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BoE will interview 7 for sup't

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTE — The Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education narrowed its list of superintendent candidates to seven, including a few familiar faces.

The full list, in alphabetical order, is:

- ◆ Stephen Bigelow, Ph.D., superintendent of Bay City Public Schools
- ◆ Shaun Black, Ph.D., academics director for Harper Woods Public Schools
- ◆ Stephen Doerr, M.A., superintendent of East Jackson Community Schools
- ◆ Jennifer Herbstreit, Ph.D., assistant superintendent for Holly Area Schools
- ◆ Cormac Lynn, Ed.S., superintendent of the Catholic Diocese of Saginaw
- ◆ AJ Staniszewski, Ed.D., school director for Mapleton Public Schools
- ◆ Andrea Tuttle, Ed.D., superintendent of Owosso Public Schools

Staniszewski, director of Global Intermediate Academy in Denver, is a Grosse Pointe South High School graduate. Bigelow was one of two finalists for the job in 2021, when Jon Dean was hired.

The board at its meeting Tuesday, Nov. 28, selected nine candidates to interview, although two declined. The district received 39 applications for the position. Only the names of those who accepted have been made

See SEVEN, page 10A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Better believe it!

Santa parked his sleigh at Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy last Tuesday, Nov. 28, to meet the girls and boys who came to see him on Giving Tuesday. Whistle Stop donated 20 percent of the event's proceeds to Kids on the Go. For more photos from "Giving Tuesday Believe," see page 8A.

Shores sprinkler ordinance paying off

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — A 2022 ordinance about sprinkler system use helped residents keep their lawns green and now will save them some green.

City Manager Steve Poloni told city council at its November meeting the ordinance led to a big enough reduction during peak usage hours that

Great Lakes Water Authority lowered the city's yearly bill by \$60,000.

"We talked to them last fall but they didn't think one year of data was enough," Poloni said. "So this fall, after two years, we presented our case again as to why we thought we needed a break."

The cost reduction will be passed on to customers as water and sewer

bills are set to increase as the city pays off bonds issued to pay for water and sewer line work on Lakeshore and Oxford.

Poloni said residents have been paying an additional \$25 per bill toward debt reduction on the bonds, but that's about to jump to \$53 per bill. Without the GLWA reduction, that would have increased to \$65.

"We elected for the first three years to just

pay interest on the bonds, but we're going to start paying principal and interest," Poloni said.

The bond surcharge will increase to \$108 per bill by 2026, but that will be offset by a tax reduction.

"We have another bond that will be paid off by then and city council will look at decreasing

See WATER, page 3A

Talking about zoning

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Enough regulars attended a Saturday afternoon zoning ordinance confab to warrant the impression that it's all been done before.

"We got some good reviews and had a couple grumblers," said Michael Boettcher, senior planner at McKenna Associates, the city's planning consultants.

Five McKenna employees, including company president and former City of Grosse Pointe resident John Jackson, helped Park planning commissioners host the session at city hall Dec. 2, to engage with interested members of the public about a nearly total updating of the Park's planning code.

"One of the things we heard about most was short-term rentals," said Warren Rothe, commission secretary and assistant city manager.

An estimated 40 people attended the three-hour session.

"A significant percentage were fresh faces," said Boettcher, often representing McKenna at commission and city

See ZONING, page 2A

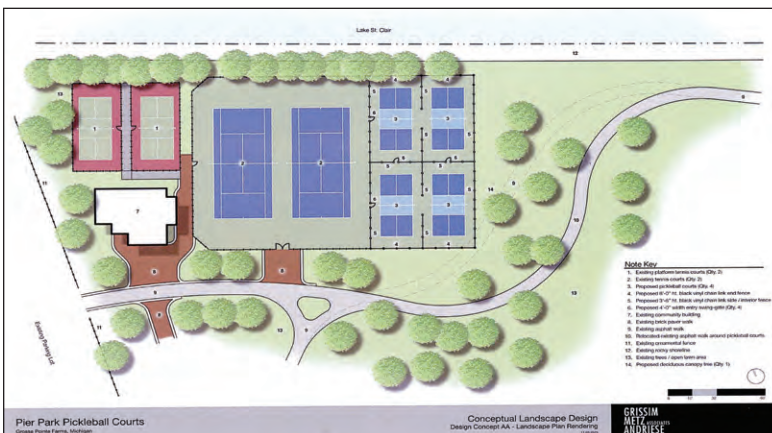
Parks committee recommends Pier Park pickleball location

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Farms residents have made their position on the location of new pickleball courts at Pier Park resoundingly clear: They have no interest in losing greenspace or blocking views of Lake St. Clair.

"Everything has trade-offs," City Manager Shane Reeside said, as he last week presented a compromise he hopes will please all parties.

Farms parks and harbor committee members think the trade-offs are worth it, as they voted to recommend city council choose to eliminate the third tennis court — used exclusively as a pickleball court the last two years — and construct four per-



COURTESY RENDERING

This proposed location for four new pickleball courts at Pier Park will be recommended to Farms city council Monday, Dec. 11.

manent pickleball courts in its place.

That said, removal from the original design plans of a walk-

way between the tennis and pickleball courts means the park only would lose 15 feet of greenspace — instead of a previ-

ously proposed 20 feet — to the east of the current tennis facilities. Of particular importance to residents, this proposal still would provide ball containment via fencing between each pickleball court and the tennis courts.

A further step toward common ground, the current asphalt walkway alongside the courts would be relocated further from the lake, creating more picnic space along the shoreline. The parks and recreation department then hopes to add four to five more picnic tables and an additional one to two grills to the area.

In response to discontent with reducing views of the lake,

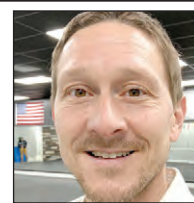
See LOCATION, page 2A

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Sean Farnsworth
Home: Grosse Pointe Farms
Owner of Zanshin Karate



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2A | NEWS

ZONING:

Continued from page 1A

council meetings regarding the zoning rewrite and related matters.

Among 21 people who signed in were Mayor Michele Hodges, newly elected Councilman Brent Dreaver, Commissioner Jimmy Saros, unsuccessful council candidate Heather Ulku and a couple regular attendees of council, commission and municipal board meetings.

"Short-term rentals were the big topic of the day," said Nani Wolf, a McKenna associate planner. "That was mostly addressed as part of residential (land) usage and where such usage should be permitted."

"People were concerned that STRs might be popping up in accessory dwellings, if they were to be permitted in residential areas," added Gage Belko, one of McKenna's assistant planners.

Park representatives are among those statewide preparing to regulate the increasingly popular short-term rental of residential property, defined in a working draft of proposed zoning rules as property rented or sublet for 28 days or less.

"There was talk about the state taking over consideration of these," Morgan McAtamney, assistant city attorney, said during a Nov. 8 commission meeting on the topic. "That's not happening. So, municipalities are able to make these regula-

tions themselves. That's why a lot of our municipalities are considering this."

At least 25 short-term rentals operate currently in the Park, Rothe said during a commission meeting Oct. 12.

Short-term rentals received mixed reviews during Saturday's gathering.

"People were, in some cases, not interested in seeing STRs at all," Belko said. "Some folks were more willing to not prohibit them entirely."

Prohibition is unlikely given various rounds of proposed state legislation, none of which has passed into law.

"They all have in common that local governments will not be able to ban bed-and-breakfasts," Rothe said in October.

Another necessary zoning update addresses group homes. The current city code is silent on such living arrangements.

"A group home is a residential home being used for the permanent care of people who are either elderly, have mental or physical disabilities or are children," Wolf said. "Under state law, local governments are preempted from regulating group homes that have between one and six people being cared for."

The new zoning ordinance will therefore list group homes as a permitted use in all residential districts.

"That's not actually new," Wolf said. "The state preempted them decades ago, but (Park) code was so old it didn't

show them."

Although municipalities have little authority over group homes, the state does.

"Group homes are regulated by the Michigan Bureau of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs," Wolf said. "The state is just as vested in making sure people are properly cared for as we are. If a group home is operating in a nuisance manner or illegally without a proper permit, it can be reported directly to the state."

She said well-run group homes that meet state requirements operate without being noticed.

"If it is noticed, that's an indication that something is going wrong," she said.

Given that the city council in October, and the planning commission in November, eliminated the proposed creation of transition districts — basically land between commercial and residential zones on which to build parking lots — from zoning upgrades, the main additions remaining for consideration are group homes and short-term rentals, according to Rothe.

A repeat of the public engagement session was scheduled for Monday evening, Dec. 4.

"In addition, there's going to be an online rollout so people can participate from their homes if they weren't able to attend either meeting," said Laura Haw, McKenna senior principal planner.

"Those are going to come online early next year," Rothe said.

Woman's cold-water immersion gone wrong

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — After a woman jumped into Lake St. Clair at Neff Park the middle of last week, hearsay quickly spread a bleak picture of mental distress.

Not so, the woman reportedly explained when officers showed up on her doorstep after the fact.

"She told the officer cold-water immersion is helpful to her back pain and it was the only reason of going in the lake," Public Safety Director John Alcorn said.

Department of Public Works employee Nick

Chimel was chatting with another resident at Neff Park at 9:35 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, when he noticed the Grosse Pointe woman, in her 50s, walking along the sidewalk on the water's edge, praying and religiously chanting.

He then watched as she undressed down to thermal underwear and began to jog back and forth along the sidewalk before jumping down to a floating dock and jumping into the water.

"It looks like maybe she was struggling a little bit once she got in the water or was struggling to get out," Alcorn noted, which led Chimel to pull her

from the water and bring her to the warming building.

No medical care was required; however, the woman was informed by an officer she put at risk others who tried to help her out of the water and that Lake St. Clair is not the place for cold-water immersion.

"We don't recommend going to the park and hopping in the lake and doing it," Alcorn said. "... We would recommend talking to your doctor first and if you're going to do it, do it in the safety of one of those tubs or one of those cryotherapy places, where you have somebody keeping an eye on you."

Pit is the pits

GROSSE POINTE PARK — In post-agrarian, information-age America, the horseshoe pit at Windmill Pointe Park lacks cachet.

"It is an underutilized area of the park," said Paul Spratt, a member of the recreation commission. "It's a big piece of property. We should use it for something."

He's thinking of sending the pit the way of the dodo.

"It's big enough to consider putting a pavilion there," he said.

Even with a pavilion, the area is large enough for a recreation amenity, perhaps a tribute to horseshoes but more up to date.

"Today's horseshoes is cornhole," Spratt said of the popular sack-toss

lawn game.

"A pavilion has been mentioned before," said Chairman Michael Hindelang during the commission's meeting last month. "This is something we can give consideration."

Chad Craig, recreation director, said constructing a pavilion is within the department's budget.

"It would be popular," he said. "The smaller shelter at Patterson Park is rented almost every weekend in summer and fall."

"(After) sailing races it would be a great spot to hang out," said Tom Fraser, harbor master.

"I see a lot of potential — even the swim team end-of-season party and after meets, Little League, soccer and birthdays," Craig said.

See PIT, page 11A

LOCATION:

Continued from page 1A

Reeside wants residents to know that while the current fenceline would

be extended 15 feet to the east, it also would be reduced to half its current height, going from 12 feet to 6 feet tall.

"I really think in some ways it's going to feel

less imposing," he said, "because ... just visually you're not going to see as much of a wall."

While three trees would have to be removed, he assured each would either be relocated or replanted within the park.

The preliminary estimate for this proposal is \$202,543. It is expected to come before Farms city council for a vote Monday, Dec. 11.

"When I got back from Vietnam, I went up to Central (Michigan University), I got my master's in parks and

recreation and I remember sitting down with the department chair and we were talking about different things and he said, 'Jon, if at all possible, never lose greenspace, because you're not going to get it back,'" noted Jon Austin, a parks and harbor committee member. "And I (still) would agree with this."

Although many residents, during a public workshop on the matter in late October, seemed to favor an option that would place the four pickleball courts west of the Orten platform tennis courts and include the removal of 18 to 22 parking spaces rather than greenspace, city administration feels a number of factors make it a less efficient option.

Most strongly highlighted, the cost estimate would increase to

approximately \$280,000, because it would require relocation of water, electrical and gas utilities that run under the parking lot.

To reduce the costs associated with relocating underground infrastructure, residents during the public workshop suggested building an elevated surface over the lot for the courts.

"We asked the engineer," Reeside said. "They said they never heard of it being done and because you want that hard, solid surface underneath it ... it's not the ideal surface for it and they really did not recommend going that route."

City administration also was not fond of the idea of digging up the freshly poured lot that just was repaved a year and a half ago. The area

of parking lot also specially features reinforced concrete, because it is where piles from the city's leaf collection service are stored each fall.

A couple unknowns remain, the most significant being whether one of the park's two volleyball courts could be returned to greenspace as part of this project.

While the city used to have volleyball leagues, popularity of the sport has dropped in recent decades.

"Basically it's a sandbox for kids most of the time," former mayor and parks and harbor committee member James Farquhar noted.

As the two courts take up a combined 9,000 square feet of park space, removal of one would bring 4,500 square feet of greenspace back to Pier Park.



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Shores to tackle geese problem at park

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Fran Bachmann and her dog, Trace, will be back on the job come spring keeping geese away from Osius Park.

The duo patrolled the park for three years starting in 2018, and will start again in April after city council approved it 7-0 at its November meeting.

“By the third year, people could actually put blankets on the ground again,” Bachmann told council. “Kids were able to play in the grass.”

Trace, a dalmatian, has a badge from the public safety department and a collar that reads “K9 Goose Patrol.”

“I kept him on his leash

for the most part, but would let him off to chase the geese away,” Bachmann added. “He’s so effective because of how fast he runs.”

Bachmann said as the geese would take off, Trace would get underneath them, forcing them to fly farther out in the lake. She also would clear them out of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club harbor.

Bachmann, a dog behaviorist, said she also trained Trace not to bark at the geese.

“I didn’t want him barking while people are trying to enjoy a picnic or something,” she said. “That’s just annoying.”

While she tried to go to the park when no one was there, Bachmann said she always asked people if they were com-

fortable with Trace being off his leash.

The city ended the program after three years due to complaints from people who also wanted to let their dogs run freely in the park.

“If you let other dogs do this that aren’t properly trained, then they just chase the geese into the water and then leave,” Bachmann said. “That messes up what I was doing because the geese know they can come right back.”

She added, however, if someone has a dog who is properly trained — including not eating anything off the ground — she would be open to working with them.

Timing also is key.

“It has to be done two or three times a day, seven days a week,” she

said. “And you can’t do it at the same time every day because the geese will learn that. I can walk to the park from my house and Trace just loves doing it. And the kids love him. He knows 30 tricks.”

Getting rid of nests helps as well.

“If I see a nest being built, I’ll undo it,” Bachmann said. “There were no babies born in the park during those three years. If they hatch eggs, those geese will always come back to the place they were born.”

The city has tried numerous ways to get rid of the geese, including placing reflective tape on docks.

“This year was the worst,” Mayor Ted Kedzierski said. “It’s a huge nuisance.”



COURTESY PHOTO

Andre Jones brings five years of law enforcement experience to his new position as an officer in the City of Grosse Pointe.

Woods beautification awards presented

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Grosse Pointe Woods hosted its 49th annual Beautification Awards Night Nov. 8, at Lochmoor Country Club,

presented by the Beautification Advisory Commission. Residential and business awardees were treated to a full bar and a sit-down dinner. During the program,

slides of each house or business were shown. Each residential recipient received a certificate and a metal stake to place in their yard announcing the Beautification Award

and each business awardee received a plaque to hang inside their business. Throughout the night, 12 residences and eight businesses won awards.



Left, from left, Donna Salive, Grosse Pointe Woods Mayor Art Bryant and Laurence Salive, one of the residential winners. Right, business awardee Missy Stines, owner of Cheese to Please, with Bryant.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



Left, from left, Kristine Simon, Bryant and Ronald Simon. The Simonses won a residential award. Right, a business award was given to Salon Tresor owners Rob and Vicki Lynn Funk, standing with Bryant.



Fire prevention is interest of new City officer

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — “I’m the only person in my family in law enforcement,” said Andre Jones, who alongside Mark Dombrowski — find a story on Dombrowski in last week’s edition — is one of two new hires in the City of Grosse Pointe’s Public Safety Department.

The 26-year-old previously served in the Detroit Police Department for a year and a half, before joining the Metro Airport Police four years ago.

“It’s been a great experience so far transitioning back to working the road,” said Jones, who started as a public safety officer in the City Nov. 13. “Metro Airport Police, we worked the road, but we didn’t really have much interaction with citizens. We didn’t have house runs, responding to people’s houses, typi-

cally. I’ve done it in Detroit and going back to that, I missed it, so I do like it a lot.”

Bringing five years of law enforcement experience, Jones graduated from the fire academy in early November — a pursuit which led to his interest in becoming a public safety officer.

“I was thinking about solely switching over to fire entirely because of the schedule and the job sounded interesting,” he said, “but I knew a buddy that worked here at Grosse Pointe and he told me doing both would be just as good, so I went that route.”

As he settles into the department, Jones hopes to become involved in the city’s fire prevention efforts, as well as the Eastern Wayne County Special Response Team.

“I hope to make an impact in the community,” he added, “obviously in a positive way.”

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, DEC. 11

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

TUESDAY, DEC. 12

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens’ Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Planning Commission rescheduled meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Downtown Development Authority meeting, 7 p.m.

WATER:

Continued from page 1A

the millage rate,” Poloni said. “That will make up for in water bill increase.”

The sprinkler ordinance, approved by council in April 2022, prohibits homeowners from using automatic or manual sprinkler systems between 5 a.m. and 11 p.m. daily from May 15 to Oct. 15.

GLWA rates are based on water use during peak hours. The hours of 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. are considered an exception time by GLWA, meaning the city still gets charged for water use during those hours, but the amount is not used to calculate the city’s rate.

The ordinance does include a few exceptions. A newly seeded lawn, for example, can be watered as often as needed other than 5 to 9 a.m. The ordi-

nance also does not apply to owners who have an irrigation system that draws from Lake St. Clair.

Poloni said the city originally agreed with GLWA to pay a 50 percent surcharge if water use went up, rather than down, under the ordinance.

“The residents have been very cooperative,” he added. “The DPW guys had to remind

some people once in a while, but not much.”

Poloni told council in 2022 when it was considering the ordinance that the Shores is GLWA’s “worst customer for using the most water at the wrong time.” That’s because the city — which has the highest water rates in the Pointes — uses comparatively less water in the winter months when many people head to

warmer climates and more water in the summer.

Poloni said he expects more savings when the data is reviewed in 2026.

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Karate students and Sensei Sean Farnsworth exchange bows as signs of mutual respect.

PHOTOS BY BRAD LINDBERG

Lions in training

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

At the end of a novice-level karate class last week, boy and girl students as young as 5 and 6 years old lined up facing their instructor and, in a show of courtesy and respect to those with greater experience and wisdom, bowed in unison.

A moment later, the classmates reveled in their accomplishments during the session.

Most laughed and hugged and tugged at each other in showings of camaraderie. After all, they were one practice kick closer to becoming the next Bruce Lee.

“When my students

bow to me, I bow back at them,” said Sean Farnsworth, owner of Zanshin Karate on Kercheval. “It’s a gesture that shows mutual courtesy and respect for one another. It has nothing to do with ego. It’s part of the respect that is ingrained into the tradition of the art.”

Karate is less about learning to fight. It’s a lot more about learning to get along.

“We profess being humble and honest, having integrity and doing the right thing,” Farnsworth said. “We’re teaching kids how to defend themselves so, ultimately, they don’t have to fight. A huge part of what we teach is self-control.”

As Farnsworth tells his students, “A lion doesn’t have to tell you he’s a lion. You can see he’s a lion.”

Lessons include avoiding destructive situations.

“We teach preemptive self-defense,” Farnsworth said. “Don’t hang out with kids who are constantly getting in trouble. If you do, you’re going to slowly adopt that behavior. You want to surround yourself with the types of people and behavior you want to live by.”

His classes are serious, but his students can’t help having a good time.

“We’re developing confidence in kids because they’re achieving goals and learning

self-defense practices,” Farnsworth said. “Way more than that, they’re learning stillness and focus. They’re learning the connection between mind and body.”

Laura Owczarek of Grosse Pointe Woods has seen significant emotional growth in her two children, Lily, 12, and Lukas, 10, since enrolling them in the studio — or “dojo” in Japanese, meaning a place of learning — three years ago.

“We did it for general fitness and working on confidence,” Owczarek said. “They’ve definitely matured. One of the biggest things is confidence, such as getting out and performing in front of judges and other people at tournaments and demonstrations. Three years ago, that probably would have been terrifying for them.”

“I wouldn’t say, generally, our students are more mature than people their age,” Farnsworth said. “But, I would say they benefit from the teaching, so after a while they become better listeners and are more respectful.”

“They come home from the studio — dojo,” Owczarek said, correcting herself, “and tell us the true meaning of the motions they do and the kata they learn.”

“Kata” means a choreographed sequence of martial arts movements conducted during practice.

Lessons at Zanshin Karate stress three virtues: respect, compassion and gratitude.

Respect goes both ways.



Sean Farnsworth’s son, Michael, 12, is a junior black belt in karate. “I do it to learn how to defend myself, get sharper and focus, discipline and all of the virtues,” Michael said. “I just try my best.”

“I respect my students and I expect them to respect me, just like I expect them to respect their parents, teachers and, also, themselves,” Farnsworth said.

Compassion refers to more experienced people showing consideration and benevolence to those with less.

“In Japanese culture, if you’re respecting someone for having more experience than you, it has nothing to do with age,” Farnsworth said. “We show respect to people not necessarily because of their age, but for their experience level because they can offer insight into what we’re doing.”

Rather than training for aggression, he teaches self-protection, self-awareness and situational awareness. It all gets back to his students developing confidence.

“They learn to fight so they don’t have to,” Farnsworth said.

He said many people are surprised to learn that karate isn’t as ancient as the Eastern culture from which it comes.

“Karate is a Japanese art that originated in Okinawa before Japan and, before that, India,” Farnsworth said. “In its infancy, it did not carry any of the character development traits or virtues we now profess. It was strictly a self-defense art taught to nobility.”

The style of karate Farnsworth teaches is only 101 years old.

“There’s a connection between our organization and some of the greatest masters of all time,” Farnsworth said. “The organization I am privileged to be part of is the Zen Bei Butoku-Kai headed by my Sensei Brian Ricci.”

“Sensei” means teacher, someone with greater experience.

“His sensei was O’Sensei, (‘O’ means the great one) Richard Kim,” Farnsworth said.

Kim died in 2001.

“He was known as one of the most knowledgeable and reputable martial artists of all time,” Farnsworth said. “I was fortunate enough to train with him and have him know me personally. In my training, I’ve had the privilege of meeting some of Gichin Funakoshi’s (known as the father of modern karate) top students, like Sensei Hidetaka Nishiyama and Sensei Fumio Demura.”

Demura died this year. “He was known as the last living legend,” Farnsworth said. “He taught Bruce Lee how to use nunchucks. I have a rice bowl at my dojo that was bought for me by Sensei Demura when he found out we opened our dojo.”

He’s met some of his martial arts heroes.

“They are very humble, engaging people who have the ability to command a room without being too loud or braggadocious,” Farnsworth said.

It’s the lion in them. “They have an air to them,” Farnsworth said.

“You know they are of significance without them having to say a word.”

He opened Zanshin Karate in 2019.

Before that, Farnsworth grew up in Guelph, Ontario, Canada. He earned degrees in film and graphic arts at the Motion Picture Institute of Michigan, founded a production company, made a living in the film industry, but got tired of working behind a desk inside a cubicle.

Working at the office late one Christmas Eve, a conversation with a coworker prompted him to renew a friendship with a fellow karate student from his youth. Zanshin Karate came next.

“I truly believe that had I not had that job and fateful conversation, I would not be where I am today,” Farnsworth said.

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USPS 230-400

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City of Grosse Pointe**Stolen wallet**

A patient's wallet was stolen while he was staying at Corewell Health Grosse Pointe Hospital between 3 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 25, and 4:15 p.m. Monday, Nov. 27.

Missing package

After ordering \$100 worth of diabetic medical supplies and having them delivered to a business in the 17000 block of Mack Thursday, Nov. 9, a woman went to pick up the package Monday, Nov. 27, and was told it was not there.

BOGO

A woman placed several bottles of unknown vitamins in her purse while only scanning and paying for a Mountain Dew from a business in the 17000 block of Kercheval at 10:45 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 28.

The suspect is described as a black woman wearing a blue jacket, white pants and a black knit hat.

Porch pirate

An unknown woman stole a package off a porch in the 300 block of Rivard at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 2.

She drove away in a vehicle described in the police report as a gray four-door Toyota RAV4 or Ford Escape.

Unwelcome

Twice during the weekend — Friday, Dec. 1 and Saturday, Dec. 2 — officers were dispatched to Corewell Health Grosse

Pointe Hospital for patients refusing to leave. They both left upon the arrival of officers.

—Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Shores**It's a beaut, Clark!**

A St. Clair Shores family was pulled over on Vernier near Lakeshore around 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, after an officer clocked their vehicle driving 20 mph, 15 under the speed limit.

They had an innocent enough excuse though, as they were out looking at Christmas lights. Once everything checked out they were able to continue their sightseeing with a warning about driving too slow.

—Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Woods**Still unlocked**

A resident in the 2000 block of Country Club filed a report around 11 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, telling officers her credit cards were used to make fraudulent purchases at two CVS locations in Detroit.

She said she had been at an appointment in Southfield earlier in the day and left her purse, containing her wallet, unlocked in her vehicle.

—Ted O'Neil

Report information about crime to Grosse

PUBLIC SAFETY

Pointe Woods Public Safety, (313) 343-2400.

Grosse Pointe Farms**Impersonation**

Months after a photography shoot in May, the photographer reached out to the client — a 30-year-old Farms woman — requesting additional payment Tuesday, Nov. 28.

When the client called the photographer, he supplied an email chain by an account impersonating the woman, requesting digital copies of the images captured in May.

No content was released to the suspect.

Half drunk

After a 34-year-old Harper Woods man was seen disregarding two red lights at 1:38 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 30, he was pulled over at Moross and Chalfonte and told officers he had "half," when asked if he had any alcohol to drink.

A preliminary breath test found his blood alcohol content to be 0.158 percent and he was arrested for operating

with blood alcohol content of 0.17 percent or more, as well as for open liquor transport.

Bundled up

A man was seen placing four bottles of alcohol worth \$136 in his jacket inside a business in the 18000 block of Mack at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30. He then left without paying.

The suspect is described as a black man with a full beard and mustache wearing blue jeans, a blue winter jacket, a blue beanie cap and white shoes.

