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GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

GP North clinic approved despite questions

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education voted 5-2 Monday, Nov. 28, to approve an interagency agreement with Corewell

Health, formerly known as Beaumont Health, to build a clinic at Grosse Pointe North High School. In an often contentious meeting that lasted nearly five hours, members Joe Herd, Colleen Wordon, Christopher Lee, Margaret Weertz

and David Brumbaugh voted in favor of the motion, with Lisa Papas and Ahmed Ismail voting against. The agreement means GPPSS will build out the clinic using \$700,000 of sinking fund money for construction to convert a current science lab. The

money will be spent on sanitary sewer system upgrades, two bathrooms, five sinks and a separate HVAC system, many of those changes mandated by a state law that covers the presence of a health clinic within a school. The clinic also will

include a security system that requires people at an outside entrance to be buzzed in and a secure vestibule that requires North students to be buzzed into the clinic from the school and back into the school. Public comment was almost evenly split on the

matter, with 10 people speaking against the project and eight in favor. Most of those against the project urged the board to take more time to examine the issue, noting the board's meeting Nov. 14, was the first full

See CLINIC, page 10A

Park to sell former Pitters property

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Commercial property on Alter at Vernor just inside Detroit, which Park officials bought more than six years ago to block its potential use as a used car lot or auto wash, is going up for sale. "Multiple entities have contacted the city expressing interest in

the property," said Nick Sizeland, Park city manager. "Discussions with Detroit revealed they would like to see this property further developed." Park officials intend to retain the right to pick a buyer based on price and usage considered harmonious with the suburb's abutting residential neighborhood starting

See SELL, page 2A



Majestic marchers

The Budweiser Clydesdales were among the participants of the 47th annual Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade, which traveled down Kercheval from The Hill to The Village Friday, Nov. 25. Thousands of people lined the entire parade route. Find more photos from the parade on page 4C.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

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Timothy Klepp

Klepp initiates recount

By Michael Hartt
Schools Reporter

THE GROSSE POINTES — Timothy Klepp, a candidate for the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education, announced via his Facebook page Wednesday, Nov. 23, he filed for a recount of the election's results. Klepp said because of his faith in the accuracy and fairness of the American election system, he does not expect a change in the election's

See RECOUNT, page 11A

Concrete shortage delays Fisher, seawall projects

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — This year's long-awaited reconstruction of Fisher Road has seen a number of delays, the grand finale of which is a concrete shortage affecting multiple projects in Grosse Pointe Farms.

While the Fisher project managed to wrap up and the road reopened last week, its chapter won't be fully closed until next year. "Some of those driveway approaches need to be adjusted to meet the height of the roadway and so that project is being delayed until the spring,

because of the delays in the concrete," City Manager Shane Reeside explained. "... So what they're just doing is they're wedging those approaches with asphalt so it's temporarily even with the roadway and then they'll do the approach repair or replacement in the

spring." Also affected are the emergency repairs of at least 14 priority sites along the Lakeshore seawall. Still intended to be completed this season are a couple locations near St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church.

See DELAYS, page 3A

SRT members honored

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

HARPER WOODS — Two incidents over the summer involving gunmen and the actions of the Eastern Wayne Strategic Response Team earned members a unit citation, which was presented at the Harper Woods City Council meeting Monday, Nov. 21. The EWSRT, which many people would recognize as a SWAT team, is made up of officers from all five Pointes and

Harper Woods. "To be a member of this elite group is both difficult and time consuming," according to Harper Woods Public Safety Director Jason Hammerle. "Days are spent away from their families to attend training and all members are on call 24/7 for response to major, often life-threatening emergencies." The first incident occurred July 10, and led to a seven-hour standoff. A 23-year-old man ultimately was



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Eastern Wayne Special Response Team after receiving a unit citation at the Harper Woods City Council meeting Monday, Nov. 21.

arrested. The man's girlfriend and father were stabbed to death and his mother also suf-

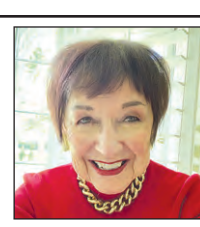
fered stab wounds but was able to escape.

See SRT, page 5A

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Pointer of INTEREST
See story, page 4A



Peggy Stanton
Home: City of Grosse Pointe
Journalist and author



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Seeking better cell coverage

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Residents may not be able to tell the trees from a cell tower if a motion to improve wireless communication coverage below Jefferson goes through with the type of camouflage common these days.

"It's amazing what they can do with cell towers now," Councilman Tom Caulfield said. "I saw one in the shape of a pine tree."

Others are fashioned into flagpoles, public art, even religious crosses, according to multiple websites celebrating cell tower disguises.

In the archives of the Grosse Pointe News are accounts from 20 years ago about people opposing the construction of a cell tower in their neighborhood.

Now, with the proliferation of cellular telephones, nodes are

everywhere. In the Park, there aren't enough to provide a strong signal and continuous coverage between Jefferson and Lake St. Clair.

"It's been a problem for years," said Nick Sizeland, city manager. "We've had initial conversations about telecom companies using small cells, little nodes on top of a utility pole, street lights and more. But they go only a certain distance. They only range to a certain number of homes."

He's seeking a substantial improvement for the Park, much as counterparts in Grosse Pointe Shores are doing regarding the possible construction of a cell tower on the inland side of city hall at Lakeshore and Vernier.

Possible locations in the Park include city hall on lower Jefferson or at one of the two lakeside municipal parks below Jefferson.

"The telecoms are looking for what's going to give the biggest coverage," Sizeland said. "More than likely, a location at one of the parks would be best because they're also looking at reaching into Detroit. I'm waiting for feedback. I should have it within the next couple weeks."

"I don't want some eyecore out there," said Councilman Max Wiener.

"I was able to find a contact that looked upon cell tower opportunities in Grosse Pointe Park, similar to what you see in Grosse Pointe Woods," Sizeland said. "I hope to bring something before the city council within the next couple of months."

"I can say from experience, don't miss out on this because they can put one on Alter Road (in Detroit) and we'll miss out on it," said Tom Jenny, public works supervisor, referring to cell tower income.

Jenny used to work in the Woods public service department.

"(Woods) residents would not allow a tower in the backyard of the public works (department)," he said. "So, instead, they put it at the Milk River Pump Station. Guess who got the revenue — the Milk River Pump Station."

The station is operated by the Southeast Macomb Sanitary District for the Milk River Intercounty Drain Drainage District. "That happened to me," Wiener said. "I got an offer at my business years ago. I didn't want this unsightly cell tower and, then, two plants down the road got it."

It got the revenue, too. The average lease rate is \$15,000 per year, according to the website of Steel in the Air, a company that has negotiated more than 4,000 cell tower leases nationwide since 2004.



K-9 Officer Rocco joins his handler, Officer Richard Rosati, for his first day on duty with the Farms public safety department Friday.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Class of 2022

Rocco graduates canine academy

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Last week, Farms K-9 Officer Rocco not only celebrated walking in his first Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade, but also completed his six-week course at the Police Canine Academy alongside his handler, Officer Richard Rosati.

While the graduation ceremony took place a week earlier in consideration of Thanksgiving, Rocco's last day at the academy was Wednesday, Nov. 23. He officially enters duty this week and is said to already be a far cry from the rather rambunctious puppy who arrived in the Farms from the Netherlands just a few short months back.

"The academy just got us basically to where we need to (be) to be road certified, but my training will never stop for his entire career," Rosati said. "Has there been a tremendous amount of improvement? Yeah, an unbelievable amount, but I've still got a lot of work

ahead of me. It's non-stop."

In fact, the duo will return to the academy one day a week to continue building upon Rocco's training in bomb detection, tracking, obedience and handler protection.

Despite the significant amount of work required, for the Dutch Shepherd the training he soon will put into practice is more of a game.

"He loves it," Rosati said. "It's what he lives for. What we're training him to do, that's his fun, that's his game. He absolutely loves it. You can tell in his body language."

Rocco moved into his forever home with Rosati in early October, broadening the opportunities for training and bonding as the two are together 24/7.

"It's a little bit different than (having) a regular pet," the officer explained. "He doesn't have free reign in the house. His movements and everything are very controlled. Everything we do is some-

See ROCCO, page 3A

Fee hike, safety eyed for Shores harbor

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — The Parks and Harbor Committee is recommending a 3 percent increase in well fees through at least 2025, to help with maintenance costs.

Committee Chairman Dan Ritter told city council at its meeting Tuesday, Nov. 15, the fee increase would bring costs in line with the other Pointes.

Part of the extra money would go toward solving an annual problem — geese droppings.

"It's such a high volume," Ritter said. "It's unsightly and unsanitary."

Well fees currently run between \$1,038 and

\$4,980, depending on size. Ritter said all but one well was rented this year, with 95 percent being Shores residents. The only well that wasn't rented is on a corner that makes it difficult to maneuver, Ritter said. The fees brought in \$268,000 this year.

To deal with the geese, parks employees put reflective tape along the docks, but moisture and wind causes it to peel easily.

"With the extra money, if we could hire an additional seasonal employee, that's something they could stay on top of," Ritter said. "It's to the point where there are shovelfuls being cleaned up every day."

The city also has tried putting up placards with pictures of coyotes on them, but as Mayor Ted Kedzierski noted, "Once the geese realize the coyotes aren't moving, they just keep coming."

Ritter said the committee also is hoping to set up a boater safety class with the U.S. Coast Guard over the winter. It would involve three hours per night, one night a week for four weeks and include chart reading.

Those who complete the course would get a certificate Ritter said can help them lower insurance costs for their boat.

A safety blitz is another possibility early in the boating season next year. "We'd like to get four or

five people out here from the Coast Guard one day to do safety inspections," Ritter said. "You get a sticker that lets law enforcement out on the water know your boat is sound and also makes it less likely that you'll get stopped."

Ritter said the committee also intends to ask the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club to move the barge used for the annual Fourth of July fireworks show farther out on Lake St. Clair.

"There were a lot of shell casings along the docks and some canvas covers on boats ended up getting burn holes," he said. "I don't think moving it another 250 feet out will take anything away from the display."

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When: Sunday, January 15, 2023 beginning at 2 p.m.
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Required audition materials:

- Mozart 2nd Horn Concerto, first movement (exposition)
- Strauss, Til Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks - horn call
- Wagner, Siegfried Rhine Journey - horn call
- Tchaikovsky, Symphony # 5, movement II, mm 8-28
- Brahms, Symphony #1, movement II, mm 85-115
- Sight Reading will also be provided

The position begins Wednesday, February 8, 2023 (7:30 p.m. rehearsal) with the first concert on Sunday, February 26th at 3 p.m. To obtain details of the GPSO rehearsal schedule (always 3 Wednesday evenings prior to concert), location of venues, Sunday concert dates and program repertoire, click on "For the Orchestra" & "Upcoming Concerts" at our website: gpsymphony.org

Candidates must be able to attend all rehearsal and concert dates. Bring two copies of your resume to the audition, or email one in advance.

SELL:

Continued from page 1A

on Wayburn.

"With future development taking place on Kercheval and Alter, the redevelopment on the corner of Mack and Alter, and future development discussions taking place on properties in the area, (I recommended) the city council consider selling the property to allow for the

highest and best use that further develops Alter Road and the border between Detroit and the Park," Sizeland said.

A unanimous council concurred Monday, Nov. 28.

The property, formerly the base of operations of a commercial landscaping company, measures approximately 300 feet along Alter and consists of seven parcels.

It sat unused since the Park bought it in 2016,

for \$392,000, except to store material and equipment associated with the public works department and other municipal construction projects.

"The challenge with Grosse Pointe Park using that property in Detroit is we have no jurisdiction," Sizeland said.

"If I had a pair of tube socks in my drawer for six months that I don't wear, my wife says, 'Get rid of them,'" said Councilman Brian Brenner, explaining his support of the sale.

Mayor Michele Hodges took a dollar-and-cents approach: "This has potential of being a budget-relieving strategy," she said.

Council members also agreed with Sizeland to market the property through a real estate agent rather than follow a municipal charter pro-

vision requiring the solicitation of sealed, competitive bids.

"The charter allows the council to pass a formal, unanimous resolution based on the written recommendation of the city manager to allow for the property to be sold utilizing the services of a Realtor," Sizeland said. "Utilizing a Realtor to sell the property will still result in bids the council will be able to consider."

"The Realtor will figure out how to market it," Hodges said.

"This opens the door to ascertain the value," Councilman Max Wiener said.

"The bid process is cumbersome when trying to sell real estate because you're blindly accepting bids (and) you're not getting the advice of a professional, a Realtor," said Dan Kelly, the Park's new city attorney.

He outlined what is likely to happen next.

"Your manager's going to probably talk to a couple different Realtors, come with a proposal to the council to enter into a listing agreement," Kelly told the council. "You'll be able to see what those recommendations are with the manager and why he's picking this Realtor, as well as pricing for the Realtor. Then, you're going to let the Realtor put together the best package to try to sell this property."

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Sewers still need more cleaning

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Contractors removed 800 cubic yards of sediment and debris this year from the sewer system.

“We estimate adding roughly 161,000 gallons of water capacity to our sewer with the removal of debris,” Councilman Max Wiener said.

The total is enough to fill one-quarter of an Olympic-sized swimming pool, increasing the sewer system’s holding capacity and lessening the risk of backups during rains.

By comparison, a 50-by-25-meter Olympic pool two meters deep holds 660,430 gallons.

The volume of the removed debris is less important than the increased sewer flow it provides — to wit, the flow of storm water through the sewers isn’t as restricted as it was before.

“It’s not just the increased carrying capacity of volume, but increasing the flow and movement of water,” Wiener said. “The system will only be as good as whatever bottleneck we

find.”

“It’s a benefit, but it’s not going to fix everything,” said Patrick Droze, a partner with OHM Advisors, the Park’s consulting engineers.

Despite rain-induced flooding two summers ago that prompted year-long sewer cleaning costing around \$900,000, more rain this year would have helped engineers test the system’s increased capacity and measure actual flow against proposed improvements expressed by mathematical computations.

“It would have been nice to have a little bit more stress on the system this year so we could’ve really put numbers to the work we’ve been doing,” Wiener said.

Work doesn’t end when the system is surveyed, inspected, mapped and cleaned. Sewer cleaning is to become an ongoing project, much like municipal tree trimming, an appropriate comparison because the infiltration of tree roots cause many sewer restrictions.

“We’re already trying to map this out to continue cleaning the system,” Wiener said.

The estimated annual cleaning budget is \$150,000 to \$200,000, according to City Manager Nick Sizeland.

“Each year we’ll rotate,” he said, meaning the city will be divided into districts set aside for annual review.

This year’s biggest rainstorm wasn’t enough to properly measure system improvements, real or theoretical.

“I think it was a little over 1½ inches, but that was spread over many hours,” said Mike Kraus, supervisor of the public works department pump stations next to city hall and at Patterson Park.

“Until we have a major rain storm, it’s hard to iron these out,” Wiener said. “That said, this is an improvement. We’re going to keep mapping sewers, finding manhole access points and every year build upon it, improve it and optimize it as much as possible.”

Approximately 25 percent of sewers still need to be inspected by remote video and cleaned, mainly because contractors can’t get access.

“We have data on most sewers in the city,” Droze

said. “All were passable.”

At least one section of partially clogged pipe measures nearly 1,500 feet, he said.

The problem is hidden manholes. Many manholes along easements throughout the 100-year-old city were covered with sod sometime along the way and, worse, don’t appear on generations-old maps of underground infrastructure.

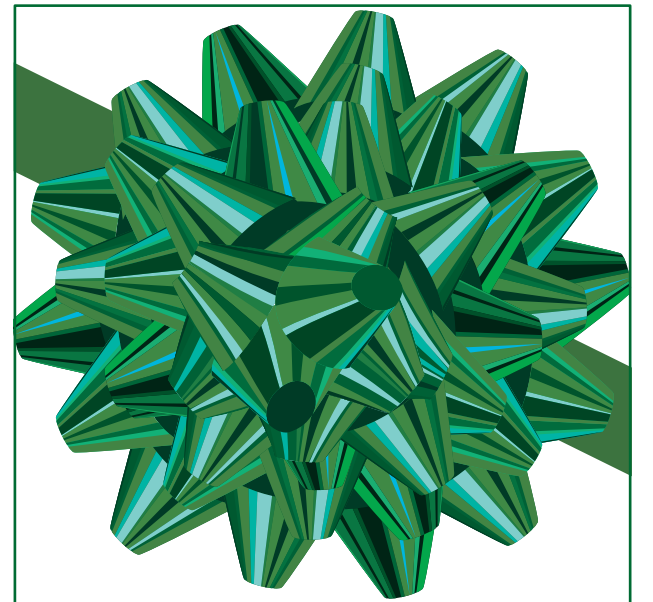
“It’s very difficult to go by our old maps,” DPW Supervisor Tom Jenny said. There are “tons” of unknown manhole locations, he added.

Months of probing topsoil occasionally pays off, such as finding a buried manhole recently in the area of Westchester and Middlesex, but at a pace too slow for city officials anxious to clear the sewer network and guard against flooding.

Metal detectors don’t work, either. They get thrown off by metal fences along easements.

“Companies have a better way of doing it,” Jenny said. “We’re going to have to look into that. Without those manholes, we don’t

See SEWERS, page 5A



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ROCCO:

Continued from page 2A

thing related to training, so when giving him food

and water, it’s working on a little bit of obedience and when he does the right thing, he gets

rewarded with his food.

“As it continues and he continues to improve, his freedom will increase,” he added, “but he’s still young (and) still has a lot of work to do, so it’s non-stop training.”

Rocco’s first official day on duty is Friday, Dec. 2.

Woods public safety getting new lockers

By Ted O’Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — City council approved spending some \$82,000 at its meeting Monday, Nov. 14, to refurbish the public safety department’s locker room.

“This building (the Robert E. Novitke Municipal Center) was built in the 1950s and the locker room hasn’t been touched since,” Director John Kosanke said. “The lockers we’ve been using were taken out of a school and are about 12 inches wide.”

Kosanke said the evolution of the uniform and equipment officers carry make the current lockers difficult to use.

“Just the winter jackets alone are pretty thick because you never know how long you’ll have to be outside on a call,” he said. “Most

officers also gone with the outer carry vests, which are pretty bulky.”

Those vests carry everything from walkie talkies to extra handcuffs to Taser guns. Kosanke said most officers prefer the vests over holster belts.

“The vests put all the weight on the torso,” he said. “The belts can be hard on the back.”

The new lockers will be 84 inches tall, 18 inches wide and 24 inches deep. Each one will include a rubber boot tray, document holder, shelf and hanger assembly.

The room also will get a new floor and a fresh coat of paint.

“It’ll look nice and I think the officers will be happy,” Kosanke said. “The build-out will take about 20 weeks if all goes well.”

The department has 30 officers currently

and the purchase order calls for 38 lockers to accommodate future growth.

The women’s locker room will get five new lockers of the same design to be used by the animal control officer, dispatchers and parking enforcement officers.

The city received two bids for the project, one from the Casper Corp. in Farmington for \$81,896, and the other from Tiffin Metal Products in Ohio for \$81,110.

“We chose Casper for a couple of reasons, even though they were higher,” Kosanke said. “First, it’s a Michigan company and they’ve done the same thing with good results in other departments.”

Those include the City of Grosse Pointe, Canton, Royal Oak, Sterling Heights and

Warren.

“I toured the City’s new station when it opened and was very impressed,” Kosanke said. “That got me thinking that we need to get our locker room remodeled.”

DELAYS:

Continued from page 1A

Next year, the work will continue at additional sites using \$1.25 million in funding already allocated from the state.

“The workmanship that has been done on these repairs has been, I think, high quality,” Reeside said. “... If you look at the Army Corps projections for the next six months, lake levels are anticipated to continue to go down to more the historic normals, so that should definitely — between lower lake levels and the repairs — really help protect (the) integrity of the seawall and slow down any further erosion.”

As for a citywide sidewalk repair program set to begin next week — it will focus on areas with two inches of vertical lift that create tripping hazards — the city was prepared and placed the concrete order in advance.

“Previously, you’d just

show up and be able to get the mix,” Reeside explained, “and (now) what was required was that you had to basically reserve it days in advance, or more than a week in advance in some cases, so it really delayed some of our construction.”

At the root of the situation is a shortage of some of the raw materials used to manufacture cement, which is the main component used to make concrete, according to City Engineer Edward D. Zmich with Hubbell, Roth and Clark.

Contributing factors, Zmich said, are layered and include a combination of an above-average number of large-scale bridge and highway projects in the state this year along with the abnormally dry year allowing contractors to work more days and complete more projects.

A restriction from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency limiting the annual amount of particulates and other

emissions that are released from the cement manufacturing process also plays a role.

“When that limit is reached, as in a year like this with the overabundance of demand, the (plants) can either stop production or pay a fine,” Zmich said via email.

While there are workarounds such as importing cement from surrounding states, this requires additional time and funding for transport.

“The good news is that with the end of the year coming and a significant reduction in the amount of concrete construction projects, the supply should be restored for the start of next year’s construction season,” Zmich reported. “That is not to say, however, that if the same aforementioned conditions are in play next year, another shortage of cement/concrete and delay in the completion of concrete projects is plausible, which would also increase the cost of concrete yet again.”

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, DEC. 5

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 7

◆ Grosse Pointe Park Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Community Tree Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, DEC. 8

◆ Grosse Pointe Park TIFA informational meeting, 7 p.m.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

From being in the pew to being of the pew

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

As a journalist and wife of a congressman, Peggy Stanton interviewed movie stars and politicians, met world leaders and socialized with Washington, D.C., elite.

As a lifelong Catholic, it was a visit to a mountainside in Bosnia and Herzegovina that transformed her faith.

Stanton, 83, released a book earlier this year titled "From the White House to the White Cross: Confessions of a TV News Correspondent."

She was the first female White House correspondent for ABC News, covering the administration of Lyndon Johnson in the mid-1960s.

The white cross refers to a 14-ton, cement cross in Medjugorje, a village in the former Yugoslavia where it is said people have seen apparitions of Jesus' mother, Mary, since 1981. Stanton first made a pilgrimage there in 1988, and has returned nine times.

"As I mention in the book, up until that first visit I was in the pew, but not of the pew," she said. "I went to Mass to check the boxes, but I was more consumed with my career and my life than God. It made me realize my focus was wrong."

Stanton moved to the City of Grosse Pointe in 2008, to be closer to her

daughter, local author Kelly Fordon — a Pointer of Interest herself in 2018 — and her four grandchildren.

"It was right during the housing crash, so not the best time to put a house on the market in Florida and move to Michigan," she laughed, "but it worked out to be a very good move."



Stanton and her husband, Bill, a congressman from Ohio, with President George H. W. Bush on Air Force One.

Stanton started in radio news before transitioning to ABC, interviewing the likes of Julie Andrews and Charlton Heston before covering politics. As the wife of Bill Stanton, an Ohio Republican who was in office from 1965 to 1983, and later was an executive of the World Bank, she met Salvadore Dali,

Fidel Castro and Pope John Paul II.

Although she left TV news after getting married and having Fordon, Stanton remained active with writing, doing freelance work for the Washington Post and Saturday Evening Post. She also wrote two books in the 1970s, "The Daniel Dilemma: The Moral

paid much attention to back then, especially for kids."

Stanton also took up painting, with much of her work centered around her visits to Medjugorje.

The first trip, in the summer of 1988, was Fordon's idea.

"She was 20 and naturally curious," she said. "She had already traveled all over the world with us and wanted to see it."

Stanton was hesitant to go, enjoying running an event-planning business. As she explains in the book, she asked God for a sign. Despite running into several roadblocks trying to make travel arrangements, the pair finally were able to secure two plane tickets for the very narrow window of time before Fordon had to return to college.

A meticulous journal keeper, Stanton details each day of the trip and the powerful impact it had on her. That includes two silver Rosaries she had purchased at the Vatican that were blessed by Pope John Paul II turning gold while there.

"We had them looked at by a jeweler who said while their substance had not changed, they were indeed gold colored," she said.

Stanton said she never envisioned returning a second time, much less nine times, including last



COURTESY PHOTOS

Peggy Stanton was the first female White House correspondent for ABC in the 1960s.

year for the 40th anniversary of the first apparition.

"Between the different flights you spend about 24 hours on planes and at airports, so we had to wear masks the whole time," she said. "Once we got there we were able to take them off and everyone was very warm and friendly. The village usually gets 1 million visitors a year, and they didn't think anyone would show up during COVID, but 60,000 people conquered their fears and

went to celebrate."

Stanton said she has enjoyed her years in the Grosse Pointes, noting it reminds her of the Georgetown neighborhood in D.C., where she lived for years.

"There's a real sense of community and of people helping one another," she said. "And the people at St. Paul are so hospitable in their sense of service to each other."

Stanton's book can be found at the Solanus Casey Center or on shop.mercy.org and Amazon.

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PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Grosse Pointe Shores

Two beers

A 49-year-old Grosse Pointe Park woman was arrested for drunken

driving around 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26, after being stopped on Lakeshore near the north end of the city.

A patrol officer noticed the woman's vehicle weaving heading southbound. She told the officer she was returning from dinner and only had "two beers."

After failing several field sobriety tests, she registered 0.13 blood alcohol content on a preliminary breath test and was lodged in the Grosse Pointe Woods jail.

— Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Stolen pistol

A resident in the 19000 block of East Ida called police shortly before 6 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 22, after being awakened by the sound of breaking glass.

He discovered the driver's side rear window on his vehicle smashed and his .45 caliber Glock handgun missing.

Missing jewelry

A woman in the 19000 block of East Kings Court reported around noon Tuesday, Nov. 22, that several pieces of jewelry were stolen from the center console of her vehicle.

She told officers she parked her vehicle in her driveway around 9 p.m. the previous night but could not remember if it was locked. Officers found no sign of forced entry.

Recovered Kia

A 2021 Kia was stolen from the 19000 block of East Kings Court the night of Thursday, Nov. 24, or early Friday, Nov. 25.

The owner told officers she parked in front of her home around 4 p.m. on Thanksgiving. There was shattered glass where the vehicle had been parked. Detroit police reported the vehicle was recovered Saturday, Nov. 26, and an arrest had been made.

Fully loaded

An 82-year-old Troy

man was arrested after he was stopped driving north in the southbound lanes of Mack near Hollywood around 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 24.

Officers discovered a fully loaded .38 caliber pistol in a holster on the man's left hip. After failing field sobriety tests, he registered 0.13 blood alcohol content on a preliminary breath test.

— Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Phone scam

A fraudster scammed a Park resident out of \$5,000.

On Sunday, Nov. 27, a caller convinced her she must buy gift cards and then transfer the funds because her savings had been tapped to obtain child pornography.

Car broken into

Nothing was stolen from a 2015 Kia Soul, broken into while parked Friday, Nov. 25, in the 1100 block of Bedford.

The victim discovered the car's rear window broken shortly before 1 p.m., according to police.

— Brad Lindberg

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

See REPORTS, page 5A

Grosse Pointe News

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REPORTS:

Continued from page 4A

City of Grosse Pointe

Close to home

After a 44-year-old Grosse Pointe man was caught on video stealing four bottles of wine from a business in the 16000 block of Kercheval at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, a follow-up investigation led to his identification last week.

The man was cited and released.

Grocery thief

An investigation is ongoing after an unknown suspect stole approximately \$88 worth of groceries from a business in the 16000 block

of Kercheval at 9:50 p.m. Monday, Oct. 31.

The suspect is described as a heavy-set black woman driving a black Lincoln.

Three strikes, you're out

A 35-year-old Detroit woman was arrested at 11:20 a.m. Monday, Nov. 21, after her third instance that month of stealing various bottles of liquor from a business in the 17000 block of Kercheval.

The woman confessed to all three thefts and was turned over to the Livonia Police Department due to multiple warrants for her arrest.

— Laurel Kraus

Report information about these and other crimes to the City of

Grosse Pointe Public Safety, (313) 886-3200.

Grosse Pointe Farms

Stopped the hard way

After driving through a red light on Mack at 9:02 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21, a 45-year-old Farms man was pulled over and cited for disregarding a traffic signal and a second offense of driving while license suspended. His vehicle was impounded.

Lexington looted

Three Jeeps and a Volkswagen in the 400 block of Lexington were broken into overnight Monday, Nov. 21, despite only one of the vehicles having been left unlocked. The other three had

windows broken to gain entry, but only one purse was successfully stolen. A camera mounted on one of the garages also went missing following the break in.

Drink and doze

A 36-year-old St. Clair Shores man was discovered unconscious on the floor of a business in the 19000 block of Mack after consuming almost an entire bottle of wine off the shelf at 6:50 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 22.

A LEIN/Secretary of State search showed the man had 15 warrants for trespassing, disorderly conduct and retail fraud out of various Michigan cities.

Vehicle break in

An unknown suspect

shattered the rear window of a Buick Encore parked in the 400 block of Bournemouth between 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25, and noon the next day.

A pair of Jordan shoes and a Burberry purse, together valued at \$1,500, were stolen.

In sickness and identity theft

After fraudulent charges were attempted on a 67-year-old Farms woman's American Express card a few weeks back, her husband's American Express card was used last week in an attempt to fraudulently purchase a \$1,199 MacBook and have it delivered to a Detroit address. The same card also was used to make a \$419.12

Macy's purchase.

Full speed ahead

After speeding 60 mph past an officer on Lakeshore at 1:38 a.m. Monday, Nov. 28, a 57-year-old Detroit man was pulled over and admitted to consuming intoxicants that night.

When asked where he was going, the man responded, "That way," and pointed ahead.

The man refused a preliminary breath test and was arrested for a third offense of operating under the influence and driving while license suspended.

— Laurel Kraus

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

SRT:

Continued from page 1A

The man allegedly then set the house on fire and dropped a baby out of a bedroom window. Shots were fired at officers after they rescued the child and officers continued negotiating with the man while also battling the flames. The suspect eventually crawled out the front door and surrendered.

The second incident, Sept. 2, also involved domestic violence. Two victims were shot to death and the SRT eventually was able to enter the house and confront the suspect — still armed — in the basement.

Using a ballistic bar-

rier to shield themselves, team members were able to create a distraction to temporarily incapacitate the gunman and detain him.

"In each instance there was tragic loss of innocent lives," the citation reads. "However, due to the tactics, training and professionalism of the EWSRT, no officers, additional victims or suspects were injured or killed during these dangerous and high-stress operations."

Hammerle said the team undergoes a week-long training program each year and another one to two days a month separate from their shift work.

"They get called out quite a bit," he said, "things like a search warrant being served on

a dangerous person or extreme incidents like these two."

The supervising officer on the scene of an incident makes the decision to activate the team and they are notified through Grosse Pointe Park's dispatch.

"Unless someone is on vacation, most of them are expected to respond," Hammerle said. "Usually about 10

of the 15 respond."

To be eligible for the team, officers must have a minimum of two years' patrol experience.

"They are selected by the individual departments and then have to go through a physical test," Hammerle explained. "After that, the team leaders do oral interviews and make the final selections."



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SEWERS:

Continued from page 3A

have access and we can't clean (sewers) properly."

When an access point is found, crews update the

system's maps.

"Every year, as we scope, we build out the model a little more and more," Wiener said. "We've spent over \$1 million mapping all of this out."

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After open-heart surgery at age 50,
I became a firefighter.

I AM HENRY

In 2019, Tom decided to make a career leap from engineer to firefighter. But his dream was derailed by the discovery of an aortic aneurysm.

We were able to repair the life-threatening condition with open-heart surgery. Tom completed his firefighter certification in 2020 and got the green light from his doctors to join his local fire department. Tom says he's feeling strong, confident "and more fulfilled than I've been in many years." **Discover Tom's story, and learn more about heart surgery at henryford.com/heartsurgery**

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6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

What's the rush?

Residents deserved sufficient say and time on \$700k clinic

As the saying goes, to whom much is given, much will be expected. Such is how we would categorize our collective expectations for the Grosse Pointe Public School System to provide stakeholders more time to further understand and perhaps evaluate potential financial alternatives before spending \$700,000 to construct a health care clinic within the walls of Grosse Pointe North High School.

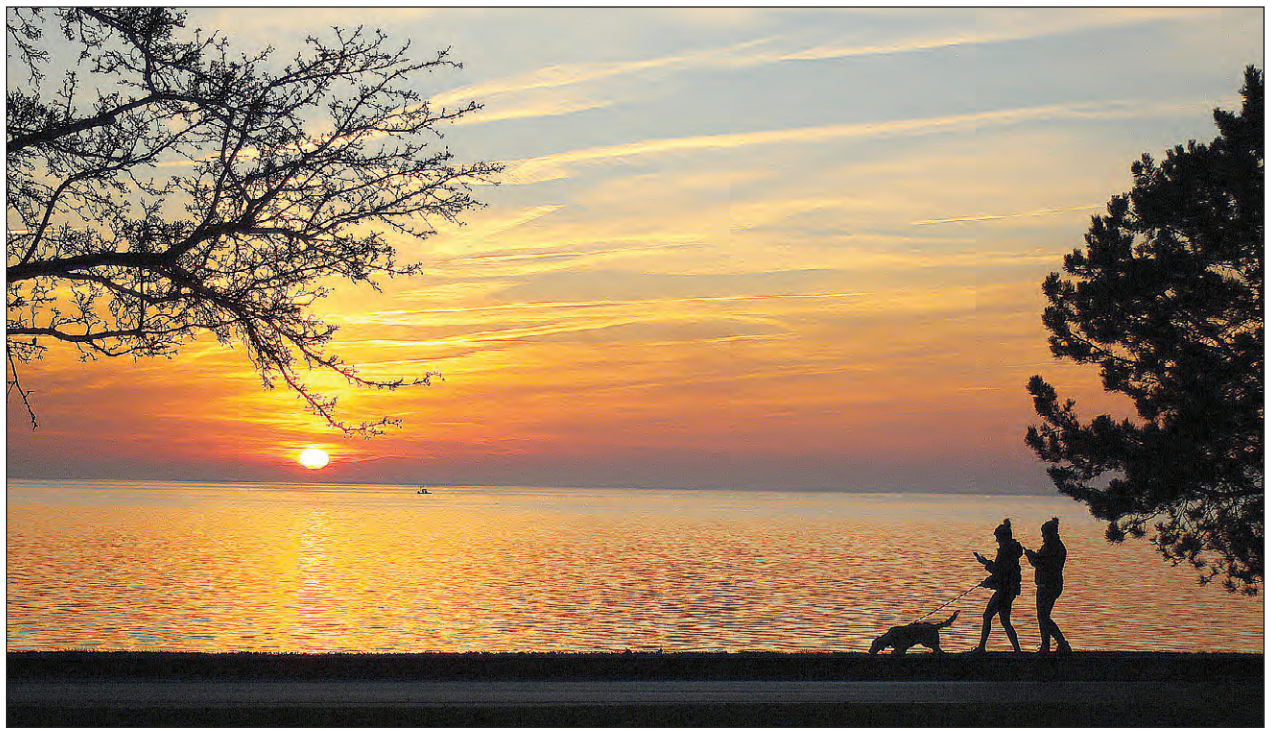
Instead, our district leadership went full speed ahead and our school board voted 5-2 to approve the clinic Monday night, despite a growing community request to pause for at least one week before voting. Our administration and its board have moved this project forward at lightning speed since the Nov. 8 election, approving it before three new members of our Board of Education take office in January.

The money to construct this clinic would come out of a sinking fund, which Grosse Pointe taxpayers voted to extend in 2019's sinking bond millage. It gave the district the authority to levy 1.00 mill on all taxable property in the district for a period of five years, from 2020 to 2024. The proposal estimated that 1.00 mill (\$1 per \$1,000 of taxable valuation) would raise approximately \$2,998,000 in the first year it was levied.

The community approved this funding with the understanding it would be to repair and improve physical facilities as needed, not to tear down a state-of-the-art science lab for a project with an unproven track record of success in a community such as ours. Although baseball and softball diamonds were repaired this summer from this same source, they were by all accounts becoming dangerous to play on. Additionally, our ball players do not have another alternate field to play on like residents have with the many health care options in town.

We also have leaky roofs and broken pools looming, among other repair issues. Why not explore less expensive options for a clinic? Virtual and telemedicine appointments have become commonplace for routine medical care, so why is a brick-and-mortar facility the only option?

Grosse Pointers should be allotted ample time to understand our community's true need



Pure Grosse Pointe

City of Grosse Pointe resident Judy Murray captured this serene moment Thanksgiving morning, near St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church. "I thought perhaps you would enjoy the peace and beauty it conveys, the soft haze o'er the water adding to the tranquility of a dawn ushering in the holiday season," she wrote.

for a health care clinic housed inside one of our high schools. The clinic would be run by Beaumont/Corewell Health System and would provide treatment for anyone — not just students — in the Pointes or Harper Woods seeking care, according to the grant's language. Therefore, the board's decision was not exclusively for our kids. It was a decision that involved our entire community.

When Beaumont/Corewell received the grant in May from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, many steps should have taken place in the months leading up to Monday's vote that more proactively and effectively engaged and informed the community. We expected at least as much effort from the administration to engage us about the clinic plans as they did when they were aggressively seeking our votes to provide them with more money.

But the truth is five members of this board made up their minds before Monday's vote to approve the clinic. Open public comments were merely optics to patronize those seeking a pause to get more questions answered. Art Bryant, mayor of Grosse Pointe Woods, was in the audience available for comment, but President Joe Herd determined it was too late because the board was rendering its vote.

Afterward, Superintendent Jon Dean admitted he could have done a better job speaking to the mayor in the days leading up to the vote, but that's as effective as trying to unburn spaghetti sauce. If there were other ways the board or administrators engaged community feedback, especially with neighbors in Grosse Pointe Woods, we aren't aware of it. They either hand-selected who they asked or intentionally treaded lightly in getting the word out.

District leaders have treated this clinic as a done deal from the beginning, not as an unprecedented concept deserving of community-wide feedback or approval. Well before Monday night's vote, nursing positions for the clinic were posted on Beaumont/Corewell's jobs site. Wheels were in motion to remove tables and cabinets out of the lab, though the district denies correlation to the clinic. Just one week ago, the district held a virtual, seemingly one-and-done town hall. Apparently that's all you get, stakeholders. The district has spoken. No more questions.

Speaking of questions, more have been raised about the accuracy of some community data provided on the grant application, according to Will Broman, a patent lawyer and former BOE candidate, who reviewed the application. He wrote about it in an open letter to the current school board and also spoke at Monday's meeting.

What he discovered warrants pause. He

found that the application overstates district enrollment by nearly 23 percent and North enrollment by nearly 14 percent. He also found that the application dramatically understates the sheer amount of health care access Grosse Pointers have in our own neighborhood, including some of Beaumont/Corewell's own offerings. And as Mr. Broman's letter states, the application completely omitted our options just to the north in St. Clair Shores and Macomb County — something other school-based clinics don't have to compete with.

Mr. Broman's open letter also challenges the overall community benefit from an insurance standpoint. According to Census data on the estimated population of uninsured residents younger than 65, on which the grant application relied, he notes the estimated percentage of uninsured ranges from 1.3 percent in the City of Grosse Pointe to 6.4 percent in Harper Woods (Grosse Pointe Woods is at 2.6 percent). These clinics likely are highly utilized in other communities such as River Rouge, where the estimated percentage of uninsured is more than 11 percent.

The ceiling of uninsured residents to benefit from this clinic is low. While a Beaumont/Corewell representative said Monday night that insured patients will not be asked to make a copay, we are skeptical of this model's long-term sustainability. Nothing in life is free, especially not health care.

The irony of all of this is that while the district is suddenly insisting our community is in immediate need of a funded health care clinic, the project requires not only our community's tax dollars but also our trust. The district is behaving as if money grows on trees in the Pointes, only we are also the arborists.

The next time our vote is required on a bond or sinking fund, perhaps we ought to think twice based on this latest plot twist of a project that requires no community-wide approval.

Our administration sure seems to be in a mad dash to get this clinic in motion. Three new board members ultimately will be among those charged with managing its costs and long-term success, yet were denied any voting power to approve it. The grant might be burning a hole in the district's pocketbook, but it should not mean those representing us should act as hastily as they did.

Some members of our board voiced their confidence in how well-informed they felt about the clinic before voting. But many in the community did not feel adequately informed and simply asked for time, which the board did not honor.

Our generous and engaged community has earned the right to expect our district to be good stewards of our money, instead of being in a rush to spend it.

GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST							December 1-7	LOCAL 4
THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED		
38° 27°	49° 39°	51° 25°	42° 32°	46° 40°	48° 25°	35° 20°		
Partly Cloudy	Increasing Clouds	Showers	Partly Cloudy	Chance of Showers	Windy & Rain	Partly Cloudy		
0%	0%	40%	0%	40%	70%	0%		
SUNRISE 7:41 am SUNSET 5:00 pm	SUNRISE 7:42 am SUNSET 5:00 pm	SUNRISE 7:43 am SUNSET 5:00 pm	SUNRISE 7:44 am SUNSET 4:59 pm	SUNRISE 7:45 am SUNSET 4:59 pm	SUNRISE 7:46 am SUNSET 4:59 pm	SUNRISE 7:47 am SUNSET 4:59 pm		

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LETTERS

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

Solve problem, don't add to it

To the Editor:
I did not look at the

drawings for the planned 582-606 St. Clair apartment complex, only at your picture on page 4A, but is it

ugly! And the colors, terrible. The building resembles a military complex. Yes, we need senior citizen housing, but don't the seniors deserve something better looking? More classy? Compare this to the beautiful English Tudor Sunrise proposal. Also, I assume there will be about 100 people showering daily and flushing their toilets. What will be the effect on the already overburdened and obsolete sewer system? As I mentioned in a previous letter to the Grosse Pointe

News last year: How can anyone in good conscience add to a problem without solving the problem first? Has the sewer problem been solved?
ANNELIESE BAJER
Tire Systems Engineering Inc.
City of Grosse Pointe

Editor's Note: The story "Bonds may cover sewer work," published in the Grosse Pointe News Oct. 27, explains that the City hopes to combine 2023 roadwork with sewer infrastructure improvements.

I SAY By Renee Landuyt

Don't focus on the dot



I heard a story recently. Students walked into the classroom and the professor said, "We're going to have a spontaneous test." On each of their desks, the students had a blank piece of paper with a small blue dot on it. The professor told the students the assignment was to write about what they saw. All the students wrote about and described the blue dot. The professor collected the papers, read them and said, "This assignment isn't about the blue dot. This is a life lesson. In your life, you're all going to have blue dots and they're going to try and consume all of your focus, emotions and attention. But don't forget about the rest of the page. It represents your life and the amount of blessings you will have to be grateful for. It all depends on where you put your focus. Don't let that tiny blue dot on a blank piece of paper consume all your thoughts."

I thought that was a great lesson and with that story in mind, I did something different for Thanksgiving this year. I

opted out of Thanksgiving Day celebrations to spend some quality time by myself. By choice. I needed a break from schedules, needed some quiet time and wanted a slow, easy morning spent in my pajamas for as long as I felt like it. I needed to focus on the paper and not the blue dot.

I chose to spend Thanksgiving Day alone because I needed a day where there weren't any scheduled pressures. I didn't have to be anywhere. Stores weren't open. It was just a day to chill. This allowed me to be grateful in the moment because there weren't any distractions.

I didn't have to hurry up because I had to be somewhere. I didn't have to hurry up and do anything. I was able to eat what I wanted and when I wanted and I didn't have to witness carnage on the table.

On Thanksgiving, the weather was mild and the day felt peaceful. Actually, it felt extra peaceful because I live on a busy street and there was hardly any traffic. The elimination of noise can be soothing when the noise is temporarily quieted. Silence really can be golden, especially when you didn't realize how much you needed a bit of it.

Everything I did that day was my choice. How

long has it been since you have done that? It's been a long time for me. And since the day is called Thanksgiving, that's what I was doing: giving thanks. And, thankfully, chilling.

How many "have to's" do we have in one day? A lot. On Thanksgiving, I had zero. I did what I wanted. That involved some binge watching, a little reading, a small amount of laundry and focusing on the page, not the dot. It also included talking and texting with friends and family.

The day was so relaxing. When evening came, it rained, the traffic continued to be light and it still felt peaceful. I opened the window and watched the rain turn the sidewalk and street from dry to wet, watched the rain leave drops on the branches and breathed in the fresh smell of clean that the rain leaves behind.

I gave myself permission to have a day off. And not just a day off work, but a day off of everything. And it was wonderful. Self care is a gift, a gift you need to give yourself and not put off. Give yourself a moment of peace. It's free and it's priceless. And stop focusing so much on the dot.

Living in gratitude is something I aspire to. I don't get it right every day, but I'm working on it.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1947

75 years ago this week

OPEN DOOR POLICY PANNED BY POINTE POLICE: The habit of leaving doors unlocked is growing in the Pointe. Not only private residences are often left open by their owners but many merchants are showing a growing carelessness in not seeing that their places of business are properly locked up at the end of the business day. In a single night recently, six such places were discovered by the police in the City and five in the Park police in practically the same period.

1972

50 years ago this week

GP NEWS ELM WINS

NATIONAL RECOGNITION: A plaque designating the great tree which overhangs the News building as an "historic elm" was recently presented by the Elm Research Institute of Waldwick, N.J., and has been attached. When the News offices were built 27 years ago, tree experts who were consulted on how best to preserve the elm, estimated its age at between 150 to 200 years old. It measures 13 feet in circumference.

1997

25 years ago this week

TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGING: In the not-so-distant past, it was not uncommon for the business district in any given community to completely shut down on Sunday. But with the ever-changing nature of the retail indus-

try, those days are but a memory as businesses adjust to the demands of the consumer. The City of Grosse Pointe is now considering amending its Sunday business hour ordinance to accommodate Blockbuster Video so patrons can rent and return videos until 10 p.m.

2012

10 years ago this week

RAHAIM EARNS DRAG RACING CHAMPIONSHIP: It took a little less than four seconds for Grosse Pointe Park's Bob Rahaim to travel the 660 feet in his drag racing car to officially claim the American Drag Racing League Pro Nitrous series championship this season. The 52-year-old put together a season for the ages in 2012, winning three races and competing in the finals in several others. Not bad for a guy who took a 15-year hiatus to help raise his family.



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Al Held (American, 1928-2005)

Brush And India Ink On Smooth Cream Wove Paper, 1965 Untitled, H 22.5" W 35"



Marshall Maynard Fredericks (American, 1908-1998)

Bronze Relief Plaque, "Sheep", H 10.25" W 7.75"



Joseph Mozier (American, 1812-1870)

Carved Marble Sculpture, 1867, Pocahontas, H 48" W 18" Depth 16"



Estate Jewelry

A fine selection of over 45 lots this month!



Sabbadini Earrings



Japanese Satsuma Earthenware Pottery Collection

12 Lots This Month!



Harry Bertoia (American, 1915-1978)

Beryllium Copper Rods And Bronze Base, Sound Sculpture



409 East Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, MI 48226

Overgrown tree gets second chance

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The city has two Christmas trees this year.

One, a traditional city project, is at Windmill Pointe Park, as usual.

The other, erected by backers of the West Park Winter Social, held Saturday, Nov. 26, in the Kercheval business district, is located within the traffic circle at Kercheval and Wayburn.

“I have a Christmas tree lined up, as I have for 28 years now, down at Windmill Pointe Park,” Brian Colter, Park city forester, said a week before the tree was installed near the lake-side park’s inner gatehouse. “We got the tree for free.”

It’s a blue spruce with nearly perfect pyramidal shape, stout limbs. Occasional openings in the foliage provide space for large ornaments and clusters of lights.

The owners, Julie and John Piazza of Grosse Pointe Farms, where

Colter also is city forester, parted with the tree because it outgrew its location in the front yard.

“The tree just kept getting bigger and bigger,” Julie Piazza said. “It was quite beautiful and looked like the perfect Christmas tree. But, it got too big for our house.”

Despite measuring a prescribed 10-foot-diameter space for the tree, purchased 13 years ago at Costco, it kept growing taller and wider, needle-sharp leaves making life prickly for passersby.

“It filled that space pretty quickly,” Julie Piazza said. “It got afternoon sun and really liked that area.”

“It’s remarkable how fast that grew,” Colter said. “It looks like it’s about 20 years old.”

Branches encroached on a neighbor’s driveway.

“We either had to trim it, which we thought would look ridiculous, or it was time to cut it down,” Julie Piazza said.

“Blue spruce is the preferred Christmas tree,

especially for a large tree on which we use large ornaments, because the twigs are stout,” Colter said.

The tree was decorated at the park without ceremony.

“I don’t think we’re going to do anything big as far as lighting the tree because they’re having a big tree down on Kercheval,” said Chad Craig, Park recreation director. “That has more of a feel of a citywide tree. We support the Winter Social. If that gets bigger attendance, let’s make that the official tree lighting. But, we still have our city tree down here that everybody can enjoy during the holidays.”

“The city always does a great job of decorating the business district, as do the businesses owners themselves,” said Joe Hebek, president of the Grosse Pointe Park Business Association. “A tree at the traffic circle on Kercheval would really be the icing on the cake and a great welcome to



PHOTO BY JACOB PIAZZA



PHOTO BY BRIAN COLTER

An ArborPro crew, left, harvests a blue spruce donated by a Grosse Pointe Farms family to become the Christmas tree at Windmill Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Park, right.

our neighbors traveling down Kercheval to the Park.”

Special events are having their intended impact of drawing more people to the commercial area,

according to business owner Christy Wood.

“When I had my old studio in 2013, no one was walking by,” said Wood, owner of ABX Redux movement studio,

which recently reopened on lower Kercheval.

“Now, I see all sorts of people — families, little kids, young people in their 20s and 30s — walking by. It’s very vibrant.”

Reworking the rec com

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The recreation commission is being reorganized with the addition of three subcommittees to focus on Windmill Pointe Park, Patterson Park and the buildings within.

The existing marina subcommittee remains.

“There might be adjustments,” commission Chairman Michael Hindelang said. “We may discover that Patterson is twice the workload of one of the others or half the workload of the others.”

During the commission’s Nov. 9 meeting, Hindelang followed through with statements made when elected chairman Sept. 14, to rejigger the commission’s structure and operations.

