



Grosse Pointe News

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SEPTEMBER 7, 2023 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Details of new GPEA contract

By Ted O'Neil Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTE — The new Grosse Pointe Education Association contract includes a retention bonus for all teachers and a salary bump for those who have reached the top of their pay scale.

Former Superintendent Jon Dean presented some of the details at a special meeting of the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education Tuesday, Aug. 29.

The board voted 5-0 to approve the contract. Trustees Ginny Jeup and David Brumbaugh were unable to attend. The GPEA's 500-plus members ratified the contract the week of Aug. 21, but did not release vote totals.

Dean said the contract includes a 3 percent retention bonus, which is considered off-schedule.

"That means it's not recurring," Dean said. "Money that is on-schedule will be there the following year."

Teachers who have reached the top step on their salary schedule will get a 2 percent pay increase that is on-schedule. Dean noted that teachers moving up a step usually receive annual raises higher than 2 percent.

In the 2022-23 school year, for example, a teacher with a master's degree moving from step

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PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Back to school

Veda Valentini, a kindergartner at Maire Elementary School, and her brother, Bodhi, a preschooler at Ferry Elementary School, wave goodbye to their toys, which were lined up to wish them good luck on the first day of school. Find more school coverage on page 9A.

Two views of trolley signs

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Politics derailed the Park Business Association's financial support of the K Line Trolley, one of the commercial district's most dependable conveyors of customers.

Association founder and President Joe Hebeka said the decision concluded a parting that began simmering this summer.

"There were details we didn't agree on with management about oper-

See TROLLEY, page 2A

Sutherland bound over for trial in Cardinal case

By Ted O'Neil Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — For the second time this summer, attorney David Sutherland has been bound over to Wayne County Circuit Court in a case involving embezzlement.

Sutherland is accused of embezzling more than \$1.4 million from the William Cardinal Living Trust, for which he was trustee. The money was intended for the St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School Educational Trust.

Farms Municipal Judge

Charles Berschback said at the end of a preliminary exam Wednesday, Aug. 30, there was enough evidence to move the case forward. Sutherland is charged with one count of embezzlement \$100,000 or more. If convicted, he faces up to 20 years in prison; or a \$50,000 fine or three times the amount embezzled, whichever is greater.

During the exam, Douglas Sharp, a special agent in the financial crimes division of the Michigan Attorney General's Office, testified that among more than 3,000 pages of bank

statements for the trust, a wire transfer of the \$1.4 million occurred Aug. 9, 2018, sending the money to 601 Piquette Holdings LLC, for which Sutherland was listed as an officer.

The state began investigating the matter after James Zavell, a local attorney once affiliated with both Sutherland's office and the Cardinal trust, filed a complaint.

Zavell testified that in March 2018, he and Sutherland had two conversations about Sutherland's idea to transfer the money.

"He said he was thinking of taking a loan for his business and I told him I thought it would be a mistake," Zavell said. "I thought it would be a breach of fiduciary duties."

James Sullivan, Sutherland's defense attorney, objected to Zavell's testimony, saying it fell under attorney-client privilege. Sullivan also objected to exhibits submitted by the state on the same grounds, saying the AG's office would not have had reason to file search warrants without Zavell coming forward.

See TRIAL, page 3A

New drone comes in handy

By Laurel Kraus Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — The Farms department of public safety got to make use of one of its new drones around 4 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 23, when a 32-year-old Sterling Heights man was spotted going through an officer's off-duty vehicle parked in the station's lot at 90 Kerby.

The man dropped a

white duffle bag — containing a number of stolen goods, including \$1 in change stolen from the officer's vehicle — before fleeing on foot. Use of the drone found him via heat signal hiding on the side of a Kerby home.

Paired with a second drone, primarily for indoor use and equipped to bump off walls, flip over and right itself — "so if you have to go into a school and search for somebody," Director of

Public Safety John Hutchins said — the outdoor drone has infrared technology, can see at night and is used to search for suspects, follow parade routes, etc.

"It's already been used a couple of different times to locate suspects," Hutchins said. "First time that we put it out, I think we were assisting Roseville. They were searching for a suicidal subject (and) we found the subject in like 20 minutes."



COURTESY PHOTOS

The drone primarily is used to search for suspects.

"This drone has been a huge success thus far," Lt. Thom Dionne added via email, "and has aided

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George Panourgias
Home: Grosse Pointe Woods
People person dubbed 'Mayor of Mack Avenue,' 'King of Kroger'



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FILE PHOTO

Political ads are a no-no for the K Line Trolley, which operates most Friday and Saturday evenings during summer.

TROLLEY:

Continued from page 1A

ating the trolley,” Hebeka said.

He dropped the ax on a \$25,000 donation last month upon seeing two of mayoral candidate Christine Gallagher’s signs on the trolley.

“When I saw the ads, I knew I couldn’t stand behind it,” Hebeka said. “It makes the association look bad. I was surprised and disappointed.”

The signs read, “The Gallagher Family” in big letters above “2023 Sponsor” in small print.

Trolley owner and retired Park City Manager Dale Krajniak said the signs aren’t political. Rather, they a c k n o w l e d g e Gallagher’s sponsorship begun during the campaign season.

“We don’t allow political signs — ‘vote for’ or ‘please elect’ ads — but if you want to sponsor the trolley, you can sponsor it,” Krajniak said.

“The slightest hint of politics was enough for us to say, ‘We wish you guys the best,’” Hebeka said of the decision to sever ties. “We must be careful what kind of signage we put on there. That was something I expressed from the beginning.”

The trolley operates most Friday and Saturday summer evenings.

It conveys passengers at no cost up and down a three-mile section of Kercheval Avenue — hence “K Line” for Kercheval — between Stephens Road in the Farms and Maryland in the Park. The route links three of the Grosse Pointes’ shopping, dining and entertainment districts: The Hill in the Farms, The Village in the City and, in the Park, on Kercheval,

Charlevoix and Mack Avenue.

Close to 800 riders, mainly families with thrilled children, embarked and alighted during the Park’s final Kercheval After 6 street fair of the season, Saturday, Aug. 26, according to Krajniak.

“Overall, for this season, we’ll have over 10,000 riders,” he said. “We hope and expect to continue the free service. While it can be challenging to keep the wheels rolling, it’s satisfying when you see families appreciate it. Going forward, we’ll be seeking 2024 sponsors.”

Hebeka’s withdrawal was of a \$25,000 pledge of public money that the Park Tax Increment Finance Authority agreed in July to give to the Business Association in support of the trolley.

The disagreement about advertisements versus sponsorships, plus mounting paperwork and legal obligations, resulted in Hebeka canceling the transaction before it began.

“I retracted our request for support,” Hebeka said.

“The Business Association informed the city that they have terminated their relationship with Grosse Pointe Trolley Foundation,” said Warren Rothe, TIFA director and assistant city manager. “No TIFA money had been transferred. We were in the middle of drafting a fund agreement.”

Although the trolley is typically referred to in the singular, there are two. Both are virtually identical. Although styled nostalgically as old-time trolleys with a double glass door, oversized arched windows, wood-rail bench seats, marker lights, clerestory and bell, they are built upon

modern automotive chassis.

Krajniak bought them during the COVID state-mandated economic shutdown of 2021, during which the vehicles had nowhere to go, no riders to ferry and the cash-strapped city put them up for auction.

“The trolley is a very good thing for the business district and I hope it continues,” said John Hughes, chairman of the TIFA board. “Whatever advertising is on it is, to me, irrelevant. It’s a trolley. Advertising is advertising. The trolley has to make funds to keep itself operating. If not through advertising, then it’s 100 percent donations.”

“This year, everything’s coming out of my pocket,” Krajniak said. “So, I opened it for sponsorship. It’s open to all. We need sponsorship money.”

Another thing that bothered Hebeka was discovering himself listed as director in the Trolley Association 2022 annual report.

“I never asked to be put on that board,” he said. “I said, ‘Get my name off that now.’”

“I would not have listed Joe Hebeka unless I mentioned it to him,” Krajniak said. “While Joe may not recall, I would not have done that without his permission. He’s not on the board at this time.”

Fatal oak wilt scare unfounded

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK

— It was a dodged-the-hangman August for the area’s oak trees.

“The symptoms are not suggestive of oak wilt disease,” concluded a Michigan State University scientist regarding test results of two sickly red oaks at the corner of St. Paul and Kensington.

Oak wilt fungus is a death sentence.

“Especially for red oak,” said Laura Miles, a microbiologist in the molecular detection and diagnostics section of MSU’s Plant & Pest Diagnostic laboratory. “Red oaks are highly susceptible. They can die the year they get infected.”

Eradicating oak wilt is most effective by the battlefield tactic of destroying a village in order to save it from being taken over by the enemy.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources clearcut a section of Belle Isle, a two-mile flight to the Park for the fungus-spreading picnic beetle, to eliminate an infestation killing more than 100 mature trees discovered in 2016.

“The MDNR conducted major remediation a few years ago,” said Michels Hodges, president of the Belle Isle Conservancy and mayor of the Park. “It involved extracting the affected trees with a helicopter so as not to spread the disease.”

“At the time, it was the only place in Wayne County where oak wilt was positively diagnosed,” said Brian Colter, city forester for the Park, City and Farms.

All subsequent oak wilt outbreaks are about 30 miles from the



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Two oak trees at St. Paul and Kensington in Grosse Pointe Park are expected to bounce back next spring from leaf scorch. If the trees were afflicted with incurable oak wilt, which exhibits similar symptoms of leaves turning brown and scraggly, they’d likely be dead by then.

Pointes: in the Sumpter Township area of western Wayne County; just above the Monroe County line near Flat Rock; and in Farmington Hills, according to the state’s Oak Wilt Mapper.

Oaks of all kinds constitute only 2.3 percent of trees growing on municipal property in the Park, according to Colter’s inventory.

It is unheard of for Colter to get giddy about a sick tree, but in the case of the two more-than-30-year-old oaks with dry, brown and scraggly leaves in the Park, he is relieved they are suffering leaf scorch, an ailment from which it is easy to bounce back.

“They’re mimicking systems that could be oak wilt, but there’s

another, non-lethal problem with oak trees this time of year called leaf scorch,” he said on the late-August day he tagged, bagged and shipped overnight leaf and twig samples to the university lab. “The two are similar and could be misidentified.”

Symptoms include the death and browning of leaves from the outer edges inward. Indications of oak wilt also include discoloration, but extend to streaking in sapwood, a ring of newly grown wood that transports water to leaves.

MSU’s Miles confirmed Colter’s suspicion of leaf scorch Aug. 29:

“The tree seems to be suffering from scorch

See SCARE, page 8A



COURTESY PHOTO

The drone’s thermal imaging camera during night use.

DRONE:

Continued from page 1A

in capturing at least five individuals that were either stealing (cars) or

breaking into cars within the Pointes.”

The two drones were purchased by the department a couple months back for approximately \$10,000.

“We’ve got people trained on each shift that can put it up, as long as you have permission from a supervisor,” Hutchins noted. “We’re not just going to use it

willy-nilly. We have to have a good reason for it, but it’s something that, I know even years ago when it first came up, people were concerned about privacy issues and whatnot, but we have a really ironclad policy on when it can be used and I think it’s pretty well received thus far.”

The Sterling Heights man who targeted an officer’s vehicle at a police department reportedly kept falling asleep during booking and appeared to be coming down from a narcotic, police reported. He has prior charges of felony drugs, larceny and assault.

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Hoo says you can't go home?

Rehabilitated owl released back into Farms

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Dressed in a rainbow sundress and carrying her beloved stuffed owl Hue Hue, 4-year-old Olivia Brooks seemed to be the most excited onlooker when a 7-month-old great-horned owl was released back into the Farms last week.

"(It was) awesome," said Brooks — who recently had an owl-themed birthday party, intends to be an "owl scientist" when she grows up and already knows owls have 14 vertebrae — after the owl was tossed into the air by veterinarian Dr. Kevin Smyth and flew into a nearby tree on the Country Club of Detroit property a little after 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 29.

"Somewhere around here is where he was hatched last year," Smyth said, "so he knows his whereabouts."

The Farms' friendly neighborhood owl — named Lucifer after biting Smyth and for his feisty personality — was released at Kercheval and Irvine, exactly where Farms resident Catherine Saurbier found him walking along the road a month earlier. A victim of the late July storms, he was displaced and had suffered a maggot infection to an open wound on his right wing.

Thanks to a month of healing and strength conditioning orchestrated by Smyth — one of only 10 licensed wildlife rehabilitators in Michigan who specialize in raptors — in Garden



Dr. Kevin Smyth, the veterinarian who rehabilitated the owl, shows where the injury occurred.

PHOTOS BY
RENEE LANDUYT

City, he now has made a full recovery.

"He's going to have some scar tissue there," Smyth said. "Fortunately all of his flight feathers — there's the primaries and then the secondaries

going into the wing — all of them are intact, so he can fly with no problem. He might be a little cold in the winter with the air going by if there's no feathers in that one spot, though.

"He ate six mice and a sparrow last night and there was nothing left," he added, as Lucifer was notably unable to eat on his own when first rescued. "He had a quail the night before, so he's a good eater."

If any Pointers are

lucky enough to spot the nocturnal bird around town, a few simple "hoos" likely will entice him to fly to the nearest tree to investigate.

It likely will be another year before he mates.

"He's a pistol," Smyth said.



Olivia Brooks, with her stuffed owl, Hue Hue, was among the onlookers when a 7-month-old great-horned owl was released back into the Farms last week.



The great horned owl flies to the trees immediately upon release.

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, SEPT. 11

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Farms City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Rescheduled Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Committee-of-the-Whole meeting, 7:15 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 12

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Finance Committee meeting, 10 a.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens' Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 13

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Senior Citizens' Picnic, 11 a.m.
- ◆ Rescheduled Grosse Pointe Woods Senior Citizens' Commission meeting, 4 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Beautification Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ DTE Town Hall meeting, 7 p.m. at Tompkins Center.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Farms Parks and Harbor Commission meeting, 7:15 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 14

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Historical Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 16

- ◆ Charlevoix Street Party, 7 to 11 p.m. from Beaconsfield to Lakepointe.

TRIAL:

Continued from page 1A

Berschback overruled.

Zavell continued, saying by April 2018, Sutherland told him the loan "was a done deal." Zavell then drew up a promissory note for the loan, stating it would be repaid with 5 percent interest by Dec. 31, 2022.

When asked by Sullivan, Zavell said he did not have a plea agreement with the state, but did have an agreement that anything he testified to would not be used against him.

"I was nervous because of the circumstances," Zavell said of his decision to file the complaint, based on embezzlement charges Sutherland is facing in a different case.

Sullivan, pointing to the tenets of the Cardinal trust, said it allows the trustee broad powers, including the ability to loan money, invest in property and enter contracts. He added that in order for embezzlement charges to be warranted, there has to be "intent at the time of the embezzlement to never pay it back," and added the promissory note shows Sutherland intended to repay the loan.

"Now it becomes a crime because of who we're dealing with, not

what we're dealing with," Sullivan said.

In making his decision, Berschback said Sullivan's attorney-client privilege objections did not apply because Zavell was paid by the trust to draw up the promissory note, not by Sutherland. He added their conversations in 2018 were common in law offices, where attorneys discuss various ideas and topics.

Regarding the abilities of the trustee Sullivan noted, Berschback agreed that it granted broad powers.

"They can invest, they

can diversify," he said, "but that doesn't include the power to self-deal."

Sutherland's circuit court arraignment is scheduled for 9 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20

Sutherland was bound over in June by Berschback to circuit court on four counts involving accusations of embezzlement from the Gretchen C. Valade Irrevocable Living Trust. He is accused of embezzling \$15 million from the trust for his own benefit while serving as trustee from 2009 to 2020.

He faces two counts of

embezzlement of \$100,000 or more; one count of embezzlement of \$100,000 or more from a vulnerable adult; and one count of criminal enterprise conducting. Each charge is punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

In the Valade case, a complaint filed in Wayne County Probate Court by Plante Moran, the current trustee, alleges Sutherland used the trust to loan himself more than \$7.7 million and a business of which he was a 50 percent owner more than \$7.6 million.



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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

A friend of the community

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Drivers along Mack Avenue between Stanhope and Vernier likely have seen George Panourgias at some point or another.

A daily walker of the route, Panourgias has been dubbed the Mayor of Mack Avenue, greeting passersby, shaking hands and stopping in for friendly visits along the way. It's a highlight of his day, sharing a smile and friendly banter on his way to Kroger, where he has been dubbed the King of Kroger.

They even gave him a Kroger name badge that reads, "George Fresh & Friendly."

"I like to talk to people when I walk along Mack," he said. "I'm a very, very friendly guy with everybody."

Woods resident Patricia Gast and her husband, also regular Mack Avenue walkers, often stop to chat with Panourgias.

"Having a conversation with George was always a highlight of our morning," she said. "We started to refer to him as the 'Mayor of Mack' because he would stop and talk to everyone and weave in and out of the shops along Mack, spreading positivity and friendship. After many years of colorful conversations, we came to admire George's rich and full life. At 95, having two total knee replacements and some back problems, he is such an inspiration to us as he walks down Mack Avenue.

"George is an inspiration who we should all

emulate."

"I've known George at least three years — and most likely longer than that as I, too, have been a long time walker on Mack," said another Panourgias pal, Judy L. Adams. "George, being George, makes it impossible not to interact with him, which is how we met, as morning co-walkers on Mack.

"George is one of the friendliest people out there as he makes it a point to talk with everyone," she added. "It might be by knocking on store windows to get the attention of the people inside, stopping the people working on the outside of the buildings he passes, acknowledging city employees driving by and, of course, his fellow walkers. I've also seen him in action at Kroger, where he seems to know all of those employees as well!"

Those who haven't spotted him on a morning walk also may remember Panourgias as the longtime owner of Mack 7 Restaurant in Grosse Pointe Farms, where he treated customers and employees as family and carved out a reputation as a class act. A resident of Grosse Pointe Woods since the late-1960s, Panourgias first came to America from Greece in 1953. He was 25, and had just finished serving in the Greek military as part of the secret service.

He spent a "very short time" washing dishes, using the job as his entry into what would become a career in the restaurant business. He began cooking next, splitting his time between the Sheraton Hotel down-



COURTESY PHOTO

George Panourgias stands among the 120 pots of begonias he plants each year.

town and Mack 7.

Wanting to focus on one location, he quit the Mack 7 job for a time, but when he came back was greeted with an offer he couldn't refuse.

"They wanted the sell the restaurant," said his daughter-in-law, Lisa Panourgias.

"I paid \$8,000 for the business and \$35,000 for the building," Panourgias added, noting his new bride, Athena, was not happy about the purchase, but eventually changed her tune.

Not long after, the couple welcomed a son, John, and continued to run the restaurant together, maintaining the successful business and developing strong relationships with their customers.

His business savvy was heavily influenced by his childhood in Greece. He recalls with a smile getting money from his mother and using it to

buy candy. The memory held such significance to Panourgias, he made sure while he owned Mack 7 to keep it stocked with Hershey bars.

"Know how many I give away?" he asked. "Thousands of candy bars I give away."

"He grew up super poor," Lisa Panourgias added, noting Panourgias' father abandoned the family. "He quit school at age 10 to work in construction. He wore tar paper for shoes. ... He had to share a pencil when he was in school. When he went to work to support his family, the priest still tutored him.

"Here," she continued, "there are so many opportunities and everyone helps each other. The community here is very good to him and he's been good to them. Since he was food deprived growing up, he was good to other people

who didn't have much money. There was a homeless woman, they called her Mack Avenue Annie, he would give her food in the mornings."

It's not just former customers who have a soft spot for Panourgias. Neighbors keep an eye on him, too, one friend stopping by every morning to check in and chat. Another friend who spent 50 years working at Mack 7 — now Five Pointes Cafe — takes him to Costco and calls him every night to see how he's doing. He's made friends with local public safety officers as well.

"The police officers take him out once a month," Lisa Panourgias said, recalling one morning her father-in-law was out and when the neighbor arrived to an empty house, officers were alerted and quick to respond. "Everyone was mobilized. They went to

the places he goes, to the restaurant where they know he goes. Everyone in the community is really good to him."

The kindness works both ways. Panourgias, for example, leaves pop and water for his postal carrier every day. A devoted parishioner of Assumption Greek Orthodox Church in St. Clair Shores, Panourgias has volunteered 60 years there, from cutting up bread for communion to assisting with weddings and funerals, as well as serving as cantor during worship.

He loves to sing and loves listening to music — opera and church music, but especially to music from his homeland of Greece.

Though he officially retired in 1997 — he stepped down after a prostate cancer diagnosis and spent most of his time babysitting his grandson, Nicholas — he doesn't like to use the "R" word.

"I never retire," the 95-year-old said. "I work in my yard and at church. I do everything in my house, with help from my daughter and son, but outside I do all by myself."

It's easy to spot Panourgias' Grosse Pointe Woods house. It's the one lined with 120 pots of begonias — a hobby he picked up after he was widowed in 2012. Now that he's stopped driving, not only are both yards lined with bright pops of color, but dozens of pots of blooms line his driveway.

Though he's visited Greece twice over the years, he's quite comfortable with the life he's built in the U.S.

"I have the best time here," he said. "I talk to everybody. All of them are friends to me. I never have a problem with anyone."

Big fences & gates denied

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Seeking forgiveness instead of permission failed for two residents erecting oversized front-yard fences and gates in violation of city code.

Other than the properties being located just over one mile apart, they are alike in being on corner lots — Jefferson at

Bishop Lane; Middlesex at Avondale — where the owners started building foundations and supports within feet of sidewalks for 7-foot-tall wrought-iron style, see-through fences and gates at least 16 feet wide.

Residential building codes limit front-yard fence height to six feet. Front fences and gates also may not be located beyond the frontline of a dwelling structure.

Both property owners sought retroactive exceptions to zoning limitations.

Given the sameness of both cases, it was an

easy call for all but one member of the city zoning board of appeals, composed entirely of council members in dual roles, Monday, Aug. 14, to order each appellant to halt construction.

"It was clear to me they did not apply for a permit knowing it was outside the ordinance," said Councilman Tom Caulfield, chairman of the ordinance committee.

On Bishop, the gate is already installed.

"We recommend the gate be moved back approximately flush with the front of the house in

accordance with the zoning ordinance," said Michael Boettcher, senior planner at McKenna & Associates, the city's planning consultant.

The applicant did not attend or, if he did, did not address the appeals board. He did, however, explain in a written appeal the fence is to contain a dog.

"There's an ordinance and there's an appeal for an exception to that ordinance," Councilman Max Wiener said. "There was never any contact (by the resident) with the city for permitting;

didn't outreach the neighbors. You have to have a pretty extenuating circumstance to request a variance. Otherwise, what's the point of having ordinances?"

"He is asking for a variance because he's already erected a fence past the front (of the house)," Caulfield said.

The Middlesex appellate, Larry Richards, told the board he needs the fence and two, 18-foot-wide electronic sliding gates to bar children on bicycles from entering his circular driveway. He also wants to contain his dogs.

"We cannot recommend approval of the gates or any portion of the fence as proposed," said Boettcher, echoing himself from the prior case. "It is not in compliance with the zoning ordinance. There are no demonstrated practical difficulties. Allowing construction of a fence along nearly the entire public right-of-way would limit emergency access to the lot. It's out of character with the rest of the properties on the street."

Three neighbors also spoke against it.

"There are numerous houses along Middlesex and throughout Grosse Pointe with circular drives and children will drive through on their bikes," Ron McMillan said. "That's just something that has to be managed. It would greatly

detract from the aesthetics of what we have on Middlesex and what we have in the Grosse Pointes. Once this Pandora's box gets opened, there's rationale for many other reasons to put other issues at hand and make a variance."

Neighbor Martin Steiger said the proposed construction would make the property resemble a compound.

"Do we want to turn Grosse Pointe Park into a gated community?" he asked. "In order to get a variance, you have to demonstrate some sort of hardship in complying with the ordinance as its written. (Richards) mentioned kids riding their bikes falling on his driveway. That could happen anywhere, so I don't see why he specifically needs a fence to protect his driveway. He also mentioned his dogs. He has ... a double lot. His dogs have plenty of room to roam (in the backyard)."

"Opening any variance to this opens a Pandora's box," Caulfield said. "That's all there is. We have to hold true to our ordinances."

"I do not see a unique situation on Middlesex," Councilwoman Christine Gallagher said. "I do not see a unique need for it."

Wiener told Richards, "There are still ways to be compliant. The city will work with you on that."

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Kia owners offered free clubs

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Police are putting a dent in auto thefts and vehicle break-ins.

During the last six weeks, police arrested seven suspects and are on the lookout for more.

"I cannot underscore the work of our patrol officers and detective bureau working tirelessly to apprehend, charge and identify additional suspects," Chief Jim Bostock said.

The department is combining what Bostock called "good, old-fashioned police work" with modern technology, beefed-up overnight patrols and joint efforts by mutual-aid partners to solve past crimes and prevent future ones.

"We changed some patrol hours and with plain clothes (units) are trying to put our foot down and get auto thefts under control," Bostock said.

"There's nothing more important than protecting the health, safety and welfare of our people and property," Mayor Michele Hodges said.