Assault

While doing contracted construction at a home in the 300 block of Moross at 2:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1, a 31-year-old Durand man reportedly told a 47-year-old Port Huron coworker he was going to kill him after being asked to quiet down.

The suspect then approached the victim with a hammer, but after that hand was grabbed, began punching the victim repeatedly in the head.

The 47-year-old Port Huron man sustained a black eye.

Surprise

After returning a vehicle to a local rental car agency Friday, Dec. 1, a 33-year-old Roseville woman called an hour later to say she left something in the vehicle.

Inside the center console, employees located a semi-automatic handgun with eight rounds in the magazine and one in the chamber.

A LEIN search found the woman is the registered owner of the gun and has a valid concealed carry license.

Renew licenses

A number of drivers were caught with expired license plates in the last week.

◆ A 59-year-old Detroit woman was cited at Mack and Bournemouthe at 9:07 a.m. Friday, Dec. 1.

◆ A 26-year-old West Bloomfield man was cited at Kerby and Mack at 12:47 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1.

◆ A 33-year-old Woods man was cited at Chalfonte and Bournemouthe at 11:23 a.m. Saturday Dec. 2.

◆ A 40-year-old Shores woman was cited at Mack

and Moross at 10:55 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 2.

—Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Park**Like the old days**

A lieutenant harkened to his patrolman days last week while driving on Mack Avenue.

Shortly before 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 28, he spotted a male motorist disregarding a stop light and, during a roadside investigation near the intersection of Bedford, determined the 47-year-old suspect from Detroit was violating a suspended operator's license.

A background check revealed more problems.

"The driver (had) multiple warrants for his arrest from multiple agencies," police said.

—Brad Lindberg

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



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POINTES OF VIEW

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

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

The importance of attending superintendent candidate interviews

As seen on page 1A in today's Grosse Pointe News, the Grosse Pointe Public School System has narrowed the field for its next superintendent to seven candidates, all of whom are taking part in first-round public interviews this week.

We call on all community members and stakeholders of this district to attend one or more of these interviews and fully engage in the decision-making process for GPPSS's next superintendent.

Interviews will take place in Brownell Middle School's multipurpose room, located at 260 Chalfonte in Grosse Pointe Farms.

The gamut of interviews began after press time Wednesday, Dec. 6, with the following candidates:

- ◆ 5:30 p.m. — A.J. Staniszewski, M.A., director of Mapleton Public Schools in Denver, Colo.
- ◆ 6:30 p.m. — Stephen Doerr, M.A., superintendent of East Jackson Community Schools, in Jackson.
- ◆ 7:30 p.m. — Stephen Bigelow, Ph.D., superintendent of Bay City Public Schools, in Bay City.
- ◆ 8:30 p.m. — Cormac Lynn, Ed.S., superintendent of schools for the Catholic Diocese of Saginaw.

On Thursday, Dec. 7, the schedule is as follows:

- ◆ 6 p.m. — Andrea Tuttle, Ed.D., superintendent of Owosso Public Schools in Owosso.
- ◆ 7 p.m. — Shaun Black, Ph.D., executive director of academics for the Harper Woods School District, in Harper Woods.
- ◆ 8 p.m. — Jennifer Herbstreit, Ed.S., assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction in Holly Area Schools, in Holly.

Because these interviews are considered public meetings, stakeholders can fill out interview feedback forms after each interview. Copies of the feedback forms will be reviewed by the GPPSS Board of Education. Attendees also can speak during a public comments portion of the meeting.

The BoE will narrow down the pool to two candidates from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at Brownell in another meeting that is open to the public. Those two finalists will come back for second interviews Tuesday, Dec. 12.

The first round of interviews should be for comparing the candidates, while second interviews should focus on exploring the strengths and weaknesses of the finalists, according to Jay Bennett, assistant director of executive search services for the Michigan Association of School Boards.

Given the tremendous importance of hiring a new superintendent, these open meetings give GPPSS stakeholders the chance to give a more holistic review of the candidates and not just rely on what a candidate's accomplishments and credentials are on paper. Getting a good grasp on a candidate's fit with the district is better gauged in person.

We implore stakeholders to not let these multiple opportunities pass by to have your voices heard and your input count in the decision-making process for Grosse Pointe's next superintendent.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Pure GP

Greetings from the North Pole! Santa looks forward to your letters every year and if you write him a letter this month and remember to include your address, Santa will write you back! Letters can be dropped off in a special mailbox on the corner of Moross and Lakeshore, located at 357 Lakeshore in Grosse Pointe Farms. Drop them in the red Santa mailbox anytime until Christmas Eve, because after that, the mailbox disappears. Elves pick up these letters daily and Santa's helper, who lives in the house on Lakeshore, will help get your letter to the North Pole. The letters Santa writes in return will be written on special Santa stationary. Merry Christmas!

GUEST OPINION By Mary Beth Garvey, LMSW

Myths about grief dispelled

Grief is a natural response to loss, whatever that loss is to us. In the last year alone, Grosse Pointe has experienced intense tragedy with several unexpected deaths of young adults from our community.

But our culture sometimes leaves little room for grief. The need to grieve is often minimized or denied. The expectation is that it should be private, quiet and brief.

One of the things I hear often from people who have suffered a loss is that they hear they should "move on with their life," or they "need to focus on the positive." Ultimately, they are getting feedback that suggests they just aren't doing grief "the right way."

But there is no right way to do loss. Everyone experiences it uniquely.

The emotional suffering we feel when something or someone we love is taken away is a very personal journey and what we need to do in order to recover can't be simply prescribed.

Culturally, we value optimism and a pull-yourself-up-by-the-bootstraps mentality. But attending to our grief helps us to be more resilient. And the reality is there are no absolutes about grieving. All losses are not the same, neither is how people choose to navigate grief. There is a misconception that there is a way we are "supposed" to grieve.

The following are some of the myths that can undermine a person's ability to cope with their grief and diminish our ability to support them:

Myth No. 1: Grief is a predictable process that progresses through stages.

You've heard of the stages associated with the grief process — denial, anger, bargaining, depression, acceptance. People do not move through them in an orderly way. Many move in and out of these stages repeatedly, others go through

only some of these stages and still others may get stuck in one. It can be risky to dictate what a grieving experience should look like because when grief doesn't fit that process it is just one more thing that makes people feel anxious or out of control. People often simply need reassurance that it is OK to be in whatever space they are in and that they won't always be there. It's so important to look at grief from where they are, not moving them to where you think they should be or trying to make everything OK.

Myth No. 2: We need to find closure for our grief and it is best to do so quickly.

Grief is not something to "get over" and there is no timeline. While many people start to hear they should find closure after a particular period, grief is a process that takes

time. Although intense grief often comes to an end, a person's feelings of loss typically will not completely disappear.

The idea of closure suggests there is an end to grief and that it is something that can be put away. Yet grief is not something that can be wrapped up neatly and people don't necessarily need closure to heal. While the encouragement to find closure is well intended, what I often hear from people who have suffered a loss is this: "If I start to do better — if I begin to move on — I'm not honoring the person I lost or I'm diminishing their significance." We don't really leave grief behind. The feelings of grief often ebb and flow. Healing may involve finding a space in our life for the grief we experience, alongside feelings like joy, optimism or gratitude.

A more useful way to think about healing may be about moving toward reconciliation, rather than closure. This is what occurs as we work to

See MYTHS, page 8A



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GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

December 7 - 13

THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
46° 37°	52° 39°	48° 34°	41° 29°	39° 28°	39° 29°	39° 29°
Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Rain Showers	Rain/Snow Showers	Rain Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
10%	0%	50%	50%	50%	0%	0%
SUNRISE 7:47 am SUNSET 4:59 pm	SUNRISE 7:48 am SUNSET 4:59 pm	SUNRISE 7:49 am SUNSET 4:59 pm	SUNRISE 7:50 am SUNSET 4:59 pm	SUNRISE 7:50 am SUNSET 4:59 pm	SUNRISE 7:51 am SUNSET 4:59 pm	SUNRISE 7:52 am SUNSET 4:59 pm

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

It takes a Village

To the Editor:

As a board member of Main Street Grosse Pointe, it is extremely rewarding to see the funds we contributed for the additional holiday lights truly liven up The Village. I want to thank the City of Grosse Pointe for helping to create our vision for the season. I would also like to recognize the tremendous work of our volunteers. Resident Didi Deboer spent countless hours designing and constructing the beautiful pots that line Kercheval, not only for this season, but also planting flowers in the springtime. We are blessed to have her talent and dedication to The Village. Additionally, I want to acknowledge resident Cynthia Mack. Cynthia created the 80-plus beautiful bows that hang along Kercheval and lend a festive atmosphere to our business district. Kelly Moore has served on the promotions committee of Main Street for several years and ensures that all our events, especially Santa's workshop this time of year, go off without a hitch. These ladies have been instrumental to the creation of joy within our city and I want to express my uttermost gratitude to these amazing volunteers of Main Street Grosse Pointe. IT TRULY TAKES A VILLAGE! I am extremely grateful for have community members that share my devotion and love of The Village. Thank you ladies!!

LANNA YOUNG

Owner of Savvy Chic Boutique

City of Grosse Pointe resident

Main Street Grosse Pointe board member

I SAY By Renee Landuyt

Mighty Mackinac Bridge connects Yoopers, trolls



The mighty Mackinac Bridge. I'm sure you might have driven across it, but have you ever walked across it when it opens to pedestrian traffic for half a day on Labor Day every year? I have. A few decades ago.

I had been asleep about three hours after I'd gotten home late from work. I was living in Harbor Springs at the time and my friends came over around 5:30 a.m. and said, "Get up, we're going to walk across the Mackinac Bridge today."

What? Why?, my groggy self wondered.

"C'mon, get up," they said. Well, they weren't leaving without me, so I got out of bed, got dressed, looked around for my hiking boots and we drove up to the bridge and participated in the annual bridge walk, which began at 7 a.m. You can walk across the bridge in either direction leaving from St. Ignace or Mackinaw City, which is what we did since we were in the Lower Peninsula.

The first half was the hardest because it was all uphill.

The bridge is approximately five miles across

one way and if you didn't want to walk back, there were buses ready to transport you to the other side. We ended our walk in St. Ignace, had breakfast at a great little diner then took the bus back to our car.

I was glad my friends came and got me out of bed, though a little warning would have been nice. Even though it felt like we were walking for days, it was a fun experience. We had good weather, we received a certificate saying we walked across the bridge, had a delicious breakfast and then we all went home for a nap.

Reliving this story with a friend recently prompted me to find out some information about the bridge, which was opened to traffic 66 years ago in 1957. So I went to mackinacbridge.org and looked up some facts. Traditionally, the governor's party leads the walk across the bridge. The bridge walk has been going on since 1958. Approximately 35,000 people walked across the bridge in 2023.

The Mackinac Bridge is the third-longest suspension bridge in the U.S. and 12th-longest worldwide. The bridge, sometimes lovingly called The Mighty Mac, took about 48 months and cost almost \$100 million to build.

The height of the road midway across is 199 feet above the water and in 2009, the bridge was recognized as a National

Historic Civil Engineering Landmark. The bridge spans the Straits of Mackinac and connects two of the Great Lakes, Lake Michigan and Lake Huron. Before the bridge was constructed, traveling between the Upper and Lower Peninsulas was a one-hour ferry ride.

The Mackinac bridge has 4,851,700 steel rivets and 1,016,600 steel bolts. Four thousand engineer drawings were done for the bridge and there were 85,000 blueprints. Maintenance of the bridge is paid for entirely by fees and tolls.

While the Mackinac bridge is five miles long, for comparison the Golden Gate bridge is approximately 1.7 miles long. While the Mackinac Bridge seems to float above the water in a color called "Foliage Green," the Golden Gate's color is "Orange Vermilion."

Today, if you don't feel comfortable driving across the bridge, there is a Drivers Assistance Program, which provides a driver who will drive you in your car across the bridge for no charge; it is available 24/7.

In Michigan, a tourist is called a fudgie (for the Mackinac fudge they can't resist buying before they leave), residents who live in the U.P. are called Yoopers and, if you live in the Lower Peninsula, residents are lightheartedly called trolls. Get it? A troll, because you live under the bridge. That's funny.

Driver in attempted BP break-in charged

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE CITY & WOODS — The ring-leader of a crew believed to be responsible for 15 to 20 break-ins within about a week targeting vape and cigarette shops in the metro Detroit area — most notably, an unsuccessful attempted robbery of the BP gas station at Mack and Rivard Oct. 16, as well as break-ins at Merit Woods Pharmacy and Chicken Shack on Mack a few days prior to that — has confessed to being the driver in the three Grosse Pointe crimes and was arraigned for the BP incident before newly elected City Judge David Draper Thursday, Nov. 30.

The 18-year-old Detroit man, Martez Hunter, is charged with breaking and entering; malicious destruction of a building between \$1,000 and \$20,000; and larceny in a building.

He and at least five other suspects were cap-

tured on security footage driving a white Dodge TRX — at the time thought to be a Dodge Ram — and a black Kia sedan into the rear alley behind the BP station around 1 a.m. in October, before attempting to smash through a tempered glass window with a hammer. Directly on the other side of the window sat a large display of vape cartridges.

The crew is believed to be responsible for similar crimes in Detroit, Hamtramck, Redford, Dearborn, St. Clair Shores and Shelby Township, "to name a few," City Detective Mike Narduzzi said. "From what we learned, a lot of it was just spontaneous," he added. "They were driving around, (would say), 'Let's hit that place,' (and agree), 'OK, let's do it.'"

Hunter faces the new charges from a cell in the Macomb County Jail, where he's already being held on breaking and entering charges out of

Warren. The jurisdiction's officers picked him up Oct. 19, after he fled an attempt by state troopers to pull him over for speeding in the white Dodge TRX.

"They (the state police) actually (used the PIT maneuver), caused it to crash and the driver got out and ran," Narduzzi said. "Well, the Warren PD, who was watching him, knew where he was going, so they set up on the house and two hours later, he shows up there and they arrest him."

Incidentally, the black Kia sedan also used in the BP incident was stolen out of Grosse Pointe Farms and since has been recovered.

Hunter next comes before Draper for a probable cause conference Thursday, Dec. 14. Cases out of the Woods are pending.

"Now they know not to come into Grosse Pointe," Narduzzi said. "When you hit Grosse Pointe, we like to hit back, hard."

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Left, Hailey thinks about what else she wants Santa to bring her while her sister, Lexi, was not so sure about the whole “talk to Santa” idea yet. Right, Emory Leong brought her doll to show Santa and her sister, Evelyn Leong, brought along her Christmas wish list.



Top, 7-month-old Jamario Washington checked Santa out while his 5-year-old brother, Bernard, had a chance to tell Santa what was on his list this year. Bottom, Carter Ziemlewicz was shy about talking to Santa this year, but was excited that Santa gave him a special snowman blanket as a gift.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grateful giving

Kids on the Go’s Giving Tuesday Believe campaign took place 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 28, at Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy and included a visit from Santa Claus from 5 to 6 p.m. Whistle Stop donated 20 percent of all purchases during that time to Kids on the Go. Kids on the Go received just more than \$4,000 through the event for its Fun & Fitness and Health & Wellness programming.

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MYTHS:

Continued from page 6A

integrate a new reality of moving forward in our lives. Keep in mind that reconciliation is a process that:

- ◆ involves a renewed sense of energy and confidence,
- ◆ an ability to fully acknowledge the reality of the loss and
- ◆ allows a person to become fully engaged in the activities of living again.

This is a process that acknowledges both the pain of a loss and the possibility of future happiness.

Myth No. 3: We should not lean into our grief.

There is often the idea that we should move away from our grief, that this will quiet it. Many people do not give themselves permission to grieve or receive validation from others to do so. But denying grief will not make it go away. However painful, attending to our grief allows us to lessen the power of it. Trying to mask it, or ignore it, can increase anxiety, depression or other physical symptoms — and grief eventually asserts itself.

Denying the intense emotions that come with grief also gets in the way of staying connected with others or getting the support we may need. Many people who are grieving feel their thoughts or feelings are “crazy” or “abnormal.” They can feel like they are falling apart. One of the greatest comforts we can provide to someone who is struggling with grief is to validate that their feelings are normal and they are entitled to them. When people feel they have to shut down or put away their intense emotions — and they can’t — they often will isolate themselves.

It is so important to let someone who is grieving know it is normal to be all over the map emotionally: to be angry, sad or confused, to experience a loss of faith or trust or safety, or to be knee deep in envy, resentment or fear. Acknowledging these powerful emotions doesn’t make them more intense. It actually helps diminish them. Looking at them, exposing them to the light, is part of recovering.

We can carry more than one emotion at a time. Joy and grief are intimately intertwined. If we ask people to put their grief or their pain away, they also may put away many of the positive feelings they have for the person or experience they lost. Our role in supporting people who are grieving is not about taking away their

pain, but allowing them to attend to it in a way that also makes room for their joy.

Myth No. 4: It’s important to “be strong.”

Being strong does not mean pretending everything is OK; and feeling emotional, tearful or unmoored is not a sign you aren’t doing well. Our culture suggests if you’re not happy all the time, you’re doing something wrong and many people equate tears or emotional vulnerability with weakness, even in grief. But strength is not about looking like you have it all together. It is about having the wisdom to ask for — and accept — support. It’s also about maintaining the courage to attend to thoughts and feelings that are often painful, complicated and intense. And it’s about being compassionate enough with ourselves and others to attend to whatever emotions come up without judgment.

Many people who are grieving protect their friends and family from the pain they are experiencing, by putting on a good front and being “strong.” It takes a lot of physical and emotional energy to pretend you are doing fine when you’re not. Very often, what people need is someone who can bear witness to what they are going through without feeling responsible for the helplessness it stirs up.

Society’s message that mourning should be done quietly and efficiently may be more about our own discomfort rather than what is most helpful for the griever. Support may involve just being still with someone who is exposing their struggle to you, meeting them exactly where they are, even if they are on their knees. You don’t have to have any answers, know the right thing to say or make their tears go away.

If you are supporting someone who is grieving, ask them what would be most helpful to them, because support is going to look like different things to different people. Just be still with them. Listen carefully. It is difficult when you feel like you aren’t doing enough to ease the pain of someone you love, but very often what they want is just for someone to be in that moment with them, however imperfectly you do it.

Mary Beth Garvey, LMSW, is a therapist in private practice in Grosse Pointe. She works with children, adolescents and families and can be reached at (313) 408-2180 or mbgarvey@hotmail.com. Garvey is a member of The Family Center’s Association of Professionals.



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10A | SCHOOLS

GPFPE announces fall grants

THE GROSSE POINTES — The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education recently announced more than \$76,000 in funding for programs and initiatives in its fall 2023 grant cycle.

The GPFPE Grants Committee presented the details at the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting Tuesday, Nov. 28.

“It’s Giving Tuesday and we are here to give,” foundation President Cynthia Sohn said. “We are built on the belief that strong communities are built on strong schools.”

Recipients are as follows:

- ◆ Ferry Destination Imagination Team, (Grades K-3), \$200
- ◆ Monteith Destination Imagination Team, (Grades K-3), \$200
- ◆ Defer Destination Imagination Team, (Grades 1-4), \$1,000
- ◆ Pierce Destination Imagination Team, (Grades 5-7), \$400
- ◆ Baggie Books for Second Grade, (Grade 2), Ferry, \$5,000
- ◆ Ukuleles for General Music (Grade 5) Brownell, Parcels and Pierce, \$6,660
- ◆ CommuniToys: Bridging Community Through Play, (Birth-3 years and grade 5-8), Barnes and Parcels \$2,000
- ◆ General Assistance for the

Gearheads, (Grade 9-12), North and South, \$2,500

- ◆ Sphero BOLT Coding Robotics, (Grades 5-8), Parcels, \$6,227
- ◆ Digital Drawing Tablets (Grades 5-8), Brownell, Parcels and Pierce, \$4,000
- ◆ High Accuracy Electronic Balances for the Chemistry Program, (Grades 10-12), South, \$2,800
- ◆ Screen Printing Equipment, (Grades 9-12), South, \$18,000
- ◆ Wheel Chair Potter’s Wheel for Ceramics, (Grades 9-12), South, \$4,700
- ◆ No Place For Hate/Bridge Club, (Grades 5-8), Parcels, \$2,000
- ◆ BeaTWEEN the Books Therapy Dog Program, (Grades 5-8), Pierce, \$586
- ◆ South Art IA Consolidation General Fundraising Effort (Grades 9-12), South, \$20,000

Total grants for 2023 are \$134,615, with more than \$58,000 given last spring. The foundation has given the district more than \$4 million since its inception in 2006.

“Thank you all,” Board President Ahmed Ismail said. “Each one of you is a blessing to the school system.”

— Ted O’Neil



PHOTO COURTESY OF JASON LOUDERMILK PHOTOGRAPHY

Shery Cotton, center, with her son, Jon, and daughter-in-law, Lauren.

Pediatric ER to open in January

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

DETROIT — Among the organized chaos and intensity that comes with being a level 1 trauma center, the emergency room at Ascension St. John Hospital historically has seen 15,000 pediatric patients come through its beds each year, alongside adults being treated for minor injuries to critical gunshot wounds.

“Visiting the ER can be traumatic enough for

anyone — adult or child,” said Dr. Marcus DeGraw, chief of pediatrics, in a press release. “We do not want young children and their families in the waiting room with adults in serious distress. Neither should we treat them in proximity.”

Come January 2024, they no longer will.

The new Shery L. Cotton Pediatric Emergency Department at Ascension St. John Children’s Hospital, made possible in part by

a \$4 million gift from Shery Cotton and her son, Jon, will open at the start of the new year and encompasses a “welcoming, calming and hopeful place for families,” said Rebecca Sellers, chief development officer for the Ascension St. John Foundation.

A soft color scheme of light blues and tans make up a Great Lakes theme, featuring lighthouses, sea creatures, birds and

See ER, page 11A

SEVEN:

Continued from page 1A

public.

“Maybe they thought being one of nine was too many,” Board President Ahmed Ismail said. “If they were one of four or five, they might have been willing to put their name out there.”

Staniszewski, Doerr, Bigelow and Lynn were scheduled to be interviewed Wednesday, Dec. 6, after press time, with Tuttle, Black and Herbstreit scheduled for Thursday. The board planned to have two finalists come back for second interviews

Tuesday, Dec. 12.

The board will pick those finalists during a special meeting at 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9.

Jay Bennett, assistant director of executive search services for the Michigan Association of School Boards, told the board the first round of interviews should be for comparing the candidates, while second interviews should focus on exploring the strengths and weaknesses of the finalists.

“You can’t base your decision just on the interview,” Bennett said. “Some people might have an off day but look great on paper and the

opposite is true.”

Of those who applied, 55 percent have a doctorate, 28 percent have a master’s degree and 17 percent have an education specialist degree, which is an intermediate step between a master’s degree and doctorate.

A stakeholder survey MASHB conducted found 429 respondents out of 846 people who took the survey said being a superintendent in another district would prove most valuable in the new hire, followed closely by building principal (409) and teacher (407). Another 385 chose assistant superintendent.

The job posting, which opened in late September, listed a starting salary range of \$275,000 to \$350,000, with start date and allowances for things like an annuity and retirement to be negotiated. Bennett previously told the board a current superintendent probably would not leave their job midway through the school year and a July 1 start date is more likely.

Some 71 percent of applicants are Michigan residents, while 29 percent listed an address outside of Michigan.

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-Water Lines A Short Story Book:
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Pat M. - ★★★★★ Amazon Customer Review

“The final story: A River Away’ is a historical record of Lake St. Clair, Detroit River, and Windsor, Ontario and Canada. The book is 55 pages and 5” x 7. A wonderful gift for amateur or seasoned boater.”
Google Books customer review

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ER:

Continued from page 10A

water. In the exam rooms, a Seek and Find activity on the walls offers children a distraction while waiting.

“Jon’s two children were born here and spent time in our special care nursery, so the Cottons know what a difference having quality pediatric care close to home can make,” Sellers said during the ribbon-cutting and donor recognition event Tuesday, Nov. 21 — fittingly the same week as World Children’s Day.

The level II pediatric emergency department features pediatric triage and exam rooms separate from adult patients; a dedicated ambulance entrance and trauma rooms specifically for children; 13 exam rooms, including three child/adolescent behavioral health rooms, one sensory exam room and two procedure rooms; new state-of-the-art equipment; and board-



A soft color scheme of light blues and tans — shown here in the waiting room — make up a Great Lakes theme, featuring lighthouses, sea creatures, birds and water.

certified pediatric emergency specialists and specially trained nurses available 24/7.

More than 24 pediatric specialties represented at the institution include pediatric cardiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, intensive care and a neonatal intensive care unit.

“The benefit of a dedicated space for pediatrics is that everything is designed with our youngest, smallest patients in mind,” said

Dr. David Ahee, medical director and chief for the department of emergency medicine, in the release. “We have all the necessary equipment and staff to best care for the unique needs of the pediatric population.”

The opening of the pediatric ER marks completion of the first of a four-phase plan to renovate pediatric services at Ascension St. John Children’s Hospital.

Next, construction will begin in January on



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JASON LOUDERMILK PHOTOGRAPHY

The ribbon cutting for the Shery L. Cotton Pediatric Emergency Department at Ascension St. John Children’s Hospital was held Tuesday, Nov. 21. Pictured, from left, are Debbie Bellovich, Lorna Zalenski, Jon Cotton, Pete DiLella, Shery Cotton, Dr. Kevin Grady, Lauren Cotton, Andrew Cracchiolo, Dr. Marcus DeGraw, Dr. Robert Sills, Dr. David Ahee, Erica Terry and Justin McWherter.

the dedicated Van Elslander Women’s and Children’s Entrance to Ascension St. John Hospital to provide com-

fort and convenience, focusing on family-centered care. Following the Mary Ann Van the The Carls

Foundation Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and the Mary Ann Van Elslander Pediatric Inpatient Unit.



The 13 exam rooms include three child/adolescent behavioral health rooms, one sensory exam room and two procedure rooms.

PIT:

Continued from page 2A

Hindelang instructed Craig to research cost projections and report findings during a future meeting of the commission.

“We want to hear back before anything’s done here,” Hindelang said. “It may be we have better ideas for the space after we hear what it’s going to cost.”