“I’d like to create subcommittees; not to add meetings, but add an area of focus,” he said last month. “This is going to take trial and error because we’ve never done it before. What I’m envisioning is not that the subcommittees get together and send emails to (Recreation Director Chad Craig) every week about weeds on the

boardwalk (at Patterson Park), but rather bigger things.”

He cited as an example the seeming underutilization of the boardwalk.

Many topics are anticipated to remain outside the four subcommittees.

“Commission meetings are where we’re going to address many things,” Hindelang said. “If we decide other events have gotten to the point where we need more focus on them, perhaps we need to restructure how we do this. As we go through this, probably a year from now we’re going to be talking about this is a terrible idea or this is a great idea or we need to tweak it.”

“We might be able to

have a special events committee,” Craig said.

New subcommittees will be staffed by current commissioners, whom Hindelang encouraged to apply for the new posts.

“As part of that, we would like to get topics from each of our major areas of focus,” he said. “We have Patterson Park, Windmill Pointe, the marina (and) the Tompkins and Lavins centers and the Windmill Lodge. I’m not envisioning meetings when we start, but maybe there’s some point when we need to.”

New location?

He’s also looking into finding a different venue for meetings of the recreation commission. Its 12 members overflow seats in the combined city council-municipal

court chamber at city hall. One member this month had to occupy the judge’s bench.

“I talked to (City Manager) Nick Sizeland about if there’s something we can do about the location, to get something that actually fits the size of our commission,” Hindelang said.

The commission used to meet at the Tompkins Center at Windmill Pointe Park.

“We’ll see if that’s still a possibility,” Hindelang said.

Meeting info

“We hear a lot about budget items, whether it’s the cost of kayak racks or the cost of the (Lavins Center) roof,” Hindelang said. “As Chad goes through his budgeting process with

city administration, I’ve asked him to share with us his proposed budget.”

“I support getting a financial report at each meeting,” said Commissioner Larry Haggart, a member of the marina subcommittee. “The marina subcommittee has already expressed interest in getting such a report because of the monumental funding challenge we have for renovation of the marina.”

“I wanted to be clear,” Hindelang said. “I’m not asking Chad to give us a budget report of how we’re performing against budget, but rather this is where the money’s being spent that will perhaps give us ideas on how to better consider what it is we’re asking of Chad.”

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Farms council meetings to go live

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Grosse Pointe Farms City Council resumed its practice of meeting in person in June 2021, but has kept in mind the success it

has seen with recorded meetings, such as a presentation following that summer’s flooding disaster, to which residents still refer.

As the Farms/Shores Municipal Court, which is housed in the same room at city hall as the

council, recently upgraded its audio equipment to better the quality of Zoom proceedings — online court proceedings remain prevalent even post-COVID because of their convenience — council saw the opportunity to

piggyback off the court system and begin providing recordings of council meetings at no additional cost to the taxpayer.

A resolution adopting a city council policy on

See LIVE, page 9A

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StretchLab opens on Mack

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Everyone knows a good stretch feels good, but Kyle and Bri Josefiak think the real benefit is having someone else stretch you.

The couple recently opened a StretchLab franchise, which bills itself as the “premiere assisted stretching boutique,” at 19853 Mack.

“It’s always good to stretch, but being stretched is a whole different thing,” Kyle Josefiak said. “When you lay down and let someone stretch you, you can go through a bigger range of motion. It’s about strengthening muscles rather than lengthening them just for the sake of it.”

Josefiak, a 2006 Grosse

Pointe North High School graduate, said he and his wife have always been into fitness.

“We’re what you’d call gym rats,” he laughed. “We’re big into fitness and learning about the human body.”

The couple, who also live in the Woods, found out about StretchLab about a year ago. Founded in California, there are some 240 franchises nationwide. The couple also plan to open franchises in Troy and Rochester Hills in the coming months.

They soft opened at the end of September and had a grand opening in mid-November that included free 15-minute demonstrations.

Discounted memberships will be available. Sessions can be booked for 25 minutes to focus on

a client’s current stretching needs, or 50 minutes for a full-body stretch.

“StretchLab found that an initial membership should be three months,” Josefiak explained. “It takes time and commitment to see results. It’s like if you want to lose weight, you don’t do it just by eating one salad.”

The process starts with a customer doing three squats in front of a MAPS machine, a proprietary technology that uses 3D scanning and a heat map to measure inefficiencies across four categories: mobility, activation, posture and symmetry. That information is then used to create a custom stretching program that offers a measurable way to track progress.

Josefiak said StretchLab stresses a “fine line in the sand”

regarding what they can and can’t do.

“We make it very clear that we’re not disguising ourselves as physical therapy, although we certainly want to support them,” he said. “We ask detailed questions about what the client is looking for. We ask if a certain issue was caused by an injury and figure out if they should see a physical therapist or doctor instead.”

The requirements for employees, known as “flexologists,” is stringent.

“They have to have a bachelor’s degree in some type of health and wellness field, such as kinesiology, or be a certified massage therapist or personal trainer,” Josefiak said. “Then they have to go through 70 hours of training and



COURTESY PHOTO

StretchLab owners Kyle and Bri Josefiak.

pass an assessment with a master flexologist.”

The interior of the building, with soft lighting and cool colors, has 10 stretching benches.

“The franchise goal for a soft opening is 150 memberships and we’re

already at 230,” Josefiak said. “We have an amazing team that loves to help people, so we’re excited with our starting point.”

For more information, visit stretchlab.com or call (313) 635-4242.



COURTESY PHOTO

Expansion opens

Ann Turnbull, owner of Village Palm, has expanded the store’s space with her new business, Newport, located at 17133 Kercheval in The Village. Newport carries men’s, boy’s and women’s clothing and accessories. For more information, call (313) 882-7256.

The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce recently helped Turnbull celebrate the expansion of her business with a ribbon-cutting event. Chamber members, city officials, friends and family were on hand to celebrate.



COURTESY PHOTO

Gem of a business

Grosse Pointe Woods Mayor Arthur Bryant presents a proclamation Nov. 21, to the Ahee family in honor of their jewelry store’s 75th anniversary. As the Grosse Pointe News first reported in October, the family reimbursed the city \$27,400 to cover its 900 parking meters for November and December as a way to thank the community.

LIVE:

Continued from page 8A

recording meetings, as well as live-streaming them, passed unanimously in November.

“We wanted to have our council meetings have more transparency and accessibility,” said Beth Konrad Wilberding, councilwoman and co-chair of the communications committee, which spearheaded the resolution’s creation. “And we learned a lot with COVID.”

Links to the recordings can be found on the city website, grossepointefarms.org, next to the agendas and minutes for each meeting, as well as directly through the City of Grosse Pointe Farms YouTube channel, @cityofgrossepointefarms5745.

Council intends to incorporate the live-streaming component during its next meeting Monday, Dec. 12, but emphasized the focus is on greater transparency and accessibility, not on creating an avenue for additional means of communication.

“This is a one-way out-stream of this,” explained Neil Sroka, councilman and co-chair of the communications committee. “We’re not having any interaction from the public on the internet. Much the way folks find it easy to view the school board meetings, (this is the) same sort of thing. Comments aren’t accepted via that way and we’re going to

turn comments off on our YouTube channel.”

Under a similar standard, the resolution also notes it does not enable council members to participate in meetings remotely.

Additionally and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, the recording of council meetings will not include closed sessions.

Signs announcing the recording will be posted in council chambers, combining with an announcement at the beginning of each meeting, so residents who choose to speak during public comment under-

stand they will be recorded.

Going forward, the new allowance could extend beyond council meetings, as well.

“Subject to technical and staff support availability and at the discretion of the chair or members of the convening body or organizers of the event,” the resolution reads, “other public city council-related boards, commissions, committees or authority meetings or public forums may also be recorded or live-streamed, and made available to the public on the city website.”



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Foundation awards grants to school district

By Michael Hartt
Schools Reporter

Cynthia Sohn, president of the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education, announced at the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education's Nov. 28 meeting, the gift of \$172,761 in grants to the district.

The grants, 23 in total, were written by teachers, administrators and parents across the district. A majority of the grants — 15 of the 23 — were awarded in the organization's regular fall cycle, while eight additional grants were awarded at the meeting for Social Emotional Encouragement and Development, or SEED, programs.

The 15 traditional grants

funded initiatives like:

- ◆ uniforms for the Grosse Pointe North High School marching band;
- ◆ funding for districtwide Destination Imagination competition teams;
- ◆ a bass xylophone and rolling cart for Defer Elementary School students;
- ◆ funding for a playground renovation at Kerby Elementary School;
- ◆ a Heggerty Phonemic awareness program for early and elementary school students across the district;
- ◆ 700 new books for Mason Elementary School;
- ◆ licensing of the Floreo virtual reality platform for Brownell Middle School's special education program;
- ◆ funding for an all-gender

robotics clinic at Pierce Middle School;

- ◆ a professional-grade camcorder for the district's middle school-level broadcast journalism program;
- ◆ cameras and camera equipment for the Grosse Pointe North student media program;
- ◆ 50 new classroom recycling bins at Grosse Pointe South;
- ◆ a hydraulic press for the Grosse Pointe South metals course;
- ◆ 3-D printers at both of the district's high schools, as well as Parcels and Pierce middle schools;
- ◆ funding for a combined Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South high school robotics team; and
- ◆ a sound console upgrade

for the performance art center at Grosse Pointe North.

The eight SEED program grants were awarded for a similarly diverse array of initiatives, including:

- ◆ cooperative learning games for Monteith Elementary School students;
- ◆ a districtwide program to improve students' mental health;
- ◆ funding for mental health professional development;
- ◆ funding for hope and kindness workshops at the district's middle schools;
- ◆ social emotional encouragement funding at Parcels Middle School;
- ◆ books and a therapy dog program for Pierce Middle School students;
- ◆ a sensory room at Pierce

Middle School; and

◆ an exercise and sensory walkway at Grosse Pointe South.

The school board voted unanimously to accept the grant awards from the foundation.

"It is a pleasure to be able to present this significant investment back to the school district, knowing that these grants will directly and positively impact our students, our teachers and staff and our entire community," said Kathy Fisk, co-chair of the GPFPE Grants Committee, in a press release. "Every year, we are impressed with the thoughtfulness and creativity of those who submit these grants and this season is no exception. Each of these grants, from the smallest to the most substantial, will contribute to the success of our students and the continued excellence of our public school district."

CLINIC:

Continued from page 1A

presentation of the idea.

Those in favor spoke of the benefits for students to get easy access to medical treatment and mental health services during the school day, and that no insurance will be required to receive services.

One of those speaking against the project was Will Broman, a candidate for school board in last month's election.

In an open letter to the school board he posted online Sunday, Nov. 27, Broman said members should reconsider the agreement due to what he said are, "significant inaccuracies, omissions and misleading statements," included in the grant application Corewell filed with the

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

There have been calls since the board meeting Nov. 14, to make the application public.

During a virtual town hall meeting Monday, Nov. 21, Jeff Cook, director of community health school and clinics for Corewell, said the application would not be made public due to confidential information in it regarding the hospital system's financial and personnel wage details. Cook said the grant process is competitive and Corewell would not want other health systems to access such information.

Broman said in his letter he obtained a copy of the application, which the Grosse Pointe News has verified.

One area of concern Broman raised with the

application is the enrollment numbers it includes.

The application states the district overall has 8,153 students with 1,308 at Grosse Pointe North.

"It is obvious to anyone in this community that district enrollment has fallen significantly in the last decade and is nowhere near 8,100-plus students," Broman wrote. "Indeed, GPPSS hasn't had more than 8,100 students since 2014."

Enrollment numbers for the 2021-22 school year show the district had roughly 6,600 students, including 1,150 at North, with projections for this school year at 6,500.

Broman also noted these numbers could lead to "incorrect forecasting of clinic utilization and long-term eligibility for the MDHHS grant."

Support letters in the

application from Superintendent Jon Dean and North Principal Kate Murray indicate the school has 1,145 students.

In an emailed statement, Dean said, "GPPSS has received a variety of feedback regarding the MDHHS awarding funds for a health clinic at North High School," and that the administration used that feedback to create an FAQ page and hold the virtual town hall. Both can be found on the district website.

Dean added that board members, "engaged in a robust discussion of the proposal," at the meeting Nov. 14, and board members and members-elect had the opportunity to tour a similar Corewell school clinic last week and have their questions answered.

"The application was filled out by Beaumont (Corewell) and was reviewed and awarded by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services," he added when contacted by phone.

Dean also said any reports that work had begun on the clinic before the board vote are erroneous.

"That room isn't being used this year and there was some cabinetry there that was moved to other classrooms," he said.

Dean did say during the meeting that a request for proposals had been sent out for the clinic work before the agreement was approved and the board — which will include three new members come January — would review and vote on those early next year.

The application also states there is only one pediatrician's office within the GPPSS boundaries and that hospital emergency room visits can be expensive and do not provide preventative care.

Broman notes the application did not identify four urgent care facilities within the district, "including Beaumont's (Corewell's) own urgent care center on Mack," or that there are three separate pediatrician offices in the district, "including two affiliated with Beaumont (Corewell)."

Because the Pointes are located in Wayne County, the application was able to claim under the "statement of need" section that Wayne is "the unhealthiest county in Michigan," based on statistics for life expectancy, quality of life and engagement in unhealthy behaviors.

Broman's letter also questioned the district's claim, found on the FAQ page, that an on-site school clinic reduces absenteeism.

Corewell opened clinics at Romulus and River Rouge high schools in 2015. According to school data for the 2014-15 school year, attendance at those schools was 93 percent and 89 percent, respectively. By the 2018-19 school year, those numbers fell to 90 percent and 81 percent, respectively.

"While I acknowledge that school attendance is the result of multiple independent variables, the argument that a school-based clinic will improve attendance rates is challenging to sup-

port," Broman wrote.

Broman also notes that the new dean of culture position created at North includes responsibility for improving attendance rates.

"We should give the dean of culture time to do their job before spending \$700,000 to build out a clinic," he wrote.

Ismail raised a question about a letter the board received late Monday from Grosse Pointe Woods City Administrator Frank Schulte, which said the city's attorney indicated the project might need to go through the city's planning process before any work starts. Dean told the GP News the district's attorney is of the opinion a school only is subject to municipal oversight if the project is of a for-profit measure, using the example of a school wanting to lease space on district property for a cell phone tower. The clinic will be nonprofit.

Ismail said he would be more comfortable if the city's and district's attorneys were able to communicate more about the matter before a vote.

"We preach that we partner with our communities," he said. "If we're going to talk the talk, we should walk the walk."

The agreement with Corewell states either party can opt out with 30 days' notice. The district's FAQ says it would cost the district \$150,000 to convert the space back to a science lab. Cook during the town hall said Corewell has been operating school health clinics 34 years — currently numbering 16 — and has never closed one.

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School board evaluates Superintendent Dean

At the Nov. 28 Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting, the board voted to approve the superintendent's evaluation on a 5-2 margin.

Trustee Ahmed Ismail and Secretary Lisa Papas voted against the resolution, while President Joseph Herd, Vice President Colleen Worden, Treasurer Margaret Weertz, Trustee David Brumbaugh and Trustee Christopher Lee voted in favor of it.

Ismail did not explicitly specify why he voted against the measure, but he expressed disapproval of the method-

ology of the evaluation prior to the vote. He could not elaborate on his comment because the evaluation was discussed in a closed door session and therefore could not be discussed until after the board voted.

Superintendent Jon Dean's overall evaluation score was 94 percent, which placed him in the "highly effective" category. The rating will have an implication in Dean's future contract extensions, as it is generally cited as a reason to approve or deny an extension.

— Michael Hartt



COURTESY PHOTOS

Thanks for giving

Students at Maire Elementary School have been busier than usual lately. In addition to a sock collection during the month of October, the student council packed 25 Thanksgiving bags for Grosse Pointe families, above. Each grade level was assigned a Thanksgiving side item to add to each food bag. Many families chose to donate \$25 gift cards for each family in need to purchase a turkey or meat of choice for their family meal.

Poupard sale approved 5-2

By Michael Hartt
Schools Reporter

Following a presentation at the Nov. 14 Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting, which detailed a proposal to sell the 6.49 acres of land on which Poupard Elementary School currently stands, the school board voted in favor of the sale 5-2 at its Nov. 28 meeting.

Trustee Ahmed Ismail and Secretary Lisa Papas voted against the resolution, while President Joseph Herd, Vice President Colleen Worden, Treasurer Margaret Weertz, Trustee David Brumbaugh and Trustee Christopher Lee voted in favor of it.

With the contract approved, the land and school building will be

sold to Robertson Brothers Co., for \$650,000. Robertson Brothers has agreed to demolish the approximately 63,000-square-foot building as part of the sale agreement, which will cost between \$10 and \$12 per square foot.

The sale will be consummated by a land contract with several contingencies, most notably including one that requires government approvals be secured for the intended use of the land — the development of at least 100 attached townhomes and stacked flat units that are between 700 to 1,400 square feet.

Ismail had several reservations about the sale agreement, but said he primarily opposed it because it is impossible to know whether district

enrollment will reach a point where the land would need to be used.

"I just think it is bad public policy when we have (this property) and we can't recreate (this property when it is sold)," Ismail said. "The sale of a property bothers me and it was the same feeling I had with the 389 St. Clair sale."

Worden, in contrast, wholeheartedly supported the sale of the property.

"The problem is that we have declining enrollment and there (are) reasons for that," she said. "And the statistics have shown that people in our community are not having large families any longer. So this very idea that we are going to hold onto these buildings and repurpose them, it's just not happening"

RECOUNT:

Continued from page 1A

outcome, but because he lost to another candidate — Ginny Jeup — by only 14 votes, he felt compelled to file.

"The only question in my mind is whether there were any potential mistakes, so it's not a question of any sort of fraud or any sort of (election) stealing," Klepp said. "When you're talking about 31,000 total ballots cast and 14 votes being the difference (between candidates), (there could have been mistakes) like a circle that didn't get filled in completely or a stray mark on a ballot that wasn't intended (to be counted) as a vote."

Klepp filed the recount

petition the day after the Wayne County Board of Canvassers unanimously certified the county's elections.

He solicited donations from his supporters to pay for the estimated \$8,000 to \$10,000 in fees and legal costs for the recount and also asked people to act as recount observers.

Klepp said his campaign is nearing its fundraising goal for the effort and he has been overjoyed by the support he has received.

"(We have gotten) significant financial support that has come from many, many, many different individual sources, so that's been terrific," he said. "(We are) probably within a day or two of achieving our fundrais-

ing goals. And then there's been just a (plethora) of people who have offered to participate in the observation process."

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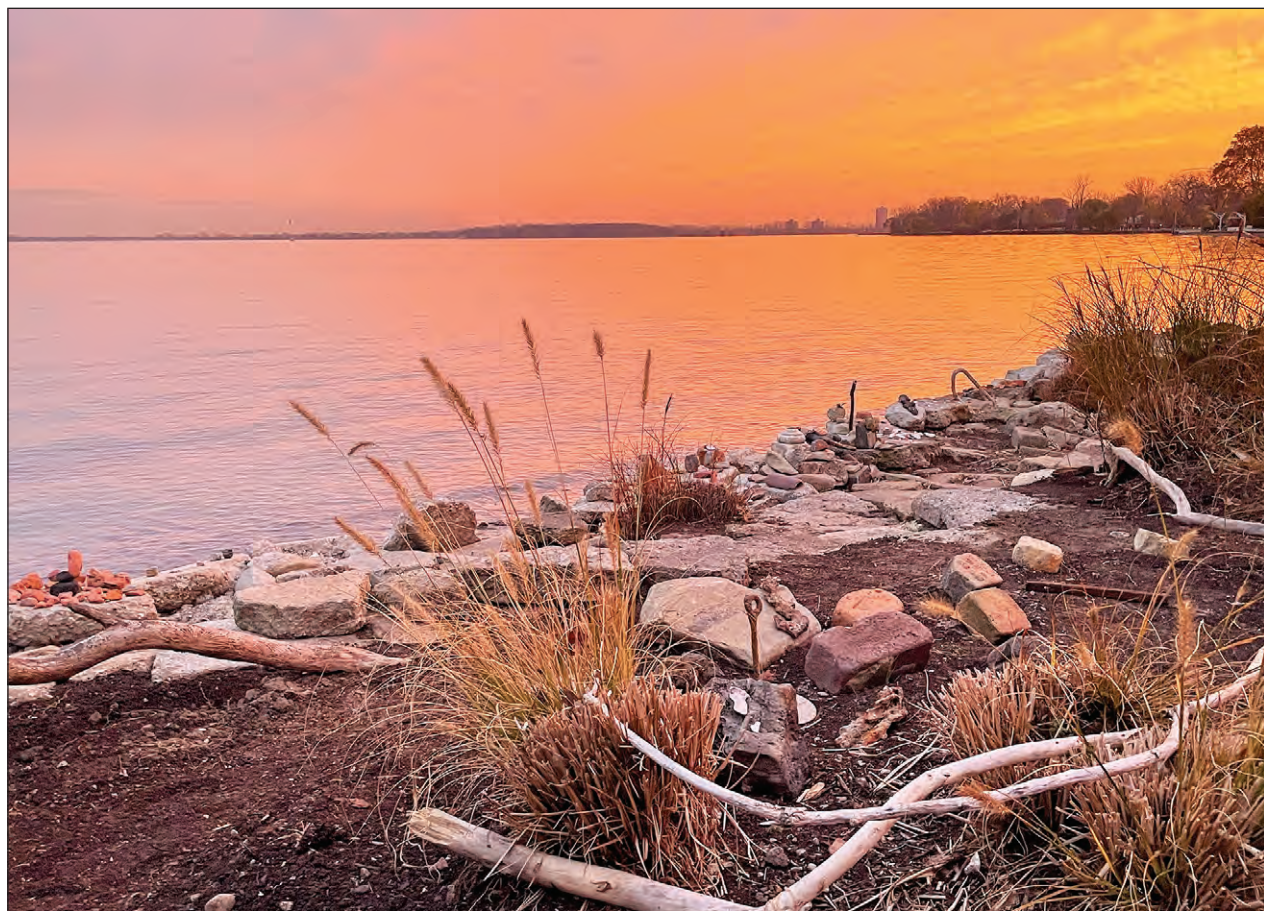


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PHOTOS COURTESY OF DANIEL BEEVER

Left, the sun sets along the stretch of land now clear of clutter near the boardwalk at Patterson Park. Above, an eroded chunk of concrete resembles the gaping mouth of a hippo taking a dip in the lake.

Environmental art catches eyes at Patterson

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

It's been three months since Daniel Beever's first day on the job at Patterson Park.

In the weeks following his Sept. 1 start, his work created a considerable buzz in the community.

Grosse Pointe Park resident Ed Kerfoot wrote to the Grosse Pointe News requesting a story on Beever, who "is working by himself to beautify the strip between the boardwalk and the lake. His name is Danny and he really takes pride in his single-handed project to clean up, weed and somewhat remodel this area so the GPP residents will enjoy their visits to the park and especially while sitting on the boardwalk benches ..."

Other residents telephoned or stopped by in person to gush about Beever's commitment to cleaning up — and adding his personal touch to — an area that had been overlooked during the pandemic.

"It was overgrown," Beever said. "The rocks were upright and jagged, like all the rocks that made up the seawall. I'd never seen thistle that had grown so tall."

When Beever applied for the position, he wasn't sure what to expect. When he contacted garden staff supervisor Corin Vance about the post, "I told her I don't have a lot of experience in gardening, but I enjoy making things look pretty," he recalled. "Corin's the one who put me on the boardwalk. People walk here every day. I had seen how overgrown things had gotten."

Beever started the project cultivating dirt, clean-



PHOTOS BY JODY MCVEIGH

Above and left, pottery shards, bricks and other items discovered along the shoreline have been arranged in eye-pleasing ways next to the boardwalk. Below, Beever stands among a section he fashioned to resemble the ruins of an ancient city.



ing up overgrown grasses, picking thistle, pulling weeds and raking vines.

"It's much more beautiful when the flowers are in full bloom," he said during a late-fall tour of the area. "I thought it was going to take forever to get through all the weeds.

But once the weeds were gone, the flowers emerged."

The more work he accomplished, he said, the more interesting things got.

"The more I started working — flattening rocks, filling in, making the flowers neater in

their beds — I was finding things in the weeds," he said.

Things like historic bricks, clamshells, a possibly century-old skate blade, a rusted basketball hoop and even an antique garden roller.

"Everything out here has such history, it's like an archeological dig," Beever said. "I've found bricks with different companies' names on them. A lot of them are from Ohio. One brick, I went down into my basement in Grosse Pointe Park and it's the same brick my house was built from in 1917."

"... When the sun hits all these things — the golden hour — the names on bricks pop out and light up and you can read them."

Each item he finds, whether a piece of driftwood or a peculiarly shaped rock, he positions

in a way he hopes passersby find pleasing.

"I'm trying to bring up as much driftwood as I

can," he said. "That's where I started with this, before the bricks and other things. I thought it would look neat in the garden, out here on what's left of the land. ... The more the flowers start to go, the more I thought people should have something to look at. I started to bring more artifacts up, so there's always something different for people to see."

A co-worker began taking Beever's finds — a handful of green glass, pottery shards, broken shells — and arranging them into artful displays.

Beever has taken some creative liberties with his discoveries, too, decorating a mossy, snakelike branch to resemble "Nessie," and compiling bricks and other trinkets to sculpt a freighter.