"We're putting more bodies on the street," Detective Sgt. Jeremy Pittman said. "Our detective bureau worked night shifts for a while. We're here during the day to follow up and, because of that, we know a lot of the (criminal) players and have more inside information than patrol does."

A lot of recent criminal activity is committed by juveniles.

"We busted up one crew of four, all juveniles, that was hitting all of the Grosse Pointes breaking into and stealing cars," Pittman said. "The little ring-leader fled, but we were able to catch and arrest him. He had a gun. We got the gun off the street, which was the most important part."

Kia and Hyundai vehi-

City of Grosse Pointe

Disturbance

Officers responded to a call at 9:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 28, of intoxicated people causing a disturbance at the local hospital. Upon arrival, two suspects were arguing with security guards in the parking lot. They left upon the officers' request.

Drunken driving

A 42-year-old male Detroit resident was pulled over for going 50 mph in a 35 mph zone and weaving at 2 a.m. Friday, Sept. 1, near Jefferson and Fisher roads. He was found to be intoxicated and arrested for operating while intoxicated.

The man then became belligerent and kicked out a patrol car window and attempted to kick out a second window, leading to him being ticketed for malicious destruction of property.

Larceny

A customer of a business in the 17000 block of Kercheval realized she left her wallet at the business around 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 31, and went back to retrieve it,

cles are popular targets of criminals.

"Many modern Hyundais and Kias lack a useful anti-theft device called an immobilizer, which prevents a vehicle from starting when someone attempts to use a key or key fob that doesn't match the car," according to a May 7, 2023, article posted on capitalone.com.

Some help is on the way.

"I am in the process of securing a limited number of club (anti-car-theft devices) courtesy of Kia," Bostock said.

Clubs immobilize a parked vehicle's steering wheel.

"I reached out to them a couple weeks ago," Bostock said. "They want to help. We'll come up with a process to hand those out free to Kia reg-

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

but it was missing. She checked her reloadable debit card online and found a recent purchase for \$4.75 at Shell.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Nothing to report per dispatch.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Kercheval open

Kercheval from Bedford to nearly Defer Elementary and Pierce Middle schools is reopened for traffic.

The five-block section of road had been closed for resurfacing. Although some work still needs to be completed, the road and intersections were passable by the start of the

new academic year, Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Windshield broken

Shortly before 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 29, it was discovered that someone broke the windshield of a food truck in the 14000 block of Windmill Pointe Drive.

Porch pirate

An unknown thief stole a FedEx package delivered to the front porch of a house in the 700 block of Whittier between noon and 1 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 30.

Plate taken

A license plate was taken off a vehicle parked behind a residence in the 1300 block of Wayburn between 1 a.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 2.

Bike stolen

Shortly after 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 3, a child's black and red bicycle was reported stolen while parked in the front yard of a house in the 1300

block of Lakepointe.

—Brad Lindberg
Report information about crime to the Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Department, (313) 822-7400.

Grosse Pointe Woods

Nothing to report per dispatch.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Neighborhood special

Thieves stole a vehicle and broke into two others on Roland in the early morning hours of Monday, Sept. 4.

Officers attempted to make a traffic stop around 5:30 a.m. at Moross and Mack but the driver fled. A check of the license plate identified the 2022 white Ford Explorer as stolen.

The owner's GPS tracked it to Ecorse, but officers there said the vehicle was gone when

they arrived at the location.

While looking for videos of the Ford being stolen, police noticed two other vehicles on Roland that had been broken into. A pair of prescription sunglasses worth \$300 was taken from one vehicle, while a wallet containing credit cards, a compound bow and several arrows were taken from the second vehicle. No value was included in the report.

A black box containing around \$20 in bills and change was left on the front seat of the second vehicle.

The three victims were unsure if their vehicles were locked or not, but no damage was reported.

Unlocked

Around \$2 in change was stolen from two unlocked vehicles parked in a driveway on Hillcrest some time overnight Monday, Sept. 4.

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

cler owners in our town."

Clubs and similar low-tech tools are priced from less than \$10 to more than \$60.

An example of using modern technology to fight crime occurred recently. Park officers benefitted from the Farm's public safety drone to capture one of four accused auto larcenists.

Park Officer Korrine Farmer spotted them trying to open door handles of parked vehicles around 4 a.m. July 24, in the 1300 block of Bedford.

"She announced who she was and four suspects started running," Bostock said.

"Grosse Pointe Farms was listening on the radio and offered the assistance of their drone. It's equipped with thermal vision. They were

able to walk us step-by-step to where (a 19-year-old Harper Woods man) was hiding in a rear yard in the 1300 block of Devonshire. Great teamwork, great use of modern technology and communication. We were able to close a number of cases."



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COURTESY PHOTO

Back to business

La Societe des Jardinieres hosted its election of officers for the coming season. The club will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2024.

From left are: Directory, Joanne Niederoest; Audrienne Guthat; Secretary Pat Hays; Sunshine Lady Sharon Lutz; Cheryl Nelson; photographer Karen Kolp; Public Relations, Sandy Magreta; Lady of Letters, Madeleine Phillips; Treasurer Kathie Smith; Clementine Rice; Carla Butterly; Vice President and Membership Chair Helena Thurber; and seated, President Tina Olofsson. The group will meet for the welcome-back luncheon at noon Thursday, Sept. 14, at the Three Cats Restaurant in Clawson. The event will be hosted by Sharon Lutz.



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Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

School's back in session

As families throughout town wind up summer vacations and turn their eyes to fall, students in the Grosse Pointe Public School System headed back to class this week, for a year of what we believe is full of exciting possibilities.

So what are some of the things to keep an eye on in the several weeks of the school year in the Pointes? Let's take a look:

Teacher staffing: Nationwide and locally, the vast majority of students are still recovering from the educational effects of the pandemic. And some may have another issue to face — a teacher shortage. You read a little more about our district's state of affairs relating to teacher staffing in last week's Grosse Pointe News ("GPPSS not immune to teacher shortage") by our schools reporter, Ted O'Neil. The positive news is, at press time, the district has filled the majority of the open positions including 39 teachers, 13 para-professionals, three custodial staff and four office staff. Most started on Aug. 29, though some will start by Sept. 15.

According to Nicole Pilgrim, the district's director of human resources, some teachers may be under contract in other districts and need to give a slightly longer notice. Districts often negotiate a start date that least impacts student learning.

Pilgrim also said the uptick with some resignations occurring in the last week is unusual this close to classes starting, but the numbers do not represent an overall increase.

Our story also illustrated through a review of human resources reports from June, July and August that there have been 58 resignations for the purposes of retirement or personal reasons this year. That is less than 2022, which had 61 vacancies, but more than 2021, when there were 42.

The district has also filled vacated positions for choir directors at both Grosse Pointe South and Grosse Pointe North high schools. Ferry Elementary School added a new second-grade teacher to its staff, thanks to additional new students. There's still more work to be done, but we'll take every drop of good news for our schools.

Sporting events: We have noticed enthusiastic efforts by the athletic booster clubs at North and South to publicize upcoming games and encourage parent volunteerism to help handle concession stands, ticket booths, crowd control, announcing and field duties (the "chain gang" at football games or volunteer timers at swim meets know this well!). We also must compliment the student spirit groups of South's Devils Den and North's Norsemen Tide for doing an outstanding job coordinating fun themes and music to fill the student section at football games, even during the month of August before school started. We are thrilled to see them expanding their efforts to be present at sporting events outside of football. They haven't quite made it over to a swim meet, a ball game or track meet yet to our knowledge, but with the momentum they have been building the last several seasons, we wouldn't be surprised to see them at these in the near future.

We still would like to see our athletics departments prioritize taking a revised look at the policy amended last fall that greatly limits the ability of our public and private middle school students from attending high school games, meets and matches with anyone but a parent or guardian.

We said so last November when the policy was reinforced — athletic events, particularly football



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Wise young owl

Perched on a pine branch in all its splendor, this great horned owl was found injured in Grosse Pointe Farms near Irvine and Kercheval after fierce storms rolled through our area in July. Estimated to be 7 months old and weighing 2.5 pounds, as detailed on page 3A, the owl's wing was injured and he could not fly. Good neighbors rescued him and took him to Dr. Kevin Smyth, a veterinarian at Morrison Animal Hospital in Garden City, where the owl got his wings cleaned and bandaged. He then went to Dr. Smyth's house to be rehabilitated in a flight pen, where the owl recovered enough to be released back in the Farms, Tuesday, Aug. 29. He flew right up to the trees, a little confused at first, but then took off like a champ. According to Smyth, only one in five rescued owls will survive and can be released.

games under the Friday night lights, have become a welcome community "event," especially for these kids, and a safe one at that.

We hope the district takes a second look at this policy and offers authentic parent and student input to come up with a common-sense, community-friendly policy that accomplishes safety without compromising the inclusion of an important segment of our student body. It's also an unmatched public relations tool to get middle schoolers excited about attending North or South.

Back-to-school night: We're not sure if every parent who goes to a back-to-school night gets PTSD from sitting in a desk again while a teacher lectures "the class" about the year ahead, but we're not not saying it either. Even though it can be a little overwhelming to soak up all of what's ahead for our students in the classroom (imagine how they feel after the first day of school!), it is really encouraging to see how many teachers create engaging presentations, and how the district's latest statistics show 97 percent of GPPSS parents make the effort to come and learn more, shake a teacher's hand and make personal connections with the people who make our schools tick. The full schedule of BTS nights is available on the district calendar at gpschools.org/Page/2.

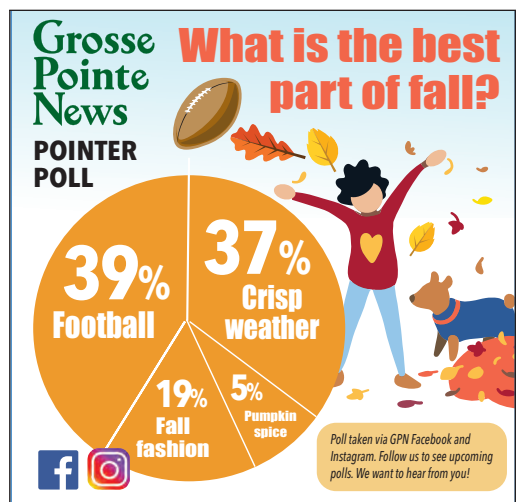
Homecoming: Speaking of something that makes our schools hum, it is such a fun time of year for students to dive into planning their school's homecoming activities for spirit week, the homecoming parade, game and dance. And it's all happening in the last two weeks of September at North and South. So much extra effort goes into the week and many teachers give a ton of extra, off-hours time in roles as class advisors beginning in early summer or by volunteering in some capacity to help launch the week's many events. Let's be sure to thank our high school staff when we see them in the halls or at a game, or maybe just send them a thank-you note. It's always nice to hear "job well done."

And more kudos go to our student leaders, who also put in major extra effort to plan and organize special and memorable

homecomings for the student body. Don't forget all the parent volunteers, too. Working in the coat room at the dance isn't exactly the most glamorous task on a Saturday night, but it's heartening to see how many are willing to lend a hand, no matter the job being asked of them.

North's homecoming parade and varsity football game is Friday, Sept. 22, with the dance taking place Saturday, Sept. 23. South's homecoming parade and game is Friday, Sept. 29. The dance is Saturday, Sept. 30. Be sure to mark your calendars.

So let's gear up for a great school year Grosse Pointe, even if a little homework enters the equation.



LETTERS

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

Enough potholes

To the Editor:

As a Park property taxpayer for over 50 years I am appalled at the condition of our parking lots and alleys. Other than the main Windmill Pointe Park and Ewald lots, they are full of ruts, potholes and disappearing cement, including the new DPW lot, which is less than one year old. After I wrote the Park City Council asking why they repeat the same process (i.e. lowest bidders) and expect better results, the mayor responded that they award the lowest "qualified" bidder. As a taxpayer I prefer the highest qualified company to build our infrastructure. It is fiscally irresponsible to do otherwise.

AL MAZUR
Grosse Pointe Park

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GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

September 7 - 13

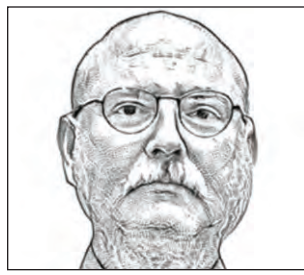


THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
77° 62°	71° 59°	71° 56°	74° 55°	73° 56°	68° 51°	67° 51°
Scattered Showers	Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Scattered Showers	Partly Cloudy
50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%
SUNRISE 7:03 am SUNSET 7:56 pm	SUNRISE 7:04 am SUNSET 7:54 pm	SUNRISE 7:05 am SUNSET 7:52 pm	SUNRISE 7:06 am SUNSET 7:51 pm	SUNRISE 7:06 am SUNSET 7:49 pm	SUNRISE 7:07 am SUNSET 7:47 pm	SUNRISE 7:08 am SUNSET 7:46 pm

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

I SAY By Ted O'Neil

No turkey that day



With all the hype about the Detroit Lions — who open the NFL season tonight against the Super Bowl champion Kansas City Chiefs — I couldn't help but be reminded of this.

Back in the late 1970s, when I first started paying attention to the NFL, the Lions were nothing to write home about.

Not that I have to tell all you other long-suffering fans.

So I became a Pittsburgh Steelers fan. Yes, they ruled the NFL at the time, becoming the first team to win four Super Bowls, but it wasn't a bandwagon thing. It was mostly due to family.

My mom grew up a couple hours outside Pittsburgh and we had family there we'd visit every summer. Of course, it didn't hurt that the "Stillers" — as pro-

nounced in the western Pennsylvania vernacular — were so good. Who could forget these names? Bradshaw, Swann, Stallworth, Harris, Bleier, Ham, Lambert, Blount, Shell, Greene, Webster.

(On a side note, if you haven't seen the movie "Concussion," I highly recommend it. It stars Will Smith as Dr. Bennet Omalu, who began investigating CTE — a brain disorder caused by repeated head injuries — after performing Mike Webster's autopsy.)

By the early 1980s, however, the Lions had Billy Sims and were beginning to be fun to watch, drawing my allegiance away from the Steelers. Then came 1983 and "that" game.

The Lions were hosting the Steelers on Thanksgiving and we had family from Pennsylvania in town. A bunch of us went to the game and the trash talk from them on the way to the Silverdome was unbearable, saying how the "Lie-downs" were going to lose big time. It's OK for Detroit fans to use that term, but not cool for others to do so.

The interesting thing about the 1983 season is that the Steelers and

Lions won their divisions that year, the AFC Central and NFC Central, respectively, and both lost in the first round of the playoffs. The Lions wouldn't make it back to the playoffs until 1991 and just missed going to the Super Bowl when Eddie Murray missed a last-second field goal.

The Steelers have had four Super Bowl appearances since, winning two of them. I still root for them from afar because they're a class organization, having just three head coaches in more than five decades. There have been times the Lions should have had three coaches in one season.

But about that game. The Steelers still had many of their standout players — seems like half the team ended up in the Pro Football Hall of Fame — but Bradshaw was hurt and didn't play. He retired at the end of the season.

Final score? 45-3 Lions. They certainly weren't their usual turkeys that day.

The car ride back home for dinner was much different. It may have been the first time anyone ate crow instead of turkey for Thanksgiving.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1948

75 years ago this week

SHORES PASSES DRASTIC ZONE LAW: The Grosse Pointe Shores council has passed a village zoning ordinance which, in effect, will hereafter limit all building construction in the village to single-family dwellings. This will not apply to such structures as the municipality itself might see fit to erect for the administration of the village. But there cannot hereafter be built any schools, either public or private, or even churches.

NATIONWIDE-WORLDWIDE AIR PARCEL POST SERVICE STARTS: With the inauguration of nationwide-worldwide air parcel post Sept. 1, the United States can boast of the most modern and expeditious delivery service in the world. The new highly specialized airborne service, enacted into law by the 80th Congress, affords patrons of more than 42,000 post offices in America and its possessions unexcelled shipping facilities. Transit time will be reduced to a fraction of that required by other modes of transportation.

1973

50 years ago this week

BON SECOURS CONTRIBUTES TO CLEANER AIR CAMPAIGN: The 150-foot chimney rising from Bon Secours Hospital's power plant will be dismantled and a huge trash compactor will replace the incinerator for disposal of waste materials as part of the institution's

big expansion program. The project will not only improve the quality of the air, but will eliminate the aesthetic eyesore the chimney presented.

DETROIT'S 911 NOT FOR POINTE: As of Sept. 1, Detroit began the operation of its 911 Emergency Telephone Network, after several months of testing and installation work by Michigan Bell Telephone and Detroit. This is a single emergency number for police, fire and ambulance services. Police and fire authorities of all the five Pointes wish to stress to the citizens of their respective communities that 911 is only for Detroit, NOT the Pointe.

1998

25 years ago this week

FARMER JACK TO REOPEN IN WOODS: The Farmer Jack supermarket on Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods, scheduled to reopen Sept. 9, is not your parents' Farmer Jack. The store, called a food emporium, is larger than the store it replaced and will offer a wider variety of goods for Grosse Pointers.

BON SECOURS, COTTAGE ENTER JOINT VENTURE: Long separate, but each highly esteemed, historic institutions in the Pointes, Bon Secours and Cottage hospitals and their parent health systems have signed a joint venture agreement. The new company — Bon Secours Cottage Health Services — was formed following successful discussions between the two systems, their local boards and representatives of the two hospitals' medical staffs.

PARK BUYS NEW KIND OF POLICE

SQUAD CAR: If you're thinking that just about everyone is getting a sport utility vehicle you might just be right. The latest vehicle purchased by the Grosse Pointe Park public safety department is a Ford Explorer sport utility. Park director of public safety Richard Caretti said the Explorer costs about \$5,000 more than a standard police car and has been outfitted with what is called the "police" package, which includes a larger electrical system, heavy-duty undercarriage, stronger breaks and engine, as well as places where handcuffs can be attached.

2013

10 years ago this week

REVISED BORDERS PLAN TO COUNCIL: Council members are likely to consider at their Sept. 16 meeting a revised proposal to transform the vacant Borders Books building in the Village into a healthcare facility with retail space fronting Kercheval. Revisions are closer to complying with City of Grosse Pointe requirements for significant ground-floor retail presence along Kercheval, while allowing rear portions and upper levels of buildings to be used for other purposes.

K-9 RECEIVES BOOST: A group dedicated to man's best crime-fighting friend is helping double the number of police dogs among the Grosse Pointe-Harper Woods mutual aid pact. K-9 Safety Partners of the Grosse Pointes, a tax-exempt organization, is donating \$2,400 to Harper Woods for a K-9 unit.

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Bid in the Blockbuster September 14th & 15th Auctions



Lot 1001 | Laurence Campbell (American, B. 1939)

Oil On Canvas "Snow Storm, Ben Franklin Bridge, Philadelphia" H 26" W 22"



Lot 1031 | Paul Jenkins (American, 1923-2012)

Watercolor On Paper, Ca. 1970 "Phenomena" H 60" W 40"



Lot 1011 | Edward Hopper (American, 1882-1967)

Brush, Ink Wash And Pencil Ca. 1900-05, "Wedded" After Lord Frederic Leighton H 12.4" W 7.3"



Lot 1048 | Rembrandt Van Rijn (Dutch, 1606-1669)

Etching On Laid Paper, Without Watermark, 1658, "Woman Bathing Her Feet At A Brook" H 6.3" W 3.1"

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Lot 44 | Rolex

Oyster Perpetual Superlative Chronometer
18kt Gold And Stainless Steel Daytona Cosmograph, Ca. 1993, 39mm (Case) SN N442121



Lot 9 | 6.39ct Pear Shaped Diamond

Brilliant Ring, GIA Report, VSI, Color H, Size 7.25

Lot 1009 | Marshall Maynard Fredericks (American, 1908-1998)

Bronze Wall Sculpture, Ca. 1953-54
Childhood Friends, H 14" W 15"



Lot 2 | Chinese

Green Jade Urn, Edward Farmer Mount
From The Estate Of Fred & Bertha Fisher
H 17" W 6.25" L 9"



Lot 3 | Chinese

Jade Photo Frame
Oil Portrait Of Fred Fisher
From The Estate Of Fred & Bertha Fisher
Ca. 1920, H 17" W 13"



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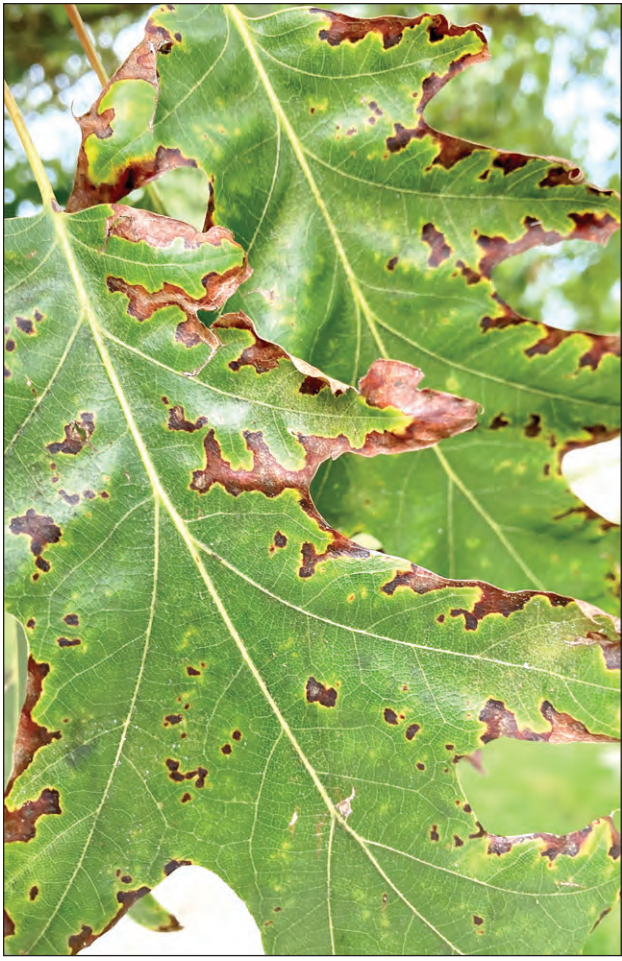


PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Recent heavy rains aren't enough to counter prior months of hot and dry weather that stress trees and promote leaf scorch, an unsightly but non-fatal ailment.

Location contributes to leaf scorch

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — There are two causes of oak leaf scorch: environmental and bacterial.

Both are easy to treat but raise concerns by mimicking symptoms of incurable oak wilt.

A pair of red oaks in the Park showing symptoms tested positive for leaf scorch due to environmental stress.

Three main environmental factors make trees susceptible to leaf scorch: weather, location and soil composition.

Weather

"This year has been crazy," said Laura Miles, a microbiologist in the molecular detection and diagnostics section of Michigan State University's Plant & Pest Diagnostic laboratory. "We had a really dry winter. Then, it got super-hot. Evaporation was very high. Now we have storms. All of that stresses trees."

Lack of rain interrupts transpiration of water absorbed by roots and dissipated through leaves, a cooling action that coun-

ters the heat of hot weather and direct sunlight.

"People discount or don't think about how dry the last two winters were," said Brian Colter, city forester for the Park, City and Farms. "Trees suffer from lack of moisture, even during winter when they're dormant. It also was a very dry spring this year."

Recent doses of heavy rain aren't sufficient compensation for trees to fend off leaf scorch, he added.

Location

The two trees exhibiting leaf scorch are located between the road and sidewalk at the intersection of St. Paul and Kensington.

The roughly five-foot wide strip of soil from which the trees grow is called various things — an easement, a median and, in the words of a member of the City of Grosse Pointe Urban Forestry Commission with whom Colter interacts, the hell strip.

"It's hell for trees, the worst environment for trees," Colter said.

"That situation causes a lot of stress for trees," Miles said. "Because trees are beside the road, the roots are not getting

enough of what they need due to coverage of the ground surface by asphalt and cement. That's why we see this scorching. This is all caused by environmental factors. The good news is bacterial scorch is not common in Michigan."

Direct sunlight from above plus radiant heat from sidewalk and road surfaces below act as a vice to squeeze moisture from the tops and bottoms of leaves, often indicated by leaves on branches over such surfaces changing color earlier in fall than elsewhere in the crown.

"When these trees are planted in urban areas, it's typical to see symptoms of scorch caused by abiotic stress," she said.

Soil

Miles also found a possible nutritional imbalance in leaf and twig samples Colter cut from the two red oaks.

An article posted on the MSU Extension website, canr.msu.edu, titled "Leaf scorch or oak wilt. What's plaguing my tree?" lists "over-fertilization or lack of certain essential nutrients, like potassium or magnesium."

Colter said the Park's clay soil can be tough on oaks.

Autumn scorching is the best bad time

THE GROSSE POINTES — If a tree is going to get leaf scorch, now's the best time of year to do so.

Trees are already on the verge of going dormant for winter, so a few scorched and dying leaves aren't as big a problem as during spring, when trees awaken to a new year of growth fueled by leaves' starring role in photosynthesis.

"Scorched leaves look terrible and they're not doing anything for the trees right now," said Brian Colter, city forester for the City of Grosse Pointe, Farms and Park. "But, they might as well drop off because they're useless. It's late in the season now, so it doesn't really matter."

A hopeful sign for a tree with scorched leaves is when branches retain buds.