“My goal would be to reach out to three or four contractors and get three options from each one, basically a small, medium and large pavilion, from minimum size to something that would hold 60

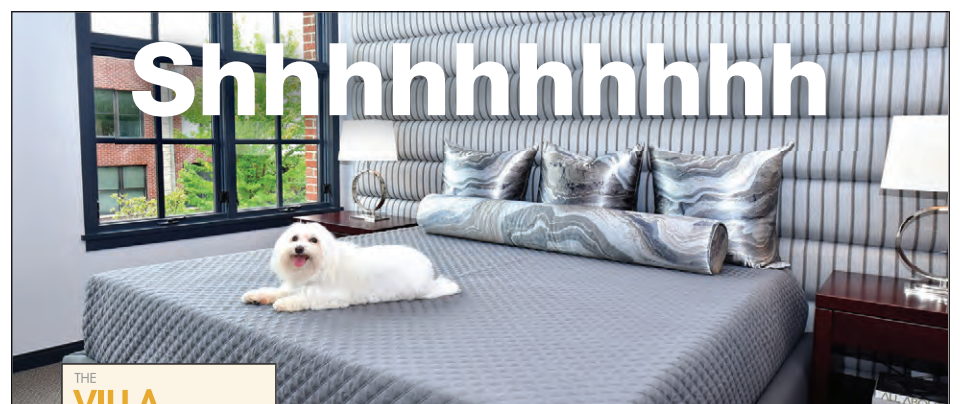
individuals,” Craig said. One suggestion leads to another and the idea of a busy pavilion prompted talk about easy access.

“I’d like to see some sort of entrance (walkway) from the pool to the playscape area for summer instead of having to walk all the way around, especially if the kiddie pool is closed,” Commissioner Howard Bouton said. “A pavilion is going to take concrete. What’s a few more slabs of concrete?”

Craig said permission from state environmental regulators might be needed for changes to a swimming pool.

Regardless, he recommended a path made of

engineered fiber rather than concrete.



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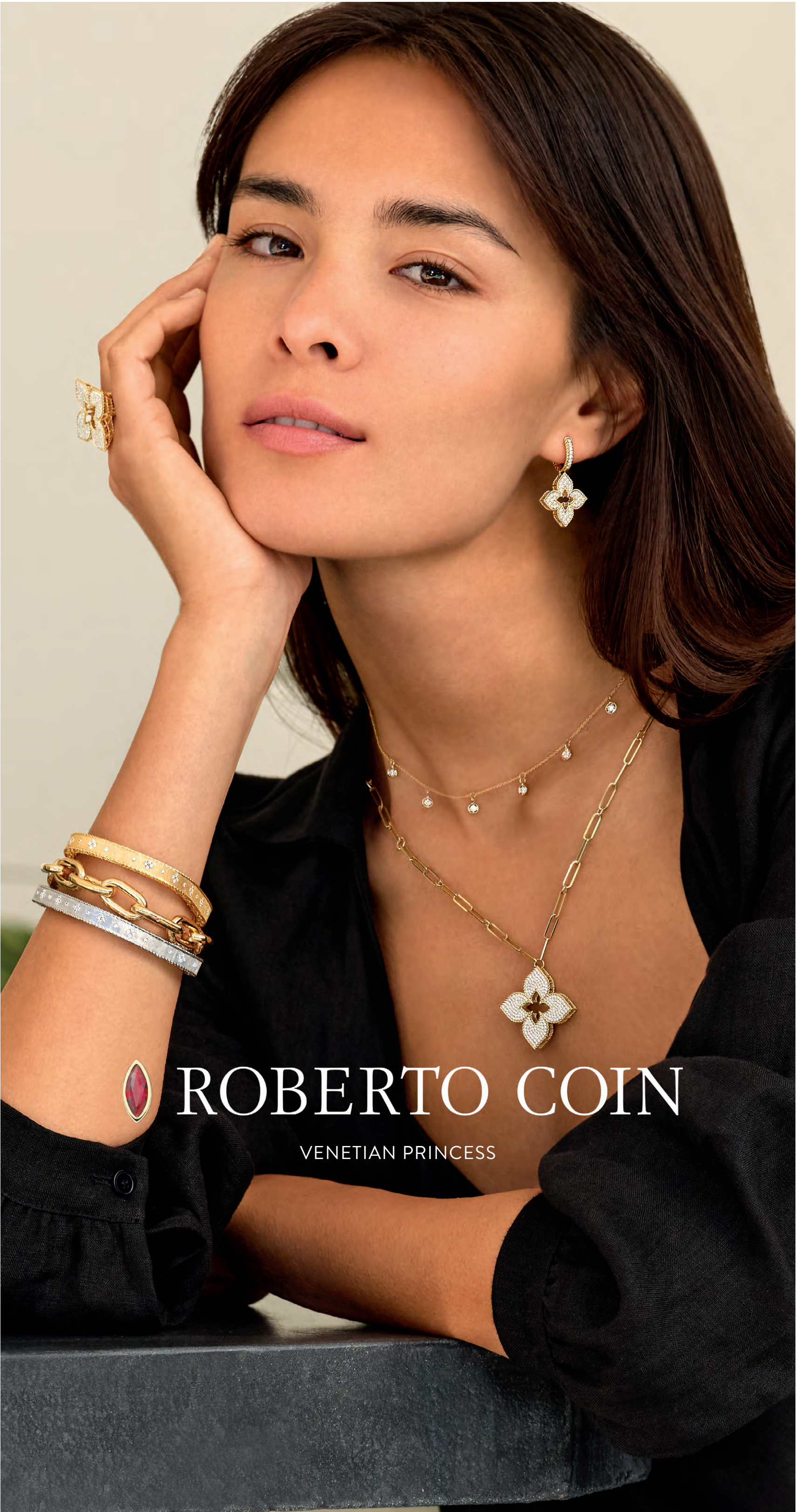
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2B AREA ACTIVITIES | 4-5B SENIOR LIVING | 6-7B OBITUARIES | 7B CHURCHES

‘Annie Jr.’ showcases kids’ talents onstage, backstage

Sensory-friendly performance planned

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

For more than 20 years, Grosse Pointe Theatre has provided theatrical classes to students ages 6 to 14, instilling in them more than basic acting skills. Youth on Stage participants learn about leadership and teamwork while developing a positive self-image during the program, which ends with a main-stage production.

Students from the 2023 fall session will present “Annie Jr.,” directed by Annie Kordas, Friday, Dec. 15, to Sunday, Dec. 17, at Pierce Middle School. Not only will actors take the stage, but they’ll also work behind the scenes, covering every aspect to make sure the show runs smoothly.

“It’s great to give them an opportunity to showcase the skills,” said Youth on Stage Program Director Rachel Hutchison. “... It’s four performances. It’s a lot to ask these kids to do. I’m excited for everyone to see ‘Annie Jr.’”

Like their adult counterparts, the closer students get to curtain, the longer and more intense rehearsals become.

The talent pool was deep this fall, with so many students and so much talent, Kordas decided to double cast the roles of Annie and the orphans.



Left, Sloane Kordas as Annie, with Sandy the dog. Right, Charlotte Torrento as Grace, Anna Steiger as Annie and Henry Berschback as Daddy Warbucks.

“They all look fantastic,” Hutchison said. “Both crews are phenomenal.”

Each double-cast actor will perform those roles in two of the four shows; however, “All of them are in all of the shows, just in different roles.”

Also making this run of “Annie Jr.” special is a Saturday afternoon performance that is sensory-friendly, offering the theater experience to people with autism, sensory sensitivities or other social, learning or cognitive disabilities.

“We did it with ‘Little

Mermaid Jr.’ last year,” Hutchison said. “The kids (onstage) handled it so well. They weren’t rattled by distractions in the audience or by the house lights being up or the audience being a little noisier. It’s not a big deal if someone has to get up and leave. ... They did great with ‘Little Mermaid Jr.’ last year and they’ll do great with ‘Annie Jr.’”

“Annie Jr.” is the closing production of the fall session of Youth on Stage. Every fall and spring since 2001, Youth on Stage has offered a series of classes, ranging



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HER & HIM STUDIO/MONI VALENTINI

from smaller classes like puppeteering — “They use their imagination to tell stories,” Hutchison said — to production class, which is where “Annie Jr.” comes in, and technical theater class, where students learn how to run tech for the show.

Production students for “Annie Jr.” registered in September and started rehearsing in October.

“In this show we have 57 kids in the class and another 30-plus kids on the waiting list,” Hutchison said. “We closed registration for ‘Annie Jr.’ within two

hours.

“... Tech class is another 17 kids,” she added. “A lot of kids are involved in making this show happen. It’s exciting — for the kids and for us, the people who run it.”

Though productions are nothing new to Youth on Stage, Hutchison said she’s seen them grow in recent years.

“Emmajean (Evans) for many years was running the smaller classes, doing smaller productions, but never did main-stage productions,” she said. “Nothing like we’re seeing now. There was some reimagining during COVID, when we had to shut down. We did some things online, then came back and decided to frame things differently.”

Evans and Grosse Pointe Theatre veteran Nick Marinello decided they’d like to provide more opportunities for students. Executive Director Linda Zublick, who has a background in youth theater, volunteered to lead kids in “Seussical, The Musical.”

The details

Who: Grosse Pointe Theatre’s Youth on Stage

What: “Annie Jr.”

Where: Pierce Middle School, 15430 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park

When:

7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15

1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16 — a sensory-friendly performance

7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16

1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17

How: Tickets are \$10 for students, \$15 for adults

Info: Visit gpt.org/annie or call (313) 881-4004

“Then I did ‘Little Mermaid Jr.’ last spring,” Hutchison said. “That show I think was the first in (Youth on Stage) history to have completely sold out. Every seat in the house and in the balcony was sold every night. We have an incredibly supportive community for these shows.”

“... This is so much more than putting on a show,” she added. “I love Youth on Stage. We have a ton of parent volunteers who get involved. When you look at the show onstage, you’re seeing hundreds of hours put into creating costumes, painting sets, building props. It’s a tremendous family affair.”

Some of the cast of “Annie Jr.” are returning to the stage after taking part in Grosse Pointe Theatre productions.

“It’s exciting to see them grow,” Hutchison said. “This is an educational program; it’s about teaching kids theater. Theater is all about life; we’re teaching them life skills. The older kids have sort of taken on a mentor role with the younger ones. The older kids help them understand what to do, to be quiet backstage, to get into character. They lead the way, which makes the job of the director easier. Those are leadership skills that will serve them later in life. It’s a collaborative team effort.”



Above, actors portraying the orphans were double cast. Right, Amelia Unkel as Miss Hannigan, Helena Trudel as Rooster and Josephine O’Reilly as Lily.



What is ‘sensory friendly’?

The 1 p.m. performance Saturday, Dec. 16, will be a sensory-friendly performance, designed to create a welcoming and comfortable arts experience for people with autism, sensory sensitivities or other social, learning or cognitive disabilities. This performance also is perfect for young, first-time theater goers.

This performance will offer:

- ◆ Advanced social narrative with pictures
- ◆ House lights will remain on

- ◆ Reduced special effects and lighting
- ◆ Reduced sound levels
- ◆ Ability to move around as needed
- ◆ Quiet space in the lobby
- ◆ Personal headphones, cushions or fidgets are welcome
- ◆ Allergy-free snacks
- ◆ Visual schedule and simplified synopsis available at performance

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2B | FEATURES

Grosse Pointe Symphony presents Dec. 10 holiday concert

The Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra, led by conductor and music director Joe Striplin, presents "Holiday Concert for Children of All Ages" at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods.

The concert opens with excerpts from Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite," followed by Nester Scholarship winner and Grosse Pointe North High School student Ben Graham soloing in the first movement of William Walton's "Viola Concerto." Graham has received national recognition as an orchestral musician, performing in ensembles like Carnegie Hall's National Youth Orchestra, Interlochen's World Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Detroit Symphony Youth Orchestra. He also has been selected for the Michigan High School All-State Orchestra every year of



Ben Graham, left, Msgr. Gary Smetanka, above, and Director of Music Aaron Kaleniecki, right, will perform during the Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra concert Dec. 10.



"Peter and the Wolf," "a symphonic fairy tale for children" that introduces and demonstrates the instruments in the orchestra while telling the story of young Peter's attempts to capture a menacing wolf that has crept from the forest near his grandfather's farm.

high school, serving as principal violist in the 2022 orchestra.

The concert continues with Star of the Sea's Msgr. Gary Smetanka narrating a performance of Sergei Prokofiev's

Following intermission, Star of the Sea organist and Director of Music Aaron Kaleniecki joins the orchestra in the performance of Alexander Guilmant's Symphony No. 1 for Organ and Orchestra. The concert concludes with Leroy Anderson's "A Christmas Festival," a medley of traditional Christmas carols.

Tickets are available at the door or the orchestra's website, gpsymphony.org. Tickets

are \$20, \$15 for seniors, \$5 for college students and free to K-12 students.

The orchestra's 71st season continues Feb. 18, with a concert featuring the music of J.S. Bach, Saint-Saens and Beethoven, and April 14, with a concert featuring the Brahms Violin Concerto and Ottorino Respighi's "The Pines of Rome." A summer outdoor concert will follow in August.

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

GPYC manager receives prestigious designation

Aaron Wagner, CCM, general manager of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club in Grosse Pointe Shores, has been awarded a Certified Club Manager designation by the Club Management Association of America. The CCM designation indicates that a club management professional has completed a rigorous course of study and training and shows a dedication to proficiency and expertise in club management.



Aaron Wagner, CCM

To receive the designation, one must invest more than six years of study in specified educational requirements through business management institutes, attend world conferences on club management and maintain activity within their local chapter. After these conditions have been met, the individual must pass the CCM exam.

Wagner was approved by the certification committee of CMAA after successfully passing an extensive certification examination on club operations.

He has been the general manager of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club since 2017, offering a variety of membership types and welcoming members of all ages. The club features an active boating membership for those who would like to harbor a boat at the club and a

social membership for just about everything else. "The GPYC is a family club and you don't necessarily have to be a boater to join," Wagner said. "In fact, thanks to the vast array of programs, most of our members are social members. The GPYC is also a 12-month club. We don't shut down in the winter. We are vibrant with activity all year."

GPYC's list of activities spans from boating to bowling to ice skating. Wagner said the club is known for entertainment and enjoyment.

"The best part of our club is the culture and community," he added. "You can have historic and beautiful clubhouses, grounds and amazing programs, but the glue that holds it all together is the member culture. We are 'the fun club' and we are very family friendly."

In addition to the dedicated team, the club has put more than \$10 million

See GPYC, page 3B

AREA ACTIVITIES

Pop-up Shop/Benefit

Savvy Chic Boutique, 16822 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe, hosts a holiday pop-up shop from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, featuring a variety of small businesses such as Ivy Hair Co., Aesthetic Theory MedSpa, The Class Crumb Cookies, Lakuna Links Permanent Jewelry, Shores Meat Shoppe and Nothing Bundt Cakes. The event also includes raffles, angel card reading by Heidi Kemper, and wine and snacks courtesy of Vertical Detroit and The Cheese Shoppe Grosse Pointe. Admission is \$10, which will be donated to the nonprofit Phoemale in honor of the late Missy Kinyon.

Questers

Pettipointe Questers No. 243 will meet at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, at the Country Club of Detroit in Grosse Pointe Farms. CCD is celebrating its 125th anniversary; Questers members will tour the club, where historical artifacts will be displayed. Questers is an international organization founded in 1944. Its major objectives are to stimulate the appreciation and collecting of antiques and encourage the preservation of historical landmarks. For more information, email

pettipointequesters@gmail.com.

The Fox Creek Questers, in support of the Grosse Pointe Historical Society, presents "Madame Provencal Shares Her Family Holiday Recipe," with seatings at 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13, at the Provencal-Weir House, 376 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farm. Questers will serve a typical French holiday tea to support restoration work at the Provencal-Weir House. The menu features tourtiere, tea and treats, shopping at the Vintage Store and a visit from Pierre and Euphemia Provencal. A limited number of tickets, which cost \$20, are available at eventbrite.com. For information, call (313) 884-7010.

Library

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

- ◆ Freedom to Wander: A Memoir with Pasta, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
- ◆ Saturday Drop-in Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Reader Dog @ Woods, 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 9, at Woods, 20680 Mack,

Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Reader Dog @ Ewald, 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Take Home Craft: Rudolph Gift Bag, all day Monday, Dec. 11, at three branches.

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

◆ Girls Reading, 7 to 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 11, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Jolly Duo Visit, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 7th & 8th Grade Book Group, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Teen Creativity Circle: Recycled Winter Book Trees, 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Science Fiction Book Club, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 3D Thursday, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Michigan Poet Laureate Visit, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Readers Choice Book Discussion Group, 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 16, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

Ecumenical Breakfast

The Grosse Pointe Men's Ecumenical Breakfast meets at 7:45 a.m. Friday, Dec. 8, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Coleman Yoakum speaks. Yoakum is the executive director of the Micha 6 Community. Cost of the breakfast is \$7. Registration is not required and first-time guests eat free.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20, Jefferson Masonic Lodge No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21, American House Lakeshore, 28801 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 12:30 to 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22, The Neighborhood Club, 17150 Waterloo, City of Grosse Pointe.

◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22, Ascension St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 28, Roseville Public Library, 29777 Gratiot, Roseville.

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 29, Pointe Fitness, 19556 Harper,

See EVENTS, page 8B

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Noteworthy, Grunyons present 'Christmas on Lakeshore' Dec. 18

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

It's a partnership that has withstood the test of time.

A cappella groups Noteworthy and the Grunyons will reunite for their annual Christmas concert, "Christmas on Lakeshore," at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 18, at Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms.

"We've been sort of brother-and-sister groups for a long, long time," said Philip MacKethan, a member of the Grunyons since 2006. "It's always been a close relationship."

So close, they've partnered for the popular Christmas concert nearly 10 years, spreading Christmas cheer among audiences of all ages.

"It's going to be mostly Christmas music, but we always bring fresh, new pieces," MacKethan said. "They'll also be seeing us

showcase some secular music as well."

The Grunyons will perform first, followed by Noteworthy, then both groups will combine to perform a song together, "which we rarely ever do," MacKethan added.

"It's a song each group chose independently to learn for ourselves, but then we discovered ... they were similar enough they were similar enough arrangements and they blended nicely," he continued. "It's 'Can't Help Falling in Love,' a song that became famous from Elvis Presley. We're doing the Pentatonics arrangement and they're doing a similar arrangement tweaked for female voices."

Each group will perform around 20 to 25 minutes.

"Noteworthy and Grunyons have two very distinct styles," MacKethan said.



SCAN ME

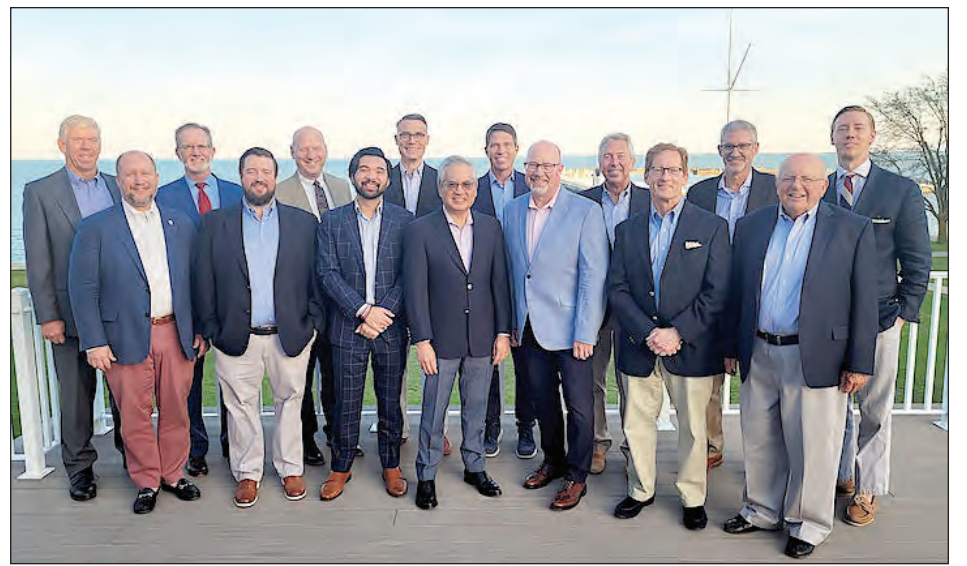
"They're not similar, so what we're singing during the concert — you'll see two independent

shows." MacKethan said much of the audience is made up of familiar faces — people who return year after year for the event.

"We keep it early enough in December so ... this is their kickoff to the Christmas season," he said. "It gets them in the spirit to start decorating the house, decorating the tree. So if you're in the mood to be put in the Christmas spirit, come to this show. If you've never heard a cappella, anyone can enjoy it. Kids, adults — everybody is welcome."

Seating is limited to 300.

"We usually sell out every year," MacKethan noted, "so it's a good idea to buy your tickets early."



COURTESY PHOTOS

The Grunyon, top, and Noteworthy, above, will perform their annual holiday concert, "Christmas on Lakeshore," Dec. 18 at Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church.

Tickets are available online at christmason-lakeshore.com for \$17, plus a processing fee.

Admission at the door is \$25.

For more information about Noteworthy, visit notworthysings.com.

For more information about the Grunyons, visit thegrunyons.com.

Rare Chinese Luohan statue discovered in Michigan garage

Item sells for \$930,000 at DuMouchelles auction

DuMouchelles, the Detroit-based auction house, recently announced the successful sale of a rare early Chinese gilded bronze Luohan statue for \$930,000. The masterfully cast figure of a Buddhist Arhat was a find that had been tucked away in a local garage for years before being brought to DuMouchelles. Its sale marked a monumental event for the consignor.

"We are thrilled with the incredible result achieved for this important sculpture this season," Chairwoman Joan DuMouchelle Walker said. "Its sale for nearly \$1 million, setting a new auction record for bronzes of this subject and size this year, speaks to our capabilities in serving clients whether they walk in off the street with a forgotten treasure or are looking to sell or buy at the highest levels. We have spent over a century bringing unique and important artworks to market and look for-



COURTESY PHOTO

A rare and early Chinese large gilded bronze Arhat statue, "Figure of a Luohan," was sold for \$930,000 through DuMouchelles.

ward to the next fascinating piece walking through our doors."

The statue, measuring 31 inches tall, represents a Luohan — the revered disciples of Buddha in Buddhism. These figures have been central to Chinese art since the Tang dynasty, symbolizing enlightenment and spiritual accomplish-

ment. This particular Luohan is depicted seated in the Padmasana position, adorned in a monk's robe. The artistic symbolism indicates the right hand in the Karana Mudra gestures to dispel negativity. A character mark on the reverse of the overhanging robe suggests an ordered placement within a tem-

ple complex.

This Luohan stands out for its casting and style, reminiscent of sculptures from the late Song dynasty (960-1279) and the subsequent Mongol Yuan state (1271-1368). While such figures often were crafted in ceramic and wood, this bronze sculpture demonstrates a significant investment with exceptional artistry, especially in the animated gestures, portraiture quality and fluid treatment of the drapery folds. Its stylistic characteristics and craftsmanship bear a striking resemblance to another Luohan figure previously sold at Christie's, suggesting they may have been part of the same set.

DuMouchelles President Joe Walker said, "When this rare bronze was brought in, we knew it was special. The craftsmanship of the hands and face, its heft and the fine patina acquired over hundreds of years all pointed to it being a significant early piece."

This Luohan, which had been stored in the owner's garage for years after being saved from a dumpster, symbolizes a connection far beyond its geographical origin. The quest to understand the statue's provenance led to a collaboration between DuMouchelles and the Tsz Shan Monastery Museum in Hong Kong. It was revealed that both Luohans may have originated from the same set based on similar ordered placement inscriptions found on their overhanging robes.

A corresponding statue, also seated on an identical wooden base that may not be original to the piece, adorned with a similarly styled robe, was recognized within the Penn Museum in Philadelphia's collection, a piece they acquired in 1914. The striking similarities among the three Luohans suggest they may have been originally part of a set, later dispersed and their relationship rediscovered through diligent research.

See RARE, page 8B

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GPYC:

Continued from page 2B

into projects and updates during the last five years.

"The Grosse Pointe Yacht Club has an amazing history steeped in tradition and excellence," Wagner noted. "Our board of directors, management team and our general membership are all very aligned with the vision of where the club is headed. There is a real commitment to strive to be the best we can be."

Wagner fell in love with GPYC as a busboy at age 16, and has since watched others do the same. To learn more, visit gpyc.org or @officialgpyc on Instagram.

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4B | SENIOR LIVING



Second Time Around

By Margie Reins Smith

Gifts

I've received thousands of gifts in my seven-decade lifetime. Some were perfect — exactly what I wished for. Some were unappreciated at first, but turned out to be treasures. Some were duds.

In 1946, World War II had just ended. I was 6 years old. Toy production had not been a priority during the war and playthings for children were scarce and expensive. During the war, metal toys were hard to come by. I remember

owning a scooter that had wooden wheels. It didn't scoot.

In 1946, I wanted a doll house more than anything in the world.

My favorite aunt made a doll house for me. From scratch. Today, you can buy a kit for making a doll house, but back in the '40s, you were on your own.

My aunt built it from wood and divided the interior into six rooms. She put real shingles on the roof, little wooden shutters on the windows, tiny ceramic tiles in the bathroom and real wallpaper on the walls. She made the furniture too — floral print overstuffed

chairs with removable cushions, a camel-back sofa covered in blue velvet, a little wooden trestle table, colorful braided rugs and sheer white ruffled tie-back curtains.

It was a Christmas morning surprise I'll remember always. I played with it for nearly a decade and put it away reluctantly, only when I considered myself too old for dolls.

A few years later, I received another memorable gift from the same beloved aunt. Apparently, I was not an easy-going, even-tempered kid. After a particularly spectacular Christmas Eve tantrum, I

found a lump of coal wrapped in a scrap of newspaper stuffed in the toe of my Christmas stocking. Santa's so-called "gift" for bad boys and girls was shocking. When my aunt saw the look on my face, she burst into tears. Then I burst into tears.

She apologized for the next 45 years.

Another memorable gift was a beautifully designed Lucite toilet plunger. One year, my friend Pat gave three of her friends fancy toilet plungers for Christmas because she had one in her guest bathroom and we had all admired it. We traditionally exchanged

gifts mid-December while treating ourselves to an extravagant dinner at a fancy restaurant. We opened our festively wrapped toilet plungers by candlelight while enjoying dessert at the Coach restaurant atop the RenCen, much to the amusement of the other diners.

More recently, on Mother's Day, one of my grown daughters gave me a card with a list of 10 things she was glad I had taught her. Most of the items must have been passed on to her by osmosis, because I don't remember teaching them. Some, I don't remember mentioning. Ever.

"Everybody deserves respect, even if they're really, really dumb," for example. And, "If you're very sad, you can spend a day or two crying and thrashing around and cursing and carrying on. Then get over it and

move on."

I had no idea I taught her stuff like this. I still have the list and I'm considering putting it in my safe deposit box.

My parents, when they were in their 80s, claimed they had every material thing they ever wanted. Instead of acquiring more stuff, they started giving things away. This posed a problem when I wanted to buy them a Christmas gift or a birthday gift.

"Just send us a nice card and some good wishes," my dad said.

