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Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 83, NO. 52, 30 PAGES
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DECEMBER 29, 2022
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

GPPSS recount wrap-up

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — Missing ballots that prevented one precinct in Grosse Pointe Woods from being included in the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education recount could not have been counted, the Grosse Pointe News has learned.

According to Woods Clerk Paul Antolin, those 20 ballots included write-in votes, rather than votes for up to three of the 10 school board candidates.

“They were properly accounted for on Election Day, but ended up being put back in the tabulator rather than a sealed container,” Antolin said. “But they didn’t have any school board votes on them.”

Under state law, a write-in vote can only be counted as valid if it names a person who officially declared themselves a write-in candidate and filed the proper paperwork. There were no such filings in the most recent board race.

“It was a technical violation, but it wouldn’t have changed the out-

come,” Antolin said. “It was human error.”

In other words, no matter how many write-in votes there were, those could never be part of the official results.

Antolin explained when ballots are fed into a tabulator, any containing write-in votes are diverted to a separate bin while the rest are counted and continue into a ballot container. Once the write-in votes are examined, the ballots are supposed to be added to the ballot container, which is then sealed. In this instance, 20 ballots in Precinct 3 were accidentally put back into the tabulator.

The sealed ballot containers are delivered to the county clerk in the event of a recount, but because of the missing 20 ballots, the total number of ballots for the precinct did not match the polling book,

See GPPSS, page 9A



PHOTO BY RANDY REPICKY

HAPPY HOOOOO YEAR!

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Randy Repicky recently captured this beautiful screech owl, pictured above, taking up residence in an owl box he set up in his backyard in late fall. Repicky posted his shot on social media this month, calling it “beginner’s luck” in getting an owl to roost so soon after hanging the box. The photo also made the cover for the Michigan Bird Watching Facebook page, which has 19,000 members. Since then, more Farms residents have reported numerous owl sightings, with some hearing the owl’s familiar vocalizations. So who knows? Maybe you’ll be lucky enough to see one of these beauties around town in the new year. As for all of us preparing for New Year’s Eve celebrations this weekend, word on the street is that our wise, feathered friends don’t give a hoot about making any big party plans on Dec. 31 – they’ll just wing it.

2022 IN REVIEW

A year of numerous efforts in Farms

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Beyond spending the majority of the year on its ongoing master plan update, the Farms tackled emergency Lakeshore seawall repairs, struggled

through repeated delays on Fisher Road construction and welcomed new K-9 Officer Rocco.

It also began exploring the creation of a historic district at Kercheval and Fisher, and saw the soft opening of The War Memorial’s Fred M. Alger Center for the

Arts, Culture and Humanities.

This is the year in review.

January

◆ Andrew Rogers is named deputy director of the Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety Department, filling the

role after John Hutchins was appointed director following Dan Jensen’s retirement.

◆ The Farms public safety department transitions its public safety officers and dispatchers from eight-hour to

See FARMS, page 2A

2022 IN REVIEW

12 months of change in Woods

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — A new city clerk, changes to the city’s charter and new spruce trees at city hall marked a year of change in the Woods.

This is the year in review.

January

◆ Public Safety Director John Kosanke presents an idea at the first council meeting of the year to start a “lease-to-buy” rifle program for officers. The

city would buy each officer a new rifle sighted and designed specifically for each of them. The money would be paid back through paycheck deductions over two years and the officer could purchase the rifle for \$1 upon retirement.

◆ A COVID time bank program started in 2021 is renewed for the year. Employees were given 80 hours of paid, pandemic-related medical leave in 2021, but that time is lowered to 40 hours for 2022 based on new CDC guidelines that reduce the

amount of quarantine time after a positive test.

◆ Public safety officers are called to a hockey tournament at University Liggett School due to an altercation in the parking lot. The argument was about performance during one of the games, with one person claiming the other person pulled out a gun. A search of the person and vehicle found no weapons.

February

◆ The Grosse Pointe

See WOODS, page 3A

Honoring Park members of SRT

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Two public safety officers with backbones made of guts and fortitude earned double dose of done-good for helping capture a barricaded gunman two months ago in Harper Woods.

Park Sgt. Kevin Remus and Officer Brady Baetens, both members of the Eastern Wayne County Special Response Team composed of officers from all five Grosse Pointes and

Harper Woods, deployed with the squad Sept. 2, to a domestic violence incident at a house in Harper Woods.

Danger escalated into a gunman shooting two people to death and, bearing a .38-caliber revolver, lying in wait in the basement for police.

“With no regard for their personal safety, members of SRT, including Sgt. Remus and Officer Baetens, bravely breached the front door of the home and made

See SRT, page 5A

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2022 Pointers of INTEREST

The Grosse Pointe News congratulates our 2022 Pointers of Interest.

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Farms gets AAA on its 2022 audit

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Yet again, the Farms received an unmodified audit opinion for the year ending June 30, 2022, meaning its statements are all in compliance with the rules and regulations.

“Overall, the audit went very well,” said Bill Brickey, CPA, with Plante Moran. “The city continues to do an outstanding job managing the finances of the city. Clean audit. No issues. No findings.”

In the city’s general fund, it brought in \$17.8 million in revenue over the year and sent out \$18.8 million in expenditures, leaving a decrease

of approximately \$1 million and setting the end-of-the-year fund balance at \$5,682,029.

While 74 percent of the city’s income comes from property taxes, the Farms did gain an additional \$200,000 in state shared revenue this year as a result of its 7.1 percent population growth reported in the 2020 Census.

“And in building permits we had about a \$61,000 increase over the prior year,” Finance Director/Treasurer/Controller Tim Rowland added, “so we’re back to pre-COVID levels and then some with building permits.”

The majority of the year’s spending went to capital projects, includ-

ing a fire truck and three patrol vehicles for public safety; a bucket truck and pickup truck for public works; repaving the north end of the Pier Park parking lot; improvements to the planters in The Hill district; HVAC maintenance at city hall; and the design of a new citywide phone system, which is soon to be implemented.

Not to be left out is the \$1.6 million spent on road improvements — and brought in via the first year of the voter-approved road millage — primarily to Kerby and Manor, as well as another \$1.6 million toward water and sewer projects such as the Kerby water main and a replacement pump in the water filtration

plant.

A hot topic among most city audits, the market for pensions and other post-employment benefits, or retiree healthcare, took a hit this year, according to Rowland.

The city’s percent funded of its total liability dropped in every category:

- ◆ From 97 percent to 81 percent in general pension,

- ◆ 124 percent to 104 percent in public safety pension,

- ◆ 61 percent to 56 percent in general retiree healthcare

- ◆ and 60 percent to 51 percent in public safety retiree healthcare.

The city does still meet the state’s requirements for a minimum of 60 per-

cent funded in pension and a minimum of 40 percent funded in retiree healthcare.

“Even though we saw these numbers drop, that’s something that was nationwide,” Rowland said. “We’re still really setting the bar for cities in Michigan. Particularly, there are a number of cities that are still at zero percent and are as big as you go for healthcare, so us being 50 is a really, really good sign.”

When it comes to the audit for the year ending June 30, 2021 — and for the 29th year in a row — the city has received the Government Finance Officers Association’s Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial

Reporting. It also was honored for its popular financial statements for the 11th consecutive year.

“Some residents may question ... this is great, but what does it mean to me?” said Lev Wood, councilman and chair of the audit and budget committee. “Well, one thing that’s very, very important is that if we have a continuation of clean audits, this helps to ensure that we have the very best AAA bond rating. Which means when it comes down to financing important infrastructure projects, that we’re going to get the very best interest rates, which translates to lower cost to our residents. So that means we get the best bang for our buck.”

FARMS:

Continued from page 1A

12-hour shifts for the first time in recent memory.

- ◆ Brandon Coats joins the Farms as the newest public safety officer in its department.

February

- ◆ More than 60 of the one-way signs that have littered a stretch of Lakeshore between Warner to just past Moross since October 2020, are removed.

- ◆ A suspect wanted for cutting a victim’s throat is successfully tracked by K-9 Officer Duke and his handler, Tim Harris, to an open, abandoned and empty garage in the 5000 block



K-9 Officer Duke rests in the grass after performing his last demonstration before retiring.

of Three Mile, where he is found hiding beneath a brush pile.

- ◆ City council commences a master plan update, which will guide the Farms for the next 20 years.

- ◆ Residents in the Farms and City wake up with little to no water in their homes following a Fisher water main break, which was exacerbated because of its adjacent location to a 20-inch arterial Ridge main.

March

- ◆ Using \$750,000 earmarked in the state’s fiscal year 2022 budget, plans begin to form for the reconstruction of up to 16 significant voids along the Lakeshore seawall.

- ◆ Public safety seeks the community’s assistance in identifying a suspect wanted for home invasion into three American House Grosse Pointe Cottage senior living apartments.

- ◆ A 13-year-old

TRAC Program.

- ◆ A 16-inch water main break in Detroit along Mack — releasing an estimated 4,000 to 5,000 gallons of water per minute — sends rivers of water down Bournemouthe, Roland and Allard.

April

- ◆ Four Farms officers and two civilian employees — Officer Derek Lazarski, Parking Enforcement and Animal Control Officer Mark Jacob, Officer Tim Harris, Officer Richard Rosati, Civilian Inmate Dispatcher Sue Stephens and Parking Enforcement Specialist Charity Vanover — are honored during a council meeting for their extraordinary acts in the line of duty last year.

- ◆ The annual 2021 public safety report shows the city’s only incident of major violent crime last year was an unarmed robbery at a Kercheval business.

- ◆ The Farms is the first Grosse Pointe to withhold its Highland Park debt charges, joining other communities in an attempt to get the state’s attention on the undue burden.

- ◆ Through a \$150,000 partnership with the Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation, the city announces plans to construct a new play structure at the entrance of Pier Park come fall.

- ◆ A Royal Raindrops crabapple tree is planted outside the department of public works in recog-



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Pier Park gets a new playground thank to fundraising by Farms Foundation.

inition of Arbor Day and in honor of Mark Nesler, a DPW worker who unexpectedly passed away.

May

- ◆ With the FishFly Café closing and no one stepping forward to run the concessions at Pier Park, the city plans to bring in food trucks as its plan B.

- ◆ Coming from a 10-year career with the Utica Police Department, Officer Bryan Orłowski is the newest member of the Farms public safety department.

- ◆ After a five-year run as director of finance and operations, Debra Peck Lichtenberg announces her resignation and planned move to finance director of Royal Oak.

- ◆ The War Memorial announces its coming sculpture, “Les Braves II: At Water’s Edge,” which next year, will grace the lakefront lawn and pay homage to the Normandy landings of June 6, 1944.

- ◆ At the last moment,

Valentina Elezaj steps up to run the Pier Park concession stand for the summer, renaming it Pier Houz.

- ◆ Council passes an ordinance amendment allowing polling places to be located outside precinct boundaries.

June

- ◆ Amid 12 vehicle break-ins overnight in the City, Farms and Park, six were Chevy Malibus and Impalas. Chevys are targeted because of ease of access to their steering wheels, which are stolen to sell the airbags.

- ◆ After three years of unsuccessful attempts to garner state funding, the City and Farms are teaming up to tackle major road reconstruction of Fisher from Kercheval to Mack.

- ◆ As its website goes live, the Farms launches public engagement efforts for the first major update of its master plan since 2000.

- ◆ Cottage and Pierson are jointly renamed Henry Ford Medical Center — Grosse Pointe.

- ◆ The Valade trust

takes a former trustee to court for allegedly diverting trust assets to his own use.

- ◆ After serving the last seven years in Huntington Woods, Tim Rowland is hired as the city’s new finance director, treasurer and controller.

- ◆ City council approves an on-street dining platform at Cafe Nini, expanding its outdoor dining on the sidewalk.

July

- ◆ Fully recovered from an on-duty car accident in 2013, Charity Vanover is sworn in as a Grosse Pointe Farms public safety officer. The past three years, she has served as a part-time parking enforcement specialist for the city.

- ◆ A well-known and longtime Country Club of Detroit employee passes away after his vehicle strikes a tree, prompting the community to generously contribute to a GoFundMe set up to support his family.

- ◆ Lt. Tom Shimko and Detective Bryan Ford retire from the Farms public safety department.

- ◆ As its driver has a seizure, a vehicle collides with the brick wall at the United States Postal Service office on Mack, goes airborne before hitting a flagpole and comes to a harsh stop against the south side of the building. Two people in the parking lot and five cars are hit with falling debris, while a filing cabinet falls over onto a postal worker inside the building, but no serious injuries are reported.

- ◆ Beyond the \$750,000 earmarked in last year’s state budget to address Lakeshore seawall disintegration, an additional \$1.2 million in state funds is secured.

- ◆ Power outages in the City and Farms are

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Judith Van der Weg, cello & Robert Byrens, piano
Student Leaguer - TBA by Velda Kelly
Olga Yalovenko, soprano, with Yaroslav Gnezdilov, collaborative piano
Yalen Piao, piano

Park planning for a new marina

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Whatever improvements come to the municipal marina, the cost of doing so will be borne by boaters, yet with the say-so of their fellow residents.

Although nautical hierarchy is upheld by crew members having sway over the wardroom, public marinas operate from the ground up. Skippers, normally the ultimate authority, are beholden to the masses.

It is thereby part of a written agreement between the city and Abonmarche Consultants, a company

based in Benton Harbor that specializes in marina design, to attend one in-person meeting with Park officials, three virtual meetings and plan a survey of resident wishes.

“Abonmarche will assist the city in preparation of a virtual survey, intended to seek input from the community regarding the future of the marina and its interface with the park,” according to the agreement.

A united Park council approved the terms Monday, Nov. 28. Abonmarche is being paid \$23,200 to fashion redesign of the marina at Windmill Pointe Park. “The marina infra-

structure is reaching the end of its useful life, as the most significant rehabilitation and construction occurred in the 1950s,” said Nick Sizeland, city manager.

Design work is expected to take eight to 12 weeks.

“The city asked (Abonmarche) to submit proposals for design renderings of what the future Windmill Pointe Park marina could be,” Sizeland said. “This work includes providing the city with multiple options to understand the cost of rehabilitation or a complete makeover of the marina.”

“This is the first step in getting a real pro-

posal instead of just, ‘We need to rebuild,’” said Councilman Tom Caulfield, a recreational sailor. “It needs to be brought up to code. That is a big task. (Abonmarche) will give us an in-depth of what could be done.”

Although the cost of the contract doesn’t threaten the marina budget — which contains about \$330,000, according to Jane Blahut, city finance director — paying out-of-pocket for a total harbor rebuild is impossible.

In May 2021, an evaluation of the marina by consulting engineers Hubbell, Roth & Clark found the 270-slip facil-

ity deficient. A replacement would cost an estimated \$10 million to \$15 million.

“We do not have the money on hand to do this right now,” Caulfield said.

“An enterprise fund supports the marina,” said Mayor Michele Hodges, “which means those dollars are restricted and funded by user fees, not tax dollars. It’s not the taxpayer that’s paying it. It’s the well-holders.”

“Funding will have to be charged to well-holders, a bond more than likely,” Sizeland said.

HRC faulted the condition of the marina’s

- ◆ finger docks,
- ◆ tight quarters and

navigation for larger watercraft,

- ◆ long distances between pilings,

- ◆ exposure of electrical transformers and panelboards to high water and splashing,

- ◆ insufficient number of light poles and

- ◆ lack of slips complying with Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility guidelines.

HRC’s engineering evaluation provided the basis for Abonmarche’s redesign.

“It’s part of project management,” Hodges said. “It leads to the creation of bid documents and financial planning. We have to understand what it entails and the funding needs.”

WOODS:

Continued from page 1A

Woods-Shores Little League becomes the first in Michigan to be able to live stream its games on Field 1 at Ghesquiere Park through an agreement with T-Mobile.

- ◆ A search begins for a new city clerk when Lisa Hathaway resigns after 28 years with the department. The move comes two months after Councilman Todd McConnaghy made a motion, which passed unanimously, to effectively force her hand at resigning or give the city power to terminate her.

- ◆ Two English bulldogs, Luna and Ore, are returned to their owner on Stanhope five days after they were stolen. Reports indicate a woman in a dark SUV took them from the front lawn and sold them to a man in Detroit

- ◆ City council approves a Grosse Pointe Public Library drop box be installed at city hall.

April

- ◆ The city’s code of ordinances is updated to be fully accessible online with clickable links to sections and diagrams.

- ◆ Colorado blue spruce pines standing 45 feet tall that graced the front of city hall more than 50 years are removed due to disease. They are replaced with 14-foot tall Norway spruce pines. The trees are expected to reach 60 feet and could live 150 years.

- ◆ Plans are unveiled to include a new tot lot as the city prepares to refurbish Chene-Trombly Park.

- ◆ Public Safety Director John Kosanke presents his 2021 report to city council, which shows an 18 percent increase in crime over 2020. Incidents increased from 446 to 525, but are still below the five-year average of 561.

- ◆ The city earns the Tree City USA designation from the Arbor Day Foundation for the 44th year in a row.

- ◆ Deputy City Clerk Paul Antolin is named city clerk following the February resignation of Lisa Hathaway. Antolin was named deputy clerk in 2018.

May

- ◆ Details are released for a planned overhaul of the Mack/Vernier intersection that will include black mast arms for traffic signals and elimination of left turns.

- ◆ Lt. Brian Conigliaro, Sgts. Brian Urban and Joseph Provost, and Officers David Empson, Jarrod Smith and Matthew Muzia are presented with life-saving awards for their involvement in various calls. Crossing guard Maureen Carter also is recognized for her efforts in protecting pedestrians at the corner of Roslyn and Wedgewood when she noticed a vehicle disregard her stop sign. Carter instructed the pedestrians to stay on the sidewalk and remained in the intersection before the vehicle finally stopped three feet from her.

June

- ◆ City council approves a deal whereby it would get a new rubbish truck from Grosse Pointe Shores in exchange for letting the Shores use the city’s sound stage four times at no cost.

- ◆ Council votes, as did several other municipalities in the area, to begin withholding payments to the Great Lakes Water Authority that were being used to cover the cost of Highland Park refusing to pay its debt.

- ◆ City council approves contracts with three bargaining units with four-year agreements for public safety command officers, dispatchers and public works. Council also approves \$1,000 recognition bonuses for all full-time employees, including department heads and \$250 bonuses for part-time employees. City Administrator Frank Schulte says the bonuses are for employee dedication during the pandemic.

July

- ◆ Permit requests to the building department by mid-year reach 3,280, up 360 from the same time frame in 2021. Department officials say 2020 and 2021 were record-breaking, attributing it to the number of people working from home during the pandemic.

- ◆ Two public safety officers are verbally attacked at an urgent care facility on Mack when one officer went there in uniform during his shift for a required medical test. The company that owns the facility said the employee was terminated.

August

- ◆ City council agrees to a contract with McKenna Associates to oversee the building department following the retirement of longtime Building Official Gene Tutag. The agreement pays McKenna 85 percent of the department’s annual revenue to handle building permits and inspections.

- ◆ The Flagstar Bank on Mack at Allard is robbed. Video surveillance cameras get a clear enough shot of the suspect’s face to allow federal authorities to obtain a search warrant on the man’s cell phone and he is located and arrested within days.

September

- ◆ The Grosse Pointe Public Library Woods branch reopens after 10 months of work that included energy-efficient lighting, a new configuration on both levels and installation of a DREAM

lab, which stands for design, record, experiment, access and make.

October

- ◆ AHEE Jewelers offers to pay the city some \$27,000 for lost revenue by covering nearly 900 parking meters in

November **Three year old Asher Sarnovsky picks a n d out a geranium for his mom at the December annual Mother’s Day sale.** as a way to thank the community for its 75th anniversary.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

- ◆ The Grosse Pointe Woods Foundation announces the new tot lot at Chene-Trombly Park will be named in honor of former educator and long-time resident Phyllis A. DeMars after her family offers to donate to the project.

November

- ◆ Voters approve a change to the city’s charter in the Nov. 8 general election, increasing the amount the city administrator can spend without council approval from \$5,000 to \$10,000. The measure passed with 6,700 yes votes and 2,581 no votes.

