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# Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 84, NO. 10, 36 PAGES ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 95¢) MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR Your community newspaper since 1940 MARCH 9, 2023 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

## Legal opinion sought for ‘improper’ proposal

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — The Park’s top two elected officials are seeking a legal opinion about what they call a council-

woman’s “improper” and “out of line” proposal to silence a resident’s complaints against the city — complaints the then-city attorney ruled unfounded — by giving the resident nearly \$10,000 in cash or

tax breaks. Proposed payments are fashioned in increments below the \$5,000 threshold requiring council approval and entry into the minutes of the city council’s monthly

public meetings. The plan appears in an 8:57 a.m. April 11, 2022, email written by Councilwoman Christine Gallagher to Mayor Michele Hodges. “When I received the

email from the council member proposing improper payments to the resident, my level of concern was such that I felt I needed to immediately involve legal to address it,” Hodges said

last week. “Legal then advised that a meeting with her to address the concern was in order. She declined and refused to meet.” See *OPINION*, page 2A

## BoE recall petition filed

By Ted O’Neil  
Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — A recall petition has been filed with the Wayne County Clerk’s Election Commission against a member of the Grosse Pointe Public Schools Board of Education over a vote that was held more than eight months ago.

Board Vice President Lisa Papas is the target of the recall because she was

the lone “no” vote on a resolution regarding gun safety and safe gun storage. The resolution passed 6-1 at the board’s meeting June 27, 2022.

The petition was filed by Je Donna Dinges March 2. Dinges declined to comment when contacted by the Grosse Pointe News.

Dinges was one of 10 candidates who ran for three open seats on the board last November. She finished seventh, with 3,724 votes, just shy of 5 percent of the total. The

See *RECALL*, page 8A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Kings and bishops on Yorkshire

Matt Schuetze, a resident of the 1100 block of Yorkshire in Grosse Pointe Park, has made about 20 elaborate snow sculptures on his front lawn over the last two decades. After last weekend’s fresh snowfall, he saw a short window of opportunity to create something special and enlisted the help of neighbor, James Koto Saturday morning. A fan of the Netflix series “The Queen’s Gambit,” Schuetze tag-teamed with Koto, using a cement trowel to make snow piles to form chess pieces and squares. Though they began building in the morning, the afternoon sun worked hard to melt the chess pieces as fast as they could build them. Their diligence paid off and resulted in a chess board, complete with a castle, knight, bishop, king and queen.

**St. Pat's style!**

Fashion and more in section C

## No evidence of hate crime

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — It’s been two months since officials in the City of Grosse Pointe raised alarm after an alleged noose fashioned out of paper towel was found in a men’s bathroom stall inside the Kercheval Panera Bread around 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 30.

From the onset of its discovery, the City’s public safety department acted under the suspicion of a hate crime or harassment against the black community; however, the official findings of the Wayne County Prosecutor’s Office Juvenile Unit, released Friday, have determined there is insuffi-

cient evidence to charge a crime.

A 15-year-old — among a group of four white Grosse Pointe South High School freshman boys seen on surveillance inside the establishment at the time — admitted to creating a knot Panera employees alleged to be a noose, but told officers there was no ill intent. Rather, he said, the group was vaping in the bathroom and he tied a paper towel to hang a vape pen — possibly to take a photo of it.

“The crime of ethnic intimidation requires specific intent to intimidate or harass a person/ persons based upon race, color, religion, gender or national ori-

See *NOOSE*, page 3A

## Klepp recount cost less than 8K

By Ted O’Neil  
Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — The cost for last year’s Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education election recount is just shy of \$8,000.

A letter to the district dated March 2, from Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett, puts the final tally at \$7,940.69. The letter includes a breakdown of the 15 employees in the clerk’s election division who worked on the recount, including total hours, overtime, hourly pay rate and benefits.

The recount began Dec. 14, and concluded Dec. 19. Recounts, under state law, are billed to the local unit of government for which the election was held, which in this case is the Grosse Pointe Public School System.

Numbers certified by the Wayne County Board of Canvassers following last November’s election



Timothy Klepp filed the recount, which has a price tag of nearly \$8,000.

showed Ginny Jeup holding a 15-vote lead over Tim Klepp, 9,889 to 9,874, for the third open seat on the board. Sean Cotton and Valarie St. John handily won the other two open seats in the 10-person race. Klepp filed a petition in late November requesting the recount.

When it was finished, Jeup still came out ahead, this time by four votes. The recount also showed Cotton gaining eight additional votes and St. John five.

When asked after the

recount if he intended to run for the board again, Klepp said “too soon, too soon.”

Klepp also told the Grosse Pointe News last December he would be open to looking at ways to reimburse the district for the recount cost. He did not return a voicemail seeking comment by press time.

A post-election campaign finance report Klepp’s committee filed with the county in late November indicated it had \$3,823 cash on hand.

Board President Ahmed Ismail said he expected the bill to be higher.

“I’m surprised it’s so low,” he said. “But that’s part of the process. People have a right to ask for a recount.”

There will be four open seats in the 2024 election. Those currently are held by Ismail, Vice President Lisa Papas and trustees Collen Worden and David Brumbaugh.

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**Pointer of INTEREST**

See story, page 4A

**Paul Booker**  
Home: Grosse Pointe Farms  
Organizer of Jefferson Presbyterian’s weekly food drive

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# Shakeup on personnel committee

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — It was initially construed as a reasonably predictable falling short of committee obligations due to being new in office.

Then, non-completion of a critical obligation resulted in first-term Councilwoman Christine Gallagher being removed as chair of the municipal personnel committee.

On Feb. 13, a united council, minus Gallagher's lone dissenting vote and Councilman Vikas Relan's excused absence, elevated Councilman Brian Brenner to chair the three-member personnel committee, on which he'd been serving with Mayor Michele Hodges.

Hodges recommended the rejiggering, which passed as one of eight items on a consent agenda that included

summary updates by the chairs of various municipal committees and commissions, but nothing from personnel.

The vote passed without discussion.

Later, however, Hodges, Brenner and City Manager Nick Sizeland answered questions.

"This administration is all about getting stuff done," Hodges said. "Each committee — the personnel committee being one of them — is assigned duties and tasks, all of which are meant to help Nick get his goals accomplished. Those duties and tasks had not been accomplished. So, we've put leadership in place who is able to get that done."

The greatest breach concerned a delay in Sizeland's annual performance review by the personnel committee.

"I come up with the

goals," Sizeland said. "The personnel committee reviews those goals. After they review those goals, they provide their thoughts to council. I provided my goals in late November or early December."

"We're contractually obligated in Nick's employment agreement to conduct his reviews by January of each year," Hodges said. "That's the primary one, but other things were in violation for the second year in a row."

Failing to honor Sizeland's contract and the January deadline — anytime in January, from the 1st through 31st — put the city at legal risk, particularly if he gets bad ratings about failing to attain objectives that hadn't been issued in a timely manner or not at all.

"You can easily expose your organization if

you're not managing human resources properly," Hodges said. "We also know the importance of retaining talent and the costs that can be associated with losing talent."

Brenner is familiar with duties of the chair, having had to assume some of them for the committee to, per Hodges' mantra, get stuff done.

"I'm not trying to ruffle any feathers here," Brenner said. "I'm just trying to make sure that the committees I am involved in achieve their stated goals according to the timelines we are given. I stepped in whenever I felt I could with trying to be respectful of the chair's authority, but with full grasp of the fact there's a timeline in which these things need to get done."

"There were multiple attempts made to ensure

the duties of the committee got met," Hodges said. "It was probably late summer (when) we said, 'OK, let's make sure we don't get behind the 8-ball; let's make sure we get these duties taken care of.' We wanted to get Nick his goals in a timely fashion so he had a full 12 months to implement them. You have to be ahead of all that and have good, constructive feedback, which is part of any quality review process."

"If I was afraid things would not get done," Brenner said, "I'm also not afraid to speak up, with the goal of getting our tasks completed."

During the Jan. 9 council meeting, Gallagher recounted her accomplishment during 2022 as personnel chair.

In doing so, she expressed no urgency to

See *SHAKEUP*, page 3A

# Officers honored for exceptional judgment, decisive action, kindness

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — During the Feb. 13 city council meeting, Park Chief Bryan Jarrell recognized officers for showing exceptional judgment, decisive action and sometimes kindness in the quelling of potentially explosive emotional situations, the capture of criminals and support of victims.

"We have a rock star team," Mayor Michele Hodges told the officers. "We're so proud of you all and grateful for the very hard work

you do. We're here to support you in any way we can."

◆ PSO James Thompson earned a department citation for using alternative yet effective methods to calm a physically assaultive girl during a case of family trouble last February.

"The individual was extremely agitated," Jarrell said. "PSO Thompson recognized the seriousness of the situation and asked for the special needs comfort bag the department recently obtained. The bag contained, among other items, a weighted

blanket and noise-canceling headphones, which the young adult took comfort in and within minutes calmed down."

◆ Sgt. Kevin Remus also received a department citation for tracking down a bicycle thief in Detroit and recovering two bikes stolen in the Park in July.

"Detective secured a confession of several other larcenies committed in Grosse Pointe Park and returned a habitual offender to prison," Jarrell said.

◆ The combined efforts of Dispatcher Dawn Kelly, Sgt.

Michael Miller and PSO Adam Bremer earned the trio a unit commendation for actions Aug. 3.

"Officers located four stolen vehicles driving in the area of Westchester and Windmill Pointe," Jarrell said.

All took off speeding, two crashing into each other at Maryland and Jefferson from which the drivers ran away.

"After a foot chase, one of the suspects was apprehended," Jarrell said. "Follow-up investigation led to the confession and identification of more suspects in the

organized car theft ring known as The Kia Boys."

The case required teamwork.

"The officers and dispatcher acted in unison and apprehended a wanted, violent felon and in doing so prevented further vehicle thefts in Grosse Pointe Park," Jarrell said.

◆ Officers Christopher Muklewicz, Scott Gilchrist and Emily McGrath received a department commendation for helping a vulnerable female resident who'd been victimized by a man who lived in her house.

The man had pawned some of her jewelry, extorted thousands of dollars from her and essentially took over her 2022 Lincoln vehicle, according to Jarrell.

"Our detectives caught up with this man and he was arrested," Jarrell said. "We recovered the Lincoln, but it was in terrible condition, the tires worn out, the breaks needing replacement and the interior was disgustingly dirty."

Muklewicz and McGrath took her car to police headquarters and spent two hours cleaning it.

"They removed bio-hazards, drug paraphernalia and general filth and returned to her a nice, clean car," Jarrell said. "But it gets better. When they returned the car to her home, they cleaned out the second-floor room where this gentleman had been staying. They found several bags of her jewelry."

## OPINION:

Continued from page 1A

"I was included on the request to meet, as legal advised Michele to not meet with Gallagher alone on this (and) that others should be involved in this discussion," added Mayor Pro Tem Tom Caufield. "Obviously, after reading the email, I shared in their concerns, with my biggest one being the frequency of

paying amounts under the \$5,000 approval threshold."

In addition to suspecting impropriety, Caufield said, "Council doesn't have the authority to render payments in the form she demanded. So, again, the direction from legal was to have a meeting with Councilwoman Gallagher to advise her that the request was out of line. But, Gallagher refused to meet."

Gallagher's goal in the

email is to "quite" (sic) the resident's "negative narrative."

"I don't remember suggesting a payment," Gallagher said during an interview after the Sept. 19, 2022, council meeting.

She was presented a copy of the email to refresh her memory.

Gallagher read the salient passage aloud and corrected the written malapropism, "quite," to mean "quiet" the negative narrative.

Her email to Hodges began, "I am writing this email as a follow up to the conversation we had several weeks back ... regarding this resident complaint against [City Manager] Nick Sizeland and the City administration."

The resident to which Gallagher referred claimed to have experienced a multi-year hassle of nearby residential construction causing more than \$30,000 in property damage. The resident cited destroyed landscaping and a lawn sprinkler system, having to replace sod and a tree, plus repair sections of driveway and curbing.

"The City of Grosse Pointe Park should have held these homeowners and contractors responsible for all damages I sustained by their building activity," the resident wrote in a March 3, 2022, email co-addressed to "Christine and Marty"

(meaning Councilman Marty McMillan), which is part of a chain of messages in which Gallagher's proposal appears.

That same day, then-Park City Attorney Jake Howlett, then of the Bodman law firm, emailed Hodges, "I have spoken to (the resident) twice and (the resident) has sent me several emails. I was clear with (the resident) that there was no city liability for (the) claimed construction damages."

The resident told the Grosse Pointe News last September, "I said is there a possibility the city is responsible for damage done to my property. They basically said no, so I reluctantly moved on. But in terms of soliciting funds or what you mentioned, absolutely not."

Jumping forward in Gallagher's April 11 email, she concluded: "Here's what I suggest. We identify a creative way of repayment and acknowledgement that can address the issue while not giving fodder for those individuals looking for opportunity to slam the administration. My suggestions include but are not limited to:

◆ a credit on water bill (\$5K) and one direct payment under \$5K or

◆ 2 x's direct payments under \$5K or

◆ \$2K reduction on property tax with no tax

increase for X # years and

◆ a written apology (after solution is implemented) from the administration to quite (sic) the negative narrative.

"Thank you for your assistance in solutioning this longstanding issue. Respectfully,

"Christine Gallagher." Hodges answered Gallagher three hours later: "Given the fact there is a suggestion of legal action in your report on this matter, I've copied City Attorney Howlett to reply. There are details you'd benefit from knowing."

Hodges later instructed Howlett to preserve the communications.

"In order to protect the city from exposure and to ensure compliance to council rules, it is important that it be documented and addressed in writing," Hodges wrote Howlett May 2.

The Grosse Pointe News acquired emails on the matter. Three Park officials independently attributed Gallagher's April 11 message.

"I have no knowledge of this whatsoever," the resident said last year. "This is perplexing and actually mortifying. Where is this stuff coming from?"

Back to the September council meeting, Gallagher said afterward she had no intent to pay the resident in exchange

for silence.

"That was not my intent. That was not my intent," she kept saying.

Pressed about her written, bullet-pointed and emailed idea to exchange nearly \$10,000 to quiet the negative narrative, she said, "Well, that was not my intent. I told you the intent was for the city manager to engage with this resident and to find a solution that was good and right. That's what I said. (The resident) was expressing a lot of negative narrative around that, so I said it's important, it's good to reach out to (the resident). That was my intent."

None of that is in the email.

Later, the resident said, "I would appreciate it if you kept my name out of it."

Before Gallagher was demoted this year as chair of the Park personnel committee, she gave a year-end wrap-up of her accomplishments during 2022.

She praised herself and the committee for replacing Bodman, the law firm which opposed the resident's financial claims against the city and urged a meeting with Mayor Hodges and a witness.

"It is my opinion this one change will have a significant and long-lasting impact on the effectiveness of our city and its administration," Gallagher said in her wrap-up.

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# Sutherland case set for May pre-exam

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — The continuation of an adjourned probable cause conference for David Sutherland before Judge Charles Berschback in Grosse Pointe Farms Municipal Court last Wednesday lasted less than 10 minutes, as its main purpose was to set a date for the preliminary exam.

The Farms attorney and former trustee, legal counsel and advisor to the Gretchen C. Valade Irrevocable Living Trust is making his way through the court system for allegedly diverting trust assets to his own use, including lending himself more than \$7.7 million and a business of which he was a

50 percent owner, more than \$7.6 million.

The Michigan Attorney General's Office is calling for four felony charges: two counts of embezzlement of \$100,000 or more; one count of embezzlement from a vulnerable adult of \$100,000 or more; and one count of criminal enterprise conducting.

With James Sullivan, attorney for Sutherland, requesting the pre-exam be pushed into May to provide enough time to get through the evidence the state brought against the defense, the date was set for 9 a.m. Monday, May 8.

"The discovery in this case was voluminous," Assistant Attorney General Dan Gunderson said, noting 10 to 15 large exhibits, "so giving the defense as much



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

From left, Scott Teter, division chief of the Michigan Attorney General's Financial Crimes Division, and Assistant Attorney General Dan Gunderson stand across from defense attorney James Sullivan and David Sutherland in Grosse Pointe Farms Municipal Court Wednesday, March 1.

time as possible to get through it all, I think, makes sense."

While the Farms typically holds court

Wednesdays, nothing else on the docket.

Before adjournment, and for the third time in as many hearings,

Sullivan requested Sutherland's tether be removed. This time the cited reasons were his appearance track record since the hearings began in January and the fact the Farms attorney also surrendered his passport.

"Your honor, I think our arguments from the last hearing and the hearing before that are the same today," Gunderson said in response. "I don't think any conditions have changed in the interim. I think attending court is the baseline expectation, so I don't think that should affect the tether provision of the court."

Berschback denied the motion.

"I did give the parties an opportunity to move this case along, as far as earlier dates," he said. "I'm still concerned about the flight risk, so the motion to remove the tether is denied."

# Storm part II

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — The second in a double-header of winter storms and power outages worthy of Yogi Berra hit the Pointes last weekend.

It arrived the night of Friday, March 3, eight days after an ice storm Feb. 23, that caused overstressed power lines to

snap. The follow-up — with 35 mph on-shore winds gusting to 40 — dumped heavy, sticky snow measuring four inches, according to the National Weather Service, shunting DTE Energy customers throughout town into the dark and cold, echoing

Berra's déjà vu all over again.

While the accumulation of ice on power lines was the obvious main cause of the first round of outages, in the encore it was mainly snow.

An inch of average snow weighs 1.04 pounds per square foot, according to scientists who make a living measuring such things.

"One inch of wet snow

can contain two to three times more water than one inch of dry snow, making it that much heavier," reports compuweather.com.

"I think it was the heavy snow and ice on wires," said Brian Colter, Park city forester. "A lot of limbs were down, for sure, but I didn't see any limbs that took down wires."

A big difference between the storms was

the duration of resulting power outages.

In the first, some customers in the Park went without electricity for up to a week.

In the second, repair crews mended damage within two days.

Early in the storm, power failed in the following areas of the Park:

- ◆ a big section between Jefferson between Westchester to Bishop,

- ◆ a triangular section below Jefferson centered on the intersection of Essex and Lakepointe,

- ◆ on Cadieux and Harvard between Charlevoix to Jefferson and on Jefferson Court to Lake St. Clair and

- ◆ on Wayburn to Lakepointe between Kercheval and Mack Avenue.

See STORM, page 5A

## NOOSE:

Continued from page 1A

gin," the prosecutor's report states. "The fashioning and leaving a paper towel noose in a public place without additional evidence of intent to threaten or intimidate persons based on the enumerated factors in the statute (MCL 750.147B) is lacking in this case. The warrant is being denied because there is insufficient evidence to charge a crime."

"In this case we thoroughly evaluated the police investigation and looked at every applicable law," Prosecutor Kym Worthy said in a statement. "This office strives to charge only cases that can be proven beyond a reasonable doubt. That is the criminal, legal standard and that simply cannot be met here."

Though in an interview after he was identified the youth in question told investigators his vaping apparatus was not a noose, the seriousness behind the symbol, Public Safety Director John Alcorn said, is what drove the department initially to investigate the situation as a potential hate crime.

"In this country, the noose is a symbol of murder and hate and torture and violence toward African Americans," he said. "... Now, we didn't have any crimes like this before this, nor did we have anything after this, so it was this single, isolated incident, but until we knew better, we wanted to make sure we were treating it appropriately and I think the only way to do that is to take it as a threat."

The department maintains it handled the investigation properly,

by operating under suspicion of a hate crime before turning the case over to the prosecutor's office to determine whether charges were warranted.

"The prosecutor's office are the experts," Alcorn said. "So the police department's job (is to) collect the evidence, collect the facts and present it to them and then they make their decision on charges."

"It's oftentimes we don't have the full story," he added, "but because of that powerful, dangerous symbol, we chose to investigate it like a possible hate

crime. We didn't want to treat it as anything else because it's serious."

City of Grosse Pointe Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak spoke out strongly against the incident when it occurred in December, stating the City condemned the act and "any attempts at racial intimidation will be dealt with to the full extent of the law. This is a hate crime that is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in our community. The noose, which is a symbol of human oppression and violence, has no place here."

The mayor issued her comments the day after the alleged noose was found and, therefore, before prosecutors determined it not to be a criminal act.

After the prosecutor's ruling to not pursue charges, she issued the following statement: "Although the prosecutor's office has made its decision, that does not mean that we are excusing the teens' actions. The use of racist symbols is hurtful and unacceptable in this community. We will remain vigilant and continue to work to promote understanding and respect for all."

## SHAKEUP:

Continued from page 2A

not afraid to speak up, with the goal of getting our tasks completed."

During the Jan. 9 council meeting, Gallagher recounted her accomplishment during 2022 as personnel chair.

In doing so, she expressed no urgency to meet the January

deadline for city manager goal-setting.

"I have asked for feedback from each of the council members as well as City Manager Sizeland, which I will collect and consolidate so the committee can measure performance against those goals," she said in her presentation. "I have proposed three meeting dates in the coming weeks to my committee mem-

bers to further those discussions. Once those discussions are concluded, we'll schedule a formal review on the council agenda at the appropriate time and provide performance evaluations."

The next council meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 13, at least six weeks after the window closed on satisfying the city's contractual obligation.



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## The Week Ahead

### SUNDAY, MARCH 12

- ◆ Daylight saving time begins

### MONDAY, MARCH 13

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Board of Review, 1:30 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Farms City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation annual meeting, 7 p.m.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 14

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Board of Review, 9 a.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Finance meeting, 10 a.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Board of Review, 1:30 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens' Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 17

- ◆ St. Patrick's Day



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## 4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

## Volunteer is driven to feed those in need

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

“It’s amazing the ideas that are hatched in a rental car waiting in line at TCF Center,” said Grosse Pointe Farms resident Paul Booker, whose good intention during the height of the pandemic has since snowballed into providing meals and daily necessities to 60 to 100 people in the 48214 ZIP code each Friday out of the Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church parking lot.

After retiring in 2018, from a 30-year career as an elementary language arts specialist and then academic assistant in the Grosse Pointe Public School System, he recalls reading a plethora of books — a recent recommendation of his is “Hamnet” by Maggie O’Farrell — and watching just about every show on Netflix, before realizing he was bored out of his mind.

His solution was to begin collecting boxes of produce from Food Rescue US, operating at the time out of the TCF Center, and distributing them from the church’s parking lot in July 2020. The effort really took off, however, when a partnership with Make Food Not Waste led to the distribution of 1,000 Thanksgiving meals in November of that year.

A cascade effect saw Make Food Not Waste begin producing weekly meals out of the church’s kitchen in January 2021, followed by Harbortown Market and Meijer Rivertown Market coming on board in February 2021 and summer 2022,



Paul Booker stands with frozen foods for distribution to the 60 to 100 neighborhood residents who come to the drive each Friday.

respectively, with donations of excess food past its selling point.

“If there’s one thing I’ve learned through all this, it’s that this country produces enough food to feed everyone,” Booker said. “There is more than enough and when you read the statistics that we throw out between 39 and 40 percent of the food we produce and yet we have people that come to the church on Friday that can’t afford food or are hungry, through no fault of their own, I find it almost inexcusable that our country is in this position. That we are producing, but we are not taking care of our own.”

The “taking care of our own” concept is seen in the people who come to JAPC each Friday. Most are of an older generation and yet a significant number come in place of homebound family members and neighbors.

Aside from the food — ranging from fruits and

vegetables, to soups and stews, to ever-expensive eggs — the drive connects people, when it can, with necessary items that can add up in cost, including adult incontinence undergarments; children’s diapers; and around 50 bags a month of feminine hygiene products.

“I keep a stash of

gloves and hats in the church, because right now people come through and they aren’t dressed properly,” Booker added, noting deacons also offer a prayer station at the site.

To reduce waste, a composter is on site for food that can’t be used — Booker uses the gauge, “Well, I wouldn’t serve

that to my family” — as well as a cardboard recycler. At times when good food is left over, the volunteers will place it in the community refrigerator at the corner of Field Street and Kercheval.

Upholding the postal worker’s creed, Booker has only missed two Fridays due to snow storms since July 2020.

And yet, sometimes, as chair of the church’s mission committee, he feels as though he is getting more out of the experience than what he’s giving. He specifically recalls a time when a friend offered an extra ticket to see “Tina: The Tina Turner Musical” at the Detroit Opera House on a Thursday night, which he had to turn down because he gets up at 5:30 a.m. Fridays to collect the food from Meijer.

“So of course I was in a lovely mood all Friday and it spirals,” he said, “... and a lady walked up to me and she had some bills in her hand kind of wadded up and she said,

‘Baby, I don’t have much, but I want you to have this, because I appreciate what you’re doing for us.’

“I think it was maybe three or four dollars,” he continued. “It wasn’t a lot of money, but there was that story in the Bible about the widow that gave everything that she had and I thought, ‘That lady just gave you everything she had and you’ve been complaining about missing ‘Tina’ last month. I think you need to get your priorities straightened out here, my friend.’”

For those interested in lending a helping hand and perhaps experiencing their own renewed perspective, volunteers always are welcome through makefoodnotwaste.org.

Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church and Grosse Pointe Memorial Church also are currently partnering for a Lenten collection of hygiene products, such as toothbrushes and toothpaste, that can be dropped off at either church.



Volunteers work alongside Booker to distribute food at Jefferson Presbyterian on a cold February Friday morning. From left are Chelsea Gilbert, Paul Booker, Janice Konen, Rachel Hays, Lexi Danielson-Francois and Serge Danielson-Francois.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Civic campus brainstorming process begins

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Between running it up the flagpole to see if anyone salutes and putting it on the back porch to see if the cat licks it up is throwing it against the wall to see if it sticks.

Ideas came quickly during a brainstorming session Feb. 28 of the Downtown Development Authority regarding possible redesigns of the city hall campus.

Authority board members, whose district

includes but is not limited to municipal headquarters and property on the north side of Jefferson between Maryland and Lakepointe — which currently consists of a front lawn, vacant lot and a parking lot shared by the city and public library — intend to transform it from its current serious and somber tone into something more accessible and welcoming.

The finished concept should convey themes of accessibility and friendliness, board members said, and provide space for public art, celebrations, concerts and more.

The gathering had the spontaneity of pre-livestreamed municipal meetings, not the canned presentations they foster by participants struggling to appear unrehearsed while posturing before the camera and stumbling through poorly memorized deep thoughts.

“We’re hoping to pick your brains tonight to make sure we’re on the right track,” Shandre Bernath-Plaisted, an architect with Jima Studio, told the board.

The company won an up-to \$15,000 contract from the DDA last December to redesign the civic campus.

Bernath-Plaisted sought to fine-tune the city’s goal of establishing a park-like setting while also accommodating a work-a-day requirement to boost the campus’ motor vehicle parking

capacity by 50 spaces.

“We’re in the middle of our site analysis and at the beginning of the visioning process,” Bernath-Plaisted said.

She asked board members what they did and didn’t like about the current site.

She noted answers which she’ll use to draft an online survey soliciting further ideas from residents at large.

“The residents really like the greenspace,” board member Sharron Corbin said. “Keeping as much greenspace as possible is what they’ve been concerned about. (Condominium) residents on Lakepointe are concerned about the view. They’re not thrilled about having a parking lot.”

DDA Chairman Benjamin Wixson suggested planting tall trees along the Lakepointe border to shield condo residents’ views of the forthcoming parking spots.

“Instead of thinking about it as something they have to look at, it’s become something they want to look at,” Wixson said.

Practical desires included preserving a sidewalk access from Lakepointe to the library, adding a sidewalk along the Jefferson driveway to city hall, preserving vehicle access to the Maryland-Lakepointe alley, maintaining drive-up access to a mailbox and library book return

bin, plus sheltering the bus stop on Jefferson.

“SMART will help fund some of those creative ideas,” said Nick Sizeland, Park city manager.

Member Laura Ochab recommended the driveway to campus remain off Jefferson, not on Lakepointe.

“Residents of the condo across Lakepointe were concerned about traffic flow,” she said.

“Preserving this architecture but being able to mix it with something new that integrates us with the neighborhood and our neighbors in the Jefferson-Chalmers (neighborhood of Detroit) is important,” Wixson said.

“There’s an opportunity to let our architecture stand out a little more,” member Jamie Rae Turnbull said. “Now, it doesn’t have that sense of arrival to a municipal campus.”

She was talking about removing large bushes blocking the Jefferson view of city hall.

“That is a large space that can be used for something,” Wixson said.

“As the Jefferson corridor gets more activated, we’d like to see it more welcoming for events,” Turnbull said. “Residents have talked about doing things, like food truck rallies.”

“We’re one of the oldest suburbs in this region,” Wixson said. “We need to make sure

we’re staying with what’s going on around us. There’s a lot of really cool things happening on the other side of Alter (in Detroit). Restaurants and boutiques are opening and taking the old and mixing it with the new. We’re a block away. We don’t want it to seem like you’re entering another world when you enter Grosse Pointe Park from Detroit. We’re two cities next to each other, sharing the same vision.”

Hodges, a board member of Jefferson East, Inc., a community organization on Detroit’s east side, suggested Jima designers review JEL’s and Detroit’s plans for Jefferson corridor development.

“From a continuity standpoint, it wouldn’t hurt to see what elements make sense to connect the vision (of) being good neighbors and being a porous border,” Hodges said.

Board members are aware not everything may be accomplished at once.

“We have budget issues,” Hodges said. “But we have great partnership opportunities we can leverage on both sides of the border. If this can become a catalyst for that, why waste this opportunity and the moment?”

While board members’ imaginations worked overtime, they remained aware of having to work within a budget.

“There might be a way

we can phase this in,” Turnbull said.

“Yes,” Hodges said. “Start out with what the municipality can do and what our obligations are, which are the parking spots. That’s the absolute. Then you can layer on it.”

Things got silly after about an hour.

Hodges joked about designing a campus that repulsed red-winged blackbirds, notorious for dive-bombing pedestrians violating their territory.

“We want to discourage them so we don’t get conked on the head,” Hodges said. “They disrupt the experience.”

“Anything you can do to discourage fishflies, too,” member James Kretzschmar added.

The next step is for Jima to develop a survey for city officials to post online.

“The goal is to get that out by the middle of March so it will be out for about a month (prior to) the final public engagement session in mid-April,” Bernath-Plaisted said.

The April date and meeting location haven’t been set.

“We hope to wrap up all the engagement by mid-April and close the survey after that final session,” Bernath-Plaisted said. “Once we have all the public engagement, we move into our concept design, taking feedback and putting together a design.”

## Grosse Pointe News

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## Grosse Pointe Park

## Passed out at the wheel

Depending on the analysis of suspected narcotics discovered during a traffic arrest, felony charges may be filed against a 40-year-old Detroit man.

Officers caught him around 11:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, passed out at the wheel of a vehicle with its motor running in the 1000 block of Cadieux.

"Investigation revealed evidence (he) was under the influence of narcotics," said police, arresting him for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of drugs.

"A search of the vehicle revealed possible narcotics," police said.

## Pickup on Courville

The driver of a Ford F-150 pickup sped away with three passengers when Park police tried to pull him over for speeding at 9:05 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24, on Mack at Courville, near St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic School.

All four parties ditched the pickup a half block up Courville and ran away.

Police said the vehicle was listed as stolen from a Detroit location.

## Tough guy breaks phone

A convulsion fit earned a 24-year-old Detroit man, already under arrest for a traffic violation and an outstanding

warrant, an additional charge of malicious destruction of property.

At 4:12 p.m. Friday, March 3, police arrested him at Haverhill and Brunswick, one block above Mack in Detroit, for speeding.

"(He had) a suspended driver's license and a warrant for his arrest," police said.

Officers took him to headquarters.

"(He) destroyed the phone in the holding cell," police said.

—Brad Lindberg

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

## Grosse Pointe Shores

Nothing to report per dispatch.

—Ted O'Neil

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

## Grosse Pointe Woods

## Cyber crime

A resident in the 1800 block of Manchester filed a report Wednesday, March 1, stating he was notified by his credit card company that a computer costing more than \$1,100 was ordered from Best Buy using his account.

The computer was shipped to an address in Saginaw. The man closed

his account and was issued a new credit card.

## Missing money

A resident in the 1200 block of Edmunton filed a report Wednesday, March 1, that money she left hidden outside her house for a weekly food delivery was taken after the delivery person alerted her the money was not in its usual place.

The woman told officers she last saw the money at noon when she left her house.

—Ted O'Neil

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

## City of Grosse Pointe

## Car trouble

Two backpacks containing construction materials and \$50 in cash were stolen from an unlocked 2021 Dodge Ram parked in the 400 block of Lakeland overnight into the morning of Tuesday, Feb. 28.

Within the same period an unknown person broke the rear window of a 2022 Ford EcoSport parked in the 500 block of Cadieux. Nothing was taken from the vehicle, nor did it appear to have been rummaged through.

## Xfinity scam

A Grosse Pointe resident purchased \$600

worth of Target gift cards and supplied the codes to a scammer claiming to be an Xfinity representative Wednesday, March 1.

## Déjà vu

An iPhone was stolen from the gym of an establishment in the 17000 block of Waterloo while the owner was playing basketball between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 1.

Another iPhone was stolen from the same location under similar circumstances in early February, but the suspect in the first case since has been arrested.

—Laurel Kraus

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

## Grosse Pointe Farms

## Trespassing tantrum

Officers were called to a business in the 19000 block of Mack when a 37-year-old Detroit man began arguing and cursing at the clerk because he was asked to stop standing in the doorway at 12:55 a.m. Saturday, March 4.

After refusing to identify himself — instead asking officers to arrest him — the man refused to get into a scout car. He later refused booking photos and fingerprints by putting his head down

and refusing to move.

Found to be a non-compliant sex offender as well, the man was arrested for obstructing police, disorderly conduct, trespassing and failure to stop and ID.

## Opposite day

A 47-year-old Detroit man, who believed he was in Bloomfield, swerved into oncoming traffic on Moross twice and stopped at a green light only to continue when it turned red, also told officers he hadn't had anything to drink when he was pulled over at 1:48 a.m. Saturday, March 4.

After failing field sobriety tests, the man refused to take a preliminary breath test. He was arrested for a second offense of operating while intoxicated, open intoxicants, preliminary breath test refusal and no proof of insurance.

## Back in time

Pulled over at Mack and Radnor for an out-of-service brake light and tinted license plate cover, a 42-year-old Detroit man had a strong odor of intoxicants about him and told the officer he had a shot at 10 p.m., despite it being 9:25 p.m. Saturday, March 1.

A preliminary breath test found him to have 0.162 percent blood alcohol content and he was arrested for a sec-

ond offense of operating while intoxicated.

## Drunken doctor visit

Officers were called to a local hospital at 6:04 a.m. Sunday, March 5, for a man and woman using racial slurs and being belligerent toward a doctor who advised them treatment could not be given due to the man's intoxication.

When officers caught up to the two at Mack and Grayton, the 31-year-old Roseville woman was driving, leading to her arrest for driving while license suspended, not having insurance and expired plates.

## Delayed concern

After walking back to his home in the Woods, a man called officers at 10:44 p.m. Sunday, March 5, to report his 2013 black GMC Cadillac XTS was stolen from a gas station in the 19000 block of Mack 20 minutes prior.

The man stated he left the car running to go into the business, but took the key and key fob with him. The store clerk reported not seeing anything and no video was available at the time of the report.

—Laurel Kraus

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

## DPW faces sustainable service, employee retention hardships

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Those in supervisory positions in the City's public works department are nearing their wits' ends after two years of compounding challenges in employee retention and keeping up with the level of service expected of such a department in the Grosse Pointes: a concern currently earning council and city administration's full attention as initial budget discussions begin for the upcoming 2023-24 fiscal year.

"Fundamentally, we don't have enough manpower to do the minimum services that are required for us to do," said Pete Randazzo, public services director and 27-year employee of the department.

The City's DPW, which once boasted 28 full-time, part-time and seasonal employees, was forced to right-size in 2008, and today employs 10 full-time workers,

three supervisors and the director.

Exacerbating the challenge of running a department slashed in half, the crew has seen 16 full-time employees come and leave since 2016. Five of those were in the last six months.

Ten went to public service departments in other municipalities, two became Wayne County sheriff's deputies; one went to Park public safety; one has yet to retain another position; and two others retired, Randazzo reported.

"The reason that they left was more money," he said. "That's what it came down to. Everybody that I did an exit interview on, they didn't really complain about the working conditions. We built a brand new DPW. We have a state-of-the-art facility."

Facing an 8 percent cost-of-living increase over the last year, City Manager Pete Dame said, the City has not been able to keep up with the rate of inflation. It did

manage to give a 3 percent salary increase to non-union employees last year, along with restoring the system of retention bonuses for longevity.

It also began offering a new supplementary deferred compensation program of a 1 percent match for employees who don't have traditional pensions, as the City's pension system for general employees was eliminated in 2010.

However, Randazzo added, new hires don't seem interested in pay they must wait to accrue. Only one DPW employee has taken advantage of the pay match and none of the recent resigners worked in the department more than two years.

"They would rather see more money in their pocket now," Randazzo said.

In a catch-22, lack of employees leads to burn-out for those who remain, which then runs the risk of leading to fewer employees.

With the inability to fill temporary jobs comes the inevitability full-time employees will have to neglect certain tasks — such as maintenance projects — in favor of completing more essential services — such as refuse collection — which traditionally were handled by those with lower pay.

Prior to the pandemic, the city hired laborers through temporary agencies to work the back of garbage trucks, but ultimately did away with the avenue because people often did not show up to work, nor was the vetting process stellar.

One option to consider going forward, Randazzo said, could be to go through a new temp agency that better vets employees, although it would be more expensive.

With no extra employees currently to spare, a cascade effect comes into play whenever an employee takes sick

See DPW, page 10A

## Bank robbed

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — It took less than an hour for officers to arrest two suspects after a bank on Mack was robbed the afternoon of Friday, March 3.

According to Detective Lt. Keith Waszak of Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety, a man entered the Fifth Third Bank at 20065 Mack around 1 p.m. and demanded money while a second man served as the getaway driver.

A description of the vehicle — a black Chevy Monte Carlo — was put out by dispatch and officers from the Woods, Grosse Pointe Farms, City of Grosse Pointe, Detroit and Harper Woods began their pursuit.

The men, both in their 20s, were arrested by 2 p.m. after a foot chase near Outer Drive and Hayes.

"This all happened pretty quickly," Waszak said. "All of the cash was accounted for."

Waszak said he could

not comment on how much money was involved because the case is ongoing. Both suspects also had weapons but did not make an attempt to draw them.

The two have been arraigned in Wayne County District Court and are being held in the Wayne County Jail. Waszak said there could be federal charges, as well, and the department has been in touch with the FBI.

"Any time something like this happens we have a dialogue with the feds so they're aware," he said. "We're not sure if there will be any action on their end."

This is the second bank robbery in the Woods in seven months. A Detroit man was arrested last August just days after robbing the Flagstar bank at 19733 Mack. FBI agents were able to recognize the suspect from security footage and a court magistrate issued warrants to track the suspect's cell phone.

—Ted O'Neil

## STORM:

Continued from page 3A

By midnight Saturday, March 4, the only areas lacking power in the Park dwindled to about 50 customers distributed sporadically between Cadieux and Bishop and in the area of Harvard below St.

Paul to Lake St. Clair, according to DTE's online outage map at [agemap.dteenergy.com](http://agemap.dteenergy.com).

By midafternoon Sunday, however, the outage map totaled less than 15 customers in the area of Pemberton and Barrington mainly north of Essex.

—Brad Lindberg

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# POINTES OF VIEW

GROSSE POINTE WOODS / GROSSE POINTE SHORES / GROSSE POINTE PARK / GROSSE POINTE FARMS / GROSSE POINTE

## Grosse Pointe News

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### OUR VIEW

## Wherefore art thou, literary reading?

**W**ith March designated as National Reading Month, our country's steep, annual decline in literary reading is sounding the alarms about the ill-effects this trend is having on our citizenry's intellectual and cultural enrichment.

In fact, America's continued trend of eschewing books is reading darker than a Sylvia Plath poem. We are not only reading significantly less than ever before, but if this rate of decline continues, the activity of reading for pleasure will virtually disappear in the next half century, according to findings from a landmark survey conducted last year by the National Endowment for the Arts.

The NEA's comprehensive report, "Reading at Risk," aggregated results from 17,000 respondents, asking if they had read any novels, short stories, plays or poetry in their leisure time — not for work or school — during the last 12 months. It found the decline in literary reading among American adults indicates "an imminent cultural crisis."

The trend among younger adults issues additional concern, which suggests that literary culture, and literacy in general, will continue to only worsen among that age group.

Last week, the Grosse Pointe News posed the question of where we stand as a community with book reading, asking how many books on average Pointers are reading per year (see poll at right). The results are relatively encouraging (though unscientific). While 9 percent of respondents said they read zero books a year, the overwhelming majority (91 percent) reported reading anywhere between one to seven or more books per year.

Avid readers lead richer intellectual lives than non-readers, the NEA's study said. Readers also tend to play a more active role in the community. The reading decline mirrors our nation's reduced participation in civic and cultural life.

A well-read citizenry also contributes to the vigor of our democracy, the study said. So while Grosse Pointers appear to be engaged readers, the overall national decline calls for serious action. The study's key findings tell the story:

- ◆ Less than half of the adult American population now reads literature.
- ◆ Total book reading is declining significantly.
- ◆ The percentage of U.S. adults reading any books has declined by 7 percent over the past decade. Each 10 percentage point decline equals a loss of 20 million potential readers.
- ◆ Non-readers watch more television than readers.
- ◆ Women read more literature than men, but both groups are declining at significant rates. Only 33 percent of adult American males now read literature.
- ◆ Literary reading is declining among whites, African Americans and Hispanics.
- ◆ It also is declining among all education levels and all age groups. The steepest decline is among the youngest age groups.

The study also found that literary readers are more likely than non-literary readers to perform volunteer and charity work, visit art museums, attend performing arts events and attend sporting events.

But literature continues to face fierce competition with electronic media. While the study found that no single activity is responsible for the decline of reading, the cumulative access to these alternatives is increasingly drawing Americans away from reading.

The best summary of these findings might just be found on the pages of Dr. Seuss's book, "Oh, the Places You'll Go." "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you will go."

His point? Reading leads us to new opportunities

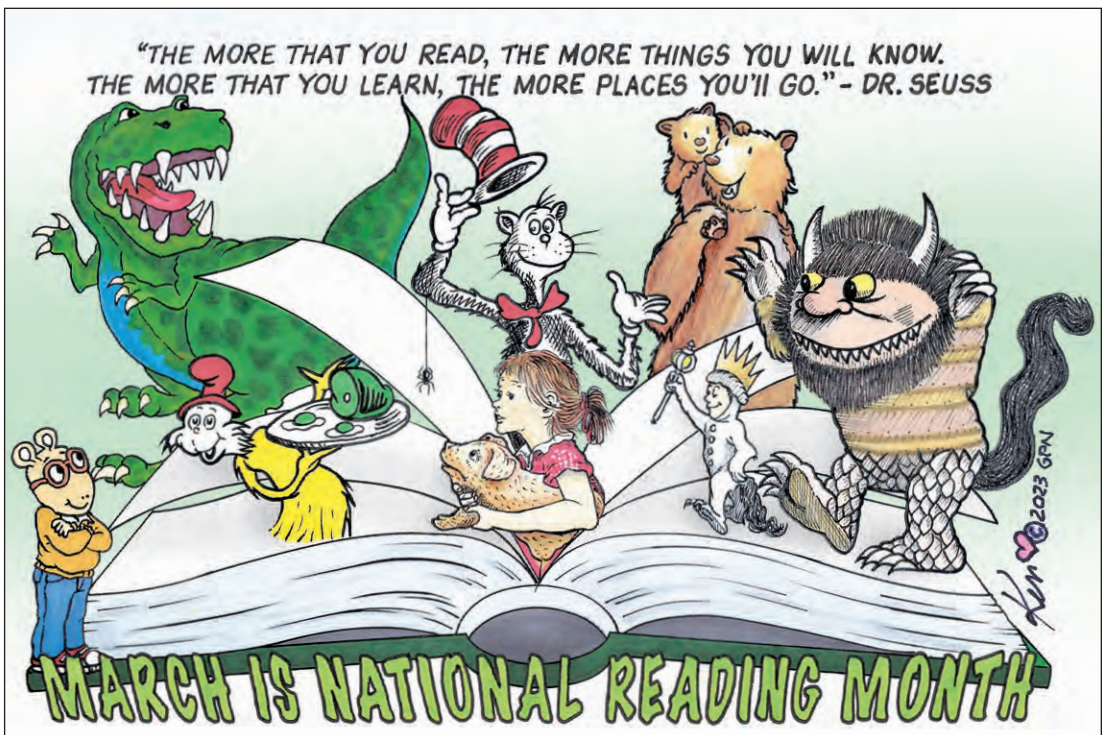


ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

### OUR VIEW

## Tooth Fairy helping kids make a mint

**W**hile kids rejoice over cash windfalls it produces, parents across the nation likely are regretting their decision to participate in what has become the Tooth Fairy cartel.

That's because the cost of a loose tooth has skyrocketed 16 percent since last year, according to a recent poll that asked 1,000 parents of children ages 6 to 12 from across the country how much they are willing to pay for this childhood rite of passage.

In 2022, a single lost tooth hauled in an average of \$5.36. But 2023 said "hold my Colgate," as the new year moved the needle to a whopping \$6.23 payday.

The results emerged from this year's annual Original Tooth Fairy Poll from insurance company Delta Dental (who knew?!), which has tracked a single lost tooth's value since 1998. The poll also found the Tooth Fairy's average cash gift has surged by a mind-blowing 379 percent, from \$1.30 to \$6.23 per tooth over the last 25 years.

If this trend continues, kids could earn \$30 under the pillow for a single tooth by 2048. And wouldn't you know, the hit on the Tooth Fairy's pocketbook depends on where you live.

Down South? Expect to hand out \$6.59 per tooth. Out West? A youngster earns an extra two cents above the national average. Gotta keep up with that Hollywood lifestyle. In the Northeast, the poll found a tooth goes for \$6.14, a slightly less than average earning.

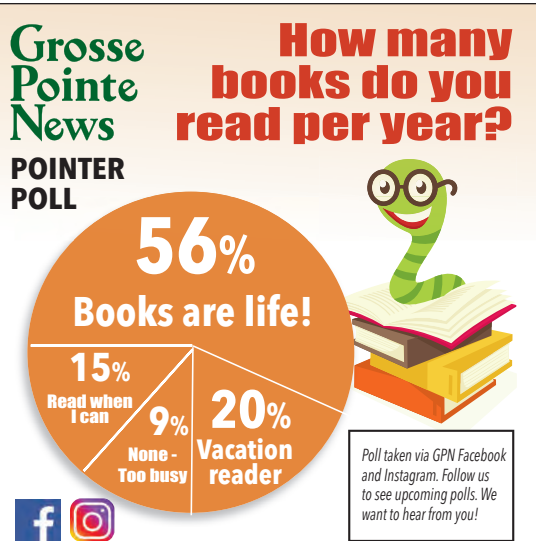
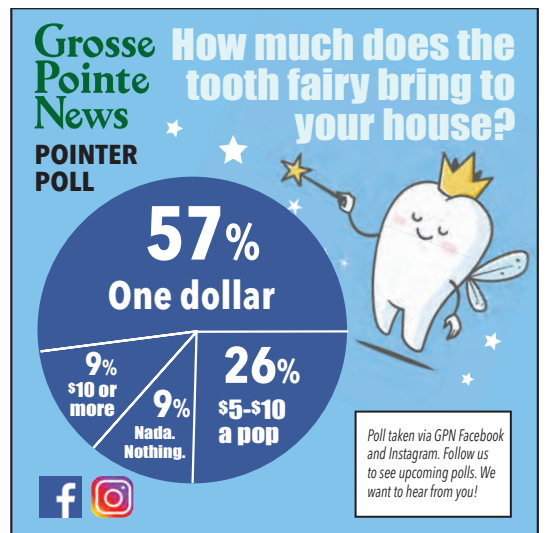
So what do we do here in the Midwest? Pack your bags, kiddos, you are being robbed of

some well-earned cash for those chompers — you trail behind everyone and can only expect \$5.63.

It looks like Pointers are claiming they keep the Tooth Fairy costs in check, based on this week's Grosse Pointe News poll (see right). Some 23 percent of you said you give between \$5 and \$10 for a tooth, while 11 percent make it rain and give \$10 or more.

However, 8 percent of you said you give nothing for a tooth, while 58 percent of you say you give \$1. We think that means about 66 percent of you have your noses growing, because we all know we usually give whatever we find in our wallets at 10 p.m., even if it's leftover pesos from a recent vacation. A fairy's gotta do

See TEETH, page 7A



and empowers us to explore, discover and connect to ourselves and others. Perhaps the best way we can honor his birthday this month is to find a quiet corner and simply open a book.

## LETTERS

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

### Not being productive

To the Editor:

I've watched the recent drama unfold regarding the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education's resolution for independent counsel ("BoE hires outside counsel," Grosse Pointe News, March 2). I have no problem with debate about the idea, but it seems opponents of the resolution want to apply totally different standards of accountability for different people.

For example, it's strange to see Trustee Worden, who was openly dismissive of questions about spending \$1 million on a clinic just a few months ago, now claim that a resolution with little or no cost impact is worthy of 23 written questions and lengthy discussion at BoE meetings. Other examples include last year's votes on the food service contract, demolishing the IA building and the 389 building sale. In each case, Trustee Worden approved big-ticket items with no substantive questions. Where was the commitment

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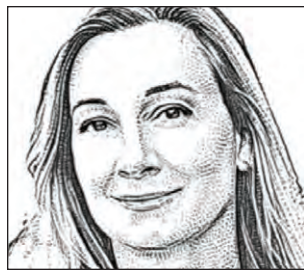
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Mostly Cloudy	Snow Likely	Flurries	Mostly Cloudy	Windy Mix	Flurries	Partly Cloudy
0%	80%	20%	0%	50%	40%	0%
SUNRISE 6:54 am SUNSET 6:31 pm	SUNRISE 6:53 am SUNSET 6:32 pm	SUNRISE 6:51 am SUNSET 6:34 pm	SUNRISE 7:49 am SUNSET 7:35 pm	SUNRISE 7:48 am SUNSET 7:36 pm	SUNRISE 7:46 am SUNSET 7:37 pm	SUNRISE 7:44 am SUNSET 7:38 pm

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

See LETTERS, page 7A

I SAY By Anne Gryzenia

## '80s family trip with Grandpa was no 'Joker'



**M**y grandpa died the summer before I went into sixth grade, which left my grandpa lonely and a bit lost (At least I think he was; this is what I always assumed). I always heard tales of my dad's family — which included seven children and sometimes a dog — going on amazing road trips all over the U.S. From leaving someone at a rest stop and a dramatic rescue involving a semi truck, to car trouble and other exciting mishaps, it sounded epic. So when my grandpa asked me to be part of his latest adventure, I was all in.

The trip was to be a month-long endeavor, winding and weaving our way West — hitting up all the best national parks and attractions — and

ending up in Alaska where my dad would pick me up and fly me home. Along for the ride were my cousins, Stephanie and Eric, who were in my grade, as well as a much older cousin who I'm pretty sure got "invited" to be away from his parents for the summer. Various aunts were assigned legs of the trip to chaperone (lucky them).

If you're picturing us riding in an RV or luxury van on this vacation, think again. Nope, Pudge (my grandpa) opted for a very used VW bus with a pop-up feature and no A/C. It was all very '80s. And appropriately, the VW bus was called "The Joker." I have vivid and terrifying memories chugging up a mountain road watching thick, black smoke pouring out of poor Joker's exhaust pipe.

Rewinding my memory and recalling some of the ridiculous shenanigans of this trip has been a great source of joy and giggling. Looking back on my 11-year-old self and how independent I was

has me shocked at the difference between how children were expected to operate without help then versus the hand-holding and helicoptering we employ now. I'm not sure if it's for better or worse, but I'm betting we had more fun.

Allow me to go down memory lane and share a few of the most memorable events of our little trip. First — and my personal favorite — is a story of ingenuity. Well, that or desperation and possibly a misdemeanor. My parents had given me a certain amount of money for the entire month and by the time we got to Seattle, I had run out completely. I'm not suggesting anyone repeat my bad behavior, but desperate times called for desperate measures. There was no way I was asking Grandpa for more money and admit my financial missteps. So I did what I felt had to be done. At an arcade, I taped one of my last quarters to a string and dipped it carefully into the Pole Position slot — over and over. I managed to accrue about 200 credits by the

time anyone else came to play the game, so I charged everyone per game and kept their quarters. This allowed me to pay for the rest of my trip and meet a lot of friends at the arcade. Follow me for more financial tips (Just kidding — definitely don't).

Another unbelievable (at least to me and for many reasons) story involves my dad, who flew all the way to Alaska in a single-engine, six-seater plane to pick me up. He brought his good friend and partner in the airplane with him and I think they had a ball on their adventure. But let's be clear, it was a long trip. When they came to get me, I informed him I would really like to stay with my cousins and grandpa and drive home in the Joker. I had made it that far and wanted to go full circle. I cannot imagine how that news hit my dad. If it were me today, I would be devastated and say absolutely not. But not my dad. He gave me some "walking around money" and (literally) took off.

Saving the best for last,

our older cousin, who shall remain nameless, decided it would be a great idea to rent scooters at one of the stops on our "cruise" (it was a glorified ferry) from Seattle to Skagway, Alaska. I was too chicken to go, or maybe I was busy making it rain with the money I had essentially stolen from the Pole Position game, but my cousin Stephanie ended up going with him. Bad idea. It was time to leave the port for our next stop and I remember looking over the railing of the ship into the blinding sunshine with my grandpa absolutely fuming beside me. He was actually sweating and swearing and I had never seen him so mad. At the last minute when the boat was due to leave, my grandpa ran to the captain of the boat and begged him to hold off for a few minutes. I remember the captain mouthing, "I'm sorry, no." My grandpa was yelling at the top of his lungs, getting drowned out by the massive ferry foghorn, trying to block the boat from leaving and no

sooner did my cousins appear, running like Olympic sprinters up the plank to the boat as they closed it behind them. My older cousin probably would have fared better by missing the boat. He really got an earful from Grandpa. Imagine a boat captain leaving two kids alone and stranded in Alaska because they were five minutes late these days! The moral of the story is, back then there were consequences.

My grandpa taught me how to drive a VW bus at age 11, "in case he had a heart attack." I broke my finger trying to pull apart a six-pack holder on a bet during a 12-hour stretch of driving. I kissed a boy on the lips in Alaska and saw almost every national park in the United States. I wouldn't change a thing. The lessons I learned were many, the adventures plentiful, and I think I've talked about this trip more than any experience I've ever had in my life. I say that a family road trip could be the most memorable adventure you will ever have.

## YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1948

75 years ago this week

**OAK STREET BACK IN ACORN STAGE:** It takes time to change the name of an old established thoroughfare. The Farms has officially changed the name of Oak Street to Muir Road, but it may be years before the shift is fully accomplished. Delivery men and strangers looking for the old street might be confused, hence the two names, which will be left on the sign posts for some time to come. The same thing was done when Seven Mile Road was change to Moross some years back.

**PARKING BANNED ON MACK:** Two days after the new theater opened on Mack Avenue near Moross Road, the Farms police posted "no parking" signs all along Mack Avenue and on La Belle. The purpose is to keep the street frontage clear of the large number of cars that go there to the theater and to shop at the Wrigley Market.

1973

50 years ago this week

**HOSPITAL PLEA REJECTED:** At a recent public hearing, the Farms council rejected a request from Cottage Hospital to rezone three pieces of property across from the hospital building from residential to parking. Hospital officials had requested the rezoning as a means to alleviate the on-street parking problem on Muir, Kenwood and Lewiston, between Kercheval and Charlevoix, on Ridge Road, Kercheval and on Mapleton. Parking on these streets has been a big problem to residents of the area since the hospital erected a new addition to its facilities.

**MOTHERS BACK IN SCHOOL AS VOLUNTEER HEALTH**

**AIDES:** The school clinics at Brownell Middle School and South High School are now staffed with volunteer mothers wearing crisp Red Cross aprons. But it hasn't always been that way. Since June 1970, the Pointe public schools have been without school nurses, a result of recent millage cutbacks. Without the nurses, a sick child had to try to make it through the school day or seek out an administrator to call home.

1998

25 years ago this week

**PARCELLS OFFICIALS, PARENTS HANG UP SCHOOL UNIFORMS:** After an exhaustive study in which parents, teachers, students and other school officials were polled on the question of having a dress code or school uni-

forms at Parcels Middle School, Principal Glenn Croydon issued a report that the school not adopt a dress code or uniform policy. The issue first came up in June 1997, when Susan Kopf and Marlene Hanlon, parents of Parcels students, approached Croydon and asked him to consider instituting some sort of dress code or school uniform policy.

**MILD WEATHER BRINGS POINTE CITIES FINANCIAL WINDFALL:** The winter of 1998 will be remembered nationally for ice storms in New England, flooding out west and tornadoes in Florida. But as spring approaches Grosse Pointe, winter will be remembered as a welcome respite after last summer's big storm. Although exact figures won't be available for a few weeks, the five Pointes anticipate cost savings this winter due to unusually mild temperatures and lack of snow and ice.

## LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

to financial discipline then?

When I see someone who's been so unquestioning of GPPSS administration recently devote so much effort to questioning fellow board members, I get the impression she's not interested in real oversight of the administration. Instead, she seems to think her job is to block other board mem-

bers who do try to provide oversight of the administration. This is a concern since I don't think productive boards act this way.

MIKE VETHACKE  
Grosse Pointe Park

## The bigger picture

To the Editor:

As a Grosse Pointe Public School System school board meeting observer, I notice two members who lay claim to representing most of

2013

10 years ago this week

**JANET'S OUT TO LUNCH:** For more than 80 years, it had been the go-to spot for breakfast for Pointers of all walks of life. But as of last week, Janet's Lunch, a fixture on

the corner of Kercheval and Maryland for decades, is closed. A sign in the window says the restaurant is under new management and is closed for remodeling. A picture of an artist's rendering of a new Janet's is also in the window, but no date for reopening has been set.

**PARKING DEAL MAY COME TO VILLAGE:**

Free, one-hour parking may become a drawing card of Village shopping. The city council this month authorized City Manager Peter Dame up to \$10,000 for a budget consultant to determine if the municipal parking system can support one hour of free parking in off-street, city-owned gated lots.

## TEETH:

Continued from page 6A

what a fairy's gotta do.

While Delta Dental's poll usually finds the price of a tooth tracks with the direction of the U.S. economy, it bucked the trend this year. Teeth shot up by 16 percent, but the S&P 500 slipped 11 percent in the same time period.

One has to believe that eventually, parents will say 'no mas' to this madness. Issues of entitlement overwhelm what used to be a simple tradition of finding a dime or quarter under your pillow, as a sign of your "hard work" for losing the tooth. It's tough to imagine kids today taking the extra effort to tie their tooth with a string to a door knob and slamming the door shut, with hopes of an

extraction. Work smarter not harder.

Past generations also dealt with explanations that the Tooth Fairy was "too busy" when they woke up the next morning empty handed, with the tooth sitting right where it was left the night before. Today, this scenario would become a viral Tik Tok, detailing the injustice of it all to a sympathetic world.

So we wait and hope for things to right-size and for prices to return back to terra firma. But good news! If you missed the fanfare of celebrating National Tooth Fairy Day on Feb. 28 (again, who knew?), the "holiday" will be celebrated again Aug. 22, which just happens to coincide with the American Dental Association's recommendation for a dental appointment every six months.

Parents' pocketbooks have been duly notified.

the community based on audience support.

What's easy to miss is the number of people not in the room who share the current board's concerns about GPPSS. I'm referring to those families who have transferred their children to a school not a part of the local district.

State of Michigan statistics show hundreds of students living in the GPPSS footprint now attend other public schools. Add to this the families who choose to

send their students to private schools and to pursue home education. Certainly, these choices are influenced by a perception of local school performance as it has operated under the oversight of former school boards.

Those families, like mine, generally don't show up at board meetings. Probably few of them write letters. They don't have to — they've exercised their freedom by voting with their feet and pocket books.

Consequently, numbers show GPPSS enrollment has been dropping faster than peer districts.

Although our school system has new board leadership, sadly there is a faction which resists change and whose supporters clap for them and heckle other board members during meetings.

Board members with that mindset may be missing the bigger picture.

CAROL HACKLEMAN  
Grosse Pointe Woods

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# Clock ticking on South IA building

By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — If the Grosse Pointe Public School System decides to tear down the industrial arts building at Grosse Pointe South High School, the Board of Education needs to decide by the end of March to avoid an increase in cost.

Trustee Colleen Worden asked Superintendent Jon Dean at the board meeting Monday, Feb. 13, for a status update on the project. The administration and previous board

had been seeking bids under the assumption that the IA building would be torn down after classes were moved to an auxiliary gym in the high school, but the Finance and Facilities Committee has been exploring options that would keep the IA building intact.

"How long is too long before the bids get stale?" asked Worden, who sits on the committee. "This is something the committee is looking at, but it should come before the full board."

Dean said the current bids are good until the

end of the month.

"Beyond the end of the month, even if we choose the same scope of work, we'll have to go back out for bids," he said.

Dean agreed with Worden that costs would increase at least 10 percent.

Plante Moran CRESA last year put together a list of seven options for the district to consider, ranging in price from \$1.6 million to just upgrade the heating system in the IA building, to \$8.9 million to fully revamp it and make it compliant with the Americans with

Disabilities Act.

Option 7 — which Dean joked seems to have taken on a persona of its own in discussions — would move the remaining industrial arts classes into the high school and demolish the IA building. Plante Moran CRESA estimates this would cost \$5.1 million, including \$1.8 million for the demolition. That amount would come from the district's sinking fund, with the rest taken from bond millage dollars.

Dean said the classes would be set up in the gym, with the adjoining

locker room converted to a darkroom for photography classes.

FFC volunteer members at the committee's meeting Thursday, Feb. 16, asked PMC and the administration to put together more estimates that would keep both the IA building and gym in use. Robert Stempien of PMC said that would entail making the restrooms in the IA building ADA compliant, but not the walkway to the building, moving interior walls, installing new flooring and ceilings, doing asbestos remediation, upgrading the heat-

ing system and adding air conditioning.

The FFC was scheduled to meet Tuesday, March 7, after press time, to look at those costs. The district already has spent more than \$400,000 in architectural and engineering studies focused on Option 7.

Board President Ahmed Ismail, who also chairs the FFC, said the matter will be added to the agenda for the board meeting Monday, March 13, with a final decision possible at the board meeting Monday, March 20.

## GPPSS upgrading computer protection

By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — A new network firewall will help keep Grosse Pointe Public School System students and staff safe when using the internet.

The Board of Education approved spending just shy of \$264,000 on the system for a five-year contract with Delta Network Services at its meeting Monday, Feb. 27.

"This will not only protect students and staff but organizational content as well," Chris Stanley, the district's director of instructional technology, told the board. "It's also necessary to comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act."

CIPA, passed in 2000, requires schools and libraries that apply for money through the Federal Communications Commission's Universal Service Fund to use such firewalls. Two previous laws aimed at eliminating students' access to indecent content online were deemed unconstitutional by the Supreme Court on First Amendment grounds.

"The firewall acts as a barrier between a trusted network and one that is untrusted," Stanley said. "In these times it's important to have something like that in place."

Stanley said the system prevents access to improper content, as well as gaming and social media, by any device

connected to the district's network. That includes cell phones in addition to laptops and desktop computers.

"Most websites categorize themselves when they're created," Stanley explained. "The firewall also scrapes the internet to define websites so we don't have to individually type in which websites to block. It knows the categories we don't want."

Stanley used gambling websites as an example. "Take fanduel.com," he said. "It's pretty obvious what it is, so the firewall would prevent anyone from accessing it on our network."

The firewall also has an intrusion prevention system that scans for malicious activity, such as ransomware, while the district's email system separately handles things like spam and phishing.

Aside from upgrading the system, there also was a financial angle to the decision. Stanley said the five-year agreement signed with Delta Network Services in 2017 is expired, and maintenance fees would be \$45,000 per year without a new contract. The new five-year deal includes maintenance, and the district is eligible for a \$56,000 rebate from the FCC's E-Rate program.

That brings the overall cost down to \$208,000, whereas five years of maintenance for the current firewall at \$45,000 per year would cost the district \$225,000.

## Young Fives gets high marks

The Grosse Pointe Public School System's Young Fives program received high marks in a 2022-23 parent survey.

More than 90 percent of respondents reported that the Young Fives program fit their needs extremely well (92.86 percent) or quite well (4.76 percent), and 100 percent said they felt the Young Fives program prepared their child for kindergarten. The program design also met the expectations of nearly 100 percent of respondents.

### Striking a balance

Angela Wyrembelski can attest to the strength of the program based on her experience with both her sons.

Her older son, Luca, has a September birthday. While he qualified for the Young Fives program, Wyrembelski was initially torn. Once she made the decision to send him to Young Fives at Richard Elementary School in Grosse Pointe Farms, she hasn't looked back.

"We knew he didn't have the social confidence," Wyrembelski said. "That year really allowed him to feel comfortable going to school and confident going into the school by himself. It was so amazing to see what he was able to accomplish."

This year Wyrembelski is enjoying watching Luca's younger brother, Mica, make similar strides academically, socially and emotionally.

"He is really thriving," she said. "He is always excited about going to school this year, which is what you want to see. I



COURTESY PHOTO

Alice Ogilvy and Sam Bleau learn number stories during math time in the Young Fives classroom at Kerby Elementary School in Grosse Pointe Farms.

think the Young Fives program strikes that balance. There's a lot of play still, but there's a lot of challenging things that are disguised as play."

Moni Valentini's 5-year-old, Veda, is in the Young Fives program at Maire Elementary School in the City of Grosse Pointe.

"The strides my daughter has made blows my mind," Valentini said. "She is coming home and writing out math equations and is able to solve them. She is sounding out words and reading sight words. All these things I don't recall being able to do — especially the math portion — until much later in my own educational journey."

### The gift of time

For Anne Marie Miller, sending her older son to kindergarten at Defer Elementary School in Grosse Pointe Park was not a question.

"He was ready," she said.

Her younger son, Graham, was a different story. He was born early and she knew the pro-

gram was an option. While he had hit his academic milestones and could have handled kindergarten, there was no question in her mind he would benefit from the extra year of growth.

She would tell anyone on the fence the same thing people told her: "You can't go wrong. If for some reason your child is going above and beyond, they can go straight to first grade if that's where they're headed. There is literally nothing to lose. You give these kids the opportunity to get an extra year."

Miller has no regrets, as she says her son loves his class, friends and teacher, Amy Zizelman. When given the opportunity to read a book to the class, he told Miller that "reading was more fun than playing. He was so excited."

Miller has the opportunity to observe the class in action once a week when she volunteers at lunch.

"Mrs. Zizelman has done a masterful job of blending playing and learning," she said. "They

are the happiest, bubbliest little kids. I couldn't handle that many little people, but she does magic."

### From the teachers

The Young Fives teachers also are cheerleaders for the program.

"The Young Fives program meets students exactly where they are in all development areas," Richard teacher Sierra Koleber said. "The young learners practice skills at a pace based on their individual needs. Students are continually challenged to keep progressing their skills throughout the year."

"As I see my previous Young Fives students walking in the halls for kindergarten, they are beaming with confidence," she added. "Young Fives lays the foundation for a successful school experience."

"Teaching our youngest learners is truly the best job in the world," Zizelman said. "The Young Fives curriculum includes a play-based approach, while focusing on a child's social/emotional development, fine motor skills and the love of learning. My greatest joy is watching each child grow and learn right before my eyes."

Zizelman says she has children who are enrolled in the Young Fives program for social and emotional development who already are reading and others enrolled for extra time to develop their academics.

Either way, the program "allows children the extra time to learn and grow to prepare them for a successful school future."

Enrollment is due April 10, to ensure a spot in the Young Fives program. Go to [gpschools.org](http://gpschools.org) for more information.

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## RECALL:

Continued from page 1A

three open seats were won by Sean Cotton, Valarie St. John and Ginny Jeup.

Cotton is the owner of the Grosse Pointe News.

Papas was first elected to the board in 2020 to a four-year term.

"We'll have to wait and see where it goes," Papas said. "I don't feel as though it has very good teeth. It doesn't make sense to recall someone over how they voted. That's why we have elections."

The next step is a clarity hearing, scheduled for 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 22. That is conducted by the county election commission, made up of the county clerk, county treasurer and chief probate

judge.

Under Michigan law, the commission decides if the wording on the petition is factual and clear enough to understand for those who would potentially sign the petition. The law also states the commission "does not have the authority to rule on whether the petition includes good reasons for the recall, as only the clarity and factual nature of the recall language is subject to the commission's review."

Either side may appeal the commission's ruling to the circuit court. If the petition ultimately is approved, either by the commission or circuit court, it is valid and can be circulated for 180 days.

Circulators must collect signatures from registered voters in the district equal to 25 percent of the

votes cast for all candidates in the district in the most recent gubernatorial election. In this case, that would be slightly more than 7,000 signatures.

If enough valid signatures are collected and each petition is filled out correctly, a recall election would be scheduled in conjunction with the general election Nov. 7.

At the time of the resolution vote last June, Papas said while she supported the resolution in general, she felt language in it about the district working with nonprofit organizations and mental health agencies was too broad.

Papas added at the end of the meeting that if there was any indication the resolution was going to fail as a result of her "no" vote, she would have voted in favor of it.



# South takes the plunge

By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Perhaps foreshadowing the impending snow storm, Grosse Pointe South High School held a Polar Plunge Friday, March 3, with nearly 200 students, staff and administrators jumping into an icy cold pool.

The event raised more than \$20,000 for Special Olympics, twice the goal students had set for themselves.

Shelby Salajka, a special education teacher at South, said its initial \$10,001 goal came about because no Polar Plunge had ever raised more than \$10,000.

Grosse Pointe Public School System Superintendent Jon Dean, South Principal Moussa Hamka and assistant principals Cindy Parravano, Joseph Spryszak and Brandon Wheeler eventually agreed they'd participate if the fundraising goal was met.

"It was cold," Dean deadpanned when asked about the experience. "It was fun though. It was great to see the kids, teachers and administrators all doing something with such joy. Every single person there had a smile on their face."

Dean said the key was to get out of the pool and get dried off as quickly as possible.

"It's not exactly something you can train for," he said. "Luckily, I live locally so I was able to go home and take a hot shower."

With the air temperature at 35 degrees, the plungers began scaling the steps of a wooden platform and jumping into a typical backyard pool supplied by Special Olympics. Flips, cannon



Above, Lydia McNanney excitedly braces for the cold water. Left, Owen Domzalski jumped in dressed as Superman wearing fish slippers.

balls and belly flops were the style of the day, with participants wearing everything from shorts and T-shirts to superhero costumes and tutus. Some were brave enough to make the jump twice.

A member of the Michigan State Police dive team was in the pool to assist any plungers who needed help getting out, although none did, and Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety was on hand with a fire truck and ambulance.

Salajka said the idea came about after Special Olympics said it was planning to do the event at Windmill Pointe Park.

"That wouldn't have worked for us logistically, but the district agreed to have it at South," she said. "We get grants from Special Olympics for the Unified Basketball program, so we wanted to help out."

Participants were able to change into dry clothes in locker rooms and then warm up in Cleminson



P.J. Palen, social studies teacher at Grosse Pointe South, didn't think the water was cold enough so he dumped a bag of ice in before plunging.

Hall. "We had doughnuts and hot chocolate for them and they were all saying they'd love to do it again next year," Salajka said. "We were a little skeptical at first about how it would go, but all of the third-hour teachers helped motivate the students and we couldn't believe how quickly the donations started coming in."

Savannah Santoro and Lyla Hampton dressed as sharks for the plunge, but it turns out the predator was the cold water.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



Above, Kathy Smith, adaptive physical education teacher, and Amy Stencil, paraeducator, jump in dressed in a Dunkin' Donuts theme while close behind them is Stella Radu, dressed as Stitch. Left, Titan McKenzie is so excited to plunge, he roared before jumping in, wearing his Grosse Pointe South Unified Polar Plunge "Freezin' for a Reason" T-shirt.



Above, even though Lauren Carron and Avery Harris look as though they are flying parallel to the water, they ended up in the chilly pool. Right, Sophia Puzzuoli sports butterfly wings as she flies into the plunge.



Grosse Pointe News



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Grosse Pointe News

# Brieden Consulting celebrates 10 years of happy clients

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Visitors to Suite 210 in the old Jacobson's building in The Village are likely to be greeted by office dog, Arlo. The miniature schnauzer is owned by the CEO's daughter, a teacher at Defer Elementary School, and prefers not to spend the day bored at home alone. Breaking up the traditional monotony expected of an office, Arlo exemplifies the experience that can be expected at the employee benefits broker, which underlines its mission with an emphasis on culture enhancement.

Brieden Consulting Group — which launched in 2013, with the humble beginning of three

employees using two shared desks in a small office — celebrated its 10th anniversary Monday, Feb. 13.

"It's been a good ride," said President and CEO Hans Brieden, whose new business not only survived the two-year non-compete period upon leaving his previous employer, but also then welcomed back about 90 percent of his clientele once the deadline was up. With a passion for helping client businesses find a balance where employers recognize the value of the employee and employees appreciate the financial risk the business owner is taking, Brieden Consulting's main service comes in the form of managing health care plans.

The firm secures,

renews and negotiates the plans before focusing on communication, so employees are well educated on their benefits.

"If they do their part and they take care of themselves, they're not as absent; they're not sick as often; the company is more productive; the company has more money to invest back into them," Brieden said of the full-circle cascade effect. In practicing what it preaches, Brieden Consulting, nestled at 17000 Kercheval, aims to avoid a work environment "where people show up to work, they do their job and they leave and never really pick their head up," Brieden said.

The employees take annual group outings to clean up Detroit neigh-

borhoods and wrap Christmas presents for foster kids — "I'm a terrible wrapper," Brieden noted, although that detail doesn't take away from the fun — enjoy earned, unlimited vacation time and are offered springtime bonuses.

The catch? Ten percent of the bonus has to be donated. But if the fact Brieden's employees always donate more than the required amount is any indication, they don't mind.

Looking forward to another decade in The Village, Brieden Consulting Group hopes to continue its organic growth locally, while cultivating its expansion in Florida and Indianapolis, where it already boasts a solid client base despite the distance.

"In 10 years we've managed to build something truly special," Brieden said in a press release.

**BRIEDEN CONSULTING GROUP  
CELEBRATING 10 YEARS**



"Ten years from now, I hope that we've continued our mission and vision of serving our clients with the utmost dedication to the health and wellness of their employees."

## Alligators infest parking lot

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Restoration of the cracked and cratered parking lot serving city hall and the Park branch public library requires more effort than a slap-dab resurfacing.

"There's significant work we're going to have to do," said Nick Sizeland, city manager.

Roughly one-third of the lot requires more repair than can be accomplished by applying a new layer of asphalt.

"There's some sub-floor in bad shape," Sizeland said. "It's not likely to be just a mill-and-fill project, which is what happens when you scrape off the top two inches."

Telltale signs of the need for significant repair are dips in the roadway and crinkling of the top surface in a pattern known as alligatoring or, for those Down Under, crocodile cracking.

Both phrases describe an interlaced pattern of fatigue cracks resembling the hide of whatever order of Crocodylia is favored.

"Alligator cracking is evidence there is a sub-grade (problem)" said Tom Jenny, public works supervisor.

"Where you drop off (library) books, you can see that dip," Sizeland said. "Probably about 30

percent of the parking lot is in bad shape."

City officials may order repairs this year depending on how plans develop for an overall redesign of the city hall campus.

An architect met Feb. 28 with the Downtown Development Authority board, which oversees the campus as part of the DDA district on lower Jefferson, to glean what the redesign should feature and look like.

In addition to creating a welcoming environment, the DDA board and designers want as much greenspace and outdoor congregating space as possible.

There's only one requirement — the area must have 50 more parking spaces than now.

"The parking lot is part of an overall MOU (memorandum of understanding) with the city of Detroit, Grosse Pointe Park and Urban Renewal Initiative (Foundation)," said Jamie Rae Turnbull, interim director of the 49,000-square-foot A. Paul and Carol L. Schaap Center for the Performing Arts, due for groundbreaking this month on Jefferson at Wayburn, one block from city hall on the other side of the parking lot.

Turnbull, a DDA board member, referred to the foundation's November 2021 agreement to reimburse the DDA for con-

struction of a 50-space lot in front of the library that also would serve the art center.

"The DDA will be developing that parking lot," said Erica Shell, assistant city attorney at the time. "When the lot is complete or close to completion, that \$200,000 donation will go to the DDA helping to offset the cost."

Councilman Tom Caulfield wants the DDA's civic center concept team to coordinate with city engineers on a unified lot design that doesn't cross swords with what either otherwise would do independently.

"I'd hate to repave that lot and then somebody comes up with a new plan," Caulfield told Sizeland during a meeting of the infrastructure committee about an hour prior to the DDA session. "Make sure you're working together so we're not paving and tearing up."

Sizeland and DDA board member Mayor Michele Hodges suggested reconfiguring the existing lot to add spaces rather than build all 50 of the additional spots on what is now, and she hopes will significantly remain, greenspace in front of the library.

"We can try to see if that's possible," said Shandre Bernath-Plaisted, an architect with Jima Studio, the DDA's civic center designer.

## Communication efforts pay off in Shores

By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE SHORES** — An increased focus on communicating with residents has been a success, according to a survey conducted by the city's communications committee.

"The difference is night and day," Ted Coutilish, chairman of the committee, told city council at its meeting Tuesday, Feb. 21. "This survey had a lot fewer negative responses and personal attacks than our baseline survey, which reflected a very negative view of the administration."

Coutilish said the first survey, conducted in December 2020, drew 559 responses. At the time, 52 percent of respondents said they felt "not very" or "somewhat" informed about what was going on in the city, and just 7 percent felt "extremely" informed.

"These are surprising and alarming numbers since the survey was distributed only among

residents who regularly receive GPS newsletters as well as regular GPS emails," Coutilish wrote in his analysis of the survey.

The second survey, conducted in January, showed very different results. Although about 200 fewer residents responded, 86 percent said they felt "very" or "extremely" informed, with just 12 percent saying they felt "not very" or "somewhat" informed.

"We made a quantum leap in the perceptions of our residents, but we can do better," Coutilish said. "But there were far more positive comments this time around."

City Manager Steve Poloni concurred. "I'm pleased with the results," he said. "It confirms what we thought in that our efforts paid off, but there's still progress to be made."

Efforts of the communications committee included a more consistent presence on Facebook, which recently surpassed more than 830 follow-

ers. That includes updates on events, a recap of council meetings by Poloni, notices of changes to garbage and recycling collection when holidays fall on a weekday and updates on street closures for maintenance or water main breaks.

Some residents suggested the city add a text feature or a Nixle account to disperse information more quickly, especially if there is an emergency. Others suggested adding an animal control officer to the public safety department, replacing the pool at Osius Park and adding a message board in front of city hall.

"I'm glad people took the time to respond," Poloni said. "We always encourage participation, but although we don't get many people attending city council meetings, that actually tells me things are going well. When you've got controversy, you tend to have bigger crowds. I think we're going in the right direction."

## DPW:

Continued from page 5A

leave or a vacation day — which happens nearly every week, Randazzo

said — leading to supervisors being forced to fill the roles in addition to their own workloads.

"The struggle is getting people that are motivated," Randazzo said of

hiring and employee retention. "They want to come work for the DPW. What we've turned into is just a garbage pick up."

Even so, the director believes it would not be in

the city's best interest to contract out garbage collection to an agency such as Green for Life, because of the accompanying loss of control and personal service to residents.

So what can be done to lessen the load? One suggestion, seemingly popular among council, is to do away with the Cushman rear-yard rubbish collection service.

Joining the Farms and Shores as one of only three southeast Michigan communities still offering the "antiquated service," Randazzo reported, an estimated 10 to 15 percent of residences in the City currently take advantage of the program.

Ending the program would free up one DPW employee to be assigned to various other necessary tasks, as well as save the City from having to purchase new Cushman's in the long term.

"That certainly will be one of the options we'll

be looking at," Dame said, "but that's not the only option."

A list of fleshed-out options is expected to be presented to city council this month, before the annual formal public hearing on the new budget in May.

"This has been happen-

ing for two years now and it's led to our recognition that we really need to establish a level of service and revenue that meets the expenses," Dame said, "and come up with a sustainable approach to our public works department that works for us over the long term."

## Refuse disposal expenses increase

Although not necessarily playing into the employee retention problem, ongoing struggles with refuse disposal sites are taking a hit on the City's budget.

Since the Detroit Renewable Power incinerator shut down in 2019, the City has been transferring its refuse to the Pine Tree Acres landfill at 29 Mile and Gratiot in Lenox Township.

Not only was this a two-hour round-trip, but it was presenting consistent problems with sharp objects at the site popping tires and requiring the trucks to get towed out.

"At one point this fall, we had one garbage truck out of four working, because (of) the maintenance issues caused by the travel," City Manager Pete Dame reported.

Forced by the constant repairs, the City recently switched to a concrete pit transfer station in Warren, which annually costs \$32,000 more than the solid waste budgeted amount for landfill disposal.

"We hadn't budgeted for that," Dame said. "We basically had to start doing that by default because there was no other option."

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Left, Canada geese fly past the finished sculpture on the back lawn of The War Memorial last Thursday evening. Landscaping work, including beach sand to mirror the original monument and a wrap-around walkway, begins this week. Below, as the crane hovers holding the third piece to be installed, a crew from Lee Industrial Contracting guides the piece over the mounting bolts, which will secure it.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Les Braves II arrives in GP War Memorial honors D-Day with twin of Normandy monument

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

Its 15 pieces carefully packed into three shipping containers, “Les Braves II: At Water’s Edge” traveled a little more than a week by shipping vessel from France to New York, took a train to Livonia and arrived by truck at The War Memorial last week.

The 11.5-ton, three-part sculpture, standing 25 feet at its tallest point, is the official twin of the original “Les Braves,” which rests on Omaha Beach in Normandy, as a lasting tribute to the western Allies that landed there June 6, 1944. It was sculpted for the 60th anniversary of D-Day by French artist Anilore Banon, who last year agreed to construct the second installation after striking up a friendship with former War Memorial CEO Charles Burke.

Now three months out

from the 79th anniversary of D-Day, an air of excitement drifted over The War Memorial campus throughout the first morning of March as a small crew from Lee Industrial Contracting began unboxing the deconstructed “Les Braves II,” using a crane to slowly maneuver each piece of stainless steel inch by inch onto bolted four-foot-deep foundations designed by the artist.

“I had a chance to go down and just look at one of the pieces,” interim President and CEO Maria Miller said that morning, “and I know it sounds corny, but I just touched it and thought, ‘Wow, it’s just beautiful.’ I’m a huge art fan so, to me, it was just beautiful and overwhelming. I think seeing it up will be far more overwhelming.”

Although its delivery from Livonia was delayed a week by the ice storm and other less than desirable conditions, the

weather last Wednesday morning — as the first portion of “Les Braves II” was erected — offered clear views of the wind turbines along the Canadian shoreline: a poetic nod to the artist, as Banon reportedly was drawn to the project by the notion of the symbolic structure facing an international waterway.

With the 15 pieces coming together to form three side-by-side structures stretching 50 feet, the monument tells a story to those who will come to observe it along the lakefront lawn.

To the left is a structure named “The Wings of Hope,” intended to represent the spirit which carried the men June 6, 1944, and which continues to inspire and remind people that together it is always possible to change the future; to the right is “The Wings of Fraternity,” calling for the surge of brotherhood to always remind people of their responsibility toward others, as well as themselves; and standing tallest between the two is “Rise, Freedom!” which symbolizes the example of those who rose against barbarity to help others remain standing strong against all forms of inhumanity.

In the shadow of the historic Alger house, the lawn upon which “Les Braves II” has made its home was once a part of Lake St. Clair, as evidenced by historical photos, buried remnants of an old seawall and a water table below the surface that is level with the lake.

“Since it was reclaimed from the lake, the actual water table that’s in that ground there is almost

about the same as the lake,” explained Bill Hiding, project superintendent for “Les Braves II,” of Frank Rewold & Sons Inc. “So as we were building it, we had to de-water everything while we were working. The foundations are also sitting on, at each corner, a helical pier — steel posts with a steel auger at the end — that’s about 25 feet deep till we get to stable ground.”



Left, the crew maneuvers the stainless steel piece by inch until it sits properly over the mounting bolts designed by the artist.



Below, two pieces of the left structure, “The Wings of Hope,” are the first to be installed March 1, as 13 more wait in nearby crates.



Installation of the left portion of the monument, “The Wings of Hope,” completed Wednesday. Each of the three sections will incorporate five stainless steel pieces.

The installation crew made a concentrated effort to secure the monument in place before another round of winter weather rolled into town Friday, but aren’t held to quite as rigid a deadline when it comes to finalizing the look, which will include beach sand to

mirror the original monument and a wrap-around walkway.

“We are going to be done in time for this all to be dedicated (by) Memorial Day,” Hiding said.

Among a packed schedule of events planned at The War

Memorial over Memorial week 2023 — including a gala for the formal dedication of The Fred M. Alger Center for Arts, Culture and Humanities Wednesday, May 24 — “Les Braves II: At Water’s Edge” will be formally

See BRAVES, page 2B

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# Park latest Pointe to welcome Hope Not Handcuffs

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

Since its 2017 inception, Hope Not Handcuffs has launched in more than 120 police departments throughout Michigan and assisted more than 9,100 people statewide.

The initiative, a program of Families Against Narcotics, or FAN, brings together law enforcement and communities to find viable treatment options for those seeking help to reduce their dependence on prescription medications, heroin, alcohol and other drugs. The City of Grosse Pointe announced its participation in January. Now, Grosse Pointe Park is joining the effort.

"This was a long time coming," said Kim Baffo, program director. "I think every police department in the state of Michigan should have Hope Not Handcuffs."

FAN offers free training for volunteers, called Angels, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, March 10, at the Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Department, 15115 E. Jefferson. The session also includes naloxone training and a free naloxone kit with two doses of NARCAN nasal spray, the drug that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.

"I'm 100 percent convinced diversion is a better means than trying to get out of a problem," said Bryan Jarrell, public safety director in the Park. "And by diversion I mean alternate means to arresting people. If we get people who want to get cleaned up, but who are afraid they'll go to jail, we want to make it easy for them if they want help. Just tell us and we'll call an Angel. They come over and take over, help with treatment, with transportation. No police reports are generated."

Jarrell said oftentimes those who enter the juvenile system as teens con-



tinue on a downhill slide.

"If we can divert them when they first start getting into trouble, if they're minor offenses, if we can divert them in a different direction to keep them out of the juvenile justice system, their rate of success exponentially increases."

## How it works

Hope Not Handcuffs allows people seeking help for addiction to walk into the police department — with no threat of being arrested — to get help. An officer on duty will call FAN, who will put out a call to its volunteer base, asking an Angel to come to the station.

"They're aware someone is on the way," Baffo said. "We will give a courtesy call to the police department with the expected arrival time of the Angel. This helps with any anxiety the participant may have."

Each participating department is provided a blue bin full of items like new socks and underwear, a T-shirt, hygiene products, snacks and water — items someone checking into treatment may need.

"Our Angels are trained to ask for the bin when they arrive," Baffo said. "They will greet the participant with dignity and respect and ask for the bin. They will call our call center, who does the entire intake process."

"... The volunteer then waits with the person for an Uber or Lyft to pick

them up from the police department," she added. "The Angel is there to provide hope. People may not be feeling well, they may have high anxiety. The Angel is their cheerleader, their confidant. Our goal is to have someone go to treatment once intake is done. The process is simple and painless."

Around 85 percent are placed into treatment that day. They are given the option to go home first, or to a gas station or other location, to clean up.

Occasionally there is a day or two wait to get into treatment. In this case, the participant is sent home with a dose of NARCAN and assigned a peer recovery coach, who will reach out within 24 hours.

"They're making that connection right way, whether they meet up or through phone contact," Baffo said. "Our goal is to meet with them before they go to treatment, even if it's a few days."

Peer recovery coaches also support participants while they're in treatment and assess any barriers they may have once treatment is completed, including having nowhere to live or going back to an unhealthy environment. Those needing additional help after treatment can apply

for a scholarship to spend two weeks in a sober living home.

"The peer coach is there to support them," Baffo said. "When they walk into the police department, they go to treatment. They are not arrested. They'll take care of non-violent warrants when they get out of treatment, with their coach with them. We want the individual to get help first and address court issues when they get out."

People who go into the station with drugs or drug paraphernalia, she noted, even if they decide not to receive treatment, will not be arrested.

"There's no arrest; this is not a setup," Baffo said, "but their drugs and paraphernalia will be disposed of at the station."

COVID tests also are part of the intake process.

"We use every resource to make sure they're safe," Baffo said.

Jarrell said he would like to see a lot of people take advantage of Hope Not Handcuffs, whether they live in Grosse Pointe or not.

"I hope we get a lot of people from Detroit, because that's who's doing our crime," he said. "If they come to us wanting help, we're absolutely going to give it to them."

## A great need

"More than 100 people will die of overdose by the end of the day today. And tomorrow. And the next day," Baffo said. "... Becoming a Hope Not Handcuffs Angel is an effective way to assist our communities in becoming healthier and reducing drug and alcohol addiction. Together we can help change perceptions to strengthen and facilitate positive change and engagement within our communities."

The need for volunteers is great, she added. It all starts with Angel training.

"Our volunteers are the grassroots of all our programs," Baffo said. "We could not do this without them. ... We have all sorts of volunteer opportunities. Being an Angel is just one of them. We start with Angel training and go from there."

Angels trained in Grosse Pointe will be assigned anywhere local that Hope Not Handcuffs is offered, including the Park and City, as well as Harper Woods. They'll also be asked if they'd be willing to serve in Macomb County — not a requirement, but an option.

"This is a community-based program," Baffo said. "That human touch, when you're greeted with compassion, supersedes

someone calling on a telephone. COVID put a damper on volunteers, so we're trying to amp up this being a community-based program."

Baffo said she hopes to see a healthy turnout for training; this type of volunteer work has great benefits.

"Angels should be compassionate — someone who wants to do something rewarding and make a difference and help us combat this epidemic," she said. "People are dying at alarming rates. It's going to take a village — an army — to make a difference. To be part of that process is rewarding."

"If we don't let people in the community know this is a resource for them, it's like throwing a party without invitations," she added. "It reminds me when I was a kid growing up. We would share a cup of sugar with a neighbor or call a neighbor if there's an emergency. That doesn't happen anymore. We need to get back to good old-fashioned strengthening and engaging with our community."

For more information on how to become a volunteer Angel in the Grosse Pointe area or to apply, go to [families-againstanarcotics.org/hopenothandcuffs-angel](http://families-againstanarcotics.org/hopenothandcuffs-angel), email [hnh@families-againstanarcotics.org](mailto:hnh@families-againstanarcotics.org) or call (833) 202-4673.

"We would be the best-kept secret if we didn't shout it from the rooftops," Baffo said. "It's all about awareness, education and bridging those gaps, because navigating treatment on your own, especially if you are under the influence, can be difficult. We take all the fears and unknowns out of the equation and we give them the dignity and respect they deserve."

## Ladies night out features expert panel

### 'Mama Never Told Me ... That' is March 16

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

The only thing better than a ladies' night out is an informative ladies' night out where women can ask potentially embarrassing questions — anonymously — and get answers from a panel of experts.

Plus, there's wine. The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods, in partnership with The Helm and The War Memorial, offers its first women's health panel — "Mama Never Told Me ... That!" — at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 16, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

"One of our providers, a therapist, Marla Ruhana, helped organize a similar program in Lexington," said Jennifer Bingaman, executive director of The Family Center. "It was a fantastic event; a ton of people showed up. It was supposed to be two hours, but people stayed another hour. Marla was so excited about it, she wanted to do it here and she had all the connections for the expert panelists."

"We're excited to do it," she continued. "This

is a no-holds-barred, ask-any-questions-you-want-answers-to event."

Expert panelists include Suzanne Hall, M.D., OB/GYN; Lisa Evans-Thomas, NP, birth care and urology; Lisa MacLean, M.D., psychiatrist; Dharti Sheth, M.D., breast surgeon; Marla Ruhana, LMSW; and Robin Samyn, M.D., family medicine. They will give direct, honest answers to questions ranging from family dynamics, marriage and dating, to pregnancy and postpartum issues, breast health, empty nests, caregiving and more.

"There's a half hour of social time with a wine cash bar," Bingaman noted. "Panel members will introduce themselves and talk about their specialty, then we'll launch right in to answering questions."

All guests will get a notecard as they enter the event.

"They can write their questions anonymously and we'll feed them to the panel," Bingaman said.

The Q&A begins at 7 p.m. and lasts as long as questions continue being asked, she added. She encourages attendees to be bold with their que-

ries.

"At our recent Special Needs Resource Fair, I was talking with someone about perimenopause and she said she had no idea the number of symptoms and how long they can go on," Bingaman said. "There's not a lot of research or conclusive treatment options and people don't talk about it. She said, 'Nobody ever told me this could go on for 10 years with all of these symptoms.'"

"This event will give an awareness of things in a way you may not have known about, whether they apply to you or give you a better understanding about what someone else is going through," she added. "Or maybe you have a hereditary issue, but you don't know your family health history, so you don't know what's coming down the pike. This is a way of getting that information."

Questions also may be submitted in advance to [\[centerweb.org\]\(http://centerweb.org\).](mailto:info@family-</a></p>
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The event is free, but registration is requested online or by scanning the accompanying QR code.

"I would love if people come and bring their friends, their family, their neighbors and treat it like a fun night out," Bingaman said. "Whether you've got burning questions or you're more comfortable listening and gathering information, the information you hear I hope you'll pass along to those who need it."

Added MaryJo Harris, director of programs and administration with The Family Center, "It's going to be such a fun night out. When's the last time there's been a women's night open to the community for free? It'll be funny too, not just a doctor up there talking. It'll be lighthearted."

## BRAVES:

Continued from page 1B

dedicated at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 25.

The free and open-to-the-public event will feature appearances by Banon, Fred Alger and — The War Memorial administration hopes — more than a couple dignitaries. Those invited include Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Sens. Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow, Reps. John James and Joe Tate and Farms Mayor Louis Theros.

The U.S. Army Herald Trumpets will perform, followed by Dave Bennett playing jazz into the evening.

"During that week with the dedication, we will have (items from Steve Mrozek, director of the Selfridge Military Air

Museum) who is actually a huge collector of World War II memorabilia and artifacts and just straight-up art, all displayed downstairs," Miller added.

The newest addition to The War Memorial campus also acts as a thoughtful acknowledgement of its beginnings as a community center.

When the circa 1910 Alger house was donated "to the Grosse Pointe War Memorial Association, it was to honor the community for the lives lost in World War II," Miller noted. "... And now to have a monument and that piece of art that really commemorates World War II, I feel like it just brings it all together. ... To me, it's the legacy of really serving the purpose of what the owner's intent in donating this home was."

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# Restoring a masterpiece

## Final Your Old Mansion lecture is March 12

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

Rachel and Eric Mitchell spent four grueling years breathing new life into the Frederick K. Stearns house on East Jefferson in Detroit's West Village.

With a team of expert restorers, the couple turned the run-down Arts and Crafts mansion, designed by William Stratton, into a bustling bed-and-breakfast business complete with ballroom, basement pub and other amenities. They and several of their crew will share their story — hoping to inspire others to restore more of the area's historic homes — at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 12, during the final Your Old Mansion lecture of the season, presented by the Grosse Pointe Artists Association.

"I'll bring some of the crucial craftsmen who worked on the building with me," Rachel Mitchell said. "They'll answer questions and talk about their part in the renovation."

And what a renovation it was. When the Mitchells purchased the building in 2018, it had been divided into a series of offices for tenants like the Detroit-Wayne County Port Authority and Friends of Belle Isle. And it wasn't in the greatest condition.

"It was bad," Mitchell said, "inside and out. It took four years, six or seven days a week."

As a builder and interior designer herself, Mitchell was able to look past the ugly and see the



beauty beneath the building.

"When I came upon the Frederick Stearns house, I saw how beautifully it was designed, despite its leaking roof and broken windows," she said. "The tile work, the masonry, the carpentry work is all beautiful. The layout, too. With my background, I saw what I could do to transform this property. It's 16,000 square feet of beautiful space.

"My family doesn't live

there," she continued, "so the only way to keep the property well-maintained and loved is through making it a business — a bed-and-breakfast business. That way we restore it to its original purpose of being residential."

Each of 10 suites in the Frederick Stearns House Historic Inn, ranging from junior and standard to executive and presidential, includes its own sleeping area, sitting room and bathroom.

"The majority of the paintings are original oil paintings," Mitchell said of the decor. "And we have a large collection of antique furniture."

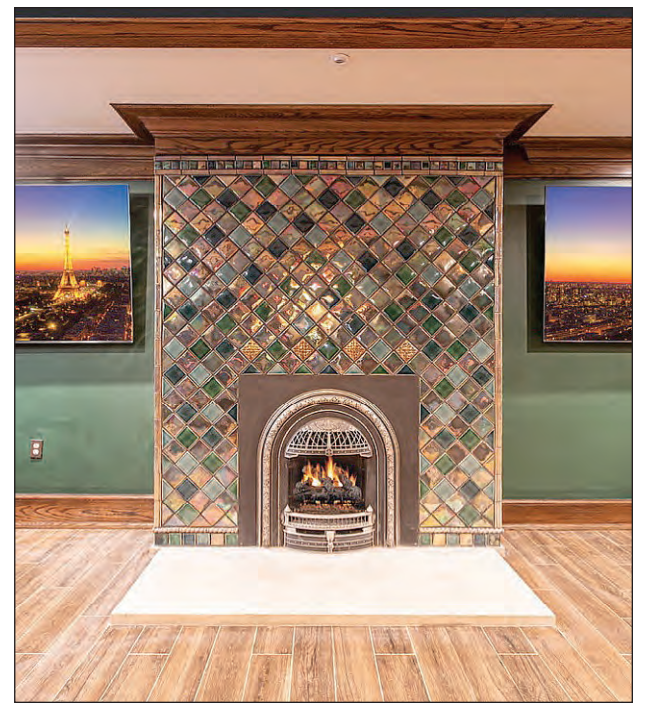
Handmade tiles offer splashes of color throughout the house.

"We have Pewabic tile and Moravian tile, which is older than Pewabic," Mitchell said. "The Moravian tile was installed by Mary Chase Stratton, whose husband designed the house. The house was built in 1902 and in 1903, she started Pewabic. We are located in the birth neighborhood of Pewabic."

In addition to the B&B suites, the inn's basement was fully renovated into a European-style pub featuring draft beer, wine and cocktails. The members-only bar allows patrons to check out a bottle of wine or mix their own cocktails.



Top, the original Moravian tile hearth oven in the grand dining room was designed by Mary Chase, who founded Pewabic. Above, the Lavender is one of the inn's standard suites.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above, The inn showcases Pewabic tiles on some of its 10 fireplaces. Left, the Frederick Stearns House took four years to fully renovate. Below, the ballroom was a main attraction for Rachel Mitchell, who was looking for a site to host dance classes.

"Or if they bring a function or event here, we will hire a bartender," Mitchell said.

Other gathering spaces are available to rent for special events, including a ballroom, where dance lessons are offered.

"I was looking for a dance studio and needed a place with a ballroom," Mitchell said. "Doing building and interior design, I was always interested in Detroit, in a historic building. I came upon this building and fell in love."

Mitchell, who grew up in China and spent eight years living in Europe,

has seen lots of historic parts of the world. Detroit, she said, has great potential.

"We have great music, great theater, the symphony," she said. "Detroit was a glory city back in the day. ... We still have what a big international city has, but not in every respect. It's a great location, but it needs lots of work."

The work the Mitchells put into their piece of it was extensive.

"So much research I had to do to get it right," she said, "books and places I had to visit — Meadowbrook, Cranbrook, Scarab, DIA — to get what it was like

in the beginning on the inside. It was very hard to get it right."

Every time Mitchell steps foot into the renovated Stearns house, she is awed by its newly restored beauty. It's a sentiment often echoed by guests.

"I feel it's a place where I can get away," she added. "I have five kids in my house. This is how I like it: no kids, no backpacks or shoes lying around. I walk in each time and feel like, wow. It's so beautiful. I don't stay there every day, but every time I go, it's so beautiful."

See LECTURE, page 6B

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# OBITUARIES

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

## Charles Howard Crane II

Charles Howard Crane II, 83, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2023, at home with his family by his side.

Howard was born in Detroit to Charles Lyman and Mary Crane, both now deceased. He grew up in Grosse Pointe and graduated from Austin High School in 1958. He then attended John Carroll University and graduated in 1962, with a Bachelor of Science degree. After college, Howard served his country in the U.S. Army. He worked for General Motors in the parts department for a short time before joining McKeller Associates, where he started his career as a manufacturers representative for the automotive industry. Soon, Howard branched out on his own and started C.H. Crane and Associates. He put his own company on hold a few years to work with FitzSimons Manufacturing in the mid-1990s. Although Howard handed off the reins of the business to two of his sons, he never fully retired. He took great pride in serving six years on the Board of Governors for the Country Club of Detroit, but his greatest pride was his family.

Howard married Elizabeth Howenstein in

1963. They were happily married almost 60 years. He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather who adored his six children and 19 grandchildren. Howard is survived by his wife, Bethie; sons, C. H. (Suzie), William Scott (Terese), Michael (Alexa), Robert (Cathy), Brian (Carey); and daughter, Katrina.

Howard was deeply loved by his family and friends. He loved with all of his heart, had a wicked sense of humor and a contagious laugh. Always ready to give advice to anyone who asked, or to join in on a friendly prank, Howard could be described as a force to be reckoned with. His favorite spot was his "perfect piece of paradise" in northern Michigan where he loved entertaining friends and family. He will be missed dearly by all who knew him.

Visitation and prayers will be held 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 9, at Chas. Verheyden Inc., 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park. A funeral Mass will be held at noon Friday, March 10, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Paul Educational Trust, [stpauleducationaltrust.org/donate/](http://stpauleducationaltrust.org/donate/).

## Aaron Thomas Binder

Aaron Thomas Binder, 45, of Grosse Pointe, passed away Saturday, March 4, 2023, at Karmanos Hospital in Detroit, following a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer, with his loving wife MaryAnn by his side.

Aaron was born Nov. 14, 1977, in Detroit. He was a 1996 graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School. He opened and managed Teknicolor (now Repcolight) Paints in Grosse Pointe. Aaron will be remembered by all who knew him for his energetic love for life, and his love for cooking and entertaining family and friends. He loved boating and spending time on the water. His dedication to Teknicolor Paints made many of his customers and contractors into dear friends.

Aaron was predeceased by his father, Bruce Binder; and grandfather, William Binder. He leaves behind two stepsons, John and Benjamin; his mother, JoAnne; sister, Dr. Danielle Ruskin; brother-in-law, Dr. Aaron Ruskin; nieces, Sasha and Sydney; nephew, Harrison; grandmother, Cappy Binder; uncle, Tom Ridas; aunt, Renay Gamble; and loving cousins, Nicole Fitzgerald



Charles Howard Crane II

(Teddy), Kristen Evans (Bret), Lindsey Thomas (Paul) and William Gamble (Kayela).

A funeral service was held at A.H. Peters Funeral Home in Grosse Pointe Woods.



Aaron Thomas Binder



Phyllis Lee Brooks

Phyllis Lee Brooks, 82, of Sun City Center, Fla., passed away Thursday, Feb. 23, 2023.

She was born Dec. 2, 1940, in Littcarr, Ky., to William and Nolda Mullins (nee Sexton).

Phyllis spent the first years of her life in Kentucky; the memories of her childhood and her connection to her family's heritage never left her heart. She moved to Michigan and graduated from Highland Park High School in 1958. She then attended Wayne State University, but left prior to finishing her degree to pursue a career with Construction Association of Michigan. She worked there 42 years, serving in a variety of roles and achieving rare success for a woman in a male-dominated industry. Her loyalty to her career and the countless colleagues and friends she made throughout the years was an honor she earned and deserved. It was evident in speaking to all those she worked with that she had earned their admiration and friendship, and that the feeling was mutual. She spent more than 40 years living in the Grosse Pointe communities, first in the City of Grosse Pointe and later Grosse Pointe Woods.

After retiring, she was blessed to further a close bond with her mother, Nolda, and along with her sister, Judy, the three of them spent several precious years together reconnecting and enjoying each other. Later in life she split her time between Lupton, Mich., where she and Ron spent many beautiful summers together in their cottage on Sage Lake, and Sun City Center, Fla., where the two of them reconnected with old friends and made many new ones.

Phyllis passionately enjoyed the written word and could always be found with a book nearby. She enjoyed cooking as well and spent endless hours researching and nurturing a recipe before sharing her creation with others. She loved nature and tending to her garden. Any time she was presented a new plant or flower, joy spread across her face.

Above all, Phyllis had a devotion to her family and worked tirelessly to maintain the bonds that fray when families spread apart or when the busy world makes it difficult to stay connected. The love she and Ron shared kept them both afloat through difficult times and they were seldom parted as they gave each other what they needed each passing year. To her grandchildren, she was known as "Grammie," and there



Phyllis Lee Brooks



Anne Mary Purvis

forces liberated the Italian province.

Despite having to drop out of school very early to help out his family, he developed a lifelong skill and career as a master carpenter.

Some of his woodwork creations still stand in a few Detroit-area restaurants and entertainment venues.

Gino is survived by his son, Salvatore Giacona; daughter-in-law, Sarah Giacona; son, Benedetto Giacona; and daughter-in-law, Liza Giacona. "Grandpa Gino" was loved by his grandchildren, Matthew, Francesca, Julian and Jordan. He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Francesca Giacona (nee LaFata); and older brother, Pietro Giacona.

## Anne Mary Purvis

Anne Mary Purvis, 68, passed away Monday, Feb. 27, 2023, at home in St. Clair Shores.

Anne was born Jan. 24, 1955, in Grosse Pointe, to William and Catherine Purvis, both now deceased. She attended Convent of the Sacred Heart High School and St. Paul on the Lake School, and graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School in 1972. She earned degrees in business management and administration from Central Michigan University. Anne then worked at Hewlett EDS in marketing and sales.

Anne was active in St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church's St. Vincent de Paul Society. She also was closely associated with the Capuchins' outreach programs.

Anne will be remembered by her family and friends for her loving and caring nature and irreverent and quick-witted humor. Anne was able to forge long-lasting friendships. Her life was an example of a generous spirit to whoever she met.

Anne is survived by her sister, Katherine Kotula. She was predeceased by her brothers, William and Paul.

A service was held March 4, at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Park, with interment at Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Verheyden Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph, 1820 Mt. Elliot, Detroit, MI 48207, or the [capuchins.org/donate-detroit](http://capuchins.org/donate-detroit).

See OBITS, page 5B



## Edward G. Baranek

hands and a tan by spring, working the same land his Grosse Pointe ancestors (Reno/Renaud, Trombley, Campau, Moross, etc.) had, hundreds of years before him. His work ethic was unparalleled - he worked on Father's Day, Labor Day, his birthday - every day.

Though he would call people the "Mayor of Mack Ave.," he may have earned that title himself. Mack Ave. was the main artery his truck and trailer traversed, seven days a week. In a pre-cell phone era, if you needed to find him during the working day, you could always catch his truck parked at Mack and Moross for lunch.

Ed enjoyed fishing, politics, history, Seinfeld, sports, the weather - and music. About a decade ago he was reborn through music and became like an excited teenager, wanting to analyze and ponder the great questions of life, such as: John or Paul? How is Burton Cummings so underrated? What would Hendrix have done had he lived longer? Chicago: best horn section in rock and roll?

His music obsession led him to host the music fest known as "Edstock." He wanted all the bands to be paid well, the attendees to experience good food and music for free, and yes - sometimes even the cops came.

He had a fascination with Niagara Falls that probably began when he visited with his parents and brothers and was solidified when he honeymooned there with his wife, Kathy. His children would groan when, yet another family vacation was suggested with, "How about Niagara Falls?"

A man with an analytical mind and precise recall who would tell you the blizzard of '74 was worse

than the blizzard of '78, but who would drive his wife mad walking through the living room with muddy boots - just to grab a pen.

He perfected the trifecta: family, work, and living life on his terms.

He is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Kathy; three children, Kim (Amber), Becky Veiten-gruber (Tim) and Eddie (Nicole); three grandchildren, Lauren, Cameron and Edward; brother, Gary (Marsha); and nieces Jamie (Jacob) Law and Kelly, as well as many Baranek and Fennell cousins, nieces and nephews.

Ed was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Tom Baranek.

In tribute, cut your lawn clockwise, "outside in" this weekend, or toss a pole in the water. When you're done, go to Mr. A's and get a sub from Vince, buy some scratch offs and eat a Mounds bar. If you can't do that (as John once sang), go on a drive along the water with your spouse, get a carryout, and finish the night at home, with a game of Scrabble by the fire.

Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at Chas. Verheyden, Inc., 16300 Mack Ave. in Grosse Pointe Park. Scripture will begin at 6:30 p.m. He will lie in state at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 9 until the funeral Mass at 10 a.m. at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake St., St. Clair Shores. A final resting prayer will be at Resurrection Cemetery Chapel (18201 Clinton River Road, Clinton Township) immediately following the funeral Mass.

The family asks that donations may be made in Ed's name to the American Cancer Society at [cancer.org](http://cancer.org), and to [MusicCares.org](http://MusicCares.org).

Edward "Ed" G. Baranek, 74, passed away Friday, March 3, 2023, in St. Clair Shores after a tough battle with cancer. Though he could beat most of you at poker, he was dealt a bad hand that he couldn't bluff his way out of.

He was born October 29, 1949, in Detroit to Laura M. (Reno) and Edward T. Baranek and spent his entire life on the Eastside.

At Bishop Gallagher High School, Ed was a standout athlete and held the record for most points by a single player in a basketball game (30). But his ultimate win at Gallagher was scoring the love of his life, Kathy Fennell. He met Kathy, or as he called her, "his angel," on a blind date in October 1966. They were born four days apart - but rarely spent more than a day apart once they were together.

Like his older brother, Tom, "Fast Eddie" was a master gambler, pool hustler and ace card shark.

He put himself through college, earning his business degree from the University of Detroit.

Like his father and younger brother, Gary, Ed landscaped the Eastside since the late '60s and may have designed your front beds/bushes, put in your brick patio, or done your annual trimming. His sweat is in the soil, from Jefferson to Harper Ave. and every yard in between. He spent a third of his life outside and had calloused

## OBITS:

Continued from page 4B

## Susan "Suzie" Carpenter

Susan "Suzie" Carpenter, 78, passed peacefully Friday, Feb. 3, 2023, with her beloved sons by her side.

Suzie was born March 17, 1944, in Des Moines, Iowa, and was raised by her loving parents, Birchard "Bus" and Cornelia "Neal" Ashenfelter in South Bend, Ind. Suzie loved to share memories of her parents, especially the times they spent together at the family cottage in Lake Okoboji, Iowa, a tradition she carried on with her own family throughout her life.

Suzie graduated from Purdue University in 1966, and was an active and proud alum of Kappa Alpha Theta. She was one of the original board officers, as well as the recommendations chair for the Grosse Pointe alumni group. In her role with the organization, she supported many efforts for young, prospective Theta members at various campuses across the country.

Suzie happily married her husband of nearly 40 years, Clifford D. Carpenter, in 1974, and they enjoyed a beautiful life together raising two sons, Chris and Clint, in Grosse Pointe Park. In addition to being a successful kitchen and bath designer, Suzie was a loving wife and mother who was proud of her children and supported them whole-heartedly in all of their musical and athletic endeavors. The Carpenter house was famous for always being an open, fun and welcome place for friends and neighbors to gather, with Suzie as the consummate hostess. She was extremely active in her community and involved with her kids through PTO, Little League, Mother's Club and the Grosse Pointe South Preservation Society.

Suzie had a special bond with her group of friends, her "sisters,"



Susan Carpenter

who she loved to spend get-away weekends with over the years, chatting and doing puzzles. The most notable bond of the group was with her sister-in-law, Valerie, with whom she had been best friends from age 4. In recent years, Suzie's most treasured moments were spent visiting and enjoying meals with her sons, daughters-in-law, and Ethan, the grandson she was overjoyed to welcome to the family.

Suzie was a bright and accomplished woman with countless talents and interests. However, she was best known and admired for her radiant smile, infectious laugh, joyful disposition and love for her family.

Suzie was most loved by her husband, the late Clifford "Cliff" D. Carpenter; her adoring sons, Christopher D. Carpenter (Sarah) and Clinton D. Carpenter (Maura); grandchildren, Ethan William Carpenter and Daniel Francis O'Connor; devoted brother, Richard "Dick" Ashenfelter; loving sister-in-law, Valerie Ashenfelter; beloved nieces, Sara and Annie Ashenfelter; and her late parents, Birchard O. and Cornelia M. Ashenfelter (nee VanOosterhout).

Memorial contributions may be made to Kappa Alpha Theta National CASA/GAL, 8740 Founders Road Indianapolis, IN 46268. Share memories at AJDesmond.com.

## Lynn Trudell Bloy

Lynn Trudell Bloy, 87, of Grosse Pointe Farms, passed away Monday, Feb. 27, 2023, at Ascension St. John Hospital.

The daughter of James



Lynn Trudell Bloy

and Virginia (nee Turner) Trudell, Lynn was born Sept. 11, 1935. In 1954, she graduated from Grosse Pointe Country Day School and later attended Garland Junior College in Boston. She was married to Frederick Gibson "Fritz" Bloy for 59 years before his death in 2017.

A lifelong Grosse Pointe Farms resident, Lynn loved her community. She had friends of all ages, with many considering her close family. Lynn always was engaged and interested in hearing about the lives of her old friends, their children and their grandchildren.

Lynn had a wonderful sense of humor. She loved color and style. She worked at Miners, a local women's shop, and volunteered at the Bon Secours Hospital gift shop. She loved children and dogs. Lynn was famous for her delicious chocolate cake and often showed up at friends' houses with homemade chocolate chip cookies. Lynn and Fritz were members of the Country Club of Detroit and bowled on the club's league for many years.

She is survived by her close friend and companion, Al Johnson; her cousin, Kyle Kinsey; nephew, Michael B. Bloy; and many other adoring nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 4:30 p.m. Friday, March 17, at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms. Interment will immediately follow the service in the columbarium at Christ Church. Donations in memory of Lynn Bloy may be made to the Michigan Humane Society, michiganhumane.org, or a charity of the donor's choice.



Beverly Becker

## Beverly Becker

Beverly "Bev" Becker, 69, of Harper Woods, passed away peacefully Friday, Feb. 24, 2023.

Bev was born and raised on the east side of Detroit. She attended St. Martin on the Lake for grade school and ninth grade. She graduated from Finney High School in 1971. Beverly attended Wayne State University and achieved a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry and a Master of Science degree in Artificial Intelligence. She also was awarded seven U.S. patents for Ford Motor Co. Beverly retired from Ford as an engineer. Afterward, she was a patent inspector for the U.S. Patent Office, specializing in Automotive Manufacturing.

Beverly was an avid reader, enjoyed gardening and loved to travel the world. She had many good friends and enjoyed life.

Bev was predeceased by her parents, Frank and Estelle Becker. She is survived by her siblings, Arlene Matson (Dave), Frank Becker (Lawanna), Joan Rabaut (Bill), Dolores Shermetaro (Salvatore) and Robert Becker (Gina). Bev also was a loving sister and aunt. She enjoyed spending time with her many nieces and nephews; she was a role model and great influence on them.

A celebration of life memorial will be held in the spring. Contact a family member for information. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Vincent de Paul, 3000 Gratiot, Detroit, MI 48207, or [ssvpsa.org/donate/?form=FirstCampaign](http://ssvpsa.org/donate/?form=FirstCampaign).

## St. Michael's presents 'Lunch, Laugh and Learn'

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods, presents its next "Lunch, Laugh and Learn" event at noon, Thursday, March 16. Chef Stewart Graham will prepare the meal, a Lenten fish fry. The presenters are Kayla Dadswell and Kristen Johnson from CARE of Southeastern Michigan.

Since 1977, CARE of Southeastern Michigan has been a leader in delivering substance use prevention, treatment and recovery services. CARE's mission is to strengthen resiliency in people and their communities through prevention, education and services that improve the

quality of life.

Dadswell is the director of substance use prevention, a certified prevention consultant and a clinical licensed social worker. She has experience with youth, adults, families and communities in preventing substance use and promoting recovery.

Johnson is a community health educator and has a master's degree in public health from Wayne State University. She has more than 10 years of experience with youth and adults in the areas of mental health and substance use.

All are welcome. To reserve seats for lunch, call the church office at (313) 884-4820.

## AAUW, Family Center present mental health speaker and luncheon

To honor the memory of Virginia DiGiuseppe, membership committee chairwoman of the American Association of University Women who passed away Feb. 16, the AAUW Grosse Pointe membership team, in partnership with The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods, present "Our National Mental Health Crisis: The Impact of COVID and Moving Beyond It."

The program, which includes lunch, takes place at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 25, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Tickets are \$30.

Carol Zuniga, DiGiuseppe's daughter and the CEO of Hegira Health Inc., will present.

Zuniga has more than three decades of experience in the healthcare

industry, was selected as one of Crain's "Notable Women in Healthcare" in April 2020, and was appointed to the Governor's Commission on Suicide Prevention in January 2023. Hegira Health's executive director since 2016 and named CEO in 2021, she is a leader within her community's behavioral health network of services and recognized for incorporating trend-setting high-impact programs into the strategic planning of Hegira Health.

In addition to her passion and achievements developing and supporting her team's programs along the crisis service continuum — including crisis residential, mobile crisis stabilization, opioid rapid-response teams, law

See SPEAKER, page 6B

## Lecture reflects on 'When the Lions were Kings'

The Grosse Pointe Historical Society presents the next session in its Dr. Frank Bicknell Lecture Series, "When the Lions were Kings: The Detroit

Lions and the Fabulous Fifties," at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, at the Cook Schoolhouse, 20025 Mack Plaza, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Presenter Richard Bak is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University and a member of the Society of American Baseball Research and Professional

Football Researchers Association.

In his book, Bak recounts the period when the Detroit Lions were at the top of their game, win-

ning league championships in 1952, 1953 and 1957, during a period when Detroit's population — and some say influence — peaked.

Bak previously presented "Underground Detroit," about 300 years

of burial traditions in southeast Michigan, for the Bicknell series in 2010.

His "When the Lions were Kings" lecture will be available on the Grosse Pointe Historical Society's YouTube channel in the weeks following the event.

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**Congregational Church**  
(United Church of Christ)  
**Worship Sunday at 10:00 am**  
Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver  
*An Open & Affirming Church*  
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313-884-3075 • [www.gpccong.org](http://www.gpccong.org)  
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**Saint Ambrose Catholic Church**  
15020 Hampton  
Grosse Pointe Park,  
Michigan 48230-1302  
**Masses**  
Saturday Vigil — 4:00 p.m. ☩  
Sunday — 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.  
Tuesday — 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday — 7:00 p.m.  
Friday — Noon  
(313) 822-2814 • [stambrosechurch.net](http://stambrosechurch.net) • [facebook.com/stambroseparish](https://www.facebook.com/stambroseparish)  
☩ Saturday Vigil is streamed online at 8:00 a.m. Sunday on our facebook page

**St. Michael's Episcopal Church**  
*sharing the Light of Christ*  
**"How can these things be?"**  
Sunday Worship at 10 am  
*Followed by Coffee Hour in the parish hall*  
**Meet us online for Compline on Wednesdays at 7pm**  
*a brief and assuring form of evening prayer*  
open the link on our homepage: [stmichaelsgpw.org](http://stmichaelsgpw.org)  
20475 Sunningdale Park  
313.884.4820 [stmichaelsgpw.org](http://stmichaelsgpw.org)

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Everyone is Welcome!  
Amanda Onoro,  
director [preschool@feelc.org](mailto:preschool@feelc.org)  
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[www.christthekingpp.org](http://www.christthekingpp.org)  
**SUNDAY**  
8:15 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service  
9:30 a.m. - Bible Study  
10:45 a.m. - Sunday School  
**MONDAY**  
7 p.m. - Worship Service  
2nd & 4th Monday of the Month  
**WEDNESDAY**  
10 a.m. - Bible Study  
**Randy S. Boelter, Pastor**  
**Making New Disciples - Building Stronger Ones**

# AREA ACTIVITIES

## The Family Center

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods presents "Mindful Movement & Meditation," part of its Community Wellness Series, from 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays, through April 25, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. All levels are welcome. To register, email [info@familycenterweb.org](mailto:info@familycenterweb.org).

## The War Memorial

The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers a variety of programs and classes. Register for the following at [warmemorial.org](http://warmemorial.org).

◆ Beginner Ballroom Basics: Waltz and Rumba, 7 to 7:50 p.m. Thursdays, through March 30. Cost is \$110 per couple for six weeks or \$60 per person for six weeks.

◆ Women Making Wine Sustainably: A Tasting, Dinner and Conversation with Winemaker Kasey Wierzbka, 6 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 14. Tickets are \$65.

◆ Tammy's Tastings: Drink Me, I'm Irish, 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, March 16. Tickets are \$59.

◆ Jazz Brunch, featuring jazz pianist Cliff Monear, Sunday, March 19. Brunch begins at 11 a.m., the concert at 12:15 p.m. Tickets are \$65 for both, \$40 for the concert only. VIP tickets also are available.

◆ Cocktails by Candlelight,

6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 22. Tickets are \$20.

## Ford House

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

◆ Nooks & Crannies guided tours are offered at 11 a.m. Tuesdays through Sundays until May 28. Admission is \$18 for adults, \$15 for seniors and \$9 for children; admission for members is reduced.

◆ Storytime: "Curious Garden," 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays, through March 28.

◆ Maker Studio: Floral Watercolors, 1 p.m. Saturday, March 18. Cost is \$70 for members, \$80 for nonmembers.

◆ Bird Walk, 8 a.m. Sunday, March 19, with Rosann Kovalcik of Wild Birds Unlimited and Bill Rapai, president of Grosse Pointe Audubon. Cost is \$8 for members, \$10 for nonmembers.

◆ Spring Tea and Tour, noon Sunday, March 19, and Thursday, March 23. Admission costs vary.

◆ Reading event: "Hadha Baladuna: Arab American Narratives of Boundary and Belonging," 7 p.m. Thursday, March 23. Admission is \$10 for members, \$12 for nonmembers.

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

## Library

The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts a variety of pro-

grams. To register for the following, visit [grossepointelibrary.org](http://grossepointelibrary.org).

◆ Read Local Author Series, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 9, with intellectual property attorney Bill Honaker, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Outdoor Storytime with Miss Rachel, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Friday, March 10, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Calligraphy Saturdays, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 11, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Fern Michaels Book Discussion, 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 11, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park. The group will discuss "Secrets," by Michaels.

◆ On Writing Well: Creative Non-Fiction, 3 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 11, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Beginner CAD Modeling, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, March 13, in the DREAM Lab at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 7th & 8th Grade Book Group, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 14, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Baby Time, 9:30 to 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 15, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 15, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ My Library 101, 4 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Nonfiction Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 16, via Zoom.

◆ Read Local Authors Series, with Ebony Evans, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 16, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Origins of Food Series, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, March 17, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Calligraphy Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. Saturday, March 18, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Saturday Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday, March 18, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Bad Guys Trivia, 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 18, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Reader Dog Drop In, 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 18, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

## Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday, March 10, Grosse Pointe Woods City Hall, 20025 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, March 10, American House East II, 18760 13 Mile, Roseville.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 14, First English Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Wood.

◆ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, Henry Ford Medical Center—Cottage, 159 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe

Farms.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, Jefferson Masonic Lodge No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, March 16, Roseville Public Library, 29777 Gratiot, Roseville.

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, March 17, Pointe Fitness, 19556 Harper, Harper Woods.

## 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 "King Richard" is shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, March 10. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.

◆ CPR and AED Training, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Monday, March 13. Cost is \$35 for members, \$45 for nonmembers.

◆ St. Patrick's Day lunch and trivia competition, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, March 17. Cost is \$20 for members, \$24 for nonmembers.

## Healthspan

Healthspan, 18450 Mack, Ste. 101, Grosse Pointe Farms, hosts a Makeup Application Lesson from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 16.

The event also includes information about what foods to eat for healthy skin. Healthspan offers preventative healthcare, testing, nutrition counseling and exercise plans with a focus on healthy aging through lifestyle. For more information, email [info@drginette.co](mailto:info@drginette.co) or call (313) 583-4333.

## LECTURE:

Continued from page 3B

During Your Old Mansion, Mitchell will give a brief introduction, then turn the floor over to members of the crew. She considers the assembly of expert renovators a resource for anyone planning their own restoration project.

"It was hard to find people who restore historic windows and other work," she said. "It took a lot of research to find those people. I want to pass on those resources for other people. This is a shortcut for someone planning to renovate."

This one-off lecture takes place at The War Memorial; however, people who bought tickets to all five lectures in the series will be invited to tour the Stearns house after the lecture.

There remains opportunity to tour the inn for those who missed the other Your Old Mansion lectures. Tours of the Stearns house are offered noon to 4 p.m. Saturdays for \$30 per person. Guests can sign up for a time slot on the website, [frederickstearnshouse.com](http://frederickstearnshouse.com)

"I want to bring attention to this historical gem," Mitchell said. "I want to put it to good use. We should take pride in what we have."



Above, a dining table is decked out for the holidays. Left, The Rose, the inn's presidential suite, features a largely marble bathroom.

## Wrapping up

This was the seventh year for the GPAA's Your Old Mansion series and its most successful.

"We made more money than in past years despite lowering our registration fees," said Karen Pope, GPAA president. "We know everyone is watching their pennies right now, so we lowered prices and still we brought in a record-high amount."

Series speakers donated their time and The War Memorial donated space, allowing every penny raised to benefit GPAA.

"One hundred percent of the proceeds will go to support the association's free programming for veterans, senior citizens and Promising

Artists," Pope said.

"Tuesday Night Artmaking for Veterans" meets 6 to 8 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month in the GPAA art studio at The War Memorial.

"A Morning Out" for seniors, where participants discuss art and make projects to take home, meets at 10:30 a.m. the first and third Tuesdays of the month in the GPAA gallery and art studio in The War Memorial.

The seventh annual Promising Artists exhibition takes place in May. The show is open to all art students in area high schools and alumni of the program.

For more information, visit [grossepointeartcenter.org](http://grossepointeartcenter.org).



The Zinnia is the inn's executive suite.



The Astor, a junior suite, includes a bedroom, living room and private bathroom.

## SPEAKER:

Continued from page 5B

enforcement co-responder services and Hegira's Zero Suicide platform — other notable accomplishments include spearheading the development of Hegira's Children's Specialty Services Division and leading her team in attaining federal grant awards, including grants for integrated care and transi-

tional aged youth, as well as the Pathway to Suicide Prevention grant.

Originally from St. Clair Shores, Zuniga is an alumna of University Liggett School in Grosse Pointe Woods. She earned a Master of Science degree in clinical psychology from Radford University and a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from Macalester College. She has been licensed as a limited licensed psychologist in

Michigan since 1987.

The focus of her lecture is recognizing mental health issues, history and myths, as well as the effects on the family and resources available to them.

Checks made payable AAUW Grosse Pointe may be mailed to AAUW Grosse Pointe, 32 Lakeshore Dr., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

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## Yoga Moves MS back in action at Full Lotus

### Adaptive program helps those with MS, Parkinson's, other neuromuscular issues

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

Pre-pandemic, the local Yoga Moves MS program was in full swing, benefiting people with multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, stroke and other neuromuscular conditions.

When COVID struck, leading to lockdown, the adaptive yoga classes went virtual.

"Now we're getting back in person," instructor Bettyanne Hodges said. "It's like starting all over again."

Locally, adaptive chair yoga classes are back in session at 11:30 a.m. Mondays at Full Lotus Yoga, 20365 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Similar classes take place weekly in Farmington Hills and Troy; classes in Southfield and Livonia soon will reopen.

"We roam — wherever we can get space," Hodges said. "When I started teaching, (Full Lotus Yoga owner) Liz DeFour was gracious enough to offer this space."

Yoga Moves MS was created in 2008, by Mindy Eisenberg, whose mother had MS.

"She was told to stay in bed when she didn't feel well, which is the exact opposite of what you should do," Hodges said. "When Mindy started learning yoga and then became a yoga teacher, she realized that's not what her mom was supposed to be doing. So she started this foundation."

Yoga Moves MS became a nonprofit in 2015. With adaptive yoga, traditional yoga poses are tailored to the physical body, rather than fitting and forcing the body into particular poses and shapes.

"We're able to tailor each class to who's there," Eisenberg said. "Someone with

Parkinson's may not be able to hold a pose very long; they might feel rigid. Someone with MS will move slowly. Our teachers are adept at giving options."

Classes are open to anyone interested in adaptive yoga, Hodges said, including veterans. Participants range from those who are immobile to spritely students who are able to help their classmates.

Classes help with a variety of issues associated with neuromuscular conditions.

"With MS and Parkinson's, balance is a big issue," Eisenberg said. "This is an opportunity to practice balance in a safe environment. Maybe not standing on one foot, but maybe sitting in a chair with one leg out to the side, or sitting upright can be balance. With spasticity and rigidity, stretching is very beneficial for that."

Coupled with breathing, props such as blankets, chairs, yoga straps and blocks are used to meet the unique needs of individuals with different abilities. Core strength moves help with posture as well.

"People with these conditions can be nervous, because they don't know what's coming next so they have anxiety," Eisenberg said. "This practice helps center the nervous system. Breathing helps even with memory and with cooling the body."

Added Hodges, "We do poses that help promote energy. We're implementing poses through the class for energy flow and balance. Poses have purpose. This gives them a repertoire of poses they can do at home."

Yoga is a mind-body-spirit connection and acts as a way people with neuromuscular conditions can "get back into the

body and feel sensations," Eisenberg said. "If there's depression, it is uplifting. Yoga really is a gift of self care. They realize parts of their body they thought couldn't do something, can."

Classes are two hours, Hodges noted, which not only includes yoga, but a fair amount of socialization. During social time, clients also learn from and support each other through shared experiences.

"It's a support group and yoga provides the framework," Eisenberg said. "It's not your typical yoga class. There's laughing, sharing, sometimes a tear is shed."

"... These classes make a difference," she added. "And they're getting good attention. It's more than you'd get in regular chair class. If we know something needs more attention than one teacher, we're going to have more teachers. We pride ourselves on safety. We want people to feel really comfortable. Ninety-nine percent is showing up, so when they get there, they get big gold star."

While transportation can be an issue — people with neuromuscular conditions can have poor eyesight — long walks across a parking lot and stairways aren't easy tasks.

"This could be the only time some of them get out," Hodges said. "Just getting here is a challenge. But students can pull up to the back and come right in."

"We always make sure we're accessible," Eisenberg added. "We'll help you in from parking lot, help you back into your car. It's a two-hour class, but we have breaks to allow for talking. We have a generous ending — resting pose for 10 to 15 minutes. You don't have to wear fancy clothes, just a T-shirt and pants you can move in. If



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

From left, adaptive chair yoga enthusiasts Loretta Darnell, John Kean, teacher Bettyanne Hodges, Ed Gregory and Dick White.

a caregiver comes with you, they are certainly welcome to take the class. Every so often, one wants to help."

For those who cannot make it in person, virtual options continue to be available. Thanks to a grant from The Kirk Gibson Foundation for Parkinson's, a library of on-demand and live classes, at a reduced cost, are available on the Yoga Moves MS website. Classes range from 10 minutes up to an hour. They might have a focus, Eisenberg said, like spasticity or balance, so participants can choose a class according to need.

However, she added, "There's no replacement for in person. Some peo-

ple are terrified and don't want to get out of the chair to go down to the mat. They should feel comfortable. We have options for them. If they want to go down, there's somebody there for them. Having someone by you increases your confidence and it's so empowering to do it, to go down and come back up. To know you can fall and get back up, to have different strategies for it, is extremely powerful."

Added Hodges, "They really empower each other and form these neat communities. They have more energy after class, more confidence. Sometimes they're mentally beat down when they come in, but they

have more energy when they leave."

Participants must sign a waiver to attend class. Waivers are available online at yogamovesms.org or fulllotusyoga.net, as well as in person at Full Lotus.

There is a \$12 per class drop-in fee or \$50 for five classes. Scholarships are available.

"Please don't be afraid," Eisenberg said. "... There is anxiety, but try to take it out of the equation. We're a welcoming community. We want you to be you. You won't be sorry. We know there's anxiety about trying something new. Bring a buddy, whatever is going to make you comfortable. You are welcome here."

ASK THE EXPERTS By Lynn Walsh, M.S., LLP

## Creating healthy habits

Routines. Habits. Unvarying customary ways.

What can seem boring brings safety and security in tumultuous times. Anyone who's experienced turbulence on a flight understands the momentary fear and subsequent relief once the pilot has steadied the aircraft. What do people do when the turbulence hits? Look at the flight attendants to see if they look worried; pray; keep reading their magazine; listen to calming music — whatever their habit or coping tool is during the rough part of a flight. In other words, revert to a habit or routine that can be called upon until things feel smooth again.

If you're already a creature of habit, all the better. If not, there are ways to implement this as an "as needed" set of behaviors when the skies of life become turbulent. The first and most important step to setting up a new routine is to create a list of enjoyable soul-, body- or mind-nourishing practices that are easily implemented and sustainable.

Such as list might look like:

- ◆ Write one gratitude statement daily at bedtime.

- ◆ Choose one hour a day to go device-free and enjoy solitude.

- ◆ Mindfully prepare one meal per day.

- ◆ Try a new fitness practice (yoga, Pilates, stretching, barre) and stick with it at least two weeks.

- ◆ Reach out to someone not in your current circle of friends or colleagues once per day or week to create a new connection, say thank you or offer a compliment.

It's said that two weeks of daily practice will create a habit that sticks and usually the gratification derived from a novel health- and happiness-boosting practice will serve as self-reinforcement. The beauty of tried-and-true routines is they can be called up at any time, increased when needed to provide structure and security, and used as "plug and play" in stressful situations to bolster a jittery passenger of life until the plane lands safely.

Lynn Walsh, M.S. LLP is a local therapist in practice for 14 years. Her office is located at 355 Fisher, Suite C. For more information, call (313) 779-3089 or visit [bit.ly/3Ji6Rlg](http://bit.ly/3Ji6Rlg).

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# Grosse Pointe Gabby

The Pulse Of The Pointes

## Waiting for 'Mr. Just Right' to call

**Dear Gabby:** I met a really nice guy at an event a few weeks ago. He is tall, handsome, nice, religious and everything I would ever want in a partner.

We talked for hours and I came home walking on air and expecting a text or phone call. Well, that call never came, and I'm wondering what in the heck happened and what (if anything) to do next. Please help! ?

— Waiting in the Woods

**Dear Waiting,**

Ah, the highs and lows of meeting someone new. This is all a very exciting and scary rollercoaster, and the hope is obviously to come off of it excited and energized rather than nauseated and missing your keys.

In this case, if you are truly hoping to connect, my advice is to send off a very light-hearted text or social

media DM about nothing important or heavy.

Could be the weather, a shared joke or anything that doesn't come off as too eager or aggressive.

See if you get a response. Chances are, he is feeling the same way and may just be shy.

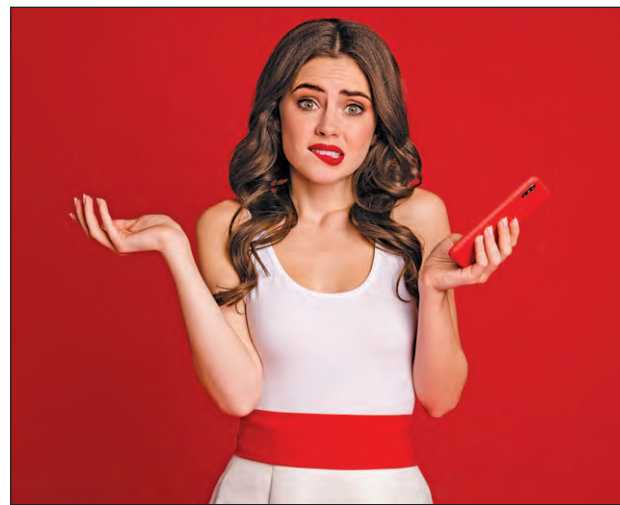
Of course, you are taking the risk that you will not get a response, or that you will get one that's

lukewarm. And that's OK, because life is one big adventure and taking the risk is never a bad thing.

If it's meant to be, it will happen! Best of luck to you in love and life.

— Gabby

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



## Pets need to be kept safe from harm too

**Dear Ann Landers:** Last night, I was driving in the city and hit a cat. "Just some stray animal," most people would say. I stopped my car and checked the poor creature, but it wasn't breathing. There was no identification, but I couldn't get over the



guilt of thinking some child might be looking for "Fluffy" or "Tiger."

When I was growing up, my two cats were hit by cars. I begged my mother not to let them out, but she insisted that cats need "prowling" time. That is the most insane thing I have ever heard. A pet is part of your family. Would you let a child out to play alone? Pets don't need to be out running around.

Cats can be litter-trained. Dogs should be walked on a leash or kept in a fenced yard.

If one thing comes

from this letter, I hope it is that people will take better care of their pets and give them the chance to grow old with the rest of the family.

To the cat I hit last night: I'm sorry we couldn't have met under better circumstances. — E.M. in Lonoke, Ark.

**Dear E.M.:** The accident was not your fault, so please stop tormenting yourself. I have said several times that pet owners NEVER should let their pets roam free. Anyone who takes on the responsibility of caring for an animal should be willing to keep it safe from harm. Your letter may save a few of those nine lives.

**Dear Ann Landers:** I am engaged to a wonderful man I have known for four years.

"Dudley" and I plan to be married next summer. He is a kind soul and a perfect gentleman.

Everything was great until a few weeks ago, when Dudley started to hit me while he was asleep. The first time, he punched my rear end with his fist and then stopped suddenly. Last night, he hit me in the stomach twice. Both times, I woke him up and expressed astonishment.

He was completely unaware of what he had done. When I asked him why he was hitting me, he

## Classic Ann Landers

said he had no recollection of doing it and wondered whether I dreamed it.

Well, Ann, I definitely was not dreaming. Dudley did indeed hit me. I asked whether he dreamed he was in a fight, and he said it was possible, but he never remembers his dreams. I find this hard to believe because I remember mine.

I am truly concerned that Dudley has a subconscious wish to hurt me. Please tell me how to handle this. —

Bruised in Dallas

**Dear Bruised:** It sounds as if Dudley is a mighty restless sleeper. I doubt that he wants to hurt you. He could be dreaming about a schoolyard bully or a boss he hated years ago. You would, however, be safer in twin beds. The important thing is that he doesn't hit you while he is awake.

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## Attempt to connect with beau's daughter fizzles

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm divorced and have been dating my guy friend for five years. We recognized after we started dating that we love each other, and we planned to move in together after a year of dating. I was so excited when we started making plans that I reached out to my guy's ex-wife and daughter as a friendly gesture.

His daughter was getting married later in the year, so I tried to reassure her that I understood how stressful a big wedding is, and I wouldn't be offended if I wasn't invited. Following the wedding, the first time I met his ex-wife and children was excruciating.

His daughter was very unpleasant to me.

Now, years later, the situation has not improved. If I try to be Facebook friends, his daughter accepts my offer, but limits what I can see. This is ridiculous. After five years, I would like to just gently close that door. Is that being mean or realistic? — TRIED, AND TRIED AGAIN

**DEAR TRIED:** When you reached out to your partner's daughter, perhaps you came on a little too strong. It seems like a warm and caring gesture, unless your relationship was the reason his marriage ended. Have you talked to your

partner about it? Perhaps he can help.

This situation won't improve if you "gently close the door." You don't need to track his adult daughter's activities on Facebook. (If she hated you, she would block you entirely.) It couldn't hurt to step back and stick with the status quo, and that's what I recommend.

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I have been together 30 years and married for 25. We have four wonderful adult children and four beautiful grandchildren. We started our family very young and are now entering our 50s. I'm

ready to get out and travel the world, but my husband wants to move closer to one of our children to help with the kids. We have had many loud conversations regarding my unwillingness to raise children all over again. I love my grandchildren, but having been a mother since I was 16, I'm enjoying my newfound freedom.

Our son and his wife both have successful careers. They can afford quality child care, and I don't see the need for us to uproot our lives and move hours away just to be on-call babysitters. I love the town we live in, and I'm starting to resent his relentless "persuasion" and suggestions



## Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

that relocation is what "most grandmothers would love to do." Advice? — STAYING PUT IN FLORIDA

**DEAR STAYING:** Having raised four wonderful children since the age of 16, your feelings are understandable. I will assume that your husband wants to uproot your lives because he is retired and has nothing meaningful to occupy his time. Please do not allow him to wear you down if you are not equally enthusiastic about becoming an on-

call babysitter. You deserve to travel if you have the means to do it. He could take that time to travel to wherever your son and his family live and give them a break in your absence. That way you will both be doing something you enjoy.

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

## We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



As I've gotten older, I've noticed that my hair is growing slower than usual. I've always had a lot of very fine hair that takes forever to grow. I love the idea of having long hair, but I usually lose steam and cut it before it gets much past my shoulders.

After experiencing a mild amount of hair shedding that caused me to panic (as I usually do), I found myself researching natural and cost-effective ways to promote hair growth. I found a few different options that seemed to fit the bill.

One option, rosemary essential oil, seemed to have thousands of positive

reviews and testimonials. Rosemary is a culinary and healing herb.

The idea that rosemary oil can prevent hair loss and encourage hair growth comes from the plant's basic health benefits. In essential oil form, rosemary is said to improve circulation, promote nerve growth and have anti-inflammatory properties.

It also is used to prevent premature graying and dandruff. By strengthening circulation, it can also help a dry or itchy scalp. Rosemary oil is a pretty cost-effective essential oil, with options available on Amazon for as low as \$9.99, so I ordered a bottle to try it out.

After using the oil for a few months, I can safely

say my hair is softer than ever. I apply the oil to my

scalp and ends of my hair one to three hours before a shower, put my hair in a bun, then shampoo and condition it like normal.

My split ends are much less noticeable and my hair is shiny and very strong. For \$9.99, I think this oil definitely has helped my hair and promoted hair and scalp health.

As for growth, I don't notice that my hair is growing faster or fuller than usual. My hair growth seems to be pretty consistent and normal, and I don't notice that my hair is thinner or thicker than it always has been.

My hair feels so healthy and strong that I look for-

ward to using this product. I am giving this product four out of five alligators because I haven't noticed hair growth benefits yet, but there are still so many positive things about this product. If you try rosemary essential oil, send us an email or DM and let us know your thoughts.

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



4 Out Of 5



# Shake it up

## Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Beer and chocolate are an odd but delicious pair, especially if you use a chocolate beer. I used Samuel Smith's Organic Chocolate Stout and made a milkshake that was to die for.

Easy and good ingredients sometimes make the best indulgent dessert.

There is no baking, mixing bowls or fuss. Just dump ice cream in a blender with the appropriate beer and finish with chocolate shavings, a cool straw and some type of a shortbread cookie.

This is a beer from the UK however, it's a wonderful pairing for a milkshake made in Michigan from a simple home cook.

Again, this beer is sold at Village Food Market. Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Cheers, Mombeau

### Chocolate stout milkshake

3 1/2 cups chocolate ice cream

12oz Samuel Smith's

Chocolate Stout

3.5 oz shaved milk chocolate

4 shortbread cookie

Use a blender to combine the chocolate ice cream and beer. Pour into your favorite tall glass and top with chocolate curls. Just use a vegetable peel to make perfect shavings.

Top with a shortbread cookie or crumble the cookie over top.

You can't go wrong with this fun dessert.



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

## Rare varietals

Younger wine buyers seem smitten with the notion that common-place grapes like chardonnay and cabernet still hold some interest, but they also know that unusual varieties can offer excitement.

shop owners once happily dismissed as bizarre. This includes grapes that have long been produced in some regions of the world but never were imported here.

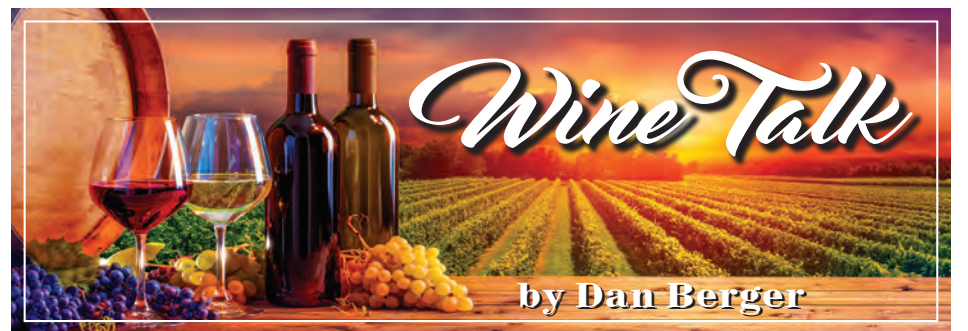
What makes this interesting is that some of

ing and perfect for certain types of foods.

Take, for example, the grape called Ribolla Gialla, a white grape from Italy's Friuli that smells a bit like wild berries, peach blossoms and tropical fruits like pineapple. Not many U.S. winemakers produce one, but a small producer in northern Sonoma County, Miro Cellars, makes a stellar version that's soft and approachable. It is a perfect aperitif wine, and also could be paired with slightly sweeter main dishes.

For dark red wine lovers, Teroldego is an Italian variety that offers intense flavors, but with a little less intensity of both acidity and tannin than other red Italian wines. This relatively rare grape is grown in only scant amounts in the United States.

Teroldego appears to age nicely, but it works exceptionally well when it's young with beef stew, short ribs



Teroldego is a red Italian grape variety grown primarily in the northeastern region of Trentino-Alto Adige/Südtirol, Italy. The grape's vivid acidity makes this a wonderful wine to pair with food.

As a result, specialty wine shops in the United States now are being asked to carry more unusual wines that the

these wines are actually being produced here using grapes from other countries, and some of these wines are fascinat-

and other hearty meat dishes. It's fun to try after two hours in a decanter. The best American version is produced by Montoliva in the hills above Grass Valley, California.

Silvaner is a white wine grape that produces a fascinating wine not unlike dry riesling, especially when produced in Germany, where it's highly regarded. Very few Silvaners are produced here. Slightly confusingly, it's exactly the same grape that's produced in Alsace, in northern France, where it's often spelled Sylvaner, with a Y.

I'm one of very few U.S. wine writers who

adore Blaufrankisch, a grape that appreciates colder temperatures and normally produces relatively tart red wines that are lower in tannins.

The best examples of these blueberry-scented wines historically come from Austria, but one of the finest examples I have tasted is from a small Michigan winery called Left Foot Charley and made by a brilliant winemaker, Bryan Ulbrich. It is a wine that I love to serve to people who appreciate great structural red wines and are fascinated by interesting varieties.

One of the messages of the preceding essay is that diversity today is definitely worth investigating, mainly because the wines offer a change of personality from the ordinary. And because the only people making these wines are doing so mainly because they have an interest in the multiplicity of aromas and flavors rarely seen in this country.

No Wine of the Week.

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

## Gadgets

Wine gadgets seem to be the snake oil of the industry. At least with snake oil, you could lubricate the buggy.

I have seen many of these things advertised with all sorts of thrilling promises. I have tested many of them, and my conclusion is that they are as real as those letters from Africa promising millions if you just pass along your bank account number.

In both cases, your best response is, "No thanks," and after thinking about this for a second, I realized that the thanks isn't necessary.

The history of this little bit of scammy includes a news story carried by the Associated Press a few years back that said Chinese scientists had announced they had made a breakthrough in aging of red wine.

Using radio waves, they said, they could age a young wine in just minutes. It's bunk, and the AP should be ashamed they fell for this.

In the early 1980s, San Francisco restaurateur Trader Vic Bergeron staged an event in which he tried to prove that placing any wine in a pyramid helped smooth it out. It didn't work.

A few years later, someone tried to sell a crystal to do the same thing. Just hang it in the wine, they said,

and, voila! the wine improves. I tried it. The wine didn't improve.

Quite recently a heavy coaster containing a large magnet did the same thing. It was advertised with all manner of support from some wine writers, including people I know and (once) respected.

A couple of years ago came one of the best of all: A flyer arrived offering Wine Wizard by Vin-Tek, with a cleverly written bunch of hokum that included lines like "an energy catalytic converter" that "converts solar energy to speed up the aging process."

And it got better. The flyer said Vin-Tek "accelerates esterification" and "simulates the

aging process." "And it is 'maintenance free — no power required.'"

I called the company marketing this device (listed on the flyer as UPD) and asked how the thing works. A woman who sounded about 19 years of age said:

"Well, it's supposed to, you know, make the wine, uh, smoother, so if you buy an inexpensive wine, it, like, makes it taste like a more expensive wine. You know?"

I asked how it worked. She said, "We're not supposed to talk about that." I persisted. So she put me on hold (the song was "Woolly Bully" by Sam The Sham and the Pharaohs), then came

back and took my name and number. She said she would call me back.

The flyer says the gadget is "patent pending." How long it has been pending is anyone's guess.

P.S. She never called back.

If these gadgets intended to improve wine actually worked, don't you think the industry would have them?

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

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## St. Paddy's celebration ideas are pure gold

Life's just more fun when you celebrate every chance you get. You don't need a formal party to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Surprise the family by decorating the table in pure green style whether you're dining on authentic Irish corned beef and potatoes or spaghetti and meatballs.

You'll be thinking of the surprised and happy faces of your kids coming home to a festive dinner as you peruse the aisles of Party Adventure in search of the perfect partyware.

The happy shamrock tablecloth, above, is a great start to prettying-up your dining space. Here we added adorable plates and coordinating napkins, cute clover cups and mugs. Everything's disposable, so cleanup will be pure magic.

Tiny pots of gold adorn each person's place setting, and a generous sprinkle of gold coin confetti all around tops off this totally perky display.

All are available at Party Adventure, on Mack in St. Clair Shores, where you'll also find wearables like headbands, hats and beads as well as decorations of all kinds, including balloons and banners.

To add a bit of color contrast, add a centerpiece of cheery fire-orange daisies mixed with cooling greens and white flowers, (as seen below.) Any greenery will blend in perfectly, too, including ivy or succulents you may already have at home.

It doesn't take much extra effort to make a week-night dinner more fun and create lasting memories for your little ones or friends.



### Holiday Recipe

## Simple Irish Soda Bread

From **Bigger, Bolder Baking**  
Recipe by Gemma Stafford

Treat the family to an authentic and delicious Irish delight that goes great as a side with corned beef, shepherd's pie or even just some creamy Irish butter or your favorite fruit jam. It's easy to prepare and will fill the house with the warm aroma everyone loves. Dense and hearty, it's the classic taste of an Irish home. Serves 10.

**Prep time:**

20 minutes

**Cook time:**

45 minutes

**Total time:**

1 hr 5 minutes

**Ingredients:**

3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon baking soda

2 tablespoons butter

1 egg

1 3/4 cups buttermilk

**Instructions**

Preheat the oven to 425°F

Mix together the flour, salt and baking soda in a large bowl. Add the butter and rub into the flour mixture with your fingertips until it resembles coarse bread crumbs.

In a separate jug, whisk the egg and buttermilk together (see note on how to make buttermilk below) Make a well in the center of the dry ingredients and pour three-quarters of the liquid into the flour mixture.

Using an open hand bring the flour and liquid together to a loose dough. The dough should be quite soft, but not too sticky. You can add a little more of the milk mix if it is needed. (flours in different places react differently).

Turn onto a floured work surface and gently bring the dough together into a round about 8 inches by 8 inches. Place on a baking sheet dusted well with flour.

Score the bread by blessing it with a deep cross on top. Poke a hole in the four corners of the bread



PHOTO BY ANNE GRZENIA

to release the fairies and stop them from cursing your beautiful bread.

Glaze the bread with the leftover bit of buttermilk in your jug.

Bake for 15 minutes at 425°F (210°C), then turn down the oven to 400°F (200°C) and bake for 30 minutes more. When done, the loaf will sound slightly hollow when tapped on the bottom. Remove from the baking sheet and place on a wire rack to cool.

Serve with Irish butter and jam. Store at room temperature for up to four days.

**Pro tips:**

- Since the buttermilk will immediately create a reaction with the baking soda, it's best to mix this batter up and get it into the oven as quickly as possible.

- To ensure the crust comes out extra crispy don't open the oven door during baking and no peeking.

- It's best to allow the butter to sit out beforehand and come to room temperature. This will make the butter easier to rub into the flour and speed up the whole process.

- If you want to change up the flavor of this bread, you can add nuts or dried fruit. Adding a bit of sugar and some raisins would be lovely.

FOR THE KIDS...

# Make a handy leprechaun trap!



## This family project is the new 'elf on a shelf'



Irish folklore has it that a leprechaun is a mischievous elf who must grant wishes when captured, and has to reveal the location of his pot of gold to anyone who traps him in order to be set free. So...who wouldn't want to catch one?

Schoolrooms have been building colorful leprechaun traps for years, but your family can get in on the fun, too. It's an easy project to share with the kids — and there are absolutely no rules for making one of these colorful creations and capturing a prankster of your own.

To build your own elf-catching contraption you need only to use what's already around the house. Get innovative with boxes, hats, cans, empty paper towel rolls, tin foil, paper, fabric, felt, string or yarn. Don't forget the most important part to add some bait to your trap to lure the little guy in! They are smart fellows, but also easily enamored by coins, clover or candy and other treats.

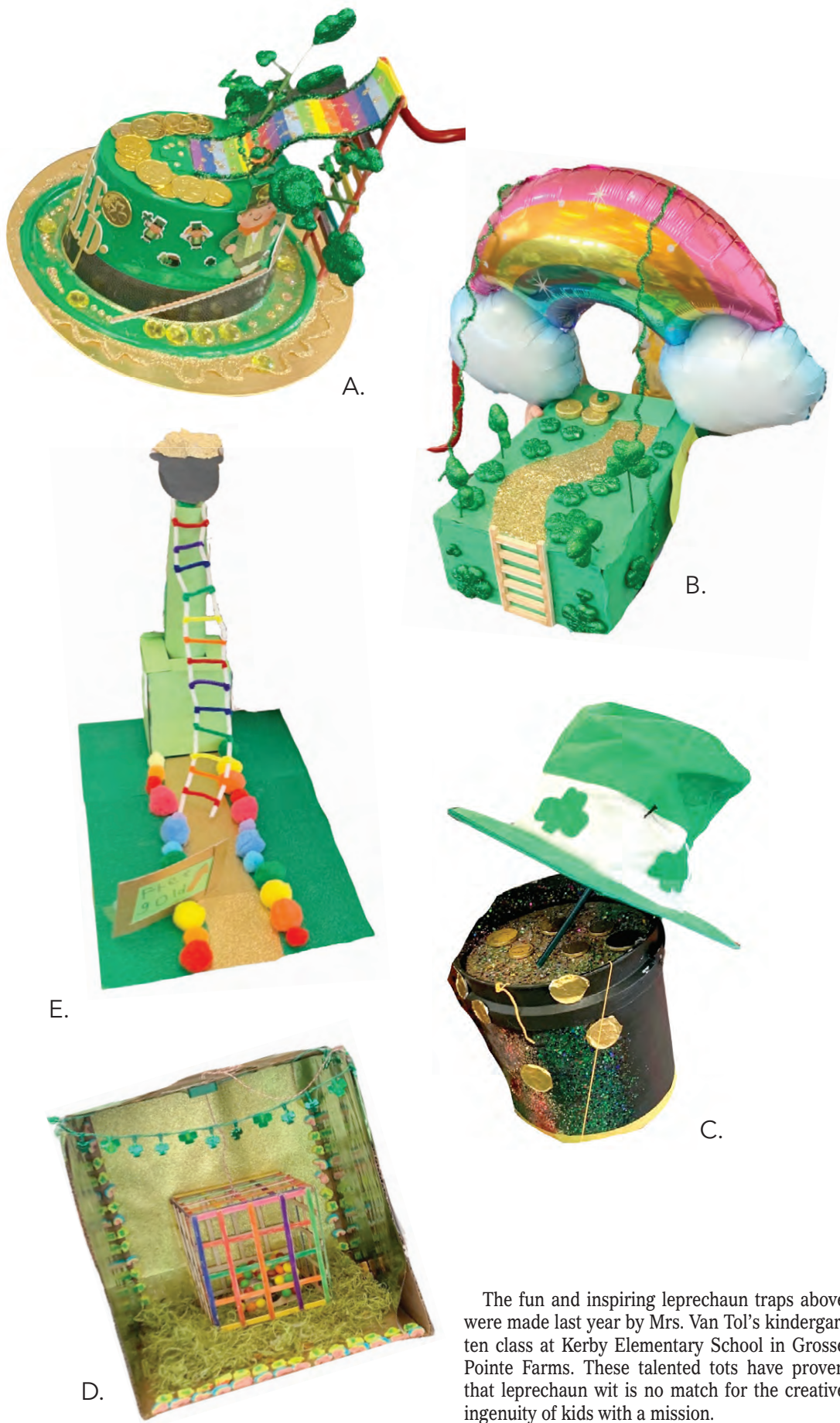
To make the leprechaun trap shown above, here's what you'll need:

- A small box that is open on the top
- School glue and masking tape
- Safety scissors with supervision
- Crepe or tissue paper or a soft fabric (preferably green)
- Paper or plastic drinking straws
- Cotton balls
- Multicolor stick-on notes
- Green construction paper
- Your choice of bait (coins, candy, Lucky Charms cereal)

**Instructions:**

1. Wrap your box on all sides (except the top) with the paper or fabric.
2. Cut another piece of paper or fabric to be slightly larger on all sides than the top of your box. Cut a slit in the center (where the leprechaun will fall in) and glue this fabric as shown in the photo above.
3. Cut shamrock shapes from the green construction paper and glue to the sides of the box to decorate. You can also use colorful stickers, glitter, photographs, etc.
4. Cut a thin strip from each color of the stick-on notes. Stack these and spread them slightly to reveal a bit of each color, then staple them together at each end. Create an arch with them and tape each end to the box to form a rainbow. Glue cotton ball 'clouds' over where you have taped them to the box.
5. Create the optional 'ladder' by taping 2" cut straw pieces to two full-length straws to create 'rungs.' You can decorate the ladder by covering in glue and wrapping with tissue paper.
6. Add your bait to the top near the slit you made earlier.

**FOR ELVES ONLY:** Be sure to leave "evidence" that a leprechaun was there — but got away!



The fun and inspiring leprechaun traps above were made last year by Mrs. Van Tol's kindergarten class at Kerby Elementary School in Grosse Pointe Farms. These talented tots have proven that leprechaun wit is no match for the creative ingenuity of kids with a mission.

Your leprechaun trap can be as simple or as extravagant as you desire! These beauties are sure to do the trick. Clockwise, from top: A. Hat's off to the creator of this amazing design, utilizing a leprechaun hat and an irresistible rainbow slide to trap their St. Pat-rick's Day munchkin. B. It's all roads paved with gold and rainbow skies for this beautiful creation. C. The pretty hat serves as the trapdoor on this tempting pot o' gold. D. A magical box within a box might prove just too intriguing for local leprechauns to resist. E. A warm and fuzzy rainbow-inspired version is made from pom poms and pipe cleaners.

# Grosse Pointe News

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We're passionate about inspiring kids to read. Generations of children have learned a lifelong habit of reading about their communities and the world by watching their parents read the newspaper.

Because we want to engage kids in reading for fun and knowledge, we're adding so much more to the Grosse Pointe News that will appeal to them. Like our new weekly Kid Scoop page, with interesting kid-friendly content and fun, challenging puzzles.

*They're watching you. Inspire them in a way that will improve the rest of their lives. Subscribe today.*

# WEARIN' O' THE GREEN

Everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day! Be sure (and begorrah) to treat yourself to something green to wear on this special day of pre-spring happiness, shamrocks, pub get-togethers and fun in and around the Pointes. We've hand-picked a few amazing ideas to green-up your wardrobe and have you looking pretty for St. Pat's...



## IT'S ALL IN THE BAG!



Add one of these stylish bags to your fashion repertoire and you'll be looking great all spring. The striped mesh bag, far left, is big enough to carry it all – and then some. It's from Glitter & Scotch. The sweet clover-toned standup handbag, left, has a ruched handle and zipper closure. It's the perfect silhouette with equal parts structure and slouch. It's a day-to-night essential. From Village Palm. Village Palm carries a line of Stoney Clover Lane products.

Nothing like a warm, cozy sweater to make you think of Ireland. This classic silhouette gets a Lilly-style makeover, shining bright in a signature custom color. This gecko green cardigan puts a unique spin on St. Paddy's Day. Find this lovely classic bit o' fashion at Village Palm.

## LEGENDARY LOOKS



Bet you a pot o' gold that good things will happen when you're wearing this 'Lucky' cotton long-sleeve shirt, right. So perfect for a run downtown for an Irish coffee with pals. Available at Village Palm, along with so many other cute tops.

The terrycloth headband, above, is one trend we can definitely get behind! The soft headbands come in a variety of bright colors, including shamrock green, from Glitter & Scotch.

## SMARTY PANTS



Let the shenanigans begin when you're dressed up for fun in these comfy pants in the most gorgeous green! So perfect for pairing with your favorite top or sweater as you head out to celebrate with friends. With just enough stretch to make them your go-to green jeans, these pants will take you through several seasons of bright dressing. Follow the rainbow to Village Palm to get your pair before they're gone.



## A HINT O' MINT AND MORE



This classic green sweater, left, is cool, cropped, and has the chicest batwing sleeves. It will soon become your go-to for St. Patrick's Day and beyond.

Bright colors make the perfect athleisure look. This luxurious tropical print top, far left, will keep you warm and stylish for outdoor runs and workouts. Plus, it's UPF 50+!

The cropped white jeans, left, offer an updated look with frayed detailing and front patch pockets. Comfort stretch has just the right amount of give!



Green terrycloth baseball hat, above, is stylish, and skin-friendly. Pair it with any casual outfit to top it off in adorable style. From Glitter & Scotch.



## SPRING WISHES

Hello spring! It doesn't take much to conjure thoughts of warm breezes, fresh grass and flower petals. In the meantime, there are floral prints, flower tones and delicious pinks to see us through March. Like the sweet sweater, left, from Glitter & Scotch, in a bouquet of knit colors that pair up so nicely with the adorable faded 'n' frayed high-rise crop bootcut jeans and pink belt bag, left, both from Glitter & Scotch as well.

Or the oh-so-fem pink floral neck-zip top, above, from Village Palm. Go ahead, get spring fever now – and let it last until the real thing gets here!



**GET IT:**

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(313) 571-3607  
shopglitterandscotch.com

**VILLAGE PALM**  
17131 Kercheval, GP  
(313) 882-7256  
shopvillagepalm.com



## HIS 'N' HERS DRINKING BUDDIES

Your earrings compliment his shirt! Men's drink-inspired tees are the perfect addition to a great bar night. And aren't you cute, with your earrings to match? T-shirts from Glitter & Scotch, earrings from Village Palm.



# Lucky FINDS



## The League Shop surrounds your home in St. Pat's fare



A stunning Kosta Boda basket bowl, top, in green glass is a keepsake for St. Patrick's Days to come — or simply for all-year elegant decor for the home. The charming C&F clover placemat dotted with lucky shamrocks, above, is the perfect touch for a traditional Irish meal.

By Donna Zetterlund  
Special Writer

St. Patrick's Day is a time for laughter and friends, green beer and corned beef dinners. But it's also an opportunity to think about the rich history of Ireland. Grosse Pointe's own The League Shop is a great place to explore and celebrate some of the loveliest classic giftware with roots in old Eire.

The League Shop has a sizeable collection of Waterford crystal, Belleek porcelain and other treasures inspired by all things Irish.

Store owner Patrick Fabian recently shared several beautiful contemporary and traditional pieces with the Grosse Pointe News that are ideal for celebrating St. Patrick's Day.

The shop has a wonderful selection of Waterford crystal, a traditional staple in the decor and diningware of many Grosse Pointe homes. The brand originated in Ireland and is named after the city where it all began.

Waterford crystal is artistically cut in recognizable trademark designs that delight collectors as much as they beautifully reflect light. Though now produced outside of Ireland, the name will forever be associated with its homeland and the quality craftsmanship that started it all back in 1783.

From breathtaking vases to wine glasses, bowls, candlesticks and more, the Waterford name is synonymous with luxury and elegance.

World-renowned Belleek porcelain originated in the city of Belleek, County Fermanagh, in Ireland. Many a fine home displays items from Belleek collections such as serving china, intricate openwork baskets, decorative crosses, statuettes and more. The over 150-year-old company offers some of the most unique porcelain ever made.

The secret to its delicate beauty is in the maker's process, handed down from generation to generation. The porcelain begins as a particularly fine sand from Ireland's Atlantic shore which is blended with waters from the River Shannon. This clay is then meticulously formed and kiln-baked before being hand-painted and glazed to create its distinguishable and beloved look.

The League Shop has been the local mecca for name brand giftware for decades and delights in being able to provide heirloom gifts to the community. Their registries are legendary and have provided many a new couple with a great start to their household collections.

You'll also find an amazing selection of stylish contemporary metals, glassware, tableware, decor and more. The options for creative table settings are endless, with lines like Wedgwood, Lenox, Mary Jurek, Nambe, Reed and Barton, Herend and many others.

The League Shop is located at 16847 Kercheval Ave. in the Village and can be reached at (313) 882-6880 or on their website at [theleagueshop.com](http://theleagueshop.com).

Every Leprechaun needs a place to store their gold. This loveley Waterford Lismore square ring holder, below, is just the thing to keep rings neat and accounted for. This classic brand is named for the city of Waterford, Ireland, where it was first manufactured. Treating yourself to a piece is a great way to honor the most Irish of holidays!



A delicate Belleek ceramic St. Kieran's Celtic cross, above, is representative of the precious translucent china from the sands of Belleek, Ireland.





Ancient castles, impressive cliffs and awe-inspiring waters are just some of the treasures offered to visitors in Ireland.

## A trip to Ireland: Exploring the Emerald Isle

Friendly locals and rich history are two reasons travelers journey to breathtaking Ireland and enthusiastically immerse in the magic of this seemingly enchanted country.

Affectionately known as the Emerald Isle, due to its rolling green hills and other verdigris landscapes, Ireland is a stunningly beautiful country that welcomes millions of visitors each year. As an island nation, Ireland may seem large, but in reality it is just 32,595 square miles. That's roughly the size of the state of West Virginia. One can drive from the most northern point to the southernmost point in less than eight hours, which means travelers can pack a lot of Irish experience into a trip.

While not very large, it certainly makes up for that with its many attractions. So many in fact, that travelers may need some inspiration regarding the best places to visit, so they can prioritize their itineraries. Here are a few of the top spots on any visitor's list.

### Dublin

Those who have only a small time in Ireland don't want to miss Dublin. It's the country's

metropolitan hub with culture, music and much more. It also has many points of interest, including the popular Guinness Storehouse. Also in Dublin, visitors may want to check out Kilmainham Gaol, a former prison built in 1796. It has a rich history regarding the country's long-running resistance to British rule. Those who want the more metropolitan feel of Ireland will find Dublin doesn't disappoint.

### Cliffs of Moher

It's difficult not to be impressed by the Cliffs of Moher, entirely vertical cliffs that reach high into the sky and the edges fall away abruptly into the churning Atlantic Ocean. The Aran Islands and the hills of Connemara can be seen in the distance.

### Wild Atlantic Way

This majestically scenic route runs through Galway. It stretches 1,555 miles and the craggy Donegal coastline can be seen during this winding adventure. Galway offers a nice mix of city attractions but also plenty of natural wonders.

### Rosstown

While surfers may head to Hawaii or Australia to catch impressive waves, Irish thrill-seekers may want to check out Rosstown. It's one of Europe's premier surf beaches and a big draw for extreme surfers seeking huge waves.

### Aran Islands

Travelers seeking a taste of what Ireland looked like decades ago should not miss the Aran Islands. They are accessible by ferry or plane and feature untouched landscapes and noteworthy sights.

### Killarney National Park

Killarney National Park located in County Kerry is an area of rugged mountain country. A focal point of the park is Muckross House and Gardens, a 19th century mansion decorated in period furniture and artifacts. Also on the grounds is the Bourn Vincent Memorial Park donated to the Irish state in 1932.

Visiting Ireland can be a lifetime achievement for many travelers. There is absolutely nothing like the magnificent beauty of this panoramic country.



## Ummm...What's a stout?

Beer is beer, right? Not quite. There are many different types of beer, and each beer lover has his or her favorite style when visiting a craft brewery, bar or nearby beer retailer.

Stout is one type of beer that has an extensive following, and is frequently consumed on St. Patrick's Day and at Irish pubs.

The Beer information site Just Beer describes stout as a dark style beer. Stouts are typically rich and dark in color. Their flavor is described as coffee-like or chocolatey. Stouts have a distinctive smooth, creamy texture that differs from most other beers.

Stout was first documented in the 17th century and was a term used to describe a very strong beer. Dark beers called porters were very popular at the time and brewers began experimenting

with porters of different strengths. Those containing roughly 7 or 8 percent alcohol by volume, among the strongest porters, were known as stout porters. However, it would take quite a while for these porters to be known only as stouts. Even one of the world's most recognizable stouts, Guinness, was once called a porter.

Stouts are distinguishable from porters in their ingredients. Porters use roast malted barley, according to Renegade Brewing.

Stouts are made from black patent malt. Stouts are further classified into "milk" or "dry" stouts. Milk stout is a stout sweetened with lactose. Dry stouts are more bitter. Stouts also may be named as chocolate stout, oyster stout or oatmeal stout, depending on the ingredients used in the brewing process.

## WHEN IRISH EYES ARE SMILIN' – ON YOUR GUY'S STYLE!

Get your main dude decked out for celebrating this year with a cool green look from Newport.

Tommy Bahama dark green polo, top right, is primo for a classic vibe that holds up from a casual day at work to nighttime at the pub.

The Smathers and Branson shamrock belt, right, is the perfect pop of lucky color in total prep style.

The light khaki pants, right, are by Southern Tide. So great for active days spent by the water or enjoying dinner with friends. They offer lightweight comfort in a durable cotton/stretch fabric

Newport has them all and is located at 17133 Kercheval in Grosse Pointe. The phone number is (313) 882-7256. Stop in to see what's new, as new arrivals happen regularly.



10C | LIFE & LEISURE



David Earl as Brian scolding his robot invention, Charles, in a scene from the 2022 movie "Brian and Charles," directed by Jim Archer.

# Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin



like?" and "How far does the outside go? Does it stop at the tree?"

It's so wonderful to see the two interact. Charles is just a big, gangly, loveable lug, all seven feet of him. There's a playful series of vignettes where the two are goofing around together, including a hilarious pillow fight scene that made me laugh out loud. It's all set to the tune "Happy Together," the old Turtles tune.

It captures a sense of childhood wonder and joy. If only we all could have a bud like Charles!

Chase). He's also friends with Hazel (Louise Brealey), who lives with her mother and a chatty parrot. The two are rather awkward around each other, however Brian fancies her and with the encouragement of Charles, starts seeing more of her.

The village is also home to a bully Eddie (Jamie Michie), whose family terrorizes the place. You know after Brian's first confrontation with Eddie, it's going to eventually lead to a showdown of some sort. "Brian and Charles" is the first feature film for Jim Archer, who has done a few notable projects for British television.

The director of photography Murren Tullett does a fine job capturing the stark beauty of the Welsh countryside. But the big kudos have to go to David Earl and Chris Hayward who co-wrote the movie. They've delivered one the funniest, most endearing movies I've seen in a long time. I hope we see more of them in the future.

Note: Be sure to stick around when the end credits roll. Charles delivers an amusing rap that I missed the first time I watched it.

If you like AI and robot-themed movies, here are a few I've enjoyed over the years: "Robot & Frank," "I, Robot," "Blade Runner," "Ex Machina," and "Silent Running."

Currently streaming on Prime Video.

My rating system:

★ A real stinker. A movie that is so bad, you're embarrassed to admit you've seen it, but you have to rate it nonetheless.

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

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

★★★★ One you'd recommend to friends.

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

About this column: My main focus is on films that I feel have gone under the radar and deserve more recognition. They include both mainstream and indie films streaming on services like Netflix and Kanopy, as well as theatrical releases.

For movie trailers, visit [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com). If you have any suggestions, feel free to email me at: [dominmark@yahoo.com](mailto:dominmark@yahoo.com).

Also, if you're looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: [moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com](http://moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com).

MOVIE REVIEW  
"Brian and Charles"  
2022 - Rated PG  
1 hr 30 min  
★★★★★

If you enjoy quirky, off-the-wall British comedies, this is definitely a movie for you. "Brian and Charles" really caught me by surprise. I discovered it in the "More like this" section of IMDB while looking up some other film.

It stars David Earl, who was great in the Ricky Gervais TV show "After Life." If you haven't seen that one, you might like it, even if you're not a Gervais fan.

The movie evolved from a 2017 short with the same name, and can be seen on YouTube. The full-length movie was a crowd favorite at the Sundance Festival.

Earl plays Brian, an eccentric, lonely inventor who lives in a rural area of northern Wales. The film begins in mocumentary mode where the viewer is very aware of the camera.

Brian takes us on a tour of his rundown abode and along the way he proudly shows off a few of his madcap inventions — products of what

he calls his "Infamous Inventions Pantry." They include a pinecone bag, an egg belt, a flying cuckoo clock, and a trawler net for shoes.

You know right from the get-go you're in for a fun time. I don't know how Earl managed to keep a straight face while giving the tour, but he did.

One day he discovers a mannequin head and he has a eureka moment. Since he's so lonely why not create a robot to keep him company?

He looks around his workshop for usable parts and cobbles together a bizarre looking creation. His creation has a washing machine for a torso and long legs for mobility. It's a thoroughly comical companion.

When a storm hits and a bolt of lightning strikes, his robot comes to life. It's a nod to the birth of Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein" character.

After coming to life, the robot and Brian brainstorm on a name for him, and he settles on Charles Petrescu for a moniker.

Chris Hayward is the voice of Charles, and he delivers his lines in a

monotone, machine-like voice, a bit like Max Headroom, if you remember that wonderful show. He has a child-like curiosity about him, which slowly evolves into a rebellious teen-age persona.



Left, David Earl as Brian and Louise Brealey as Hazel.

Charles marvels at the world around him and he's prone to asking philosophical questions like "Can birds do what they

Brian makes an occasional foray into the village where he interacts with the kindly general store owner June (Cara



Jordan McKinley, dressed as a dinosaur, has lots of choices for reading at the table.

## March is National Reading Month

Photo story by Renee Landuyt

Maire Elementary School kicked off March is Reading Month on Friday, March 3, inviting students in every classroom to wear pajamas and read with flashlights while the lights were out for the equivalent of one class period.

The school will host a special event every Friday during the month. The students photographed are kindergartners in Anne Marie Smihal's class.



Mabel Danley got comfy with a large teddy bear in the reading pond.



Classmates Sam Buccafurri and Amina Simpson chose to share books to read inside a tent.



This unicorn, Lauren Dely, stretches out to read a book on the floor.

# Daylight Saving Time

Now we see it! Now we don't!  
 And, come March 12th, again we won't!  
 The winds of March foretell each year  
 That Daylight Saving Time is near.  
 At one hour later in the day  
 Apollo sets and gives away  
 An extra hour of summer sun  
 To light our way when day is done.  
 Be sure to set your clocks ahead  
 The night before when off to bed —  
 (Next morning's light won't be so great  
 If it should make you one hour late!)

Now we see it! Now we don't!  
 Perhaps, this time next year we won't  
 For, will it ever come again  
 If Congress gets to vote on when?  
 Trade one hour more of daylight time  
 For one hour less of sleep that night?  
 And count on Washington to rock  
 The workings of your inner clock?  
 Yet, who am I to point my pen  
 At politicians' bent? But, then,  
 Circadian may be the right  
 Approach to help us see the light!

Joan LeGro Bushnell

Joan LeGro Bushnell is a freelance writer and composer who has been performing since age 5. A vocalist, actress and radio talk show hostess, the Grosse Pointe Farms resident has long been active with Detroit theater groups, the Fine Arts Society and the Theatre Arts Club. Her published credits include several plays and a book about theater, as well as a pair of cookbooks.



**Moon Alert:** There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Libra.

**Happy Birthday** for Thursday, March 9, 2023:

You are a passionate romantic who loves to explore! Others admire you because you are upbeat and enthusiastic about life. You get things done because you are focused and determined. This year is the beginning of a new nine-year cycle for you. Open any door!

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)

It's time to start to downsize and get rid of what you no longer need or use. Go through cupboards, closets, storage areas and the garage, and recycle, sell or turf what is only taking up space and is actually a burden to you. Just do it. (You're good at this.) Tonight: Patience.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)

This is a popular time for you, especially when dealing with groups and organizations. However, even though you might feel that everyone wants a piece of you, be aware that this is your year to stand up for yourself. You can cooperate with others, but you can also make time for yourself. Tonight: Cut yourself some slack.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)

This is a time when you will see clearly what is working and what is not. Of course, what is working will bring you accolades. What is not working might bring failure. Don't dwell on this. It's your time of harvest, so acknowledge what's happening and move on. Tonight: Be sociable.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)

Grab every opportunity to travel or take courses and get further education. This is a time of preparation for you for about two or three years from now, when you will shine! Remind yourself that this is your year to get performance ready. Tonight: Stay mellow.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)

The interesting thing about this year is that although many of you will have to get along with less, you will also see ways to make extra money. Or perhaps a boon will somehow just come to you. Keep your pockets open! Tonight: Listen.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

It's important to protect yourself and take good care of yourself. This year you might feel exhausted and world-weary because Saturn is opposite your sign. It might feel like you're getting older, but when Saturn leaves in two years, you will feel young again! Courage! Tonight: Tidy up.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Your ability to work hard and be productive is exemplary this year, which is why you will be busting your buns. It will please you to see how much you can accomplish. Admittedly, you will work hard to do so. Tonight: Easy does it.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Many of you will have increased involvement or responsibilities with your children this year. Personally, now is the time for you to learn more about yourself and how to express yourself in the best way possible, especially through teach-

ing or in the arts. Tonight: Stay calm.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

It is totally appropriate for you to make plans about how to better secure your home, which is why you are making lists of repairs and DIY projects. Some of you might even move again. Some will consider major renovations this year. Tonight: Be friendly.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You can feel the winds of change blowing, which is why some of you instinctively know that this year you might change jobs or residences, or both. Almost certainly, this will happen in the next two years. Think back to 1994-1996. Tonight: No judgments.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

This year will be so much easier for you! It's as if you have escaped the jaws of the lion. Now it's time to learn what it is that is really important to you. In other words, what do you value? What matters in life to you? How can you make good decisions if you don't know what you really value? Tonight: Learn something.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)

This is a pivotal year for you, which is why many of you will sail off into something completely different -- a new journey. It's the beginning of reinventing yourself. It might be so different that you actually change your daily wardrobe. Exciting! Tonight: Check your finances.

**BORN TODAY**  
 Actress Juliette Binoche (1964), actor Rupert Evans (1977), actor Oscar Isaac (1979).

## EVENTS

Things to do in and around Grosse Pointe this week

### THURSDAY, MARCH 9

» **ArtLab: T-Shirt Transformation**  
 Ewald Branch, 4:30-5:30 p.m.  
 15175 E Jefferson

» **Baby Time with Miss Jane**  
 Woods Branch, 9:30-10 a.m.  
 20680 Mack Ave.

» **Blues Jam**  
 First Place Lounge, 8 p.m.-12 a.m.  
 16921 Harper Ave.

» **Gayelynn McKinney**  
 Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6-8:30 p.m.  
 97 Kercheval.

» **Read Local Author Series (Bill Honaker)**  
 Ewald Branch, 7-8 p.m.  
 15175 E Jefferson

### FRIDAY, MARCH 10

» **Fish Fry**  
 St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 5-7:30 p.m.  
 23120 Gratiot Ave..

» **Fish Fry**  
 Our Lady Star of the Sea, 5-7 p.m.  
 467 Fairford Road.

» **Gayelynn McKinney**  
 Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6-8:30 p.m.  
 97 Kercheval.

» **Outdoor Storytime with Miss Rachel**  
 Woods Branch, 10:30-11 a.m.  
 20680 Mack Ave.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 11

» **Calligraphy Saturdays**  
 Ewald Branch, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

» **Fern Michaels/James Patterson Monthly Book Discussion**  
 Ewald Branch, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.  
 15175 E Jefferson

» **Gayelynn McKinney**  
 Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6-8:30 p.m.  
 97 Kercheval.

» **On Writing Well: Creative Non-Fiction**  
 Ewald Branch, 3-4:30 p.m.  
 15175 E Jefferson

### SUNDAY, MARCH 12

» **Clue: On Stage**  
 Parcels Middle School, 20600 Mack Ave., 2:00 p.m.  
<http://gpt.org/clue>

» **Detroit Concert Choir presents 'Every Time I Feel the Spirit!'**  
 Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 3-4:30 p.m.  
 16 Lake Shore Drive.

### MONDAY, MARCH 13

» **America's Boating Coarse 3**  
 Zef's Dockside Bar and Kitchen, 6:30-9 p.m.  
 24026 Jefferson Avenue.

» **Blues Jam**  
 The Cadieux Cafe, 8-11 p.m.  
 4300 Cadieux Rd..

» **Girls Reading**  
 Ewald Branch, 7-8 p.m.  
 15175 E Jefferson

» **St. Clair Shores Yardeners presentation Vertical Gardening and Planters**  
 St. Clair Shores Public Library, 7-8 p.m.  
 22500 E Eleven Mile Rd.

» **Storytime with Miss Jane**  
 Woods Branch, 10:30-11 a.m.  
 20680 Mack Ave.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 14

» **7th & 8th Grade Book Group**  
 Ewald Branch, 7-8:30 p.m.  
 15175 E Jefferson

» **Middle School Book Group - 7th/8th**  
 Ewald Branch, 7-8 p.m.  
 15175 E Jefferson

» **Read, Rhyme & Play**  
 Ewald Branch, 10:30-11 a.m.  
 15175 E Jefferson

» **Storytime with Miss Melissa**  
 Ewald Branch, 1:30-2 p.m.  
 15175 E Jefferson

» **Tuesday Night Book Discussion**  
 Ewald Branch, 7-8 p.m.  
 15175 E Jefferson

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

» **Baby Time**  
 Woods Branch, 9:30-10 a.m.  
 20680 Mack Ave.

» **Music Jam**  
 Cabbage Patch Saloon, 9:30-11 p.m.  
 15130 Mack Ave.

» **Rodney Whitaker**  
 Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6-8:30 p.m.  
 97 Kercheval.

» **Storytime**  
 Woods Branch, 10:30-11 a.m.  
 20680 Mack Ave.

## Contract Bridge

### THE CURSE OF SCOTLAND

South dealer.  
 Both sides vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
 ♠ K Q 8 4  
 ♥ A 10 7 5  
 ♦ 3  
 ♣ 9 6 5 2

**WEST**  
 ♠ J 9 3  
 ♥ J 9 3  
 ♦ A K Q J 10 5  
 ♣ 7

**EAST**  
 ♠ 7 6 2  
 ♥ 8 4  
 ♦ 9 6 4 2  
 ♣ A J 10 3

**SOUTH**  
 ♠ A 10 5  
 ♥ K Q 6 2  
 ♦ 8 7  
 ♣ K Q 8 4

The bidding:  
**South** 1 ♠  
**West** 1 ♦  
**North** Double  
**East** 2 ♦  
 3 ♥ Pass 4 ♥  
 Opening lead — seven of clubs.

For reasons no one is quite sure of, the nine of diamonds is sometimes referred to as "The Curse of Scotland." One side's curse, however, might prove to be the other side's good fortune. That was precisely the case in this deal, where the dreaded nine took its toll on the declarer but worked like a charm for the defense.

The deal occurred in the quarterfinals of the 1988 Spingold Knockout Teams. North's double of one diamond

was "negative," promising two four-card majors, after which South ended up in four hearts.

West, Lew Stansby, led the seven of clubs, and East, Chip Martel, won with the ace. Fully expecting the club lead to be a singleton, Martel returned the club three.

Ostensibly, the three of clubs was a suit preference signal, directing West to return the lower-ranking of the two remaining suits. In this case, the two suits were spades and diamonds, and Martel did not have much to shout about in either one. However, his diamonds were just the slightest bit better than his spades.

After ruffing South's king of clubs at trick two, Stansby no doubt eyed his 150 honors in the suit and wondered how East could be asking for a diamond return. But partnerships like this are made of strong stuff. So Stansby, demonstrating complete faith in his partner, returned the diamond five, and that was that. Martel won the trick with the nine and gave West another club ruff to set the contract.

If West had not underled his diamond honors at trick three, South would have made the contract, eventually discarding his losing club on dummy's fourth spade. But against a daring defense possessed of "The Curse of Scotland," he didn't have a ghost of a chance.

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by Steve Becker

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

# Puzzles and

## Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



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Bill and Jeff Keane

**"I'm just goin' out in the backyard, Mommy, not to the North Pole!"**

## Garfield

Jim Davis



## Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian and Neal Walker



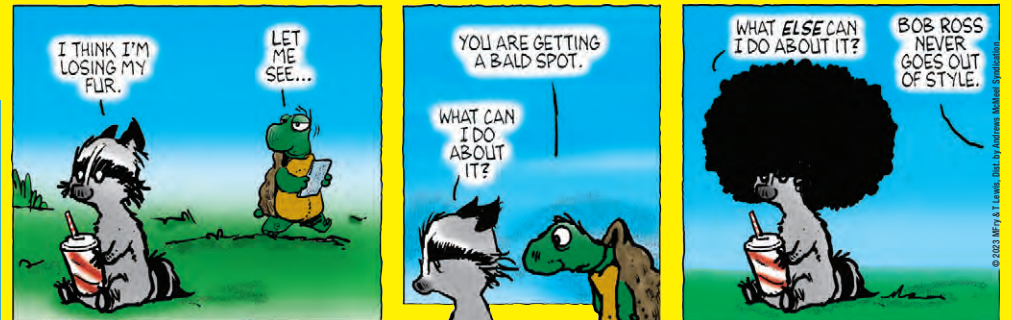
## Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



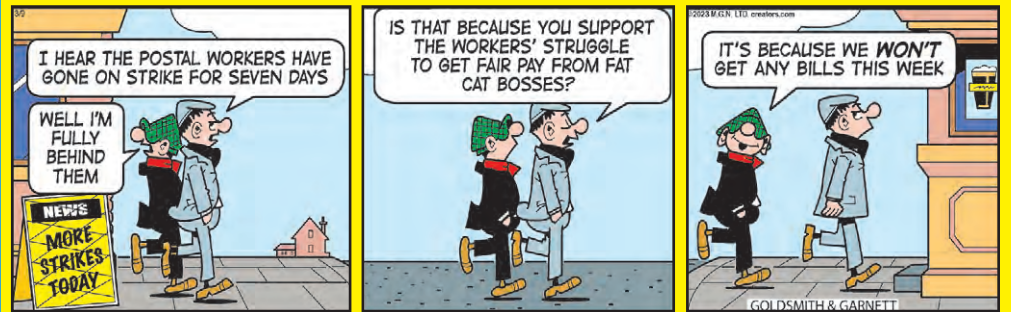
## Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



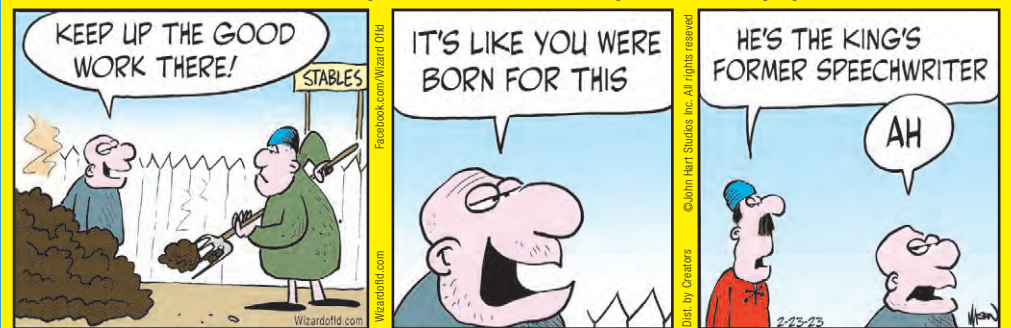
## Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



## Wizard of Id

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



## Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson

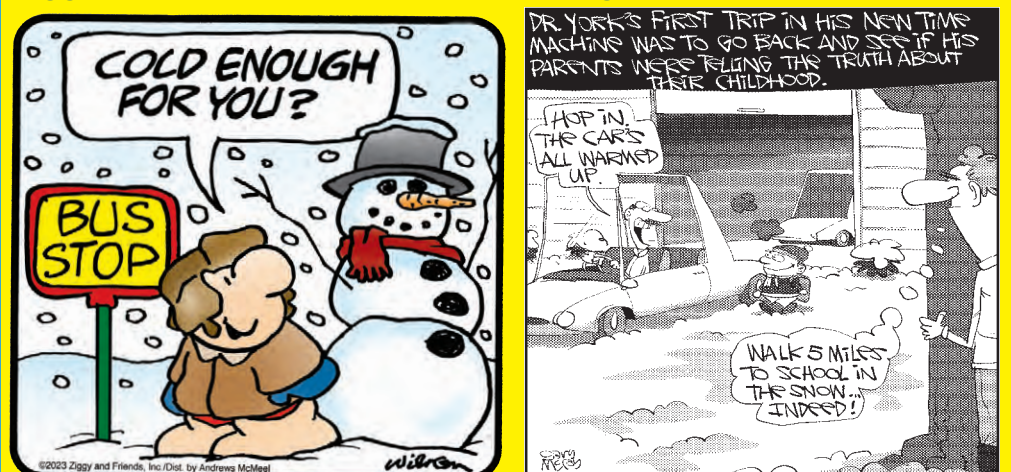


## Ziggy

Tom Wilson

## Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



## UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

### Previous puzzle solution

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

3/9 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆  
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## Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg March 9, 2023

### ACROSS

- 1 Space Race country, briefly
- 5 Refuses to proceed
- 10 Toggle on an alarm clock
- 14 LA or NYC neighborhood
- 15 To no (fruitless)
- 16 Bubkes
- 17 Stock market debuts: Abbr.
- 18 Mount \_\_\_\_\_
- 19 Thick, wheat flour noodle
- 20 Elisabeth of "Leaving Las Vegas"
- 21 "That is," in Latin
- 22 Clickable text
- 23 Stir-fry need
- 24 Long-winded
- 26 Had a snack
- 27 Recurring title role for Tyler Perry
- 29 Screw up
- 30 Irritate
- 32 Sixth sense, for short
- 33 Affirmation on the high seas
- 34 Like carpaccio and ceviche
- 35 "\_\_\_\_\_"
- 37 "Dapper" fellow
- 38 Like most salad greens
- 41 Swiss peak
- 42 "No \_\_\_\_\_" ("You can't go back in" rule)

- 45 "Despicable Me" protagonist
- 46 Apple computer since 1998
- 48 "Star Wars" droid, familiarly
- 49 Timid
- 50 Indian city that became Chennai
- 52 Support beams
- 54 Kerouac novel ... and where you'd find the first words of 3-, 7- and 11-Down
- 58 One of five born together, informally
- 61 Body spray brand
- 62 Seasons, like popcorn
- 66 Worth
- 67 Place to be pampered
- 68 All-vowel refrain in a kids' song
- 69 Boston NBAers, for short
- 70 Bounce
- 71 "r u 4 real?"

- 5 Jazz Count
- 6 Bookworm
- 7 Women's apparel company
- 8 Hyundai Santa Fe alternative
- 9 Narrow cuts
- 10 Blue, in Spanish
- 11 Income that half of workers make more than
- 12 "ASAP!"
- 13 Word before "bars" or "business"
- 24 Gaseous mist
- 25 Like a 5 a.m. wakeup call
- 28 Top-left keyboard key
- 31 Scot's "no"
- 35 Really hurt
- 36 \_\_\_\_\_ mater
- 39 Agonize (over)
- 40 Laughs heartily
- 43 The right direction?
- 44 Red, in Spanish
- 47 Portmanteau pastry
- 49 Where hang time takes place
- 51 Puts some chips on the table
- 53 Desert refuges
- 55 Chopped-up meat dish
- 56 Trade show
- 57 Collect, like crops
- 58 HSN competitor
- 59 Home to the Burj Khalifa, for short
- 60 Feeling hot, or not feeling so hot
- 63 French article
- 64 Up to, briefly
- 65 What tofu is made of

### PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

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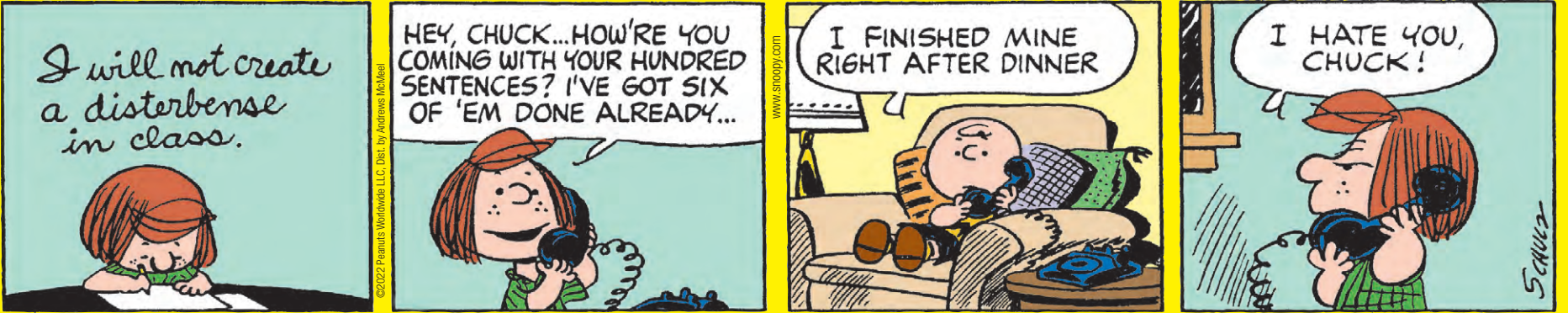
### I Call Shotgun! by Zachary David Levy

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13											
					15						16														
					18						19														
					21						22														
					24						25			26											
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											51								52	53					
											54								55	56	57				
											58	59	60						61		62	63	64	65	
											66									67		68			
											69									70		71			

# Comics

## Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz

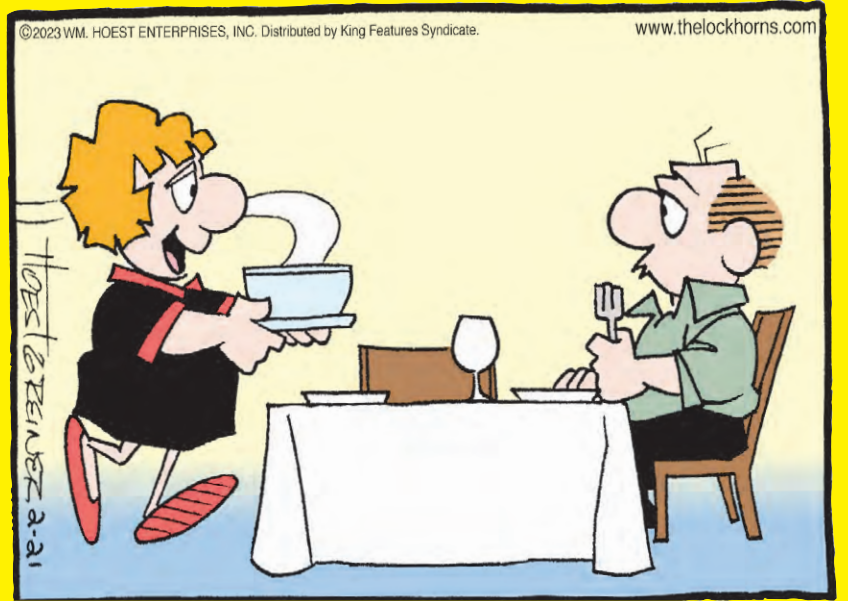
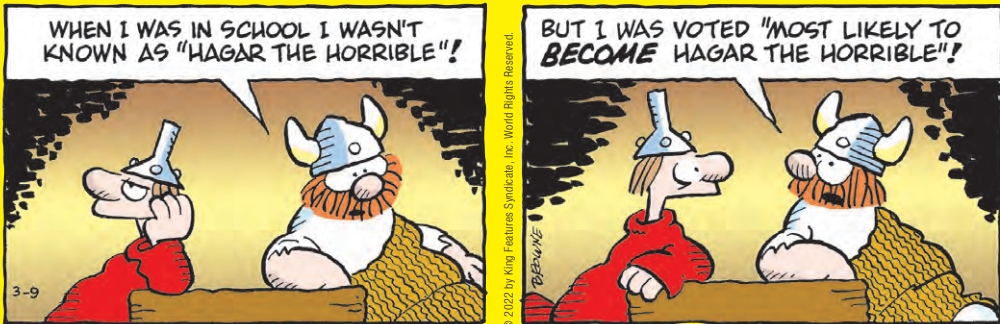


## Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne

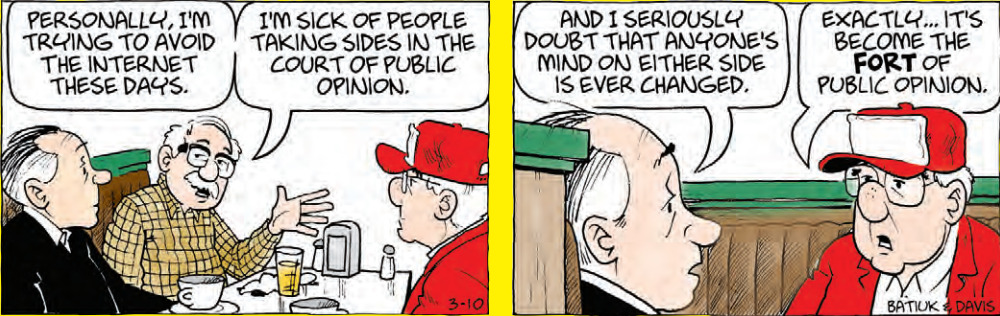
## The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



## Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



## Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker

"I'VE DECIDED TO SERVE THE CASSEROLE ANYWAY, LEROY... THANK GOODNESS FOR THE FIVE-SECOND RULE."

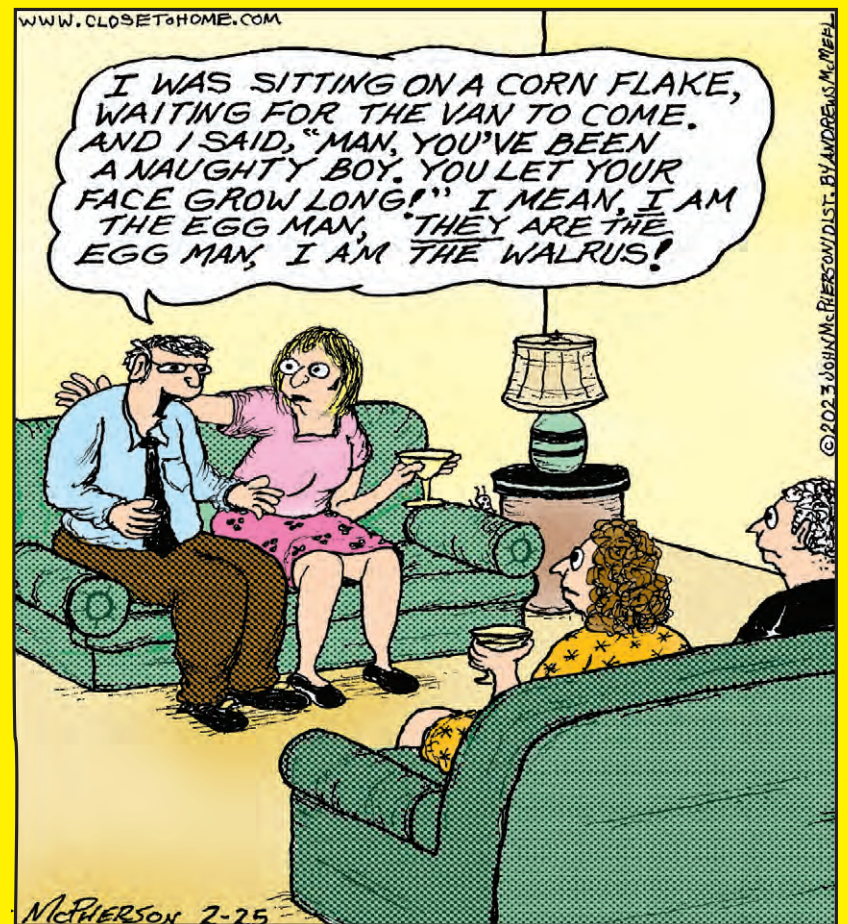


## Close To Home

John McPherson

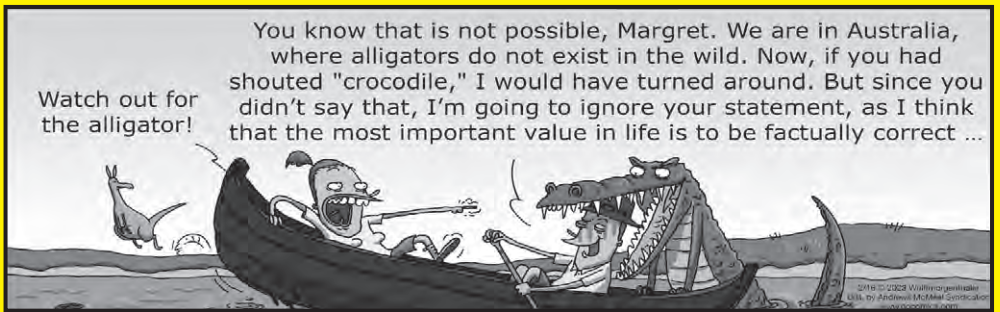
## F Minus

Tony Carrilo



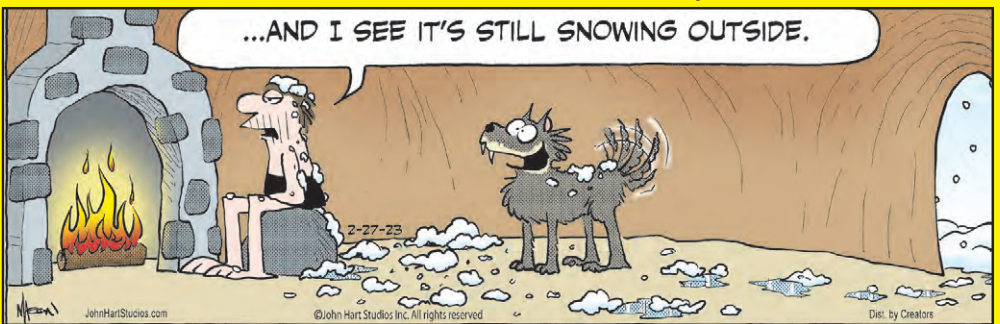
## Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



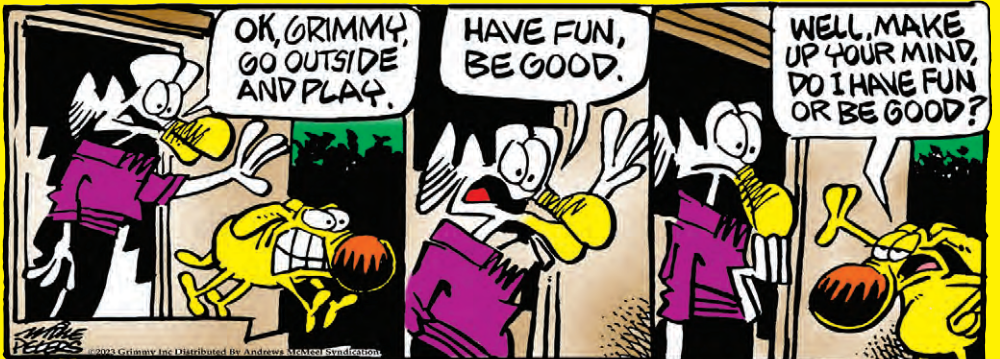
## B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



## Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



By the third date, Lisa began to realize that Art spoke almost entirely in Beatles' lyrics.

## Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson

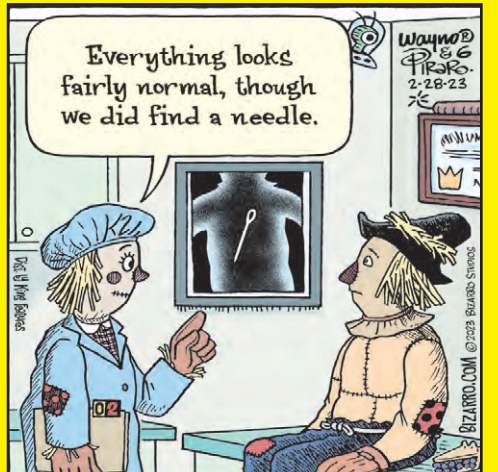


## Reality Check

Dave Whamond

## Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



"I'll take your word for it that it tastes funny."



# Kid Scoop



© 2023 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 39, No. 15

## Kid Scoop Together

### Change Maker

With a BLUE crayon, circle the coins that add up to the amount shown on the top coin purse. Then, use a RED crayon to circle the coins that add up to the amount shown on the bottom coin purse. Have a family member check your work. You should have 5¢ left over if you circled the correct coins.

# The Cost of a Decision

These kids are facing a decision about spending money. What would you do?

These ZING sneakers are super popular with the kids at my school. But they cost \$69 a pair!

These generic sneakers cost \$29. They're not nearly as fancy as the ZING sneakers, though.

A lot of young movie stars wear the jeans at left. They are \$80. The generic ones in the middle are \$30. And the used pair at right is \$8 at the thrift store.

Which pair of sneakers should Kevin choose? Give at least two reasons to explain your choice.

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Which pair of jeans should Emma choose? Give at least two reasons for your choice.

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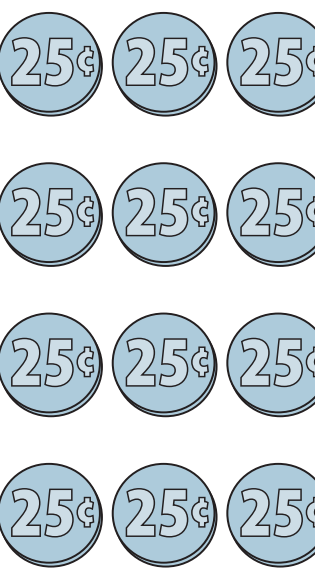
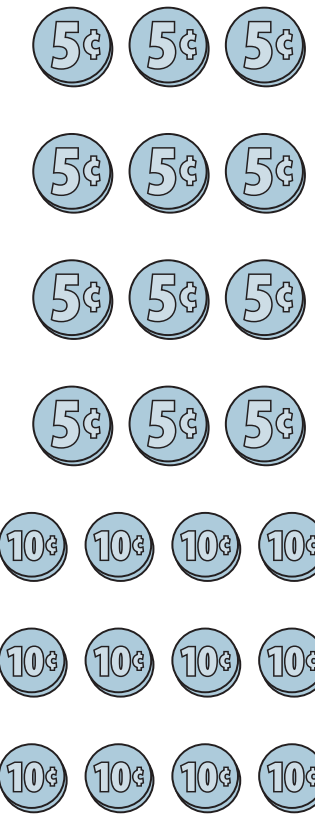
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Standards Link: Math: Add money amounts.

Which is the best deal? The small can of fruit juice or the 64 ounce size?

**BOTTLE: \$3.50**

The 64 ounce bottle contains 16 4 ounce cups of juice. The 12 ounce can contains three 4 ounce cups of juice.

**CAN: \$1.25**

Can you add up all the coins you see on this page?

**Game Night!**  
Can you come up with a family fun game night that costs \$0?

**Extra! Extra!**  
**It All Adds Up**  
Find four 4-digit numbers in the newspaper. Copy the numbers onto a piece of paper and add them together. Repeat with 5-digit and 6-digit numbers.  
Standards Link: Math: Addition.

## MONEY PUZZLES

**PUZZLE 1**  
How much money would you save if you put a nickel in a jar every day for a year?

**PUZZLE 2**  
How much money would you save in four weeks if you saved 5¢ a day the first week, 10¢ a day the second week, 15¢ a day the third week and 20¢ a day the fourth week?

**PUZZLE 3**  
How much money would you save using the plan in Puzzle 2 and kept increasing the savings amount by 5¢ each week for 12 weeks?

**PUZZLE 4**  
How much money would you save using the plan in Puzzle 3 and kept increasing the savings amount by 5¢ each week for 26 weeks?

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

Newspaper coupons are a great way to save money. Circle the coupon that offers the best deal on each product.

<p>Price: \$4.50</p> <p><b>PURPLE PEPPERMINT FOAMING TOOTHPASTE</b></p> <p><b>\$1.00 OFF</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>PURPLE PEPPERMINT FOAMING TOOTHPASTE</b></p> <p><b>SAVE 50%</b></p>	<p>Price: \$2.70</p> <p><b>DOGGIE TREAT</b></p> <p><b>BUY ONE GET ONE FREE!</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>DOGGIE TREAT</b></p> <p><b>\$1.50 OFF</b></p>	<p>Price: \$1.75</p> <p><b>SUBSY SOAP</b></p> <p><b>50¢ OFF</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>SUBSY SOAP</b></p> <p><b>SAVE 50%</b></p>
--	---	---

Standards Link: Math/Number Sense: Calculate sums and differences.

### Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

### FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

#### Best Food Deal

Use the grocery store ads to compare the cost of different food items. Find two or more of the same food items sold in different quantities. Figure out which is the best deal.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate info.

What did the bird say when she found a sweater for just one dollar?

ANSWER: "Cheap! Cheap!"

### Write On!

#### Riddle Roundup

Send us your favorite riddle. Send us two or three or more!

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## South's Hepner makes history as Pointe wrestlers end season on statewide stage

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Wrestlers from all over Michigan converged on Ford Field last weekend for the MHSAA individual state championships, including six wrestlers from the Pointes who battled all season long to make it there. One Blue Devil made history and nearly had his arm raised as a champion, while other Blue Devils and Norsemen closed out their seasons competing on the state's biggest

stage. Highlighting the weekend was the history made by South sophomore Wyatt Hepner. On Saturday, Hepner found himself competing for the Division 1 state championship in the 126-pound weight class, making him the first Blue Devil to ever wrestle for a state title.

Hepner's journey to the final began with a 10-5 decision opening round win over Lake Orion's Hunter Swatosh. In the quarterfinals,

Hepner pinned Okemos' Kaleb Smith-Baldwin. A 7-3 decision victory over Easton Hardesty from Brighton last Friday night secured Hepner's spot in the state title match the next day.

"We had high expectations for (Wyatt) and he just went above and beyond," South wrestling head coach Dave Salazar said. "We wanted to do better than last year, and here we are making it to the state finals."

The daunting task of taking down three-time

defending champion Caden Horwath from Davison awaited Hepner in the championship. Ultimately, Hepner fought hard and took the match with the future Michigan Wolverine down to a decision, but it was Horwath who prevailed 12-2 to end his high school career with a fourth straight title.

South's other qualifier at Ford Field was junior Paul Wilson. Wrestling at 175 pounds, Wilson lost his opening match on a 9-2 decision to Steven Shellenberger of Detroit Catholic Central. Wilson lost by another decision in the first round of the consolation bracket to Chris Arrington from Forest Hills Northern to end his weekend at Ford Field.

Hepner's journey to the state championship match and Wilson's consistent success all season long to make it to Ford Field have set prime examples for what South wrestlers can achieve, Salazar believes. Coach Salazar's goal is to return to Ford Field next year with Hepner, Wilson and even more Blue Devils, something he thinks could be possible with the leadership both of



North's Andrew Dupree establishes top position against Waverly's Caden Bell. Dupree advanced as far as the quarterfinals in Division 2 at 215 pounds.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

South sophomore Wyatt Hepner, pictured during a first round match against Lake Orion's Hunter Swatosh, became the first Blue Devil wrestler to compete for an individual state title last weekend at Ford Field, where he finished the runner up in Division 1 at 126 pounds.

this year's qualifiers already starting to rub exemplify. off on the younger guys

"They're already leaders in the room and are the type of kids who lead by example and work hard," Salazar said. "... They'll both be back as team captains and I really do think that while we might only have a couple of captains on the team, some of that is

no limits on what they can do if they work hard and put their minds to it." For the Norsemen, Andrew Dupree had the most success at Ford Field, making it to the quarterfinals in Division 2

See STATES, page 4D

## Athlete of the Week

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

A lot of local fans have probably found themselves wondering at some point "What can't Drew Hill do?" when watching the Grosse Pointe North senior in action. Who could blame them?

Hill rarely takes a day off, going from football to basketball to baseball seamlessly and making his presence known in any game he plays

He takes pride in competing in all three sports at the varsity level - an accomplishment that makes him one of the most well-rounded athletes in the Pointes.

"Playing different sports and positions and using different muscles eventually translates over everything and makes you a better overall athlete," Hill said. "The competitive nature of playing sports year round really carries over because I know I have to work hard and compete every day."

Being an all-around

athlete helped Hill achieve success as the MAC White Division MVP in both baseball and football in 2022. He was named First-Team All-State in both sports

brothers are athletes, which positions himself as the scrappy middle child always looking to outdo his brothers in the backyard.

"We've always been

Currently wrapping up his senior basketball season, a sport in which he has also been an All-MAC honorable mention, Hill keeps that gritty attitude about him. He prides himself on making hustle plays that do not always show up on the stat sheet but affect the game, especially on defense.

Defense is where Hill made his biggest impact on the gridiron during this most recent football season. While he contributed on offense as well as a receiver and running back, Hill made plenty of explosive plays on defense. At the end of the season, he was the Norsemen's leader in interceptions and tackles per game.

"The coaches in the offseason and during the season did a great job of developing me," Hill said. "With Grosse Pointe being a place where there's no middle school football, only Red Barons or the Catholic League, they do a really

See ATHLETE, page 5D



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

North senior Drew Hill is wrapping up his final basketball season with the Norsemen before beginning his final high school baseball campaign in the spring.

Grosse Pointe News

**ATHLETE OF THE WEEK**

**Drew Hill**

School: Grosse Pointe North  
Sports: Football, Basketball, Baseball

Sponsored by Pointe Capital Management, L.L.C.

as well.

Perhaps some of that competitive nature and desire for dominance in every game possible has to do with the Hill family as a whole. Hill's parents were athletes, his

an athletic family in general...Being the middle child I was always playing against my older and younger brother no matter what it was and that made us a competitive family," he said.

**Hill the Thrill**

- 2022 MAC White MVP and First-Team All-State in both baseball and football
- Varsity athlete in football, basketball and baseball since sophomore year
- Officially committed to play both football and baseball at Wayne State University

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2D | SPORTS

# Mattes wins All Around regional title, leads United Gymnastics to states

By Meg Leonard  
Associate Editor

Taking third place among 14 teams in last weekend's regional round of the state tournament, Grosse Pointe United Gymnastics (GPUG) successfully tumbled its way to individual and team trophies, with one gymnast winning the Division 1 All Around individual title and the team booking its trip to the state meet March 10-11.

GPUG earned 137.325 points, finishing just behind Farmington (142.400) and runner-up Milford (139.075) on Saturday, March 4, at Lakeland High School in White Lake. The team earned enough points to compete for the state championship, where they will again face Farmington, as well as Huron Valley Friday, March 10, also at Lakeland High School.

"My girls did such an amazing job. I'm so proud of them," said GPUG's head coach Izzy Nguyen. "They've improved so much since the beginning of the season."

Sophomore Allie Mattes from Grosse Pointe North led the way for GPUG by winning the All Around individual title in Region 4, Division 1 with a score of 34.250. Mattes is among four gymnasts on the united team to earn All-Region honors and qualify for individual competition, including Ava Rogowski from Grosse Pointe South and North's Maddie LoPorto and Madi Lucido.

After the team competition Friday, March 10, the four athletes will set their sights on the individual round of the state championship Saturday morning. Mattes and Rogowski will compete in all four events, including vault, bars, beam and floor. LoPorto and Lucido will compete on beam. Mattes will compete in Division 1 at states, while Rogowski, LoPorto and Lucido will compete in Division 2.

Highlights from their regional performances include:

- Allie Mattes, D1:**
- All Around - 1st Place (34.250)
  - Floor - 2nd Place (9.00)
  - Vault - 3rd Place (8.55)
  - Beam - 3rd Place (8.35)
  - Bars - 4th Place (8.35)

- Ava Rogowski, D2:**
- All Around - 6th Place (34.975)
  - Beam - 2nd Place (9.25)
  - Floor - 5th Place (9.05)
  - Vault - 7th Place (8.85)

- Maddie LoPorto, D2:**
- Beam - 3rd Place (9.05)

- Madi Lucido, D2:**
- Beam - 7th Place (8.675)

While Nguyen said she is proud of her team's accomplishments, she believes her gymnasts can continue riding their positive, post-season momentum into states.

"Making it to team states made me so proud and I'm so excited to see how they will do," she said. "All I hope is for my girls to do the best they can and have a fun and positive meet."



These delighted faces and huge smiles show the excitement for Grosse Pointe United varsity gymnastics as the team learns at regionals that they are headed to the state championship meet, set for this weekend.

# Knights playoff run ends in OT heartbreaker

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Last week, the University Liggett Knights became the last team standing from the Pointes in the boys hockey playoffs. Liggett advanced to the regional championship game in Division 3 and had a date with Detroit Country Day for a spot in the state quarterfinals. Despite taking a two-goal lead into the third period, the Knights saw their season end in heartbreaking fashion with a 4-3 loss in overtime.

The Knights struck first and in quick succession early in the game. Michael Eugenio scored the game's first goal on a shot from the point to put Liggett up 1-0 in the first five minutes. Barely over a minute later, senior

captain Ian Gudenau extended the Knights' lead to two, which is where the scoreboard stood at the end of the opening period.

The first half of the second frame was a stalemate before Country Day managed to finally find the back of the net and bring the game back to within one. With only a couple of minutes left in the middle period, Gudenau lit the lamp again for a second time to put Liggett back on top by two entering the third.

It is often said that a two-goal lead is the most dangerous in all of hockey, and the Knights became another example of that to end the regional final. Two Country Day goals in the third period evened the game and sent it to overtime.

Liggett had its share of chances in the overtime

period, but could not break through. In the end, Country Day's Clay Spencer netted the game-winner that ended the Knights' season in the regional final for the second consecutive year.

"Our strength is that we came out hard and were forechecking hard because when our forecheck is on, we're as good as any other team," Liggett boys hockey coach Colin Smith said. "When we went away from our forecheck and got conservative, and that's what came back to bite us...I was still extremely proud of the effort the boys had."

Country Day would go on to lose to Flint Powers Catholic in the state quarterfinals last Saturday. The loss brought Liggett's season to an end with a final record of 16-10-1.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE GYMNASTICS

Grosse Pointe United varsity gymnast and Grosse Pointe North sophomore Allie Mattes, center, stands tall as the individual All Around winner at regionals last weekend.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Liggett senior captain Ian Gudenau scored twice in the team's 4-3 overtime loss to Country Day in the regional final round last Wednesday.

City of **Grosse Pointe Woods**, Michigan  
**2023 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE** Board of Review for the City of Grosse Pointe Woods will meet in the Council Chambers at City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan on the following dates and times for the purpose of reviewing the assessment roll:

Meeting dates are as follows:

Date	Day	Appointment Time	Petition
March 14, 2023	Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Organizational Meeting
March 14, 2023	Tuesday	9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	
March 21, 2023	Tuesday	6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	
March 28, 2023	Tuesday	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	

Hearings are by appointment only. COMPLETED 2023 Board of Review Petitions are required and must be submitted at to the Assessor's Office prior to your appointment. The deadline for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in-person before the Board of Review is end of day Tuesday, March 28, 2023.

Letter appeals are to be accompanied by a completed Form 618 Petition to Board of Review L-4035. The Petition is available at [www.michigan.gov/treasury](http://www.michigan.gov/treasury) - select Search Treasury - Forms [618]. Petitioner agents must submit, for each parcel individually, current letters with signatures from your client properly authorizing you to appear for the property owner.

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted and published in the local newspaper. All board of Review meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act." If you have any questions please contact the Assessor's Office at (313)343-2452.

**Paul Antolin**  
City Clerk

G.P.N.: Publishing Dates  
2/23/23, 3/2/23, 3/9/23



# Norsemen, Knights emerge as district champs

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Two girls basketball teams from the Pointes made major strides last weekend in the journey toward East Lansing and competing for a state championship. Both Grosse Pointe North and University Liggett raised district championship trophies and kept their playoff hopes alive by advancing to the regional round.

## North

After defeating cross-town rivals Grosse Pointe South last Wednesday in the district semifinals by 25, it was another 25-point win for the Norsemen in last Friday's district final. The Norsemen hosted Lakeview and once again used tough defense to hold the Huskies to barely over 20 points, taking the district title in a dominant 46-21 victory.

Jenna Winowiecki was the game's leading scorer with 15 points. Also in

double digits was Annabel Ayrault with 10 while Natalie Babcock ended the night with eight points.

Last Friday's win made it back to back years as district champions for the Norsemen. The team made it as far as the regional final in 2022 before being eliminated, but hopes that the growth its core has seen since last season's playoff run pays off in getting North even further in 2023.

"A year of experience has really given this group a lot of maturity," North girls basketball head coach Gary Bennett said. "They push themselves. They're motivated. I think that experience is hopefully going to pay dividends as we keep moving forward."

North faced off against host Dakota in the regional semifinal on Tuesday, March 7 after press time. The regional final is scheduled for 7:00 pm on Thursday, March

9 at Dakota.

## ULS

In the first two rounds of the district tournament, the Knights outscored opponents 110-26. Liggett took the court on Saturday, March 4 looking to complete its dominance of the district in a matchup against Mount Clemens. It was in fact another easy win for the Knights, who took down Mount Clemens 58-27 to complete their quest for a second district crown in a row.

Once again, Liggett's Hallie Marcero was the game's leading scorer. Her 26 points in the district final nearly matched Mount Clemens' entire scoring output as a team.

Liggett faced Jalen Rose Leadership Academy on Tuesday, March 7 after press time in the regional semifinal. The regional final in the Knights' bracket is set for 7:00 pm on Thursday, March 9 hosted by Bishop Foley in Madison Heights.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE NORTH AND UNIVERSITY LIGGETT ATHLETICS

The Grosse Pointe North, top, and University Liggett, bottom, girls basketball teams both earned big wins last weekend to be crowned district champions and advance to the regional round of the MHSAA girls basketball playoffs.

# Knights duke it out at league championship; Bronk, Beland head to swim and dive state final

By Meg Leonard  
Associate Editor

Neither rain, nor sleet, nor an early March snow storm could stop two University Liggett School freshmen from earning additional state cuts and personal bests while leading the team to 74 points and a seventh-place finish at the Catholic High School League championship meet Saturday, March 4.

As inclement weather impacted travel across

metro Detroit Friday, March 3, meet organizers canceled prelims that evening and shifted to a timed finals format for Saturday's championship round.

Despite the disruption, the Knights' Charlie Bronk and Brendan Beland embraced their inner Nemo and just kept on swimming. The duo placed in the Top 5 for points scored by freshman from among nine teams at the meet, the

final competition before the Division 3 state finals March 10 and 11, at Oakland University.

At the CHSL championship, Bronk placed sixth in the 500 free in a personal-best time of 5:06.20, earning All-League distinction. He also placed seventh in the 100 back in 58.78, just off the personal best time he set earlier in the week at a last-chance meet at Grosse Pointe South.

Bronk will enter both

races at the state meet.

Beland earned two personal bests in both of his events, placing sixth in the 200 IM in 2:05.96, which earned him All-League recognition. He also placed eighth in the 500 free in 5:09.38. This season, Beland has earned state-qualifying times in the 200 IM, 100 fly and 500 free, but will compete in the 200 IM and 100 fly in the state final.

"Going to states as freshmen is no easy task, but both Brendan and Charlie have their sights set on earning Saturday swims (Top 16 finishes) in their events," Liggett head coach Bart Bronk said via email. "They are distance specialists, so their best chances should come in the 500 free for Charlie and 200 IM for Brendan. Regardless of outcome, just being there will be a great experience for each of them, as they are competing

against an open field and competitors up to age 19," he added.

All four ULS team members appear to have hit their strides at just the right time, with freshman Zach Rabbani and sophomore Michael Darlington concluding their seasons with their best performances to date.

Rabbani earned a team point by finishing 16th in the 200 free, clocking in a season-best time of 2:11.79, a drop of more than six seconds off his previous best.

Sophomore Michael Darlington turned in season-best performances in the 50 free (31.79) and 100 free (1:14.40). Darlington also contributed a strong leg in the 200 medley relay, where once again the Knights hit a season-best time of 1:57.72, good for seventh place.

"I couldn't be more pleased with our sea-

son," Bronk said. "We competed (in) a full schedule against some of the biggest and strongest programs in the state and reliably earned the respect of our competitors."

"While scoring higher than several larger teams at (the Wayne County meet) and the CHSL championship was a special highlight, the real successes of our season were best measured in great individual swims, ever improving relay times and the camaraderie of our small-but-mighty team. Each team member made valuable contributions and had a role to play in our outcomes."

University of Detroit Jesuit captured its second straight CHSL title last Saturday with 539 points. Cranbrook-Kingswood finished second with 411 points, while Detroit Catholic Central came in third with 398 points.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKALIA FARAH

From left, Zach Rabbani, Michael Darlington, Charlie Bronk and Brendan Beland stand on the podium for their seventh-place finish in the 200 medley relay.

## City of Grosse Pointe, Michigan

### 2023 March Board of Review

The 2023 March Board of Review will convene in the City Hall at 17147 Maumee Avenue, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

The meeting is scheduled as follows:

#### ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

March 20, 2023 @ 1:00 PM

#### APPEAL HEARINGS

March 20, 2023 @ 1:30 PM to 9:00 PM

March 21, 2023 @ 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. Hearings are by appointment only. COMPLETED 2023 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY, and must be submitted to the Assessor's Office, prior to your appointment. The deadline for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal before the Board of Review is Tuesday, March 21, 2023.

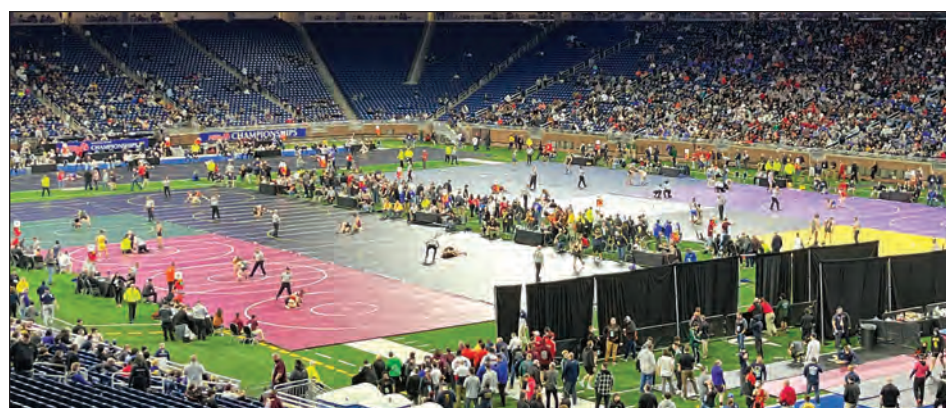
A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer and done by a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner and it must be submitted to the Board of Review on the form prescribed by the assessor's office. Written petitions must be received by the end of day Tuesday, March 21, 2023 to be reviewed by the Board. Postmarks are not accepted.

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted and published in the local newspaper.

All Board of Review meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's Office at (313) 885-5800.

4D | SPORTS



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

Thousands gathered at Ford Field last Friday and Saturday to watch and compete in the individual wrestling state finals.

STATES:

Continued from page 1D

at 215 pounds. Dupree won by sudden victory over Waverly's Cayden Bell in the opening round. In the quarterfinals, Joey Scaramuzzino of Croswell-Lexington took a 5-0 decision win over Dupree to send North's senior captain to the consolation bracket. Dupree's day ended there when he was

pinned by Hamilton's Shane Dams. In the 138-pound class, North's Preston Auld lost 15-1 in the opening round to Tee Ward from Fremont, and lost by decision again in the first round of the consolation bracket. Jacob Nowicki was on the losing end of a 12-0 major decision loss in the opening round at 144 pounds, and saw his day end with a consolation bracket

loss as well. Rounding out North's competitors was Michael Salvador, who was pinned in the opening round of the 150-pound bracket. "Though we didn't get the results we wanted, the team went out with maximum effort," North wrestling head coach Jaron Nelson said. "It's been a long season, battling physical and mental obstacles, but all four Norsemen stepped up to the plate when needed."



Top, Preston Auld from North clings to the back of his opponent during his opening round match at Ford Field for the MHSAA individual wrestling state championships last Friday.

Bottom, Paul Wilson from South, right, butts heads with his opening round opponent Steven Shellenberger from Detroit Catholic Central.

# South, North and ULS sweep opening round of girls hockey playoffs

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

The Michigan Girls High School Hockey League playoffs began Saturday, March 4 and the teams from the Pointes wasted little time in showing why the area might be the state's most prominent hotbed of girls hockey. The two-time defending state champions Liggett Knights, along with Grosse Pointe South

won their opening round games with ease in Division 1, while Grosse Pointe North made quick work of its first-round opponent in Division 2. In total, the three teams outscored their first playoff opponents by a margin of 21-2.

**ULS**  
Undefeated for the second consecutive regular season, the Knights earned the top seed in

the Division 1 playoff tournament. The Knights faced Washtenaw United in the first round and despite a slow start, managed to explode in the final two periods to pull away for a 7-0 win. The opening period finished in a scoreless stalemate. The Knights

finally broke through in the second period with a goal from Elle Quinlan. Three more goals for Liggett followed before the end of the period, scored by AnnaClaire Dopke, Sophia Secco and Isabel Standish. Quinlan and Secco both netted their second goals of the day in the

third period when the Knights already had a commanding lead. Giuliana Lutfy added another in the final frame as well to finish off the dominant win.

The Knights moved on to face Livonia United on Wednesday, March 8 after press time in the Division 1 state semifinals. The Division 1 state championship is scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, March 11 at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.

A couple of minutes later, Sophia Reynolds and Ryleigh O'Donoghue both scored within 30 seconds of each other, with another goal by Reynolds in the closing minutes secured South's spot in the semifinals.

South faced Ann Arbor Skyline-Huron in the Division 1 semifinals Wednesday, March 8 after press time.

**North**  
Moving to Division 2, North made quick work of its first-round foe Troy United. Thanks to seven goals scored by sophomore Josie Cueter, the state's leading goal scorer, the Norsemen won by mercy rule 9-1 to advance on to the semifinals.

Gabby Brumme and Ella Dobbs added the other pair of goals for North along with Cueter's double hat trick plus one. The Norsemen moved on to face Regina-Lutheran North in the Division 2 semifinals Wednesday, March 8 after press time. The Division 2 state championship game will be played at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 11 at the lead later in the final

**South**  
The Blue Devils played Livingston United in their opening round contest in the Division 1 bracket. Similar to Liggett, South got out to a slow start, but followed it with a flurry of goals late in the game to win 5-1.

Livingston struck first in the opening period to take an early 1-0 lead. That advantage held all the way into the third period before Ruby Lenhard finally broke through for the Blue Devils and tied the game.

After Lenhard's goal, the floodgates opened. Bella Peruski gave South the lead later in the final



PHOTO BY LEON HALIP

Liggett's Isabel Standish scored one of her team's seven goals in a playoff win over Washtenaw United.

City of **Grosse Pointe Farms**, Michigan

**BOARD OF REVIEW**

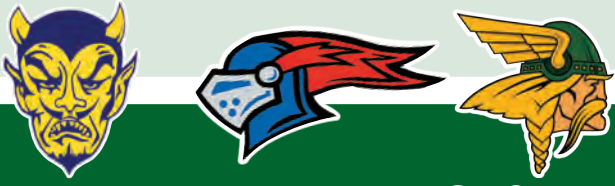
Meetings for the purpose of reviewing the 2023 Assessment Roll for the City of Grosse Pointe Farms, Wayne County, Michigan, will be held by the Board of Review on:

TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023  
From 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
and  
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
and  
TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2023  
From 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
and  
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

at City Hall, 90 Kerby Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan 48236.

Hearings will be scheduled by appointment. Please contact City of Grosse Pointe Farms at (313) 640-1618. You may also petition the Board in writing through the mail if you cannot make the hearing dates. These letters HAVE TO BE IN THE OFFICE BY FRIDAY, MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup>.

**SPORTS CALENDAR**



**MARCH**  $\frac{20}{23}$

**9**

- > GPS unified hoops vs. Sterling Heights - 4pm
- > Girls hoops regional finals

**10**

- > GPN/GPS Boys hoops District Final @ GPN - 6:30pm
- > Gymnastics (State Finals @ Lakeland) - TBD
- > Synchronized swim (Routine state meet @ Ann Arbor Pioneer) - 7pm
- > GPS & GPN boys swim & dive (State finals @ Holland) - 12pm
- > ULS boys swim & dive (State finals @ Oakland University)-TBD

**11**

- > GPS & GPN boys swim & dive (State finals @ Holland) - 12pm
- > ULS boys swim & dive (State finals @ Oakland University) - TBD
- > Synchronized swim end of season show (@ GPS) - 4pm

**12**

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

**13**

- > Boys hoops regional playoffs begin

**14**

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

**15**

- > Boys hoops regional finals

**16**

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

**17**

- > Girls hoops state semifinals

**18**

- > Girls hoops state championships

**19**

**20**

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

**21**

- > Boys hoops state quarterfinals

**22**

- > GPN boys lax vs. Stoney Creek - 7pm
- > GPS boys lax vs. Ann Arbor Pioneer - 7:30pm
- > GPS girls lax @ Divine Child- 7:30pm
- > GPN girls lax @ Stoney Creek - 7pm

**23**

- > GPS girls lax vs. Gabriel Richard - 7:30pm
- > GPN girls soccer vs. L'Anse Creuse - 7pm,

**24**

- > GPN girls lax vs. Henry Ford II - 6pm
- > Boys hoops state semifinals

**25**

- > GPN & GPS boys track & field @ EMU relays - 10am
- > GPN girls track & field @ EMU relays - 10am
- > Boys hoops state championships

**26**

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

**27**

**28**

**29**

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

**30**

**31**

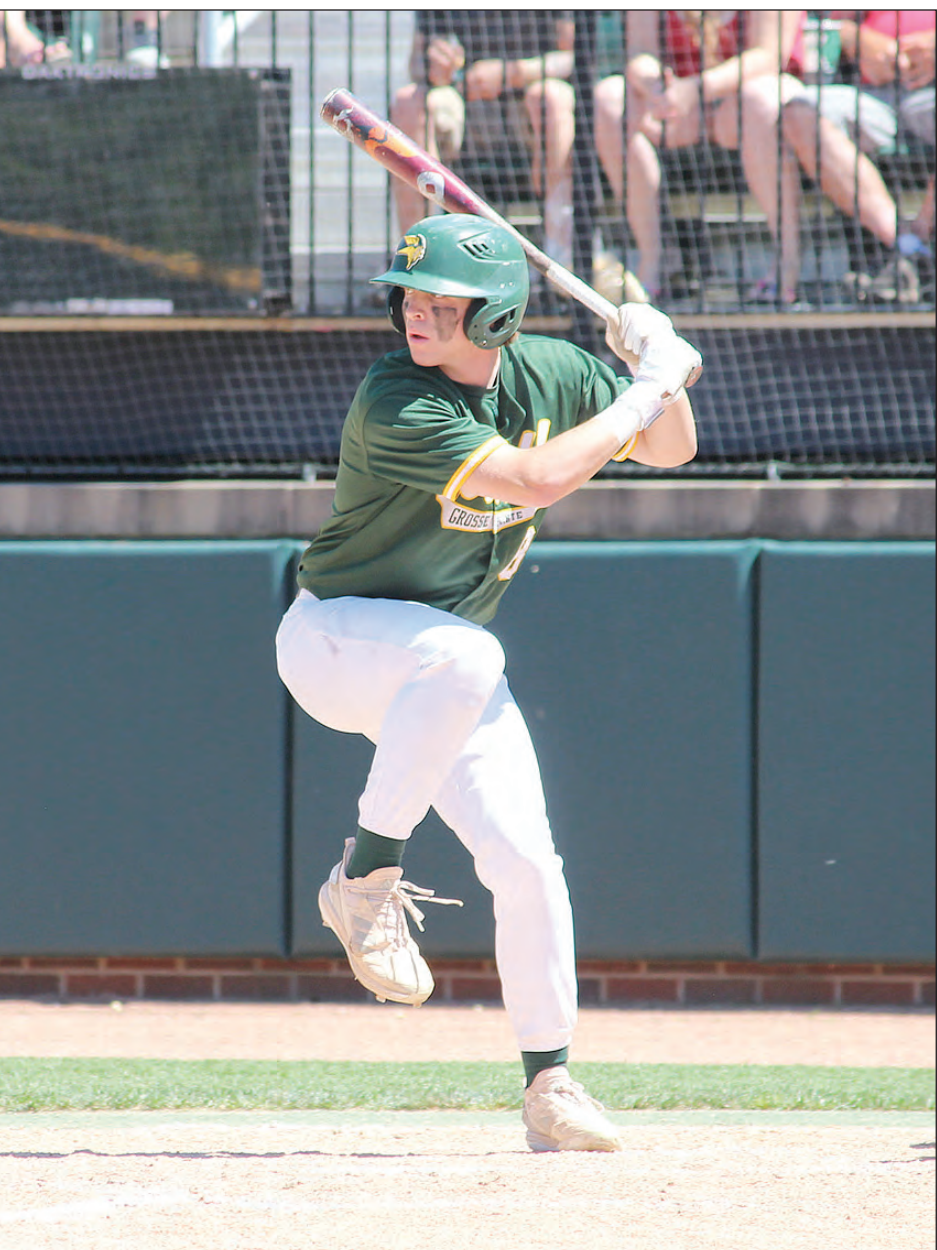


PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Drew Hill starts his swing while at bat in the 2022 Division 1 baseball state championship game. Hill was named First-Team All-State in baseball last season.

**ATHLETE:**

*Continued from page 1D*

good job of helping kids with no football background and helping them become the best they can be in a short amount of time."

One of those coaches is Kevin Shubnell, who also coaches North's varsity baseball team. Shubnell got to see firsthand how Hill dominated the gridiron in the fall and looks forward to seeing him put together another All-State season in baseball, with the first pitch just a few weeks away.

"(Drew) is a coach's dream," Shubnell said. "He's a fiery competitor who works very hard at his craft. Leads by example and always willing to help his teammates. Far more important, he is a high character kid who puts others first."

Hill has signed his letter to move on to the next level playing both football and baseball at Wayne State. Another season of batting .444 and bringing in 25 RBI like he did in 2022 would certainly be a fine send off for Hill's final season as a Norsemen. But how the program at North will look o he is gone is

Hill's biggest focus.

"The ultimate goal is always to be state champions when it's all said and done," Hill said. "I want to be the best leader and leave the program in the best spot possible when I leave so

they can have (the) success continue, and I can come back and watch them play."

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, visit [grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week](http://grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week).

City of **Grosse Pointe Park**, Michigan  
**2023 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW**

The City of Grosse Pointe Park will be conducting the 2023 March Board of Review and will convene in the City Hall at 15115 East Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan 48230.

The regular Board of Review schedule is as follows:

**Organizational Meeting**  
 March 14, 2023 1:00 PM

**Appeal Hearings**  
 March 14, 2023 1:30 PM to 9:00 PM  
 March 28, 2023 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. In person hearings are by appointment only and write in petitions will be accepted. COMPLETED 2023 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS (L-4035 FORMS) ARE NECESSARY, and must be filled out entirely prior to your appointment or petition drop off. The deadline for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal before the Board of Review is by Tuesday, March 28, 2023.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by a taxpayer representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner and it must be submitted to the Board of Review on the form prescribed by the assessor's office. Written petitions must be received by the Assessor's office end of day Tuesday, March 28, 2023 to be reviewed by the Board. **Postmarks are not accepted.**

**More information on Board of Review, dates and times of the meetings will be posted on the City website.**

All Board of Review meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's Office at (313) 822-6200.

GPN: February 23, March 2 and March 9, 2023

# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING



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**CORRECTIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS**  
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### Help Wanted

**200 HELP WANTED GENERAL**

**DRIVER**  
needed to take 2 children from Grosse Pointe Woods to the Village in Grosse Pointe. Monday through Thursday 4:30-5 pickup, return between 6:30 & 8:30 and Friday 3:15 & 6:00. Must be highly reliable with references. nealim@comcast.net

**208 HELP WANTED NURSES AIDE / CONVALESCENT CAREGIVER**  
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**210 HELP WANTED RESTAURANT**

**IRISH COFFEE BAR & GRILL now hiring SERVERS**  
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### 209 HELP WANTED PROFESSIONAL

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT**  
to very busy, occasionally forgetful president of nonprofit focused on reducing chronic absenteeism among Detroit children. Successful candidate should have prior experience as executive assistant, including good organizational, computer and writing skills and the ability to interface effectively with Senior executives and community leaders. Looking for a self starter who can juggle multiple issues to completion. Some bookkeeping required. Hours negotiable. Bonus available. (313)300-4094

**210 HELP WANTED RESTAURANT**

**IRISH COFFEE BAR & GRILL now hiring SERVERS**  
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**InnHomeCare CAREGIVERS**  
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**AFFORDABLE** housecleaning by Polish lady. Honest, dependable, detail oriented. Grosse Pointe references. (313)729-6939

**REASONABLE** house cleaning, detail oriented, dependable, honest. Will do grocery shopping and run errands. (586)439-8396

### 312 ORGANIZING

**DUCKS IN A ROW**  
De-cluttering and organizing your home! Closets, basements, whole house. Organize your paper clutter. Home information, notebooks, Medical journals, memory albums. Becky Schlaff (313)580-2528 Susan Mason (313)910-9705 schlaffb@comcast.net rwmason@comcast.net

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**400 ANTIQUES / COLLECTIBLES**

**C's CARDS & COLLECTIBLES**  
Sports cards 1950's to present, plus autographed memorabilia, custom frames, etc. **17898 Mack Grosse Pointe** just south of Washington (313)469-1551

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**TIRED OF STRANGERS**  
walking through your house during an estate sale? An ON-LINE Auction is the way to go. Two day pickup at the end of the sale. No fancy setup to cost you extra. Contact Joe at **JMW CONSULTING** for more information **(313)300-2122**

### 409 GARAGE / YARD / RUMMAGE SALE

**MOM 2 MOM SALE**  
Saturday, March 11th Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church 19950 Mack Ave. \$5 Early Bird Shopping 9- 9:30am \$2 9:30- 12:30pm

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**ELIMINATE** gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris- blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off entire purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military discounts. Call 1(866)495-1709

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**HARPER WOODS**  
Large two bedroom apartment, spacious living room, dining room, new kitchen floor, blinds, windows, bathroom vanity, carpet, appliances, central air, private laundry and storage in basement, secure gated parking. No smoking or pets allowed, water included. Rent: \$1,325. (586)422-8631

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2 bedroom, 2 bath, first floor condo available for rent in Forest Glen Golf & Country Club. March- May 2023. Text or call (313)330-5510

# DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

Some classifications are not required by law to be licensed. Please check with the proper state agency to verify license.

### 900 INTERIOR / EXTERIOR DESIGN

**REDBARON ENTERPRISES**  
Interior • Exterior Design  
\*Award Winning Design Team\*  
Free Estimates  
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(313)408-1166

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**Phil Pitters**  
CONCRETE & MASONRY  
Waterproofing, Drainage. Call today for free quote!  
**(313)824-4447**

### 911 BRICK / BLOCK WORK

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Masonry, Tuck Pointing, Brickwork, Block Work. Call today for free quote!  
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**DeBeers HOME IMPROVEMENT**  
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specializing in restoration of chimneys, porches, houses, brick walls, tuck pointing, all masonry. Grosse Pointe resident. Free estimates. Licensed and insured. [masonryrp88@gmail.com](mailto:masonryrp88@gmail.com) (313)885-8525 Cell (313)402-7166

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Debris Removal  
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PLASTER & DRYWALL REPAIR  
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All Work Guaranteed  
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### FLOOR

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Full Service Landscaping Company  
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We're your "TO DO" list handymen! Let us help you with any plumbing, electrical, carpentry and much more. RedBaronEnterprises.com (313)408-1166

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Your Local Handyman Service  
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A quiet home is a relaxing home! Blown in Cellulose Insulation is GREEN, cost and energy efficient. Red Baron Enterprises, LLC can insulate your home. RedBaronEnterprises.com (313)408-1166

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