"We don't need anything," my mother said. "If we need something, we'll buy it ourselves."

For Christmas, I bought a metal trash can and some poster paint. I decorated it with colorful flowers and designs. They said it was The Perfect Gift. Too good for trash, they claimed.

They used it to store garden tools.

Shedding light on winter blues

Courtesy of The Helm

As winter settles in and daylight hours dwindle, a silent but pervasive threat looms over older adults — Seasonal Affective Disorder, or SAD. According to the American Psychiatric Association, SAD is a form of depression with a seasonal pattern. The condition typically worsens in the fall and winter months with a decrease in sunlight.

Seasonal Affective Disorder symptoms

include persistent low mood, lethargy, social withdrawal and changes in sleep and appetite. But, each person is unique.

"Individuals need to examine to what extent one's equilibrium has been disrupted to assess the seriousness of the matter," said Steve Popkin, licensed master social worker with the Academy of Certified Social Workers and adjunct faculty member at Wayne State University School of

Social Work. "If one simply prefers blue skies to an overcast day, try and determine if this is just a passing mood or if something is seriously askew."

Popkin, a Grosse Pointe Woods resident, recommends if you or someone you know mentions they are not feeling well, be it the "winter blues" or something else, it may be time to consult a qualified health care professional.

Added Popkin,

"Changes in behavior, be it avoiding social interaction for a person who is normally outgoing, for example, may be suggestive of a depressed mood or other disturbance. If an old friend or acquaintance does not seem to 'be themselves,' share your concern with that person or their family member. You might be chastised for having the audacity to suggest another person is having a difficult time, but it's better than doing nothing if something is seriously wrong."

For seniors, who may already be dealing with physical health issues, the added burden of SAD can significantly impact their overall well-being. It can be harder on those who do not drive, do not drive at night and/or whose families aren't nearby. For those who cannot get out to take part in activities or family gatherings, feelings of isolation and loneliness can increase.

The key is stay in contact. Don't isolate yourself. The Helm can help with that.

"Activities are year-round at The Helm," Executive Director Krista Siddall said. "No, we aren't on the bocce court in February, but there are so many activities in our house from card games, celebratory gatherings, exercise classes, the fitness room, lectures, painting classes. There are nearly 200 sessions of classes



Classes and workshops like knitting help keep minds active during winter months.

and activities each month.

"And for those who think we're too far away, did you know The Helm is no further than 5.6 miles — or about a 15-minute drive — from any Harper Woods or Grosse Pointe residence?" she added.

Winter weather can bring driving challenges. Those who aren't comfortable driving when there's snow or ice on the roads or who can't drive can schedule a ride through PAATS.

"It's only \$2 round trip to The Helm from anywhere within our service area," Siddall said. "Take a look at what activities are coming up and what days you'd like to attend and schedule that ride."

The Helm also can help those who are homebound and can't get to The Helm.

"While we always encourage family members, friends and neighbors to actively support

See LIGHT, page 5B

The History of Grosse Pointe Postwar Growth



Fairacres Subdivision, originally a home completed in 1910 for the President of the Packard Motor Company, Henry Born Joy. It was demolished in 1959 and the land sub-divided into lots.

From the late 1940s until 1970, the community saw a major increase in population. Demand for land and cost of upkeep resulted in the first demolition of mansions along the lake. The neoclassical David Whitney House was gone by 1956. The John Newberry House was replaced by Newberry Place in 1957 and Henry B. Joy's House by the Fairacres Subdivision in 1959. Inland, remaining vacant lots were quickly occupied by new homes. Ending a five-year construction moratorium in Grosse Pointe Woods, the huge Grosse-Gratiot Drain Project, approved by voters in 1958, provided the infrastructure required for previously planned residential developments.

In the face of postwar expansion, only Grosse Pointe Shores remained a village. Grosse Pointe Farms became a city in 1949; Grosse Pointe Park and Woods followed in 1950. The latter year also saw the charter of a local League of Women Voters and the relocation of the Children's Home of Detroit to Cook Road. Anticipating the opening of Eastland Shopping Center, nearby Harper Woods incorporated in 1951.

The Korean War (1950-1953) resulted in the addition of 105 veterans' names to the plaque at the War Memorial; of these, 33 died in combat. In 1953 the Grosse Pointe Symphony was founded and in 1954, the Foundation for Exceptional Children.

Obtaining full parish status in 1947, Christ Church, Grosse Pointe established its own mission...



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PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE HELM

Exercise is just one way to help cope with the "winter blahs." The Helm offers numerous exercise classes geared toward older adults at any level of fitness.

The Helm gets positive feedback on senior millage poll

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Following the results of a community poll in which 60 percent of residents said they would support a senior services millage, the city councils in the five Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods can expect to hear more from The Helm in the coming months.

Earlier this year, Prudence Cole, president of The Helm Board of Directors, approached the councils with a request to put a 0.4-mill senior services millage on the November ballot.

"I went to all the councils — the five Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods — and I naively thought the cause was so important and relevant to the community that asking to put it on the ballot wouldn't be a problem," she said.

Citing various reasons, the city councils declined to consider the measure — which would fund The Helm's current offerings, as well as expanded efforts to accommodate a growing senior population — for the November ballot. Since then, Cole and representatives from each council have formed a work group on the subject.

"I've become much more knowledgeable about what it takes to put through a millage," she said.

In preparation of a potential campaign, The Helm hired Michigan-based research firm EPIC-MRA to poll members of the Pointes and Harper Woods to find out how they feel about the millage proposal. The firm used voter records to get a fair representation from each municipality and age group.

"They made 400 phone calls," Cole said. "They were direct phone calls; if they didn't reach someone, it didn't count."

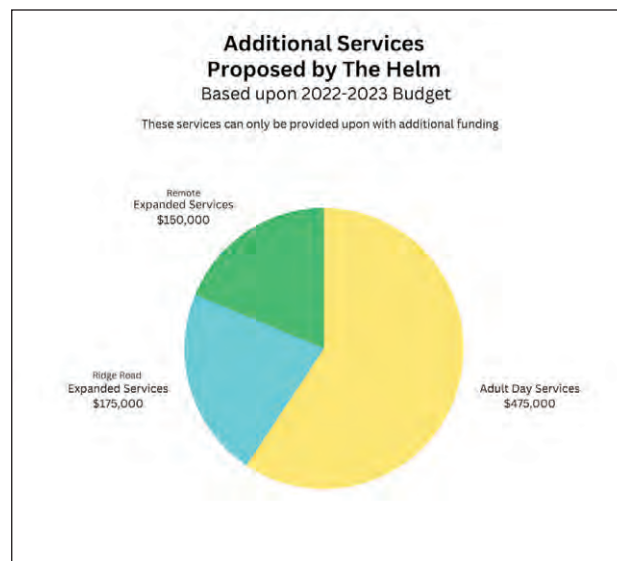
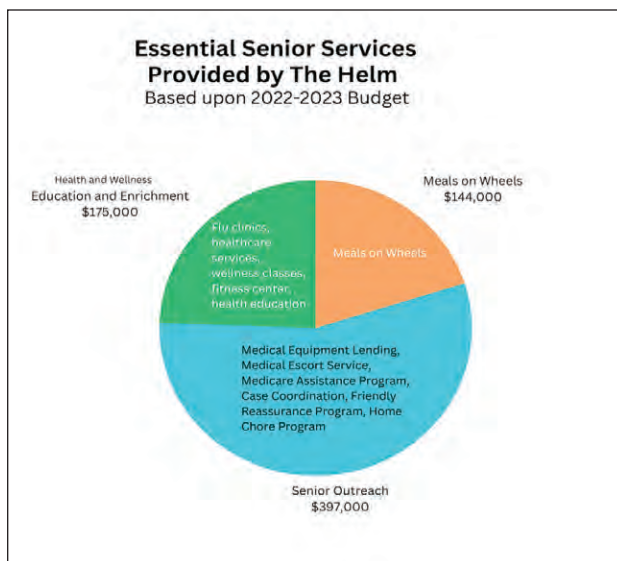
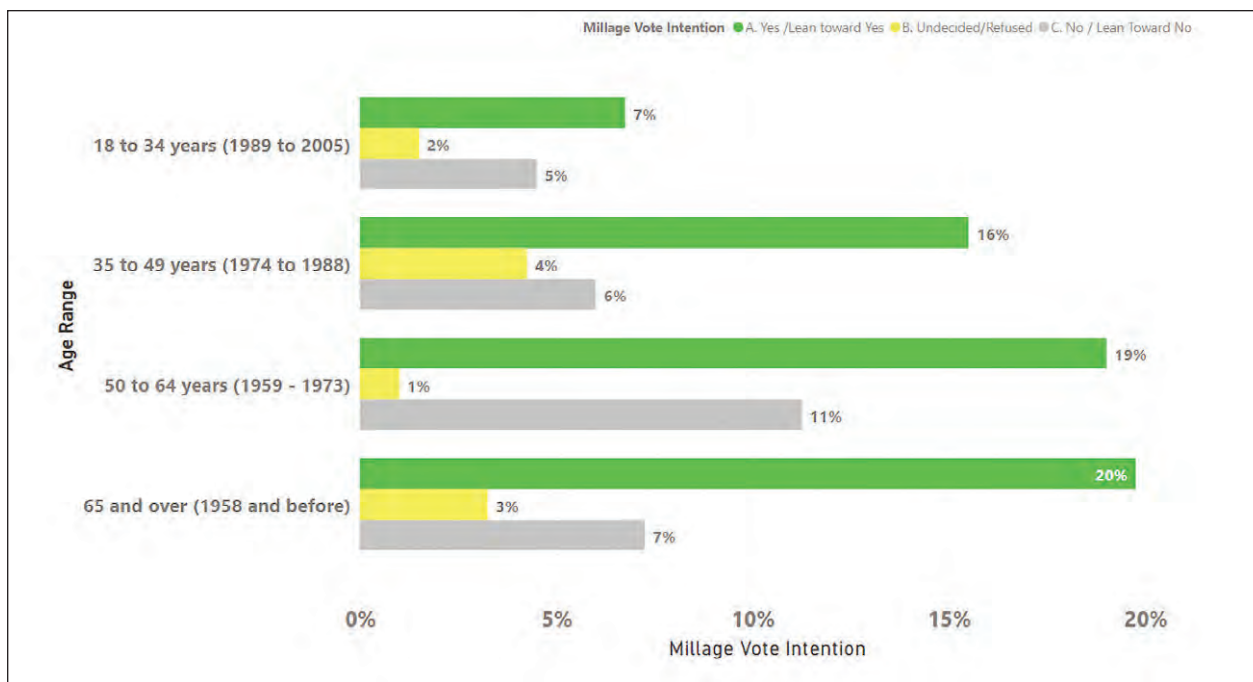
Polling concluded in October and a final report has been presented to The Helm.

"Sixty percent of people who were spoken to said they were in favor of a senior millage," said Cole, who plans to share more details publicly before each of the city councils.

She said she was surprised by the age groups in favor of the millage; while the overall majority of pro-millage respondents are ages 50 and older, the majority of pro-millage respondents in the Woods and Park range in age from 35 to 49.

"They're the sandwich generation," she said, "with older parents who need help and children to take care of."

"One thing they want to do with the millage is have an adult day program in the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods," she continued. "Maybe you work in the area and your mom has dementia, so what do you do? You have to hire



someone to take care of her. With the day program, it allows you to drop her off and she's fed, entertained, exercised. I'm having good conversations with community members who are interested in it."

However, she added, an adult day center is an expensive start-up and though The Helm has applied for grants, "They say, 'It's a nice idea, but until you have ongoing funding, we won't support it.' It's not self-sustaining. It needs to be supported."

The Helm currently relies almost completely on private donations. Demands for additional services combined with a growing senior population have led the organization to seek other means of funding.

"Even the small portion of funding from government sources is under threat," Cole said. "And any turn in the economy can drastically impact our ability to continue to raise funds."

Adding to the urgency, she said, is the fact that 29 percent of the population in the six cities is older than 60, with estimates of a 10 percent increase in the next 10 years.

"The senior population is 29 percent right now in Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods," Cole said, noting the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments estimated a 19 percent growth in 10 years. "The reality is somewhere in the range of 10 to 19 percent growth in seniors. We can't sustain that. We're holding our own by the skin of our teeth."

"... Our parking lot is always full, this place is swarming with people,"

she added. "In October there were 91 events here and we're not open on weekends or evenings. With that growth in our programs, plus that many more older people, they're going to need that much more help. We can put our heads in the sand or we can get it together now to get it covered."

Through all six communities, the poll indicated 7 percent of voters age 18 to 34, 16 percent of voters age 35 to 49, 19 percent of voters age 50 to 64 and 20 percent of voters age 65 and older would vote in favor of the millage. Another 10 percent are undecided, while 29 percent are against the proposal, which is asking for a millage up to 0.4.

"If we only need 0.3 based on the outlook, we'll only go for that," Cole explained.

The poll also estimated the average annual tax impact, per household, should the millage pass. In Grosse Pointe Shores, that average is an additional \$131; in Grosse Pointe Woods, an additional \$53; in Grosse Pointe Farms, an additional \$92; in Grosse Pointe Park, an additional \$74; in the City of Grosse Pointe, an additional \$66; and in Harper Woods, an additional \$18.

"You have 72 counties in Michigan out of 83 that are covered by senior services millages," Cole said. "There are two more counties covered by municipalities. In Oakland County, the cities of Rochester, Rochester Hills and Oakland Township have a consortium. They have a fabulous senior services center."

"... If you go next door

impact of SAD.

"Come to The Helm for activities or stay in contact with our staff and volunteers for your well-being," Siddall said. "Remember, while it may still be dark at night, we'll be gaining daylight every day after winter solstice, Dec. 21!"

every year."

Included in the data is a breakdown of The Helm's current budget, as well as a budget for additional services the organization would like to offer should the millage pass. Those additional services include adult day services for families of seniors who cannot be left alone; regular home visits to provide contact and support to the homebound; establishment of a senior core with greater use of the talent and capabilities in the retirement community; enhanced programming and operating hours at The Helm; and satellite services in various locations around the community.

Cole plans to stand before the six city councils during the next two months, sharing the poll's findings. The results also are available at The Helm and likely will be posted to its website.

"If it doesn't pass, the financial outlook... we're OK for the next two years," she said. "That's with nothing new happening and not accommodating for increases. It's based on what the budget is today, because we had two successful galas and we got (federal) COVID money. ... But based on growth, on need and financial outlook, what we're currently doing is not sustainable."

If approved, a representative from each city would sit on an independent board that would oversee the distribution of the taxes collected.

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LIGHT:

Continued from page 4B

their elderly loved ones, that isn't always possible for whatever reason," Siddall said. "The Helm has a friendly reassurance program where someone on staff

or a volunteer will regularly call someone to be sure they are physically OK, as well as take time to chat and socialize."

Regular check-ins, virtual visits and even facilitating access to mental health professionals can make a significant difference in mitigating the

6B | 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.

William R. Eldridge

William R. Eldridge, 75, passed away peacefully Saturday, Nov. 25, 2023. He was born July 26, 1948, in Detroit, to Charles and Eleanor Eldridge, both now deceased.

Bill graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1966, from the University of Michigan in 1970, and from Wayne State University Law School in 1974.

In addition to being a proud Wolverine, Bill was a successful businessman, owning several cemeteries and real estate businesses throughout the Detroit area. Bill leaves behind a legacy of hard work and dedication.

A passionate sports fan, Bill loved cheering on his Wolverines, Red Wings, Tigers and Lions. Bill was a dog lover, avid reader, water skier, softball player and boater. What he loved most was traveling and spending time with friends and family.

Bill was predeceased by his son, William Eldridge Jr. He is survived by his children, Christopher Eldridge (Cintya), Elizabeth Weber (David), Dr. Charles Eldridge (Whitney) and Richard Eldridge; grandchildren, Garrett, Brayden, Lilly, Claire, Anabel, Emmett, Blake, Charlie and

Sawyer; siblings, Dr. Charles Eldridge (Sandra) and Loyal Eldridge (Bonnie); and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will take place Saturday, Dec. 9. He will lie in state from 9:30 a.m. until the 10 a.m. Mass at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Interment will follow at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Detroit.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Misericordia, misericordia.com/giving/donate-online. Share a memory at verheyden.org.

John "Jack" Smith Momeyer

John "Jack" Smith Momeyer, 96, passed away Thursday, Nov. 23, 2023.

He was the devoted husband of Gloria Anne Momeyer (nee Davison) for 71 years; loving father of Alex (Nancy), Gregory (Cathy), Glenn (Maria) and the late Albert; and adoring grandfather of Nicholas, Lucas, Andrew, Joshua and Simon.

Born Oct. 4, 1927, in Detroit, to Albert and Louise (nee Smith) Momeyer, Jack grew up in Detroit and attended the University of Michigan. After gradua-

tion, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and fought in the Korean War, eventually serving as a regimental sergeant major. During this time, he was offered two battlefield commissions; however, he chose to decline both promotions. Following his discharge, he began a successful career in advertising. Jack's passions included sailing, the outdoors and their home at Glen Lake. Jack was a friend of Bill W. for 31 years.

A celebration of life will occur in spring 2024. Memorial contributions may be made to Cass Community Social Services, casscommunity.org/donate, or Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, gpumc.org/give.

Patricia Sponer Paholsky

Patricia "Pat" Sponer Paholsky, 85, died Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023.

She was the beloved wife of the late Richard, whom she met at age 17 and married at St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church on April 30, 1958. She also was the loving mother of Pamela Phillips, Todd Paholsky and the late Mark Paholsky; proud and loving grandmother of seven and great-grandmother of two.



William R. Eldridge



John Smith Momeyer



Patricia Paholsky



Lawrence R. Rybicki



David Perry Williams



Catherine Pentis

Pat earned a master's degree in English from Wayne State University. She went on to teach English composition and literature at various colleges and was especially proud to serve as editor of the Grosse Pointe News for 10 years. Pat enjoyed traveling and especially loved visiting Europe and road trips across the United States.

She was charitable with her time and talents, volunteering for Meals on Wheels and as a docent at the Fr. Solanus Casey Center in Detroit. She was ecstatic to fulfill two items on her "bucket list": taking her daughter to Poland in 2021, and writing a book in honor of her late husband.

A memorial Mass took place Friday, Dec. 1, at St. Clement of Rome Catholic Church in Romeo. Memorial contributions may be made to the Fr. Solanus Casey Center, solanuscasey.org.

Share memories with the family in the online guestbook at wujekcalcaterra.com.

Lawrence R. Rybicki

Lawrence R. Rybicki, 76, passed away Thursday, Nov. 30, 2023.

Lawrence was the beloved husband of Sara for 52 years; loving father of Julie Roth (Scott), Steven Rybicki and Alison Abusoboh (Murad); proud grandfather of T.J., Raegan, Lawrence and Yasmine; dearest son of the late Raymond and Sara Rybicki; dear brother of Diane Torosian (the late Art); uncle of Kristin and Renee; and brother-in-law of Roz Gietzen (Mike). He also will be missed by his granddog, Raffles.

"Larry" was a long-time resident of Grosse Pointe Woods. He graduated from Servite High School in 1966. He worked in the food brokerage industry as a territory manager; in retirement, he was a sales manager in giftware for Maloof Jewelry and Gifts.

A memorial visitation will be held from 3 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12, with a "share the memories" gathering at 7 p.m., at Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons Inc., 36900 Schoenherr, at Metropolitan Parkway, in Sterling Heights. Additional visitation will take place Wednesday, Dec. 13, from 9:30 a.m. until a 10 a.m. memorial Mass at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412

Overlake, St. Clair Shores.

Donations in his memory may be made to the American Heart Association, heart.org.

David Perry Williams

David Perry Williams, 89, passed away Friday, Nov. 17, 2023.

He was born Nov. 16, 1934. In 1976, David joined the Budd Company as vice president of sales and marketing. In 1979, he was appointed senior vice president of operations and in 1986, he was made president and chief operating officer. David was elected vice chairman of the board of the Budd Company in January 2000.

Prior to joining Budd, he spent 13 years with Kelsey-Hayes Co., his last position being vice president of sales and marketing. He then served at ITT in New York as corporate vice president and worldwide automotive product line manager, primarily involved in the acquisition and management of ITT's automotive holdings in Europe, North America and Brazil. At the time, he was the youngest vice president ever appointed within ITT.

David was on the board of directors of the Budd Company, Lason, SPX Corp., and Standard Federal Bank. He also was a member of the directors table of Beta Gamma Sigma, the honor society of collegiate schools of business. In 1994, he received the Outstanding Alumnus Award from the Michigan State University School of Business. He served in various charitable capacities, including chairman of the Consortium for Human Development from 1984 to 1991, and chaired several fundraising events for The United Fund and Boy Scouts of America.

David was president of Bloomfield Hills Country Club. He also was a member of Tequesta Country Club and the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews in Scotland.

He graduated from Cranbrook School and earned bachelor's and master's degrees in business from Michigan State University. He was a captain in the U.S. Air Force.

David was predeceased by his beloved

wife of almost 50 years, Jill. He was the father of Perry Williams (Angie), David Williams, Tracy Williams, Will Hosler (Mary Pat) and Nell Beattie (Elliott); and grand"par" of Makenzie Roland (Will), Marshall Williams, Willie Beattie, Brooks Beattie and Dean Hosler.

Cremation services were entrusted to Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home in Clarkston. A memorial gathering will be announced.

Leave a memory or condolences at wintfuneralhome.com.

Catherine Pentis

Catherine Pentis, 89, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away Friday, Dec. 1, 2023. She was born Oct. 7, 1934, in Oak Park, Ill., to Frank and Catherine Raus. Catherine married Charles J. Pentis in 1955, and they enjoyed more than 61 years together.

Catherine was predeceased by her husband, Charles; and siblings, William, Mary Therese and Francis. She is survived by her children, Charles Jr. (Holly), Michael (Evelyn), Carolyn Palonis (Bryan), Thomas (Deanna) and Christine; as well as nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Catherine was an avid volunteer, including more than 30 years delivering Meals on Wheels, being involved in the Girl Scouts and the Gold & Silver Trefoil Association and coordinating the De La Salle Craft Show for many years, to name a few. Catherine also was very involved with her church community, assisting with mailings and as a member of the Rosary Altar Society and numerous other committees.

She enjoyed sewing, quilting, crafting, baking and helping others whenever there was a need. She loved traveling with Charles and her family, particularly in later years when it did not involve camping.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 11, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairfield, Grosse Pointe Woods. Viewing begins at 9 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, alz.org/donate.

See OBITS, page 7B



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OBITS:

Continued from page 6B

Charles C. McGlennen

Charles C. McGlennen, 93, passed away peacefully Friday, Dec. 1, 2023, with his children by his side.

Charles, also known as Chuck or Charlie, was born Nov. 7, 1930, in Detroit, to Ted and Evelyn McGlennen. He graduated from Denby High School and Wayne State University, where he ran track. He married his high school sweetheart, Donna Rose Gagnier, and they were devoted to each other for 57 years until her death in 2008. They had four children together, Cathy Lamont (Tom), Susan Hughes, Julie Gust (Rocky) and Michael McGlennen (Lory), whom they raised in Clinton Township. He also is survived by his younger brother, Richard "Dick" McGlennen.

Charles was a proud U.S. Marine and served during the Korean War. He was an active member of the St. Paul Usher Club and Knights of Columbus, and a longtime patron of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Belle Isle Conservancy. Always a big supporter of education, Charles devoted 24 years to the Clintondale Community Schools Board of Education. Upon his retirement from the board, Sunnyview Elementary School was renamed in his honor to Charles C. McGlennen Elementary School.

**Charles C. McGlennen**

Charles spent his early career in banking with National Bank of Detroit, but for the majority of his career he sold Blue Bird school buses and other school equipment. A sales career was natural for him, given his warm and gregarious personality.

Charles was a talented Master Gardener. He loved his Michigan State football tailgates, his back porch and garden at Shore Club, the rooftop bar at the Detroit Athletic Club and Sindbads. He had many loyal, lifelong friends as well as new-found friends from his recent stay in assisted living. Charles was beloved by all who knew him.

Charles' love and devotion to his family was second only to his devotion to Jesus Christ. In addition to his four children, Charles had 10 grandchildren: T.G., Megan Tymrak (Frank) and Charlie LaMont, Julie VanTol (John), Kelly Morawski (Ben), Rocky, Tyler (Rebecca) and Mack Gust (Kelly) and Michael and Patrick McGlennen. He also had eight great-grandchildren: Lucy, Frankie and Charlie Tymrak, Todd and Mary VanTol and

**John Michael Getz**

London, Walker and Hazel Morawski. Charles often referred to them as "his legacy," calling his family his proudest achievement.

Charles will lie in state at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, until Mass at 10 a.m. at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes may be made to the Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph, thecapuchins.org/donate.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

John Michael Getz

John Michael Getz, 70, beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, godfather and uncle, passed away peacefully at his home in Grosse Pointe Farms Thursday, Nov. 30, 2023, surrounded by family and friends.

Mike was born Dec. 11, 1952, in Grosse Pointe, to Sheila Costello and Arthur Getz. He attended St. Clare of Montefalco grade school and University of Detroit Jesuit High School before graduating from Grosse

Pointe University School (GPUS). Mike graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., where he pitched for the varsity baseball team and developed treasured and lifelong relationships at Psi Upsilon. He later received an MBA from the School of Business at the University of Michigan.

Mike is survived by his beloved wife of 47 years, Kathy; daughter, Allison Sullivan (Kevin) of Grosse Pointe; son, John Michael Getz Jr. (Sabrina) of Greenwich, Conn.; daughter, Molly Sheldon (Oliver) of Pelham, N.Y.; son, Max Getz (Eliza) of Grosse Pointe Farms; older brother, Arthur Getz Jr. (Betsy) of Grosse Pointe Farms; and younger brother, Charles Getz (Marna) of Draper, Utah.

Mike and Kathy were high school sweethearts at GPUS, where Mike caught Kathy's eye while cheerleading for his football and basketball teams. Married in 1976, Kathy and Mike raised their four children across the Grosse Pointes. Mike was deeply committed to his family. He always was an advocate for his children and never missed an opportunity to tell them he was proud of the families each had built.

Additionally, Mike was a cherished grandfather, affectionately referred to as "Gramps" by his 10 grandchildren: Teddy and Emma Sullivan (Allison and Kevin); Leela, Samson and Millie Getz (Michael Jr. and Sabrina); Lucy, Tommy and Maggie Sheldon

(Molly and Oliver); and George and Charlotte Getz (Max and Eliza). He treasured spending time with family, celebrating birthdays and cheering on his grandchildren at sporting events and school activities.

