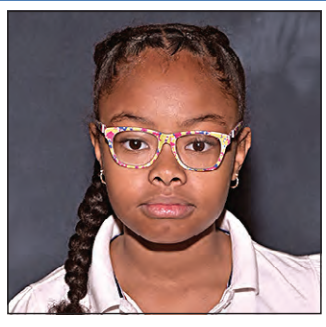
**Heidi Deluca**  
*Richard*



**James Ho**  
*Defer*



**Keira Lowe**  
*Defer*



**Kourtnee Reese**  
*Tyrone*



**Lorlai Kin**  
*Ferry*



**Matteo Sperone**  
*Defer*



**Mila Orlando**  
*Monteith*



**Mila Palubirskas**  
*Defer*



**Miles Rennpage**  
*Mason*



**Molly Dougherty**  
*Defer*



**Myriah White**  
*Tyrone*



**Pyper-Rose Kirkland**  
*Mason*



**Rachel Sung**  
*Tyrone*



**Jameson Ward**  
*Richard*



**Santino Orlando**  
*Monteith*



**Savannah Fisher**  
*Kerby*

### *Honorable Mention Students*

Charlie Donnelly, *Richard*  
Evelyn Roscoe, *Richard*  
Luca Wyrembelski, *Richard*  
Natalie Starrs, *Richard*  
Vivian Williams, *Defer*  
Edward Rembert, *Defer*

George Locke, *Monteith*  
Julian Gagnon, *Monteith*  
Hazel Stanley, *Monteith*  
Jack Welc, *Monteith*  
Helena Mosurak, *Monteith*  
Jettone Golden, *Monteith*

Avalon Frey, *Kerby*  
David Josph, *Kerby*  
Greta Gardner, *Ferry*  
Penny Gardner, *Ferry*

## *Congratulations to all the Winners!*

Photos by Yellow Door Photography



# LIFE & ENTERTAINMENT

2C GP GABBY | 3C MOMBEAU'S TABLE | 5C MOVIE JUNKIE MARK | 7C & 8C COMICS & PUZZLES

## 'The Girl with the Silver Flute'

### A Grosse Pointe Christmas story that almost happened

By Dick Ruzzin  
Guest Writer

#### The White Christmas Carriage

In fall 2012, a special new float appeared in the Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade the day after Thanksgiving. It was called the White Christmas Carriage and it was white, silver and gold with red and green trim on the inside. It did not have horses or reindeer to pull it, but it magically moved around The Hill and The Village. It seemed to mysteriously float quietly above the street and its runners never touched the ground. Christmas music and bells could be heard as it went on its way and snowflakes trailed behind it. The driver was always dressed in a big black coat, a bright red scarf and a Santa hat.

The Friday morning after Thanksgiving, the White Christmas Carriage appeared on The Hill ready to join the parade for the first time. It arrived with only the driver and was placed in front of the Santa Claus sleigh as the driver's task was to lead Santa from The Hill to The Village. Marching in front of the carriage were four U.S. Marines with an American flag. The parade started and then, unexpectedly, the driver made an unscheduled stop in the middle of The Hill.

There, a group of young musicians from Grosse Pointe South High School had come that morning and were entertaining the crowd that had assembled. They were members of the jazz band. The young men were dressed in black and the young women were dressed in white. They did not expect to be in the parade, but the carriage was empty and the driver waved them aboard to join him. Who would turn down such an invitation?

The young men, like true Grosse Pointe gentlemen, graciously helped the young women into the carriage and then others climbed in with their instruments. Other band members crowded around the carriage and began walking with it down The Hill toward The Village as it magically floated over the street. Spontaneous Christmas music broke out — it was jazz of course! The Santa sleigh followed behind as planned, Santa watching from above. He smiled and was pleased with what he saw.

#### The Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade

The parade was then well on its way to The Village and there were many people of all ages along both sides of Kercheval, waiting in the cool morning air, smiling, laughing and waving at all of the floats and marching bands and chil-

dren's groups, some in Christmas tree costumes. Although it was cool, the sun was shining and it was another great parade.

Children in the crowd waved at Santa and called to him; some brought toys for other children to put into



the Toys

For Tots caboose while others brought their letters to Santa and gave them to his helpers walking with the sleigh as it moved along Kercheval. Everyone was happy as Christmas was coming soon, school would be out, there would be snow to play in, Christmas trees, church, parties and presents and just when everyone got over Thanksgiving ... another great turkey dinner with pumpkin pie!

The parade gave everyone — children and grown-ups — a warm, happy feeling and a little bit of Santa's Christmas spirit stayed with all of us the rest of the holiday season. It was amazing to see, as Santa passed by, the adults watching the parade turned into children for a moment and then back into almost grown-ups after Santa passed. As the White Christmas Carriage approached The Village, the Santa sleigh behind it slowed and Santa spoke to the children and all the people assembled on the street, wishing them a personal "Merry Christmas" and also good wishes from the North Pole from Mrs. Claus and his helpers in the toy shop. Santa, the sleigh and the parade were important to all of us.

Along the way the South jazz band played with great gusto and energy, wonderful Christmas jazz music, clear and sparkling on the crisp fall air. The carriage finally entered The Village and stopped near a special stage, where all the Grosse Pointe dignitaries were assembled. The South jazz musicians, all around it, entertained the huge crowd until Santa in his sleigh could catch up.

Santa was warmly greeted and helped down from the sleigh by two smiling firemen and he then spoke to everyone, wishing all a happy and merry Christmas. Just by being there, Santa gave everyone the Christmas spirit and he was in turn given a golden key to all

the Grosse Pointes. All present were joyful and happy, each then feeling a bit of sadness that the parade had ended, but happy as Christmas was coming and would soon be here.

The Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade was over for another year — but this isn't the end of this story.

#### The Small Silver Flute

The thought of Christmas turns all of us into children as we remember simpler and happier times. We see it in others too, but sometimes we do not. Sometimes it is even hard to feel it ourselves, but soon it comes forward from deep in our hearts to take hold of us just in time for the great and wondrous day when Christmas finally arrives.

After the parade everything was quiet and the White Christmas Carriage delivered the jazz band to various destinations and then parked to take a well-earned rest. The Santa Claus sleigh with Rudolf, the White Christmas Carriage, the Toys For Tots train and the caboose all were put on display in the Pointes and then, just before Christmas, they all would be retired until the following year.

The official Santa Claus mechanic and the Friends of the Grosse Pointe Parade wiped their brows, happy and relieved that everything had worked as expected on the three floats with no mechanical failures. All the volunteers went home and settled in to enjoy the Christmas season, all except for the White Christmas Carriage and its driver. He and the carriage had one more special stop to make.

Later in the evening after the parade, the carriage and the jazz band appeared again on The Hill. The carriage was filled with musical instruments and the band followed along in the cool air with snowflakes flying around them. Slowly and quietly it moved along Kercheval, stopping in front of a popular club known for its American jazz music. No one in the

band ever dreamed they would have a chance to even go there, no less play there.

But mysteriously, the band director had received a special invitation to play for a short time because of their spirited performance in the parade that morning. The carriage stopped, its coach lights glowing in the swirling snowflakes. Christmas music could be faintly heard. The band carefully picked up their instruments and went through the

heavy oak door into the warm cafe. They did not know what to expect. The room was filled with jazz lovers who were special friends of the owner, who just happened to be there that night. There were

Christmas lights and decorations and immediately loud and hearty applause broke out for the band. They then were invited to take up their instruments and had a great round of intense play, topped by "Here Comes Santa Claus" and followed by several stirring improvisations. At the end of their set, they all stopped for a breath and then one of the young women in white stepped slowly forward with a small dark green velvet bag that was tied with a golden cord. The owner of the club, a tall, lovely lady named Gretchen, came forward to congratulate the band and was embraced by the band leader. He thanked her for her support and great passion for music.

She then was presented the green velvet bag. Smiling with anticipation, she slipped off the golden cord and opened it. Inside was a small gleaming silver flute wrapped in a red velvet cloth that was trimmed with green and golden threads. On a white card, there was a message: "Thank you, Gretchen, for your love of music and your enthusiasm for jazz that is known not only

here in the Grosse Pointes, but also across America and in many countries far, far, across the seas."

It was signed by all the members of the Grosse Pointe South High School Jazz Band and the Friends of the Grosse Pointe Parade. Below the names was a small drawing of the White Christmas Carriage and the words, "Thank you and a very Merry Christmas."

Everyone grew quiet. Then, for a magical moment, Gretchen was a young girl again. She was standing with her friends, staring at the small silver flute in her hands. She could see her father's little covered wagon and hear her sisters playing the piano. It was just like the first one she received for Christmas long, long ago.

Everyone, with tears in their eyes, cheered and clapped in the warm light and the man in the big black coat, red scarf and Santa Claus hat stepped through the door and out into the frosty night air.

Merrie Christmas, from the Friends of the Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade and Grosse Pointe South Jazz Band.

Dick Ruzzin is a resident of Grosse Pointe Park and member of the Friends of the Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade. Notes of his story are true, parts of it "fantasy," according to the author.

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# Grosse Pointe Gabby

The Pulse Of The Pointes

## Keyboard warrior or internet troll

**Dear Gabby:** Out of nowhere it seems, a person I have known in my community for 25 years has become a keyboard warrior on social media.

The way she speaks to people who disagree with her or have a different opinion than her on a topic is alarming. Because of this, I look at her differently now, and have a difficult time being cordial to her when our paths cross around town.

I even question how people continue to associate with her, and now I'm secretly judging them, too.

How can I get her off of my radar? I could block her, but I'm not trying to declare WWII with her — I just need her out of my orbit. Help!

— Sick of it in the city

**Dear Sick,**

It sounds like you actually might have the problem here. A very easy

solution would be to give yourself a mental health break from social media (I know, I know — easier said than done).

If you are having this issue, I suspect you are not alone, and someone will likely call her out on it, so perhaps by the time you rejoin the Facebook echo chambers, she will have toned it down.

If you find that you cannot stay away from

social media, I highly recommend unfollowing your "friend" for a bit. You can do so without declaring war and blocking them. Just put them on mute for a month. Best of luck to you.

— Gabby

*We love problem-solving and giving advice! Please send us your questions & problems to [advice@grossepointenews.com](mailto:advice@grossepointenews.com).*



## Advice that is rooted in love

**Dear Ann Landers:** A This is not a letter asking for advice. It is a note of thanks for what you have meant to me for so many years. I hope you will print it on Thanksgiving Day.

I have been reading your column all my adult life.

ple to disagree, that they must learn to compromise and that they should never go to bed angry.

Your column also taught me that children need and want discipline, and I should accept their friends, vocations and choice of a

your advice. It worked.

It would be a real treat to see this letter in print, Ann, even though it is awfully long.

I happen to know that you are a night owl and often read your mail while soaking in the tub.

I hope that this letter will put a smile on your face and a warm feeling in your heart knowing that you've been so helpful all these years. — Grateful Reader in Avis, Pa.

**Dear Avis, Pa.:** I'm a little uncomfortable sharing such high praise with my readers, but after a good deal of introspection, I decided it was OK in view of the bashing I get from time to time.

Thank you for all the kind words.