December

- ◆ Council approves

See WOODS, page 12A



Grosse Pointe Woods puts up a donation bin to collect items to send to refugees in Ukraine.

she saw walking his own English bulldog. Once media reports started circulating about the missing pups, the man returned them to the public safety department. The man said he did not want reimbursement, so owner Melissa Hamilton made a \$500 donation to the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society.

March

- ◆ Grosse Pointe North High School teacher Jonathan Byrne is named Adviser of the Year by the MASC/MAHC Michigan Student Leadership, a group committed to growing leadership in students and staff.

- ◆ An ordinance in place since 1952 requiring buildings to use colonial architectural elements is overturned after city officials agree it was difficult to define what is or is not colonial.



75
YEARS

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2022 Pointers of INTEREST

The Grosse Pointe News congratulates our 2022 Pointers of Interest.



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January 6



Linda Boyle
January 13



Lawrence Bennett
January 20



Phoebe Weinberg
January 27



Andreas Browne
February 3



Matt Lapolla
February 10



Chelsea Cousineau
February 17



Dr. Susan Grabowski
February 24



Andy Miele
March 3



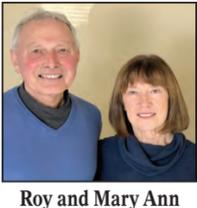
Nancy Monghan McCarron
March 10



Lily Morgan
March 17



Clark Durant
March 24



Roy and Mary Ann Thibodeau
March 31



Birgit Huttemann-Holz
April 7



Bill Fleming
April 14



Rachael Schroeder
April 21



Andrew Kolojeski
April 28



Micah Darnell
May 5



Brian Owen
May 12



Allegra Baistrocchi
May 19



Mark Sonnenberg
May 26



Marella Piazza
June 2



Erykah Benson
June 9



Corin Vance
June 16



Alex Blyth
June 23



Rosalie Bellanca Posselius
June 30



Kevin Nugent
July 7



Bryan Neumeister
July 14



Travis Doran
July 21



Tom Trueman
July 28



Coalter Smith
August 4



Susan Fishback
August 11



Robert Barlow
August 18



Suzy Lincoln
August 25



Karol Swenson
September 1



Maria Lograsso
September 8



Shannan McCarron
September 15



Shailee Simon
September 22



Massimo Todesco
September 29



Jonathan Aleardi
October 6



Lisa Kyle
October 13



Jen Brujtske
October 20



Margot Murphy
October 27



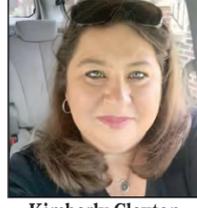
Sharon Peters
November 3



Scott Cooper
November 10



Tricia Kesteloot
November 17



Kimberly Clexton
November 24



Peggy Stanton
December 1



Kirsten Hibbs
December 8



Dr. Tom Graves
December 15



Mark Rieth
December 22

Nominate someone you know as a Pointer of Interest by emailing jmcveigh@grossepointenews.com with your nominee's name, the Pointe in which they live and a brief description of why you think they would make an interesting Pointer.



The future is bright, Grosse Pointe.
Here's to 2023.

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City of Grosse Pointe

Getaway driver

As a woman was in the process of pushing a cart full of \$385 worth of groceries out of a business in the 16000 block of Kercheval at 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19, she was confronted by the manager in the parking lot.

The woman then grabbed a case of energy drinks from the cart and fled.

A follow up investigation led to the identification of the getaway driver — a 47-year-old St. Clair Shores man — who was arrested, cited and turned over to the Macomb County Sheriff's Office, where he had multiple warrants.

Repeat customer

After being banned from a business in the 17000 block of Kercheval due to previous behavior, a 23-year-old Detroit man returned and was confronted by the manager at 10:35 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19.

The suspect became belligerent before leaving and was charged with trespassing by the city attorney.

— Laurel Kraus

Report information about these and other crimes to the City of Grosse Pointe Public

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Safety, (313) 886-3200.

Grosse Pointe Farms

Sportsmanship

A resident filed a report around 9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 23, that someone keyed and dented her 2022 gray Ford Explorer while it was parked at Grosse Pointe South High School the previous night during a basketball game.

Sloppy driving

A homeowner in the 200 block of Moross told officers around 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24, that a mail or delivery truck damaged bushes, grass and a sprinkler head along his circular driveway sometime in the previous few days.

Odd list

Three males, one white and two black, attempted to steal a container of laundry detergent pods and three bottles of liquor from a store in the 100 block of Kercheval around 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 25.

The cashier told officers that when she said she was going to call the police, one suspect

brought a case of bottled water to the cash register and paid for it while the other two put the items down and left.

Lost and found

The owner of a snow plowing company reported one of his trucks stolen around 1:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 26.

The 2006 red Ford SuperDuty had been secured Nov. 20 in the parking lot at Henry Ford Hospital on Kercheval.

Officers discovered it had been stored at an impound lot in Detroit after it was abandoned following an accident there Nov. 27.

— Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Converter theft

Someone removed the catalytic converter from a car parked overnight Friday, Dec. 18, in front a residence in the 1400 block of Berkshire.

Catalytic converters contain valuable plati-

num, palladium and rhodium. Thieves can sell catalytic converters for up to \$200 at scrap yards, according to various news reports.

— Brad Lindberg

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Bad to worse

A 27-year-old Roseville woman pulled over on Lakeshore for a defective headlight ended up with more than a ticket.

She was pulled over around 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27, after an officer noticed the passenger side headlight on her vehicle was out. She was ticketed for defective equipment, plus driving with no insurance and an expired registration. Her vehicle also was impounded.

Holiday hours

The entry gate to Osius Park was damaged sometime between 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 23, and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 25. Officers

are reviewing security footage for evidence.

— Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Crypto con

A resident reported around 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 20, that he had fallen victim to a phishing scam that cost him thousands of dollars.

The man told officers he met what he thought was a female on a dating app who convinced him to deposit \$15,000 into a crypto currency account and was then told he made a \$2,000 profit.

When he inquired about getting the money, he was told he needed to deposit more to receive it. He realized then he had been scammed and began stalling the unknown person in order to file a report.

One for four

A person or persons attempted to steal four vehicles overnight Monday, Dec. 19, to Tuesday, Dec., 20, coming

away successfully in one instance.

The unsuccessful attempts involved KIAs on Huntington, Manchester and Allard. All had broken windows and damage to the steering columns.

A 2022 Jeep Grand Cherokee was stolen from the driveway of a home on Stanhope. The owner told officers the vehicle was locked. Shattered glass was found in the driveway.

Small fire

A small house fire was reported around 3:40 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27, in the 19000 block of Linville.

The first officer on the scene observed smoke coming from the front door area and entered the house. He put out the fire in the dining room with a fire extinguisher. The homeowner said she smelled smoke while in her bedroom and remembered she left a lighted candle on the dining room table. She tried to put it out with a blanket but that also caught fire.

— Ted O'Neil

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

Vandals strike Woods home

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Windows were smashed and graffiti was spray painted on a house in the northern area of the city in the early morning hours of Saturday, Dec. 17.

According to Public Safety Director John Kosanke, the homeowners reported being awakened by two loud bangs around 2:20 a.m. They discovered two front windows broken and messages painted on the garage and driveway.

The messages in red paint read "(Name), if abortions aren't safe," and continue "Neither are you!" on the driveway.

The husband told police he saw what appeared to be two females get in a Toyota Prius and drive away.

The homeowners also told police they believe the actions are associated with a pro-choice group

calling itself Jane's Revenge that has left similar messages on pregnancy aid clinics around the country. The female homeowner is on the board of directors of Pregnancy Aid Detroit.

According to several media reports, graffiti also was discovered on the exterior of Pregnancy Aid Detroit, located on Eight Mile in Eastpointe, the same day.

Spray-painted messages there read "liars," "fake clinic" and "Jane's revenge."

Pro-life centers such as Pregnancy Aid offer pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, formula and diapers and seek to offer alternatives to abortion.

Kosanke said the matter has been turned over to the FBI. Federal authorities got involved because of a possible violation of the Freedom of Access to Clinic

Entrances Act, signed into law by President Bill Clinton in 1995.

FACE makes it a federal crime to physically obstruct the entrance to a clinic or to use force, or the threat of force or intimidate clinic workers or women seeking access to abortion or other reproductive health services.

— Ted O'Neil

SRT:

Continued from page 1A

entry," Jarrell told his city council Nov. 28. "In the basement, five SRT officers huddled behind a ballistic shield less than 10 feet from an armed suspect, pleading with him to drop his weapon."

As John Wayne's character explained his shooting of a Mexican bandito in the 1969 western, "The Undeclared," "(The) con-

versation kinda dried up." Jarrell told the Park council.

"Team members utilized a distraction technique and temporarily incapacitated the suspect using a non-lethal bean bag fired from a modified shotgun," Jarrell said.

Harper Woods officials feted the special response team Nov. 21, with its Department of Public Safety Meritorious Conduct Award.

"I wanted to acknowledge (Remus' and Baetens') contributions in

keeping all of us safe," Remus was unable to attend the meeting.

Baetens was there with his wife of two months, Amanda; his mother, Kim; and father, Bryan, also residents of the Park.

"Saying thank you seems inadequate, but thank you," Jarrell said.

"Thank you for all you do," Mayor Michele Hodges said.

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6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

New year, new you?

Grosse Pointers vow to make changes in 2023

When the Grosse Pointe News ran a poll last week (see right) asking for readers' New Year's resolutions, it's clear many of you think a change or two is in order.

Better finances? A new career? A stronger, thinner you? Or maybe you want to be like Ms. Patti LaBelle and get a new attitude? No matter what we hope to improve, the new year always seems to inspire us to at least hope for positive changes in our lives.

But how many of us make resolutions? Do they work? Why do some of us stick with them, while so many of us don't?

A November article on health blog insideoutmastery.com says 20 percent of all Americans head into the new year with at least one resolution, while 18 percent have at least two or more. But a whopping 62 percent of people don't even bother. Apparently, many people should resolve in 2023 to stop thinking they are so perfect.

But for those more humble souls looking for self-improvement, the research is somewhat bleak. A study from the Society for Personality and Social Psychology shows as few as 9 percent of Americans achieve their New Year's resolutions by year's end, providing a less-than-cheery outlook for those hoping to create a new habit or stop an old one.

Despite the fact the tradition of making New Year's resolutions reportedly dates back more than 4,000 years, research on why people actually fail at keeping them is limited.

Some research suggests that unsuccessful resolution-makers were more likely to self-blame or hope their problems would resolve themselves on their own, meaning they lack accountability. In contrast, having supportive relationships that hold you accountable continues to be associated with keeping resolutions as long as the two-year mark.

In short, if you try to keep your resolution a secret and try to go it alone, you are way less likely to succeed than if you let others in on what you are trying to achieve.

So what are some other ways you can set yourself up to succeed at your resolutions? Try the following:

◆ **Set realistic expectations within the actual goal:** Make sure you give yourself the time you need to incorporate small wins within the change you want to make. Making a resolution that's too wholesale or sweeping in nature likely is too difficult and eliminates your ability to celebrate the small victories.

◆ **Focus on becoming mentally ready to commit to change:** Research shows a positive attitude about a behavior change matters and people who practice visualization techniques also become more confident in their ability to progress toward their goal.

◆ **Go into the new year with a blank slate:** Instead of creating specific resolutions, commit to keeping a "posi-

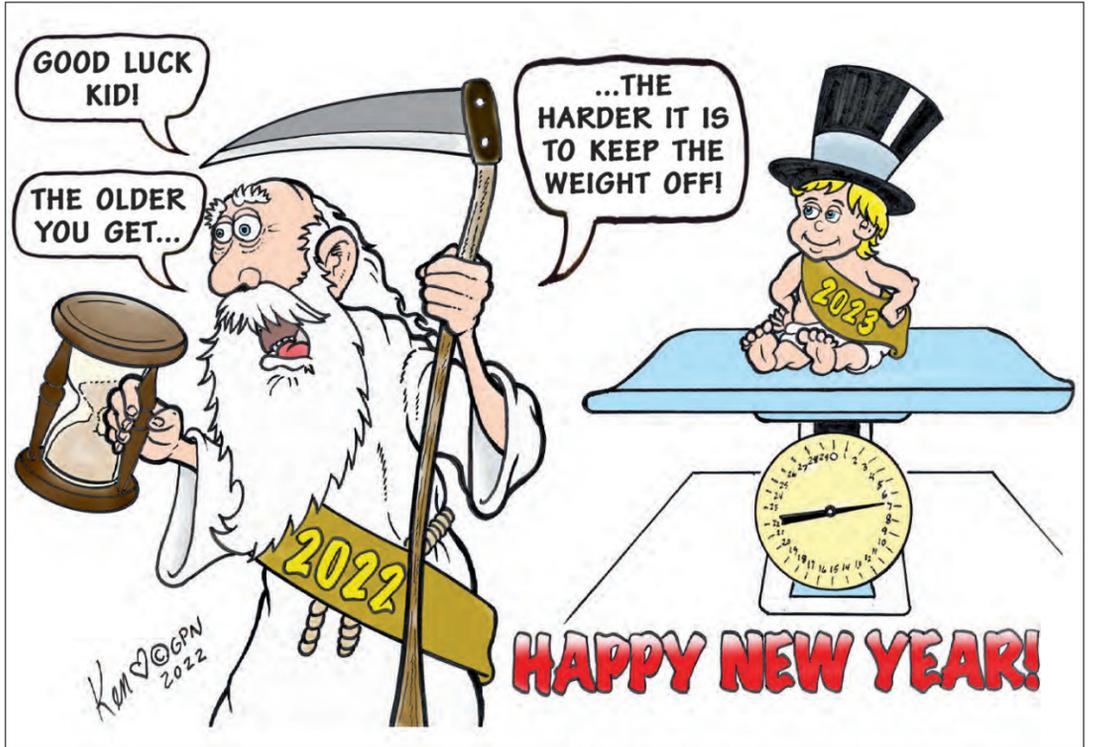


ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

Whether your resolution is to lower the number on the scale or make other self-improvements, we wish you and yours a healthy and prosperous new year.



...tive changes" list for a month. Collect all of the good practices you have done throughout January (examples include "I gave the dog an extra walk on weekends" to "I drank an extra glass of water every morning" or "I didn't order Starbucks and saved money," etc.). Then, assess which of those habits you can stick with for February and so on. This habit will help you focus on your forward momentum, not your failures.

So let's do this thing, Grosse Pointe. Let us know how you are doing in the coming weeks and write to us at media@grossepointenews.com.

What does 'Auld Lang Syne' really mean?

If you have had the occasion to watch the Christmas classic, "It's a Wonderful Life," chances are you try not to choke up in the final scene when the townspeople gather to celebrate and sing Auld Lang Syne (though for some of us, ahem, crying at the end of this movie might our favorite part.)

Chances are, too, that you know the tune but aren't exactly sure of the lyrics.

So what exactly is Auld Lang Syne? It's a Scottish song that many people sing at midnight on New Year's Eve that roughly translates to "days gone by." Its lyrics, which ask if "old acquaintance" should "be forgot," have been interpreted as a reminder to remember friends and experiences from your past.

We hope that our readers will remember the past fondly this Christmas, enjoy the present, and look forward to a great 2023. We also are giving you the lyrics, so you can impress friends and family by effortlessly singing along during the holidays:

Should old acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should old acquaintance be forgot,
And old lang syne?

(Chorus)
For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup of kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

And surely you'll buy your pint cup!
And surely I'll buy mine!
And we'll take a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

We two have run about the slopes,
And picked the daisies fine;
But we've wandered many a weary foot,
Since auld lang syne.

We two have paddled in the stream,
From morning sun till dine;

But seas between us broad have roared
Since auld lang syne.

And there's a hand my trusty friend!
And give me a hand o' thine!
And we'll take a right good-will draught,
For auld lang syne.

OUR VIEW

Ring out 2022

Welcome to our last edition of the Grosse Pointe News in 2022. We hope you enjoy perusing the pages we have dedicated this week as part of our Year in Review theme, as we look back on all of the big happenings and newsworthy events that took place the last 12 months.

At the paper itself, we saw some significant changes — a new publisher, new features, new content, new designs, new contests and a huge award: the 2021 Newspaper of the Year, awarded by the Michigan Press Association.

In the news, cities wrestled with developing master plans and the challenges of road construction, sewer and seawall repairs. Our public safety officers came together to put out dangerous fires, help animals in peril, catch car thieves and keep our community safe.

Our schools graduated more than 700 students, many of whom headed to schools across the country, prepared to learn a trade or enlisted in the military. The Pointes also had a national champion robotics team, national merit semi-finalists, award-winning soloists, choirs and musicians that had our town talking.

We brought you in-depth coverage of the midterm elections, including our local Board of Education race, the sale of the old school administration building at 389 St. Clair and the plans and activity surrounding a new

See REVIEW, page 7A

GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST							December 29- January 4
THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	4 Expect More.
48° 42°	50° 38°	44° 38°	46° 35°	46° 38°	52° 36°	42° 33°	
Cloudy	Showers	Rain Likely	Chance of Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Rain Likely	Mostly Cloudy	
0%	60%	70%	40%	0%	70%	0%	
SUNRISE 8:01 am SUNSET 5:07 pm	SUNRISE 8:01 am SUNSET 5:08 pm	SUNRISE 8:01 am SUNSET 5:09 pm	SUNRISE 8:01 am SUNSET 5:10 pm	SUNRISE 8:01 am SUNSET 5:10 pm	SUNRISE 8:01 am SUNSET 5:11 pm	SUNRISE 8:01 am SUNSET 5:12 pm	

Weather data courtesy of Channel 4, WDIV Detroit • ClickOnDetroit.com

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LETTERS

Lawlessness not tolerated

Letter to Editor:

No matter where you stand on the abortion issue, we hope we can all agree that violence, acts of vandalism and death threats are unacceptable and do not reflect the values of the Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods commu-

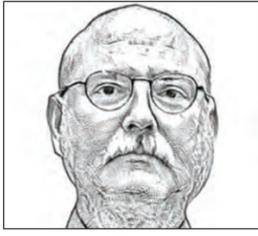
nities in which we live. Cowardly acts of vandalism against the home of a Grosse Pointe Woods resident on Dec. 17, 2022, purportedly in retaliation for the resident's support of a pregnancy aid organization, are repugnant and cannot be tolerated. There are many ways for us to

See LETTER, page 7A

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

I SAY By Ted O'Neil

Holidays mean family, fun and food, but mostly food



Every family enjoys unique or quirky traditions when it comes to holiday meals, but here's one you've probably never heard of. My family for years has enjoyed sub sandwiches on Christmas Eve.

It all started when my older brother and sister married their respective spouses and began spending Christmas Day with their in-laws. My mom decided she didn't want to keep going through the hass-

le of preparing a big dinner on Christmas Eve only to have tons of leftovers the next day for just her, my dad and me.

So she visited a local Italian market called Gaudino's on Harper in St. Clair Shores. It changed names and eventually closed, but is back open as an Italian restaurant under the original name and I highly recommend it.

We're not talking just turkey or roast beef subs here, but authentic Italian meats and cheeses like copicole, prosciutto, mortadella, provolone and mozzarella. Side dishes always include large green olives in oil and oregano (have to be quick on the draw with those before just the chunks of celery are

left), hunks of pepperoni sticks and fresh ricotta. Most people probably don't think of ricotta as something to eat by itself, but we love it with some pepper and salt. And of course there's always lots of La Florentine Torrone candies in the small, decorative boxes.

In a different twist, my daughter's fiance is a chef at his family's wedding and banquet facility in Traverse City. They spend so much of the year cooking for other people that his family usually goes with Chinese take-out for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

I lived in Midland for several years which has a large international community as home to the world headquarters of Dow Chemical. One

of my neighbors, Victor, is from Puerto Rico and he introduced me to a Christmas staple there called arroz con gandules, or rice with pigeon peas. It's usually served with chicken or beef.

Victor also introduced me to another Puerto Rican tradition called pitorro, which is their version of moonshine. Back in the day when families made their own rum, the revenooers would scan the hillsides for white smoke — which meant a still was running — and come to collect taxes.

Families would then cut the rum with things like berries, pineapple and coconut, and bury it for several weeks. The finished product was far more potent than the original and would last

longer, meaning fewer taxes paid.

We had some epic block parties each Labor Day weekend after neighbors would drop off their concoctions to Victor and he would bury them in his backyard for two months or so.