Professionally, Mike devoted his career to his family's business, Detroit Oxygen & Medical Equipment Co., which his father founded and later sold to his three sons. In high school and college, he answered phones and drove delivery trucks across southeastern Michigan, bringing medical equipment to people's homes. Later in life, while partnering with his brothers, Mike served as Treasurer and led the company's financial operations. After retiring from Detroit Oxygen, he further fostered his passion of working with others by serving on various business and social boards. Near the end of his career, he enjoyed fulfillment afforded through his involvement as a mentor for graduate students at the University of Michigan Ross School of Business.

Mike reveled in spending time with family on Walloon Lake and taking walks along Lake St. Clair. He was actively involved at the Yondotega Club and The Grosse Pointe Club and was a past member of the Country Club of Detroit for 30 years. He enjoyed politics and served as a Michigan precinct delegate in 1984 for the Republican National Convention. Mike enjoyed storytelling, had

a passion for music across multiple genres and took great pride in exploring family history. He was a deep thinker who valued quality education and thought-provoking conversations. All of his interests and enjoyments were complemented by his quick and well-timed wit.

Mike's idea of continually making the world a better place was rooted in education and coaching. One of his greatest passions was his love of coaching youth baseball, which helped define the Getz family legacy, started by his father, within Little League Baseball across the state of Michigan. He coached his sons' Little League teams from 1988 to 2002, and was especially proud to show people his 2002 12-year-old All-Star team's Michigan State Championship bricks at Elworthy Field. Mike loved coaching because he believed he was teaching kids and young men lessons they could use throughout life.

Mike was a parishioner of St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, where services will be held Saturday, Dec. 9. He will lie in state at 11:30 a.m., followed by a funeral Mass at noon.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, stpaulonthelake.org/donate, or St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, wesharegiving.org/app/giving/Weshare-20000026?tab=home.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

CHURCH BRIEFS

United Methodist

The annual Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church Cookie Mart takes place 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 9. This holiday tradition features thousands of homemade cookies and other treats. Proceeds support the mission work of United Methodist Women. The church is located at 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms. Parking is behind the church.

St. Michael's

St. Michael's Episcopal Church,

20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods, presents its next Lunch, Laugh and Learn program Thursday, Dec. 21. The Judelairens will perform "Songs of the Holidays." The program begins at noon in the church, followed by lunch at 1 p.m. Turkey chili and veggie wraps are on the menu.

Reservations are required for lunch only, but space will be limited. A free-will offering is accepted. Call the church office at (313) 884-4820 to reserve a seat.

Chamber Music at Scarab Club set at GP Unitarian

Chamber Music at the Scarab Club presents its next concert at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, in the sanctuary of Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, 17150 Maumee, City of Grosse Pointe.

CMSC will present several works by Dr. David DiChiera, founder of Michigan Opera Theatre (now Detroit Opera). Baritone Jonathan Lasch, trumpeter David Ammer and pianist Mary Siciliano will perform "Letter to Sarah." Tenor Stephen Riesen will sing

DiChiera's 4th Sonnet, "What Lips My Lips Have Kissed" and Detroit Opera Orchestra cellist Ben Maxwell will perform "Letter to Roxanne."

The program also includes the Sonata in D Minor for Violin and Piano by African-British composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor and Piano Trio No. 2 in B Minor by Spanish composer Joaquín Turina, featuring pianist Mary Siciliano, violinist Velda Kelly and cellist Ben Maxwell.

Each piece will be introduced by one of the musicians and the concert will be followed by a reception.

Tickets are \$30 at the door, \$25 in advance, \$10 for students. Purchase tickets online at scarabclub.org or by calling (248) 921-3193.

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8B | FEATURES

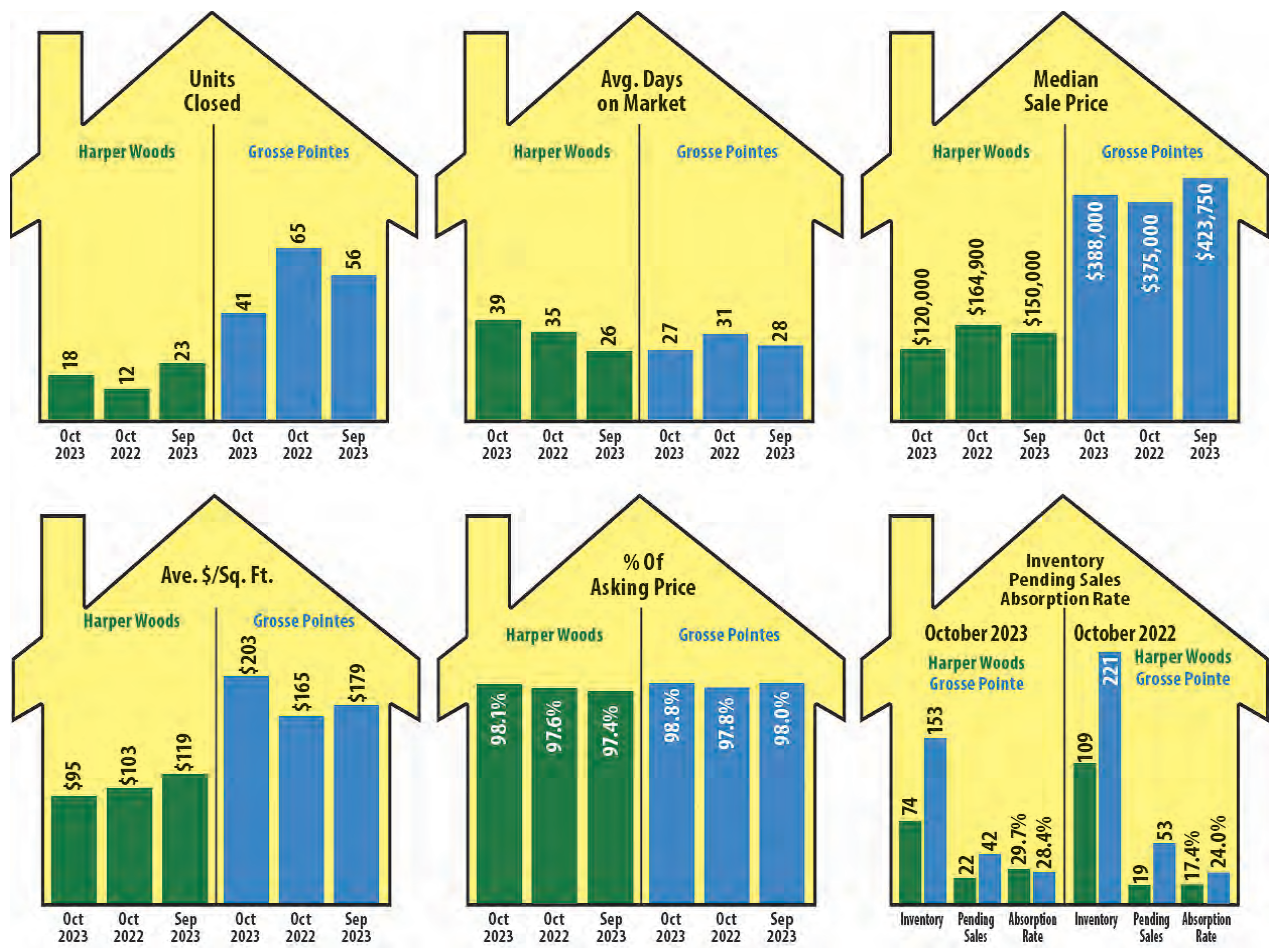
October housing data in Grosse Pointe, Harper Woods

October housing data has been released by the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors. The only bit of bad news within the October data is the obvious decline in unit sales. And while in normal times a market would also see price declines, that is not the case here as the most anticipated recession in U.S. history fails to show up.

In fact, looking at dollars per square foot within both markets, there is a noticeable increase, although in Harper Woods, you must separate out the sale of condominiums, which in October 2023 was 22.2 percent of all closed sales, but in October 2022 was only

5.6 percent and in September 2023 was 4.3 percent. In fact, in Harper Woods, after separating condo sales from house sales, houses per square foot are up 3.5 percent and condos are up 5.6 percent from last year. The increase for the Grosse Pointes is significantly more.

The absorption rates for Harper Woods and the Grosse Pointes also remain in "advantage seller" territory and are up noticeably from a year ago when, while interest rates were lower than they are today, they were up significantly from where they had been earlier in the year. The length of



time it takes homes to sell also remains well below the historic average of 72 days and percent of asking price shows improvement year over year and month over month.

With this information as a backdrop and with

the current decline in mortgage rates from their highs, it is anticipated that sales will increase, although it will not likely show up until after the first of the

year as we now go into the holidays.

However, whether buying or selling real estate now or next year, always use an industry professional like the

members of the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors when it comes to your housing needs.

Information provided by the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors.

RARE:

Continued from page 3B

The winning bidder for the Luohan was an Asian art gallery that sent specialists to preview and bid in person.

"Having bidders travel from China and other countries to participate in the auction shows the world-class offerings we source for our sales,"

said Robert DuMouchelle, auctioneer of the Luohan and general manager of DuMouchelles. "The story of this remarkable sculpture, now continuing its centuries-long journey in the hands of a new caretaker, serves as another example of the role the company has gratefully fulfilled as stewards of pieces of history. DuMouchelles looks ahead to more

occasions to connect exceptional objects with appreciative collectors from Detroit to Asia, Europe and beyond."

View a video of the sale on Instagram @ dumouchelles.

For information on consigning special pieces for auction or bidding on upcoming offerings, visit dumoart.com or call (313) 963-6255.

Notes:

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

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

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



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOB GRAMBO

Good Samaritan

Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary President Sherrie Jones stands with Rotary Club member Wayne Manchester, who gave a presentation about his recent mission trip to Honduras during the Rotary meeting Nov. 28, at Ford House. His trip, in conjunction with International Samaritan, supports local residents with clean water distribution, community development and educational opportunities.

EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

Harper Woods.
 ◆ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 29, St. Clair Shores Senior Center, 20100 Stephens, St. Clair Shores.
 Register at redcrossblood.org.

GPAA

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association offers a variety of classes at its studio, located at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. To register for the following, visit grossepointeartists.org.
 ◆ Watercolor with Marilyn Thomas, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 9 and 10.
 ◆ Watercolor Workshop with Nancy Philo, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 13.
 ◆ Life Drawing with Anne Garavaglia, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 17 to Feb. 7.
 ◆ Crash Course on

Collage and Assemblage with Marat Paransky, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 20.

Ford House

The Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores, offers the following programs:
 ◆ Holiday Main Residence Tour, offered various dates through Sunday, Dec. 31. Costs vary.
 ◆ Cookies with Santa, 2 p.m. Dec. 9, 12, 13 and 16. Cost is \$20 for member children, \$30 for non-member children.
 ◆ Accessible Holiday Tour, Tuesdays, Dec. 12 and 19. Costs vary.
 ◆ Breakfast with Santa, 8:30 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 17. Costs vary.
 For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

The Helm

The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms,

offers a variety of classes and programs. Registration is required at (313) 882-9600 for the following:

- ◆ The movie "White Christmas" is shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.
- ◆ Out-to-Lunch Bunch visits Nautical Deli from noon to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12. Cost for the bus ride is \$5 for members, \$7 for nonmembers. Registration is required for all who attend.
- ◆ Electronic Device Tutoring, noon to 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15.

Adaptive yoga

Yoga Moves MS, in partnership with the Kirk Gibson Foundation, hosts Adaptive Chair Yoga classes at 11:30 a.m. Mondays at Full Lotus Yoga, 20365 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Adaptive yoga benefits those with multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, stroke and other neuromuscular conditions. Cost is \$12 per drop-in class or five classes for \$50 in advance. Visit fullotusyoga.net.

Toastmasters

Northeastern Toastmasters meets in person at Wayne County Community College District's Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center, 19305 Vernier, Harper Woods, as well as on Zoom, at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of each month. Call (313) 720-8444 for the link and password.

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LIFE & LEISURE



2C GP GABBY | 3C MOMBEAU'S TABLE | 4C MOVIE JUNKIE MARK | 6C & 7C COMICS



Maggie McGregor is delighted with her balloon animal, which fit like a bracelet.



Jacob Donathan had his face painted like Spider-Man and Trixie the Clown held up a mirror for him to see.

A grand celebration

The Grosse Pointe Public Library Central Branch hosted a grand-opening celebration after having been closed since May 2022, for a construction project that included many renovations and an addition to the build-

ing. Its reopening took place immediately following the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce Santa Claus Parade on Friday, Nov. 24, during which the library handed out goodie bags featuring a 70th anniversary com-

memorative bookmark, pad of paper and library logo cookie. Other special activities included Carey Ann's Clown Caravan balloon animals and face painting and music by the Scott Gwinnell Jazz Orchestra.



Above, after face painting, Olivia Payne played in the new children's section at Central. Below, Finn Rury savored his special library logo cookie.



From left, Lyla Dwaihy, Evan Dwaihy and Grace Logan, with Alison Logan behind them, made a special bag for the parade. They hoped by putting a target on it they would get more candy tossed to them during the parade.



The Claudettes' only Detroit show of 2023 is Dec. 7

The Claudettes will play their only Detroit-area show of the year Thursday, Dec. 7, at Cadieux Cafe, 4300 Cadieux, Detroit. Detroit's own Plutophonics begins at 8 p.m., followed by the Claudettes at 9 p.m.

Grounded in roots music yet pushing the boundaries of indie pop and rock, the Claudettes are writing the most riveting chapter of their story right now. Pianist/songwriter Johnny Iguana formed the Claudettes with drummer Michael Caskey, dazzling with the barrelhouse bravura of their 2013 debut, "Infernal Piano Plot... HATCHED!"

Another Yellow Dog Records release fol-

lowed in 2015, "No Hotel," featuring Nigerian-American singer Yana. Vocalist Berit Ulseth joined the band for 2017's "Pull Closer to Me: Live in the Piano Room" and 2018's "Dance Scandal at the Gymnasium," helmed by Grammy-winning Black Keys producer Mark Neill.

A new Claudettes era began when the band moved to Forty Below Records and released the acclaimed 2020 album "High Times in the Dark," produced Grammy winner Ted Hutt and 2022's "The Claudettes Go Out!" another collaboration with Hutt, with mixing by renowned producer Kevin Killen. Now, the Claudettes introduce

Rachel Williams, a 6-foot Texan with a mohawk, a big voice and powerful stage presence.

Outside the Claudettes, Johnny Iguana has earned Blues Music Award and Living Blues Award nominations for piano player of the year. He co-founded indie-rock cult favorites Oh My God, toured as pianist for blues stars Junior Wells and Otis Rush, played piano on three Grammy-nominated albums and played on albums featuring Buddy Guy, Junior Wells, James Cotton, Derek Trucks, Gary Clark Jr., Shemekia Copeland, Keb' Mo', Mick Jagger, Keith Richards and more. Johnny also is co-



COURTESY PHOTO

The Claudettes are grounded in roots music yet pushing the boundaries of indie pop and rock.

composer of the score for the hit FX/Hulu series "The Bear." Tour dates, photos, videos and more may be found on the Claudettes website, theclaudettes.com.


Tickets for their Dec. 7 show at Cadieux Cafe are \$15 and available at the door.

Tickets for their Dec. 7 show at Cadieux Cafe are \$15 and available at the door.



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Grosse Pointe Gabby

The Pulse Of The Pointes

Oh, Oh, Oh! Dealing with difficult family members

Dear Gabby: My mother is coming into town for the holidays and I hate to say, this but we are all dreading it. She has become so hyper focused on politics and seems to be unable to think or talk about anything else. Her entire social media life is engulfed in everything that is contentious and politi-

cally charged. Is there anything I can do?
— Scared in the Shores

Dear Scared,

Unfortunately, a healthy debate over a beef tenderloin has gone out the window for many people. Things just get out of control and “PASS THE

GRAVY!” will no longer shut down someone with strong convictions and an overactive Facebook account.

The best and most effective way to handle this is to stop it before it starts.

Tell everyone, not just your mother, that there will be no political discussion at your home this holiday. You would

like to keep it completely positive and make sure everyone enjoys the occasion. One interesting and fun way to keep it light is to have a family “word” that anyone is allowed to shout should things start to derail. Maybe your family has one in particular that would get a little chuckle and/or stop people in their



tracks. PEPPERMINT BARK?! SON OF A NUTCRACKER!? HO HO HO!? Maybe a family song that everyone knows? Best of luck to you and your family, and may you all share the joy of the season rather than non-fes-

tive family fights!!
— Gabby

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

Family holiday hijinks

DEAR ANNIE: I’m frustrated with my sister-in-law and the way that she plans the holidays that she hosts or organizes. Generally, what happens is that she will reach out to the family to see what will work for

seeing the rest of our family since we likely won’t go to other holiday events that are being held this year, but I feel like, if we keep accommodating her behavior, it will continue to happen. What’s your take on

consideration for everyone’s schedules. That’s the whole point of plans, after all.

DEAR ANNIE: My husband of decades has a habit that I don’t care for, and I can’t seem to make him understand the problem. I have run out of ideas, have asked counselors and anyone I can that might have an answer or suggestion. I am desperate to see whether you or your readers have any ideas.

The issue is this: If he sees anything around and he doesn’t recognize it, he throws it away. If you are right there, then you can stop him. Otherwise, you’re out of luck. I check the garbage for items regularly.

The last things he tossed out that I didn’t catch were my two photo albums from my childhood.

My mom, dad and great-grandma worked on those two albums. Needless to say, the albums contained pictures of many individuals who are gone. I can’t seem to forgive him and get over it. It’s mostly grieving for what I can

never see ever again. I thought I’d made him understand that these sentimental items are mine and that he has no right to throw something away without checking with me. Please help... I have tried counseling, both me alone and us together. I have left notes on items from matter-of-fact to rather nasty. I have tried explaining, every day, not to throw my things away. Please tell me how to deal with this problem. I am at my wit’s end! — MISSING MY THINGS

DEAR MISSING: While not considered its own psychological disorder, compulsive decluttering can be a symptom of obsessive-compulsive disorder. I encourage you to find a 2015 article on The Atlantic website, entitled “The Opposite of Hoarding,” and see whether the behavior described reminds you of your husband.

Though you’ve tried therapy yourself and attended couples therapy with him, he may benefit from individual therapy on his own, potentially for the treatment of



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

OCD. If I hear any insights from readers, I’ll be sure to print them here.

DEAR ANNIE: For 25 years, I thought my husband was blurting out inappropriate things too often in conversations. He was somewhat like his mother, who once said to me, “You look like you are going to cry,” as I fiercely attempted to retain my composure. Little did I realize that their “faux pas” blurts were attempts to read emotions uninterpretable to them.

After my husband’s sister had a wonderful, creative and happy autistic son, I found a college textbook on adult Asperger’s at a yard sale and my eyes were opened. It explained to me that we were both failing to see the other’s emotional point of view. “Sad Wife’s” husband, who often blurts out offensive things, might be on the spectrum, too.

By the way, we will celebrate 50 years of marriage in November. My husband still blurts occasionally, but now I realize he wouldn’t have even thought about holding back if I hadn’t taught him what is “nice” or “appropriate.” — UNDERSTANDING ASPERGER’S

DEAR MISSING: Thank you for your letter. You bring up a great point about why “Sad Wife’s” husband might blur out inappropriate or offensive comments. Although I do think your mother-in-law saying you look like you are going to cry, even if she doesn’t understand social etiquette, is a bit cruel. Glad that you now have an understanding as to why your husband and mother-in-law can act so brash.

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



everyone. We’ll make any other plans around the agreed-upon plan. Then, closer to the holiday, my sister-in-law will change the plans saying that the new plans work better for her family. Most often the new plans conflict with other plans that we’ve made.

This year she not only changed the day and time of our family get-together but also decided that it would be held at her house rather than ours.

I don’t want to miss

it? — TIRED OF ACCOMMODATING

DEAR TIRED OF ACCOMMODATING: My advice would be when your sister-in-law attempts these last-minute changes, just say no — politely, of course. You can keep it simple: Something like, “We’d like to keep to the time and place that we all agreed to.” It’s reasonable to ask that everyone stick to the agreed-upon time and place, out of

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



I am, admittedly, the worst kind of Christmas shopper.

My first problem is that I really, really want to get the perfect gift for each and every person on my list. My second problem is that instead of purchasing something I think seems

just about right, I will “think” about my options until I’m out of time. Then, I’m scrambling, stressed and end up buying something completely lame like socks or a candle.

Now some people really want socks and candles — and I can appreciate that

— but I can definitely do better. And this year, I am doing just that.

Kids are especially hard to buy for. Do I want to get them an expensive plastic toy that will be broken in 14 seconds? Not really.

I took to the internet to find inspiration for more

meaningful gifts for kids. There were lots of suggestions like books, board games, camping gear, wood-working kits and tickets to local events. These non-toy ideas are meant to encourage kids to be creative, explore new things and spend time with family. While I liked all of these ideas, they didn’t seem just right.

Then, I found a website called Mixbook. Mixbook, similar to Shutterfly and other photo websites, allows you to create photo books, calendars, cards and more.

If you spend a lot of time with kids, you know how many photos and videos can add up over the course of a year. I decided I would take the pictures

from different events and memories that year and create a memory book for

It’s such a great way to remember family trips, graduations, embarrassing moments and more. This year, the book is finished early and ready to go for Christmas morning. It gets 5 out of 5 alligators from me.

If you’re struggling with a gift idea for a family member or child, try out the photo book idea and let us know how it goes.

We LOVE testing out new things! Tell us about your favorite item or something you want us to try for you! Drop us a line at media@grossepointenews.com.



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Annie Jr. is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All Authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI • www.mtishows.com



Cheesy Delights

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

This holiday season, I'm looking for appetizers that come out of the oven hot and bubbly. Cheese is an indulgence around here and I have two perfect hors d'oeuvres for you. These are not the latest recipes on the internet but they are tried and true and warm you every time.

The first is an olive cheese toast that is made and spread on English muffins. It's cooked in the oven for the crunchy and melty part and flavored with just a hint of curry powder.

The second is a homemade pimento cheese spread that is spread on holiday pumpnickel bread that we can only find this time of year. You can buy pimento cheese but you can also make it very easily. Serve it cold with baguettes or broil to make it perfection.

For both of these recipes I used freshly grated sharp cheddar. A food

processor gets the work done in about 15 seconds. It tastes so much better.

I hope you indulge this season a bit with these delicious treats. Easy to make, easy to serve and very easy to eat. More to come!

Cheers. Mombeau

Olive Cheese

1 cup chopped pitted olives

½ cup minced scallion

1 ½ cup grated sharp cheddar

½ cup mayonnaise
½ tsp curry powder

8 English muffins, halved

Preheat your oven to 400. Stir the first five ingredients together in a large bowl and then divide between each muffin.

Cut each muffin into fourths and then place on a parchment lined

cookie tray. Bake for 10 minutes and then cool for 5 minutes.

Hot pimento cheese toasts

2 cups extra sharp shredded cheese

8 oz cream cheese

½ cup mayonnaise

1 4oz jar, chopped pimentos

¼ tsp garlic powder

¼ tsp onion powder

1 pkg of Party Entertainer Holiday sliced pumpnickel

Use a hand mixer or standing mixer to incorporate all ingredients.

Preheat your broiled and spoon the bread with a big tablespoon of the cheese mixture.

Broil about five to six inches down from your heat source for five to six minutes.



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON



Go light

As we approach a series of holidays that call for celebratory beverages, most of which will include alcohol in one form or another, the risk of overindulgence often is ignored.

In the quest to find liquids that will impress others, some hosts are more interested in putting forward an impressive list of wines. In doing so they usually, unfortunately, ignore the reality that intoxication definitely is a risk.

Since many parties call for mingling, the beverages we consume probably would be best if they were frivolous — tasty and not very serious. It may sound like a nice idea to pull the cork on a classic old Bordeaux, or an exalted Champagne, but such showy potions would be lost on many gatherings.

For one thing, not everyone will be impressed. No wine collector wants to see a classic, carefully aged red wine with ice cubes in it.

I have seen that done with one of the finest cabernets I had in my cellar. It was irritating.

Moreover, most of today's young red wines tend to have alcohol levels close to if not exceeding 15 percent, and when you consider how much more alcohol that is than it used to be, the risk of intoxication is significant.

Here's a guesswork timeline scenario for a New Year's Eve party:

8 p.m.: arrival and greet the hosts, accepting a glass of bubbly (five ounces, 12 percent alcohol).

8:30 p.m.: five-ounce glass of chardonnay, 14 percent alcohol.

9 p.m.: five-ounce glass of zinfandel, 15 percent alcohol.

9:30 p.m.: five-ounce glass of cabernet, 15 percent alcohol.

10:30 p.m.: five-ounce glass of syrah, 15 percent

alcohol.

At this point, the party has had roughly an entire bottle of wine and is still 90 minutes away from that celebratory bubbly that accompanies ringing in the new year. And the evening's alcohol intake is enough to put him or her over the intoxicating threshold or under a table.

There is, thankfully, a simple solution to this, which if employed should avoid headaches and hangovers, not to mention tickets for unsafe driving, auto crashes and other major problems. It's also healthier. Alcohol contains calories.

- Choose lighter, lower-alcohol wines when feasible. This works especially well when the party's host is alert to the amount of alcohol contained in each bottle that will be served. There are many red wines with lower alcohols, such as French Beaujolais, southern Rhone blends, Chianti, Rioja and many rosés. As for whites, seek out German rieslings. Some have 10 percent to 11 percent alcohol.

- When all the wines have alcohol levels above 14 percent, one practical solution is to add a little water to dilute the alcohol.

- Consume six ounces

of water for each glass of wine.

- Eat foods that contain carbohydrates, such as potatoes, bread and pasta. They can buffer alcohol's effects.

Eating while consuming wine improves both and it also helps to balance the overall intake of alcohol with ingredients that are more healthful.

Wine of the Week:

NNV Gazela Vinho Verde, Portugal (\$8) — One of the world's best examples of low-alcohol white wines is vinho verde from Portugal, made in a light, fruity style.

This widely available version is from a producer that offers a slightly sparkling, slightly sweet, somewhat simple but tasty white wine that has only 9 percent alcohol. It is a fresh, quaffable offering that almost everyone will appreciate.

To find out more about Sonoma County resident Dan Berger, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2023 CREATORS.COM.

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Most wine bottles contain about five standard glasses of wine. The limit before most people start feeling alcohol impairment is two glasses of wine for women and three glasses of wine for men..

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF PORCHLIGHT FILMS AND BUNYA PRODUCTIONS

Left, Levi Miller as Charlie Bucktin, Toni Collette as Ruth Bucktin and Dan Wyllie as Wes Bucktin in the 2017 movie "Jasper Jones," directed by Rachel Perkins.