"People love my heart rocks," he said. "They're so uniquely shaped; they're so old and have been here so long, the

See ART, page 8B



PHOTO COURTESY OF DANIEL BEEVER

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2B | FEATURES

Corewell Health East to sponsor second round of Mood Lifters program

Corewell Health East, through its Healthy Communities Initiative, will again offer the Mood Lifters mental health program to metro Detroit community members at a low out-of-pocket cost.

Using a computer and an internet connection, people experiencing symptoms of anxiety or depression — or those who just wish to feel better — can participate in a one-hour-per-week, 15-week Mood Lifters group. The groups are centered around developing practical skills to help improve long-term mental well-being, which ties in with Corewell Health's efforts to increase healthy life-

style opportunities in the area.

A 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment conducted by then-Beaumont Health identified mental wellness as one of the three key health priorities to address in the region. Suzanne M. Berschback, healthy communities manager for Beaumont Health, participated in the Mood Lifters program and brought it back to the hospital to consider.

"Everything about the course was not only useful, but potentially life-changing for some people," she said.

Results from last winter and spring show that, on

average, anxiety, depression and feelings of stress were cut in half and people who started the program with more severe symptoms improved the most. Members also experienced better sleep, improved relationships and reported feeling more positive emotions generally. Since its first pre-pilot group in 2016, Mood Lifters has helped more than 1,000 people online and in person with similar results.

Starting this month, residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties can join Mood Lifters online for just \$10 — a fraction of the cost of traditional mental health care and backed

with solid evidence, unlike many app-based or virtual programs.

Dr. Patricia Deldin, founder and creator of Mood Lifters said, "Once again, Beaumont demonstrates their forward-looking vision by providing evidence-based mental wellness care to people in our state by bringing our Mood Lifters program to people in need where they are most comfortable receiving it — in their own home."

Mood Lifters works differently than a therapy or support group. The program combines peer-led mental health skills train-

See MOOD, page 3B



PHOTO COURTESY OF KENT COMMER

Recognition

Senior District Executive Gary Lippard Jr. from the Sunrise District of the Boy Scouts of America, which includes the Grosse Pointes, recently visited the Grosse Pointe Optimist Club to update members about the current status of the scouting program. Optimist President Dave Fries, left, accepts the Boy Scout leadership plaque from Lippard. The plaque recognizes the Optimists' donation to scouting.

AREA ACTIVITIES

The War Memorial

The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers a variety of programs. To register or purchase tickets for the following, visit war.memorial.org:

- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Calligraphy: Introduction to the Pointed Pen and Holiday Flourishes, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3. Cost is \$95.
- ◆ Kids Cookie Rookies: Holiday Cookie Decorating Class, 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 4. Cost is \$65.
- ◆ Adult Cookie Decorating 101: Holiday Cookies, 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4. Cost is \$65.
- ◆ Magical Holidays with Gordon the Magician, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec.

11. General admission is \$18 per person.

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 non-members, 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.

- ◆ Holiday Party, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14. Cost is \$20 for members, \$24 for non-members.
- ◆ The movie "The Man Who Invented Christmas" is shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for non-members, and includes snacks.
- ◆ Body Alignment, 1 to 2 p.m. Mondays for beginners and 2:30 to 3:45 p.m. Mondays for intermediate students. Gwendolyn J. Scales instructs this free class.
- ◆ Wise Guys conversation group for men, 9 to 10 a.m. Mondays.
- ◆ Conversational French, noon to 1:30 p.m. Fridays for beginners, and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and 1:30 to 3 p.m. Fridays for intermediate students. Dr. Dib Saab instructs this free class.
- ◆ Reiki, 1 to 2 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Cost is \$7 for members, \$10 for nonmembers.
- ◆ Yoga, 9 to 10 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Cost is \$7 for members, \$10 for nonmembers.
- ◆ Chair Yoga, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; and 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Cost is \$7 for members, \$10 for nonmembers.

- ◆ Guided Meditation, 1 to 2 p.m. Thursdays, with instructor Jonathan Itchon. Cost is \$7 for members, \$10 for non-members.
- ◆ Grief Work support group, 2 to 4 p.m. the first and third Thursdays of each month, with psychotherapist Frank Wilberding.
- ◆ Enhance Fitness, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Wednesdays, with instructor Paul Clark. This program is free to members and nonmembers.

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.
- ◆ Breakfast with Santa, various times Sundays, Dec. 11 and 18. Cost is \$50 for members, \$65 for nonmembers, \$25 for children members, \$35 for children nonmembers.
- ◆ Mistletoe Mingle, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15

and 29. Includes drinks and light refreshments and a tour of the estate. Cost is \$45 for members, \$65 for nonmembers.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

GPAA

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association opens its Your Old Mansion lecture series at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, with historian and architect Bruce Kopytek, who will talk about the heyday of Hudson's department store and what's in store for Northland Mall. Tickets are \$20 for GPAA members, \$25 for nonmembers. Visit grossepointeartists.org.

Library

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

- ◆ Little Learners Hour of Code, 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Detroit Guitar Conservatory Classic Guitar Recital, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
- ◆ Senior Hustle for Health Dance Class, 1 to 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

Questers

The Pear Tree Questers meet at noon Thursday, Dec. 8, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club for the group's annual Christmas party. Member Bernadette Lindquist coordinated the luncheon. Members are asked to bring an unwrapped new toy to donate to a children's charity.

Jardinieres

La Societe des Jardinieres meets at 5

p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, at the home of member Kathie Smith, for the group's annual Christmas party. Dinner will be followed by a "sparkling white" gift exchange. Members have decided to donate to a family in need from the metro Detroit area.

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.

Mini Picassos

Mini Picassos, 21520 Harper, St. Clair Shores, presents Mistletoe Foot Print Day, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15. Cost is \$30 per canvas; each canvas can fit up to three feet. Call (313) 283-6710.

Mini Picassos, 21520 Harper, St. Clair Shores, offers Holiday Break Mini Art Camp, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28, for students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Cost is \$48 and include snacks and drinks. Register online at minipicassosstudio.com/holiday-break-mini-camp.

Healthy GP

Healthy Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods meets via Zoom at 8:30 a.m. the third Wednesday of each month. Its mission is to reduce substance abuse among youth and across the community, as well as promote optimal mental health through action, education and collaboration. Those interested in attending meetings should email Sasha Murphy at smurphy@careofsem.com.

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GP native helps form HW Business Association

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The newly created Harper Woods Business Association officially launched Oct. 11, with a well-attended networking event.

Feedback was positive, said Grosse Pointe native Peter Maniaci, who is spearheading the effort.

"I'm excited about it," he added. "And I'm humbled and honored the city put confidence in me to ground and build a membership base. We've been missing this for so long. There was a desire, but nobody was there to take the next step."

Maniaci has a wealth of experience in the Harper Woods business community.

"Throughout my childhood, even before I was born, my family owned and operated businesses in Harper Woods," he said. "I grew up working summers at the family business. I've been in and around the community a long time and in various ways."

After high school, Maniaci earned bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting from Michigan State University. Upon return-

ing to Grosse Pointe, he realized he wasn't excited about his prospects. Instead, he took an interest in real estate, investing and developing, so he earned a broker's license and landed a job with Saros Real Estate Services.

Naturally, he once again became interested in the community and surrounding areas.

"Three or four years ago, I started to get a lot more active," he said. "I started supporting different organizations and causes, started getting to know the city administrators, the city council. Of course, I frequented business association meetings, chamber meetings, networking events."

Maniaci started to notice Harper Woods didn't have much to offer by way of business networking.

"So I went down the path of figuring out if a business association exists and, if not, is it something we can bring together?" he said. "There may have been one in the past, but it had fizzled out and was never resurrected."

Conversations with city administrators and council members, as well as members of the business

community, regarding a potential business association yielded positive results. Several people were surprised one didn't already exist and many said having such an association would be beneficial.

As the Harper Woods Business Association began to take shape, Maniaci envisioned providing business owners a way to get together, connect, network and remain informed.

"It's an ecosystem where we can all play off of each other," he said.

"The city is open to it; the business owners are open to it," he added, "but how do we make it different than last time?"

The solution involved bringing together older, established businesses with new developments.

"A huge catalyst is the redevelopment of Eastland," Maniaci said, noting the substantial investment coming to the future Eastland Commerce Center. A reputable developer likely will yield a high probability of success with up to 20 new businesses, he added.

"This (business association) will be a path to not just existing, smaller businesses or retailers,

but to forthcoming larger businesses," he said.

Between existing and new businesses, Maniaci expects to find good traction in the community and a solid membership base, as evidenced by the kickoff meeting. Of the city's 180 active business licenses, Maniaci has reached out to 100 of them; 75 percent indicated interest, he said.

"We're encouraged by the response we're getting."

Meetings initially will take place quarterly, though could become monthly as momentum builds.

"Within two years, we want to be ramped up to monthly meetings," Maniaci said. "By the time we get to that point, we're going to have, of engaged business owners in the city, we would like to have 65 to 70 percent engagement from them."

Additionally, as Eastland progresses and plans are formed for the former Poupard Elementary School site, Maniaci anticipates more interested members.

"The timing has never been better to put a business association in the city," he said.

Next steps include legally forming the orga-

nization, building membership and creating a website.

"I'm focused on that," Maniaci said, "on building and getting more participation, and working on what the value proposition to the business community is."

As the association grows and develops, Maniaci envisions a newsletter, a listing of volunteer opportunities and networking events, as well as other resources for members.

"We want to give business owners information they otherwise can't find and provide them that introduction," he said. "We're looking to be a resource. I'm confident in that value and businesses are jumping on board."

Currently, Maniaci is looking for a soft commitment from businesses, meaning membership is free of charge — for now.

"As we continue to build, we'll transition members to a fee base," he added. "Now, we're inviting folks to join and stay informed as we build momentum."

Though the focus is on Harper Woods businesses, Maniaci isn't limiting the organization's growth.

"I realize there's no

sense in building walls or creating strict rules on who can and can't join," he said. "I'm open to communicating with anybody who wants to get involved."

That communication can start simply via email. Maniaci can be reached at pnm2190@gmail.com.

"I want this to open the door for dialogue with business owners, seeing what their story is, what their challenges are, how we can be of assistance," he said. "... What do these folks need as business owners in Harper Woods? What doesn't exist now and how do we deliver? I want to make sure their questions are answered, they have a place to congregate and network and that we stimulate community and local businesses."

"I'm grateful for the opportunity," he added, "that the city trusts me and the vision we're moving forward, and for everybody that's been involved thus far, like (Harper Woods Community and Economic Development Deputy Director) Stephen Lindley and folks at the kickoff meeting. I'm excited and I'm looking forward to connecting with more folks."

In appreciation

Karen and Col. Nick Straffon, directors of the Michigan chapter of Wreaths Across America, recently spoke to members of the Grosse Pointe Optimist Club about the organization, which recognizes and places wreaths on the graves of fallen U.S. veterans every December. This year's wreath placement will take place at noon Saturday, Dec. 17, at Resurrection Cemetery in Clinton Township. For more information, visit wreathscrossamerica.org.

Pictured, from left, are Optimist Club President Dave Fries of the City of Grosse Pointe, with Karen and Nick Straffon, who were awarded Optimist certificates of appreciation. The Optimists also presented the Straffons with a \$150 donation check to WAA to fund the purchase of more wreaths.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KENT COMMER



Photo by Bowery and Beaubien



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MOOD:

Continued from page 2B

ing built on the latest evidence-based science with a tracking system that each member can personalize to achieve their own goals. Some people report a boost in mood as early as the first meeting using the program's easy-to-navigate and practical steps to help themselves feel better.

In the words of a former participant: "Mood Lifters has helped me more than decades of therapy. It provided ways for me to deal with serious changes in my life that may have otherwise devastated me."

Deldin created Mood Lifters to help the epidemic of people who aren't receiving sufficient mental health care — a worldwide problem.

"I'm determined to make instant, broad access to effective, evidence-based mental health treatment available to people

in pain — wherever they are and whatever their means," she said.

Her dream is to tap into the work of the world's best mental health researchers and make an expanding set of resources available to improve lives everywhere.

Mood Lifters has collaborated with researchers and advocates for specific populations to create specially designed programs for parents of children in palliative care, high-level athletes, college students, persons diagnosed with bipolar disorder and seniors. In the coming months, Corewell and Mood Lifters are seeking to collaborate with senior centers to offer groups just for metro Detroit seniors. Eventually, Deldin hopes to also fill the need for support to eldercare givers as well, while continuing to partner with organizations and businesses to support their populations.

For more information about joining an upcoming group, visit moodlifters.com or email info@moodlifters.com.



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SENIOR LIVING



The Helm collecting helpful items for homebound seniors

The Helm at the Boll Life Center is collecting nonperishable food and other items for its annual gift bags for homebound seniors in the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods.

"This is one of our favorite traditions," said Peggy Hayes, executive director of The Helm. "We have been doing this well over 10 years and so many people look forward to it, both from the giving and receiving ends. Each year we receive calls and letters of thanks from the volunteers who deliver to the seniors and from the seniors who receive the packages about how much this means to them. It truly is a heartwarming activity."

Every bag is filled with at least 50 items — from canned soup and tuna, fruit cups, individual-sized packages of cookies, crackers and snacks, juice boxes, individual packets of coffee, tea bags, personal-sized hand sanitizer, large-print puzzle books, calendars and much more.

"We've made it easier than ever for people to donate this year," said Heidi Uhlig-Johnstone, director of volunteer services at The Helm. "We created a wish list on Amazon. Those who want to donate can select items from this

list and they will be delivered directly to The Helm. Of course, we will accept donations dropped off at our office for those who prefer the traditional route."

Those who plan to donate directly through Amazon may visit bit.ly/3AqBzmq to start shopping. Those who would rather shop via a more traditional route can find a list of needed items at helm-life.org.

All items should be delivered to The Helm, 158 Ridge Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, no later than Friday, Dec. 9. For more information, call The Helm at (313) 882-9600.

"We are so grateful to be in a community that understands and appreciates older adults," Hayes added.

The Helm at the Boll Life Center is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, non-residential senior community center dedicated to making the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods areas a great place to grow older. The organization serves as an essential resource to older adults in those communities by providing opportunities and services in the areas of health, nutrition, education and recreation, such as transportation, Meals on Wheels, home maintenance, social activities, health screenings and lifelong learning classes.



The QR code below goes directly to The Helm's Amazon wish list, making it easy to be a giver this year by donating needed items to homebound area seniors this holiday season.



December at The Helm

The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers a variety of classes and programs during the month of December.

Registration is required at (313) 882-9600 for the following events.

Special programs

- 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.
- Holiday Party, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14. Cost is \$20 for members, \$24 for nonmembers.
- The movie "The Man Who Invented Christmas" is shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.

Essential services

- Meals on Wheels
Meals are provided five days per week to Harper Woods and Grosse Pointe area residents age 60 and older who are homebound and unable to safely prepare meals for themselves. It is available permanently or temporarily for those,

for example, who are ill or recently returned home after a hospital stay. Call (313) 649-2105 for more information.

• Information and Assistance

Do you or someone you know have questions about senior-related issues and not know where to turn? Call The Helm at (313) 882-9600 to be directed to someone who can let you know about available resources and direct you to the appropriate source.

• Medical Loan Closet

Has a hospital stay, recent injury or just coming-of-age as a senior presented a need for medical equipment? The Helm has a medical loan closet with equipment and supplies for seniors to borrow at no charge. The Helm relies on donations from the community to keep the loan closet full. Supplies change depending on seniors' needs, as well as donations received. Call (313) 882-9600 to see if The Helm has what you need. There is no age restrictions to borrowing from the closet.

• Medicare Counseling

Free to members and future members. If you will be turning 65 in the next three to six months, now is the time to start learning about your Medicare options. Medicare counseling is done via the telephone or videoconferencing. Call (313) 649-2110 for more information or to schedule an appointment. Your message/call will be returned.

For a complete list of the dates and times for ongoing programs and other events, please visit The Helm online at helm-life.org or call (313) 882-9600.



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Second Time Around

By Margie Reins Smith

Pandemic havoc on the checkbook



This pandemic is wreaking havoc on my checkbook. (I love that phrase — wreaking havoc.)

Months ago, while we were all locked in, waiting for somebody to invent a vaccine or to manufacture a cure for COVID, I used the last drop of my favorite moisturizer. I contemplated the consequences — dry flaky skin, sun damage, even more wrinkles.

So I bought a membership in Amazon Prime and ordered a bottle of the stuff. The next day it was nestled invitingly under a corner of the welcome mat at my front door. I looked up, hoping to spot a drone. Alas, no drone, but my lotion had been delivered in less than 24 hours — and I got a nice email from Amazon telling me where to find it and reminding me to be sure to look for it.

Another day, as I was scrolling along on Facebook I came to an ad for a T-Shirt that had “I’m Fine” written across the front. Rather appropriate for my current situation, I thought — locked in, bored, lonely perhaps, but feeling fine. It was not too expensive.

I ordered it.

What was I thinking? I had just finished throwing out all my raggedy T-shirts with writing on them — all those tired boasts of vacation sites, cities and countries I had visited, colleges my children had contemplated and multiple cute clichés: “Life is Good,” “I’m with stupid” and “It’s all fun and games until somebody loses an eye.”

A few years ago I decided I’m too old and too jaded to display advertisements and aphorisms across my chest. I vowed a plain T-shirt future.

So much for that.

The “I’m Fine” shirt didn’t arrive, which made me think it was probably being shipped from Vietnam or Greenland or Thailand or somewhere far, far away. A month passed. Probably a scam, I thought. It arrived about six weeks later.

I play the piano. I almost — almost — ordered another T-shirt with a picture of a grand piano on it and the words: “Never underestimate an old woman with a piano.”

I resisted.

Then I ordered a pillow that’s supposed to hold my iPad in any position I choose — upright or slightly slanted or kind of half-laying down. It’s supposed to provide the ideal angle for iPad use no matter where you are or how you’re seated, slumped, reclined or slouched.

About six weeks after I ordered the pillow, my credit card was charged, but the pillow was a no-show. Aha, a scam, for sure. I was about to notify my credit card company and wreak havoc when lo: it arrived, all smooshed and squashed into a flimsy cardboard box the size of a Snickers bar.

And it smelled funny.

After a week or so, it gradually poofed itself up into a pillow which, sadly, was about one-third the size I had anticipated. I washed the pillowcase, which improved its aroma, but the pillow turned out to be unsuitable for any position I could possibly bend myself into: reclining, leaning forward, slouching or sitting bolt upright.

I recently ordered one lipstick. Three pairs of socks. One pancake flipper.

I’m not the only one in my family who has developed an online ordering addiction. One of my daughters is buying furniture for squirrels. Another daughter can’t stop adding to her a collection of MacKenzie-Childs pottery.

Yesterday, I ordered some pencils.

Pencils!

I found a brand of pencils I love. A friend gave me one several years ago and I’ve been coddling it, nursing it, pampering it, but trying not to wear it down to an unusable nub. I carry it from room to room because I like it so much.

The pencil is a Palomino Blackwing. It writes smoothly and softly, erases completely, feels good. It’s perfect for doing crossword puzzles, which in my case requires lots of erasures; and it’s good for making notations on sheet music.

It’s the Mercedes Benz of pencils, apparently, because I ordered a pack of 12 and — with shipping — the price mushroomed to almost \$40.

Havoc for my checkbook. Wreaked again.

Avoid bath falls with these tips



Many falls and spills that occur in the bathroom can be prevented. Seniors or their loved ones can make easy, minor adjustments to bathrooms so falls are less likely to happen.

- Install grab bars in the shower and bath, as necessary. Grab bars make it easier to get into and out of the shower or the tub by giving something to hold onto. This can be especially helpful for seniors who must step up and over their tubs to bathe. Though they’re primarily used in showers and tubs, grab bars also can be installed alongside toilets for seniors who could use a little help sitting down and getting up. AARP notes that sheltering arm grab bars provide the best support.

- Get LED lighting. Poor lighting in a bathroom can make it hard to see, which make elders especially more vulnerable to slips and falls. Seniors sometimes also find themselves making frequent bathroom visits overnight. Even bathrooms with seemingly adequate lighting may be dangerous if they feature

dated light fixtures that rely on incandescent bulbs to light the room. Incandescent bulbs burn out with greater frequency than LED alternatives, which can last for years. The longer bulbs last, the less often they need to be changed, which also reduces risk for injury. In addition to replacing traditional fixtures with LED alternatives, individuals can plug in LED night lights that make it easy to see when making nighttime visits to the bathroom.

- Utilize non-slip bath mats to ensure the mats stay put even when floors get wet or damp from condensation after a hot bath or shower.

- Clean bathrooms regularly. Bathroom surfaces can grow slippery from soap scum, condensation and previous spills. Prompt and routine cleaning can reduce the likelihood of falling in the bathrooms.

Seniors who struggle to clean their homes regularly might benefit from utilizing a cleaning service, for safety’s sake.

Holiday shopping bus days added for Gratiot Loop

Again this year, Pointe Area Assisted Transportation Services, or PAATS, has added additional shopping days for Shop the Gratiot Loop.

Shop the Gratiot Loop service is free and runs every Friday.

Tuesdays, Dec. 6, 13 and 20, have been added to help make holiday shopping — for gifts or groceries — a little easier.

Riders are brought to their choice of five stores in the Gratiot shopping corridor:

- Walmart at 12 Mile and Gratiot;
- Meijer at 13 Mile and Little Mack;
- Kroger at 13 Mile and Little Mack;
- Macomb Mall at Masonic and Gratiot;
- Target on Gratiot north of 14 Mile.

PAATS riders must reside in Harper Woods or the Grosse Pointes and be at least 60 years old or a disabled adult. It is a curb-to-curb service with drivers able to offer elbow assist on and off the bus. Passengers are picked up between 9 and 10 a.m. at their home, dropped off at their store of choice, picked up around 1 p.m. and returned home.

Reservations for all PAATS rides must be made at least 48 hours in advance. To reserve a ride, call (313) 394-9712 between 7:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Due to the holidays, the PAATS buses will not be operational Friday, Dec. 23; Monday, Dec. 26; Friday, Dec. 30; or Monday, Jan. 2.

The PAATS mission is to provide safe and reliable transportation, ensuring area residents continue to live their daily lives with independence and dignity. PAATS is funded through the five Grosse Pointe municipalities, as well as the city of Harper Woods. Its office is located in The Helm, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms. For more information, visit helmlife.org or call (313) 882-9600.

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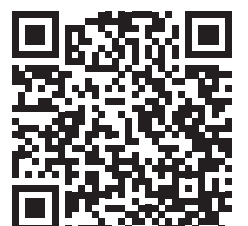
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OBITUARIES

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

Moises Bermudez

Moises Bermudez, 66, a Grosse Pointe resident and local attorney, died peacefully at his home Sunday, Nov. 20, 2022.

Moises spent his career as a champion for civil rights, helping under-represented communities get legal representations and providing legal counsel to those who otherwise would not have access. He completed his Juris Doctorate degree at the University of Detroit in 1981. He was a member of the State Bar of Michigan for 40 years.

His free time was spent swinging away on the tennis court. Above all this, his devotion and dedication to his family was where his true passion lived. The time with his children was his absolute favorite way to spend his days. The love they shared was special and everlasting.

He is survived by his children, Abigail Leal (Donald), Eric Bermudez and Vince Bermudez (John).

Funeral services took place Nov. 26, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church. Interment took place at the historic Elmwood Cemetery in Detroit.

Share a memory at verheyden.org

Joanne Marie Hildebrandt

Joanne Marie Hildebrandt (née Farley), 77, of St. Clair Shores, left the "Cinema of Life" on Saturday, Nov. 19, 2022, with her daughter by her side, after suffering from the effects of myasthenia gravis.

Joanne was the beloved wife of Harry A. "Tony" Hildebrandt, mother of Anne and grandmother of Alexander and Elise. She was predeceased by her parents, Casto and Polly (née Sterk) Farley; brothers, Michael P. (Debbie) and Richard J. Farley; and husband.

Joanne was born in Hamtramck and grew up on the east side of Detroit and Warren, as well as Palo Alto and San Jose, Calif. She graduated from Fitzgerald High School in 1963, and went to work for The Gas Company and The Arts Council. She met Tony when they were in high school and married him Nov. 14, 1964. When Tony was drafted to serve in the U.S. Army in Vietnam, 1967-69, she waited patiently at home while working, then supported him when he returned and furthered his education.

In 1973, Joanne began a new role as a devoted, wonderful stay-at-home mom to Anne. Joanne was a Girl Scout leader, helped coach softball, served as the school board chairman at St. Joan of Arc and was on the parents' board at University Liggett School. From home, she also managed the consulting business Tony founded, Motor Vehicle Manufacturers Educational & Training Associates.

In the 1990s, she took on the role of a student

going back to school to finish her own educational goals. She obtained her associate's degree at Oakland Community College, followed by her bachelor's degree in public relations and journalism. She went on to earn her master's degree in radio, television and film and Ph.D in Terrorism in the Media at Wayne State University, which she finished in 2009.

Afterward, Joanne fulfilled teaching roles as a part-time adjunct professor at both Wayne State University and Oakland Community College, teaching classes in communication, writing and film. She also was a union steward at Wayne State for the Union of Part-Time Faculty and advocated for the betterment of her fellow employees.

Joanne was a film buff from a young age, when she would go to the movies with her aunt Velma, sometimes catching double features. Her favorite neighborhood theater was The Cinderella. She liked all different genres, but enjoyed mysteries the most. She also was an avid reader and loved to travel, but her treasured pastime was going to the movies. Her favorite mystery writers were Agatha Christie and Sue Grafton.

In 2010 and 2012, she became a grandma and took on one of her most cherished roles. She had a very special bond with her "Pigeon" (Alex) and her "Doll Face" (Elise), and even got the chance to be their personal, in-home pandemic instructor after retiring from Wayne State in 2019 — which, of course, included time for movies. When Alex and Elise returned to school in September 2020, she drove them to and from school almost every day. Until she was very ill, Joanne was always present at their sporting events, recitals and school events.

Joanne's family will remember her as the kindest, smartest, most insightful and generous woman with the biggest heart. She was always there for her family, friends and students and truly made the world a brighter place.

In addition to her immediate family, Joanne is survived by her nephews, Sean M. and Ryan P. Farley (Rachel); cousins, Mary Stout, Carole Farley, June Farley, Eugene Farley (Dot) and their families, the Beaufore family and the Schutz Family; cousins-in-law, Joanne Comyn (Gari), Linda Elias, Michele Vitale and Michael Fremont and their families, the O'Connells and the Millers; and friends who were close to her heart, Pat Duncan and family, Angelo D'Anna (Pat) and family, Diana Penczak, Kimberly Conely and Christine Piestrzynski.

Contributions may be made to the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America, myasthenia.org; or Wayne State University at wayne.edu, toward a scholarship in her name.

A memorial Mass was celebrated Nov. 26, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe

Farms. Burial took place at Roseland Park Cemetery in Berkley.

Betty Jane Fisher

Betty Jane Fisher, 100, peacefully passed away Sunday, Nov. 20, 2022, after a century of love for life, family and friends.

Betty Jane was born June 8, 1922, in Grosse Pointe, to Frances and Rex Jacobs. She attended the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Grosse Pointe, Convent of the Sacred Heart in Noroton, Conn., and Finch College in New York City.

Upon graduation, Betty Jane married Alfred Joseph Fisher Jr., on June 12, 1943, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church. Their dedicated love eclipsed 69 years until A.J. passed in 2012. They had four children, followed by a wonderful group of grandchildren and great-grandchildren who enjoyed Nana's entertaining stories and sage advice.

Betty Jane was active in social activities and charitable events in Grosse Pointe, Harbor Springs and Palm Beach, Fla. She loved to entertain family and friends, and enjoyed garden club events, needlepoint and playing bridge.

As a young lady, Betty excelled at equestrian riding and jumping. Family boating, tennis, golf and skiing also were favorites, but international travel and friendships led Betty Jane around the world with extra enjoyment.

Betty Jane is survived by her children, Judith F. Knudsen (Peter), Alfred J. Fisher III (Barbara), Christine F. Grow (Rick) and Michael R. Fisher (Beth).

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to University of Detroit Jesuit High School, [AJ Fisher Family Scholarship](http://AJFisherFamilyScholarship.org/giving/), at uofdjesuit.org/giving/; or flowers may be sent to 273 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

William Frederick Lorenz

William "Bill" Frederick Lorenz, 90, of St. Clair Shores, passed away Thursday, Nov. 17, 2022. He was born June 12, 1932, to William and Winifred Lorenz.

Bill was a 1950 graduate of Southeastern High School. He lettered in track all four years and received All-City honors his junior and senior years. He continued his track career at Albion College before transferring to Michigan State University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering.

Upon graduation, Bill enlisted in the U.S. Army and spent two years as part of a team perfecting and producing the PGM-11 Redstone missile. After the service, Bill worked as a civil engineer for the Wayne County Road Commission until his retirement in 1984. He was an engineer by day and artist by night. He loved photography and



Moises Bermudez



Joanne M. Hildebrandt



Betty Jane Fisher



William F. Lorenz



John "Jack" Fee Ward



John M. Chase Jr.

oil painting and won many awards in both mediums.

Bill served as president of the Grosse Pointe Camera Club, Grosse Pointe Artists Association and Grosse Pointe Senior Men's Club. He also enjoyed music and was a member of the Grosse Pointe Community Chorus and Livingston County Chorale. He spent many years in Milford before returning to the east side to be near his family.

Bill was a loving father to Christine Dinverno (Michael) and Colleen Ohannessian (Kevin); cherished grandfather to Kristina Kaiser (Charles) and Nicholas Dinverno (Trisha); great-grandfather to Michael Kaiser, Vivian Kaiser, Charlie Kaiser, Ethan Dinverno, Nick Dinverno Jr. and Joseph Dinverno; and dear uncle to Wesley and Robert Pollitte.

A memorial service will take place at 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 19, at Milford United Methodist Church, 1200 Atlantic, Milford. Interment will take place at Great Lakes National Cemetery at a later date.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Kaul Funeral Home, St. Clair Shores Chapel.

John "Jack" Fee Ward

John "Jack" Fee Ward, 91, passed away peacefully Monday, Nov. 21, 2022, in Houston, Texas.

Born Nov. 18, 1931, in Detroit, John graduated from University of Detroit High School in 1949, and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Detroit in 1953. He began his career as a certified public accountant at the firm of Horwath and Horwath. Later, with his brother Oliver, he founded Ward & Ward CPA, a public accounting firm in the Detroit area. Prior to beginning his professional accounting career, John proudly served his country in the U.S. Air Force as an intelligence officer. He was honorably discharged in 1955.

In his 91 years of life and 58 years of marriage, John and Joy enjoyed spending time with friends and family. They were quick to host impromptu gatherings around the kitchen table or dinner parties filled with love and laughter. After moving to Houston in 2014, John and Joy developed new friendships, which touched the lives of many, and they were quickly accepted as

honorary Texans. John was known for his quick wit, storytelling and pride for the accomplishments of his children and grandchildren alike.

John is survived by his children, Jenifer (Keith Crow), John Jr. (Amy) and Jeffrey; and grandchildren, Eleanor, Sydney, Harrison, Matthew Finnigan, Lucia, Peter and Nicholas. He was predeceased by his wife of 58 years, Joy Assunta Ward.

A funeral took place Nov. 26, at the East Chapel of Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Catholic Chaplain Corps of Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, Diocesan Services Fund, archgh.org/dsf.

Share memories with the family in the online guestbook at wujekcalca.terra.com.

John M. Chase Jr.

John M. Chase Jr., passed away Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2022, in Grosse Pointe Farms.

John graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1950. He earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and a law degree in 1957. John was an avid supporter of the University of Michigan where he earned All-American honors in swimming. He also held an NCAA record in the backstroke.

John was a season ticket holder for Michigan football more than 70 years. He fondly recalled his days as a lifeguard at Pier Park and the annual lifeguard open water swimming competitions held in Lake St. Clair.

John began his legal career in the U.S. Attorney's office in Detroit. He moved to private practice with his dear friend, the late Hon. George E. Woods, then practiced law for 29 years with his son, John, and worked with his loyal assistant, Sandra, for 38 years. John had a passion for the law and his work ethic was notable.

John treasured his family and spending time at his lake house. John had a fondness for ice cream; making ice cream with his children and later his grandchildren was a favorite pastime of his. John also loved the theater and passed that love to his children and grandchildren. He was involved in several charitable endeavors and enjoyed sharing his time and talents.



Thomas M. Cooper, M.D.

John is survived by his friend, Kathleen; children, Anne (Robert), Cheryl (Matt), John (Heather) and Paul (Heather); and grandchildren, Jack, Thomas, Lanie, Ellie, Lauren, Olivia and Christian. He was predeceased by his parents, John M. Chase and Esther H. Chase; and his brother, Alan H. Chase.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Nov. 21, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Thomas Michael Cooper, M.D.

Thomas Michael Cooper, M.D., 87, passed away Sunday, Nov. 27, 2022, at Henry Ford Macomb Hospital.

Dr. Cooper was born Oct. 22, 1935, in Detroit, to Benjamin and Elizabeth Cooper. He graduated from Dartmouth College and then Wayne State University School of Medicine. He served the Grosse Pointe community at Bon Secours Hospital and Ascension St. John Hospital for more than 50 years.

Dr. Cooper loved world travel and enjoyed spending time with family and friends. He is survived by his children, Cynthia Gemmete (Mike), Kathleen Cooper, Thomas Cooper, Daniel Cooper and Dennis Cooper (Sue); stepchildren, Darlene Dambacher (Ken), Susan Cera (Tony), Joann Fournier and Jeanne Fournier (Tracy); sisters, Margaret Eugenio and Sue Watson; and many loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his parents; wife, Katherine Anne Cooper; wife, Nancy Cooper; son, Timothy Cooper; and stepson, Terrance Fournier.

Viewing takes place from 3 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, at Chas. Verheyden Inc., 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park. Interment will occur at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

See OBITS, page 7B

OBITS:

Continued from page 6B

Marjorie Elaine Whiteley

Marjorie "Marge" Elaine Whiteley, 75, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2022.

Marjorie was born Dec. 11, 1946, in Detroit, shortly after her father returned from World War II. She was the second of seven siblings in the Hoban family. She grew up with the love of family, which was always first in her mind. After graduating from St. Martin de Porres High School, Marge earned a nursing degree and began working as a registered nurse at Jennings Hospital in Detroit. There she met the love of her life, Robert HK Whiteley. They lived happily together for 42 years, adopting two children, Heather and Bobby, who became the focus of their lives.

In 1971, Marge earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from Wayne State University and spent more than 30 years compassionately nursing at Bon Secours Hospital, now Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital. She took great pride in her nursing career and often was recognized by patients as a caring and thoughtful nurse.

Her greatest joy, however, was her love of family. She was absolutely over-the-moon when her children married wonderful people, bringing her three grandchildren. Marge loved spending time with her family, grandchildren and siblings. She was known for her kindness, positive attitude and resolutely thinking the best of everyone. She demonstrated her great love for her family and friends by thoughtfully creating ways to connect with and care for them. She delighted in staying in touch with lifelong friends from St. Martin, Bon Secours and Turners Athletic Club, as well as new friends at her senior living community. For



Marjorie E. Whiteley



Julia Burgess Lundell



Vonnie Willis

decades she hosted a vibrant Christmas Eve party that was the highlight of her year. Her affectionate, daily "just checking in" phone calls and meaningful Hallmark cards on special occasions will be deeply missed.

She is survived by her loving children, Heather Streffling (Jonathon) and Bobby Whiteley (Maggie); dearest grandchildren, Naomi, Zoe and Jackson Streffling; and dear siblings, James Hoban (Gene), Nancy Hoban, Charles Hoban (Patricia), Daniel Hoban (Jean Schneider), Dr. Donna Hoban and Robert Hoban (Judy). She also is survived by many loving nieces, nephews, remaining family and friends.

A funeral already has taken place. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Beaumont Grosse Pointe Chapel Fund, c/o Fr. Rich, 468 Cadieux Rd., Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

Julia "Judy" Burgess Lundell

Julia "Judy" Burgess Lundell, 88, of Grosse Pointe Farms passed away Friday, Nov. 25, 2022.

Judy was born Sept. 24, 1934, in Milwaukee, to Robert and Dulce Branum Burgess Hand, and grew up in Racine, Wis.

Judy had a successful career working for Ascension St. John Hospital as manager of the gift shop. She was beloved by the many volunteers with whom she worked. Judy was an alumna of the Alpha Phi sorority and also a docent at the Edsel & Eleanor

Ford House and enjoyed her time meeting the many visitors attending the tours.

Judy enjoyed the outdoors and was often seen by her neighbors taking early morning walks. She also enjoyed water aerobics during the summer months at Farms Pier Park and was a proud paddler when it came to kayaking. She loved traveling with her friends to Vero Beach, Fla., and Stratford, Ontario. Most of all, she cherished her time spent with family taking many trips in northern Michigan to Walloon Lake, where days were spent on the lake and nights always ended around the fire pit roasting marshmallows and making "angels on horseback" while looking up at shooting stars.

Judy is survived by her children, Chris Lundell (Gale), Dulce Elbadawi (Hassan) and Carl Lundell (Anne Marie); siblings, John Burgess (Margie) and Gretchen Burgess; and dear grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brother, Samuel Burgess, and her parents.

A celebration of her life will take place in spring 2023. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, where she was a member more than 50 years, at gpmchurch.org.

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, Erin Crist (Tyson) and James Knoska II (Emily); and three great-grandchildren who knew her as G-Voni: Carys Crist, Declan Crist and James Grace Knoska.

A gathering for family and friends took place Nov. 27, at Chas. Verheyden Funeral Home.

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.



COURTESY PHOTOS

The living nativity at Christ the King Lutheran Church includes live animals.

Christ the King hosts living nativity

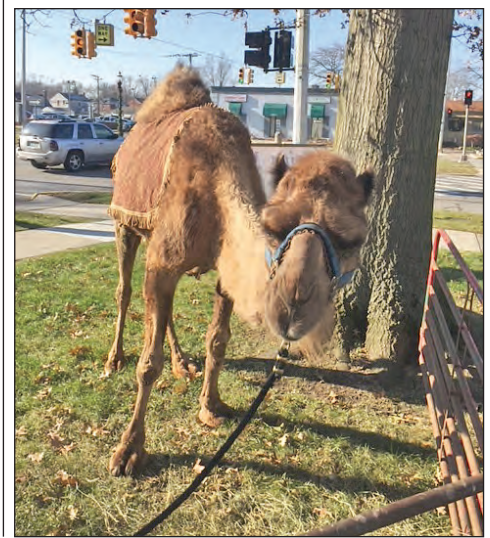
Christ's birth will be celebrated with a living nativity, presented by Christ the King Lutheran Church, 20338 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4.

This is the 36th year Christ the King has offered this event, during which a tent on the church grounds will host live animals including sheep, goats, donkeys and camels. Children are welcome to pet the animals.

A manger scene also will be housed under the tent, where preschool children will be dressed as angels, shepherds, Joseph and Mary. A narrative is read about the birth of Jesus, and highlighted by the singing of Christmas carols.

The church basement will serve as a warming station for hot drinks and snacks.

For more information, call the church at (313) 884-5090.



Camels and other animals will be a part of the living nativity at Christ the King Lutheran Church.

Christmas workshop, sale at GP Congregational Church

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church hosts its 65th annual Christmas Family Workshop from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2. The program welcomes all ages to complete their choice of crafts, ranging in cost from 25 cents to \$3.50.

Registration forms are available from the church by emailing office@gpcong.org to reserve a spot. Food is provided from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Additionally, storytime with Santa, who will be available for photos as well, is included.

Two days later on Sunday, Dec. 4, the church hosts its Noah's Ark animal sale. All items are hand-knitted or crocheted stuffed animals available for purchase at varying costs. The sale takes place following the 10 a.m. worship service, around 11 a.m. in the

lounge. If items are still available at the close of the sale, they will be available to purchase the following Sunday, Dec. 11, following worship. For more information, call (313) 884-3075.

Worship Service

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Tuesday — 8:30 a.m.

Thursday — Feast of the Immaculate Conception
10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Friday — Noon

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

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SUNDAY

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study

10:45 a.m. - Sunday School

MONDAY

7 p.m. - Worship Service

2nd & 4th Monday of the Month

WEDNESDAY

10 a.m. - Bible Study

Randy S. Boelter, Pastor

Making New Disciples - Building Stronger Ones

8B | FEATURES



“My truck is starting to look like an archeological dig,” Beever said.



Above, Beever crafted a miniature freighter from bricks and other trinkets he found along the lakeshore. The sculpture is silhouetted in front of a passing freighter. Left, Beever displayed this mossy branch, adding assorted shells to resemble “Nessie.”

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DANIEL BEEVER

ART:

Continued from page 1B

cement starts to turn into rock.”

In another section, Beever laid rocks to look like ancient ruins.

“It looks like what I’ve seen overseas, in Rome or Ephesus, Turkey,” he said. “They archive every stone and you see all these pathways. I just wanted to retain the dirt, better retain the wall from the ice if it comes.”

Between the stacked stones, intricate displays and objects of whimsy, Beever’s work has garnered a lot of attention.

“It started to be a lot nicer for people to walk by and see what’s new,” he said. “I started talking to residents, all ages,

from couples with strollers to older residents. They all started talking to me while I was gardening.”

The physical labor and resulting conversations have been more than a job for Beever, who finds the effort and inquiries therapeutic.

Where the heart is

Before moving to the Park, Beever and his wife, Angie, lived in Asia for 13 years. An automotive design engineer, he was running two companies in China before moving to Phuket, Thailand, during the pandemic.

“We came home last year, because my mom had cancer,” the St. Clair Shores native said. “... While my mom was sick, we stayed in Grosse

Pointe Park with friends. Our son, William, was 5 when we moved here. It was amazing coming down to the two parks and fully enjoying them.”

The Lakeview High School and College for Creative Studies graduate credits his family for his artistic flair, which initially took him overseas. When he returned state-side to care for his mother, “I thought it would be nice to do something physical,” he said.

Alice Christine “Christy” Beever lost her battle with cancer Aug. 20, but she was well aware her son had just been hired to work at Patterson.

“We brought her down here one time last year,” he said. “I like the fact my mom knew I was going to do this. She didn’t want me to go back to the corporate world.”

“... My mom indirectly helped give all these residents happiness,” he added. “This takes my mind off her death. I’m here because of her. I talk about her. It’s a lot like therapy.”

Occasionally, Beever’s father, Greg, will visit. There’s a spot he likes to sit while Beever works.

“This has been healing for my dad too, to come down here and enjoy this,” he said, “especially since he grew up in the area. He’s so happy we got a place in Grosse Pointe Park.”

A warm fall allowed Beever to remain on the stretch of land longer than anticipated, but even with a December chill in the air, he’d like to continue working.

Brick work

While restoring the landscape along the Patterson Park shoreline, Danny Beever amassed a collection of bricks that piqued his curiosity.

“I did a little research and found some fascinating historical facts about these bricks, such as why there are sometimes four pegs in each corner — better traction for horse and buggy,” he said. “Also it seems some of the bricks I have found are likely from the 1800s and early 1900s, because the font is elevated on

the brick, which was also done for horse and buggy traction, instead of imprinted. As the auto industry advanced it was no longer needed and the brick industry started imprinting as a standard.”

Beever compared bricks he found along the shoreline to bricks used to build his 1917 house in Grosse Pointe Park. In his basement, he found two styles of bricks — the elevated font of the 1800s and the embossed bricks from the early 1900s.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DANIEL BEEVER

This 1800s brick found along the shoreline has an elevated font.

Visitors to Patterson Park can find an assortment of bricks Beever found in the water on display alongside the boardwalk.



Left, a brick from the same manufacturer, with a raised font, in Beever’s basement. Right, a second brick from the same manufacturer, with an embossed front, likely was made in the early 1900s.



PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

Beever holds up the rusted skate blade his son, William, discovered among the weeds.

“I hope to still work on it during the winter; there’s plenty more to do,” he said. “They just let me go. They let me work with what’s here. ... I’m only building from what’s here. I’m not bringing anything in, only using things already here.”

“I have a passion for this job because it’s given me such enjoyment,” he added. “There’s great history here. Finding it down there is such a treat.”

Though passersby who’ve admired his work have suggested the park should name the stretch after Beever, he said he’d rather see a plaque dedicated in his mother’s name.

“There are so many memorials in this park,” he said. “I’d want her to have something here.”

“She’s the whole reason my brothers and I succeeded in life — in our families and careers,” he

continued. “She instilled confidence in us and critiqued our work, but in a nice way, helping us make it better. She gave us this work ethic. ... The fact she knew I was going to take this job, that I started working and talking to these people to help me handle her dying, my mom would be so happy and excited. She’d be letting out one of her squeals with all the comments I’ve gotten.”

Grosse Pointe News

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Do you know an outstanding high school athlete? Nominate them for Athlete of the Week and put them in the running for Athlete of the Year.

All weekly winners will be invited to the end of year Athlete of the Year Awards Gala – with top athletes winning scholarships!
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grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week

Grosse Pointe News

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Piquette museum offers holiday market, author visit

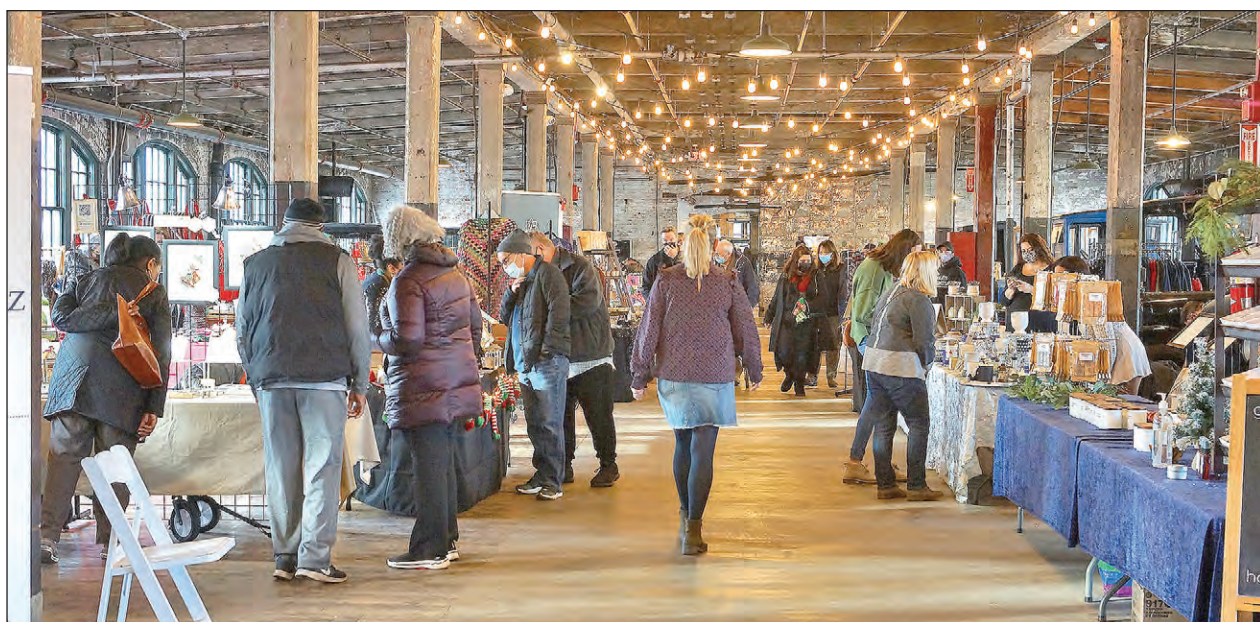
For the holidays

The Ford Piquette Plant, located at 461 Piquette Ave. in Detroit welcomes families Sundays during December for a holiday craft market, which takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 4, 11 and 18.

Shoppers can cross gifts off their holiday lists by browsing dozens of booths featuring local crafts and unique gifts. Additionally, automotive collectibles, books, vintage driving goggles and other fun items are available at the museum store.

Also are included in the fun are activities such as a kids' scavenger hunt, story time at 1 p.m. featuring the children's book "The Night Henry Ford met Santa," as well as a visit from the big guy himself — Santa Claus — in his Model T, between 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

For automotive and Detroit history buffs,



museum admission includes optional guided tours at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. Tickets range from \$10 to \$17. Shopping-only tickets are available for \$10 and support the museum's operations and educational programs. Admission is free with a

museum membership.

By the books

Bibliophiles and lovers of Detroit history also can indulge in an afternoon conversation with acclaimed local author and journalist, R.J. King, at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4,

at the museum.

The talk will feature King's award-winning "Detroit: Engine of America" and the popular "8 Track: The First Mobile App," followed by a Q&A and book signing. Complimentary beer and wine will be served and guests arriving early may enjoy holiday shopping at the Piquette Holiday Craft Market.

"Detroit: Engine of America" covers the French founding of Detroit in 1701, and its critical role in American history up to the rise of the auto industry in 1900.

"8 Track: The First Mobile App" examines the impact of the 8-track tape on the future of music, cars and STEM development.

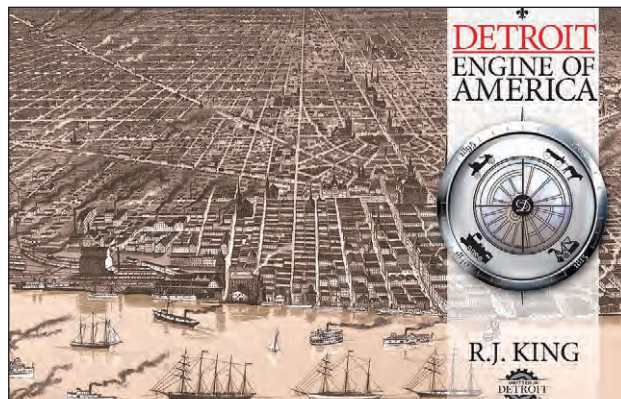
King also is the author of "Passport to the Corner Office: The Starter's Guide to Corporate Life," as well as editor of DBusiness magazine, DBusiness Daily News,

Tech and Mobility News and Detroit 500.

The speaker series event is free to museum members, \$20 for non-members. Reservations are required. Tickets are available online at fordpiquetteplant.org.

The Piquette Avenue Plant Museum is open year-round to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Regular admission is \$17 for adults, \$10 for students and youth. Ages 4 and younger are admitted free.

For a complete schedule of museum events or to purchase tickets, visit fordpiquetteplant.org. Tickets also are available at the door. For more information, email piquetteplant@gmail.com or call (313) 872-8759



COURTESY PHOTOS



Top, guests at a previous holiday market browse the variety of vendors. Above, "Detroit: Engine of America" is the subject of an author talk Dec. 4.

ASK THE EXPERTS By Emma Ottenhoff, LCSW

Building self-esteem can be an adventure

Q: How can adventure help improve self-esteem?

A: Self-esteem is a familiar topic in classrooms, youth groups and therapist offices. For many of us, learning to love and embrace ourselves is challenging work that doesn't come easily. As a youth therapist, I strive to empower and strengthen my young clients' self-esteem by highlighting their strengths through adventure. Adventure therapy integrates seven core tenets to help individuals make change: challenge, safety, trust, empowerment, enjoyment, connection and communication.

In a typical adventure session, clients engage in a challenge designed for their goals and clinical needs. For example, in a group therapy session, I might ask one participant to blindfold themselves while the rest of the group uses verbal instructions to guide that participant to find a hidden object in the space. This activity requires many layers to be successful: trust, teamwork, communication and problem solving. The blindfolded individual often experiences some level of anxiety and the group members providing instruction might become frustrated by the communication challenges. However, with support and encouragement, overcoming the challenge can be illuminating and allow the group to see their abilities and believe in themselves. The insights the group shares afterward demonstrates how we can learn and grow quickly by pushing our-

selves safely outside our comfort zone.

As we elevate therapy challenges, clients build their belief in themselves and their ability to overcome their fears, anxieties and self-doubt. Even in failure during a challenge, a client typically walks away with a lesson and healthy coping skills to use in daily life. Clients prove they're ready to speak up for themselves, express who they are, recognize their strengths and find solutions that work for them when things get tough.

Healthy challenges are good for all of us. We can learn endurance, self-acceptance, advocacy for ourselves, healthy relationships and effective problem solving. It's one of my greatest joys to share space with my clients while they process their pain, failures, success, hopes and dreams, as they become stronger in their own self esteem.

Emma Ottenhoff, LCSW, is the owner and psychotherapist of Adventurous Heart Therapy, PLLC. Her practice focuses on serving youth and young adults in helping them improve their mental health and self-esteem. For more information, visit adventuroushearttherapy.com.

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

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Grosse Pointe Gabby

The Pulse Of The Pointes

Teachers' gifts made easy

Dear Gabby: Now that the Christmas season is approaching, I am stumped on what to get my kids' teachers! I know every parent in the class is going to donate money toward a class gift of cash, but I really want to add something thoughtful to the present.

Do you have any recommendations for gifts teachers actually want to receive? Also, my one son has multiple teachers. Any ideas for

something small to gift each teacher?

— **Stumped in the Woods**

Dear Stumped,

Having every parent donate money toward a group gift is a really great idea! This allows the teacher to get a larger gift and it shows how grateful the class is as a whole.

Cash also lets the

teacher spend on whatever they want, which is awesome.

On the other hand, we know how sensible teachers are, and we love to pair the monetary gift with something fun so they can treat themselves!

Small Favors has so many great ideas for gifts to give to teachers! Their teacher customers always say that they love to get personal products like a

Spongelle buffer, shower steamers, or anything from our Patchology "spa at home" section.

Another great add-on gift would be any of our yummy Christmas treats or a great-smelling candle. When in doubt, every teacher wants to start the new year off with a fresh new lunchbox from Scout!

The people who educate our children are so important and they love



celebrating teachers at Small Favors. They are fully stocked with all of your Christmas shopping needs!

— **Gabby**

We love problem-solving and giving advice! Please send us your questions & problems to advice@grossepointenews.com.

Should I contact old flame from the past

Dear Ann Landers: I am a 26-year-old woman with a problem. When I was in high school, I cheated on my steady boyfriend with an older man. I discovered I was pregnant and was sure the older man was the father of the baby.

Last December, after eight years of paying child support, the man requested a DNA test to determine

paternity. I was stunned when it turned out that my daughter isn't his after all.

Here's the real problem. When I found out I was pregnant, my boyfriend asked if the baby was his, and I assured him it was not. That boyfriend is now happily married and has children. I have been married to a wonderful man for almost six years, and

he wants to adopt my daughter.

Should I try to contact my old boyfriend and disrupt his life by telling him he has a daughter? Part of me feels he is entitled to know, but another part worries that I would only mess up more lives. Please tell me what to do. — **Kitty in K.C.**

Dear Kitty in K.C.: I'm with the part of you that says leave it alone. If any of my readers think otherwise, I would like to hear their reasoning.

Dear Ann: You have printed several letters from lonely grandparents who wonder why they never hear from their grandchildren. I'm a man who has the reverse of

that problem.

I've been happily married for 21 years and have a teenage daughter and son. Since the day our children were born, my widowed mother has shown absolutely no interest in them whatsoever. I cannot understand this. Our children are every parent's dream. They are bright, well-mannered, respectful and a joy to be around.

When our children were young, my mother made it clear she did not want to babysit our kids, so we never asked her.

When we make the 200-mile trip to her town, it's as if my wife and kids are invisible. She talks incessantly about her friends and social activities but never directs any conversation toward our children.

Classic Ann Landers

The only acknowledgment she has ever given them is an annual birthday card. The one time she came to our home, she sat on the edge of the sofa and kept saying she needed to leave as soon as possible. She went home the next morning.

Am I expecting too much? My mother is in her 70s and is an intelligent woman. My children would love to have a caring grandmother, and I wish I could find a stand-in for them. At this point, I no longer want to visit my mother and subject my children to her indifference. Do you have

any ideas on how to get her to warm up? — **Sad Son in N.C.**

Dear N.C.: You might as well try to warm up Siberia. Have you told her how much it would mean to you if she took an interest in your children?

If she is willing to discuss it, you might be able to turn things around. If not, leave the family at home when you visit your mother, and spare everyone the aggravation.

ANN LANDERS
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Widow encounters happiness following years of violence

DEAR ABBY: I have been a widow for six months. My late husband was a physically and verbally abusive alcoholic.

I spent numerous nights in the ER waiting to be seen and nursed many black eyes throughout the years.

During all those years of abuse, which was witnessed by numerous friends and family, I remained faithful and dedicated to him and our marriage, but due to the toxicity of our relationship I was severely depressed and needed antidepressants.

I tried many times to get him help and had family interventions, only to end up being threatened with getting all my teeth knocked out.

My dilemma is that one of our friends has become more than just a friend. This man is a kind, caring individual and has done more for me this last couple of weeks than my husband did my entire marriage.

I have been so happy recently, but I feel guilty for feeling this way and wonder if I should be ashamed for not grieving longer. I feel maybe I'm doing something wrong by being happy and not having to deal with the abuse. What do you think? — **SURVIVOR IN VIRGINIA**

DEAR SURVIVOR: What I think is that you should be grateful you are free of your abusive late husband. I see no reason why you should feel guilty for not grieving the death of that disturbed individual.

That said, it's very important you take your time before getting into another exclusive relationship. You are extremely vulnerable now. You need to heal from the years of abuse you experienced, and possibly receive counseling to ensure you don't drift toward the "familiar" or overlook warning signs of another potential abuser.

DEAR ABBY: My husband's brother and his family live out of state. They never invite my husband's parents to spend any holiday with them.

In fact, they initiate no visits with them at all or travel to the area where we live. (We live in the same city as my in-laws).

My dilemma: I do not want to have my husband's parents at our house for every holiday dinner we host.

My children are getting older (one is married), and we don't see them often. Sometimes



I want to get together with just our immediate family, but then I feel guilty if I don't ALWAYS include the in-laws.

I think my husband's brother should step up to the plate and invite his parents for at least one holiday. I don't think it's fair to expect us to always have them at our house. What do you think? — **NEEDING A BREAK IN OHIO**

DEAR NEEDING: I agree that this pattern — established heaven knows how long ago — has placed an unfair burden on you.

Your husband is long overdue for a conversation with his brother to see if something can be worked out. However, if your brother-in-law is unwilling, you may have to have your smaller family celebrations the night before or night after the holiday.

DEAR ABBY: One of the last times we hung out, a friend made a comment about my

size. She said, "I shouldn't complain about my weight gain. I'm smaller than YOU." It was really rude.

I thought about that comment and how to approach it for a week, and when I saw her next, I asked her to not bring up my size when she complains about hers.

Instead of apologizing, she spent 15 minutes justifying what she said. But there was no real justification.

Since then, I have avoided her. She keeps reaching out and asking to spend time with me, but at this point, I don't feel I should. What would you do? — **OFFENDED IN HAWAII**

DEAR OFFENDED: I would tell her no, and I would tell her in no uncertain terms exactly why.

DEAR ABBY: I have been raising my daughter's first child. "Joey" is 10, and he has been living with my husband and me full time for four years. I love him very much



Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

and enjoy being his "mom," but I'm not good at helping him with homework. My daughter doesn't have time for him. She has two other kids with a different dad. The stepdad has no desire to be a dad to Joey.

I am Joey's everything. My life revolves around him. But, Abby, at 52, I feel I have earned the right to do as I want at this time in my life. I feel I would be punishing Joey if I gave him back to his mom to raise. His biological father is not in his life, although the paternal grandparents are in contact with him. Your thoughts on this situation? — **LIKE A MOM IN SOUTH CAROLINA.**

DEAR LIKE A MOM: Gladly. When Joey is 18, you will be 60. That is not over the hill. Please do not give up on your grandson at this point. As you stated, you are "everything" to him, and in this case, it is literally true. Joey's paternal grandparents did a terrible job raising their irresponsible son. Would you really consider turning Joey over to them to mess up? Stay the course!

DEAR ABBY: My husband has cerebral palsy.

He can talk, but his speech is slightly slurred. He can walk, but he's unsteady on his feet. We love to go out and have a few drinks, but the issue is that people think he is intoxicated.

We have been thrown out of places. We were almost thrown out of a ride-share service until I told the driver he has a disability. We were at a concert going up the steps (I was holding beers), and everyone stared at him thinking he was drunk. Do you have any advice (short of putting up a sign that he is disabled)? — **SOCIAL SPOUSE.**

DEAR SPOUSE: Your husband should not have to display a sign. When you go to a bar or a restaurant, inform the manager or the bartender as soon as you enter that your husband has a disability that affects his balance.

While it won't work in large crowds such as at a concert, it should save you and your husband from any misunderstandings in smaller venues..

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

Family cooking time

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

A recent trip to the holiday market at Eastern Market once again brought great inspiration. Cabbage was everywhere and what better way to use them than a slow cooked delicious cabbage roll.

The scent from this dish transforms your house into the most enjoyable place to be. Your neighbors will be jealous. Extra effort equals extra enjoyment.

It's a perfect meal to make with family on a cold Sunday. It just screams comfort.

The sauce is refreshingly sweet and tart and the pork and beef mixture is divine.

The best part is that you don't have to pre-cook your rice. It was a complete crowd pleaser in our house and I'm sure it will be in your's. Cooking together with family is such a treasure and well worth it.

Cheers, Mombeau

Stuffed Cabbage Rolls

1 large head of green cabbage
 1/2 lb ground beef
 1/2 lb ground pork
 1 minced onion
 1/3 cup uncooked white rice

Tomato Sauce

1 15oz can tomato sauce
 1 15oz can crushed tomatoes
 2 tbsp brown sugar
 2 tbsp balsamic vinegar
 Salt and pepper to taste

Start by boiling water in a large pot. Cut the end of your cabbage and peel off a few of the outer leaves. Add it to the pot once the water has come to a boil. Let cook for five to six minutes and remove the head to cool.

This step helps the leaves to easily peel off. Let the cabbage cool.

Next, make the sauce. In a saucepan, add all of the ingredients and let cook for about 10 minutes. You don't want it to reduce too much because the steam from the sauce will cook the rice.

While the sauce cooks, mix together the meats, rice and onions. I like to use my hands to combine everything. Season with salt and pepper if you so desire.

Once the cabbage is cool, the sauce is cooked and the meat is mixed, it's time to assemble. In a 9x13 baking dish, add the sauce to the bottom. Peel 12 cabbage leaves and lay them



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAREN FERGUSON

down on the counter.

Depending on how large your leaves are, put about 1/4 cup of the meat mixture in the center and roll, folding the outside edges in so you have a package.

Place in the dish and continue rolling so you have six rolls on each side. Cover with aluminum foil and bake at 350 degrees for 90 minutes. Enjoy!

Dealing with wine snobs

Ever encounter a wine snob? I have — far too often, alas.

And dealing with wine snobs is an art form calling for subtlety. Rule No. 1: laughing out loud is verboten.



Still, you'd simply not believe some of the things I've heard over more than 40 years of drinking wine. Bad times often happen when buffoons are in charge of the wine selections.

There was the time a guy brought to a dinner a bottle of 1969 Chateau Latour. He displayed it with a flourish and proudly said it was a

First Growth (it is), implying that the wine had to be very good. It was swill. The 1969 vintage in Bordeaux was horrid.

Then there was the Burgundy from the 1940s that was so maderized only the guy who brought it would drink it — while waxing poetically about its ethereal existence.

And I can't count the number of sparkling wines that had no fizz, the chardonnays that were closer to vanilla shakes or undrinkable 96-point reds I thought came from Sun-Maid. And I haven't scratched the iceberg yet.

Here are some tips when confronted by snobs.

First, as previously mentioned, keep a straight face. Even a smirk will be seen as a putdown. Second, come up with a vocabulary that doesn't place you into the snob category or embarrass the elitist.

When a wine is sound but weird, say it is "inter-

esting." Or "exotic." When a wine is flawed because of bad storage (oxidized or maderized), say it's "just over the hill."

If the flaw is a lot worse, smelling like nail polish remover, and it is so bad you won't drink it, just wait until the next wine arrives. An all-purpose escape clause is, "What a wine!"

And what do you do when the wine you brought is of questionable quality? My strategy is to try serving it first. The first wine of any party is often likely to be OK since there's no wine prior to it to which it can be compared.

There is a major exception to opening older reds first: With truly great older wines, try to open them after a mediocre one. A great wine will usually stand on its own merits, but it's often a contrast to a mediocre wine served just before it.

Another art form is knowing what to bring to wine parties. A great deal of this relates to

who's going to be there and the format of the event. If it's a sit-down dinner and you're asked to bring a wine for the main course, find out what that course is and who the guests are.

The larger the group, the more likely a modest wine will be broadly appealing. At such events, great wines usually will be disliked by some people.

It's also important to get to know what kinds of wines the guests prefer. I once knew a terrific cook who drank only white zinfandel. One of my sons loves grenache, so that's an easy choice.

One friend likes carefully matured older red wines, but once told me that after 10 years, most don't have enough fruit. Three others love Italian reds, any age will do.

Two other friends prefer young, bold reds from the New World. One person told me she hates any sort of chardonnay and recently discovered bone-dry riesling — much to my personal joy.

Or stop reading Decanter.

To find out more about Dan Berger, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.
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Finally, if the host of the party says the choice of wine you bring is "wide open," one guarantee of success is to bring a dessert wine. A great dessert wine often seals a fun evening since no one dislikes great dessert wines.

Wine of the Week: NV Gazela Vinho Verde, Portugal (\$7): This extremely light (9 percent alcohol!) white wine is an absolutely perfect prototype of the northern Portuguese region

from which it comes. Made from a blend of two local white grapes with excellent acidity, Vinho Verde is the ultimate summer quaffer. It's slightly off-dry, has a delicate aroma of kiwi and lime and is easy to sip on a patio with light cheeses..

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Europe vs. United States

A Californian, writing recently to Decanter Magazine in London, took some of the magazine's contributors to task for what he saw as disparaging remarks about American wines.

The controversy is about as basic as anything I can think of and comes down to the old Latin phrase "De gustibus non est disputandum." Or roughly, regarding the matter of taste, there is no dispute. You like one thing, I like another, and each of us is right — for ourselves.

The letter writer pointed to comments from some of the U.K. magazine's authors who, he said, denigrate U.S. wines. And he noted, "Perhaps this has to do with the fact that Americans prefer to drink their wine separately from food?"

The fact that he ended the sentence with a question mark makes me think he's not sure if that's the way Americans typically consume wine. But I guess he suspects it is.

And that may be a clue to why Decanter, the

world's greatest wine magazine," in the words of it's own cover slogan, gives glowing reviews to many European wines that are a bit more delicate, crisp/tart, or reflective of the soil/origin.

It also gives reviews, the letter writer implied, that portray California wines as different from European wines and not as well appreciated by British palates.

Moreover, his comment about the wine-food connection claiming a lesser role in the United States than it does in Europe is telling — mainly because it appears to be true.

I often hear of U.S. wine tastings in which not a speck of victuals is anywhere near the vinous venue. The best wines are often said to be "hedonistic," and rare is the comment about what sort of food would be best with the winners.

Quite the opposite is the case with many European wines. Food and wine are inseparable, for the most part, on the continent.

But a key point here is that in many areas of Europe, the wines reflect

the soil because the grapes grow in a continental climate that has a lot less sunlight hours during the growing season than does the U.S. West Coast's generally Mediterranean climate. Lots of sun translates in ultra-ripe grapes, which usually carries less of the soil's message.

So in some ways it's Mother Nature that allows Europe to make a "European style" of wine, a more delicate, food-oriented style. And it's also Mother Nature that permits California to make a more opulent style that some people prefer to drink as they would cola.

Because the contributors to Decanter are largely locally grown experts with roots in European wines, they have developed a palate for that style of wine and are best equipped to critique it.

As the late Louis M. Martini once said, "We like best that to which we have become accustomed."

Either the letter writer should become more accustomed to European wines, or simply stick to his California favorites.

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4C | LIFE & ENTERTAINMENT

Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade

Photo story by Renee Landuyt

The 47th annual Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade entertained a host of spectators lining the parade route along Kercheval, from The Hill to The Village, on Friday, Nov. 25.

The Detroit Ghostbusters spray snow on parade spectators.



Grosse Pointe Robotics students marched.



Mason Elementary School's Girl Scout Troop #77262 proudly march with their banner.



Returning favorite Redford Township Unicycle Club thrill onlookers.

The Parade Company Big Heads high-five kids in the crowd.



Grosse Pointe South and Grosse Pointe North marching bands help the crowds get into the holiday spirit.



Detroit Jazz Festival float's soothing sounds fill the streets.



Santa and Mrs. Claus wave to the crowd.



From left, Grosse Pointe Park Mayor Michele Hodges, Grosse Pointe Woods Mayor Art Bryant, Grosse Pointe Farms Mayor Louis Theros, Harper Woods Mayor Valerie Kindle and Grosse Pointe Shores Mayor Ted Kedzierski, Santa Claus (holding the key to the city), and City of Grosse Pointe Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak greet the crowd at parade's end.

EVENTS

Things to do in and around Grosse Pointe this week

THURSDAY, DEC. 1

- » **9th Annual Holiday Wine Tasting**
Tompkins Community Center, 6-8 p.m.
14920 Windmill Pointe Dr.
- » **A night of Motor City Soul w/Laura Rain and the Caesars and Smoke Jones**
Aretha's Jazz Cafe, 8-11 p.m.
350 Madison St.
- » **Album Release Show: Rodney Whitaker Quartet**
Cliff Bell's, 7:30-11 p.m.
2030 Park Ave.
- » **Dave Sharpe Worlds Quartet featuring Elden Kelly**
The War Memorial, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
32 Lake Shore Drive.
- » **Kathy Kosins**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6-8:30 p.m.
97 Kercheval.

FRIDAY, DEC. 2

- » **Baby Shark Live!: The Christmas Show**
Fox Theatre, 6 p.m.
2211 Woodward Ave.
- » **Candlelight: From Bach to The Beatles**
St. Peter and Paul Jesuit Church, 6:30-7:35 p.m.
438 St. Antoine.
- » **Jason Marsalis**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 97 Kercheval.
- » **Sean Dobbins Quartet**
Cliff Bell's, 7:30-11:30 p.m.
2030 Park Ave.
- » **WJLB Big Show**
Little Caesars Arena, 6:30 p.m.
2645 Woodward.

SATURDAY, DEC. 3

- » **The 47th Parcels Holiday Bazaar & Craft Fair**
Parcels Middle School, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
20600 Mack Ave.

SUNDAY, DEC. 4

- » **Jason Marsalis**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6-8 p.m.
97 Kercheval.
- » **Live, Lit And Laughter**
Fox Theatre, 7 p.m.
2211 Woodward Ave.
- » **MAC Championship**
Ford Field, 12 p.m.
2000 Brush St..
- » **Palmer Woods 2022 Holiday Home Tour & Soirée**
Palmer Woods, 4:30-11:30 p.m.
Seven Mile and Woodward Avenue.
- » **Sean Dobbins Quartet**
Cliff Bell's, 7:30-11:30 p.m.
2030 Park Ave.
- » **A Charlie Brown Christmas (Touring)**
Fox Theatre, 12:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
2211 Woodward Ave.

MONDAY, DEC. 5

- » **Grosse Pointe Symphony Christmas Concert**
Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, 3-5 p.m.
467 Fairford.
- » **Holiday Markets 2022**
Eastern Market, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
2934 Russell St.
- » **Princess Holiday Breakfast**
The War Memorial, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
32 Lake Shore Drive.
- » **Sean Dobbins Quartet**
Cliff Bell's, 7:30-11 p.m.
2030 Park Ave.
- » **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.
311 E Grand River Ave.

TUESDAY, DEC. 6

- » **1st Tuesday Book Group**
Ewald Branch, 2-3 p.m.
15175 E Jefferson
- » **Channel 95.5's Jingle Ball**
Little Caesars Arena, 7:30 p.m.
2645 Woodward.
- » **Little Learners Hour of Code**
Woods Branch, 4:15-5:15 p.m.
20680 Mack Ave
- » **One-Day Holiday Puzzle & Accessory Sale**
St. Clair Shores Public Library, 2-8 p.m.
22500 E Eleven Mile Rd.
- » **Read, Rhyme & Play**
Ewald Branch, 10:30-11 a.m.
15175 E Jefferson
- » **TINA - The Tina Turner Musical**
Detroit Opera House, 8 p.m.
1526 Broadway St.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 7

- » **Classical Guitar Recital-place saver**
Ewald Branch, 6-9 p.m.
15175 E Jefferson
- » **Dave Koz and Friends 25th Anniversary Christmas Tour**
Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 8 p.m.
350 Madison St.
- » **Detroit Guitar Conservatory Classical Guitar Recital**
Ewald Branch, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
15175 E Jefferson
- » **Music Jam**
Cabbage Patch Saloon, 9:30-11 p.m.
15130 Mack Ave.
- » **RJ Spangler & Planet D Nonet**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 97 Kercheval.
- » **TINA - The Tina Turner Musical**
Detroit Opera House, 8 p.m.

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

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



My posture is becoming absolutely awful from staring at my computer and phone all day. Whenever I'm answering emails, my back is completely slumped over and I don't even notice it. I am pretty tall and after sitting like this for a few hours, I notice neck and back pain and sometimes even get headaches from bad posture.

This problem drives me crazy because it's something that can so easily be corrected but it's the last thing I notice while I'm at work.

There are so many detri-

mental effects of bad posture. Poor circulation, impaired lung function, poor digestion, and curvature of the spine are just a few of the negative consequences it can cause.

I've seen a few posture correctors on Amazon and decided to order one for \$17.99. I didn't think it would be something I'd ever use but purchasing the product made me feel like I was making an effort.

When it arrived (that same afternoon, thanks Amazon!) I tried it on and immediately loved it.



The posture corrector has two straps that fit like a backpack and an adjustable velcro strap under the

chest area. There is a firm strap that goes up the middle of your back as a gentle reminder to sit up straight throughout the day. It's easy to wear and adjust to fit your body.

Even though I thought I'd never use this product, I absolutely love this thing! The corrector is flexible and comfortable enough to wear all day. I've worn it to work, taken the dog for a walk, and done other random daily activities without even noticing I had it on. It is completely invisible under clothes and encourages me to sit tall

throughout the day.

I am giving this product 4 out of 5 alligators because it's a simple product that really works!!

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.

4 Out Of 5



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SONY PICTURES

Daisy Edgar-Jones as Kya Clark, known as the Marsh girl in the 2022 film "Where the Crawdads Sing," a coming-of-age story of a young girl raised by the marshlands of the south in the 50s.

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin



drinking father. When she was a little girl her mother walked out on her and her siblings and was never heard from again.

Then, one by one, her family walked out on her until she was left to raise herself. Kya's remarkably resourceful and manages

decides to take on Kya's case. I've seen Mr. Strathairn in a number of films and he always plays a kind, gentle, and intelligent character. He's perfectly cast here.

The whole courtroom drama set in the South reminded me a lot of "To Kill a Mockingbird." In fact, Strathairn seemed like a modern-day version of Gregory Peck. While Kya refuses to speak about her case, Tom has to deduce for himself what actually occurred.

While cutting back and forth in time, more about Kya's life is revealed. She's a talented artist and is fascinated with the flora and fauna of the marshlands. She's a self-taught artist and devotes most of her days drawing the local wildlife.

At one point in her teens, she befriends a handsome young man Tate Walker (Taylor John Smith). The two are kindred spirits (I love that term), and they become romantically involved. Before he goes off to college he promises to pick up where they left off when he returns.

However, Kya never hears from him again.

It's at this point that the town dandy Charles begins courting her. He seems to be sincere, but you can't help but be suspicious of his intentions. This is

where I'll leave off describing the story. If I say any more, you could just skip watching this excellent film. I can't recommend "Where the Crawdads Sing" highly enough.

The only negative criticism I have about it is the ending. I felt the last 10 minutes or so were quite rushed. I would have ended the movie a bit earlier, however I may be alone in this. Feel free to shoot me an email and let me know what you think.

All in all, I thought the film was just wonderful. Ms. Edgar-Jones turns in an amazing performance. She is shy and reclusive, but underneath this quiet demeanor is a confident, self-assured young woman. Based on the acting chops she delivered here, I think she certainly has a bright future in the business.

I also think the film will bring home more than one trophy come Oscar time!

Currently streaming on Netflix and available to rent on Prime Video.

★★★★☆

For movie trailers, visit [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com).

If you have any suggestions, feel free to email me at: domin-mark@yahoo.com.

Also, if you're looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: [moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com](https://www.moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com).



MOVIE REVIEW "Where the Crawdads Sing" 2022 - PG-13 2 hr 5min

The new offering from Netflix, "Where the Crawdads Sing," is based on the international best-selling novel of the same title by Delia Owens. It's one of those epic dramas where everything including writing, casting, acting, musical score and cinematography all come together to create a phenomenal film.

I've not read the book, but if it's as good as the movie, it's made a beeline to the top of my reading list. I've seen some comments that the movie doesn't measure up to the book, which isn't fair. It's

a different medium and some things need to be altered to make a movie more effective.

The setting of the story is a small town in South Carolina, on the Atlantic coast in the 50s and 60s. It begins when a body is found at the base of a fire watchtower. We learn that it's Charles Andrews (Harris Dickinson), a popular local young man.

Sheriff Jackson (Bill Kelly) suspects foul play and based on his suspicions, apprehends a young girl Kya Clark (Daisy Edgar-Jones). Kya

is a shy, reclusive character who lives on her own in the marshlands a few miles out of town.

Kya refuses to talk about her involvement in the potential murder case and is jailed, awaiting trial.

A good portion of the film is devoted to her backstory. She grew up with an abusive, hard-

to earn enough money to survive selling mussels to a warm-hearted black shopkeeper named Jumpin' (Sterling Macer Jr.). He and his wife Mabel (Michael Hyatt) are very protective of her and make sure she stays out of harm's way.

Fast forward to the present day when a retired attorney, Tom Milton (David Strathairn),



Left, Taylor John Smith as Tate Walker and Daisy Edgar-Jones as Kya Clark, the Marsh Girl.



Left, Daisy Edgar-Jones with David Strathairn as the Lawyer, Tom Milton, who represents Kya Clark.



6C | LIFE & ENTERTAINMENT

Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or making important decisions from 9:30 p.m. to 11:50 p.m. EST today (6:30 p.m. to 8:50 p.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from Pisces into Aries.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022:

You are attractive, friendly and easygoing in your relationships. Personally, you are highly intuitive. Sometimes you just “sense” things. You are always independent. This year is the beginning of a nine-year cycle for you. Expect new beginnings, adventures and major changes in your life!

♈ ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

Right off the bat, you have to realize that cooperation from others will be difficult today. Just accept this. Don't expect too much from others. Tension about politics, religion or racial issues might arise even if you keep a low profile and hide. Tonight: Avoid controversy.

♉ TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)

Another day, and more squabbles about money, earnings and your possessions. These disputes also might be about shared property, inheritances or the limits of your responsibilities for someone. Discover what is expected of you. You have to face this. Tonight: Know your rights.

♊ GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

Your closest relationships will be tested today. You might feel annoyed with someone close to you. This is challenging, because you want to get along with these people. Today, however, you are also high-viz, which means people notice you. Be aware of this. Tonight: Double-check instructions.

♋ CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

Work squabbles and differing opinions with co-workers, clients or customers might be a challenge for you today. Many people underestimate how important it is to get along with co-workers. Not only does it make your job pleasant, it's smart. Be smart. Tonight: Think for yourself.

♌ LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

Today you might have disputes with your kids, or possibly a friend or a member of a group. This quarrel might be about choosing a social occasion or outing. It might relate to your kids. It also might relate to the cost of something and how to divide or share it. It's a challenging day! Tonight: Check your finances.

♍ VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Do what you can to keep harmony at home as well as with partners and close friends. The key is not to give in to anger. Think before you speak. Make no assumptions. Don't be critical of others. This way you can get through this day unscathed, which is what you want to do. Tonight: Cooperate.

♎ LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Squabbles with daily contacts like siblings, relatives and neighbors might arise today. You also might find yourself at odds with someone at work or about a work-related issue. Since this is the tenor of this day, avoid this unpleasantness if you can. Who needs it? Not you. Tonight: Work..

♏ SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Money squabbles might occur today. Or you might have a difference of opinion with someone about something that you own. Whatever the case (and it

could involve a romantic partner or perhaps your kids), it's best to go along to get along today. Keep the peace. Tonight: Relax.

♐ SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Today there are three planets in your sign at odds with Mars and the Moon. Yes, this could be the Gunfight at the O.K. Corral. Remember that you are dealing with family and people who are close to you. Conflict only makes things worse. Stay chill. Tonight: Cocoon.

♑ CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

If you can do your best to be low-key to avoid conflict with others, especially at work, this would be ideal. However, you might get sucked into something that you can't avoid. If so, be part of the solution, not part of the problem. Tonight: Be honest.

♒ AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You might be involved in goal-setting today or working with younger, creative people. Nevertheless, conflict with kids or disputes about money or something that you own might ruin the picture for you. Look for a peaceful solution. Tonight: Check your possessions.

♓ PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

Your dealings with parents, bosses and the police will be challenging today. Fortunately, the Moon is in your sign today. Although this will make you excitable, it will help you get your way. Fingers crossed. Just coast. Tonight: You're in charge.

BORN TODAY

Zoe Kravitz (1988), singer, actress Bette Midler (1945), actor, rapper Riz Ahmed (1982).

FIND THE CORRECT SHADOW



Find & Color The 5 Hidden Birds



Find The 5 Differences



Contract Bridge

WHAT CAN DEFEAT ME?

South dealer.

Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH

- ♠ Q 8 5 2
- ♥ K 10 6
- ♦ K Q 7 5
- ♣ 10 3

WEST

- ♠ J 7 6
- ♥ 8
- ♦ A 10 9 4
- ♣ J 9 8 6 5

EAST

- ♠ A 10 3
- ♥ J 9 5 4 3 2
- ♦ —
- ♣ K 7 4 2

SOUTH

- ♠ K 9 4
- ♥ A Q 7
- ♦ J 8 6 3 2
- ♣ A Q

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	3 NT	

Opening lead — six of clubs.

Let's say you're in three notrump and West leads the six of clubs. There appears to be nothing to the play, so you take East's king of clubs with the ace and return a low diamond. West follows low, but when you win with dummy's queen, East shows out, and there you are — in danger of losing the contract. In due course, you find that no matter how you twist and turn,

the best you can do is go down one.

You could attribute the result to bad luck, if you were so inclined, but the plain fact is that if you played the hand this way, the outcome is really your own fault.

The moment dummy comes down, you can see that the contract is ice-cold if the diamonds are divided 2-2 or 3-1. The only threat is an unlikely — but possible — 4-0 break. Granting that a 4-0 diamond division is only a 1-in-10 possibility, that does not excuse the failure to make provisions for it.

Once you've developed the habit of worrying about such things, it becomes clear that the right play at trick two is the jack of diamonds, not the deuce. If West has all four diamonds, leading the jack will enable you to make four diamond tricks — and the contract — because dummy's K-Q-7 will eventually swallow up West's 10-9-4 with the aid of repeated finesses.

It is true that if East has all four diamonds, leading the jack won't help you a bit. But in that case, there isn't anything you can do to salvage the contract. In bridge, all you're expected to do is to control the controllable.

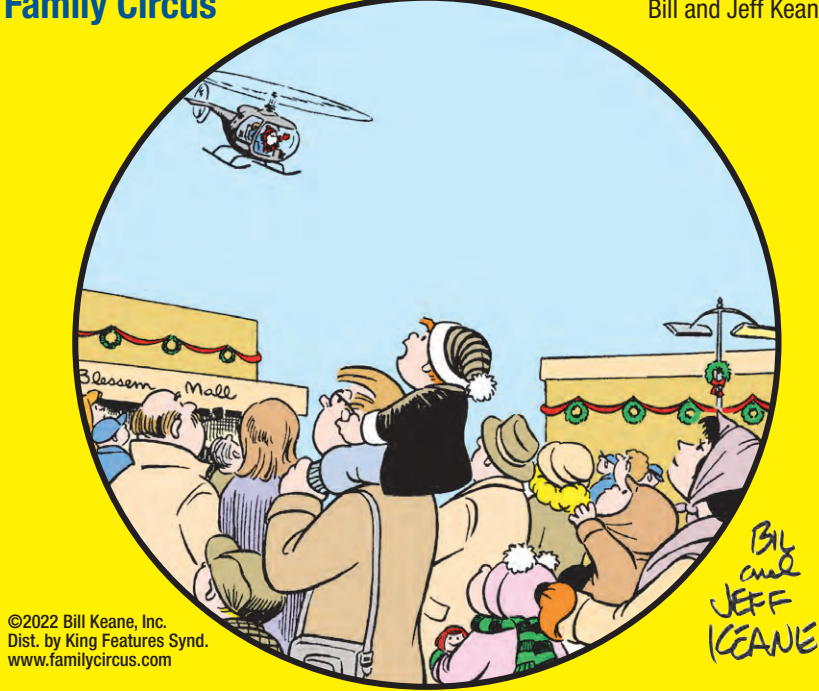
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by Steve Becker

Puzzles and

Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



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Bill and Jeff Keane

“Why didn’t Santa use his reindeer and sleigh instead of a helicopter?”

Garfield

Jim Davis

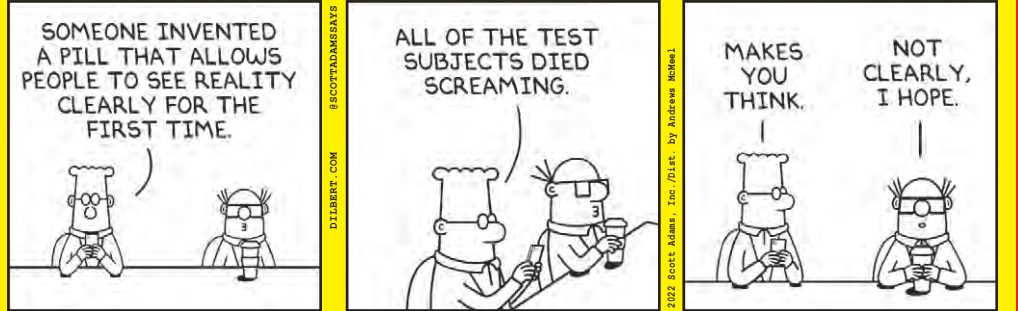


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JIM DAVIS 12-6

Dilbert

Scott Adams



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Beetle Bailey

Greg and Mort Walker

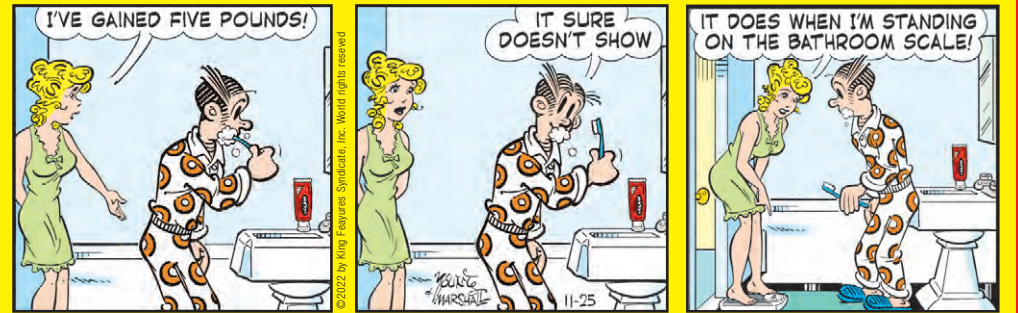


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GREG & MORT WALKER

Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



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Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



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UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

12/1

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

© 2022 by Andrews McMeel Syndication 11/24 Solution

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg December 1, 2022

ACROSS

- 1 Moderate pace
- 5 Subway Series org.
- 8 Mountain feature
- 13 Broccoli
- 14 Actor Coward
- 15 In the know
- 16 “Black ___” (2022 superhero film)
- 17 Result of clogged pores, maybe
- 18 “___” is the only one in “rhythm”
- 19 “Dormitories and such”
- 22 Historical time span
- 23 “Talk. They Hear You.” ad, e.g.
- 24 Ganja
- 25 Class-conscious org.?
- 26 Drying Asian sea
- 28 Piece of skin art, briefly
- 31 “It’s no joke”
- 36 Lotion ingredient
- 37 Charged atom
- 38 What might lead to self-reflection?
- 39 “Bushy upper-lip growths”
- 44 Show featuring Bowen Yang, for short
- 45 Put online
- 46 Tree that produces acorns

- 47 Figs. that average around 100
- 48 Tarnish
- 49 Sun Devils’ sch.
- 52 “Likely culprits”
- 56 Dude, slangily
- 58 Like Oscar statuettes
- 59 “Fancy ___!”
- 60 Word before “peace” or “circle”
- 61 Mule sound
- 62 Musician’s big moment
- 63 “Get some answers!”
- 64 Highest rating, often
- 65 Artist and activist Ono

DOWN

- 1 Go over an outline?
- 2 Navigation aid
- 3 “44”
- 4 Seasonal worker
- 5 Chocolatey coffee drink
- 6 TV host Jay
- 7 “Sacre ___!”
- 8 Pasta type that’s commonly square
- 9 “Ain’t happening”
- 10 Top Entertainment
- 11 LSAT or MCAT alternative
- 12 Long, predatory fish
- 14 Bahamas capital
- 20 Words before “no good”
- 21 Relaxation destinations

- 25 Place to dock
- 26 “I don’t know ___ you, but ...”
- 27 Participates in a marathon
- 28 The “T” in MIT, for short
- 29 Queens tennis stadium name
- 30 General ___ chicken
- 31 Tools that can be circular or linear
- 32 Flair
- 33 What might have tightly packed quarters?
- 34 “The ___” (game with virtual people)
- 35 Hickey site, often
- 40 One of two in a proton
- 41 Former slugger Sammy

- 42 Warm and cozy
- 43 50+ group
- 47 Dots in the sea
- 48 Disney heroine played by Liu Yifei
- 49 Blessed sound?
- 50 Stem for corn
- 51 “We also want in!” ... and a phonetic hint to what’s found in the starred clues’ answers
- 52 Forearm bone
- 53 Some pride letters
- 54 “Your Majesty”
- 55 Site with handcrafted items
- 56 Fruit in a Newton cookie
- 57 Ambient composer Brian

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

M	A	P	L	E	U	G	H	P	H				
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11/24 Solution

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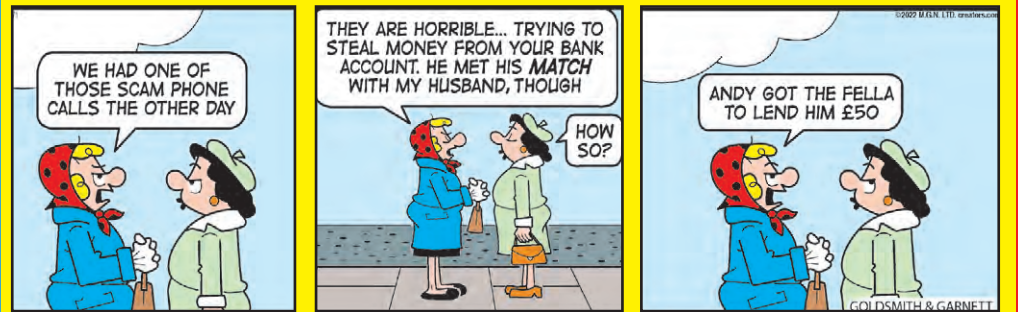
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We’re a Team by Freddie Cheng

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Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



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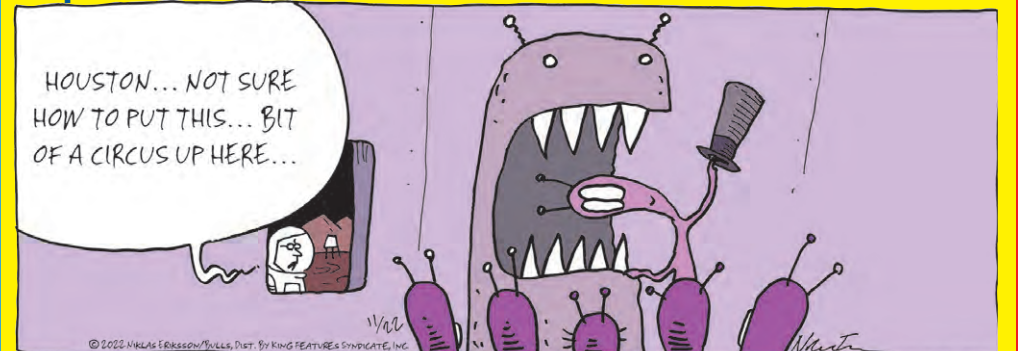


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Carpe Diem

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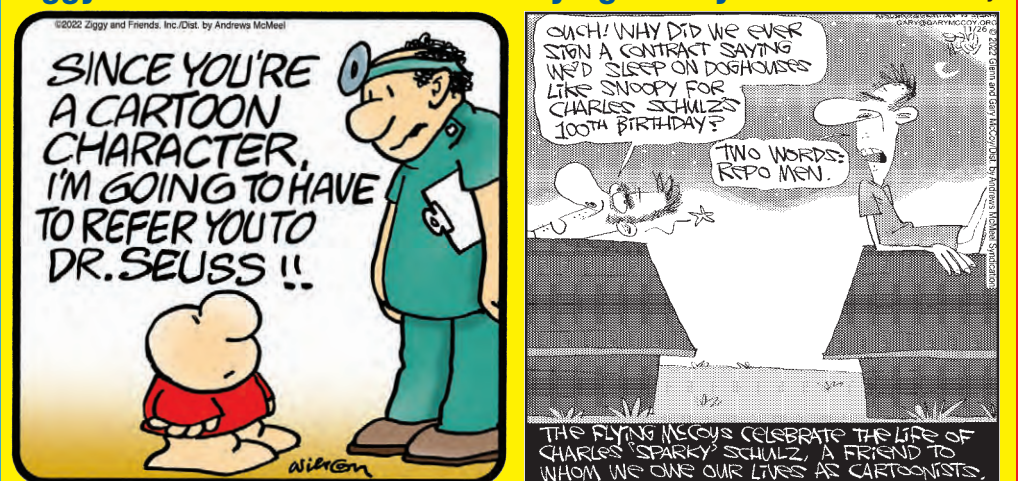
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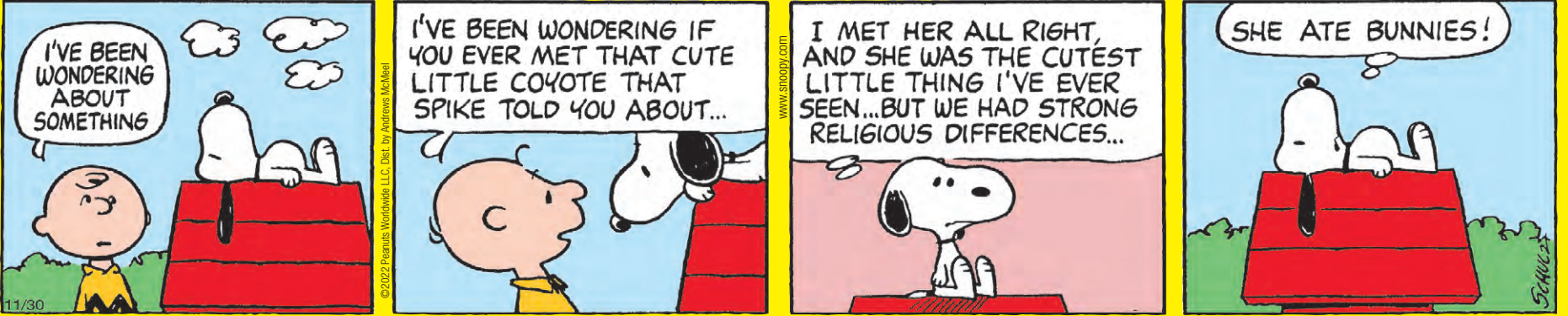
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Charles M. Schulz

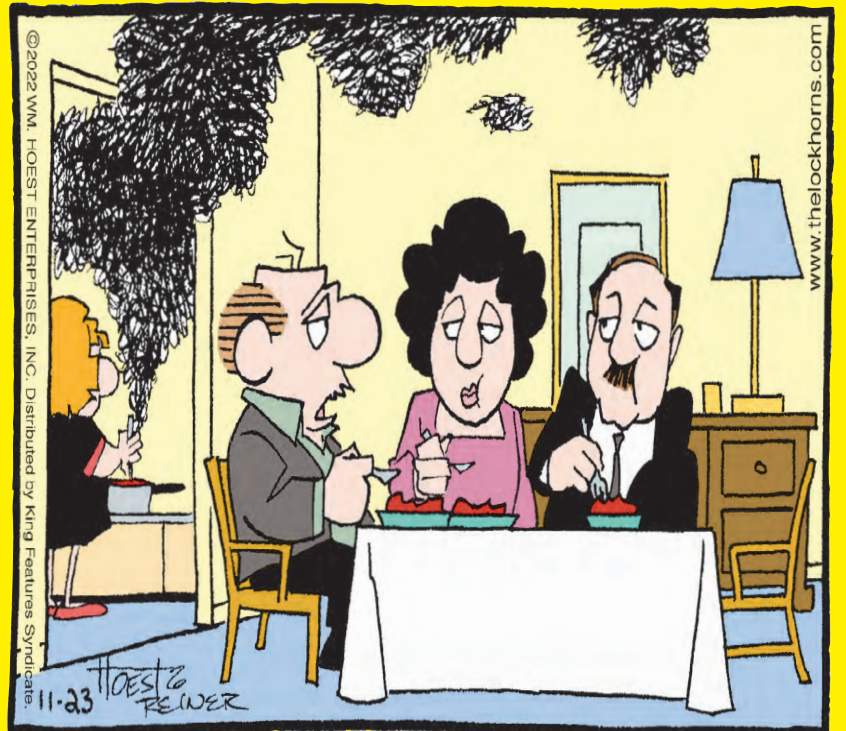


Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne

The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



Crock

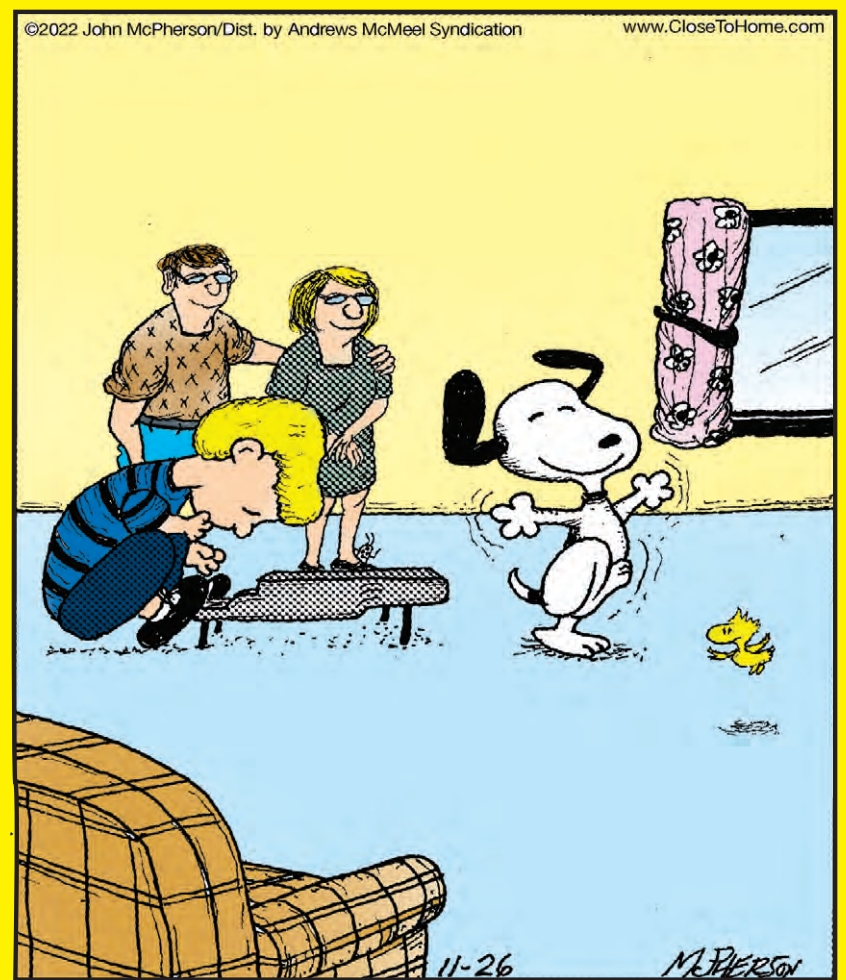
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"IT'S LORETTA'S 3-ALARM CHILI BECAUSE THAT'S HOW MANY SMOKE DETECTORS IT SETS OFF."

Close To Home

John McPherson



F Minus

Tony Carrilo



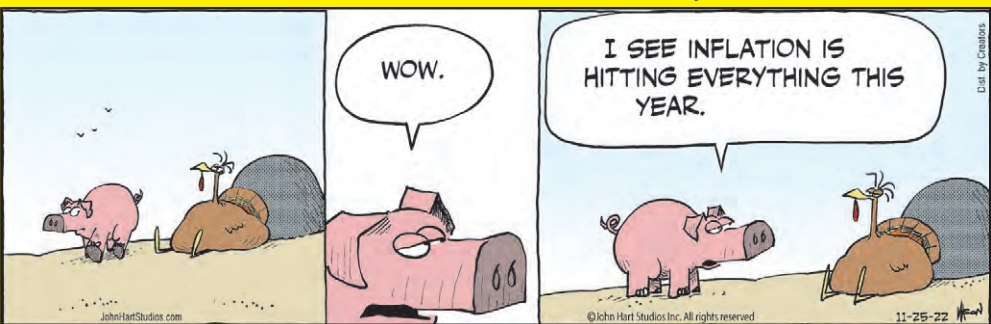
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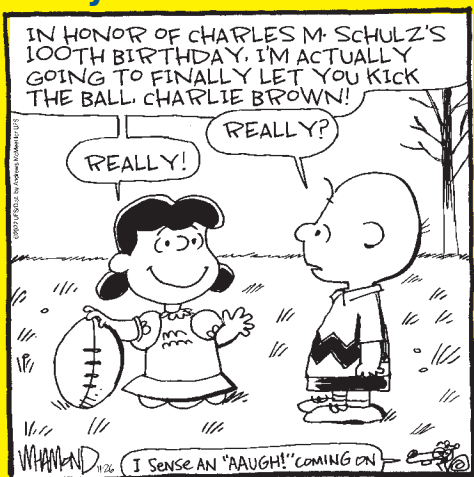


Reality Check

Dave Whamond

Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



"Just where does that tunnel go?"

SPORTS



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PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

South guard Anthony Benard is one of six seniors on the Blue Devils' boys basketball roster for the 2022-23 season.

WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW

Blue Devils view senior core as its strength

By Mike Adzima
 Sports Reporter

The 2022-23 season for the Grosse Pointe South boys basketball team will be a year for the senior class. The Blue Devils have six seniors on this year's roster, with a strong group of juniors behind them ready to take this veteran-led team to the next level.

South's group of veterans have plenty of chemistry on the court with each other already established last season and during summer and fall ball. This winter, the Blue Devils are looking for it all to come together.

"They're sharing the ball and they trust each other," South boys varsity basketball coach Stephen Benard said. "Basketball can go a long

way if you're in unison and can sacrifice for your team you can be competitive in any game you play."

Leading the experienced group of Blue Devils this year will be senior guard and Mercer commit Anthony Benard. While he should be the No. 1 option for South most nights, the level of skill around Benard this season is nothing to be overlooked.

Benard is joined in the backcourt by junior Karter Richards, who is looking to build on what was a breakout sophomore campaign last season. Up front, senior big men Peter Ulku and Alex English will be looked to for their tough play in the paint. Others like senior forwards Noah Stiyer and Tommy Maccagnone

are also expected to play key roles throughout the season.

That group has to make its way through a challenging schedule. Along with playing in the always competitive MAC Red, the Blue Devils have scheduled games against strong teams like Detroit Loyola, West Bloomfield and Chelsea throughout the year to make sure there are never any nights they may be caught off-guard.

"We have a senior led team this year which means we can dial it up and have a consistent schedule," Benard said. "There's no peaks or valleys. It seems like all the teams we play this year are winnable games, but they're going to be chal-

See SOUTH, page 2D

Athlete of the Week

By Mike Adzima
 Sports Reporter

It is not every day you see someone pick up a sport and a few years later become a future Division 1 college athlete in that sport. However, that is what happened for Grosse Pointe South senior Ryleigh O'Donoghue.

A longtime figure skater and hockey player, O'Donoghue found her calling for the future elsewhere. Although she still laces up her skates in the winter, the rest of her year is now spent on the water rowing, a sport she discovered relatively recently.

"I really wanted to be a college athlete — that's something really important to me — but ... there aren't many options for being a Division 1 figure skater and I enjoy playing hockey a lot, but wanted

that to be more recreational," O'Donoghue said. "I didn't start rowing with the goal of rowing in college. My mom found out about a learn-to-row program. I was excited to try it and ever since then I loved it."

That was during

ure skating and as a member of the Blue Devils' girls hockey team.

Playing two sports already, adding rowing while going through the college recruiting process was a bit of a whirlwind for O'Donoghue. It is, however, the nature of the sport and having a diverse set of athletic skills helped the process go a bit more smoothly.

"It was a lot very fast," O'Donoghue said. "I was starting to talk to college coaches when I just found out what the sport was six months prior. It was a big

transition for sure getting into a more unique sport. ... Rowing is something most people start when they're older. It's not really available for kids or is something kids would want to do. Coming from backgrounds of different sports, it made it easier to jump into it."

O'Donoghue's athletic ability may have made it an easier transition to get into rowing, but there was still plenty to get used to. Rowing is a unique sport and O'Donoghue learned firsthand it takes both physical and mental strength to master it quickly.

"When you're first getting into it, it's boring almost," she said. "Obviously I don't find it boring because once you get into it and understand what's happening, you can focus on a different thing in every workout. ... In hockey, you never have the same play twice. It's always changing and different. ... Having the same thing over and over didn't feel right at first, but when you get more into it you realize it isn't boring at all."

Perhaps a sport like rowing also becomes less boring when one enjoys the kind of success O'Donoghue has in her short career. Not only is she committed to rowing in college, but her performance has garnered national recognition.

Over the summer,

See ATHLETE, page 4D



COURTESY PHOTO

Grosse Pointe South senior Ryleigh O'Donoghue will continue her rowing career next fall with the University of Wisconsin.

Grosse Pointe News

Ryleigh O'Donoghue

School: Grosse Pointe South
 Sport: Crew

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Ryleigh Rules

- Committed to row at University of Wisconsin
- Selected for U.S. Rowing Olympic Development High Performance Program
- Team finished 2nd at Head of the Hooch Regatta and 3rd at the Ohio Regatta

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2D | SPORTS

WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW

Despite youth, South girls basketball team shows potential this year, heading into future

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Grosse Pointe South girls basketball knew change was coming for some time and it seems as though 2022-23 could be the turning point. Veterans like Alexa Downey and Kamryn Richards have graduated from the program in recent years and left the Blue Devils with a young roster looking to grow steadily throughout the winter.

Handling that young roster once again will be head coach Kevin Richards. This is not Richards' first time having to work with a younger lineup and he knows what it takes to turn a group like this into a well-rounded team. The biggest thing for the program right now is patience, knowing that slow but steady improvements could be the key to getting the Blue Devils in a good position this year and for the future.

"We have three freshmen up with us and two sophomores... It's a young group, but I will say I'm looking forward to seeing their growth," Richards said. "Even the younger kids are pretty



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Sophomore Madison Benard is expected to be an impact player on a mostly young South girls basketball team. Benard missed a majority of last season due to injury.

athletic where I think they'll be able to pick up things and we can be a totally different team come January."

Those three freshmen — Alexandra Lupo, Isabella Dodson and

Morgan Duff — could see their names called for solid minutes on the court at times this year. With this team, many might find the roster's youth is where the excitement is.

The biggest underclassman to watch for South this year is Madison Benard, who enters her sophomore year after a promising freshman season that was cut short due to

injury.

"She started to hit her stride and put together a couple of 20-point games and was starting to get the hang of it, but unfortunately had the injury," Richards said about the sophomore. "She's worked really hard with four to five days of PT to get back in shape to get stronger. Now she's stronger than ever and looks fantastic."

Benard is an example of how this year's South roster also has plenty of experience. The Blue Devils' three seniors — Olivia Bachert, Ava Sjogren and Madison Duff — have seen plenty of time on the varsity court the last couple of seasons. Juniors like Elsa Bachert and Isabella Deveroux also are no strangers to getting playing time at the varsity level.

The amount of experience with some of the team, plus their athletic potential, Richards believes, puts South in a position to be a strong team on defense. As for the offensive side of the ball, the Blue Devils seem to be sticking with their usual gameplan of wanting to out-shoot any opponent on a given

night.

Getting a young group to get used to taking and making a high volume of shots can take time. However, the blueprint a season like this could be starting is already laid out in South's program.

"We're shooting it, but we've got to make them," Richards said. "... This group reminds me a lot of the young group when my daughter, Kamryn, was a freshman... We started to establish how we wanted to play and we ended up the next year winning the MAC Red." It is unsure what the expectations for the Blue Devils might be this winter, especially in an always-tough MAC Red Division. The focus seems to come back to steady improvement, making sure a largely young group is ready for what is to come.

"There's times we might be starting two freshmen, a sophomore, a junior and a senior," Richards said. "But there's times where I see those kids just getting better."

The Blue Devils open the regular season Friday at home against Romeo.

SOUTH:

Continued from page 1D

lenging games to make our team better."

Being able to play a strong schedule is not the

only advantage of having a veteran lineup for South. The Blue Devils hope this year can bring

them back to the style of basketball they truly want to play.

Now that more chemistry exists among practically everyone on the court, South hopes to be more fast-paced and high intensity on offense. Everyone in the lineup knows each other's strengths, which gives Benard and his team plenty of opportunities to experiment and adjust throughout the year.

"Last year, we had such a new team that we really slowed it down," said Benard. "My first year here, we had like 73

points a game and last year I think we averaged 49 or 50... This year is going to be more up-tempo trying to establish some easy looks early, and I think we're going to move players around. I've got guys who can play multiple positions and you might see our guards playing in the post a lot."

With the different looks they can give to opponents night in and night out, the Blue Devils have the potential to draw plenty of attention this year. A strong schedule and a group of experi-

enced veterans seem like the right mix to get South far, but it all comes down to peaking at the right time.

"You want to be playing your best basketball at the end of the year and I think last year we did," Benard said. "This year, we want to be steady. The schedule is set up so that we have to be mentally ready and prepared for every game we play which will be helpful at the end of the year."

South opens the 2022-23 season at home on Thursday, Dec. 7 against Detroit Loyola.

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Grosse Pointe News



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Grosse Pointe News



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

At 6 feet, 8 inches, senior center Alex English is the tallest player listed on South's roster this season.

Pointes' swim teams battle against aquatic cream-of-the-crop at states

By Meg Leonard
Associate Editor

Competing against a collection of the state's fastest swimmers and best divers, the girls varsity teams from the Pointes proved they belonged among Michigan's aquatic cream-of-the-crop at the Division 2 state championship meet Nov. 11-12, at Calvin College in Grand Rapids.

Grosse Pointe South finished in fifth place with 171 points, while Grosse Pointe North earned 34 points, good for 18th place. Swimming titans East Grand Rapids, who just moved up from Division 3 this season, overpow-

ered the competition among a pool of 33 teams from the lower peninsula, winning it all with 280 points.

"The girls had a great experience and obviously we would have wanted to win it, but I'm happy with what our team accomplished," South's head coach John Fodell said.

Blue Devils team co-captain Sophie Schuetze led her team with Top 8 finishes in four events, earning the most points for the team with 30. In her individual events, Schuetze finished third overall in the 100 Fly (56.69) and fifth in the 200 IM (2:08.00). She helped the 200 medley relay team with a third

place finish (1:47.44) and eighth place finish for 400 free relay (3:36.92).

At states, a finish of eighth place or above earns all-state status, which Schuetze earned in all four of her events.

South's three relay teams, including the 200 medley (third place), 200 free (sixth place) and 400 free (eighth place), swam to all-state finishes as well.

South had seven additional swimmers who earned all-state honors, including:

◆ Brooke Lezotte, Phoebe Handwork, Whitney Handwork and Schuetze in the 200 medley relay.

◆ Team co-captain Sophia Kapla, who recently committed to swim at Old Dominion in Norfolk, Va., who finished fifth in the 500 free in 5:06.75.

◆ Mischa Eng finished eighth in the 200 IM (2:09.68).

◆ Freshman Heidi Bryan, along with Lezotte, Kapla and Schuetze finished eighth in the 400 free relay in 3:36.92.

◆ Team co-captain Ella Pazuchowski, along with Bryan, Phoebe Handwork and Whitney Handwork, finished sixth in the 200 free relay in 1:39.92.

This season, South had a record 15 swimmers qualify for states, as well as diver Alayna Okonowski. The other members of South's state team include Charlotte Bedsworth, Sienna Clark, Kiera Collins, Hannah DiDio, Betty Engel, Vivian Rizer and Maryn Smith.

Grosse Pointe North had qualifiers in individ-



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH SWIM AND DIVE

ual and relay events at states. In individual events, freshman Cailey Hard just missed reaching the finals by two hundredths of a second, while sophomore Avery Beal burned up the top of the leaderboard in her finals races.

Beal scored all of North's 34 points with outstanding swims in the 50 free, where she finished in fourth place (24.20) and sixth place overall in the 100 free (53.46). The sophomore also earned all-state honors for both events.

Norsemen head coach Chris Trepanowski said

his team exceeded expectations.

"Everyone swam season-best swims at finals, which is all you can ask for," he said. "Avery swam fantastically and everyone dropped time."

North's 400 free relay of Beal, Hard, Rylee Nugent and Addie Wakefield finished 14th overall, moving up from 16th in prelims. Teammate Lauren Loper served as an alternate for the relay.

"The relay blew my mind," Trepanowski said. "They dropped nearly five and a half seconds off of their seed

time." Trepanowski, who just completed his rookie season as coach, said this year's success will serve as a major springboard to building North's girls swim program.

"I'm excited to come back (next year)," he said. "We are only losing two seniors. ... We have laid some good foundations and I hope that inspires next year's group."

"We have set our baseline and will work hard to get better."

See page 5D for more photos from girls swim and dive state finals.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVE BEAL

Norsemen swimming star Avery Beal shows off her hard-earned all-state medals in the 50 free and 100 free.



Left, from left, North's Avery Beal, Addie Wakefield, Rylee Nugent and Cailey Hard suit up for the 200 free relay in the Division 2 state finals meet.

Right, South's 200 medley relay of Whitney Handwork, Sophie Schuetze, Phoebe Handwork and Brooke Lezotte happily pose after their fast third-place finish at states.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DAVE BEAL & GROSSE POINTE SOUTH SWIM AND DIVE

4D | SPORTS

Wheatley scores five, Knights rout L'Anse Creuse

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

It may still be early in the winter sports season, but the boys hockey team at University Liggett already looks in midseason form. Unbeaten through their first three games of the year, the Knights looked to continue their winning ways on Monday evening hosting L'Anse Creuse Unified. Liggett took the victory 8-1 on the back of a five-goal performance from senior Stephen Wheatley.

Less than three minutes in, the Knights jumped out in front, as Sean Sullivan scored to open the game at 1-0. L'Anse Creuse scored its

first, and what would ultimately be its last, goal of the night just a few minutes later to tie things up at one apiece. Before the opening period ended, Liggett's Campbell Marchal found the back of the net to put the Knights back in front 2-1 after the first 17 minutes.

The second period is where Wheatley's big night took off. The senior scored back-to-back goals to open the second frame and extend Liggett's lead to three. Sullivan added his second tally of the game to build the lead even more before Wheatley completed his hat trick to end the second period 6-1 in favor of the

Knights.

With the game already well in hand for Liggett, Wheatley was not done yet. Two more goals in the third period for the senior capped off his impressive five-goal evening as the Knights cruised to the final horn with an 8-1 win.

The victory brought Liggett's record on the young season to 4-0. Making the hot start even more impressive is how the Knights have outscored opponents 23-4 in their first four games. The Knights hosted Woodhaven on Wednesday, Nov. 30 after press time and are back in action on Saturday heading on the road to face Lake Orion.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Liggett's Steve Wheatley takes the puck deep into the L'Anse Creuse zone. Wheatley had five goals in the Knights' 8-1 win Monday.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN GRIESBAUM JR.

South baseball will host its annual Holiday Hitting Camps Dec. 28-29. The camps are open to players in second through sixth grade.

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

ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

O'Donoghue was selected as one of approximately 40 rowers from around the country to be part of the U.S. Rowing Olympic Development High Performance Program. The experience was a rigorous month of training, but one she would not trade for the world. "We trained long hours in the morning and then again in the afternoon six days a week for four weeks and at the end we went to summer nationals, which was really cool,"

O'Donoghue said.

With winter approaching, O'Donoghue is more focused on the ice for now, playing her senior season for South hockey. More rowing is to come in the spring as she gets ready to head to Madison next fall and join the Badgers.

Whether it is with the Detroit Boat Club, Team USA or the Badgers in the future, O'Donoghue will continue to be a key piece in a sport that requires precision. Another thing she had to grow used to when picking up rowing, O'Donoghue has found success and enjoyment in just how much chem-

istry and camaraderie is needed to fly across the water.

"Each stroke we take has to be so perfectly in time if we want our boat to move across the water," she said. "Everybody has to have their oars together and in the water at the same time. We're all different sizes, strengths and heights, so it's not going to be perfectly the same, but you want the timing to be together and there's so much trust in rowing."

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, visit grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week.



COURTESY PHOTO

Along with rowing, O'Donoghue also is a figure skater and a member of South's girls varsity hockey team.

City of Grosse Pointe, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF GROSSE POINTE PLANNING COMMISSION MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2022, 7:00 PM.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, December 19, 2022 at 7:00 pm for the Planning Commission to consider a special land use at 908 St. Clair Street to allow a Group Child Care Home. The following specifications are proposed for the project:

Project Type: Group Child Care Home
Current Zoning: R-1B – Single Family
Description: The Planning Commission will consider a request to operate a Group Day Care Home with less than 12 children located in a home occupied by a full-time resident. The Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, Section 125.3206 (5), allows Cities to issue a special use permit for a Group Child Care Home and Section 90-75: Special Land Use Review, of the City of Grosse Pointe Zoning Ordinance, allows the Planning Commission to grant special use when the project achieves the standards of the ordinance.

Said hearing will be held in person at the City Council chambers, 17145 Maumee Avenue, Grosse Pointe, Michigan.

Public comment is welcome. If you are unable to attend the hearing, written comments will be accepted until 12:00 noon on December 19, 2022. Public comments can be mailed to City Hall or sent via email to city@grossepointecity.org. If further information is needed, please contact Grosse Pointe Building Dept., 17147 Maumee, Grosse Pointe, MI. 48230, Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Telephone: 313-885-5800.

Julie E. Arthurs,
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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

RFP-USF FORM 470/FY2023 – The Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe Public Schools will accept bids for Firewall services for FY2023 of the Universal Services Fund (USF) E-rate Program. Specifications are available from the following web site: USAC.org. You may also obtain a copy of the RFP at the Technology Department 20601 Morningside Dr, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan 48236 or on USAC.org website. All questions regarding this RFP should be directed to Garrett Kelley at kellyg@gpschools.org. RFP's will be received in the Technology Department until 2:00P.M. on 12/22/2022. The Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe Public Schools reserves the right to reject or decline all bids.

Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Federal Law

It is the policy of the Grosse Pointe Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, height, weight, disability, religion or marital status in any of its programs, activities or employment.

Published: GPN, December 1, 2022



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH SWIM AND DIVE

State swim photo finishes

Left, standing proudly on the podium after a sixth-place finish in the 200 free relay are South's Whitney Handwork, Phoebe Handwork, Heidi Bryan and Ella Pazuchowski. Right, Heidi Bryan, Sophia Kapla, Sophie Schuetze and Brooke Lezotte celebrate their eighth-place finish in the 400 free relay, which earned them all-state status.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LESLIE VYLETEL

Agony of defeat

Andrew Vyletel of Grosse Pointe Farms had to run his tail off over Thanksgiving weekend, thanks to a bet he lost against his two brothers. Vyletel, a senior at Penn State University, along with his older brother, Marshall, and younger brother, Aaron, put their sibling rivalry to the test with a push-up challenge. Each had to complete 100 push-ups every day for one month. The first to miss a day had to run a 5k, in of all things, a full squirrel costume. Though onlookers may have thought he was nuts, Andrew donned a bushy tail and took his punishment in stride, finishing the 5k around the neighborhood. Word on the street is that fellow squirrels tried to tell him jokes along the route, but they are just too acorn-y to repeat.

Metro D Holi-Hoops Camp approaching

Looking to brush up your skills during the upcoming holiday break? Macomb Community College is hosting the Metro D Holi-Hoops Camp at the Macomb Sports & Expo Center beginning Tuesday, Dec. 27. The camp runs four days through Friday, Dec. 30 and is open to players ages 7-14. Sessions begin at 9 a.m. and run through 12:30 p.m. and will feature 3-on-3 and 5-on-5 games, competition shooting, individual offensive skills training and more. Macomb Community College women's basketball head coach Jay Ritchie will direct the camp. The cost of the four day program is \$95 and includes a camp shirt. For more information, contact Ritchie at ritchiej@macomb.edu. — Mike Adzima

**CITY OF HARPER WOODS
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 7, 2022**

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Valerie Kindle at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: All Councilpersons were present. Except for Councilperson Ivery Toussant, Jr.

MOTIONS PASSED

- To excuse Councilman Toussant from tonight's meeting because of a prior commitment
- To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held October 17, 2022 and furthermore receive and file the minutes of the Library Board meeting held on September 15, 2022 and the Election Commission meeting held on October 17, 2022
- To open the public hearing on the 2023 Budget.
- To close the public hearing.
- That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

RESOLUTION PASSED

- (1) approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 125690 through 125889 in the amount of \$949,472.51 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) . approve payment to Oakland County in the amount of \$5,713.50 for fees relative to the CLEMIS computer system utilized by the Police Department. (3) approve payment to Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc. in the amount of \$18,346.20 for professional services during the month of September 2022 for the following projects: Beaconsfield Resurfacing, Misc. Concrete Repair, Sanitary Sewer FCIPP, Storm Sewer Repair, Joint Crack Sealing, Sanitary Sewer Cleaning, Basketball Courts, Eastland Center, Danbury Lane, Kelly Road Gas Main, Water Service Material Investigation and 2023 User Charge. (4) . approve payment to Municipal Emergency Services in the amount of \$5,862.84 for the purchase of two sets of turnout gear. (5) . approve payment to Uni-Dig, Inc. in the amount of \$5,040.00 for leaf disposal in conjunction with the curbside leaf pickup program. (6) approve payment to Badger Meter, Inc. in the amount of \$21,521.36 for the purchase of new 5/8" Orion automatic read water meters. (7) . approve payment in the amount of \$25,150.00 to Guardian Sewers for their assistance with water main breaks at several residential locations. (8) . approve payment to Michigan Supreme Court Finance in the amount of \$5,399.07 for software support on the district court's computer system. (9) . approve payment to the State of Michigan in the amount of \$6,657.93 for the city's annual water supply fee. (10) . approve payment to SAFEbuilt, LLC in the amount of \$42,175.80 for the contractual building department services performed during the month of October 2022.
- adopt the Tax Levy Resolution set forth on page 1 of the budget document hereby establishing the following tax rate for 2023.

General	19,2617
PA 359	.2060
Refuse	2.4573
Milk River Drain	12.000
Library	1.8458
Debt	.7500
Total	36.5208
- to approve the Budget Adoption and Appropriation Resolution found on Page 2 of the budget document, thereby adopting the 2023 Budget as presented.
- in accordance with Milk River Intercounty Drain Assessments, Chap. 21, 1956 PA 40, as amended and its obligations under the Michigan Drain Code, Harper Woods City is mandated to levy 12 mills on all taxable properties in the City to fund the Milk River Intercounty Drain Assessments on its tax bills dated December 1, 2022.
- to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Harper Woods and the TPOAM DPW Union for retention bonuses in the amount of \$2,400.00 for the members of this bargaining unit and also extend retention bonuses in the amount of \$2,400.00 for full time exempt employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement and \$1,000.00 for part-time employees with ARPA funds being used.
- to approve payment in the amount of \$53,656.23 to Great Lakes Contracting Solutions LLC for the emergency concrete repair on Vernier Road.
- to accept the estimate submitted by Guardian Sewers in the amount of \$7,000.00 for the labor required to install the 12" gate valve box on Vernier Road and further to accept the estimate submitted by EJ USA, Inc. in the amount of \$3,056.58 for the parts needed for this installation.
- to approve the transfer of \$46,679.58 for Miscellaneous City Services, \$13,963.00 for Special Pickups and \$3,232.00 for Meter Replacements (total of \$63,874.58) to the 2022 Winter Tax Roll as proposed and submitted by the acting Treasurer.

Valerie Kindle, Mayor **Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk**

Published: GPN, December 1, 2022

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