It's easy to make, too. Just pour a bit of rum from a fifth in a cup — to enjoy while making your pitorro — and let your imagination go. One year I did raspberries, blueberries and strawberries with a touch of vanilla extract. Another time it was lemons, a cinnamon stick and a dash of black pepper. And if you don't feel like digging a hole and actually burying it, stick it in a dark basement closet and let it sit for a few months.

Across the street from Victor was Carlos, a Brazilian who made the absolute best grilled tri-tip steak with a rock salt rub I've ever tasted. A plate of that was a holiday in itself.

When I lived in Georgia, I learned that black-eyed peas, greens and cornbread with ham was a New Year's Day favorite and thought to bring good luck. The saying is "peas for pennies, greens for dollars and cornbread for gold."

Hopefully you've been enjoying lots of family, fun and food during these holidays. And if you're hosting a get-together this weekend, please don't be one of those people who adds grape jelly to the BBQ mix for the tiny sausages.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1947

75 years ago this week

POINTE STORES HAVE BEST YEAR: Grosse Pointe merchants this year have done the largest holiday business, in most cases, in their entire history in Grosse Pointe, and invariably a larger gross trade than last year. This applies equally to stores of comparatively recent location to the Pointes and those which have been in business here for many years.

FUNDS SOUGHT TO ERECT HOSPITAL: The Sisters of St. Joseph, who are in charge of the new St. John's Hospital project, have issued a beautifully illustrated brochure descriptive of

its needs and its physical proportions and equipment when finished. The hospital is to be built on Moross Road just west of Mack over the Grosse Pointe Woods boundary line.

1972

50 years ago this week

GP THEATRE PRESENTS GIFTS: The Grosse Pointe Theatre celebrated its 25th season this year. In recognition of community support for the thespians, the group presented gifts totaling \$10,000 to six local institutions and organizations. Of highest priority was the presentation of four \$500 scholarships to the Pointe school system. The War Memorial and

St. Michael's Episcopal Church each received gifts of \$2,500, and gifts of \$1,000 were given to the Children's Home of Detroit, Bon Secours Hospital and Cottage Hospital.

DODGE LAND PURCHASED BY GROUP: Rose Terrace, the Farms mansion of the late Mrs. Anna Thompson Dodge, which has been up for sale since March 1971, has been sold to the Superior Lake Enterprises, for an undisclosed amount. The Detroit-area development group plans to convert the estate into a luxury condominium project, it was revealed by a spokesman.

1997

25 years ago this week

NORTH BAND PART

OF CITY-SUBURB BRIDGE-BUILDING EFFORT: In the spirit of the holiday season, the Grosse Pointe North High School symphonic band has joined other city and suburban singers and musicians in the recording of a CD that not only benefits youth programs but also serves as a bridge builder. "What a Wonderful World" is the second release by Detroit Police Chief Isaiah McKinnon and Friends. Tapes and CDs are being sold to east side residents at North. Proceeds benefit the Police Athletic League.

TRAFFIC STUDY OFFERS SOLUTIONS TO WOODS WOES: A SEMCOG study of two high-volume traffic areas along Morningside and Vernier found that while congestion in the two areas was high, they could not be classified as

"high-crash" areas — a conclusion that disappointed some Woods residents. The report, which offered possible solutions to traffic problems along Vernier and Morningside, was commissioned as part of an ongoing effort by Woods officials to alleviate the traffic congestion along those streets.

2012

10 years ago this week

GENTZ PLEADS GUILTY TO MURDER: "I killed Jane Bashara because Bob Bashara promised me money and threatened to kill me." With those chilling words, handyman Joe Gentz admitted his role in the January 2012 murder of Grosse Pointe Park resident Jane Bashara.

LETTER:

Continued from page 6A

publicly express our views on the issues that are important to us without resorting to violence, vandalism and death threats. When the criminals responsible for this reprehensible act are caught, they should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. While our views on some issues may differ, we all firmly believe that each citizen deserves respect. Lawlessness must never be tolerated here.

THOMAS S. VAUGHN
TODD A. MCCONAGHY
MICHAEL KOESTER
VICTORIA A. GRANGER
KENNETH GAFA
ARTHUR W. BRYANT
ANGELA COLETTI
BROWN
Grosse Pointe Woods
City Council

REVIEW:

Continued from page 6A

health clinic at Grosse Pointe North.

You read about interesting business owners in the Pointes, including tattoo artists and beer barons. You read captivating tales on expert local fishermen, a collegiate golfer, groundbreaking journalists and alumni who have come back to town to teach and coach.

You stayed up to date on local milestone anniversaries from churches like Crossepointe and Grosse Pointe Congregational, as well as Grosse Pointe Theater's 75th anniversary of bringing plays and musical productions to our community.

In sports, teams around the Pointes kept us on the edge of our seats with state championships in girls hockey and boys tennis at Liggett, and individual and

doubles state champions in boys and girls tennis at Liggett and South. South boys swim and dive followed up an outstanding third-place finish at states with being named national dual meet champions at season's end. We were engrossed in Grosse Pointe North varsity baseball's postseason journey, where the team nearly shocked the world with a state championship, but

fell just short in a tough 1-0 loss in the final game of the season against powerhouse Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

Throughout the year, you picked up the paper to read about new recipes, advice from our own Grosse Pointe Gabby, movie and wine reviews, Anna Lizer's humorous and helpful product recommendations in "We Tried It" and of course,

you couldn't wait to read your favorite comics each week.

As the year closes, we want to thank you for providing us so much news to cover. Our once sleepy little town slumbers no more and it seems as though every day is action-packed. We are wide awake and ready to bring you all of the fun and excitement that will take place in 2023, from throughout the Pointes. Happy New Year!

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8A | SCHOOLS

Liggett kindergarteners host auto show

It will be another decade before University Liggett School kindergarteners earn driver's licenses, but after months of

During the auto show, the young students presented their concept cars and the ideas behind them to friends, family and invited

such as looking at nature, building robots and working with instructors at the College for Creative Studies. They even polled their own families about what they liked and dislike about their current vehicles. Students also were encouraged to think about who would drive their concept car and for what reason: commute, recreation or travel.

As a ULS parent and trustee with experience in design, Jody Ingle was a collaborator from the start, offering insight and ideas to help this project go beyond a surface exploration of cars to an in-depth look at how the real-world process of car design functions.

"With the support from our contributors, these students have embarked on a semester-long journey, filled with field trips, subject matter experts and hands-on learning experiences to discover the magic and mystery of automotive design," Ingle said. "Through the immersive coursework of this project, the students have learned to express themselves through a creative process that is driven by the functionality of a product. Aesthetics, human factors, engineering and the environment have informed their design decisions through this project as they have sketched, etched, 3D printed and laser cut their ideas. Their growth in confidence, creativity and communi-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ULS

Asher Rotto get his picture taken in front of his Auto Show display.



Christian Torigian in front of his Auto Show display.

study, they can explain more about how a car is designed and engineered than most teenagers or adults on the road. The kindergarten class last Thursday hosted its own auto show to demonstrate what they've learned.

guests. The project started as a simple question, but quickly morphed into an in-depth look at car design and finished with students designing their own cars. Students completed a variety of tasks in preparation for designing their cars

cation has been tremendously rewarding to witness."

The kindergartners have had multiple opportunities to work

with designers, engineers and artists from prominent metro Detroit businesses, including Ford Motor Co., College for Creative

Studies, and AutoWeek magazine. They also visited the Ford Piquette Plant, Ford S Studio and Stahl Automotive Collection.



Isabel Elsey shows off her car design.



Zoe Crisan explains her project.

What's Old Is News Again!
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Weertz, Herd and Lee say goodbye

Michael Hart
 Schools Reporter

At the Dec. 19 GPPSS board of education meeting, administration members and board members expressed gratitude to board president Joseph Herd, board treasurer Margaret Weertz, and board member Dr. Christopher Lee as they attended their last board meeting. On Jan. 1, they will cede their board seats to Sean Cotton, Ginny Jeup and Valarie

St. John, the three candidates who won the most recent GPPSS board of education election.

Throughout the speeches made about the outgoing board members, Weertz, Herd and Lee's dedication to the school district was universally discussed through the context of the number of years they served on the board.

Board president Herd was appointed to the board in Jan. 2020 and

then elected to fill the remainder of the term in Nov. 2020. Board member Dr. Christopher Lee was elected to the board in Nov. 2018. Board treasurer Margaret Weertz, the longest serving outgoing board member, was elected to the board in Nov. 2014. It was later noted by Superintendent Dr. Jon Dean, that because of Weertz' long tenure of service on the board, she has held all four of the board's officer positions at least once.

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.

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Grosse Pointe News

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COMMUNITY CHOICE REALTY

Bond fund projects approved

By Michael Hartt
Schools Reporter

At the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting Monday, Dec. 19, the board unanimously approved two projects: a renovation of Pierce Middle School's plaza and a renovation of Grosse Pointe North High School's kitchen. The Pierce plaza renovation

includes site work of \$293,881, site work allowances of \$20,000, construction management fees of \$12,282 and owner-controlled contingency of \$26,000, all resulting in a total cost not to exceed \$352,163. Secretary Lisa Papas said she is excited for this project to commence, as it has implications that will further the inclusivity of GPPSS

toward those with physical disabilities. "I think one of the most important parts of this project is that it will help make us make this ADA compliant so that anybody can access (Pierce). I think it's really important and there is a significant cost sometimes to doing that," Papas said. "But I think it is very important to do whatever we can to

make these old buildings, that have been around for so long, accessible to everybody." The North kitchen renovation includes hard costs of \$404,348, construction management fees of \$213,710 and owner-controlled contingency of \$50,000. The total cost for the North Kitchen project is not to exceed \$668,058,

although \$153,057 of this total was approved by the board at its Nov. 28 meeting. Board member Christopher Lee expressed his enthusiasm for the project and spoke to the unorthodox approach the board took to approve facets of the renovation so the district could save money. "This North kitchen (project) sort of typifies

what we've been up against with the bond money and all these repairs," he said. "This board approved the cooler several weeks ago, because the cost of those gigantic coolers keeps going up and up and up and up. So I'm obviously in favor of this. (This project) just shows the way the Facilities Committee has been working all this time (to) do what we can (to) get ahead of the curve, get ahead of supply chain issues (and) get bids when they're likely to be lower."



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above, Fall North student athletes Scott Cooper, Lillian Deskins, Douglas Graham (Max), Gruhith Yerramalli, Kaiden DePascale and Daniel Michael.



Grosse Pointe athletes honored

At the GPPSS board of education meeting on Dec. 19, student athletes in both the fall and spring seasons from both Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South were honored.

Left, Spring North student athletes, top row, Ryan Liagre, Steve Plieth, Brennan Hill, Luke Shanley, Rocco Cardinale, Josh Stevens, Ben Praet, Brady Beers, Ben Suarez and Kevin Shubnell. Bottom row, Cameron Schafer, Drew Hill, Jordan Arseneau, Nick Jarackas, Shane Armbruster.

Below, Spring South student athletes Eric Brieden, Charlie Gmeiner, Christina Noland, Savannah Spangler, Morgan Deenik, Brendon Downing, Charles (Chaz) Baliatico, Logan Detweiler and Mark Sonnenburg.



Left, Fall South student athletes Charlie Gmeiner, Eric Brieden — Brownell student Teddy Gmeiner (third from left) joined his older brother on stage — Christina Noland, Logan Detweiler, Savannah Spangler and Mark Sonnenburg.



GPPSS:

Continued from page 1A

meaning the precinct could not be recounted. Results on election night showed Sean Cotton, Valarie St. John and Ginny Jeup taking the top three spots for three open seats on the board. When the Wayne County Board of Canvassers certified the votes Nov. 22, Jeup led fourth-place finisher Tim Klepp by 15 votes, 9,889 to 9,874.

Klepp petitioned for, and was granted, a recount which began Wednesday, Dec. 14. When it ended Monday, Dec. 19, Jeup's margin of victory was four votes, 9,899 to 9,895.

"It certainly was an experience," Jeup said. "It took a lot of time and energy, but I've never felt more supported. This isn't a win just for me, but for the community."

Wayne County Director of Elections Gregory Mahar said it will take a few weeks to determine how much GPPSS owes the county for the recount. The amount is based on the hourly pay rates of each of the more than a dozen county employees who worked on the recount and how many

hours it took, including any overtime. Cotton, St. John and Jeup will join sitting board members David Brumbaugh, Ahmed Ismail, Lisa Papas and Colleen Worden at an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4, at Brownell Middle School. Members at that time will select a new board

president and other officers and determine who will serve on the facilities and policy committees.

Current President Joe Herd and Trustee Christopher Lee lost their bids for re-election, while Treasurer Margaret Weertz chose not to run for a third term.

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Teens with a permit or license are eligible.
www.teenstreetskills.org

Grosse Pointe News

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Happy

It's the time of year to reflect on what's important, what our goals will be and how we want to impact the world around us. It's the time of year we especially think about you, our community, and what you mean to us.



Sean Cotton
Owner
GROSSE POINTE NEWS



Anne Gryzenia
Publisher
GROSSE POINTE NEWS

Pictured with the Gryzenia family



Jody McVeigh
Editor in Chief
GROSSE POINTE NEWS



Meg Leonard
Associate Editor
GROSSE POINTE NEWS



Olivia Monette
Strategy/Development Dir.
GROSSE POINTE NEWS



Mile Adzima
Writer, Sports
EDITORIAL

Pictured with dad Mike Adzima, left, and mom Jill Adzima, center



Kyla Bazy
Obituary Writer
EDITORIAL

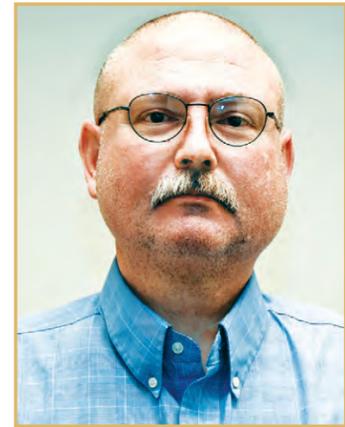


Laurel Kraus
Writer
EDITORIAL

Pictured with best buddy, baby nephew Theodore



Renee Landuyt
Photographer
EDITORIAL



Ted O'Neil
Writer
EDITORIAL

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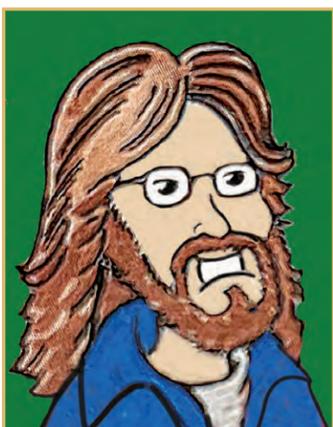
New Year!

Though our specialties are varied, every GPN staffer has the same intention: To bring our very best work to you each week, every year

so that the Grosse Pointes remain informed, connected and thriving. We raise a toast of thanks to you for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2023.



John Pigott
Technology/Design
IT/CIRCULATION & PRODUCTION



Ken Schop
Manager, Cartoonist,
Design
PRODUCTION



David Hughes
Design, Photo Toning,
Classified Section
PRODUCTION



Mary Schlager
Design
PRODUCTION
Pictured with Sissy



Donna Zetterlund
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Brad Lindberg - *Writer* and Kristin Duus - *Circulation/Subscriptions*

12A | NEWS

FARMS:

Continued from page 2A

said to be attributable to aging DTE Energy infrastructure unable to handle the load on the system.

August

◆ 34.22 percent of registered voters in the Farms take part in the primary election, with three precincts housed at Grosse Pointe South High School.

◆ The harbormaster at the Grosse Pointe Club rescues a kayaker who capsized in Lake St. Clair.

◆ A lethargic driver sues public safety for treating him as a possible drunken driver while he claimed to be suffering a medical emergency.

◆ K-9 Officer Duke will retire at the end of September after eight years of service.

◆ Fundraising commences for a new K-9 officer in the Farms. \$250,000 is needed to fund the career life of a police dog.

September

◆ With the remaining

popularity and convenience of Zoom proceedings, the court upgrades its audio system.

◆ Rocco, a 13-month-old Dutch shepherd, is selected as the Farms' next K-9 officer, alongside his handler, Officer Richard Rosati.

◆ Farms public safety hosts its first ever open house.

◆ The city enters into a memorandum of understanding with the Country Club of Detroit, allowing a force main to be constructed along the edge of its property as a major component of an upcoming sewer separation project north of Moross. In return, the city will construct a new raw water pump station and water line to deliver raw water to the CCD for irrigation purposes.

◆ Contracts for Farms patrol officers, dispatchers, parking enforcement specialists and fire specialists are re-upped for another three years.

October

◆ Irish Coffee Bar & Grill gains council approval to build a permanent outdoor dining pavilion in place of the current canvas tent.

◆ Property owners on The Hill propose a historic district at Kercheval and Fisher to be called the Kercheval Gateway Historic District.

◆ The War Memorial's new Fred M. Alger Center for the Arts, Culture and Humanities soft opens with the annual Veterans Day breakfast as its first event.

◆ The Farms leaves the liability insurance carrier it has employed for decades in favor of one providing \$10 million in sewer basement backup coverage.

November

◆ 70.18 percent of registered voters in the Farms turn out for the election.

◆ City council will begin posting recordings of its monthly meetings, as well as live streaming, for residents who cannot attend in person.

◆ K-9 Officer Rocco and his handler Officer Richard Rosati graduate from a six-week training course at the Police Canine Academy. Rocco enters duty in early December.

◆ The statewide con-

WOODS:

Continued from page 3A

spending \$80,000 to revamp lockers for the public safety department, which were original to when city hall was built in the 1950s.

◆ The city is recognized by the Government Finance Officers Association for the 49th consecutive year for excellence in fiscal reporting.

◆ The Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education approves building out a clinic in an unused science lab at Grosse Pointe North High School that will be run by Corewell Health through a grant from the Michigan

crete shortage delays Fisher Road construction, as well as emergency Lakeshore seawall repairs.

December

◆ A felon leads officers on a chase through Allard backyards in the middle of the night, after crashing into a tree while fleeing from offi-



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Jackson Schremp uses an inflatable dinosaur pool toy to slide down the hill at Grosse Pointe Woods Lake Front Park.

Department of Health and Human Services. Maximum cost to taxpayers could reach \$989,000.

◆ Grosse Pointe North High School is placed on a temporary lockdown after reports of an active shooter. Public safety

officers comb the campus and give the all-clear after 35 minutes. A 14-year-old female student is charged with making a false report or threat of terrorism and placed into the Wayne County Juvenile Court system.

ers attempting to pull him over because his vehicle had no working tail lights.

◆ The Farms will hold a second public workshop for its master plan update in January, allowing for further resident input before it is put before council for a vote.

◆ City administration

puts plans in motion to avoid a repeat of the Fisher Road construction delays during upcoming 2023 road work.

◆ Replacing a system not updated in 30 years, council approves a new phone system for city buildings, which will increase network reliability.

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2-4B BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS | 4B AREA ACTIVITIES | 5B OBITUARIES | 6B CHURCHES



William McVey's "The Hippo," during its last few days at Eastland Center. The sculpture, along with "The Lion and Mouse," was moved to Ascension St. John Hospital in October.

PHOTO BY
RENEE
LANDUYT

New home for old Eastland sculptures

Ascension St. John Hospital to debut pieces early next year

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

More than a few Grosse Pointers were overcome with nostalgia this fall when sculptures that for decades graced Eastland Center were seen "on the road," being transported to a new location.

That new location — Ascension St. John Hospital — plans to display the iconic artwork early next year in plain view of patients, staff and visitors.

Plans to rehouse Marshall M. Fredericks' "The Lion and Mouse" and William M. McVey's "The Hippo" began to take shape in fall 2021, as developers prepared for the demolition of the now-defunct Harper Woods shopping mall.

"In November 2021, NorthPoint Development knew the Marshall Fredericks and William McVey sculptures would be affected by the demolition," said Kevin Grady, M.D., president and CEO of Ascension St. John Hospital. "Through their connection with Marty Krall from Greater Development, a conversation began. This led to a partnership with the NorthPoint Development Foundation and Detroit Historical Society."