**Dear Ann:** Please run this again on Thanksgiving. It's from way back. Thanks, Sweetie. — Dick in L.A.

**Dear Dick:** Sweetie says thanks for asking. Here it is:

**Everyday Thanksgiving**

Even though I clutch my blanket and growl when the alarm rings each morning, thank you, Lord, that I can hear. There are many

who are deaf.

Even though I keep my eyes tightly closed against the morning light as long as possible, thank you, Lord, that I can see. There are many who are blind.

Even though I huddle in my bed and put off the effort of rising, thank you, Lord, that I have the strength to rise. There are many who are bedridden.

Even though the first hour of my day is hectic, when socks are lost, toast is burned and tempers are short, thank you, Lord, for my family. There are many who are lonely.

Even though our breakfast table never looks like the pictures in magazines and the menu is at times unbalanced, thank you, Lord, for the food we have. There are many who are hungry.

Even though the routine of my job is often monotonous, thank you, Lord, for the opportunity to work. There are many who have no job.

Even though I grumble and bemoan my fate from day to day and wish my circumstances were not so

## Classic Ann Landers

modest, thank you, Lord, for the gift of life.

**Dear Ann Landers:** My boyfriend and I have been together for almost two years. Generally, we have a great relationship, except when it comes to his mother.

She has started calling my house three or four times a night. (We do not live together.) Most of the time, she calls about nothing — she heard a funny story about a neighbor, she saw something good on TV and so on.

Whenever I visit my parents, she calls me at least twice to find out if "everything is OK." She also calls our friends to find out if my boyfriend and I are getting along.

The phone calls aren't the only way she butts into our lives. She has questioned the amount of time we spend together and what my parents think about it.

I tried planning a party for him, and she decided to take over the guest list, the menu and everything else. (I ended up cancel-

ing the whole thing.)

She has made it clear that her son is not to move out of town, no matter how good an offer he gets, because the family must "stay together." Although I am a college graduate and earn \$50,000 a year, she thinks I should go back to school and get a doctorate.

Ann, I want a future with this man, but I don't want to end up with a mother-in-law who tries to run my life. Please advise. — Mothered Out in Iowa

**Dear Iowa:** You don't say one word about your boyfriend's attitude toward this mother-in-law from hell.

Will he support you in your fight to be free of this woman's interference? What's the record so far?

Unless you are absolutely certain that he will always be on your side, I would advise you to think seriously about what your life would be like if you married this man.

ANN LANDERS  
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You've helped me to be a better wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and friend. You have also taught me how to deal with a variety of everyday problems.

I've been married to the same great guy for almost 41 years. We raised four children any parent would be proud of and we now have three grandchildren.

The first thing I learned from you was that it is normal for married peo-

mate. But most importantly, it taught me to mind my own business when dealing with adult children.

My daughter-in-law of almost nine years reminded me recently that we have never had an argument, and I told her, "Thank Ann Landers."

Your column gave me encouragement to seek professional help. After the birth of one of my children, I had some emotional problems and took

## Thanksgiving results in a food fight and the end of a friendship

**DEAR ABBY:** When a friend of mine "makes dinner" for invited guests, it's either takeout Chinese food or delivered pizza. Frankly, I am sick of it.

Last Thanksgiving, they invited me and several others over for dinner. You guessed it! Chinese food.

I told my friend I was surprised and not in the mood for Chinese food, offered my apologies and left. We didn't talk for four months.

This past year I was again invited to Thanksgiving dinner. I declined and, when asked why, said, "I'm sick and tired of what is being offered." The response was, "Then I guess I'll stop inviting you. And I don't need your friendship." I replied, "Glad we are on the same page!"

Abby, this "friend" knows how to cook and could certainly order

something different. Was I out of line? I have no regrets the friendship has ended. — FED UP IN THE WEST

**DEAR FED UP:** When someone accepts an invitation to someone's home, rather than criticize the menu, they should be grateful for the hospitality being extended.

Were you out of line? The way you phrased your reason for declining was rude. You could have inquired about the menu and asked if you could bring something more "traditional."

It's fortunate you have no regrets that your relationship with your former host has ended. I'm pretty sure the feelings are mutual.

**DEAR ABBY:** The other night I had to go to the ER for severe knee pain. After being seen and released, I called my

son to come and pick me up. It was 11:30 at night. Neither he nor my daughter-in-law answered the phone!

The next day, his wife told me they have full-time jobs. (Both work at the hospital.) My grandson said his mom isn't mad at me, but I feel so hurt. Any advice would be greatly appreciated. — NO RESPONSE IN VIRGINIA

**DEAR NO RESPONSE:** This unfortunate event should be a lesson for the future. Have a talk with your son and daughter-in-law. The three of you need to come to an understanding about what should happen in the event you have a medical emergency.

This includes not only who should provide transportation but also what kind of supervision you might need. You should also

have an advance directive in place that includes who should be contacted -- in case you are unable to speak for yourself.

**DEAR READERS:** Today is Thanksgiving, and no Thanksgiving would be complete without my sharing the traditional prayer penned by my dear late mother:

Oh, Heavenly Father,

We thank Thee for freedom and remember the enslaved. We thank Thee for health and remember the sick. We thank Thee for friends and remember the friendless.

We thank Thee for friends and remember the friendless.

We thank Thee for friends and remember the friendless.

We thank Thee for

freedom and remember the enslaved. May these remembrances stir us to service.

That Thy gifts to us may be used for others.

Amen.

Have a happy and safe celebration, everyone! — Love, ABBY



## Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren



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](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



# Thanksgiving thoughts

## Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

This year, I'm grateful to be serving dinner to 19 people! The past few years, it was just our family, which includes my mom and grandma.

It is so important when the extended family is healthy and well and can join in the ultimate feast of the year.

This year, we did it! My identical twins will be playing with my cousin's identical twins. Who would have thought?

My grandmother, 96, is the matriarch who had five children and gives me wise advice.

We are the same in many ways and I happen to have the same amount of children as she had and she always has the right advice

when I need it.

I remember snapping green beans with her and the smell of baking potatoes in her oven when we would come for dinner.

Food memories and smells always bring back childhood for me and most importantly, comfort.

She always had the Thanksgiving dinner table decorated perfectly to make everyone feel special. Family is joyous for me. I wish you and your family a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Today, I'm giving you an idea for the ultimate "Trifecta Turkey" sandwich. The day-after leftovers are better than Christmas morning for me.

There aren't many

rules with this one. Le Rouge Bakery provides the best bread. They slice it when you purchase or you can take the loaf and slice it yourself to your liking.

I pile it high with turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce and a mixture of dijon mustard and mayo. Good bread and good leftovers can be turned into the ultimate sandwich.

Also, don't throw the bones out! Freeze for later. Turkey bones give you the best stock ever. They're thicker and produce more collagen which makes a rich stock. Boil them for four hours or put in your slow cooker for eight.

From my family to

yours...have a blessed Thanksgiving!  
Cheers, Mombeau

### Turkey Trifecta Sandwich

- 2 slices good bread
- 2 handfuls of turkey meat
- 2 big scoops stuffing
- 1-2 tbsp cranberry sauce
- 1 tbsp mayo
- 1 handful of arugula
- 1 tbsp dijon

Start by toasting the bread. Next, heat the stuffing up in a saute



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAREN FERGUSON

pan and give it a char. Once the bread is nice and toasty, add the mayo on one side and the mustard on the other. Layer the turkey, crisp stuffing, arugula and cranberry sauce. Then lay on the couch, binge watch a show and enjoy the break!



For large holiday gatherings, wine choices should be simple and straightforward.

## How to choose wines for the holidays

As we enter the fall and winter feast season — with Thanksgiving, Christmas, Kwanza, Hanukkah, New Year parties, and the Super Bowl ahead of us — thoughts turn to foods and the wines that (we hope) go with them.

I lived in San Diego years ago, where many Mexican fish dishes went only with red wines: filet of sole or tilapia Veracruz (with tomatoes and savory spices); sea bass molé; chicken with salsa, cumin, and cilantro; seafood fajitas (with pico de gallo and guacamole).

Some wine lovers opt to open older wines, even if most guests won't be interested in them. Since such events are more about family and friends, wine shouldn't be esoteric.

As much as I love "great wine" and wines with distinctiveness, most multi-food events are best with simpler fare. There's no reason to haul out old treasures when the crowd is so diverse and the noise level so high it precludes explanations of what's being served.

At most larger parties, it's best to keep the wines simple, especially since most will opt for other beverages (beer, punch, cider).

Thanksgiving is always tricky for wine people. Typical menus have sweet courses (candied yams, cranberry sauce, baked ham) and savory dishes (turkey with sage, pecan or oyster dressing). With such diversity, an off-dry

riesling or gewurztraminer (see Discovery of the Week below) are solutions.

One option is to have several wines, but it's unnecessary to have one for each course. That's unwieldy and costly. Picking wines for a multicourse meal shouldn't be like rocket science: just keep it simple.

Assume a disparate crowd with widely differing preferences. Some people won't drink red wines; I know people who won't touch chardonnay.

At multifood events, I usually have a few wines to choose from: a dry white (sauvignon blanc), a slightly off-dry white (chenin blanc), an off-dry rosé and a dry red. Backup bottles usually are a good idea.

Want just one wine? Best bet is a dry-ish rosé. Pick the youngest you can find.

People love pink!

At someone else's house, be prepared for anything.

Some people will serve only sweet white wines, even though beef is served. And no, I can't imagine a steak with pinot gris.

### Buying tips for holiday parties

If many people are attending your event, offer moderately priced wines in the \$8-\$10 range.

I prefer varietals. Generic whites and reds (blends) may be dry or sweet. But it's rare that the label says which it is.

As for reds, I usually prefer the better flavors and softer tannins that merlot offers. But each crowd is different.

How much to have on hand: In most cases, for a three-hour event, calculate about a half bottle per person,

which includes the fact that some people will have no wine at all. Remember that more people prefer white or pink over red by about a 4-to-1 margin.

Sparkling wines as an aperitif can be fun. French Champagne is dry but pricey. More broadly appealing and a lot cheaper are Italian prosecco and Spanish cava.

If dining at a friend's home and you decide to bring a bottle, determine ahead of time if it's going to be opened at the event. Occasionally the host thinks it's a gift and it goes into his or her cellar.

Above all, drink a glass of water for every five ounces of wine. It'll help ward



off a hangover and allows you to better enjoy the wine.

### Discovery of the Week

2018 Alexander Valley Vineyards Gewürztraminer, Mendocino County (\$14) — From this year's harvest comes a dramatic and wildly floral (gardenia, carnation, jasmine), slightly sweet but perfectly balanced white wine with spiced and

tropical fruit notes (mango?) and rose petals. A near-perfect compromise for most dinner parties, it will please everyone. From the terrific Potter Valley vineyard of Mendocino grape grower Guinness Mcfadden.

To find out more about Dan Berger, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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## 4C | LIFE & ENTERTAINMENT

### Create a gratitude tree to get rid of the “gimmies”

If you are looking for a way to get your kids’ minds off of the “gimme” mindset during the holidays, the staff at The Family Center has a brilliant idea — creating a gratitude tree.

