



# Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 84, NO. 16, 32 PAGES ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 95¢)

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APRIL 20, 2023 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

## Poloni named interim city manager

By Laurel Kraus Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — With an already extensive resume spanning a variety of leadership roles in multiple Pointes, current Grosse Pointe Shores City Manager Stephen Poloni was appointed Monday as interim city manager in the City of Grosse Pointe, in preparation of City Manager Pete Dame leaving for a similar position in Portage — his hometown and where his aging parents live — at the end of the week.



**Stephen Poloni will maintain his full-time position as city manager of the Shores, while working part-time as interim city manager in the City of Grosse Pointe.**

FILE PHOTO

Poloni served nearly 30 years in the Shores department of public safety, seven of those as director; was appointed

public safety director in the City in 2011; became director of both the City and Park departments in 2015, under a cost-

sharing agreement between the two Pointes; transitioned to city manager of the Shores in January 2021;

and was named the Shores' public safety commissioner, an advisory role, a month later. "Because the timing of this we knew was going to be quick, we put a high priority on trying to find or at least speaking to someone who had familiarity with the City of Grosse Pointe," said Chris Walsh, councilman and member of the subcommittee to identify an interim. "We felt that would be a high priority because we've got a lot going on. We've got a lot of projects moving and from a transition

standpoint, we felt that would be most beneficial to the city, as well as the staff in the city." Poloni will maintain his position as city manager of the Shores, effectively working his eight-hour shift in the morning and taking a part-time role in the City. With the intention to work 20-hour weeks in the City, with irregular hours Monday through Saturday, he will be compensated based on 50 percent of the current city manager salary.

See POLONI, page 4A

## SWAT locks down Lakepointe Street

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — An alleged domestic clash Sunday morning at a house on upper Lakepointe triggered a neighborhood lockdown, but ended with the quick arrest of a 23-year-old man and confiscation of a firearm when a dozen members of the SWAT team showed up.

"He came out as soon as they told him to," said Detective Sgt. Jeremy Pittman of the Park public safety department.

It was considered a wise move for someone up against the Eastern Wayne Special Response Team. The team is composed of officers from the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods.

"I'm submitting (paperwork) to the pros-

ecutor's office for multiple felony charges," said Pittman, logging the incident as an assault.

The suspect has no priors, according to Pittman.

"It was out of an abundance of caution that a Nixle alert was sent out," Pittman said, referring to nixle.com, a website on which law enforcement and similar agencies post public warnings about everything from real-time crimes to impending thunderstorms. "Using the utmost caution, we activated our special response team to assist."

Things kicked off at the normally serene hour of 6 a.m. in the 1400 block of Lakepointe, between Charlevoix and Mack Avenue.

See SWAT, page 3A



PHOTO BY JOSH CHAFFIN/GROSSE POINTE PARK PUBLIC WORKS

**A crew from Inner City Contracting installs a section of plastic water main along upper Mack Avenue.**

## Mack water main finished

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Everything except new landscaping is finished regarding the replacement and relocation of a water main on upper Mack Avenue.

"It's up and running; all connected," said Josh Chaffin, Park water department manager. "They've done concrete restoration. They just have to do the sod."

Replacement of the generations-old, nearly six-block stretch of pipe between Kensington and Cadieux is among citywide infrastructure improvements funded by a 10-year water and sewer millage.

More than 67 percent of Park voters approved the millage last

November.

"Mack Avenue is the first step," said Councilman Max Wiener, chairman of the infrastructure committee. "We're mapping out and planning ahead."

"This is the first brand new water main since the mid-1980s," said Nick Sizeland, city manager. "It's a big step toward improving the reliability of our water system."

The \$400,000 project involved replacing break-prone, six-inch diameter cast iron pipe with an eight-inch diameter pipe made of plastic.

Plastic pipes don't corrode and clog with growth of iron oxide. They're also relatively

See MAIN, page 2A

## Extension sought on Poupard deal

By Ted O'Neil Staff Writer

**HARPER WOODS** — The developer who last fall agreed to buy the former Poupard Elementary School for \$650,000 has asked the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education for a six-month extension to the original contract while they secure more funding and government

grants.

Robertson Brothers Co. agreed in November to buy and demolish the 63,000-square-foot building and said it would build 100 attached townhomes and stacked flat units of between 700 and 1,400 square feet on the 6.5 acres.

The company asked for the extension during a special meeting of the board Tuesday, April

11, after looking at the housing market and costs it will incur.

"We've had challenges and successes, but we have had a lot of momentum," said Jim Clarke, president and CEO of Robertson Brothers. "The challenge is in the current housing market and construction costs are what they are."

Plans now call for a mix of 70 single-family homes, duplexes

and townhomes between 1,200 and 1,400 square feet, most of which would have two bedrooms and two bathrooms. Each would have a den with exterior access that could be used as a third bedroom.

Robertson Brothers said they think they could sell each unit for \$200,000, but are facing construction costs of \$325,000 for each one, for a total gap of \$8.75 million.

See POUPARD, page 10A

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**Pointer of INTEREST**  
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**Dale Scrace**  
Home: City of Grosse Pointe  
Former mayor may be the longest-serving elected official in the City



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# Gone but not forgotten

By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — Smiles, memories and a few tears filled the room as the Community Tree Commission held its 40th annual memorial tree dedication ceremony Wednesday, April 5.

“This means your loved one’s life mattered and had meaning and lives on,” Commission member Peter Groschner said in welcoming the guests. “They still contribute to the community through these trees by their growth and beauty and shade.”

Seven former Woods residents were honored.

**Patrick Ballew — White pine at Lake Front Park**

“We were friends for 30 years and he was always dedicated to his family and friends,” Andrew Stefani said of Ballew. “My first child was born March 23, and I was reminded that was Patrick’s birthday. It’s his way of saying ‘I’m still



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



Above, Laura Gaskin, Community Tree Commission, vice chairperson, left, with Alex Conti, John Ghanem and Anthony Stefani, three friends of Patrick Ballew who sponsored a memorial tree in his name. Left, from left, Gaskin with Brett Kortz, Brian Kortz, Chad Kortz, Suzy Berschback and Charlie Ireland. A tree was sponsored in Carol Kortz’s name by her cousins, sons, husband and brother.

here with you.”

**Betty DelPlace — Red maple at Sweeney Park**

Her husband, Donald DelPlace, said the couple was married 40 years and lived across the street from the park.

**Carol A. Kortz — Redbud at Cook School**

“She was the sweetest, kindest, nicest person you ever met and we miss her terribly,” said her brother, Charlie Ireland. “We look forward to going back there to have

a picnic and spend more time with Carol.”

**William Kraus Jr. — Locust at Lake Front Park**

Commission Vice Chairperson Laura Gaskin read comments from Kraus’s widow, Rebecca, noting that Kraus had enjoyed the park since boyhood and as he battled cancer the couple would drive to the park and sit in their car just to see it. She chose a tree in front of where

they would always park. **George Petroff — Eastern redbud at Lake Front Park**

Similarly, Geraldine Petroff said her late husband enjoyed the park and the two would often go there to walk. “I wanted a tree at the park so I could go and see him,” she said.

**Andy Pflaum — Oak at Ghesquiere Park**

Through his construction company, Apcor Construction and

Development, Pflaum spearheaded and fully funded restoration of the platform tennis courts at Lake Front Park and also was involved in the reconstruction of the concession stand at Ghesquiere Park, where a plaque hangs in his honor.

A Crabapple Malus also was dedicated to Robert Cornwell at city hall and a Red maple in memory of Jane Eva

Koch at Lake Front Park. According to City Administrator Frank Schulte, friends or family can pick out a tree at one of the city’s parks and pay \$180 to install a marker on the ground in front of the tree.

“It’s usually an existing tree, but sometimes it’s a new one that gets planted,” he said. “We maintain the trees and if anything happens to it, we’ll replace it.”

## MAIN:

Continued from page 1A

flexible and thereby resist breaking during frost heave.

“They said it has a 100-year lifespan,” Chaffin said.

“It’s basically indestructible,” said Tom Jenny, public works supervisor.

Increasing the pipe’s diameter by two inches doubled its maximum flow capacity, according to figures posted at engineeringtoolbox.com.

Because sections of old pipe were half-blocked with corrosion, flow in those areas could increase nearly 600 percent.

“We were getting, maybe, four inches of flow through a six-inch main,” Chaffin said.

Construction also involved relocating pipe from under the roadway to between the curb and

sidewalk.

“That way, if we ever need to dig and work on it, we won’t have to deal with traffic,” Chaffin said.

The upper Mack main was the most bothersome section of pipe in the city. It broke about 20 times during the last 10 years, contributing to the city losing \$1.5 million worth of filtered water during the period, according to municipal officials.

“Whenever we had breaks there, we’d fix the one, turn the water back on and 10 to 20 feet down the line, it would break again,” Chaffin said. “We’d be there for a week and a half and it would finally settle down. Then it would start again.”

Park officials are happy with the work of the contractor, Inner City Contracting, based in Detroit.

“All in all, I’d give it a



Tuberculation is the fancy name for rust inside cast iron water pipes, a section of which is shown. It is harmless, a natural condition of old cast iron and restricts the flow of water through pipes, all of which is avoided by installing pipes made of plastic.

PHOTO BY JOSH CHAFFIN/GROSSE POINTE PARK PUBLIC WORKS

good nine out of 10,” Jenny said of the project.

“They were new to working with us,” said Brian Gipprich, a water department employee. “Nothing but good things to say about them.”

“They came in a little low on their bid to get into the city and introduce themselves,” Chaffin said. “They’ve

been working in Detroit forever. All their guys were great.”

A short distance from the Mack water main, another section of pipe is going to be switched under the parking lot of St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church and School on Whittier between Charlevoix and Mack Avenue.

“We entered into a

partnership with St. Clare,” Sizeland said. “They’re going to resurface their parking lot, underneath which is a city water main.”

Work is expected to start this summer.

Also on the water-sewer-to-do list is installing the extreme emergency relief valve.

Work is scheduled to start late July and last eight weeks at the inter-

section of Essex and Three Mile Drive and beneath the driveway to Patterson Park.

Park officials worked nearly two years achieving state permission to install the valve, which is designed to divert excess storm water directly into Lake St. Clair rather than risk sewer backups into basements, as happened during July 2021.

Another infrastructure project is replacing water service lines made of lead.

“Our goal is to knock out lead service lines and water mains at the same time,” Jenny said.

Among road resurfacing scheduled for the year is a one-third-mile stretch of Kercheval between Balfour and Bedford, a half block east of Defer Elementary School and Pierce Middle School.

Construction is supposed to start soon after the school year. Kercheval will be closed during the four- to five-week project.

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# Russell honored

## PS K-9 Rocco is fully funded

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — More than \$250,000 in funding commitments, including an already received \$153,000, has been successfully secured in the five-year project to fundraise a quarter of a million dollars in community donations to fund the career life of new K-9 officer, Rocco.

For spearheading the campaign, as well as for various other community projects he has taken part in for decades, lifelong Grosse Pointer Ed Russell of Russell Development was honored with a Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety Community Service Award during the city's council meeting Monday, April 10.

"His pursuit of 'the betterment of all things' as a family man, businessman

and trustee of countless organizations, including children's charities, hospitals, financial institutions and community programs reflects a quality best summarized in one short sentence: Ed gets things done," said John Hutchins, public safety director.

When K-9 Duke retired last year after eight years of service, Russell stepped forward to ensure the Farms K-9 program would continue by initiating the creation of the Grosse Pointe K-9 Fund through The War Memorial.

The funds were necessary to purchase Dutch Shepherd Rocco — the cheapest part of the deal, Russell said — provide continued training, prepare to purchase a new specialized patrol vehicle when the current one is cycled out in two years, enable community

engagement efforts and cover vet bills and overtime hours for the handler.

Calling himself "just the guy on the phone," Russell managed to secure commitments for \$25,000 each from nine Farms residents — including himself — \$10,000 from the Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation, \$5,000 each from three private donors and \$500 or less from six additional donors. One woman who heard about the effort sent in \$25.

"I think it's so important for residents to partner with our city and initiatives that benefit it," Russell said, "but many times it takes community leaders to spearhead those initiatives and so that's why I'm proud that there are many people in our community that are willing and able to step up for initiatives that make our community a better place to live."



PHOTO BY LAUREL KRAUS

From left, Public Safety Director John Hutchins, Ed Russell and Deputy Director Andy Rogers after Russell is presented the award Monday, April 10.

Beyond the K-9 project and in the final months of 2022, Russell also oversaw renovations to the Farms firehall dormitory

with an extremely narrow timeline and limited budget, Hutchins noted.

"His charitable spirit, abundant energy and will-

ingness to take the reins in the pursuit of 'the betterment of all things' is truly commendable," the director said.

# New DPW building looking lived-in

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Public works employees are settled into the department's new building on Mack Avenue.

"Every inch is being used," said Brian Gipprich, an eight-year DPW employee working in the water department.

Operations shifted incrementally this year from the old DPW garage on Jefferson to the new location on Mack between Maryland and Alter.

"It was right before Christmas, right before it started snowing when we got here," said Josh

Chaffin, water department manager and DPW employee for nine years.

A spring 2020 opening kept being delayed due to labor and supply slowdowns, plus economic shutdowns mandated during the COVID pandemic.

"It's a more open floor plan," said Tom Jenny, DPW supervisor. "It's new, it's fresh, it's a clean start for us."

During last week's warm weather, employees opened some of the building's garage bay doors, which let in fresh air and sunlight.

"This building is leaps and bounds above the other one," Gipprich

said.

The old DPW complex dates to the 1920s. It consisted of two buildings constructed originally as retail operations and a car dealer workshop. The workspace was cramped and dingy.

The new facility has inside garage space to spare for two 10-yard dump trucks, a chipper truck, a five-yard dump truck, a one-ton truck with a bed and more.

Vehicle lifts support the weight of firetrucks. The department mechanic works on all of the city's vehicles, from gold carts to public safety cars and trucks.

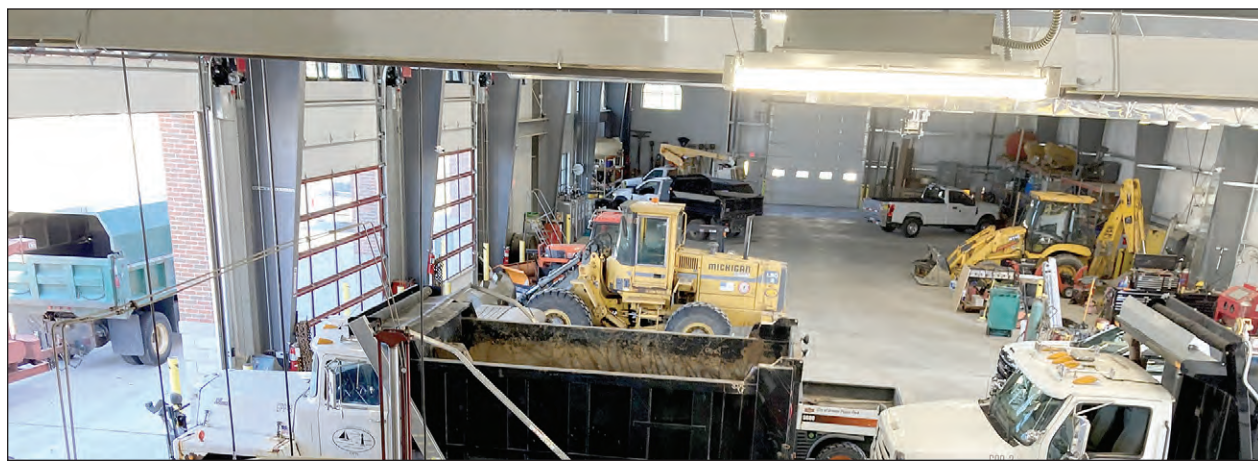
"We're very happy to get it," Chaffin said of the building. "It's a lot more workable."

A second-floor storage area contains racks for replacement parts for everything from parking meters to water pipes, fittings and repair clamps.

Having replacement parts at hand is important when Chaffin and Gipprich are called at 3 a.m. to repair a broken water main.

"We can organize everything that best suits us so we can do our jobs better," Chaffin said.

"There will be an open house for the public at a date to be determined," Jenny said.



PHOTOS BY BRAD LINDBERG

Top right, Grosse Pointe Park water department manager Josh Chaffin climbs a stairway to a second-floor storage area at the city's new public works building on Mack. Above, the spacious building's many glass-window, roll-up doors let in sunlight even when closed.

# SWAT:

Continued from page 1A

"A patrolman was flagged down for a domestic incident between a male and (22-year-old) female," police said. "It was believed the male was inside the residence and armed with a handgun."

The Nixle warning told whomever was awake at the hour to "avoid the area and shelter in place until further notice."

"We wanted to keep everybody inside until we had it resolved," Pittman said. "The female claimed to be assaulted by the male. SRT ordered everybody out of the house. They came out, as requested, and were taken into custody without incident. A firearm was recovered from the home."

The couple isn't mar-

ried as far as police know.

"We wrapped up on scene by 7:30 a.m.," Pittman said.

An all-clear on Nixle at 7:33 a.m., read, "Event has been resolved. Please resume normal activity."

"The standoff ended peacefully," said Nick Sizeland, city manager. "Thankfully, no one was hurt."



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# The Week Ahead

## MONDAY, APRIL 24

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 25

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 27

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Library Board of Directors meeting, 6:30 p.m. at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.



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## 4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

## Pointer's legacy is intertwined with City's

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

When Dale and Mary Scrace ran into each other at Ye Olde Tap Room one St. Patrick's Day after not seeing each other since ninth grade at Jackson Junior High School, the former City of Grosse Pointe mayor — then 25 years old — misplaced her number.

Luckily, he found it jammed in a pocket about a week later and come May 12, the two will celebrate 50 years of marriage.

"We stretched and borrowed a little bit from her grandpa and grandma and bought the house at (893 Rivard)," Dale Scrace remembers.

At that time, it would have been impossible to foresee the decades-long commitment to public service awaiting him.

Although verification via city history has proven difficult, it is thought that Scrace holds the record as the longest-serving elected official in the City of Grosse Pointe.

A boater all his life, with a sailboat docked at Neff Park, he somewhat fell into public service when the City began working toward marina upgrades and former city manager Tom Kressbach — after whom Kressbach Place is named — asked him to join the marina committee in the mid-1980s.

The snowball started rolling and in 1989, two city council members



COURTESY PHOTOS

Scrace alongside sons Ben, right, and David during one of many sailing adventures out of Neff Park.

were moving out of the city mid-term and he was appointed to fill one of the seats.

November of that year, Scrace officially was elected and served as a council member until 2001, when the then-mayor prepared to move to Florida and he was elected to the position.

"Just after I was elected mayor, I'm driving downtown to a meeting and Brian Vick, who was the acting city manager at that time, called me," Scrace remembers of a significant moment in the City's history. "He said, 'You're not going to believe it. Jacobson's just declared bankruptcy.'"

This led to the first time

Scrace ran for re-election opposed. The community was split over differing opinions regarding redevelopment of the building, which his opponent was more interested in transitioning to condominiums. Scrace won the election by 37 votes.

Coming full circle back to where his public service began, it was partly his efforts to push through the complete reconstruction of the City's marina in 2004, that led to it being renamed the Dale N. Scrace Marina in 2019.

"When I heard that, I was absolutely floored," he said. "Everytime I go by, I still can't believe it." Totalling 28 years as a

city official, Scrace served as mayor until 2017, when he was unseated by Chris Boettcher.

"That's local politics," Scrace shrugged.

On any given warm weather Wednesday night, the former mayor can be found taking part in beer can races through the Grosse Pointe Boat Club, of which he is a past commodore and current member.

Since 1979, Scrace only has missed one year of races when he had to be in Chicago for work.

Other than earning racing flags and helping his wife in the garden — he does the vegetables, she, the flowers — "my hobby was city government," Scrace said. "I didn't get paid, nor does council and if you look at the time you spend on that, I mean you could be an avid duck decoy carver or something with the time."

Scrace retired from a full-time career as director of construction for Versa Development two years ago, although since he still works as needed, "according to my wife I haven't," he laughed.

He also last year retired as a three-year episcopal diocese trustee, but remains an active member of the Grosse Pointe Men's Club, City of Grosse Pointe Foundation and St. Michael's Episcopal Church, where he has long served on the property committee.

"I've been on the property committee forever, because it's what my profession is, so I can't get off of it," he joked.

"Interestingly enough, the first service was (four) days before I was born."

Although he's looking forward to spending more time with his wife up north, Scrace credits Grosse Pointe as being one-of-a-kind.

"I've talked to a lot of people that live in a lot of

places and — I'm sure there's other communities that sort of have that same character to it — but it's different," he said.

"... I didn't grow up here, but there's so many people that grew up here, they got married, they went away maybe, they moved back, Mom and Dad live over there, Aunt Tilly lives down there, brother-in-law lives down there. It's amazing."



In 2019, the Neff Park marina was named the Dale N. Scrace Marina in recognition of his public service, including his leadership in the complete reconstruction of the marina in 2004.

## State low-interest loan sought for Farms sewer separation

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Set to reduce the volume of stormwater flowing into the Kerby Road Pump Station by about a third, Grosse Pointe Farms City Council is pressing forward with a plan to

construct a secondary pump station and separate the inland district sewer system north of Moross.

Last week, it unanimously approved a contract not to exceed \$2,883,000 with Hubbell, Roth and Clark for design engineering services, while also setting

in motion an application for a low-interest loan through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund administered by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy.

Compared to estimated market rates of 4 percent interest for a 20-year loan and 4.5 per-

cent interest for a 30-year loan, the CWSRF offers 20-year loans with approximately 1.875 percent interest and 30-year loans with approximately 2.125 percent interest.

Of 13 flood mitigation options presented to the city in August 2020 — the option to fully separate the whole city would have cost \$140 million — the chosen plan, which is considered maximum impact for minimum expense, includes:

- ◆ separation of the sewer system north of

Moross, encompassing 310 acres with 17,000 linear feet of new storm sewer,

- ◆ partial separation along Mount Vernon, McMillan and McKinley with 11,500 linear feet of new storm sewer,

- ◆ 3,600 linear feet of 48-inch force main traveling along the edge of the Country Club of Detroit property, followed by 3,200 linear feet of 42-inch to 60-inch gravity main to carry the water out to Lake St. Clair

- ◆ and a 100-cubic-

feet-per-second pump station constructed on city-owned property at the northeast corner of Moross and Chalfonte, which is the lowest point in the city, and within a Cape Cod-style exterior.

"To the average person, they're not even going to realize it's a pump station," said Jennifer Morraele with HRC. "They'll just think it's another beautiful house in Grosse Pointe Farms."

The project will result

See SEWER, page 5A

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## POLONI:

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## Grosse Pointe News

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Acknowledging the dual arrangement only was possible through the agreement of the Shores city council, Poloni noted his motivation to step in had a lot to do with lending a helping hand to people he's known a long time and who had a tight turnaround to temporarily fill the role before Dame left this week.

"I've been friends with most of these people for a lot of years," he said. "... It's a great staff, so I don't have to worry about the daily things getting done. It's just they need somebody to come in and help steer a few things, so really if it wasn't for the great staff, I wouldn't have been interested."

Because the process to find and appoint a new city manager is anticipated to take around four months at minimum, Poloni's time with the City is open-ended as he will remain in place until the new manager is on board.

## Search firm selected

Taking the first step in its search for a new city manager, City of Grosse Pointe City Council has selected a search firm at the recommendation of committee members Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak and councilmembers Chris Walsh and Terrence Thomas.

While Walsh stated the city couldn't have gone wrong selecting either GovHR or the Michigan Municipal League, council unanimously approved a contract with the latter Monday night.

Coming in as the most expensive bid at \$17,000, MML got the upper hand because its assigned facilitator to the City's search will be Jeff Mueller, a former Grosse Pointe Park assistant city manager.

"The individual that will be doing our search is a former assistant manager in the Park and has very high familiarity with not only southeast Michigan, Michigan in general, but the Grosse Pointe area," Walsh said.

The MML was also the firm the city used when it selected Pete Dame as city manager more than 16 years ago.

## Grosse Pointe Park

## Bike theft

The return of warm weather means a resumption of bike thefts.

During a portion of last week's warm-weather snap, specifically between 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13, and 7 a.m. the next day, someone took a \$600 blue Specialized adult bicycle from a rear yard in the 1000 block of Maryland.

## BB vandalism

Vandals with a BB gun continue damaging parked vehicles.

Reports of broken windows and damaged sheet metal began early this month and continued last week. This time, the police have video evidence.

At 9:45 p.m. Thursday, April 13, several vehicles parked on Bedford, Devonshire and Harcourt were damaged by BB gun fire.

"Home surveillance video footage shows a white SUV driving slowly in the area, lights off, and a BB gun being fired from the vehicle," an officer said.

—Brad Lindberg  
Report information

## PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

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

## Grosse Pointe Farms

## Kias targeted

A yellow 2016 Kia Soul was stolen from where it was parked along the curb in the 300 block of Belanger between 5 p.m. Monday, April 10, and 8:40 a.m. Tuesday, April 11.

Shattered glass was left on the street where the vehicle was parked.

A locked Maroon 2016 Kia Sorento then was stolen from the 400 block of Allard between 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, and 8 a.m. the next morning. Broken glass also was left at this scene.

## Dark path

After being pulled over at Mack and East Warren for driving without headlights at 9:12 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, a

24-year-old Detroit man admitted to not being licensed and was issued a ticket for such, as well as for not having insurance.

The vehicle was impounded.

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

## City of Grosse Pointe

## Slipped mind

A patient left a \$500 cross necklace on a counter during a procedure at an area health center Tuesday, March 21. Last week she remembered leaving it, but employees reported no knowledge of its whereabouts.

## Stolen bike

Within the two weeks prior to last Friday, an unknown person stole a green Giant men's bike from the rear yard of a home in the 200 block of Lincoln.

## Fraudulent loan

An unknown person attempted to acquire a \$15,000 loan in a Grosse Pointe resident's name from Credible Banking Monday, April 10.

## Theft arrest

After stealing \$100 worth of various groceries from a business in the 16000 block of Kercheval exactly a week prior, officers identified and arrested a 22-year-old Detroit woman Tuesday, April 11.

## Jeeps targeted

Jeep Grand Cherokees in town were the target of two unsuccessful theft attempts overnight Friday, April 14.

One in the 500 block of Lakeland had its back window broken out, while the other in the 600 block of Rivard suffered a broken sunroof.

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

Safety, (313) 886-3200.

## 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

## Vehicle thefts

Two vehicles were stolen earlier this month, including one that was broken into.

The first was a 2021 Jeep Trailhawk taken from the parking lot at Ascension St. John Hospital between 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 5. Officers discovered glass on the ground from the passenger side of the vehicle.

A 2022 BMW was taken from the 2000 block of Lennon between 8 p.m. Saturday, April 8, and 8 a.m. the following day.

The keys to the BMW

were left in another vehicle that was not locked. A neighbor's security camera showed the theft occurred at 2 a.m.

Detroit police recovered the vehicle Tuesday, April 11.

## Almost

While responding to the report of the stolen BMW on Lennon around 8:30 a.m. Sunday, April 9, the officer noticed a Kia on the same street with the rear window smashed. There was damage to the steering column and ignition.

## Target practice

Two vehicles at the same residence in the 1100 block of North Oxford were found covered in paintball splatters around 5:45 a.m. Wednesday, April 12. No permanent damage was found.

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

## Pointes off hook for HP arrears

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTE** — Not surprisingly, no Grosse Pointe municipal representatives could be found advocating for their suburbs to pay Highland Park's \$24 million delinquent water and sewer bill.

"It's unfortunate they're in that situation," Park Councilman Tom Caulfield said. "But, if we were in the same situation, would anybody help us?"

"Ultimately," said Dale Krajniak, Shores finance director and retired manager of Grosse Pointe Park, "Highland Park is well situated between Royal Oak and Detroit and has a lot of opportunity going forward. An option may be a public-private collaboration to manage the system."

The Michigan Supreme Court ruled April 4 that Highland Park must pay its overdue bill from the Great Lakes Water Authority, which supplies drinking water and sewage services to most communities in southeast Michigan.

GLWA's sewer customers include all of the Grosse Pointes, while drinking water customers include only the Park, Shores and Woods. Grosse Pointe Farms draws and filters water from Lake St. Clair for itself and the City of Grosse Pointe.

"The financial impact on Grosse Pointe Farms is fairly insignificant as it would only impact fees assessed by GLWA for Highland Park's sewage debt, as we do not purchase water from GLWA," Farms Manager Shane Reeside said. "In addition, (Farms) city council authorized that the city stop paying our assessed portion of Highland Park's bad sewage treatment debt before it became significant."

## SEWER:

Continued from page 4A

in reduced frequency and magnitude of basement flooding; stormwater removal from the combined system; reduced flows to the Kerby Road Pump Station; reduced flows to the regional system, thereby benefiting neighboring communities; reduced sewage fees with the Great Lakes Water Authority; and increased level of service for the entire city.

"No matter what we do here in the Farms, we are still part of the regional system," Mayor Louis Theros cautioned. "The flooding from almost three years ago now in June largely started, if not solely started, in Detroit and it came back at us with a lot of force. This project will not guarantee that people's basements don't flood. ... This is not a fix-all. We rely on Grosse Pointe Park doing its part, Grosse Pointe City, Dearborn, City of Detroit.

Everybody who partakes in the Great Lakes Water Authority has to do their part. So this is our part in that process."

The grand total for the Farms' part in that process comes to \$39,465,000.

While it is too early in the process to have steadfast figures, assuming a 20-year CWSRF loan, the theoretical calculation of cost to each household would be \$44.69 per month on top of the current utility bill.

"We anticipate we'll probably have to bond some of this," Theros reported, reminding residents the Farms is AAA rated, "but we hope to get as much of it through the state as possible."

Even as the city continues to take steps forward, there still is a considerable amount of time before actual work can begin.

"In October, the city will find out if they're in what's called the fundable range," Morraele noted, "and if the city decides to pursue an SRF loan, we anticipate that your loan closing would not be until around August 2024, so you can back out of the SRF loan program at any time prior to your loan closing. By passing the council resolution tonight, you're not committed to SRF."

A planned timeline for phased construction is as follows:

◆ Construction of the force main along CCD property will run November 2024 to October 2025, in an attempt to make use of the golf course's off season.

◆ Construction of the pump station will run June 2024 to May 2026.

◆ Construction of the

combined sewer separation will run September 2024 to September 2026.

"A lot of the timing is dependent on our application being considered and approved by the state of Michigan," Theros explained. "We would like to start digging tomorrow. Unfortunately, we're tied into their process."

"So I will initially right now beg for our citizens' patience, both in getting the process started and, once started, the disruption that will impact a large part of our community," he added. "It's not going to be easy and we will be in it into 2026."

The draft inland district sewer separation project plan can be found on the city's website, [grossepointefarms.org](http://grossepointefarms.org), or physical copies can be picked up at city hall.

See HP, page 8A

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# POINTES OF VIEW

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

## Grosse Pointe News

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY WEEKLY BUGLE, LLC  
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### OUR VIEW

## Top 5 signs it's April in GP

**H**ow do we know spring has arrived? The budding trees, fluctuating temperatures and sudden urge to deep clean and organize a dirty garage like Martha Stewart have us taking a look at some of the tell-tale signs and symbols that it's April in Grosse Pointe:

**1. Tiptoe through the tulips:** It's hard to walk anywhere lately without seeing tulips, daffodils, magnolia trees and cherry blossoms making their colorful, annual debuts, especially after our post-Easter warm up. Even when Pointers are walking the dog in the early mornings with winter jackets on, we nod at these promising sights and whisper "spring is here" like a giddy teenager.

**2. Tax man:** Ranking up there with renewing your license or enduring a same-day procedure with light anesthesia, Tax Day came and went Tuesday, April 18, due to April 15 landing on a Saturday this year. Whether we wrangled with Turbo Tax software or hired a CPA to do the dirty work, the two best things we can say about this annual day of dread is thank you to everyone who dutifully filed — and thank goodness it's over.

**3. Take me out to the ballgame:** It's such a Mayberry type of sight to drive by any of our high school tracks and diamonds or Little League fields and see them buzzing with activity. And for anyone lucky enough to be within a stone's throw of a field in the Pointes, the sounds of the game clock and cheers from the crowd give you a virtual front row seat. We say hop on your bike with the family and take in a track meet, tennis match or soccer, lacrosse, baseball or softball game. Our Norsemen, Knights and Blue Devils will appreciate the support and you will feel lucky about where we get to live and "do life" together.

**4. Sittin' at the dock of the bay:** While the parks' pools don't open until Memorial Day weekend, we know that boaters' hearts are aflutter around town now that marinas are open for business. Who doesn't love taking a ride down Lakeshore Drive and seeing who's playing hooky on the water? Don't worry, we won't tell — your guilty pleasure is safe with us.

**5. Bang your head:** The sneezin' season has arrived and it will drive your sinus health mad. Whether it's a constant nagging headache, runny nose or quasi-sore throat (or hey, how about all three?!), these are your biggest clues that spring has sprung in GP. Also, see item No. 1 to explain why allergies are in full force.

And just because we have an extra bounce in our step, we have a bonus sign of spring for you. This one holds the power that with a single mention, it sends shivers down the spine of anyone who has been dive bombed by one: the red-winged blackbird. Yes, it's time for this loathed feathered frenemy to nest and bring forth yet more red-winged blackbirds into our orbit. Of course, Mother Nature is wonderful and the circle of life is sweet, but we could do without the aggressive nest protection and aforementioned dive bombing when we are innocently jogging down Lakeshore, unaware we are about to get attacked. The situation gets even better when you look like a lunatic swatting in the air and screeching at it to stop while cars pass by and get a laugh at your expense.

In any event, spring has arrived and we couldn't be happier. We call on everyone to start enjoying these sunny days and warmer breezes, just as soon as we finish reorganizing those darn garages.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

## Looking up

Things are looking up for freighter watchers. The Lake Carriers' Association reports shipments of iron ore in March totaled 1.3 million tons, more than twice the amount for the same period last year. "Year-to-date, the iron ore trade stands at 3.7 million tons, an increase of 53.5 percent compared to 2022," according to the association's latest tonnage report. Most shipments originate at Two Harbors, Minn. Here, the 767-foot, 71-year-old Kaye E. Barker, of the Interlake Steamship fleet based in Cleveland, clears the Dix Avenue drawbridge to deliver raw material to the Ford Rouge Complex in Dearborn.

### OUR VIEW

## Survey: Michigan couples rank 21st among country's most happily married

**I**f you are a married couple living in Michigan, you're happy and you know it, according to a new survey. Well, at least 75 percent of you are.

In a survey commissioned by mix-book.com and carried out by QuestionPro, 75 percent of Michigan couples, equating to 2.8 million people, reported being happy in their relationships.

Compared to the other 49 states, couples here placed 21st overall, putting Michiganders among the top half of happiest couples in America.

In the survey, which likely was timed with the busy spring wedding season, the photo books company studied U.S. Census data to identify the number of married people in each state. It then asked 3,000 married people if they actually were happy in their relationships. This gave them an absolute number of happily married people within each state.

Nationwide, more than 91.8 million Americans reported they were happily married. But among the same group of respondents, a bold 53 percent said they believe married couples can live separately and still be happy. Called the "semi-separation model," the concept has been embraced by the

Hollywood set like Gwyneth Paltrow (she of "conscious uncoupling" fame with her first husband), who waited over a year after her wedding to second husband Brad Falchuk to finally move in together.

Ah, so maybe the secret to staying head over heels in love is not having to fight over the TV remote or the thermostat. Or being so wealthy you can each live in your own personal palace like Gwyneth and Brad.

The happiest state for marriages? Turns out the country's roads lead to West Virginia for marital bliss, where 90 percent of couples reported being happily married. Almost heaven, that West Virginia.

Things aren't as cheerful in North Dakota or Montana. Only one in three people in those states (142,000 in Montana and 97,000 in North Dakota) reported being happily married.

The study found there are various reasons why some people might be happier in marriage than others. One of the most important factors is the quality of the relationship itself. Couples with strong communication skills, mutual respect and a deep emotional connection

See MARRIED, page 7A

**Grosse Pointe News**  
POINTER POLL

TOP articles for the past week  
on [grossepointenews.com](http://grossepointenews.com)

- #1 Ready or not, 5G is here
- #2 Rear yard rubbish a thing of the past in the city
- #3 Athlete of the Week
- #4 Ripe Records going round for five years
- #5 Grosse Pointe Gabby

This poll measured by website analytics. Look for future polls via GPN Facebook and Instagram. We want to hear from you!

## LETTERS

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

### Grateful for Park progress

**To the Editor:**  
I am joyously stunned by the doggedness and alacrity with which the Park City Council has addressed the aging infrastructure problem that has plagued the Park for years. Rather than kicking the proverbial can down the road, they have managed to untangle the infrastructure puzzle and coordinated successfully with various entities, including the public works team, grant organizations and state officials.

We are sincerely grateful for the leadership, skills and courage of the GPP City Council in tackling this problem.

And we are decidedly thankful to our local philanthropists whose generous donation has alleviated construction overrun costs and allowed for immediate construction of the EERV this summer. Residents can take comfort that their homes and possessions will soon be better protected.

KELLY BOLL  
Grosse Pointe Park

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### GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

April 20 - 26

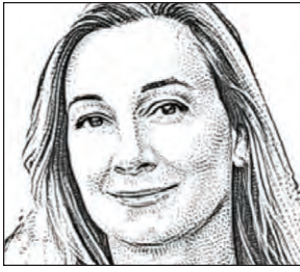


THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
79° 54°	67° 45°	54° 36°	49° 34°	53° 34°	57° 40°	61° 44°
Evening Showers	Rain	Scattered Showers	Scattered Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
40%	70%	60%	60%	0%	0%	0%
SUNRISE 6:43 am SUNSET 8:19 pm	SUNRISE 6:42 am SUNSET 8:20 pm	SUNRISE 6:40 am SUNSET 8:21 pm	SUNRISE 6:39 am SUNSET 8:22 pm	SUNRISE 6:37 am SUNSET 8:23 pm	SUNRISE 6:36 am SUNSET 8:24 pm	SUNRISE 6:34 am SUNSET 8:25 pm

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

I SAY By Anne Gryzenia

# A change of scene is good for the soul



There's something so magical about air travel. You can buy a ticket, pack a bag and a few hours later find yourself in a completely different world. Such was the case a few weeks ago, when I managed to score a \$150 roundtrip ticket to Phoenix to tag along on my husband's work conference. "No frills" would be an understatement — I

couldn't bring a carry-on other than a large purse and sat frozen between my neighbor and the window for four hours. No matter — when I got off the plane I had to put on my sunglasses and take off my coat. Warm rays of sunshine and views of rich, red-brown mountains and cacti are just what I didn't know I needed after a long and gray winter.

The sights, sounds and tastes of a new city are so refreshing. A bite of scrumptious guacamole topped with pomegranate seeds and homemade tortilla chips washed down with a spicy margarita topped with a salted rim are just what the doctor didn't order (but should have).

The southwest was such an interesting and welcome change. It's like my mood was being slowly lifted by the minute.

On a whim and with a free afternoon, we decided to "go for a little hike." It sounded like something one should do while in Phoenix. Little did I know, Camelback Mountain on the Echo Trail was a lot more than I had expected or bargained for. It was more like a boulder scramble. I don't even see how it's a "trail." It's like finding the least steep giant rock to climb up about 78,000



times in a row. Occasionally, as an added bonus, there is loose rock thrown in just

to keep you on your toes (or in my case, butt).

Like idiots, we figured we were in shape and would be up and down in an hour. We had no water and I wore fashionable sneakers I didn't want to mess up. Fat chance! Climbing up the mountain was challenging, slightly scary and I nearly stopped three quarters of the way up because I was dizzy and probably dehydrated from the margaritas. I'm glad my husband and I are so competitive — I

wasn't about to let him beat me — so we made it to the top after 65 minutes of torture.

What a view! What an accomplishment! It felt good, like being on top of the world. There's something so satisfying about having a goal and achieving it. Yes, I also would have enjoyed sitting poolside with a good book, but it would not have gotten the blood pumping or provided a challenge to meet. Coming back home, I felt refreshed and reinvigorated. I say a change of scene can be a breath of fresh air — and just the thing you need to spark some joy, excitement and the attitude adjustment we all need after a long winter.

## YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

### 1948

75 years ago this week

**SCHWEIKART HEADS COUNTY SUPERVISORS:** It has taken almost 100 years to the day since the organization of Grosse Pointe Township before one of its representatives were elected chairman of the Board of County Supervisors. This honor fell to Carl Schweikart, who has been a member of the County Board for a number of years, holding his place, ex-officio as the supervisor of the township. In all the intervening years chairmen have been elected from almost every other place on the Wayne County map, but never before has a Grosse Pointe man held the position.

**PLANS DISCLOSED FOR NEW STORES:** The Kercheval Corporation, a Detroit concern, filed plans in the office of the Grosse Pointe city building inspector April 8, for a double store building on

the south side of Kercheval near Cadieux. The double building will provide store room for two stores, which are to be occupied by the Winkleman stores and the Beck Shoe company.

### 1973

50 years ago this week

**LITTLE LEAGUE BARS GIRL BECAUSE OF 'WEAKER SEX':** Virginia Bruce is a baseball player without a team. And she plays like a champion. This 10-year-old tomboy plays baseball at Maire school with her brothers and with boys in the neighborhood, some of them Little Leaguers. It was the Little Leaguers, not a male chauvinist among them, that brought her name to the attention of those in charge of the organization. In late March a letter was sent to her inviting her to tryout for the Little League in Grosse Pointe Park. She stood out as a fielder and hitter and was

one of the manager's first draft choices; but unfortunately, Ginny could go no farther than the tryout session. Back in 1964, when Little League Charter was made an act of Congress, Women's Liberation was an ideal, the Equal Rights Amendment was unheard of and Ginny was still a baby. The verdict on her playing was no girls allowed.

**WOODS BOAT DOCKS UNSAFE:** The storms which have smashed many areas of The Pointe in recent months have taken their toll on The Woods' Lake Front Park boat docks. This matter was a primary concern at the regular council meeting. "Due to unfavorable weather conditions experienced this spring and the very high water, our boat docks have frequently been completely covered with water," said Donald J. Hallmann, parks and recreation director. "In their present condition, they present a safety hazard due to slimy, slippery surfaces. The high water condition makes them unsuitable for proper, safe mooring."

### 1998

25 years ago this week

**GROSSE POINTE FLORIST SMELLING SWEET SUCCESS WITH AWARD-WINNING ORCHID:** A Cymbidium Golden Wedding Orchid — grown and tended for seven years by Grosse Pointe Florist owner Jim Farquhar Jr., his cousin John Davies and part-time employee Angelo Faighte — swept the awards at the biggest and most prestigious orchid show in the state of Michigan. In fact, judges at the Michigan Orchid Society Palm Sunday Show were so impressed with Grosse Pointe Florist's entry into the competition that they chose to award not only blue ribbons to designate that the orchid beat out the other competitors, but they also awarded it trophies to state they felt the orchid was literally the definition of what a perfect Cymbidium Orchid should be.

**CITY POLICE OFFERS RESIDENTS FREE**

**MAIL-IN DRUG KITS:** Mail-in drug test kits are being given upon request to residents of the City of Grosse Pointe. In a program geared more to deter drug abuse by teenagers than catch offenders, confidential Drug Sensor kits are being distributed free of charge by the department of public safety. Detective David Fox, who coordinated the program, said, "Just having the kit around the house acts as a deterrent."

### 2013

10 years ago this week

**ST. JOHN LANDINGS CHANGE COURSE:** It's good news, bad news for Grosse Pointe Woods residents near the St. John helicopter landing site. On April 17, St. John Hospital and Medical Center began redirecting

incoming medical flights to its new helistop location on the top floor of the facility's west parking deck, and will cease using the temporary site in the north parking lot. That site was actually located in Grosse Pointe Woods, while the new site is in Detroit, which will take any control over noise and timing of landings out of the hands of Woods officials.

**COTTAGE, AMERICAN HOUSE MOVE FORWARD:** Senior citizens are lining up to live on the Hill. American House is on track to open a roughly 80-room facility on the second and third floors of Henry Ford Cottage Hospital in late 2014. Grosse Pointe Farms Mayor James Farquhar and a united city council supported construction this week as being good for the Farms and Grosse Pointe as a whole.

## MARRIED:

Continued from page 6A

tion tend to be happier in their marriages than those who do not. Additionally, individuals who are naturally more optimistic and have a positive outlook on life may find it easier to maintain a happy marriage. Not surprisingly, those who are more adaptable and open to change may be better able to navigate the ups and downs of married life.

External factors such as financial stability, social support and a strong sense of community also can contribute to overall marital happiness.

There did not seem to be a pattern by geographics, climate or region for the Top 5 most happily married states, which include:

- ◆ West Virginia: 90 percent (635,636 couples)
- ◆ Minnesota: 88 percent (1,927,563 couples)
- ◆ Colorado: 86 percent (1,950,615 couples)
- ◆ Indiana: 86 percent (2,194,335 couples)
- ◆ Kentucky: 84 percent (1,426,113 couples)

The only link we can see here with West

Virginia and Colorado among the best states for marriage (with our tongue firmly planted in cheek) is that John Denver has written songs about those states. Does listening to "Country Roads" or "Rocky

Mountain High" lead to marital bliss? That remains unverified, but it's tough to not get the feels when listening to one of his songs, we'll say that.

While a majority of marrieds in Michigan

report a happy union, two-thirds, (66 percent) of Michigan couples admitted marriage doesn't just "flow," or bring about happiness naturally. It is something they have to work on to keep it happy, the results also showed.

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# Bronze Door to add on-street dining platform

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Met with mixed reviews, largely in the sense of losing more parking spaces, The Bronze Door at 123 Kercheval will become the fourth restaurant on The Hill to incorporate an on-street dining platform into its offerings this summer.

The seasonal platform will match the design of others on The Hill — with an addition of string lights stretching between it and the building — and fill two parking spaces, requiring the business to pay the city \$240 per month to make up for lost metered revenue.

“Currently there’s a blocked-off space that had been previously approved for valet,” City Manager Shane Reeside explained. “So in essence they will be occupying two spaces, although currently one of those two spaces is not occupiable.”

The plans move the current outdoor seating area closer to the on-street dining platform, creating six feet of clearance between the building and outdoor dining.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

**The on-street dining platform will fill two Kercheval parking spaces in front of The Bronze Door, as the current outdoor seating area is moved closer to it to provide six feet of clearance for pedestrians between the building and outdoor dining area.**

“We’re going to reconfigure the patio that’s currently there, move it away from the building, so it’s free of the sidewalk and make it a little more pleasant for people walking,” explained John Vicari, representing The Bronze Door. “... The walkway is the problem. We’re blocking a walkway that you can’t get around.”

During public comment, Edward Jefferies, who owns the building at 100 Kercheval, said he

supported on-street dining platforms during the pandemic to help restaurants stay afloat, but now sees the need for parking to be far greater. Including the three Hill restaurants previously approved for on-street dining, the addition of The Bronze Door will deem seven parking spaces along Kercheval unusable.

“My experience with my friends and myself, if there isn’t convenient parking, they’ll just keep

going,” Jefferies said. “And I think the businesses, mine included, suffer because of it. I don’t think it’s fair for the council to pick one group of businesses to favor as opposed to the rest of the people on the block.”

The city’s master plan update process shows residents are interested in activating The Hill, Councilwoman Beth Konrad Wilberding noted.

“I might have been in agreement previously

that if we start this we’re going to have to have every restaurant (and) are we really not changing the constellation of the parking and some different logistical matters on The Hill?” she said. “Now, having been part of this process with master planning and having a lot of community input, I’m convinced this is what we need to do with The Hill. We do need to have more of an entertainment, more of a recreational part.”

Approval for the on-street dining platform passed city council 6-1, with Councilman Joe Ricci opposed, during the April council meeting.

“I have real issues with the line curved coming down Kercheval,” Ricci explained. “Reflective tape and gravel and boxes didn’t stop the guy who missed the turn at East Warren and Mack Avenue and ran into the post office.”

“I know ‘Monkey see, monkey do. One got it, I want it too,’ but there’s plenty of seating in your restaurant. You have a downstairs and I just think it’s unnecessary and I have a real issue

with the safety.”

Exploring areas along Kercheval on The Hill where additional parking opportunities could be created, Reeside noted some possibility in regard to the one-way driveway for the bank previously located at 131 Kercheval, which since has been barricaded.

Stating he’s reached out to Henry Ford Health to hear what its long-term plan is for the drive, “Frankly, one of my hopes is that use that was previously conditioned on the bank is no longer needed,” he said. “When we repave Kercheval (this year), we’d like to see that closed off and that approach eliminated, which would gain that parking space back on Kercheval.”

Although council was split on the matter, potential also exists to eliminate an area currently designated “No parking at any time, commercial vehicle loadings only.”

It seems to be under debate whether the spots still are needed solely for commercial purposes, but Mayor Louis Theros noted it is an issue for a different discussion.

# Open for curbside parking

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Curbside parking restrictions on upper Yorkshire are being clarified or suspended on a 90-

day trial basis.

The purpose is to give residents more on-street parking space while ensuring there’s room for the passage of fire trucks.

Public Safety Director Bryan Jarrell enacted the

changes through temporary traffic control orders, which the city council endorsed Monday, March 13.

Changes impact the relatively narrow 1300 and 1400 blocks of

Yorkshire between Vernor and Mack, plus nearby roads.

Temporary orders ban on-street parking on the even-numbered side of the road while, on the odd-numbered side, allow curbside parking.

Curbside parking on the odd-numbered side is restricted to two consecutive hours between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. weekdays.

Orders also remove various “Two-hour parking” and “No parking” signs on:

- ◆ Buckingham, Three Mile and Kensington between Kercheval and Mack.

- ◆ Devonshire and Bedford between Charlevoix and Mack,
- ◆ Yorkshire and Grayton between Vernor and Mack and

- ◆ Harvard between Jefferson and Vernor.

“The public works department implemented these orders over the

past few weeks,” Jarrell said. “It’s intended to help clean up the north side streets from sign pollution.”

Changes grew from a resident complaining to city administrators about receiving a seemingly nonsensical parking ticket that had been dismissed in municipal court.

“We started looking into it,” Jarrell said. “On Yorkshire from Vernor to Mack, in about the second half of the 1300 block begins ‘Two-hour parking’ signs. On the other side of the street, it’s posted ‘No parking any time.’ Then, you cross over Charlevoix and it’s ‘No parking anytime.’”

“We’ve had this issue before,” said Jim Bostock, deputy public safety director and 20-year department veteran. “It’s basically ‘No parking here to corner.’”

The simplest solution is to scrap everything and institute changes clarified in the traffic order.

Also, instead of simply posting signs declaring

no parking, Jarrell wants to install signs explaining the restrictions.

“I’d like to change them all to ‘No parking fire lane’ so people understand why,” he said.

Daytime parking limitations date back decades to when the Southeast Michigan Transportation Authority, which is now the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART), bus route along Charlevoix drew more riders than now.

“When SMART was extremely busy, riders from the outer suburbs would drive to Grosse Pointe, park on residential streets and take the bus downtown to and from work,” said Nick Sizeland, Park city manager. “A lot of ‘No parking’ rules in those areas stem from that old bus line.”

“We’ve come to a consensus that these signs no longer make sense and to help residents by letting them have parking on their streets,” Sizeland said.

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# Risers removed as lake lowers

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — While Grosse Pointers continue to look over their shoulders — or rather stairwells — for signs of another basement backup, gone are the rising lake level concerns of three years ago.

Lake St. Clair water levels have dropped so significantly since 2021, in fact, the City now needs to remove the risers that were installed to address the record highs on all 82 of its marina finger piers.

“Near and dear to my heart as a short person with a boat,” Mayor Sheila Tomokiwak joked, before council approved an up to \$72,625 contract

with On-Site Building, LLC, which was the company to originally construct the risers in 2019.

The cost incorporates \$10,625 to have the risers removed — which is \$19,375 less than the estimate of \$30,000 included in the budget — as well as up to \$62,000 in water damage repairs to the surface of the piers.

“We have removed one of the finger piers and the damage was less than we expected, so there’s that positive,” noted Becca Jenzen, parks and recreation coordinator.

— Laurel Kraus

## HP:

Continued from page 5A

said. “Furthermore, working for two cities now, the one constant complaint, more than taxes, is the continued escalation of water and sewer bills.”

“This has always been a fairness issue,” Candice

Miller, Macomb County public works commissioner said. “The court came to the right decision denying Highland Park’s appeal. We hope this allows the Great Lakes Water Authority to proceed with collection. We still need the state to get engaged to achieve a long-term solution for Highland

Park to pay its water and sewer bills.”

“I’m not sure that communities will be seeing a repayment for Highland Park’s bad debt anytime soon,” Reeside said. “Highland Park is not in a financial position to make payment without dedicated funding coming from the state.”



# South's ArtFest is here

By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — There's one April event that goes by the moniker, "A tradition unlike any other," but for Grosse Pointe South High School art students it's not a golf tournament; it's ArtFest.

"This is the centerpiece of our curriculum," said Tom Szmrecsanyi, chair of the school's art department. "There will be at least one piece from every student in our program and the older students will have many more."

The event kicked off Wednesday, April 19, and runs 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, April 20, and 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, April 21. The awards ceremony is slated for 7 to 9 p.m. Friday in the auditorium. The show wraps up 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 22.

All of the pieces were made in class during the school year in a variety of mediums, including metals, sculpture, drawing and painting, computer graphics, figurative art and photography, including Advanced Placement courses in drawing, photography, two- and three-dimensional art.

"The AP students, mostly seniors, put together a portfolio, also called a senior board, to display various components of their work," Szmrecsanyi said. "It's similar to what they would have used for college applications if they intend on pursuing an art degree."

Szmrecsanyi added that each piece will be labeled with the student's name and what course it



Above, Louis Kidder created this piece titled, "Octopus's Garden" in ceramics class. Right, rows of sundials students made during ceramics class.



PHOTOS BY RENE LANDUYT

came from.

"The people who come will be able to get a sense of whether it comes from a student just starting out and you can see others who are more advanced in their journey," he noted.

Many of the pieces will be for sale, with 80 percent of the money going to the student and 20 percent to the Robert R. Rathbun Memorial Scholarship Fund, which awards scholarships to

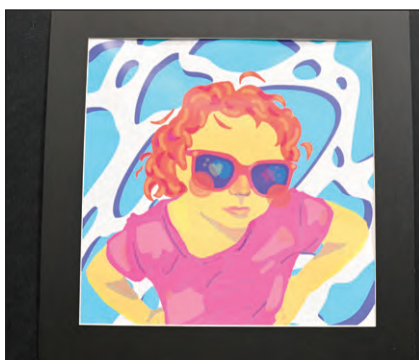
students pursuing an art career in college.

"Community members often say they wish there were more pieces for sale," Szmrecsanyi said. "Some are bought by family members who might decide to scoop up a piece before someone else does."

Szmrecsanyi added that students may have a certain piece they don't want to part with, but will make additional ones to sell.

Judging took place Tuesday night and awards will be announced at the Friday night ceremony. In addition to sales, monetary prizes are available. Donations range from \$25 to \$1,000 and donors can specify an award title, medium and number of recipients and amount of each award.

"We have some very generous donors who support us every year," Szmrecsanyi said.



Clockwise from top left, Kaitlyn Strong painted this piece, "Happy Trees," with acrylic paints in her drawing and painting class; Margaret Green created a floral pitcher using glazed stoneware and her friend, Louis Kidder, helped with the flower work; and Anna Nyquist created this colorful digital art piece, "Me when I was Cool," in her drawing and painting class.

# GPPSS working to address shortage of special ed teachers

By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — The Grosse Pointe Public School System is partnering with Wayne RESA in an innovative program to help paraprofessionals become certified teachers.

"There is a massive shortage of special education teachers not just here but across the country," said Stefanie Hayes, the district's director of student services. "Our paraprofessionals work one on one with our special education students and are unsung heroes."

As Hayes explained, the program was developed by Wayne RESA (regional educational service agency) in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Education. Some 100 seats in the program were available to paraprofessionals in any Wayne County district who met the qualifications, of which GPPSS secured five.

One qualification was having at least an associate's degree, regardless of discipline.

"We require that already for our paraprofessionals, which a lot of districts don't do, so I knew we'd have a lot of interest," Hayes said. "We eventually had 25 who applied."

Working with Wayne State and Eastern Michigan universities, participants will be certi-

fied teachers in 3.5 years — tuition free.

"They still have to pass the MTC (Michigan Test for Teacher Certification) in the end, so there's a high level of accountability," Hayes said. "And there is no general education endorsement. This is only for working with students with autism or who are cognitively impaired."

The application process involved several steps, including answering questions about how long they've been a paraprofessional and where they see themselves in the future.

"I did individual interviews with each of them to expand on the application a bit," Hayes said. "The most important question is the why. Why they want to pursue this path."

When the program begins this fall, participants will stay on as paraprofessionals in their respective districts, then attend classes in the evening both in person and virtually.

"The coursework will be very inclusive of what their job assignment already is," Hayes said. "It's a mix of on-the-job training and books. When the time comes, they'll also be doing their student teaching here."

While there is no formal contract, participants are expected to

See ADDRESS, page 10A

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# University Liggett School presents annual auction, gala

## Liggett Knight is April 28

The annual University Liggett School gala and auction — featuring a sit-down dinner, raffles and live and silent auctions — takes place at 6 p.m. Friday, April 28, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

This year marks the gala's return to Grosse Pointe Yacht Club after several years at the Detroit Athletic Club. The evening begins with a cocktail hour and light hors d'oeuvres, which gives attendees time to participate in a fishbowl raffle and buy tickets for a Cartier watch raffle.

"We try to bring something new to Liggett Knight each year," said Cressie Boggs, director of development. "One thing we're delighted

about this year is the venue. We are excited to welcome guests to the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club for the first time in almost 10 years."

Live auction highlights include a VIP Detroit sports extravaganza, which includes four premier tickets to Tigers, Lions, Red Wings, Pistons and U of M football games; four floor seats to the sold-out Taylor Swift concert June 9 at Ford Field; and a luxury trip to Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico. In addition, local companies Backer Landscaping, Hawasli Homes and AHEE Jewelers offer landscaping, bathroom remodels and jewelry in the auction.

"The Liggett Knight committee worked hard

to get us great auction items this year," Boggs said. "And our community is generous with their donations and it's incredibly inspiring."

The silent auction features almost 200 items in categories ranging from autographed memorabilia to culinary delights, health and beauty, and travel excursions. Anyone with a bidder number can participate in the silent auction, whether at Liggett Knight or at home the night of the gala.

Not to be outdone, the evening's featured raffle also is an amazing prize — a ladies' Cartier watch. Only 53 raffle tickets are available the night of the auction and they are \$100 each.

While funds raised at the annual auction are vital to ULS and support

all areas of the curriculum, funds raised through the Liggett Knight Paddle Raise are earmarked for a special appeal — continued sustainability, efficiency and beautification of the ULS campus.

During the past 144 years, Liggett has continued to abide by its founding mission to "help young people more completely realize that which is within them and in doing so make positive contributions to society." Among other things, this includes teaching its youngest and oldest learners about sustainability, efficiency and the environment. This year's Liggett Knight Paddle Raise supports and helps prioritize these important educational objectives throughout campus by:

◆ Helping strengthen

partnerships with industry leaders to explore effective sustainability solutions.

◆ Allowing the school to soon enhance the overall aesthetics of its academic and green spaces, while also providing more comfortable and energy-efficient learning environments for students, faculty and staff.

◆ Providing increased hands-on learning opportunities including new gardens, recycling initiatives and added eco-friendly options like demonstration solar panels and other renewable resources.

For more about Liggett Knight and instructions for bidding at home, visit [uls.org/liggett-knight](http://uls.org/liggett-knight).

## ADDRESS:

*Continued from page 9A*

you can't hold that against someone, but ultimately we want them to be with us for years to come."

remain with their district after graduation.

"They all understand the integrity there, given the time and money and effort being put into them," Hayes said. "Certainly life intervenes, like if a spouse has to move for work and

Hayes said that might start with a long-term substitute teaching assignment and then a full-time position.

"We have openings for special education teachers and we'll continue to have them," she noted.

## POUPARD:

*Continued from page 1A*

"We wanted to address this on the front end because we've spent a lot of time trying to secure that gap funding," COO Darian Neubecker told the board. "We should have a better idea of where we stand in two to three months."

Clarke said the com-

pany already has completed several steps in doing its due diligence, including performing an environmental study, completing a preliminary engineering analysis and submitting a preliminary site plan to Harper Woods for staff initial review.

The gap money could come from several county and state sources, including the Michigan State

Housing Development Authority. Robertson Brothers also applied under the state's Neighborhood Enterprise Zone law, hoping to secure a 15-year tax abatement for buyers because Harper Woods has the highest millage rate of any city in Michigan.

If the extension is granted and gap funding is secured, Robertson

Brothers expects to start demolition of the building and break ground in spring 2024, build 24 to 36 units per year and be done in 2027.

Harper Woods Mayor Valerie Kindle told the board she supported the extension.

"I hope you allow them to have the extension so we can move forward and get this project off the ground," she said. "We

need new housing, new residents. We need taxpayers."

Board President Ahmed Ismail, who voted against the sale last year, said Robertson Brothers is a "reputable" company.

"I didn't agree with the initial sale, but in light of where we are now, adding six months isn't the end of the world. They checked our boxes of demolishing the building

so it wouldn't become a charter school and this adds new housing."

Ismail added, however, the district should be considering other options.

"We should be looking, concurrently, at what else to do," he said. "We need a Plan B in case this goes south."

The board is expected to vote on the matter at its meeting Monday, April 24.

## Local Grosse Pointer returns back to the area to provide General Surgery and state of the art Hernia repairs at Ascension St. John Hospital...

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- Strives to deliver compassionate care for all patients with up to date advanced surgical techniques. Additionally, she attends and presents at multiple national hernia meetings annually.
- Grew up in Grosse Pointe Woods and graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School and went onto University of Detroit Mercy to complete her undergraduate degree.
- Graduated from Wayne State Medical School of Medicine in Detroit and completed her General Surgery Residency at Ascension St. John Hospital in Detroit. She received the Anthony B. Chambers Award for best performance during residency, chosen by faculty.
- Completed her fellowship training (Advanced Abdominal Wall Surgery) with Dr. Yuri Novitsky, one of the world renowned pioneers in the hernia field, at Columbia University in New York City.
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Dr. Coughlin is happy to be back in her hometown of Grosse Pointe providing excellent care to her patients. Outside of the office, she enjoys running, reading, baking and spending time with friends and family.



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- Dr. Patel is board certified in Internal Medicine.
- Graduate of New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine - Old Westbury, NY and completed her residency at Saint Michael's Medical Center - Newark, NJ.
- Provides Internal Medicine care to adults of all ages and has a special interest in hypertension, diabetes, musculoskeletal injuries, and preventative care.
- She believes that the path to great health starts with patient education and teamwork.
- Committed to help her patients gain access to the best medical resources and services available to ultimately improve their health and overall wellness.
- Outside of the office, Dr. Patel enjoys nature walks, cooking, painting, and spending time with family and friends.
- Accepting new patients. In person appointment, virtual appointment, online scheduling, and morning and evening hours are available.

Dr. Patel's practice, Ascension St. John Hospital St. Clair Adult Medicine Specialists, PC is conveniently located at 17141 Kercheval Avenue, Grosse Pointe.

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## A flair for floral design

### Seats still available for Friends of Arts & Flowers lecture

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

During the 23rd annual Elizabeth Sites Kuhlman Lecture, FTD World Cup Champion Bart Hassam will demonstrate his mastery of the architectural botanical form and love for classically elegant decorative forms of floristry.

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Amy Galsterer likely will be taking copious notes.

“Some people follow football teams, some people follow the Oscars,” she said. “I follow floral designers.”

The first time Galsterer laid eyes on a masterpiece created by Hassam, she was captivated.

“He created a piece, almost like you’ve gone into an environment, like a jungle,” she recalled of his 2019 World Cup design, for which he won the championship. “It had all these soothing tones of green and white. ... The moment I saw that, I thought, ‘This is the guy. Someday I want to meet this guy.’ He’s exceptional. He has



COURTESY PHOTOS

**Bart Hassam demonstrates how to create a flowing grassy arrangement.**

something really special. We’re so lucky he said yes.”

The lecture, hosted by the Friends of Arts & Flowers, takes place at 10:30 a.m. Monday, April 24, in the Detroit Film Theatre auditorium at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward.

Hassam will demonstrate his abilities by making four of his signature minimalist floral designs, as well as “four arrangements typical of

what he sells in his shop in Brisbane,” said Galsterer, who is chairing the event with Johnese Thibeau. “He’s offering a little bit of everything.”

Following the lecture, Hassam will take questions from the audience.

“I think of him as a magician, the way he figures out ways to do things,” Galsterer said. “I can’t wait to ask him how he anchors things, how he creates flowing,

perfectly organized waves of grass. We will learn a lot working with him.”

In preparation for his visit, Galsterer and others have undertaken several tasks, not only involving a thousand or so flowers, but building multilevel structures on which Hassam will create and stage his arrangements.

“Creative people are always pushing the limits of doing new things,” Galsterer said. “I can’t wait to see the ‘new’ Bart.”

All event attendees will be entered into a drawing.

“Four lucky winners will get to take home an arrangement Bart made,” Galsterer said.

The Friends of Arts & Flowers hosts two major lectures each year. In addition to its



**Hassam will speak to the Friends of Arts & Flowers at the DIA Monday, April 24. Registration ends Thursday, April 20.**

spring Elizabeth Sites Kuhlman Lecture, it hosts its Betsy Campbell Lecture each fall.

“Both ladies were Grosse Pointers who both died recently,” Galsterer said. “They were wonderful women.

They originally helped Friends of Arts & Flowers get started and

started the lecture series.”

Though the reservation deadline for the post-lecture lunch has passed, tickets for the lecture are available until Thursday, April 20.

Tickets are \$40 and available at bit.ly/43tmE97.

## GPCC can’t keep from singing

### 70th spring concert is April 23

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

Nothing can stop the Grosse Pointe Community Chorus from performing its 70th spring concert, “How Can We Keep From Singing?”

Its 50 members are excited for the show, which takes place 3 p.m. Sunday, April 23, at University Liggett School, 1045 Cook, Grosse Pointe Woods.

“Every time I come to rehearsal, I go back home with the tunes in my head,” said Amy Moulton, publicity chair. “It’s a very uplifting concert — a celebration. It’s going to be amazing.”

Led by interim director Grace Fenton and accompanied by pianist Ron Pietrantonio, the chorus will perform a variety of tunes, from Elton John’s “Can You Feel the Love Tonight?” and “The Impossible Dream” from “Man of La Mancha” to a Sondheim melody and Jackie DeShannon’s “Put a Little Love in Your Heart.”

The concert is followed by a dessert afterglow,



with sweets, tea, coffee and punch.

As the concert nears, the chorus is celebrating its longevity, especially through the last few trying years.

“It’s amazing we’ve lasted this long,” Moulton said. “We’re very proud we survived the pandemic.”

Members, who range in age from late 20s to 80s, proved the old adage that the show must go on throughout the pandemic by performing concerts while masked, as well as performing outdoors.

Some members still mask up for rehearsals, which take place from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays. The chorus meets at Grosse Pointe North High School during winter months and St. Michael’s

Episcopal Church in the summer.

“Our fall session starts Sept. 12,” Moulton said. “Anyone interested in joining can sign up online starting in August. People don’t need to audition to sing with us. They just need a love of singing and a knowledge of music.”

Tickets for the spring concert are \$25 for adults, \$8 for ages 12 and younger, and may be purchased at:

♦ Moehring Woods Flowers, 20923 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, (313) 882-9732;

♦ Posterity Gallery, 17005 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe, (313) 884-8105; or

♦ at the door.

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

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# St. Paul School seeks cereal donations

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

From Cap'n Crunch to Quaker Oats and everything in between, the St. Paul School Leadership Council seeks donations of breakfast cereal through the end of the month.

The collection ultimately will benefit two Detroit food pantries, but not before staff and students have some fun.

It's a longtime, feel-good dream of Tricia

Kesteloot, coordinator of evangelical charity, to organize assorted cereal boxes domino-style throughout the Grosse Pointe Farms school, then gather students and staff to watch as the first box is tipped over, knocking down each consecutive box along the way.

At the end of the line of felled Fruity Pebbles, razed Raisin Bran and leveled Life cereal boxes will be a grand finale involving the Rev. Jim Bilot. A fantastical finish

has yet to be decided, but students keep making suggestions, Kesteloot said, each one more outrageous than the last.

"The kids are so pumped up; they are on fire about this," she added.

But apart from the joy this project is producing, the collection will register more than a day's worth of giggles.

"There are two food pantries that are really light on food," Kesteloot said. "The climate in the

community is that there is less food and more people with food insecurity. This collection, boxes of breakfast cereal, will benefit the Deo Gratias food pantry and Nativity of Our Lord. ... Both have hundreds of families visiting them every week.

"Cereal is huge," she continued. "You can eat it for breakfast, lunch or dinner, with or without milk. And it's a healthier alternative to just grabbing fast food."

Students have been collecting cereal most of this month, with classrooms competing to see who can bring in the most boxes. As of this week, the collection is open to the community. A bin located in the church gathering space welcomes donations from outside.

"Students will bring the boxes into the school," Kesteloot said. "Student leadership is collecting and counting them."

"Our goal is to collect

enough cereal to create a domino throughout the building," she added. "We would love to have a thousand boxes. We hope by getting the word out, we'll get enough, but really, any amount is fantastic."

Any kind of cereal in new, unopened boxes is welcome through Sunday, April 30.

For more information, call Kesteloot at (313) 885-8855, Ext. 122, or email tkesteloot@stpaulonthelake.org.

## GP Symphony Orchestra's 70th season continues with April 23 concert at Star of the Sea

The Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra continues its 70th season with a concert featuring the music of Mozart and Rimsky-Korsakov at 7 p.m. Sunday, April 23, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods.

The orchestra, led by conductor and Music Director Joe Striplin, will open the program with John William's lively "Superman March." The concert then continues with W.A. Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 3 in G major, featuring Detroit Symphony Orchestra violinist Jiamin Wang as soloist. One of the most talented violinists to emerge in recent years from China, Jiamin began violin lessons with her mother at age 6, and graduated with excellence from the Shanghai Conservatory of Music in 2009. As a soloist, she has performed with the Singapore Festival



Detroit Symphony Orchestra violinist Jiamin Wang

Orchestra, Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra and Hangzhou Philharmonic Orchestra. She also is active in chamber and contemporary music.

Following an intermission, the orchestra will conclude its concert with "Scheherazade," the popular symphonic suite composed in 1888 by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov and based on "One Thousand and One Nights," a collection of ancient and medieval middle eastern folk tales.

The audience is invited to attend a free pre-concert lecture at 6:15 p.m., during which WRCJ radio host Davis Gloff will intro-

duce and discuss the concert music. Tickets are available at the door or at the orchestra's website, gpsympphony.com. Tickets are \$20, \$15 for seniors, \$5 for college students and free to students K-12.

The Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra will conclude its 70th season with its annual summer concert at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 2, on the lakeside terrace of The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. See the orchestra's website, gpsympphony.org, for more information and tickets.

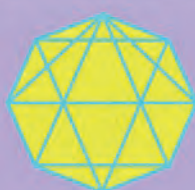
The Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to providing local professional and accomplished amateur musicians the opportunity to perform the classical symphonic repertory for the community at large.



Joe Striplin



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## AREA ACTIVITIES

### 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.

◆ Detroit Opera: Resident Artist Program, 7 p.m. Thursday, April 20. Resident artists sopranos Melanie Spector and Elizabeth Polese, mezzo-soprano Gabrielle Barkidjija, tenor Leo Williams and baritone Ben Reisinger will offer a spring-themed concert filled with melodies from various composers. Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$35 VIP and \$15 for students.

◆ Belly Dance for EveryBODY, 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays, April 25 to May 30. Cost is \$65.

### Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Friday, April 21, The Neighborhood Club, 17150 Waterloo, City of Grosse Pointe.

◆ 7:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Friday, April 21, Ascension St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, April 27, Lakeview High School, 21100 11 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 3, Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, May 5, Harper Woods High School, 20225 Beaconsfield, Harper Woods.

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

### Concert

Laura Rain & The Caesars will perform live music at Cornerstone Village Bar & Grille, 17315 Mack, Detroit, 8 to 11 p.m. Saturdays, April 22 and 29. Admission is \$15 and reservations are recommended. Call (313) 821-4998 after 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday or visit [cornerstonevillagebarandgrille.com](http://cornerstonevillagebarandgrille.com) to reserve a table.

### 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: "The

Earth Gives More," by Sue Fliess, 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays, through April 25.

◆ 10 Out of 10 Tour, 6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, through July 29. Explore the Ford family's home while learning about 10 artifacts. Admission fees vary.

◆ Explorers: Earth Day, 11 a.m. Saturday, April 22. Children ages 6 to 9 are invited to explore the estate and see what animals make Ford House home. A craft is included. Cost is \$5 per child.

◆ Michigan Birding: Walks and Talks, 7 a.m. to noon Sunday, April 23. Cost is \$8 for members, \$10 for nonmembers; adults only.

◆ Coffee with Collections, 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. Thursday, April 27. Members are invited to enjoy coffee with the Collections staff, who preserve and maintain the historical elements of Ford House. Admission is \$20.

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

### Library

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

◆ Youth Coding, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, April 24, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Capturing the Moment Photography Workshop, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday, April 24, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ 5th & 6th Grade Book Group, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 25, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Appy Hour, 3 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Poetry Art, 3 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ History and Legacy of Grosse Pointe Theatre — Celebrating 75 years, 7 to 8:15 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Teen Board Game Club, 3:30 to 5 p.m. Thursday, April 27, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Friends' Purse Sale and \$5 Bag Sale, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 29, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Read Dog, 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 29, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Books on the Lake, noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 29, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

### 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:

◆ Purposeful Retirement Workshop, 1 to 2:45 p.m. Tuesday, April 25, with instructors Dr. Bob Inskeep and Dick Rappleye.

◆ Out-to-Lunch Bunch, noon to 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 25. The group will dine at Gilbert's Lodge. Cost for the bus ride is \$5 for members, \$7 for nonmembers. Those who want to drive separately should meet at Gilbert's at 12:30 p.m.

◆ New to Medicare, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 26. Register by emailing [asaigh@helmlife.org](mailto:asaigh@helmlife.org) or calling (313) 649-2110.

◆ The movie "The Monuments Men" will be shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, April 28. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.

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

### The Family Center

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods hosts Preschool Playtime from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, through May 17. Structured playtime with parachute games, songs and stories is led by Danielle Mitchelson. The group is free, but registration is appreciated.

### Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 26. John and Gail Urso, founders of Kevin's Song, speak. Email [grossepointerotary@gmail.com](mailto:grossepointerotary@gmail.com).

### Assumption

Assumption Cultural Center, 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores, presents a recital featuring violinist Cyprus Mark and pianist Marina Stojanovska, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 26. Mark is director of orchestral studies at Wayne State University and Stojanovska is with Oakland University's School of Music. The concert will be followed by a meet-and-greet with refreshments. Tickets are \$20. Call (586) 779-6111 or visit [assumption-culturalcenter.org](http://assumption-culturalcenter.org).

# Mestdagh to give keynote address at Mayors' Prayer Breakfast

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

Author. Philanthropist. Podcaster. Motivational speaker. Adventurer.

There are multiple facets to JT Mestdagh, the Grosse Pointe Farms resident who will give the keynote address at the 37th annual Mayors' Prayer Breakfast. All of them describe a man whose tremendous faith has lifted him above childhood challenges and led him on a successful, multifaceted journey.

Mestdagh will share his message of faith at the breakfast, held in observance of the National Day of Prayer, from 7:30 to 9 a.m. Thursday, May 4, at the Country Club of Detroit, 220 Country Club

Dr., Grosse Pointe Farms. "I feel honored to be a part of this great event," he said. "It's very important to me being able to speak at the prayer breakfast because of my faith. Being in this community, it's such a loving community with amazing people. It's exciting to come into spring with this event."

Mestdagh was born with VATER/VACTERL syndrome, a life-threatening disorder that affects many of the body's systems. He also was diagnosed with extreme dyslexia and short-term memory loss. He was told he would never learn to read or write.

Refusing to be limited by challenges, Mestdagh, a graduate of High Point

University, is the author of "Untether: Inspiration for Living Free and Strong No Matter What the Challenge," "No Bad Days: How to Find Joy in Any Circumstance" and "How the Sailfish Got its Name." His inspirational stories encourage people to move past their limitations and live full, passionate lives, which is precisely the way Mestdagh lives; he is an experienced mountaineer, extreme skier and all-around adventure seeker.

He also established the JT Mestdagh Foundation to bring encouragement, joy and laughter to people with physical and learning disabilities and their families.

He said he's excited to

speak at the breakfast, to share his faith and a few scriptures with others.

"I'll be touching a lot on prayer and what it means to me, how it's impacted me and how important it is for all of us," he said.

The Mayors' Prayer Breakfast is patterned after the National Prayer Breakfast held annually in Washington, D.C., for the purpose of praying for city, state and national leaders. The local breakfast brings together the mayors of the five Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods, as well as dignitaries and residents, for a meal, prayer and a message.

"The Mayors' Prayer Breakfast is always held on the National Day of Prayer," said Jennifer



COURTESY PHOTO

**Author and motivational speaker JT Mestdagh will give the keynote address during the 37th annual Mayors' Prayer Breakfast May 4.**

Boettcher, president of the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce, which hosts the event. "It is a morning of inspiration, reflection and collaboration with business and community leaders."

Tickets to the event are \$50 and may be purchased at the chamber, 106 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms; or by calling (313) 881-4722 or visiting [grossepointechamber.com](http://grossepointechamber.com).



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Sweet signs of summer

Two of the first lemonade stands of the season popped up during last week's warm weather tease. Above, on Grosse Pointe Boulevard in Grosse Pointe Farms, Caroline Faust and Mea Marshall, fourth graders at St. Paul School, decided to host a lemonade stand while on spring break Friday, April 14. This is the third year they've had a stand, which also featured homemade brownies and a dish of candy. The girls realized right away \$2 was a bit steep for lemonade, so lowered the price to \$1 and ended up making \$70. They decided to split their profit, using it to buy one frozen cherry coke from Jerry's Party Store and putting the rest in savings.



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

If it's true that good lemonade needs sweetness to balance its sour flavor, three Farms girls presented a winning recipe Saturday, April 15, at their all-smiles stand on Grosse Pointe Boulevard at Fair Acres. Each cup cost 50 cents. Many customers paid with a \$1 bill and let them keep the change. "Already, we have \$80," said Stella Koop, 11, after two hours of operation. "And a quarter," added Victoria Lawler, 10. "Four boys on bicycles bought eight cups," said Scarlett Ford, 11. Farms Public Safety Sgt. Matthew Hurner enjoyed a refreshing cup during the warm spell with temperatures over 70 degrees. From left are Hurner, Lawler, Ford and Koop.

## Sprout House hosts private shopping event

WDET personality and Sprout House co-owner Ann Delisi teams up with Chef James Rigato of Mabel Gray restaurant to offer a private shopping experience at Sprout House Natural Foods Market, 15233 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park.

Rigato is bringing his specialty vegan dishes to the Sprout House kitchen for a private event from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 30. His creations will be available for pur-

chase, along with Sprout House favorites. Guests are invited to shop the store's organic and natural foods selection, as well as meet Delisi and Rigato.

Each \$10 ticket includes a welcome mock-tail and sample of Sprout House's signature spicy noodles. Proceeds benefit WDET. For tickets, visit [bit.ly/3MPaFMT](http://bit.ly/3MPaFMT).

For more about Sprout House, visit [sprouthousenaturalmarket.com](http://sprouthousenaturalmarket.com).

# Park artists invited to join new guild

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

An idea to more extensively celebrate the arts in Grosse Pointe Park was sparked in longtime resident Dick Ruzzin, who decided to put his vision and mission on paper in late 2021.

Following informal discussions with members of the Grosse Pointe Park Foundation, as well as support from Park Mayor Michele Hodges, Ruzzin is ready to move forward with his plan to form the Awards for the Arts Guild.

"There are four arts — visual, literary, performing and design," he said. "Those four encompass everything that's done by artists. I'm looking for four people who are professionals in each of the arts, so 16 people total."

The 16-member team is just the beginning of the guild, said Ruzzin, who fleshed out details of the project with Jaime Rae Turnbull and Melissa Levasseur — a team assembled by Grosse Pointe Park Foundation President Shery Cotton, mother of Grosse Pointe News owner Sean Cotton.

The primary mission of the guild is to identify artists of all ages from the Park who are eligible for awards.

Its responsibilities will include creating an internal culture and standard of artistic excellence, as well as the design and creation of the awards, and continually seeking outstanding Park residents or their descendants to receive the awards.

"They're experts, so any one of the 16 would be able to see someone who is in a category of the arts and bring that person to the team," said Ruzzin, who retired from a more than 40-year career designing cars for General Motors. "They would decide who would be deserving of an award."

Work deemed worthy by a member of the 16 will be brought before the team to evaluate. The person bringing forth the nominee will explain to the rest of the group why they think an award is warranted.

"They'll investigate, present to the larger group of 16," Ruzzin said, "and the larger group will

decide if they get an award."

Two forms of awards will be presented to each winner: a visual award and a documentary award. The guild will decide what those awards look like; however, winners will be publicly recognized.

Though the team of 16 would be tasked with selecting awardees, the guild, Ruzzin said, should be comprised of many others.

"It could have 16 people on the team, but others as well, so they can change from time to time," he explained, "so they're not always on the team who decides the awards."

Apart from selecting people or places to recognize, Ruzzin hopes the guild will serve other purposes in the art community.

"This would be done by artists for artists by the art community," he said. "The guild is for fellowship, networking for business and socializing. As an artist myself, the greatest time I have with people is when I'm with other artists."

Ruzzin said he'll accept all artists from the Park who want to join the guild and select from them the most experienced to be a part of the 16.

"Library workers, teachers, everybody associated with the arts in the Park, and their children," Ruzzin said of potential guild candidates. "If somebody has done something commercially — a beautiful building — it could be eligible, as

long as they're an artist, someone who likes to make art or a professional. It's a pretty broad scope and that's intentional. We're looking for artists from all walks of life, wherever art goes, wherever art happens. How critical we are in terms of giving awards should be defined by the guild."

Though the Park foundation supports the concept, it is not covered by foundation bylaws. Therefore, apart from his role establishing the guild, Ruzzin hopes to find a nonprofit to support it.

"We have to find a charity who aligns with this," he said. "It's not going to require a lot of money. The reward is the recognition."

The guild was extended a presence in the forthcoming Schaap Center, which is tentatively scheduled for completion in 2024. What that presence will look like remains to be seen.

Depending on how quickly the guild is formed, Ruzzin said the first awards could be presented as early as fall.

"It's most fun when you're working in a group," he noted. "You're contributing, they're contributing. It adds value on every side. I think people are going to really enjoy the association with other artists."

Enjoy it so much, Ruzzin hopes, the guild concept could spread to the other Pointes.

"Awards are given for a lot of things — police,

DPW, people who do exceptional work," he said. "This could be done that way also. We'll start in the Park and offer everything we've learned how to do, how to make it successful, to the other Pointes. If you give people a good, solid idea they like, with solid answers, and make it as easy as possible, you're going to get a good response."

"There are different facets to this," he added. "It has opportunities to expand throughout the Pointes. The bottom line is I think it could make the Pointes much more open to the arts, to the appreciation of the arts and the people who do it. I want to make sure they have every opportunity to participate and contribute to make this happen."

Ruzzin will be there to help the guild get started, "but I want the people who are involved to get satisfaction out of doing it."

"When we have all the people in place, they're going to make changes and improvements," he added. "They'll be inspired to make it better. For the artists, the association, the achievements, the accomplishments will be inspiring for them, seeing people they admire receive recognition."

Those interested in joining the guild or learning more about it should call Ruzzin at (313) 300-9558 or email [dickruzzin@design@aol.com](mailto:dickruzzin@design@aol.com)

The program is dedicated to the memory of Ruzzin's late wife, Merry Lynn Ruzzin.

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## 4B | OBITUARIES

# 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.

## Arlene Connell

Arlene Ann Connell, 88, of Grosse Pointe Farms, passed away peacefully Saturday, April 8, 2023. During her final days she was surrounded by her children and grandchildren, her absolute pride and joy.

Born March 8, 1935, in Detroit, to Wanda and Leo Andrews, she grew up on the east side of Detroit. Arlene attended St. Juliana grade school, St. Anthony High School and earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Detroit.

Arlene married the love of her life, Harold F. Connell, on July 2, 1960. Together they raised five active and involved children. Arlene didn't miss a beat with any one of them, nor the 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren who joined the Connell clan in the last 32 years.

Arlene watched and enjoyed countless sporting and school events. She could always be counted on to lend a hand. Without hesitation, and until her final day, Arlene always asked, "What can I do for you?" and "How can I help?"

Faith, family and friends were her top three loves. She spent 60 years proudly and faithfully devoted to St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church and School. Arlene helped wherever there was a need. She was a sacristan, watered the altar flowers, made sandwiches for the homeless and helped count Sunday collections.

While her children attended school at St. Paul, she believed they were receiving "more than just a good education," and thus she and Harold often could be found volunteering "everywhere and anywhere" they were needed.

Arlene also was an active volunteer with the Bon Secours Assistance League and Grosse Pointe South Mother's Club. She also loved to read and enjoyed playing golf. Arlene was truly happiest serving others, attending Mass and supporting her children and grandchildren. Her five children marvel and will always be astounded at how one mom could still dance circles around five grown children.

Arlene was predeceased in 2000 by her adoring and amazing, Harold. She was the loving mother of Kathleen Satterlund, Michael F. Connell (Kathryn), Maureen Cavera (Steve), Anne Doherty (Jim) and Daniel Connell (Jill); proud grandmother of Hayley, Hannah, Eric, Aidan, Ann, Stevie, Patrick, Samantha, Ellie, Jimmy, Nick, Morgan and Chase; great-grandmother of Savannah and Jackson; and dear sister of Maxine Schnitzer (Mike).

A beautiful Mass was held Saturday, April 15, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Paul on the Lake, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, or a charity of the donor's choice.

Share memories with

the family in the online guestbook at [wujekcalcaterra.com](http://wujekcalcaterra.com).

## Betty Naxhije Ismail

Betty Naxhije Ismail, 90, of Harper Woods, died peacefully Sunday, April 16, 2023, while hospitalized at Corewell Health Grosse Pointe Hospital.

Betty was born in 1932, to Azmi and Naxhije Browsh, and grew up in Philadelphia with her two brothers and five sisters. As a young teenager, Betty was admitted to and graduated from the prestigious Philadelphia High School for Girls. Betty followed the high school's motto, "Vincit qui se vincit" (He conquers who conquers himself), her entire life.

In 1949, Islamic scholar Imam Vehbi Ismail, now deceased, saw her across the room at a party given to welcome him to the United States as the leader of the Albanian Muslim community, and fell in love at first sight. Imam told his host, "That is the girl I want to marry."

Imam Vehbi and Betty married in 1950, settling in Detroit, at which time the newlyweds worked tirelessly as a team to found the first Albanian Muslim mosque in the United States. Betty kept an open house, always prepared to serve as hostess for the Islamic scholars who came to Detroit to visit and consult with Imam Vehbi. Throughout their marriage, he referred to her as his partner and best friend, and attributed his success to her during their entire marriage.

In 1960, the couple and their children — Fatima, Ahmed and Ali — moved to Harper Woods so the children could attend the Grosse Pointe Public Schools. The Albanian Islamic Center was then constructed on Harper Avenue, where it remains as an active religious center today.

With her three children in school all day and Imam Vehbi traveling the United States, Betty's love of learning and helping others led her to join the staff of Women's Hospital's Radiology Department in 1964. She rapidly rose from receptionist to the non-medical manager, a position she cherished for more than 30 years.

After her retirement, her joy of joys were her three grandsons, Jonathan Ismail, 34; Scott Ismail, 31; and Dr. Alex Ismail, 28. She spent her time taking them to the Detroit Zoo and Detroit Institute of Arts, always instilling in them the power of education and importance of academics in shaping their futures.

Betty will always be remembered for her selfless compassion for others, her incredible memory and her dedication to her family. She is survived by brother, Gani, and sisters, Perri and Xhenet, of Philadelphia; sister, Mini Domni of Massapequa, N.Y.; brother-in-law, Selami Barolli of Long Island, N.Y.; son, Ahmed Ismail (Mary Ann) of Grosse Pointe Woods; daughter, Fatima of Harper Woods;

and three grandsons, Jonathan Ismail of Stephens Point, Wis., Scott Ismail of Seattle, Wash., and Dr. Alex Ismail of Southfield.

The family will hold visitation from 1 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 25, at A. H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Burial services will be held at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 26, at Knollwood Cemetery, 1299 Ridge Road North, Canton.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Books for Albania's Children Fund, in care of 20426 Country Club Drive, Harper Woods, MI 48225.

## Joyce Ann MacNeil

Joyce Ann MacNeil, 84, passed away peacefully Wednesday, March 15, 2023.

Joyce was born Jan. 6, 1939, and raised in Dearborn. She was the middle daughter of Leone and Helen Weaver. She attended Dearborn High School and earned an associate degree while attending Graceland University in Lomoni, Iowa, and Eastern Michigan University. Joyce earned Bachelor of Science and master's degrees in education from Eastern Michigan University.

Following graduation from Eastern, Joyce taught physical education in the Dearborn City School District. On Jan. 6, 1967, she married Gordon MacNeil. They were happily married for 51 years until Gordon passed away in September 2018. After raising her family, Mrs. MacNeil returned to teaching as a substitute teacher in the Grosse Pointe Public School System until her retirement.

Joyce was known as a kindhearted, joyful person and loved cooking and baking for her family and friends. She not only supported her entire family with warmth and love, but extended that light to everyone who had the opportunity to meet her. Joyce loved to play golf, traveled extensively throughout the United States and enjoyed visiting faraway locations abroad.

Joyce MacNeil was an active leader and member of the priesthood for the Community of Christ Church in Dearborn and Detroit. Later, when she and Gordon retired, they moved to St. Clair where she also was an active member of the Community of Christ Church.

Joyce is survived by her siblings, Marylou Noble (Johnny) and William Weaver (Phyllis); children, Ian MacNeil (Laura), Lesley Ryan (Marc) and Ross MacNeil (Mandy); and grandchildren, Rebecca, Lachlan and Cullen MacNeil, and Kincaid, Cormac and Killian Ryan.

A Celebration of Life took place Saturday, April 15, at The Grosse Pointe Club.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Lewy Body Dementia Resource Center, [lewybodyresourcecenter.org/](http://lewybodyresourcecenter.org/)



Arlene Connell



Shirley Bolling Williams

[bodyresourcecenter.org/donate](http://bodyresourcecenter.org/donate), or Community of Christ Church, [cofchrist.org/](http://cofchrist.org/).

## Shirley Frances Bolling Williams

Shirley Bolling Williams, 87, passed peacefully Wednesday, April 12, 2023, in Grosse Pointe, surrounded by her children, Stacie and Shawn.

Born Aug. 12, 1935, in Prince George County, Va., "Shirl" was the eldest daughter of Thelma (nee Mitchell) and Robert Asa Bolling.

Shirl, as family and friends knew her north of the Mason-Dixon line, selected the name of her younger sister, Shelby Bolling, based on her affection for 1930s actor and singer, Shelby Jean Davis. She spoke fondly of her small, cherished family of four, as well as numerous aunts, uncles and cousins of her large extended family in Virginia.

Shirl, "Mom," "Grammy," was a generous, precocious, resilient, faithful and loving friend to many. She was a sophisticated, elegant lady who did everything with her own unique sense of style. Shirl brought much joy to many with her countless acts of kindness, compassion and thoughtfulness. She was exceptionally witty and always wanted to assist anyone, no matter their trek in life. Shirl was an eternal optimist who believed the best was yet to come, no matter how bleak the current situation. Her beautiful smile and generous spirit brought joy to those who knew and loved her.

Shirl was completely dedicated to her family and friends. She demanded the best of herself and always brought out the best in others. To those who knew her well, she was an avid sports fan. She was both a player and fan of tennis and golf, fan of college football — most especially Michigan and Notre Dame — and the Olympics. Her love for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and attending live performances were well-known passions.

Shirl worked outside the home her entire adult life, first out of necessity to support her family following the premature death of her father and later to satisfy her ambitious nature for achievement. She worked for a variety of companies, including assistant to the purchasing agent for Continental Can Co.; a



Betty Naxhije Ismail



Sarah Riethmiller Frakes

paper products producer in Hopewell, Va.; executive secretary to the sales manager for General Motors; executive secretary to the CEO for Hickey Construction Co., in South Bend, Ind.; executive secretary to the CEO for Vlastic Pickle Co.; and her final position, from which she retired in 2008, following 30-plus years of service, as corporate secretary and office manager for Gabriel, Roeder, Smith and Company-GRS, a Detroit-based actuarial firm.

Shirl kept active in several organizations, including the Executive Women International-EWI, Fine Arts Society of Detroit, The Theatre Arts Club, Grosse Pointe Historical Society, Indian Village Tennis Club and Beaumont Hospital and Grosse Pointe Assistance League, where she held positions ranging from president, board member and show producer, to show head of costumes.

Shirl is survived by her children and family: Stacie, Shawn, Shelby (Marvin), Robert Christopher "Chris" (Sharon), Michael (Suzie), Christopher James "CJ" (Kristina), Sarah Elizabeth (Will), Mary Catherine, Vincent and Arthur John "AJ." She also was a loving grandmother to four miniature schnauzer fur babies, Tristan, Travis, Winston and 7-year-old Mathison "Mattie."

## Sarah Jane Riethmiller Frakes

Sarah Jane Riethmiller Frakes, 90, passed away Monday, April 10, 2023, in Detroit.

Sarah was born Oct. 16, 1932, in Detroit. She was a graduate of Michigan State University and earned a master's degree in child psychology from the Merrill Palmer Institute of Detroit. She was an active member of Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church where she and her mother, Vera Riethmiller, made significant contributions to the Memorial Garden.

Sarah was an accomplished writer and calligrapher, a talented artist, a Sanibel shell collector and avid reader. She enjoyed the daily New York Times crossword and jigsaw puzzles. She will be remembered by those who knew her for her strong, loving relationships and many talents, including her sense of humor, beautiful singing voice, creative correspondence and art, assistance to others and her kind and



Joyce Ann MacNeil



Lois Marion Catlin

loving friendship to many.

Sarah was the beloved widow of John C. Frakes Jr. She was a loving mother to her daughters, Sally Cusenza (Paul), Amy Frakes Shimmel and Sharon Klar (Matthew); and the dearest grandmother of Amy, Sarah, Thomas, Allison, Hallie, Logan and Kathryn. She also is survived by many loving nephews and niece.

A celebration of her life will be planned at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church Memorial Garden, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, [gpumc.org/give](http://gpumc.org/give); or Cass Community Social Services, 11245 Rosa Parks, Detroit, MI 48236, [casscommunity.org/donate](http://casscommunity.org/donate).

## Lois Marion Catlin

Lois Marion Catlin, 92, died peacefully in the company of family members Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2023, in Kalamazoo.

Born Lois Tschirhart on Detroit's east side in 1930, she graduated from St. Rose of Lima High School in 1949. Afterward, Lois worked for Detroit Edison, where she was perhaps best known as a left-handed power hitter on the company's softball team.

In 1953, she married George B. Catlin, also a St. Rose graduate. After a brief residency in San Diego, the couple moved back to Detroit, then to Harper Woods and later to Grosse Pointe Woods, where George served as city attorney for 35 years. They retired to Harrison Township.

Lois was outgoing and upbeat, and loved to sing and spend time with family and friends. She had an inquisitive mind, beginning college later in life and taking classes for nine years before graduating from Wayne State University Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in psychology. Once her children were adults, her thirst for learning found an outlet in travel and reading.

Lois is survived by four children, David, Gary, Steven and Elaine Catlin; sister, Diane Short; brother, Richard Tschirhart; grandsons, Greg Bassett and Jacob Parsons; two great-grandsons and many cousins, nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband of 58 years, George; and brothers, Thomas and Allen Tschirhart.

See OBITS, page 5B

## OBITS:

Continued from page 4B

## Lucilo Castillo Alcantara, M.D.

Lucilo Castillo "Lu" Alcantara, M.D., passed away peacefully Monday, April 10, 2023, in the Grosse Pointe home where he lived since 1968.

Lu was born July 4, 1932, in Santa Rita, Batangas, Philippines, the sixth of 10 children of Baldomero Alcantara and Juana Castillo. He graduated from the University of Santo Tomas Medical School in Manila, Philippines, in 1957. He came to the United States that year to begin his general surgery training in Milwaukee, Wis., where he met his future wife, Elsa, who also was a graduate of UST and an internal medicine resident.

Lu served as a senior surgeon on the staffs of North Detroit General Hospital and Alexander Blain Memorial Hospital. Along with the love of his life and practice partner, Lu and Elsa maintained their medical practice at Conant Clinic P.C., where they cared for the health of many Hamtramck families for three decades.

Lu was an avid golfer who earned the name "One-Putt Lu." He was a founding member and past president of the Philippine Medical Association of Michigan and a frequent volunteer for medical missions to the Philippines, known to many for his abiding generosity. "Papalu," his



Lucilo C. Alcantara, M.D.

nickname in later life, loved gardening, giving stock market advice and bragging about his grandchildren. He will be missed by family, friends and colleagues around the world.

Lu is survived by his beloved wife of 61 years, Dr. Elsa Avanceña Alcantara; sibling, Consuelo Caguimbal; children, Dr. Anthony Alcantara (Christine), Dianne Romanelli (Dr. Michael Romanelli) and Oscar Alcantara (Kimberly); and grandchildren, Adam Alcantara, Robert Alcantara, Nathan Alcantara, Annabel Romanelli, Joseph Romanelli, Lynne Romanelli, Teresa Romanelli, Jonathon Alcantara, Lucas Alcantara and Asher Alcantara.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy for the Alcantara family may be shared at bit.ly/3GIKaVz.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in honor of Lu to the University of Santo Tomas Medical School Alumni, Medical Missions Fund, [ustmaa.america.wildapricot.org/donations](http://ustmaa.america.wildapricot.org/donations).

## Life Directions celebrates 50 years of empowering underserved youth, young adults

Gala is May 6; Grosse Pointe's Hathaway family to be honored

Life Directions, whose staff and adult mentors encourage youth and young adults to see life as a gift, is celebrating 50 years of previously unheralded success. The organization will celebrate its annual Spark of Hope Tribute gala at 6 p.m. Saturday, May 6, at One Campus Martius, Detroit.

Built on the foundation of "peers inspiring peers through forgiving," Life Directions founded a prevention program in 1973, as a direct response to violence in Detroit. Life Directions's values-based mission is to inspire, motivate and provide tools for youth and young adults to achieve college or a quality career as viable options.

Intergenerational in its response, it has ignited the spark of hope for more than 170,000 young adults in public schools and surrounding neigh-

borhoods across five major cities since its inception.

"Our vision was born through a series of conversations," said Life Directions co-founder, president and CEO, the Rev. John Phelps, C.Ss.R. "We identified some of the key causes of school dropout and violence with the people who were directly living with the effects of trauma. We listened and engaged with the community. We bring a culture of calm in the midst of chaos with peers inspiring peers to take charge of their lives. It works. Fifty years later, Life Directions not only exists, but is thriving."

The 50th anniversary gala is led by chairman Patrick A. Rugiero of Roman Village Cucina Italiana and honorary chairman Ed Peper of General Motors Fleet. This year's event also honors 2023 Guiding Light Award recipient Mary Kosch of

Dearborn Sausage, and 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award recipients the Hathaway family, longtime Grosse Pointe residents.

Guests will experience an evening of community and empowerment while enjoying dinner, entertainment and live and silent auctions.

Life Directions supports young adults ages 13 to 35 to mature into responsible, productive adults through core values, including self-responsibility, balance in relationships, partnership in diversity and mission-driven attitude. The organization's interconnecting peer-to-peer programs offer a proven track record that benefit men and women throughout their lives, representing a prudent investment in the community from generation to generation. Learn more at [lifedirections.org](http://lifedirections.org).

## Giovan honored with distinction award

Grosse Pointe Farms resident and retired judge, the Hon. William Giovan, recently was presented the John Conti Letterman of Distinction Award from the University of Detroit Mercy Department of Athletics.

The award was presented to Giovan, a former All-American fencer and member of the class of 1958, during halftime of the Detroit Mercy men's basketball game against Purdue Fort Wayne. Members of the Conti family were on hand to present it.

Conti was the captain of the 1949 Detroit football team that won the Missouri Valley

Conference Championship. In tribute to his spirit and charitable enthusiasm, the John Conti Letterman of Distinction Award is presented to former Titan varsity athletes who go above and beyond at work and in the community.

"William Giovan is a great Titan who was an All-American student-athlete and has served his whole life in the field of law and justice for all," said Robert C. Vowels Jr., director of athletics.

Giovan, a retired chief judge of the Wayne County Circuit Court, served as a mediator, arbitrator, special master and visiting judge

in civil disputes. He served on the circuit court from 1976 to 2008, after having served on the Recorder's Court of Detroit and Detroit Common Pleas Court.

Giovan has lectured extensively on matters of evidence and civil procedure to groups such as the National Judicial College, American Academy of Judicial Education, ICLE and Michigan Judicial Institute.

He earned All-American status in 1958, in the Sabre as the Titans finished 10th in the NCAA championships. He graduated from the university with a degree in political science, philosophy and psychology.

## DPS Superintendent to meet with Men's Club April 25

Dr. Nikolai Vitti, superintendent of the Detroit Public Schools Community District, will speak to the Grosse Pointe Men's Club at its meeting Tuesday, April 25.

The meeting builds on the club's conversation with Deputy Mayor Todd Bettison, when members asked about the strides being made in the schools. Vitti will highlight the many changes in the district and discuss challenges and initiatives for the future. All are invited to attend the meeting, which takes place at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Reservations are

\$20 and available by calling Jerry Teagan at (313) 303-5559 or emailing [gpmcattendance@gmail.com](mailto:gpmcattendance@gmail.com).

Vitti was appointed superintendent of DPSCD in May 2017, on a five-year contract. In December 2021, the school board extended his contract an additional three years until June 30, 2025. In strong partnership with the school board, Vitti has rebuilt the school district after two decades of disinvestment under state-controlled emergency management and was a finalist for Urban School District Superintendent of the Year.

Through the develop-

ment and implementation of a strategic plan, along with hundreds of community and family engagement sessions over the years, DPSCD has experienced improvement for the first time in decades in the areas of enrollment; student achievement; student attendance; teacher recruitment, retention and pay; leadership development and stability; student programming, including expansion of the arts; and financial stability. This improvement has led to reduced levels of financial and program oversight and monitoring by the federal and state govern-

ment.

As was the case for urban school districts throughout the country, the COVID-19 pandemic hit Detroit and DPSCD hard. Through the leadership of the superintendent and his team, DPSCD fed more than 2 million families during the height of the pandemic. In collaboration with the business community, more than \$20 million was raised to provide all students with laptops and internet connections to allow students to learn from home. DPSCD was one of only a few large urban school districts to open all of its schools in 2020-21 and

provided teachers and students the opportunity to teach and learn in person or online. With nearly \$1.2 billion in COVID relief funding, the district emerged as a national and state leader in COVID mitigation strategies with universal masking and testing, along with high levels of vaccination rates among its employees. The past school year, DPSCD has created its own virtual school, returned all students to in-person learning, expanded summer school and after-school programming, placed a nurse in each school and provided mental health support in each school. Vitti currently is

completing a community engagement process to finalize a 20-year facility plan which will include a \$700 million investment in school buildings.

Before arriving in Detroit, Vitti led Duval County Public Schools, the 20th largest school district in the nation with approximately 130,000 enrolled students in 200 schools and a fiscal budget of \$1.7 billion. During his four and a half years at DCPS, the district ranked among the first to fourth highest performing urban districts in the nation on the National Assessment for Education

See VITTI, page 6B

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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://facebook.com/stambroseparish)  
☞ Saturday Vigil is streamed online at 8:00 a.m. Sunday on our facebook page

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9:30 a.m. - Bible Study  
10:45 a.m. - Sunday School

**MONDAY**

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

**WEDNESDAY**

10 a.m. - Bible Study

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

# Guild kickoff event previews annual dinner

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

Members of the St. John Guild and their guests gathered Wednesday, April 12, at the Country Club of Detroit for a kickoff party in advance of its annual dinner.

The Guild, celebrating 75 years of philanthropic support for patient programs and services at Ascension St. John Hospital, will host its 61st annual dinner from 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, May 17, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

The dinner, the Guild's premier fundraising event, is chaired by Joe Fikany Jr. and Phil Myers. Since 1948, the Guild has raised more than \$15 million for the hospital.

Guests will be treated to live music, heavy hors d'oeuvres and an open premium bar. It's a more intimate affair than in previous years, but one Fikany has found successful — especially coming back from two pandemic-related cancellations.

"In 2020, it was at Ford Field," Fikany recalled. "I was brought in for entertainment purposes; that's how I got in the Guild. I secured the talent the first week of March and then the world shut down."

"In 2021, Michael Cytacki and I planned the dinner, but we did it in a more intimate setting at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club," he continued. "It was canceled the month



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

The 2023 St. John Guild honorees are, from left, Dr. Raymond Bauer, Physician of the Year; Ray Cracchiolo, Philanthropic Services; Lorna Zalemski, Sister Verence McQuade Distinguished Service Award; and Dan Roma, Lifetime Achievement Award.

before because of the COVID surge."

The pair gave it another go when 2022 rolled around.

"We'd already planned the party," he said. "We just needed to change the dates. And we did it. We pulled it off last year and it was one of the most successful dinners we've had, from a financial standpoint."

"The yacht club does a fantastic job," he added. "It was wonderful last year. I got nothing but positive feedback. With the strolling dinner, people were able to mingle the whole time."

After a successful

comeback, Fikany and his co-chair are planning something similar this year.

"At some point we'll go back to how it was," he added, "but it will always be a hybrid because the world has changed."

One facet of the dinner that hasn't changed is the recognition of honorees. Five people will receive four awards at the dinner.

Physician of the Year honors will go to Raymond T. Bauer, M.D., while the Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Dan Roma, CFO of National Coney Island Inc. The Sr. Verence McQuade

Distinguished Service Award will be presented to Lorna Zalemski, R.N., president of the Fontbonne Auxiliary, and Ray and Jane Cracchiolo will receive the Philanthropic Services Award.

"They're all great honorees," Fikany said. "They've all done great work with the Guild. It's exciting to have this party and to recognize these honorees who are so special to us."

Nominations are made within the Guild and Fikany said repeatedly reading the names of this year's honorees made the decision-making process

simple.

"All five got overwhelming responses," he said.

"When the pandemic happened, our administration person fell ill," he continued. "There was a hole in the administration process. Lorna stepped up at the hospital. ... She stepped in and started helping us run the Guild. She made a lot of things happen the last couple of years."

"Dan, for 20-plus years, has been such a supporter. I adore Dan. We just added his son, Jack, to the board. All the support Dan has put in to the Guild all these years, it's

great to be able to support him."

"Dr. Bauer — just check his track record of all the people he's helped. At the (kickoff party), I was overwhelmed with so many people saying how wonderful he is. He's a sweet guy. I'm glad to honor him."

"And Ray and Jane Cracchiolo, the man's 95 years old and ... so vibrant and cool. Talk about supporting the hospital. The Cracchiolo family is just amazing. The family has been involved with Guild since the '50s. It's great to recognize a family that's been so great to the hospital."

Proceeds from the dinner will be used to purchase an echocardiogram machine for the pediatric department at Ascension St. John Hospital.

"We made a commitment to them," Fikany said. "Six months ago we gave them a big check and said we have more to give for this machine. Pediatrics is important, not just to the kids in the community, but because we're all parents. It's important to the whole community to support pediatrics."

All ticket holders at the dinner will be entered to win a Cartier "Tank Must XL" watch donated by longtime Guild supporters Edmund T. AHEE Jewelers.

Sponsorships and tickets are still available. For more information, contact Lisa Caradonna at [stjohn.guild@ascension.org](mailto:stjohn.guild@ascension.org) or (313) 343-6314.

## Grosse Pointe Golf Classic benefits Spiritual Care Endowment Fund at Corewell

On Monday, June 5, the Grosse Pointe Golf Classic 40-Year Anniversary celebration fundraiser will be held at the Country Club of Detroit. Funds raised will benefit the Spiritual Care Endowment Fund at Corewell Health Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe. The endowment helps to further integrate the medical and spiritual care needs of patients, families and caregivers and enhance patient outcomes.

Golfers will enjoy an afternoon golfing the legendary 1912 Harry S. Colt-designed course, along with a lunch, cocktail reception, strolling dinner and awards ceremony.



During the last 40 years, the Grosse Pointe Golf Classic has raised more than \$4 million to support the patients and programs of the Grosse Pointe hospital, named among the best hospitals in the nation by U.S. News and World Report.

Susan and George Haggarty of Grosse Pointe Farms are the 2023 golf classic co-chairs.

"We are honored to chair this special 40th anniversary celebration," Susan Haggarty said. "The outing is a great opportunity to

### The details

What: Grosse Pointe Golf Classic 40-Year Anniversary  
When: Monday, June 5 — 11 a.m. registration and lunch, 1 p.m. golf begins  
Where: Country Club of Detroit, 220 Country Club Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms

support our community's hospital and to have a hand in its growth. This year, our fundraising efforts will focus on supporting the spiritual needs, in addition to the medical needs, of our neighboring residents."

Registration and sponsorship opportunities are available at [Beaumont.org/giving/events](http://Beaumont.org/giving/events).



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, Doug Blatt of Grosse Pointe Farms, Mary Wilson of Grosse Pointe Shores, Darrene Baer of Grosse Pointe Shores and Brett Baer of Grosse Pointe Shores at the 2022 Beaumont Grosse Pointe Classic on Sept. 12, 2022, at the Country Club of Detroit.

### 2023 Grosse Pointe Golf Classic 40-Year Anniversary Committee

Co-Chairs: Susan & George Haggarty

Committee members: Scott Adlhoch, Fr. Rich Bartoszek, Anne and Chris Blake, Libby Candler and Dan Hughes, Nancy and John Donnelly, Hadley Mack French, Donna Hoban, M.D., Rob Kilpatrick, Julie and Matt Kornmeier, Tim Lyons, M.D., Mary Deborah Naz, Megan and Mike Prieur, Jodie Rappe, M.D., Tim Rowlett, Marcia and Edward Russell, Betty and G. John Stevens, Lauren and Chris VanTol, and Kendall Wrigley and Paul Bois.

### VITTI:

Continued from page 5B

Progress. In addition, the district's graduation rates increased from 67 percent in 2012, to 78.8 percent in 2016, surpassing all Florida urban districts in African-American graduation rates. Under Vitti's tenure, DCPS was recognized for its expansion of the arts, foreign languages, innovative

school programming and mental health and progressive discipline strategies. Vitti also successfully secured more than \$40 million in local philanthropy to transform the district's historically lowest-performing schools with a focus on human capital and technology infusion. Vitti previously was chief academic officer of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, assistant superintendent for the

Miami-Dade district and deputy chancellor at the Florida Department of Education. He also served children as a principal, dean of students and teacher. He received a bachelor's degree in history and a master's degree in education from Wake Forest University. He also has a master's degree and a doctorate in education from the Harvard University Graduate School of Education.

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## Next Chapter Books a finalist in Comerica Hatch Detroit contest

### Voting runs April 24-26

By Jody McVeigh  
 Editor

The old Alger Theatre on East Warren was the perfect place for a pop-up bookstore for Sarah and Jay Williams. They planned to keep Next Chapter Books — featuring nearly 2,000 new and contemporary used titles — open through the 2022 holiday season, but due to the launch's success, the Williamses extended their stay.

"The support has been tremendous," Sarah Williams said. "People were really interested in having a bookstore in the community, so we asked if we could stay until the end of January. ... Then we asked The Alger for another two months. They said absolutely."

The response from the community has been so significant, Next Chapter Books now finds itself one of four finalists in the Comerica Hatch Detroit Contest by TechTown. The shop was among 150 applicants who were whittled down to 25, then 10 and now four, competing for \$100,000 in startup funds.

"Jay and I are over-

whelmed by the support, both from our own community and this neighborhood," Williams said. "People turned out to vote multiple times a day. It's humbling to have that kind of support, often with people we haven't yet met. It's really humbling to see how this vision is being embraced by so many. People are willing to be ambassadors for what we're doing and want to be a part of it. We're thankful for the way God has been providing and can't wait to see what he's going to do next."

#### To a vote

Public voting for Comerica Hatch Detroit fits a narrow window. Votes may be cast online once every 24 hours at hatchdetroit.com/vote from noon Monday, April 24, through the completion of a pitch competition Wednesday, April 26.

"There's a Hatch Off event April 26," Williams said. "Each of the top four give a pitch to a judging panel and answer any questions. People can get tickets to that event, so there's an audience. The winner will be chosen by

the judges through a combination of votes and what they hear from us that night."

The other finalists are Bouncing Around the Motor City, a one-stop shop for balloons, decor, event planning and party rentals; Konjo Me, an Ethiopian cuisine pop-up; and Sepia Coffee Project LLC, a minority-owned roaster sourcing specialty coffee from farmers in Africa, the Americas and the Indian-Pacific region.

"We really got to know the top 10 businesses," Williams said. "Now we're in the top four and we're amazed at what people are doing and pursuing. We're honored to be in this group. It's been great making friendships and connecting. We're looking for ways to support each other and collaborate in the future. Detroit has wonderful entrepreneurs. It's great to be among them."

#### A new home

Next Chapter Books will move out of The Alger at the end of April, allowing two final weekends of service for customers.

"Our last day at The Alger, we're looking for ways to thank our customers and celebrate throughout the day,"

Williams said.

Those who've grown fond of shopping at the pop-up need not worry. Working with the East Warren Development Corp., Next Chapter Books has found a permanent location a block away in East English Village. The Hatch award and other grants, if received, would go a long way in helping transform the space into a bookstore.

"It would be incredible — a game changer," Williams said of winning the Hatch award. "We set up the pop-up space very bare bones. We begged, borrowed and stole bookcases to make it happen. It's wonderful and cozy. It's right for a pop-up, but it will take a lot to scale that up."

"... Besides the buildout that needs to happen to make it right for a bookstore, we'd also like to offer other items, like Detroit gifts, products from local artists and vendors, baked goods."

Plans also include space for programming, including its already-established monthly book club, but also author talks, poetry readings, children's story time sessions and other events.

Additional goals include updating the new book inventory, bringing the new-used ratio closer to 50/50. It's one of several community requests the Williamses intend to meet.

"They love the new and used format," Williams said. "They also want coffee and a place to meet up,



COURTESY PHOTO

Next Chapter Books is located at 16451 E. Warren.

browse books, gather with others, work remotely. We're working on how we can offer a few things in one space and partner with at least one other small business in the space.

"... We hope to open by mid-summer," she added. "It could be earlier, depending on the timeline and the grants we've applied for. In the meantime, we're looking for ways to pop up and stay connected to the community."

Though open at The Alger this weekend, Next Chapter Books also will pop up from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 22, at The Red Hook Greenway, 2761 E. Jefferson, Detroit, for its Catalan Wine Week celebration, hosted by VIN\*VI & Co., and including Detroit Flower Co. The bookshop will offer new release titles, cookbooks for the season, poetry, children's picture books, Earth Day reads and more. The event also includes free wine samples and live music by Sean Blackman.

"In June, we'll be at the

East Warren Development Corp. Farmers' Market on Thursdays from 5 to 8 p.m. And we might be part of Food Truck Fridays in May as well."

Next Chapter Books will continue to operate at 16451 E. Warren through the end of the month. Hours are noon to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday. For more information, visit nextchapterbkstore.com.

"In addition to the support we've received from East Warren neighborhoods, Grosse Pointe residents have also championed our bookstore since day one," Williams said. "We love to see people coming into the neighborhood to find their next read, to visit with us. Several Grosse Pointers have joined our monthly book club and we've been touched by those who have told us recently how they've been voting for us every day. We're excited to create a permanent literary space that will continue to bring these communities together."



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

## Detroit Zoo reintroduces polar bear twins

The Detroit Zoo recently reported that its polar bear twins, Astra and Laerke, have successfully been reintroduced.

Born Nov. 17, 2020, the cubs were separated a few days after their birth because Laerke had a medical emergency that required around-the-clock care. By the time she recovered, their mother, Suka, did not recognize Laerke as her own. The cubs grew up separately, Astra with Suka and Laerke with grizzly bear playmate Jebbie, who offered her much-needed socialization.

Now at more than 2 years old, Astra and Laerke are back together again and seem to be making up for lost playtime. Their parents, Suka and Nuka, also are living together in a sepa-



COURTESY PHOTO

Polar bear twins Astra and Laerke.

rate side of the habitat. Visitors can watch the family swim above their heads in the Arctic Ring of Life's 70-foot-long Frederick and Barbara Erb Polar Passage. The habitat also includes a grassy tundra, freshwater pool, "pack ice" area

and 190,000-gallon salt-water pool. It's one of North America's largest polar bear habitats, encompassing more than four acres of outdoor and indoor habitats.

For more information, visit detroitzoo.org.

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# Grosse Pointe Gabby

The Pulse Of The Pointes

## Father's disapproval makes daughter torn

**Dear Gabby:** My boyfriend is a great guy. He is so attentive, funny and caring. The one problematic issue is with my father. He says my boyfriend is not motivated to succeed and he's really pressuring me to break up with him.

His reasoning is that he won't be able to support me (and a family in the future) the way I'm used to living. It is true that he isn't very interested in working. He is more into supporting me while I work, which seems fine for now, but I can see how it might become an issue in the future.

How can I bring this up to my boyfriend without upsetting him? And if I don't, how will I ever deal with my dad's disapproval?

— Struggling in the Shores

**Dear Struggling,**

As I see it you have multiple struggles here. Let me start with what I see as most pressing, which are your comments about dealing with your dad's disapproval or otherwise feeling the need to mitigate his expectations into your decisions about life and relationships.

As much as you may depend on and appreciate your father's opinion, there may be issues here with boundaries and codependency to explore.

I would ask you to consider your feelings of discomfort with your father's possible disapproval — what feelings come up for you when you imagine his disappointment, and do you feel compelled to avoid that?

Your father's concern is no doubt rooted in love for you, but it's important that he sees you as an adult capable of making life choices, even if that means learning from mistakes, or choosing a different path than he might.

Most importantly, you need to make decisions according to your needs and learn to trust your inner voice.

I suggest you invite your dad to have a conversation in which you compassionately but honestly assert what your thoughts are and that in the future, you will ask for his opinion when you'd like it but to please refrain from imposing his views uninvited.

The second part of this question is about your relationship with your boyfriend, as if questioning your own thoughts

about it.

What I hear from you is that you seem happy and satisfied in your relationship at this point, and the arrangement in which he supports you emotionally while you are the primary earner.

This is less conventional but by no means a "bad" arrangement if the needs of both parties in the relationship are met. It may change in the future, and if you have a healthy connection with your partner and the ability to communicate and problem solve together you'll figure it out then.

— Lynn Walsh

Lynn Walsh is an LLP Clinical Psychologist who has been in practice for over 15 years and sees patients at her office in Grosse Pointe at 355 Fisher Rd and



through telehealth. She specializes in Emotionally Focused Therapy for couples, adolescents and teens, adult psychotherapy and LGBTQ issues.

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

## 'Wonderful' relationship has become a nightmare

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been in a relationship for five years. It started out wonderful, but now I'm having second thoughts. He keeps putting my kids down and telling me I'm a bad mother. It's so bad he has even put a knife to my throat. And, yes, he hits me.



I am not an angel, but I always stand up for him and have his back. However, I don't see him having mine.

There's so much more I could say, but I am scared if he knew I was writing to you it would end up bad for me.

I need help, but I don't know what to do. He has

isolated me from my family and friends. Please help me. — LOST AND AFRAID IN THE EAST

**DEAR LOST:** The man you are involved with is a dangerous abuser.

What you must do next, for the sake of yourself

(1) **PUSHES FOR QUICK INVOLVEMENT:** Comes on strong, claiming, "I've never felt loved like this by anyone." An abuser pressures the new partner for an exclusive commitment almost immediately.

(2) **JEALOUS:** Excessively possessive; calls constantly or visits unexpectedly; prevents you from going to work because "you might meet someone"; checks the mileage on your car.

(3) **CONTROLLING:** If you are late, interrogates you intensively about whom you talked to and where you were; keeps all the money; insists you ask permission to go anywhere or do anything.

(4) **UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS:** Expects you to be the perfect mate and meet his or her every need.

(5) **ISOLATION:** Tries to isolate you from family and friends; accuses people who are your supporters of "causing trouble." The abuser may deprive you of a phone or car, or try to prevent you from holding a job.

(6) **BLAMES OTHERS FOR PROBLEMS OR MISTAKES:** It's always someone else's fault if something goes wrong.

(7) **MAKES OTHERS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS OR HER FEELINGS:** The abuser says, "You make me angry" instead of "I am angry," or says, "You're hurting me by not doing what I tell you."

(8) **HYPERSENSITIVITY:** Is easily insulted, claiming hurt feelings when he or she is really mad. Rants about the injustice of things that are just a part of life.

(9) **CRUELTY TO ANIMALS OR CHILDREN:** Kills or punishes animals brutally. Also may expect children to do things that are far beyond their ability (whips a 3-year-old for wetting a diaper) or tease them until they cry. Sixty-five percent of abusers who beat their partners will also abuse children.

(10) **"PLAYFUL" USE OF FORCE DURING SEX:** Enjoys throwing you down or holding you down against your will during sex; finds the idea of rape exciting.



### Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

(11) **VERBAL ABUSE:** Constantly criticizes or says blatantly cruel things; degrades, curses, calls you ugly names. This may also involve sleep deprivation, waking you with relentless verbal abuse.

(12) **RIGID ROLE OF DOMINANCE:** Expects you to serve, obey and remain at home.

(13) **SUDDEN MOOD SWINGS:** Switches from sweet to violent in minutes.

(14) **PAST BATTERING:** Admits to hitting a mate in the past, but says the person "made" him (or her) do it.

(15) **THREATS OF VIOLENCE:** Says things like, "I'll break your neck" or "I'll kill you," and then dismisses them with, "Everybody talks that way," or "I didn't really mean it."

**DEAR ABBY:** I love being an aunt, but my

teenage nephew calls me by my first name. More than once I have asked him to call me Aunt, but then I get corrected by other relatives who say what a silly tradition it is. Recently, I told my nephew if he's too old to call me Aunt, then I'm certainly too old to send gifts. Am I wrong? — AUNT IN WISCONSIN.

**DEAR AUNT:** I understand your feelings. You are entitled to be called whatever you wish, and "other relatives," including your nephew, should respect your wishes. However, if you quit giving gifts to your nephew for your stated reason, you can be sure he will be calling you something, but it won't be "Aunt."

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



Since I went back to work at a (mostly) desk job, I have noticed a significant decline in my daily activity and steps. No surprise there.

In an effort to make sure I am more active, I try to get outside to walk around here and there, but especially in the very long winter, it's easier said than done.

I wanted to get a standing desk with a treadmill under it, but that is a big investment.

I started perusing Amazon and found an under desk stepper that seemed like it might fit the bill. It's a very simple contraption where you

manually (with no electrical power) push down on the steps much like an elliptical machine.

There's a very simple counter that will show how many steps, your time, and calories.

It also includes arm straps so you can work out your arms.

I thought it would be pretty good, though I must admit I didn't even unbox the thing for many weeks. Ok fine, months. Anyway, the stepper does work as promised.

Here's the issue — it doesn't really fit under a desk. The gadget itself does, but somehow I didn't realize that fitting my

knees under the desk while stepping does not work.

That said, it is small and light and easy to move around. So if I'm



home working or thinking about work or on a call it's something that doesn't make any noise to use.

It's not that fun, so it's

not the most inspiring workout I've ever done. I suppose one could store it next to their desk or at home near the TV and hop on once in awhile, but it's overall kind of a dud.

The price was about \$50 on Amazon and it is a somewhat vigorous exercise if you really try to push yourself. The problem is that you cannot do it while sitting at a desk, which was my main motivation for purchasing.

Also, it's much more interesting to actually go for a walk — even if it's just around your house or office a few times.

Save yourself the money and just go for a walk.

I give this 2 alligators because it's not terrible, but in my opinion it's definitely not worth it. Do go some exercise on your own for free and spend the \$50 on a nice dinner or put toward a massage — you've earned it!

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).



2 Out Of 5

# A classic

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

The tuna melt has been a staple and a classic for quite some time. The story goes that it was accidentally invented at a Woolworth's in the 1960s when a tuna salad fell on top of a grilled cheese sandwich. A star was then born.

It's a simple and humble combination that is one of my favorites. I remember sitting at the counter of Sander's in The Village with my great-grandmother, grandmother and mother to excitedly enjoy a tuna melt. The chips and sweet pickles made everything so much better.

I did some digging and their recipe included hard boiled eggs, pickle relish and orange marmalade. Seems like an odd combination and maybe it's not correct but eating that tuna melt was the highlight of my week.

Don't get me wrong, I love hot fudge, but not as much as this lunch.

I prefer to use English muffins and have it open faced but any good bread will work, Open faced or not...

Here is my favorite

way to make the perfect tuna melt.

Dried dill, mustard, mayo and lots of lemon makes for a zesty and fresh tasting take on my favorite old classic that should never go out of style.

Cheers, Mombeau

## Open Faced Tuna Melts

2 cans tuna, packed in water

2 celery ribs, minced finely

2 tbsp, finely minced onion

2 tbsp yellow mustard

½ tsp sugar

1 tsp dried dill

¼ cup mayo

½ of lemon, juiced

4 English muffins

4 slices of orange, sharp cheddar

Drain the tuna and add to a medium mixing bowl.



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

Add all other ingredients stopping at the muffins.

Preheat the oven to

425 and toast the English muffins until crispy. Once the muffins are toasted, top with a heap-

ing scoop full of salad and a slice of cheese. Bake in the oven until the cheese has melted

but not burned. Serve with lots of bread and butter pickles and your favorite potato chips.

# The red wine myth

One of the most enduring myths of red wine is that the older it gets, the better it is.

Where this erroneous line comes from is buried in history, but it's likely no true wine lover came up with it.

Most wine lovers know that certain wines age nicely for decades, but most red wines are best within a few years of their vintage, if not immediately.

Besides, aging wine is a task that amateurs should not try without understanding details of the game.

My guess is that non-wine lovers, hearing praise being heaped on bottles of 20-year-old red Bordeaux, assume that all older red wine is better than the young stuff. In fact, I believe that wines that might be better with age also may be enjoyed while young.

Just decant the wine for an hour and watch it improve.

A lot of red wines are rated by so-called experts on a scale of weight and power. The heavier the wine, the better it is, they tell us. And thus the implication that it will age for decades. Such

assumptions have more exceptions than you'd believe.

Often, wines that are powerful when released can improve with a little time in the bottle. But there is no guarantee they'll age well for long periods.

A century ago, the main reason French and Italian red wines were aged was that they weren't drinkable when young. Many of these wines were coarse and unbalanced. People found that by holding them for a while, some of the bad stuff dissipated; roughness would diminish.

Today's red wines are better in that respect. Most young, fruity wines that are awkward and astringent when young improve with a few additional years in the bottle, but some may simply get old and tired. Once the vibrancy of youth flees, a wine can be unappealing.

Before wine quality improved, around the 1970s, many bad wines were made. In the bad old days of Bordeaux, many vintages (notably in the 1930s and early 1940s) were terrible.

Rain before harvest produced wines that were lackluster when young and never improved.

By contrast, great vintages can produce great wines. Red Bordeaux from 1945, 1949, 1953, 1959, 1961 and 1970 remain targets of collectors.

Too many people these days equate concentration (dark color, high alcohol) with greatness. In fact, some of the most elegant wines are far more appealing to consume soon after they were made. And such wines can age as well.

This is particularly true with merlot, a grape variety that is supposed to yield a more supple, approachable wine than cabernet.

My experience with merlots is that most of them don't age very long, reaching a peak at age 5.

The best trait for any wine, red or white, is balance. If a wine tastes good when it's young, what's the harm in opening it sooner?

Still, some Americans hold to the belief that dark, concentrated red wines should be held until they are nearly

senile.

The longest-lived dry red wines being made today are Barolo (from Northern Italy), California petite sirah, cooler-climate syrah and some California cabernet sauvignons.

Best consumed at five to seven years of age are Chianti, zinfandel, Cotes du Rhone, pinot noir, barbera, gamay, grenache, tempranillo and many others.

Except for certain wines, the best bet is to open a wine sooner than later.

### Wine of the Week:

2019 Guigal Cotes du Rhone (\$19) — One of the world's most reliable red wines, this blend of grenache, syrah and other grapes is faintly rustic with dark berry fruit and a generous midpalate. It is best when decanted for an hour.



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

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**-WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY-**  
**1 SEATING: 6:00PM-8:30PM** (Performer plays from 7:00PM-8:30PM)

**-FRIDAY & SATURDAY- 2 Seatings each night**  
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PHOTOS COURTESY OF CINEVILLE AND PICTURE ENTERTAINMENT

Left, Rupert Friend as Ludo and Joan Plowright as Mrs. Palfrey in the 2005 movie "Mrs. Palfrey at the Claremont" directed by Dan Ireland.

**MOVIE REVIEW**  
 "Mrs. Palfrey at the Claremont"  
 2005 - Not Rated  
 1 hr 48min  
 ★★★★★

Dame Joan Plowright, Baroness of Olivier. A lofty yet well-deserved title for one of the most distinguished British actors of the 20th century. Her career on the stage and screen spans six decades and she's instantly recognized by her striking face and distinctive voice. Check out her profile on IMDb — you'll be surprised not just by the number of films she's appeared in, but also the wide range of roles she's played.

In "Mrs. Palfrey at the Claremont" she gives a master class in acting, and

lucky for us, she's in just about every scene.

An elderly widow Mrs. Palfrey (Plowright), arrives in London from Scotland, to take up residence at the Claremont Hotel. It's an institution that's seen better days, and has become sort of a retirement home for the elderly.

On her first evening, she dresses to the nines (first impressions are lasting impressions, after all), and heads to the hotel's dining room. There she encounters an interesting bunch of characters. They include Mrs. Arbuthnot (Anna Massey), Mrs. Post (Marcia Warren), the De Salises (Millicent Martin and Michael Culkin), and Mr. Osborn (Robert Lang).

Ms. Plowright's character is not your typical doddering, fussy old maid. She's sharp, well read, and has a wry sense of humor. In other words, she doesn't fit in with the rest of the gang.

One day, while out running an errand, the weather kicks up and it looks like a storm is about to hit. As she races back to the hotel, she trips and takes a spill. This is witnessed by a handsome young man who invites her into his apartment, where he sees to her wound and offers her tea.

It's the start of a beautiful friendship. The young man is named Ludovic Meyer (Rupert Friend), and he's quick to point out what a ridiculous name he's been saddled with. He actually prefers to be

# Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin



called Ludo. He makes his money busking in the subway, and is an aspiring writer. The two share a common interest in the poet Wordsworth and both are nostalgic for times gone by.

Mrs. Palfrey has pretty much been abandoned by her family which includes a daughter and grandson. She makes several attempts to contact her grandson Desmond, however he never returns her calls.

Her fellow guests are itching to meet this elusive character, and when she invites Ludo to dine with her, he pretends to be her neglectful grandson. This will prove to be awkward later in the film.

The relationship between the couple is strictly platonic. However the two are truly kindred spirits separated by a couple generations. Their conversations are pretty heady at times, and they have much to offer each other, on both an intellectual and personal level.

I thought the two actors had great chemistry together and it made for some great viewing. The film is an adaption by Ruth Sacks of a book by British novelist Elizabeth Taylor. It could easily have gotten sappy, but it never does.

Around halfway through the film, Mrs. Palfrey recommends Ludo watch one of her favorite movies from the 1940s, "Brief Encounter" starring Trevor Howard and Celia Johnson. When

he looks for it at the local video store (remember those?), a young woman Gwendolyn (Zoe Tapper) already has it and is going to rent it. They strike up a conversation and to no one's surprise, begin a romantic relationship. It all happens so naturally and doesn't feel contrived at all.

One of the most memorable scenes is when the three of them take a day-trip to the Abbey at Beaulieu. It was one of the special places Mrs. Palfrey would visit with her late husband Arthur. What an enchanting place! If I ever get the opportunity, I'd love to see it for myself.

If you're in the mood for an absolutely delightful movie about cross-generational friendships, I can't recommend "Mrs. Palfrey at the Claremont" highly enough. It's like one of those charming, feel-good films from the golden age of cinema. I just wish they'd make more movies like this!

Note to parents: The film is Not Rated. There's nothing objectionable in it although since it's dialogue heavy, younger children will find it boring.

There are numerous viewing options. Watch it for free on Hoopla.com (with your library card), Freevee, and Tubi. Also on Crackle, Plex, Peacock, and 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, Hoopla, and Kanopy. I'll also review noteworthy new theatrical releases as well.

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).



Above, Anna Massey as Mrs. Arbuthnot.



Robert Lang as Mr. Osborne



Left, Zoe Tapper as Gwendolyn, Joan Plowright as Mrs. Palfrey and Rupert Friend as Ludo.

# Earth Day April 22, 2023

*Just in case you haven't heard, This Earth Day marks the 53rd Observance April Twenty-Two To keep the future safe for you.*

*Come, all ye legislative groups, Rise up and educate the troupes! We'll pick up litter, plant a tree, Promote sustainability,*

*Encourage food trucks to go green And try to keep our shorelines clean; If all of us could do our part To be aware, to make a start,*

*It can't get any better, can it? This INVESTMENT IN OUR PLANET?!*

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 Taurus.

**Happy Birthday for Thursday, April 20, 2023:** Once inspired by a goal, you will follow it. You are charismatic, which allows you to influence others. You like to work with your hands. Simplicity is the key to life this year for you. Take charge of your health. Stay grounded and levelheaded. Build or construct something.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) This might be a tough day, because you are dealing with friends and members of groups who might challenge you. Or perhaps you are the person challenging them. This clash might concern money or possessions and who controls what. It's not casual. Tonight: Money decisions.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) Today you might find yourself at odds with parents, bosses or even the police. It might be a clash of wills or a power struggle. Or possibly you are confronted in such a way that you see that you have to give up something or stop doing something in a certain way. "Time's up!" Tonight: You're strong.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) Something is going on behind the scenes that could create problems for you. Be careful, because if you are trying to conceal something, there's a strong chance it will be exposed. "You can run but you can't hide." Behind-the-scenes power struggles might take place. Easy does it. Tonight: Solitude.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) Someone might challenge your goals today. This could be because your goals are no longer relevant or because someone is threatened by your goals. This could be many things. This is why you feel you have to stand up and be counted and defend your position. Make sure it's worth defending. Tonight: Strong discussions.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) Serious challenges with authority figures might happen for you today. They could be with parents, bosses, teachers or the police. It will be a power struggle. The cause of this clash might be that it's time for you to give something up because it just isn't working. Tonight: You're noticed!

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) This is the classic day for power struggles regarding controversial subjects like politics, religion, philosophical ideas, racial questions — you name it. Possibly, your ideas are outmoded, outworn or no longer relevant. Tonight: Something different..

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Money squabbles are likely today, especially related to insurance issues, inheritances, wills, estates or shared property. People are serious about protecting their fair share of something, and so are you. Make sure you have your facts right. Tonight: Check your finances.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Take the gloves off and be patient and reasonable with partners and close friends today. Power struggles are likely. It could be that someone wants you to stop doing something. Or perhaps you

want someone else to stop doing something. Tonight: Cooperate.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Equipment breakdowns at work might occur today, which will create problems for everyone. Expect disputes and confusion, at the very least. It might be time to get rid of something, especially if it is no longer reliable. (This could apply to a number of things, even people.) Tonight: Get organized.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Parents must be patient with their kids today to avoid hissy fits and meltdowns. Likewise, romantic partners should not draw a line in the sand. Instead, be open, be patient and let this moment of power struggles (that seem so important) pass by. Because it will. Tonight: Socialize!

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Be patient with parents and family members today to avoid nasty power struggles. Ask yourself how important this is. Five years from now will anyone care? A power struggle is generally an ego game. Meanwhile, small appliances might break down. Possibly, you have to get rid of something. Tonight: Home improvements.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) Pay attention to everything you say and do to avoid an accident today. Meanwhile, arguments about who is right and who is wrong might take place. It's illogical to stick to your guns when you know that something is not true. What's the point? Tonight: Share ideas.

**BORN TODAY** Actor, author activist George Takei (1937), actress Jessica Lange (1949), actor Andy Serkis (1964).

## EVENTS

Things to do in and around Grosse Pointe this week

- THURSDAY, APRIL 20**
  - » **Blues Jam at First Place Lounge**  
First Place Lounge, 8 p.m.-12 a.m., 16921 Harper Ave.
  - » **Dave Bennett at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe**  
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6-8 p.m., 97 Kercheval.
  - » **Nonfiction Book Club**  
Offsite, 7-8 p.m., grossepointelibrary.org
- FRIDAY, APRIL 21**
  - » **Dave Bennett at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe**  
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6-8 p.m., 97 Kercheval.
  - » **Lise de la Salle, piano**  
Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 8-9:30 p.m., 16 Lake Shore Drive.
  - » **"Women of Wisdom" or "WoW" Gathering @ GVST Wellness**  
GVST Wellness, 3-4:30 p.m., 22811 Greater Mack, Suite L2.
- SATURDAY, APRIL 22**
  - » **Calligraphy Saturdays**  
Ewald Branch, 9:30-10:30 a.m., 15175 E Jefferson
  - » **Dave Bennett at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe**  
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6-8 p.m., 97 Kercheval.
  - » **Laura Rain and the Caesars**  
Cornerstone Village Bar & Grille, 8-11 p.m., 17315 Mack Ave.
- SUNDAY, APRIL 23**
  - » **Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra Concert: April 23**  
The War Memorial, 7-9 p.m., 32 Lake Shore Drive.
  - » **Lumino & Stoehr**  
Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, 4-6 p.m., 17150 Maumee Ave.
  - » **4th Monday Book Discussion Group**  
Ewald Branch, 1:30-2:30 p.m., 15175 E Jefferson
  - » **Blues Jam at Cadieux Cafe**  
The Cadieux Cafe, 8-11 p.m., 4300 Cadieux Rd..
  - » **Capturing the Moment Photography Workshops**  
Ewald Branch, 6:30-8 p.m., 15175 E Jefferson
- MONDAY, APRIL 24**
  - » **5th & 6th Grade Book Group**  
Ewald Branch, 7-8:30 p.m., 15175 E Jefferson
  - » **In Cold Mug Book Discussion**  
Offsite, 7-9 p.m., grossepointelibrary.org
  - » **Middle School Book Group - 5th/6th**  
Ewald Branch, 7-8 p.m., 15175 E Jefferson
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26**
  - » **Read, Rhyme & Play**  
Ewald Branch, 10:30-11 a.m., 15175 E Jefferson
  - » **Business After Hours at Ridge Crest Outfitters**  
17125 Kercheval, 5:30 p.m., Grosse Pointe, MI 48230
  - » **History and Legacy of Grosse Pointe Theatre - Celebrating 75 Years**  
Ewald Branch, 7-8 p.m., 15175 E Jefferson
  - » **Music Jam at Cabbage Patch Saloon**  
Cabbage Patch Saloon, 9:30-11 p.m., 15130 Mack Ave.
  - » **Leslie DeShazor at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe**  
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6-8 p.m., 97 Kercheval.
  - » **Detroit - Disney Animation: Immersive Experience**  
311 East Grand River Avenue, 4:30 p.m.
  - » **Detroit Tigers vs. Brewers**  
Comerica Park, 1:40 p.m., 2100 Woodward Ave.
  - » **Noah Jackson & Full Circle: Residency & Session**  
Cliff Bell's, 7:30-11 p.m., 2030 Park Ave.

## Contract Bridge

TO THE VICTOR GO THE SPOILS

South dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♠ 9 8 2  
♥ J 7  
♦ K Q J 10 4  
♣ Q 8 3  
**WEST**  
♠ A Q 7 4 3  
♥ 9 6 5  
♦ 9 6 2  
♣ 10 7  
**EAST**  
♠ 10 5  
♥ Q 10 8 4 3  
♦ 7 3  
♣ A 6 5 2  
**SOUTH**  
♠ K J 6  
♥ A K 2  
♦ A 8 5  
♣ K J 9 4

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 ♣ Pass 1 ♦ Pass  
2 NT Pass 3 NT  
Opening lead — four of spades.

This deal from a team-of-four match demonstrates how psychology sometimes plays a primary role in determining the outcome.

The contract at both tables was three notrump played by South, and both Wests led a spade. Both declarers won East's ten with the jack, but that's where the similarity ended.

Both declarers realized that they

would need a club trick to make the contract, and also recognized the danger posed by the possibility that East might have the ace of clubs. In that case, East could win the first club lead and return a spade. If West originally had five spades, this would defeat the contract.

At the first table, South crossed to dummy with a diamond at trick two and led a low club toward his hand, hoping to steal his ninth trick if East had the ace and played low. Unfortunately for South, East alertly put up the ace and returned a spade, whereupon West cashed four spade tricks to sink the contract.

The declarer at the second table found a more devious way to try to steal a club trick. After winning the first spade, he cashed the ace of diamonds and then led the club king.

This sequence of plays was designed to create the impression that South had started with the singleton ace of diamonds and was trying to develop an entry to dummy. East was tempted to take his ace, but he had no way of knowing for sure that his partner could run four spade tricks.

So East ducked the king, after which declarer ran like a thief with his nine tricks to net 700 points for his team.

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by Steve Becker

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



# Comics

## Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



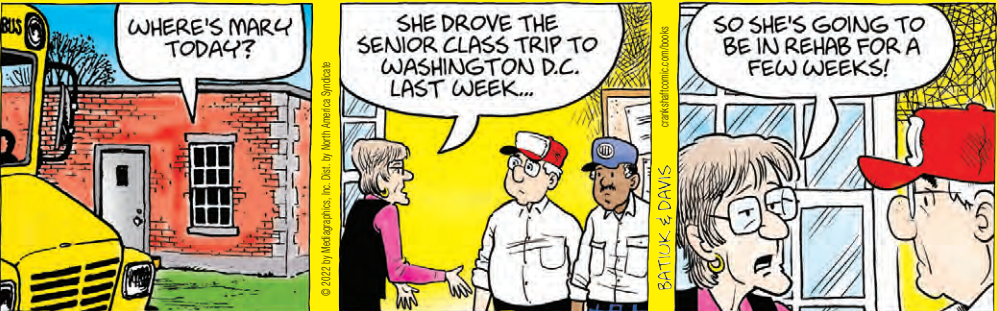
## Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



## Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



## Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



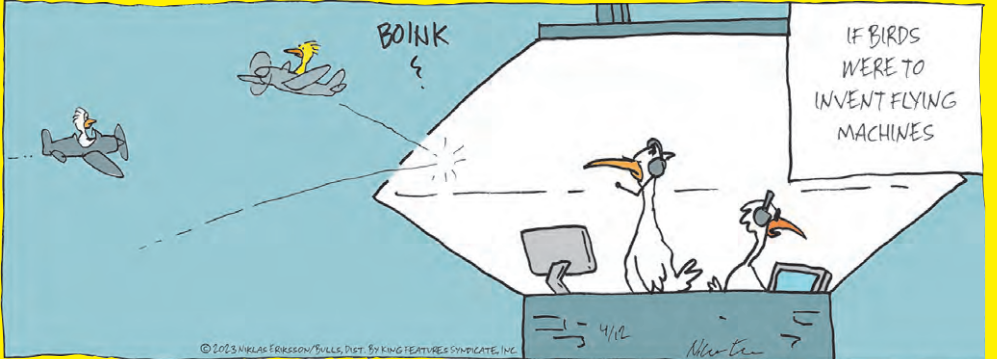
## Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



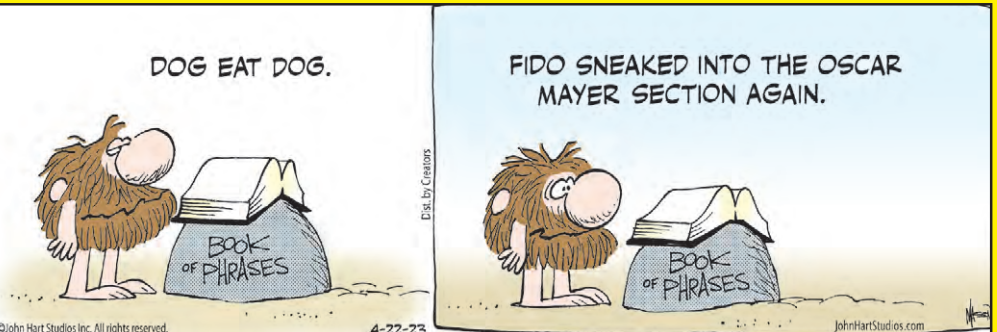
## Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



## B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



## Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



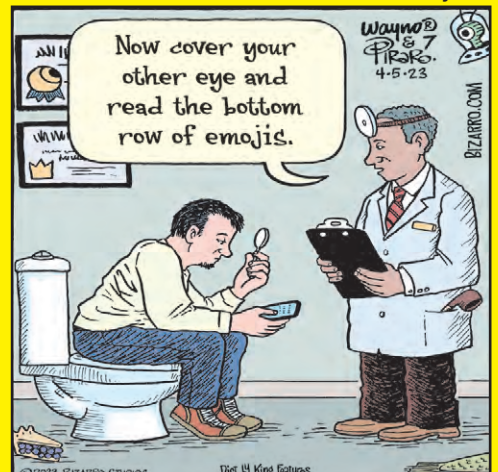
## Reality Check

Dave Whamond



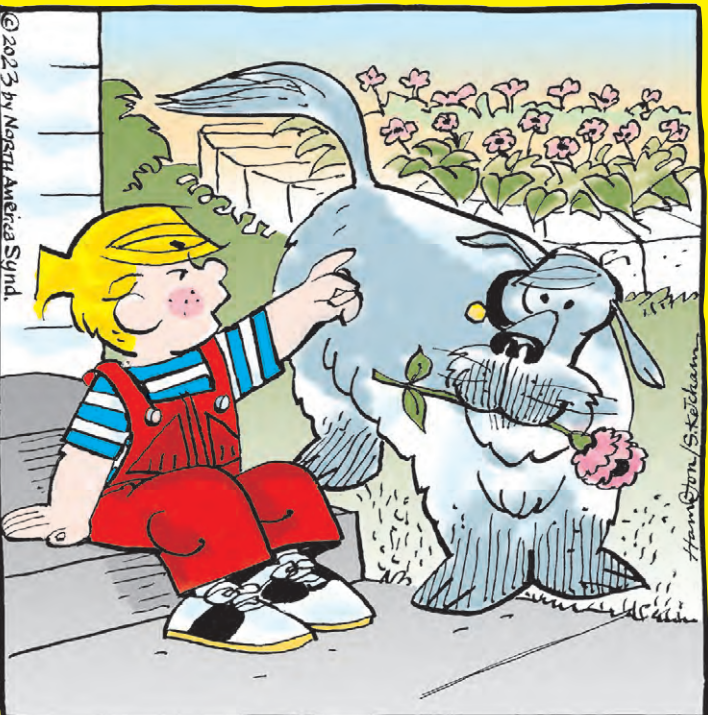
## Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



## Dennis the Menace

Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



## The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



"KEEPING UP WITH THE CARB-DASHIANS?"

## Close To Home

John McPherson



Tooth fairy poker.

## Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



"No matter how many friends Marmaduke has, he always has room for one more."



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**Kid Scoop Together:**  
**Dollar Signs**

The origin of the \$ sign is uncertain. But many historians believe that the **P**—for either Spanish or Mexican *pesos*—was accompanied by a small *s* above and to the right of it when the plural form was used. This pairing of letters was simplified by keeping only the stem of the **P** and writing the **S** right on top of it. *Voila*—the dollar sign!

**Dollar Match**

Match each of the dollar signs with its identical twin. Look carefully! One dollar sign has no duplicate.



**Standards Link:** Research: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

**Kid Scoop-doku™**

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word **CASH** in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.

	S		
			C
C	A	S	H
A		H	

**Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS**

This week's word: **CURRENCY**

The noun **currency** means the money that is used in a country.

In Mexico, the **currency** is the *peso*.

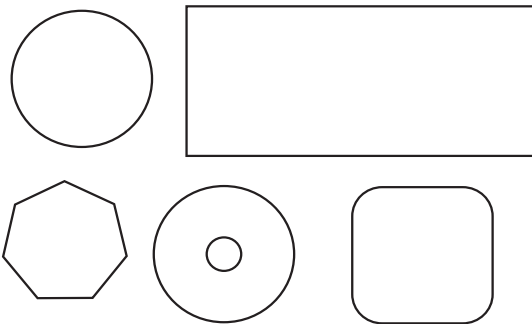
Try to use the word **currency** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

# Money Around the World

The bills and coins you use to buy things in your country can look a lot different from the money, or currency, that is used in other countries.

**Standards Link:** Economics: Students understand the basic features of market structures and exchanges.

What shapes are the different coins and bills in your country?



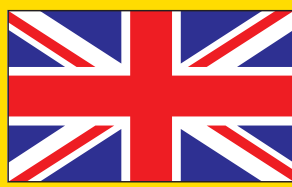
**Vending Machine**

Which item in the vending machine costs the most? Use the code below to find out.

**Why do some coins have different shapes?**

People who have trouble seeing or reading can tell the difference between coins that are worth different amounts of money when the coins are different shapes and sizes.

Which item in the vending machine costs the most? Use the code below to find out.



**English Money**

Use the code to find out what people in England call their money.

In the United Kingdom, they use the \_\_\_\_\_

A nickname for the \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_

**SECRET CODE**

- D = [triangle] N = [star] Q = [triangle]
- E = [square] O = [cross] R = [square]
- I = [triangle] P = [triangle] U = [square]

**The Euro**

The **euro** is the money used by most countries in Europe. Before the euro was introduced, most European countries had their own **currency**, meaning their own coins and banknotes.



When they traveled, people had to change money each time they came to a new country. For example, in Germany, you paid in Deutsch Marks, but if you left Germany and traveled to France, you had to exchange your Deutsch Marks for French francs. Europe has many countries close together, which made for a lot of money changing!

**Extra! Extra! Chart It!**

Look through the newspaper for five numbers with five or more digits. Cut out the numbers and glue each one's digits onto a chart that shows how many ones, tens, hundreds, thousands, ten thousands, or more are in each number.

TEN THOUSANDS	THOUSANDS	HUNDREDS	TENS	ONES
1	2	9	1	3

**Standards Link:** Number Sense: Understand place value to the millions.



Some coins in the African nation of Swaziland have scalloped edges. Find the two identical Swaziland coins.



**Yuan and Yen**

The money used in China and Japan today was developed from the silver dollars introduced by European and American traders. The dollars were called **yuan** in China and **yen** in Japan. Translated, these words mean "round object."



Cut out this box and hold it up to a mirror to reveal the world's most popular currency.

The pound sterling is the fourth most traded currency in the foreign exchange market after the U.S. dollar, the euro and the Japanese yen.

**Standards Link:** Economics: Know that different currencies are used in different countries.

**Kid Scoop Puzzler**

**Weighty Money**

The word **peso**, meaning *weight* in Spanish, was the name of a coin that originated in Spain. Peso is now the name of money in several former Spanish colonies.

The countries next to sums with even numbers use pesos.

22 + 5 = Guinea-Bissau	24 + 7 = Brazil
17 + 9 = Cuba	19 + 14 = Panama
31 + 7 = Dominican Republic	18 + 9 = Portugal
13 + 15 = Mexico	44 + 6 = Colombia
11 + 9 = Argentina	35 + 13 = Uruguay
43 + 13 = Chile	14 + 14 = Philippines

**Standards Link:** Number Sense: Add sums to 100.

**Double Double Word Search**

- MONEY
- CALCULATOR
- COINS
- DOLLAR
- FRANCE
- EURO
- PESOS
- BILLS
- POUND
- FOREIGN
- DESIGN
- YEN
- ITALY

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

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

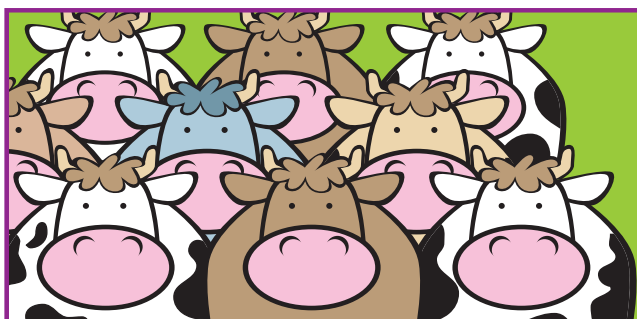
**Standards Link:** Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

**FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY**

**Money Math Game**

Start by counting the number of pages in today's newspaper. Add the number of sections listed in the index. Subtract the number of headlines on the front page. Add the cost of a single issue. What is your total?

**Standards Link:** Number Sense: Solve word problems using addition and subtraction.



How does a farmer count his cows?

ANSWER: With a calculator.

**Write On!**

**Make Money**

What are three ways you could earn money?



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# SPORTS



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## South, North swim and dive teams top Academic All State list

By Meg Leonard  
Associate Editor

Grosse Pointe's high school swimmers and divers have the reputation for being smart cookies, but they just earned a major achievement this week to prove it.

The girls varsity swim and dive teams from Grosse Pointe South and Grosse Pointe North placed No. 1 and No. 2, respectively, on the 2022-23 Academic All State list, from the Michigan Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association. Each team sits atop a list of 22 teams in Division 2, all of which earned a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.6 or above.

South's girls team, which had a sizable roster of 45, earned a 3.88 overall GPA, just out-touching the Norsemen girls, who earned a 3.85. Adding to the one-two

punch by both girls programs is Grosse Pointe South boys varsity swim and dive, who tied for 10th in the state on the Academic All State list in Division 2 with



Battle Creek Lakeview.

South boys had an overall 3.52 GPA.

"It's incredible what these girls do, and the same is true for my boys," said John Fodell, head coach of South's boys and girls swim and dive teams. "What they achieve in the classroom, with the rigor of taking AP classes, managing their time and the life

balance they strike is pretty awesome."

In the last few seasons, both of Fodell's programs have also consistently finished in the Top 5 at state finals.

"They do it all, in and out of the pool," he said. South athletic director and assistant principal Brandon Wheeler credited the community's support in helping student-athletes succeed.

"...Our highest priority as a school, our focus lies in the classroom. (These swimmers) are student-athletes first. But I have to say, (achievements like this) are becoming routine in a lot of ways and it shouldn't be glossed over. This is something to be celebrated."

Wheeler also said the Academic All State rankings for South's swim programs adds to the momentum created last year when MLive ranked South in the state's Top

20 athletic departments, based on an algorithm that measured achievement in athletics as well as in the classroom.

"It's become a bit of the norm, but I think we need to stop and pause and recognize just what an amazing accomplishment this is for our athletic program. It's a testament to our coaches, but especially to our student-athletes and all the work they put into their craft and as students."

Michelle Davis, North's athletic director and an assistant principal, agreed that academic accomplishments within the athletic department, while fairly common, should always be celebrated.

"This accomplishment

is amazing and in no way should it be diminished because it happens so often," Davis said. "Our athletes should really be recognized for this."

Davis said hiring coaches who are also teachers helps foster a good synergy between sports and academics for her student-athletes.

"I do my best, provided they are the most qualified, to hire teachers or retired teachers as our coaches," she said. "A lot of our coaches are also North alumni and they bring the same values to the kids that they had as students here."

North girls swim and dive head coach Chris Trepanowski, who also teaches honors chemistry there, said he is especially proud of his team's

accomplishment because it isn't just a handful of swimmers and divers who were academically successful, it was his complete roster of 21 girls who earned the honors.

"I try to stress to the girls the importance of being a scholar athlete, so I am very proud of this academic achievement," said Trepanowski.

"(This achievement) includes girls in all grade levels taking all levels of classes, including honors and AP courses," he continued. "Besides being their coach, I have also had the pleasure of teaching several of these girls in my own honors chemistry class."

"So I can personally attest to their strong work ethic and academic skills within the classroom that has led to these successes. Again, I am so proud of each and every one of them and their accomplishments."



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Senior Olivia Thomas is playing varsity high school soccer for the first time this spring with Liggett, while remaining with her longtime club, the Michigan Hawks.

## Athlete of the Week

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

If you get the chance to go to a University Liggett girls soccer game this spring, Olivia Thomas is probably the first player who will stand out. Usually with the ball, and now the world, at her feet, Thomas is on her way to playing the game she loves and representing her hometown at one of the best college soccer programs in the nation.

However, this spring is also the first time fans have had the chance to see Thomas in a Liggett uniform. That's because the senior grew up playing soccer at local club Eastside FC before eventually moving up to a high-level club team, the Michigan Hawks. While she is still a member of the Hawks, Thomas decided to join Liggett's team for her senior year in addition to playing for her club. It's a decision that has taken some getting used to but also one she will never regret.

"It's been kind of an adjustment trying to play with the speed of players who maybe aren't as experienced," Thomas said. "It's cool helping them grow as players as well. It's a

completely different atmosphere, more laid back and fun which I enjoy because I think it brings back the love for the game a bit more."

In just three games so far for the Knights, Thomas has scored 11 goals and tallied one assist. Those numbers are sure to only keep growing as the season goes on and could make

some of the top NCAA soccer programs over the years and is already signed on to join the Tar Heels at the University of North Carolina — currently ranked No. 2 in the country for women's soccer — after her graduation from Liggett.

"It actually wasn't on my list of schools at the start," Thomas said about joining UNC. "...I

campus and team, I just really love their style of play. They're very aggressive and like to take strides forward, not step back and defend."

That fits Thomas' style of play practically to a T. She wants to be at the front of every run and make sure that in the biggest moments, she is part of creating the plays that can win games.

"I just let it flow," Thomas said. "I know what's going to happen is going to happen and I work really hard especially when the other team is more talkative, it fires me up. I'm aggressive and running for every ball I can."

While being at the center of Liggett's attack much of the time, Thomas is far from a selfish player. With her ability to score also comes the ability to lead and build connections with teammates, like longtime club soccer partner Alexandra Karolak or new Knights' teammate, Kerith Short, which lifts the entire group.

It's those qualities that many would say makes Thomas such a special player. The type

See *ATHLETE*, page 3D



Grosse Pointe News  
**ATHLETE OF THE WEEK**  
Olivia Thomas  
School: University Liggett  
Sport: Soccer  
Sponsored by Joe Ricci

**Carolina In My Mind**

- 11 goals and 1 assist in 3 games this season with Liggett girls soccer
- Signed to play soccer at the University of North Carolina
- Began playing soccer at age 5 with Eastside FC

Athlete of the Week proudly sponsored by Joe Ricci Automotive



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## 2D | SPORTS

# Blue Devils build winning streak, Liggett takes two from North

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Baseball season is in full swing (pun intended) as the final days of April approach, and last week was a busy one on the diamond for all three high school teams. Grosse Pointe South spent the week putting together its biggest winning streak of the season while University Liggett flashed its dominance in a crosstown showdown with Grosse Pointe North.

## South

A 12-1 win over Fraser Tuesday, April 11 began what is now a five-game winning streak for the Blue Devils. A few of those wins came in close, dramatic games over the course of the week making the wins feel even bigger for South.

Perhaps the most impressive win was the second of the five-game streak, which came last Wednesday, April 12

against Brother Rice. South hosted the Warriors, a top 10 team in the MHSBCA's Division 1 rankings, and pulled out a narrow 2-1 victory.

Both of South's runs came on one play in the bottom of the third inning. With runners on second and third base, Hunter Belanger hit a ground ball that ended up in a Brother Rice defensive error, allowing both runners to score and giving the Blue Devils a 2-0 lead. The Warriors scored once soon after in the fourth inning, but were shut down the rest of the way by Blue Devils' pitcher Wells Graham, who tossed a complete game allowing just the single run on four hits.

South turned around the next day and found itself in another close battle, this time at home once again taking on Anchor Bay. Tied 5-5 in the bottom of the seventh, the Blue Devils

managed to load the bases with Jacob Kozel up to bat. Kozel was hit by a pitch, allowing Chase Mazey to walk home for the winning run in a 6-5 victory.

The weekend brought a doubleheader against Roseville Saturday, April 15 that saw South take both games. The first was a 6-2 win for the Blue Devils, highlighted by a two-RBI performance at the plate by Graham. Hayden Vinyard started and got the victory on the mound pitching five innings and allowing two runs on five hits with eight strikeouts.

"I thought my fastball was on point," Vinyard said about his successful outing. "I was hitting my spots. My curveball wasn't working as well, but it still did the job. I just kept the fastball low and away and got some strikeouts."

The second game of the day was a closer matchup where the Blue

Devils needed to come from behind. Down five runs in the fifth inning, South scored four of their own to bring the game closer, thanks in large part to a three-run homer by Joey McEvoy.

In the sixth, an RBI double from Cliff Grabowski tied the game at five runs apiece. With Grabowski on third later in the inning, he would come home to score the deciding run on an error, giving South a 6-5 victory.

South looked to keep the winning streak alive Tuesday, April 18 after press time against Henry Ford II. The Blue Devils and Falcons face off twice more this week, with Ford II hosting at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 20, then South playing host at 4:30 p.m. Friday, April 21.

## North vs. ULS

The Liggett Knights were riding high coming into last Saturday's doubleheader against Grosse Pointe North. Liggett had notched its first wins of the season just a couple of days before on Thursday, April 13, taking both games of a doubleheader against Plymouth Christian by a combined score of 23-0.

When the Knights made their way across town to battle with the Norsemen, their bats stayed hot as the team took both games of the doubleheader over North in dominant fashion.

"Our philosophy is always pitching and defense but if we can have hitting, and we have guys who can do it, we can do some dam-

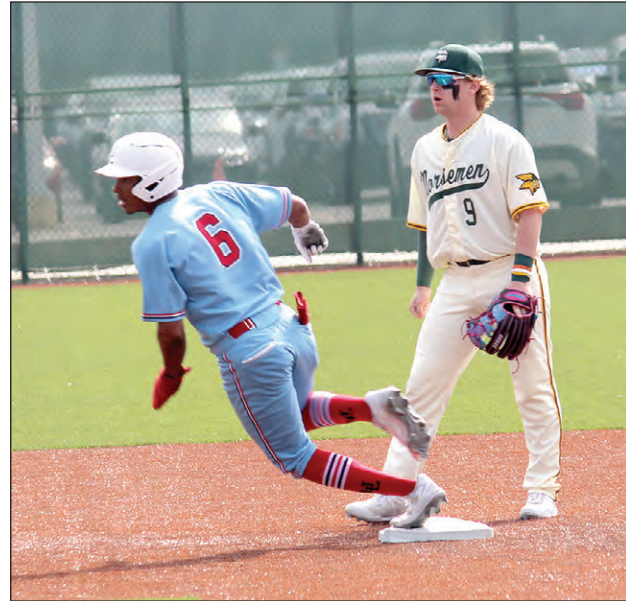


PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Liggett's Jarren Purify flies through second base on his way to third in Game 1 of a doubleheader against Grosse Pointe North on Saturday, April 15.

age," Liggett baseball head coach Dan Cimini said about his team's recent offensive performances. "...If we hit like we did and go one through nine putting pressure on the defense like we did (on Saturday), that's Liggett baseball at its best right there."

The Knights jumped on North early in the first game, which ended up 12-1 in favor of Liggett. Preston Barr hit a two-RBI single in the top of the first inning to put Liggett in front 2-0 early on. It was the second inning where the Knights really took over.

Ten runs crossed the plate in the top of the second for Liggett. The rally started when Gary Stacy scored on a wild pitch and was punctuated by a three-run home run by Jarren Purify to extend the Knights' lead to 12-0. The Norsemen's only run of the game came in the bottom of

the second when Matthew McLeod drew a walk with the bases loaded.

The second game was another lopsided score in favor of the Knights as Liggett took a victory in just five innings 11-0. Purify, Barr and Reggie Sharpe had a pair of RBI each in the win, with Barr notching three hits in three at-bats. Jackson Fetter pitched all five innings getting the win and the shutout while surrendering only three hits.

Liggett traveled to U of D Jesuit for a doubleheader Wednesday, April 19 after press time and will host Detroit Catholic Central for doubleheader action beginning at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 22. For the Norsemen, they took on L'Anse Creuse North on Wednesday, April 19 after press time and will host Crusaders for a doubleheader at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 20.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Everett Kielt sends off a pitch while an Anchor Bay runner on first attempts to steal second base.

## South sailing sweeps Mallory and Baker regattas

By Meg Leonard  
Associate Editor

Grosse Pointe South coed varsity sailing swept two regattas this weekend, taking first place in the Baker team race pre-qualifier and first in the Mallory fleet race pre-qualifier at the Pontiac Yacht Club April 14 to 16. Both races are important steps in the

team's quest to nationals.

Last Friday and Saturday, the Blue Devils outraced five crews in the Baker team race, finishing ahead of second place West Bloomfield. Troy, Detroit Country Day, Seaholm and Cranbrook finished in third through sixth place, respectively. South persevered

despite little to no wind and late start times all day Friday and Saturday morning.

"They finally sent us to the west end of the lake, where there was a little pocket of wind," said South head coach Christina Noland. "These are national qualifiers, so it's really important to get these races in and the race

organizers found a way." But the weekend really came down to a tale of two weather patterns.

The windless Friday and Saturday shifted dramatically by Sunday, where moderate, building winds gifted the Mallory regatta. Instead of delays waiting for the winds to pick up, teams had to scramble to the finish to beat an impending, blustery cold front with heavy rains.

Sailors hustled to finish the course, with South besting the field of 12 teams to take first place, finishing just two points ahead of second place Holland Christian. Grosse Pointe North finished in 11th place.

"The whole day was a battle against Holland Christian," Noland said. "Our starts were really good and everyone was really on their game."

South's "A" fleet of Colin Hexter and Gavin Webster was "on fire," according to Noland, winning mostly firsts throughout the day. Holland Christian's "B" fleet countered those victories with wins of their own. The seesaw battle came down to the final race, with South's Charlie Gmeiner and Eric Brieden holding the Blue Devils' fate in their sails.

"I told them flat out, 'Beat this boat or we won't win,'" Noland

said. "They played great defense, made good choices and came out on top."

"We are such a great team under pressure. I hope we keep up our camaraderie and synergy that I am seeing."

This weekend, the team has a Tier 3 regatta at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, which is a much more relaxed, non-qualifying event, equivalent to a sailing "scrimmage," according to Noland.

From then on, the season intensifies, with national qualifiers taking place in Lake Forest, Ill., on April 28 to 30, and again from May 5 to 7.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINA NOLAND

South varsity sailors battled little to no wind last Friday and Saturday during their Baker team race pre-qualifier, but managed to find just enough to cross the finish line in first place.

### Grosse Pointe News



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

All weekly winners will be invited to the end of year Athlete of the Year  
Awards Gala - with top athletes winning scholarships!  
Submit online at:

[grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week](http://grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week)

Grosse Pointe News

# Thomas lifts Knights over North, South ends week with big win

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

While it's still early in the girls soccer season, teams from around town have hit the ground running. League play started for Grosse Pointe South, while Grosse Pointe North and University Liggett faced each other, hoping to take care of business in a crosstown rivalry game.

## North vs. ULS

After an early-season rivalry win over South earlier last week, North welcomed another crosstown foe last Thursday, April 13 before the beginning of MAC League play. This time it was a showdown with University Liggett, one of the state's top ranked teams in Division 4. A slow start for the Norsemen turned into a more explosive second half, but a pair of late goals by the Knights sealed a 4-2 win for Liggett.

The first half was largely dominated by the Knights, thanks to the efforts of senior Olivia Thomas. The future North Carolina Tar Heel helped put her squad ahead early with a goal in the seventh minute to open up a 1-0 lead. That remained the score for much of the first half until Thomas scored once again with three minutes to go before halftime giving Liggett a two-goal advantage at the break.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

Madisyn Szajenko from Liggett steals the ball away from North's Amelia Streberger.

North flipped a switch to start the second half and took the fight back to the Knights. Freshman Meredith Dodenhoff got the Norsemen on the board just five minutes into the half to bring the game back to within one. Ten minutes later, senior Ava Mattaliano evened the score for North making it a whole new game.

Just like in their rivalry game against the Blue Devils just a few days before, the Norsemen were in for some late drama. This time, however, they would be on the wrong side of the outcome. In the 57th minute, Thomas completed her hat trick and put the Knights back on top 3-2

with just over 20 minutes remaining.

North had time to attempt a comeback and possibly bring the game to a draw, but it was the Knights who would decide to put the game away. With just over five minutes left, Liggett sophomore Kerith Short found the back of the net on a high-arching shot that ended up sealing the two-goal victory.

"The girls are getting to know one another quickly both on and off the field, and a wonderful chemistry is developing," Liggett girls soccer head coach David Dwaihy said after his team moved to 3-0 to begin the season.

The Knights moved to 4-0 after defeating

Royal Oak 4-1 on Monday, April 17 and are at home again on Thursday, April 20 at 4:30pm against St. Catherine. For North, the team dropped to 2-3 so far this season losing its MAC Red league opener 3-1 to L'Anse Creuse North on Monday. The Norsemen host Grosse Pointe South at 6pm on Friday, April 21.

## South

Last week began for the Blue Devils with a close loss to rival Grosse Pointe North. However, there was nowhere to go but up for the rest of the week and that was exactly what South did.

The Blue Devils began MAC White play last Tuesday, April 11 with a

5-0 road win over Chippewa Valley. The team then faced another league test last Friday, April 14 playing host to Stevenson. The Titans gave South all it could handle, but the Blue Devils were able to overcome and make it a second straight win with a 3-2 victory.

The first 20 minutes or so of Friday night's game were fairly even, but South struck first. Senior Mairrin Harris found the back of the net in the 22nd minute to put the Blue Devils up in the first half. While it looked like the Blue Devils might enter halftime with the lead, Stevenson tied things up with three minutes to go before the break,

evening the score at 1-1 after the first 40 minutes.

The story of the second half was the play of South senior Libby Ebenhoeh. Early in the half, she put the Blue Devils back in front with a goal off of a free kick in the 52nd minute. She would do it again later in the half to help seal the win for South and move the team to 2-0 in MAC White competition.

South tied L'Anse Creuse 1-1 on Monday, April 17, and visited Fraser on Wednesday, April 19 after press time and will be on the road at 6 p.m. Friday, April 21 for a second meeting with crosstown rival Grosse Pointe North.



South's Mairrin Harris, left, celebrates with teammate Isabella Deveroux after scoring in last Friday's 3-2 win over Stevenson.

## Blue Devils start off red hot; Norsemen battle at tournament, while Knights find first W of season

By Meg Leonard  
Associate Editor

As the temps heated up last week, the varsity softball season also started to sizzle, as teams from Grosse Pointe South, Grosse Pointe North and University Liggett School found varying degrees of success on the diamond. With league play looming, South now stands at 6-0, North at 4-3 and Liggett at 1-2.

## South

South girls varsity softball has used extra innings and come-from-behind wins to create their season's hot start.

"Our kids have worked really hard to get to this point and have come in after hours and put extra work in on their own," South head coach Bill Fleming said. "They have come together nicely to start the season and it's been reflective of how they have started off."

The Blue Devils used extra innings to beat Fraser 6-5 Tuesday, April 11. After walking South's leadoff hitter Katie Steiner, Avery Harris singled to left and the Blue Devils had their first opportunity to score

with Addie Waller at the plate.

Waller reached first on an error at second that allowed Steiner to score with two outs and put South up 1-0. Fraser led off with a double off of sophomore Murphy Russell, but South managed to get out of the inning unscathed and hold on to its one-run lead.

In the bottom of the second, Fraser tied it at one, thanks to a double to center field. From there, the teams exchanged runs and the lead. The Ramblers took a 3-1 lead in the bottom of the third, only to watch South chip away at the lead in the top of the sixth, thanks to a few errors and Harris getting hit by a pitch to move runners into scoring position.

With one out in the inning, a ground out by Avery Bellish scored Harris and moved the game to 3-3. Locked at four in the top of the seventh, a successful bunt by freshman Vivian Ostrowski and subsequent overthrow moved her to second and fellow freshman Alex Lupo to third. Lupo scored on a wild pitch to put South up 5-4. With two outs,

Steiner knocked in Ostrowski for South's final run of the game.

Fraser cut South's lead to one in the bottom of the seventh, but shortstop Bellish fielded a ground ball for the third out, sealing the South victory.

Pitcher Russell earned the win on the mound, allowing five runs and 11 hits over seven innings and striking out three. South totaled 10 hits on the day, including Harris going 3-for-4.

Two days later, South hosted its first home game and christened its newly renovated field by beating Port Huron 7-3 last Thursday, despite not scoring until the fifth inning.

"We hadn't scored any runs until the fifth inning and (my players) were calm and collected," Fleming said. "I told them I was really nervous and they told me, 'Coach, don't worry, we got it.'"

Waller went 2-for-2 in the win over the Huskies. Russell went the distance for South, giving up the three runs on 10 hits over seven innings with one strikeout and one walk.

See *SOFTBALL*, page 4D

## ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

of player who can take over a game when needed and come up clutch, but also help make every player around her better in the process.

"She's already made

an immeasurable impact on the team, both in terms of the constant threat she poses up front and also the quiet confidence and competitive mentality she exudes," said Liggett girls soccer head coach David Dwaihy. "As talented as she is, she's shown

herself to be an extremely unselfish and generous teammate, and she has also been a great leader off the field." To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, visit [grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week](http://grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week).

## GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM ADVERTISEMENT

The Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe Public School System ("Owner" or "School District") will receive sealed Bid Proposals for:

### PROJECT - SUMMER 2023 WORK PROGRAM - SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL IA CONSOLIDATION - Exterior Doors

Sealed Bid Proposals will be received by the School District electronically **ONLY** and must be submitted online via the [Buildingconnected.com](http://Buildingconnected.com) website by utilizing the link provided below (emailed or hand delivered Bids will not be accepted). Bids will be received on or before **10:00 a.m.** (local time) on **May 01, 2023** ("Due Date"). The Board of Education will not consider or accept a Bid Proposal received after the Due Date, the date and time specified for Bid Proposal submission. Bid Proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud immediately following the Due Date via a Microsoft Teams meeting. You may attend the bid opening by using the following link:

#### Click here to join the meeting

or dial-in using 636-373-8636, Conference ID: 664 835 550#

A Pre-Bid walk-thru will be held on the following date:

April 24, 2023, 2022 @ 8:00 a.m. at Grosse Pointe South High School, 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Woods, 48236. All persons attending the Walk-thru will be required to meet at the parking lot located off of Fisher Rd, under the bridge. Please be aware this is an active school.

Each Bid Proposal must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board of Education or the Superintendent of the Grosse Pointe Public School System. The Board of Education will not accept a Bid Proposal that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.

Each Bid Proposal must also be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement certifying that the Contractor is not an Iran Linked Business. The Board of Education will not accept a Bid Proposal that does not include this sworn and notarized statement.

Each Bid Proposal must also be accompanied by certified check, cashier's check, money order or bid bond made payable to the School District in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total bid amount(s).

The Grosse Pointe Public School System's Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Bid Proposals, either in whole or in part, to waive any informalities or irregularities therein, or to award the contract to other than the contractor(s) submitting the best financial Bid Proposal (low bidder), in its sole and absolute discretion.

Bid documents, including Bidders Information Manual, scopes of work, Drawing and Specifications will be made available Monday, April 17, 2023, at the following website: <https://app.buildingconnected.com/public/54f0e584a238df0800778ee6> (Search for Grosse Pointe Summer 2023 Work Program - Grosse Pointe South IA Consolidation).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Nick Kuelske at (313) 596-0520 or email at [nkuelske@tcco.com](mailto:nkuelske@tcco.com), and Kim Pease at (419) 392-1082 or email at [kpease@tcco.com](mailto:kpease@tcco.com).

## GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Published: GPN, April 20, 2023

4D | SPORTS

# North boys and girls take first at home invitational, Blue Devils finish strong at Allen Park

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

It was a busy weekend for both the boys and girls track teams from Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South taking on early-season competition. For the Norsemen, a pair of first place finishes in their own invitational highlighted the weekend, while South's teams made a splash at the Allen Park Relays by both finishing in the top five.

**North**  
The Norsemen played host to a five-team invita-

tional on Saturday, April 15 in both boys and girls competitions. The day ended with both teams proving that home field advantage was key as the boys and girls each took first place overall.

On the Norsemen's girls way to victory, sophomore Lilian Deskins broke a 20-year school record by running a time of 11:21.45 in the 3200. Even more impressively, she put herself at the top of the school's record books in her very first attempt competing in the event.

North dominated much of the girls competition

throughout the day. Other highlights included Sarah Westrick winning both the 100 and 300 hurdles, Sophia Dragic taking first in the 800 and Lucie Leonhard earning first place in the 1600.

In the field events, Dakota White won the long jump. Bailey Hopko won the shot put, while Kendahl Watts took first in the high jump. Westrick also earned another victory in the pole vault.

The boys team stacked plenty of first place finishes as well on its way to a victorious day. David Rochon won the 3200 and

Caleb Kosel took the 1600. Jaden Laster dominated both the 100 and 300 hurdles, taking first in both events.

In the field, Jacarre Gray won the long jump while Dawayne Lockhart was first in pole vault. PJ Sorce found himself in a tie for first place in the high jump.

North's teams took on crosstown rivals Grosse Pointe South on Tuesday, April 18 after press time. The boys and girls are in action again this weekend at 9 p.m. Saturday, April 22 in Woodhaven at the Warrior Invitational.

**South**

While the Norsemen hosted their invitational over the weekend, the Blue Devils boys and girls teams traveled to Allen Park last Saturday to take part in the Allen Park CoEd Relays. While neither team lifted a first place trophy, both earned top five finishes out of a field of 15 teams in both divisions.

South's boys team finished third overall on Saturday. Junior Tommy Caulfield captured the

Blue Devils' only first place win of the day in the boys events with a first place finish of 10:09.32 in the 3200. Other top finishes for South included Jacob Page taking third in discus and Sam Morandini third in high jump.

The girls finished in fifth place in the final team standings for the Blue Devils. Selga Jansons had the team's top result with second place in the 300 hurdles. Sophomore Savannah Spangler also impressed with a fourth place finish in the 3200.

After their meeting with Grosse Pointe North on Tuesday, April 18, South's boys team is in action again on Saturday, April 22 at the April Showers



PHOTO COURTESY OF DIANE MONTGOMERY

North's Lilian Deskins set a new school record in the 3200 on Saturday, April 15.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIC EPLIN

North's boys track and field team celebrates its first place finish at its home invitational on Saturday, April 15.

Invitational in Dexter. South's girls team is off until Tuesday, April 25 when it heads on the road for a dual meet at Romeo.

**SOFTBALL:**

Continued from page 3D

South hosted a round robin tournament Saturday, April 15, and blew out Cranbrook Kingswood, 15-0, and Grosse Ile, 13-2. But it took a dramatic, come-from-behind effort, topped off by a walk-off single, to beat Berkley 7-6.

Tied 6-6 in the bottom of the sixth, South's Lucy Gabel came through in the clutch, singling on the first pitch of her at bat to knock in Bellish for the game-winning run.

But by the middle of the first, the Blue Devils found themselves down 5-0, thanks to a big offensive inning for Berkley. But the team kept their heads in the game, scoring six runs and tying things up at 6-6 in the

bottom of the fourth.

Singles by Lupo and Kate Dixon started off the rally, followed by a triple by Ostrowski that scored all three runners, thanks to a Berkley overthrow at third. Luna Agosta and Harris each singled, but Berkley mis-handled Bellish's pop fly to score Agosta, while Harris advanced to third. Waller reached first after another Berkley error, scoring two and tying things up at 6-6.

From there, Gabel played the game hero, knocking in the winning run and giving South the 7-6 walk-off win. Six proved to be the magic number for pitcher Lupo, who earned the win, surrendering six runs on six hits over six innings and striking out six.

Fleming said the team will continue to work on fundamentals, but so far he is seeing his team hit-

ting the ball well, gelling and getting better each game.

"Our pitching has been excellent," he said. "... You know walks are the kiss of death and you know when you walk someone, 60 to 70 percent of the time they are going to end up scoring. We're not walking anybody."

The Blue Devils faced Berkley again in a double header Tuesday, April 18, after press time. They play archrival Grosse Pointe North in a rescheduled game at 4:30 p.m. Friday, April 21. They host another round-robin tournament this weekend, beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 22.

**North**

Grosse Pointe North cruised to a 14-1 victory over Eisenhower Tuesday, April 11, grabbing an all-important MAC Red win to start the Norsemen off to a 1-0 league record.

Senior Kaitlyn Barr went the distance, allowing two hits and striking out nine, with no walks. The Norsemen had 15 hits on the day, spreading the scoring throughout the lineup. Lizzy Rheume's four hits helped set the pace for North, including singles in the second and fourth and doubles in the sixth and seventh innings. Sophia Borowski led the team with two doubles and four RBI, going 2 for 3 with two runs scored.

Sophomore Isabella Boedecker went 2-for-2 with three RBI.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

South captain Avery Harris fist bumps first base coach Carley Reno after getting walked against Port Huron Northern April 13.

After a scrimmage against Regina Thursday, April 13, the team headed to Lake Orion for a weekend tournament Saturday, April 15.

The Norsemen faced tough competition, losing tight games against Algonac, 2-1, and Alpena, 4-3. Both games were scoreless through the first five innings. North finished the day with a 12-5 loss against Stevenson.

But despite the lack of wins, all was not lost from a learning standpoint, North head coach Ron Smith said.

"In terms of this tournament, we got a lot out of it," he said. "We opened against Algonac, who is always ranked up in their division, and we went seven innings with them. It was 0-0, then we went into international play in extra innings.

"We scored at the top, then made an error and they had a base hit and they beat us 2-1. Kaitlyn Barr threw a three hitter and had 10 strikeouts, which should be good enough to win, but that's part of it. It's all part of the good and bad of the weekend."

In the second game against Alpena, North once again found itself tied 0-0 through five. In the sixth, a few Alpena hits combined with a few North errors helped the Norsemen fall behind 4-0. But the team made a run at it, scoring three in the bottom of the seventh, but leaving the tying run on third.

"Nobody wants to lose, but learning things from when you lose isn't all bad," Smith said.

North played Romeo at home Tuesday, April 18, after press time. They head to Anchor Bay at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 20, before a big hometown showdown against archrival Grosse Pointe South at 4:30 Friday, April 21, at South. The game was a rescheduled due to inclement weather Monday.

**Liggett**

University Liggett lost to Southfield Christian 11-3 Tuesday, April 11. Junior Tori Nugent struck out 14 batters in

the loss, while freshman Jasmine Maxwell hit her second home run of the season.

But the Knights made a big statement in their season's first win, beating Cranbrook Kingswood in a landslide, 14-1, Thursday, April 13.

Liggett spotted itself a 3-1 lead coming out of the first inning. At the top of the second, a line drive to center by Isabel Standish knocked in Maxwell to make it 4-1.

Then it was senior Giuliana Lutfy's turn. She hit an inside-the-park home run on a line drive to center, scoring Standish and giving the Knights a 6-1 cushion after two.

Inning after inning, Liggett continued to light up the scoreboard. The team's final four runs came in the fifth to give them a 14-1 lead, thanks to hits by Standish, Sasha Deimel and Nugent.

In the bottom of the fifth, Nugent struck out the first two batters, with the final out coming on a groundout to first baseman Margaret Weiss.

Nugent allowed only one hit and one run over five innings, striking out 12 in the win. Liggett played Cabrini Tuesday, April 18, after press time. They host Cass Tech at noon Saturday, April 22.

City of **Grosse Pointe Farms**, Michigan

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Proposed 2023-2024 City Budget**

The City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe Farms will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed 2023-2024 City Budget, at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 8, 2023 in the City Hall at 90 Kerby Road, or as otherwise posted at the City website at: [www.grossepointefarms.org](http://www.grossepointefarms.org).

**The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of the Public Hearing.** The proposed Budget is on file in the Office of the Clerk for public inspection during regular office hours, 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and is also available on the City's website.

The following is a summary of the proposed Budget:

GENERAL FUND	
ESTIMATED REQUIREMENTS	
Municipal Court	\$ 413,100
General Government	2,771,770
Public Safety	7,600,920
Public Works	3,335,210
Parks & Recreation	1,777,720
Contingency	50,000
Transfer - Other Funds	2,946,420
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 18,895,140</b>
MEANS OF FINANCING	
Taxes	\$ 14,295,230
Licenses & Permits	501,030
Federal and State Grants	11,000
State-Shared Revenue	1,253,370
Charges for Service	1,908,300
Fines/Forfeitures	335,500
Interest Income	276,410
Other Revenue	114,300
Fund Balance Appropriation	200,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 18,895,140</b>

Public comments, oral or written, are welcome at the Public Hearing on the proposed City Budget.

DERRICK KOZICKI  
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk

G.P.N.: 04/20/23 & 04/27/23

City of **Grosse Pointe Park**, Michigan

**NOTICE OF LAST DAY FOR FILING**  
**NOMINATING PETITIONS FOR**  
**CITY OFFICES**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the City Charter and the Michigan Election Law of 1964, as amended, Tuesday, April 25, 2023, is the last day for filing Nominating Petitions for the following City Offices:

One (1) MAYOR  
Three (3) COUNCILMEMBERS

Petitions will be received by the City Clerk until 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

Meaghan Bachman  
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 4/20/22

# South's Petz takes over in girls lacrosse win over North; Liggett nets win in opener

By Meg Leonard  
Associate Editor

With just over 18 minutes into a sometimes rough-and-tumble girls lacrosse game between rivals Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South Thursday, April 13, city bragging rights looked anything but certain for either squad, who were all squared up in a 2-2 tie.

But thanks to South's improved second half commitment to offense and defense, the Blue Devils came out on top with a 7-2 win. Team captain Lily Petz and freshman Lyla Hampton led the offensive side, while senior Genevieve Boutrous locked down the defense.

"The first half was a little rough," said South's rookie head coach Elizabeth Rauh. "We came out a little slower than we expected, a little more disconnected. (We had) lots of individual players attempting to execute their individual skills."

But soon into the second half, South began to work as a unit, running its offense more effectively. When a scoring opportunity finally pre-



PHOTOS BY MEG LEONARD

**Grosse Pointe South's girls varsity lacrosse team huddles up at halftime in its game against Grosse Pointe North Thursday, April 13.**

sented itself, Hampton jumped at the chance and put South up 3-2. With the crowd buzzing, things started to go south for North and the Blue Devils took advantage of the growing momentum and began swarming the net.

Petz started to take over the offense, putting on the jets and scoring four goals in quick succession to put South up 7-2.

South assistant coach Caroline Bock, who played college lacrosse with Rauh at Michigan State, said nerves sometimes can get the best of players in a rivalry setting. She said she could see Petz getting rid of her jitters and locking in.

"I think there's a lot of nerves when you are playing in your big rivalry game like this, so I think the second those got out of her system,

things really started to materialize," she said. "She got that first goal and things just took off from there, and she really picked it up."

Josie Cueter and team co-captain Grace Cueter scored a goal each for North. Fellow co-captain Kinsley Aldridge was the team's ground ball leader and goalie Brooke Thomas had eight saves on the night.

For South, the night was all about the second half.

"The second half is when we really turned it around," Rauh said. "The chemistry was there, we got the momentum and started winning some draws. And then everything kind of (just moved) from there in a positive way. The chemistry started coming there, connecting the passes and the transitions looked really good."

South has logged two more wins since beating North — a 10-1 win over North Farmington Friday, April 14, and a 14-9 win over Farmington Monday, April 17. They head on the road to play Northville at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 20.

North hosted Seaholm Tuesday, April 18, after press time. They host Notre Dame Preparatory at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 20.

## Liggett

The girls varsity lacrosse team from University Liggett started off its season with a hard-fought 11-10 win over Royal Oak Thursday, April 13, and its new head coach likes what she sees so far in this young season.

"For such a young team, they exceeded my expectations in our first game," said head coach Amanda Amine. "We have a true freshman goaltender who has never played lacrosse before. She came up big in the second half."

That true freshman is Madeline Unkle, who had 17 saves in goal for Liggett.

Two Knights had hat tricks in the win, including sophomore Fiona Sirens and junior Hallie Mercero. Freshman Livy Marcero added two goals.

Liggett found itself tied 7-7 at halftime, but kept the offensive pressure on for the remainder of the game. Up by

one in the game's final minutes, the team's defensive core played an effective game of keep-away, led by seniors Izzy Fruehauf and Isabella Ruffner and juniors Helen Wujack and Chloe McFarlane.

"It's important we stick to our game plan," Amine said. "It's big for us to start out strong, which we did, but we also closed out well."

After schedule disruptions like a two-week spring break and Easter weekend, the Knights begin an intense Catholic High School League schedule. Amine said her team is ready.

"I can see us hitting our stride, as long as the weather cooperates," she said. "We have good energy and the older players are looking out for the younger ones."

"I have a lot of athletes, many who are new to the lacrosse field, but I'll take the athletes all day."

Liggett hosted Divine Child Wednesday after press time. They host two games this weekend, including Academy of the Sacred Heart at 4 p.m. Friday, April 21, and Gabriel Richard at noon Saturday, April 22.

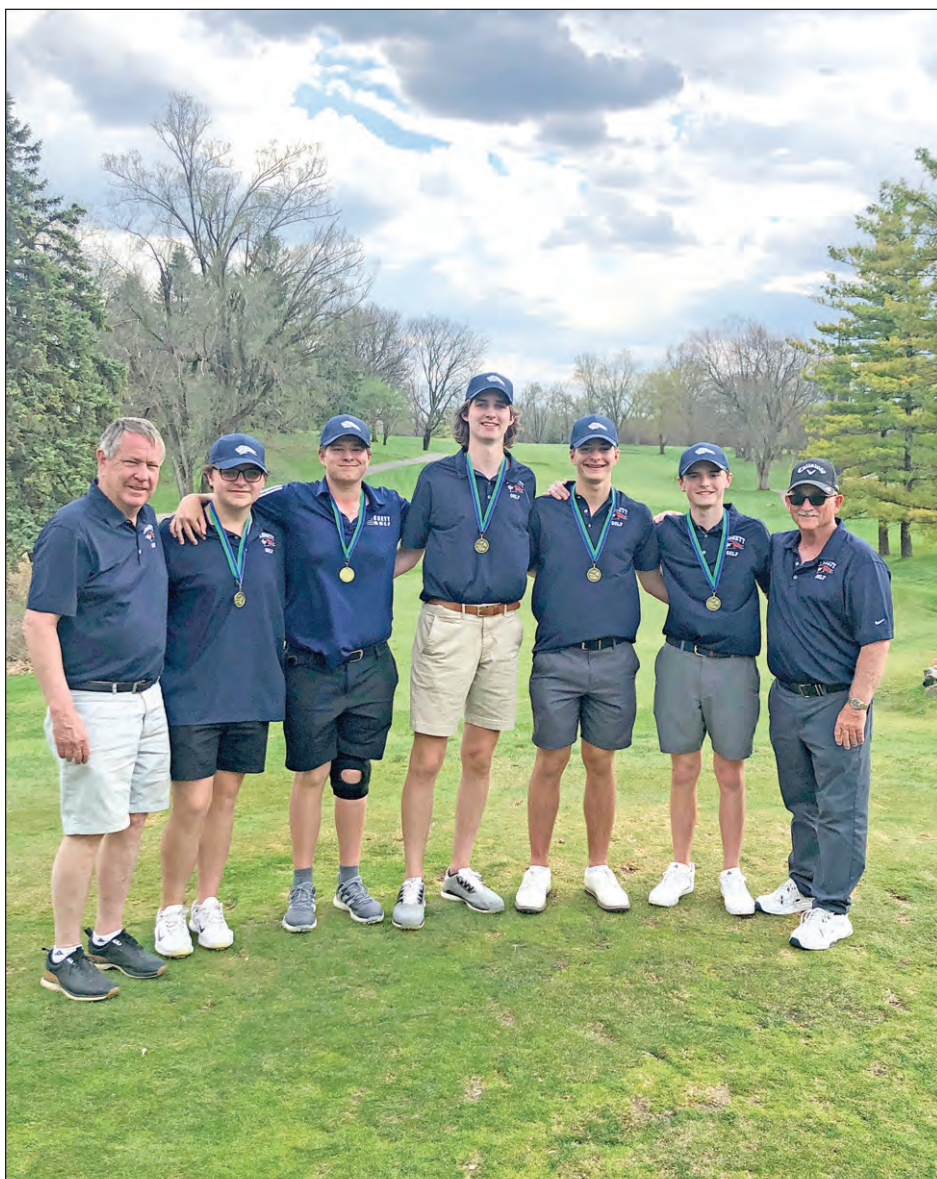


PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN SULLIVAN

## Knights victors at Greenhills

The University Liggett boys varsity golf team earned its first big victory of the spring on Saturday, April 15 at the Greenhills Invitational. The Knights finished first out of nine teams at the Washtenaw Golf Club with a team score of 330. Leo Pampalona and Charlie Cooksey tied for the team's lowest score of the day at 79.

### CITY OF HARPER WOODS WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING APRIL 3, 2023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Harper Woods will be holding a Public Hearing on Monday, May 1, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of obtaining public input on the distribution of the special assessment levy.

Residents who are unable to attend this hearing may submit their written comments regarding this matter to the City Clerk's office prior to the hearing date.

CITY OF HARPER WOODS  
**Leslie M. Frank,**  
City Clerk

Posted: April 4, 2023  
Published: April 20, 2023



South defender Genevieve Boutrous tries to stop North co-captain Kinsley Aldridge from advancing on offense.

**CITY OF HARPER WOODS  
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 3, 2023**

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Valerie Kindle at 7:00 P.M.

**ROLL CALL:** All Councilpersons were present

**MOTIONS PASSED**

- 1) To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held March 20, 2023, the special City Council meeting held on March 16, 2023 and furthermore receive and file the minutes of the Library Board meeting held on February 16, 2023, the Board of Review meeting held on March 13, 2023 and the Planning Commission meeting held on March 22, 2023.
- 2) To schedule a public hearing on April 17, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of receiving public comment on the continuation of a Special Assessment District and further to schedule a second public hearing on May 1, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the effect of the Special Assessment on the tax roll, and further that the City Clerk publish a notice of these in accordance with City Charter requirements.
- 3) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

**RESOLUTIONS PASSED**

- 1) (1) to approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 127002 through 127180 in the amount of \$1,684,294.31 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) to approve payment in the amount of \$5,175.00 to Guardian Sewers for their assistance with a water main break and replacement of a stop box at a residential location. (3) to approve payment to The Helm Life Center, Inc. in the amount of \$14,000.00 for the city's proportionate share of expenses relative to the senior center and senior public services from July 2022 through June 2023. (4) to approve payment to Pointe Area Assisted Transportation Services, Inc. in the amount of \$6,000.00 for the city's proportionate share of expenses relative to the senior transit services for July 2022 through June 2023.
- 2) to approve the low bid submitted by SAS Home Services in the amount of \$11,600.00 for the installation of 2 concrete pads for chess tables, 2 concrete pads for cornhole boards and for the installation of 3 picnic tables and a grill, with \$10,979.00 being provided by the Wayne County Park Millage grant, and the remaining balance of \$621.00 to be paid by the City.
- 3) to approve the Proposal for Professional Services dated January 27, 2023 submitted by Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, Inc. in the amount of \$16,950.00 for the Michigan Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) and Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Project planning, and further to authorize the acting City Manager to sign the proposal.
- 4) to adopt the Resolution Condemnation of Dwelling and Abatement of Public Nuisance for 20950 Lancaster, and further to accept the only bid submitted by Adams Group Demolition in the amount of \$20,663.00 to demolish the structure.

**Valerie Kindle, Mayor** **Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk**

Published: GPN, April 20, 2023

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### 200 HELP WANTED GENERAL

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### 204 HELP WANTED DOMESTIC

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**957 PLUMBING & INSTALLATION**

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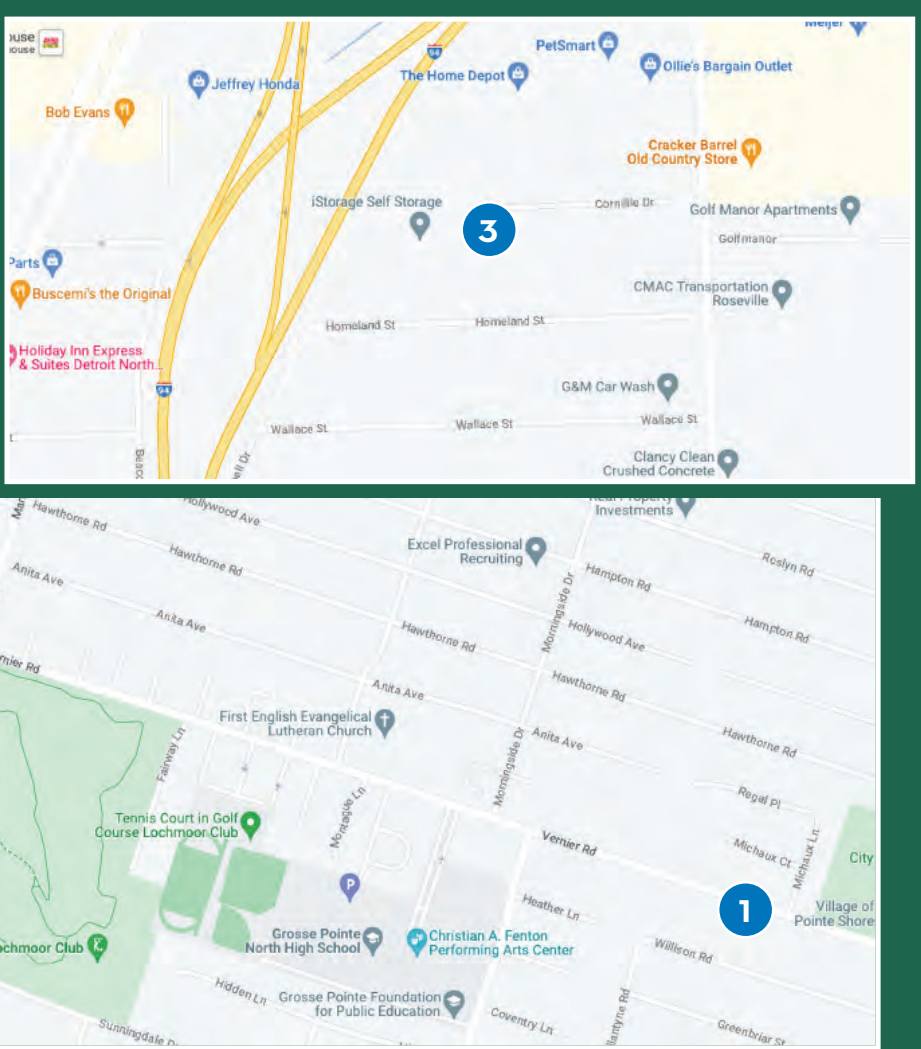
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## Grosse Pointe News Yard & Estate Sale Map



**THIS WEEK** 1. 55 Vernier, GPS 2. 1398 Anita, GPW 3. 20100 Cornille Dr. Roseville 4. 20331 Mack, GPW

See Classifieds for more details  = ESTATE SALE

# 8D | SPORTS

## THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

# QUICK HITS & HIGHLIGHTS

The high school spring sports season is in full swing, and the Grosse Pointe News is here to bring you all the varsity action. Some of the week's biggest hits and highlights include:

### NORTH, SOUTH & ULS BOYS LACROSSE

- University Liggett boys lacrosse defeated East China on Monday, April 17, 12-6, to improve to 3-0 this season. Alex Gould and Alex Uralli had three goals each in the win.
- South's boys lacrosse team moved to 3-2 this spring with an 11-10 overtime win against Rochester Adams on Saturday, April 15.
- North boys lacrosse improved its record to 4-2 so far this spring with a dominant 11-1 win over Chippewa Valley on Friday, April 14.

### NORTH & SOUTH GIRLS TENNIS

Major waves were made in girls tennis on Saturday, April 15 when North defeated South for the first time in 31 years. The match was part of a quad meet hosted by North, which saw the Norsemen defeat the Blue Devils along with Warren Cousino while falling to Troy. Helaina Pietrowsky, Stephanie Karoutsos and Alessia Picinelli all earned singles wins for North. Mya Jackson and Lauryn Rendzikowski had a doubles victory along with Natalie Grillo and Katie Scott.

Does your team have a newsworthy quick hit or highlight from the week to share? Send it along to [mleonard@grossepointenews.com](mailto:mleonard@grossepointenews.com).



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## SPORTS CALENDAR

# APRIL 20 23



- 19**
- > GPS boys golf (Tri-match @ Gowaine) - 2pm
  - > GPS girls tennis @ Eisenhower - 4pm
  - > GPS girls soccer @ Fraser - 7pm
  - > GPS girls lax @ Northville - 7pm
  - > GPN @ GPS boys lax - 7:30pm
  - > ULS @ GPN boys golf - 3pm
  - > GPN girls tennis vs. Romeo - 4pm
  - > GPN baseball @ LCN - 4pm
  - > GPN girls soccer vs. Eisenhower - 7pm
  - > ULS baseball @ UD Jesuit - TBD
  - > ULS girls lax vs. DC - 4:30pm
  - > ULS boys lax @ Bishop Foley - 5pm

- 20**
- > GPS baseball @ Ford II - 4pm
  - > GPS softball vs. PH - 4:30pm
  - > GPN boys golf @ Eisenhower - 2pm
  - > GPN girls tennis vs. Groves - 4pm
  - > GPN softball @ Anchor Bay - 4:30pm
  - > GPN baseball vs. LCN - 4:30pm
  - > GPN girls lax vs. ND Prep - 7pm
  - > ULS girls tennis @ Regina - 4pm
  - > ULS boys + girls track & field (CHSL Meet) - 4pm
  - > ULS girls soccer vs. St. Catherine - 4:30pm

- 21**
- > GPS boys golf @ DLS - TBD
  - > GPS baseball vs. Ford II - 4:30pm
  - > GPS @ GPN girls soccer - 6pm
  - > GPS boys lax @ Farmington - 7pm
  - > ULS girls lax vs. Sacred Heart - 7pm
  - > ULS softball @ Marian - 4:30pm
  - > ULS boys lax vs. PH - 5pm



- 22**
- > ULS girls tennis quad - 8am
  - > ULS baseball vs. CC - 11am
  - > ULS girls lax vs. FGR - 12pm
  - > GPS girls tennis quad - 8am
  - > GPS boys track & field @ Dexter - 9am
  - > GPS Softball (Round Robin Tourney) - 10am
  - > GPS boys lax @ Novi - 1pm
  - > GPS baseball vs. TBD (@Comerica) - 4pm
  - > GPN girls tennis @ Groves - TBD
  - > GPN boys + girls track & field @ Woodhaven - 9pm
  - > GPN softball @ Lake Orion - 10am
  - > GPN boys lax @ Bishop Foley - 4pm
  - > GPN baseball vs. Lake Shore (@Comerica) - 7pm



NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

- 23**
- > GPS & GPN boys golf @ Indianwood Invite - 12pm
  - > GPS girls tennis @ PH - 4pm
  - > GPS girls soccer @ Ford II - 7pm
  - > GPS boys lax @ Dakota - 7pm
  - > GPS girls lax vs. CV - 7:30pm
  - > GPN girls tennis vs. Eisenhower - 4pm
  - > GPN girls lax @ Cranbrook - 4pm
  - > GPN baseball vs. CV - 4:30pm
  - > GPN girls soccer vs. Dakota - 6pm

- 25**
- > GPS boys + girls track & field @ Romeo - 4pm
  - > GPS baseball @ Stevenson - 4:30pm
  - > GPS softball @ Marine City - 4:30pm
  - > GPS girls lax vs. Seaholm - 7:30pm
  - > GPN boys + girls track & field @ Dakota - 4pm
  - > GPN softball vs. Dakota - 4:30pm
  - > GPN boys lax vs. PH - 6pm
  - > ULS softball @ Bishop Foley - 4pm
  - > ULS girls tennis @ Sacred Heart - 4:30pm
  - > ULS girls lax vs. FGR - 5:30pm
  - > ULS girls soccer @ OLSM - 7pm

- 26**
- > GPN @ GPS boys golf - 2pm
  - > GPS girls tennis vs. Rochester - 4pm
  - > GPS softball vs. Renaissance - 4:30pm
  - > GPS boys lax @ ND Prep - 7pm
  - > GPS girls soccer vs. Utica - 7:30pm
  - > GPN girls tennis @ PHN - 4pm
  - > GPN baseball @ CV - 4:30pm
  - > GPN girls lax @ Cass Tech - 7pm
  - > ULS baseball @ Brother Rice - 4pm
  - > ULS girls lax vs. St. Catherine - 4:30pm
  - > ULS boys lax @ GR - 5pm

- 27**
- > GPS baseball vs. Stevenson - 4:30pm
  - > GPS softball vs. Cousino - 4:30pm
  - > GPN boys lax @ PH - 7pm
  - > GPN @ ULS girls tennis - 4pm
  - > GPN softball @ CV - 4:30pm
  - > GPN baseball vs. CV - 4:30pm
  - > GPN boys lax vs. Eisenhower - 6pm
  - > ULS boys golf @ Austin Catholic - 3pm
  - > ULS girls soccer vs. Greenhills - 4:30pm
  - > ULS softball vs. Lakeview - 4:30pm
  - > ULS boys + girls track & field @ Greenhills - 4:30pm

- 28**
- > GPS baseball @ Stevenson - 4:30pm
  - > GPS girls lax @ Eisenhower - 7pm
  - > GPN boys golf @ Gil Evans Tourney - 8am
  - > GPN boys + girls track & field @ Franklin - 3:30pm
  - > GPN girls lax @ Sacred Heart - 4:30pm
  - > GPN boys lax vs. LC - 6pm
  - > GPN girls soccer @ Stevenson - 7pm
  - > GPN girls lax @ St. Catherine - 5:30pm
  - > ULS boys lax @ Anchor Bay - 7pm

- 29**
- > GPS softball @ Holland Tourney - TBD
  - > GPS girls tennis @ FHN - 8pm
  - > GPS boys + girls track & field @ Warren Mott - 9:30am
  - > GPS baseball vs. LC (DH) - 11am
  - > GPN girls tennis @ Grosse Ile - 9am
  - > GPN softball vs. Algonac - 10am
  - > GPN baseball vs. Eisenhower (DH) - 11am
  - > ULS baseball vs. DLS - 11am
  - > ULS softball @ OLL - 11am



NO EVENTS SCHEDULED