"If there are buds on the branches, they'll leaf out again next year," Colter said.

Another timely change in weather trends this year benefited Colter's annual municipal tree planting program.

He planned routine planting for spring, but a nursery fell behind in orders and didn't deliver saplings until August.

"I lucked out," he said. "August is usually a terrible time to plant due to the heat of summer. But, it was kind of opposite this year. Spring was hellishly dry. Then we got all that rain, which was beautiful for the new trees."

— Brad Lindberg



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE YOUNG

Champs!

Mayor Art Bryant and the City of Grosse Pointe Woods City Council recognized members of the Woods Warriors Swim Team at the Music on the Lawn concert Aug. 25, for their stellar winning season: Inner City Champions; 10 and Under Age Group High Point Winner; Relay Team High Point Winner; and Dual Meet Champions.

Ordinances target diseased trees

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — All of the Grosse Pointe have ordinances requiring private property owners to remove at their expense trees on their land designated a nuisance or afflicted with an infectious disease or insect.

Although elm and ash trees are spelled out in most ordinances, the rules apply to all types of trees, including oak

if deadly oak wilt spreads to the Pointes.

"We get a lot of samples for oak wilt testing," said Laura Miles, a microbiologist in the molecular detection and diagnostics section of Michigan State University's Plant & Pest Diagnostic laboratory.

Samples come from all over the state.

"I've been in this lab since the summer of 2018," Miles said. "Ever since, I have been

involved in oak wilt testing. We typically get 200 samples for that specific testing. About 50 percent of the samples come back positive, especially red oaks."

The problem is everywhere. The MSU website has an oak wilt detection map with areas of presence highlighted in red.

"There's a lot of red," Miles said.

Pointe ordinances regarding diseased trees state:

◆ **City**
Sec. 82-63: "When the city manager shall discover any tree growing on private property within the city is afflicted with any dangerous and infectious insect infestation or tree disease, he shall forthwith serve a written notice ... ordering

the owner, agent and occupant to take such measures as may be reasonably necessary to cure such infestation or disease and to prevent the spreading thereof."

◆ **Farms**
Code No. 7-15: "Any tree within the city which is found to be infected in whole or in part with Dutch Elm Disease, Emerald Ash Borer or any other form of infectious disease, is hereby declared a public nuisance, and it shall be unlawful for the person owning property on which the same is located to possess or keep the same."

◆ **Park**
Sec. 24-9: "Any tree, shrub, plant, or part thereof growing upon private or public property which is: interfering with the use of any

public area; infected with an infectious plant disease; or which endangers the life, health, or safety of persons or property is declared a public nuisance."

◆ **Shores**
Sec. 30-46: "The village shall have the right to cause the removal of any trees on private property within the village when such trees constitute a hazard to life and property, or harbor insects of disease which constitute a potential threat to other trees within the village."

◆ **Woods**
Sec. 46-69: "All dead or dying trees afflicted with any fatal communicable disease and located in a public area shall be removed by order of the city administrator."

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SCARE:

Continued from page 2A

(marginal browning/necrosis) and perhaps some nutrient imbalance (interveinal yellowing/chlorosis)," she wrote.

Yet, leaf scorch isn't something to ignore.

"Leaf scorch has no cure," Colter said.

Yet, it is treatable and beatable.

"The only thing I can do is trim out the dead and dying parts of both trees

this winter," Colter said.

"I expect both to leaf-out healthy next spring. If there are buds on the branches, they will leaf out again next year."

The policy toward untreatable oak wilt is not so palatable.

"Sanitation, try to isolate it," Colter said. "Remove it as quickly as possible so it doesn't spread."

Provisions common to Pointes city ordinances require removal of diseased trees at the owner's

expense.

"Even though we don't have many oaks, most of the ones we have are large and majestic," Colter said.

Oak wilt spreads naturally mainly through roots from neighboring trees that are fused and share vascular systems.

"If there were a line of oaks, we could trench between the roots to break the deadliest way oak wilt spread, through the root systems," Colter said.

Ferry's newest staff member

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Returning to school each fall means seeing old friends and making new ones, but the latest staff addition at Ferry Elementary School is likely to become everyone's new best friend.

Accompanying Principal Jodie Randazzo each day will be Chupa, a golden retriever who turned 2 last week.

"He's what's known as a facility dog, or a therapy dog," Randazzo said. "He didn't qualify as a service dog, so for example I wouldn't be able to take him into a restaurant."

Randazzo first got the idea to host a service dog — people who help train them before they move on to an owner — a few years ago.

"Then the pandemic hit," she recalled. "My focus at work was definitely not on dogs."

Chupa is named after Chupa Chups, a Spanish brand of lollipops and other candy.

"They called his litter the candy litter, so all the puppies were given names of candy," Randazzo said.

A candy litter is a generic term for breeds known to be sweet and loving.

"He just loves to play catch and hide-and-seek," Randazzo said.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Chupa, Ferry Elementary School's new therapy dog, enjoys his first day of school, where he met Young 5s student Ryan Vormelker and second-grader Avery Vormelker. Seated with them is Ferry Principal Jodie Randazzo, Chupa's owner.

"He's the sweetest thing."

Randazzo got Chupa earlier this summer after he spent time with a foster family and has been going through training with Paws for a Cause.

"They'll come out to the school several times during the year to tweak the training," she said. "I'm hoping we can get some of the staff trained to be handlers so he could go with a reading specialist or a speech pathologist. The whole idea is to support students who are struggling emotionally."

To start the year, how-

ever, Chupa will stay in Randazzo's office and only move around the building with her while leashed.

"We'll ease into it to do some troubleshooting," Randazzo said. "Students need to learn that they have to ask if they can pet him, they have to use a calm voice and they can't feed him."

The first day of school, however, wasn't Chupa's first interaction with students or the building.

"We host Camp 'O' Fun, so he was able to interact with the kids," Randazzo said. "And

since we're fully air conditioned it was fine bringing him over the summer."

As for potty breaks, Randazzo sees that as another way to help students.

"I think eventually there might be some student leadership opportunities there," she said.

Randazzo said she had a dog growing up, but Chupa is her first family pet.

"My boys are 13 and 14, so they don't pay a lot of attention to old mom anymore," she laughed, "but they love this dog."



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

A fabulous first day

Sharon Gallacher, kindergarten teacher at Ferry Elementary School for 29 years, holds up her sign that reads, "My Last First Day of Kindergarten."



Georgia Rubio is dressed and ready to conquer first grade at Ferry Elementary.

University Liggett School welcomes Sen. Hertel as Leadership Days guest speaker

University Liggett School recently announced Sen. Kevin Hertel, D-St. Clair Shores, will address students Friday, Sept. 8, during Middle School Leadership Days.

Hertel's participation in Leadership Days holds special significance as he is the elected representative for Grosse Pointe Woods.

Taking place the opening week of school, Middle School Leadership Days are an integral part of Liggett's commitment to nurturing leadership qualities

among its eighth-grade students. The multi-day event encompasses a series of activities that focus on leadership and service-oriented learning. These activities are crafted to equip students with essential skills and insights as they transition into leadership roles within the middle school environment.

A standout feature of the Leadership Days is the guest speaker session, which has consistently proven impactful for the students. The school anticipates

Hertel's address will enrich this tradition as he shares his personal journey as a leader and

imparts lessons on skill development and effective leadership practices.

CONTRACT:

Continued from page 1A

three to step four saw their salary increase from \$54,970 to \$57,267, a 4.1 percent increase.

The board and GPEA reached a tentative agreement on the new contract Thursday, Aug. 17, two days after the previous contract expired. The new contract is for one year, while the previous one was a two-year deal.

"We've had multi-year contracts in the past and we've had one-year contracts," Dean said. "Everyone prefers longer, but this is what the two sides could agree to at this point."

In a statement, GPEA co-presidents Jackie Shelton and Taryn Loughlin said a multi-year contract provides stability.

"A multi-year contract is preferable and necessary to retain and attract teachers," they said. "That is what we will be seeking next time

around."

A GPEA Facebook post from Wednesday, Aug. 30, thanked supporters and made note of the lawn signs that popped up around town over the summer reading, "You Can't Put Students First If You Put Teachers Last."

The post asked people to "hold onto your lawn signs as we embark on another negotiation in the spring."

The board in July approved one-year contracts with bargaining units representing office personnel, paraprofessionals and maintenance workers that include new salary schedules and longevity bonuses. Non-union employees received a 2 percent raise. The board at its meeting last week amended those agreements 5-0 to give non-teaching employees the same 3 percent retention bonus.

The changes extend to employees on the payroll as of Friday, Sept. 15.

financial confidence

['leg·a·cy 'welth 'man·age·ment] noun phrase

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10A | BUSINESS

Liggett announces 2nd annual STEAM Faire

University Liggett School recently announced the school's second annual Community STEAM Faire from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4, at ULS's Boll Campus Center.

STEAM — an approach to learning that uses science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics as access points for guiding student inquiry, dialogue and critical thinking — is an integral part of a Liggett education. The objective of this event is to give children of all ages a forum for experiencing STEAM through more than 20 do-it-yourself, make-and-take booths and live science demonstrations.

"STEAM is an integrative approach that encourages different ways of

thinking as it develops a range of important skills," said Michael Medvinsky, ULS Dean of Pedagogy and Innovation. "Investigating STEAM with children of all ages introduces them to an endless world of possibilities."

"We are passionate about creating real-world applications to science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics," he continued. "We are very excited to gather such an engaging group of thinkers, makers, tinkers and innovators who all have designed hands-on experiences for the community to enjoy at our second annual STEAM Faire."

The Community STEAM Faire is free and open to the public.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pointe The Way

The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony earlier this year to welcome Pointe The Way to the community. Pointe The Way provides caring and professional, non-emergency transportation for people with mobility needs. Caring drivers offer door-to-door transportation for those who need a helping hand into the van and into their destination, including doctor's appointments, airports, social outings, shopping, family events, religious activities, dialysis and more. Learn more at pointetheway.com, by emailing support@pointetheway.com or calling (313) 418-1009.



COURTESY PHOTO

Gathering Pointe

Formerly Cabbage Patch Catering, Gathering Pointe is a full-service catering and boutique venue, located at 15110 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park. This inclusive catered event venue allows guests to host private and corporate events in its own cozy venue or a venue of choice. Its specializes in all forms of catering, from formal, business and personal events to birthday parties, showers, weddings and corporate symposiums. For more information, visit cabbagepatchcafe.com or call (313) 823-8425.

Pictured during a Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting ceremony, from left, are Chamber Members & Events Coordinator Abigail Turnbull, Chamber Board Vice Chairman Alan Lowenthal, Grosse Pointe Park City Councilman Martin McMillan, Gathering Pointe owner Pam Dziedzic, Tina Blaurok, Erin Wilde and chamber President and Executive Director Jennifer Boettcher.



COURTESY PHOTO

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Pictured during a recent Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting event are, from left, Chamber Membership & Events Coordinator Abigail Turnbull, Chamber Director of Finance Lisa Frasier, Grosse Pointe Farms City Manager Shane Reeside, Alex Irrer, Jeff Meldrum, co-CEO and Principal Broker Eric Walstrom, and Chamber President and Executive Director Jennifer Boettcher.



**44th Annual Grosse Pointe Run
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2023**

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2B OBITUARIES | 2B AREA ACTIVITIES | 3B CHURCHES | 4-7B SENIOR LIVING

Making their mark

All ages, abilities invited to art extravaganza

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Dwayne Szot described growing up in Maple City as being part of a “can-do environment.” His foster parents, Raymond and Della, never met a challenge they didn’t attempt to rout and watching Raymond tinker in the garage furthered Szot’s own inventiveness.

His biggest inspiration, however, came from the other foster children in his life.



“I grew up with individuals of all abilities in a foster home in the Midwest,” Szot said. “... I would give my foster sister rides to the bus stop in a red wagon, because she had cerebral palsy and struggled to get to the bus stop.”

Later, while earning a

Master of Fine Arts degree from Cranbrook Academy of Art, Szot reflected on those moments, which he said gave him the courage to create his first painting wheelchair — a project sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts — allowing the

physically disabled to engage in the creation of art.

Zot Artz Arts for All was created in 1990, offering services, programs, tools and supplies that allow individuals with different levels of abilities to creatively express themselves.

“Rather than finding ways for people with disabilities to participate in activities for non-disabled people,” its mission states, “we create entirely new activities and projects for people with disabilities and invite those without disabilities to join in.”

In partnership with the Full Circle Foundation and Community Campus of Grosse Pointe Public Schools, Szot is bringing Zot Artz to Grosse Pointe. The program, offering inclusive art activities designed for people with disabilities, takes place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at Ferry Elementary School, 748 Roslyn, Grosse Pointe Woods.

“What we’re doing at Ferry is we’ll lay out a huge piece of thick paper on the floor, taped down, and using various pieces of equipment, paint a big mural on the floor,” said Szot’s longtime friend



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ZOT ARTZ

A child gets help using a pogo pole during a past painting project.

Patty Sunisloe, a Full Circle board member. “We’re hopeful people of varying abilities create this mural.”

“Everybody will be adding to it as a community,” Szot said of the 30-by-50-foot mural. “We’re creating the composition together, a tapestry of color and designs and shapes, using a variety of art tools.”

Szot has designed art rollers that attach to the front of wheelchairs and have a handle, so “as you

roll with the wheelchair, with the freedom and dignity of your own space, you control and make your mark. ... To see the joy that brings — it’s a completeness of being. It’s bringing them to their fullest potential and helping individuals to be their fullest. There are a lot of ways to do that, but not as beautiful and giving and open as the arts.”

The art roller is among

See ART, page 8B



ZotArtz played a part in ArtFest in Fort Myers in 2022.

Annual 5K and Pray to benefit 10-month-old girl

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The day Domenic and Colleen Caruso brought their daughter, Gianna, home from the hospital, they sat down to write a letter to the Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety Department. They had been advised by doctors at C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital to let the department know their newborn is on a ventilator, so officers would be prepared if ever emergency assistance was needed.

“We did that and within days, people from the Farms department were knocking on our door, wanting to meet her,” Domenic Caruso said, adding that officers even discussed going through specific training tailored to meet Gianna’s needs.

The 10-month-old was prenatally diagnosed with Trisomy 18, or Edwards syndrome, a chromosome disorder characterized by having three copies of chromosome 18, instead of two. Effects of the condition include low birth weight,

congenital heart defects, abnormalities of other organs, intellectual disability and other symptoms.

To assist in Gianna’s care, the Caruso family was selected as this year’s recipient for the Project Hope 5K and Pray fundraiser, which begins at 8 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church.

Gianna’s story

After Gianna’s diagnosis, the Carusos were told her condition was “incompatible with life,” she likely would not make it to term and, if she did, they would have just hours, days or weeks with her. If she survived longer, they were told, medical professionals likely would not intervene on her behalf, given her diagnosis.

“The picture that was painted for us was bleak,” Colleen Caruso said. “In the process of my pregnancy, we switched to the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor ... and we connected with others



COURTESY PHOTO

Colleen and Domenic Caruso, with their daughter, Gianna, who was prenatally diagnosed with Trisomy 18.

across the country whose children have Trisomy 18.”

They were welcomed by doctors and specialists at C.S. Mott, who were willing to provide the necessary care for the

Carusos to bring their daughter home despite the symptoms she presented.

They also learned from other parents of children with Trisomy 18, that when treated with proper

care and interventions, those children can survive and thrive.

“When she was born (Oct. 28, 2022), we had a two-and-a-half-month hospital stay, learning about her and her needs,” Colleen Caruso said. “We brought her home in January.”

There are common anomalies with Trisomy 18, several of which have presented in Gianna. Her airway was in need of support, so she had a tracheostomy and is on a ventilator. She also has some heart defects, as well as cognitive issues.

“Overall, she’s doing really well,” Colleen Caruso said. “And she’s coming up on a year of life and we’re so grateful for that as well.”

Rather than being defeated by their challenges, the Carusos have turned to their faith in God for miracles, which already are happening.

Gianna was due to have surgery in March to close a large hole in her heart; given the position and size of the hole, cardiologists assured them it wasn’t going to close on

its own. A week before surgery and to the team’s amazement, the hole began to close by itself, taking surgery off the table.

Being named recipients of this year’s Project Hope 5K and Pray was another blessing. The Carusos said they were asked by Father Andrew Kowalczyk following Gianna’s summer baptism.

“The church, our neighbors ... We’re repeatedly blown away by this community,” Domenic Caruso said. “It feels like we’ve lived here our whole lives, but we’ve been here not even two years. We feel we were meant to land in this community. We’re reminded of that very often.”

In addition to showering love on their daughter — who they say is expressive and full of personality, smiles and giggles — they plan to provide her every medical and social opportunity possible. Gianna’s future, Colleen Caruso

See PRAY, page 3B

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2B | OBITUARIES

OBITUARIES

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

Constance Nester Griffith

Constance Nester Griffith, 97, passed away Tuesday, Aug. 29, 2023.

Connie was born July 15, 1926, in Detroit, to Thomas Nester and Marion Welch Nester. Her father was a founder of the Grosse Pointe Symphony. Connie was the granddaughter of Detroit real estate developer Thomas Welch and the great-granddaughter of Michigan lumber baron Thomas Nester.

Connie moved to Grosse Pointe at age 10, attending St. Paul Catholic Grade School, Grosse Pointe High School and Academy of the Sacred Heart in Lake Forest, Ill. She met her sweetheart, Bill Griffith, at the Ann Arbor train station in 1944, on her way back to college and later graduated from the University of Michigan. Connie and Bill were married in 1947, and raised five children. Bill was a patent attorney

and they were happily married more than 72 years until his death in 2020.

After raising her children, Connie followed in her father's footsteps and became a Grosse Pointe Realtor. She had a knack for finding unique, quality properties for her clients and herself. She bought and renovated several beautiful homes, tackling many of the jobs herself, making draperies, installing floors, painting and wallpapering.

Always an enthusiastic athlete, Connie was a lifelong tennis player and golfer. She was the volunteer high school tennis coach at Academy of the Sacred Heart. She also was passionate about bridge and played until the end, having attained the rank of Bronze Life Master. Connie was a life member of the Country Club of Detroit.

Connie was very social and loved people. She enjoyed travel, shopping

and a good bargain. She loved going out for lunch, or any meal, and often was spotted with a Diet Coke. She treasured her family and loved her many friends. She will be dearly missed.

Connie is survived by her loving children, Joan Drummy, Susan Royer (Chuck), Mary Fay Kattman (Michael) and Tom Griffith (Liz); and daughter-in-law, Debbie Griffith. She was the proud grandmother of 10 and had several great-grandchildren. Connie was predeceased by her beloved husband, Bill Griffith; loving son, Bill Griffith Jr.; son-in-law, Larry Drummy; and dear sister, Joan Nester Leone.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, with a gathering at 9:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Grosse Pointe Symphony, bit.ly/3OUBi2y.



Constance Nester Griffith



Marjorie Moodie Hirt

Arrangements were entrusted to Chas. Verheyden, Inc. Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Marjorie Moodie Hirt

Marjorie Moodie Hirt, 98, formerly a longtime resident of Grosse Pointe Park, passed away Tuesday, June 27, 2023, in Canton.

Born in Chicago on Sept. 3, 1924, to Leslie and Elsie Moodie, she was raised in Arlington Heights, Ill. She attended Iowa State University where she was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

During World War II, she took a year break from her college studies, testing Pratt & Whitney airplane engines. After graduation, she began

her career at People's Gas Light and Coke Co., working in the test and demonstration kitchens in downtown Chicago. She met her husband, Grosse Pointe Park resident Donald Hirt, on a ski trip to Sun Valley, Idaho, where he charmed her with his sense of humor and ballroom dancing skills.

While raising her children with Donald in Grosse Pointe Park, she worked for Warren Consolidated Schools instructing culinary arts students. She later worked as a church secretary for Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church.

Mrs. Hirt was a member of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church for more than 70 years, where she and her husband made many lifelong friends.

Her interests centered

on her family, literature, art, music and the Detroit Tigers. She was a Gallery Services volunteer at the Detroit Institute of Art for 24 years and was a member of P.E.O. for more than 70 years. Mrs. Hirt regularly attended performances by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Michigan Opera Theater. She was a lifelong learner, always with an atlas and dictionary at hand to look up something she didn't know — which didn't happen very often. When she wasn't listening to WRCJ radio, she would listen to books on CD. Family vacations often were lakeside, the last one at Suttons Bay, where she swam in the bay at age 93.

Mrs. Hirt is survived by her children, Don Hirt Jr. (Lisa Hall), Leslie Roberts (Donald), Doug Hirt (Jean) and Elizabeth Damberg (Mark); grandchildren, Caroline Hirt (Josh Schmidt), David Hirt (Millie), Lauren Yavor (Josh), Michael Hirt (Alli), Alicia Hirt and Mary Hirt; and great-granddaughters, Abigail and Claire Yavor.

She was predeceased by her husband, Donald; and her brother, Jack Moodie.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7, Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10, St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores.

Register at redcross blood.org.

Sunrise on Vernier

Sunrise on Vernier, 1850 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, hosts the following events:

◆ National Beer Lovers Day, 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7. Taste beers from around the world and learn about the history of beer. RSVP to Mary Jo at (313) 642-2000.

◆ Laughter Yoga, 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, with light appetizers and beverages. RSVP to Mary Jo at (313) 642-2000.

Library

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

◆ Hustle for Health Dance Class, noon to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Craft-to-Go: Bird Pencil Topper, all day Monday, Sept. 11, at Ewald and Woods branches.

◆ Beginner CAD Modeling, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 11, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Local Author Visit: Christine Janicke, 10 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Teen Creativity Circle: Diamond Painting, 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 3D Thursday, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday,

Sept. 14, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ DANCE for Hispanic Heritage Month, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

Ford House

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

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

◆ Autumn Landscape Tours are offered through Oct. 31.

◆ Fall Garden and Grounds Tours are offered through Nov. 22. Tickets prices vary.

◆ Storytime: "Children Make Terrible Pets," by Peter Brown, 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays, through Sept. 26.

◆ Explorers: Bird Island, 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 9. Admission is \$5 per child.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Sweet charity

On Friday, Aug. 18, Johnny Martin told his dad he wanted to have a lemonade stand and his dad suggested he raise money for a local charity. Martin agreed and ended up choosing Midwest Small Breed Rescue, a foster-based rescue in Grosse Pointe that works to find forever homes for all of its fosters. Martin and his sister, Elena, squeezed a lot of lemons and it was worth it, because \$250 was raised for the charity.

From left, Verona Relan, Eva Wieczorek, Elena Martin, Perdita — the dog the Martin family rescued in 2020 from Midwest Small Breed Rescue — and Johnny Martin.

◆ Story Festival: Let's Go on an Adventure, 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, for ages 7 and younger.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

Detroit Abloom

Dahlia Fest 2023 at Detroit Abloom, 248 Manistique, Detroit, takes place noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10. The event, which celebrates the dahlia and the garden season's end, includes food, music and children's activities. Flowers will be available for sale. Tickets are \$5 and available at the event. Visit detroitabloom.com.

The War Memorial

The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers a variety of programs and classes. Register for the following at warmemorial.org.

◆ 9/11 Service of Remembrance, 8:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 11.

Following the service, which commemorates the 22nd anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001, a gathering with refreshments, conversation, reflection and fellowship occurs in the Alger Center.

◆ Detroit Opera Resident Artists Series, 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, featuring soprano Melanie Spector, mezzo-soprano Lisa Marie Rogali, tenor River Guard and baritones Rolfe Daus and Ben Reisinger. Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$35 VIP.

◆ Tequila's (and Mezcal's) Temptations, 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 28, for ages 21 and older. Tickets are \$65.

Badminton

The Grosse Pointe Badminton Association begins its 91st year of play in the Grosse Pointes at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 12. The group plays three times a week: from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays

and Thursdays at Parcels Middle School, 20600 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays at Grosse Pointe South High School, 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms. The association follows the Grosse Pointe Public School System year; if school is closed for a holiday, there will be no play. Those who have played competitive badminton or who are practiced in other racket sports, or who are good athletes and quick at excelling in other sports are invited to check it out. For more information, email agnotarangelo@gmail.com.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13. Maria Miller, interim CEO of The War Memorial, speaks. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

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GPCC fall session starting

The Grosse Pointe Community Chorus will start its fall session Tuesday, Sept. 12.

For those who like to sing, registration is open now at grossepoincommunitychorus.org.

The fee is \$60 per session, \$30 for those age 30 or younger.

The chorus rehearses 7:30 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays in the choir room at Grosse Pointe North High School.

Chorus members this



COURTESY PHOTO

Kayvon Kashani-Gharavi is the new music director of the Grosse Pointe Community Chorus.

session are led by incoming music director Kayvon Kashani-Gharavi, who has a master's degree in choral conducting from Westminster Choir College and is an adjunct professor at

Madonna University.

The GPCC holiday concert is scheduled Sunday, Dec. 3, at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Park.

For more information, call (313) 580-5965.

'All Roots Music Night' is Sept. 15

Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, 17150 Maumee, City of Grosse Pointe, will host "All Roots Music Night," a live music fundraising event open to the public from 7 to 10 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15. The night will showcase an eclectic mix of roots music, ranging from folk to blues to Americana to jazz, and featuring award-winning local musician Sean Blackman and his band.