After NorthPoint Development and Kasco Construction carefully assessed the weight and size of the sculptures for proper placement on the hospital campus, the new additions were relocated in October. The sculptures were donated to Ascension and the hospital incurred the cost of moving, storage and planning. The Detroit Historical Society is providing restoration services, Grady said.

"Much work and



COURTESY PHOTOS

Marshall Fredericks' iconic "The Lion and Mouse" currently is in storage until it is placed in the center courtyard at Ascension St. John Hospital.

assessment had to be done to devise a plan to move these statues from their home," he added. "Due to the size of the lion's head, we actually used a portable X-ray machine to determine the best method for transport."

Currently in storage, Ascension has plans to display the sizable statues in its center courtyard.

"New landscape design will be facilitated with the statues' placement and we hope to collaborate with students from the Center for Creative Studies in that design work," Grady explained. "The statues are an Eastside legend and in that spirit, we hope to include as much Eastside participation in the journey to their new home as



McVey's hippo happily awaits its new home.

possible."

The hospital also is taking into consideration the statues' security so as not to repeat any unfortunate history. Not long after "The Lion and Mouse" was dedicated in 1957, the mouse was stolen from its perch at

Eastland.

In fact, multiple mice "disappeared" from the mall, but several accounts maintain that Fredericks kept a sense of humor about the thefts. In a 1981 interview, the artist noted, "... they were able so far to get six or seven

of those off of that thing and they have been replaced. ... I used to keep a little supply. I still have one mouse here in case they run out."

Though the original mouse was returned 50 years after its theft and gifted to the Detroit Historical Society by Eastland Center in 2007, Ascension plans to keep an eye on the icon at its new home.

"We have carefully chosen their placement with preservation in mind," Grady said. "The center courtyard of Ascension St. John Hospital is not fully accessible to the general public from the outside. It is fully visible along the main hallway of the hospital and it is a common spot for visitors and patients to rest and get

'The Lion and Mouse'

"The Lion and Mouse" was commissioned by the J.L. Hudson Company for Eastland Center, which was established in 1957, in Harper Woods. The lion is carved from limestone and the mouse is gold-plated bronze. The sculptor, Marshall M. Fredericks, based the piece on Aesop's Fable, "The Lion and the Mouse," in which a lion gets trapped in a hunter's net and the mouse gnaws the ropes, setting the lion free.

Like many of Fredericks' sculptures, he designed it specifically for children. Both animals are humanized with friendly facial expressions. The lion's reclining position and crossed legs are human-like, yet his huge round head is stylized with uniformly coiled ringlets and his knees are stylized and abstracted. These artistic intentions make the king of the jungle appealing to children and adults alike.

Source: Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum, marshallfredericks.org

some fresh air. "The area is under security camera surveillance as well," he added. "The proposed landscape design will elevate the sculptures for viewing and safety."

Grady said the hospital has received numerous phone calls about the sculptures since their relocation. Each call, he noted, is accompanied by childhood memories.

Several hospital associates shared their own stories:

"I have many memories with the sculptures. I took the first-day-of-school pictures with the lion every year from kindergarten to eighth grade."

"Growing up, a Sunday afternoon treat was a

See EASTLAND, page 6B

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BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS

The

ART

of wedding gifting

Whether as a present for the couple or a gift to one another, original art is becoming the wedding keepsake of choice for brides and grooms.

By Mary Wysocki
Guest Writer

If you are looking for something unique for the special couple, consider gifting art. Sound intimidating or are you unsure of where to start? Not to worry, here are some expert tips for choosing a gift brides and grooms will cherish.

A great place to start is answering a few easy questions. For example, what brought the couple together in the first place? Was it a shared passion for the outdoors or travel? Perhaps they spent a memorable holiday in Paris... you don't necessarily need a painting of the Eiffel Tower in that case, but consider buying something from a French artist to honor that special memory.

If the couple loves hiking, a landscape reminiscent of those adventures could be a great choice. Art is meant to evoke emotion, so focusing on what they enjoy will always set you on the right path to finding that perfect piece.

How do they express their style? What colors do they wear and use when decorating their home? Are they into mid-century modern or traditional decor?

Using their color story and style as your guide will most certainly guarantee success.

Consider all mediums. Paintings, sculpture, and photography are just a few options, and the art world is abundant with truly amazing creations of all kinds.

It's important to mention also that artists are happy to collaborate with buyers. If you find a particular artist whose work you like, reach out to them. If they are local, visit their studio.

Original artwork is affordable! You don't need to buy large works to make an impact. Small works are versatile and meaningful. They can be displayed on a bookshelf, hung in a cozy corner, or grouped with other pieces.

Budget is another reason to speak directly to the artist to learn more. If you fall in love with something that is outside your budget, a smaller size or a fine art print may be available as an option.

Finally, enclose a note to the couple explaining why you chose this gift for them. Above all else, the thoughtful consideration and meaning that went into selecting this gift is what matters most.



The romantic piece, above, by Norwegian artist, Edvarda, is created in a modern art deco figurative style. It would be a lovely wedding gift and become a timeless aesthetic focal point in the new couple's home.



The mesmerizing geometric work above, by artist Louise DeWeger, makes a great impact and could become a beautiful conversation piece at the home of the happy couple.



Natasha Barnes' lavish, vibrant abstract painting, above, is a gorgeous work, bringing harmony and color to daily life for couples enjoying newly-wedded bliss. The South African artist's works are inspired by her own travels, therefore could commemorate a favorite place for the couple.

A piece by Australian abstract expressionist Rowena Martinich, left, is a modern symphony of contrasting colors that any couple who enjoys contemporary design would love to have in their home.





The bold, colorful collages of New York artist Johanna Goodman, above, are smaller pieces that have big impact. These works could be a happy centerpiece of any room. A gift of art ensures that you'll be remembered fondly for years to come.

Nguyen Lam, one of Vietnam's revered masters of art, created the striking piece below. His work is rarer now and therefore highly sought-after. A wedding gift of original art is more than a gift, it's an investment that can actually appreciate in value over time.



Mary Wysocki, Owner
Paragon Art Collective, LLC

Paragon Art Collective was founded by Mary Wysocki to help people find original art that they love, even as an art novice. Paragon Art Collective provides art consulting services, curation services and artist business advisement. No need for mass-produced wallhangings, original works of art *can* be affordable!

Finding the right piece takes time and the art world can be intimidating, giving the feeling that good art is not within reach. Visiting galleries and negotiating the price of original art can be a time-consuming and stressful venture. Paragon Art Collective strives to get to know their clients, then listen and understand their needs. They'll present options that express who their clients are and what they love, to find a perfect match within any budget.

Paragon Art Collective is located in Grosse Pointe Park and can be reached at paragonartcollective@gmail.com and on Instagram @paragonartcollective.



A mixed media wall sculpture, above, with its flower-like shape, is a perfect way to honor the blooming love of the new married couple. This work is by Detroit artist, Amelia Currier.



The work of Detroit James Collins, above, with its intricate detail, adds style to any room and makes an ideal wedding present. Artwork with personal meaning is a gift that gives a lifetime of enjoyment and deepens the relationship between the giver and recipient. Look for art that has a connection to an event or location important to the couple.



The stunning fractile geometric painting by Australian artist Louise DeWeger, above, is a contemporary masterpiece that would enhance a couple's decor for decades. Both delicate and bold, it's a breathtaking statement for the home.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PARAGON ART COLLECTIVE

4B | BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS

AREA ACTIVITIES

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3, Triumphant Cross Church, 22310 13 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4, Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 6, Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward, Detroit.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 9, AMVETS Post 57, 19730 Harper, Harper Woods.

◆ 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10, Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 19950 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Register online at redcrossblood.org.

Library

The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts a

variety of programs. To register for the following, visit grossepointelibrary.org.

◆ Tech Savvy Tuesdays, 4 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ 1,000 Hours Wolf Moon Celebration, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 5, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Reader Dog Drop In, 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 7, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4. Alicia Carlisle, with Michael B's Cafe, will speak about this new nonprofit in Grosse Pointe Park that employs adults with special needs. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

GPAA

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association hosts "Imitating the Masters," oil-painting workshops with Donald Cronkhite. A John Singer Sargent portrait class takes place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 5 and 12. A Mary Cassatt portrait class takes place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 16 and 23. A Caravaggio portrait class takes place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, March 16 and 23. Cost is \$115 per class for members, \$135 per class for nonmembers, materials included. Visit grossepointeartcenter.org to register.

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association hosts "Acrylic Painting through Thick and Thin with Valerie Allen," from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14. Early-bird prices end Jan. 9. Register at grossepointeartcenter.org.

Mini Picassos

Mini Picassos, 21520 Harper, St. Clair Shores, offers a variety of classes and camps. To register, visit minipicassosstudio.com or call (313) 283-6710.

◆ Art O' Fun with Ms. Lucy, 4:15 to 5:45 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 5 to Feb. 7, for students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Cost is \$150 per artist.

◆ Tuesday Drawing Class with Ms. Heather, 4:15 to 5:45 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 10 to Feb. 7, for students in first through sixth grade. Cost is \$160 per artist.

◆ Toddler Art: Winter Edition, 10 to 11 a.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 11 to Feb. 8, for ages 18 months and older. Cost is \$110 per child.

Men's Club

The Men's Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next lunch and speaker meeting at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10. Todd Bettison, deputy mayor of Detroit, speaks. Men and women visitors are welcome to attend the meeting. Cost is \$20 at the door. To reserve a seat, email gmcatten@familycenterweb.org or call (313) 550-9661.

Tuesday Musicale

Tuesday Musicale of Detroit presents "Warm Musical Delights," at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10, at Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 19950 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Performers include Maria Meirelles, Judith Van der Weg, Robert Byrens, Olga Yalovenko,

Yaroslav Gnezdilov and Yalen Piao. Visit tuesdaymusicaleofdetroit.org.

Family Center

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods offers the following programs:

◆ Mindfulness Meet-Up, 3:30 to 5 p.m. for middle school students and 5:30 to 7 p.m. for high school students Wednesday, Jan. 11, at the Grosse Pointe Public Library Woods Branch, 20680 Mack. Students can visit stations on journaling, breathing, nutrition and healthy habits, stress reduction, essential oils and more.

◆ Preschool Playtime, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11, at The War Memorial art studio, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Structured playtime includes parachute games, songs, stories and more. Register by emailing maryjo.harris@familycenterweb.org.

◆ Estate Planning, 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18, at the Grosse Pointe Public Library Ewald Branch, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park. This interactive class is presented by Maura McKeever, owner and managing attorney at Trinity Estate Planning, LLC. Register by emailing maryjo.harris@familycenterweb.org.

The Helm

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

◆ The movie "Death on the Nile" is shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.

◆ Ballroom Dancing, 4 to 5 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 15 to May 1, with instructor Andreas Browne.

◆ Crocheting for Beginners, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 18 to May 3, with instructor Mary Vandyke.

◆ Wise Guys conversation group for men, 9 to 10 a.m. Mondays.

◆ Canasta Club, noon to 4 p.m. Mondays.

◆ 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.

◆ Watercolor Painting with Roselyn Rhodes, 2:30 to 4 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month. Cost is \$25 per class for members, \$35 per class for nonmembers.

◆ Walk with Ease, 1 to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Jan. 10 to March 9, with instructor Carolyn Braddt.

ENGAGEMENT



Nick Karwoski and Laine Maher

Maher—Karwoski

John and Kelly Maher of Grosse Pointe Farms announce the engagement of their daughter, Laine Maher, to Nick Karwoski, the son of Bear and Donna Karwoski of Moultonborough, N.H.

Miss Maher is a graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School and earned a degree in English language and literature from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She is an athlete at Hydrow Inc., in Boston.

Mr. Karwoski graduated from Groton School in Massachusetts and earned a degree in international business and management from Dickinson College in Pennsylvania. He also is an athlete at Hydrow Inc., and the founder and CEO of TAGALONG.

More information about the couple may be found at theknot.com/nickandlaine.

A September 2023 wedding is planned.

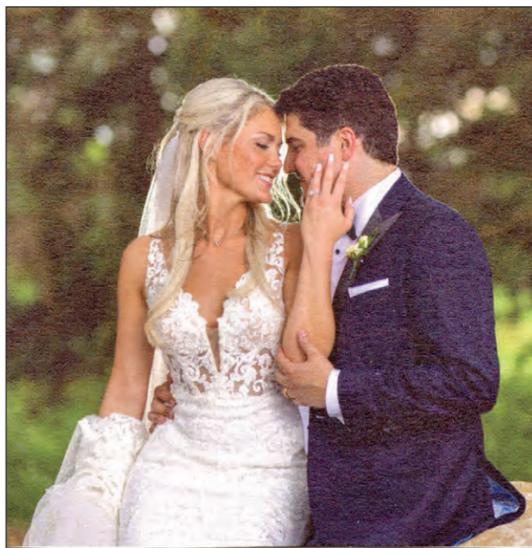
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WEDDINGS



Mrs. and Dr. Michael DiRezze

Czerniawski—DiRezze

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

The couple was married at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church. The officiant was Fr. James Power, a cousin of the bride. The reception followed at Shepherd's Hollow Golf Club in Clarkston.

It was a beautiful event and a wonderful time was had by all.



Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Berg

Gorenflo—Berg

Anna Dittrich Gorenflo and Spencer Andrew Berg were married Friday, Dec. 2, 2022, in a civil ceremony in Royal Oak, followed by lunch with immediate family at Parc restaurant in downtown Detroit.

The bride is the daughter of Dr. Daniel Gorenflo and the late Dr. Carole Wood Gorenflo of Northport. The groom is the son of Geoffrey and Susan Berg of Grosse Pointe Woods.

The couple met in 2020, and were engaged at Cranbrook House and Gardens in early 2022.

The bride sewed a heart-shaped piece cut from her late mother's wedding dress into her own gown, using blue thread from her maternal grandmother, the late Martha Gorenflo of the City of Grosse Pointe. She also wore her late mother's pearl jewelry and a bracelet from her great-great-grandmother.

The bride's sister, Caroline Gorenflo, served as maid of honor.

The groom's brother, Trent Berg, served as best man.

Other attending family members included the bride's father, Dr. Daniel Gorenflo; aunt, Sally Gorenflo of Florida; and cousins, Julia and Bob Boomer of Grosse Pointe Farms; as well as the groom's parents, Geoffrey and Susan Berg; and maternal grandmother, Nancy Sperry of Detroit.

The groom's cousin, Charles Benoit, a photographer, flew in from Los Angeles to capture the special day.

The bride is a 2008 graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School. She attended Western Michigan University and Eastern Michigan University, and is a preschool teacher at Christ Church Cranbrook.

The groom is a 2008 graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School. He earned a degree in sales and marketing from Western Michigan University in 2012, and works in sales for Allstate.

The couple reside in Royal Oak.

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November trends likely will carry through December

November housing data for 2022 has been released by the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors. The first observation is that the distress to the market caused by higher interest rates is obvious, although the significant drop in percent of asking price in Harper Woods is due solely to a liquidation, most likely by an investor seeking to eliminate an asset. This also played out in other areas of the mar-

ket where the number of homes for sale above \$300,000 in November (7 percent fewer homes in that price range sold) most likely led to the decline in median and average sale price. This means despite the market stress caused by the higher rates, the actual price of a home has not declined year over year. Additionally, absorption rates remain above 20 percent, suggesting the price of a home will

continue to climb, making now the best time to buy. Support for this is borne by what continues to be the strong list-to-sale price ratio above 97 percent and days on market remaining below 60.

Further, while we expect to see the trends noted above to continue in December, it also should be noted that as fewer units are in the data, the more likely outliers will significantly

impact the data, requiring more expert analysis by a real estate professional. Looking into 2023, it is likely the upward pressure on inflation caused by real estate will have significantly decreased, although how the fed will react to this information is unknown.

Finally, the complexities of the real estate market should be evident to anyone regularly paying attention to the

data. Resolving these complexities will require the assistance of a true real estate professional. Consequently, whether buying your first home, selling a home or both, you need someone who knows these market trends. We urge you to consult with a member of the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors.

Information provided by the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors.

Notes:

Inventory: The number of homes for sale at the beginning of each month, plus the number of homes listed during the month.

Pending sales: The number of accepted offers reported for the month.

Absorption rate: The division of the number of pending sales in a month by inventory. An absorption rate higher than 18.3 percent is considered a seller's market. An absorption rate lower than 15.3 percent is considered a buyer's market.

Goodfellows outreach



PHOTO COURTESY OF KENT COMMER

Pictured, from left, are Optimist President Dave Fries of the City of Grosse Pointe, Emmett Yglesias, Rick Pacynski and Grosse Pointe Optimist John Koski of Grosse Pointe Shores.

Two representatives from the Old Newsboys Goodfellows of Detroit celebrated Christmas with the Grosse Pointe Optimist Club at The War Memorial Wednesday, Dec. 14. Rick Pacynski of Grosse Pointe Park, vice president of the Goodfellows Board of Directors, and Emmett Yglesias of Grosse Pointe Farms, logistics director for more than 30,000 Christmas gift boxes donated by the Goodfellows to needy children ages 4 to 13, throughout the Detroit area. The pair brought sample boxes for girls and boys to exhibit their contents for the Optimists. Each child receives warm clothing, socks, underwear, toys, books, games, a dental kit and more. The Grosse Pointe Optimists raised more than \$1,600 this year to donate to the Goodfellows' "No Kiddie Without a Christmas" mission.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PETER MAXWELL

Tasty delivery

WXYZ-TV Channel 7 news reporter Peter Maxwell of Grosse Pointe Farms made a special delivery to the Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety Department Wednesday, Dec. 14. He dropped off several bags of Chick-fil-A to the department as "a thank you to the men and women in blue who protect our communities," he wrote.

Pictured from left are Detective Derek Lazarski, Fire Engineer Larry Stocking, Officer Jon Ross and Maxwell.



Dr. Efstathios George Metropoulos

time into their practice, including nuclear medicine and ultrasound, in the late 1960s and early 1970s, before CT and MRI.

In the 1960s, he opened a cutting-edge automated laboratory testing service similar to what occurs today, but during an era when all testing was manual and a CBC was still performed by microscope and a manual cell counter. Automated chemistry and other advanced analytical testing were also performed, which provided services to medical facilities throughout the state of Michigan, including larger institutions such as Michigan State University. Efstathios authored a manual on the interpretation of the biochemical panels and associated diagnoses.

In addition to their private practice patients, they established a computerized diagnostic center around 1970, which housed its own mainframe computer, years before PCs and the microchip. Patients were entered into the computer and assigned a photo-optical card that was inserted into each testing station, identifying the patient and sending all clinical data into the mainframe computer.

A computer-generated report, including computer-interpreted EKG, was mailed to the patient's physician. Teletype equipment and telephone couplers also could be installed at referring practices to receive reports via phone line, before the age of fax machines and emails. He would recall that his colleagues used to tell him that he was 20 years ahead of his time, and he would re-

spond, "No, you are 20 years behind the times."

After their first 30 years in practice and patients who were growing older, Efstathios launched one of the first physician home care services around 1992, providing medical care by a staff of physicians to homebound patients in their homes.

In his personal life, beyond his passion for medicine, Efstathios was an accomplished violinist, spoke several languages, enjoyed traveling the globe and was drawn to all academic interests. He was an avid yachter and hailed out of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and Detroit Yacht Club, serving as Fleet Surgeon of the Detroit Yacht Club for eight years. He also was a member of the Grosse Pointe Farms Boat Club and a charter member of the Renaissance Club. He particularly enjoyed this year on Lake St. Clair with the prolonged summer and 70-degree days into mid-November.

Most of all, he was an affectionate and caring husband and father who spoiled his family with unbounded love. Efstathios is survived by his three loving and devoted sons, Dr. George, Professor John and Dr. Peter Metropoulos. In addition to his wife Aspasia, he was also pre-deceased by his parents; his sister Helen Metropoulos; and his brother John Metropoulos.

The family is mourning privately. Efstathios' memory may be honored by spending time with loved ones and appreciating still having them in your lives.

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.

Kenneth George Schooff

Kenneth George Schooff, M.D., 87, passed away peacefully on Monday, Nov. 14, 2022, surrounded by his family at home in Chapel Hill, N.C. Ken had an infectious love of life and will be missed by many.