According to Family Center Executive Director Jen Bingaman, the gratitude tree is a fun and creative way to teach kids to be thankful. It also engages friends and relatives from afar, whom you might not see over the holidays.

Here’s how to get started:

**Step 1:** Trace out a Christmas tree or use the one provided to the right, and cut out round ornament shapes, using different colored construction paper. Be creative, or get an older child involved in the creative process! There also are endless free graphics available to download online.

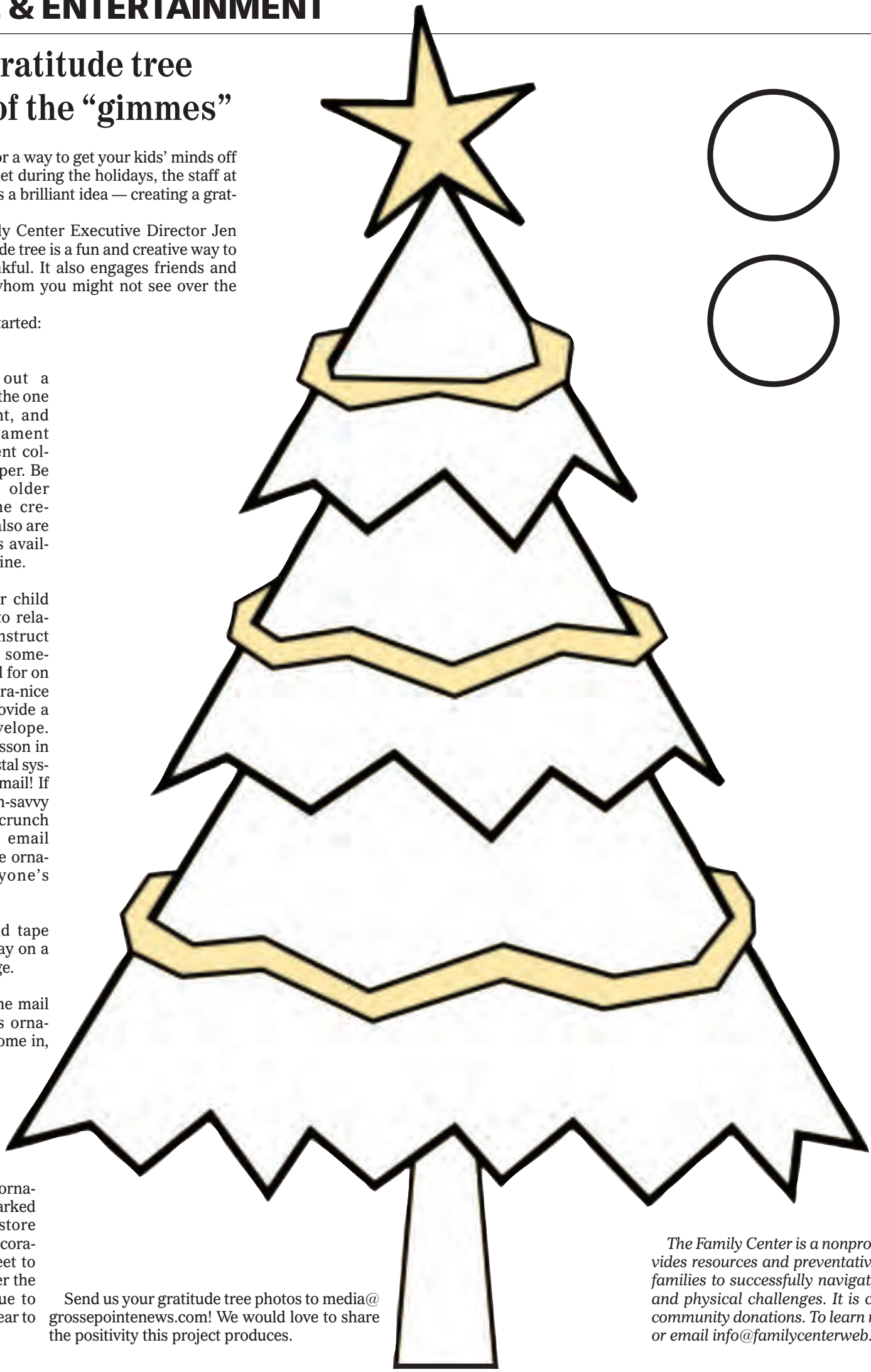
**Step 2:** Help your child mail the ornaments to relatives and friends, instruct them to write down something they are grateful for on the ornament. An extra-nice touch would be to provide a stamped return envelope. This can be a great lesson in the wonders of the postal system — it’s fun to get mail! If your relatives are tech-savvy or you’re in a time-crunch you could send an email instead and create the ornaments from everyone’s responses.

**Step 3:** Color and tape your tree up for display on a wall, door, or the fridge.

**Step 4:** Wait for the mail or a return email! As ornaments or responses come in, decorate your tree.

Pro tip: Keep your ornaments in envelopes marked with the year and store them with your fall decorations. It makes it sweet to look back at them over the years, as you continue to build your tree from year to year.

Send us your gratitude tree photos to [media@grossepointenews.com](mailto:media@grossepointenews.com)! We would love to share the positivity this project produces.



The Family Center is a nonprofit organization that provides resources and preventative education to empower families to successfully navigate life’s social, emotional and physical challenges. It is completely supported by community donations. To learn more, call (313) 447-1374 or email [info@familycenterweb.org](mailto:info@familycenterweb.org).

# EVENTS

Things to do in and around Grosse Pointe this week

**THURSDAY, NOV. 24**

- » **Blues Jam**  
First Place Lounge,  
8 p.m.-12 a.m.  
16921 Harper Ave.
- » **Detroit Lions vs. Buffalo Bills**  
Ford Field, 12:30 p.m.  
2000 Brush St..
- » **Elf the Musical**  
Fox Theatre, 7:30 p.m.  
2211 Woodward Ave.
- » **Thanksgiving Day Parade Watch Party at UM Detroit Center**  
University of Michigan Detroit Center,  
7:30-11:30 a.m.  
3663 Woodward Ave.

**FRIDAY, NOV. 25**

- » **The 9th Annual Black Friday Scholarship Bootcamp (2022)**  
Marygrove Conservancy,  
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
8425 West McNichols Road.
- » **Alvin Waddles**  
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,  
97 Kercheval.

- » **Amon Amarth - The Great Heathen Tour with Special Guests**  
Fillmore Detroit, 5:30 p.m.  
2115 Woodward Ave.
- » **Ben Sharkey**  
Cliff Bell's, 7:30-11:30 p.m.  
2030 Park Ave.
- » **The Black Gala @ The Roostertail (RSVP)**  
Roostertail, 7-10 p.m.  
100 Marquette Drive.
- » **BLKLUV3: An Evening of Love Poems, Love Songs, and More.**  
Aretha's Jazz Cafe,  
8-10:30 p.m.  
350 Madison Street.
- » **11th Annual Tux & Chucks**  
Lexus Velodrome,  
8 p.m.-12 a.m.  
601 Mack Avenue.
- » **Detroit Red Wings vs. Arizona Coyotes**  
Little Caesars Arena, 7:30p.m.  
2645 Woodward.
- » **Elf the Musical**  
Fox Theatre, 2 p.m.  
2211 Woodward Ave.

- » **Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade**  
Kercheval Avenue, 10 a.m.
- SATURDAY, NOV. 26**
- » **Alvin Waddles**  
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6-8 p.m.  
97 Kercheval.
- » **Ben Sharkey**  
Cliff Bell's, 7:30-11:30 p.m.  
2030 Park Ave.
- » **The Bodmon Tour**  
The Fillmore Detroit, 7 p.m.  
2115 Woodward Ave.
- » **Elf the Musical**  
Fox Theatre, 10 a.m.  
2211 Woodward Ave.
- » **Elk's Christmas Craft & Vendor Show**  
Elk's Macomb #2292,  
10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
25950 Schoenherr .
- » **Matters Of The Heart**  
Recreational Authority of Roseville & Eastpointe,  
1-4:30 p.m.  
18185 Sycamore Street.

- » **UniverSoul Circus**  
The Aretha Franklin Amphitheatre - UniverSoul Circus, 11:30 a.m.  
2600 E Atwater.
- SUNDAY, NOV. 27**
- » **A Very Electric Christmas**  
Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 3 p.m.  
350 Madison St.
- » **The Attic Dwellers Acoustic Music Club**  
PLAV Post #6,  
12-4 p.m.  
9545 McDougall St.
- » **Detroit Pistons vs. Cleveland Cavaliers**  
Little Caesars Arena, 6 p.m.  
2645 Woodward.
- » **Elf the Musical**  
Fox Theatre, 1:30 p.m.  
2211 Woodward Ave.
- » **Holiday Markets 2022**  
Eastern Market,  
10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
2934 Russell St.

- » **Lightwire Theatre A Very Electric Christmas**  
Music Hall Center, 3 p.m.  
350 Madison.
- » **Russ Macklem Quintet**  
Cliff Bell's, 7:30-11 p.m.  
2030 Park Ave.
- » **UniverSoul Circus**  
The Aretha Franklin Amphitheatre - UniverSoul Circus, 11 a.m.  
2600 E Atwater.
- MONDAY, NOV. 28**
- » **Blues Jam**  
The Cadieux Cafe,  
8-11 p.m.  
4300 Cadieux Rd..
- » **Boat Handling and Marine Navigation Class**  
788 Lake Shore Rd,  
7-9 p.m.  
788 Lake Shore Dr.
- » **Detroit Red Wings vs. Toronto Maple Leafs**  
Little Caesars Arena, 7 p.m.  
2645 Woodward.

- TUESDAY, NOV. 29**
- » **Detroit Pistons vs. New York Knicks**  
Little Caesars Arena, 7 p.m.  
2645 Woodward.
- » **Songwriter Open Mic**  
Ghost Light, 8-8:30 p.m.  
2314 Caniff St.
- WEDNESDAY, NOV. 30**
- » **Album Release Show: Rodney Whitaker Quartet**  
Cliff Bell's, 7:30-11 p.m.  
2030 Park Ave.
- » **Detroit Red Wings vs. Buffalo Sabres**  
Little Caesars Arena, 7 p.m.  
2645 Woodward.
- » **Jam at Cabbage Patch Saloon**  
Cabbage Patch Saloon,  
9:30-11 p.m.  
15130 Mack Ave.
- » **Kathy Kosins**  
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,  
97 Kercheval.
- » **Noah Jackson & Full Circle: Residency & Session**  
Cliff Bell's, 7:30-11 p.m.  
2030 Park Ave.

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



# We Tried It!

by Hannah Lizer



My cousin, Anna Lizer, has really turned me on to testing out new products. Maybe only once has it deflated my expectations and cost me a few bucks on something that didn't perform as advertised.

However, about 99 percent of the time, the risk is worth it. Cousin Anna has a great track record, so I enjoy following her advice and finding something new and exciting to add to my life for the better, like lash serum, coloring my gray roots or even charging my electronics in a flash.

Thanks to this "We Tried It!" mindset, I have come to the realization that every circumstance offers an opportunity to try something new. This past week, I put that idea to the test and experienced great results. I knew I had to share my experience with fellow readers.

