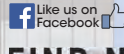




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Pier Park pipe bomb case inactive

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — A pipe bomb found in a Pier Park flower bed in early June was “severely rusted and appeared to have been underwater for a long period of time,” according to an official incident report released by the Michigan State Police last week.

Aside from reporting the bomb was incapable of detonating and its placement likely was an isolated incident, it is the Farms department of public safety’s stance not to provide a narrative as to how the bomb may have ended up at Pier Park, because there is no proof to back up a potential statement.

“I do believe there was never a threat to the public, but I can’t speculate on anything,” Detective Lt. Antonino Trupiano said. “... It was not functioning and it wouldn’t have worked, so there was never a threat and it was extremely old.”

Director John Hutchins previously said most of the potential narrative explanations “do not involve the intent to injure anyone.”

With the MSP’s incident report providing no further leads, the case is considered inactive, “until we can find a lead or somebody comes forward or we find something similar,” Trupiano said, “but as of right now we have no new leads and we’re still kind of wondering how it got there.”



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe Woods broke ground on planned upgrades at Chene-Trombley Park Saturday, June 24, which will include a tot lot named after Phyllis DeMars.

Woods breaks ground on Chene-Trombley Park upgrades

By Ted O’Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — City council and guests held a ceremonial groundbreaking at Chene-Trombley Park Saturday, June 24, but now it’s time for the heavy equipment.

“This is going to be a wonderful addition to our park system,” Mayor Art Bryant said. “It’s going to be much more aesthetically pleasing,

able to bring the project in according to budget,” he said. “The equipment will be here in July and we hope to have it done by the end of August.”

The original bids for the project came in two to three times higher than anticipated, according to City Administrator Frank Schulte.

“This was a collaborative effort between the administration and our public services department to reach out to local vendors and we were

able to bring the project in according to budget,” he said. “The equipment will be here in July and we hope to have it done by the end of August.”

Total cost of the project is \$561,000. That includes \$366,000 from the city’s budget and nearly \$195,000 from the Grosse Pointe Woods Foundation and the family of Phyllis A. DeMars. A tot lot within the park will be named for DeMars, a Woods resi-

dent and longtime educator who passed away last year. The lot will be wheelchair accessible and include a friendship swing.

The foundation also received a \$10,000 grant from Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Legacy Funds for the tot lot.

“I’m extremely pleased, as is the whole council, that the family stepped forward to help the foun-

See PARK, page 2A

Street light savings could fund one PSO

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — It’s been said that when Elvis entered a room all the other guys’ chances dropped to zero.

Understanding what that has to do with the Park installing nearly 1,000 energy-efficient street lights and saving \$542,636 in utility costs over the next five years depends on putting infrastructure improvements within the context of the King’s 1968 song beginning, “A little less conversation, a little more action, please.”

As the Park council prepared June 12 to endorse City Manager Nick Sizeland’s recommendation to have DTE Energy replace old-fashioned mercury and sodium street lights with

See SAVINGS, page 2A

GPEA voices concerns over contract talks

By Ted O’Neil
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTE — A press release from the Grosse Pointe Education Association Thursday, June 29, said lack of a new contract puts the Grosse Pointe Public School System at risk of “a mass exodus of qualified educators.”

The current two-year contract between the union and school district expires Aug. 15.

“The local educator shortage is placing our children’s future at risk,” GPEA Co-President Jackie Shelton said in the release. “We must settle the contract and provide certainty to our educa-

tional community so we can recruit highly qualified educators to our district as well as keep great teachers in our classrooms.”

Board of Education President Ahmed Ismail said the negotiating committee “has been working diligently with the administration to reach a fair and equitable contract,” adding the committee has been meeting with Superintendent Jon Dean weekly.

The committee includes Vice President Lisa Papas, Treasurer Sean Cotton and Trustee Valarie St. John.

“We are proud that year after year Grosse Pointe schools has been in a position to continue

to offer a highly competitive compensation package to our teachers and other staff members along with excellent working conditions,” Dean said. “We are confident that the bargaining teams for both the district and its teachers will reach agreement on a new collective bargaining agreement before the start of the new school year.”

The GPEA release goes on to say nearby districts have settled their contracts “with wage enhancements and fair working conditions,” and “the uncertainty has left many Grosse Pointe teachers with no choice but to leave the school district and easily find employment in nearby

districts with higher pay and better working conditions.”

A human resources report approved by the board Tuesday, June 20, shows 11 teachers “resigned for personal reasons.”

Taryn Loughlin, GPEA co-president, told the Grosse Pointe News some of those teachers already have taken jobs in other districts, as have some of the 15 teachers who retired from GPPSS this year.

“The longer this takes, the more teachers feel uneasy,” she said. “We don’t want more to leave.”

Loughlin said the union

See GPEA, page 3A

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Tina Allor
Home: Grosse Pointe Park
Pointer’s health and wellness journey leads to meaningful career



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Change in auditors

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK

— In the deep and narrow subculture of auditing humor, practitioners of the cold-hearted profession are likened to ghouls showing up after a battle to bayonet the wounded.

It's all a numbers game and the ones adding up best these days in Grosse Pointe Park mind their credits and debits at Yeo & Yeo CPAs & Advisors.

The century-old firm beat two competitors this month for a five-year contract to become the city's new auditor.

A first-year base cost of \$46,500 grows 2 percent each remaining year for a grand total of \$242,090. Extras cost extra.

Company officials included among their references the cities of St. Clair Shores and Rochester.

Y&Y's pitch also boasts of 10 municipal clients earning Government Finance Officers Association certificates of achievement for excellence in financial reporting.

"This is another step in the process of modernizing our finances and budget," said Councilman Max Wiener, motioning during the June 12 council meeting to authorize the contract. Unanimous approval followed.

A committee consisting of City Manager Nick

Sizeland, Assistant Manager Warren Rothe, new Finance Director Ginger Moriarty and new Clerk Meghan Bachmann interviewed representatives of all three firms seeking the job.

Moriarty's written recommendation to the council included, "The overall recommendation for audit services is based on the firm's proposal and interview, with an emphasis on the firm's experience, total government audit experience, the audit approach and team (and) the firms' ability to rotate partners with future renewals."

"The firm currently provides services for more than 130 governmental units," Yeo & Yeo Principal Ali N. Barnes wrote in a cover letter and support material within the bidding document.

Area offices are in Auburn Hills, Ann Arbor and Southgate.

"We utilize a team approach to staffing audit engagements based on the required skill sets of the team, rather than where the office is physically located," Barnes continued. "Because of this we may draw on governmental professionals who are based in any of our offices. This approach ensures your engagement is staffed with professionals with government account and auditing experience."

PARK:

Continued from page 1A

dation," Bryant said. "This will be a much bigger improvement than initially anticipated."

Bethany Matus, DeMars' daughter, told the crowd she has felt the excitement of the community about the new park.

"Phyllis dedicated her life to her family, to her community and to children with special needs through her God-given talents," Mathus said. "As a mother myself of three tot-aged children, two with hypotonic cerebral palsy, it is so special that the city embraced our desire for adaptable and accessible play equipment."

Schulte said improvements will include new restrooms, a pavilion, picnic tables and a walking path. Landscaping and lighting will be improved and the chain-link fence around the park will be replaced with a lower, vinyl-wrapped one to give better sight lines into the park.

A security system with cameras and a speaker, similar to those added to Ghesquiere Park last year, will be installed. The cameras will be motion activated and monitored by Pointe Alarm.

"If someone is there after hours, they can use the speaker to tell them to leave," Schulte said. "If they won't leave, dispatch is notified."



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Police push back on 'push outs'

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Detectives in the City of Grosse Pointe are sending a message: Quit shoplifting from Kroger.

Alongside thefts of catalytic converters in the Woods and those of Kias throughout the Pointes, thefts from The Village anchor store at 16919 Kercheval long have played a repressing role in Grosse Pointe News public safety reports, but only in the last two years or so have swapped their cliffhanger "investigation is ongoing" endings for finales of arrest and prosecution.

One repeat offender years ago told officers people steal from the Kroger location because "it's easy," but that certainly isn't the case any longer.

Of the 27 retail frauds from Kroger reported to the City department since July 1, 2022, the responsible parties in all but three have been identified and charged.

"A lot of it stems from, you see around the country where there's a decrease in emphasis on prosecuting crime and I think people thought they could get away with it here," Detective Mike Narduzzi said. "I think that's part of it and we weren't having it."

The catalyst to the crackdown was the per-



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Three Pointe departments responded to Kroger in May when four suspects were spotted entering the business after just having stolen \$125 worth of alcohol and hygiene products from a business on The Hill. Through a miscommunication during which officers at first believed there to be only three suspects, the fourth — a 47-year-old Warren man — initially walked away from the scene. Minutes later, Detective Mike Narduzzi caught up with him on Cadieux and conducted the final arrest.

fect combination of a new store manager who implemented a zero-tolerance policy and Narduzzi's transition to the City in August 2021, following a 25-year career in the Park.

Since he began, reports of thefts of more than \$100 from the store have decreased from multiple a week to one every couple of weeks, which he credits to a team effort and "good old-fashioned detective work."

As 90 percent of the cases were reported to the department after the criminal was long gone — thefts through the U-scan self-checkout area in par-

ticular often are noted by employees and the security footage reviewed by management the next day, before a report to public safety is made — Narduzzi takes any number of avenues to identify suspects, including working off partial license plates captured on parking lot security footage; descriptions of cars; facial recognition software; and backtracking through other people when someone else's card is used to make a partial payment.

Whether unaware or apathetic about the risk of being charged with a misdemeanor, as well as being required to pay

court costs and restitution back to the store, some thieves simply load up a cart of groceries and casually push it out — dubbed "push-out thefts" — and others steal via self-checkout, keeping up appearances by scanning and paying for a small number of items, yet walking out with triple the amount. One especially creative thief earlier this year swapped out tags, attempting to get away with purchasing a \$15 steak for the price of baby food.

The reasons behind theft from Kroger, offi-

See POLICE, page 4A

Pictured from left are Marlene Harle, Georgeanne LeDuc, Fox Creek President Lynn Detwiler (standing) and Nancy Bierley.



COURTESY PHOTO

Honorary members

Three women became honorary members of the Fox Creek Chapter of Questers at its June meeting: Marlene Harle, who has been a Quester for 48 years; Georgeanne LeDuc, a Quester for 45 years; and Nancy Bierley, a Quester for 41 years. The membership classification is reserved for those who have served 40-plus years as active members of the group. A tribute was given to each woman, including a certificate from the Quester State President and a bouquet of yellow roses.

The Questers, an international organization, support two college students: one at Winterthur/University of Delaware and the other at Columbia University Graduate School. Both students study art conservation, architecture, planning and preservation. Local Questers support historic preservation, restoration and education at a more local level, including the Provençal-Weir House.

Additional information on the Questers, founded in 1944, may be found at michiganquesters.org and questers1944.org.

SAVINGS:

Continued from page 1A

modern light-emitting diodes, Councilman Vikas Relan brought up a lost opportunity.

He said to Sizeland, "Nick, I'm going to throw a name out here we haven't heard in a while: (former Councilwoman) Aimee Fluitt."

Fluitt resigned from the council after all of her political coterie lost reelection or election bids in 2021, and left town on a letter calling the com-

munity racist.

"We started the sustainability committee with you in 2019," Relan told Sizeland. "We talked about having DTE present to us about this. It's well overdue. I'm glad we're doing it."

Sizeland let it go. Questioned about it later, he said, "It takes two to tango."

Mayor Michele Hodges served on council with Fluitt and beat one of her political allies in the mayoral race.

"To me," Hodges said, "it's all about getting stuff done, understanding how to do that and understanding management to the point where you can take it beyond the idea stage and actually bring it

to fruition. We have positive momentum to do that."

"It takes the city council and administration working together," Sizeland said.

"And a really keen eye to produce results and separate that from everything else — putting all of the noise out here," Hodges said, sweeping her hand as though eliminating something unnecessary, "and keeping the focus on what's important and going to push you forward."

Councilman Max Wiener, chairman of the infrastructure committee, motioned to approve terms with DTE.

"Manager Sizeland's been working on this for

quite some time," Wiener said. "He's had a number of meetings with vendors to figure out the best savings."

Conversion will take about three months to complete, according to Sizeland.

Wiener said the project addresses three issues.

"One," Wiener said, "it improves the quality of service for residents because we're going to standardize lighting with better quality lighting. Two, it capitalizes on our sustainability goals because we're going to dramatically reduce our energy usage. And three, it saves a ton of money."

The city's return on investment is less than 1 1/2 years.

"Then on, we're looking at \$108,000 a year we didn't have before," Wiener said. "That's (the cost of hiring) one public safety officer, pretty much."

"This is an opportunity to see what we can save for the long term," Sizeland said.

Hodges summed it up by saying, "Another budget-relieving measure."

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Arbor Day poster winners selected

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Fourth-grade student Jean Marc Paines-Franklin, winner of this year's Arbor Week Poster Contest in the Park, was at a loss to explain the inspiration for his image of a tree with a heart emblazoned with "Earth's soul" and the slogan, "Respect trees like you respect people."

"I didn't really think about it," he said.

Almost the same with runner-up Grace Williams regarding her poster of two trees intertwined in front of a red and yellow sunset and the slogan, "He who plants a tree, plants hope."

"It's the only thing I could think of," said Williams, a student of Karen Frakes at Maire Elementary School.

The city council honored Paines-Franklin, Williams and runner-up Sarah Maxwell Monday, May 8.

Maxwell, a Defer Elementary School student, was absent. Her poster showed a tree's root system. Her slogan,



Left, Jean Marc Paines-Franklin, a fourth-grade student of Jane Nugent at Defer Elementary School, shows his Arbor Day Poster contest winner during the Monday, May 8, Park city council meeting. Right, runner-up Grace Williams is a student in Karen Frakes' fourth-grade class at Maire Elementary School.



PHOTOS BY BRAD LINDBERG

"Inside every tree is a home," supported her renderings of animals in and around the tree.

All three students earned certificates of recognition, T-shirts and city knickknacks.

Paines-Franklin, in Jane Nugent's class at Defer, was presented \$50

by Mayor Michele Hodges.

"Thank you for leading us down the path toward green," Hodges told the students.

This is the 40th year of the city poster contest, held among Park fourth graders in celebration of Arbor Week, the week

leading to Arbor Day, always the last Friday in April.

"We had 98 participants from a pool of 152 students in seven classrooms at three schools," said Pat Deck, chair of the contest and member of the Park Beautification Commission.

Nugent's had the highest level of participation with 21 of 25 students.

"Students do such a great job," Deck said.

"Every poster will be displayed with special prominence throughout the Park as an Arbor Day Foundation Tree City USA for the 40th year."

grader a white pine seedling as well, which is the state tree of Michigan," said Brian Colter, city forester.

The poster contest and other tree-related programs qualified the Park as an Arbor Day Foundation Tree City USA for the 40th year.

Woods hosts Narcan training

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Some 100 people attended a Narcan training session at the city's community center Monday, June 26, in response to three fatal drug overdoses earlier in June.

The training was coordinated by The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods and Families Against Narcotics, or FAN.

As of press time, Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety Director John Kosanke said he still was waiting for autopsy and toxicology reports to determine what killed three people at two different houses the evening of Saturday, June 10. The deceased, all in their 20s, included a male and two females. Kosanke previously confirmed the females were sisters.

"This is something that affects every age

group, regardless of socio-economic status or race," said Marissa Engardio, rescue program supervisor for FAN. "But we have to keep in mind it's not a moral failing. It's a disease caused by a chemical imbalance."

Engardio told the audience opioids cover a wide range of drugs, including morphine, heroin, vicodin and percocet, and come with a high risk of dependency and abuse. Fentanyl, a synthetic opioid, is at least 50 times stronger than morphine and affects the body much faster than other drugs. "Of the 300 overdose deaths every day nationally, 73 percent involve opioids," Engardio said. "Of those, 65 percent involve fentanyl."

Each attendee received a free kit of Narcan — the most common brand name of naloxone — including two doses of four milligrams each as Engardio

explained how to use the nasal spray.

"An overdose starts with a lack of oxygen to the brain, which leads to unconsciousness and then the person stops breathing," she said. "A dose of Narcan releases the opioids from the body's receptors and then the brain remembers how to breathe again."

The final stage of an overdose, however, is cardiac arrest, at which time Narcan doesn't work and CPR is required.

"If you think someone is overdosing, look for small pupils and shallow breathing," Engardio said. "If they are unresponsive and

won't wake up from shaking or running your knuckles along their breastbone, those are pretty good signs. Also look for pale, sweaty skin and blue lips."

Engardio said one dose is usually enough, but if a second dose is administered, it's helpful to use the opposite nostril. It's most effective if the person is laying down with their head tilted back.

"Don't give two doses at once, but if there's no response after three minutes, give the second dose," she said. "It doesn't hurt if you're wrong because there

See NARCAN, page 5A



The Week Ahead

MONDAY, JULY 10

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

TUESDAY, JULY 11

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Finance Committee meeting, noon
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens' Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

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

THURSDAY, JULY 13

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park TIFA board meeting, 7 p.m.

GPEA:

Continued from page 1A

and administration have met six times since May.

"Some of the teachers who left were with the district 15 years, which is a long time," she added. "But they are looking for stability and went to districts with multi-year contracts with raises each year."

The 2023-24 fiscal year budget, also approved by the board June 20, includes \$875,000 for teacher salary increases.

Loughlin called that "a start," and said the GPEA is looking for another multi-year contract.

"I'm not sure that's what we'll get, but it's always helpful," she said. "It helps retain and attract teachers."

The current contract says the union will not "direct, instigate, participate, encourage or sup-

port any strike against the Board by any teacher or group of teachers" during the term of the agreement.

When asked what could happen if no contract is in place when classes start in September, Loughlin said, "I hope we don't have to cross that bridge" and that she remains hopeful.

While teacher strikes are illegal in Michigan, sickouts are not uncommon. Some 116 GPEA members called in sick — nearly twice the usual amount — on April 28, 2021, after the board voted to continue in-person learning and alter distancing and quarantine guidelines.

The news release came a day after the Michigan House and Senate approved a \$21.5 billion education budget that includes a \$458 increase in per-pupil funding.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Pointer's journey to health, wellness brings about career of purpose

By Anne Gryzenia
Publisher

Tina Allor has had quite a journey getting to where she is today. She has drawn upon her experiences and capitalized on her educational background to help others get on a path to wellness and success. Now Grosse Pointers may reap the benefits of her hard work.

A Grosse Pointer for nearly 20 years, Allor has earned many degrees within the health and wellness space, such as a bachelor's degree in physical and health education and a master's degree in sports administration from Wayne State University. Recently, she received a Health and Wellness Coaching baccalaureate certificate from the University of Wisconsin/Steven's Point and National Wellness Institute.

However, that was not before writing the curriculum and teaching for 20 years — and counting — at Macomb Community College. Allor created the Health and Wellness Promotion associate of applied science degree and co-created the Exercise Science associate of applied science degree at MCC.

Aside from her continuing education, she is a super mom of sorts. Her children are always with her — quite literally, as she was pregnant while she earned

both of her college degrees. Allor always has stepped in when help was needed. From coaching sports, to working the senior all-night parties to chairing swim teams, organizing spirit packs and working tirelessly for the Grosse Pointe North Booster Club to raise more than \$80,000 for new tennis courts, the list of her volunteer positions is long.

Both of her children are Grosse Pointe North High School and Michigan State University graduates and both currently reside in Grosse Pointe Park, much to her delight. She loves her community and connections.

"One of the things I love most about Grosse Pointe is the connection you make with people," she said. "I have met so many amazing friends and they rally around you without question through the good and bad times. I feel very blessed to have those people in my life."

During the times of raising children who played multiple travel sports, earning degrees, working and volunteering, Allor did not put herself first. She wasn't feeling her best in any area, she said. She felt tired, unhappy with how she looked or felt and was consistently stressed. After years of this, and a bit of self-reflection, Allor decided to take action.

She became certified



COURTESY PHOTO

Tina Allor, center, with her children, JD and Sydnie.

in wellness coaching, which created the perfect combination of her skills and experience. The educator, coach, fitness aficionado, lifelong learner and practical life experience aligned perfectly to form "Reimagine You" coaching.

"Wellness coaching is about listening and supporting," she said. "It's an opportunity to help people change their lives. I am just super passionate about what I do and when I see people succeeding each week with their goals and the confidence they develop within themselves, it just makes me

happy."

True to form, Allor maintained her commitment to obtaining her wellness certification during one of the most challenging times of her life. An unexpected and unusual bladder cancer diagnosis tried to throw a wrench in her plans, but Allor wasn't having it. She passed her exam nine days after undergoing surgery to remove the tumor and although she remains vigilant in her re-checks and maintenance, she hasn't looked back. It just serves as another reminder and motivator to stay healthy and continue her life of well-

ness.

Allor's advice to everyone is to "be your own health advocate and be in tune with your body. When I first noticed something was wrong, I immediately jumped on it. In less than four weeks, I saw three different doctors and had surgery to remove the tumor and three weeks later I started my treatments. If I had not pushed and listened to my body I would be in a very different situation. Finally, don't take 'no' for an answer from your doctors. Many will say it's a low probability, but at the end of your day it still happened to me."

When she's not helping others with their wellness journeys, Allor enjoys spending time with her family and friends, as well as traveling, splitting time between Naples and Grosse Pointe. She also worked more than two years on obtaining Italian citizenship for herself and her family.

"It wasn't easy due to certain requirements that were needed," she said. "It was a lot of work and money, but totally worth it. We got approved last summer. It's something that will be passed down to my future grandkids and so on."

To reach Allor with questions about wellness coaching, visit reimagineyoucoaching.com or find her on Instagram @reimagineyoucoaching

A wellness coach's top tips:

Certified health and wellness coach Tina Allor has important tips to help anyone interested in getting healthier started on their journey, including:

1. Decide if you're really ready to make changes. Your heart and mind have to be ready for the journey or it will be hard to stay with it. The journey will be much easier if you are ready for it.

2. Knowledge is power. The more you learn and educate yourself, the better options you have in making the best choices for yourself. Don't rely on the internet because there is a lot of false information out there and it can be confusing. There are credible people and resources available to guide and support you.

3. Be consistent. Consistency is the key to success. The key to longterm lifestyle changes is consistency. You won't see results if you're not consistent with your exercise, diet, stress management, etc. This is true for many other things in life too.

4. Start small. Permanent change doesn't happen overnight. There are no quick fixes that will last forever. Small changes make the biggest differences. Slow progression means permanent change. The more you try to do at once, the more you put yourself at risk for failure.

5. Put yourself first. It's OK to take time to take care of you. It's important you know your worth and that putting yourself first is the best way to take care of the ones you love. People feel guilty for doing good things for themselves. We spend money all the time on things we don't need or that are fleeting. Spending money to improve your health and wellness is priceless.

POLICE:

Continued from page 2A

cers have discovered, are varied. Some people steal

the food because they are in need; however, if the stolen items are meat, seafood, Tide PODS or Red Bull, these more often are given to dealers

in exchange for narcotics.

Other thieves, specifically a 45-year-old Grosse Pointe man who lives right around the corner

from the business and was caught stealing wine last November, told City detectives he thought no one would care about a minor theft less than \$1,000.

"He was mistaken," Narduzzi said. "... We decided we were going to crack down on this because it's a quality-of-life issue for the residents here and we wanted to send a message that if you're going to come to Grosse Pointe City and (commit) retail fraud from anywhere, chances are, you're going to get caught."

Pension idea sweetens employment deal

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A change in the municipal pension program could save the city money and make it easier to attract key employees, namely public safety officers.

"What took us so long?" said Councilman Martin McMillan, chairman of the public safety committee.

McMillan seconded Councilman Max Wiener's motion June 12, for the Park to comport with the Michigan Reciprocal Retirement Act 1961, known as Public Act 88.

"The act provides for the preservation and continuity of retirement system service credits for public employees who transfer their employment between units of government," City Manager Nick Sizeland said.

In other words, municipal employees, including 10 members of the Park public safety department who began their work lives in other jurisdictions, would be eligible to credit their prior work experience toward overall retirement benefits.

Yet, the Park wouldn't

be liable for paying all the accrued benefits, only those gained while working for the Park.

"This is a slam dunk," McMillan said.

"It's also a recruitment tool as we're looking to recruit new employees," Sizeland said. "A lot of our public safety officers, as well as public works, would be able to retain credits from those (prior) communities. The (retirement benefit) liability for Grosse Pointe Park is only for the years they serve here."

He explained the cost-saving component by applying the policy to a hypothetical Park employee with eight years prior employment elsewhere.

"If Act 88 were to be adopted, the employee could retire from the Park with a 17-year pension instead of 25 years," Sizeland said. "This would result in a pension savings to the Park of 34 percent for this employee."

All the other Grosse Pointes, Harper Woods and St. Clair Shores are among more than 400 Michigan communities participating in Act 88.

The City of Grosse Pointe signed up first

See PENSION, page 5A



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City of Grosse Pointe

Nothing to report per dispatch.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Honest driver

A 39-year-old Detroit woman was arrested for drunken driving around 4 p.m. Wednesday, June 28, after being pulled over on eastbound Vernier near Lakeshore.

The stop was made after an alert from the Harper Woods Public Safety Department. When approached by officers, the woman admitted to drinking vodka, then apologized and said she was on her way to rehab.

After failing several

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

field sobriety tests, she registered 0.21 blood alcohol content on a preliminary breath test.

—Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Turned in

While at the Farms station attempting to get her vehicle released from impound at 4:37 p.m. Monday, June 26, a 31-year-old Detroit woman was arrested for probation violation warrants regarding retail fraud and embezzlement.

Heroic intervention

When a friend reported she feared for a Farms woman's safety due to her heavily armed 25-year-old abusive fiancé, officers were dispatched to a Moross home at 10:53 a.m. Tuesday, June 27.

Upon ringing the doorbell, a male voice — via the Ring camera system — informed them she wasn't home, just moments before she opened the door and told them her fiancé was at work, adding she was afraid to leave the house or break up with him because he assaulted her.

Officers stood by,

noting several weapons in the home, while she gathered pertinent items to take to a safe location.

Likely able to track her location, the man later arrived outside the Farms station and — upon an extensive interview with the woman that yielded probable cause — was arrested.

Within his vehicle was found a loaded handgun in the glove department; two loaded handguns in separate bags in the trunk; and a suitcase containing one change of clothes, an electric shaver and two pairs of pants that appeared to have been packed in a hurry.

Missing cello

An \$1,800 cello is suspected to have been stolen from the orchestra room of a local school between Monday, June 12, and Monday, June 26.

Buckle up

After making an improper U-turn on Moross and not wearing a seatbelt at 2:51 p.m. Wednesday, June 28, a 21-year-old Detroit man was pulled over and arrested for a fleeing and eluding warrant out of Hazel Park.

— Laurel Kraus

Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe

Farms Public Safety, (313) 885-2100.

Grosse Pointe Woods

Nothing to report per dispatch.

—Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Nothing to report per dispatch.

—Brad Lindberg

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

Shores council reconsidering dog ordinance

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — City council is considering how best to update its dog ordinance after several people spoke at the meeting Tuesday, June 20, in light of a pit bull attack in early June.

"This was a brutal

attack that scarred our entire family," Mark Owen told council during public comments. "We are painfully aware of what the results could have been."

Owen and his wife, Dana, were walking their dog when they were attacked by a pit bull on Lochmoor around 11 a.m. Sunday,

June 4.

Owen said their dog needed to have one leg amputated and he underwent hand surgery due to bites from the pit bull. His wife also suffered dog bites and a rope burn on her arm from their dog's leash due to the force of the pit bull.

"There's nothing we

can do about the past, but we're asking for change," he told council. "I shudder to think what would have happened if a young family was walking with their kids or grandparents walking with grandchildren."

The owner of the pit bull was ticketed for harboring a vicious dog and agreed with

Municipal Judge Charles Bershback during a hearing to euthanize the dog.

"The overall mood of the residents is they want stricter enforcement of our current ordinance or a new ordinance completely," City Manager Steve Poloni said. "Council has asked staff and our

attorney to review other examples that could enhance what we have."

Grosse Pointe Woods currently is the only one of the Pointes that has an ordinance prohibiting owning any breed or mix of pit bulls.

More discussion is expected at the council meeting Tuesday, July 18.

Farms getting new water filtration backup

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — "We have a 1969 generator that is — I was going to call old, but it's actually one year younger than me, so it's actually held up a little bit better than I have," Farms Water Superintendent Scott Homminga joked upon introducing a proposal to city council last month to purchase a new generator for the city's water filtration plant.

Although the 1969 Waukesha natural gas motor generator still is able to generate electricity during power failures, the upgrade has become necessary because many of the generator's replacement parts no longer are being manufactured. Technicians

the city previously hired to help with maintenance and repairs also no longer will work with a 54-year-old motor.

Unanimously approved by city council, the new 550-kilowatt natural gas generator should last the city around three to four decades and will bring the ability to produce 8 million gallons of water a day while being completely off the electrical grid.

"Usually our highest maximum day on an average is about 5 million gallons, so (on) a good, hot summer day, we would be able to provide enough water for the whole community," Homminga said, confirming this includes service to the City of Grosse Pointe, which gets its water from the Farms.

The city will see significant savings with the

purchase, as it had budgeted \$650,000, but will pay a final cost of \$390,400. The price includes a sound-dampening enclosure with a sound rating of 76 decibels at 25 feet.

Comparatively, Homminga noted, the generator enclosure at the Kerby Road Pump Station has an 80 decibel rating.

The delivery time for the generator was at least 52 weeks out from the purchase date, but Homminga anticipates the old model will last and, in the worst case, is ready with a list of generator rentals.

"The hard part is, with the water plant, we have to keep pumps moving 24/7 in order to keep pressure, so when there's (an) electrical failure, you need a generator to kick in right away," he

PENSION:

Continued from page 4A

among its fellow suburbs in 1977. The rest followed through 2009, with Park officials intending to tie the knot as soon as possible.

"It is important to note that even though the city will be counting an employee's previous and future years of service at other municipalities, this counting will not impact the pension benefits the employee will receive from the city," Sizeland

said. "Current employees who have previous years of service would be able to retire early and the city will become a more attractive employer for job seekers as applicants' prior experience would be counted for retirement eligibility purposes."

Public safety officials support the policy. "This is something the command and patrol unions brought up," Sizeland said, adding that the city attorney agreed it was a "great idea."

NARCAN:

Continued from page 3A

are zero side effects."

Engardio also told the audience that if they know someone with prior drug issues, there are certain circumstances that make an overdose more likely. Those include soon after recovering from an overdose or after an extended period of not using drugs, such as being released from jail, the hospital or a treatment facility.

"Someone who gets out of jail or prison is five times more likely to overdose because their tolerance has dropped, but they'll go back to using the same amount as they were before," she noted.

Contact FAN at (586) 438-8500 for more information.

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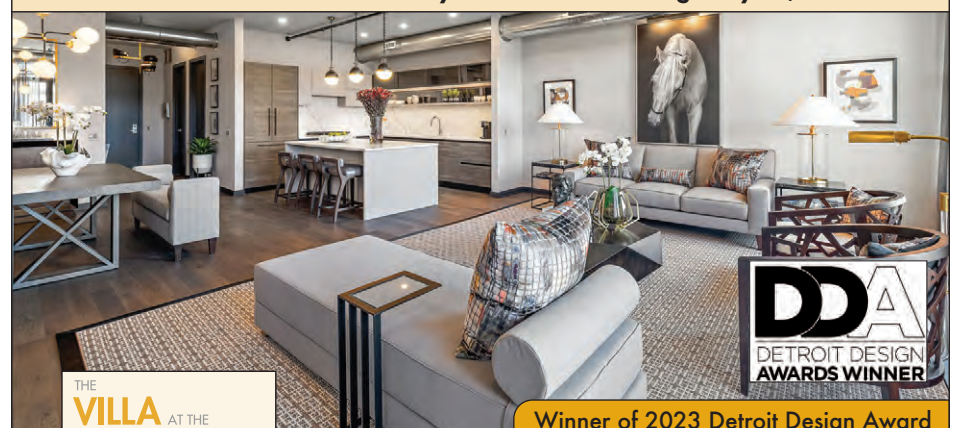
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OUR VIEW

Here's more scoop for you

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan declared July as National Ice Cream Month and the third Sunday of the month as National Ice Cream Day, which happens to fall on July 16 this year.

And wouldn't you know, as dedicated journalists at the Grosse Pointe News, we have more scoop for you.

Let's start with how popular this frozen confection is in our country:

- ◆ The dailymeal.com reports what a giant the ice cream industry is in America, worth a cool \$10.6 billion.
- ◆ Ice cream producers made a mind-blowing 1.38 billion gallons of the good stuff last year, according to the International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA).
- ◆ The U.S. dairy industry also grew significantly over the past two years, adding nearly 60,000 new jobs, increasing average wages by 11 percent and increasing its total impact on the U.S. economy by \$41 billion.

Of course none of this could happen without our appetite for Rocky Road, Chunky Monkey or good old-fashioned vanilla. According to social.com, 90 percent of Americans report they consume ice cream every year, with the average citizen gobbling an average of 20 pounds of ice cream and other frozen desserts annually.

Apparently eating ice cream isn't just for summer either. Sixty-eight percent of Americans report they eat ice cream year round. Who can blame them?

It also appears as though women boost ice cream sales more than men, with consumption among females ranking 15 percent higher than males in the U.S.

That's according to a comprehensive market research study from reportbuyer.com, which describes itself as "a unique, highly detailed study of consumers' Consumer Packaged Goods (CPG) consumption habits. ... Its coverage includes, but is not limited to, consumption behaviors, the extent to which consumer trends influence their consumption, the value of the market these trends influence, and brand and private label choices as well as retailer choices."

Sheesh. And we thought we were just indulging in an Oreo Blizzard.

By now, all of these little ice cream factoids likely have your mind churning. Ours were too, so we wondered what state likes the ice cream the most. Well, it depends on how you define "like." By sheer number of ice cream stores, it's California, which boasts 4,263 ice cream shops. Minnesotans are least likely to eat ice cream, despite having the seventh-highest number of dairy cows in the country. Maybe catching snowflakes on their tongues satisfies that craving.

The good news for Michiganders is we rank in the top 10 out of the 50 states for overall Google search interest in ice cream, landing at the No. 9 spot. Go us!

Long Beach, Calif., is reportedly the most popular city for ice cream in the country, but we are skeptical. Have the surveyors ever stood in line to buy a Shiver or hot fudge sundae at any ice cream shop in Grosse Pointe after a Little League game or choir concert? Didn't think so. We'll go up against Long Beach any day.

We also left the most important question for last — what ice cream flavor is the best? Global opinion company YouGov asked 1,000 U.S. adults about their favorite ice cream flavor and most Americans ranked vanilla and chocolate at the top. Strawberry, cookies and cream and chocolate chip loomed near the top as well.

We also posed this question to our readers and the results are in (see right) and may be blasphemous to some. Mint chocolate chip came out on top as your favorite flavor, with cookie dough and cookies and



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NATALIE FOTIAS

Here I am with my big brother Costa, suggesting that he skips out on soccer practice to spend more time with me.

GUEST VIEW By Tiki Fotias

What's Tiki's been up to?

Many of you read about my recent harrowing escape out of my family's backdoor to a tree branch two stories high, along with my subsequent rescue in the June 15 edition of the Grosse Pointe News. I am so grateful for the efforts led by Fire Specialist Amber Williams and the Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety Department.



Editor's note: Tiki Fotias is a 9-month-old white and yellow, orange-cheeked cockatiel, whose favorite pastime is playing peek-a-boo with his family. His family anticipates no more escapes so they can enjoy his vocal and affectionate personality for years to come. He resides in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Since my rescue, I am back to living my best life with my family. Many of you have asked for an update, so I am happy to oblige and let you know what I have been up to in these early days of summer:

First, I wake up to a good morning song from Mom that I whistle along to.

Then, I sit on my parent's shoulder and watch breakfast being assembled for me and my parakeet siblings. I eat all of my food. And half of theirs, too.

My big brother, Costa, has the summer off of school, so I get to spend a lot of time with him. I cry when he leaves for soccer (See photo above).

I sit on Mom's shoulder and whistle during work calls. I nibble on her fingers when I have had enough of her typing and want some attention.

As for my Fourth of July activities, I enjoyed several good things, including:

I started my day with a bike ride. I loved singing along with the birds tucked high in the trees (See photo right).

I had a special snack (millet) because it's a holiday.

I did some live tweeting.

At night, I snuggled up close with my family, because fireworks make me uneasy. They

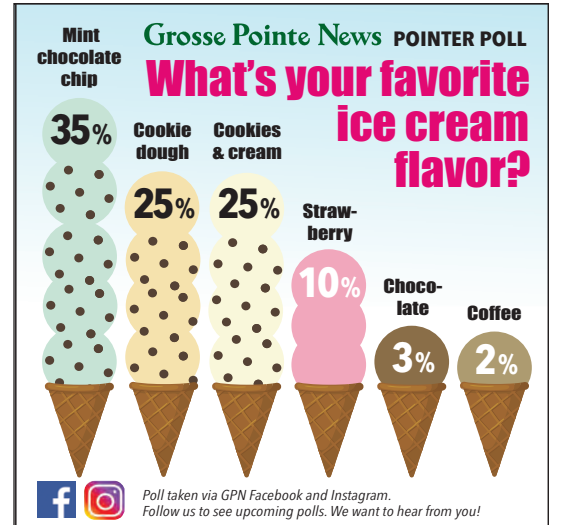


Here I am in my special backpack with my dad before heading out on our daily bike ride. I love singing along with the birds I hear up in the trees.

cream tying for second. Strawberry snuck in at third, while chocolate edged out coffee flavor. No vanilla to be found. How's that for edgy, Grosse Pointe?

We won't judge you for choosing an ice cream flavor that tastes like mouthwash, except that we are. Even some people in our newsroom report mint chocolate chip as their favorite. Perhaps it eases your guilty conscience to have the deceiving minty-freshness accompany your bowl of calories, but the rest of us know that any combination of peanut butter, chocolate and cookie dough is the Muhammad Ali of ice cream. It is the greatest.

But since this is a free country, go ahead and perform your patriotic duty this month and enjoy some ice cream. Even if it is the loathsome mint chip. We say it's the American way.



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GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

July 6 - 12



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64° 68° 66° 63° 63° 63° 63°

Partly Cloudy Morning Showers Partly Cloudy Partly Cloudy Scattered Showers Showers Partly Cloudy

60% 40% 0% 0% 50% 40% 10%

SUNRISE 6:02 am SUNRISE 6:02 am SUNRISE 6:03 am SUNRISE 6:04 am SUNRISE 6:03 am SUNRISE 6:04 am SUNRISE 6:05 am
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I SAY By Mike Adzima



An ode to 'dad music'

Father's Day has come and gone at this point, but since this is my chance to write an I Say as close to the holiday as I've had the chance, I wanted to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the great memories I've shared with my own dad around music.

If there's two things my dad and I both love, it's sports and music. We've had the chance to go to countless sporting events over the years together, but some of the best times I've had with my dad and the rest of my family have been at concerts. Some people my age might think going to a concert with your dad isn't the best experience, but going to shows with my dad has allowed me to see some of music's biggest legends.

Just last week, my dad

and I went up to Pine Knob to see Santana perform. I knew Santana was an act my dad had always wanted to see live and I was more than happy to come along for the journey. Plus, who could say no to seeing a true guitar god like Carlos Santana?

Santana was just another name in the long list of rock legends I've gotten to see thanks to going to concerts with my dad. When I was in seventh grade, he took me to my first real concert to

see Rush on their 2011 Time Machine Tour.

Since then, we've seen Rush another time, on what ended up being their final tour in 2015, and have also seen big names like the Rolling Stones, The Who, Steely Dan, ELO and more. We even have plans later this year to see Metallica during their two-night stand at Ford Field in November.

What makes it special to me is the fact my dad played a key role in shaping my taste in music to

begin with. One of my earliest childhood memories is him dropping me off at hockey practice with Led Zeppelin playing on the radio in his old F-150. I grew up listening to bands he showed me or even "discovering" bands on my own and being able to talk about their music with him. It even led to me hosting a radio show at my high school station — 88.1 The Park in Plymouth — centered around classic rock and the artists I had grown to love thanks to being intro-

duced to them by my dad.

I keep up with everything in music, trying to listen to as much as I can (except country music mostly). While classic rock is widely considered "dad music" by my generation now, I'll always have a deep appreciation for what the legends and pioneers back in the day did to pave the way for the music industry. That's because "dad music" always reminds me of some of the best times I've had with my dad and the fun memories that are still to come, as long as those rock legends are still able to still put on amazing shows for their fans like us.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1948

75 years ago this week

CHARLES A. PARCELLS SUFFERS FATAL HEART ATTACK: Charles A. Parcels will not see a lifelong dream, the creation of a fine library in Grosse Pointe, come true. The prominent financier and educator died at the age of 60 in the Memorial Hospital in Bad Axe on Monday. He suffered a heart attack after a short illness. Mr. Parcels was one of the original members of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial Study Group and one of the principal advocates of a library as a permanent memorial to the community's heroes of World War II.

PARK DECIDES TO ESTABLISH NEW PLANNING COMMISSION: The Village of Grosse Pointe Park is to have a new Planning Commission, the village commissioners

decided at a meeting Monday afternoon. An ordinance was adopted approving the naming of a planning group to become effective 20 days after its adoption. The new commission will have powers and protection not possessed by the previous commission, which dissolved after all its members resigned because they felt they were getting nowhere.

POPULAR COACH TURNS DOWN OFFER: Last week Grosse Pointe High School's coaching staff was almost decreased by one. Coach Ed Wernet, popular football and basketball coach at the high school for the past two years, was approached by Athletic Director Judd Hyames and Dr. Paul Sangren, president of Western Michigan College, and offered the job of freshman baseball and football coach at that school next fall. After anxious days and sleepless nights, Coach Wernet decided his Grosse Pointe ties

were too strong to cast aside and informed the Western Michigan officials he could not accept their offer.

1973

50 years ago this week

POINTER BREAKS SWIM RECORD: Frances Shook of the Grosse Pointe Swim Club, the girls' 10 and under state breaststroke champion, added another record while competing in the Junior Olympic long course championships. She swam the 50-meter long course breaststroke in a record time of 43 seconds, bettering the record set in 1970 by Theresa Sieh of Garden City, which was 43.7.

PARK OFFICER ORGANIZES STATEWIDE POLICE GROUP: Park Patrolman Edward B. Serwach, who believes in professionalism in law enforcement, did more than talk about

it; he organized a group called the Michigan Professional Police Association early this year and now has approximately 100 dues-paying members. Serwach, 30, the first president of MPPA, said if law enforcement is ever to attain true professional status, members must work toward that goal and work together in achieving the highest ethical and professional standards possible.

PALMER SIGNS WITH CHICAGO: Twenty-year-old Rob Palmer has signed a contract to play with the National Hockey League's Chicago Blackhawks. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Palmer of the Woods agreed to terms June 29. The All-America center from the University

of Denver turned down an offer from the World Hockey Association's Houston Aeros to accept the Blackhawks' contract.

2013

10 years ago this week

PARCELLS SWEEPS COMPETITION: For a second straight year, Parcels Middle School sixth graders have swept their age group at the state level of the eCybermission challenge, the U.S. Army's web-based science, technology and math competition for sixth to ninth graders. The foursome of Rachel Sexton, Joey Rheume, Vivian Liagre and Chris Lorelli, the Fierce Four

they called themselves, won first place at the sixth-grade level. Tik Tok Boom, the team of Alex Brown Baker, Katelyn LoPorto, Nicholas Volpe and Connor Albrecht, finished second at the same level.

CHAMPIONSHIPS COME TO GPYC: Grosse Pointe Yacht Club has hosted plenty of big events, but this may be the greatest yet as the United States Optimist Dinghy Association National Championships hit town in July. Hundreds of visitors from around the world will make their way to this part of Lake St. Clair for several days of competition. The economic impact of the event in past year has been in the range of \$2.5 million to \$4 million.

Colonial Court, other streets up for water main replacement

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — On deck for the 2023 Water Main Replacement Program in Grosse Pointe Farms is the replacement of a six-inch diameter water main on Colonial Court; a six-inch tie-in that goes between Colonial Court and Lexington; a segment of water main on Mack near Colonial Court; and a small section on Hamilton Court which, in part, provides water for Kerby Elementary School.

"This year the 2023 Water Main Replacement Program will consist of replacing several sections of water main that have seen numerous water main breaks over the last decade," Water Superintendent Scott Homminga said. "All these sections of six-inch diameter water main will be replaced with eight-inch high-density polyethylene water main, which is a lot stronger and more

resilient and it doesn't corrode."

Farms city council last month unanimously approved the work for a total cost not to exceed \$1,031,532.

The project, as in past years, has been awarded to Bidigare Contractors, Inc., and includes a 10 percent increase in unit prices from last year because of the industry-wide higher material cost.

"The method that we'll be using for the water main replacement is pipe bursting, which we have used in prior water main replacement projects," Homminga said. "The main advantages of pipe bursting is that it minimizes water service disruptions and restorations costs."

Bidigare, since 2020, also has conducted water main replacements on Kercheval, Fisher, Kerby, Pine Court and Elm Court.

— Laurel Kraus



Historic Lake Charlevoix

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Ford House awarded for historic preservation

The Michigan Historic Preservation Network recently awarded Ford House its 2023 Cultural Landscape Award for work completed on restoring the estate's pool and lagoon. The award was issued at an awards reception and ceremony in May on Mackinac Island.

"We are truly honored to receive this award from the Michigan Historic Preservation Network," said Rebecca Torsell, Ford House's director of preservation. "In honoring Eleanor's wish that the estate be preserved for new generations to enjoy, we worked diligently with skilled artisans and craftspeople from around the globe to ensure that this work restored the pool and lagoon to how it appeared during the family's time here."

This project was one of Ford House's most extensive restorations to date and involved landscape architects, architects and engineers from Detroit-based Albert Kahn Associates, whose founder, the legendary Albert Kahn, designed the main residence and



PHOTO BY JOHN MARTIN, COURTESY OF FORD HOUSE

Ford House was awarded for restoration work on the estate's pool, background, and lagoon, foreground.

service buildings in the 1920s. Ensuring historical accuracy was critical in this process and architects from Albert Kahn Associates used archival materials, including original plans, architectural drawings, historical photographs and family films, to ensure the pool and lagoon were restored to their original condition.

Ford House closed its main gate entrance April 17 to May 12, to perform masonry repairs to

restore the almost 100-year-old arch that has become an iconic symbol of entering the historic Ford estate. Throughout the years, the gate has had significant exposure to roadway salts that have deteriorated the bottom portion of the stone columns. Upper portions of the arch have faced damage due to vehicle impact as vehicle size and delivery frequency have increased with only a modest eight-foot gate clearance. The

mortar also was in need of repointing.

In addressing the stones that had deteriorated due to salt damage, 11 stones were selected for veneer replacement. Prior to this work proceeding, a clay poultice was applied to the stone to help draw out the salts. Had it not been done, too much salt in the stones would result in failure of the repairs.

The stones were chiseled back to remove the deteriorated areas and

new cut-stone veneers were installed by using a natural adhesive and stainless-steel pins. The new stone is Briar Hill sandstone, purchased by Ford House last fall from the same quarry as the original construction stone. Ford House staff visited in person to select the stones and viewed the 1927 records noting the Edsel B. Ford residence's purchases of the stone.

In addressing damage caused by vehicle impact, a restoration mortar — developed originally in

Holland, then licensed for manufacturing in the U.S. — was used to patch the damaged areas on the upper portions of the arch. The restoration also included repointing approximately 60 percent of the masonry walls and 100 percent of the stone pavers using a compatible lime mortar. The mortar was custom matched to the original mortar and required a three- to five-day slow cure under damp burlap.

The work was completed by masons from Grunwell Cashero Co.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Ford House's iconic main gate restoration included the replacement of 11 stones, eight patches on the arches and 80 percent repointing.

Park's focus stays on sewers

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The scope of citywide sewer projects in the Park are reflected by their engineering costs.

Nearly two-thirds of the budget for engineering services during fiscal year 2023-24, which started July 1, is to install an emergency stormwater relief valve, plus clean and repair existing sewers to improve capacity and rates of flow.

Members of the city council on June 12 approved spending \$389,500 for engineering consulting fees through the fiscal year.

Of that total, \$205,000 is for construction management and oversight of the forthcoming extreme emergency relief valve. Another \$43,000 is related to an ongoing sewer asset management plan.

"Construction engineering is, essentially, management of the project

— to make sure what we are paying the contractor to do and build is done the correct way," said Warren Rothe, Park assistant manager.

Video inspection and cleaning of sewers became a regular feature of the city starting the second half of 2021, in response to widespread water backups into basements during two thunderstorms.

"This is Part 2 or Part 3, however you count, of this council's efforts to modernize our infrastructure and ensure the sanitary sewer system is working at its utmost capabilities," Rothe said of forthcoming work.

The biggest single outlay this year is \$2,935,100 for installation of an extreme emergency relief valve, or EERV, at Patterson Park. The valve is designed to divert excess storm water straight into Lake St. Clair rather than risk it backing into basements.

Some 67 percent of residents endorsed the project in November 2021.

They approved a 10-year, 2.5-millage rate increase to generate \$1.7 million annually. Funds are required to be used exclusively for water and sewer improvements. Also last year, the Grosse Pointe Park Foundation donated \$130,000 to the city to buy valve components.

Some parts of the municipal water and sewer infrastructure are 100 years old.

"Every year we're going to be using the millage with an annual request to do maintenance in the worst areas of our system, which is very old," Rothe said. "You've got to make sure the flow is optimized."

EERV

Installing the EERV and accompanying 60-inch-diameter piping at Patterson is supposed to be finished by year's

end.

"The proposed sewer will begin at the connection to the existing sewer system (at the intersection of Essex and Three Mile)," said Patrick Droze, a principal with OHM Advisors, the Park's engineering consultants. "From there, it will continue through the park to the existing storm sewer pumping station."

The station and storm water holding tank are beneath a hill at the park where a large house once stood. Patterson's access

road follows part of the old driveway.

"Flow will be controlled by (a) sluice gate, which will be activated by a manual switch," Droze said. "Backflow into the existing sanitary sewer system will be controlled by an inline check valve." The contractor, L. D'Agostini and Sons, is to begin work in late July. "Construction is expected to take eight weeks (and be) complete in December," Droze said.

Sewer rehab

Now that miles of sewers and hundreds of manholes throughout the city

have been surveyed, inspected and evaluated, next comes making repairs.

"Typical options for manholes include spray-in liners or manhole inserts, as well as isolated chimney repairs and adjustments," Droze said. "Typical options for pipe rehabilitation include spot liners, full pipe lines, slip lining, pipe joint grouting and open cut repairs."

"This identifies five years' worth of projects to protect our community by having a sewer system that's functioning at its maximum ability," Rothe said.

Trees for TIFA district

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A Johnny Appleseed aspect of the Tax Increment Finance Authority starts this year with dotting the district with trees.

TIFA's budget for next fiscal year, starting in July, includes \$40,000 to plant up to 116 trees on municipal property in the district.

The area is bounded by the city limits to the north and west, the northern boundary of the Park Downtown Development Authority near East Jefferson to the south and, to the east, the alley between Beaconsfield and Nottingham.

"(City Forester) Brian Colter identified 116 residential properties within TIFA where there are no street trees," said Warren Rothe, TIFA director and assistant city manager.

"Due to Dutch elm disease, the emerald ash borer epidemic and storm damage events, there is a significant opportunity for tree planting on the strip between the sidewalk and curb within the district," Colter wrote in a report to the TIFA board of commissioners.

Trees will be standard 2.5-inch caliper, 8 to 12 feet tall, stabilized with planting stakes and tucked in with mulch.

Costs per tree plus planting is \$350, Rothe said. There's no cost to property owners.

Filling bare spots with trees beautifies the district without adding yearly maintenance costs.

"Trees in the right-of-way are under the maintenance obligation of the city," Rothe said. "TIFA is not responsible for any long-term maintenance, unless we want to be."

He'd like to offer the planting pro-

gram once every four or five years.

"We'll go through these properties and notify them we're planting a tree," Rothe said. "If (someone) doesn't want one, let us know."

Colter recognized that not everyone may want a tree for various reasons, including having to rake leaves.

"Why force a tree on someone who won't appreciate it?" he said.

He intends to plant as wide-ranging an array of species as practical.

"The pool of trees we can draw upon is dwindling at a time when we are trying to emphasize diversity," he said.

He doesn't plant pear trees anymore due to pear trellis rust.

"I want to plant oaks, but there's the threat of oak wilt," Colter said. "It goes on and on. Maples do the best, but there's Asian longhorn beetles, which prey on maples. They aren't in Michigan yet, (but) they've been intercepted at the border and will be here eventually."

He'd like to introduce lesser-known trees such as sweetgum, but it has the negative quality of fruit litter.

"The fruit looks like a spiked ball, like a medieval mace," Colter said.

The list of reasons for being against trees continues.

"Oaks have acorns and maples have helicopter seeds," he said.

Rothe said property owners will be notified by a method to be determined in addition to social media.

"We can probably do a mass mailing in the TIFA district," he said. "We'll figure out the medium. A paper product will be delivered."

The TIFA authority is funded by capturing future anticipated increases in tax revenue generated within the TIFA district that otherwise would go to the county and state. Funds are to be spent for the benefit of the district.

City of **Grosse Pointe Park**, Michigan

**NOTICE OF VOTER REGISTRATION
FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2023
GROSSE POINTE PARK, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF GROSSE POINTE PARK:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE. That any qualified elector who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of their City Clerk; the office of the County Clerk; Federal Post Card Application (FPCA); mail registration; a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated agency. Registration forms can be obtained at mi.gov/vote and mailed to the City Clerk at the address listed below. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at www.expressSOS.com.

The last day to register by mail or online and be eligible to vote in the August election is Monday, July 24, 2023. After this date anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at their local clerk's office during the following times: Regular business hours: Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm; Saturday, August 5, 2023, from 6:00 am to 2:00 pm; and Election Day, Tuesday, August 8, 2023, from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE. That registered voters will be voting on the following as presented and listed below:

City Council Candidates - Vote for not more than 3

Brent Dreaver
Jay A. Kennedy
Tim Kolar
Marty McMillan
Kirk Meramtdjian
Elvis Torres
Heather Ulku

Full text of the ballot, may be obtained at www.mi.gov/vote.

Persons with special needs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact their local City Clerk's Office.

Meaghan Bachman,
City Clerk — City of Grosse Pointe Park
15115 E. Jefferson Ave.
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230

Geresy named DAFT Educator of the Year

Steve Geresy, TV Production teacher for Grosse Pointe South High School and Pierce Middle School, was awarded the Educator of the Year by Digital Arts Film and Television for his longstanding commitment to the Grosse Pointe Public School System's video production program and dedication to high school and middle school students' media education.

Geresy has been the TV Production and Broadcast Journalism teacher at South the last 25 years and more recently also teaches at Pierce. In addition, he films board meetings, supervises GPPSS's educational access channel and was instrumental in implementing closed captioning.

"I am honored and humbled to be chosen as DAFT's Teacher of the Year," Geresy said. "It is a great recognition. This would not have been possible without the support of my family, mentors, my amazing colleagues and current and past administrators. I appreciate the continued support of GPPSS for our elective programs. I am very fortunate to teach in such a great district."

Geresy has taught video production to more than 3,500 students. His stu-



Steve Geresy

dents have had success at the Michigan Student Film Festival, Michigan Interscholastic Press Association, Orchard Lake Film Festival and Meijer Great Choices competitions. Several have gone on to become professional filmmakers and broadcasters at ESPN, WDIV, WXYZ, Detroit PBS, Goodbye Pictures, CNBC and CBS.

Strong showing at MI Student Film Festival

The TV Production programs at Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South high schools and the Broadcast Journalism program at Pierce Middle School had strong showings at the Michigan Student Film Festival sponsored by DAFT (Digital Arts Film and Television). South TV Production students received 11 awards, North TV Production received four awards and Pierce received 12 awards.

Best of Show

North TV Production received a Best of Show award for "Hard Knocks Norsemen News" created by Michael Roustemis, Ian DuVernay and Colin Smith. The video is inspired by the "Hard Knocks" TV show and features members of the Grosse Pointe North football team. "Hard Knocks Norsemen News" was featured at the DIA's Film Theatre Saturday, June 3.

Pierce's Broadcast Journalism class had seven Best of Show projects playing at the DIA Film Theatre:

◆ Jude O'Meara, Peter Howlett, Logan Konkey, Nadeem Haurani, Nathaniel Yeaman and Sam Labadie produced a narrative film called "The Dead End," about the world being taken over by zombies.

◆ O'Meara, Howlett and Labadie also produced a winning short film called "Rocky, Paper, Scissors."

◆ Maggie Houk and Grace Geresy produced a mock newscast called "SUS News."

◆ Geresy was also awarded for her animated opener for Pierce News.

◆ Elias Kartsonas and Everett Wood produced a cooking video called "Primo Piatto." Two personality profiles were included in the Best of Show reel.

◆ O'Meara, Howlett and Labadie produced a news package on Pierce News Weather Now.

◆ Geresy, Elle Sutorka

and Erin Ramsey created a news story featuring fifth-grade Pierce teacher Alison Grojean.

These winning videos were included in the Junior division reel at the DIA Film Theatre June 3.

Excellence and Certificate of Honor awards

Grosse Pointe North TV Production received three Excellence awards:

◆ Michael Roustemis and Charles Bomgaars for their music video "Possessions by Mood Switch."

◆ Grace Korkmaz for "Welcome Home," a promotional video for Grosse Pointe North.

◆ Cara Kasalatas, Piper Marshall, Madison Lucido, Molly Lucido and Josie Cueter for "Think before You Act," a public service announcement.

Grosse Pointe South TV Production received 10 Excellence awards:

◆ Annabelle Kraydich and Maxwell Christen were awarded for their documentary on the Magic Bag in Ferndale.

◆ Montana Schroeder and Eric Beard received an award for their mini-documentary about golf at Chandler Park in Detroit.

◆ South's Video Club, made up of Montana Schroeder, Erin Simpson, Jason Reynolds, Eric Beard, Mario Hanna and Audrey Larson, received awards for three projects: a short film called "Anyways"; GPTV Evening News; and a PSA on suicide awareness.

◆ Rebecca Roberts, Mae Batiatico and Gabrielle Duso were awarded for their promotional commercial about Career and Technical Education.

◆ Whitney Handwork and Naya Azoury were awarded for their documentary about swimming coach John Fodell.

◆ Christopher Mourad, Nathan Kocik, Seamus Doyle and William Henry were awarded for their PSA on drinking and driving.

◆ Luna Agosta,

Charlotte Messacar and Lily Irby were awarded for their PSA called "Distracted Driving."

◆ Henry Tiderington, Anthony Ricci and Griffin Klautky received an award for the opener to the freshmen course video.

Pierce's Broadcast Journalism students received three Excellence awards.

◆ Elizabeth Wilson, Lillian Schindlbeck and Ciara Nordstrom were awarded for their short film about losing a family pet called "The Last Bark."

◆ Nicole McEnroe, Sophia Beacham and Addison Brownsberger created the climate-conscious character of Earth Girl for their short film.

◆ Harriet Kowalski, Brooke Hepner and Abiah Kroshus were awarded for their short film, "Karma."

South student Cooper Evans received a Certificate of Honor for his PSA on the importance of homework.

Pierce's students also received two Certificate of Honor awards:

◆ Addison Wiegand, Anne Paradise and Clara Bachert for their PSA on the danger of vaping.

◆ Mason Applegate, Evelina Baer and Amelia Rouleau for their short film about a bully called "Her Own Issues."



Members of the Class of 1973 were among attendees of a cocktail dinner.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ULS

Liggett Alumni Weekend welcomes alumni back to campus

University Liggett School welcomed back hundreds of alumni, friends and current and former faculty/staff to campus May 19 and 20, for 2023 Alumni Weekend events. Alumni gathered at and around their alma mater to enjoy two days with dear friends.

A variety of events marked the weekend. Activities and gatherings included the following:

◆ The weekend kicked off with Friday morning's in-person meeting of fifth-grade students and their Class of 1973 pen pals. During the school year, these students and alumni exchanged old-fashioned letters via snail mail. On Friday, they finally connected at a classroom meet-and-greet and students took



Fifth graders with their Class of 1973 pen pals.

the alumni on tours throughout the school.

◆ Friday evening, the "Golden Knights," alumni celebrating class reunions of 50 years and above, gathered at Head of School Bart Bronk's home for a cocktail party. A group of about 50 alumni were there to reconnect and reminisce.

◆ Saturday morning set the scene for Alumni Weekend's sixth annual Detroit bus tour. The two-hour guided walking and bus tour featured stops at Burns Avenue in Indian Village, an urban prairie, the riverfront and Midtown. Throughout the tour, University Liggett School Faculty Emeritus David Backhurst gave history lessons about each area and how each has changed over time.

◆ Saturday evening included class reunions for classes from graduating years ending in "3" and "8," as well as the 2023 Distinguished Alumni Ceremony. ULS's 2023 Distinguished Alumni is Adam Levinson, Class of '88, who was in attendance for the honor.



Alumni enjoyed a Detroit bus tour during Alumni Weekend.

PRIDE OF THE POINTES

Samantha Carr of Grosse Pointe Park recently earned a Master of Music degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Milton and Lillian Peck School of the Arts.

◆◆◆
Dominic Carozza of Grosse Pointe Farms earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in film and TV production, summa cum laude, from Sam Houston State University Honors College.

◆◆◆
Charlotte Martinez of the City of Grosse Pointe

and Julia Turnbull of Martinez earned degrees from Salve Regina University. See PRIDES, page 10A

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Youth Nautical Education Foundation awards grants

Last month, 13 applicants each were awarded \$2,000 college scholarships from the Youth Nautical Education Foundation — formerly the Grosse Pointe Youth Nautical Education Foundation — during a special brunch at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

Scholarships were awarded based on a summary of sailing experience in the Detroit Regional Yacht-racing Association Club Junior Programs, high school or college freshman sailing programs, as well as academic credentials.

Since its inception in 2012, a total of 138 YNEF scholarships have been awarded; 10 of them are funded in perpetuity.

The 2024 YNEF Scholarship Application may be found online at ynef.org/scholarships. Applications must be turned in to the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club by April 2, 2024.

For more information, visit ynef.org.



Quinn Cassidy
Graduated: Harbor Springs High School
Attending: Trinity College Dublin
Scholarship: Manuel J. and Nora Moroun



Zoey Crossley
Graduated: Grosse Pointe North
Attending: Michigan State University
Scholarship: Zach Rockwell Scholarship



Daniel Gerhardstein
Graduated: Grosse Pointe South
Attending: Embry-Riddle Aero University
Scholarship: Commodore James and Patricia Anderson



Charles Gmeiner
Graduated: Grosse Pointe South
Attending: Michigan State University
Scholarship: Commodore James and Sandy Morrow



Charles Gonzalez
Graduated: Cranbrook Kingswood Upper School
Attending: University of Denver
Scholarship: Commodore Ilja and Kelley Vreeken



Dane Greenwood
Graduated: Troy High School
Attending: University of Michigan
Scholarship: Commodore Tymon C. and Sheri Totte



Colin Hexter
Graduated: Grosse Pointe South
Attending: Marquette University
Scholarship: Detroit Regional Yacht-racing Association



Conner Kirkman
Graduated: Novi High School
Attending: University of Michigan
Scholarship: Commodore Sean and Kristen Schotthoefer



Eva Ottenbreit
Graduated: Grosse Ile High School
Attending: US Naval Academy
Scholarship: Youth Nautical Education Foundation



John Riordan
Graduated: Brother Rice High School
Attending: Marquette University
Scholarship: Edwin and Felicia Shaw



Anthony Sgrazzutti
Graduated: L'Anse Creuse High School
Attending: Ferris State University
Scholarship: Commodore John and Marlene Boll



Braden Vogel
Graduated: Grosse Pointe South
Attending: University of Michigan
Scholarship: Youth Nautical Education Foundation



Sophia Worden
Graduated: Troy High School
Attending: University of South Florida
Scholarship: Commodore Gary and Christine Gonzalez

PRIDES:

Continued from page 9A

degree in marketing. Turnbull earned a Master of Business Administration degree in business administration.

◆◆◆
Cara Chadwell of Grosse Pointe Park and **Paul Gusman** of Grosse Pointe Farms were named to the Dean's List at Cedarville University for the spring 2023 semester.

◆◆◆
Violet Whitmore, a communication arts major at Grove City College from the City of Grosse Pointe, was named to the Dean's List with Distinction for the spring 2023 semester. Whitmore is a 2021 graduate of Veritas Scholars Academy.

◆◆◆
Grosse Pointe Farms resident **Noah Stahl** earned an honorable mention for the spring semester at McPherson College.

◆◆◆
Riley Francis of Grosse Pointe Farms and **Rachel Kostrzewa** of Grosse Pointe Park were named to the Dean's List at Alma College for the 2023 winter term.

◆◆◆
Brian Carey of Grosse Pointe Woods earned a Master of Business Administration degree in business administration from Lebanon Valley College.

◆◆◆
Walter Reynolds of Grosse Pointe Park and **John Poplawski** of the City of Grosse Pointe earned Bachelor of Arts degrees from Holy Cross.

◆◆◆
Charles Logan of the City of Grosse Pointe was named to the spring 2023 University of Kentucky College of Arts & Sciences Dean's List.

◆◆◆
Kendall Zinn of Grosse Pointe Farms and **Ben Sheffield** of Grosse Pointe Woods were named to the Dean's List for the 2023 spring semester at Bucknell University.



Cara Chadwell



Paul Gusman



Violet Whitmore



Noah Stahl



John Poplawski



Rachel Kostrzewa



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A purr-fect turn of events Kitten gets second chance thanks to GP newbie, GPAAS, Belle Tire

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Depending on one's level of superstition, it's considered bad luck when a black cat crosses your path.

For Kaeley Poljanac of Grosse Pointe Farms, what could have been a bad-luck scenario Tuesday, June 20, turned into a twist of good luck, good neighbors and good help.

"I work downtown and my GPS took me a different way that day," said Poljanac, who is new to the Pointes. "I was driving (on Moross) past the hospital and I see something black tumbling behind the car next to me. I thought, 'They hit something. Was that a squirrel?'"

"I ran onto the island and so I pulled over," she continued. "It was a cat and it was bleeding and shaking."

Poljanac parked on a side street, but said she couldn't find anyone to

come out and help, so she carefully corralled the cat, sat with it in her car and attempted to wrap it in a towel.

"It freaked out," she said, "and climbed up above the glove box."

And out of sight.

Not sure what she should do, Poljanac drove home and called Farms public safety, who arrived soon after but couldn't locate the cat. After officers left, she attempted to coax it from its hiding spot by leaving food and made sure it was comfortable by keeping her car running with the air conditioning on.

She checked on it in between work calls and even went so far as to research how to remove the glovebox of her 2019 Nissan Sentra.

"I ripped out my glovebox and saw feet dangling," she said. "They weren't moving. I thought it had died."

Poljanac's — and her stowaway's — luck changed when she took a



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAELEY POLJANAC

Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society founder and CEO Corinne Martin stands by with a crate while Belle Tire employees attempt to free a trapped kitten from a car.

chance reaching out to her next door neighbor for the first time.

"I saw a van with pets on it in their driveway, so I thought if I'm going to

go anywhere I'll go to that neighbor," Poljanac said. "It was a shot in the dark."

Though the man of the house was unable to help



PHOTO COURTESY OF GPAAS

This kitten, named Belle after being rescued by staff at Belle Tire, is eight weeks old and ready for adoption.

her, he called his wife, Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society founder and CEO Corinne Martin.

"Corinne drove home with the Grosse Pointe Farms animal control officer," Poljanac said. "He tried to pull out the cat, but couldn't get her."

Though Poljanac believed the cat was dead, Martin said she

could hear it meowing. "I said, 'We're going to get it out of there,'" Martin recalled, "We're going to take it to Belle Tire."

"... We took it to them and told them it's an emergency, that there's a cat, we think it might be dead, in the engine," she added. "They stopped

See KITTEN, page 3B

Leadership changes for Grosse Pointe Rotary Club

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosted its annual Passing of the Gavel ceremony Wednesday, June 28, at the Tompkins Center at Windmill Pointe Park, welcoming 2023-24 President Philip MacKethan, while thanking outgoing President Mark Cory for his year of service.

Addressing a full house of Rotary members and a few guests, Past President Ted Everingham, who served as emcee, summed up the sentiment of many in the room.

"There's a difference between being a member of Rotary and being a Rotarian," he said. "A member of Rotary comes to meetings, pays their dues, but being a Rotarian is about doing good things and realizing deep inside that today I made this world just a tiny bit better. ... I am proud to be a Rotarian and I hope you are too."

Several Rotarians — handpicked either by Cory or the board — were honored with awards during the program. Additionally, incoming District Gov. Russ Jones



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TED COUTILISH

Outgoing President Mark Cory congratulates incoming President Philip MacKethan after the ceremony.

swore in the club's new board members, in addition to MacKethan: President Elect Neil Sroka; President Nominee Jackie Dale; Secretary Paul Rentenbach; Treasurer Judy Masserang; and directors Stephen Cornillie, Rebecca Fannon, S. Lee Johnson, Jessica Keyser, Dave

Colton and Doris Near-Van Tiem.

Everingham introduced Cory with remarks about his service origins, as well as his final thoughts about leaving office.

"I asked Mark whether whatever hopes and expectations for his presidency that he harbored ... have been fulfilled,"



Rotary Past President Ted Everingham, with his wife, Marcia, served as emcee of the evening.

Everingham said. "Typical of Mark, he said, 'In just about everything I've done in my life, I've always thought I could have done more or could have done better, but I thought it was a fruitful year.'"

"... Mark said that he hopes that people felt comfortable, welcomed and valued during his year as president and that they enjoyed being involved," he added. "I think that's a safe bet, Mark."

Looking back

Cory was quick to thank club members for

their hard work and dedication during his presidency. He said although the club added several new members during his presidency, growing the group remains a focus.

"We want to keep our efforts going to increase membership," he said.

He also gave an overview of the year's programming, which heavily focused on businesses, including the first Meet the Merchants Night featuring several Village business owners, "providing the opportunity for us to get a look behind the scenes and hear their stories," he said.

Representatives from several charitable and environmental organizations also spoke to the club during the year, which also saw the launch of Meet the Members Night, during which long-term members shared their personal stories with attendees, and the continuance of the popular Scholarship Night.

Cory also reflected on the club's community service efforts, noting projects like serving lunches at Crossroads of Michigan, hosting a food drive for The Second Mile Center of Detroit, participating in cleanup efforts along the Moross Greenway, starting an Adopt-a-Family initiative at Christmas, serving dinner to homeless guests at Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church and participating in the Michigan Humane Mutt March for the first time.

Highlights of the club's international programming also were noted, including its support of the Women Empowerment Project in Egypt and Sewing Seeds of Hope apprenticeship program in Ghana, Africa.

See ROTARY, page 8B

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OBITUARIES

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

Irene Eva Gracey

Irene Eva (nee Krywy) Gracey, 91, formerly of Grosse Pointe Farms, passed away Saturday, June 17, 2023.

The only daughter of Andrew and Paraskewia Krywy, Irene was born in Detroit in 1931, shortly after her parents fled the Ukrainian famine (Holodomor), forced upon them by Stalin's Russia. She graduated high school from St. Mary's Academy in Monroe and then attended both the University of Michigan and Wayne State University, where she met the love of her life, Paul Clement Gracey. They wed in 1955, and enjoyed 62 years of marriage in Grosse Pointe. Although she was an only child, Irene gave birth to five boys and four girls. When asked how she managed to have nine kids, she simply stated, "One at a time."

Irene was a devoted daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and aunt. Beyond tirelessly shuttling kids to school, hockey, swimming, baseball and tennis practices, as well as being involved in Stockettes, she found time to volunteer throughout her busy life. She served as president of several organizations, including St. Mary's Academy Alumni Association, National Lawyers' Wives, Lawyers' Wives of Michigan (later renamed the Lawyers' Auxiliary), St. Paul on the Lake Altar Society and Austin Prep School's Mothers Club, constantly helping those in need. She was a parishioner at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church for more than 40 years, sang in the church choir many of those years and became a Daily Communicant.

Irene was a member of Theatre Arts Club of Detroit, Women's Theater and The Fine Arts Society of Detroit, performing in many stage productions throughout her life, as well as being a print model. She loved to sing and dance and was an avid tennis player, skier and bridge player. She also was a member of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, where she organized and ran the annual fashion show for charity, and a lifelong con-

servative, never shy to share her opinion.

For more than 40 years, she shared her home with at least one of her many children. During this time, "Mum" became renowned for her colloquialisms. Favorites included: "The maid is on vacation," "The good Lord only gave me two hands," "Slow down, there's John Law," "This is not a restaurant" and, the most oft-repeated words to live by: "You've got it! Now use it!"

Irene was predeceased by her parents; husband, Paul; and grandson, Jack. She is survived by her children: Barbara Gracey (Norm Pashoian), Vicky Gracey (Chris Ryan), Paul Gracey Jr. (Colleen), Elizabeth Roskam (Peter), Andrew Gracey (Michelle), Kathryn Gracey (Plamen Petkov), Taras Gracey (Therese), Peter Gracey (Elizabeth) and David Gracey (Allison); 21 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation takes place 9:30 to 10 a.m., followed by the funeral Mass at 10 a.m. Friday, July 7, at St. Paul on the Lake, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Irene will be buried next to her husband at St. Mary's Cemetery, 1983 St. Mary's Gate, Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

Helen Marie Leonard

Helen Marie Leonard, 85, passed away Thursday, June 8, 2023, at home in New Jersey. She was a former resident of Grosse Pointe Park.

Helen was born May 9, 1938, in New York, N.Y., to Nora and James Tevnan, both now deceased. She attended Good Shepherd School and Sayville High School in New York. She earned a bachelor's degree in library science and a master's degree in gerontology from Wayne State University.

Helen worked at the Grosse Pointe Public Library Central Branch from 1978 to 2000. She started the library's Outreach Program, ran book discussion groups, recorded oral histories of longtime Grosse Pointers

and curated a film series. She also was involved with various organizations, including Zonta International and the Detroit Area Agency on Aging. Helen additionally enjoyed gardening, reading, traveling and cooking.

Helen is survived by her daughters, Melissa and Christa; and grandchildren, Ian and Olivia Langol-Leonard and Roscoe, Jack and Ava Swartz. She was predeceased by her brother, Thomas Tevnan.

A funeral was held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Ridgewood, N.J. She was interred at Pittsfield Cemetery in Pittsfield, Mass.

Her full obituary and a video slideshow of her life may be viewed at feeneysfuneralhome.com.

Memorial donations may be made to Zonta International, bit.ly/44nAeud, or a library of the donor's choice.

Scott Zachary Kurtz

Scott Zachary Kurtz, 36, of Deerfield Beach, Fla., passed away unexpectedly Saturday, June 24, 2023.

Scott was born Sept. 16, 1986, in Jackson, to Kevin and Carol Kurtz. After he graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School in 2004, he went on to study accounting at Western Michigan University and Baker College. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in accounting, Scott went on to work as an auditor, most recently at Holyfield & Thomas, LLC, in West Palm Beach, Fla.

Scott had a big heart and loved spending time with his family and friends. He loved playing baseball; he hit his first home run and won his first Little League World Series at Ghesquiere Park in Grosse Pointe Woods.

He was a numbers guy and excelled in his field. When he was in college, he would correct his accounting professors on a regular basis (he was always right) and took pride in knowing all the answers.

Scott was predeceased by his mother, Carol Kurtz; and grandfather, Walter Kurtz. He is survived by his father, Kevin



Irene Eva Gracey



Helen Marie Leonard



Scott Zachary Kurtz

Kurtz; sister, Andrea Nelson (Eric) and her family; grandmother, Patricia Kurtz (Walter); several aunts and uncles, including Kurt Kurtz, Kerri Sue Dougherty (Wade), Keith Kurtz (Carolyn), Karl Kurtz (Connie), Kyle "Deeder" Kurtz (Sue), Kelly Montagne (Bill) and Kris Kurtz (Cathie); and many first and second cousins.

A Florida memorial gathering takes place 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 11, at Babione-Kraer Funeral Home, followed by a reception from 6 to 7:30 p.m. A Michigan memorial service takes place 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 29, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, followed by a reception from 4 to 6 p.m.

Memorial

Mary Frances Griffith

Mary Frances Griffith, 96, passed away Sunday, March 5, 2023. A memorial Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, July 24, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, July 6, University Liggett School, 1045 Cook, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, July 7, Pointe Fitness, 19556 Harper, Harper Woods.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 11, Lakeshore Presbyterian Church, 27801 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 12, The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, July 14, Ascension St. John Hospital, 22101 Moros, Detroit.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 19, Jefferson Masonic Lodge No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 11:30 a.m. to 5:20 p.m. Friday, July 21, Grosse Pointe Woods Community Center, 20025 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

Library

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

◆ All Together in the Name of Beads!, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 6, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Gaming Meetup, 3 to 4:30 p.m. Friday, July 7, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Drop-in Kids Craft, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, July 10, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Park Visit: Windmill Pointe, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, July 10, 14920 Windmill Pointe Dr., Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Beginner CAD Modeling, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, July 10, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ ArtLab Smash Book, 3 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, July 11, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Summer Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 12, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Investigation Station, 2 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, July 12, at Ewald, 15175

E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Teen Creativity Circle: Boba Tea Keychains, 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, July 12, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Appy Hour: Database Day, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 12, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Storytime with Miss Jane, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Thursday, July 13, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Rock Painting, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Thursday, July 13, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ 3D Thursday, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, July 13, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

GPAA

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association offers a variety of classes at its studio, located at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. To register for the following, visit grossepointeartcenter.org.

◆ "Imitating the Masters of Landscape," a workshop with Donald Cronkhite, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. select Thursdays. July 6 and 13, the class examines Camille Pissarro; Aug. 3 and 10, the class examines Jacob van Ruisdael; and Aug. 31 and Sept. 7, the class examines Joseph Mallord William Turner.

◆ Plein Air painting with Donald Cronkhite, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, July 6 and 13.

◆ "Painting in Reverse: The Art of Painting on Black Watercolor Paper," a workshop with Nancy Philo, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 15.

◆ "Imitating the Masters — a portrait by Anthony Van Dyke," a workshop with Donald Cronkhite, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, July 20 and 27.

Ford House

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

◆ 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.

See **EVENTS**, page 3B

Matthew Chul Aldrich

Matthew Chul Aldrich, 54, passed away Friday, June 23, 2023. Matt was a longtime Grosse Pointe resident.

Matt joined the Aldrich family when he was just two and a half from Seoul, South Korea. The family met him at Chicago's O'Hare Airport, and his beautiful presence forever changed their lives.

Matt attended Grosse Pointe South High School and graduated in 1988. He attended MSU for an engineering degree, but decided to pursue his first love, which was the culinary arts. He was involved in wrestling, hockey, and his favorite, being a teammate on the Grosse Pointe Blue Devils football team. Matt was an accomplished chef and worked in the restaurant business as a sous chef. Next, he took his love of mathematics and people to



Rocket Mortgage in Arizona, where he loved helping his clients obtain their dreams of owning new homes.

He was a truly wonderful father of his three sons: Lukas, Cody and Alex. He was also a dedicated and loving husband to his wife Deborah. Family and friends were everything to Matt. He often came back to Grosse

Pointe to visit his mother, Donna, his father, Lance, his brother, Eric, and his nephew, Benjamin. He and his fraternity brothers followed the Spartans to wherever the MSU schedule took them.

Matt was a free spirit, an adventurer and an accomplished fly fisherman who often went on his own to camp and fish. He found great satisfaction in preparing gourmet meals for his family.

Matt is survived by his wife, Deborah; his sons, Alex and Lukas; his father and mother, Lance and Donna; his father-in-law, Joseph Bialczak; his grandparents, Chet and Betty Bovee; his brother, Eric; his nephew, Benjamin; and many loving aunts, uncles and cousins. His son, Cody, and mother-in-law, Ann Bialczak, predeceased him.

Arrangement information to come.

Pointers shine at spring karate tournament

Students from Detroit's Zanshin Karate Dojo won 83 medals at the ninth annual spring Michigan Friendship Invitational tournament May 21, at Oakland University.

David Furi, Liliana Owczarek and Kian O'Farrell led the way for Zanshin with three medals each. Michael Farnsworth won two first-place medals competing in the junior black belt division. A total of 58 Zanshin students placed in the top three of their division.

More than 600 karate students from metro Detroit and Midwest dojos competed in the tournament, which was hosted by Zen Bei Butoku-Kai International. Competitors, ages 4 to adult, entered three types of events: kata (forms),

kobudo (weapons) and kumite (sparring). Trophies were awarded for first, second and third place.

The Zen Bei Butoku-Kai is headed by Sensei Brian Ricci, who attended and oversaw the tournament at Oakland University's O'Rena. The specific purpose of the Zen Bei Butoku-Kai International is to advance the study of traditional karate, t'ai chi ch'uan, aiki-jujutsu and budo, as well as to foster the growth of these martial arts taught by Master Richard Kim.

Zanshin Karate, located at 14922 Kercheval in Detroit, is led by Sensei Sean Farnsworth.

"Our students worked hard to prepare for this tournament," Farnsworth said. "Many are advancing to higher ranks and their

improvement was on display. We're proud of all of our competitors at the spring tournament."

Local winners at the tournament included:

◆ David Furi: 1st place, kata; 1st place, weapons; 1st place, sparring

◆ Liliana Owczarek: 1st place, weapons; 1st place, sparring; 2nd place, kata

◆ Kian O'Farrell: 1st place, weapons; 1st place, sparring; 2nd place, kata

◆ Michael Farnsworth: 1st place, kata; 1st place, weapons

◆ James Lepczyk: 1st place kata; 2nd place, sparring

◆ Eliot Block: 1st place, kata; 2nd place, weapons

◆ Dustin Block: 1st place, weapons; 2nd place, kata

◆ Chaya Devi

See **KARATE**, page 3B

Fundraiser to help Park family

When Christine Hoffman moved back to Grosse Pointe Park five years ago, she made fast friends with her neighbors, Mike and Laura Heenan, and their 17-year-old son, Finn.

"They're great people," she said. "They give of their time, they contribute to the community. We have an annual block party that they help throw. When we had the floods (in 2021), they helped out other people. ... They're the best people I know."

Three years ago Laura Heenan, 53, was diagnosed with triple-negative breast cancer, or TNBC, which accounts for just 15 percent of all breast cancer cases.

"She battled it and was cancer free," Hoffman said, "but it returned late fall of last year and had spread to her bones."

Mike Heenan had been



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRISTINE HOFFMAN

A fundraiser to assist Mike and Laura Heenan takes place July 8. Funds raised will help pay medical bills as Laura Heenan undergoes cancer treatment.

teaching art at Maire and Mason elementary schools, but after the cancer metastasized, "he had to cut down to part time to help her and their

son," Hoffman said, noting that Finn is autistic.

To help offset medical and other bills, Hoffman is hosting a bowling fundraiser from 4 to 6 p.m.

Saturday, July 8, at Garden Bowl, 4140 Woodward, Detroit. Tickets are \$50 and include two hours of bowling, two pieces of pizza and a soft drink. Raffle tickets also will be sold for a chance to win a variety of prizes.

"They're my dearest friends here in Michigan," Hoffman said. "I hope this event turns out well. Nobody deserves this more than them."

Hoffman said she hopes to host other fundraisers for the Heenans, based on how well the bowling event turns out. The deadline to register is Friday, July 7.

Those who are not able to attend the in-person event are welcome to call her to make a donation.

For tickets or to make a donation, call Hoffman at (313) 437-2753.

— Jody McVeigh

EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

◆ 2023 Yoga at Ford House, Tuesdays, through September. Cost is \$12 for adults, \$10 for members.

◆ Game Night: Lawn Games, 6 p.m. Fridays, July 7 and Aug. 4. Cost is \$10 for members, \$12 for nonmembers.

◆ Story Studio: Bonkers Black and Wacky White, 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 11, for children. Cost is \$4 for members, \$5 for nonmembers.

◆ Explorers: Butterflies, 11 a.m. Saturday, July 15, for children ages 6 to 9. Cost is \$5 per child.

◆ Story Studio: Radical Red, 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 18. "The Story of the Red Rubber Ball" will be read. Cost is \$4 for member children, \$5 for non-member children.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

Marchiori Catering

Marchiori Catering offers summer garden dining at Assumption Cultural Center, 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores. The buffet is open 5 to 8 p.m. with drinks until 10 p.m. Thursdays, July 13 and July 27.

Cost is \$30 per person. Reservations are required. Call (586) 771-8600 or email marchioricatering@gmail.com.

Adaptive yoga

Yoga Moves MS, in partnership with the Kirk Gibson Foundation, hosts Adaptive Chair Yoga classes at 11:30 a.m. Mondays at Full Lotus Yoga, 20365 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Adaptive yoga benefits those with multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, stroke and other neuromuscular conditions. Cost is \$12 per drop-in class or five classes for \$50 in advance. Visit fulllotusyoga.net.

KARATE:

Continued from page 2B

Grystsuyk: 1st place, sparring; 2nd place, kata

◆ Charlie Maloy: 1st place, sparring; 2nd place, kata

◆ Cecilia Derosier: 1st place, sparring; 3rd place, kata

◆ Victoria Palmer: 1st place, weapons; 3rd place, kata

◆ Reese Birsul: 1st place, kata; 3rd place, sparring

◆ David Brumbaugh: 1st place, kata; 3rd place, weapons

◆ Nora Brumbaugh: 1st place, kata; 3rd place, sparring

◆ Gabriel Johnson: 1st place, sparring; 3rd place, kata

◆ Tariq Harris Bullard: 1st place, kata; 3rd place,

sparring

◆ Anthony Marcolini: 2nd place, weapons; 2nd place, sparring

◆ Faith Wells: 2nd place, kata; 2nd place, weapons

◆ Roosevelt Williams IV: 2nd place, sparring; 3rd place, kata

◆ Gavin Shurafa: 2nd place sparring; 3rd place kata

◆ Sam Wakefield: 3rd place, kata; 3rd place weapons

◆ Morley Frahm: 1st place, kata

◆ RJ Borawski: 1st place, weapons

◆ William Hunter: 1st place, sparring

◆ Wesley Powell: 1st place, kata

◆ Lucas Owczarek: 1st place, weapons

◆ Hayden Abshire: 1st place, kata

◆ Nicholas Lung: 1st place, sparring

◆ Ben Sperl: 1st place, sparring

◆ Finn Maloy: 1st place, kata

◆ Sydney Haas: 1st place, sparring

◆ Sir Rupert: 1st place, kata

◆ Dominic Koch: 2nd place, kata

◆ Jacob Thurson: 2nd place, weapons

◆ James VanMarcke: 2nd place, sparring

◆ Lucy Stump: 2nd place, sparring

◆ Dylan McGovern: 2nd place, sparring

◆ Quinn Haas: 2nd place, sparring

◆ Gates Coyro: 2nd place, kata

◆ Elijah Hutcherson: 3rd place, sparring

◆ Sawyer Lucas: 3rd place, kata

◆ Teddy Feder: 3rd place, kata

◆ Sally Hecker: 3rd

place, sparring

◆ Ava Gomez: 3rd place, kata

◆ Larkin Miller: 3rd place, kata

◆ Henry Stump: 3rd place, weapons

◆ Mackenzie Mok: 3rd place, kata

◆ Stephen Warnick: 3rd place, sparring

◆ Cameron Simmons: 3rd place, sparring

◆ Finnegan Merkel: 3rd place, kata

◆ Heron Ambrozy Fu: 3rd place, kata

◆ Carter Julius: 3rd place, kata

◆ Petar Mrakovic: 3rd place, sparring

◆ Lucas VanMarcke: 3rd place, sparring

◆ Bentley Karcher: 3rd place, kata

◆ Stacey Pennar: 3rd place, weapons

◆ Cecelia Ramirez: 3rd place, sparring



PHOTO COURTESY OF RITA O'FARRELL

From left, Zanshin students Matty Hetzler, Eliot Block and Kian O'Farrell at the 2023 Michigan Friendly Invitational Tournament.

KITTEN:

Continued from page 1B

everything."

The Sentra was put on a lift and a handful of mechanics went to work to free the stowaway. After 20 minutes and with another stroke of good luck, they freed it.

"It turned out to be a little black kitten, eight weeks old," Martin said.

Even better luck: "She was not injured."

"It was so crazy," Poljanac recalled. "Corinne took it to the vet and it's OK. They have her with other kittens to get her socialized. I believe she's available for adoption."

The kitten promptly was named for her rescuers, whom Martin called heroes.

"The guys at Belle Tire were phenomenal," she said, "and they didn't charge us a penny."

Belle is now safely — albeit temporarily — housed with GPAAS.

"She's a timid, shy kitten, but she's not feral," Martin said. "You can pick her up. She's been through quite a trauma, but we put her in with a couple of other kittens and she's doing just fine. My neighbor is thrilled she's alive and not hurt."

Added Poljanac, "Corinne was so helpful. Same with the police, who actually came out twice. And everyone at Belle Tire was great, too."

"I only moved to Grosse Pointe a month

ago," she added. "This community is great. Everyone knows each other and they're so helpful."

Belle joins dozens of other kittens — as well as cats, dogs and puppies — available for adoption at GPAAS. Springtime is kitten season and — bad luck — the agency has reached capacity for the fluffy fur balls.

"We're at 46 kittens," Martin said. "We're getting calls all day, every day. It's sad; we don't know what to tell people anymore. Every cage is

full. We need more people to adopt them."

Those interested in adopting a pet — and freeing up valuable space for GPAAS to help other animals — is invited to attend GPAAS's weekly adoptions, which take place 10 a.m. to noon every Saturday at its headquarters, 20542 Harper, Harper Woods.

The public is welcome, appointments are not needed and — for potential pet owners who believe in superstition, it's also said if you pet a black cat for just one sec-

ond, you'll make a loyal friend for life.

Weekday adoptions and one-on-one meet-and-greets are arranged by appointment only, Martin noted.

To arrange a visit, go to gpaas.org or call (313) 884-1551.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GPAAS

Belle was a little timid when she first was rescued.

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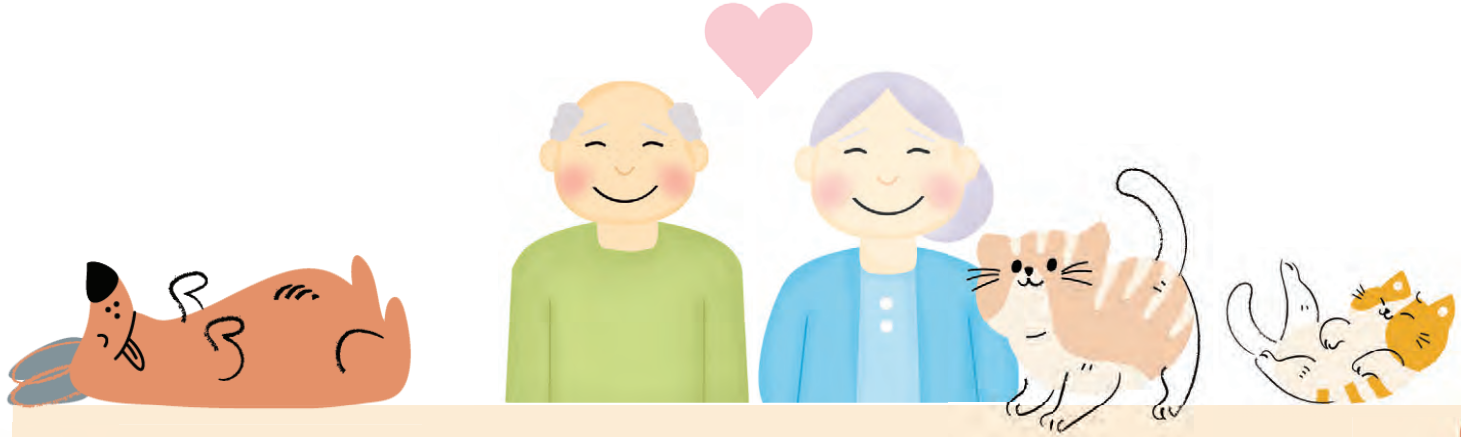
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Mutts & Meows helps keep seniors' pets at home



The Helm program delivers food, litter

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

If Harper Woods resident Alice Judkins' border collie, Nikia, was a human being, she'd be graduating soon and entering the workforce. Instead, the soon-to-be 18-year-old is another mouth to feed for Judkins, who is retired.

"I don't work anymore ... and only get Social Security," she said. "After I pay my bills, I don't have much left for pet food."

That's where The Helm at the Boll Life Center steps in through its Mutts & Meows program, which provides cat and dog food, as well as cat litter free of charge to seniors who need the extra help.

The service is a godsend to Judkins, who learned about it while asking around at The Helm about programs for pets.

"Mutts & Meows has been going on since before my time," said Allie Short, The Helm's case coordinator who runs the pet program. "... We help people keep their pets, who are their loved ones. Pets are like family and we want to keep their family in their homes."

Through community donations of dog and cat foods and treats, as well as litter, The Helm provides the items to seniors who are homebound, who can't safely maneuver the heavy bags or who simply can't afford the items.

"We have a list of individuals who have expressed need and meet the criteria," Short said, noting participants must be age 60 or older, be homebound or have physical limitations. "We provide delivery of the products. And, like we do with Meals on Wheels, if an individual can't lift it, the volunteer will bring it in and put it where it needs to go."



Keeping pets with beloved owners is the program's goal.

The program will continue to provide food for participants' pets as long as there is a pet in the home. The whole point, Short said, is to keep pets with their owners.

"I have a cat," she added. "I feel like life without her would be less exciting. She's vital to my emotional well-being."

Research conducted by aging.com linked pet ownership to several health benefits, including decreased isolation, decreased stress, better heart health and increased physical activity.

Pets provide comfort and companionship during times of loneliness or grief; help lower triglyceride and cholesterol levels; and elevate serotonin and dopamine levels, which improve moods and provide a sense of hap-

piness, the study suggests.

Other benefits of pet ownership include having a sense of purpose, as caring for a pet requires time, effort and attention, and improved self-esteem, as pets display unconditional love.

"(Pet ownership) enhances quality of life," Short said. "Petting a cat or dog can relieve stress, maybe even lower blood pressure. To spend time with an animal, to snuggle them, they reciprocate that love. There's a lot of love in that relationship. And, you're not alone."



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Allie Short, above, processes some of the donations The Helm received for its Mutts & Meows program.

A study by Forbes noted the biggest group of pet owners, 33 percent, is millennials, while only 24 percent of pet owners are baby boomers and 2 percent are from the Silent Generation.

The same report noted households with dogs spend "ruffly" \$912 per year on their pooch, where households with cats annually spend around \$653. Bills for pet owners can add up quickly, between food, veterinary care, toys, grooming and other costs.

On a limited income, Judkins appreciates the extra help, as she also receives food for her cat, Mr. Bojangles.

"I call him Bo and he's smart as a whip," she said. "He opens cabinet doors and looks at me when he wants food."

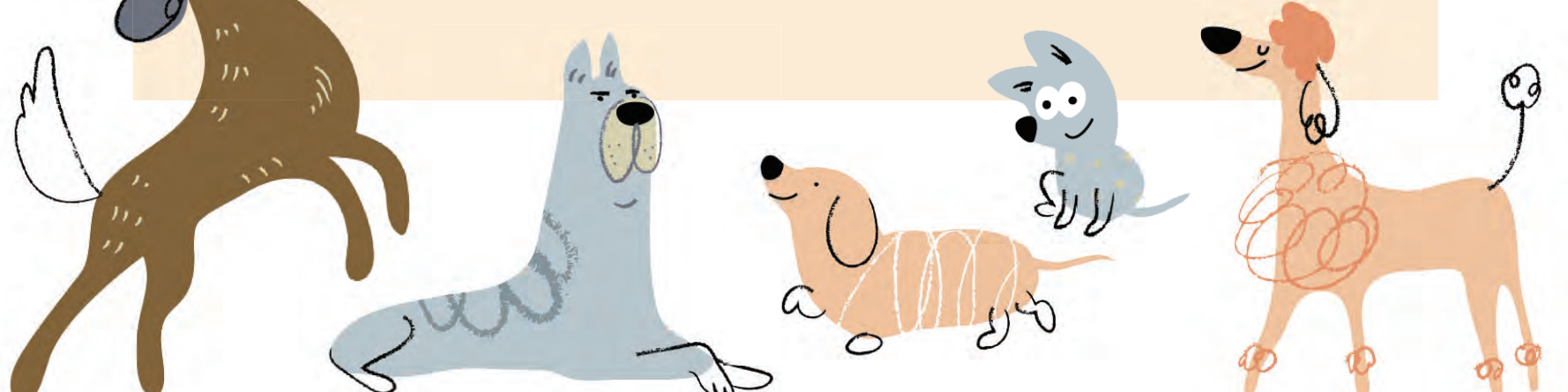
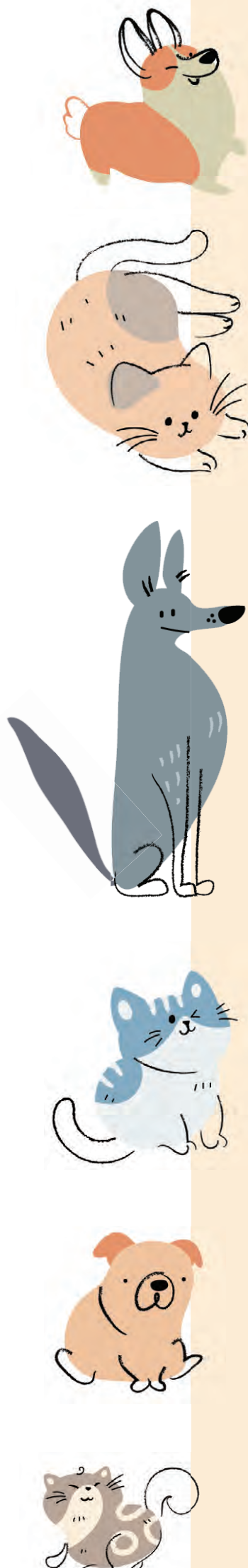
Thankfully, cat food often is in good supply through Mutts & Meows. Dog food, however, isn't always available.

"It's been more cat food lately — wet and dry — and litter," Judkins said. "I really appreciate it. They've really helped me a lot. They will call if they have something in and it's usually really good food. There have been times, too, when I've called and asked if they have anything."

All of the food and litter supplied to participants is provided through donations; whatever the community brings to The Helm is what's available.

"We definitely welcome donations, which help us maintain the program," Short said. "One of the challenges of the program is, given that it is through donation, we have run into a situation where someone is in need of dog food but we didn't have any. It bums me out when we don't have what an individual needs."

See PETS, page 0C



Grosse Pointe Woods woman medals at veteran games

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

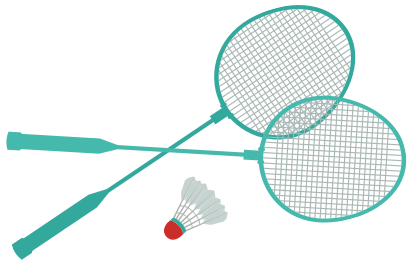
GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The best kept secret.

That's how Madelyn Kleitch describes the National Veterans Golden Age Games, an Olympic-style gathering for veterans age 55 and older run by the Veterans Administration.

"I've been dealing with the VA since 1974, and I just found out about this in January," she said. "It's a wonderful experience. It's not really competitive. You're mostly just there to meet other veterans and chit chat."

Kleitch, 72, brought home a gold medal in shuffleboard — despite never having played before — and a bronze in badminton.

"I started going to the Grosse Pointe Badminton Association in April and they were so helpful and friendly," she said. "They told me about strategy, how to hold the racket, things like that."



The games were held May 20 to 25, in Des Moines, Iowa.

Kleitch joined the U.S. Army in 1970, after graduating from Dearborn Fordson High School.

"Well, I tried to go to college first, but that didn't work out so well," she laughed. "It was such a terrible time, soldiers being harassed and spit on when they got home."

"I don't believe in war, but I believe in unity," she continued. "I think everyone should serve their country."

Kleitch went through boot camp at Fort McClellan in Alabama, then was trained as a field medic at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio.

"I was supposed to go to Vietnam, but they needed a female X-ray technician," she recalled. "There were only

two of us females so I think they just flipped a coin."

Kleitch was sent to Valley Forge Army Hospital after radiology school and was discharged in 1973.

"It wasn't easy finding a job, so I joined the reserves for a year," she said. "After I got married, I decided to go back to school."

She ended up getting an associate degree in culinary arts from Henry Ford Community College.

"I couldn't even boil water," Kleitch said. "But I fell in love with it."

She ended up working several years at the Stouffer's Restaurant at Northland Mall until it closed. After a divorce, Kleitch got her nursing degree in 1983.

"They turned my heat off one winter and I had to chop wood for the fireplace," she recalled. "I knew I had to do something."

She moved to the Woods in 1985, so her son, Andrew, could attend the Grosse Pointe Public School System, and spent several years working in home care and hospice before retiring in 2021.

"I worked for the county during COVID giving immunization shots and I'd still like to do something part time," she said, "maybe one day a week, just to keep my fingers in things."

For now, Kleitch is busy raising money for next year's games in Salt Lake City.

"Any money we raise is held in escrow by the VA and it pays for our airline tickets and uniforms," she said. "We had 14 go from Michigan and we brought back 23 medals."

She's also spreading the word. "It's important as we get older to stay active and that's especially true for veterans," she said. "An average of 22 veterans commit suicide every day, so we have to look for ways to keep them engaged and not isolated."

"That week was so full of camaraderie," she added. "Everyone who's gone through basic training has a connection with every other person who's ever gone through it."

And riding her bike. "I'll be up to 42 kilometers a day by the end of summer," she said. "It's very cathartic."



COURTESY PHOTO

Madelyn Kleitch of Grosse Pointe Woods with the bronze medal she won in badminton at the National Veterans Golden Age Games. The U.S. Army veteran also won a gold medal in shuffleboard.

PAATS gets seniors around town

PAATS (Pointe Area Assisted Transportation Service) is offering low-cost transportation for seniors and disabled persons of all ages who are living in Harper Woods or any of the Grosse Pointes.

Service is currently available each weekday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Costs for rides are:

- \$1.00 each way if within Harper Woods and the Grosse Pointes
- \$2.00 each way from 8 Mile Road to 11 Mile Road, Kelly Road to Gratiot;
- \$3.00 each way to St. John Surgery Center, Henry Ford Main Campus, Detroit Medical Center, V.A. Hospital, City County Building, The New Center.

A 48-hour advance reservation is requested, but same-day service may be available if time and space allow.

PAATS provides transportation to the areas bound by 11 Mile Road, Gratiot,

Chalmers and Lake St. Clair/Detroit River and the Gratiot Loop. The Gratiot Loop picks up passengers Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., takes them to their store of choice and picks them back up at approximately 1:00 p.m. It also provides the return ride home.

The Gratiot Loop includes the following destinations:

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

Call PAATS Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at (313) 394-9712 to make a reservation or for other information on senior transportation.

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Stress: Tune in to tune down



Courtesy of The Helm

In the fast-paced modern world, stress has become an ever-present companion. Work, health care, family obligations, the economy — there always seems to be something to be stressed about.

Since 2007, the American Psychological Association has commissioned an annual nationwide survey, Stress in America, to measure attitudes and perceptions of stress, identify leading sources of it and how it impacts people's lives. The annual surveys show feelings of increased stress each year.

In an article for healthline.com, lead researcher David M. Almeida, Ph.D., professor of human development and family studies at Penn State College of Health and Human Development, said stress is nothing new, but shifts in technology and the way people relate to the world over the course of three decades has had an impact. There is access to information and connections to people 24/7.

"In the '90s, the internet did keep people connected, but not to the extent that it would 20 years later," Almeida said. "I think constant connection

to information can be great in some ways, but never gives you a break."

Most stressed out are those aged 50 to 64 who may be raising young adult children and getting them started in adulthood at the same time as taking care of older generations and sometimes even grandchildren.

"It's a time of life when you're responsible not only for your own well-being but the well-being of many people," Almeida added. "Even at work, in midlife you are entering management roles and the sheer number of people you are involved with increases your opportunity to experience stress."

Grosse Pointe meditation instructor and holistic health practitioner Jonathan Itchon explained everyone has stress.

"The simplest way to relieve stress is to take a moment and consciously breathe — deep, slow breathing," Itchon explained. "A lot of time when we're under stress, we don't breathe or we breathe shallowly. Taking the time to consciously breathe for a minute or even 30 seconds is like having a timeout. It gives us the time to respond, rather than react."

Itchon will discuss how stress

can affect one's health and well-being, as well as help identify personal stressors and ways to reduce that stress as part of the Stress Reduction Workshop from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 11, at The Helm, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms.

"Stress is a part of life. It's always been there, but it's our relationship with stress that has become the issue," Itchon said. "Many of us have grown up being busy. We pile up our to-do list with things that keep us busy and when you ask someone how they're doing: 'Oh, I'm busy.' But we're choosing that. We need to learn to shut off and not make everything super important."

Itchon said stress can be managed and even used to one's benefit.

"We're always going to have things that push us — stress — but what am I going to do with it? Am I going to let it propel me or get me down?"

Most importantly, he added, "If you don't take time for self-care, everything becomes stressful."

The Stress Reduction Workshop is open to all, but registration is required. Register by calling (313) 882-9600.

Pre-workout tips

By Donna Zetterlund
Special Writer

Remember how you used to be able to stay up all night and still clock in at work on time? When you could climb up the side of a house or put your legs around your neck doing yoga? Yeah. Once you pass age 50 the answer to all of those questions is usually, "not so much."

I don't want to brag but I actually took my back out for two weeks just from opening a package of deli turkey (in my defense, those vacuum-sealed packages are impossible.)

The truth is, as you age you have to properly warm up before you get physical. Even getting out of bed might require a few knee tucks or stretches. To stay safely physically active, we may need to change how we approach exercise. For most, that may mean taking a few simple pre-workout steps.

Firstly, pay attention to the basics like sleep, nutrition and hydration. These are the foundations for good health at any age, but as you age these needs may need to be adjusted. The body requires adequate rest and nutritional protein to stimulate muscle growth and repair. Water keeps the entire system lubricated and functioning. Many seniors suffer from dehydration, so remember to drink water throughout the day.

Next, simple stretching can play a major role in preparing you for exercise or performing tasks you normally don't do. It can improve flexibility, reduce the risk of muscle injuries and improve range of motion in the joints. Prepare your body for exercise and recovery by gently stretching before and after a workout.

Then, prior to a workout session, allow yourself a warm-up period to acclimate the body to greater physical stress, facilitate healthy breathing, and loosening the joints and muscles for the exercise ahead. Note: After a workout, seniors should cool down too — to reduce their heart rates slowly and prepare for recovery. Breathe deeply and use the time to relax your muscles from head to toe.

Finally, the proper footwear and clothing is vital. Shoes that stick or slide could sideline you for weeks. My sister and I both took falls wearing the same type of sandal we found so stylish and comfortable, she fracturing her elbow and being out of commission and in pain for months — not to mention the inconvenience of doing daily chores and grooming minus one working arm (NO shoes are that cute!)

Seek sturdy, supportive athletic shoes for working out and secure shoes for daily wear. The National Institute on Aging recommends finding footwear designed for the specific activity you'll be engaging in. Choose footwear that offers sufficient heel support. Non-slip soles are best.

It's important to keep moving as we age, but even more crucial to do it safely.

DRYBROOK

The Truman Handy Newberry Residence



Excerpted from: "The Best Twelve Country Houses in America," Henry H. Saylor, c. 1914.

About ten miles north of Detroit, along the shore of Lake St. Clair, you will find the automobile city's favorite country home section. Those who respond to the appeal of shore front property usually have to face the problem of developing a fairly limited frontage. The farms of those early days were laid out with the aim of purposes of easier transportation and also of protection, yet with a generous allotment of the land that was then plentiful.

The first impression of Drybrook, the estate of Mr. Truman H. Newberry, was of a veritable ribbon of land. The frontage is but 300 feet, yet the depth is in the neighborhood of a mile. Fortunately, it is but the water end of the long, thin strip that is used for the home grounds, a road dividing this very conveniently from the larger portion used as a farm in the rear.



See the Drybrook exhibition online

Still another factor that was of considerable aid to the architects and landscape architect was the knowledge of local conditions gained by the Newberrys during their occupation of an earlier house upon the same site. This experience had taught them the value of the view out upon the lake. Read the full story and visit the exhibit at gphistorical.org/!



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What's going on at The Helm?



Free food truck, fun and nutrition

Who says there's no such thing as a free lunch?

Those 60 and older are eligible for a free lunch from the Silver Café Food Truck, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, July 20, at The Helm, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms.

The food truck is sponsored by Detroit Area Agency on Aging's Silver Café Initiative, which strives to provide healthy meals for seniors. The lunch consists of a Greek salad, with or without meat, and a side of yogurt. Meat choices are chicken or gyro meat.

In addition to being 60 or older, guests must register ahead of time at The Helm, indicate a choice of salad, and provide your name, date of birth, phone number and address. Call (313) 882-9600 to register.



"We are excited to partner with the Detroit Area Agency on Aging to offer our food truck event," The Helm Executive Director Krista Siddall said. "It guarantees older adults in our community are getting a well-balanced meal, raises awareness that many in our community may have a nutrition deficit, but most of all, it promotes social interaction within our community. For those that haven't been to The Helm in a while, it offers a great time to visit with a friend and enjoy a free lunch."

In addition to the food truck, Humana is sponsoring ice cream for dessert. There are a limited number of lunches, so registration is a must.

Those who miss this opportunity can mark the calendar for Tuesday, Sept. 5, when the food truck returns.

More information will be listed online at helmlife.org or call (313) 882-9600.

Learn to walk for exercise

Walking 10 to 20 minutes each day benefits overall health.

Walking 30 to 60 minutes every day can help reduce pain, stiffness and inflammation from arthritis.

Not sure where to start? The Helm can help.

In cooperation with Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital, The Helm presents Walk With Ease, a six-week program of the Arthritis Foundation.

The program meets 10 to 11:30 a.m. Mondays, July 17 to Aug. 21, at The Helm, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms. It is free to members, future members and the general public. Participants must register for the entire program. An informational session takes place 10 to 11 a.m. Monday, July 10, at The Helm.

Walk With Ease teaches ways to safely incorporate physical activity into everyday life. Comprehensive studies confirm this program reduces pain, increases balance and strength, and improves overall health. Each session begins with a pre-walk discussion covering a specified topic related to exercise and arthritis, followed by a 30-minute walk that includes a warm up and cool down.

Suggested homework is two additional 30-minute walks per week. Those homework walks are great to spend time with grandchildren and teach them lifelong healthy habits.

Register for Walk With Ease online at helmlife.org or call (313) 882-9600.



Second Time Around

By Margie Reins Smith

My, how schools have changed

By Margie Reins Smith
Special Writer

Recently, while sifting through my lifetime collection of photographs, I ran across a photo of my fourth-grade class taken Feb. 23, 1950, by a professional photographer.

It reminded me that schools and teachers and classrooms have changed a great deal in the last 70-plus years. Sometimes for better. Sometimes worse.

In this “antique” photo, 24 students are seated at their flip-top desks, which are lined up in four straight rows. The teacher’s desk was always in the front of the room facing the kids. Every child but one (Frances, you rebel, you!) is sitting up straight, feet flat on the floor, hands folded on the desktop. Everybody is smiling. The girls wear dresses or skirts. The boys wear flannel shirts or collared shirts and those corduroy pants that made a swoof swoof swoof sound when they walked.

One boy wears a narrow white stripe diagonally across his chest, showing that he is a member of the safety patrol. One girl wears a round yellow metal badge signifying she’s a safety girl (that’s me.) Our teacher, Miss Schweitzer, is wearing a skirt, blouse and suit jacket.

Safety patrol boys were stationed on nearby street corners before and after school and were supposed to help younger children cross safely. They got to strike that enviable authoritative pose — arms extended right and left at 45-degree angles, to prevent little kids from running into traffic. I wanted that job, that pose, that symbol of importance and of being in charge.

But safety girls were stationed in the halls of the school and expected to enforce indoor rules — “keep to the right,” “no running,” “no screaming,” “no fighting.” If a child broke a rule, our response was a shouted warning: “YOU’RE REPORTED!” which almost always solved the problem.

In winter, when safety patrol boys were patrolling outside in the cold and snow, safety girls got to fix hot chocolate for them in the kitchen when they finished their patrol duties.

Get it? Boys: outside, being brave. Girls: inside, in the kitchen, serving the boys.

Every morning of my elementary school career, after the tardy bell rang, our teacher took attendance. Then we stood beside our desks and faced the American flag in the front of the room. We placed our right hands over our hearts and recited the Pledge of Allegiance (without the “under God” phrase; it hadn’t been invented yet), followed by a thin, wobbly chorus of “The Star Spangled Banner.”

My fifth-grade teacher was a man, a rare educational specimen in the 1950s. He was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin. Every morning of fifth grade, we said the pledge, sang “The Star Spangled Banner,” and then he led us in a high-spirited verse or two of “On Wis-

consin” performed at the top of our lungs.

I still remember the words.

When I was in kindergarten, World War II had just ended and my family had to give up our rented home in Detroit because the owner had returned from serving in the war. We moved several times in 1945, while my parents built a new home in a rapidly expanding Detroit suburb. For a few months, my mother and I lived in Cincinnati with my grandmother. My father joined us every other weekend.

I was enrolled, then yanked out of, then re-enrolled in three separate kindergartens. My first kindergarten class at Detroit’s Finney School (now demolished) numbered 99 5-year-olds. There were two teachers and one high school girl who served as a part-time aide.

Imagine! Fifty squirrely kindergartners per teacher. I don’t remember anything we did in that class. Did we color? Did we learn letters and numbers? Did we play on the playground?

My next kindergarten class was in Cincinnati. All I remember about this one is the dreaded cloak room. For starters, I had no idea what a “cloak” was. The room, however, was dark and scary with coats hanging in configurations which, in the dim light, looked like witches and goblins and monsters. If kids misbehaved, they were sent to the cloak room to cool off.

When we moved back to the Detroit area, I was plunked into another kindergarten at Mason Elementary School for the remainder of the school year.

The following September, I decided I’d had all the schooling I needed and refused to attend first grade. My parents pleaded, reasoned, punished, tried everything. Finally, the principal of the school conferred with my mother. From then on, if I didn’t show up at school in the morning, the principal got in her car, drove to my house, marched up to our front door, rang the doorbell, helped me put on my coat, took my hand, drove me to school and deposited me at a desk in my first-grade classroom.

I was mortified. Scared. Embarrassed. I was so afraid of this principal and her position of high authority and her stern expression, I eventually decided to attend first grade.

Would a public school principal do this today? Would she/he be allowed to drive a student to school? To drive a student anywhere?

Would two teachers and one aide be assigned to a class of 99 five-year-olds? I hope not.

Do kids still recite the Pledge of Allegiance and sing “The Star-Spangled Banner?” I hope so.

Would a teacher be permitted to teach his alma mater’s fight song? I hope so.

Could a teacher punish a disobedient child by banishment to a cold floor in a dark room? I hope not.

Incidentally, first grade turned out to be pretty interesting. I learned to love school.

PETS:

Continued from page 4B

Food and/or litter is delivered on an as-needed basis, Short said, but typically deliveries are monthly. Lately, she added, they’ve been enjoying donations of lightweight litter, which makes it easier on all involved.

Those interested in participating in Mutts & Meows should call Short.

“We’ll have a chat about it,” she said. “I like to understand their situation, if someone’s struggling to keep their fur baby in their home. We talk about all of it and see if other resources can be provided.”

Short also handles incoming donations. While it may be tempting to throw in toys, pet beds or other pet items, she stressed, donations must be limited to food and litter.

“I know there are people out there who can benefit from this,” Short said. “It warms my heart to be able to provide this. Like Melissa (Cotton) provides Meals on Wheels for the homebound, I want to provide Meals on Wheels for fur babies.”



Judkins, who formerly resided in the Park and Woods, moved to Harper Woods to provide a yard for her dogs. Her male border collie, Kipper, died a month ago.

“I wouldn’t think of giving any of them up,” she said of her pets. “At their age, it would be stressful for them — and for me. When you get a pet, you have to think about the long term. They’re like your kids.”

“... It really has been a journey with them,” she added. “As far as food from The Helm, I’ve been so appreciative. It’s been such a blessing. If people can’t feed their pet, I’d tell them how I’ve been helped and how thankful I am. They will come around and help you. They care as much about your pet as you do.”

To participate in or donate to Mutts & Meows, call Short at (313) 649-2106 or email ashort@helmlife.org.

Unique ways to change lives by giving back to the elderly



For those without parents or grandparents in their lives, “adopting” a senior friend to serve in that role honorarily can be the beginning of a wonderful and fulfilling relationship for both parties.

Older adults offer experience and wisdom to the fabric of our communities. Despite that, seniors do not always get the recognition they deserve.

According to data from America’s Health Rankings, adults aged 65 and older comprise 16.8 percent of America’s population in 2021. That is projected to grow to 22 percent by 2040. It’s important to include all members of the human family and be exposed to the knowledge and personalities of different generations.

Thanking special seniors in your life, whether they are family, caregivers, friends, or mentors. Individuals is always generous and kind. Yet we can always go one step further by giving back to seniors in these following unique ways or other creative ways you might envision.

• Volunteer

Visit a senior center and find out how you can volunteer your services and do something fun or informational with the seniors who are there. You may be able to guide a class in a certain activity, such as crafting or yoga. Volunteers

may be needed to call bingo numbers or help with meal services.

• Provide financial relief

Small business owners can offer discounts to senior clientele. Perhaps run specials on services, including anything from tax preparation to hair styling. If you don’t own a business, you can provide some assistance in other ways, such as cutting the lawn or doing light gardening so that a senior does not have to spend money on a weekly service.

• Tutor technology

If you are tech savvy, you can help seniors navigate new technologies. Help seniors with social media accounts, downloading digital photos and more.

• Dine out (or in)

Some seniors may be alone if a spouse has predeceased them or if they are divorced. Loneliness may grow into depression. One way to help a senior feel appreciated is by sharing meals together. Designate a day or more each month to gather at the dinner table.

• Serve as a driver

Offer to drive a senior to the store or to appointments. While communities may have taxi services or even accessible senior rides, sometimes it can be more efficient for seniors to rely on others for rides. Take a senior along when shopping at the supermarket.

• Invite seniors to events

If you have a special event coming up, such as a child’s big birthday, graduation or religious occasion, invite an elderly neighbor. It can brighten his or her day and even provide a change of routine and scenery.

• Adopt a “parent” or “grandparent”

Share special holidays with someone alone. Many adults and children find themselves without a parent or grandparent with which to spend

Mother’s Day, Fathers Day or other holidays, making those days difficult or sad. Many seniors are alone and lonely on those days as well. By “adopting” a lonely senior neighbor or friend as your honorary relative, you can change both of your lives for the better. You’ll once again look forward to those calendar dates with joy and the feeling of doing something good.

• Start a senior birthday club

Reach out to lonely neighbors or (with permission) to a local senior home or senior club. Take the small group out for birthdays or bring them a cake and balloons with small gifts to celebrate each member of the group. Get older kids involved to share the happiness of learning more about different generations, while seniors can enjoy the youthful fun of children.



Many seniors no longer drive and could use a helping hand getting to appointments, grocery store or pharmacy. Be the friend in need who makes their day.



Volunteering at senior events or one-on-one can be a blessing to seniors of your community. Teaching your kids to join you can enrich everyone’s life.

8B | CHURCHES

ROTARY:

Continued from page 1B

Quarterly fellowship events also continued during Cory's presidency, during which time a club project was selected.

Through an \$8,000 grant, the club purchased a year's worth of supplies for The Helm's Knitting for Charity, No-Sew Fleece Blanket Making and Fabric Doll Making groups. In addition to supplies, the club purchased paint and decor — then painted and will decorate — to brighten the lower-level craft room.

More work is yet to be done, Cory added, including the addition of student-made artwork in an effort coordinated by Rotarian Rebecca Fannon.

Cory lastly announced the club's latest project — the addition of a zero-gravity swing to its Rotary Tot Lot in the City of Grosse Pointe.

"As of Monday, it became official," he said. "The club will purchase the swing and the City will install it free of charge."

Looking ahead

Everingham also shared a few words about MacKethan, who joined Rotary in 2016.

"From the very beginning, Phil seemed to raise his hand whenever and wherever his help was needed," Everingham said. "... That got everyone's attention, of course, and soon he was elected to his first two-year term on our board of directors. ..."

Everingham continued, "Phil told me that what he has enjoyed most about his Rotary life are the opportunities it offers to provide meaningful community service and the fellowship that we've all enjoyed, and the deep and meaningful friendships that he has developed as a Rotarian. I predict that those are all things that Phil will nurture during his year as our president."

After introducing family members who came to support him, MacKethan shared statistics he learned from attending a recent conference. Of District 6400's 54 clubs, the average club size is 28.7 members and most clubs have less than 40 members. Membership ranges from five in Flat Rock to 113 in Plymouth and

only three clubs — Trenton, Windsor and Plymouth — have more members than the Grosse Pointe club.

"I also attended a session on governance and financing, where they talked about what a board and finances of a healthy club look like," he said, "and what mechanisms you should have in place to protect your club and make sure it is successful. We checked off all the boxes. ..."

"I bring this up to let you know that the Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe is pretty impressive and a pretty healthy Rotary club," he added. "As president, I promise not to screw it up."

MacKethan touched on his introduction to Rotary, encouraged by Fred Ollison, who passed away last year.

"I joined Rotary because of a friend," he said. "I stayed in Rotary because of the service and I am forever grateful to Rotary because of the new friendships I have with people I probably would not have met otherwise."

MacKethan disclosed the club's logo for the year, which includes the words, "Rotary is OUR Club!"

"The image represents two ideals," he said. "One, as a club we need to strive to be inclusive. Diversity keeps a club vibrant with fresh ideas and different perspectives. And two, as a club member you should strive to be active. You will find the more you put into the club, the more you will get out of it and the strongest Rotary clubs are filled with active members."

"... I promise you as president that everyone will be given the opportunity to be actively involved and if you don't feel that to be true, let me know so we can fix it together."



Above, Club Director Jessica Keyser, left, and Past President Elizabeth Vogel assisted during the event. Left, John and the Rev. Susan Mozena were among the attendees. Susan Mozena gave the invocation.



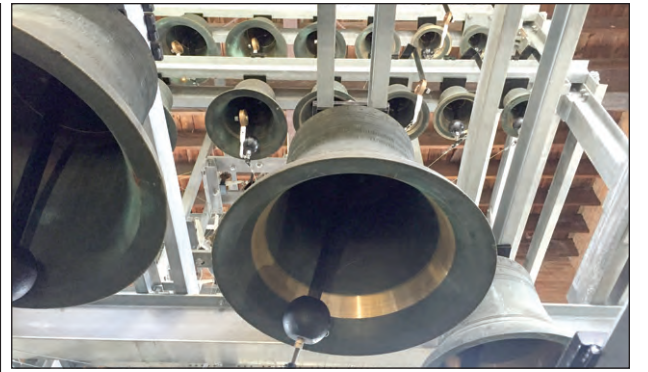
Above, Past District Gov. Paul Sincock and 2022-23 District Gov. Traci Sincock were among attendees. Left, Murray and Kim Davis attended.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TED COUTILISH



Margaret Williamson, 2022-23 assistant district governor for Area 1, shared a smile with Rotarian Dave Colton.



Free carillon concert July 11

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, presents the second of four in its annual Summer Carillon Recital Series at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 11. The recitals are played on the church's carillon, a set of 48 tower bells.

Concert-goers are invited to listen from anywhere on or near the church campus. Some listeners bring a picnic dinner to enjoy during the music. Ice cream treats will be available for purchase from a Captain Kool Ice Cream Truck before the concert.

The 45-minute concerts are family-friendly and presented rain or shine.

The performer for the second concert is Grammy-nominated musician and composer Dr. Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra. A multi-prize-winning composer, Ruiter-Feenstra initiated Global Rings and Global Rings Improv in collaboration with the University of Michigan Carillon Studio, where she mentioned to compose, arrange and improvise works to diversify carillon repertoire. She has taught organ at Eastern Michigan University.

Rotarians awarded

A handful of Rotarians received awards during the Passing of the Gavel event June 28. They are:

- ◆ Rookie of the Year Award: Cassie Coppola
Presented to a new Rotarian who has gotten involved in any avenue of service, above and beyond what would be expected of a new member.
- ◆ Rising Star Award: Rebecca Fannon
Presented to a newer Rotarian who has been involved in an ongoing manner in any avenue of service, demonstrating leadership at a level not normally demonstrated by a newer member.
- ◆ Director's Award: Eva Habib
Presented to a Rotarian who most emulates the quality of "Service Above Self."
- ◆ Service Above Self Award: Heather Mayernik
Presented to an individual who has spent their years in Rotary always helping others and supporting club activities at every meeting.
- ◆ Frank Sladen Visionary Award: Paul Rentenbach
Presented to a Rotarian who demonstrates the greatest ability to visualize and act on the positive future of Rotary; an active member in good standing and focused on the club, as well as Rotary International as a whole.
- ◆ Beacon Award: Mark Brooks
Presented to an individual who may or may not be a club member, but who, through their actions, shines a positive light on the club for the community to see.
- ◆ Theresa DiVirgil Women in Rotary Award: Elizabeth Vogel
Presented to a female Rotarian who has been an active Rotary member a minimum of 10 years and/or has served as president, and has strengthened the club through her leadership, integrity, commitment and passion.
- ◆ Infinite Sky Award: Dick Allison
Presented to a long-standing member with significant accomplishments for Rotary and the community, both locally and internationally.
- ◆ Rotarian of the Year Award: Steve Cornillie
The highest award given by the outgoing president, presented to someone who has demonstrated a desire to say "yes" to any request and who is always ready and willing to help the president in any manner.

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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
Margaret S. Boelter, Pastor
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LIFE & LEISURE



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Now is a perfect time to welcome orioles

By Rosann Kovalcik
Guest Writer

In search of an adequate food supply to raise a family, thousands of Baltimore orioles migrate from Central America to Michigan during springtime. What does it take to attract these vibrantly plumaged orange-and-black birds to our yards?

When the male arrives, he is in search of a territory that will provide the basics — food, water, shelter and places to raise young. Those elements allow him to carry on his genetics, the sole purpose of migration.

The male Baltimore oriole's song consists of a short series of paired notes, repeated two to seven times, lasting one to two seconds. The pure, liquid, flute-like sounds have a full, rich tone.

Orioles are a bird that are wedded to a dense leaf canopy. Males sing from exposed perches to warn other males of proclaimed



A Baltimore oriole at its nest.

territory. Both the male and female land on the tallest point of a tree before slipping into the dense canopy to begin foraging for insects, including caterpillars that emerge to eat unfurling new growth on trees.

Oak trees in particular offer more diversity of caterpillars than any other tree in southeast Michigan. Orioles will eat

tent caterpillars, gypsy moth caterpillars, fall webworms, spiny elm caterpillars, beetles, crickets, grasshoppers, moths, flies, spiders and snails.

Dark fruits are especially attractive to orioles, with a variety of plants — dogwoods, chokeberry, elderberry and viburnums offering the high-lipid fat the birds need for fall migration. Native plants grow native caterpillars in abundance and therefore are the perfect choice when planning your bird-friendly yard.

For a closer look at orioles, you can place feeders in your yard that offer the same types of foods they find in the wild. Dark grape jelly can be offered in plastic and glass dishes, oranges can be placed on pronged feeders and nectar feeders will round out the offerings.

Mealworms are another great food source to offer.

The birds take the worms back to their young as well as bring the young to the feeders once they are fledged. Your feeding station will be most successful if it is some distance away from other feeding stations. As a bonus, other birds, including house finches, cardinals and rose-breasted grosbeaks will enjoy these offerings.

Female orioles are responsible for building a nest that will hold their eggs and resultant young, usually four in number. Long strips of plant material are the backbone of their nests. Most frequently they use milkweed and grasses, clipping the plant at the base just above where they are holding it firmly

in their feet. Pulling up, they create strips that are then flown to the nest site and tied in place. Leave last year's milkweed and grasses standing into the spring so these birds can use them, or clip it and add it to your nesting material basket. Elms were the favorite trees of orioles for nest building before Dutch elm disease took its toll on them. Now, they favor maples, willows, poplars and oaks. Placed at the tip of branches, the sock-like structure has the advantage of being difficult for predators to reach.

The nest is a work of art, a suspended pouch woven as two separate walls. The female uses a shuttling motion to create the walls and then stitches the two halves together. The inside plant material can consist of dandelion fluff, the downy material from willows and poplars and short strips of grape bark.

Natural materials can be placed in a suet basket and hung where you can enjoy these beauties helping themselves. The female builds the nest over a period of about eight days. Nests are not reused, although some of the nesting material might be used in the new structure.

Males keep a watchful



A Baltimore oriole fledgling.

eye on the female as she works, mating with her when she allows. Incubation is done by the female entirely, lasting a period of 12 to 14 days. Both parents feed the young for the next two weeks, during which time the naked hatchlings develop into fully feathered adult-sized birds.

Now it is the male's turn to take over as the young follow him for lessons on where to look for food. The female spends her time eating to regain the weight she lost and preparing herself for fall migration.

Orioles leave early back to their southerly home, our yards quieter without their songs as early as the end of August.

Well worth the effort to attract, orioles make our time in the yard a special time indeed.

Rosann Kovalcik is the owner of Wild Birds Unlimited, Grosse Pointe Woods.



COURTESY PHOTOS

A Baltimore oriole and a grosbeak

Ford House receives historic grant to restore Ford Cove shoreline habitat

The Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization and National Historic Landmark located in Grosse Pointe Shores is the recipient of a federal grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.



The Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grant will provide Ford House with up to \$7 million to support the restoration of natural habitats of Ford Cove and along almost one mile of Lake St. Clair shoreline, benefiting several native Great Lakes species.

"NOAA is proud to support the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House in their important work to restore habitat and bring benefits to Great Lakes fisheries and communities," said Sunny Snider, deputy director of the NOAA Fisheries Office of Habitat Conservation.

This project will reduce the impact of waves and flooding, reduce polluted run off and nutrient loads, and increase recreational fishing opportunities. It also will increase public access to the inaccessible shoreline for future educational and recreational activities. NOAA considers this project one of the top three priority coastal

restoration projects in Michigan.

"Knowing that the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration has put their trust in Ford House to care for and protect our native species and the remarkable shoreline is, simply put, tremendous," Ford House President and CEO Mark J. Heppner said. "Eleanor and Edsel Ford truly loved their home and this beautiful community. It is wonderful knowing that we can continue to serve as stewards of Eleanor's wishes while having greater impact and relevancy."

"It's absolutely transformational," said Kevin Drotos, Ford House landscape and natural areas manager and project manager for the grant. "At some point in the past, concrete and cement slabs were placed along the shoreline of Ford Cove to protect it from erosion. But doing so actually harms the natural habitats of many native species. By restoring the shoreline to its natural condition, we

can support our local wildlife and provide more sustainable care to the estate and its shoreline.

Phase One of the project includes an initial \$490,000 award to begin engineering and design work. Project implementation is expected to occur 10 to 12 months after the engineering and design phase.

"We know that this may disrupt some of the experiences that visitors have come to enjoy," Heppner added, "but in the end, this enormous project will be transformational for everyone: our guests, members, staff, the community and Mother Nature. We aim to leverage this project to become a leader in environmental stewardship and help ensure a more sustainable future."

Ford House has launched a new section of its website to share updates and more details on continued and new sustainability programs.

Visitors can learn more at fordhouse.org/sustainable ability.

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Grosse Pointe Gabby

The Pulse Of The Pointes

Pushing aside long awaited plans

Dear Gabby: My wife has been counting down the years until our big wedding anniversary so we can go on a huge trip and exchange “important” (aka expensive) gifts. The date is now approaching and I find myself in a bind — I do not have the means to make all of this happen.

The bad part is, I don't know if I have the heart to tell her. It's not her fault that I didn't save properly and she'll likely be devastated. What should I do?

— Struggling in the Shores

Dear Struggling,

Congratulations on reaching this significant

milestone in your marriage!

It's definitely a cause for celebration, and I commend you for acknowledging the importance of making your anniversary special.

The first step is to have an open and honest conversation with your wife about the situation. Discuss her expectations for the anniversary and openly share your perspective as well.

It's crucial to take ownership of any oversight or mistake and sincerely apologize. Show your commitment to making it right by asking how you can repair the situation.

Consider planning something together that

both of you can enjoy within your current circumstances, taking into account your time and financial constraints. Remember, a vacation isn't enjoyable if it puts a strain on your resources. Think outside the box and explore options that are less extravagant but equally rewarding.

Research has shown that learning a new skill, hobby, or sport together can greatly strengthen a relationship.

Perhaps you can plan a date at a favorite place you haven't visited in years or throw a small anniversary party with close friends and family, serving the same meal you had at your wedding.

— 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 377 Fisher Rd. suite C3 through telehealth and the Family Center. She can be contacted at 313-779-3089 or lynnwalshllp@gmail.com. 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.



Grandchildren are grinding our gears

DEAR ANNIE: I have two step-grandchildren, a 16-year-old boy and a 13-year-old girl. My grandson is completely out of control and was recently expelled from high school for truancy and drug use. My granddaughter was recently caught vaping in the school bathroom and was expelled for a short period of time. There are days when she refuses to get up and go to school, and when she does, she often skips her classes.

My stepson-in-law and stepdaughter are at the end of their emotional “rope” on what to do with their kids.

I resent the kids coming over to our home because of what they are putting their parents through. Any ideas on how to handle these two troubled teens? — Heartbroken Grandparents

DEAR GRANDPARENTS: It's common for kids this age to act out, but they can't rule the roost. They need to understand that their actions have real consequences.

Discipline must start with your grandchildren's parents, and as long as they're teens living at home, they have to abide by the house and school rules, no ifs, ands or buts.

The way you're feeling — frustrated and resentful — makes sense considering the situation, but it might help your grandchildren to know they have you as a trusted adult figure in their lives at times they feel they can't turn to their parents.

Attending family counseling would equally benefit the parents and children alike.

DEAR ANNIE: My husband and I were invited to a friend's house for takeout dinner. I asked what to bring, and she originally said nothing but then said a bottle of wine and a dessert.

When we arrived with the dessert and two bottles of wine, she informed me that she wanted us to pay for our part of the takeout.

We have had them over for takeout and never asked them to pay. In the past, when we've had dinner at one of our houses, the person doing the inviting provides the main course.

I was totally shocked and didn't know what to say. This really bothers me because we consider them friends. We paid them for the food, but I am really disgusted that they treated us like this.

When she invited us for dinner, she should have told me that she wanted us to pay and we could have declined the invitation.

Any advice you can provide would be appreciated because I don't know how to handle this. — Shafted by Dinner Date.

DEAR SHAFTED: I wholeheartedly agree with you and your husband. If splitting the cost of the meal were that important to your friends, they should've informed you beforehand and, in the spirit of fairness, offered to split the expense of the dessert and wines you

brought.

The next time they reach out to get together, perhaps you can suggest cooking in, a more economical option, or both of you preparing a few dishes potluck-style.

Given how this gathering unfolded, I would imagine it's likely that history will repeat itself, in which case, it's understandable to decline future visits entirely.

DEAR ANNIE: I live in a nice neighborhood in a modest-sized city. This is a dog-rich environment, with most of my neighbors owning and frequently walking their dogs. I have two, which flourish in my yard, and we rarely walk.

My problem is one neighbor who loiters with her dog at the spot where the alley that runs past my house meets the street. I have watched her wait there for five or 10 minutes until her dog does its business. Now, here's the kicker; she never picks up the waste. Once the dog is finished, she leads it back home.

Annie, that is a heavy-traffic area, and the sidewalk crosses the alley at this point. She will sometimes walk her dogs right into the middle of the street. Once I was out working in my yard and asked, in the nicest way I could, why she did this. She said it was so that her dogs would not be exposed to lawn chemicals. I guess she prefers the chance they



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

get run down to the possibility of chemical harm.

Is there some appropriate and kind way to suggest she pick up the dog waste — as all other dog walkers do? While I find this common nuisance disgusting and anti-social, I don't want to make a police report since that seems like overkill. — GrosseD Out.

DEAR GROSSED: I'm not sure what state you are in, but in many states there are Pooper Scooper laws, which state that all pet owners must remove and clean up all fecal matter left by their dog on public and private property.

So you are within your rights to let a local police officer know. As far as not wanting to walk on lawns, I am sympathetic to the argument that some lawns have pesticides that are harmful not only to pets but to humans as well.

Walking in the middle of the street is clearly dangerous. Getting run down by a car is certainly more dangerous than lawn chemicals. Ideally, she could find a park or a hiking trail to take her four-legged friends.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2023 CREATORS.COM.



We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



Have you ever needed a lime for a recipe or cocktail only to realize the limes in your fridge have gone bad? It seems like every time I need a lime, I either don't have one or they aren't good anymore. Maybe that's just a “me” problem, but even if I have lemons or limes, I usually don't feel like cutting a slice to put in my water. If I do, the rest of it goes bad and it just seems

like it's not worth the bother.

First-world problems! Anyway, True Lime is here to solve that issue.

True Lime is a super easy way to add fresh squeezed taste to bev-



erages and recipes anywhere, anytime. Even better, the only ingredient is crystallized lime, so you can feel good about using it in your food and drinks.

You simply open a packet, add it into your favorite drink

and you're good to go.

This product is so convenient and useful, I have repurchased it a few times. I mean, who doesn't love citrus flavor added to their drinks? It's great added to ice water, margaritas, lemonade and even Diet Coke. Now that I have it, there are a few drinks I won't drink anymore unless I have my True Lime.

Each pack has zero calories, zero sugar, is non-

GMO and unsweetened. True Lime is just \$6.48 for 100 packets. That's a pretty great deal.

I can tell you from firsthand experience that True Lime is where it's at. While lime is my personal favorite flavor, it also is available in True Lemon and True Orange flavors. Available on Amazon.

I'm giving this product 5 out of 5 alligators because it's the absolute

best. — 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.



Ajo Blanco

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Gazpacho is a refreshingly cold soup from Spain. Traditionally you would think of the red gazpacho made with tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers. But this version is its cousin, white gazpacho. It's made with inexpensive ingredients that were abundant in the region of Spain where this soup originated from.

Almonds, stale bread, cucumbers and grapes pair perfectly together. The almonds may sound odd but they are ground finely with garlic and blended together with all the other ingredients, giving the soup the body it needs. The result is a fresh, garlicky and slightly sweet summertime dish.

Blanched almonds are almonds without their skin and can be found in most grocery stores. I used half of a serrano pepper as well to give it

some heat.

It's important to let the soup cool in the fridge to let the flavors meld together and the garlic and chili pepper mellow out a bit.

Try making this lesser known version now since our tomatoes aren't quite ripe yet.

Cheers, Mombeau

White Gazpacho

2 cups of stale, torn white bread with crusts removed

2 cups water

1/3 cup blanched almonds

1 garlic clove

1 half of a serrano chili, seeded

1 large english cucumber roughly chunked

1 1/2 cups green grapes

2 tsp sherry vinegar

2 tbsp olive oil

1 tsp salt

Sliced grapes and chives for garnish

In a bowl add the bread and 1 cup of water. Toss together so the bread gets moist. Next, in a blender, add the almonds, garlic and chili. Puree until the mixture is finely ground. Add the soaked bread, cucumber, grapes, vinegar, oil and salt.

Blend everything together on high until the soup is smooth. Taste and adjust the seasoning to your taste.

Put the mixture in the fridge and cool for at least an hour. Garnish with sliced green grapes and chopped chives.



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

The underrated

Just because a wine gets a high score doesn't mean it is automatically great. People taste differently and I have often tried some 92-point wine and found it to be flawed. Using the same exact reasoning, low-scoring wines might very well be exceptional, but simply not to the liking of certain reviewers.

Why would an excellent wine not be liked by all reviewers? There are multiple answers here, and some may apply and not others.

Perhaps the wine is priced too low.

This is a common "problem" with some excellent wines. A winemaker has a history of making wines that represent great value, so the market-

place sends him or her a message: Keep the bargains coming; don't raise your price. But to some reviewers, notably those who don't rate wine blind, the price is a pre-indicator of its quality.

By pre-indicator, I refer to the prejudice that some reviewers have for lower-priced wine. Their reasoning goes: "If the wine isn't selling for a lot of money, it's probably not very good. So it probably deserves a score of 85 or so. Now let's taste it."

If the wine is better than expected, it gets an 89. Whoop-de-doo. A lot of good that does.

Perhaps the wine is from a poorly regarded region.

This is regional prej-

udice and often infects the minds of those who say, "Well, it's the South Coast, and they don't make great wine there." Oops. South Coast Winery in Temecula was named Winery of the Year at the recent 2008 California State Fair Commercial Wine Competition, winning seven gold medals, 13 silver medals and four bronze medals.

Clearly, South Coast winemaker Jon McPherson doesn't believe in regional prejudice.

Perhaps the wine is from a poorly regarded variety.

Varietal prejudice is, frequently, little more than egotism run rampant. The reviewer believes he or she is

better than the wine. Just this week I tasted superb wines from three small California wineries, a French Colombard (McNabb Ridge), a Chasselas Dore (Berthoud) and a Tocai Friulano (David Noyes). But they are not candidates for high scores because the varietals from which they are made are looked down upon.

And so it was that I discovered a truly great red wine quietly hiding from view under a \$16 price tag.

The wine was 2006 Sobon Estate Syrah from the Shenandoah Valley near Sacramento. The wine is a project of the Sobon family, founders Leon (his friends call him Lee), his wife, Shirley and their son Paul, the winemaker and vineyard operations manager.

The Syrah comes from five acres, three and a half of them old vines, originally planted from plant material pioneered in the 1970s by winemaker Gary Eberle at his old winery in the Paso Robles area. This was supplemented with more material from Australia.

"When Paul got out of high school, he worked at Balgownie and then Taltarni," said Lee, referring to two of the oldest and coolest-climate wineries in Australia that make old-vine Shiraz.

Some of the plant material was Shiraz from Down Under.

The Sobons' plantings are located in the relatively moderate climate of Shenandoah



Valley, and the vines are planted in an east-west direction, so the grapes get no direct sun, "and they are also shaded by a forest in the late afternoon, so the vines grow cooler than you would expect," said Lee. He added that it was similar in many ways to the climate of St. Helena in the Napa Valley.

It is assumed that cooler climates give wine flavors similar to those in this wine.

I waited two years to write about the Sobon Syrah (a screw-capped wine), after I was wowed by its 2004 vintage, and then waited for the 2005 Syrah to see if it had been just a fluke. The 2005 was even better.

So after I tasted the recently released 2006, it was time to go public: This is no fluke. Lee Sobon has a winner. With hints of violet and black cherries, the wine's most interesting characteristic is a black peppery note that was stronger in the 2004 and 2005, but

is still evident in the (earlier bottled) 2006, and which may come out with another year in the bottle.

With only 13.5 percent alcohol, this wine has excellent flavors and a long, complex finish.

When I asked Lee why the wine was so reasonably priced, he replied simply, "Well, Syrah is a hard sell these days, and it's difficult to sell one for more than that. Besides, that's what people expect."

If you can divorce yourself from the (low price and the (disrespected) area, the stylish and appealing 2006 Sobon Syrah is a wine to try.

Wine of the Week:

2006 Sobon Estate Syrah, Shenandoah Valley (\$16): See preceding text!

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



Shenandoah Vineyards in Plymouth, Calif. was founded in 1977 by Shirley and Leon Sobon. They moved from Los Altos, Calif. where Leon was a Senior Scientist with the Lockheed Research Lab. Leon's gift for home wine-making led him to leave Lockheed and begin a new career as a winemaker.



Shenandoah Vineyards in Plymouth, Calif.

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COURTESY PHOTOS

Fishing Classic ends on a high note

By Donna Zetterlund
Special Writer

As the Grosse Pointe News Inshore Fishing Classic comes to a close, it's impossible not to be impressed with the level of active participation — and the amazing fishing skills shown by the contest entrants. This year's crew of fishers caught some incredible fish from the eligible species categories. All ages from every division got involved, with a big showing from the area's littlest residents.

Along with the announcement of the final list of win-

ners this week, the Grosse Pointe News would like to once again thank everyone who joined in the friendly neighborhood competition as well as our generous local sponsors.

Many thanks to Charles Schwab Grosse Pointe for the cash awards for winners who caught the longest fish. Much gratitude to raffle sponsors Fishbones, Lakeside Fishing, Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy and the anonymous donor of the great high-tech electronics prizes.

We hope you enjoyed this opportunity to share some good old-fashioned family fun at our beautiful Grosse Pointe parks and shorelines.

Luke Skowronski, above, of Grosse Pointe Farms, is honing his skills early. The adorable 4-year-old angler caught a 13" smallmouth bass while fishing with family at Pier Park in late June.

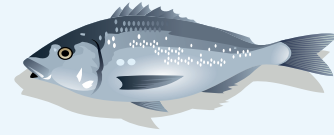
Be sure to see the July 20, 2023 edition of the Grosse Pointe News for more photos of Classic participants — and their amazing fish!





Anna Skowronski, age 9, above, of Grosse Pointe Farms, proves that great fishing skills run in the family during an outing at Pier Park in the Farms. Anna was a winner this week with her 17” bass caught at Pier Park.

Congratulations



WINNER'S CIRCLE WEEK 5

DIVISION A WINNERS (age 12 and under)

BASS Anna Skowronski reeled in a 17” bass at Pier Park
MUSKIE N/A
PIKE Malcom Richards got a 20” pike off Harsens Island
WALLEYE N/A

DIVISION B WINNERS (age 13-19)

BASS Sam Andris landed a 16.25” bass at Pier Park
MUSKIE N/A
PIKE N/A
WALLEYE N/A

DIVISION C WINNERS (ADULT, age 19+)

BASS John Leverenz reeled in a 18.25” bass at CSYC
MUSKIE N/A
PIKE Andy Hauswirth caught a 27” pike at City park
WALLEYE Patrick Cavera got a 22” walleye at GPYC

RAFFLE WINNERS

\$100 Fishbones gift card - Chace Wakefield
 Lakeside Fishing gift card - Luke Skowronski
 Electronics prize - Sam Wakefield

A SAMPLING OF THIS MONTH'S CATCH



Carter Coleman, age 13, from St. Clair Shores, landed a nice 15.3” largemouth bass while fishing the local park.



This 27” pike was landed by Andy Hauswirth, of Grosse Pointe, during a day of fishing at City Park.



FISH FACTS: All about that bass

It's been a great season for bass on Lake St. Clair. Here are a few fun facts about this popular sporting fish.

While we are most familiar with largemouth and smallmouth varieties (also called sunfish or black bass), there are actually approximately 400 species of sea bass and grouper.

Bass can measure up to 31.5” long – but on some rare occasions, bass up to 40” long have been recorded to have been caught by a few very lucky fishermen.

Largemouth bass are frequently found hanging around submerged objects, rocks or logs and are known to put up a fight before they'll let themselves be caught!

SOURCES: britannica.com/animalcorner.org

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THIS WEEK'S TIP:
 Bass continue to be plentiful across Lake St. Clair. Congratulations to all the Classic winners and participants. Enjoy a long summer of fantastic fishing!

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GOOD LUCK
 -TO ALL-
FISHING CONTEST PARTICIPANTS!

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LET'S GO FISHING COLORING CONTEST WINNER!



WINNER:
Charlotte Clor
Age 5
Grosse Pointe
Woods

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Many thanks to all participants. Congratulations to our winner and all of our talented honorable mentions.

Winner Charlotte Clor receives a \$25 gift certificate to Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy. Thank you, Whistle Stop for being our generous sponsor.

Honorable mentions receive: A Grosse Pointe News official keepsake mug. Mug prize must be picked up in person at: 16980 Kercheval Place in Grosse Pointe from 9am-5pm, Monday - Friday. Ask for Kristin.



Kate Padesky, age 6, Grosse Pointe



Charlotte M., age 6.5, Grosse Pointe Woods



Aubrey Hayner, age 11, New Baltimore



Luca Rotondo, age 5



Sloan, age 7, Grosse Pointe Farms



MANY THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

Join us in thanking our wonderful sponsors, who have so generously underwritten the contest and provided amazing prizes for the winners of the contest and raffle. We couldn't do it without their help and commitment to our community.



**Lakeside
Fishing**





PHOTOS COURTESY OF BROAD GREEN PICTURES

Left, Ben Kingsley as Darwan and Patricia Clarkson as Wendy in the 2014 movie "Learning to Drive," directed by Isabel Coixet.

MOVIE REVIEW
 "Learning to Drive"
 2014 - Rated R
 1 hr 30 min
 ★★★★★

When I spot a movie with two actors of the caliber of Patricia Clarkson and Ben Kingsley, I immediately add it to my queue. I know it's going to be a rewarding outing. And sure enough, "Learning to Drive" turned out to be another one of those under-the-radar gems.

I first saw Ms. Clarkson in the remarkable "Station Agent," a film that's nestled solidly in my Top 10 list. She's an incredibly talented actor who's impressive in every film she's in. While she's done a fair bit of acting, she seems to gravitate to more indie-type projects, eschewing big, Hollywood productions.

Her co-star in this movie is the incomparable Sir Ben Kingsley. The man simply needs no introduction. If you don't know who he is, I think you must have been asleep for the last 25 years or so. A quick check with IMDb reveals he's been in 141 films, including such notable titles as "Gandhi," "Schindler's List" and a ton of other familiar titles. To see these two greats together is quite a treat. I should mention they were both in "Elegy," which coincidentally was directed by Isabel Coixet as well.

the couple as they hash out their breakup. When she's dropped off at home, Wendy accidentally leaves a manuscript she's working on in the back seat of the cab. Darwan is kind enough to drop it off the next day and when Wendy notices he has a student-driving vehicle, she asks for his business card.

Wendy has gone through life without ever learning to drive. She's always relied on her husband and public transportation to get around New York City. As a native Detroiter, it's hard for me to comprehend being an adult without a driver's license. But it's fairly common for residents of cities like New York and Chicago. With the encouragement of her daughter Tasha (Grace Gummer), she hires Darwan to teach her to drive. She realizes she'll need to drive to visit Tasha and her sister who live out of town.

A good deal of the film is spent with Wendy and Darwan behind the wheel of the car. As expected, Wendy is terrified their first time out. She's prone to mild panic attacks and Darwan is the steady, calming tutor who offers her insights to keep her grounded.

The two have a marvelous chemistry together, and they play off each other perfectly.

There are quite a few comical moments, both physically and with their witty dialogue. This is

seeking political asylum. The subject of racism is touched on — he's often harassed in the wake of the events of 9/11.

Darwan has been tasked with looking after his nephew, who lives with him and several other Indians. He's constantly being nagged by relatives back home to get married and he eventually gives in and agrees to marry Jasleen (Sarita Choudhury), whom he's never met. The scenes of the wedding are some of the most beautiful moments in the film. Once they're married, things get a bit awkward between them. Not only is Darwan a bit of a stoic, his young wife has a hard time fitting in her adopted country.

Ultimately, the film is about Wendy's learning to accept her situation and Darwan becoming a caring husband. One gets the sense that that Darwan is going to be the mentor that helps her see the light. But in reality, they each move forward on their own. "Learning to Drive" has a gentle, steady pace to it. When it ends, you get the feeling you've just witnessed a master class in acting. And that's sure to bring a smile to your face.

You have a bunch of viewing options. It's currently streaming for free on Kanopy and Hoopla (with your library card), Tubi, and Freevee. Also on Hulu, Pluto TV, and The Roku Channel, and to rent on Prime Video.

About this column:

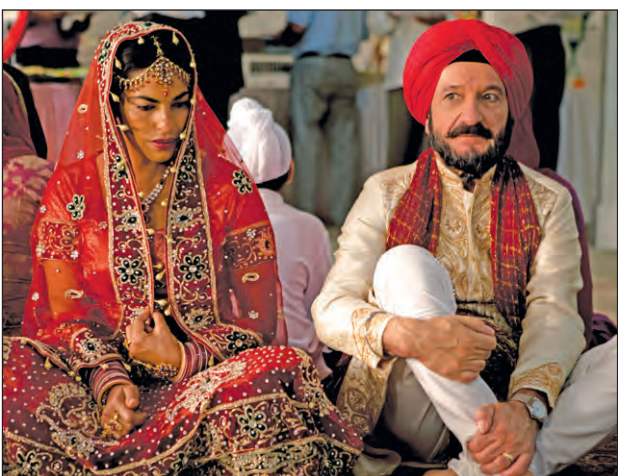
My main focus is on films that I feel have gone under the radar and deserve more recognition.

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.

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

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

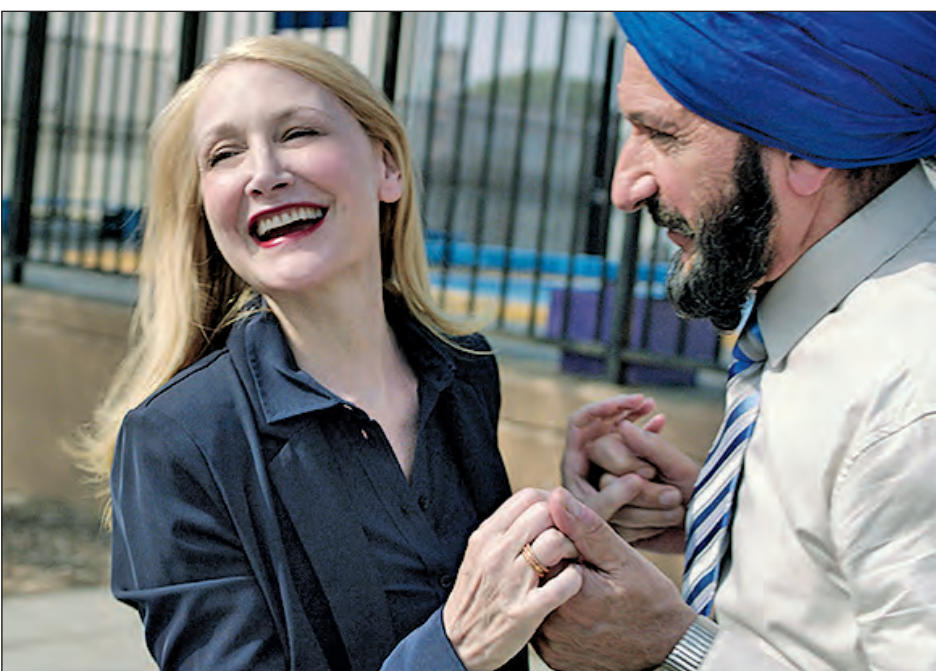


Left, Sarita Choudhury as Jasleen and Ben Kingsley as Darwan.

We first meet Wendy (Clarkson) and her husband Peter (Matt Salinger) as he informs her their marriage of 21-years is over. They hop into a cab, driven by a Sikh, Darwan (Kingsley), who listens to

due in large part to the clever script by screenwriter Sarah Kernochan.

I found the film became more engaging as we slowly learn more about Darwan's life. He's an American citizen and came to this country



Wendy passes her driving test.

Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or important decisions from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. EDT today (6:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. PDT). After that, the Moon moves from Aquarius into Pisces.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, July 6, 2023:

You are optimistic and enthusiastic. You radiate energy. You are reliable, dedicated and passionate about what you believe. This is a slower-paced year; time to rest. Do what you can to rejuvenate your energy. Search for relationships that are supportive and bring you happiness.

ARIES
 (March 21-April 19)

Today your home routine might be interrupted by something unexpected. It could entail a home repair. Family news might surprise you. Possibly a relative will make a surprising suggestion. Stock the fridge so that you're ready for anything. Tonight: Stay positive.

TAURUS
 (April 20-May 20)

Today has a lot of electrical energy floating around in the air — you can feel it. This is why you might impulsively change plans. You might suddenly take a short trip or cancel one. This is the classic day to see new places and meet new faces. You're full of clever ideas! Tonight: Listen to advice.

GEMINI
 (May 21-June 20)

Today you might have some excellent money-making ideas. If you think they're worth your consideration, act fast, because this window of opportunity will be brief. You also might impulsively shop today. (Keep your receipts — and the box.) Tonight: Show respect.

CANCER
 (June 21-July 22)

Mercury is in your sign, and today it is dancing with unpredictable Uranus. This is why you feel a sense of excitement and heightened interest in your immediate environment. Startling new ideas might occur to you. It's a great day for new insights and new plans. Tonight: Avoid controversy.

LEO
 (July 23-Aug. 22)

Today you feel impulsive, restless and ready for action! You also might feel indecisive because there's lots of unusual energy floating around. On the upside, exciting possibilities exist. On the downside, you might impulsively do something you later regret. Tonight: Check your finances.

VIRGO
 (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Today a friend might surprise you. Or you might be caught off guard by a member of a group or something that a group does. Possibly, you are the person who surprises others. Be open to new ideas and new ways of thinking, even though "the more things change, the more they stay the same." Tonight: Patience.

LIBRA
 (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Prepare for a surprise when dealing with bosses, parents, the police or anyone in authority today. Someone might throw you a zinger! Give yourself time to process whatever happens. Don't do or say anything you will later regret. Tonight: Work.

SCORPIO
 (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Travel plans might suddenly fall in your lap today. Alternatively, travel plans might be canceled, delayed or changed in some way. This same unpredictable quality can affect school schedules or something to

do with medicine and legal matters. Stay tuned! Tonight: Listen.

SAGITTARIUS
 (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Stay in touch with your bank account and any arrangement that you have with others, especially partners, about shared property, debt, loans or inheritances. Something unexpected could change everything today. You snooze, you lose. Tonight: Tolerance.

CAPRICORN
 (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Stay on your toes today, because someone close to you might throw you a curveball. Very likely, someone will say or do something you didn't expect. They might want to change the arrangement of the relationship. Or they might have an unusual suggestion. Hmmm. Tonight: Think positive.

AQUARIUS
 (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Your work routine will be interrupted today. Power outages, staff shortages, late deliveries or breakdowns with machinery are some examples. On the upside, you could have a clever idea that is a solution to a problem. The downside is obvious. Tonight: Save money.

PISCES
 (Feb. 19-March 20)

Parents should be extra vigilant, because this is an accident-prone time for your kids, especially today. Therefore, know where they are at all times and make sure that toddlers are not near hazardous situations. Meanwhile, social plans might suddenly change. You might receive an exciting invitation! Tonight: Courage!

BORN TODAY

Actress, TV personality Tamera Mowry (1978), comedian Kevin Hart (1979), actor Sylvester Stallone (1946).

Contract Bridge

HOW TO CAPTURE A QUEEN

South dealer.
 Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
 ♠ 9 2
 ♥ K 8 6 4
 ♦ Q 10 3
 ♣ Q 10 9 5

WEST
 ♠ 6
 ♥ Q J 10
 ♦ 9 7 5 4
 ♣ K J 8 4 2

EAST
 ♠ Q 7 5 4
 ♥ A 9 3
 ♦ 8 2
 ♣ A 7 6 3

SOUTH
 ♠ A K J 10 8 3
 ♥ 7 5 2
 ♦ A K J 6
 ♣ —

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 NT	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♠			

 Opening lead — queen of hearts.

Assume you're declarer at four spades and West leads the Q-J-10 of hearts, East winning the third round with the ace. East next plays the ace of clubs, which you ruff, and the question is how to handle the trump suit.

There are two possible approaches to this card combination. One is to cash

the ace of spades before entering dummy with a diamond to take a trump finesse. The purpose of the ace play is to guard against the possibility of the singleton queen in the West hand.

The other method of play is to cross dummy at once with a diamond, lead the nine of spades and let it ride. If the nine wins, declarer repeats the finesse.

In the actual deal, the second line of play makes the contract, while the first loses it. The question that naturally arises is which approach is correct, without the benefit of having seen the East-West cards.

There is no doubt that in the long run, the second method of play is far superior to the first. The so-called safety play of cashing the ace first, to protect against the singleton queen, is a snare and a delusion.

While it is true that it gains whenever West has the queen singleton, it loses four times as often, whenever West started with the singleton 7, 6, 5 or 4. When West has one of the small singletons, declarer eventually loses a trump trick if he cashes the ace first, but does not lose a trump trick if he takes a finesse on the first round of the suit.

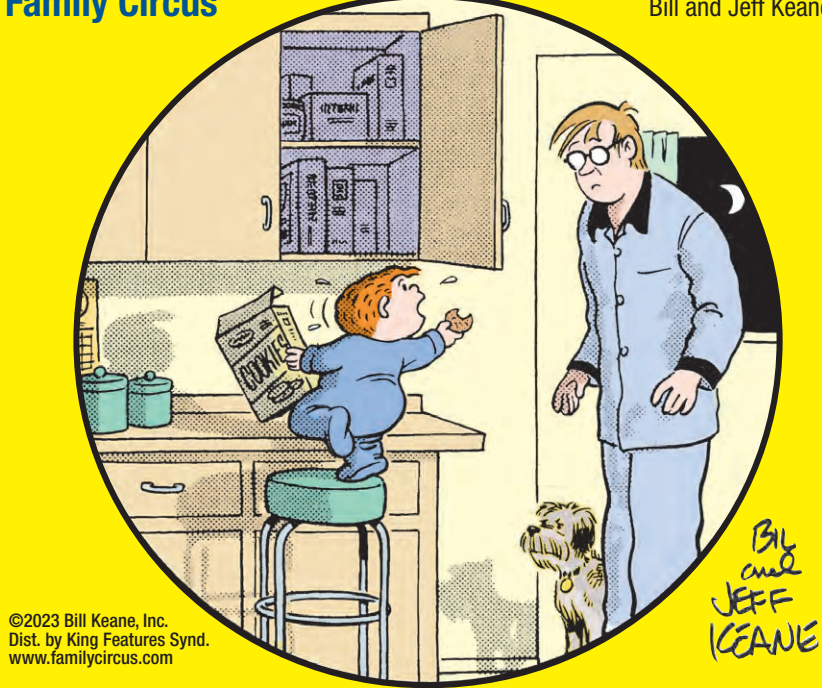
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by Steve Becker

Puzzles and

Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



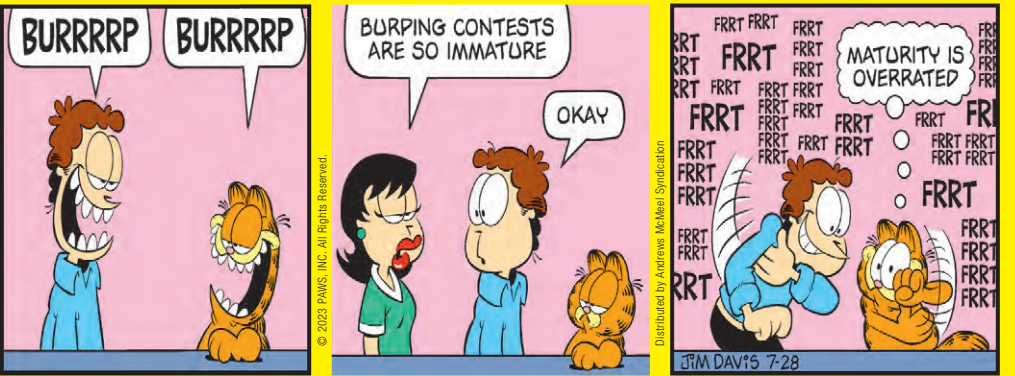
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Bill and Jeff Keane

"Hi, Daddy! I was just gettin' this for you."

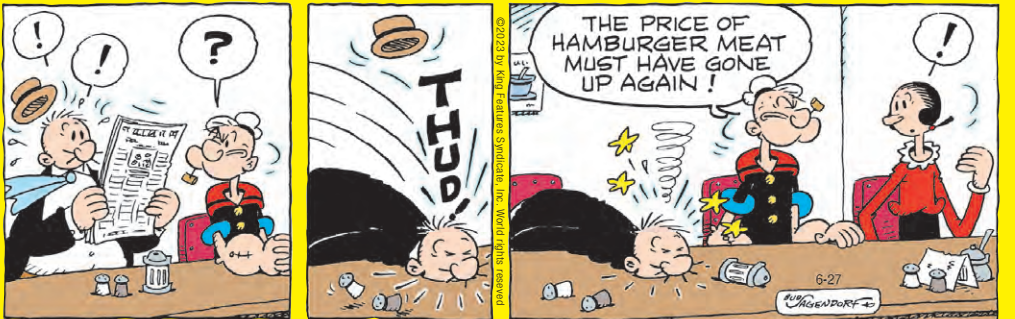
Garfield

Jim Davis



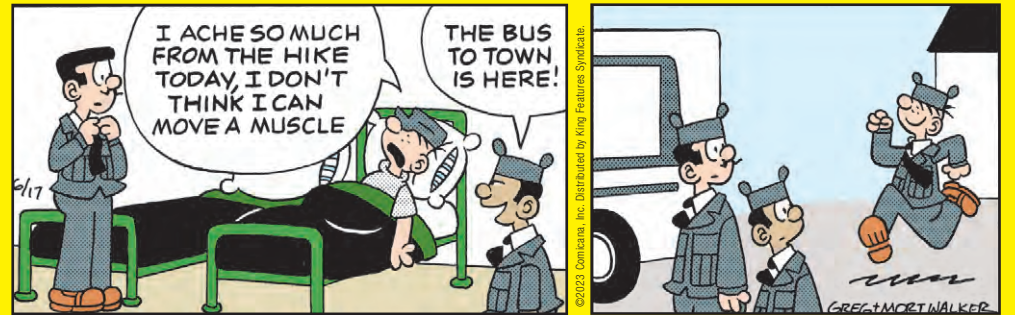
Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



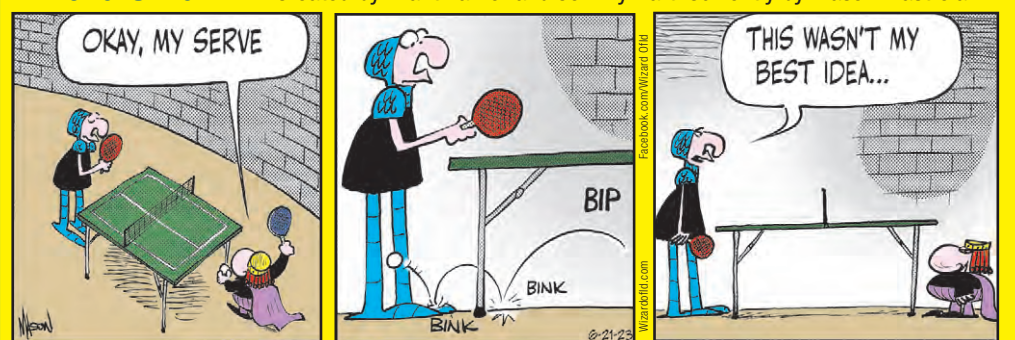
Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



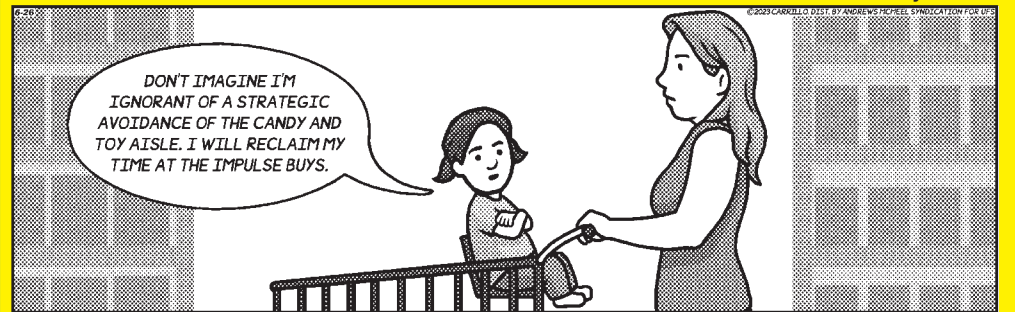
Wizard of Id

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



F Minus

Tony Carrilo

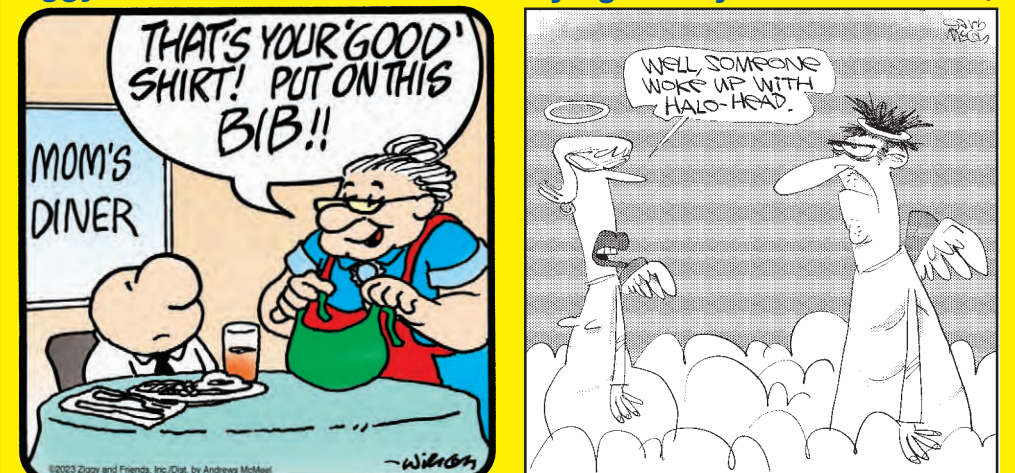


Ziggy

Tom Wilson

Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

7/6

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

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6/29 Solution

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg July 6, 2023

ACROSS

- Satisfied Siamese's sound
- Greek goddess of the soul
- Disparity, as between generations
- Double-reed woodwind
- City on the Illinois River
- Bld. relative
- Leg press video for paramedics?
- Soccer star Hamm
- Like fresh lettuce
- PC port letters
- Exemplary
- QVC alternative
- Turn tables
- Copenhagen locals
- Chest fly video for carpenters?
- Modern surgical tools
- Decide
- Affirm
- Pacific
- Agcy. that becomes an eye part if you add an "i"
- Climat activist Thunberg
- TV type
- Greek letter resembling a trident
- Certain URL ending

- Abdominal crunch video for composers?
- Tempur-Pedic alternative
- "Later!" in textspeak
- Pres. Coolidge
- Kind of dish under a microscope
- Originally named
- Nachos topper
- "You Only Love Me" singer Rita
- Shoulder raise video for jockeys?
- John Williams was last to receive this title from Queen Elizabeth II
- Approval, informally
- Is deceitful
- "Certainly!"
- "Darn it!"
- Prefix for "potent"

DOWN

- Home swing's setting
- Uses a ride app
- Viola bow application
- Letters in a college app
- Pandemic safety gear, briefly
- "Glass Onion," to "Knives Out"
- Thank- (appreciative notes)

- Creamy seafood appetizers
- Stashed
- Becoming less harsh
- Dramatic end to a playoff series
- New Balance rival
- Bell's loud sound
- Economic improvement
- Leaves
- "Dark Materials"
- Pantry pest
- Smaller and shinier, as eyes
- Greek column style
- d'Ivoire
- Hit, as a fly
- Hang in the distance
- Rights org.
- Is dazed
- New York NHL player

- Head toward dawn
- Vanna's co-star
- Like certain rubs or wines
- "The Count of Monte "
- Rain forest feline
- Assert
- Colorado resort town
- Indian yogurt drink
- Small bouquet
- Canal passing through Utica
- "The Simpsons" teacher
- Krabappel
- Guthrie of folk
- Sigh of relaxation
- Mag. staffers

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

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7/6

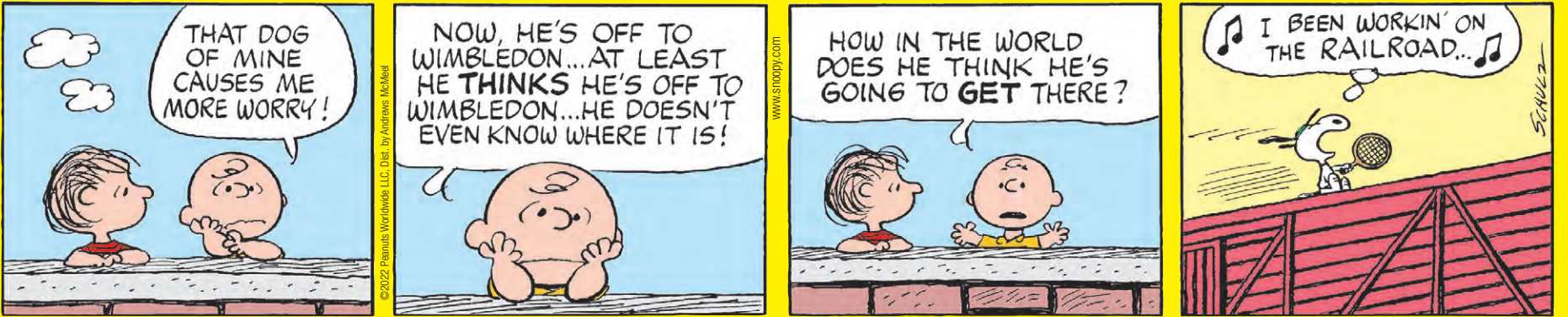
Workouts by Michael B. Berg

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
				15							16	
			18								19	
				21					22	23		
			25	26			27	28				
			29				30				31	32
33	34	35					36				37	
38						39				40		
41					42				43			
44				45				46				
		47						48		49	50	51
52	53				54	55			56	57		
58				59	60				61			
62				63						64		
65				66							67	

Comics

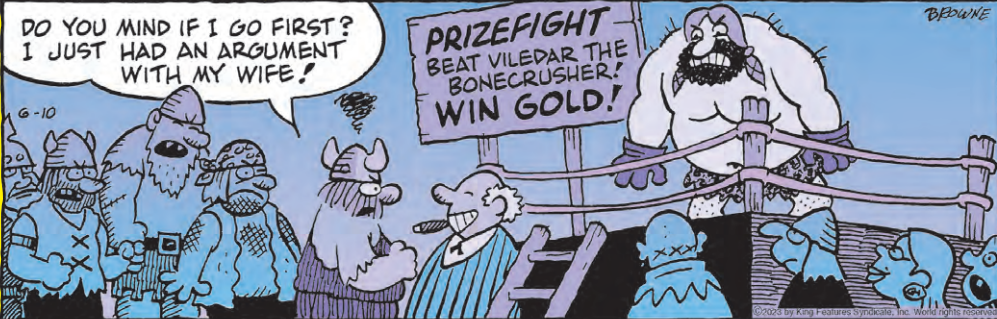
Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



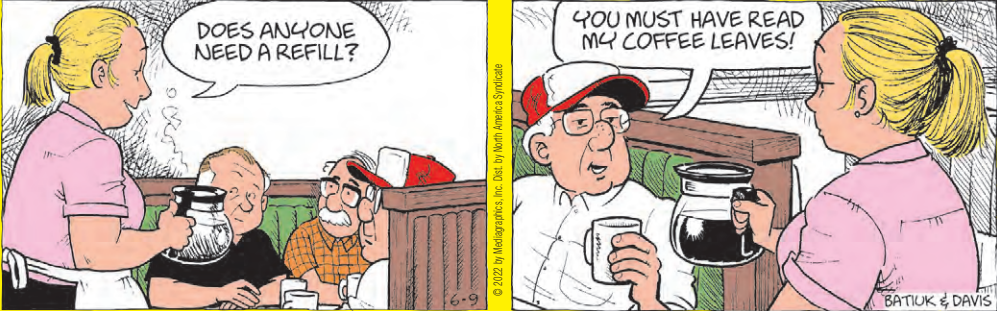
Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



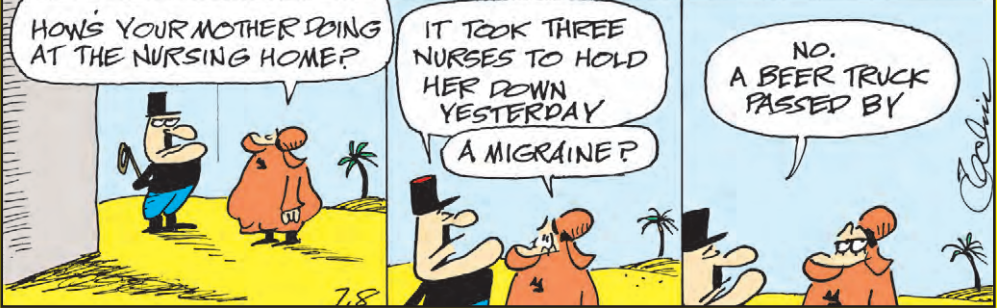
Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



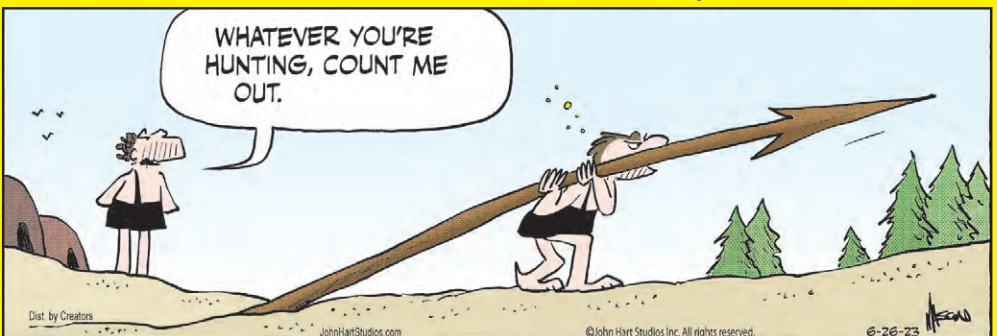
Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



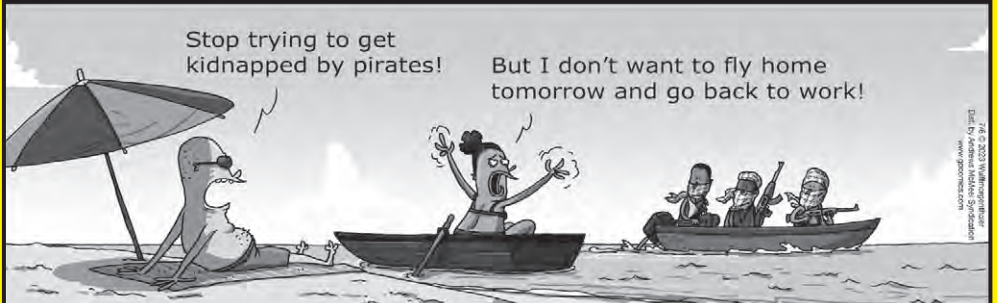
B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Reality Check

Dave Whamond



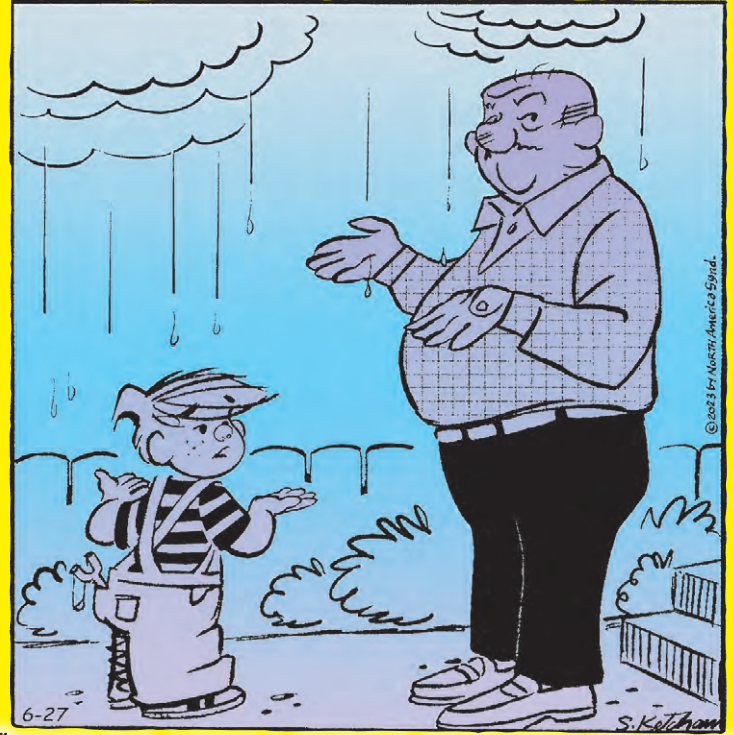
Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



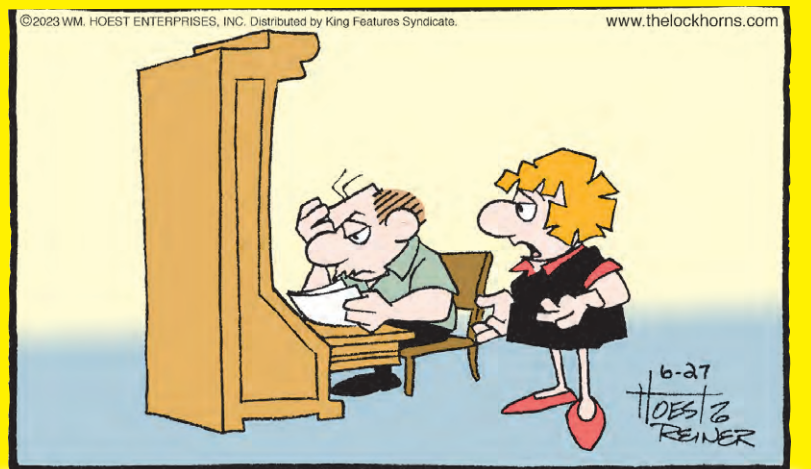
Dennis the Menace

Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



Close To Home

John McPherson

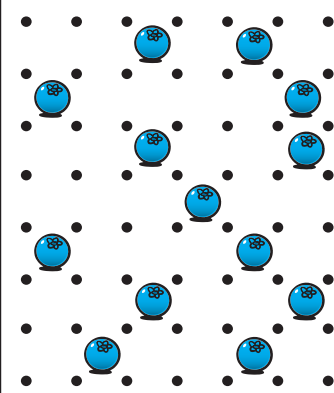


Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



Play this game with a friend or family member. Take turns drawing horizontal or vertical lines to connect two dots. Each time your line closes a square, that's worth 1 point. If the square contains a blueberry, that's worth 3 points!



Kids in Action
Replace the missing words.

CROP STUDENTS GROW
INVOLVED REPRESENTS READ

In March of 2023, the blueberry became the state fruit of Mississippi—thanks to a group of fourth grade _____ from Mansdale Upper Elementary School.

They _____ about how students in Kansas persuaded their state legislature to name the Sandhill plum as their state fruit.

The students started by researching which major fruit _____ is produced in Mississippi. They discovered it was the blueberry. Just under 2,000 acres of land is used to _____ the fruit and produces around 8.5 million pounds of blueberries.

The class reached out to Jill Ford who _____ their area in the Mississippi State Legislature.

"Nothing thrills my soul like having children get _____ in the process," said Representative Ford after the bill making the blueberry the state fruit was signed.

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kidscoop.com/activity-pages/

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **NATIVE**

One meaning of the noun **native** is a person, animal or plant that is found naturally in a given place.

Blueberries are **native** to North America.

Try to use the word **native** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

JULY IS NATIONAL BLUEBERRY MONTH

Time to Enjoy Blueberries!

In most parts of the country, July is the month when blueberries ripen. Do the math to discover some blueberry facts. If the answer is an even number, that fact is TRUE.

Blueberries do not ripen after they have been picked.
 TRUE FALSE
2 + 2 + 2 + 2 =

Blueberries are good for your heart.
 TRUE FALSE
8 + 3 + 3 + 4 =

A single blueberry bush can produce up to 6,000 berries in one year.
 TRUE FALSE
6 + 4 + 1 + 5 =

Berry Challenging

Billy and Betsy are picking blueberries. But what's this?

There is more than just blueberries in the bushes. Can you find a **car**, a **bird**, a **shoe**, a **crayon**, a **fish**, a **cat** and a **glove** while finding your way through the maze?

START

Blueberry Roots

Blueberries have roots that go way back in history. In fact, they have been growing in North America for about 1,300 years.

Native Americans found many uses for these tasty little blue balls. They ate the ripe berries and made a tea from the leaves. They said this tea was good for the blood. Blueberry juice was used to treat coughs.

The juice of the blueberries made an excellent dye for baskets and cloth. The berries added flavor to stews, soups and meats.

Standards Link: History/Social Science: Students understand Native American customs and traditions.

Star Berries

The blossom end of each blueberry forms the shape of a perfect five-pointed star. A Native American legend tells how the Great Spirit sent "star berries" to end the children's hunger during a famine.

Find the two star berries that match.

Standards Link: Finding similarities and differences in common objects.



Blueberry Boo-Boo

Chef LeBloo baked a dozen delicious blueberry pies, but can't remember where he left them to cool. Can you find all 12 on this page?

Standards Link: Visual Discrimination



Ask Barry Blue

To figure out the answer to this important question, number the parts of the sentences in order. Then, write the answer on the lines below.



Dear Barry, I have a plant with blue berries in my yard. Can I eat them?

- berries without
- can be poisonous. Do not
- touch or eat any wild
- mushrooms, some berries
- an adult's permission.
- are safe to eat but others
- Absolutely NOT! Like

Extra! Extra!

How Blue Are You?

If someone says he is blue, it usually means he is sad, not painted.

Look through the newspaper and find pictures or words that mean the same as *sad*. Then cheer yourself up by finding a word that means the opposite of each sad word.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Students understand synonyms and antonyms.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

In the 1600s, when settlers arrived in North America from England, they had to find food. The Wampanoag people showed them how to plant corn and how to gather and use native plants. An important native plant was blueberries! These could be eaten fresh or dried and stored for the winter.

Unscramble the letters on the label of each jar to discover what kind of jam is inside it.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple directions; spell common sight words.

Double Double Word Search

- ABSOLUTELY
- AMERICA
- BERRIES
- DYE
- EAT
- GLOVE
- GROWING
- HEART
- JUICE
- JULY
- LEAVES
- RIPEN
- ROOTS
- SAFE
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State champions: In their own words

By Mike Adzima
 Sports Reporter
 Grace Cueter
 Staff Intern
 Clare Ramsdell
 Staff Intern

In June, the Grosse Pointe North girls varsity soccer team pulled off the unexpected. The team won its first ever state championship in a season where many thought that winning even a district championship might be a reach.

Since the team's incredible title run concluded with raising the trophy in East Lansing, the Grosse Pointe News spoke to various members of the North team to give them the opportunity to put this storybook season into their own words, from the perspective of those who made it possible.

Rita Shemmai, senior, forward: "My expectation going into playoffs was that we had a good chance of winning districts, but I didn't really think of anything past that."

Gabby Miller, junior, midfielder: "I think I speak for the whole team when I say our expectations weren't the highest. We all were beyond determined and knew we were fully capable of winning the district...We loved the possibility of becoming state champi-



Grosse Pointe North girls soccer players line up to receive their state championship trophy and medals with their faithful fans there to greet them.

PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

ons, but didn't think we could compete with teams like Marian, who were so familiar with the pressures of regional and state competition."

Leah Burney, freshman, defender: "When the regular season ended, I wasn't even sure we would make it past districts. I knew we were a strong team but we were struggling to score goals and win games so I didn't have much hope."

Grace McCormick, senior, goalkeeper: "I was shooting for a dis-

trict championship...The main goal for me was never state champions really. It was taking everything step by step... Out of the gate, the most realistic thing was getting a district championship, which I thought was going to be hard enough for us."

The Norsemen did end up winning the district championship. It was a 1-0 victory over Lamphere that pushed North into the regional round of the playoffs,

where it would face some of its toughest tests yet, and ones that few probably thought they would pass.

Mia Stephanoff, Senior, midfielder: "We really liked (being underdogs) because you can play however you want when people don't expect you to win. I like the fact that teams underestimated us because when we start to come back it makes them panic and we take that in with a lot of confidence."

Miller: "In all honesty,

when we first received names like 'the underdogs' or 'the Cinderella story' everyone took extreme offense. It's frustrating that people didn't put deeper consideration into our season and merely looked at our record, but we eventually learned as a team that shocking the world was fun."

Amelia Streberger, junior, midfielder: "We had expectations for ourselves, but nobody else really thought this would happen. We believed in

ourselves and that's all that mattered, and we're so happy because it's honestly better being the underdogs. The joy of winning is 10 times better."

North's biggest underdog moment came in the regional semifinals. The Norsemen found themselves down 2-0 to perennial Division 2 powerhouse Marian. However, the team's fighting spirit prevailed in what ended up as a 3-2 win in penalty kicks, a victory that showed to many that the Norsemen had arrived.

Miller: "Beating Marian was 100 percent the turning point in our team's championship aspirations and mentality...I truly believe beating Marian was when we finally stopped viewing ourselves as the underdogs and genuinely realized our unstoppable team dynamic."

Streberger: "They had been to all these state championships before, so if we beat them then we knew we could win the state championship."

Shemmai: "We knew that any game going into the post season was winnable, and that mentality is what really allowed us to win. Our team never gives up, even being

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PHOTO COURTESY OF LIGGETT ATHLETICS

Senior shortstop Jarren Purify just finished his final baseball season at University Liggett and plans on spending the summer preparing for his college baseball career with the Clemson Tigers.

Hey Now, You're An All-Star

- Hit .437 with 31 RBI, 8 HR and nine stolen bases in 2023
- 2023 MHSBCA All-Star and first team all-state in D2
- Signed to play college baseball at Clemson University

Athlete of the Week

By Mike Adzima
 Sports Reporter

There are many phrases one could use to describe University Liggett baseball senior shortstop Jarren Purify. All-state, all-star, state champion and soon-to-be NCAA Division I athlete would be just a few. Even when he is playing in the biggest games of the high school season for the Knights and earning his various accolades, Purify still tries to keep things simple and feel like he's just a kid hitting baseballs in the backyard.

"My mom bought me a Little Tikes plastic tee, one for beginners with the plastic yellow bat," Purify said about his first introduction to baseball. "It all started in my backyard, and then when I was 12 we went to the (Little League) World Series, and that's when I realized that I could have a pretty good shot at anything I wanted in baseball."

Purify was right about that. His senior season ended with him being named an MHSBCA all-star, first-team all-state and a member of the Dream Team for finishing with a batting average of .437 with 31 RBIs and eight home runs. All of that makes Purify more than worthy of playing at the next level for a high-level college baseball team.

With his high school

playing days at Liggett now wrapped up, Purify is preparing to head to the Palmetto State and begin his college baseball career at Clemson University. Purify was originally committed to

things a bit easy and just sticking to training and preparing his body for college rather than playing any summer ball. When he does get to Clemson, he should be pretty well prepared just

said. "It was healthy competition whenever we were in a scrimmage, we would always work together and talk the game. We would never doubt each other because we were teammates."

Having that level of talent around him has always helped Purify elevate his own game. The Knights are a team who work together to make each other better, with Purify often being one of the leaders. It comes with the territory when playing a position that is commonly referred to as the "captain of the infield."

"When I'm on the field I try to be as vocal as possible," Purify said. "(Shortstop) is a position that needs a lot of athleticism and it's a major leadership role... It's not an easy position for everyone, but if you have a strong foundation of the basic skills and fundamentals, then you'll be fine."

Purify played his final game in a Liggett uniform just a few weeks ago in East Lansing in the Division 2 baseball state final. The season ended unfortunately for the Knights with a loss to Grand Rapids Christian in the state championship game. Though it was not the storybook ending that Purify and his teammates had imagined for

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Grosse Pointe News



Jarren Purify

School: University Liggett
 Sport: Baseball

Sponsored by the Grosse Pointe News

play at the University of Michigan, but changed his commitment last year when former Wolverines head coach Erik Bakich became the new head coach at Clemson.

"I'm really excited to play for them because they do great things with their player development and building men program," Purify said. "...I'm really excited to take on all of the challenges that come with it and win with the Tigers."

For the summer, Purify plans on taking

from the talent he had surrounding him at Liggett.

Purify is far from the only Division I talent the Knights have had in the last few years. His teammates include players like future Texas Longhorn Oliver Service, Michigan commit Reggie Sharpe and soon-to-be Michigan State Spartan Jack Jones, just to name a few.

"In practice every day, nobody really said it, but we always competed with each other," Purify

2D | SPORTS

SOCCER:

Continued from page 1D

down by two goals we came back and showed Marian that we wanted it more than that day.”

After the win over Marian, North went on to defeat Trenton and Linden in the regional finals and state semifinals, both 1-0 victories. It was then on to East Lansing and the Division 2 state championship game against East Grand Rapids. The Norsemen found themselves playing from behind early in the final game, but it was a situation that they were familiar with and knew they could win.

Olivia Dodenhoff, senior, midfielder: “I think being down by two goals gave us even more urgency to play to win and not let these two goals dictate the rest of the game. We knew we had to capitalize on any opportunity to score and that’s when Meredith Dodenhoff’s goal turned the game around for us.”

Alyssa Burney, junior defender: “We were all getting tired and just needed to calm down and play our game. Knowing this was our last time playing together and what an opportunity this was for us was really what kept us going.”

Stephanoff: “Being down in the Marian game really helped us in (the championship game) because we were really calm about it...Our whole team knew it wasn’t that big of a deficit and we knew we could come back and once we got that first goal, we knew we were back in it.”

McCormick: “I was so angry and so were a lot of people. We came out and we played scared. We always would come out and play 110 percent...They caught us on our heels but then Meredith put that goal away and that brought up some of the mood.”

Meredith Dodenhoff’s goal before halftime provided a sizable boost in morale for North, reducing the deficit to just one goal going into the break. During the break, the team rallied around each other and a new strategy from the coach to make a final push.

Leah Burney: “Our coach made a lot of subs and switched our formation many times depending on which team was overpowering at the time. Every change she makes is for a reason and I knew she had a plan in mind.”

Miller: “The major adjustment Olivia and Marty decided during halftime was going from three midfielders to four. She thought we’d be skeptical of the adjustment, but it gave me instant relief... Adding a fourth midfielder in our formation allowed us to block out their talent in the middle and shift the tone of the game.”

Those adjustments, combined with a little bit of luck, ended up paying off. The Norsemen tied the game in the second half after a corner kick was mishandled by the East Grand Rapids goalkeeper. That made the game 2-2, which would remain the score through the end of regular and the end of two extra time periods, sending the game to a decisive penalty kick shootout.

Streberger: “We were so stressed out during the shootout against Marian, so when it came time for this, we were relaxed and knew what we had to do to get the job done.”

McCormick: “Every single day of practice, we practiced PKs. I’m not even kidding, before the tournament, just in the regular season every single day we practiced PKs...I was very confident in myself and everyone shooting. Once it came down to that, it was almost kind of relieving.”

Miller: “I had never been more nervous in my life. I knew there was so much pressure on me, but knew if I didn’t change my mindset I would miss the PK. I was able to calm down, block out the noise, and picture me practicing PKs with coach Olivia. I also knew the second it went into a shootout that my team had the upper hand.”

Stephanoff: “It’s very nerve-racking, but this game was basically a replica of the Marian game. Having already had that pressure, it really did calm us down. Coach told us ‘you’ve done this before, you’ve got this.’ We knew everything to expect...We weren’t worried about shooting it over or putting too much power in it.”

The shootout, of course, ended in favor of the Norsemen. In five rounds, North made three successful attempts, while East Grand Rapids was only successful twice, with McCormick making the final save for the Norsemen that sealed the state title.

McCormick: “It was just so relieving. I was so happy and overwhelmed.

The whole tournament felt like a fever dream, and I didn’t fully process that we won a state championship until two days later.”

Shemmai: “I was truly in shock. I couldn’t believe that my team won a state championship for the first time in Grosse Pointe North history. We proved everyone that doubted us wrong.”

Dodenhoff: “The feeling after we won is something that I will never forget. I still get chills thinking about it.”

Stephanoff: “I started running over to Grace (McCormick) and our whole team started hugging...I was in complete disbelief, and I’m still in disbelief to this day.”

Leah Burney: “I was shocked, and so insanely proud of the team. I never thought I would ever be a part of winning the state championship, let alone my freshman year alongside my sister.”

Shemmai: “All the girls on this team are like sisters, and I know that this bond will continue in the oncoming seasons. Having a good bond with your teammates is important, and this team dynamic was a great one to be a part of.”

Stephanoff: “I really hope this encourages more girls who watched us to come and try out for soccer and play for Grosse Pointe North... My freshman year was the last year we were even able to field two teams and then the season was canceled due to COVID, so I really hope that more girls come out and want to play soccer and see us as an example.”

Streberger: “We’ll definitely have a lot more respect from other teams going into next year, and high expectations for the rising seniors and the underclassmen.”

McCormick: “We’ve only ever had a couple of fans at our games, we don’t really get posted anywhere. We rarely get new gear and stuff like that, people see it as just girls soccer...I know now that parents have come up to me and said ‘I have to get my girl into soccer because this North girls soccer team is so good.’”

Miller: “It really shows how much can change in a season and that hard work pays off. We worked so hard but would have never thought we would make it this far. This is just the start for North girls varsity soccer. Who knows what the future holds, but this won’t be the last time we make history.”



PHOTO BY LEON HALIP

North goalkeeper Grace McCormick gets a hug from teammates after the Norsemen defeated Marian in a penalty shootout in the regional semifinal.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

Senior Mia Stephanoff begins a throw-in in front of the East Grand Rapids bench.



North junior Amelia Streberger toes the out of bounds line with the ball facing a Pioneers defender.



The Norsemen gather around coach Olivia Dallaire during a break in the state championship game.

All-stars represent Pointes in 42nd East-West Classic

By Meg Leonard
Associate Editor

Five of Grosse Pointe's best senior high school baseball players took part in star-studded baseball games at Jimmy John's Field in Utica Wednesday, June 28, taking home wins to cap off their accomplished high school careers in both games of the 42nd annual East-West All-Star Classic.

In the first of two games between the state's top players, sponsored by the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association (MHSBCA), Grosse Pointe North pitcher Jordan Arseneau represented the East team. Arseneau helped the East to a 7-3 win over the West, combining with six other pitchers to hold the opposition to four hits.

In Game 2, University Liggett's Oliver Service and Grosse Pointe South's Wells Graham represented the East team, taking home a 6-5

win. Graham reached first base three times without registering an official at bat, getting walked twice and hit by pitch. Service, who handled duties at catcher, right field and left field, went 1-for-3 and scored a run. De La Salle Collegiate's Adam Broski was named game MVP.

North's Drew Hill and Liggett's Jarren Purify also were named to the East's all-star team, but were unable to compete in Wednesday's game, which had been moved and rescheduled from Monday at Comerica Park due to bad weather. Hill could not play due to injury, while the change in game dates left Purify unavailable because he is already off to Clemson University, where he will begin his freshman year to play for the Tigers.

Two more Pointers also were part of the all-star games. Grosse Pointe South head baseball coach Dan Griesbaum Sr. chaired the event as an MHSBCA

member. His son and South assistant coach, Dan Griesbaum Jr., helped coach in the games Wednesday.

Griesbaum Jr. said the whole event was a memorable one.

"As a coach, it was a rare pleasure to look at your lineup and see McKay, Velasquez, Service, Broski, etc., all Power 5 commit type guys," he said. "It was also just neat for me as an individual to be involved in this great game again."

"I was a batboy in the early '90s at Tiger Stadium for this game and then got to play in it in '99. Then I was the color analyst for State Champs Network at this game at Comerica Park last year. To now be a coach for it really brought it all full circle. I also felt honored just to be present and involved for the last high school games for some great GP ballplayers like Wells, Jordan and Oliver. They've had storied careers, to say the least."



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN GRIESBAUM JR.

From left, University Liggett catcher Oliver Service, Grosse Pointe South's Wells Graham, South assistant coach Dan Griesbaum Jr. and Grosse Pointe North's Drew Hill unite as part of the East team in the East-West All-Star Classic at Jimmy John's Field.

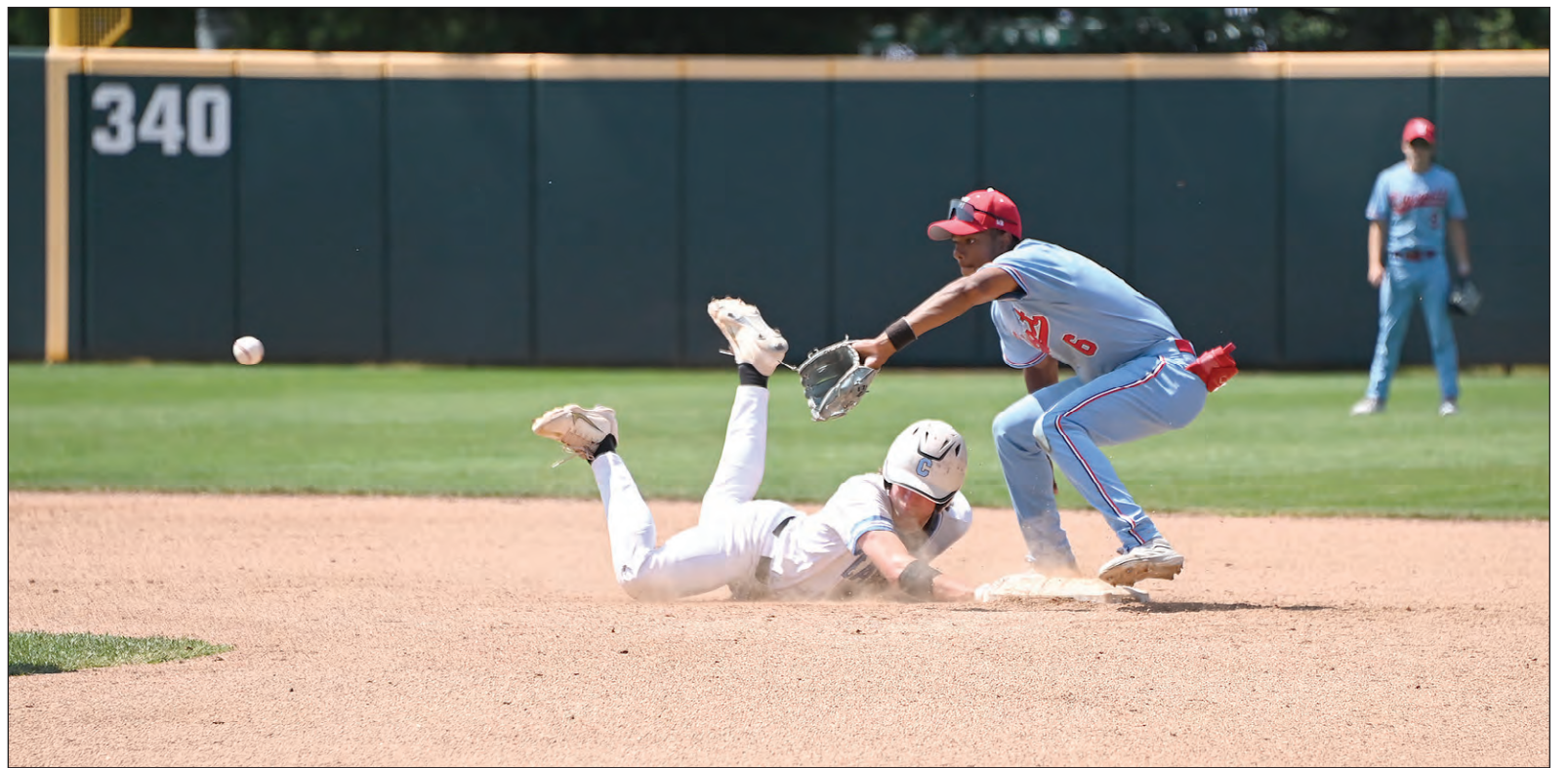
ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

the season, he knows that nothing can take away from the countless great memories and lessons he learned during the last few seasons.

Head coach Dan Cimini told Purify and his fellow seniors exactly that, to keep their heads high and remember all the highlights they created. No matter what happens from here, Purify knows that where he is and where he might go would not be possible without his teammates and coaches from right here in the Pointes.

"These guys have helped me through so much and we've been through so much together," Purify said. "...It'll never be forgotten no matter where I go. The years I've been here, these guys are like my ideal teammates."



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Liggett shortstop Jarren Purify moves to tag a runner from Grand Rapids Christian, who took liberties with his leadoff during the state final game June 17.


Everything we've gone through has set a great foundation for what I'm about to do."

Be sure to vote in our 2022-23 Athlete of the Year Contest, beginning July 19th.



Jarren Purify looks toward the dugout after sliding safely into second in last month's state championship game.

Grosse Pointe News



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