Blackman's unique World Music style is influenced by his deep passion for traditional ethnic music from around the world and from growing up in Detroit — jazz, blues, rock and soul. He works with internationally renowned performers, as well as Detroit's finest and always brings a cross-culture approach to his shows and recordings.

Tickets are \$20 per person in advance, or \$30 at the door.

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network, which works to build food security, food justice and food sovereignty for Detroit's African American residents. Founded in 2006, the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network advocates locally and nationally to build a food movement that is focused on racial justice and equity.

Non-alcoholic drinks and light refreshments will be available for sale and attendees are welcome to bring



COURTESY PHOTO

Award-winning local musician Sean Blackman and his band will perform during "All Roots Music Night," a live music fundraising event.

their own alcoholic drinks to enjoy at the show.

For more information or to buy tickets, visit the Eventbrite page at tinyurl.com/2p8f2436 or the church's website at gpuuc.org, or find the event on the Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church Facebook page.

CHURCH BRIEFS

Remembrance

An interfaith memorial service takes place 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, at Assumption Grotto Cemetery, 13770 Gratiot, Detroit, in recognition of National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children. Free, secure parking and the cemetery are directly behind the church. Pastor Kenneth Snodgrass from Thy Word is Truth Ministries will talk

about "The Dignity of Life." Refreshments and fellowship follow. Call (313) 881-6793 or email beverly1016@aol.com

Jewish Council

The Grosse Pointe Jewish Council will hold High Holiday services, observing Rosh Hashanah, on Friday, Sept. 15, and Saturday, Sept. 16. Services on Yom Kippur will be held Sunday, Sept.

24, and Monday, Sept. 25. Rabbi Joe Klein will officiate with Cantorial Soloist Bryant Frank. There will be special children's services on both holidays. The Grosse Pointe Jewish Council strives to promote the heritage and traditions of the Jewish religion and culture for the benefit of its membership and the community of metropolitan Detroit's eastside. The GPJC offers religious services, as well as educational and social events. For information, call (313) 882-6700 or email the gipc@comcast.net.

PRAY:

Continued from page 1B

said, "is one filled with joy, one where she's thriving and living her best life.

"We are blessed to have a health system that's accepting of her and willing to find solutions," she added. "Domenic and I are willing to do whatever it is to help contribute to her high quality of life and provide the necessary interventions to do so. She's on her own curve, her own trajectory; we threw out the milestone book a long time ago. Every day she's progressing, learning. Her life has so much value and it brings us so much joy."

Added Domenic Caruso, "Quality of life is a big one. The grim reality is this is a life-limiting condition, but the stats are more grim and dark than reality. There's a disconnect with the internet and the medical community and with people

living with it, with what their life is like. ... Everything we do — physical therapy, occupational therapy — is just so she can enjoy the most from life. We're not trying to make her normal. We're trying to make sure every day we have with her she can experience the world."

How to help

Since its inception in 2014, Project Hope's 5K and Pray has benefited struggling families in the community. Though founded by members of the Bodien and Williams families, this is the second year the event is helmed by members of the Vismara family. The event traditionally includes all-day Eucharistic adoration, a 5K run, Mass and dinner. "This year's recipient is a 10-month-old baby, so it's a little different focus," said co-chair Lisa Vismara, noting the addition of a one-mile walk, "because we expect more kids this year."

The details

What: Project Hope 5K and Pray
Who: Benefitting the Caruso family of Grosse Pointe Farms
Where: St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park
When: Saturday, Sept. 16
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. — adoration
8:15 a.m. — race registration and check in
9 to 11 a.m. — run/walk
4 to 5 p.m. — Mass
5:30 to 8 p.m. — dinner
Cost: \$35 for run, \$35 for diner
Sponsorships cost \$200 and include the run and dinner, as well as the donor's name on the back of official T-shirt. General donations also are welcome.
Sign up: projecthopeofmichigan.com

During the dinner, past recipients will speak about what the event has meant to them.

"We see the impact it has on families who receive it," co-chair John Vismara said. "Lisa was talking to last year's recipient and she said, 'I hope this continues to be a beacon of hope.' Comments like that are inspiring."

"When people run into difficulties, they turn to family and maybe a few

friends," he added. "Maybe it's not expected, but it's counted on. In our lives, people we didn't expect or count on made an impact on our own hard times. They made an impact that meant a lot and it still sticks with us after a long time."

Added Lisa Vismara, "Our focus is on community. When you're in a rough spot, it's nice to have family and friends. It's nice to have to those

angels who are there to help you in your time of trouble. ... It's our core belief that it takes a village."

John Vismara said the church community and beyond has been touched by the Carusos' story.

"Most of these kids don't make it full term or live long, usually less than a year," he said. "Their daughter has done remarkably well. They're a sweet family. You can see the love around that family, how much she brings into their life. When you see them interacting, it's hard not to be touched."

Though hosted at St. Clare, Project Hope 5K and Pray is its own 501(c)3. The public is invited to participate in any way they choose — running, walking, praying or eating dinner. Volunteers also are welcome. Corner Captains, for example, are stationed throughout the 5K to cheer on participants.

"It's not an intense

run," John Vismara said. "It's more of a fun run. It's all about community and showing support for this family."

Cost is \$35 for the run and \$35 for the dinner. Sponsorships, which include both, "and you get your name on the back of the T-shirt," Lisa Vismara said, cost \$200. General donations also are welcome.

"We're incredibly grateful and excited," Colleen Caruso said. "We're blessed we're surrounded by a supportive, loving community. It's a reflection of Father Andrew, a reflection of the Vismaras, a reflection of St. Clare and Grosse Pointe as a whole."

For more information, to register or make a donation to the Project Hope 5K and Pray, visit projecthopeofmichigan.com.

For more information about Trisomy 18, visit trisomy.org or extratolove.org.

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Thursday — 7:00 p.m.
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Making New Disciples - Building Stronger Ones

SENIOR LIVING



REVVED UP AGAIN

'Miracle' car lover gets rally of a lifetime

COURTESY PHOTO

Jim Johns of Grosse Pointe Woods greets guests who visited his house on South Renaud as part of a Corvette and classic car rally last month.

Grosse Pointe Woods native Alison Maniaci recently shared a memorable experience brought to life by several supportive members of the community.

Her father, Jim Johns, a lifelong resident of the Woods, celebrated his 80th birthday at the end of August. The Vietnam veteran owned Como's Collision more than 30 years.

"People still ask me how my dad is doing and say they miss seeing him," Maniaci wrote in an email.

The past two years, Johns has battled stage 4 lung cancer, Parkinson's disease and dementia attributed to Agent Orange exposure in Vietnam.

"The past five months, he declined so rapidly that he lost the ability to walk, talk, feed himself and was not cognizant," Maniaci wrote. "Dad was bedridden for two months and ... almost placed on hospice. We prayed and God sent us a miracle.

"My dad is a fighter, for his country, for our family and for himself," she continued. "I am a nurse and I have seen miracles, but never like the miracle of the rehabilitation of my dad through these horrible diseases, let alone at his age. Dad is now cognizant, he knows us and that is its own special miracle. He can now walk with a walker and assistance, he can feed himself now, too, and he is able to communicate and is enjoying life again."

When Johns regained cognition, his first sentence was, "Let's go for a drive," his daughter said, noting his lifelong love of cars and car rides, as well as being an avid car collector.

Because Johns can no longer drive, his wife, Cheryl Johns, sold his last Corvette and Cadillac in a move that "devastated" him. However, Maniaci added, she found a way to bring some of happiness back into his life.

"To celebrate his cancer free pet scan ... and his battle of fighting through his diseases and



The sports cars (and aficionados) came out in full force to talk cars and show off their wheels at the rally that represented community support and respect for a favorite "car guy."

being a miracle — and just an amazing dad — I wanted to find a way to bring happiness to him and his beloved cars," wrote Maniaci, who is the creator and administrator of the GP Mom Swap 2.0 page, which has 9,000 members. "I had the idea to make a post in our community Facebook groups with my dad's story and to see if anyone in the community would help me put together a Corvette and classic car rally for my dad.

"I was blown away by the response from our community," she continued. "So many came by and visited with my dad and our family and so many commented how good it was to see him again and that they miss him waving on Mack and

missed his help on their families' cars for years and years, as well as old friends that he grew up with at his beloved childhood home."

Maniaci said the rally was amazing, as was the community support of her father. People drove Corvettes and other classic cars along South Renaud, stopping to talk to Johns and his family, revving their engines and honking their horns.

"As we walked inside from the car rally, my dad hugged me and, as proud as he is, he cried and told me how thankful he was for our community," Maniaci wrote, "and that he will keep fighting so next time they come by, he will be strong enough to go for a ride."

Upcoming programs at The Helm

Turning 65? Medicare time

Those who are about to turn 65 soon will become eligible for Medicare and probably have received numerous correspondence from different insurance companies urging them to sign up for a prescription drug, Medicare Advantage or Medicare Supplement plan.

What's a person to do? The Helm can help.

New to Medicare — where Medicare counselors provide a comprehensive overview of Medicare, including coverage, costs, pros and cons of different optional plans and how to sign up — is a 90-minute class. The next session takes place 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, at The Helm, 158 Ridge,

Grosse Pointe Farms.

The class is free, but space is limited, so call (313) 649-2110 or email struss@helmlife.org to make a reservation.

The Helm also offers free, individual appointments throughout the year with Medicare counselors to help people understand their options, choose the best plans for them and answer any specific questions. Contact Sarah Truss at struss@helmlife.org or (313) 649-2110 to schedule a one-on-one appointment.

Osteoarthritis lecture

Fifty percent of adults ages 65 and older report being diagnosed with arthritis, according to the

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Hips and knees are common joints affected by arthritis. Orthopedic surgeon Dr. Michael Wagner will be at The Helm from 1 to 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, to discuss diagnosis, treatment and misconceptions about arthritis of the hip and knee.

While there is no way to prevent arthritis, Wagner will discuss steps to manage and minimize pain. He also will explore modern advances in surgical and nonsurgical treatment options. There will be time for questions.

This presentation is free to members and guests of The Helm, but registration is required to attend. Register at helmlife.org or by calling (313) 882-9600.



Help manage knee and hip osteoarthritis with tips from an upcoming lecture at The Helm.

PAATS partnership a proven success

Buses provide transportation for seniors, the disabled

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Lori Jones takes her full-time dispatcher post with the Pointe Area Assisted Transportation Service seriously. She's responsible for getting clients from Point A to Point B with the greatest of ease.

She only wishes more people knew about the service, known as PAATS.

"People call and say, 'I've lived here my whole life and never knew this was here.' It's been here since '78. It's always been called PAATS. It's always been supported by the six communities, so you have to be a resident to use it. ... I don't know where we'd be without this service."

PAATS provides bus transportation to residents of Harper Woods and all five Grosse Pointes who are age 60 or older, as well as to disabled residents.

"We'll go anywhere within the appointed area — lunches, salons, barbershops, doctor appointments, shopping," Jones said.

Funding from SMART, the federal government and the six communities it serves helps keep costs low for riders. Routes within the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods cost just \$1 each way, while rides bounded by 8 Mile and 11 Mile roads and Kelly Road and Gratiot Avenue cost \$2 each way.

PAATS also offers site-specific rides for medical appointments only — to St. John Surgery Center, Henry Ford Main, Detroit Medical Center, VA Hospital, City County Building and New Center — for \$3 each way.

Aides who accompany clients are able to ride at no cost, Jones noted.

"Appointments are made at 15-minute intervals, so we pick up and likely will stop along the

way (to pick up other people)," she said. "We never wait. They just call me when they're finished and I send the bus back to pick them up. The average wait is 10 to 30 minutes."

Appointments must be scheduled at least two days in advance and "even longer than that if they're able," Jones said. "We do book up very quickly. There's no formal registration, but I need their name, address, phone number and birthdate to set up the appointment."



The number of passengers varies at different times of the year. PAATS partners with the Grosse Pointe Public School System from September to June, providing rides for disabled students — who stay in the district until age 26 — to Full Circle's Community Campus or various job sites.

"That adds a couple hundred rides a month," Jones said. "During the summer ... last month we had a little over 1,000 rides for seniors and the disabled."

Passengers also are able to set up standing appointments if, for example, they're looking at 12 weeks of physical therapy.

"We set it all up at once so they don't have to cancel any of their appointments," Jones said.

PAATS also partners with The Helm to provide transportation for trips, like its monthly Lunch Bunch or day trips to Cranbrook or Frankenmuth.

"It's the best thing and the reason I'm still living in Grosse Pointe," Grosse Pointe Woods resident Nancy Hinz told The Helm Journal in April 2022. "They take me to the doctor, here (The Helm), shopping, drive me to stores in the neighborhood. The drivers are so nice and helpful. I've been doing

this 13 years, otherwise I'd be in the house. Oh, and I get picked up and dropped off in a timely manner. It's a wonderful service."

Jones, who started as a PAATS driver in 2004, has been its full-time dispatcher the last six years. She is a champion of the program, which she said is a godsend.

"I don't think people realize how traumatic it is to lose their license," she said. "Passengers will tell me they just lost their license and have to look for rides from family and neighbors. This service keeps them independent. They don't need someone to take them to the doctor, so their medical information stays

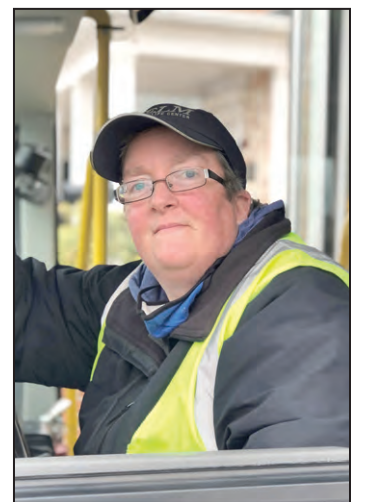
See PAATS, page 7B



COURTESY PHOTOS

Six PAATS buses, like the one above, are stationed at The Helm, with five on the road daily and the sixth as a backup.

At left, a passenger boards a waiting PAATS bus. Passengers can count on receiving the assistance they need from their PAATS driver.



Above left, Lori Jones started as a bus driver for PAATS and transitioned to full-time dispatcher six years ago.

PAATS driver Amy Spivey, above right, said her priority as a PAATS driver is to get clients to their destination on time and back home safely.



rethink

HEART

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY, "UNCLE PETE" REYES



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PATRICIA ELLIS

Top: Three generations of niece and nephews gathered Aug. 6, to honor Peter "Uncle Pete" Reyes on his 99th birthday. Above left, Officer Martin Mitchell stands by as Peter Reyes poses with his great-great-nieces and great-great-nephew, from left, Anastasia, Sebastian and Francesca Ellis, of Grand Rapids. Above right, Peter Reyes is all smiles during his birthday celebration.

World War II veteran and Grosse Pointe Woods resident Peter Reyes celebrated his 99th birthday Sunday, Aug. 6, surrounded by several of his nieces and nephews.

Reyes served 38 years with the Detroit Fire Department, retiring as Detroit fire chief in 1985. As a surprise, Officer Martin Mitchell of the Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety Department paid a visit in Ladder 5's state-of-the-art fire engine.

The special visit was a tribute to Reyes on his momentous birthday and to thank him for his years of service as a firefighter.

Reyes grew up in Detroit with his parents and seven siblings. He is the last surviving member of his immediate family. The celebration took place at the home of his niece and nephew, Judy and Steve Armbruster of Grosse Pointe Woods. Three generations of nieces and nephews attended the celebration, lovingly honoring their Uncle Pete.

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GROSSE POINTE HISTORY TIMELINE

A Brief History of Grosse Pointe

1679

Lake Sainte Claire was so christened by Father Louis Hennepin, Chaplain to LaSalle, because their vessel, the "Griffin," entered the waters of the Lake on August 12, the feast day of Sainte Claire.

1712

The only warlike event in the history of Grosse Pointe is a battle which took place at Windmill Pointe in 1712, and which probably gave Fox Creek its name.

1740

Burton's History of Detroit states that most of the river front has been taken up for farms, from which we may conclude that at least a part of Grosse Pointe was settled that early.

1758

The property now occupied by the Grosse Pointe Club was in the possession of Nicholas Patenaud.

1760

The surrender of Detroit to the English caused many of the French settlers to...

The Pointe was heavily wooded and much of it was swampy, a description that appears to hold true for most of the territory around Detroit in the early days.

It began as a farming and hunting community, the women doing most of the farming, the men the hunting and trading. All farms had water frontage, usually three hundred feet, and they ran back about a mile. The houses were all on the water, for water was the first essential, both for drinking and transportation. This resulted in neighboring houses being close to each other along the lake, but probably not for mutual protection as many people believe.

Just when Grosse Pointe received its name and what territory it included is unknown. The name was used long before the Americans took over in 1796, and it undoubtedly referred to the broad, flat point, which culminated at the Windmill Pointe lighthouse. The French word "grosse" has a meaning that lies between grande and grasse, and seems well applied to this blunt point.



Read the full story at [gphistorical.org](https://www.gphistorical.org) or scan the QR code!



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PAATS

Continued from page 5B

private. They don't need someone to take them to the bank, so their finances stay private. It keeps them independent, which for seniors makes life so much easier.

"... It makes it easy for a lot of family members, too," she added. "Maybe they work and can't always get off to take Mom or Dad or Grandma or Grandpa to a doctor's appointment or shopping."

Buses operate 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. A few years ago, PAATS added a shopping route: The Gratiot Loop is available every Friday.

"We pick them up at home at 9 a.m. and return them home at 1 p.m.," Jones said, noting stops include the Walmart at 12 Mile and Gratiot, Meijer at 13 Mile and Little Mack, Kroger at 13 Mile and Little Mack, Target on Gratiot near 14 Mile and Macomb Mall at Masonic and Gratiot. "People really love it. We chose those stores specifically because there are other stores they can go to in those strip malls."

For holiday shopping, Gratiot Loop bus service also is available Tuesdays during November and December.

"I want people to know how awesome this is and really needed," Jones said. "They need someone on their side, someone to look out for them without an agenda. We only have their best interest at heart and make it as easy as we can."

"... I have an amazing team of drivers who go above and beyond every day," she added. "If they see someone struggling, they'll hop off the bus. We offer elbow assistance from the door to the bus. They're always respectful. They're a wonderful team and they work well together."

The service currently has eight drivers and a fleet of six buses, though only five run daily; the sixth is a backup.

Among the drivers is Amy Spivey, who has been driving with PAATS nearly 20 years.

"I like what I do," she said. "We're all they have. Some of them don't have family to take them places they need to go, or to get them out of the house or give them somewhere to be."

Spivey said her priority as a PAATS driver is to get clients to their destination on time and back home safely. During the drive, she also makes sure to treat all riders with dignity and respect.

"It's the standard," she said. "We are all they have, so we treat them well. They treat us pretty well, too. We give elbow assists. We sit and talk with them for a few minutes if they need someone to talk to. They see you as family when you pick them up a few times a week. You become their person."

"I hope to be here many years from now and that the service stays the same," she added.

For more information or to schedule a ride, call (313) 394-9712.



Second Time Around

By Margie Reins Smith

Time for a little pillow talk

My writing group consists of six or seven ladies-of-a-certain-age (LOACAs). We meet every month to read our writings aloud and critique each other's work. Our meetings also include lots of non-writing-related conversation.

But first, we start off with a ritual. I call it The Passing of the Pillows.

Each member of the group arrives, surrenders her coat, greets and is greeted, accepts or refuses food and drink. She is ushered into the hostess's family room where upholstered chairs, sofas, loveseats, ottomans and side chairs abound. Pillows and cushions of every ilk are scattered about on the furniture.

Small, rectangular needle-pointed pillows claim "Grandmothers are Mothers with Ph.D.s." Hand-stitched, crewel-embroidered pillows decorated with colorful leaves and flowers are tucked here and there. Big, smoochy, down-filled pillows are propped against arm rests. Small, hard-packed pillows provide dec-

orative accents in colors and patterns complementary to the room's décor.

Each person chooses a place to sit.

One member of the group prefers a straight-backed chair, which the hostess usually has to drag in from an adjoining room. Another member scrupulously avoids deep, low-slung sofas. Another has a left shoulder that has recently been replaced and a right shoulder

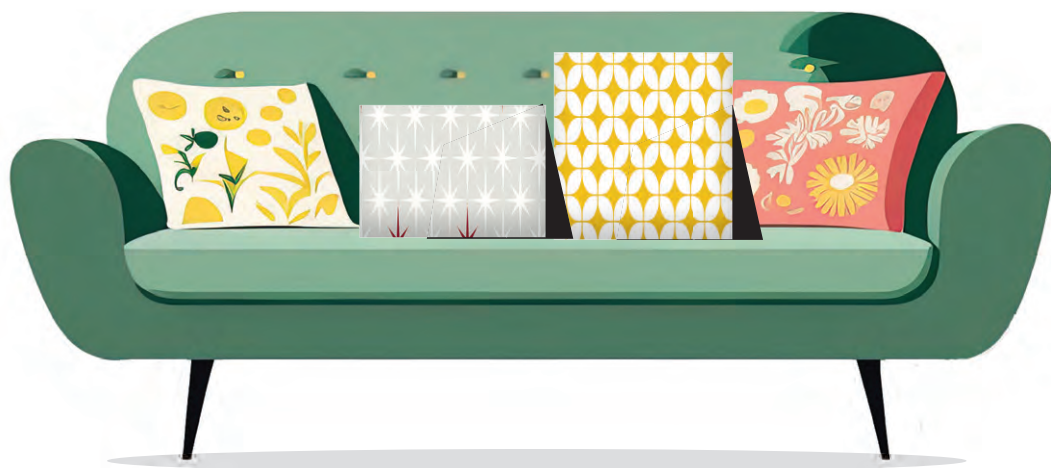
with a torn rotator cuff. Yet another member needs a small puffy pillow to fill the curve of her lower back. Another needs a firm cushion to prevent slumping. One member needs a scrunchy, smoochy pillow and a footstool to cradle an ankle. Another brings her own special orthopedic pillow to support her back.

After each LOACA has selected a chair, The Passing of the Pillows begins. It's similar

to a card game called Hearts. In the game of Hearts, after all the cards are dealt, each player gets to pass his or her three crummiest cards to the player on the right. Only then can the actual game begin.

The Passing of the Pillows takes about five minutes, tops.

Once it has been completed and each member of the group has her chosen pillow, the actual meeting begins.



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Inland Seas 'schoolship' docks at Bayview Yacht Club

By Grace Cueter
GPN Intern

The Inland Seas, a 77-foot, double-masted schooner, sailed into Lake St. Clair on Sunday, July 30. The schooner was docked at Bayview Yacht Club until Aug. 11, where the Inland Seas staff taught science and environmental curriculum to Detroit-area school children. Built in 1994, the ship was created as a "schoolship"

and has connected more than 155,000 passengers with the Great Lakes.

This summer, 2022 Grosse Pointe South High School graduate Meghan Wysocki served as an intern on the ship. She spent May through June in Suttons Bay, teaching stations on plankton, fish, the benthic layer and seamanship to students from fourth grade through college. She devoted time researching and develop-

ing an educational station on soundscape mapping and Anishinaabe culture in Detroit, which she then taught to local students.

On the Inland Seas at Bayview, Wysocki served as an assistant educator.

"I taught 15-minute rotations to students as they cycled in groups through our sail," she said. "Sometimes this included taking a biological sample using a Secchi disk, Ponar grab, otter



COURTESY PHOTO

The Inland Seas is a 45-ton, 77-foot schooner with 1,800 square feet of sail area.

'The Plot Thickens' with GPT's Playwriting Workshops

All new and experienced playwrights are invited to participate in Grosse Pointe Theatre's three-part Take Ten Playwriting Workshop, which takes place three Saturdays this fall, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sept. 9, Oct. 14, and Nov. 11. All workshop sessions will be held at Grosse Pointe Theatre's rehearsal/office building, 315 Fisher, City of Grosse Pointe. The workshop series will sharpen playwriting skills and encourage participation in Grosse Pointe Theatre's 11th annual Ten-Minute Play Festival next June.

Mary Lou Britton of St. Clair Shores, a more than 55-year member of Grosse Pointe Theatre, started the group's play festival, which has attracted playwrights from across North America.

"When writing plays, one of the most difficult challenges is to keep the action moving at the right pace and to take the audience through new and unexpected plot twists," Britton said. "Our three-part workshop, The Plot Thickens, will help new and experienced playwrights develop an interesting plot, reaching a conclusion the audience won't be anticipating."

The theme for this year's Ten-Minute Play Festival is "What If ...," introducing exciting plot twists to keep things fresh.

By the end of the workshop series, participants should have a finished 10-minute play they can submit for consideration in Grosse Pointe Theatre's Take Ten, Ten-Minute Play Festival competition. The competition is open to all playwrights. Play submissions will be accepted through Dec. 31, and the top adjudicated plays will be performed at the festival June 13 to 15, at Christ Church Grosse Pointe.

Grosse Pointe Theatre is offering this intensive workshop series to encourage playwrights to enter their play for consideration in the 2024 festival. There will be homework assignments between sessions so participants can establish strong character development, emotional connections and interesting plots. Attendees should be prepared to have a finished 10-minute play by the final workshop.

The workshops will be taught by experienced playwrights, Britton and Stella Woitulewicz of Detroit.

Cost to attend the workshops series is \$25 (one fee) unless participants are or wish to become a member of Grosse Pointe Theatre, in which case the workshops are free. Register for the series at tinyurl.com/ycxk5n76.

For more information, email playfestival@gpt.org or call (313) 881-4004.

trawl or plankton net. Other times, I used props and laminates. We emphasize interactive education, so a good challenge was learning to teach in a nontraditional setting."

In Detroit, the crew was up at 6:45 a.m. each morning. They completed morning chores prior to motoring to their pickup location. There, they ran two three-hour educational sails with kids and occasionally a shorter evening sail for adults each day.

Eight to 10 times per day, Wysocki taught soundscape mapping, assisting with plankton samples and Secchi readings.

"The days were long," she said. "We arrived

back to our home dock by 8 or 10 p.m. but (the days were) incredibly gratifying."

As a member of the Inland Seas staff, Wysocki walked away with new understandings of her own.

"I found myself realizing the beauty within the responsibility of caring for the ship and her crew before myself," Wysocki said. "I cemented an understanding of the ecology of the Great Lakes and the basics of crewing a schooner, but many of my best memories came not from the minutiae, rather the lessons learned from being vulnerable and leaning into unknowns."

The Inland Seas sailed with a captain, mate, sev-

eral deckhands and four to five education staff. Wysocki emphasized the incredible impact the crew had on both her experience and that of the students.

"The people at Inland Seas made this job," Wysocki said. "They are kind, thoughtful, joyful people who serve as enormous role models to me. We affectionately referred to the ship as 'Nerd Boat,' and sailing with crew who provided so much wisdom from so many different backgrounds brought great comfort and community."

To learn more about the Inland Seas Education Association crew, ship and more, visit schoolship.org.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF ZOT ARTZ

A roller attachment makes it possible — and easy — for wheelchair users to create art.

ART:

Continued from page 1B

many tools Szot created that can be used by individuals with physical, hearing and visual impairments; behavioral disorders; learning disabilities and autism. He has watched the joy spread among participants, who not only create art with friends and family, but also benefit through the enhancement of motor and social skills, concentration, ability to stay on task, sensory input processing and self-esteem.

"I love the Full Circle mission and what it's doing," Szot said. "Our missions are so close."

Though the six-hour event at Ferry is open to anyone, Full Circle Program/Operations Coordinator Stephanie DiVirgil asks participants to register for a time slot, "so we can prepare ourselves.

"The idea is anybody can come and see the artwork," she added. "Dwayne facilitates who is participating; it's not a free-for-all. He definitely

orchestrates it. He has a color scheme."

Szot elaborated: "When you listen to a musical score, you know there's a conductor. I see myself as more of a conductor. We'll start with yellows and pinks and oranges, and as the day goes on, we'll hit it hard with blues and purples at the end. There's a timing to that, an energy to that."

"It's all-inclusive and we'd love this to be multigenerational. We want everybody involved," Sunisloe said. "... For disabled people, this is an opportunity to participate in something they may have thought they would never be able to do. For the general public, it shows them that they can do it. This is an opportunity to bring everyone together and do something fun and meaningful."

Added DiVirgil, "We have sent invitations to The Helm; it would be great to have older people with walkers and wheelchairs come. They'd be perfect to participate in this. We've invited Kids on the Go,

The Arc, Grosse Pointe Public Schools. It's for ages 2 and up. (Szot) really likes the idea of having all ages there, from littles to senior citizens."

Participation is free of charge, DiVirgil noted.

"It's an opportunity for people to come and have a good time and not worry about cost."

After the event, Szot will die-cut the mural into 1,000 notecards to be regifted to the community.

To watch videos of past Zot Artz events, visit zotartz.com/artists-in-action/.

"We would love for this to be an annual event in Grosse Pointe," Sunisloe added. "However many we get the first time, once word spreads and people become aware of how fabulous this is, they'll want to come."

"It's a wonderful partnership," Szot added. "It's another way to reach our fullest potential. There aren't many ways for a community of all to come together like this."

Sign up for a time slot online at fullcirclefdn.org/product/zot-artz/.

The details

Who: Full Circle Foundation and Community Campus of Grosse Pointe Public Schools

What: Zot Artz
Where: Ferry Elementary School, 748 Roslyn, Grosse Pointe Woods

When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16

For information, email sdivirgil@fullcirclefdn.org or call (313) 469-6660.

Register for this free event at fullcirclefdn.org/product/zot-artz/



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Grosse Pointe Theatre kicks off 76th season with 'The Addams Family'

After an impressive 75th anniversary season and a well-deserved summer break, Grosse Pointe Theatre is coming back strong with its upcoming production of "The Addams Family, A New Musical."

The 76th season opener hits the stage Sept. 8 to 17, and is based on the classic television show — but with a twist.

"It has all the same wacky characters we all grew to love and grew up with and has the same brand of humor as the iconic television show and subsequent movies, cartoons and series, but has added some different elements and characters into the mix as well," Director Michael Gravame said. "I think the biggest difference is that Wednesday is college age and there is a different relationship dynamic between her and her parents."

Excited to bring this musical to life, Gravame said he always knew he would enjoy directing this show.

"I thought if the opportunity ever presented itself, I would like to direct this fun, kooky musical comedy," he said. "I thought I could add some of my comedic talents and creativity that hasn't been seen before in other productions. The cast has captured the wackiness of these beloved characters perfectly, but has the freedom to not just be an



PHOTO COURTESY OF DALE PEGG

"The Addams Family" takes the stage Sept. 8-17.

imitation of them." Gravame, who is a first-time director at Grosse Pointe Theatre, has extensive acting and directing experience with other theater groups. He said he has enjoyed his experience directing with GPT.

"I'm used to being a one-man band and having to do more than just direct and wear many hats," Gravame said. "The thing I love about Grosse Pointe Theatre is that everyone on the production takes their jobs very seriously. When you

have that sense of real community theater, it makes for a better production. The support I have been shown is absolutely amazing."

This musical, with book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice, has music and lyrics written by Andrew Lippa, an Oak Park native and graduate of the University of Michigan. The show is presented through special arrangements by Theatrical Rights Worldwide.

While "The Addams Family, A New Musical"

opens Grosse Pointe Theatre's 76th season, much more is in store in the coming months. The musical "Anything Goes" takes place Nov. 10 to 19; the musical "9 to 5" is set Jan. 26 to Feb. 4; "The Play That Goes Wrong" hits the stage April 5 to 14; and "Disney's Newsies" is slated May 3 to 12.

Tickets are on sale for the entire season or individual shows at gpt.org/buytickets.

This season, an additional weeknight show has been added to the GPT schedule.

"Our patrons have enjoyed our Thursday evening performance with a 7:30 curtain time, so we have added Wednesday evening performances at 7:30 p.m. as well," said GPT Executive Director Linda

The details

What: "The Addams Family, A New Musical"

When:

8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8
8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9
2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10
7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14
8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15
8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16
2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 17

Where: Christian A. Fenton Performing Arts Center at Grosse Pointe North High School

707 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods

How: Tickets are \$35 including fees at gpt.org/addams or call the ticket office at (313) 881-4004. Tickets also are available at the door.

Zublick. "Our first Wednesday performance is Sept. 13, and we will celebrate the character of Wednesday Addams at that performance. Dress as your favorite Addams family character when you come to see the show and enjoy special trick-or-treat surprises."

Added Gravame, "Audiences already know these characters intimately and due to the recent Netflix series, 'Wednesday.' We guarantee that everyone will have a good time."



PHOTO COURTESY OF SOPHIE LESZCZYNSKI

Tim Schoenherr as Gomez and Jennifer Horne as Morticia.

ASK THE EXPERTS By The Family Center

What is Narcan? Who should have it? Where can I get it?

What is Narcan?

The nasal-spray drug naloxone, also known by the brand name Narcan, can temporarily reverse the effects of an opioid overdose, blocking opioids' effects on the brain and restoring breathing. It's harmless if given to someone who isn't experiencing an overdose and it has no potential for abuse.

It can be given safely to people of all ages. This includes a child who may have accidentally taken an opioid pain reliever or a senior citizen who may have mistakenly taken too much of their opioid prescription. It also is effective on dogs.

Naloxone saves lives because it can quickly restore normal breathing to a person

whose breathing has slowed or stopped as a result of overdosing on prescription opioid medications, heroin or drugs that are adulterated and contaminated with an opioid like fentanyl (e.g., cocaine, methamphetamine).

Administering naloxone does not take the place of emergency medical care. You should call 911 or get emergency medical help immediately, even if the person wakes up, because symptoms may return and repeat doses may be necessary.

Who should have it?

If you have opioid prescriptions in your home, you should have Narcan in case

someone — such as a child or dog — accidentally ingests them. Older people who have memory loss or dementia may accidentally take too much of their opioid prescription. In fact, opioids can interfere with long- and short-term memory, especially when used for extended periods of time.

Since fentanyl is showing up in illicit drugs such as cocaine and methamphetamine, as well as in marijuana, if you or someone you know uses any of these drugs you should keep Narcan on hand. Local businesses, restaurants and bars, libraries, churches, gyms and other organizations who serve the

public should consider having Narcan available to their staff.

Where do I get it?

All 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico allow pharmacists to dispense naloxone without a prescription, but costs vary. Feeling confident about using naloxone can help put your mind at ease in an emergency, so attending a community-based training to learn to recognize the signs of an opioid overdose and how to administer Narcan is recommended.

The Family Center and Families Against Narcotics are partnering to host two upcoming Narcan trainings in our community. Everyone will go

home with a free Narcan kit.

Trainings will be held 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, at the Neighborhood Club, 17150 Waterloo, City of Grosse Pointe, and 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10, at Wayne County Community College District, 19305 Vernier, Harper Woods.

Registration is necessary to ensure we have enough Narcan. To register, please email MaryJo@familycenterhelps.org.

The Family Center's mission is to help build happier, healthier families by providing free programs and resources on a variety of topics. Visit familycenterhelps.org for more information.

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Grosse Pointe Gabby

The Pulse Of The Pointes

Neighbors' pot smoke intruding on my space

Dear Gabby: My neighbor is constantly smoking marijuana in her yard and the smell is so pungent I can't stand it.

It makes my outdoor dinners unpleasant and just puts me in a bad mood, even though I realize this is not the world's biggest problem. I think I'm just so tired of smelling it everywhere that the first hint gets me burned up (pun intended).

Is there a polite way to

suggest or request it to stop?

— From up in smoke in the Shores

Dear Up In Smoke,

The whole weed thing is kind of up in the air right now (as well as up your nose, it seems).

Some states sanction it, the federal government doesn't see it as legal, and things are really new as far as nui-

sance rules, etc.

In June, a first of its kind decision was made in Washington, D.C., whereby a judge ruled that a neighbor must stop smoking weed at his address or within 25 feet of the complainant's home.

All of that said, we are a neighborly neighborhood and we can come up with a better way than a lawsuit or a fight.

How about this? Drop your neighbor a note or

knock on their door. Ask if you can work out a loose schedule about when you might both have your chill time outdoors — yours can be smokeless and your neighbor can then feel free to puff away when you are inside.

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



Bailing on my birthday

DEAR ANNIE: I'm turning 50 this year and plan on having a large party. Last year at my birthday, I told both my sisters that I was having this party and expected them to come. They both agreed to come.

I currently live in Tennessee and thought that telling my sisters a year in advance would be adequate notice. They both live in Pennsylvania.

In the seven-plus years that I have moved away from Pennsylvania, neither of my sisters has visited me or even made an effort to visit. When my

sister lived in Japan, I went over and visited her despite the financial struggle.

The date of my party is quickly approaching, and one of my sisters has told me she will not be coming. The other sister has not responded to me.

I'm absolutely devastated that my sisters will not come to this milestone birthday and at a complete loss that they seem so indifferent to my hurt feelings.

How can I make them see how hurtful their behavior is? — AT A LOSS IN TENNESSEE

DEAR AT A LOSS: First things first, put yourself in both your sisters' shoes. They might be incredibly busy with work or with family. They might be too financially strained to afford air travel right now. Most importantly, they might be completely unaware of how much this birthday party means to you, especially if you have not followed up with them about it since last year.

Try not to take this personally; there could be a host of reasons that your sisters are unable to attend.

DEAR ANNIE: I gave money to my younger brother, who recently was given admission to a university and was traveling. My wife found out and got mad at me for doing so without letting her know.

Was I wrong for giving my younger brother money to assist with his school needs? The amount that I gave him was not substantial, yet my wife felt I should have made it way smaller and has been mad at me ever since.

Do I need permission from her before giving



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

money to my brother and aging parents? — PERMISSION

DEAR PERMISSION: It sounds like giving your brother money to help with his school needs is very generous and kind. But you are married, and that is a partnership.

Next time, have a discussion with your wife before you give away money. If she complains,

then it might be time to seek the help of a financial planner so that you can come together as a couple and agree on what you will spend money on.

The most important thing when discussing this is compromise.

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



Photo story by Renee Landuyt



Margot Helms was excited to meet **Rapunzel**.

The stunt motorcyclists race around inside a 14-foot steel cage going 45 mph.



Vivian Kaiser sits in the race car with her brothers, **Michael** on her left and **Charlie** on her right, waving checkered flags.



Charlie, Frankie and **Lucy Tymrak** sit inside an old-timey car that had driven from New York to Seattle.



Nicholas Byron meets **Batman**.

Back to school snacks

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Summer sleep schedules are currently off in our household. My 10 year old slept until 10 a.m. the other morning.

We have to get back on track for the upcoming start of school. The first week is always the hardest to get back into the school routine and mornings are the worst!

Today I'm sharing two recipes that will help me out immensely. The first is an egg recipe.

My favorite thing to order at Starbucks is their roasted red pepper egg bites. They are so addicting.

This recipe is a perfect and easy replica that uses cottage cheese. They turn out fluffy and soft.

The kids can wake up and heat them for 20 seconds in the microwave. Breakfast is done!

The next is an easy and healthy snack that you make the night before, cut in the morning and send them out the door!

Chocolate granola bars with almond butter are always a hit. I use dates and honey to make them sweet and pecans for some added protein.

Make your life easy by making these easy reci-

pes. A hot breakfast and a healthy snack are winners to get the summer brain fog out of their heads!

Cheers, Mombeau

Copycat Starbucks Egg Bites

6 eggs

1 cup cottage cheese

¼ cup grated romano cheese

½ cup finely diced red pepper

1 tsp garlic powder

1 tsp salt

½ tsp pepper

12 baking cups

Preheat your oven to 350. Add all ingredients, except the peppers, to a blender and blend until smooth.

Line a mini muffin tin with baking cups and fill ¾ of the way up. You should end up with 12.

Drop in about a teaspoon of the bell pepper into each one. Bake for 20-25 minutes.

Eat right away or store in the fridge once they cool. Reheat in a microwave for 20 seconds.

Chocolate Almond Butter Granola Bars

1 ½ cups rolled oats

¾ cups pecans

1 cup pitted dates

¼ cup chocolate chips

¼ cup almond butter

¼ cup honey

In a food processor, process the dates until they form a ball. It takes a good minute. Remove and add to a large bowl.

Next add the pecans to the processor and pulse until you have coarse chunks. This step is really all about your texture preference. My family doesn't like large chunks.

Add the nuts and chocolate chips to the bowl.

In a small saucepan, warm the almond butter and honey until smooth.

Pour over the oat mixture. Your best tool is your hands when mixing this all together.



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

The heat from the almond butter and honey will slightly melt the chocolate but that's a

good thing. Add to a greased 8x8 square dish and press to even every-

thing out. Place in the fridge for an hour or make the night before and let set overnight.

Heavy bottles

One of the worst trends in winemaking over the last 25 years is the ever-greater use of ultraheavy bottles in which to market wine.

It is an odious fashion statement because it serves only one purpose: to imply that the wine inside the bottle is impressive. Which obviously makes absolutely no sense. The appearance of the bottle has absolutely nothing to do with the quality of the wine.

However, using heavy glass is a major trend that began about 30 years ago and has, idiotically, continued in many areas of the wine world, mainly with expensive wine. It flies in the face of evidence that consumers are growing more conscious of earth's fragility — and heavy glass

bottles contribute to the problem.

Ultraheavy bottles subsidize the destruction of the environment. Think of all the ways heavier, thicker bottles cost society. First, it means that a pallet of wine not only is heavier, but it also limits the number of bottles that can fit on one shipping pallet.

Extra weight also means that retail and wholesale employees now must carry far heavier loads than before (which impacts health insurance).

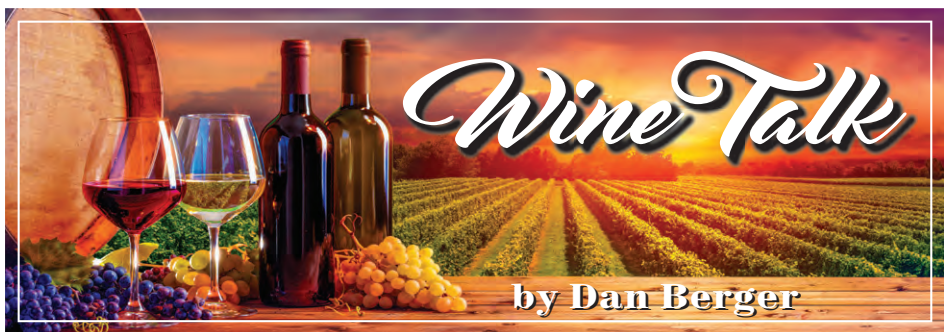
And the extra weight also puts a greater strain on shipping, so costs rise. Extra-heavy bottles also take up more space, and some bottles do not fit into standard wine racks.

About 40 years ago a box of wine with 12 bot-

tles weighed 34 pounds, meaning that bottles weighed less than 3 pounds each. Bottles were made of lighter glass; they were slightly thinner than the bulbous bottles of today -- and they held up just fine.

I have a scale in my office. A bottle of a Napa Valley cabernet sauvignon recently was released that weighed 4 pounds 3.5 ounces. A Chilean cabernet weighed 4 pounds 4.5 ounces. A box of that wine would weigh more than 51 pounds!

A pallet of wine once normally held 56 cases. Thicker bottles now require wider boxes. Today's shipping pallets can hold just over 50 12-pack cases of heavier glass bottles — six cases fewer than what once



was normal.

The first "fancy" bottles I saw came in about 1985. They had a "punt" — an indentation in the bottom. Soon everyone was using deep-punt-bottom bottles. As a result, weights went up.

But that wasn't all. Some wineries wanted bottles that looked even fancier, sort of the way perfume makers justify selling what is essentially an inexpensive liquid for lots of money.

Traditional wine bottles had been 11 inches tall. By the 1980s, bottles began to grow in height. Today most cabernets

are 12 or 13 inches tall. A few are 14 inches. And with the added height came added weight.

Thicker bottles, more common with expensive pinot noirs from California, often don't fit into normal wine racks. And producers of other wines are jumping on this dumb bandwagon.

Literally dozens of wineries, if not hundreds, now tout their environmental sensibility. Some talk about going organic or biodynamic.

If wine industry members want to suggest to consumers that they are doing right by the planet

by avoiding pesticides and other chemicals, it might seem hypocritical if they also stick with heavy bottles.

If a winery wants to make a stronger "green" statement, it can switch to lighter-weight bottles that use less glass, cost less to make, stack more compactly and use less fossil fuel to ship.

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

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We Tried It!

Crepey neck eraser cream

If you are an avid reader of this column, I'm sure the headline of this has already tipped you off as to the result, but hear me out. The crepey neck eraser potion I found online is basically guaranteed to work. There are umpteen testimonials and tons of reviews. The ads are relentless so, true to form, I had to try it.

The Womaness line of skin care caters to women of a certain age who are experiencing menopause. Since there are over 50 million women in the U.S. in this stage of life, the company's audience is large and looking for help to find the fountain of youth.

The product I got is a roller and cream all in one called "Let's Neck." Simply squeeze lightly and roll it

onto your neck. The reviews online are largely positive. It claims to hydrate and smooth and contain hyaluronic acid to optimize moisturization, elasticity and create firmness in the skin. It is very easy to use and when you keep it front and center in your products cabinet it's quick and fits simply into your skincare routine.

Immediately after using I did not notice any results other than being more moisturized than usual

(never a bad thing). But after using it for several weeks I swear my neck looks less "Tales from the Crypt" than usual. I don't know if it's simply being properly moisturized on a regular basis or if the other ingredients are kicking in, but I really don't care. Better is better.

The "cooling roller applicator" is quite nice. It does feel refreshing and because it's not your hand, it does not absorb any of the cream. It all goes where it's supposed to. Also, it's just kind of pleasant.

I would give this 3.5 out of 5 alligators. I can't be sure it works other than keeping

by Anna Lizer



us to try for you! Drop us a line at media@grossepointenews.com.

3.5 Out Of 5



your skin hydrated but I also am happy to see improvement.

You can pick it up online at Amazon or online for about \$29. The price isn't as crazy as the department store brands, so at least there's not a whole lot of risk.

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF VOLTAGE PICTURES & BUSTED SHARK PRODUCTIONS

Left, Kylie Rogers, as the young Katie Davis and Russell Crowe as Jake Davis in the 2015 movie "Fathers & Daughters," directed by Gabriele Muccino.

MOVIE REVIEW
 "Fathers & Daughters"
 2015 - Rated R
 1 hr 56 min
 ★★★★★

"Fathers & Daughters" is a moving and poignant film from Italian director Gabriele Muccino ("Seven Pounds" and "The Pursuit of Happyness"). It's been in my queue for a while and I'm glad I finally got around to viewing it.

The central theme to this movie is, as the title suggests, the relationship between fathers and daughters, and how events in one's childhood can impact your adult life.

This movie would best be described as a melodrama, however it's not sappy, like something based on a Nicholas Spark's book. That's due in large part to the fine performances by its stars, Russell Crowe, Amanda Seyfried and Aaron Paul, with a small but important supporting role by Jane Fonda.

Crowe especially shines here. He's played his fair share of tough guys in movies like "Gladiator" and "Thor: Love and Thunder," but here he's a compassionate, sensitive, and loving father. It's refreshing to



Left, Amanda Seyfried as the older Katie and Aaron Paul as her boyfriend Cameron.



Jake (Crowe) explaining to his daughter Katie (Rogers), that everything is going to be alright.

see him take on a more challenging role.

The film begins with Jake (Crowe) driving with his wife and daughter at night. During a heated argument, they get into a car accident and his wife is killed.

This sets the stage for the events in the rest of the film.

Jake, a Pulitzer Prize-winning author is now tasked with raising his 8-year old daughter Katie (Kylie Rogers). He's an adoring and sweet dad

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin



Left, Quvenzhané Wallis as Lucy Carter and Amanda Seyfried as Katie Davis.



Katie and her supervisor, Dr. Corman, played by Octavia Spencer.



Jane Fonda as Teddy Stanton.

Things get complicated when Jake starts having powerful seizures as a result of the accident. At first he deals with it by keeping it from his daughter. Eventually, he's convinced he needs to seek treatment and goes into a mental hospital for seven months.

While he's there, Katie goes to live with her mother's wealthy sister and her husband. Her Aunt Elizabeth (Diane Kruger) is rarely seen without a glass of booze in her hand, and is a

mean, controlling woman. While Katie enjoys her stay, it's obvious she'd rather be with her father.

Fast-forward 20 some years and Katie (Amanda Seyfried) is now a mature woman. She's a gifted social worker and her supervisor, played by Octavia Spencer, puts her in charge of a young girl Lucy (Quvenzhané Wallis). The girl witnessed her mother being murdered, and hasn't spoken a word in over a year.

Through her patience and expertise, Katie manages to break Lucy out of her shell. There are some beautiful scenes with the two women.

Unfortunately, while Katie is skilled at helping others, she falls short in helping herself. She's quite promiscuous and we witness a series of one-night stands, including getting it on in bathroom stalls in bars.

Katie simply has little self-respect, and it's implied that her behavior is the results of the traumatic experience of losing her mother at a young age. It's impossible for her to make a commitment to one person.

The movie jumps back and forth in time following the two narratives. I found it a bit confusing at first, mainly due to the fact that Russell Crowe looks the same in both time periods. But once I got used to the pacing, it made sense. I thought it was an effective way to tell the story.

There are two events that drive the narrative and keep you hooked. One is the battle between Jake and his in-laws to gain custody of young Katie. The other is the question of whether the mature Katie will eventually commit to her boyfriend Cameron (Aaron Paul).

Of course, I won't say another word about the outcome. You'll simply have to watch this fine movie for yourself.

Currently streaming for free on Hoopla.com (with your library card) and Tubi. Plus Plex, The Roku Channel, Plex, Peacock, and 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: moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com.

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Back in the Day

Grosse Pointe Gems

Mulier's Market: A look back

By Clare Ramsdell
Special Writer

Nestled within the heart of Grosse Pointe, Mulier's Market was a beloved family-owned business, the memories of which provide a nostalgic pull for many in the community.

It's impossible to separate the story of Mulier's Market from the life and legacy of the late Eugene Mulier, a guiding force behind this establishment.

The story of Mulier's Market began when Omer Mulier moved from Antwerp, Belgium, to Detroit in 1922. With his family by his side, Omer established a humble butcher shop on Mack and Neff, a venture that eventually transformed into the iconic Mulier's Market.

Despite facing the hardships of the Great Depression, the Mulier family established roots in Grosse Pointe.

Eugene Mulier, born in 1931, grew up in the midst of the bustling market atmosphere.

Under the guidance of his parents, Omer and Rose, Eugene personified the values of hard work and dedication that became the cornerstone of Mulier's Market. More than just a place of commerce, the market embodied the spirit of community and connection.

Within the market's history, one strong figure stands out: Ursula. A neighbor of Rose Mulier and a woman of culinary talent, Ursula made essential contributions to the market's basement kitchen.

Collaborating together, they helped create a culinary legacy that included head cheese, ham spread and famous potato salad. Through these recipes, Ursula's influence became an integral part

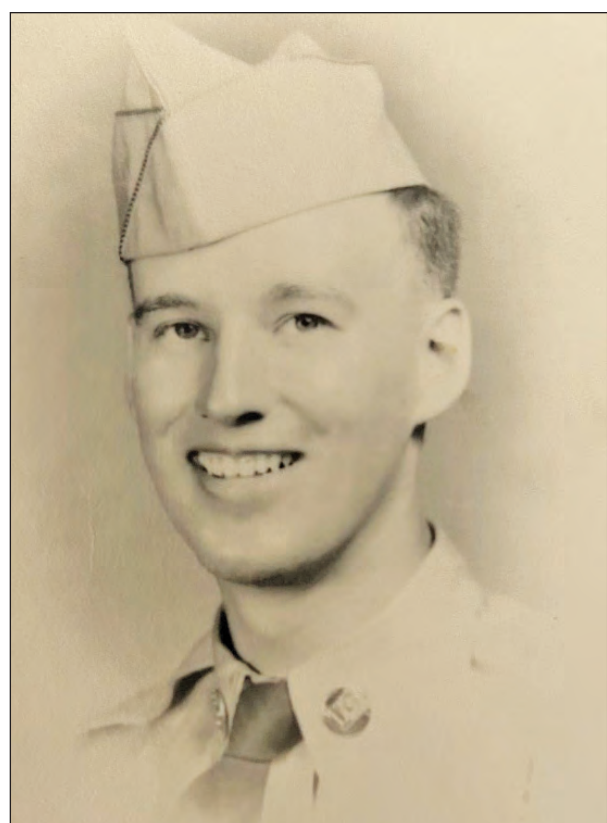
of the market's identity.

Eugene's life took an unexpected turn when he answered the call of duty during the Korean War. Enlisting in 1951, he experienced the harsh realities of frontline combat until an eye condition led to a role change as a camp cook.

Upon returning home, Eugene poured all of his energy into Mulier's Market. Overseeing various departments, his warm demeanor and dedication to quality endeared him to customers, earning him the title of "Society Butcher." His impact extended beyond business transactions; he became a cherished member of the Grosse Pointe community, known for his personal interactions and thoughtful gestures.

On July 31, 2023, Eugene Mulier passed away in the comfort of his home, leaving behind a legacy intertwined with Mulier's Market and the community's history. Though the market's doors closed in 2012, the echoes of its impact resonate in the stories of those who experienced its charm. And further, the location of the market is thriving today as a standout bakery — Le Rouge Boulangerie.

Mulier's Market, with Eugene at its helm, was more than just a business; it was a testament to hard work, unity and community spirit. Mulier's Market remains a cherished memory, a nod to the values that Eugene Mulier embodied and a symbol of the connections that make a community truly special.



Eugene Mulier enlisted in 1951, and saw frontline combat until he developed eye issues. He then was reassigned as camp cook. He served during the 1953 Korean Armistice Agreement and experienced a prisoner swap at the border.



Eugene posing in front of the Mulier's delivery truck.



Omer, Ursula and Eugene Mulier at Mulier's Market, circa 1958.

Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or making important decisions after 6 p.m. EDT today (3p.m. to 10p.m. PDT). After that, the Moon moves from Gemini into Cancer.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, September 7, 2023:

You are spontaneous, and you love knowledge. You set high standards for yourself and for others. You are not a quitter. This is a year of change. Expect increased personal freedom. Let go of whatever has been holding you back so you can seek out new opportunities.

♈ ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

This is a poor day for important decisions or new ideas (especially by siblings, relatives or neighbors), because wishful thinking and, in some cases, fuzzy thinking is rampant. Keep this in mind. If possible, postpone important decisions for another day. Tonight: Cocoon.

♉ TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)

If shopping today, be careful about buying luxurious, elegant items — things you might not purchase at other times. Certainly, keep your receipts (and the box), because today is the classic day for wishful thinking. It's a poor day for important financial decisions. Tonight: Conversations.

♊ GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

Today the Moon is in your sign at odds with dreamy Neptune, which makes you starry-eyed and full of wishful thinking. Not only might you be absorbed with ideas about "what if," you also might be the victim of someone who gives you false information. Double-check everything you do today. Tonight: Check your belongings.

♋ CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

Something hidden or going on behind the scenes might create confusion for you today. For example, someone might withhold important information from you. Or, vice versa, they might tell you something that is incorrect either because they are in error or they are deceiving you. Tonight: You win.

♌ LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

Be leery when talking to friends or members of groups and organizations today. The truth might be elusive. Someone might not know what they're talking about. Someone else might think they know what they're talking about. Someone might try to deceive you. It's a tricky day! Tonight: Solitude.

♍ VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

For some reason, people might be confused about you today. They might misunderstand your intentions, or they might not trust you. You are certainly in the limelight, and people notice you more than usual. In fact, they seem to know personal details about your private life. But something is off. Tonight: Be friendly.

♎ LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Don't believe everything you hear today, because it will be easy for you to fall for someone's fancy rhetoric or propaganda. This most likely will relate to religion, politics or something in the news. Tonight: You're noticed.

♏ SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

This is a poor day to agree to financial matters, especially related to inheritances, shared property, taxes, debt or the wealth and resources of someone else. You might not have all the facts. Possibly, the facts you have are incorrect. It's also possi-

ble that someone is pulling the wool over your eyes. Tonight: Explore.

♐ SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Be extra clear in conversations with close friends, partners and spouses today, because you might be operating under a serious delusion about something. You might have incorrect assumptions. Be aware that you are operating in fuzzy territory. (Just for today.) Tonight: Check your finances.

♑ CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

If you're at work or doing a specific task today, double-check everything. You might have the wrong information. Definitely, if something doesn't seem right to you or it doesn't feel right, check it out, because today is full of classic errors, wishful thinking and even deceit. Tonight: Cooperate.

♒ AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Romantic disappointment is likely today. If so, you have to ask yourself if your expectations were realistic. Did you express your expectations? Unexpressed expectations almost guarantee disappointment. Meanwhile, protect your kids from chemicals, bad food or poisons. Tonight: Work.

♓ PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

Family discussions might be confusing today. Someone might want to do something even if it isn't doable. Wishful thinking might propel their actions. Be careful about family members with alcohol or drug problems, because this is a tough day for them. Tonight: Socialize.

BORN TODAY

Actress Evan Rachel Wood (1987), actor Toby Jones (1966), actor Jonathan Majors (1989).

Contract Bridge

THE RACE AGAINST TIME

North dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ Q 10 7 4

♥ Q J 6

♦ A 10 5

♣ A 8 2

WEST

♠ 6 5 3

♥ K 9 4

♦ 8 3 2

♣ J 10 9 4

EAST

♠ A

♥ 8 7 5 3 2

♦ K 9 7 4

♣ Q 6 5

SOUTH

♠ K J 9 8 2

♥ A 10

♦ Q J 6

♣ K 7 3

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	

Opening lead — jack of clubs.

Good timing is extremely important in the play of many hands. When declarer has several different things to do, the order in which he does them frequently makes the difference between success and failure.

Consider this deal where West leads a club against four spades. How should South proceed? Let's say he starts by winning the club with the king and returns a trump. East takes the ace and

plays another club. South must now go down one, losing a trick in each suit, since the diamond and heart finesses both lose when they are attempted.

The outcome is surely unlucky but can be traced to a wrong choice of plays. Declarer should not stake his chances on either of the red-suit finesses working when there is a more promising approach available.

When dummy comes down, he should realize that there is more urgent business to attend to than tackling trumps at once. Leading a trump at trick two gives the defense time to establish a club trick. Instead, declarer should win the club lead with the king and play the A-10 of hearts, deliberately rejecting the heart finesse in order to establish an immediate heart trick in dummy.

If South plays in this fashion, he winds up losing only a spade, a heart and a diamond, and so makes the contract. West can take his king of hearts and return a club, but South wins with dummy's ace and discards his remaining club on the queen of hearts.

By attacking hearts first, South wins the crucial race against time. He develops a heart trick before the defense can develop a club trick. If declarer leads the wrong suit at trick two, he loses a vital tempo and goes down one.

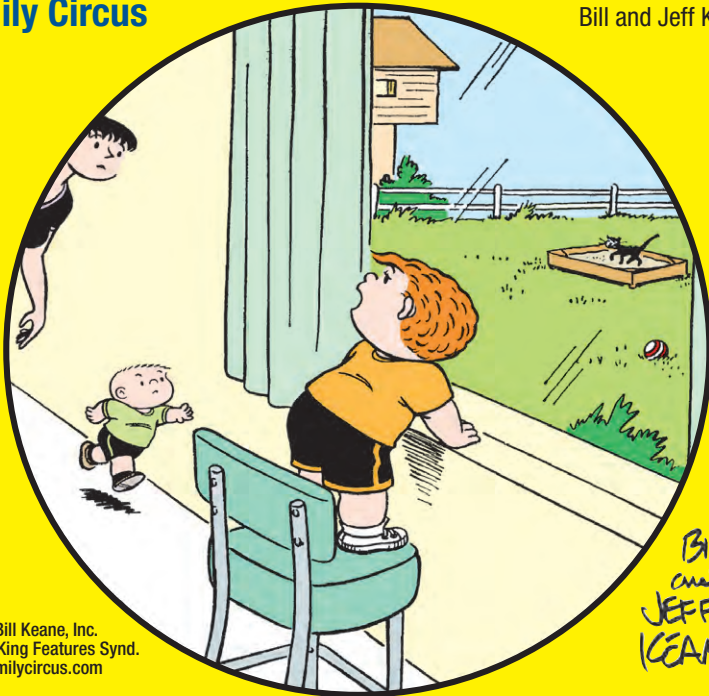
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by Steve Becker

Puzzles and

Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



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Bill and Jeff Keane

"The Louberts' cat must really like it at our house. He's always coming over to play in our sandbox."

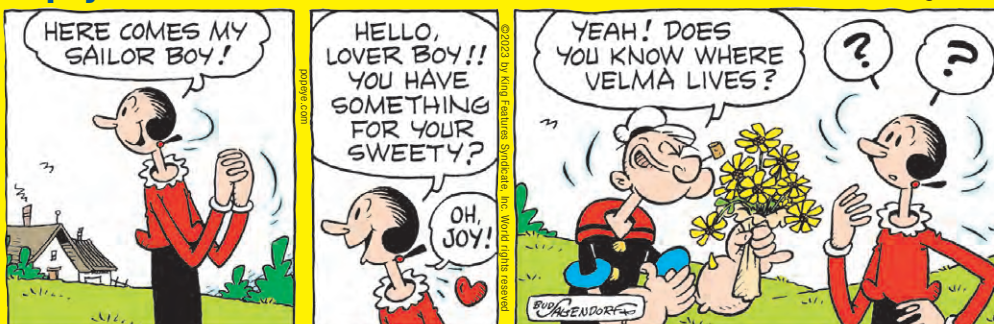
Garfield

Jim Davis



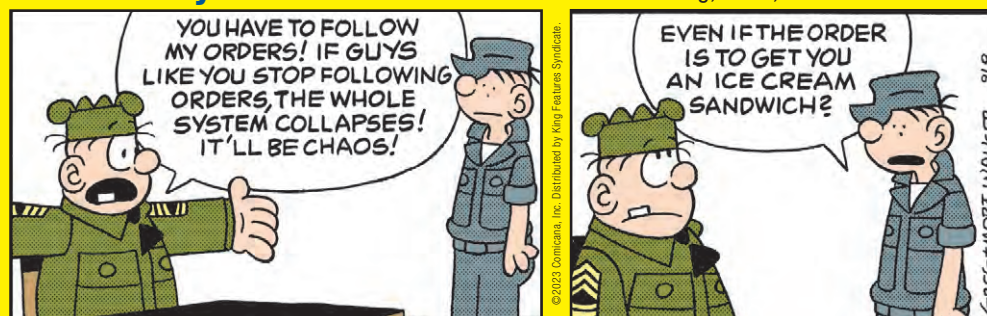
Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



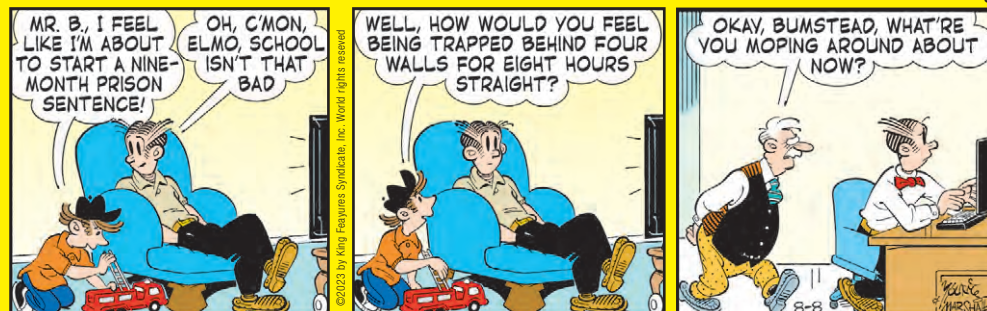
Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



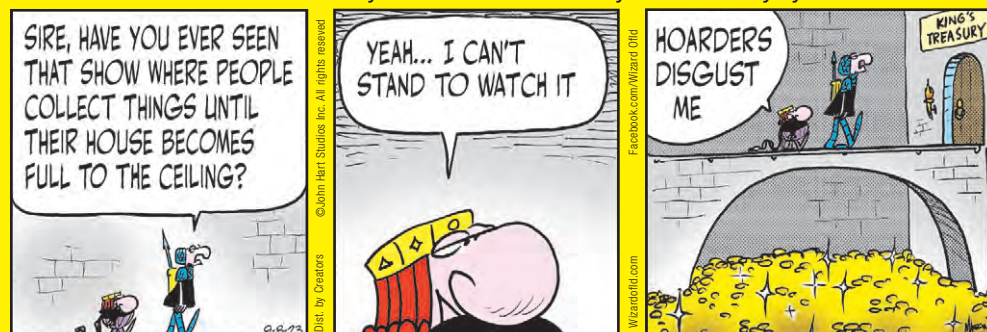
Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



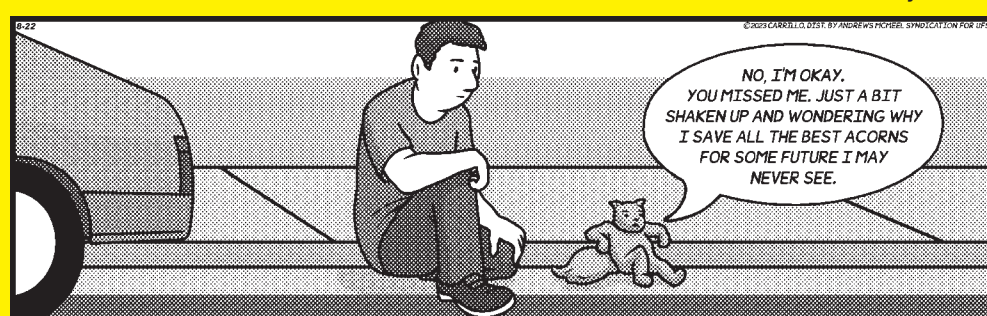
Wizard of Id

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



F Minus

Tony Carrillo

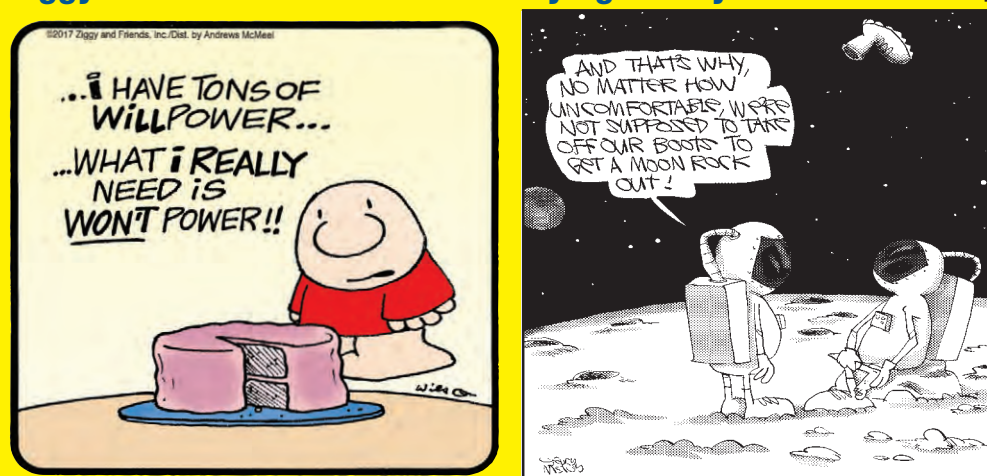


Ziggy

Tom Wilson

Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

9/7

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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8/31 Solution

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg September 7, 2023

ACROSS

- 1 Crank (up)
- 4 Person of interest?
- 9 Touts
- 14 Chopping tool: Var.
- 15 Busybody
- 16 Out in the open
- 17 Knob that goes to 11 in "This Is Spinal Tap": Abbr.
- 18 "Rugby formation
- 19 "Apt nickname for a physical therapist
- 20 List shortener: Abbr.
- 21 Hard landing sound
- 22 Wagers
- 23 Digital aide to millions
- 25 Boxer who fought Frazier three times
- 26 "Don't wait!"
- 29 "With vigor, in music
- 31 "Inexpensive and inferior, in slang
- 32 Cockatiel's enclosure
- 33 Female deer
- 34 Understanding
- 35 Shipping containers
- 37 Followed
- 39 Sound of contentment
- 40 Bit of ink
- 41 Spots for lots of wine
- 42 "National tree of Madagascar

- 44 "Wichita linemen, presumably
- 47 Ultimate aim
- 48 Word before "Glory" or "guard"
- 49 Sensed
- 51 One of the Great Lakes
- 52 Regrets
- 54 Complete (for)
- 55 "Donna Summer's genre
- 57 "Paddock cry
- 58 Accomplished pilot or pitcher
- 59 Big name in mineral water
- 60 2011 animated Western comedy starring Johnny Depp
- 61 Lion's lair
- 62 Dresses in
- 63 Feeling of anxiety or dread
- 64 Spots on TV, say

- 9 Boxes for aspiring brides
- 10 Fashion model Prieto
- 11 Python in one's home, perhaps
- 12 Bard's "before"
- 13 Filthy room
- 22 Breakfast order that might be arranged into a smiley face
- 24 Ancient Peruvian Slanted column?
- 27 Triumphed
- 28 Results of companies merging?
- 33 Diminishing, as a currency
- 35 James of "The Godfather"
- 36 Zimbabwe, formerly

- 38 Mil. branch for those "aiming high"
- 39 16th prez
- 43 Where to find a mule on a train?
- 44 From Seoul, say
- 45 One of two states with Heavenly skiing?
- 46 Like the foods split across each pair of starred clues' answers
- 50 New drivers, often
- 53 Attempt at a basket
- 55 Morning moisture
- 56 "___ had it!"
- 57 New Deal org. whose middle letter stood for "recovery"

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

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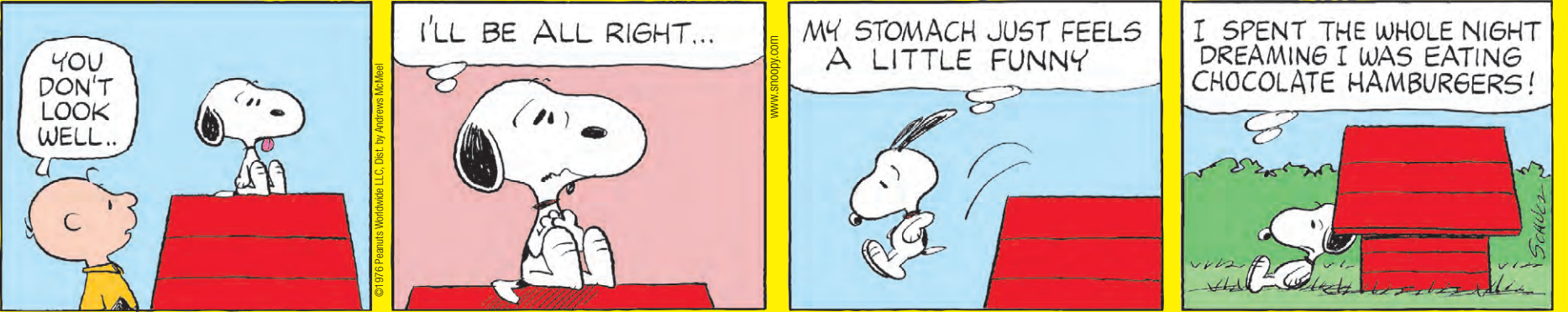
Breaking Bread by Jeff Chen and Ari Richter

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14			15								16	
17			18	○	○	○	○	○			19	○
20			21					22				
23			24					26			27	28
			29					31				
			32					33			34	
35	36							37			38	
39			40					41				
42			43	○	○	○	○	44			45	46
47								48			49	50
			51					52			53	54
55	56		○	○	○			57			58	
59								60			61	
62								63			64	

Comics

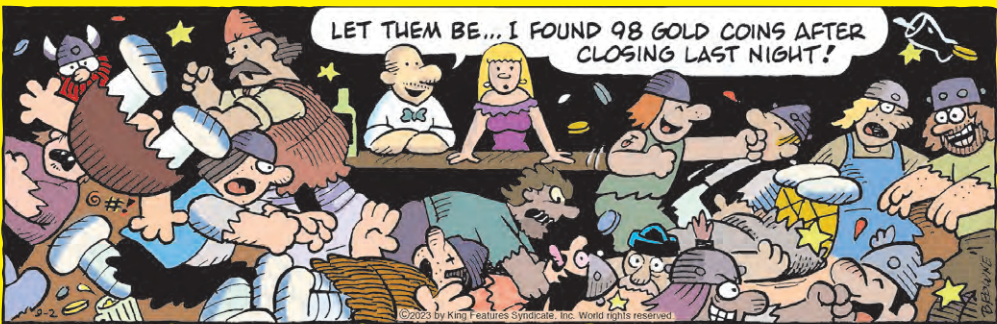
Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



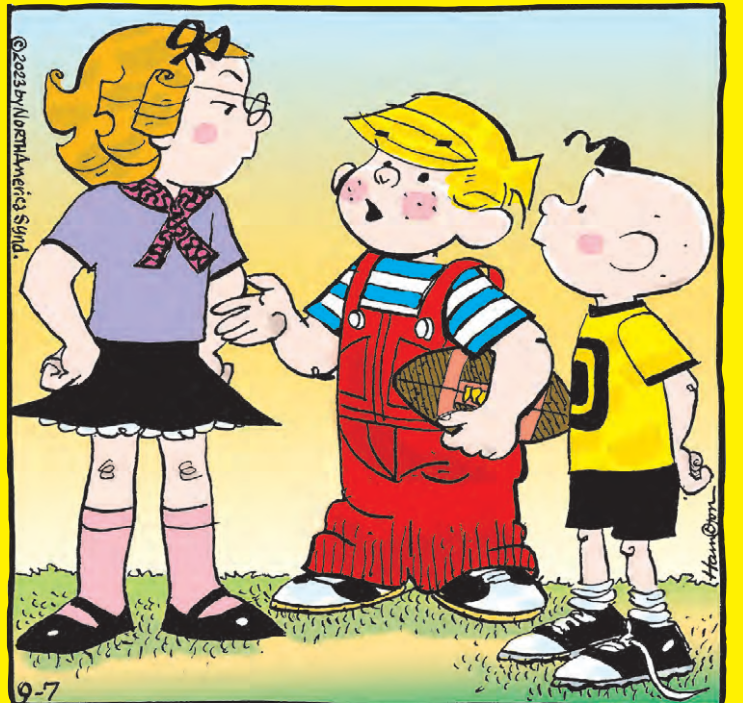
Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



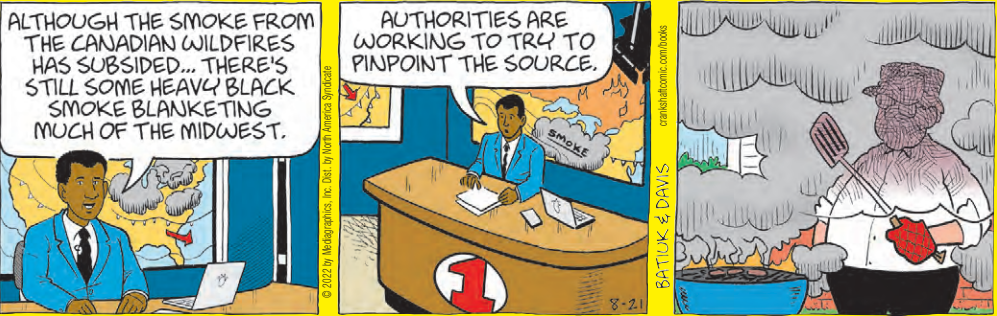
Dennis the Menace

Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



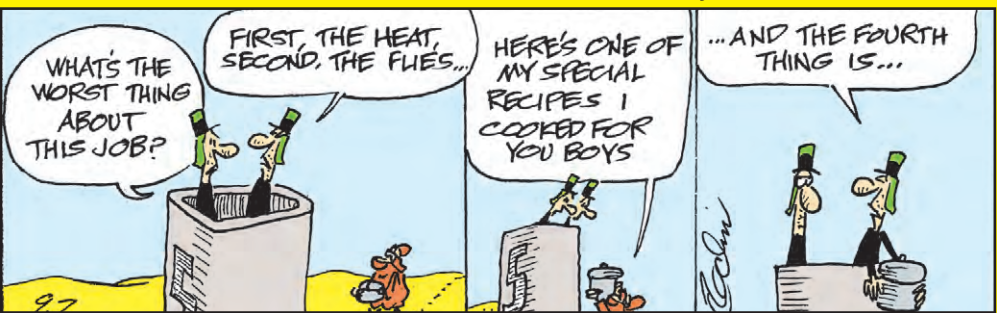
Crankshaft

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



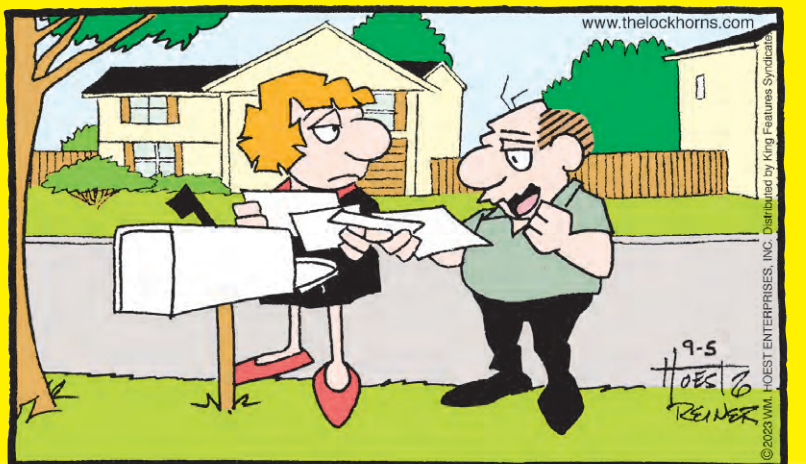
Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



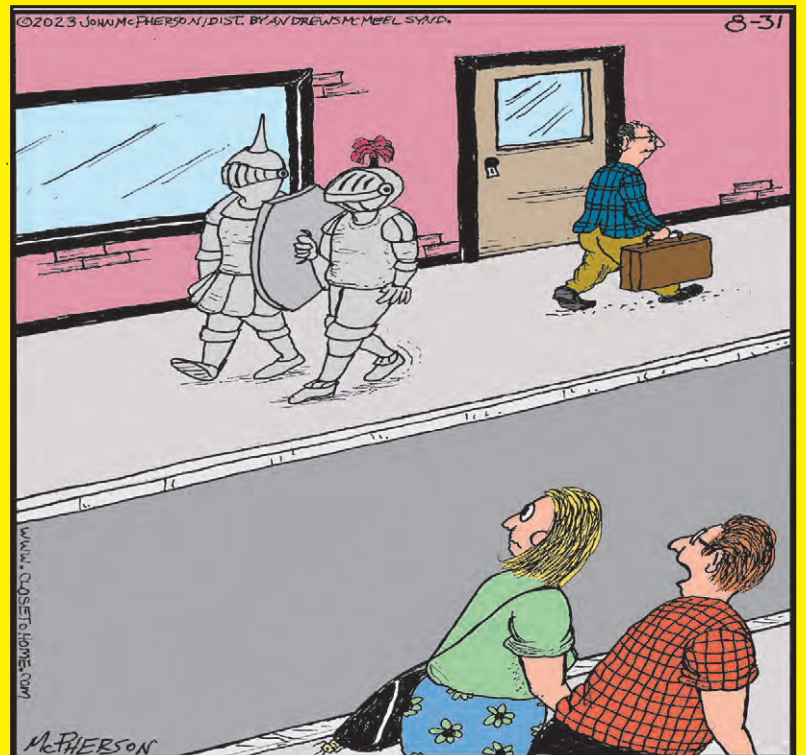
The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



Close To Home

John McPherson



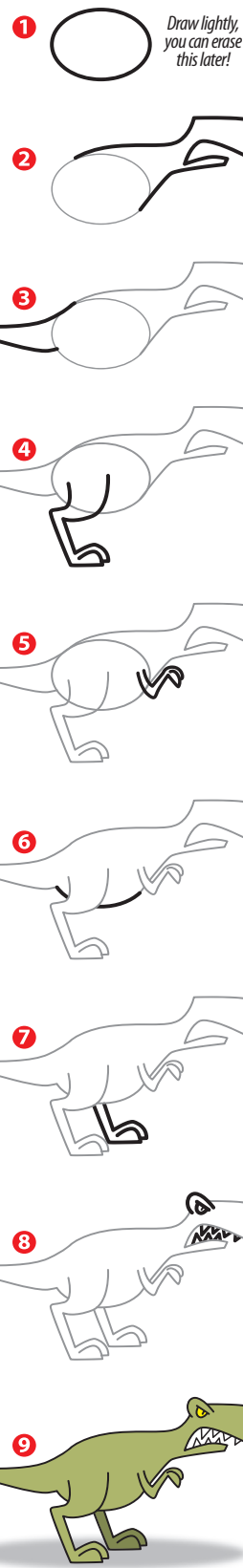
Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



Let's Draw a Dinosaur!

Follow these steps to draw a dinosaur. Have a family member try, too!



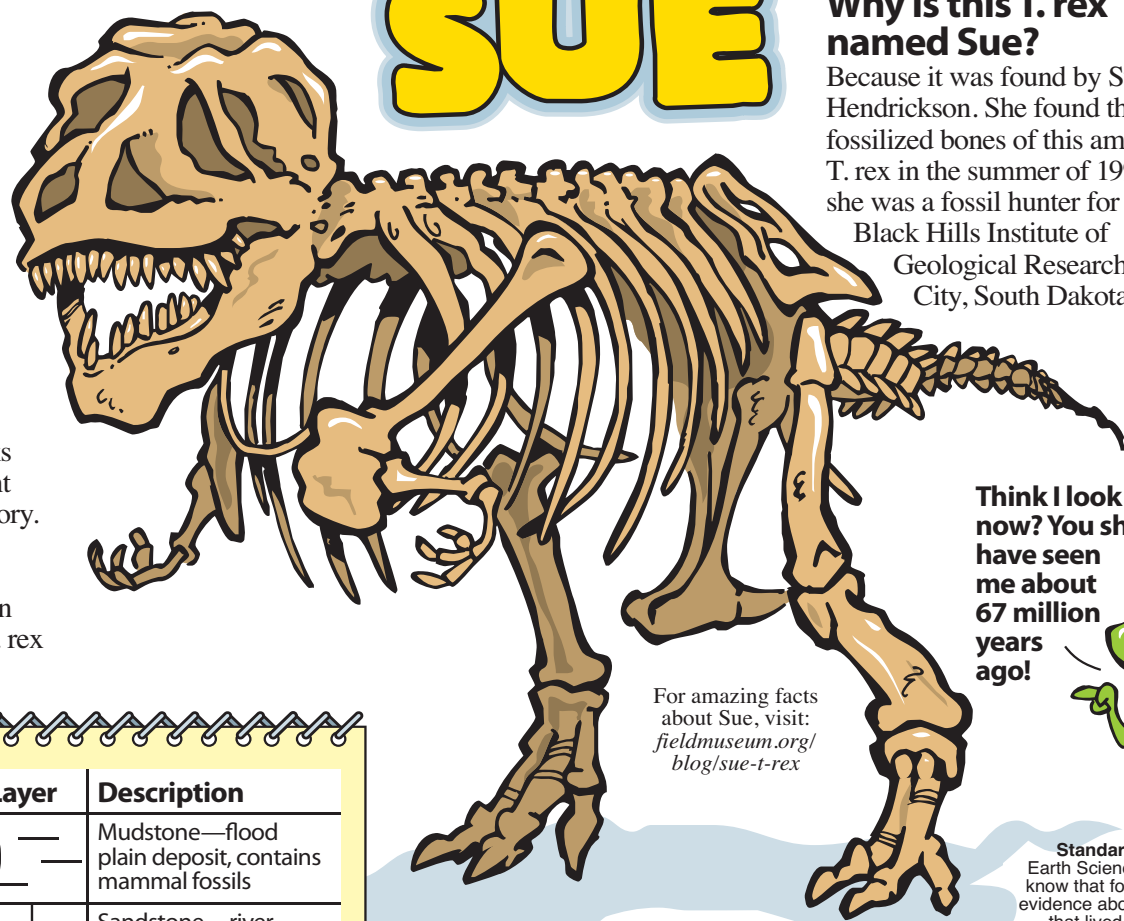
A Dinosaur Named SUE

How did Sue find this fossil?

"I was pretty lucky," remembers Sue. "But it does take more than just luck," she admits. Sue Hendrickson also knew the right kind of rock to explore.

Fossil Hunters Know Rocks

Different layers of rocks were formed at different times in the earth's history. This chart, called a stratigraphic column, can help you discover in which kinds of rocks T. rex fossils could be found.



Below is a drawing of Sue—the largest, most complete and best preserved fossil of a Tyrannosaurus rex ever found.

Why is this T. rex named Sue?

Because it was found by Sue Hendrickson. She found the fossilized bones of this amazing T. rex in the summer of 1990 when she was a fossil hunter for the Black Hills Institute of Geological Research in Hill City, South Dakota.

Think I look good now? You should have seen me about 67 million years ago!



For amazing facts about Sue, visit: fieldmuseum.org/blog/sue-t-rex

Standards Link: Earth Science: Students know that fossils provide evidence about the animal that lived long ago.

Time	Rock Layer	Description
Paleocene 56 to 65 million years ago		Mudstone—flood plain deposit, contains mammal fossils
Cretaceous 66 to 144 million years ago		Sandstone—river deposit
		Shale—deep ocean deposit, contains ammonites, mosasaurs and plesiosaurs
Jurassic 145 to 199 million years ago		Chalk—ocean deposit, contains marine reptiles
Triassic 200 to 251 million years ago		Sandstone—river deposit
Paleozoic 252 to 541 million years ago		Limestone—shallow ocean deposit, contains shells

- Color layers that could include T. rex fossils **BLUE**.
- Color layers that do not contain T. rex fossils because they were deposited under an ocean **YELLOW**.

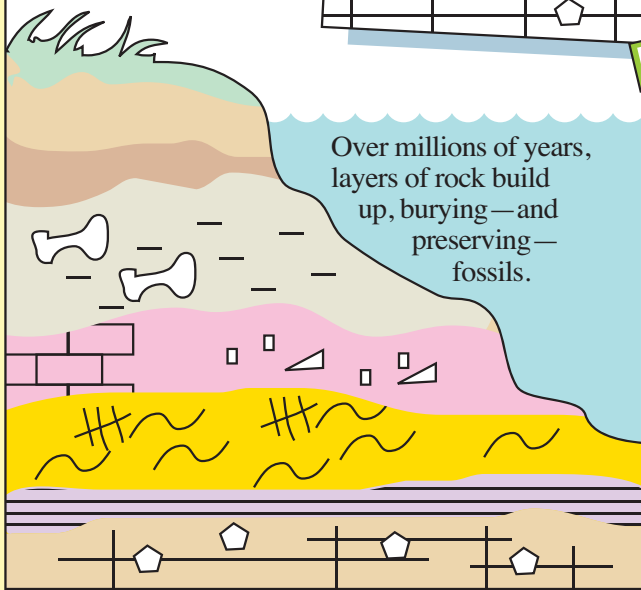


In North America, Tyrannosaurus rex lived between 66 to 90 million years ago. They did not have wings to fly or fins to swim.

Stratigraphic Map & Geologic Map © The Field Museum, Chicago

Where would you look?

Apply what you learned from the stratigraphic column to figure out where in this map you would look for dinosaur fossils.



Over millions of years, layers of rock build up, burying—and preserving—fossils.

Extra! Extra!

Adjective ABCs

Look through the newspaper and find 5 or more adjectives that would describe the T. rex called Sue. Put the adjectives in ABC order.

Standards Link: Spelling: Put words in alphabetic order.

FREE DOWNLOAD: Kid Scoop Teacher Activity Pack!

With hundreds of topics, every **Kid Scoop** printable activity pack features six-to-seven pages of high-interest extra learning activities for home and school! Get your free sample today at: kidscoop.com/activity-pages/

Kid Scoop Puzzler

The Importance of Sue

The first T. rex specimen was found in 1900. Since then, only a handful of _____ that are more than half complete have been discovered. Sue's skeleton is 90 percent complete. Sue is the largest, most _____, and best preserved T. rex ever found.

Most of Sue's bones are in excellent condition and have a high _____ of surface detail. Sixty-seven million years after her death, it is still possible to see fine _____ showing where _____, tendons and other soft tissues rested against, or attached to, the bone.

Sue swiped some words out of this story. Can you figure out where each one belongs?



Standards Link: Life Science: Students know some kinds of organisms that once lived on Earth have completely disappeared.

Double Double Word Search

- GEOLOGICAL
- COLUMN
- MILLION
- PRESERVED
- SWIM
- SPECIMENS
- SURFACE
- ROCKS
- WINGS
- FOSSILS
- SOFT
- BONES
- HIGH
- BLUE
- SUE

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?



Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **FOSSIL**

Fossil is a noun that means the remains of a living animal or plant from long ago.

Sue was excited when she found the **fossil** of the T-Rex.

Try to use the word **fossil** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

News of Discovery

Look through the newspaper for an article that tells about a new discovery. Read the article and then identify **who, what, when, where, why** and **how**.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Identify main idea and supporting details in a newspaper article.

What do you get when you mix a dinosaur with a lemon?

ANSWER: A dino-sour.



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SPORTS



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2D SOUTH & NORTH FOOTBALL | 3-5D & 8D FALL SPORTS PREVIEWS | 6-7D CLASSIFIED ADS

Hampton headed to Drive, Chip & Putt regional final

By Meg Leonard
 Senior Editor

Last April, Grosse Pointe South varsity golfer Lyla Hampton competed on Augusta National Golf Club's hallowed course in the nationwide Drive, Chip and Putt competition. Come this weekend, she's just one qualifying

round away from making a repeat appearance in 2024.

As South's top varsity golfer as a sophomore, Hampton will make her push to qualify Saturday, Sept. 9, at the Scioto Country Club, in Columbus, Ohio, the home course of golf legend Jack Nicklaus. To get there, she won the girls

14-15 regional round in a tie-breaker with a compiled score of 109 Friday, Aug. 19, over second-place qualifier Ester Zhang at Lyon Oaks Golf Course in Wixom.

"I think this year, I know more about what to expect than the first time I did this," Hampton said. "There was a lot of pressure and I was nervous,

more so than I realized, but I know I can do it."

Hampton said she will enter this year's competition with a focus on her driver, though chipping is "probably what I'm best at," she said.

"Usually when hitting my drives, I usually have one that goes out of bounds so I need to work on that. My driver can be inconsistent, but then other times, I get lucky with my chips and putts, so it works out."

The winner in each skill receives 10 points, second place receives nine points, all the way down to one point. Each player gets three drives, three chips and a single putt from three distances — six feet, 15 feet and 30 feet. The golfer with the most points following all three competitions wins their age category.

Despite hitting one drive out of bounds at Lyon Oaks, Hampton won on the strength of her chipping and putting, scoring a 45 on her chips and a 36 on her putts. She scored a 28 on her drives.

She said the best thing she can do when she makes a mistake is forget about it.

"I try to just kind of forget it if I do something bad," she said. "I tell myself that I know I can play better, even after a bad hole. I just try to do better on the next one."

Drive, Chip and Putt's national finals take place

See HAMPTON, page 8D

South asst. principal helps U.S. win Cup

By Mike Adzima
 Sports Reporter

On Aug. 18 and 19, Grosse Pointe South assistant principal Cindy Parravano put her golf skills to the test alongside other top female amateur golfers from around the state in a battle of national pride. Parravano competed as part of the Metro Detroit chapter of the LPGA Amateur Association for the U.S. team against the organization's Toronto chapter for Team Canada in the 2023 Border Cup. Parravano helped lead the U.S. team to a big win by 200 points.

Parravano and her partner Shelley Weiss of Southfield, led the U.S.

team with 42 combined points on the opening day of competition. On the second day, Parravano was again the leading scorer for the U.S., making her a key contributor to the U.S. team's victory over the Canadians.

"I had such a great time and am so glad I took the risk to play in the tournament," Parravano said via email. "It's opened up some avenues that I never knew existed in the world of golf for those who are not pro golfers and senior women. I'm excited and plan to participate in more tournaments and competitions. If I wasn't totally addicted before, I am now."



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHAUN HAMPTON

South's Lyla Hampton is just one qualifying round away from making a repeat appearance in the nationwide Drive, Chip and Putt competition next April at Augusta National Golf Club.



COURTESY PHOTO

Parravano, right, and her partner for the first day of competition, Shelley Weiss of Southfield, were named the best U.S. pairing of the tournament.

Knights rout Lutheran Westland for first win

By Mike Adzima
 Sports Reporter

Last Thursday, Aug. 31, finally gave the University Liggett football team the chance to celebrate its first win under a new head coach. The Knights suffered a disappointing loss to Fowler in Week 1, but bounced back mightily in Week 2 with a blowout 46-0 victory at home over Lutheran Westland.

"It was huge, especially coming off the type of game we had the week before," Liggett head football coach Kevin Glenn said. "...This was a bounce back week for us. For the guys to go out and play how they knew they could, they showed it. The game wasn't perfect, but the guys did everything they had to do to come away with a victory."

It was all Knights all the way on Thursday, but things did not start out too fast. Liggett scored just once in the opening quarter on a 26-yard pass from QB Nikkos Davis to Santino Cicarella to give the Knights a 7-0 lead after one frame.

The second quarter was when Liggett really started to find its groove. The Knights reached the end zone three times, the first being a 56-yard toss by Davis to Marvin Hartfield to extend the lead to 14-0.

The next touchdown for Liggett came a few minutes later when senior captain Zach Hill took the hand off and powered through the goal line from two yards out, making it a 20-0 game. To close out the first half, junior Gary Stacy scored his first of

four touchdowns on the day with a 30-yard run to send the game into half-time at 27-0.

Stacy became the story of the second half, accounting for all three of Liggett's touchdowns in the third and fourth quarters. A blocked punt by the Knights' special teams unit set them up with the ball on the Lutheran Westland 18-yard line early in the third, leading to a second rushing score for Stacy. He followed that up moments later by finding the end zone again, this time from 49-yards out. With the lead already at 40-0 for the Knights going into the final quarter, Stacy would cap off the day with his fourth touchdown, another run of over 40-yards.

See ULS, page 8D



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Liggett junior running back Gary Stacy found the end zone four times in the Knights' blowout win over Lutheran Westland.

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2D | SPORTS

South football shows tenacity in 21-7 loss against Anchor Bay

By Meg Leonard
Senior Editor

Grosse Pointe South stepped outside of MAC White competition last week, losing a conference crossover game against MAC Red foe Anchor Bay 21-7 on a picturesque late summer evening Thursday, Aug. 31, in front of a packed Tars Stadium.

The loss moves the Blue Devils to 1-1 on the season, but is one that head coach Chad Hepner said showed his team's tenacity.

"All of our goals are still in front of us," Hepner said, addressing his team in the post-game huddle. "There's nothing to hang your heads about."

Hepner emphasized the team's focus on winning its conference. He also praised them for wearing down the Tars, including powerhouse running back Isiah Domey, who ate up yardage most of the night against South's defense.

"We had No. 44 (Domey) scouted and knew he was going to be a load," Hepner said. "And we knew it was going to be tough to bring him down. Port Huron struggled to tackle him last week too. We were trying to get as many hits on him as we could and got him worn down a little, but in the end, he did too much damage early for us to recover."

Hepner said despite being down 21-0 in the second quarter, he didn't see any quit in his team.

"I was real proud of them the way they



PHOTO BY MEG LEONARD

South wide receiver Karter Richards takes an Anchor Bay defender with him on his way to the endzone in the second quarter to score the Blue Devils' only touchdown of the game.

played the second half and they didn't give up," he said.

Anchor Bay received the opening kick and scored on its first series of the game. Domey broke through for two big gains and, along with two short dump passes, the Tars quickly found themselves at South's 21-yard line. Running back Caleb Bird took it into the endzone on the next play to give Anchor Bay a 7-0 lead.

In the second quarter, the Blue Devils got the ball back and drove down into Anchor Bay territory. But the Tars intercepted a pass in the endzone, taking over on the 20. On the first play of the series, Domey took it all the way to the house at 4:15 of the second for an 80-yard

touchdown run to extend the Anchor Bay lead to 14-0.

On South's next series, the Blue Devils drove the ball down to the Anchor Bay 25. South junior quarterback Jack Lupo attempted to pass to receiver Connor Pattie, who lost his footing on his route. The Anchor Bay defense swarmed, intercepting the pass for a Pick 6 to take a 21-0 lead.

"The Pick 6 was really hard," Hepner said. "We were fighting to stop them and fighting to stop them, and then all of a sudden they got seven more with a play like that," he said. "It was kind of an unfortunate play with our receiver falling down. The only good thing about that ... is that we did come down

and score after. I was proud that the Pick 6 wasn't the end for us. We still fought back."

South struggled with the run all night, managing only 34 total rushing yards. They finally scored their first and only points with 48 seconds to go in the first half through their passing game.

Starting on their own 20, the Blue Devils worked their way into Anchor Bay territory. On third down, they benefited from a big interference call with 1:48 to go in the second quarter, giving them first and 10 at the 30 yard line. On the next snap, Lupo rushed around a collapsing pocket to connect a pass to senior receiver Karter Richards for the touchdown to close the

gap to 21-7 at halftime.

"I think that the poor tackling in the first half, particularly trying to get number 44 down, hurt us," Hepner said of being down mid-game by two scores.

With no scoring in the third quarter, Anchor Bay's offense moved almost exclusively to the run to eat up the clock. But with less than two minutes to go in the third, sophomore outside linebacker A.J. Zieleniewski recovered a fumble near midfield to give the Blue Devils a glimmer of hope for a comeback.

But Anchor Bay's defense made a key stop on third down in the series and kept South off the scoreboard.

The fourth quarter held the same theme with the Tars owning the time of possession by methodically running the ball. Though each team's defense did the work to prevent any more scoring, the final buzzer sounded for a 21-7 Anchor Bay win.

Hepner said he sees overall improvement in his team, who lost to Anchor Bay last season by a greater deficit of 45-20.

"I like the way our front four are playing on defense, so I think that's the biggest area of improvement over the last year," he said. "And that's with a lot of our guys who are juniors on defense, too."

The head coach also said he needed to go back and watch film to see what players stood out in the game, but he said he thinks several

contributed to Thursday's effort.

"There were a lot of guys giving a lot of effort," Hepner said. "... I think that we were pretty good across the defensive line, but we couldn't stop them on the ground."

He also pointed out Lupo's toughness as quarterback and how he can use this game to improve. Lupo was 12 for 29, for 188 yards and one touchdown. He had two interceptions.

"Yeah, you know, this is what it's like playing against a good MAC Red football team," Hepner said. "They're not just in your face, they're putting you on the ground. The protection was pretty good overall but you know (Lupo) took a couple of licks. It's all part of his growth, all of our growth, and he's gonna be a little bit better after a day like today."

Up next in Week 3: Hepner said the team would take a few days away from football over the Labor Day weekend before focusing on its next opponent, the Utica Chieftains, whom the Blue Devils will host at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8.

"We let the kids get away from this for a couple days," Hepner said. "Coaches will get back to work against our next opponent to see what Utica's going to do. So (coaches) will be working over the weekend, but it's nice for the kids to get away a little bit and have a break before school starts. After these games, a couple of days of recovery is good."

and forth, hard fought contest that ended with Mott on top 17-14.

"We knew going in that we were going to have an issue with the power read," North head football coach Joe Drouin said after the loss on a night where his team had particular trouble defending the run. "It's discipline and focus and getting the guys to lock in and settle down

and play their position. They have to worry about their individual job, and once they do that we can really take everything up."

In what was a relatively low-scoring game, Mott did take the early lead. The first points did not come until there were about three minutes left in the first quarter, when the Marauders found the end zone on a

fourth down and goal QB sneak to go up 7-0.

The Norsemen had to wait until late in the first half to get on the board. With just under three minutes remaining in the second quarter, senior QB Ryan Henderson found Matt McLeod for North's first score of the game. However, a blocked extra point left the Norsemen still down by one, trailing 7-6 going into halftime.

To start the second half, North struck quickly. Henderson threw his second touchdown of the game, this one a 40-yard toss to Leo

Perettie to find the end zone. A successful two-point conversion put the Norsemen on top for the first time 14-7.

Those would be the only points of the third quarter, and it was Mott's turn to strike back early in the fourth. The Marauders made it into the end zone in the opening minute of the fourth quarter to tie the game at 14.

The two sides then traded some opportunities to take the lead in the final frame, but were largely unsuccessful. It was not until the final moments when Mott had

a long, sustained drive that began in the shadow of its own goal posts and ended with what would become the game-winning field goal with 90 seconds to go. North's would get the ball back, but its final push was turned away by the Marauders' defense, ending the game 17-14.

Despite the loss, Drouin did see some positive improvements in his team from Week 1 to Week 2, especially when it came to discipline and effort.

"We cleaned up a lot of

See NORTH, page 8D

North takes first loss in close battle with Mott

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Grosse Pointe North football had its 2023 home opener spoiled on Thursday, Aug. 31. The Norsemen entered Week 2 looking to advance to 2-0 on the new season in front of their home crowd, and they nearly did. However, it was the visiting Marauders from Warren Mott in a back-

and forth, hard fought contest that ended with Mott on top 17-14.

"We knew going in that we were going to have an issue with the power read," North head football coach Joe Drouin said after the loss on a night where his team had particular trouble defending the run. "It's discipline and focus and getting the guys to lock in and settle down

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See NORTH, page 8D

Grosse Pointe News



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Grosse Pointe News



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

North's Clinton Allen, right, and Ethan Bailey-Gonzalez combine to bring down the Warren Mott QB during last Thursday's 17-14 loss for the Norsemen.

Fall SPORTS PREVIEW

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Girls Varsity Volleyball

South varsity volleyball aims to outwork, outhit and 'outgrit' the competition

By Meg Leonard
Senior Editor

MAC White conference championships and district crowns are becoming regular accomplishments for Grosse Pointe South varsity volleyball, but its goals for 2023 are much higher and the team began putting in the hard work to get there before the new season officially started.

"Our team goal is to get over the hump of finally winning the regional final," said head coach Janeil DiVita. "... To reach team goals we have to do our jobs individually. Volleyball is a true team sport where everyone has to do their job to benefit the overall goal."

After an 8-2 division record last season, winning the district and advancing to the regional final, the Blue Devils quickly turned their focus toward the offseason, where the work for the 2023 season began.

With a roster of 12 that

includes five sophomores, four juniors and only three seniors, DiVita said having a young team comes as little surprise, given how most of her players compete in the offseason with club teams. That's an X factor she credits with helping develop younger players earlier.

"Travel ball has changed that significantly," she said of the earlier player development. "All but two of my players play on a club team and those two are multi-sport athletes. Even though (those two) don't play at a high level with club teams, they are athletic and will be big contributors this season."

She's gotten to know her team well during a busy August, where they already have played in several quad matches. But before they hit the court in a traditional sense, they began the preseason with a first — a "training camp" in Battle Creek and the Leelanau Peninsula,

where the players packed in multiple scrimmages, workouts, dune climbs, beach volleyball, kayaking, camping ("not their favorite part," DiVita quipped) and team bonding.

After training camp, South played in a round-robin tournament of 10 teams, five from the east side of the state and five from the west.

"We got to see some teams we never really face," DiVita said. "Three of the five we played are ranked in the state's top 10, and the two other teams are honorable mention. It's valuable getting in front of those top schools."

With the season underway as of Aug. 16, DiVita said all eyes are on the regular season. While most positions are solidified, the team still is ironing out the setter position, which will dictate if the team runs a 5-1 or 6-2 offense.

"We're not sure if we will stick with one setter

or divvy up that role and do a 6-2," she said. "You always want to find the most athletic and biggest leader in that role."

One known area of strength is the team's height and subsequent ability to hit.

"We have some six-footers, some really athletic kids," DiVita said. "Hitting is definitely our strength and we will put up better numbers this year statistically compared to last year. I'm excited about that offensively. We can do some great things with that."

At the heart of South's attack is sophomore middle hitter Gabby DiVita, a top national recruit who is the No. 2 ranked player in the state and No. 5 in the country. She competes in the off-season on AAU and USA All-American teams, which make her athleticism and experience level huge assets to the team.

"She's been in lots of high-pressure situations," her mom and head coach said. "She plays older than she is. The only thing we need to do sometimes is clamp down her intensity with competing. ... We will rely heavily on her this year."

DiVita said her three seniors on the team will step into bigger roles this season, noting that "to be good, you have to be dynamic." She said her players will contribute in a variety of ways, including:

◆ Senior middle hitter Ally Edwards: "We're looking for her leadership,

she has a really nice serve, her offense is coming along and she's becoming confident in the back row," DiVita said.

◆ Senior Lilah Supino, who is coming back from injury. "She's shown some more consistency as a hitter," DiVita said. "She will play a big role."

◆ Senior Aleni Melham, who will fill libero and defensive specialist options. Said DiVita: "She's our little spark plug, with a gritty mentality. One of those seniors we can count on for leadership on the court this year."

◆ Junior Ellie Davey and sophomore Morgan Duff will step into setting duties this season.

◆ The team's other hitters, who likely will spend time at right-side pin, include Sydney Hoffman and freshman Alex Lupo. DiVita said while they are young, "they are so athletic and jump really well. They may make some young mistakes, but the future is exciting."

◆ Sophomore defensive specialist Ava Federko will spend her first year on varsity after being brought up for playoffs last year as a freshman.

◆ Junior Oliva Kowal was brought up last season to varsity as well. "She's a great utility player despite being a little undersized as a hitter," DiVita said. "... We might get her swinging out of the back row a little bit."

◆ Junior Catherine Pattie will spend time on that right-side pin. "She keeps the ball in play and doesn't make a lot of mis-

takes," DiVita said.

◆ Junior Olivia McMillan will be one of the players battling for the libero jersey. "She's another one of our spark plugs ... and has had some good reps because she plays club," DiVita said. "A solid kid. She's gonna push us to be better."

The team has not picked captains yet, but DiVita said those will be decided soon.

As the season ramps up, South's biggest competition will come in the form of archrival Grosse Pointe North, to whom South lost twice in the regular season before beating them in the district final. Henry Ford and Utica also will test South, DiVita said.

"We respect all of them," she said. "There's a focus on winning at the varsity level, but deeper than that is building that culture and building a competitive mindset and we are trying to get that mentality. We want girls that want to come in and compete."

She also said she hopes fans watch her team and see hustle and heart this season.

"What I want them to say is that we work hard and we outwork our opponents," she said. "It's not about the win, it's how we compete. I want (fans) to walk away and know we completed and see the grit, we pursued balls, made defensive plays and the people who came watched us can say, 'That team was fun to watch. They're gritty.'"



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JANEIL DIVITA

Grosse Pointe South sophomore Gabby DiVita goes up against a Rockford blocker in a recent East vs. West tournament, which included some of the state's best programs.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JANEIL DIVITA

Grosse Pointe South varsity volleyball work in some court time on the beach with Battle Creek Lakeview's team during a unique training camp in early August.

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Girls Field Hockey

New Norsemen players ready to step up for varsity field hockey team

By Grace Cueter
Staff Intern

After graduating 16 seniors at the end of the 2022 season, the Grosse Pointe North varsity field hockey team worked to recruit new players to create the 2023 roster. A number of girls came out to play, including five new seniors who already have proved to be a beneficial addition to the varsity team.

Head coach Sara Gentile is impressed with

both the attitude and skill set of the players who joined the team this year.

"The girls that came to play this year want to learn and want to win," Gentile said. "They are all so friendly and the seasoned players are really stepping up to help the newer players and to grow as a team. I truly can't wait to get out there and start winning some games and having fun."

Despite the number of girls who showed up to tryouts this year, the team

is small, with very few subs. Gentile plans to continue to recruit players to the team and encourages anyone to join, both field players and goalies — no experience needed.

"My goal is to spread the word of the sport so incoming underclassmen will be interested and want to check out the sport," Gentile said. "I also have a goal this year of training two new players as goalies."

The team is strong, both physically and mentally.

Many players are three-sport, year-round athletes, making the transition to field hockey efficient. Their athleticism and commitment will allow them to keep up with any team they face.

"As a team we have some very athletic girls that play multiple sports, so I don't foresee any issues keeping up and beating the other teams," Gentile said. "I also think the girls on the team care, which shows at practice and ultimately on the



field."

The team will be led by junior Josie Cueter, who is expected to be the team's lead goal scorer. Senior Gabby Miller, who joined the team this year, will shore up the defense, bringing many of the defensive skills she

acquired on the soccer pitch to field hockey.

The team has played seven games throughout August and takes a brief break this week before heading to Pinckney High School for a 6:15 p.m. faceoff Wednesday, Sept. 6, in Pinckney.

Fall SPORTS PREVIEW

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Girls Varsity Volleyball

Veteran-led Norsemen look to go for gold, win championships in '23

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe North girls volleyball team is entering this fall with its eyes on the prize. With a squad made up largely of veteran players, including a strong group of seniors, the Norsemen are making it their goal this season to send those seniors off by adding some hardware to the trophy case.

"We have eight returning seniors with a handful of juniors and sophomores," North volleyball head coach Chelsea Brozo said. "The collaboration of the different age groups and excitement and eagerness to play has been pushing them through the preseason. We already have a couple of scrimmages and a tournament under our belt so far, which is probably more than we've had in the past at this point, and each time we're performing better than expected."

Some of those key veterans and seniors this year for the Norsemen include setter Elizabeth Wozniak and outside hitters Lauren LeFebvre and Grace Cleary. North also looks to be strong at the libero position with senior

Shalee Simon paired with junior Charlotte Julien.

The veterans on North want to win as much as they can this fall. However, they are also focused on leaving the team in an even better position for the future and have embraced their roles as leaders for the players who will be taking over in years to come.

"These seniors are tenacious and very eager for the team to get better," Brozo said. "They're pushing the younger girls because they want this to be their season. They want to be the best and go out being the best, so it's very competitive. Each time they walk out on the floor they want each player to perform better than the practice before."

Where that competitive attitude is really showing itself so far in the preseason is on the defensive side. Coach Brozo has seen tremendous improvement leading up to the season with the team's back row. What makes it even better is that she feels the team's strength on defense never wavers no matter who is rotating into those back positions.

"Our defense is pretty,



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

The Grosse Pointe North volleyball team has been practicing hard ahead of the upcoming fall season, with a group of veteran players hoping to end the season holding trophies.

pretty solid," Brozo said. "I haven't had in a few years such a solid back row with every rotation... They're not letting balls hit, and teaching the younger players that that's not allowed either. Our defensive game is probably the best it's been in a few seasons."

While defense looks to be North's biggest strength, the players and coaches are focusing on bringing the offense up to

speed to match that. Keeping up the tempo of the game has been an emphasis for both the veterans and the younger players in order to make this team the most well-rounded group it can be.

Overall, the Norsemen seem to be finding a powerful dynamic between being a veteran-led squad looking to win now while also trying to ensure a bright future. Winning the MAC White, a division

where they finished tied for second place last year, winning the district title and more are definitely on the Norsemen's minds. Most importantly, however, is keeping a strong team chemistry throughout the season that can only help the group to achieve its goals.

"They want to be successful and I want that for them," Brozo said. "Peaking at the right time and not getting tired. A lot

of these girls play club so they haven't had an off-season. We also want to keep the fun of volleyball and the fun of playing for your team... You have to have fun and have team camaraderie and I think in the end, that'll win."

North opens MAC White play on the road against Fraser Thursday, Sept. 7, and returns home for another division showdown against Ford II on Tuesday, Sept. 12.

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Girls Varsity Golf

Seasoned veterans, fresh faces round out roster for South girls varsity golf

By Meg Leonard
Senior Editor

For head coach Shaun Hampton, his girls varsity golf team at Grosse Pointe South might have a different look and different skill set than last year's MAC Red championship team, but he's just as excited to see where the new season takes his roster of 10.

"It's going to be an interesting year this season," said Hampton, who is in his second year as South's head coach. "We have three players with prior girls golf experience. The rest are brand new to the game."

But, Hampton said, he is fully embracing the challenge.

"If we can put something productive together by the end of September, then we are doing something right," he said. "Are we making progress? Are we getting 1 percent better every day?"

"I'm gonna help (my players) make better decisions and improve their fundamentals, but at

the end of the day, I want them to develop a love for the game," he said.

The team will be led by its only veterans: Hampton's two daughters, senior captain Cate Hampton and sophomore sensation Lyla Hampton, who will compete this weekend in the regional final of Drive, Chip and Putt at Scioto Country Club in Columbus, Ohio (see story on page 1D). The team's other veteran is junior Tenley Stiyer, whom Shaun Hampton considers his most improved player from 2022.

Junior Taylor Lewis is only quasi-new to the team. She moved to Grosse Pointe last year from Georgia, practicing with South for half of the 2022 season.

The newest players for 2023 include:

◆ Sophomore Margaret Blake

◆ Freshman Alyssa Mourad, whom Shaun Hampton said has "a chance to be pretty darn good at some point. She's working hard, taking lessons and is committed."

◆ Juniors Murphy Russell and Maggie O'Brien, both South softball players, and sophomore Sophie DeJaeghere, a former volleyball player.

After the first week of try-

outs, Lewis recruited her three friends, Russell, O'Brien and DeJaeghere, to try out, despite having no golf experience.

"I explained a golf swing like hitting the ball over the pitcher's head to centerfield," Shaun Hampton quipped.

The final addition to the team is junior Lucy Canton, who plays goalie on a boys hockey team. Canton had hip surgery in June and tried out for the golf team her first day off of crutches.

Shaun Hampton added that at 5 feet, 11 inches, fitting Canton for women's golf clubs was a bit of a challenge, so he cobbled together some men's clubs for her.

Lyla Hampton said she is most happy to see the upbeat attitude shown by her whole team so far.

"Everyone on our team is pretty positive for the most part, even the new players," she said. "All of them want to get better and we all get along really well too. We are pretty close away from (the golf course), which has been fun."

Lyla Hampton said she set the goal to qualify for states individually, but as far as team goals, her main hope is that everyone has a good time playing.

"And if we could make it states that would be great,"

she added.

For Shaun Hampton, the team's enthusiasm and energy is making the young season fun.

"They are bonding," he said. "They (go out for) pizza together and hang out... The girls have nicknames. I just know as a coach, if they aren't having fun, they aren't coming back. All that positive energy is like a flywheel."

He's also seeing improvements in his new players' golf games.

"They're improving, making contact and going down the middle," he said. "I've got a lot of hope for next year, but the last couple of days, I've gotten a lot of hope for September. Everyone is so competitive and so athletic."

The team got started with its first match of the season Aug. 16, losing to Dakota at Sycamore Hills, and has competed in six additional matches to round out the month. The Blue Devils will face off against archrival Grosse Pointe North Wednesday, Sept. 13, in a tri-match with Stevenson, then again Sept. 14, in another tri-match against North and Port Huron Northern. North and South will alternate as home teams for both matches, which will take place at Lochmoor Club.



Fall SPORTS PREVIEW

UNIVERSITY LIGGETT

Girls Varsity Volleyball

ULS volleyball hopes mix of experience and youth is recipe for success

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Balance seems to be the key word that comes to mind when looking at this year's University Liggett volleyball team. The roster is made up of a balance between veterans and younger players, and the Knights are looking to find more balanced team chemistry with a new head coach on the sidelines.

That new head coach is Dan Sullivan, who has served as the boys golf head coach at Liggett in the spring for well over a decade. Sullivan has four seniors, four juniors and a mix of sophomores and

freshmen on the roster he is inheriting this fall. He thinks that finding success with the mixed amount of experience this group has all comes down to, of course, balance.

"The regular lineup will consist of a balance, with all three freshmen expected to play significant time," Sullivan said. "We have two very young setters in sophomore Reese Macek and newcomer Catherine Suarez; but both have shown that they are ready for the speed of varsity volleyball."

The veteran members of the team can lead through their experience

playing in big games. The Knights were district champions in 2022 and advanced into the regional round of the Division 3 state tournament.

Whether it is a senior or a freshman, one thing that coach Sullivan has seen so far from his team in the preseason is their desire to compete. The Knights have the ability to play with speed and toughness, something that could be a major key for them especially on defense.

"The team's biggest strength is that they are 'scrappy' — no ball hits the floor without the girls expending maximum

effort," said Sullivan. "Our defense should be solid, being led by senior Gabi Szajenko at the libero position and with a variety of hitting options between our middles and outside hitters."

If the Knights use that toughness on the court to help them continue to grow better throughout the season, it could help them also to balance the expectations of collecting more trophies. That is what Liggett has in mind, looking to repeat last year's success in the district and go even further, and this year's players look to have the mindset to do that.

"Our goals for the sea-



PHOTO COURTESY OF LIGGETT ATHLETICS

Senior libero Gabi Szajenko looks to help lead the Knights to success in the CHSL and another district championship in 2023.

son are to get better every day whether it be a practice or a match," Sullivan said. "...Our mantra is to 'work hard and have fun' every day of the season. The players have a wonderful attitude about the game and each other."

The Knights opened the season on Tuesday, Aug. 29, after press time with a road match against Parkway Christian. Liggett gets to play its home opener at 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 31, hosting Detroit Cristo Rey.

UNIVERSITY LIGGETT

Girls Field Hockey

Liggett field hockey sets sights on the 'ship in 2023

By Grace Cueter
Staff Intern

Coming just short of a Division 2 state championship in 2022, losing 2-0 to Dexter in the final game, University Liggett School's field hockey team is going for gold this season.

The team looks different compared to last year's, which graduated 11 seniors. However, its returning starters are determined to maintain their reputation and skill set. Head coach Amanda Amine emphasizes the value of strength and consistency on her team.

"We really value tradition in our program, but

we always incorporate new drills, off-field work and get-togethers each season," Amine said. "Our group of seniors is really prioritizing team bonding this year."

Dexter remains the team's biggest competition this season. Amine is working to prepare the team for the field and anything that comes at them. She uses the team's athleticism, which she said is her players' biggest strength.

"Our team's strength is our athleticism," she said. "We have some extremely talented multi-sport athletes who have great endurance,

coordination, mental toughness and strength."

Aside from athleticism, the team's excitement on the field is something Amine believes is a strong attribute.

"We are off to a strong start and I love the positive attitude the girls bring to the field each day," she said.

There are a number of players fans should watch out for in 2023. The Macero sisters, senior Hallie and sophomore Livy, are capable of an outstanding season and leading the

Liggett team, according to Amine. Look for senior Allie Roth and sophomore Constantina Bournias to lead in team scoring. Additionally, senior Tori

Nugent and freshman Maisy Huebner will hold up the back end of the field. The team's goalie, senior Harper Wallace will take on goaltending full time.

"I have a ton of confidence in our entire team," Amine said.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LEON HALIP

Liggett senior midfielder Allie Roth goes after the ball in a recent game against Marian.



Liggett sophomore defenseman Madeline Unkel takes off downfield in a recent game against Marian, a 4-0 Knights' loss.

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8D Fall SPORTS PREVIEW

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Girls Varsity Golf



North girls varsity golf doubles down on hard work

By Clare Ramsdell
Staff Intern

The 2023 fall version of Grosse Pointe North's women's golf team is summed up in two words: Trying harder.

After two years of single-digit wins in the MAC Red conference, the Norsemen appear to be

ready for a breakout season. The team boasts 12 student-athletes, almost double from 2022, including two freshmen who appear ready to contribute this season.

"We have struggled the first couple of years with numbers, but I think we turned that corner," said Greg Normand, North's

head coach. "We have 12 young ladies who are ready to compete in a great league and move the ball forward this year."

"We have already posted two non-conference wins against Marysville and Detroit Renaissance, while finishing eighth at the

Livonia Franklin Patriot Invitational," he added.

The team is led by senior captains Morgan McIntyre and Scarlett Flynn, both three-year starters. McIntyre has already led the squad stroke average and has her sights on making the MHSAA state finals this year.

"Morgan has a ton of talent and she's working hard to improve her putting and chipping. We expect big things from Scarlett this year," Normand said.

Lea Paluzzi, a senior in her second year with the team, and Jacqueline Koerner, another second-year player, round

out the top four for North. Freshman Catie Kaslatas and Audrina Eplin are expected to add some stability to the remainder of the lineup.

"We are just hoping for improvement during the year, so we're ready for regionals in October," Normand said.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Norsemen running back Andrew MacGillis tries to push his way through the Warren Mott defense.

NORTH:

Continued from page 1D

our offensive mistakes from the first week," Drouin said. "... We cleaned up the communication from the sidelines to the huddle and a lot of our formations. We limited our play selection, we went into the first game with a lot and saw what we did well and stuck to that."

Up next in Week 3:

Next week is the official start of the Norsemen's MAC Gold Division title defense. North travels to Eastpointe, who is also 1-1 after falling to Port Huron in Week 2, for its first divisional matchup of the season in a game that has been circled on the team's calendar.

"Eastpointe is going to look at that film and see the power read because they have a very talented QB and they can see what Mott did to us," "...

Two and three years ago, we got embarrassed by Eastpointe. We're focusing on beating them and what we did with our scrimmages and season opener, we're focused on not letting that happen again. We came out last year and beat them in the 50s to nothing and that was the first time we realized that we had something good going here."

Kickoff is at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8.

HAMPTON:

Continued from page 1D

Sunday, April 7, at Augusta.

The championship takes place the week before the world's best golfers compete in the 2023 Masters Tournament, the year's first of four men's major golf championships. The event is broadcast live by the Golf Channel and is a joint initiative, founded in 2013, by the Masters Tournament, United States Golf Association and The PGA of America.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHAUN HAMPTON

Lyla Hampton (middle) stands atop the podium after winning the qualifying round in the Drive, Chip and Putt competition at Lyon Oaks earlier this month.

Last year, Hampton and two Canadian provinces in the championship at Augusta.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Liggett junior receiver Santino Cicarella turns and looks for the ball thrown by QB Nikkos Davis on what would end up as a touchdown catch.

ULS:

Continued from page 1D

"It's huge to be able to have those types of weapons," Glenn said. "There's only one ball, so you have to be able to

dial up certain plays for certain guys... Stacy was having a phenomenal day running the ball with the help of the offensive line, and we were just getting him the ball when we needed to."

Up next in Week 3: The Knights remain at home for a third straight game in Week 3 as they are set to host Chandler Park Academy. Kickoff for that game is scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9.

2023 SPORTS CALENDAR SEPTEMBER

7 THURSDAY

- » 3 p.m. - GPS Girls Golf @ Stevenson
- » 6 p.m. - GPN Volleyball @ Fraser
- » 7 p.m. - GPS Volleyball vs. Ford II
- » 7:30 p.m. - GPS Field Hockey vs. Farmington

8 FRIDAY

- » 7 p.m. - GPN Football @ Eastpointe
- » 7 p.m. - GPS Football vs. Utica
- » 7 p.m. - GPS @ GPN Boys Soccer

9 SATURDAY

- » 8 a.m. - GPS + GPN Boys Tennis @ GPN Invitational
- » 9 a.m. - GPS + GPN Boys & Girls XC @ Algonac
- » 11:30 a.m. - GPN Field Hockey vs. Rockford (@ GPS)
- » 2 p.m. - ULS Football vs. Chandler Park Academy
- » 2:30 p.m. - GPS Field Hockey vs. Rockford

10 SUNDAY

- » No Events Scheduled

11 MONDAY

- » 3 p.m. - GPS Girls Golf @ Port Huron
- » 4 p.m. - ULS Boys Tennis vs. UDJ
- » 4 p.m. - GPN Boys Tennis vs. Romeo
- » 4 p.m. - GPS Boys Tennis @ Eisenhower
- » 5:30 p.m. - ULS Field Hockey @ Dearborn
- » 7 p.m. - GPS Boys Soccer @ Dakota
- » 7 p.m. - GPN Boys Soccer vs. Fraser
- » 7:30 p.m. - GPS Field Hockey vs. Cranbrook

12 TUESDAY

- » 4 p.m. - ULS Boys Tennis @ Greenhills
- » 4:30 p.m. ULS XC @ CHSL Meet
- » 5:30 p.m. - GPN Field Hockey vs. Grand Blanc
- » 6 p.m. - ULS Boys Soccer @ Riverview GR
- » 6 p.m. - GPN Girls Swim & Dive vs. CV
- » 6 p.m. - GPS Girls Swim & Dive vs. Lakeview
- » 6 p.m. - ULS Volleyball vs. Austin Catholic
- » 6 p.m. GPS Volleyball vs. TBD (Quad)
- » 6:30 p.m. GPN Volleyball vs. Ford II

13 WEDNESDAY

- » 3 p.m. - GPN + GPS Girls Golf Tri - Meet (@ Lochmoor)
- » 4 p.m. - GPS @ GPN Boys Tennis
- » 5 p.m. - GPN Field Hockey @ Farmington
- » 7 p.m. - GPN Boys Soccer vs. Romeo
- » 7:30 p.m. - GPS Boys Soccer vs. Anchor Bay



PHOTO BY LEON HALIP