Out of nowhere last Monday night, my sewer lines backed up in my base-

ment. First — and you probably need to know this before we go forward — my superpower is my sense of smell. Like, it's so good, the FBI might want to consider hiring me. For what, I don't know, but my sense of smell is both a blessing and a curse. Fun times.

So as I stood on the basement steps, I uttered (shouted?) about 100 choice words as I stared into this abyss and conjured up my best inner Anna Lizer. My husband headed to the store right before it closed and, credit to him, he bought every cleaning product, disinfectant and deodorizing spray under the sun he could get his hands on to get rid of what this literal hot mess express was going to leave behind. You have been trained well, Young Skywalker.

Although we were prepared, unfortunately, we had to wait overnight for the plumber to come the next day to snake the pipes.

We threw out area rugs and other ruined items in the meantime. That next night, we tackled cleaning the floor. We used the usual suspects of bleach, bleach and more bleach (oh, and should I mention bleach?). It did the trick to clean the puddles of ick.

We opened the window vents and let the basement air out overnight. When we went down the next morning, the floor was clearly cleaned and disinfected. But it still smelled like we had used gallons of bleach (we, in fact, did), combined with an undertone of something-still-ain't-right. Kind of like when you walk into an average hotel where you are staying for a

baseball or hockey tourney that has a unique blend of bleach, old cig smoke and the coffee they are brewing in the lobby — your brain tries to convince you the hotel is clean, but in your heart, you know the bleach is hiding a lot of sins.

Friends, this is where the game changed. For good measure, we mopped the floor again.

Then, my husband broke out a new bottle of OdoBan disinfectant fabric and air freshener in eucalyptus scent. Not for anything, but it does claim it "kills human coronavirus in 60 seconds on hard, nonporous surfaces."

Hey, I'm going into this thing with guns blazing, so this product had me at "kills."



Almost instantly, the stagnant, bleachy air began lifting. Our basement started smelling clean but neutral, in the best way.

OdoBan walked me off the edge of what was entering Day three of my freak-out. It worked like a charm. Since the bottle says it also works on fabrics, I am about to go ham on my dog's bed and fave spot on the couch. I mean, I find her warm, Frito-like scent charming, but I recognize not everyone does. I am hopeful about the results and will report back.

OdoBan's slogan is "keeping it fresh since 1980," so it's been around a long time, despite the fact I just discovered it. It's also made in America and comes in concentrate and spray bottle form.

It also comes in a variety of scents like the eucalyptus we used, cotton breeze, lavender, fresh linen and citrus. The OdoBan website even recommends

using this after flood and fire damage, so you know this stuff works. OdoBan also had a solid odor absorber and carpet cleaner, among dozens of other products.

I recommend heading to the website to learn more at odoban.com. Your nose and peace of mind will thank you for it.

We bought our bottle of OdoBan for \$4.99 at our local ACE Hardware, though you can also buy it on Amazon. For my money, I give this miracle-worker five out of five big alligators.

*We LOVE testing out new things! Tell us about your favorite item or something you want us to try for you! Drop us a line at [media@grossepointenews.com](mailto:media@grossepointenews.com).*



5 Out Of 5



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DREAMWORKS PICTURES

Left, Gerard Butler as Gerry and Hilary Swank as Holly in the 2007 romantic film "P.S. I Love You," directed by Richard LaGravenese.

**MOVIE REVIEW**  
"P.S. I Love You"  
2007 - PG-13  
2 hr 6min

If you're looking for the perfect date night movie, I highly recommend "P.S. I Love You."

It's not new, but I just watched it recently and it's one of the most heartwarming and touching films I've seen in ages. It stars Hillary Swank, who's great in everything she's in, and Gerard Butler who shows he can do a lot more than play the tough guy. The two actors have such amazing chemistry in this movie, I can't understand why they haven't worked together more.

The film opens with Gerry (Butler) and Holly (Swank) in the middle of a spat. They're quarreling about Gerry telling Holly's mom they aren't planning on having kids in the near future.

It's a charming scene that reminds me of something from a classic 1950s Hollywood film. They eventually make amends and you can tell they're true soul mates and are lucky to have each other.

Fast-forward several months to a wake for Gerry. We're shocked to find out he's died of a brain tumor. I was admittedly caught off guard — wasn't this supposed to be a film starring Swank AND Butler? Never fear. He isn't out of the picture just yet.

Holly spends the next couple weeks wallowing in self-pity. She stays holed up in her apartment completely letting herself go.

Before going to sleep, she listens to Gerry's outgoing message on their home phone, over and over for comfort. Such a sad and emotional scene.

Your heart just goes out to her.

Then the movie shifts gears. Holly's mother Patricia (Kathy Bates) arrives with her best friends Denise (Lisa Kudrow) and Sharon (Gina Gershon) along with a cake to celebrate her 30th birthday.

They also give her a tape recorder with a message from Gerry who explains he's arranged for her to receive a series of letters from him, to help her move on and learn to start embracing life again. Each letter she receives closes with the words P.S. I Love You, hence the title. It's a touching scene.

Her friends are very supportive of her and push her to get out of her

shell and move on. Denise is particularly amusing. She's on a quest to discover a man who's straight, single, and employed, and the way she engages with strangers in bars is quite funny.



One of my favorite parts of the movie is a flashback to when Holly and Gerry first meet. She

was on trip roaming around Europe while in college. I could relate to this because I did the exact same thing. While hiking in a National Park in Ireland, she encounters Gerry and the two engage in a funny and easy banter, and you can tell where their relationship is heading. I thought Ms. Swank really shined here. She was awkward and goofy, and was totally

believable as a young college girl. And Butler just exudes charm along with his gift of Blarney. It's one

of those scenes you wish wouldn't end.

A couple other characters worth mentioning: Nellie McKay plays Ciara, another of Holly's friends. Ms. McKay is a brilliant and quirky singer/songwriter. If you're not familiar with her, I strongly urge you to look her up on YouTube. I didn't know she acted, although based on her stage presence, I shouldn't be surprised. Another talented musician, Harry Connick Jr. plays Daniel, a handsome young man who's totally smitten with Holly. Richard LaGravenese was the director and one of the writers. He's also known for "The Bridges of Madison County," "Freedom Writers," "The Horse Whisperer," and "Paris je t'aime."

"P.S. I Love You" is listed as a romantic comedy, and while there are plenty of amusing moments, the emphasis is more on the romantic.

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"P.S. I Love You" is listed as a romantic comedy, and while there are plenty of amusing moments, the emphasis is more on the romantic.

It's sure to tug at your heartstrings, and I have to admit, I did puddle up a bit watching this one. What a beautiful piece of filmmaking.

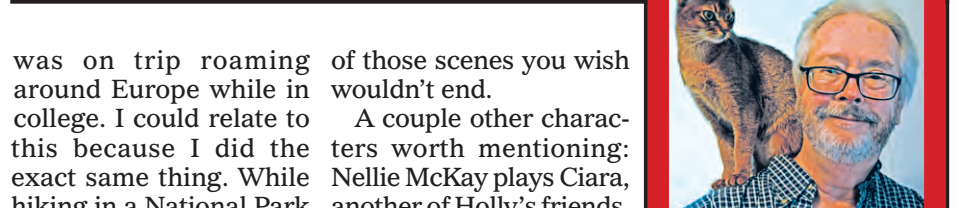
Currently streaming for free with your library card on Hoopla.com. Also on Amazon and Prime Video.

★★★★☆

For movie trailers, visit [youtube.com](http://youtube.com).

If you have any suggestions, feel free to email me at: [domin-mark@yahoo.com](mailto:domin-mark@yahoo.com).

Also, if you're looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: [moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com](http://moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com).



**Movie Junkie Mark**  
by Mark Domin

GROSSE POINTE THEATRE PRESENTS

# A CHRISTMAS CAROL

The Musical

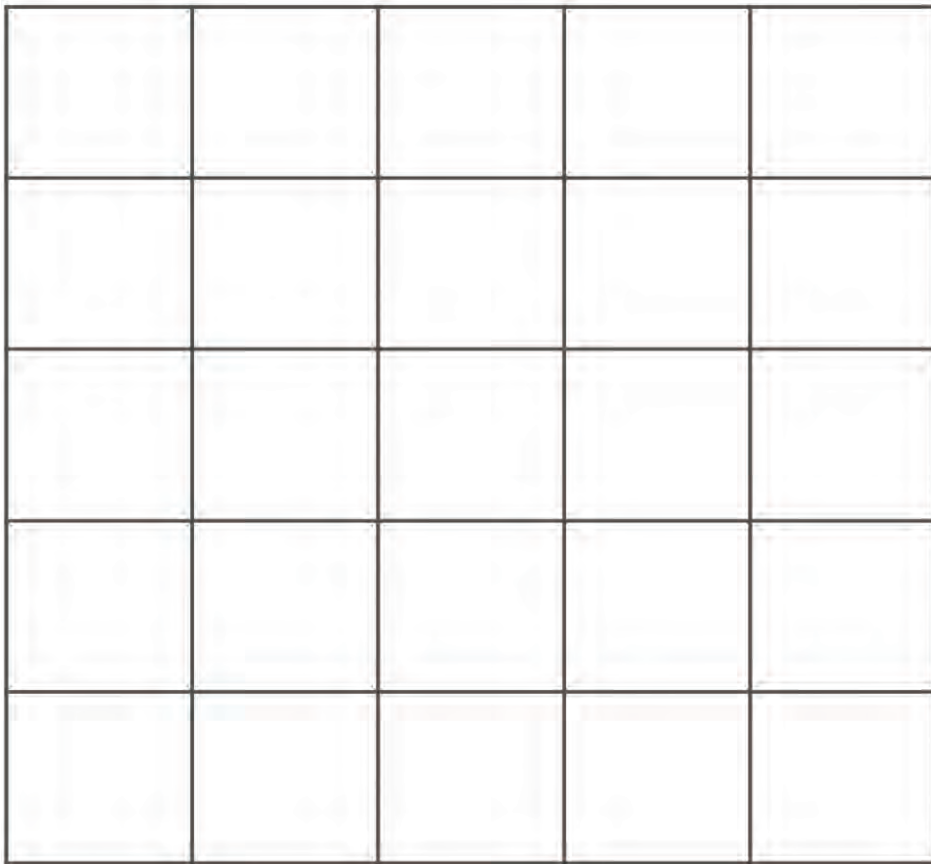
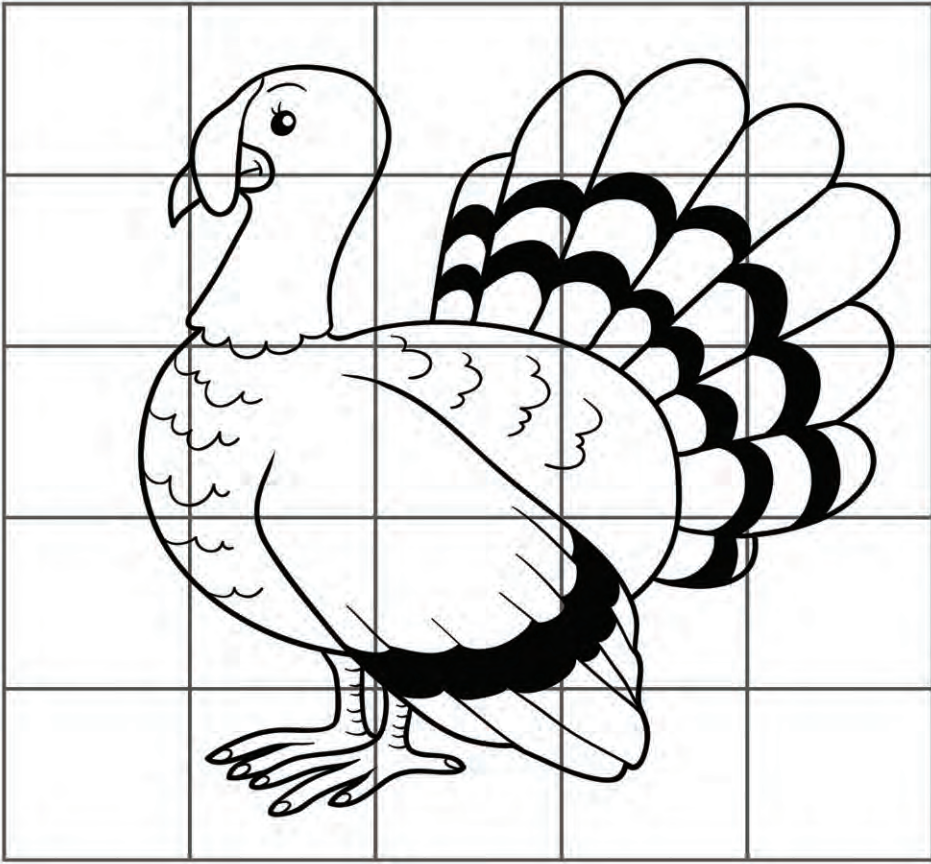
Nov 25-Dec 4, 2022

Parcells Middle School Auditorium  
20600 Mack Ave, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236

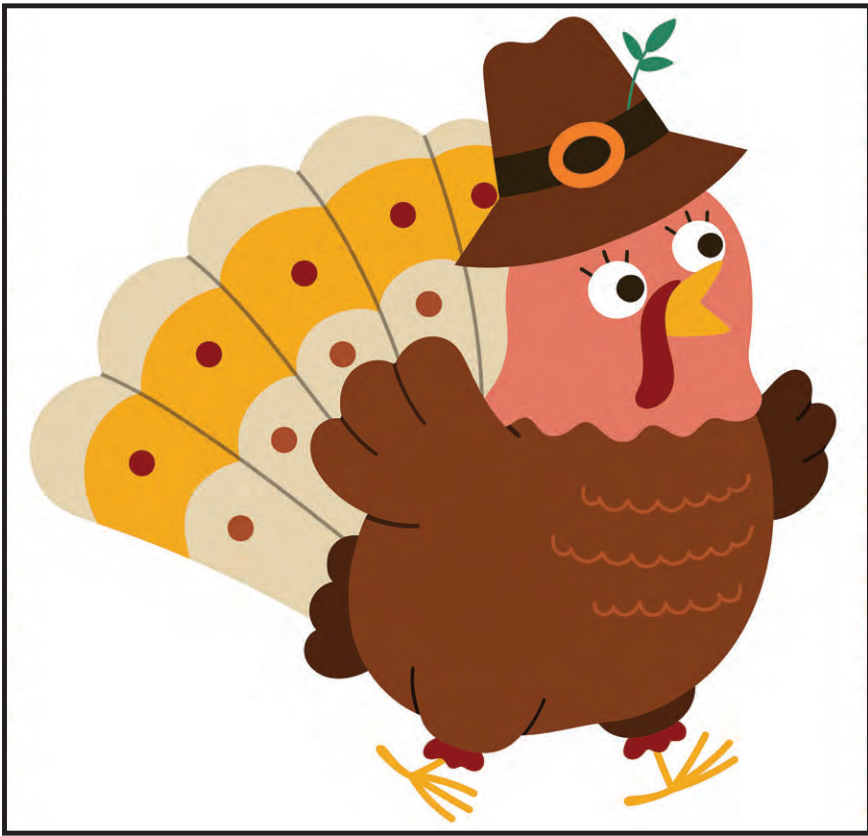
For Tickets - [gpt.org/carol](http://gpt.org/carol) or call 313-881-4004



# Copy the turkey



## Find The 5 Differences



# Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

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

**Happy Birthday for Thursday, Nov. 24, 2022:** You are creative, warm and charming; however, you also can be detached if you choose. You're observant about everything around you, which can make you cautious. This is a year of change for you, which means it's important to stay light on your feet. Be courageous. Be ready to act fast!

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) Discussions with others will go well today, especially about matters related to lofty topics — law, medicine, philosophy, metaphysics, as well as astrology and social media. Everyone has an opinion! Be smart and listen to the advice of someone older today. Hey, experience is not for nothing. Tonight: Avoid controversy.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) Family discussions about shared property and anything that is jointly owned might be addressed today. If so, this is a good day to discuss these matters, because people will be reasonable. This is also a good day to talk about inheritances, especially with a parent or the head of the family. Tonight: Don't squabble.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) Today your focus on partners and close friends is strong. Expect warm conversations with others and lots of back-and-forth. Some of you will do some long-range planning about future travel ideas, as well as schooling and getting further training or education. It's a good day to discuss legal matters. Tonight: Patience.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) You will accomplish a lot today because you're in the mood to work! Many of you will spend time in the kitchen today sharing your culinary talents with loved ones. Conversations with others are warm and easy-going. Nevertheless, this is a good day to discuss shared financial responsibilities. Tonight: Work.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) It's a playful day! Enjoy fun activities with kids and friends. Likewise, enjoy entertaining outings, the theater, movies, and sports events. Romance is blessed! You also might discuss the obligation you feel that you have toward someone close. Or perhaps this will be a discussion about the shared responsibilities of children. Tonight: Be appreciative.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Home, family and your private life are your main focus today. Family discussions will be lively, and fortunately, they will be congenial. Listen to the advice of someone older, because it could be helpful. Focus on home repairs and redecorating. Tonight: Patience with family.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) This is a fast-paced, busy day for you! Relations with siblings, relatives and neighbors will be warm. Short trips and conversations will keep you hopping today. Increased responsibilities with children are likely. Tonight: Be understanding.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Finances are on your mind today. You have thoughts about cash flow, earnings and expenditures. A discussion about budgets and financial planning for the future will be serious

but helpful. Listen to advice if it is offered, because you have nothing to lose. Tonight: Be thrifty.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You're full of energy today because the Sun, the Moon, Mercury and fair Venus are all in your sign, which puts you front and center! Don't be afraid to ask for what you want, because you will likely get it. Communicate your ideas to others. (Shop for wardrobe items.) Tonight: Stay positive.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) In many ways, you will be happy to play things low-key and enjoy peace and quiet behind the scenes. Nevertheless, you might research or ferret out answers and solutions to problems for yourself or others. This could bring a financial benefit down the road. Tonight: Cocoon.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You will enjoy schmoozing and talking to friends today. You also will be very happy working in groups and organizations, especially charitable ones. Expect to be involved with younger, creative people. These conversations will make you enthusiastic and possibly cause you to tweak your future goals. Tonight: Contemplation.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) You look wonderful in the eyes of others today, especially important people — parents, bosses, teachers, authority figures and the police. Because of this, your conversations with authority figures will go well today. In fact, someone might tell you how much they care for you or admire you. Tonight: Check your finances.

**BORN TODAY**  
Actress Sarah Hyland (1990), actress Katherine Heigl (1978), actor Colin Hanks (1977).

## Contract Bridge

### LUCK VERSUS SKILL

North dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.

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

The bidding:  
North East South West  
1♦ Pass 1♥ 1♠  
Pass Pass 4♥  
Opening lead — queen of clubs.

Assume you're in four hearts and West leads the queen of clubs after having overcalled with one spade. You can see that the outcome is uncertain because if East has the king of diamonds, you might lose a diamond and three spades.

The obvious approach is to try the diamond finesse, but if it fails, you are almost certain to go down one. In situations of this type, where the

fate of the hand seems to depend on the location of a particular card, it is wise to look for an alternative method of play that reduces or eliminates the luck element.

In the present case, there is a line of play available that does not depend strictly on the location of the king of diamonds. The proper way to begin is to let West's queen of clubs hold the first trick!

This unusual play has much to recommend it. There is nothing West can do to harm you at trick two. His next play doesn't matter, but let's assume he leads another club.

You win with the king and cash the A-K of trump. Next you lead a diamond to the ace and discard the diamond jack on the ace of clubs.

Now you play the queen of diamonds, planning to discard a spade if East follows low. You don't mind losing the queen to the king if West has it, because you can later discard another spade on the ten of diamonds.

If East happens to have the king of diamonds, you are on equally solid ground. You trump if East covers and discard if he doesn't. Either way you wind up with 10 tricks consisting of six hearts, two diamonds and two clubs.

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by Steve Becker



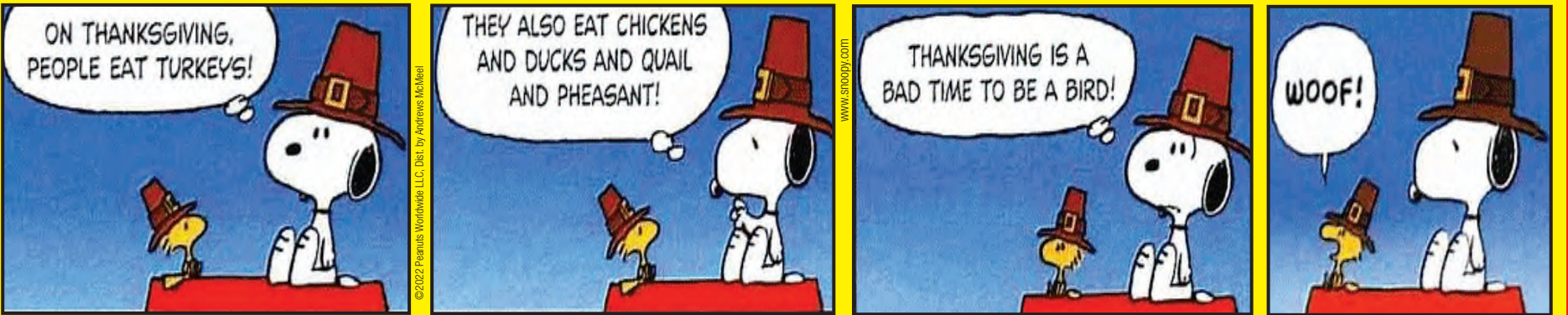




# Comics

## Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



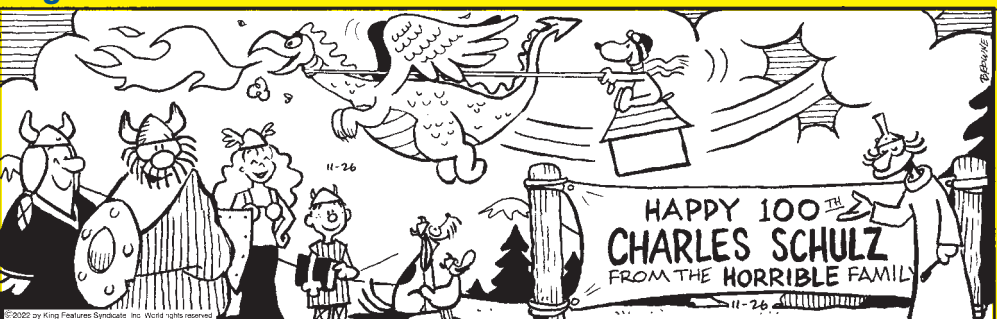
## Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



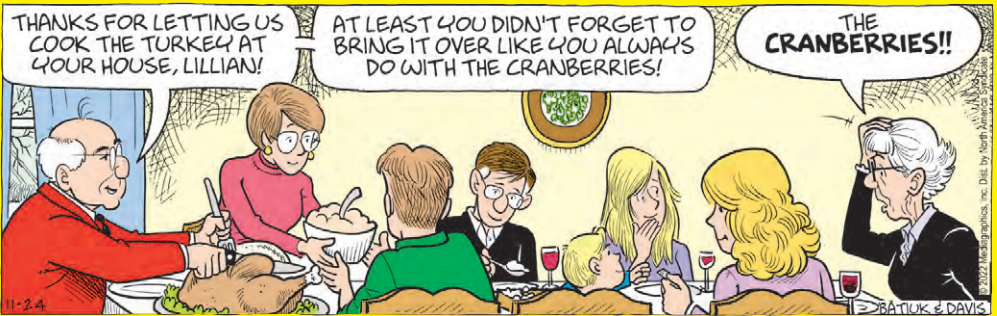
## Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



## Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



## Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



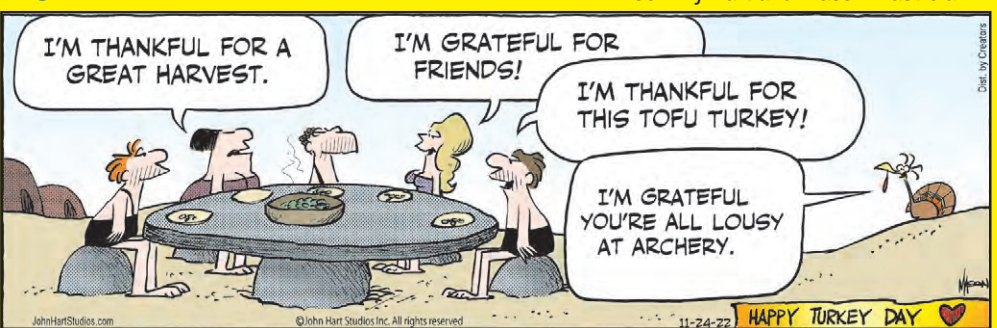
## Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



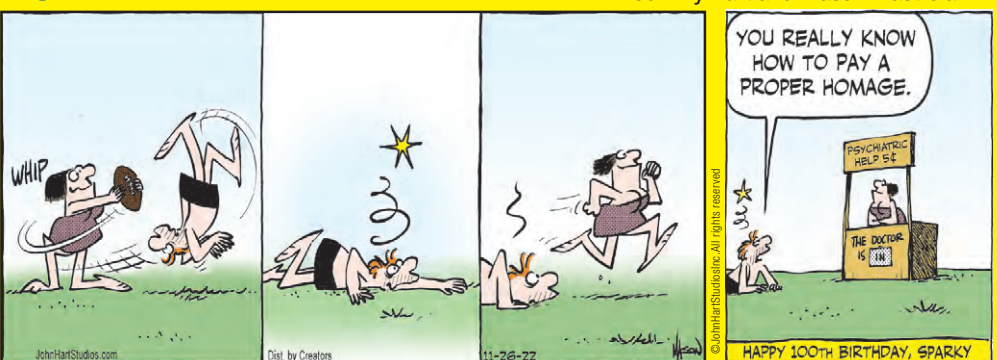
## B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



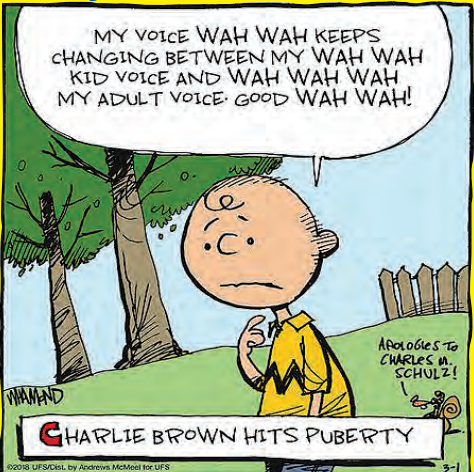
## B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



## Reality Check

Dave Whamond



## Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno

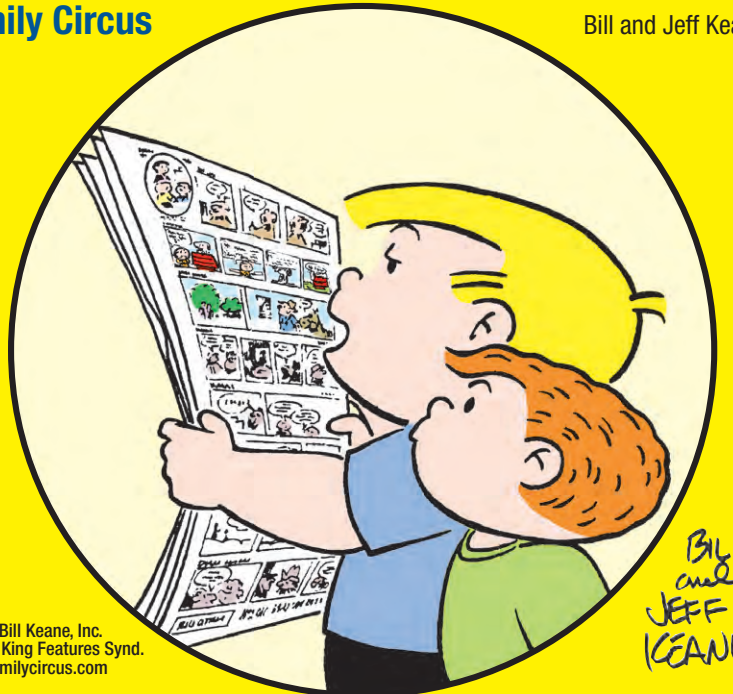


## HAPPY 100th CHARLES SCHULZ!



## Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



"Peanuts' is a classic. I remember seeing it when I was about 3."

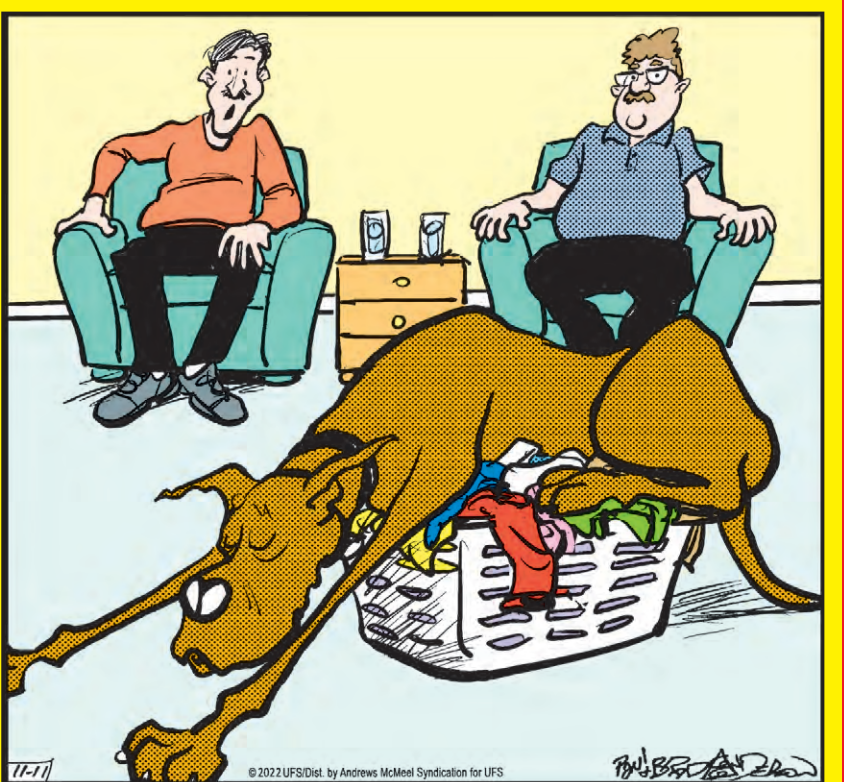
## The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



## Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



"I don't know if he can sleep anywhere, but he tries."



# SPORTS



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**WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW**

## Norsemen hoops ready to hold court

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

It is a mixture of familiar and new this year for Grosse Pointe North boys basketball. The familiar side comes on the court, with several seniors and juniors returning for another year with the Norsemen. However, they will be doing it with a new man at the head of the bench.

Rob Johnson enters this winter ready for his first season at the helm of North's varsity boys basketball team. Johnson is no stranger to the program, having coached the Norsemen's JV team last year. Now, Johnson takes over the varsity team that has plenty of senior leadership and talent that could prove valuable to making his first season a success.

"(Adam Ayrault) is one of the best players and best shooters in the state," Johnson said. "He works on his game every

day and leads by example...We have other seniors who have vastly improved like Zachary Cody, who could be a big part of what we're doing this year...Drew Hill is a vocal leader and three sport athlete."

Johnson and those seniors have been leading conditioning and workouts as the Norsemen get ready for practices and soon the start of the new season. The focus of those workouts has mostly been on energy.

While North knows it has plenty of talent returning when it comes to scoring, keeping up that energy on defense is going to be a major factor this season. The Norsemen do not want to allow the high-powered offense to take away from any toughness on the other end of the floor. Everything starts with creating a balance between speed

See NORTH, page 5D

## Fantastic state final finishes for South, North



PHOTO COURTESY OF JESSICA SILVERMAN BRYAN

Congratulations to Grosse Pointe South's varsity swim and dive team, which gave its all last weekend in the Division 2 state championship meet at Calvin University in Grand Rapids, finishing fifth overall among 47 teams competing for the top spot in Michigan. Grosse Pointe North earned a Top 20 spot by finishing 18th overall. Come back next week to the Grosse Pointe News for more in-depth swim finals coverage on the Blue Devils and Norsemen, including results for individual and relay events and diving.

# Athlete of the Week

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

There is no shortage of impressive multi-sport athletes around the Pointes, and Josh Pierce has proved he belongs in that elite group. The University Liggett senior has built his reputation as a standout player on both the gridiron and the court, and even recently has added track into the mix.

From football to basketball and track, Pierce can really do it all. Coming off the heels of his final high school football season and preparing for his senior campaign as part of the Knights basketball team, Pierce knows that all of his athletic pursuits have helped him grow both in sports and in life.

"Each sport coincides with one another," he

said. "As an athlete, I was able to do all three because (of) my work ethic. Honestly, I haven't always been one to have the best work ethic but being a three sport varsity athlete has changed me and turned me into a

love for leadership flourish over the years. "I got into basketball in eighth grade then got to Liggett and really fell in love with it," Pierce said. "Track I started last year and have really enjoyed it...I've always been a football guy. I played when I was younger and have always liked it and liked motivating my teammates."

There was a time, however, where even Pierce questioned his own abilities as a multi-sport athlete. While playing his freshman and sophomore years on the Liggett football team, Pierce elected not to play football during his junior season in 2021.

The decision was made by Pierce then to put more focus on his

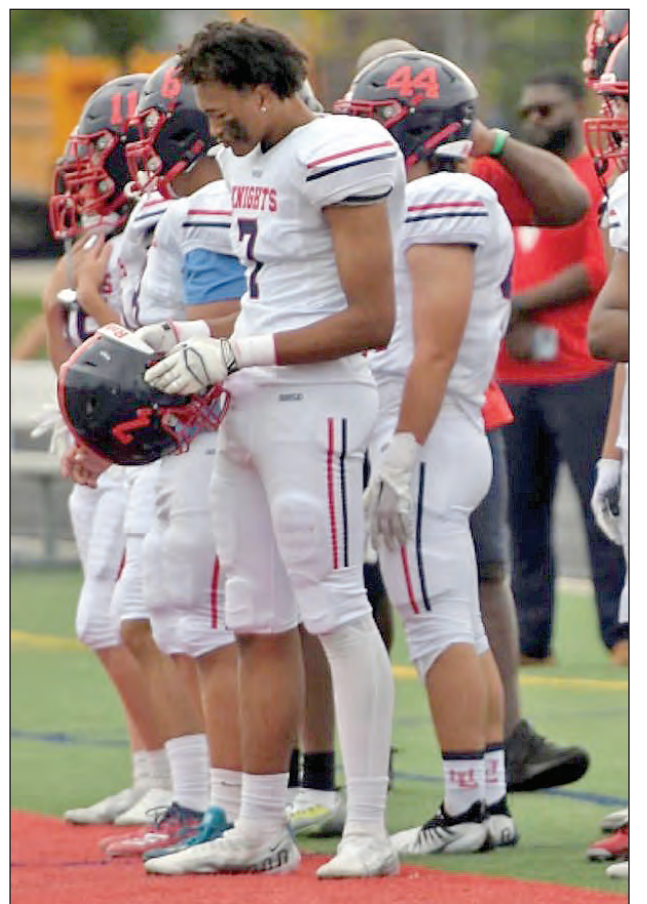
basketball career. However, he made the choice to return to the gridiron at defensive end for his senior year this fall, a choice that he is sure not to regret. Pierce finished the season with 74 total tackles and 12 sacks while being named All-Region and was honored by his team with the Knight of Achievement Award as the season's MVP.

Even after a year away from football, it is easy to see that Pierce had no problem getting right back into the swing of things.

"It was a quick pick up," he said. "I hadn't worked out football-wide that whole school year. I worked out alone, but with two-a-days I got back into the roll of doing it and it wasn't bad. Once the season started and we put on the pads and everything, it felt comfortable for me."

Pierce's standout performance on the football field this fall has earned him some college attention as well. He has received offers

See ATHLETE, page 4D



COURTESY PHOTO

Liggett senior defensive end Josh Pierce ended the football season with 12 sacks and earned the team's Knight of Achievement Award.

Grosse Pointe News

Josh Pierce

School: University Liggett  
Sport: Football

Sponsored by Racing For Kids

Pierce Power

2022 Season Highlights

- 12 sacks
- 74 tackles
- Named All-Region by MHSFCA

HELPING SICK KIDS GET BETTER FASTER

RACINGFORKIDS.ORG



# Signed, Sealed, Delivered!

## Pointe athletes commit to next level

By Meg Leonard  
Associate Editor

Twelve athletes from throughout the Pointes signed their National Letters of Intent (NLI) this month, when their verbal commitments became formalized binding agreements between them and their future colleges and universities during ceremonies at their respective schools.

Three athletes from Grosse Pointe North, three baseball players from University Liggett and six athletes from Grosse Pointe South all signed on the dotted line with a variety of schools such as Wayne State in Detroit, Syracuse University in New York, University of Texas in Austin and Northeastern University in Boston, to name a few.

Here are the sports and schools where these student-athletes will take their talents next fall.

### GROSSE POINTE NORTH

**Adam Ayrault**  
Basketball  
*Wayne State University*

**Annabel Ayrault**  
Basketball  
*Wayne State University*

**Cam Schafer**  
Baseball  
*Alma College*

### GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

**Olivia Bachert**  
Crew  
*Syracuse University*

**Anthony Benard**  
Basketball  
*Mercer University*

**Sophia Kapla**  
Swimming  
*Old Dominion University*

**Ryleigh O'Donoghue**  
Crew  
*University of Wisconsin*

**Sophie Schuetze**  
Swimming  
*University of Cincinnati*

**Ava Sjogren**  
Crew  
*Northeastern University*

### UNIVERSITY LIGGETT

**Jack Jones**  
Baseball  
*Michigan State University*

**Jarren Purify**  
Baseball  
*Clemson University*

**Oliver Service**  
Baseball  
*University of Texas*



From left to right, Jarren Purify, Oliver Service and Jack Jones sport their new teams' colors come next fall, where they will play baseball at Clemson, University of Texas and Michigan State, respectively. Liggett head coach Dan Cimini (standing) celebrates his players' big signing day on Thursday, Nov. 10.



Joined by his proud, green and white wearing family, Liggett starting pitcher and first baseman, Jack Jones, marks a special moment of officially committing to play baseball for Michigan State University on Nov. 10. Jones earned first team All-State honors in 2021.



Go get 'em, Tigers! Jarren Purify and his excited family get ready for him to commit to play baseball next fall for the Clemson Tigers. Liggett's starting shortstop and the leadoff hitter, Purify helped lead the team to a 2021 Division 3 state championship. He also was named first team All-State in 2021 and 2022.



Oliver Service (center) and members of his family give the famous "hook 'em horns" sign, a battle cry for fans of the University of Texas, as Service signs his national letter of intent, officially committing himself to the Longhorns. The catcher and outfielder was named a second team All-State catcher in 2022 and is a three-sport athlete, also playing football and hockey for the Knights.

Photos courtesy University Liggett



*Congratulations!*



# Signed, Sealed, Delivered!

## Pointe athletes commit to next level



Call this one a true family affair – from left, the Ayrault family, including dad, Andy, twins Adam and Annabel, and mom, Kim, share the excitement of signing day. Both Andy and Kim are former basketball stars at Wayne State University, the same school where the twins committed to play beginning next fall.



Terry and Todd Schafer look on as their son, North baseball standout Cam Schafer (center), signs his official letter of intent to play at Alma College, home of the Scots, in Fall 2023.

North photos by Renee Landuyt



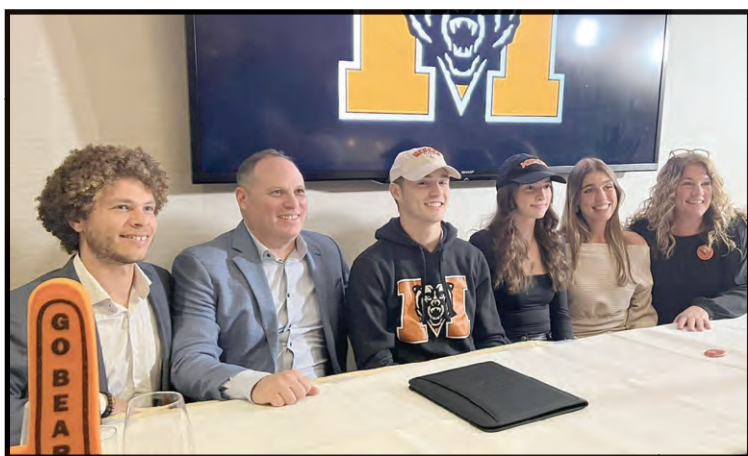
Grosse Pointe South varsity swim captain Sophia Kapla, alongside of her head coach John Fodell, signs on the dotted line to swim for Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va.



The "S" stands for all smiles and Syracuse University for South's Olivia Bachert, who will join the varsity crew team there next fall.



It's on, Wisconsin, for Riley O'Donoghue, who will be a member of the Badger's varsity crew team next season.



South varsity basketball captain Anthony Benard (middle) enjoys his signing day festivities surrounded by friends and family, as he officially commits to play hoops for Mercer University in Macon, Ga. next year.

Photo courtesy of Steve Benard



South's Ava Sjogren will head to the eastern seaboard in Boston to row for the Northeastern University Huskies next fall.



Photo courtesy of Julie Schuetze

Sophie Schuetze, an all-state swimmer and team captain at Grosse Pointe South, signs her NLI to swim next fall for the University of Cincinnati Bearcats. A demanding practice schedule prevented Schuetze from joining her fellow Blue Devils on their joint signing day, so her family got creative and captured the moment in their kitchen. Her dedication and hard work paid off as she led the Blue Devils to a Top 5 finish at the Division 2 state meet last weekend.

South photos by Mike Adzima

# Congratulations!





4D | SPORTS

WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW

# Standard already set for veteran-led Grosse Pointe North girls basketball team

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe North girls basketball program has run like a well-oiled machine in recent seasons. Often a fundamentally sound team on both sides of the ball, its skill and discipline helped lead the Norsemen to MAC Red and district championships last season. North plans to continue riding that momentum entering this season by using its returning core of veterans to repeat and even exceed last year's successful run. Last season's North

squad included just one senior, meaning the majority of the roster is set to come back to the court with even more experience under its belt. For Head Coach Gary Bennett, it makes transitioning into a new season a bit less stressful, especially with some new MHSAA rule changes taking effect this winter. "We used to have three weeks to get ready for the first game, now we have two weeks," Bennett said. "If somebody had to take a lot of new players and teach them about the program, you

can't do it in two weeks. Because we have a lot of kids returning, they know what our system is and we can jump into things more rapidly than we could otherwise." Names like Annabel Ayrault, Natalie Babcock and Sophia Borowski are just a few of the several returning players that Norsemen fans will recognize on the court this season. The final roster is not set as of now, but those veterans are sure to be joined by at least a couple of younger players who will usher in the next generation of North basketball talent.

With that in mind, it shows that the benefits of a veteran lineup go beyond what they already know, into what they can help teach the next group of players. "The older kids are going to be able to bridge the gap between the new and the old and help them learn what we value in the program and what our standards are," Bennett said. Those standards have become pretty much set in stone over the course of Bennett's decades-long tenure at North, and they typically tend to work. The continuity that the Norsemen have this year both on the roster and in terms of



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

North girls basketball celebrates its district championship last season. Several starters from that team are set to be back on the court for the Norsemen in the upcoming 2022-23 season.



Annabel Ayrault, pictured in a game last season against Hamtramck, is one of many key returning seniors for North this winter.

play style is a testament to that. For the North players, it means they know what is expected of them every time they step on the court. "We're going to work hard on defense and play together as a team on defense," Bennett said. "We hope to improve our skills and cut down on things like turnovers. Nothing changes. The program remains the same, we just get new players and continue to focus on the things we've always focused on." With the standards

and expectations for North largely remaining the same, the goal for this coming season is the same as well. The goal for Bennett and his team is always to be playing their best basketball at the end of the season. Even with a roster full of veterans familiar with the system, reaching that goal is never easy. There is constant work to be done throughout the season in order to get back to what the Norsemen achieved last season and go beyond it.

"We have to improve our ability to score," Bennett said. "Eliminate any long stretches of struggling on offense and to bring the same defensive intensity every game. The hardest thing will be not beating ourselves... Everything is an opportunity to get better and we want to play our best every game." North begins the season on Tuesday, Nov. 29 on the road against Regina. The Norsemen's home opener is scheduled for Dec. 6 against Lakeview.

## ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

from schools such as Wayne State and Hope College and has recently taken visits to FBS programs like the University of Toledo and even the University of Michigan.

No decision has been made yet by Pierce regarding his future after graduation, but the options are beginning to take shape. As he weighs those options

of where to continue his athletic career, Pierce knows that it is important to remember who has helped him get here. People like his football coach, Matt Lapolla, and basketball coach, Solomon Spann, have encouraged his growth as an athlete and a person while showing him what it means to be a Liggett Knight.

"Coach Spann, he really motivates me to do things like work on my jumpshot and be whoever I want to be on

the court as long as I put the work in...," Pierce said. "(Lapolla) is an amazing guy and we already had a relationship before the season started. He pushed me to want to play football again...We always prevailed through adversity because we were so tight and he pushes me to be great."

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, visit [grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week](http://grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week).



COURTESY PHOTO

Following the end of his senior season at Liggett, Pierce has taken visits to college football programs such as the University of Toledo and University of Michigan.

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS  
CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING SUMMARY**

<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>Monday, October 17, 2022</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------

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, October 17, 2022, by Mayor Louis Theros.

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

Council approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Closed Session held on September 13, 2022.

Council considered and approved a contract for liability insurance coverage to Nickel & Saph Inc.

Council approved appointments to Historic District Study Commission.

Council heard a presentation of the Master Plan Community Survey Results by the City's planning consultant.

The Board of Zoning Appeals postponed a request for approval of a dimensional variance to permit an accessory structure that exceeds 15' in height at 336 Ridge Road until the November 14, 2022 City Council Meeting.

Council heard a presentation regarding the Basis of Design for Storm Sewer System Improvements from the City's engineering firm Hubbell, Roth & Clark.

Council approved the Consent Agenda.

- a) Consideration of a proclamation recognizing the 2022 Grosse Pointe Farms-City Little League 12U Baseball Team.
- b) Consideration of a request to purchase hydraulic rescue tools using funding from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant.
- c) Consideration of the appointment of Daniel Vincent Jensen, 336 Kerby Road to the Public Safety Commission for a three-year term expiring October 2025.
- d) Consideration of the reappointment of Richard Solak, 458 Cloverly Road and James Conway, 412 Barclay Road to the Historic District Commission for a term expiring October 2025.
- e) Consideration of a request to approve September 2022 invoices.

Council held public comment.  
City Council adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted, Derrick Kozicki, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk.**

Published: Grosse Pointe News 11/24/2022

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS  
CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING SUMMARY**

<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>Monday, November 14, 2022</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
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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, November 14, 2022, by Mayor Louis Theros.

Present: Mayor Louis Theros, Mayor Pro Tem John J. Gillooly Councilmembers Sierra Leone Donaven, Neil Sroka, Beth Konrad-Wilberding, Joe Ricci and Lev Wood. Absent: None.

Council approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 17, 2022.

The Board of Zoning Appeals approved a dimensional variance to permit an accessory structure that exceeds 15' in height at 336 Ridge Road.

Council approved a resolution adopting a policy on recording meetings.

Council approved the Consent Agenda.

- a) Consideration of an annual request from the Public Safety Department to approve Trap Shooting at the Grosse Pointe Club as part of their Fall 2022-Winter 2023 programming.
- b) Consideration of a request to approve October 2022 invoices.

Council approved a request regarding Public Act 51 Annual Certification of Employee Related Conditions.

Council received the October 2022 Public Safety Report.  
Quarterly Financial Report for the three months ending September 30, 2022.  
Council held public comment.  
City Council adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted, Derrick Kozicki, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk.**

Published: Grosse Pointe News 11/24/2022





PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

James Phillips had a breakout season in 2021-22 as a sophomore for North and returns to the court this winter as part of first-year head coach Rob Johnson's team.

## NORTH:

Continued from page 1D

and toughness.

"It's going to start on the defensive end," Johnson said. "That's going to be the identity of our team not just in varsity but at all three levels. We want to be aggressive and should be a pretty fast team with a controlled pace as well. We're going to be tough and gritty and be

a group that competes every single day."

Finding that balance and using that competitive edge could be what gets the Norsemen to where most teams want to be, playing their best basketball at the end of the season. Getting there could take time, but the standard of hard work that Johnson wants to see has already been set among those many returning players.

"We want to be in the

conversation for the division and the district and see where it can go," Johnson said. "This is a group that loves to compete. It's already been instilled in them since before I was here...If we can compete and get better then we'll be right where we want to be playing our best ball at the end of the year."

The Norsemen begin the season at home Wednesday, Dec. 7 hosting Warren Lincoln.

## Knights celebrate title, win big over Pioneer

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

The University Liggett School girls hockey team showed exactly why it has been one of the most dominant teams in the state in recent years, during the opening games of the new season. The Knights began the 2022-23 campaign on the road last Wednesday with a blow-out 9-0 win over Northville.

On Friday, Liggett returned to the Pointes for its first home game of the new campaign. Following a pre-game ceremony to raise the state championship banner from last season, Liggett's second consecutive title, the Knights got right back to their winning ways, taking

down Ann Arbor Pioneer 9-1.

Despite the lopsided score in favor of Liggett, Pioneer actually struck first in the early minutes. The Pioneers found the back of the net just less than three minutes into the game to take an early 1-0 lead, but their early celebration would be the only one they had all night.

Liggett's offensive fireworks began shortly after. Elle Quinlan scored her first of the night to tie the game and about 30 seconds later, Sofie Ancona added another to put the Knights on top. Sophia Secco added a goal late in the first period to put Liggett ahead 3-1 at the first intermission.

The Knights continued building on their lead in

the second period. Ancona scored her second of the game, which was quickly followed by a goal from Allie Roth to put the scoreboard at 5-1. It was then Quinlan's turn to score a second time, then Sullivan Estes found the back of the net to end the second frame at 7-1 in favor of the Knights.

With the game already easily in hand, Quinlan and Ancona both scored in the third period to complete their respective hat tricks and wrap up the evening with a 9-1 win.

At 2-0 early in the season, Liggett gets a bit of a break for the holiday before getting back into action next week. The Knights return to the ice Tuesday, Nov. 29, when they host Troy United.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Liggett's Sullivan Estes weaves through the offensive zone during the Knights' 9-1 win over Ann Arbor Pioneer last Friday.

## South sailors finish third in Windy City

Grosse Pointe South's varsity sailing team finished third overall in the Great Lakes Championships Nov. 11-12, in Chicago. Twenty of the Midwest's top teams headed to the

Windy City to race for a championship, which crowned Chicago's St. Ignatius winners of the tight competition, followed by Lake Forest in second and the Blue Devils in third. The

teams prevailed in challenging conditions, including big waves and shifting offshore winds. The race was South's final regatta of the fall season.

— Meg Leonard



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH SAILING

The Blue Devils' sailing team took third place overall in the Great Lakes Championships in Chicago. The Blue Devils team includes, from left, Charlie Gmeiner, Eric Brieden, Coach Christina Noland, Gavin Webster, Colin Hexter and Braden Vogel.

## Norsemen fight for first win

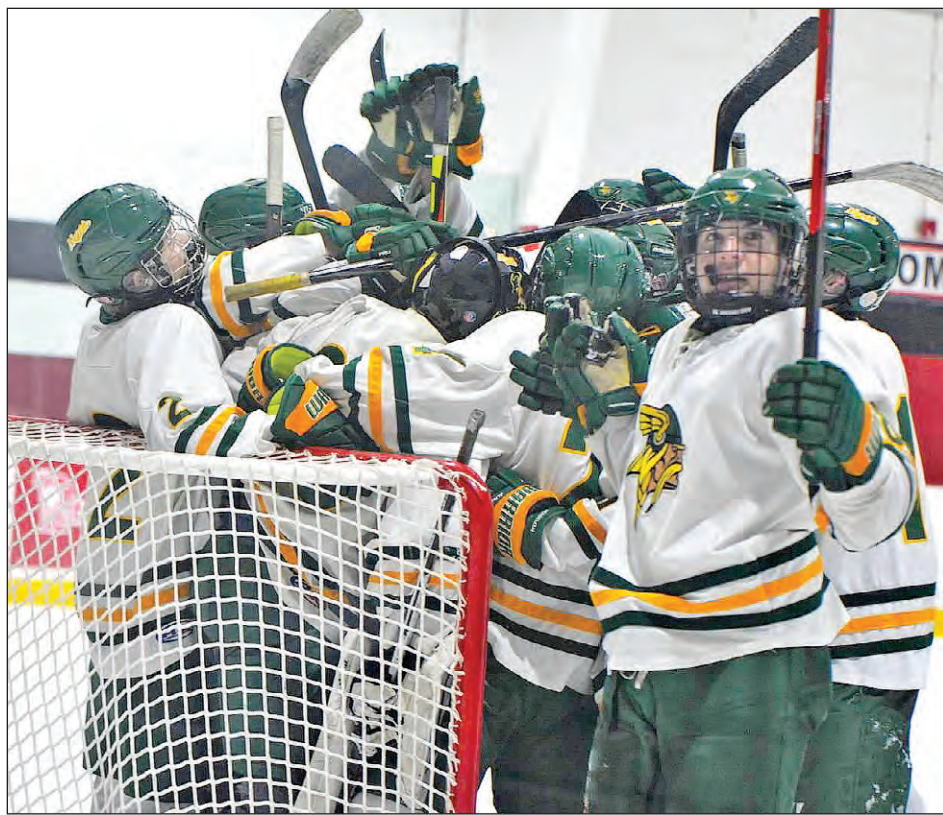


PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE NORTH HOCKEY

Grosse Pointe North boys hockey earned its first victory of the new season last Friday with a 5-4 win over Utica-Ford Unified. Zachary Potter and Leo Dragovic each scored twice for the Norsemen on the way to a win.

## South baseball holiday hitting camps return

The Grosse Pointe South baseball team has announced the return of its Holiday Hitting Camps. Second- through sixth-grade baseball players have the chance to participate in drills and learn from Blue Devils coaches and players.

This year's camps will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 28 and Thursday, Dec. 29. The cost is \$60

per player for one day or \$100 for both days. Players will be separated into age groups and rotate through various stations to work on the fundamentals of hitting.

The camp allows players to learn the proper mechanics behind hitting and gives parents ideas of drills they can do with their players at home to keep them learning and improving

throughout the year. The camp is directed by South varsity baseball coach and two-time state champion Dan Griesbaum. Enrollment is limited and interested players and parents are encouraged to register as soon as possible. Registration information may be found on South baseball's website, gpsouthbaseball.com.

— Mike Adzima



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