MOVIE REVIEW
 "Jasper Jones"
 2017 -Not Rated
 1 hr 45 min
 ★★★★★☆

"Jasper Jones" is another excellent, coming-of-age film from Down Under that deserves to be better known. Based on Craig Silvey's 1990 best-selling novel, it's sort of a blend of "To Kill a Mockingbird" (minus the courtroom drama) and "Stand By Me."

The fact that it touches on multiple themes like racism, loss, justice and redemption makes it such a complex and rewarding film. It combines the superb directing of Rachel Perkins ("Bran Nue Dae") along with the editing skills of Veronika Jenet and camerawork of Mark Wareham. The beautiful score by Antony Pardos also adds to the overall mysterious tone to the movie.

"Jasper Jones" takes place in the late 1960s in the fictional town of Corrington, in Western Australia. Late one night, 13-year-old Charlie Bucktin (Levi Miller) is awakened by someone knocking on his window. It's the young,

Aboriginal-Australian schoolteacher who quietly tolerates his wife's rages. It becomes obviously rather quickly that the couple has a less than ideal relationship. This is confirmed later in the film when Charlie discovers his mom fooling around with the town constable.

He reluctantly follows him and is shocked to find Jasper's white girlfriend hanging from a tree. Jasper tells him that he isn't responsible for her death, but he's no doubt the prime suspect, due to his race and reputation. The two cut down the girl and hide her in a nearby pond.

Jasper is convinced the real culprit is "Mad" Jack Lionel (Hugo Weaving), a recluse who lives in a run down shack in the woods. Weaving does his usual terrific job in the role of a disheveled old codger.

Typical of a small town, there are rumors that the war veteran with a mysterious past has killed before. Jasper wants Charlie to help him prove that Lionel is indeed the girl's murderer, and he's more than eager to solve the mystery.

Charlie's home-life is anything but normal. His mom Ruth (Toni Collette) is your typical strict disciplinarian, and struggles to keep him in line. His dad Wes (Dan Wyllie) is a mild-mannered

schoolteacher who quietly tolerates his wife's rages. It becomes obviously rather quickly that the couple has a less than ideal relationship. This is confirmed later in the film when Charlie discovers his mom fooling around with the town constable.

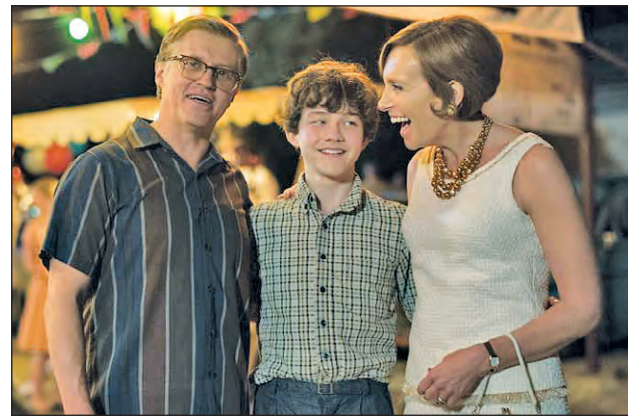
There's a delightful scene early on when Charlie is walking to school with his best friend and next-door neighbor Jeffrey Lu (Kevin Long), the son of Vietnamese immigrants. The two are engaged in a serious discussion regarding the superhero properties of Superman versus Batman. They debate the definition of what true heroism is.

An underlying feeling of oppressiveness and racial tension permeates the small town. This is blatantly on display during and after a cricket match. Jeffrey plays for the local team, who are serious underdogs at the match. While he's obsessed with the sport, his abilities are relatively unknown.

With the team losing at the end of a game, he's put in to bat. To everyone's surprise, he

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin



A night out with the Bucktin family.

ends up winning the surmatch for his team. After all the rejoicing, some hooligans stop by his parent's house that night and destroy their flower garden.

Charlie is determined to become a writer. He devours Truman Capote's "In Cold Blood" not only for inspiration, but also for clues to help him solve the case of the missing/murdered girl.

One day he runs into Eliza (Angourie Rice), the missing girl's younger sister at the library. It's obvious he has a big crush on her and she hands him a copy of "Breakfast at Tiffany's." Before she gives him the book, she mysteriously slips a note into it. We'll find out much later in the story that the note holds the key to solving the mystery.

I wasn't sure what to expect when I read the description of "Jasper Jones." I thought it could have been fairly formulaic, but it turned out not

to be. It was full of surprises, both in terms of plot and acting. The two young actors, Levi Miller and Aaron L. McGrath turned in solid performances and promise to have great careers ahead of them. I look forward to seeing them in the future. Of course, Toni Collette was magnificent as always. If you're in the mood for a well-crafted, coming of age mystery, put this one in your queue.

Note to parents: While the film is Not Rated, I'd probably give it a "PG-13." Currently streaming for free on Kanopy and Hoopla (with your library card) and Freevee. Also on Peacock, Plex, The Roku Chanel, and to rent on Prime Video.

My rating system:

★ A real stinker. A movie that is so bad, you're embarrassed to admit you've seen it, but you have to rate it nonetheless.

★★ So-so. Not a total waste of time, but you would have been better off reading a good book.

★★★ Pretty good. In fact, if there weren't any other movies in your queue, you might watch it again.

★★★★ One you'd recommend to friends.

★★★★★ So good you'd actually go out and buy it!

About this column:

My main focus is on films that I feel have gone under the radar and deserve more recognition.

They include both mainstream and indie films streaming on services like Netflix, 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.



The boys discover a clue.



Aaron L. McGrath as Jasper Jones, Levi Miller as Charlie Bucktin and Eliza Angourie Rice as Eliza Wishart.



Angourie Rice as Eliza Wishart.



Hugo Weaving as Mad Jack Lionel.



Toni Collette as Ruth Bucktin.

Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Libra.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, December 7, 2023:

You are a courageous, freethinking pioneer of ideas. You are original and not afraid to be different. This is a powerful year for recognition for you. Expect a promotion, awards, accolades and major accomplishments. This is also a busy year for you because people are aware of your strengths.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
This is an excellent day to talk to bosses, parents and VIPs, because your optimism and ability to see the big picture will impress everyone. Make your wishes known. Share your views. You will be convincing and persuasive. Tonight: Learn.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
This is a marvelous day to study and learn. It's also a wonderful day to teach, because you're so enthusiastic about whatever interests you. Enjoy pursuing anything that expands your world. This is also a great day to travel and talk to people from other cultures. Tonight: Check your finances.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
Financial discussions will go well today, especially conversations about how to share or divide something like an inheritance. Whatever happens, you will come out smelling like a rose and will be happy with the results. This also includes anything dealing with shared property or insurance issues. Tonight: Cooperate.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
People are happy to see you today because you are enthusiastic, and there is nothing as contagious as enthusiasm. You're full of big ideas! You are also keen to encourage others to do their best and give it the old college try. Discussions about law or philosophy and religion will go well. Tonight: Get organized.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Work-related travel is likely for many of you today. This is a great day at work, because you feel optimistic and ready to tackle anything that comes your way, small or big. In particular, you will work well with groups. This is also a good day to deal with your health or a pet. Tonight: Play!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Today your ruler Mercury is dancing with lucky Jupiter, which makes this a good time to explore financial speculation. Your upbeat enthusiasm will attract children to you. It's a great day to make travel plans for a vacation. It's also a wonderful day to schmooze and enjoy the company of others. Tonight: Home repairs.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Grab every opportunity to entertain at home today, because groups, organizations, friends and family will enjoy pleasant times. Discussions about real estate will be positive and successful. Be careful not to over-extend yourself. Tonight: You're convincing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
This is the perfect day to sign important documents. It's also a great day to learn something new or to sign up for a course. Meanwhile, conversations with neighbors, siblings and relatives will be positive and enthusiastic. By all means, travel

today. At least take a short trip. Tonight: Check your belongings.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
This is an excellent day for business and finance. You have wonderful opportunities to boost your earnings or benefit from discussions with others. It's a good day to deal with foreign interests. Legal discussions will also be settled in your favor. Tonight: Exercise.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
This is a great day to make plans for the future and create organizational systems. (Be careful not to gloss over details.) Business and commercial activity is strong today. It's a good day to conclude a deal or to sign a contract. Tonight: Solitude.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Behind-the-scenes research will pay off today, because your mind is sharp and willing to embrace big ideas. You find it easy to "think big" today. Share your ideas with others. You make an excellent impression on everyone now with Venus at high noon in your chart. Tonight: Friendships.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
This is a popular day for you! In particular, your ability to deal with young people is almost magical. You will be able to enthrall others and encourage people to get behind your plans if you are dealing with groups, clubs or organizations. Everyone will want to be on your team. No question! Tonight: Explore!

BORN TODAY
A philosopher, political academic, linguist Noam Chomsky (1928), gold medalist figure skater Yuzuru Hanyu (1994), actor Nicholas Hoult (1989).

Contract Bridge

A HEART-RENDING TALE

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ A Q 6
♥ 7 5
♦ K 10 6 2
♣ Q 9 5 4

WEST

♠ 7 4
♥ A K Q J 10 8 6
♦ 4 3
♣ 6 2

EAST

♠ J 9 8 5 3
♥ 2
♦ J 8 7 5
♣ 10 8 3

SOUTH

♠ K 10 2
♥ 9 4 3
♦ A Q 9
♣ A K J 7

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 NT	2♦	Dble	Pass
3 NT	Dble	Redble	

Opening lead — ?

This deal occurred many years ago in a rubber-bridge game at the Columbia Club in Indianapolis. The story that goes with it is heart-rending, if you consider the matter solely from the viewpoint of West, Al Sobel, who was for many years chief tournament director of the American Contract Bridge League.

South (Joe Cain) opened the bidding with one notrump, and Sobel ventured the exotic overcall of two diamonds,

which was doubled by North. It being lunchtime, Cain wanted to get the rubber over with as soon as possible, so he removed the double to three notrump.

Having now caught the fly in his trap, Sobel doubled. North treated this as a personal insult and redoubled! You might wonder why, under these circumstances, Sobel should have any cause for complaint. He had maneuvered the opponents exactly to where he wanted them. But unfortunately, while Sobel was licking his chops — and before he had a chance to lead his fourth-best heart — East led a club out of turn!

The irregularity occurred back in the days when one of declarer's options was the privilege of calling for a specific suit to be led. So Cain cheerfully told East to put the club back in his hand and asked West to lead a diamond. Sobel had no choice but to comply, and the upshot was that Cain took the first 11 tricks, thanks to the lead out of turn.

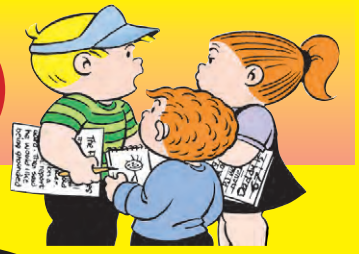
This resulted in an enormous swing, since South would have gone down three — 1,600 points — with a heart lead, but instead scored 1,750 points for making three notrump redoubled with two overtricks.

Sobel was understandably furious (to put it mildly) about the outcome, but Cain enjoyed his lunch very much that day.

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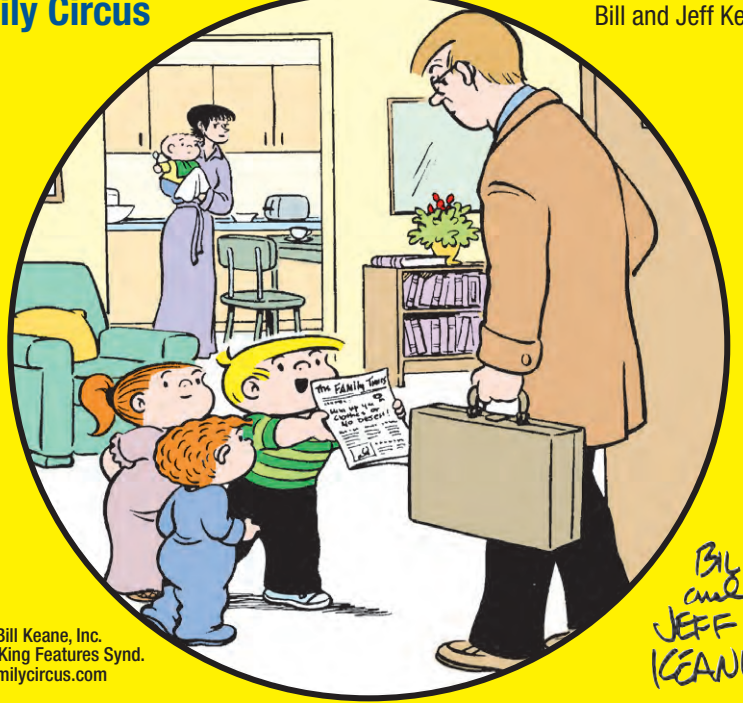
by Steve Becker

EXTRA SUPPLEMENTAL Comics PART 3



Bill and Jeff Keane

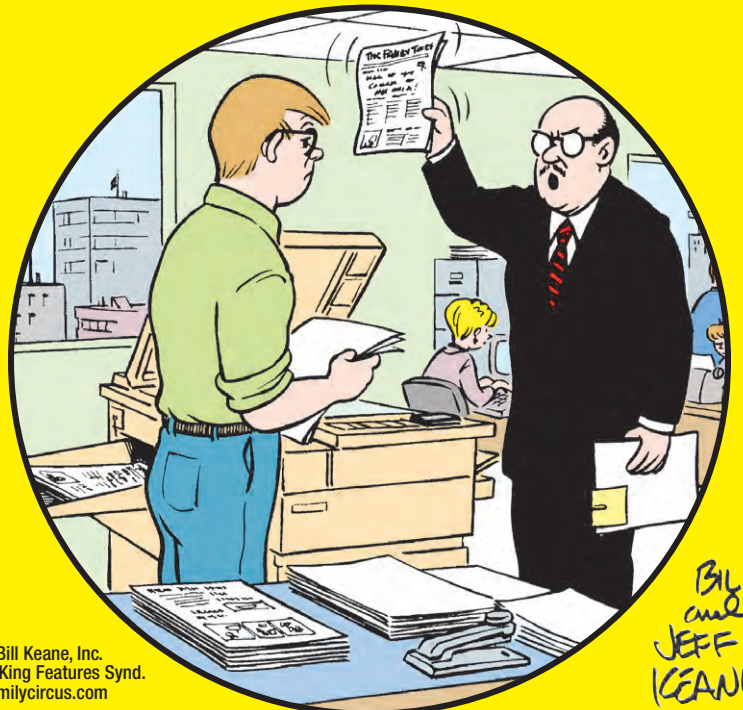
Family Circus



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Bill and Jeff Keane

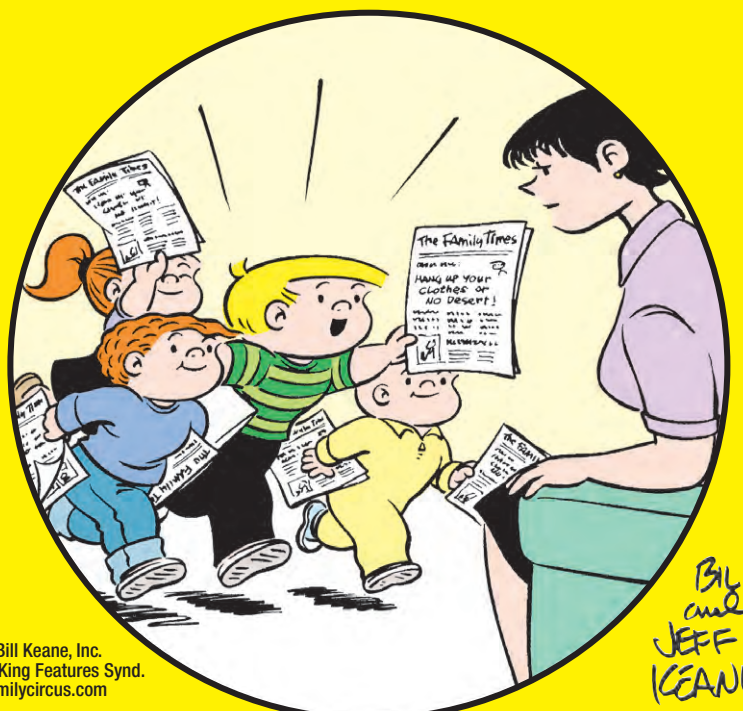
"Any ideas how we might get our paper printed, Daddy? AND NO FAIR READIN' IT!"



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Bill and Jeff Keane

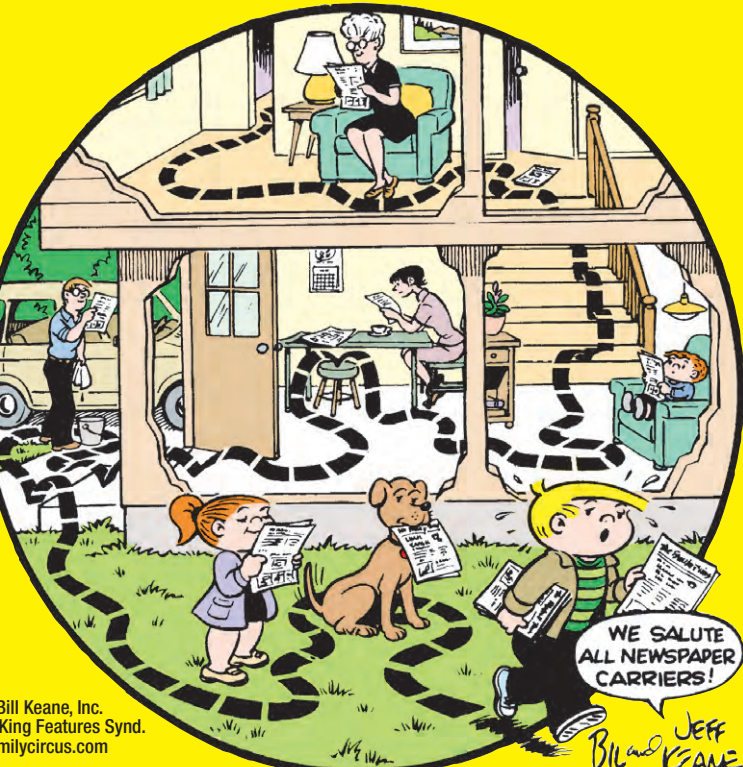
"How much longer will the copier be tied up with the press run of this 'Family Times'?"



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Bill and Jeff Keane

"Paper, Mom? We'll READ it to you!"



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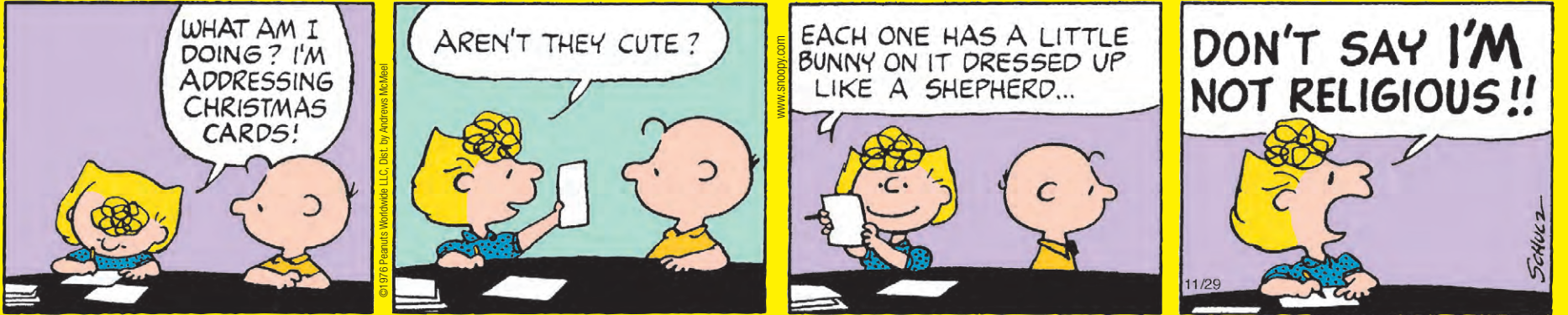
Bill and Jeff Keane

"Putting a newspaper together is fun. The hard part is DELIVERIN' IT!"

Comics

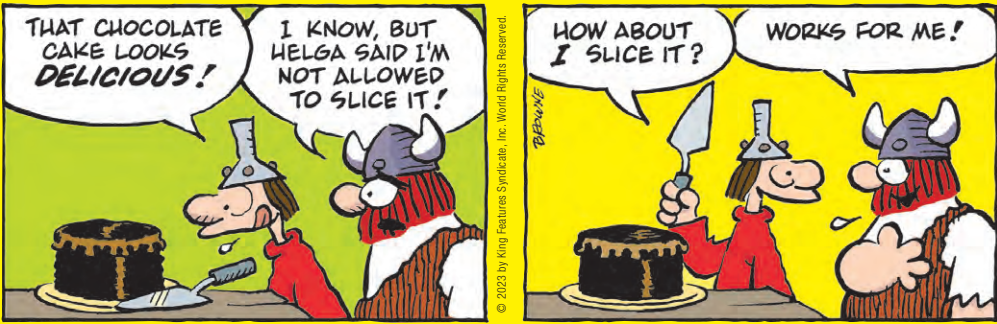
Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



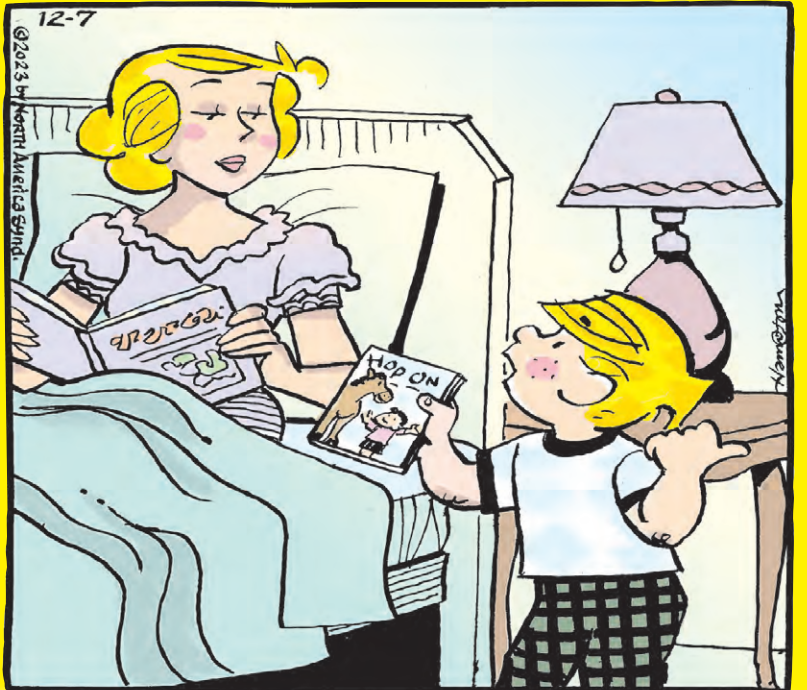
Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



Dennis the Menace

Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



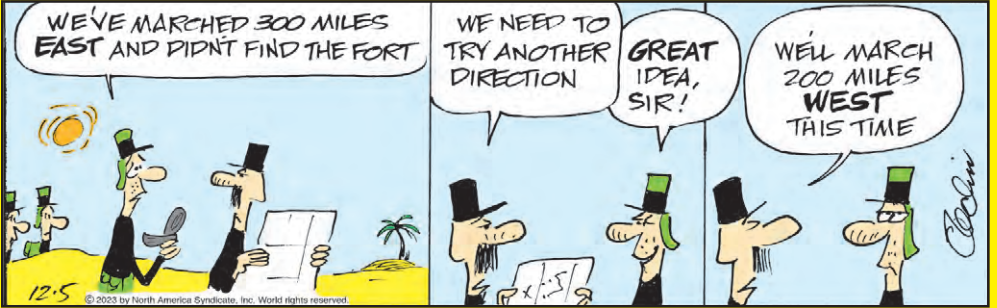
Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



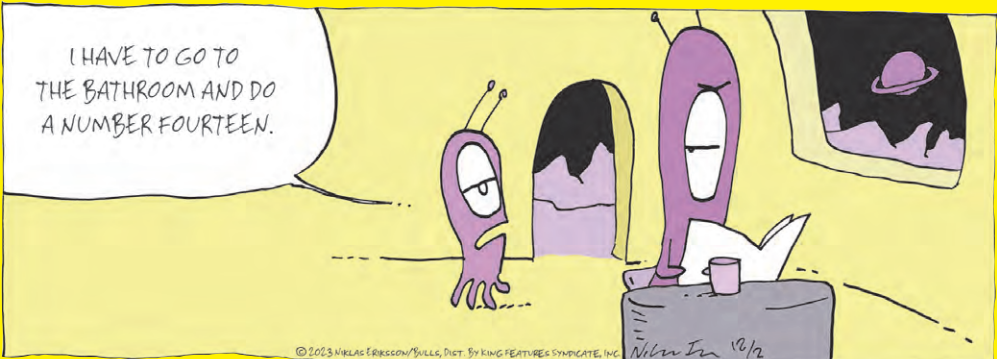
Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



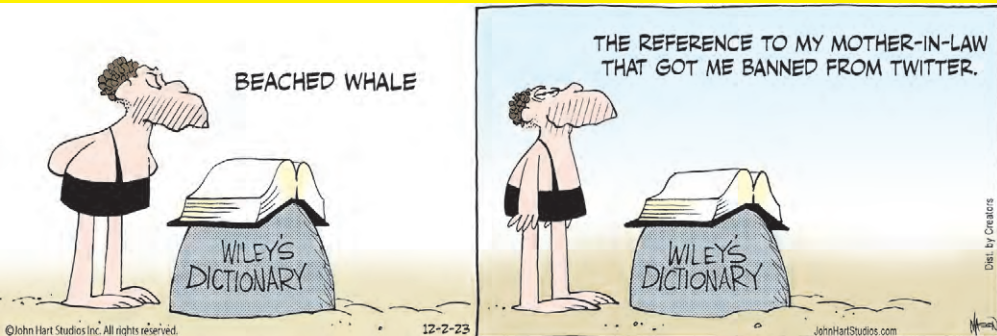
Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Reality Check

Dave Whamond



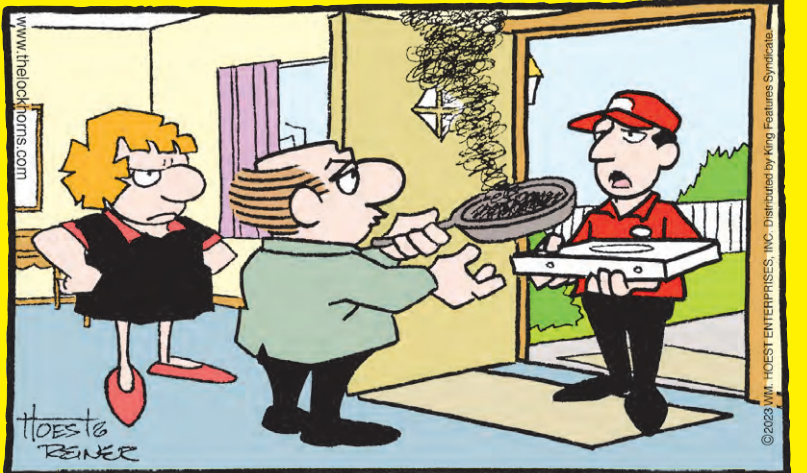
Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayne



The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



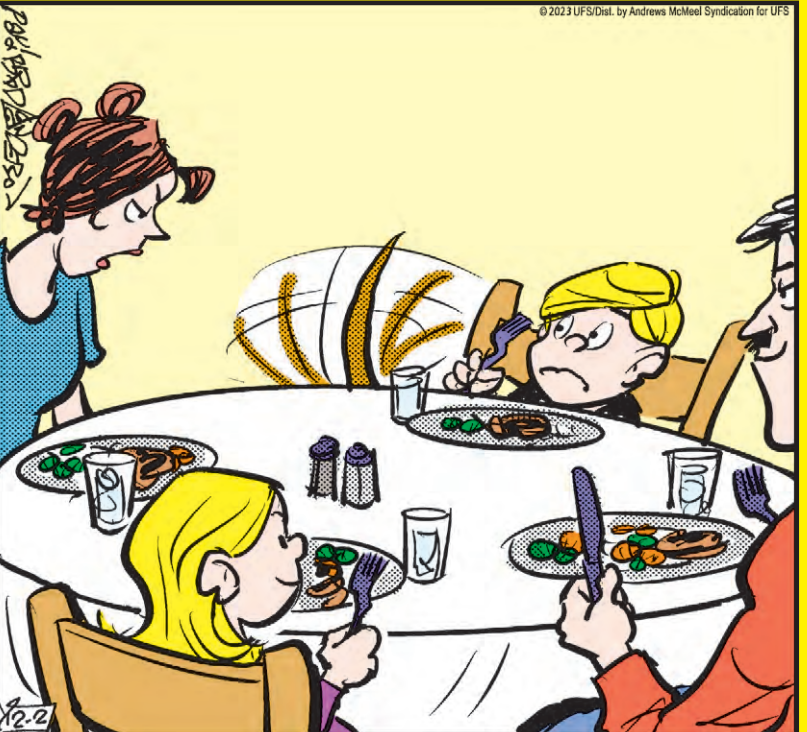
Close To Home

John McPherson



Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



"Stop dropping your vegetables on the floor for Marmaduke."

Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



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Kid Scoop FIT & FUN

Ballet Moves
Can you match each kid to their ballet position? Can you stand in these poses, too?

First Position



Second Position



Third Position



Fourth Position



Fifth Position



Standards Links: Physical Education: Demonstrate a sense of balance and endurance.

THE NUTCRACKER

It started as a story called "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King." A little more than 100 years ago, this beloved tale was made into a ballet called "The Nutcracker." It has become one of the most popular ballets.



A Special Gift for Clara

Herr Drosselmeyer brings a special gift for Clara—a nutcracker in the shape of a soldier. Her brother, Fritz, wants the nutcracker, grabs it and breaks it.

Help Herr Drosselmeyer fix the nutcracker.
Draw the nutcracker's missing arm and leg, then color them.

ACT 1

In a small village, guests are arriving for a Christmas Eve party at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Stahlbaum and their children, Clara and Fritz.

Clara's godfather, Herr Drosselmeyer, brings toys for all the children.

Help Clara find these toys.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Understand story elements: plot, conflict, resolution and structure.

The Midnight Battle

That night, an excited Clara cannot sleep. She sneaks downstairs to be with her new nutcracker doll. As the clock strikes midnight, strange things begin to happen ...

The Christmas tree grows to an enormous size and a great battle begins between the Mouse King and the Nutcracker, who comes to life to lead an army of toy soldiers.

Clara uses her to kill the Mouse King and save the Nutcracker's life.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow the sequence of events in a story.



Standards Link: Recognize similarities and differences; visual discrimination.

CODE: A= E= H= O= S=

Extra! Extra!

Holiday Hunt

Look through the newspaper for:

- 5 holiday pictures
- 5 holiday words
- 3 five-digit numbers
- something sweet
- 1 gift for a special person

Standards Link: Classify objects according to common attributes.

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ACT II

The Nutcracker takes Clara on a fantastic journey, which ends at the Sugar Plum Fairy's palace in the Land of Sweets.



Can you find the sweets that match?

Standards Link: Visual discrimination.

Double Double Word Search

- NUTCRACKER
- MOUSE
- BALLET
- TOYS
- SOLDIER
- CLARA
- PLUM
- SUGAR
- FAIRY
- CLOCK
- TREE
- PARTY
- KING
- ARMY
- GRABS

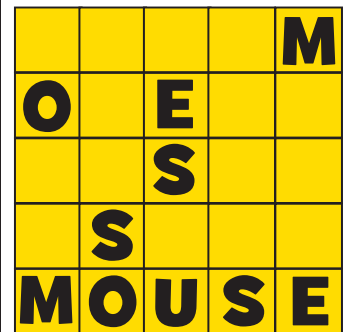
Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Kid Scoop-doku

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word **MOUSE** in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.



FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Stories

Select pictures of two different people from the newspaper. Make up first and last names for each one. Create a way for the people to know each other. Describe their relationship. What are the best qualities of each character? Write a quotation for each one. Use this information to write a story.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Create brief narratives describing a fictional experience.

Where is a snowman's favorite place to dance?

ANSWER: At the snowball.



Write On!

Winter Words

Make a list of words that make you think of winter. Use these words to write a short poem or descriptive paragraph.

"WHEN I SAY TO A PARENT, 'READ TO A CHILD,' I DON'T WANT IT TO SOUND LIKE MEDICINE. I WANT IT TO SOUND LIKE CHOCOLATE."
-MEM FOX

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2-5D BOYS WINTER SPORTS PREVIEWS | 6D HITS & HIGHLIGHTS | 6-7D CLASSIFIED

Pointes' hockey arenas get hoppin' as girls teams hit the ice

By Meg Leonard
 Senior Editor

Local hockey fans got their fill of thrills and excitement last week thanks to a slew of regular season games that brought ample scoring, crosstown clashes and nail-biting overtime affairs for girls varsity teams from Grosse Pointe South, Grosse Pointe North and University Liggett School.

On Tuesday, Nov. 28, Liggett and South met on the ice for the first time since last season's state championship, a game in which the Knights won 3-0 to capture the program's third consecutive Michigan High School Girls Hockey League Division 1 state crown.

In the teams' latest clash, a last-second goal from the Knights brought the game into overtime, but no victor emerged as the teams settled on a 3-3 tie at McCann Arena.



PHOTO BY LEON HALIP

University Liggett goaltender Brooklyn Peshl attempts to stop a puck approaching the left corner in last week's overtime tie against Grosse Pointe South.

"We kept exchanging goals, scoring them all in similar fashion with each other," South's head varsity coach Lexi Bohlinger said.

After a scoreless first period, the game held true to the squads' intense rivalry by pick-

ing up the pace in the second. Liggett's Sofie Ancona opened up scoring at 14:39 of the period, thanks to an assist from Sullivan Estes.

Just under a minute later, South answered back with a goal from Evie Wodsisz, with an

assist from Audrey Reynolds to make it a 1-1 game. The period ended knotted at one.

In the third period, the Blue Devils and Knights continued going back and forth, with the teams alternating scoring opportunities and total-

ling five trips to the penalty box.

At 13:38, with the Knights' Louisa Dragovic in the box for tripping, South took advantage on the ensuing power play. Leila Oksui found the net at 13:18 in the period to pull her team ahead 2-1, with an assist from Abby Evans. But Dragovic kept her head in the game and scored an unassisted goal with six minutes left to tie things up 2-2.

South recaptured its lead with 1:08 left in regulation when Bella Perurski scored an unassisted goal to put South back up, 3-2.

With South clinging to a 3-2 lead, the excitement continued to ramp up as time ticked off the clock. It hit a crescendo with 1.8 seconds left in regulation. With six Liggett skaters on the ice, freshman Stella Smiatacz won the faceoff for the Knights and sent it over to senior captain Allie Roth, who scored to send the game into over-

time. With neither team managing to score in the extra frame, the game ended in a 3-3 tie.

"It was fast, physical, lots of penalties, lots of amazing saves and pucks were flying everywhere," Bohlinger said. "I don't think we were as nervous as we have been in the past. The air just felt a lot more confident."

Bohlinger said while her team was disappointed it didn't walk away with a win, it did show how evenly matched the two teams are this year.

"It's just one of those things," she said. "A game like this really just lights a fire under us."

After the rivalry game, the Pointes' three girls teams continued with a busy week of action. South hit the ice the next night against Livonia United Wednesday, Nov. 29, at Eddie Edgar Ice Arena, earning a 7-0 win.

See HOCKEY, page 8D

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Senior Winowiecki aims to leave legacy with North girls hoops

By Mike Adzima
 Sports Reporter

The phrase "ball is life" is often used by basketball players and fans to describe their dedication to the game, and those words perfectly describe Jenna Winowiecki. After all, the Grosse Pointe North senior has been shooting hoops for as long as she can remember.

"I've been a gym rat since I was born," Winowiecki said. "Two of my older brothers played college basketball and they were always in the gym working...Being in the gym is how it's always been for me. I got into it because of my family and fell in love with it."

Winowiecki is part of a basketball lineage that

has already made its mark at North and beyond. Her oldest brother, James, is currently head coach for the Norsemen's JV girls basketball team, while other brothers Jordan and Josh both played college basketball at the NAIA level.

Now entering her senior season, Winowiecki has already done plenty to add to her family's basketball legacy. Last season, she averaged 13 points per game, set the school record for three-pointers made in a season with 45, and set another record with five three-pointers in a single game.

Winowiecki is also now one of North's captains, a role that she feels ready to embrace after years of learning to become a leader.

has also been working hard in the offseason to develop different aspects of her game. Setting program records from beyond the three-point line makes Winowiecki perhaps the most reliable shooter the Norsemen have. However, North fans might see her playing in a bit different style this season at times to help the team.

"This year, I'm really going to need to attack the basket more," Winowiecki said. "We lost some key players and are bringing in some new, talented players as well, but we lost players who were good at attacking the rim. I'm going to need to step in there and I think it's something I've really improved on."

Winowiecki is one of five seniors on North's roster this year, but the team did graduate some

"As a freshman I was a bit quiet, but over the last few years I've really come out of my shell on and off the court and have become a leader," she said. "...Me and the other seniors are good at getting everyone involved and making sure everyone is included."

While her leadership on and off the court has improved, Winowiecki



COURTESY PHOTO

Jenna Winowiecki will serve as one of North's senior captains this upcoming girls basketball season.

key pieces from last year's regional championship squad. Making it back to the state quarterfinals is going to be a tough task, even with a good amount of experience returning, experience like Winowiecki along with fellow senior captains Julia Liagre and Natalie Babcock.

See ATHLETE, page 8D

North's Shooting Star

- Averaged 13 points and 3 rebounds per game in 2022-23
- Set North girls hoops program record with 45 three-pointers made last season
- Signed to play college basketball at Gannon University

Grosse Pointe News

Jenna Winowiecki

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 Sport: Basketball

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2D WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW

Take hundreds of athletes from dozens of varsity teams and three high schools and you have the makings for an action-packed, thrilling winter sports season in the Pointes.

The Grosse Pointe News sports staff has the inside scoop on what you can expect before watching your favorite teams in action this winter. This week, we are featuring the Pointes' varsity boys basketball, wrestling and hockey teams.

Next week, we will bring you preview stories on the boys varsity swim and dive teams. So as the horn sounds to start the 2023-24 winter sports season, let's take a look at what to expect from your Blue Devils, Norsemen and Knights:

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Boys Varsity Basketball

New lineup, new outlook for North hoops

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

A lot has changed from last winter to now entering the 2023-24 season for Grosse Pointe North boys basketball. The team is without some key players who had been staples in the lineup for the past few years, but brings back plenty of experience that is ready to step up into the spotlight.

A couple of the biggest names that will not be on the floor for the Norsemen this year are Adam Ayrault, who graduated and is now playing at Wayne State, and James Phillips, who elected to transfer out of the district. Other graduating players like Drew Hill and Zachary Cody are also former key pieces that North will surely miss, but having to manage without some of those players is nothing completely new to the Norsemen.

"The second half of last year, we didn't really play with most of those guys at the same time anyway due to injuries," North boys basketball head coach Rob Johnson said. "So a lot of the seniors now got a lot of experience last

year toward the end of the year. We're a deeper group this year, I think... It's really a testament to our seniors and the guys we had coming up. I don't think I would've kept 15 players if I knew this group couldn't handle it."

The players who are now expected to step up and be the new leaders on the court are names that should still be familiar to Norsemen fans. Seniors like Rocco Cardinale and Brady Beers are back in the lineup along with Rubin McBride-Williams. Expected to start at point guard is junior Leo Perettie.

That group along with a few others are expected to be the main contributors for the Norsemen this year. However, one of the biggest focal points for the team going into the season is spreading things out and using a deeper

lineup to its advantage. "I think we're going to be more balanced this year, especially on offense," Johnson said. "We're losing Adam (Ayrault) and James (Phillips) and they were

tight-knit group, a lot of them are really tight and good friends, so our strength is going to be balanced on both sides of the ball and our team chemistry is going to be better."

Grosse Pointe South, North is faced with the task of competing in what they believe is a stacked MAC White league.

"The MAC White Division is one of, if not the best league in the area," Johnson said. "We're excited to play South this year like always and we get that one at home. If anybody likes watching good quality ball on a given night then our division is going to be a grind... That's a stacked MAC White Division from top to bottom and I think anybody can beat anyone in this league."

The division this year includes Warren Lincoln, Romeo, Eisenhower, New Haven and defending league champions Port Huron Northern. Those oppo-

nents make up a bulk of North's schedule through the heart of the season in January and February.

North finished last season fifth out of six teams in the division and is looking to jump up the rankings this year and compete for league and district titles when the calendar flips to March. In order to do that, the team's focus is on finding consistency and perfecting the little things that have sometimes caused the Norsemen to stumble in the past.

"We've gotten off to hot starts but we have to find a way to win more road games this year," said Johnson. "One of our big goals this year is cutting down on turnovers and making more free throws. If we can do that going into March then we could be tough to beat this year."

North boys basketball opened the season on the road at Stevenson on Friday, Dec. 1 with a 56-51 victory in overtime. The Norsemen hosted rival Grosse Pointe South on Wednesday, Dec. 6, after press time and then are back on the road Tuesday, Dec. 12, at DeWitt.



Leo Perettie, left, returns to the North boys basketball team this season with the key role of starting point guard.

PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Boys Wrestling

Strong leadership gives North wrestling optimism

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

For about three weeks, Grosse Pointe North's wrestlers have been practicing on the mat preparing for the upcoming new season. This winter is shaping up to be potentially the most successful season for Norsemen wrestling in quite some time. Why that is the case comes down to two main things: attitude and participation.

"So far everyone is all in and we're getting great effort from everyone," North wrestling head coach Jaron Nelson said. "We have a bigger team this year for the first time in a while, maybe in the last decade... Their effort and the amount of willingness they have to learn is top tier. And I keep telling them that what they're bringing to the table is top tier."

This year's Norsemen have a large mix of new

faces and also returning talent to the roster. Three of the team's four state qualifiers from last season have graduated, but Preston Auld is back serving as a senior captain and looking to make a return to Ford Field at the end of the winter.

Other wrestlers to keep an eye out for on the mat include Derand Sako, Gary Mead, Julian Garma-Llera and Ian Duvernay, North's other senior captain. Maddelyn Walter, who will compete for North in girls events, is also expected to earn the Norsemen some big points in tournaments. While some of North's top wrestlers might be as young as sophomores, the leadership that the more veteran members of the team have shown toward them has helped increase the strength of the entire squad.

"The older guys really understand their wrestling now and the expectations,"

Nelson said. "They do a great job catching the younger kids up to speed... They're taking charge and they want to win a district title, and they know in that perspective it's a team aspect."

Having younger wrestlers coming into the program for the veterans to help teach is also a huge advantage for North going into the future. The Norsemen have one of the fullest lineups that the program has had in years, which is a tremendous boost.

While the Norsemen may look good in competition, recent years have seen their record not always reflect their talent. This was mainly due to the fact that North would have to forfeit certain matches in tournaments or meets because they did not have anyone to wrestle in that weight class. That is going to be less of an issue this year, and has North hoping

that it will no longer be something that they have to deal with in years to come.

"It gives me a very good scale of how the season is going to turn out," Nelson said. "We have some hard tournaments and see some solid teams throughout the season, but I think we can compete with a full lineup finally. We've battled in the last few years by winning matches where we actually have people competing, but lose the overall event because of (forfeits), but this year that's not going to be the case as much."

North's wrestlers get their first taste of competition starting at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 9, as they go on the road at Carleton Airport. The team's first home matches of the new season will take place on Saturday, Dec. 16, in its annual Norsemen Classic Tournament beginning at 9:30 a.m.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

North's Preston Auld, pictured at the 2023 MHSAA wrestling finals at Ford Field, is looking to make a return trip to the state championships in his senior season.



| GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Boys Varsity Basketball

Up tempo, 'unselfish' Blue Devils shoot to win crowns in new basketball season

By Meg Leonard
Senior Editor

New leaders on the floor in tandem with a deep bench are the key ingredients head coach Steve Benard will use to meet and exceed last year's most successful run in three decades for Grosse Pointe South boys varsity basketball, a season that included a MAC Red championship and the program's first district championship since 1992.

It will work to find that magic again with a unique mix of veterans, a junior transfer and two freshmen, a lineup that's also charged with replacing the skills of their head coach's son and former Blue Devil stand-out Anthony Benard, who now plays Division I basketball at Mercer University in Macon, Ga. Entering his fifth season in charge, Steve Benard said he is confident his trio of captains — seniors Karter Richards and Nate Davey and junior Vince Vachon — are up to the task.

"We have instilled some things into (them) over time and have some great leadership there that left with (Anthony). He was a different kind of player because he shaped his game into something different every year," Benard said, noting his former captain epitomized the

assets of a positionless basketball player.

This year's team might have a different look, but is one that Benard is eager to get out on the floor.

"We have some veterans on the team and they set a really good example," he said. "Teamwork, which can be an overstated concept, but that's really the culture here, where we share the basketball. The next pass is a great pass because it's setting up a better shot."

Benard said he wants his team to be resilient this season.

"Playing with toughness and you know, just getting after it," he said of his expectations.

The Blue Devils will get after it with a roster of 13 players, including six seniors, four juniors, a sophomore and two freshmen.

A few key additions to this year's starting lineup include West Bloomfield transfer Tory James, simply known as "T.J." to his coaches and teammates.

"He's a top 100 player in the state," Benard said. "He can absolutely shoot the ball and he's fit in great. He's a willing passer and he's a great teammate. The guys have really helped in the transition for him."

Benard also noted James' intangibles.

"He'll be able to pick up some of Anthony's



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE BENARD

From left, junior Vince Vachon and seniors Nate Davey and Karter Richards are the 2023-24 team co-captains for Grosse Pointe South boys varsity basketball.

slack for sure. He's a really, really good player."

More new names include two freshmen, Kooper Richards and Sam Rouleau, who will be "five quarter" players that split time each week getting minutes on JV and varsity.

"When you bring the freshman up, you get so much bang for your buck later on," Benard said. "They have been exposed to everything in practice. They have been

in all the situations playing in front of crowds. Usually when you move (freshmen) up, they are quick learners and coachable. They grow a lot by game 10 or 11. They are totally different players."

Benard offered Vachon to illustrate the benefit of developing young players early.

"We moved (Vince) up about 10 games into the season his freshmen year," he said. "And he started all year as a

sophomore and now will start this year and he still has a year left. By the time they are sophomores and juniors, that's when it gets to the point that it really helps your program."

This season's youngest additions will be balanced out by a senior-heavy roster, led by co-captain Davey, whose 6-foot, 7-inch frame belies his quickness, and Richards, a four-year starter who will move to the collegiate level next season at Division II Lake Superior State University.

"They are leaders of the team," Benard said of his team captains, who took on their roles in the off-season. "They control the group chats and we expect them to be great leaders. We will name new ones when the season ends, so by then everyone will understand our culture of leadership."

Benard's latest team is tasked with finding success similar to last season's, where South finished 21-5, won the MAC Red and also won a district championship for the first time since 1992. The team came up just short with a 62-58 loss in the regional final against De La Salle Collegiate, the 2022 defending state champions.

"Every year since I've been here, our goal is to win whatever league we

are in, to beat North, win the MAC tournament and compete for a district championship," Benard said. "We are in a hefty district with Cass Tech, King and Western, but you know you only gotta beat them once and we believe we can beat them with our schedule."

Benard said he hopes playing a tough schedule all season will reap benefits come playoff time.

"Our strength of schedule is really good so we are hoping we get a No. 1 or 2 seed (when playoffs start). I don't know what will happen and our goals are lofty, but we're gonna try to make that happen."

The first bridge to cross is competing in the MAC Red, where several teams will duke it out in the regular season, including Chippewa Valley, Stevenson, L'Anse Creuse North and Dakota.

Benard said his team's off-season work is what will best prepare them for the long grind ahead.

"Off-season is the real season, especially for a skill sport," he said.

He also said he hopes a few team assets shine through after fans come to watch them.

"I hope people say this is an unselfish team, that they see continuity within the program and supportive teammates who are entertaining to watch," he said.

| UNIVERSITY LIGGETT

Boys Varsity Basketball

Young roster and new coach create fresh start for Knights basketball

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

This winter is going to be a season of new beginnings for the boys basketball program at University Liggett. The Knights are going to have a very young roster, with just one returning senior, and are also being led by a new head coach.

That new coach is James Scott. Scott spent the past two seasons as head coach at Michigan Collegiate in Warren and coached at Chandler Park Academy for six years before that, leading the Eagles to a Division 2 final four appearance in 2019. Scott saw the opportunity with the Knights as a fresh start for his coaching career, and

what better time to do it than when the team also has a fresh roster.

"I grew up on the east-side of Detroit so I've always known about Liggett," Scott said. "...It feels like a diamond in the rough. Once the job opened up, someone reached out to me and I thought it would be the perfect place and opportunity to try and rebuild and start a program."

Liggett's roster this season features just a single returning senior, Ian Flynn, who Scott expects to be a focal point for the Knights' lineup. Another of the few key veterans is junior big man Jackson Fetter.

Outside of those few players, Liggett's squad this winter will feature up to four freshmen and three sophomores. A

lack of experience might cause some growing pains at first for the Knights, but having a young group and new head coach makes long term success the real outlook.

"We're all coming in fresh and get to grow with each other," said Scott. "We all are basically new and get to learn together and make mistakes together and grow from them. We had 20 freshmen try out which is a crazy number, but it was like a perfect storm because I can develop those guys and we can see where we're at by the time they're juniors or seniors."

With a largely young roster, a lot might be uncertain heading into this season for Liggett. The team's toughest test

in Catholic League play will likely come Cardinal Mooney, which reached the final four in Division 4 last season. The Knights also have non-league games scheduled against Southfield Christian (Dec. 8) and Lake Shore (Jan. 24 at Little Caesars Arena).

Scott's coaching style might be the biggest benefit the Knights have given the young roster. The team's new coach prides himself on creating a balanced attack

and letting success on one side of the ball lead to opportunities on the other.

"We want to get up and down and have some guys who can shoot the basketball," Scott said. "But you can't get those runs until you make stops on defense. We've got to hang our hat on our defense...We can

turn up the defense and speed you up. Be balanced and let our defense create a bit of offense."

Liggett's boys basketball team opened the season on Friday, Dec. 1, on the road at Oakland Christian, losing 67-54. The Knights have their home opener on Friday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. hosting Southfield Christian.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Ian Flynn, pictured in a game against Everest last season, is one of just two seniors in the lineup for Liggett boys basketball in 2023-24.

4D WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW

UNIVERSITY LIGGETT

Boys Varsity Hockey

Speed, hockey IQ to equal success for Knights

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Last year, University Liggett's boys hockey team was a veteran group led by nearly a dozen seniors on the roster. As is with any high school sport, the Knights now come into a season that sees many changes on the roster, with a new young core of sophomores and juniors ready to step up into bigger roles.

This year's Knights team is heavily comprised of juniors and sophomores with just four seniors on the roster. However, even with a younger crop of players, even the Knights' coaches have been surprised with just how prepared and experienced this winter's group already looks.

"We are a bit younger this year since we had 11 seniors graduate last year," Liggett boys hockey head coach Colin Smith said. "But after our first week of practice, my assistant coaches and I looked at each other and said 'are we this good?' Because we have a very intelligent hockey team. Our younger players, some of them who didn't play

here last year and some who played on JV, worked their butts off in the summer."

One of the few seniors leading the Knights on the ice this year is forward captain Kevin Vreeken. A bulk of the names to really keep an eye on for Liggett this year come from the junior and sophomore classes. Gary Stacy is one to watch on the ice after a stellar fall season for Liggett on the gridiron. Sophomores Nick Gould, Griffin Marchal and Luke Slanec are all expected to be big contributors as well.

Liggett also brings back two experienced goalies in senior Maksim Johns and junior Ben Wehrmann, forcing coach Smith into what he thinks is a good problem to have when deciding which one to start on a given night.

"Having two goaltenders who are as sharp as they are is going to be a blessing for us," he said.

The one issue that Smith sees the Knights running into with a young roster is a lack of size. Getting bigger and being able to play more

physical could develop over time, but for now, Liggett might have to make the most of perhaps the biggest advantage of youth: speed.

"We aren't the biggest team this year and are undersized compared to last year," Smith said. "Our speed is going to have to take over... We are going to have to utilize speed more than anything but we are a very fast team. We have to be getting pucks behind the defense and getting pucks in deep, I know it's a typical hockey quote but it's what we have to do."

The Knights have gotten to see their young team in action a couple of times already. They opened the season on Nov. 13 with a 3-1 loss to Allen Park, and then got revenge for last season's regional championship game loss by defeating Detroit Country Day 4-3 on Nov. 17.

The heartbreaking loss to Country Day in overtime of last year's Division 3 regional final was a tough one to swallow for Liggett. Making it out of the region has proven to be a tough task for the Knights in recent seasons, and is



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Senior goalie Maksim Johns protects the post for the Knights in a 7-1 victory over Gibraltar Carlson on Nov. 29.

once again one of the biggest goals this year's team is hoping to achieve. In order to do that, speed and also consistency on special teams and defense are what Smith sees as the keys.

"We scored a lot of power play goals last year, but down the stretch I think our power play kind of faded," said Smith. "...