Ken was born in Grosse Pointe on March 24, 1935, to Harriet Schooff (nee Retzlaff) and George Theodore Schooff. He graduated from Denby High School and rarely missed a class reunion, having earned both his undergraduate and medical degree at the University of Michigan. Ken was a devoted fan of the Wolverines. But after completing his psychiatry residency at the University of North Carolina, Ken also made room in his heart to cheer for the Tar Heels. He then spent three years with the Air Force in England, starting in 1964.

Ken and his wife, Betsy, eventually settled in Grosse Pointe. Ken co-founded the Psychiatric Center of Michigan. He also served as president of the Michigan Psychiatric Society. He created the Psych-Med program at Ascension St. John Hospital, was the Medical Director of Natchaug Hospital in Connecticut and worked at various drug addiction centers in North Carolina.

Ken was a longtime member of the Lochmoor Club and he enjoyed travel, golf and bridge. He retired in 2020. Services will be held in the summer of 2023 at St. Paul on the Lake in Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich.

He was predeceased by his sister Camille Peterson; his brother-in-law Robert Peterson; and his brother-in-law Henry Zeiter.

He is survived by his



Kenneth George Schooff

wife of 62 years, Betsy Curry Schooff; their daughter, Mary (Rick Ing); their three sons George, Peter (Brooke Markley) and Blair (Michelle); as well as 10 grandchildren. Ken also had three sisters, Camille, Carol Zeiter, and Judy Shroyer, and the four siblings managed to keep their promise to each other to attend every one of each other's children's weddings.

6B | CHURCHES

Scout honored

Jake Sachs, a senior at Grosse Pointe North High School, recently earned his Eagle Scout rank with Boy Scouts of America Troop 96. An official ceremony celebrating the honor took place Dec. 19, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church.

Sachs earned the rank through a service project that brought three wooden chess tables and chairs to The Village. They're located on St. Clair, near Trader Joe's, for all to use.



Above, from left, Scoutmaster Adam Prokop, Jake Sachs and Assistant Scoutmaster Kurt Newman. Left, from left, Faye Mitseff Sachs with her sons, Carl Sachs, Jake Sachs and Grant Sachs.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Racing for Kids raises record amount for local charities

The 16th annual Racing For Kids to The Hill event Aug. 31, revved up the crowds on Kercheval to deliver a phenomenal fundraising success. Checks totaling \$260,000 have been written to Children's Hospital of Michigan, Ascension St. John Hospital, Corewell Health Grosse Pointe Hospital, Henry Ford Health, Racing For Kids and Teen Street Skills.



FILE PHOTO

Event co-chairs Tom Buhl and Ed Russell credit this year's record-breaking numbers to the incredible generosity of the Grosse Pointe community.

"We have so many devoted sponsors, donors and great community partners who show up each year willing to give big," they jointly said in a press release. "It's always a fun night and we're so thankful to the City's public safety team and all the business owners on The Hill. We'd never be able to do this without their help."

The Children's Foundation played a major role as Presenting Sponsor this year. President and CEO

This summer's Racing for Kids to The Hill event raised \$260,000 for charities.

Larry Burns is a firm believer in the importance of spotlighting the needs of kids across southeast Michigan.

"Racing For Kids to The Hill is not only a wonderful and enjoyable annual event," Burns said. "It allows the Children's Foundation to continue to support several of our hospital-based partners in the region. It's a great partnership that impacts so many children in our communities."

Since 2007, Racing For Kids to The Hill has raised and distributed nearly \$2 million.

Proceeds over the years have been used to underwrite the purchase of new pediatric rehabilitation equipment, heart monitors for home use and special race-car-themed wagons with IV poles for children's travel in hospitals.

Funds also support uplifting children's hospital visits by Indy Car drivers across the country. This year, a new beneficiary is Teen Street Skills, a Detroit-based nonprofit with a mission to create safer drivers by teaching awareness behind the wheel.

EASTLAND:

Continued from page 1B

Sanders hot fudge cream puff and getting to eat it with the hippo."

"If we got lost or separated from our mom in the mall, we knew we should go straight to the lion and the mouse and stay there."

"Many people remember when the lion was outside and they built the mall around him."

Of the final recollection, Grady added, "We can confirm this as we had to remove the wall of doors to get him out."

"... Ascension St. John Hospital is a cornerstone of the Eastside community," he added. "Most of our associates, and the community we serve, have grown up on the east side. There are so many personal stories and memories attached to these works of art. We knew we had to preserve

the legacy and the history that these sculptures have provided for all of us."

Grady said Ascension plans to install plaques commemorating the sculptures and honoring the artists who created them.

"We are working out the details now," he said, "but we hope to partner with a local young artist who will bring their vision to the project as well."

CHURCH EVENT

St. Michael's

The community is invited to New Year's services at St. Michael's Episcopal Church. Visit at 10 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 1, for Holy Communion and Carols celebrating The Most Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Visit at

10 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 8, for A Festival of Lessons and Carols for Theophany: The Baptism of Our Lord and Epiphany. Services are followed by coffee hour in the parish hall. St. Michael's is located at 20475 Sunningdale Park, next to the Parcels field, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Continuing the Christmas Season at St. Ambrose Catholic Church

NEW YEAR'S EVE & DAY
Saturday, December 31, 2022
Mass AT 4 P.M. ((••))
Sunday January 1, 2023
Masses AT 8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Saturday, January 7, 2023
CONFIRMATIONS AT 1:30 P.M. AND MASS AT 4 P.M. ((••))
Sunday, January 8, 2023
MASS AT 8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.

** ((••)) - Service will be livestreamed online at facebook.com/stambroseparish

St. Ambrose Catholic Church is located at 15020 Hampton Road between Wayburn and Maryland, one block north of Jefferson, just west of the Grosse Pointe Park City Hall. (313) 822-2814 • stambrosechurch.net



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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

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Theophany: The Baptism of Our Lord and Epiphany

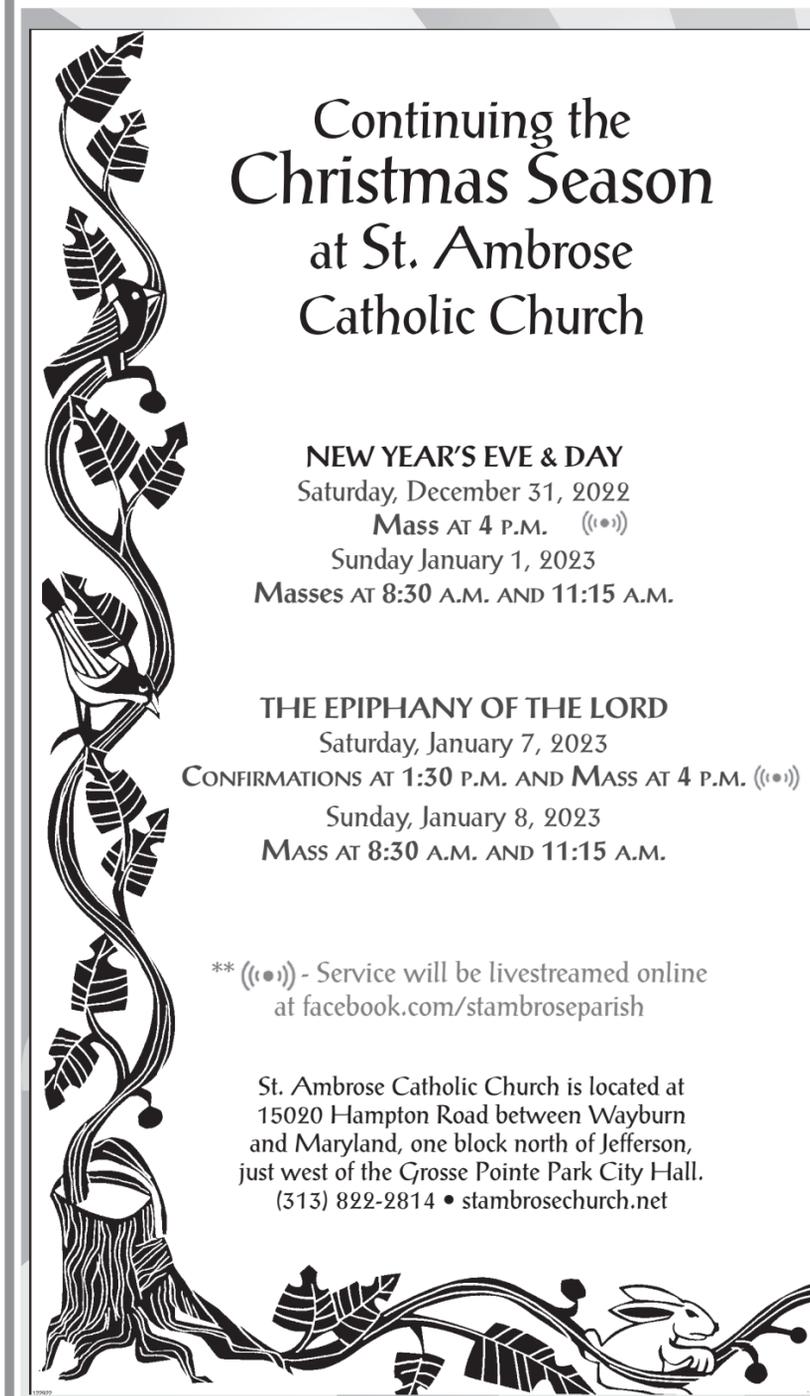
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Rev. Sean Motley, Senior Pastor
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LIFE & ENTERTAINMENT

2C GP GABBY | 3C MOMBEAU'S TABLE | 4C MOVIE JUNKIE MARK | 5C & 6C COMICS

Lecture gives overview of LoveITDetroit

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

When Allegra Baistrocchi started her four-year assignment as consul of Italy in Detroit, she was determined to share true Italian culture with the areas she serves.

In doing so, she created LoveITDetroit, a multifaceted initiative that magnifies the excellence of Italian design through a physical installation with Made in Italy objects, in-person events, numerous Italian and local speakers, and a presence in the metaverse with a dedicated virtual exhibition.



Allegra Baistrocchi

The entire month of September, "Detroit Month of Design," 3,000 in-person and 10,000 virtual visitors learned about Italian culture through exhibitions, guest speakers and other events.

"It's exciting to see

something start as a small initiative, making something local become truly global," she said. "I am the first government entity in the world to have a dedicated metaverse."

Baistrocchi will talk in detail about LoveITDetroit, its creation and future, during the Grosse Pointe Artists Association's Your Old Mansion lecture at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 8, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

"Design is very important to Italy; we love design," Baistrocchi said. "It allows you to talk about anything."

The Grosse Pointe Farms resident said she strongly supports the theory that the more two cultures know about each other, the better the economic advantages for both. She also hopes to dispel misconceptions and share more truths about her home country.

"Changing the stereotype is the No. 1 priority," she said, "through reaching people and sharing culture."

"... I'm letting Michigan know how technologically advanced Italy is," she added, noting the Italian-American population in metro Detroit numbers 300,000. In the five states she covers as consul, there are more than 2.5 million Italian-



COURTESY PHOTOS

The multifaceted initiative includes a presence in the metaverse with a dedicated virtual exhibition.

Americans. "It's a huge population. People know Italy has good food, great wine, it's a nice place to travel to, but they don't think of Italy has having the eighth economy in the world. Or that it's fifth in manufacturing. Last year, Italy was the third country for space technology in the world."

Speakers during the 2022 event included Dr. Simonetta di Pippo, an astrophysicist and director of the United Nations Office of Outer Space Affairs; architects Carlo Ratti and Luisa Bocchietto; professor Ruben Abbattista, co-founder and vice president of Circolo del Design and former chief communication officer for the city of Turin; and several others. A drone simulation, art exhibi-

tion and other amenities also were part of the programming.

"How do I let people know there are cool things, how contemporary Italy is?" Baistrocchi asked. "We designed a vehicle to inform them in a fun way. I don't want to preach to you; you won't be receptive if I preach to you. ... I'm using the culture to explain contemporary Italy. The idea is to let as many people know."

At the close of the in-person installation, LoveITDetroit became a virtual modern art exhibit.

"We teamed with the only museum in Italy dedicated to modern

and contemporary art," Baistrocchi said. "We had 15,000 visits in October and November. "Now it's on pause, because we're asking people, what aspect of Italy do you want to see?"

Baistrocchi currently is planning LoveITDetroit 2023, which will follow the theme of sustainability.

"Not a lot of people know about Italy in terms of sustainability," she said. "Italy is first in the world for sustainability in agriculture. It has the highest total in Europe for recycling with 83.7 percent."

Next year, Baistrocchi also hopes to secure

more female and more diverse lecturers who are making an impact on sustainability.

In the meantime, she'll provide insight and information about LoveITDetroit to guests of the Your Old Mansion lecture, where she and Daniela D'Amico Henderson, director for culture of the Dante Alighieri Society of Michigan, will present about the 2022 program, what has come from it and plans for LoveITDetroit 2023. Topics they'll cover include the existing links between Italy and Detroit; the role of cultural diplomacy; giving back to the local community and creating deeper ties.

"I really enjoy not only living in Grosse Pointe, but also working in Michigan," Baistrocchi said. "I'm hard-pressed to find someone who has not reacted enthusiastically to what I'm doing. I love living here. There is such potential. We will make a modicum of difference in the four years we are here."

For more information about LoveITDetroit, visit loveitdetroit.com.

To register for the Your Old Mansion lecture, visit grossepointeartcenter.org.

ASK THE EXPERTS By Dr. Maria Jones

Thriving through the holidays

Have you ever found yourself hearing the lyrics of holiday songs and feeling uneasy? Maybe you've even wondered if something might be "wrong" with you because you're experiencing a lot more tension than cheer. If so, you're not alone.

According to the American Psychological Association, 38 percent of people surveyed report feeling increased stress during the holidays. Changes in schedules, financial pressures of gift-giving, coping with continued fallout of the COVID pandemic, bad weather, cranky kids, gatherings with extended family and many more seasonal demands can converge, leading us to feel overwhelmed or even dread the holidays.

Part of the problem we face around the winter holiday season is unrealistic expectations. Many of us hold fantastical internal images of this season, fueled by art, music, movies and sometimes our own memories. As a result, we tend to view the holidays as a time of warmth, security, excitement and family joy. Inevitably the realities of day-to-day life fall short of this ideal, leading some of us to worry that maybe "everyone else" is happy while we're having trouble getting into the spirit. In the

context of chronic illness, job insecurity or recent loss of a loved one, the idea that we're supposed to be filled with wonder in December can lead to anxiety, enhancement of grief or even depression.

So what can we do to bring our expectations more into line with reality and ease the pressures we tend to put on ourselves to feel wonderful even when our circumstances aren't cooperating? For many of us the answer may lie in redefining the holidays as a time to focus on self-care, spirituality and social support. Meeting with close friends; taking time to pray, meditate or engage in soothing hobbies; and volunteering all can shift the focus of the holidays from duty to contemplation, and to cultivation of gratitude for the elements in our lives that do bring us lasting joy year-round.

A move from conspicuous spending and gift exchange to charitable giving can sometimes help remind us that we already possess much of what we need and that we have something to offer others even when we're not feeling our best. Time off from work or school could be devoted to exercise, catching up on reading or crafts, or spending some time outside, thinking

about the beauty and wonder of nature. Touching base with friends we haven't seen during the year, visiting family members who may be alone or less mobile, or showering some extra love on our pets can help make the season memorable in simple and meaningful ways.

Maybe most importantly, we need to give ourselves space and acknowledge who we are and where we are at this moment, with trust that happiness and sadness come and go, but that no matter what's going on in our lives at any given time, we are enough.

Dr. Maria Jones is a psychologist and owner of Bluetree Behavioral Health, which provides evaluation, therapy, caregiver coaching and consultation services of all ages, with a specialty in evaluating and treating school-age children with developmental differences and behavioral difficulties, as well as children on the autism spectrum. For more information, visit bluetreebh.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 familycenterweb.org

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Grosse Pointe Gabby

The Pulse Of The Pointes

Tired of the same old routine on New Year's Eve

Dear Gabby: New Year's Eve is always so expensive and often feels like a letdown.

Between the hangover and the empty wallet on Jan. 1, it's just too much. How can I politely decline my standing plans with my friends without hurting feelings or feeling like a hermit?

— Bah Humbug in the Shores

Dear Humbug, You are not alone in feeling this way. By the time New Year's Eve rolls around, many of us are feeling exhausted, partied out and, as you mentioned, stressed about finances.

I don't believe you owe anyone an explanation for not wanting to partake in the festivities that leave you not feeling well, and broke. However, there are many things you can do in town

that are not expensive and don't need to involve alcohol.

What about hot chocolate and some ice skating or paddle tennis at one of our beautiful parks? That is hours of fun, fresh air and the ability to socialize.

Or if the weather is truly frightful, what about a friendly game or poker night at home with a few of your nearest and dearest?

If you choose to skip the 31st altogether, a nice brisk

walk with a good friend on Jan 1. to kick off the new year in a healthy way is another fine option.

Best of luck and happy 2023!

— Gabby

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



Husband handed out hugs to all women except his own wife



DEARABBY: My strongest "love language" is physical touch. For 23 years, my husband gave hugs galore to any and every woman, but never to me. The word "never" is not an exaggeration.

He has recently begun to change and try to be better. Now he does hug me as much as I want. But when he hugs other women, it still feels like a knife through my heart.

He says the hugs mean nothing to him, but I question why, if they were so insignificant, he couldn't give me even one for more than two decades? How do I get over feeling hurt when he hugs other women? Is there something wrong with my perspective on this? I'm not sure if I'm being too sensitive. — FINALLY WORTH HUGGING?

DEAR FINALLY: Too sensitive? There is nothing wrong with your "perspective." For 23 years your passive-aggressive husband chose to withhold a gesture of affection you requested, while showering other women with it.

It's "nice" that he's finally willing to make the effort to hug you but, frankly, it seems a bit late. It may take a therapist

to help work through your justified hurt and anger over this. My advice is to start now.

DEAR ABBY: My husband died suddenly three months ago. My family sympathizes with me; however, my youngest daughter thinks I need to move on and get over his death. How can I make her understand that his death has devastated me,

Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren



and getting over it will take time? She reads tarot cards and claims the cards are telling me to get over it and move on. How can I get her to stop with the card readings? — HEARTBROKEN IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR HEARTBROKEN: Your daughter may be trying to be helpful. She may also be uncomfortable seeing her mother in pain. Clearly, she has no clue about how grief works. There is no timetable for it, but three months is a relatively short period of time. Tell her that for the foreseeable future those card readings will no longer be a subject of discussion. Then, if she brings it up again, change the subject.

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing to ask your advice about how to tell my friends we should not exchange Christmas gifts this year. We are all retirees. I'm not cheap, and neither are they, but none of us "needs" any-

thing. I suspect many of us want to say it, but we don't know how. I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings. Suggestions? — HALTING HOLIDAY GIFT-GIVING

DEAR HALTING: I assume you see or communicate with these friends on a regularly. Raise this subject during one of your visits well before the Christmas holiday. Many retirees are trying to divest themselves of the "things" they have accumulated during their lifetime, and your friends may feel similarly. Do not feel shy about bringing it up. They may be as relieved as you about exchanging only cards and good wishes.

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.

"Bedtime Stories with Santa

Photo story by Renee Landuyt

The War Memorial recently hosted two "Bedtime Stories with Santa" events, during which kids colored, wrote letters to Santa, enjoyed cookies and milk and listened to Santa and Mrs. Claus read stories to participants.



Tripp Mitchelson is excited to get a cookie that looked like Santa.



Nadia Dudus dons a red Rudolph nose to the event and proudly shows off her coloring.



Santa reads "Twas the Night Before Christmas" to the good girls and boys.



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Carson and Walt Miller sport their Grinch pajamas to the event and color while they wait to meet Santa.

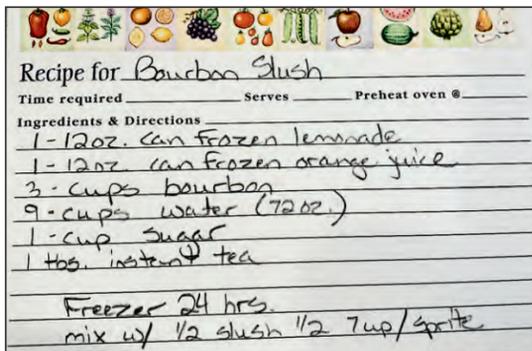
New Year's Eve drink of 2022

This week Mombeau is taking a well-deserved rest, and a little birdy told us she might even be working on her own cookbook! Stay tuned for more on that in 2023.

In her absence, we are providing what we think is the best NYE drink this year. In light of the weather, what could be more appropriate than a slush!?

This bourbon slush packs a punch, so be advised. But it's the perfect festive, make-ahead, freezer door cocktail that you can have at the ready with little effort.

There is a lot of juice and some sugar, but it's



- 3 cups bourbon
- 9 cups water
- 1 cup sugar
- Two-liter 7-Up or Sprite
- 1 TBSP instant tea (optional)

Combine all ingredients except 7-Up and freeze for 24 hours. Mix with half slush, half 7-Up or Sprite and enjoy.

Pretty holiday garnishes like rosemary, mint or cranberries, or even a lime or orange wedge make it even more festive.



PHOTO BY ANNE GRYZENIA

That skunky smell when champagne is exposed to light

With the economy in shambles and New Year's Eve approaching, inexpensive bubbly is going to replace real Champagne, the stuff with the capital C, at most parties.

Champagne is the real deal, of course, a sublime and alluring sort of sparkling wine that's hard to replace. Many countries make sparkling wine, but lovers of Champagne argue vociferously that only the ambrosia from the Champagne region of France will do when bubbly is called for.

Yet even supposedly savvy wine drinkers often are willing to pay \$50 or more for spoiled sparkling wine that was fine when it got to the wine shop, but then was treated most inhospitably.

It was subjected to light.

Yes, the simple act of

shining incandescent, fluorescent, or sunlight on bottles of some wines will turn them sort of skunky — or, more kindly, they'll start to smell like shallots or onions.

Despite the best efforts of wine and beer producers to protect their products from spoilage caused by ultraviolet radiation, some producers still bottle their liquids in clear or green bottles that do not have ultraviolet light protectants in the glass. And when hit by as little as a few minutes of direct light, a photochemical reaction can occur that turns the wine smelly.

This cannot occur with beer in cans or wine in cardboard boxes, which for this purpose is a better container.

The "lightstruck" aroma, as it's called, is far less well-known than

corked wine. But many winemakers know that even some sophisticated wine buyers will defend the skunky character in bubbly because it was expensive.

"I've seen it," said a Sonoma County winemaker. "They'll buy a bottle of Champagne out of the refrigerator case at the wine shop, which is under UV light bulbs, and they'll say that the wine is fine."

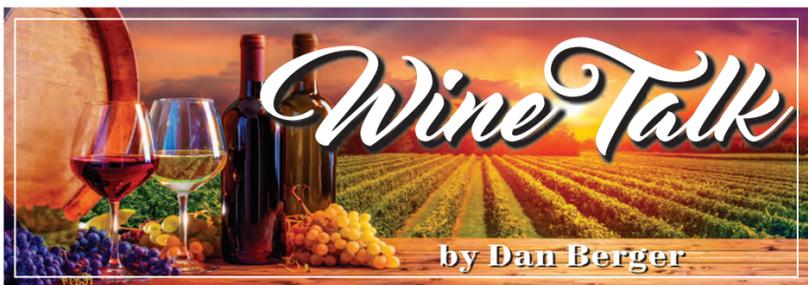
But he said he has often noted the skunky aroma, and considers it a huge flaw.

I witnessed this years ago when attending a session at the Center for Brewing Studies in Sonoma, Calif. The president of the center, the late Dr. Joe Owades, poured a number of commercial beers. One was badly spoiled with a skunky, hydrogen sulfide smell.

Owades had bought this particular Dutch brew from a refrigerated case at a local supermarket. The green bottles had been exposed to light from the ultraviolet bulbs in the case.

"Any form of light combined with a clear or green glass bottle creates a photochemical degradation and gives you this smell," said Owades, explaining that in beer it is the riboflavin that is the catalyst.

He said dark beers or those bottled in brown bottles are less likely to have this smell when exposed to light. He said that just 15 minutes of



by Dan Berger

exposure to light could ruin a bottle of delicate light beer. Lagers are frequently affected and such a brew can smell sort of cat-boxy.

After attending the brewing course, I tested the lightstruck effect myself with two bottles of chardonnay from the same producer, both purchased at a local wine shop. The wines had been bottled in clear glass bottles, and were removed from a sealed case.

One bottle was immediately placed in a brown paper bag, then into a box, and left in cool conditions. The other bottle was placed in a window in direct sunlight, adjacent to an air-conditioning duct, so the bottle temperature would be the same as the bottle in the box.

The following day I opened both bottles. The wine from the window had a faint but noticeable "off" aroma. The bottle from the box was sound and fresh.

Red wines are generally not affected by light, nor are most wines in dark-colored bottles. That's why some winemakers use black glass. They have a UV protectant.

So here's a tip: If you're buying wine from a store with fluorescent

lighting and all the bottles are exposed to it, aim for the bottle with the darkest color. And if the wine you want is bottled in clear glass and is sitting in light, ask if the shop has a bottle that can be taken from its case and has never seen light.

With \$50 Champagne, the tactic can avoid getting a smelly bottle.

Wine of the Week:
 NV Gloria Ferrer Blanc de Noirs, Sonoma County (\$20) — This dramatic salmon-hued bubbly is mainly made from pinot noir, and has a

delightfully fresh aroma of berries and a delicious mid-palate and classic dry finish. Winemaker Bob Iantosca has always made a splendid blanc de noirs, and the latest cuvee is about as fine a wine as you can find, regardless of price. Buy more than you think you'll need. This wine is so good guests can't keep their hands off it

To find out more about Dan Berger, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

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Champagne has become part of New Year's Eve celebration for more than 1,500 years.

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BEST of the BEST 2022

EVENTS

Things to do in and around Grosse Pointe this week

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

- » **ArtLab: Nom Nom Cookies**
Ewald Branch, 2-3 p.m.
15175 E Jefferson
- » **New Years Eve with Dave McMurray**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,
97 Kercheval.
- » **Tech Savvy Tuesdays**
Ewald Branch, 4-5 p.m.
15175 E Jefferson

MONDAY, JANUARY 2

- » **Blues Jam**
First Place Lounge,
8 p.m.-12 a.m.
16921 Harper Ave.
- » **Blues Jam**
The Cadieux Cafe,
8-11 p.m.
4300 Cadieux Rd..

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

- » **BOE-Organizational Meeting**
5-7 p.m.
260 Chalfonte Ave.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

- » **1st Tuesday Book Group**
Ewald Branch, 2-3 p.m.
15175 E Jefferson
- » **Jam at Cabbage Patch Saloon**
Cabbage Patch Saloon,
9:30-11 p.m.
15130 Mack Ave.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

- » **New Years Eve Masquerade Ball**
Roostertail, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.
100 Marquette Drive.
- » **Read, Rhyme & Play**
Ewald Branch, 10:30-11 a.m.
15175 E Jefferson

Happy New Year

Check out the online calendar on our website for more details

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RESERVATIONS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

December 28 through December 31
We will be open for the 6pm set only on New Years Eve, December 31.

January 10 through January 14

January 18 and January 19

January 20 and January 21

DAVE McMURRAY JAZZ SAXOPHONIST

TUMBAO BRAVO LATIN JAZZ WITH SWING

T-BONE PAXTON JAZZ TROMBONIST

GOODWILL BOUNTY Featuring MASON BAYS

-TUESDAYS-

1 SEATING: 6:00PM-8:00PM (Ron English plays from 6:30PM-8:00PM)

-WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY-

1 SEATING: 6:00PM-8:30PM (Performer plays from 7:00PM-8:30PM)

-FRIDAY & SATURDAY- 2 Seatings each night

1st SEATING: 6:00PM-8:00PM (Performer plays from 6:30PM-7:30PM)

2nd SEATING: 8:30PM-10:30PM (Performer plays from 9:00PM-10:00PM)

— WE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 1 THROUGH JANUARY 7 —

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 LUNCH Tuesday - Friday 11:30AM - 3:00PM

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4C | LIFE & ENTERTAINMENT

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin



MOVIE REVIEW
"Slumberland"
 2022 - Rated PG
 1 hour 57 minutes

If you're looking for a film the whole family will enjoy, be sure to put "Slumberland" in your queue. It's an all-ages movie that will have you glued to your screen for two fun-filled hours. And this new offering from Netflix is perfect for some great entertainment over the holidays.

"Slumberland" is an adaptation of a popular comic strip called "Little Nemo: Adventures in Slumberland" by the creative genius Winsor McKay. If you're not familiar with him, his work is worth exploring. I was introduced to him ages ago by my first boss. When I read his comic strip "Dream of the Rarebit Fiend," I was amazed that it was written over a hundred years ago. It's so bizarre, it could easily have been produced today! McKay also created the first animated film, "Gertie the Dinosaur."

"Little Nemo" ran in the Sunday comic section of the papers for years in the early 1900s.

helping her dad. Peter is a wonderful parent, and each evening, he tells Nemo an adventurous bedtime story.

One night, during a raging storm, Peter goes out to rescue a ship in distress and never returns. Nemo, as you'd expect is devastated. Obviously, she can't live by herself in the lighthouse, so she's sent to the city to live with her estranged Uncle Phillip (O'Dowd) who she doesn't really know at all. Phillip is an awkward, reclusive millionaire who's made his fortune designing doorknobs and locks. He's a lifelong bachelor and doesn't know the first thing about raising a child. As much as he tries, it's just not an ideal situation. While Nemo's days are taxing on her as she attempts to fit in at school, her dreams are where she really comes out of her shell.

Upon entering Slumberland, Nemo encounters Flip (Momoa), a swashbuckling, animated, bon vivant. Momoa's performance is one for the ages and he steals virtually ever scene he's in — he's just a joy to watch! Nemo has heard all about him from her

Flip tells Nemo that her dad had a map of Slumberland, and when she brings it to him, they're on their way. Naturally, they meet some opposition. Here it's Agent Green (Weruche Opia), from the Bureau of Subconscious Activities. She proves to be a formidable foe, and the two sides engage in some exciting battles. I was quite impressed by the great CGI work in the film. Computer graphics have sure come a long way in the last ten years or so. One of my favorite scenes is the magical ballroom, where the dancers are made of fluttering butterflies — it's jaw-droppingly real.

I've read some criticism that the movie isn't true to the comic strip. I'm not super familiar with the original story, but I'd have to say it's inspired by "Little Nemo: Adventures in Slumberland." There is a Japanese-American anime film from 1989 by that title that's supposed to be closer to the original. I did track it down and put it on my watch list. I'm looking forward to checking it out.

"Slumberland" was produced by Peter Chernin and director Francis Lawrence ("Hunger Games," "Water for Elephants," "I Am Legend.") David Guion and Michael Handelman ("Dinner for Schmucks" and "Night at the Museum") wrote the screenplay.

Currently streaming on Netflix.

★★★★☆

If you have any suggestions, feel free to email me at: dominmark@yahoo.com.

Also, if you're looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com.



Left, Kyle Chandler as Peter and Marlow Barkley as Nemo.

This latest version stars the talented young actor Marlow Barkley, Jason Momoa, and Chris O'Dowd. It begins with Nemo (Barkley) who lives with her father Peter (Kyle Chandler) in a lighthouse somewhere in the Pacific Northwest. The scenery is breathtaking. They lead an idyllic life in an absolutely gorgeous location. Nemo is homeschooled by necessity, and spends her days

dad's bedtime stories, but now she encounters the loveable outlaw in the flesh, sort of. The two become partners-in-crime, along with her toy pig that's come to life. They embark on a quest to find the magic pearls, located in the Sea of Nightmares. The pearls have magical powers that grant the wishes of anyone who possesses them. Nemo's dream naturally is to be reunited with her father.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NETFLIX

From left, Marlow Barkley as Nemo and Jason Momoa as Flip in the 2022 made-for-Netflix movie "Slumberland," directed by Francis Lawrence.

Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or making important decisions from the beginning of the day until 5:45 a.m. EST today (2:45 a.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from Pisces into Aries.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, Dec. 29, 2022:

You are serious, thoughtful, responsible and reliable. Justice and fairness are important. You are also impossibly charming. This is a slower-paced year and a time to rejuvenate yourself. Focus on your personal relationships. Concentrate on your needs and what brings you happiness.

ARIES
 (March 21-April 19)

It's a lovely day! The Moon is in Aries, lined up with Jupiter in your sign. (It doesn't get much better than this.) In addition, the Moon is also dancing beautifully with your ruler Mars. Naturally, you feel jubilant, confident and energetic! You rock! Tonight: Exercise.

TAURUS
 (April 20-May 20)

This is a lovely day; you feel pleased with yourself. You feel reassured about your future, and possibly also reassured about your finances. You're keen to travel and expand your horizons. (Travel someplace you have never been before.) Tonight: Research.

GEMINI
 (May 21-June 20)

This is a marvelous day to enjoy the company of others, especially female colleagues, plus groups and conferences, because you will be in your element! You will enjoy talking to others. In turn, they will respond enthusiastically to your positive energy. Tonight: Enjoy friends.

CANCER
 (June 21-July 22)

Your ruler is the Moon, and today the Moon is lined up with lucky Jupiter! This takes place at the top of your chart, which means others see you as successful and capable. Travel plans will appeal to you. You also might be excited about something going on behind the scenes. Tonight: You're hi-viz.

LEO
 (July 23-Aug. 22)

Your desire for a change of scenery is strong today, which is why you should do something different to shake up your world a little. If you can't travel, go to a new restaurant, visit a new store, drive somewhere you have never been before. Get dressed! Tonight: Explore!

VIRGO
 (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Financial negotiations will go well today. Fortunately, you are determined to go after what you want. This is an excellent day to ask for a loan or mortgage; doors will open for you. You might receive an inheritance, a gift or a favor from someone else. Tonight: Check your finances.

LIBRA
 (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

This is a great day to schmooze with friends, partners and the general public. Whatever you do will "expand" your world in some way. Perhaps you will entertain at home. You have a strong focus on home and family at this time. Talk to people who are "different." Tonight: Cooperate.

SCORPIO
 (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

This is an excellent day for work-related travel. It's also a good day to work with groups related to your job. Classes, meetings and conferences will expand your mind and introduce you to new

ideas. You also might lobby for a better budget or more equipment — and get it. Tonight: Work!.

SAGITTARIUS
 (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

It's a playful day! You are a breezy, lighthearted, fun-loving sign, and today you have a chance to spread your wings. The bottom line is that you want to do exactly what you want. Enjoy sports events, the great outdoors, creative activities and playful times with children. Accept invitations to socialize! Tonight: Play!

CAPRICORN
 (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You will be bored with your daily routine today, which is why you want to do something different and stimulating. The people you meet today might be different from your usual friends. Some of you might suggest an unconventional arrangement with a lover or partner. Tonight: You win.

AQUARIUS
 (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Trust your intuition today! (You are intuitive, anyhow.) Today you find it easy to think like a winner. You expect the best for yourself and others. This is also a wonderful day to explore, learn new things, see new places and meet new people, because you're eager for adventure and new knowledge. Tonight: Ideas!

PISCES
 (Feb. 19-March 20)

Business and commerce are favored today. Trust your moneymaking ideas. You might work hard for money today and see ways to boost your income. However, you also might spend big. Be careful. Tonight: Plans?

BORN TODAY

Actress Alison Brie (1982), actor Ted Danson (1947), actor Jude Law (1972).

Contract Bridge

WHEN TO DRAW TRUMP

South dealer.
 Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ J 9
 ♥ 7 4 3
 ♦ 10 9 5
 ♣ K J 7 6 2

WEST
 ♠ 8 6 5 3
 ♥ A K 10 9
 ♦ Q 7 4
 ♣ 10 4

EAST
 ♠ 7 2
 ♥ 8 6 5 2
 ♦ 8 6 2
 ♣ Q 9 8 5

SOUTH
 ♠ A K Q 10 4
 ♥ Q J
 ♦ A K J 3
 ♣ A 3

The bidding:
 South West North East
 2♣* Pass 2♦** Pass
 2♠ Pass 3♣ Pass
 3♦ Pass 3♠ Pass
 4♠

*strong, artificial **negative
 Opening lead — king of hearts.

Whenever declarer plays in a suit contract, he is faced with the problem of whether to draw the opponents' trumps. There is no hard and fast rule that governs this recurring problem. The best declarer can do is to exercise his judgment in accordance with the circumstances he faces.

Consider this deal where West leads the K-A-10 of hearts, declarer ruffing

the third round. If South draws the missing trumps at this point, he runs himself out of them, since the trumps are divided 4-2.

Regardless of what he does next, South must now go down one as the cards lie. If, for example, he crosses to dummy with a club to try a diamond finesse, West wins with the queen and cashes the nine of hearts to score the setting trick.

But if South makes allowance for a 4-2 trump split (which occurs nearly half the time), he makes the contract. His proper play is to ruff the third heart high and lead the trump four to dummy's nine. The ten of diamonds is then led and finessed, losing to the queen.

This leaves West in a hopeless position. If he returns a heart, declarer ruffs in dummy, crosses to the ace of clubs, draws trump and easily makes the rest of the tricks. And if West returns any other suit, South wins and draws trump that much sooner to make the contract.

In effect, declarer makes it his first order of business to establish his 10th trick before drawing the missing trumps. In that way, he protects against the 4-2 trump division that is a primary threat to the contract.

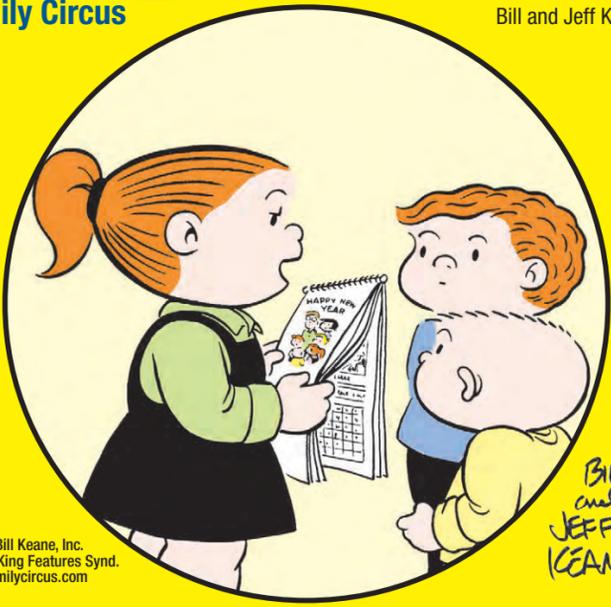
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by Steve Becker

Puzzles and

Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



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Bill and Jeff Keane

"In three days we change the last number in the name of the year."

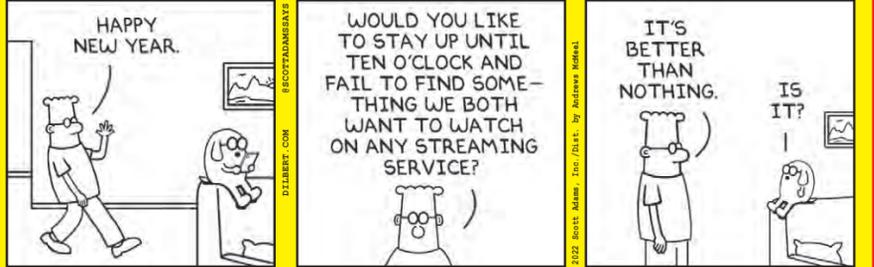
Garfield

Jim Davis



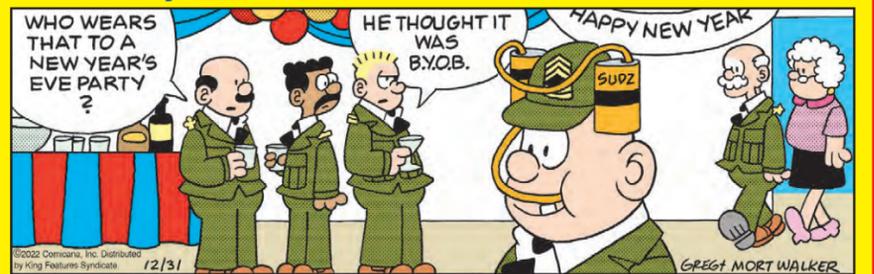
Dilbert

Scott Adams



Beetle Bailey

Greg and Mort Walker



Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



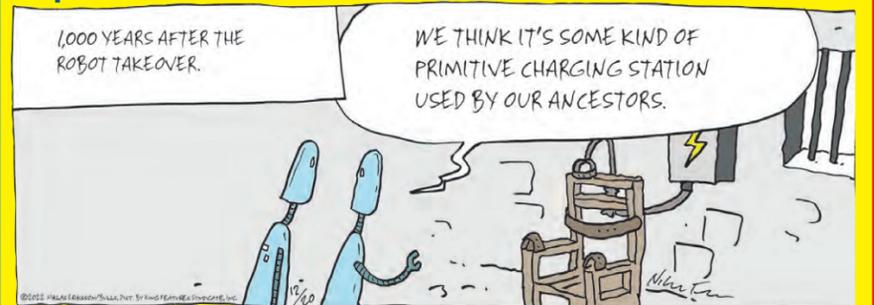
Wizard of Id

Created by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart. Currently by Mason Mastroianni



Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



Ziggy

Tom Wilson

Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

9		8			6			
6			4	3				
	1		7	6	3			
					6	4		
4	3			1			5	9
	2	8						
		3	1	2		8		
		7		8				
7			4				2	

Complete the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Previous puzzle solution

8	1	3	6	9	2	4	5	7
6	5	4	3	1	7	8	9	2
2	7	9	5	8	4	1	3	6
1	8	7	2	5	3	9	6	4
3	2	6	8	4	9	7	1	5
9	4	5	1	7	6	2	8	3
7	3	8	4	6	1	5	2	9
5	9	2	7	3	8	6	4	1
4	6	1	9	2	5	3	7	8

12/22

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

© 2022 by Andrews McMeel Syndication 12/15 Solution

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg December 29, 2022

ACROSS

- Pitch tents
- Prefix for "rival"
- Pastoral setting
- Cartoonist Aragones who contributed to Mad magazine
- Pulled apart
- Paintings, prints and such
- They're rounded up on a ranch
- Activist/poet Angelou
- Word before "humbug"
- Caper
- "Outlet"
- "Outlook"
- Marvel Comics group
- Follow directions
- The third degree, say?
- Animal at the end of an alphabet book
- Hitched
- "Yes, yes," in Yucatan
- Bar mitzvah dances
- "Outlay"
- Prim and respectable California representative Agular
- Coral reef's place
- Stretch of work
- Electric (possible source of an 860-volt shock)
- Chums
- "Not guilty," e.g.
- "Output survive longer than, and a hint to reading the starred clues"
- Just might
- Big name in TVs and records
- Originate (from)
- Environ
- Rapid blinking, for one
- Bingo relative
- Shoe brand with a striped logo
- Talk endlessly
- Tennis match parts
- Indicate

DOWN

- Winding curve
- Word after "butterfly" or "mosquito"
- Formed
- Part of the CIA?
- Merriment
- Put forth, as a theory
- Twenties' dispenser
- Laughed heartily
- "Two and a Half Men" star Jon
- Recover at a tent revival
- 1987 film about Ritchie Valens
- They get the lead out
- Goddess worshipped on the Acropolis
- Thicket
- Put forth, as effort
- Blow away
- Bart Simpson's grandpa
- Greyhound's smaller relative
- Area
- Buttonhole, e.g.
- Birth control option, briefly
- Big success
- Humdrum
- Piece of the past
- Only country named after a real-life woman
- Neckwear holder
- Took a wedding vow in Chicago?
- High rollers in Chicago?
- Volcanic emission
- Casual yet stylish
- Scope
- Earn, slangily
- Lauder of cosmetics
- Wanderer
- "The Hitchhiker's ___ to the Galaxy"
- Calls upon
- Wall calendar pages: Abbr.
- ___ away (corrode)
- Take advantage of

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

P	I	P	E	C		V	A	P	I	D										
A	N	O	E	A		D	E	V	I	C	E									
M	A	L	L	A	R	D	D	O	S	A	G	E	S							
P	R	I	O	R		D	E	A	L	T		S	R	I						
A	U	T	O	S		L	A	T	E		S	K	I	S						
S	T	E	P		R	I	S	E		S	T	I	N	T						
					H	O	O	E		S	T	A	N	K						
					C	O	N	T	R	A	C	T	O	R	S					
P	A	L	E	S		S	O	A	P	S										
F	E	T	E	S		B	A	N	G		H	E	R	A						
O	R	C	S		D	E	B	T		M	I	N	E	S						
S	S	A		S	I	N	C	E		O	P	T	I	C						
S	O	L	V	E	N	T		M	A	S	S	A	G	E						
I	N	L	I	N	E		P	I	E		I	N	N							
L	A	S	E	D		T	R	I		L	S	D								

12/22 Solution

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From Beginning to End by Gary Larson and Amy Ens

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
							15				16		
14							18				19		
			20				21		22		23		
24	25						26				27		
											30		
31				32	33					34			
				35						36			
	37	38					39			40	41	42	
43							44			45			
46							47			48	49		
50				51					52				
53				54			55			56		57	58
59				60						61			
62				63						64			

Comics

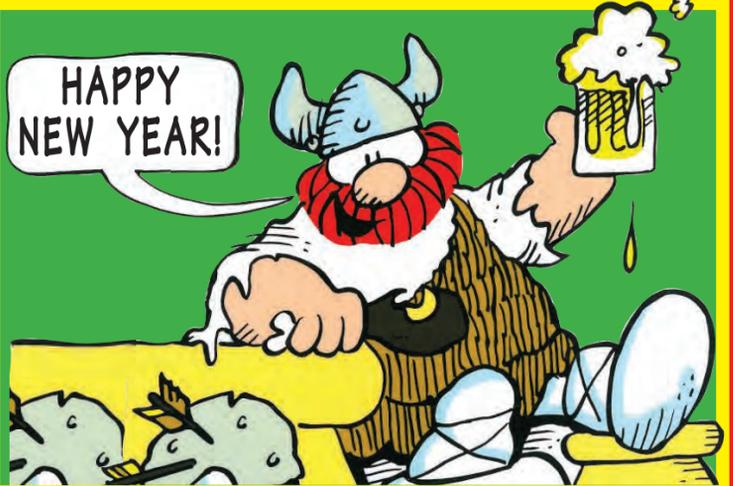
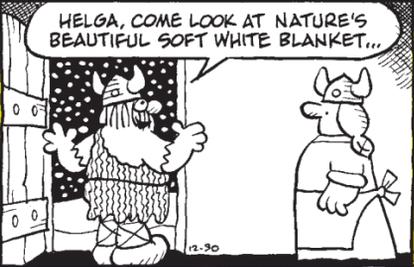
Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



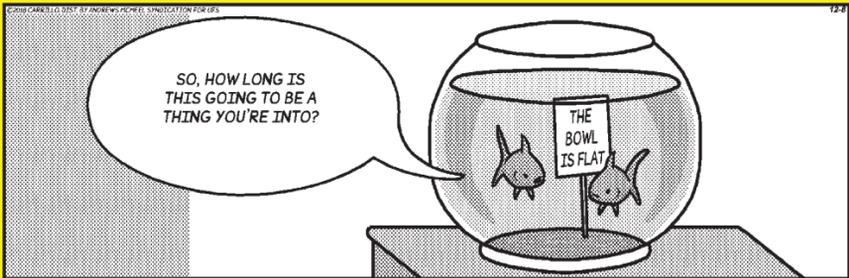
Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



F Minus

Tony Carrilo



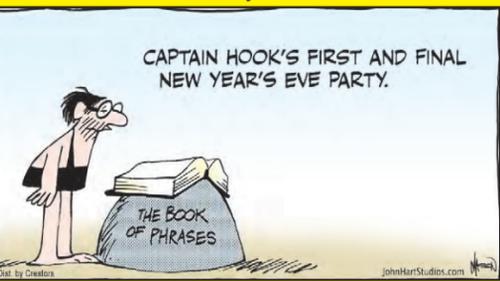
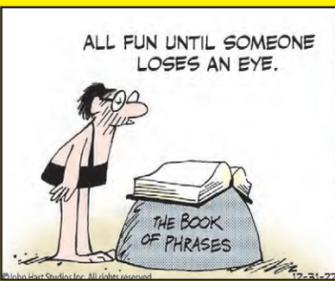
Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



Reality Check

Dave Whamond



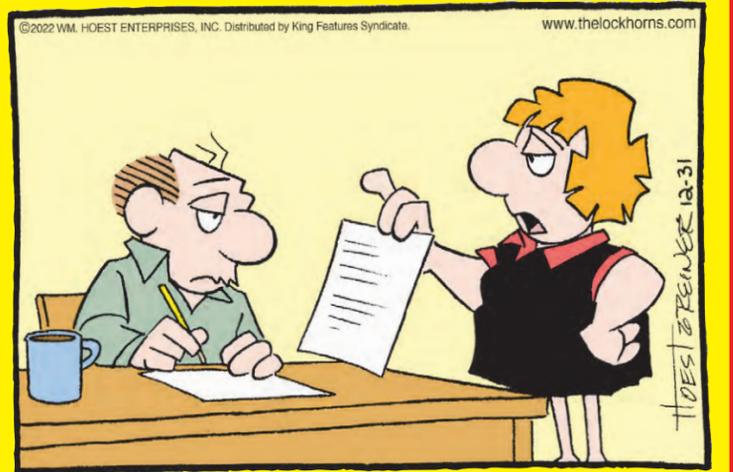
Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



"THIS SHOULD SAVE YOU SOME TIME ... I KEPT YOUR LAST YEAR'S NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR YOU."

Close To Home

John McPherson



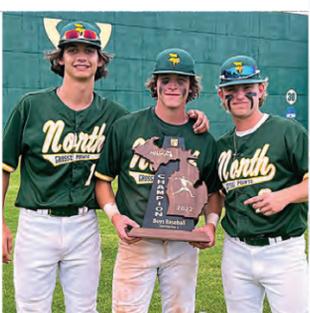
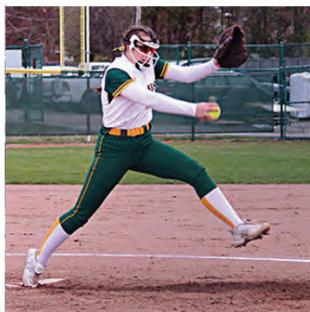
"We're using a virtual reality system to train Pokey to be a better mouser."

Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



"Just hang on. The season's almost over for another year."



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Come back next week to the Grosse Pointe News for more winter sports coverage

Photos by Grosse Pointe News staff and courtesy photos

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2D | SPORTS

YEAR IN REVIEW

Teams and athletes continue tradition of success at South in 2022

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The athletic programs at Grosse Pointe South pride themselves on tradition and success year in and year out. 2022 was, for the most part, no different with teams and student athletes collecting trophies and having their names honored among the best in the state and even the nation.

"I'm extremely proud of the tradition of excellence and high standards we have for our athletic department, programs, coaches, and players and that we are always pushing each other to improve even more," said South Athletic Director Brandon Wheeler.

"2022 is evidence that we live into those expectations during competition, in the classroom, and in the community as people of high character," he added.

"In the past year we have had multiple state championships, All-State athletes, All-State academic players and teams, college commits, coach-of-the-year recipients, hall of fame inductees, and were named a top 20 athletic program in Michigan based on achievement from MLive... We've also had our fair share of heartache after losses, beloved coaches move on to the next chapter of their lives, and hurdles to overcome. All of which, though, provided immense opportunities for growth and learning that continue to shape us as athletes, coaches, a school, and a community. Those experiences are the bond that we all share and what makes South such a special place for our athletes to thrive," Wheeler ended to sum up the year.

As the year comes to a close, here is a look back at the incredible accomplishments the Blue Devils were able to achieve in 2022.

Swim and Dive

The boys swim and dive team had a banner year, furthering its status as one of the best programs in the country. The Blue Devils captured another MAC Red championship and finished in third place at the Division 2 state finals. Diver Logan Hepner captured an individual state championship and earned All-American honors. Another major highlight of the state meet came when the 200 meter medley relay team of Kieran Rahmaan, Tucker Briggs, Jake Vallan and Drew Vandeputte took

home the state title in the event and set a new state record in the process.

Those four swimmers were also named All-American, and that was not the only success that South had on the national stage. In July, the Blue Devils were named Class 2 Dual Meet National Champions by the National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association.

Just as the boys swim and dive team had plenty to cheer about in the winter, the girls swim and dive squad at South enjoyed its fair share of success in the pool. For a 23rd consecutive season, the Blue Devils were MAC Red champions.

The team was fifth overall at the Division 2 state finals, a day that was highlighted by captain Sophie Scheutze finishing in the top eight in all four of her events, earning All-State honors. Brooke Lezotte, Phoebe and Whitney Handwork, Sophia Kapla and Mischa Eng were All-State as well.

Basketball

On the hardwood, South's boys basketball team finished the 2021-22 season by making a run to the district championship game. The Blue Devils were led by Anthony Benard, who was named First Team All-State and signed to play Division I college basketball at Mercer University in Georgia. The Blue Devils girls basketball team ended the season sixth in the MAC Red and sent guard Kamryn Richards on to play at the next level at Macomb Community College.

Wrestling

When it came to wrestling, the Blue Devils captured some hardware in the form of a district championship. South's team finished second in the MAC Gold with a 5-1 league record and wrestler Wyatt Hepner ended up with a seventh place individual finish at the state finals.

Hockey

It was a hot year on the ice for the Blue Devils as well. South's girls hockey squad made another deep run into the playoffs, making it all the way to the state semifinals and ending the season with a 14-1 record. In boys hockey, the Blue Devils were 14-8-2. The team had an early exit from the postseason but still saw senior captain defenseman Jake Spitz named First Team All-State.

Gymnastics

To round out the winter season, South along with North in gymnastics took home a league championship and the competitive cheer team finished third in the MAC Blue.

Softball

South's softball season ended in the district

propel them to a 3-1 victory over Dearborn and a first district title since 2015.

Boys soccer struggled through the regular season, finishing last in the MAC Red. However, the Blue Devils found some rhythm in the postseason and advanced all the way to the district final after defeating Cass Tech and Dearborn in the opening rounds of the playoffs before falling to Dearborn Fordson.

Track and Field

Boys track and field took fourth place in the MAC Red in the spring while girls

through the No. 1 singles bracket against some of the toughest competition in Michigan to become a state champ.

Lacrosse

The boys lacrosse season saw South finish second in the MAC Red and earn a playoff victory over crosstown rivals University Liggett to advance to the regional semifinals before the postseason run came to an end.

Girls lacrosse had its best season in nearly a decade, winning three playoff games and being one of just eight teams left in the state before falling in the regional final. The Blue Devils were led by senior Abby Keane, who has gone on to play college lacrosse at Depauw University.

Golf

On the links, the boys golf team had a successful spring by ending the regular season with an 8-0 record and taking first place in the MAC Red tournament, helped by a low round of 80 shot by senior Tommy Ciconte. The Blue Devils were regular season champions of the division as well. South also finished second in the regional tournament and earned a team berth in the state finals, where it ended in 11th place.

Girls golf saw success for South this year under the leadership of new head coach Shaun Hampton. The Blue Devils ran away with a victory at the MAC Red championships with a team score of 368, where freshman Lyla Hampton also won an individual medal for being the low scorer of the tournament shooting an 82. Hampton was also named MAC Red league MVP for the season. South ended up qualifying for the Division 2 state finals as a team, where it finished fifth in the state.

Crew

South's crew team rowed its way to a trip to the national championships and sent on a pair of rowers to continue their careers at major college programs. Stephanie Hampton had her final season as a Blue Devil before signing on to row at Clemson University, and Alexandra Rollins is now saying "Hook 'em horns" at the University of Texas in Austin.

Football

Everyone in the fall looks forward to action on the gridiron under the Friday night lights. This year, the South football team provided plenty of memorable moments under those lights.

Former player and longtime assistant coach Chad Hepner led the Blue Devils to a 6-3 record in the regular season in his first season as varsity head football coach. Five of those wins came in MAC White division play, giving South a 5-0 record in the division and a MAC White title, which was secured with a 20-16 thrilling win over Lakeview on homecoming night when South's defense made a last minute stand to hold the Huskies out of the end zone.

South was also victorious yet again in the annual crosstown rivalry game against Grosse Pointe North. Propelled by five touchdowns (four through the air and one on the ground) by senior QB Anthony Benard, the Blue Devils won 44-14 and spoiled North's hopes of a perfect season. The next week, South was eliminated in the first round of the playoffs by De La Salle, the eventual Division 2 state champs.

Field Hockey

South's field hockey team entered the 2022 season as the defending state champions. This year, the Blue Devils defeated Sacred Heart 1-0 in the opening round of the postseason, but had their title defense cut short in the state quarterfinals when they were eliminated by Chelsea.

Cross Country

In cross country, South's boys team was led this season by senior captain Logan Detweiler. While the Blue Devils finished ninth in the region, Detweiler had a third place individual finish at the regionals and earned a qualifying spot in the state championships. For the girls team, sophomore Savannah Spangler showed plenty of promise for future success and the Blue Devils finished sixth in the MAC Red.

Volleyball

Winning the district championship is nothing new to South's volleyball program, and the team achieved it yet again this year for the ninth time in a row. Along with the district crown, the Blue Devils were also MAC White volleyball champions with an 8-2 record in the division.



SPORTS Fan NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

**PUT THE PHONE DOWN
AND ENJOY THE GAME!**

Learn soccer or rugby rules!
Maybe you'll find a new favorite
team to root for!

Read more sports articles!
Reading makes you smarter!

**REMEMBER THAT SPORTS
ARE SUPPOSED TO BE FUN!!**

**Nominate an
Athlete of the Week!**

**TRY PLAYING A
NEW SPORT THIS YEAR!
HAVE FUN AND GET HEALTHY!**

YEAR IN REVIEW

Championships and college commitments highlight remarkable year for ULS athletics

By Meg Leonard
Associate Editor

Student-athletes at University Liggett School provided fans with countless moments to cheer about and celebrate in 2022.

"It has been exciting to see so many of our student-athletes come alive through their respective sports," said Leython Williams, ULS head of athletics and ancillary programs, who joined Liggett's staff this year.

"Our state champion boys tennis team has been the highlight of my early tenure thus far, but I'm quite proud of the achievements of so many of our student-athletes across our athletic program, both on and off the field of play," he said.

"Some of our best athletes are also some of our brightest students and kindest human beings," he added. "I constantly remind our students that while their achievements are great, it is who they become behind these achievements (and failures) that matters the most."

Here's a look back at the Knights' action-packed, championship-filled year:

New AD

New leadership in the athletic department marked a homecoming for Liggett Class of '03 grad Leython Williams, who was named assistant head of school for athletics and ancillary programs.

A three-sport athlete at Liggett, Williams is a member of the ULS Athletic Hall of Fame and a health and wellness expert. He played football at Central Michigan University and won a MAC Championship with the Chippewas as a senior.

Hockey

Both the girls and boys varsity hockey teams won Catholic High School League (CHSL) championships. The boys varsity hockey team captured the CHSL Cardinal Division Championship in January, thanks to a dramatic 5-4 overtime win against Ann Arbor Father Gabriel Richard High School. The Knights let the lead slip away in the final minutes of regulation, but

senior Doug Wood scored in overtime to clinch the win.

Girls varsity hockey beat Mercy 5-4 with an overtime goal from then-junior Giuliana Lutfy to earn their CHSL title. The Knights had one more championship in store when the biggest moment of the season came in the form of their second consecutive state title with a commanding 7-2 win over Livonia United.

Basketball

Boys varsity basketball enjoyed a six-game winning streak before entering the CHSL playoffs, with senior captain Alex George leading the team on the court. A three-sport athlete, George was a featured Grosse Pointe News Athlete of the Week during the season and was voted by readers as one of five

most improved player.

Tennis

It was a standout year for the boys varsity tennis, including Charlie Cooksey, Campbell Marchal, Tommy Ugval, Steve Wheatley and Griffin Marchal.

After winning regionals, the team went on to win the Division 4 finals in October to claim a fourth state championship under head coach Mark Sobieralski. The title gives the team two state championships in the past three years and four state championships in the past seven years.

The girls varsity tennis team finished as regional runner-up, qualifying for the state championship as a team. Tennis titan Maddy Zampardo won the Division 4 State

chair events to the track and field regional and state meets in 2022, Jake Juip won the wheelchair 100 and 200 meter events, qualifying him for states. Other state qualifiers included Jacob Whitton in the 1600, Taurian Dorthy in the 110 meter hurdles and Darius Samples in the discus.

Juip became the first-ever Division 3 state champion in both the 100 and the 200. Dorthy ran a personal record in the 110 meter hurdles (16.60), Samples threw a personal record in the discus (128.10) and Whitton ran a season-best in the 1600 (5:04).

Lacrosse

In boys varsity lacrosse, James Dailey and Ben Combs were named to the All-Catholic team, while Doug Wood and Alex George earned All-League honors.

Justin

and its third in four years.

Softball

The girls varsity softball team won the district championship. Tori Nugent led the team and capped her season with All-Catholic honors. All-League honors went to Isabel Standish '23, and senior captain Olivia Dickey '22 was named All-Academic.

Baseball

Varsity baseball seniors Kurt Barr and Matthew Green led the Knights, winning All-League honors with All-Catholic honors going to Jarren Purify and Oliver Service, and All-Academic honors to Ryan Jones. Barr and Greene also were selected to represent ULS (and the east) in the 40th annual MHSBCA East-West All Star Baseball Clinic at Comerica Park in June.

Field Hockey

The girls varsity field hockey team had an outstanding sea-

While the team did not qualify for the state meet, three runners advanced, including Michael Darlington, Brendan Beland and Donald Rowlands.

Volleyball

The girls varsity volleyball team captured the Division 3 district championship, beating Detroit Edison in three straight sets.

Swim and Dive

The girls co-op varsity swim team, partnering with Regina High School, made a splash at the CHSL Championship in November. Alice Roth had a 10th place finish in the 100 breaststroke, while Annabel Klassen finished seventh in the 100 backstroke.

The boys swim and dive team came back in 2022 after a six-year hiatus for the program. The team, under the guidance of rookie head coach and ULS head of school Bart Bronk, set goals for their four-man roster to achieve qualifying times for the season's upcoming county and state meets.

Dance Team

Liggett's dance team added school spirit in 2022. Coached by Kercheval Dance owner/choreographer and

Liggett alum Tracy Halso, the dance team performed at the ULS all-school pep assembly, homecoming football game, various senior nights and countless half-times. Liggett Dance also represented ULS in the Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade. The team concluded its season Nov. 19, at the Michigan Dance Team Championships, where this group of beginners placed seventh of nine teams.

College Commits

Two student-athletes from the class of 2022 became collegiate athletes, including Ava Jacob, who plays women's ice hockey at Lawrence Tech University, and James Dailey, who plays men's lacrosse at Kalamazoo College.

Several Liggett athletes from the class of 2023 committed to playing Division I baseball, including Oliver Service, who will play at the University of Texas, Jarren Purify, who will play at Clemson University, and Jack Jones, who will play at Michigan State University.



Athletes of the Year in August.

In one of the best regular seasons in recent memory, the girls varsity basketball team raised the district championship trophy by beating Detroit Central to capture the title with a 46-32 victory.

Boys Golf

The boys varsity golf team finished third in the Catholic League and regional tournaments and qualified for the state tournament. At states, the team finished third out of 121 teams in Division 3, setting a school record for a state championship two-day event with a total score of 635 (316 day one and 319 day two).

Charlie Cooksey finished sixth in a field of 108 players and Sean Sullivan tied for eighth. Jack Estes and Sullivan were co-MVP for the season, with Cooksey earning the nod for

Championship at No. 1 singles — only losing five games the entire tournament. She also was crowned individual regional champion.

Track and Field

Girls varsity track and field finished as runners-up in the MHSAA Regional Championship Meet in May and three athletes competed in the state meet — Olivia Thomas, Kerith Short and Penelope Griffioen. At states, Thomas placed third in the 100 meter dash, eighth in the 200 meter dash and fourth in the 400 meter dash, earning All-State honors in all three events. Short ran personal records in the 800 (2:34.76), 1600 (5:37.23) and 3200 (12:29.77) and Griffioen ran a personal best in the 3200 (12:22.34). The team finished 22nd out of 60 schools.

At regionals, boys varsity track and field finished fourth out of 13 teams. With the MHSAA officially adding wheel-

Nazarko was named to the All-Academic team. In addition, Daily and Nazarko were honored as Academic All-Americans by US Lacrosse. This is Daily's second time earning that honor.

Tory Roth led the girls varsity lacrosse team, earning All-Catholic League honors, along with Brynn Collins. Senior captain Emilia Bronk earned All-Academic honors.

Soccer

Notable performances on the pitch and in the classroom highlighted the girls varsity soccer season. Brooke Summers was named to the All-Catholic team. Sophie Ancona earned All-League honors, while Adetola Makun, the only senior on this year's squad, earned an All-Academic nod.

The Knights won the CHSL championship. Having drawn 0-0 against Everest Collegiate after normal time ended and in overtime, the team won 4-2 in a penalty shootout. It's the Knights second consecutive CHSL title

son, finishing as state runners up to Dexter, in the final of the Division 2 championship. Senior captain Izzy Freuhauf earned first team All-Catholic League, first team All-State honors and was named Grosse Pointe News Athlete of the Week in her final high school season.

Football

The ULS varsity football program enjoyed its most successful season since 2016, finishing with a 7-2 record. The Knights secured a spot in the playoffs for the first time since 2020.

Cross Country

The girls cross country team finished second in the Division 3 regional championships and qualified for the state meet in November. The five-girl team, led by Kerith Short and Penelope Griffioen, included Elizabeth Gough, Fiona Sierens and Kelsey Beckett. Kerith and Griffioen also moved themselves up on the ULS all-time list of fastest female sophomore and senior athletes.

The boys cross country team finished fifth overall in the region.

MOST COMMON NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS HINT: SPORTS CAN HELP WITH ALL OF THEM

EXERCISE MORE

Save money (ok maybe sports can't help with this)

learn a new skill or hobby

Quit smoking

LOSE WEIGHT

Live life to the fullest

Get organized

4D | SPORTS

YEAR IN REVIEW

Norsemen teams, athletes deliver memorable moments throughout the year

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Grosse Pointe North is no stranger to great moments in sports, and the school had more than a few of those over the past year. A number of teams and athletes had incredible achievements in 2022 to etch their names in Norsemen history.

"While the wins and losses accrue in the many arenas our student athletes compete in, the real victories come from the culture of teamwork and support that is fostered and passed on here at North," Grosse Pointe North Athletic Director Michelle Davis said.

"Our intention is to produce young athletes that will take these lessons of perseverance and be able to apply them to the rest of their lives," Davis added. "Athletic programs are true meritocracies. Teams and athletes are ultimately measured and judged by tangible wins and losses. Did you win? Did you lose? At North, we believe it is the intangible connections and support between students, coaches, and parents that lead us to strive for true sportsmanship and what we like to call Norseman Pride."

With the calendar about to turn to 2023, take a look back at how North's revered sports programs fared in 2022.

Basketball

Led once again by legendary head coach Gary Bennett, the North girls basketball team added a couple of titles to its already full trophy case. The Norsemen wrapped up the 2021-22 regular season with a 9-1 division record in the MAC Red making them league champions for a second year in a row.

North carried that momentum from the regular season into the postseason. Led by a 21-point performance from junior Annabel Ayrault, the Norsemen took down Hamtramck 51-39 to win the district championship. The team followed that up by beating Berkely 61-32 in the regional semifinals before eventually seeing its run come to an end in the regional finals.

Boys basketball may not have collected as many titles on the hardwood in the past year, but there were still moments throughout the season to be proud of. The team finished fourth in the MAC White Division but saw junior Adam Ayrault be named league MVP for his performance in the regular season. Things came to an end in the district semifinals when the Norsemen fell by just

five points to Hamtramck in a game that was much closer than expected. Ayrault had 34 points in that final game of the season.

Swim and Dive

From the hardwood to the water, the Norsemen boys swim and dive team went from unranked to finishing the winter season among the top 20 teams in the state. North was third in the MAC Red, with senior Gianni Carlino winning both the 200 and 500 freestyle events at the MAC championships. At the state finals, senior Ian Donahue earned second place in the 200 freestyle with a time of 1:42.8 while also being named All-State.

Finishing 18th in the state, the North girls swim and dive program also earned second place in the MAC Red. Avery Beal was MAC champion in the 50 freestyle and competed in both the 50 freestyle and 100 freestyle at the state finals. She ended up fourth in the 50 and sixth in the 100, earning All-State recognition in both events.

Hockey

It was a rough winter in 2022 on the ice for the North boys hockey program, but showed that there is a positive mentality going into the future. The Norsemen had a 1-23 record in the 2021-22 season, with the only win coming against Wyandotte Roosevelt 5-2 in February.

The girls hockey team was led by sophomore Ella Dobbs. Dobbs spent last winter leading North with 16 goals and 10 assists while the Norsemen finished with a record of 4-12. Goalie Olivia Palacio and defenseman Claire Ramsdell were both All-State honorable mentions when the season concluded.

Wrestling

The Norsemen wrestled their way to third in the MAC Gold for the 2021-22 season. The biggest highlight of the year on the wrestling mat came at the MAC Gold, Blue and Silver league meet in February. Junior Michael Salvador battled his way through the 152-pound weight class and had his arm raised as a league champion.

Baseball

One of the best stories of the spring sports season not only in the Pointes but in the entire state of Michigan was the run that the North baseball team made to

East Lansing. Faced with a coaching change just a month before the season began, interim head coach Kevin Shubnell led the Norsemen on an incredible season that will go down as one of the most memorable in an already historic baseball program.

North's regular season ended with a MAC White title that was decided under interesting circumstances. On Monday, May 23, the Norsemen resumed a game against Anchor Bay that was suspended earlier in the month and ruled an 8-8 tie. However, with both teams tied atop the MAC White standings, they decided to determine a league champion on the diamond. The decision ended up paying off for North when Drew

1-0 loss.

Despite a loss in the state title game, the incredible journey to get there helped remind fans just how special the Norsemen baseball program is. Shubnell was named Division 1 Coach of the Year by the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association. North also had two players receive All-State honors, with Drew Hill being First-Team All-State as an outfielder and Jordan Arsenau making Second-Team All-State for his work on the mound.

Softball

From baseball to softball, it was a spring to remember all around on the diamond at North. While finishing third in the MAC Red to end the reg-

ular

attack position. **Golf** Senior Niko Karoutsos provided a burst of energy for the boys golf squad in the spring. Karoutsos had an incredible run of finishing in the top five of every tournament that the Norsemen played throughout the season. He also helped his team finish third in the MAC Red and was an individual regional champion, shooting a low score of 75 at the regional tournament to send himself to the state finals.

Soccer

Despite finishing at the bottom of the MAC Red, girls soccer had a couple of key wins during the spring season. Those came in the form of crosstown rivalry victories over both Grosse Pointe North and University Liggett. The 2-0 win over Liggett to end the regular season brought North's record to 3-11-4, with the Norsemen being eliminated in the opening round of district playoffs.

Boys Soccer finished the regular season fifth in the MAC White but dominated Warren Fitzgerald 8-0 in the opening round of district playoffs. The Norsemen found themselves playing for a district championship for the second year in a row. The district title game was a battle with Hamtramck that could not be decided in regulation. The teams were both still tied 0-0 after extra time sending the game to a penalty kick shootout. North was bested in penalty kicks 4-2, ending the team's hopes of being back-to-back district champs.

Tennis

Girls tennis swung its way to second place in the region and got to make the trip to the state finals as a team, with Ana Todesco being a regional champion in No. 3 singles. The team ended up placing sixth at states, with junior Helaina Pietrowsky earning All-State recognition for her singles performance.

Lacrosse

In girls lacrosse, North had a lackluster regular season yet found itself at least a bit of momentum in the playoffs. Led by senior Ella Maltby, the Norsemen earned a 15-14 win over Cass Tech in the opening round of the playoffs before eventually falling to Bloomfield Hills in the quarterfinals.

Boys Lacrosse spent the spring winless in the MAC Red and last in the division. Despite a disappointing season, the Norsemen did still end up with two All-State honorable mentions when it was all said and done. Mitchell Mills and Jason Michalski received the nod for their work at the

James Mussiaux and Danny Michael were No. 1 doubles regional champions. In No. 3 doubles, Gruhith Yerramelli and Vasilios Vasilos took the regional title and the pair of James Muawad and George Safadi were top in the region in No. 4 doubles.

Track and Field

The spring track and field season for the boys and girls teams at North saw several athletes succeed. Ava Hopko was a regional champion for the girls team in high jump, shot put and discus. Daniel Weber earned third in the region in the 800 and David Rochon in the 3200 for the boys team.

Football

The fall brought one of the best seasons that the Norsemen have seen on the gridiron in years. North's football team went from just three wins in 2021 to eight in 2022. Those eight wins came all in a row in the first eight weeks of the season.

That incredible run included a 5-0 record in the MAC Gold, making the Norsemen division champions. The undefeated season was dashed by crosstown rival Grosse Pointe South in the final game of the regular season and North was eliminated by Allen Park in the opening round of the playoffs.

Despite the early postseason exit, the eight win season was still a milestone for North. It was the most games the program had won since earning eight victories back in 2016. Running back Jaden Holyfield along with defensive back Drew Hill and linebacker Ethan Bailey were named All-Region. Hill was also named to the All-State team for Division 3 by the Detroit Free Press.

Volleyball

Veteran leadership was the biggest key for the North volleyball team in the fall and helped lead the group to a third place finish in the MAC White. The Norsemen defeated the Blue Devils in both regular season meetings and found themselves up against their rivals again in the district championship. While North looked to end South's run of district titles, the team came up short in four sets.

Field Hockey

North field hockey was led by senior Sophia Borowski, who scored 21 goals throughout the fall for the Norsemen and had 45 total points. The team finished with a 6-7-4 record before falling to Cranbrook in the opening round of the state playoff tournament.



Hill hit a walk-off

R B I single to bring the team its first division championship since 2018.

The magic continued for the Norsemen into the postseason. They defeated crosstown rivals Grosse Pointe South in the district tournament and then won the district title by defeating Roseville. Then it was on to regionals, where North took down Birmingham Groves 7-4 to win the regional championship then on the same day defeated Chippewa Valley 5-0 in the state quarterfinals to punch its ticket to East Lansing and the final four.

The Norsemen cruised through the state semifinals by beating Battle Creek Lakeview 8-0. The win set up a meeting in the Division 1 state title game with undefeated powerhouse Orchard Lake St. Mary's. With sophomore Brennan Hill, who is now committed to play college baseball at the University of Michigan, on the mound, North nearly pulled off the upset of the year. Hill tossed a gem and held St. Mary's high-powered lineup to just one run, but that single run was enough to send the Norsemen home as the state runner-up with a

TOP HOME PROFESSIONAL SPORTING EVENTS THIS WEEK!

Wednesday, Dec. 28 - Pistons vs. Orlando Magic

Saturday, Dec. 31 - Red Wings vs. Ottawa Senators

Sunday, Jan. 1 - Detroit Lions vs. Chicago Bears

YEAR IN REVIEW

Local stars shine, recognized among 2022 GP News Athletes of the Week

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Throughout the short history of the Athlete of the Week series, there have been so many incredibly talented players from the boys and girls high school sports teams across town that have been able to have their talents showcased. From the 2021-22 Athlete of the Year winners to all the outstanding athletes who have been featured so far in the 2022-23 school year, this past year has shown just how proud the Pointes can be of its student athletes.

Over the summer, The Grosse Pointe News honored our first ever class of Athletes of the Year. With our Editors' Choice and Readers' Choice categories, five student athletes received a \$500 scholarship each in recognition of their achievements.

Editors' Choice Athlete of the Year winners included Olivia Yoo and Will Johnson from Grosse Pointe South. Both are now doing big things as NCAA Division I athletes. Yoo is in the water swimming with the University of Pittsburgh while Johnson has continued to show his incredible abilities on the gridiron becoming a Big Ten champion with the

University of Michigan football team.

More than 10,000 readers made their voices heard in the Readers' Choice category for voting. Three different athletes ended up receiving honors as Athletes of the Year after the votes were tallied. Alex George was the Readers' Choice male Athlete of the Year. A three-sport star at University Liggett School in soccer, basketball and lacrosse, George is now studying journalism at the University of Minnesota.

The Readers' Choice race for female Athlete of the Year ended in a draw, with two talented individuals both being honored from Grosse Pointe North. Ella Maltby, former field hockey and girls lacrosse captain is now playing both sports in college at Concordia University in Wisconsin. Sophia Borowski was also recognized for her achievements and is currently a senior at North playing her final high school seasons in field hockey, basketball and softball.

As the new school year began, the Grosse Pointe News once again began showing off the next class of outstanding athletes. So far, Athlete of the Week features for the 2022-23 school year have included:

Egan Sullivan-Football, Grosse Pointe South: Sullivan was recognized for being a leader both on and off the field for the Blue Devils football team. The senior tallied 455 rushing yards, 277 receiving yards and five touchdowns through the first four games of the season.

Cass Cooley- Soccer, University Liggett: The junior sensation for the Knights made his presence known on the pitch from the very beginning of the season. In his first eight games, Cooley had six goals and seven assists.

Sophie Schuetze-Swim and Dive, Grosse Pointe South: An All-State honoree in 2021, Schuetze continued her success in the pool this fall by earning All-State recognition in four different events while committing to continue making waves in college at the University of Cincinnati.

Jaden Holyfield-Football, Grosse Pointe North: Holyfield showcased throughout the fall why he truly was the real deal for the Norsemen. In the team's first seven games, the senior running back found the end zone 11

times and had an average of 6.7 yards per carry.

Gabby DiVita-Volleyball, Grosse Pointe South: In just her freshman season, DiVita proved she will be a force on the court for years to come. At the time she was featured, DiVita had 182 kills, 27 serving aces and 22 blocks and ended the fall as an All-State honorable mention.

Logan Detweiler-Cross Country, Grosse Pointe South: A captain of the Blue Devils cross country team, Detweiler found himself at or near the top in several races throughout his senior season. The highlight came in September when he finished first place overall at the New Boston Huron Invitational.

Connor Stafford-Tennis, Grosse Pointe South: Winning the state championship in the No. 1 singles bracket is one of, if not the toughest achievement in high school tennis. Stafford did just that to cap off his senior year with the Blue Devils as a champion.

Izzy Fruehauf- Field Hockey, University Liggett: Fruehauf led Liggett with 20 goals this

season and helped the team make it as far as the state championship game. Her performance helped her earn All-State and All-Catholic League recognition.

Avery Beal-Swim and Dive, Grosse Pointe North: Beal's sophomore season included two MAC Red division championships in the 50 and 100 freestyle. She also went on to earn All-State honors in both events at the state finals.

Josh Pierce-Football, University Liggett: After taking a year off from football in 2021, Pierce returned to the gridiron this fall for the Knights and proved his abilities as a natural leader. The senior ended the year with 12 sacks and 74 tackles on defense while being named the team's MVP.

Ryleigh O'Donoghue-Crew, Grosse Pointe South: A future University of Wisconsin Badger, the senior helped her team at Detroit Boat Club Crew to a second place finish at the Head of the Hooch regatta and was selected for the U.S. Rowing Olympic Development High Performance Program.

Stephen Wheatley-Hockey, University

Liggett: Wheatley led the Knights with eight goals and nine assists through the team's first five games of the winter season. On Nov. 28, he scored five goals and helped lead his team to victory over L'Anse Cresue Unified.

Logan Hepner-Swim & Dive, Grosse Pointe South: With the swim and dive season just getting underway, Hepner is looking to replicate his success from the 2021-22 campaign this winter. He was the Division 2 diving state champion at the 2022 finals and an All-American.

Leo Dragovic-Hockey, Grosse Pointe North: Dragovic is currently the Norsemen's leading scorer and became the first North player in nearly a decade to score hat tricks in back to back games, doing so against Livonia Franklin on Dec. 10 and Port Huron on Dec. 12.

Come back to the Grosse Pointe News each week, where plenty more talented players will be featured as the calendar flips to 2023 and the Athlete of the Week series continues.

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, visit grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week.

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