When we're killing penalties, we can't let goals be scored on us with like ten seconds left. We need to buckle down on defense, and I don't mean just the defensemen. Our defensive side of the game is where I want our biggest strength to be because defense wins championships."

Liggett earned a 7-1 win over Gibraltar

Carlson on Wednesday, Nov. 29 and an 11-0 victory against Woodhaven the next night to move to 3-1 on the season. The Knights hosted Lake Orion on Wednesday, Dec. 6, after press time. The team then makes a trip to the Upper Peninsula for the weekend, taking on Calumet on Friday, Dec. 8, and Jeffers on Saturday, Dec. 9.

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Boys Varsity Hockey

Young Norsemen look for year of growth, development in new hockey season

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Grosse Pointe North's boys hockey team has had some trouble finding its footing in recent seasons. However, last winter saw the Norsemen take some strides toward improvement, winning six games compared to just the one game the team won in the 2021-22 season.

This season might still involve some growing pains for North, mostly because of the experience level on the roster. The Norsemen have only a few seniors on this year's team and plenty of fresh faces, but the team hopes that good veteran leadership this year can help set things up for a brighter future.

"We only have three

seniors so we're very young and a bit undersized," North boys hockey head coach Rob Blum said. "But I can already tell we're getting a lot better than where we were the first day of practice. We just want the seniors to teach those younger guys the ropes about high school hockey because it's a lot different than travel, which is what they're used to playing."

Those seniors include captains Matthew Lorelli and Massimo Todesco. Both have multiple years of varsity experience with the Norsemen under their belts and are who Blum and the North coaches are looking to help foster the development of the younger skater in the lineup.

Among those young names to look out for is freshman goalie Ben Bugeja, whom Blum sees as having potential to be a difference-maker in net for North in years to come. Fans should also keep an eye out for the sophomore duo of Evan Michaelski and Eli Hill, who enter this season with some raised expectations.

"Both of them, you can tell all summer they've been working on what they need to and

our seniors showing them what they need to do and staying on them."

The Norsemen still might be fighting to put whatever they can in the win column this winter, and the team's first three games of the season have found them on the losing side. However, North wants to approach this season with a mentality that the final result is not the most important thing.

This winter is all about finding growth for the Norsemen. The next core of North hockey is going to come from this group of young freshman and sophomore players, and the focus is all on consistency and improvement to try and make sure that better results could be in store in years to come.

"Getting the compete level down and what we want to see in every game," Blum said. "Most of the teams we play have so many seniors sometimes, so it can be tough for these guys to go up against players who are three or four years older than them and bigger than them. The key is that they're going to make mistakes but they need to learn from them. Just worry about getting better in what you're supposed to be doing and not worry about the scoreboard."

North faced off against Utica Unified on Wednesday, Dec. 6, after press time. The Norsemen hit the ice next on the road against Woodhaven at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7.

putting in the time off the ice," Blum said. "And that stems from



Massimo Todesco, pictured in a game last season against Grosse Pointe South, is one of the few veteran seniors on a young Grosse Pointe North boys hockey team this winter.

PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

WINTER SPORTS

PREVIEW

5D

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Boys Varsity Hockey

New coach takes over veteran Blue Devils with hope of meeting big expectations

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Grosse Pointe South boys varsity hockey was a team last season that many thought could have been deserving of a regional championship trophy. But the Blue Devils' 2022-23 campaign ended with a disappointing 3-2 loss in the regional semifinals to St. Clair Shores, a loss that 14 returning players on this year's South team have not forgotten.

While there are many familiar faces on the ice this winter for South, the one behind the bench is new. Head coach Alan Korolewicz has taken over at the helm of the Blue Devils this season, and it is a job that he was more than proud to accept when the opportunity arose.

"I grew up just outside of Grosse Pointe and knew about (South's) long athletic tradition so when the job became available I knew I had to throw my

hat in the ring," Korolewicz said.

As previously mentioned, South's roster this year includes 14 returning players from last winter's team, giving Korolewicz a good base of experience to work with. Some of those big names that are back include forwards Anderson Tigges, Evan Bernard and Everett Kielt, alongside defensemen George Knowlton, Drew Brady and Vince Sceglione. Senior goaltender Jacob Haack also returns in between the pipes.

That experience could help South compete in what many believe to be the toughest high school hockey league in the state, the MIHL. This year, the MIHL is split up into four divisions of three teams with South competing in the Blue division alongside Trenton and Cranbrook.

"We want to compete at the highest level and our biggest goal is to win our division," Korolewicz said. "It's

not going to be easy by any stretch of the imagination having to compete with Trenton and Cranbrook but that's the standard we want to set."

South's first divisional game of the year on Nov. 22 was a 6-2 loss to Trenton, but the Blue Devils will get another shot at them on Jan. 9. Competing for a division title with two programs who are consistently in the mix for regional and state championships might be seen as a lofty goal, but Korolewicz's players have bought into the mindset that expectations like those bring.

"He's got high expectations for us and I think that's good and will definitely help us with the younger kids laying the foundation for the coming years," Tigges said.

Ultimately, if South can win the division then it would bode

well for its chances at a deep playoff run as well. The Blue Devils experience mixed with the speed and toughness it hopes to play with could be major keys in helping them to get there.

Playing against tough competition in its own division and the rest of the MIHL will be a strong measuring stick throughout the season for where South stands. Having to compete with schools like Trenton and Cranbrook along with Brother Rice, De La Salle, Detroit Catholic Central and more means that the Blue Devils will be

tested on an almost nightly basis.

However, they think that it will only help by the

time playoffs come around.

"It's not going to be easy, especially with where we are in the playoffs in the regional," Korolewicz said. "We compete against tough teams in the MIHL in the regular season and play some of those tough teams in the playoffs too, so that's going to be hard. For us, one of the things I was able to step into is having

so many returning players who are familiar with each other, so I don't think getting them to gel is going to be that big of an issue."

South is 2-3 through its first five games of the new season, with its last contest a 6-1 win over Manistique Nov. 25. The Blue Devils hosted Brother Rice on Tuesday, Dec. 5, after press time, and are on home ice again Thursday, Dec. 7, hosting divisional opponent Cranbrook at 5 p.m.



PHOTO BY EMILY ALBRECHT

Alan Korolewicz takes over behind the bench this winter as the new head coach of South boys varsity hockey.

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Boys Varsity Wrestling

South hopes for more contenders in '23-24

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Last winter's wrestling season for Grosse Pointe South ended with a bit of school history. Wyatt Hepner became the first Blue Devils wrestler to ever compete for a state championship, making it to the final match at 126 pounds. That success at Ford Field last season has sparked a new excitement around wrestling at South and has the Blue Devils hoping to have even more competitors in the state championship conversation this winter.

"The energy in the room is great because we have so many people," South wrestling head coach Dave Salazar said. "From what we've noticed, the energy has been great and we're definitely going to have real solid squads in both varsity and JV. Our numbers are up from last year and everyone who was on the team last season who didn't graduate is back again."

The Blue Devils have a wide variety of experience this season. The roster includes a heavy group of seniors and juniors, with some

sophomores and even a few freshmen that Salazar thinks could jump up to the varsity ranks and have an impact right away.

Perhaps the two biggest names to watch on the mat for South this year are the team's two returning state qualifiers from last season. Senior Paul Wilson, along with Hepner, are the two Blue Devils who made it to Ford Field back in March and have their sights set on being there again at the end of this season.

"Those guys have a very definitive goal which is to not just get back to the tournament, but in Wyatt's case especially, making it back to the finals and winning it all," Salazar said.

Another wrestler for Blue Devils fans to keep an eye on is Josh Lemanski. Coach Salazar has seen what he thinks is a large jump in development for the junior and expects him to be a contender for a spot

at the state finals as the season goes on.

With having such a wide range of experience on the roster, this season will also be crucial for South when it comes to developing for the future. With a larger number of young athletes joining the program and becoming involved with wrestling, it has set South up with the foundation for even more future success. Helping foster that along has been

the coaches, but most importantly, the real leadership is coming from the young wrestlers' experienced teammates.

"We have an entire spectrum of skill levels from new wrestlers to really advanced wrestlers," said Salazar. "Having everybody in one room, it's like a rising tide lifts all boats."

Having the more experienced guys be able to work with the younger wrestlers and

get them up to speed and helping acclimate them to a high level of wrestling, it's nice that we don't have to do a lot of review because everyone is at a good level and has been brought up to speed quickly."

The way that the veterans on the team have already shown their leadership skills is giving Salazar and the Blue Devils plenty of optimism about this season and the future. In their eyes, it shows how the identity of South wrestling goes beyond just technique. "We at South are known for running cradles and wings, which are the more well

known techniques we use but beyond that it's

really a mentality," Salazar said. "There's an overall ethos the team has of working hard every day to the best of our abilities. Where you start at the season, win or lose, it doesn't really matter. It's about where you are at the end, and every day we want to just improve on the day before... Constant improvement is something we really focus on as a whole."

South opened the wrestling season on Wednesday, Dec. 6, after press time with a quad meet at Hazel Park. The Blue Devils get back on the mat Saturday, Dec. 9 at 9 a.m., when they compete in the Titan Duals at Warren Woods Tower. South is also hosting this year's "Battle of the Pointes" match against Grosse Pointe North, which will take place at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 9.

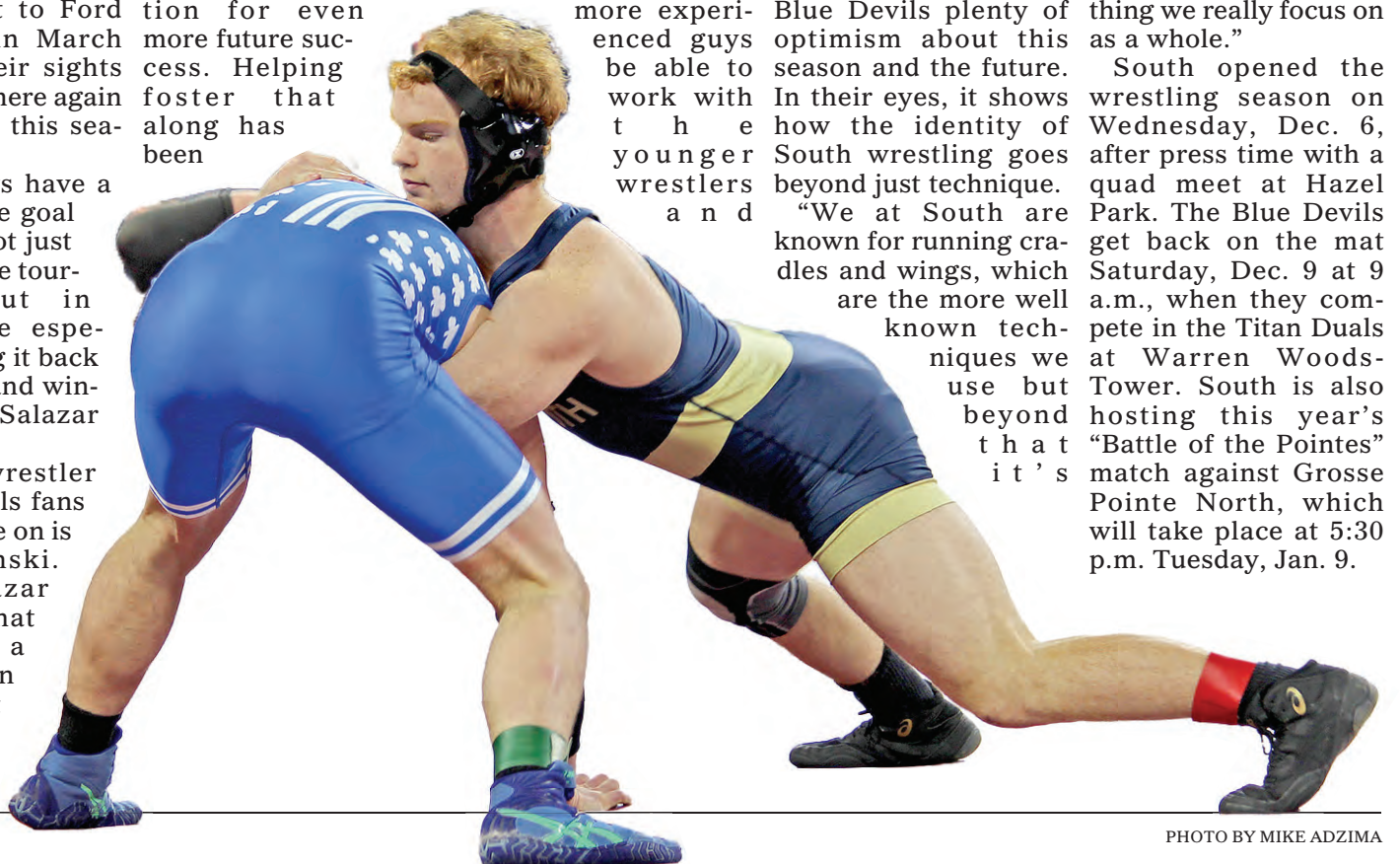


PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Senior Paul Wilson is one of two state qualifiers from last season returning to the mat for Grosse Pointe South wrestling this winter.

6D | SPORTS

HITS & HIGHLIGHTS

Whether it's games, meets or matches, high school winter sports in the Pointes are in full swing and the Grosse Pointe News is here to bring you all the varsity action. Some of the week's biggest hits and highlights from include:



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BLUE DEVILS DANCE TEAM

The Blue Devils dance team sports first place medals for achieving the highest score overall at the Michigan Dance Team Championships in Lake Orion last month. From left, the team includes:

Back row: Coach Maddy Petz, Elyse Lenglet, Betsy Bouton, Vivi Cilano, Emma Padden, Camden Nelson, Audrey McLean, Mia Sweeney and Coach Lexi Watson.

Middle: Caroline Petrilli, Camille McInnis, Mia Gielniak, Anna Williams, Milly Bellamy and Elizabeth Vassel.

Front Line: Avery Lenget, Alex Peters, Bella Leonard, Neva Combs and Natalie Vassel.

BLUE DEVILS DANCE TEAM

Grosse Pointe South's Blue Devils dance team rocked its way to top spots at the Michigan Dance Team Championships Sunday, Nov. 19, at Lake Orion High School. The team took one first place and two second places in lyrical, pom tech and hip-hop categories at a regional competition that featured more than 20 varsity teams from throughout metro Detroit. The Blue Devils had the highest scoring performance and won first place in the lyrical category, performing to "Into The Woods."

It took second place in two additional categories, including a pom tech performance to "Rain on Me," and in the hip-hop competition with a routine to "Changes."

Established at Grosse Pointe South in 2017, the team can be seen performing on the sidelines near the student section and at halftime during all South varsity football games. It also performs at various times throughout volleyball and basketball seasons.

This year's team is led by seniors Anna Williams, Alex Peters, Camille McInnis, Camden Nelson, Bella Leonard and Milly Bellamy. It is coached by Maddy Petz, Lexi Watson and Adam Gap, co-owner of Kercheval Dance.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RUBY VERLINDEN

Grosse Pointe South's Scout Webber earned second team All-State honors in Division 2 for the 2023 season by the Michigan High School Field Hockey Association.

GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY ALL-STATE HONORS

Three Pointes athletes received end-of-season recognition from the Michigan High School Field Hockey Association. Scout Webber from Grosse Pointe South and Hallie Marcero from University Liggett both received second team All-State honors in Division 2. Abby Brink from South earned a Division 2 All-State honorable mention nod.



Six seniors including Anna Williams, Alex Peters, Camille McInnis, Camden Nelson, Bella Leonard and Milly Bellamy helped lead the Blue Devils dance team to top spots at its final competition of the fall season Nov. 19.

Does your team have a newsworthy quick hit or highlight from the week to share? Send it along to mleonard@grossepointenews.com.

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8D | SPORTS

ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

The Norsemen know they are going to need to make adjustments this year in order to make up for what they lost from last season. Winowiecki playing more aggressively around the basket is one of those adjustments, and it is something that she is happy to do for the good of the team. That mental-

ity of hard work and sacrifice for the collective good is what she knows the Norsemen need in order to keep adding hardware to the trophy case.

“Our goal is to go as far as we can possibly go,” Winowiecki said. “We also want to win the MAC Red for a fourth year in a row. With the new pieces we have, we’re capable of doing that. It’ll be tough but I think we can make it to where we’ve already

been and beyond, it’s just a matter of how hard we’re working and our chemistry on the court.”

The Norsemen begin the new campaign on Saturday, Dec. 9, taking on Marysville. Only time will tell where North ends up in March when it is time for the playoffs. What Winowiecki is looking forward to is finishing out her Norsemen career strong before beginning the next chapter of her



COURTESY PHOTO

Jenna Winowiecki

basketball career, which is already set.

Winowiecki is signed on to play basketball next year at Gannon University, an NCAA Division II school in Erie, Pa. She will soon be the third of her siblings to play hoops at the college level and is looking forward to her future home being similar to how she views her current team at North — like a family.

“I really love (Gannon)

and the coaches are great,” Winowiecki said. “It’s a perfect distance from home and the girls are great. It’s kind of like a family environment. Sometimes, teams aren’t that close, but I feel like they’re really close there. It’ll be an exciting new experience and I think I’m ready for it.”

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

HOCKEY:

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Junior goalie Rosie Smith kept the puck out of the net for the first two periods, then shared the shoutout with Francie Ring, who stood between the pipes for the third period.

The Blue Devils hosted a series of games against St. Clair Shores Unified, beginning Friday, Dec. 1. South netted a 5-2 win with Ring in net for South. The teams met again Wednesday, Dec. 6, after press time.

South stands unbeaten on the season, and will have its next big test when it hosts Northville at 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9.

After the tie with

South, Liggett also looked to stay unbeaten as they traveled to Ann Arbor to take on Pioneer Wednesday, Nov. 29, at Veterans Memorial Ice Arena. The Knights cruised to a 9-0 win, with goaltender Brooke Peshl earning the shutout. Scoring was evenly distributed throughout the lineup, with nine goals coming on 13 shots on goal.

On Sat. Dec 2, the team hit the road to Lakeland Ice Arena to face Walled Lake, gliding to a 8-0 shutout win. The Knights peppered the net throughout the game, registering 59 shots on goal. Ancona had two goals in the win. Liggett finished out the week Monday, Dec. 4, hosting Bloomfield-

Birmingham and earning an 8-0 shutout win.

Liggett hosts Livonia United at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, at McCann.

Grosse Pointe North After losses to South and Liggett to start the season, Grosse Pointe North bounced back in a big way this week.

The Norsemen battled out a hard-fought 9-5 win over Orchard Lake St. Mary’s Tuesday, Nov. 28. Josie Cueter scored a hat trick in the victory, while Ella Dobbs and Paige Martin each added two goals. Annie Cleland and Ava Villani each added a goal for the Norsemen, as goalie Alyssa Burney started her first game of the season in net.

The team then coasted to a 14-0 win hosting Plymouth-Canton-Salem Wednesday, Nov. 29, at ESHA.

Goals came easily and often for North. Cueter had her second consecutive hat trick, joined by teammate Cameron Beers, who also netted three goals in the win. Dobbs and Leanna Phillips added two goals apiece, with Leah Burney and Martin tacking on a goal each. Alyssa Burney, a forward who has stepped up to handle goaltending duties when an injury took Maddie Plum out of the lineup, earned her first shutout and second win of the young season.

Saturday, Dec. 2,



PHOTO COURTESY OF LEON HALIP

North’s All-State junior forward Josie Cueter (No. 11) charges toward a loose puck in a game against Liggett earlier this season.

brought the Norsemen a rematch of last year’s Division 2 state championship when they hosted Bloomfield-Birmingham. North exacted a small dose of revenge from its heartbreaking 5-4 double overtime loss in the state final by skating away with a 8-1 win. Dobbs had a hat trick, while Beers, Leah Burney, Villani, Martin, Cueter and Kate Kasuba added a goal each.

“We were able to get the kinks out in the first few games,” North assistant coach Taylor Shaheen said of her team’s latest winning streak. “Now the girls are re-learning where to anticipate their teammates to be on the ice and tweaking their positioning accordingly so they mesh together as a

unit.”

According to Shaheen, despite constantly shifting lines, the team also is refining a “sixth sense” on the ice and anticipating more effectively as the season moves along.

“Actually, we usually never keep the lines the same. The girls are very confident and able to play with every teammate. It’s amazing, really,” she said. “It helps us coaches because we can switch things up whenever to better match up to our opponent and the girls are comfortable with that.”

Shaheen said her players’ versatility is a powerful asset.

“They are all very diversified players. On top of that, we even had one of our forwards (Alyssa Burney) fill in as

goalie because our goalie got injured earlier this season. It’s incredible” she said.

North also has a prolific scorer in junior Cueter, who was the one of state’s highest goal scorers last season.

“Josie definitely helps fuel the fire for our high-powered offense,” Shaheen said. “She is onto another extremely successful season. She’s anticipating multiple players on her at all times and coming up with ways to break through them and create a scoring opportunity.”

North headed to Ann Arbor to take on Pioneer Wednesday, Dec. 6, after press time. The Norsemen will host the Mid-Michigan Alliance at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 8, at ESHA.

Village of Grosse Pointe Shores, A Michigan City

795 Lake Shore Road
Grosse Pointe Shores, MI 48236
313-881-6565

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held at 12 p.m. on Tuesday, December 12, 2023 before the Grosse Pointe Shores City Council sitting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, Council Chambers at 795 Lake Shore Rd.

- The petitioner at 50 Renaud Rd. is requesting a Variance Request for a 70 foot roof covering for an existing front porch.

At the November 28, 2023 Planning Commission meeting, the Commission recommended to approve the petitioner’s request for the variance request for a 70 foot roof covering for the existing front porch.

Plans of the proposed project are available for your viewing at the Office of the City Clerk, 795 Lake Shore Road, during normal business hours Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Bruce Nichols,
City Clerk

Published: Grosse Pointe News: 12/7/23

City of Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Grosse Pointe Park Did Not Meet Treatment Requirements

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this situation does not require that you take immediate action, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We purchase water from the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) that is treated to control corrosion and minimize lead and copper in the pipes from dissolving into the water. To ensure we are maintaining optimal corrosion control, we routinely sample the water in the distribution system for water quality parameters such as pH and orthophosphate. We are required to maintain these parameters above the state-designated minimums. We did not maintain these parameters within the set ranges for more than nine days during the July to December 2023 monitoring period.

What should I do?

You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

What does this mean?

This situation does not require that you take immediate action. If it had, you would have been notified immediately. This is a treatment violation, but it does not mean there is lead or copper in your drinking water. The most recent monitoring indicates that lead and copper levels were below the action levels at least 90 percent of residential drinking water taps sampled. However, it is important that everyone takes measures to control lead and copper levels in the water because ingesting lead or copper can cause serious health consequences.

Lead: Infants and children who drink water containing lead could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Copper: Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson’s disease should consult their personal doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy set ranges for our water quality parameters on June 15, 2022. After these ranges were designated, we collected samples in the distribution system on July 6, 2023, that were below the required minimum value for pH. Ten excursion days were accumulated in the distribution between the dates of July 6th and July 24th, 2023 for the July to December monitoring period. We are working on operational techniques and on following up with all water quality parameter results timely to prevent this from happening again. For more information, please contact Josh Chaffin, chaffinj@grossepointepark.org, 313-822-5100, or 15115 East Jefferson Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan 48230.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who do not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by Grosse Pointe Park.

Josh Chaffin

Department of Public Works – City of Grosse Pointe Park
15115 E. Jefferson
Ph: 313-822-5100

GPN: 12-7-23

CITY OF HARPER WOODS WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 20, 2023

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Valerie Kindle at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: All Councilpersons were present, except Mayor Pro tem Regina Williams

MOTIONS PASSED

- 1) To excuse Mayor Pro Tem Williams from tonight’s meeting due to a prior commitment.
- 2) To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held on November 6, 2023 and the special City Council meeting held on November 13, 2023, and furthermore receive and file the minutes of the Planning Commission meeting held on November 15, 2023 and the Library Board meeting held on October 26, 2023.
- 3) to schedule a public hearing at the December 4, 2023 meeting at 7:00 p.m. to hear public comment and input on the proposed lot split requested by Kelly and Woodside LLC.
- 4) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED

- 1) (1) approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 128651 through 128791 in the amount of \$768,758.17 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) approve payment to Uni-Dig, Inc. in the amount of \$11,880.00 for leaf disposal in conjunction with the curbside leaf pickup program. (3) approve payment to Wolverine Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$6,850.00 for the removal of main break spoils and ground fill supplies. (4) approve payment to Nu Appearance Maintenance, Inc. in the amount of \$31,306.66 for grass restoration services following main breaks, tree removal, and sidewalk replacements and for the contractual lawn cutting and weed maintenance in various areas of the City, including City Hall, the annexes, Library and the Parks. (5) approve payment to Turf and Timber LLC in the amount of \$15,000.00 for the removal of several dead trees, chipping, and disposal of debris. (6) approve the request to repair the perimeter heat exchanger in the amount of \$5,765.00 payable to K&S Ventures, Inc. (7) approve payment to Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc. in the amount of \$16,651.60 for professional services during the month of November for the following projects: Beaconsfield Resurfacing, #180-253; Beaconsfield Crossing, #180-266; Eastland Center Red, #180-244; 2023 Misc Concrete Rep #180-315; 2023 Joint Crack/Seal #180-318; Kelly Alley Vacation, #180-327; HWHS Football Clubhouse, #180-327; 2023 San. Sewer FCIPP PGM, #180-316; 2023 Storm Sewer Rep., #180-314; SRF Loan Projects, #180-301; Storm water Ord. Collab, #180-224; 2022 San Sewer cleaning #180-285; 2023 San. Sewer Cleaning #180-317; Temp Water Operator, #180-303 and the 2023 User Charge, #180-296. (8) approve payment to WCA Assessing in the amount of \$6,080.16 for the contractual assessing services to be performed during the month of December 2023. (9) approve payment to BMS Cat / Jarvis Property Restoration in the amount of \$20,728.93 for the repairs needed for the library’s lower level.
- 2) to approve the lease/purchase plan for 22 (4 pool and 18 officer owned) rifles from Loyal 9 Manufacturing in the amount of \$64,436.00, with each officer entering into an agreement to provide for payroll deductions for a total of thirty-six payments, with a buyout of the rifle in the amount of \$1.00 at the end of the term.
- 3) to introduce and place for first reading an Ordinance entitled “An Ordinance to Amend Article IV, Restaurants, to Provide Regulations Pertaining to Mobile Food Vendors and the Operation of Mobile Food Vendors on Private Property within the City,” and further to direct the City Clerk to publish a notice of this in accordance with City Charter requirements.

Valerie Kindle, Mayor

Published: GPN, December 7, 2023

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk