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# Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 85, NO. 7, 30 PAGES  
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## Accusations made at BoE meeting

By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — During discussion about hiring a new law firm to handle contract negotiations at the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting Tuesday, Feb. 6, one

member accused another of having made “racist and sexist” comments. “A sitting trustee made racist and sexist comments and engaged in retaliatory behavior toward some of our administrators and we’re not doing anything about it,” Trustee Valarie St. John said. “The com-

plaint was made against an individual and not against the board as a whole. It was not an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars.” St. John was referring to the fact the board’s law firm, Collins and Blaha, was present when Vice President Ahmed Ismail was questioned

during an investigation last year about comments he made regarding alleged plans to get rid of two administrators at Grosse Pointe North High School. “You’ve made some accusations against Mr. Ismail you don’t have any facts for,” President Sean Cotton said to St. John.

“I’d be worried about that.” St. John then said Cotton had “threatened to sue me for saying that.” “I said if you made such accusations with me, with little to no evidence, that I would

See BOE, page 9A

## Early voting starts Saturday

With the passage of Proposal 2 in November 2022, Michigan joins nearly two dozen other states to offer early in-person voting. This year’s presidential primary election, Tuesday, Feb. 27, is the first time Michiganders have this option. It will continue for all future state and federal elections.

Per state law, municipalities must offer a minimum of nine consecutive days of early voting, ending the Sunday before the election.

The proposal pauses voting the Monday prior to Election Day to offer a break to election workers.

“Think of the Monday as a separation day between early voting and the actual Election Day when the votes are tallied,” Farms Assistant City Manager/City Clerk Derrick Kozicki stated previously.

Early voting starts in all five Pointes Saturday, Feb. 17, concluding Sunday, Feb. 25. In-person voting takes place at each respective city hall, regardless of precinct, with the exception of the City, where early voting takes place in council chambers, 17145 Maumee. The City, Woods, Farms and Park hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, while the Shores schedule is 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. Cities that are closed for Presidents’ Day, Monday, Feb. 19, will still offer early voting.

Voters must request either a Republican or Democratic primary ballot. Absentee ballots also may be dropped off during early voting.

## Thanedar confident of \$1 million EERV grant

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — The Pointe’s first-term congressman may be the gift that keeps on giving.

Shri Thanedar, a Democrat and self-made entrepreneur elected in November 2022, with support from a majority of Park voters, returned to the district Monday, Feb. 12, with prospects of the city receiving a \$1,050,000 federal grant for flood protection.

“The funding would be used to finish the extreme emergency relief valve, a sanitary connection to the city’s storm pump station at Patterson Park,” Thanedar told the city council, citing terms of the appropriation.

The \$2.8 million valve is designed to direct unmanageable volumes of stormwater runoff from the municipal sewer system directly into Lake St. Clair off Patterson Park. During summer 2021, thousands of basements in the Park and other Pointes flooded

with backed-up rain and sewer water.

“I feel my heart pounding,” an excited Mayor Michele Hodges said to Thanedar. “We’ve been very intentional about reaching out to our elected officials to bring resources back to our community. Not only did you answer that call, you delivered on it. We’re very grateful to you for being a partner in helping us to build our tax base and grow the service level we are delivering to our community.”

“We now start our next year’s appropriation process,” Thanedar said. “I welcome you if you have any other project that is deserving.”

“We’ll reach out,” Hodges said. “We have lots of projects.”

“I’m thrilled to have this opportunity to be of service,” Thanedar said.

The grant isn’t in hand. It’s part of a pending appropriations bill.

“The House has approved this proposal,”

See EERV, page 3A



COURTESY PHOTO

Trinity Payne, a second grader at Monteith Elementary School, poses with President Joe Biden at They Say, a restaurant in Harper Woods her grandfather owns, Thursday, Feb. 1.

## Monteith student meets Biden

By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — When second grader Trinity Payne got called to the office at Monteith Elementary School Thursday, Feb. 1, she was a bit nervous. “I got worried because

I thought maybe I was in trouble,” she said.

Turns out, she was on her way to meet President Joe Biden at They Say, the restaurant her grandfather owns in Harper Woods.

“We really had to keep things under wraps,” Trinity’s father, Terry

Payne Jr., said. “We only got the call the night before.”

Terry Payne Sr. owns two They Say restaurants, including one downtown, and a landscaping company.

“I run the landscaping

See MEETS, page 5A

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## City explores mural program, B&B priorities

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Birted from the City’s ongoing struggle with Kroger’s noncompliance with Village zoning requirements — large refrigerator units continue to block three-quarters of its Kercheval-facing windows — a draft policy for the installation of murals on private property within the city’s com-

mercial districts now is under administrative review.

The potential amendment to the city’s sign ordinance, which will include a public hearing process thanks to the suggestion from Councilwoman Maureen Juip, is just one line item on a laundry list of ordinance amendments the city is working to prioritize following its master plan update.

“I think the most frequent

event and the highest impact to our community is really not having residential design guidelines that are well known and published,” Councilman Seth Krupp, M.D., said to the general agreement of council. “... I’d like to see that prioritized.”

As the city works to leverage funding for large-scale stormwater separation work, Juip proposed a top priority be setting requirements for impervi-

ous surface coverage areas.

“We’re going to be speaking two items down the agenda about what the City’s investing in in terms of stormwater separation and it seems like it would be an appropriate thing to make that a priority for new developments as well,” she said, “so I would propose elevating that in the priority list.”

See PRIORITIES, page 2A

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### Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



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# Woods approves repairs for pool, fire truck

By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — City council approved two projects for the main pool at Lake Front Park and repairs to one of the public safety department's fire trucks at its meeting Monday, Feb. 5.

A new PVC membrane liner will be installed at the pool after it closes in September.

"It's a big enough proj-

ect that we have to order it now so it's ready at the end of summer," Department of Public Works Director Jim Kowalski said. "The company anticipates it will take about two weeks to remove the old one and get the new one in place."

Kowalski said the company that inspects the pool each year has recommended a new liner for two years as the current one is pulling away from the sides of the pool

and causing water loss.

"The liner we have is 16 years old and they usually last 10 to 15 years," Kowalski said. "It gets exposed to all sorts of weather year-round."

Total cost is capped at \$350,000.

Before the pool opens for the year, its two slides will be refurbished at a cost of almost \$89,000.

"We've been doing a lot of work in house, polishing it and such, but restoration is recommended

every five years," Kowalski noted. "We haven't done that since the slides opened in 1998."

While the pool opens for the season in mid-May, the slides open a month later, on the first weekend after the end of the school year.

"Rings and other jewelry aren't allowed on the slide because they scratch the surface," Councilwoman Vicki Granger said. "Thanks to

the diligence of the life-guards and the cooperation of our residents, we've gotten many more years out of it."

The project, expected to take one to two weeks, includes a new gel coat on the interior of the slides and new paint on the exterior.

Finally, \$18,000 will be spent on upgrades to the city's E-One pumper truck. The work includes brake pads, rotors and drums, a bearing kit

gearbox and new muffler.

"It's 22 years old but still in good shape," Public Safety Director John Kosanke said. "It just needs some TLC."

Kosanke added a total replacement would cost around \$650,000, but he expects the truck can be kept in service another eight years with the repairs. The work is expected to take one to four weeks based on parts availability.

# Crime up from 2022, down from pre-COVID cool-off

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Two groups of teenage lawbreakers caused a big jump in crime last year.

The first plagued the city all year stealing cars. They're part of an organized-in-name-only national clan of predominantly males calling themselves Kia Boyz.

Members boast on social media about how fun and easy it is to steal Kia and Hyundai products. Many of the brands lack immobilizers, a device that prevents a vehicle from starting when someone attempts to use a key or key fob that doesn't match the car.

Of 51 motor vehicles reported stolen during 2023 in the Park, nearly 30 percent — 14 — were Kia products, according to the public safety department annual report.

Public Safety Director Jim Bostock presented the report to city council Monday, Feb. 12.

"Twenty of (the stolen cars) were taken with keys or key fobs left inside the car," Bostock

said.

Car thefts last year were on a trajectory to double from 2022, but tapered off to a still notable 60 percent increase from 32 thefts reported during the prior period. The total doesn't include 23 failed theft attempts that aren't accounted for elsewhere in the city's other crime statistics.

The second group of teenage lawbreakers, consisting of at least three Detroit males, spent a few nights last spring driving through neighborhoods using BB pistols to shoot out the windows of more than 40 cars and sport utility vehicles parked curbside and in driveways.

Park officers nabbed them in April, but the offenders' impact on the city's crime statistics already had been achieved.

With marquee power rating their own billing, the BB Boyz accounted for 45 of 57 reported cases of malicious destruction of property, or MDP, in the Park last year. The output represented 78 percent of MDPs, boosting the year-end total by 171

percent and ruining what would have been a 42 percent drop in the category.

"We changed some patrol hours and with plain clothes (units) are trying to put our foot down and get auto thefts under control," Bostock said last August regarding the arrest of seven alleged Kia thieves.

## Overall crime up

Car thefts and BB guns contributed to a 14 percent overall increase in reported crime during the year, from 226 cases in 2022 to 269. The 2023 total is 110 less (29 percent) from 2019, the year before COVID shutdowns also had a quelling effect on crime.

"We can't have those high rates next year," Mayor Michele Hodges told Bostock, who is headed to the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va., for 10 weeks of specialized training starting March.

Hodges continued, "I assume you're going to bring all kinds of solutions back that will help us solve that. We have charged the (city) administration with coming back with management solutions that help us drive down these numbers and, also, a

strategy on how to pay for that."

## Some crime down

Despite the increase from 2022 to 2023, last year's grand total was 18 fewer cases than the average of the prior four years.

"Even with the inflated larceny from motor vehicle numbers, larcenies across the board were down 7 percent," Bostock said. "We also saw crime decrease in a number of categories. Most notably, home invasions and aggravated assaults were both down 25 percent." Among crimes the FBI rates most serious, there were three cases of armed robbery, including at least one carjacking, up from one in 2021, none in 2020 and two in 2019.

Home invasions dropped 13 cases from 2022 to eight in 2023. An average 14 cases per year were reported from 2019 through 2022.

Larceny totaled 113, down eight cases from 2022 and down 25 from the recent high in 2019. Forcible sexual offenses doubled to two from 2022, but were half the average from 2019 through 2022.

Among the FBI's list of

supposedly lesser crimes, 14 drunken driving arrests during 2023 amounted to less than 40 percent of the average annual rate from 2019 through 2022.

Ten cases of obstructing police tied the recent high recorded in 2020.

A new category of crime, titled damage to property, totaled 57 cases.

## Solving crimes

Bostock credited the detective bureau for achieving a high rate of solving crimes, defined in law enforcement terms as a clearance rate.

"Historically, crime like rape has a 34 percent (state) clearance rate," he said. "We had 100 percent last year."

The Park's clearance rates for other crimes also measured well against state figures:

◆ armed robbery: state 29 percent, Park 100 percent;

◆ aggravated assault, state 50 percent, Park 100 percent and

◆ breaking and entering, state 13 percent, Park 67 percent.

All of that and more contributed to the department's 28 officers, including Chief Bostock, responding to 6,950 calls

for service, an average of 19 per day.

Arrests totaled 152 for the year, up from 144 the year before but triple the 51 arrests during the COVID year of 2020.

Bostock described road patrols as "the backbone of the department."

## Ambulance runs

Contracting ambulance runs to a private company, MedStar, last July allowed officers to remain on watch while still responding to medical emergencies.

"Having MedStar transport (patients) allows us to turn over a patient to a higher level of care," Bostock said. "It also allows officers to return to service in a timely manner."

## Power outages

Wind and ice storms that toppled trees and felled limbs on power lines are largely accountable for a more than 400 percent increase in downed wires last year. The total of 45 dwarfed 13 from 2022.

## Traffic & fires

During 2023 there were 88 motor vehicle wrecks involving at least

See CRIME, page 4A

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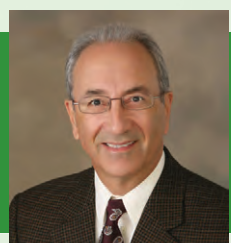
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## PRIORITIES:

Continued from page 1A

Though agreeable to it not being a top priority, council members had differing opinions regarding the importance of adopting an allowance for bed-and-breakfasts under strict circumstances.

"That's kind of a wish-list, down-the-road dream, I think, that we had for some of the larger estate properties," said Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak, who is in favor of focusing on

adopting regulations regarding placement and screening for EV charging stations and full-house generators on residential properties.

"If this is something we want in our community, doing it ahead of time would make it more likely to occur," Krupp noted, arguing against waiting until someone approached the council with interest to adopt an ordinance. "To me, it does seem like a lot of those folks who may live in those estate houses, they didn't buy those planning on opening a

bed-and-breakfast. A bed-and-breakfast is going to be opened by somebody who sees an opportunity and says, 'Hey, that property will work for this and I already have some predictability around the fact that the city has something on the books that wouldn't be a total gamble.'"

Further ordinance updates coming down the pipeline include establishing standards for outdoor seating structures in cold months; updating standards to allow for the

reuse and redevelopment of buildings of historical, local or architectural significance; and updating the liquor license ordinance to capture the Fisher Road commercial district.

"Currently not all of your commercial districts are represented in the liquor license ordinance, specifically the neighborhood commercial district, Fisher Road," City Planner Gage Belko explained, "and so without that, we're falling back on state regulations for certain things, when we do have a liquor license ordinance, it's just not covering every district. So it's a really simple change of adding a district in."

## Correction

In the Feb. 8, story, "Normal homeowners insurance doesn't cover flood damage," Tom Mercer should have been quoted, "We maxed out the water backup-sump pump overflow coverage of \$50,000. Water backup-sump pump overflow (coverage) is included on every homeowner policy with a default coverage of \$2,500."




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# Homeschooling in the Pointes

By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTE** — Although no definitive data is available, the question has been raised as to what impact homeschooling had in recent years on enrollment declines in the Grosse Pointe Public School System.

Such data is not available because Michigan law takes the approach that parents, not the state, know how best to educate their children. Families that choose homeschooling need not alert their local district or, as once was the case, ask its permission. Some legislators, however, are pushing to roll back those freedoms.

To that end, the Grosse Pointe News spoke with three different homeschool families at three different stages in the process who made the choice for three different reasons.

Lisha Kilgus, for example, has always homeschooled her four children for religious reasons.

"I've always had a strong faith and it's woven into everything I do," she said. "God told me I was going to do this even before I had kids."

Kilgus is quick to point out, however, not everything about her approach to homeschooling is faith-based.

"Obviously math is math," she laughed.

According to recent research by The Washington Post, a federal survey in 2012 showed two-thirds of homeschool families did so for religious reasons. That fell to about half by 2016 and was down to one-third last year.

Kilgus said her four children, ages 12, 10, 9 and 7, (she asked that GP News not use their names) aren't necessarily classified by grade.

"It's about putting them where they are when they're ready," she said. "It's definitely challenging and there's never a dull moment."

Kilgus said she also likes the variety of approaches homeschool-

ing provides.

"No matter what you pick, there are scholastic guidelines," she said. "Some might follow a traditional type of curriculum that dictates the entire day. Some people make it all about experiences. But most curriculums use a variety of visual and auditory lessons. It's all about how each child learns."

Creativity is a key. "We can take a field trip anytime we want," Kilgus said. "We also recently gave each child an assignment to come up with a business plan, for example. It will be different for each one based on their age, but the lessons are still the same."

There's also flexibility. "We spend a month in Florida over the winter, but the kids aren't missing school," Kilgus noted.

The pandemic also saw a big spike in homeschooling. The Post said surveys showed the practice was 50 percent higher in the 2022-23 school year than in 2017-18.

"A lot of people were not OK with how public schools handled COVID," Kilgus said.

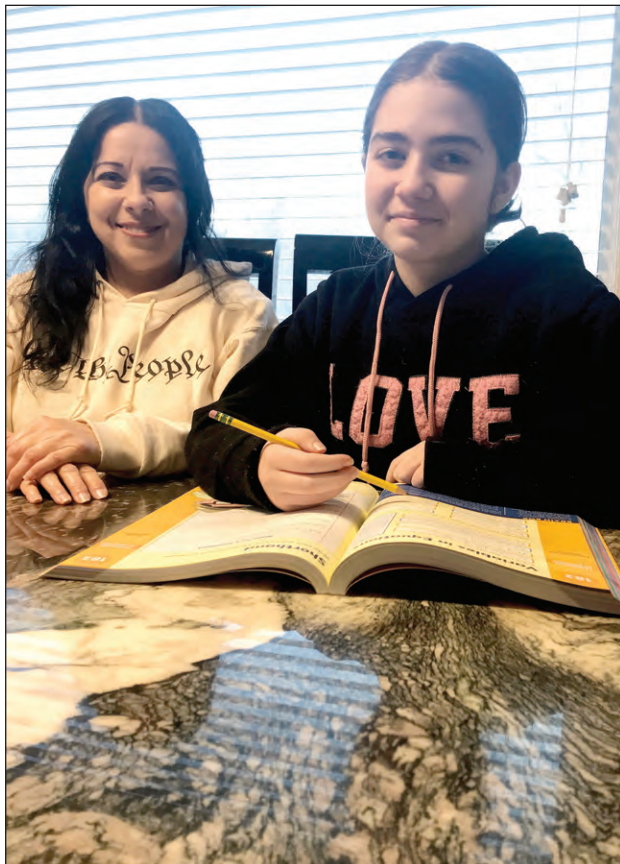
The Grosse Pointe Homeschooling Facebook page Kilgus runs grew from 100 members pre-pandemic to 349 today.

That's what led Elisa Wagner to homeschooling. Her 11-year-old daughter, Ava, attended GPPSS full-time from pre-K through third grade.

"After the schools opened up, she only went back for electives, so basically an hour a day, for fourth and fifth grade," she said. "I didn't want her to be in a mask all day, but I also didn't want her to miss out on socializing with friends. But even with COVID long gone, they still had kids sitting far apart. It seemed counterproductive."

When the 2023-24 academic year started, Wagner and her daughter decided to give homeschooling a try full time. By November, they'd made the choice to stick with it.

"She basically just



COURTESY PHOTO

**Elisa Wagner, right, and daughter Ava sit with one of the workbooks Ava uses in her homeschooling journey.**

wanted to be at home," Wagner said. "We were on the fence all summer, so we decided to give it a trial run. It's worked out very well."

Wagner's daughter still gets to socialize, attending a homeschool cooperative in St. Clair Shores once a week and taking ballet lessons three times a week.

"The co-op is nice because the parents take turns leading the subjects, based on what they might have a specialty in," she said. "There are nine families involved."

As for curriculum, Wagner uses workbooks and online tutorials.

"The workbooks all meet or exceed the state content standards," she said. "And there are online video tutorials. She's pretty self-sufficient. She watched one on adding decimals and had it down in no time."

Wagner said her goal is not to recreate a typical school day.

"There's no busy work," she noted. "Usually about three hours a day is enough time to learn the material and have her show she grasps it.

"I did look at other options, including charters and private schools," Wager said. "She's always had high math and reading scores, so I just didn't want her to be bored."

As for the future?

"Nothing is written in stone," Wagner said. "We'll move forward according to her needs."

One question homeschool families often face is how do the students go beyond high school.

Meet Violet Whitmore. She attended Grosse Pointe South High School until 10th grade and is now a junior at Grove City College, a liberal arts school in Pennsylvania where she is studying communications and history and is editor of the school paper.

"I know homeschool kids who have gone on to Ivy League schools or big state universities," she said. "Homeschooling really prepares you for academia because you have to be self-motivated."

Her mother, Carol Whitmore, says it was

See **HOMESCHOOL**, page 4A

## Mini Masters headed to Main St.

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Pointers will be invited to "putt around town," Saturday, April 6, Main Street Grosse Pointe Director Cindy Willcock said, when The Village hosts its first ever Main Street Mini Masters miniature golf tournament.

"We realized we had a big gap in programming," Willcock said. "We really don't start anything until the summer with Music on the Plaza, so we came up with the idea for Main Street Mini Masters."

The 18-hole course provided by Putt 2 Go and Allen Entertainment will stretch along Kercheval between Cadieux and Neff, accompanied by a starter tent, arts and crafts activity tents for younger children, games, a selfie station and a DJ.

"It'll be a similar format to a regular golf tournament where we play in foursomes," Willcock explained. "You get a swag bag. You get lunch at the turn, which will be a hot dog, chips and pop."

"We'll have two flights. A family flight and then adult flights where you can golf with

three of your best friends."

Pre-registration — not yet open — will be required, placing family flights in the morning and adult flights in the afternoon.

Details such as a rain date and ticket pricing still are being finalized.

"We want to make it as affordable as possible," Willcock said, "but make sure that we can cover our costs and make a little bit of money to help with additional programming for the summer."

With the event running 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Pointers should expect Kercheval to be closed between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. April 6.

"We'll have some more fun, exciting things to announce as we get closer to the event," Willcock noted.

Also on deck, with the majority of details yet to be announced, is Main Street Grosse Pointe's first annual fundraiser: May-nopoly.

"It's a Monopoly-themed fundraiser that will take place on Main Street in The Village," Willcock said. "It'll feature a big tent, strolling dinner, some live auction (items) and a lot of Monopoly-themed activities."

"We're all about new events."

## The Week Ahead

### MONDAY, FEB. 19

◆ Presidents' Day (city offices closed)

### TUESDAY, FEB. 20

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.  
◆ Grosse Pointe Shores City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21

◆ Magic show, 2 p.m. at the Okulski Theatre, Grosse Pointe Park. Register at [recpro.grossepointepark.org](http://recpro.grossepointepark.org).

### FRIDAY, FEB. 23

◆ Caricature Night for ages 10 and older, 6:30 p.m. at Grosse Pointe Woods City Hall. \$20 for residents, \$25 for non-residents. Snacks and drinks provided.

## EERV:

Continued from page 1A

Thanedar said. "It's being voted on in the Senate. I expect President (Joe) Biden to sign it into law. So, it's almost done and is likely to be done. But I couldn't wait to come to you and give you the good news. So, here I am."

"This is tremendous," said Councilman Max Wiener, chairman of the infrastructure committee.

Park voters last year approved a 10-year millage to raise a total \$17 million for water and sewer system improvements. In 2020, the Grosse Pointe Park Foundation donated \$130,000 to jumpstart construction of EERV components.

"Support from both public and private partnerships and from the federal government is fantastic," Wiener said.

"I see my No. 1 job as bringing dollars to the district," Thanedar said. "Flooding is a major issue all across my district. I'm working with FEMA and engineers for a lasting



**Congressman Shri Thanedar spoke to the Grosse Pointe Park City Council at its Feb. 12 meeting about the prospect of the city receiving a \$1,050,000 federal grant for flood protection.**

PHOTO BY  
RENEE LANDUYT

solution."

Installation of the valve and related underground piping nearly concluded last autumn between the entrance to Patterson Park and an underground stormwater retention tank about 100 yards up the driveway. More construction and testing is needed before the equipment goes into operation.

"We understand the environmental impact of something like this," Hodges said. "This is a short-term solution that will be used very responsibly — hopefully not at all — to buy us time to get

to those regional solutions, which are enormous and will require tremendous resources."

Hodges said Park officials began meeting with Thanedar before his election.

"Immediately after, Mayor Pro Tem (Tom) Caulfield, City Manager (Nick) Sizeland and I went down to his office for a very robust conversation about what was needed here in the community," Hodges said. "He's also opened the door for additional projects. City Manager Sizeland will have to

come up with a good list."

"We don't want to put the cart before the horse," Wiener said about the grant after Thanedar left council chambers for a flight back to Washington, D.C. "It still has to work its way through the federal government. One thing we're very conscientious about is responsible budgeting. There may be stipulations impacting how it can be utilized. That's another reason we didn't allocate any money until we know exactly how it can be used and appropriated."



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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

# Pointer continues legacy of service with crisis club

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

“Words cannot express the gratitude for allowing me and my children to relocate to a new, safe location,” reads a thank-you note from a local mother, who late last year left a domestic violence situation. “Without your assistance I had no idea what was in store for me and my children.”

The woman was provided a security deposit and first month’s rent, enabling the move, and is one of approximately 40 cases aided each year by the Grosse Pointe Crisis Club.

“It’s one of the best-kept secrets in Grosse Pointe,” President

Eugene Casazza said. “It’s amazing how many folks you meet who live in Grosse Pointe most of their adult lives (and) never heard of it, because for many, many decades the folks that were the primary movers and shakers within the club had a very low-key approach.”

The club was formed in 1956 — “We’re one of the oldest nonprofits in the state of Michigan,” Casazza said — by five Grosse Pointe businessmen, who decided to organize after a few years of informally helping others.

Today, both its members and those they aid stretch across southeast Michigan.

Casazza, a Farms resident, happens to be the only Pointer currently serving as an officer. He joined in 2010, and has been president three years.

“The motto is we help folks that are in crisis who have an issue that needs immediate attention,” he said. “... A very typical (situation) is the primary breadwinner has gone through eight, 10 weeks of chemotherapy cancer treatment at Karmanos and they’re behind in the rent, they’re behind in the DTE bill and oh, by the way, there’s no food in the refrigerator.”

Within 24 hours — usually after being contacted by a social worker — GPCC will ensure the landlord is paid, electricity is turned back on and the family is equipped with Meijer gift cards for food and clothing.

Comprised of volunteers and only some marginal costs such as insurance, the club ensures around 98 percent of the \$125,000 to \$150,000 it generates each year goes directly toward crisis cases.

Funding is generated through dues, donations — which can be made at gpcrisisclub.org — and annual fundraising events. Upcoming is 2024 Spring Sports Night Monday, April 8, at Assumption Cultural Center, 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores.

“Our job, if you want to think about it as a job, is we have to continuously raise money,” Casazza said of the club’s more than 200 members.



COURTESY PHOTOS

With dual citizenship in Italy, Eugene Casazza and his wife, Linda, recently spent their 45th anniversary in Paris.



Casazza and his wife, Linda, with their children Dana, Gene, Chris and Drew.

An attorney by trade, Casazza also serves as secretary of the Macomb County Bar Foundation.

His inclination toward service has deep roots stretching back to his maternal grandmother, who helped begin the Capuchin Soup Kitchen during the Great Depression.

“Back before the Depression, sometimes folks that were down and out would come to the backdoor of the monastery and the monks would give them sandwiches,” Casazza said. “They didn’t have any set-up to do a kitchen, so then once the Depression really took hold, they realized passing out sandwiches out the backdoor wasn’t going to be enough to fulfill the need.

“... That became a production. You have to have people buying the food. You have to have people preparing the food. You have to have people serving the food. You have to have people cleaning up. ... My grandmother was hands on. She was in the kitchen.”

His mother’s older sister, Marie, served as president of the Catholic Interracial Council for decades, while his parents were involved with the Third Order of Saint Francis.

dren works as an immigration lawyer in Philadelphia, continuing the social justice legacy and unconsciously nodding to the family’s Italian heritage.

Casazza’s paternal grandfather immigrated from Italy to Chicago, where his father was born, but never became a U.S. citizen. By blood, this made Casazza eligible for dual citizenship, which he achieved in 2013. His wife and children since have followed suit.

“We celebrated our last wedding anniversary, which was October, in Paris,” he said of his wife, Linda, with whom he’s been married 45 years. “We spent a week in Paris. One week is not enough.”

## HOMESCHOOL:

Continued from page 3A

Violet who spearheaded the move.

“She was slightly disgruntled at South, so I asked her to do some research and come back with supporting evidence,” she said. “She found a program that was heavy on reading the Great Books. It’s very classical and seemed like college work.”

Violet Whitmore started by taking one class during summer 2019, then started full time that fall.

“Then COVID hit and I was already into it, so I didn’t lose out on anything,” she said. “I was at South for two years and

there are some good things there, things like STEM and the arts, but so many of the classes just seemed to focus on memorization rather than thinking. There was a lot of busy work.”

What she found was Veritas Scholars Academy, an online, Christian-based program.

“Regardless of what you choose, there’s going to be bias,” she explained. “I just wanted to find the most honest curriculum. A lot of the classes are taught by college professors and focused on the Socratic method.”

In a funny coincidence, one of the books Violet studied in an economics class was written by a Grove City professor whose daughter just happens to be her roommate.

“I went over to their house for dinner and saw it on the bookshelf and I was like, ‘I know that book,’” she laughed.

Younger brother Rex has followed suit and now is a sophomore at Veritas with an interest in cybersecurity and music. He plays violin and classical guitar and is part of Music Inc., also known as OHMI.

“Homeschooling for kids who are into music



COURTESY PHOTO

Violet Whitmore, a junior at Grove City College in Pennsylvania, began homeschooling after her sophomore year of high school.

can provide more time for practice or private lessons,” Carol Whitmore said. “And that bleeds over into things like dance, or swimming or figure skating.”

Diplomas are coordinated by the Home School Legal Defense Association.

“I sent in my transcripts from South and Veritas,” Violet Whitmore said. “You have to get a B or better in each class to get credit. I wish I had started earlier.”

## Grosse Pointe News

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## CRIME:

Continued from page 2A

\$1,000 worth of property damage. Another three wrecks caused injuries. The figures compare with 77 and six, respectively, from 2020.

Officers issued 1,356

moving and nonmoving traffic violations and 1,117 parking tickets.

“Fire-related calls for service decreased by 32 percent,” Bostock said. “This is attributed to the number of medic runs handled by MedStar. House fires were down by almost 60 percent (to seven instances).”

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## City of Grosse Pointe

## Unlocked again

The City faced trouble with unlocked vehicles being rummaged through last week.

◆ Approximately \$15 in cash was stolen from an unlocked car on Sycamore Lane between 9 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4, and 10 a.m. the next morning.

◆ Nothing was taken from an unlocked car that was rummaged through in the 700 block of Lincoln between 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4, and 10 a.m. the next morning.

◆ An unknown amount of miscellaneous change was stolen from an unlocked car on Lakeside Court during the early morning hours of Tuesday, Feb. 6.

## Cooking and cleaning

A large amount of meat and laundry detergent was stolen from a business in the 16000 block of Kercheval at 11:40 a.m. Monday, Jan. 5.

The suspect is described as a 6-foot, 180-pound black man with a thin build.

An investigation is ongoing.

## Special escort

A 31-year-old Detroit man refused to leave an area hospital at 12:40 a.m. Friday, Feb. 9, until officers arrived.

## Fool me thrice

A woman made three separate purchases, totalling \$800, with counterfeit \$100 bills at a business in the 17000 block of Kercheval at 11:10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 9.

She is described as a heavy-set, black woman in her late 20s.

An investigation is ongoing.

## Officer Uber

An intoxicated customer was escorted by officers out of a restaurant in the 600 block of St. Clair at 7:55 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9, after both-ering other patrons and being asked to leave by the manager. Officers then got him home safely.

## Driving in the dark

An 18-year-old Detroit man was stopped at Mack and Cadieux for not having headlights on at 8:20 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10.

It was found he never acquired a driver's license, for which he was cited.

## Speeding

Speeding on Mack at 2:45 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 11, led to a 34-year-old Detroit man being cited for not having a valid

## PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

license.

— Laurel Kraus

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

## Grosse Pointe Park

## Break in

Police think a resident of the 600 block of Middlesex scared off a would-be burglar upon returning home at 8:55 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6.

Surveillance video shows an unknown person lurking behind the house prior to the resident's arrival.

"(The resident) discovered damage to the rear door of the home to gain entry," police said. "(The) home (was) searched, but nothing taken."

## Attempted Kia theft

Someone tried to steal a 2016 Kia Soul parked in the 1400 block of Beaconsfield between 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8, and 2:30 p.m. the following day.

A smashed driver-side rear window was among evidence the owner reported.

"Damage to the steering column consistent with an attempted theft was also discovered," according to police.

Some 14 of 51 motor vehicles — nearly 30 percent — stolen in the Park last year were Kia products, according to the public safety department's annual report.

## Drunken driving

Police arrested a 48-year-old Park man for drunken driving at 10:29 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9.

An officer pulled him over for speeding in the area of Bedford and Essex.

— Brad Lindberg

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

## Grosse Pointe Woods

## Wrong number

A resident in the 1400 block of Anita filed a report Thursday, Feb. 8, after receiving a call from an unknown source saying he owed \$1,000 to a collection agency after purchasing a phone and watch with a credit card. The caller said he had until Friday, Feb. 9, to pay the money or it would be turned over to law enforcement.

The man told officers he does not have a credit card and blocked the

caller's number from his phone.

## Raked over

Jewelry was among items missing after someone forced their way into a home in the 500 block of Brys sometime before 2:15 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8.

Neighbors reported seeing an unknown man in the yard raking leaves, but the homeowner said they had not hired anyone to do such work.

— Ted O'Neil

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

## Grosse Pointe Shores

## Buyer beware

A patrol officer became suspicious when he saw a vehicle parked in the driveway of a vacant house in the 700 block of Lakeshore around 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11.

The passenger in the 2009 Chevy Malibu was taking a picture of the driver, a 41-year-old Clinton Township woman, as she stood in front of the house. She then told the officer she was thinking of buying the house, although it is not currently listed for sale. A neighbor told officers the woman has been spotted walking around the property before.

— Ted O'Neil

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

## Grosse Pointe Farms

## DWLS

Farms officers ticketed a number of suspended drivers last week, most noticed because of their attempts to hide.

◆ A 29-year-old Eastpointe woman was cited for not having insurance and a second instance of driving while license suspended after she was pulled over on Moross for having illegally-tinted windows at 11:19 a.m. Monday, Feb. 5.

◆ A 35-year-old Harper Woods man was cited for driving while license suspended and an expired license plate after being pulled over at Mack and Cook at 8:24 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 8, for the expired tab and illegally-tinted windows.

◆ A 31-year-old Detroit man was cited for driving while license suspended and obstructed vision after being pulled over at Mack and Kerby at 3:42 p.m. Thursday,

Feb. 8, for illegally-tinted windows.

◆ A 44-year-old Detroit woman was cited for driving while license suspended, not having insurance and an expired license plate after being pulled over on Moross at 4:56 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, for an expired tab. Because of the 84-year-old passenger's advanced age, the cold weather and a large amount of food in the car, the vehicle was not impounded and the passenger was allowed to drive them both home.

## Misdirect

While paying for a pizza at a business in the 18000 block of Mack at 5:02 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9, a 41-year-old Detroit man stole a can of Sprite and cookie.

The man also parked in a handicap spot, leading to him being cited for retail fraud, a second instance of driving while license suspended, improper license plate, not having insurance, handicapped parking violation and a trespass warning.

The man has been known to steal from the location in the past and was warned, should he return, he would be arrested.

## Cop-napped

When a 37-year-old Detroit man with an international driver's license and passport was

pulled over on Mack at 9:52 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, because his plate cover made the license plate unreadable, he told officers he was from the Republic of America and that he only interacts with state police and sheriffs.

The officer informed him that isn't how it works, but the man refused to comply and claimed he was being kidnapped when placed in the back of a squad car.

Ultimately, he was cited for improper license plate, driving an unregistered vehicle, not having insurance and failure to display a valid license plate.

## Over the hedge

When a general contractor noticed a 62-year-old Woods man emerge from the bushes adjacent to a pool house in a backyard in the 100 block of Provencal at 7:36 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, he said he was staying in a house down the street but couldn't remember which one.

He then told officers he was out for a walk and wouldn't provide a coherent reply as to why he had been in the bushes.

The man was arrested upon being found to have two misdemeanor warrants out of Chesterfield.

## Not adding up

After being pulled over at 12:03 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, a 54-year-old Park man told the officer he turned down Broadstone to avoid the patrol car, but that there weren't any weapons inside the vehicle or anything the officer needed to know about.

Various narcotics and equipment were discovered, along with a gun, two magazines and six rounds.

The man was arrested for narcotic equipment possession, crack possession, expired vehicle registration and expired vehicle insurance.

— Laurel Kraus

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



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## MEETS:

Continued from page 1A

business and we have a contract with the city of Detroit," Payne Jr. said. "The White House asked Mayor Mike Dugan's office for a recommendation of what restaurant the president should visit and they said ours in Harper Woods."

Payne Jr. said the president spent about 45 minutes there, chatting with guests and staff.

"It was really fun," Trinity said. "I didn't know who the president was,

but he was nice. He told me when I get older I should run for president."

Biden's team ordered barbecue wings to go before they left.

"They had to leave before the schools in the area got out for the day because they had all the streets closed down," Payne Jr. said. "It was surreal. There must have been 75 vehicles in the motorcade."

After posing for pictures, Biden gave Trinity a box of M&Ms with the presidential seal on it.

"I had to bribe her not to eat them," Payne Jr. laughed. "That's a keep-sake."

# POINTES OF VIEW

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

## Grosse Pointe News

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### OUR VIEW

## Enrollment issue requires rebuilding trust in GPPSS

If new Grosse Pointe Public School System Superintendent Dr. Andrea Tuttle was hoping for a memorable first Board of Education meeting Tuesday, Feb. 6, she got it whether she wanted it or not. If you missed all the theatrics, you can see it here: [gppssvideo.weebly.com/boe-meetings.html](http://gppssvideo.weebly.com/boe-meetings.html).

But the district's most pressing issue is its steep enrollment loss, and its leadership team needs to do all it can to fix it, ASAP.

In what's been mostly bad news on the topic, a small silver lining came to light in recent weeks. In actual numbers, GPPSS has 90 more students this year than was projected (though is still at an overall loss of 50 students year-to-year).

The bad news is the latest projections say enrollment is expected to fall by around 400 students in the next four years, a number equivalent to an entire graduating class.

That information comes from the latest report completed last month by Plante Moran, as seen in the Feb. 8 edition of the Grosse Pointe News ("Enrollment will continue to decline" by Ted O'Neil).

The district's current enrollment stands at 6,436, including special education students and those enrolled in the Young 5s program. Digging more inside the numbers, you'll see:

- ◆ In 2017, GPPSS graduated 730 seniors. That number dropped to 561 in 2023.
- ◆ The number of seniors in the class of 2024 is expected to be 502, falling to 441 by 2028.
- ◆ By 2028, total enrollment is projected to be 6,022, with K-12 at 5,669.
- ◆ Total high school enrollment will decrease from 2,086 to 1,787 by 2028.

Paul Wills, a partner with Plante Moran, attributed the continued enrollment drop to declining birth rates across Wayne County and a lack of inventory of affordable houses for young families.

Nothing can be done about a family's decision to have smaller families. Nor does the answer lie in concocting ways to develop less expensive housing in Grosse Pointe.

The focus should be how we continue strengthening the district's best assets, developing more innovative ways to learn and regaining the trust of families within the Pointes that make GPPSS their children's best educational option.

The primary group the district should try to recapture are those who have chosen an online option, which the Plante Moran survey identified as the largest who were eligible to attend GPPSS, but attend different districts online.

State data shows 245 Grosse Pointe students are enrolled in Clarkston. Another 350 students are in Berkley and 245 are in Redford Union.

Another 38 students who live in the Pointes are enrolled in Detroit Public Schools. That's a whopping loss of 878 students in GPPSS.

Of note, the number of students who are enrolled in a different public school district jumped from 6 percent in 2010 to 15 percent in 2022, another startling increase.

Meanwhile, the number attending private schools was relatively unchanged, increasing from 17.4 percent to 18.5 percent in that same time frame.

We believe the district shouldn't spend too much time worrying about students in private schools, especially parochial, because those parents make that choice primarily for faith-based reasons, rather than just education.

At her first board meeting, Dr. Tuttle mentioned the importance of regaining the trust of those who left. She made similar comments right after she was hired.

We call on our administration and board to make that its mission this year, instead of prattling on about law firms and finger pointing. These latest numbers validate yet again why enrollment should be at the top of the district's priorities.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Pure Grosse Pointe

Though there is more snow in the forecast, this photo speaks for the mild winter we've had so far — not much snow, lots of rain and, last week, warmer-than-average temperatures. Or maybe this guy, eyeballing his reflection through his hot pink sunglasses, is anxiously awaiting those warming days ahead. Either way, we get you, Mr. Snowman!

### FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

## Dear Grosse Pointe team and community

*Editor's note: This introductory letter was sent from new Grosse Pointe Public School System Superintendent Andrea Tuttle Tuesday, Feb. 6, her second day on the job, to the school district's email list. Since many people in the community are not on that list, we believe it is valuable to reprint Dr. Tuttle's words for the entire community.*

With immense gratitude and joy, I embark on the rewarding journey of serving as the superintendent of GPPSS, joining the esteemed Grosse Pointe educational team and the vibrant local community.

Growing up, Grosse Pointe was my mother's home and, as a child, I cherished visits to this community. Over the past 14 years, I have had the privilege of serving as the superintendent for Owosso Public Schools, accumulating a wealth of experience and insights in educational leadership. Some of my most notable accomplishments include building positive relationships while cultivating a learning culture of joy and excellence for our

team and students.

My educational foundation includes a bachelor's degree in English, education and exercise and health science, complemented by a master's degree in administration and a doctorate in leadership. Holding both elementary and secondary teaching certificates, I have taught and served as an administrator at all levels. My journey has been enriched by coaching high school basketball teams, for both boys and girls, and teaching English abroad in Perth, Australia, offering me a unique perspective on diverse educational systems.

In the summer of 2021, I had the privilege of teaching in the Dominican Republic, further expanding my understanding of global education. These diverse experiences have honed my ability to foster positive relationships with supervisors, colleagues, community members, stakeholders and team members, building a robust culture amid the dynamic challenges of our educational landscape.

See TUTTLE, page 7A

### GUEST EDITORIAL By Gail Marlow

## An open letter to the Detroit Lions

Now that the football season has officially wrapped up after last Sunday's Super Bowl, I want to start by saying how much I love this team! I love the family it has become and what you represent for the city of Detroit. I love your principal owner and chair, Sheila Ford Hamp, and former chair Martha Ford, your president and CEO Rod Wood and his wife, Susan Wood, Head Coach Dan Campbell, General Manager Brad Holmes, Chris Spielman, Barry Sanders, the rest of the coaching staff and of course all of the players. Some of my particular favorites — Goff, St. Brown, Hutchinson, Anzalone, J. Williams, Ragnow, Decker, LaPorta, Montgomery, Sewell ... well, it's honestly the entire team.

hard you've worked over the past three years, getting to the NFC Championship is something to be so proud of and something most bandwagon fans never thought possible.



Each week you were on the field, you all played with passion and a desire to make your fans, the city of Detroit and the entire state of Michigan proud. The losses became teaching moments and served as inspiration to get better. The wins were generally examples of the underdog grinding it out and finding the GRIT to persevere.

You lifted the spirits of this city and state and gave so many of us something to get excited about. You helped unify groups of people that lately wouldn't want to even associate with one another.

Most of you are so young, with so much to

As a lifelong Lions fan and witnessing how

See MARLOW, page 7A

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### GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

February 15 - 21



THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
40° 25°	33° 20°	31° 23°	41° 23°	40° 23°	37° 29°	41° 31°
Rain/ Snow	Flurries	Flurries	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
90%	30%	30%	0%	10%	10%	0%
SUNRISE 7:29 am SUNSET 6:04 pm	SUNRISE 7:27 am SUNSET 6:05 pm	SUNRISE 7:26 am SUNSET 6:06 pm	SUNRISE 7:24 am SUNSET 6:08 pm	SUNRISE 7:23 am SUNSET 6:09 pm	SUNRISE 7:21 am SUNSET 6:10 pm	SUNRISE 7:20 am SUNSET 6:11 pm

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

## LETTERS

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

I SAY By Mike Adzima

# Football's next dynasty has officially arrived



In the wake of Sunday's Super Bowl, we are now, sadly, officially at the end of football season. It was quite the fall and winter, especially with the incredible season the Detroit Lions had. But ultimately, the Kansas City Chiefs ended up on top of the football world yet again, becoming the NFL's first repeat champions in 20 years and officially taking over the mantle as this generation's football dynasty.

For much of my life, the

ever-present dynasty in professional football was the New England Patriots run by Tom Brady. I mean, they even had two different dynasties in my lifetime, when I was a younger kid in the 2000s and then in the mid- to late-2010s when I was a young adult.

The Chiefs' victory in Super Bowl LVIII this past Sunday marked the team's third championship in the last five seasons. In my eyes, that constitutes a dynasty and it seems like Kansas City won't be slowing down anytime soon.

It certainly helps when your franchise quarterback is Patrick Mahomes, who I believe firmly solidified his place alongside Brady in the "GOAT" conversation by winning his third Super Bowl at age 28. He plays the game

with the level of confidence, precision and creativity we have really only seen before from someone like Brady, but Mahomes might do it even better.

Love him or hate him, it seems like Patrick Mahomes willing his team to victory in the biggest moments is almost inevitable at this point, just like it was with Brady. I didn't always like it when Brady would do it and I think, as the Chiefs dynasty rolls on, I'll become fatigued with their success as well, but man, do I respect how good Mahomes is.

It just feels like the Chiefs are here to stay, at least for the foreseeable future. The thing is, I didn't expect the next NFL dynasty to arrive so quickly. Having these dynasties in professional football practically one

after the other makes me appreciate some of the greatness I've been able to see in my lifetime.

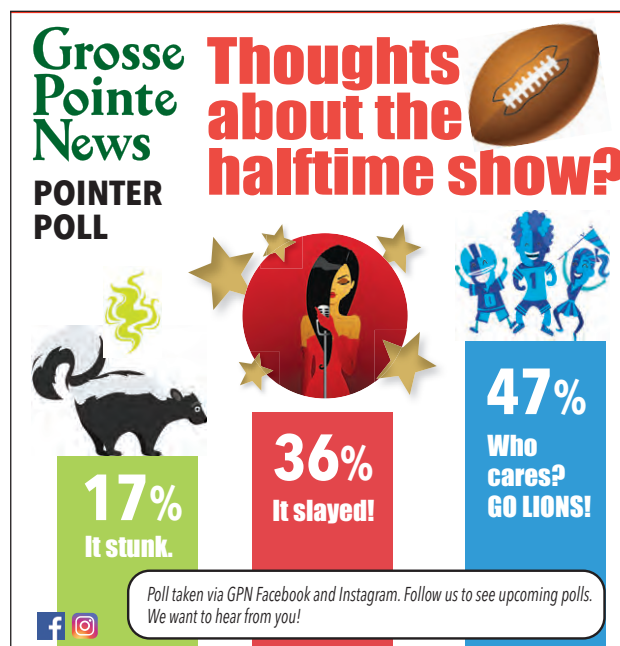
Dynasties are a tricky thing in sports. We like to see them rise because often they start as underdogs. Then, while they're at the peak of their success, we get tired and want to see someone take them down. Once they're finally taken down, we look back and have some appreciation for the talent we got to see.

The Chiefs almost certainly will endure that cycle, if they aren't in the middle of it already. There are already plenty of people out there who resent Mahomes for winning a third ring at such a young age. However, my goal is to try and appreciate his greatness and the greatness of the Chiefs as a whole while their run of

success is happening, for however long is left.

Of course, the one caveat is wanting to see them dethroned by my beloved Lions (who already have been given

the fourth-best odds to win next year's Super Bowl by the sportsbooks in Las Vegas), so here's to hoping we will be talking about that this time next year.



## YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

### 1949

75 years ago this week

**POLICE SCATTER FOR COVER:** It was an odd-looking gadget Mrs. Irene Knapp found on a shelf in the basement of her house. She thought it had a lethal look and reported her find to the police. The police recognized it as a hand grenade and sent it down to the Scientific Laboratory of the Detroit police, where Lt. Payne gave it the once over. He sent it back to the Park police, tenderly, with the information that it was a "live bomb," with instructions to handle with care.

**RICHARD PUPIL FINDS RARE BIRD FOLLOWING STORM:** Recently a Richard School pupil, Tom Jameson, brought to the home of the principal, Clarence Messner, a bird he had found fluttering around his garage. Tommy's training in natural science at the school led him to know that he was holding, not just another sparrow as many an untrained person would think, but a warbler, very uncommon in this part of Michigan even in the summer.

### 1974

50 years ago this week

**POINTER ELECTED PRESIDENT OF STATE HUMANE SOCIETY:** James L. Schroth was elected president of the Michigan Humane Society at a meeting of the board last month. He succeeds Harold M. Hastings, who held the post for 15 years. Mr. Schroth is the youngest president in the history of the 50-year-old organization, which operates humane shelters in Detroit, Westland and recently opened a new unit on a 10-acre site in Pontiac Township.

**WOODS CONSIDERS BUS SHELTERS:** The Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority reported it has contacted all the Pointes and St. Clair Shores requesting information on the location and numbers of bus shelters each community will need. As of this week, the authority reports it has

heard from the Woods, Park and St. Clair Shores on this matter.

### 1999

25 years ago this week

**WOODS WORKS ON CROSSING SYSTEM FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED:** The Grosse Pointe Woods City Council has been taking its time deciding on what kind of system to build that would aid the visually impaired in crossing busy city streets

— and that's not necessarily a bad thing. Woods resident Michael Patton of Detroit Receiving Hospital's Visually Handicapped Services has been consulting with the city administration on the best system for the visually handicapped as well as the larger population.

**SOUTH SET FOR FIRST BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION:** Grosse Pointe South High School has set the agenda for a day-long celebration of Black History Month on Feb. 17. Among guest speakers for the first-ever Black History Symposium, artist Tyree Guyton will discuss urban art. Guyton

is best known for the controversial Heidelberg Project that was dismantled recently by order of Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer.

### 2014

10 years ago this week

**WAR MEMORIAL HAS NEW LEADER:** Charles Burke looks forward to a new challenge as he takes over as president and CEO of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. Burke has served as the senior director of education for the Detroit Symphony

Orchestra and the artistic director of the Civic Youth Ensembles for the past 15 years.

**RESIDENTS ANGRY AFTER HARWOOD VOTE:** Residents angry over the performance of school superintendent Thomas Harwood spoke out at Monday night's Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting, asking the board to delay acceptance of a performance evaluation rating Harwood "overall effective" in his job. Residents questioned the rating, citing several issues that have come to the forefront in recent months.

**TECHNOLOGY ON DISPLAY:** There was something for everyone as the Grosse Pointe Public School System brought students and staff together at a Technology Showcase to demonstrate how computers and related devices are used in classrooms throughout the district. From elementary school students using hand-held devices to assist with reading and math lessons to high school students using computer-aided design software applications for architectural plans, the event highlighted how technology is becoming an intricate part of the education process.

## TUTTLE:

Continued from page 6A

On a personal note, I have been married to my husband, John, for 23 years and together we have two children who attended Owosso Public Schools. As parents, we were delighted with the experience and opportunities afforded to our children in the public schools. Currently, my daughter is a junior studying biology at the University of Michigan, while my son is a freshman at the University of Michigan Ross School of Business. My husband transitioned from technology to healthcare in 2008 and is currently a registered nurse serving as a hospital case manager and public school nurse.

I am an advocate for preschool through 12th grade public school education and all the opportunities that public schools provide, from advanced curricular opportunities to a plethora of extra-curricular opportunities. I am passionate about early childhood education and will ensure that our youngest learners receive an education

that will nurture them while also challenging them academically; even our youngest students should be challenged to meet their potential and achieve at their ability level. When students graduate from Grosse Pointe, my aspiration is for them to emerge as knowledgeable and compassionate individuals capable of critical thinking, risk-taking, problem-solving, effective communication, inquiry and reflection, leading well-balanced lives as lifelong learners who are productive members of society.

My commitment is deeply rooted in the belief that all students can reach their potential and the school district is the gateway to providing opportunities and support for their growth. I advocate for education that is relevant, engaging, rigorous and applicable to real-world scenarios.

As your superintendent, I am wholeheartedly committed to a triad of listening, learning and sharing. As I step into the role of GPPSS superintendent, my focus will be on engaging with various groups and stakeholders: students, teachers, parents, princi-

pals, school district administrators, other staff members, community and business leaders and local and state officials. I intend to invest time in understanding the district's most celebrated achievements and its most pressing challenges. Amid the intricacies of leading a school district, I maintain a robust sense of humor and relish the process of building meaningful relationships with students, colleagues and community members.

For leisure, I am an avid participant in water activities, from boating to SCUBA diving, and I hold a passion for athletics, particularly baseball, basketball, softball and downhill skiing. An admirer of the arts, I find joy in watching musical productions ranging from school performances to community plays to Broadway shows.

Joining the distinguished team in Grosse Pointe and collaborating to enhance our collective successes fills me with excitement and dedication.

With enthusiasm,

DR. ANDREA C. TUTTLE  
Superintendent

## MARLOW:

Continued from page 6A

look forward to in both your professional careers and personal lives. Don't allow a loss or an obstacle to block your potential for greatness.

I've often said that my nonprofit organization, the Motor City Mitten Mission (MCM), parallels the Detroit Lions in that we both aim to make the lives of Detroiters better. Specifically, MCM is dedicated to helping the homeless, a group that often

has little expectations and consistently has so many obstacles to overcome.

This season was an example of how you can beat the odds, prove the doubters wrong and illustrate that HOPE and believing in your abilities can make you achieve things others say are impossible.

I'm so excited for next season because I know you're going to be even more hungry for success. And if you think this city was excited this season, just wait until next season. You all have nearly an entire country believing in you and rooting for you. So keep your heads up and keep striving for

greatness!

Thank you for one heck of an exciting season (and a reason to throw a few parties!)

Much Love,  
Miss Gail

Gail Marlow is executive director and founder of Motor City Mitten Mission, a Michigan-based 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to helping the homeless, needy, sick and those striving for a better way of life. For more information or to help, visit [motorcitymittenmission.org](http://motorcitymittenmission.org).

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# Small-group personal training valued at HIGH10

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

In a few short weeks, Chad Blair's longtime dream of opening a fitness center — one that focuses on individuals in small-group settings — will become reality with the opening of HIGH10 Personal Training.

"A scale of one to 10 shows something's potential," Blair said, explaining the name of his new business. "In coaching, I love having the ability to see potential in somebody when they may not see it themselves. With HIGH10, it's the pursuit of the highest potential."

When designing the business, Blair said he took everything he didn't like from past fitness experiences and flipped the script.

"When I think about fitness, I want to reach out to an untapped market," the Grosse Pointe Woods resident said. "When you look at promotions and advertisements for fitness centers, it's always good-looking, already-fit people. That's not most people. People can be turned off by that or not feel comfortable. We accept all ages and fitness levels — we take anybody who wants to improve their wellness — but we specialize in ages 40 to 69."

Instead of an instructor expecting 20 or 30 students to complete the same regimen, HIGH10 takes the opposite approach by offering small-group personal training, focusing on four to six people at a time.

"It's customized and one on one, but there's accountability and the community feel of a group setting," Blair said. "We



From left, High10 members Gerald Piro, Dr. David Balle, Diane Paglino, Patty Lesha and Victoria Strickler stand with founder Chad Blair.



tailor the routine to each individual in the session."

Clients of HIGH10 begin their journey with a Start Point Session — a requirement for membership.

"When you go into a gym setting, typically the person running the gym will tell you all about the gym," Blair said. "I invest in learning about you instead of telling you about us."

Through that process, clear and intentional goals are discussed and a path to reach them is molded.

"Second, we do a functional movement screen," he continued. "This doesn't happen anywhere else. Before we do a session, we want to see where the pain exists in your movement."

Clients are scored in seven different movements such as squats, shoulder strength and core stability.

"Off of that score, we



High10 founder Chad Blair.

know when you come in to modify the program that's best for you," he said. "It's a prewritten program I design that's programmed to the age bracket we're trying to serve."

"... After we reach 35, we lose our ability to produce power," he added. "Our main goal is functional strength training. What do you like to do in your life? How do you spend your time at work? How do you spend your time with family and friends? Knowing that, we put you in those positions and build your strength so you can do the things you like to do with more ease and less pain."

Each session ends with five minutes of "metabolic finishes."

"That could be an extra focus on a specific area of the body or a fun burst of cardio," Blair said. "It's where the camaraderie is built."

"... Fitness today is all HIIT style — high-inten-

sity interval training," he added. "I rephrase it to high-integrity interval training. We want to build you up, not break you down. If your knees hurt when you squat, we're not going to force intensity on you. We'll work with you to get the movement down, slowly add strength and build the intensity to get you strong."

Clients come in on a recurring schedule, so there's no wait for equipment or attention.

"You never have to compete for your time slot," Blair said. "If you don't show up, we reach out to see how we can support you. And you get accountability from others in your session."

Blair has dedicated nearly 20 years to the fitness industry. His interest started while playing football at Wayne State University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in exercise physiology and a master's degree in education. For four years, he taught,



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHAD BLAIR

Diane Paglino, Patty Lesha and Dr. David Balle are all smiles while performing a dumbbell exercise.

coached and trained in New Buffalo, where he made some important connections.

"New Buffalo is kind of a beach town," he said. "It's an hour away from Chicago. People from Chicago have second homes in New Buffalo."

One of those people invited him to Chicago to work with Jim Karas, a personal trainer whose clients include "X-Men" actor Hugh Jackman.

"Jim Karas is big in the celebrity world," Blair said. "That got me into training the general population, but also training professional athletes."

After a year and a half, Blair was wooed back to Michigan after meeting Craig Cutler, general manager of the Country Club of Detroit. Blair managed the fitness facility at CCD three years before the pandemic hit. He moved back to Chicago to serve as director of fitness at the private health and wellness studio, BIÁN.

Nearly three years later, the call to come back home was strong. Blair and his wife, Vanessa — the high school sweethearts were married in 2017 — decided to move closer to their families. They moved to the Woods in December 2022.

"It's taken a year to find a location," he said of HIGH10, which will open later this month next to Stretch Lab on Mack.

HIGH10 plans to soft launch the week of Feb. 19, with a full opening the week of Feb. 26. In the interim, the owner of

RAMP has let Blair use space to conduct Start Point Sessions.

"Everyone's been welcoming," Blair said. "This feels like the right time to do this. It can be a stressful time for a new startup, to gain members before we even open. Hopefully people will want to stay."

So far 61 memberships have been locked in.

"We'll cap out at 110 members," Blair said, noting several of his CCD clients are on board.

"It's a higher price point, but you'll notice a difference in the service," he added. "We're not just there to support you in the session. Your ability to achieve your goals doesn't just happen in session. We're here to help you achieve in session and out. We're here for everybody."

Memberships are monthly, so there's no longterm commitment.

"If this is not the right fit — and it won't be for everybody — that's OK."

HIGH10 Personal Training can be found on Facebook and Instagram @high10\_fitness. For more information or to sign up for a Start Point Session, visit high10personaltraining.com and click the "talk to a trainer" tab, or scan the QR code below.



High10 members high-five after a workout.

Grosse Pointe News



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# STEAM foundation announces grants

By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — The GP Foundation for STEAM Support (science, technology, engineering, arts, athletics and mathematics) has awarded \$162,000 for 16 projects within the Grosse Pointe Public School System.

The grants were announced at the Board of Education meeting Tuesday, Feb. 6. Dozens of students and their families were on hand, including various robotics teams and the Grosse

Pointe South High School wrestling team.

"We were so impressed with the applications we received," said Jennifer Kendall, president of the foundation. "We are grateful to the staff who put the time in to apply."

The single largest grant was \$50,000 for the relocation and enhancement of the art department at Grosse Pointe South as it transitions from the IA Building into the main school.

Right behind, \$24,662 will buy five AED (auto-

lator) machines and outdoor storage units placed at Grosse Pointe North High School at the baseball field and track. Another \$20,000 will go toward instrument replacement at North and Parcels Middle School.

Three of the grants will go toward robotics teams, including \$7,500 in general support for Gearheads, \$5,700 for a utility trailer for the all-female Botmasterz and \$4,700 for equipment and a field trip for the Parcels Middle School team.

Science students at South will benefit from an \$8,500 grant for a machine that is able to measure light emissions. Another \$8,500 will purchase an augmented and alternative communication device that speech and language therapists can use at several buildings across the district.

Maire, Kerby, Ferry and Defer elementary schools will get \$2,000 each for a program called STEAM and Sports at the Ballpark, a program at Comerica Park sponsored by the Detroit Tigers that involves

STEAM activities followed by a Tigers game.

Mason Elementary School will get \$900 to purchase two spike hubs used to connect sensors and motors for its LEGO robotics class.

The Brownell and Parcels after-school rocket club gets \$725 to create and decorate rockets, and the South drama department receives \$750 for a production of "Romeo and Juliet."

"After reading the applications, I was thinking I want to be in all of these classes," Kendall

laughed. "They all sound amazing."

The foundation made its first grants to GPPSS last year, totaling \$603,000. That included \$403,000 for a new scoreboard at South's multi-purpose athletic field, \$100,000 toward an accessible playground at Mason and \$100,000 for district-wide musical instrument replacement.

The donation was approved 6-0 by the board, with President Sean Cotton abstaining as his mother and sister-in-law help run the foundation.

## Music notes

Saturday, Feb. 3, all of University Liggett School's upper school orchestra and select band students participated in the MSBOA District XVI High School Solo & Ensemble festival in

Rochester. They prepared solos, duets and trios to perform for a panel of adjudicators. ULS students came home with 17 Division I superior ratings, 22 Division II excellent ratings and three Division III good ratings. Select students who earned a Division I superior rating will have the opportunity to participate in festival at the state level in March.



University Liggett School junior Lilly Montgomery was selected to participate in the MSBOA District XVI Jazz All Stars. Montgomery will perform with the Jazz All Stars at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, at Lakeview High School.

COURTESY PHOTOS

## BOE:

Continued from page 1A

reserve any rights under defamation," Cotton responded.

The issue first came to light at the end of a closed session the board held before its regular meeting last week. As the board went back into open session, St. John made a motion to give all trustees except Ismail access to what she termed "the report." The motion was seconded by Trustee Colleen Worden. St. John and Worden voted in favor, but it failed 5-2, with Secretary Lisa Papas, Treasurer Terry Collins, Trustee Ginny Jeup, Cotton and Ismail voting no.

The Grosse Pointe News has read a two-page summary of the report stemming from an investigation conducted by the law firm Miller Johnson and a three-page determination written by then-Interim Superintendent Chris Fenton.

According to Miller Johnson, Ismail made the comment that the board had plans to "push out" the two employees while talking to an unnamed administrator who no longer is with the district. The summary indicated Ismail and the administrator were talking "as that employee was contemplating a job offer to leave GPPSS."

Miller Johnson also said Ismail and that employee were the only two present during the conversation.

According to Fenton's determination, the employees in question subsequently filed complaints against Ismail with the district's human resources director. Neither document details how the two became aware of Ismail's comment.

Fenton went on to write, "an alleged board plan to terminate particular employees would not be illegal unless it violated the employees' contracts and/or amounted to

discrimination prohibited by law."

Miller Johnson also determined Ismail's comment was not "sexist," saying there was no evidence of "gender bias/harassment against the complainants." The executive summary made no mention of racist comments.

In a subsequent email, St. John told the Grosse Pointe News, "You are correct that the executive summary does not mention the allegations of racism. The complainants did not have grounds to bring that particular matter to HR, even though it was one of their concerns."

Miller Johnson also determined neither Ismail nor the board had "taken any actions relative to complainants indicating an attempt to terminate" their employment, but that he had engaged in "retaliatory behavior toward the complainants."

Fenton, however, disagreed there was any retaliation.

Writing in his determination, Fenton said, "In support, he (the Miller Johnson investigator) cited two instances — one with respect to each complainant — that could be explained as retaliatory conduct, but could also be explained as simple communications failure. (The investigator's) explanation for his conclusion is not well-documented or persuasive."

The executive summary also found Ismail's comments were "in response to actions taken against Mr. Frank Sumbera."

"As many in the community know, Frank Sumbera was a staff member at Grosse Pointe North and a legendary coach," Ismail said in a written statement. "I very much wanted to have the athletic fields named for him and put together a resolution for the board to vote on. This was viewed by the complainants as somehow personal to them and they made official complaints.

"Nothing was found from this investigation to show that I committed any gender harassment, gender bias or racial harassment whatsoever," Ismail continued. "Statements made by Valarie St. John to the contrary are completely unfounded and untrue. It is unfortunate that she weaponized this investigation at a board meeting."

The executive summary encouraged the district to "engage in difficult discussions" about issues, including what the investigator termed:

- ◆ the board's role in the district,
- ◆ the evident divide between the North and South communities in GPPSS and
- ◆ the wisdom of naming a field after an employee who was terminated.

Fenton wrote that one person Miller Johnson interviewed said naming the baseball field at North after Sumbera would be "viewed in the community as 'a middle finger' to the complainants."

According to a Grosse Pointe News article posted July 19, 2018, Sumbera said he was fired as North's football and baseball coach the month prior during a meeting with the two complainants and the district's human resources director. The district said the hall of fame coach verbally resigned.

The incident was spurred by reports that after giving a player a demonstration on bunting during baseball practice, Sumbera flipped the bat back to the player, who wasn't paying attention. The bat hit the player, causing his nose to bleed.

In his conclusion, Fenton wrote, "Since I have no authority to sanction a board member, and since the results of the investigation would not support sanctions even if I had the authority, no consequences are being imposed."

## Sports Mass offered at St. Clare

St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whitter, Grosse Pointe Park, will hold its annual sports Mass at 9 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 18.

"This is an opportunity to use sports as a unifying tool, bringing the community together to share and

give thanks for their God-given talents and efforts," the Rev. Andrew Kowalczyk said.

Guest lecturers will be Matt Shepard of Bally Sports Detroit and longtime Detroit Pistons trainer Mike Abdenour.






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**PETS**

# In-home dog obedience coaching

## Tips from a puppy mom who learned much from Serenity Dog Training

By Donna Zetterlund  
Special Writer

When my new puppy joined our home a few months ago, I thought I had everything covered.

After years researching the breed I was seeking, hours delving deep into countless internet tips on how to introduce existing household pets, potty training and first night jitters, I felt totally and completely prepared as a first-time dog owner.

Then the puppy came.

No matter how much you ready and steady yourself, life has a way of surprising you with reality.

Puppy Romeo is incredible. He is sweet, smart, funny and loving. And he also does what some puppies do: Barks at every minutely discernible noise (and fellow dog that pops up on the TV screen); assumes oriental rugs are just extra large potty training pads; and brings gross “presents” that I never imagined I would hold in my hand, including some from the cat litter box. Lots and lots of real-world puppy stuff was happening.

I needed help.

Serenity Dog Training came to my rescue. After seeing an ad in this very newspaper, I thought the business looked cool and that the owner and I might be on the same wavelength

dog-wise. And that’s my first tip for anyone seeking help with obedience training...

**Find a trainer you jibe with**

Todd Hastings, trainer and owner of Serenity Dog Training in St. Clair Shores, approaches his work from a place of great respect for the natural animal. This was important to me, as I strongly feel a pet is not property but a fellow neighbor on this planet Earth, with a very different set of instincts, needs and expectations than humans.

This philosophy is central to Hastings’s methods, and as firm as I thought my beliefs were, there were times I was ready to cave, put the dog in a sweater and ask him to please stop barking and recite some poetry. Luckily, our teacher was there, steady and calm, to ground me and remind me that dogs will be dogs and successful training is not changing their intrinsic nature — but instead safe and happy inter-species cohabitation. Having a trainer with a similar ideology will help remind you of your convictions when you are in the trenches.

**You are being trained too**

You may not get the Milk Bone, but the classes are mostly for you. Hastings is honest about the fact that he

is training people as much (or more) than the pets. His goal is to create “mindful canine leaders” from his clients, leaders who lead with compassion and awareness of pack mentality.

As we neared the middle of our six-week course, the fact that I was being trained became uber-apparent to me. As I struggled to remember sequences of commands, hand gestures and postures, I looked at my puppy with great compassion. I was happy our instructor was patient and kind with both human and doggie, so I never felt pressured or silly for missing my mark.

The lessons Hastings provided were always straightforward and made complete sense, and as each new lesson clicked with parent and puppy, we were elated!

**Keep an open mind**

You’ll be bringing everything you’ve ever read, heard about or assumed into the training sessions with you. But leave some room for what the trainer is telling you. That’s why they are there, after all.

Once I made the big decision to allow myself to be trainable, little miracles began to happen. Suddenly, my little guy and I were in sync, both of us repeating and acing the work — and having fun.

Coach Hastings was open-minded

too. He took my thoughts in, made smart suggestions and allowed our pet/parent relationship to blossom in its own customized way. This was very reassuring and practical. And it worked.

**Do your homework**

The sessions are a setup for the practice you will do during the week until your next session.

Like everything in life, the more we practiced the better we got. And the teacher really noticed when we had done our homework and that encouraged us to keep going and build on what we had learned in previous weeks. I could feel us gaining traction and it was exciting.

**Let’s play!**

One of the most powerful lessons I received from Hastings was to make learning playful. Keeping the training fun allows the dog to be relaxed and receptive. You’ll also bond more beautifully and thoroughly when you are having fun together.

Our teacher was intuitive about when it was time to take a little break to rest or play for a few minutes, so that our sessions continued to be happy times for the puppy.

Hastings also likes to do field trips to the dog park or pet store so that the



PHOTO BY DONNA ZETTERLUND

Todd Hastings, above, owner of Serenity Dog Training, holds recent graduate Romeo.

puppies get acclimated to real-life settings. We “graduated” at the local pet supply store, which was a sensory wonderland for little Romeo. Our teacher helped us navigate the sights and sounds and even shop for treats.

Overall, I was thrilled with all we learned. Our course covered all the basic commands for safety and good manners indoors and while walking outdoors on a leash. Hastings also offered lots of information on dog behavior, feeding and health that proved invaluable.

If you are considering obedience training for your dog, there are many options. Having a personal (dog) trainer was the right one for us. I loved that they could come right to our home, where my new little pal was most comfortable and not distracted by other dogs and bright, shiny objects.

To contact Serenity Dog Training, call (313) 207-1175 or visit online at serenitydogtraining.org.

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 <p><b>Greta</b> Female, 2 years old, German Shepherd, Sable, 50lbs. To adopt this dog please call GPAAS (313) 884-1551 SPONSORED BY: Allstate, Jeffery Torrice (313) 881-0200</p>	 <p><b>Handsome</b> Male, 4 years old, Yorkshire Terrier Mix, Gold, 8lbs. To adopt this dog please call GPAAS (313) 884-1551 SPONSORED BY: Irish Coffee (313) 881-5675</p>	 <p><b>Rona</b> Female, 3 years old, Mixed Breed, Black/White, 40lbs. To adopt this dog please call GPAAS (313) 884-1551 SPONSORED BY: Prize Light A (313) 882-7233</p>	 <p><b>Peppa</b> Male, 10 months old, Shorthair, Gray. To adopt this cat please call GPAAS (313) 884-1551 SPONSORED BY: Grosse Pointe News (313) 882-6900</p>	 <p><b>Salem</b> Male, 10 months old, Shorthair, Black To adopt this cat please call GPAAS (313) 884-1551 SPONSORED BY: Ford Roy O'Brien Suzanne Sterr Clem (586) 601-1401</p>	 <p><b>Daphne</b> Female, 9 months old, Shorthair, Tortoiseshell. To adopt this cat please call GPAAS (313) 884-1551 SPONSORED BY: Allstate, Jeffery Torrice (313) 881-0200</p>



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2B AREA ACTIVITIES | 4-6B OBITUARIES | 5B CHURCHES

## Help is on the way First English Church seeks homes to repair this summer

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

People in need of help making home repairs are asked to give First English Evangelical Lutheran Church a call.

In anticipation of the arrival of up to 400 volunteers who are looking for projects to complete, the Grosse Pointe Woods church is recruiting nearby homeowners whose abodes could use a little TLC.

In partnership with nonprofit Group Mission Trips, First English is co-sponsoring Workcamp, during which volunteer youths and adults from across the country will spend one week this summer making porch repairs, building wheelchair ramps, repairing steps and completing other tasks at local houses. Most of the work will be done by church youth group members; there will be at least one adult for every five students and projects are overseen by experienced builders.

Through the partnership, Group Mission Trips is in charge of recruiting laborers.

"We're not marketing for people to come; that's their job," said Renata Conger, parish education and youth ministry coordinator at First English. "Our jobs are raising funds and finding homes in need of repair. Residents in need of help, they don't have to prove anything to us; if someone says they need help, we help them."

The church's biggest ask at the moment is for people seeking help to sign up. Typically, Workcamp focuses on residential home repairs for the elderly, disabled, low-income families and veterans.

"There are often people in need, a lot of older people," the Rev. Sean Motley said. "There comes a point where you can't go up on a ladder anymore. Or you don't have the money to pay people (to do the work). We want people to get that assistance."

"It can be difficult for people to say, 'I need help,'" he added. "Their pride gets in the way. But that's why we're here for each other."

While volunteers won't be installing entire new roofs or rewiring houses, they'll tackle more rea-



sonable tasks throughout the week. Adults guide teens through the repair process, instructing, supervising and even pitching in themselves.

"They'll do interior and exterior painting, build a new wheelchair ramp or repair an old ramp, repair a porch or a deck," Conger said. "Anything outdoors and with lumber."

"... We can't make any guarantees until we show up at the house and start work," she added, "but everything you want to do, we'll do what we can to get it done."

"The thrill as an adult is putting them on (tasks) they've never done," Motley added. "They're building confidence in themselves by getting the chance. ... And there's faith growth that happens with the kids."

Conger agreed. "This younger generation, they want to put their faith into action," she said. "This is a multi-sensory faith experience for them. On the crews, you're not with kids you know. You start as strangers and leave as family."

Though the project still is several months away, right now is "crunch time" at First English, which means reviewing applications, making site visits to measure projects and assess safety, and pulling permits if needed. The early work is so the projects can get started soon after students arrive.

"On July 8, a group of five teens and an adult will roll up (to each site) and work from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.," Conger said. "They'll bring their own lunches, but they'll invite the resident to come and have lunch with them, to do a devotion with them."

What these kids really want is to build a relationship with the resident. They want to serve that person."

This year's Workcamp theme is "Influencers."

"Whether we think so or not, everyone is an influencer in some way or another," reads the 2024 Group Mission Trips catalog. "Everything we do is watched by our friends, family, peers and others around us, making an impression and having influence. The goal of this year's program is to help students navigate the many influences in their lives and encourage them to look toward Jesus, the greatest influencer of all time, so they use their influence to positively change their culture."

Faith-based experiences will occur daily during the event. Outside of home repairs, the week will include daily worship, devotions and prayers among all partic-

ipants.

"We call it a 'Kingdom of God experience,'" Conger said. "Among friends and strangers, there's a common goal. They're united in Christ."

At the end of the week, everyone gathers for a party and to review their accomplishments. The residents who received the work also are invited.

"The kids share their



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above, Renata Conger adds a fresh coat to a house in need of a paint job. Left, three crews from different churches and states teamed up to build a huge deck. The team included Conger's brother, Adolf Lane, on the far right.

experiences," Conger said. "There's lots of hugging and crying."

In addition to searching for houses, First English was charged with raising funds for the projects, so all repairs are done at no cost to homeowners.

"There are no material costs or labor costs," she said. "... Our congregation has already raised

over \$25,000 to make this happen."

Another facet of the program the church already covered is lodging for up to 400 visitors, made possible through a partnership with Grosse Pointe North High School.

"These are all volunteers," Conger said.

See HELP, page 2B



Left, Jack Bidigare, a 2023 graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School, builds a deck with a new friend made at Workcamp.

Below, Camden Baker, currently a ninth grader at Grosse Pointe North High School, helped stain a new porch railing for a resident in East Bank, W.V.



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# Conservative youth leaders to speak Tuesday

Michigan Republican Party Youth Vice Chair Rylee Linting will speak to the Eastside Republican Club at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Also on the program will be Ben Estell, chairman of Young Americans for Freedom on the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor campus.

"We look forward to hearing about these leaders' success in recruiting college-age and other young people for service in Republican campaigns and how we can assist in that effort," said Eastside Republican chairman Mike Vethacke in advance of the meeting.

Forum doors open at 7 p.m. for coffee and networking. There is no charge for the forum, which will include an opportunity to ask questions.

Linting and Estell will be joined by Dr. Rob Steele, Michigan's GOP national committeeman and member of the Republican National Committee. First elected to the RNC in 2016, Steele has worked as a cardiologist since 1987.

Linting was elected at the Michigan Republican Party State Convention in



COURTESY PHOTO

Rylee Linting, MIGOP Youth vice chair

February 2023. She currently is a senior at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va., where she studies political science and government.

In her GOP role, Linting's mission is to recruit conservative young people to be active in the 2024 election cycle. Her plans include improving the recruiting process and identifying young Republicans the traditional model has failed to identify. She has her eye on drawing from the trades and community

colleges.

"Let's shift the focus away from the traditional model, while still supporting our college Republican chapters," Linting told convention delegates last year.

*The Eastside Republican Club Forum meets the third Tuesday of each month, September through May, at The War Memorial. Admission is free and the public is welcome. Stay up to date at EastsideRepublican.Club or follow the ERC on Facebook or X.*

# AREA ACTIVITIES

## Lions

The Grosse Pointe Lions Club hosts its next meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Guests are welcome.

## Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

- ◆ 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21, Ardmore Elementary School, 27001 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores.
- ◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, Jefferson Masonic Lodge No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile, St. Clair Shores.
- ◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, Redeemer United Methodist Church, 20571 Vernier, Harper Woods.
- ◆ 7:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, Ascension St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.
- ◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25, St. Lucy Catholic Church, 23401 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

Register at redcross blood.org.

## Sunrise Rotary

The Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary Club meets at 7 a.m. every Tuesday at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Visitors Center, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores. It's next meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 20.

Darraugh Collins, director of Food Rescue U.S.—Detroit speaks. Guests are welcome.

Register at redcross blood.org.

## Library

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

- ◆ Science of the Circus, 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Reader Dog, 11 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Feb. 21, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Taylor Swift Bracelets for Teens, 3 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ GPPL Friends \$5 Bag Sale, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, at

Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Readers' Choice Book Discussion Group, 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 24, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Origins of Country and Rock n' Roll, 1 to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ D&D Club, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

## The Helm

The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers a variety of classes and programs.

Registration is required at (313) 882-9600 for the following:

- ◆ Hypertension Control—A Self-Management Program, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Fridays, beginning Feb. 16, presented by Corewell Health.
- ◆ Faith-Based Exploration, The Roots of the Church: Exploring the Early Church Fathers,

11 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Feb. 20, with the Rev. Andrew Smith, associate pastor of St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church.

◆ Field trip to Twelve Oaks Mall, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22. Cost is \$10 for members, \$15 for nonmembers.

◆ The movie, "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" is shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.

◆ 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's Disease, 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Feb. 27, with instructor Treena Horton of the Alzheimer's Association—Michigan Chapter.

## Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts an evening of fellowship at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21, at Antonio's in the Park, 15117 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park. Email [grossepointerotary@gmail.com](mailto:grossepointerotary@gmail.com).

## Posterity Gallery

Posterity Gallery, 17005 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe, hosts the class, Trinket/Pandora Box Making with Pat Tapper, from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22. To register or get tickets, visit [posterityartgallery.com](http://posterityartgallery.com) or call (313) 884-8105.

## The Family Center

The Family Center and the Healthy Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods Coalition host the second annual Special Needs Resource Fair from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. The event features more than 40 vendors offering supportive opportunities to parents and caregivers of neurodiverse children. Offerings include educational, recreational and occupational resources, as well as mental health, legal and government services. Email [maryjo@familycenterhelps.org](mailto:maryjo@familycenterhelps.org) for information.

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COURTESY PHOTO

This Workcamp house was worked on by Renata Conger and her crew.

## HELP:

Continued from page 1B

"They'll be eating and sleeping at North."

Motley thanked Principal Kate Murray and former Superintendent Jon Dean for helping make the partnership happen, as well as Assistant Principal Michelle Davis for accommodating representatives from Group Mission Trips during a recent tour of the school.

"(The volunteers are) paying for their own food and utilities, so there's no burden on the school,"

Conger said, noting that youth from First English, who also have registered and paid to participate, will sleep at the high school, too, "even though they live down the street."

Given the hundreds of homes that have been transformed since Workcamp was created in 1990, Motley said not only are households impacted by the work, but lives are transformed simply by knowing someone cares.

"I want them to know God hears their cry; God hears them and responds," he said. "It would be awesome to do

this every year and have that longterm impact."

Those interested in signing up for home repairs may visit the church's website at [feelc.org](http://feelc.org) or call (313) 884-5040.

The deadline to apply is Friday, March 1.

"We're pulling permits in multiple cities, so we need people to sign up now," Conger said.

"The sooner they sign up, the better," added Motley, who said projects must be located within a 30-minute drive from First English. "Our goal is to have enough work for everybody to do."

# Volunteers needed for Memorial Church project

## Kids Coalition Against Hunger is March 23

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

It's never too early to start planning and that's exactly what the outreach council at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church is doing as it organizes its ninth Kids Coalition Against Hunger event, set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Though more than half of the necessary volunteers already have signed up, Director of Outreach Julie Huellmantel hopes to see that number continue to rise — especially since the event falls on the first day of spring break, when local families tend to travel.

"We will need 350 volunteers," she said, noting roles range from helping with registration to cleaning up at the end of the afternoon. Most volunteers, however, will be part of the main production.

Kids Coalition Against Hunger, or KCAH, works

with different organizations to produce food packets, each of which provides enough nutrition for a family of six. Working in an assembly line, volunteers measure out specific amounts of rice, soy protein, dried vegetables and powdered vitamins, then add them to each bag as it passes by.

Each completed bag is heat sealed, then packed in boxes for delivery.

Meals are created simply with the addition of boiling water.

"We're only doing 50,000 meals this year," Huellmantel said, noting anyone age 5 and older is welcome to participate. "... It's a fun event. Five-year-olds are put on bags of rice so they're tall enough to reach and 105-year-olds are given a chair so they can sit for their shift. It really is fun for all ages and the whole community."

Children ages 5 to 7 must be accompanied by an adult; childcare is not available for children

younger than 5.

Michael Burwell, Michigan director of KCAH, will address the group before production begins.

"He is super dynamic," Huellmantel said. "He gets everybody's energy up high, tells us what we're doing, how to do it, how many people it will feed and where it goes."

The day's yield will be divided into three groups. One-third is sent to developing countries; one-third goes to local food banks, soup kitchens and backpack programs; and one-third is stored for disaster relief. Food packets have a two-year shelf life.

Members of the church's outreach council, which is co-sponsoring the event with The War Memorial, are among several participating community groups, including church members, members of the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Grosse Pointe Public School System students. The Helm at the Boll Life



FILE PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Louisa Pietrowsky helps stack sealed packets for boxing at the 2023 event.

Center has asked for volunteers among the population it serves.

The War Memorial offered its building to host the event.

"They feel like it's a good community event," Huellmantel said. "It doesn't cost us to do it there. It's easier to get people in and out. It worked very nicely last year. But we need to plan better for clean up."

No matter how careful volunteers may be, there's always a sprinkle of rice and vitamin powder on the floor, she added, and a definite need for clean-up help.

"You give a few hours of your time and, let's say you packed 2,000 meals, that's a pretty big impact you can make," Huellmantel said. "Not only are you helping in a developing country, but also maybe someone in your own backyard."

Volunteers can sign up for one of two shifts: 10 a.m. to noon or noon to 2 p.m.

Huellmantel said having this opportunity to give back is important to anyone of any age.

"We live in a food-



Michael Burwell, Michigan director of KCAH, rallies volunteers before last year's event.

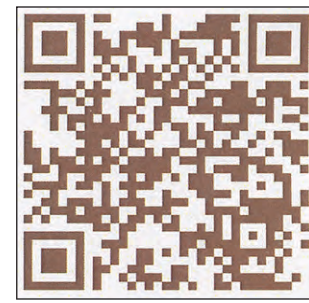
secure community," she said. "It's always a great opportunity to realize how fortunate we are and also recognize that we have the ability to alleviate food insecurity by doing events like this."

Not to mention the camaraderie built throughout the day.

"You're just chatting the whole time," she said. "You can be with your own group or among people you haven't met. The people we've met, we developed relationships with them when we were

there. It's really cool. It's a great opportunity to share stories and lots of fun."

Those interested in lending a hand may register online at [bit.ly/KCAH2024](http://bit.ly/KCAH2024) or call (313) 882-5330.



The littlest volunteers stand on bags of rice so they're tall enough to adequately do their jobs.

# Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra concert Feb. 18 features Beethoven, Bach, Stammitz

The Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra continues its 71st season with a concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. A pre-concert talk will be given at 2:15 p.m. by WRCJ radio host Davis Gloff.

Conductor and Music Director Joe Striplin will begin the concert with J.S. Bach's lively Orchestral Suite No. 3 in D major, which consists of an overture and a series of dances such as the gavotte, bourrée and gigue. The concert continues with the Viola Concerto no. 1 in D major, composed in 1774 by German violist and composer Carl Stamitz. Stamitz, himself a violist, likely composed the concerto for his own use to show his virtuosity by including chords, pedal notes, harmonics and even a left-hand pizzicato.

Ben Graham, a senior at Grosse Pointe North High School, a nationally recognized musician and this year's GPSO Nester Scholarship winner, returns for his second appearance with the orchestra as the viola soloist. Following intermis-



COURTESY PHOTOS

Ben Graham, a senior at Grosse Pointe North High School, returns for his second appearance with the orchestra as the viola soloist.

sion, the orchestra will close the concert with Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 in C minor. Called an "indescribably profound, magnificent symphony in C minor," by a

music critic who attended the premier of the symphony in Vienna in 1808, Beethoven's Fifth is likely the best known and most frequently performed piece

in the classical orchestral repertory. It was played for the premier concerts of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra in 1842, and the National Philharmonic Orchestra in 1931. A phonographic recording of the first movement of Beethoven's Fifth has traveled more than 15 billion miles as part of the materials included in the Voyager interstellar probes launched in 1977.

Concert tickets are available at the door or online at [gpsymphony.org](http://gpsymphony.org). Tickets are \$20, \$15 for seniors, \$5 for college students and free to K-12 students.

The orchestra's 71st season continues April 14, with a concert at The War Memorial 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 a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to providing local professional and accomplished amateur musicians the opportunity to perform the classical symphonic repertory for the community at large.



Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra conductor and music director Joe Striplin

  
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## 4B | OBITUARIES

# OBITUARIES

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

## Joanne Marie Povlitz

Joanne Marie (nee Newman) Povlitz, 94, formerly of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away peacefully Monday, Feb. 5, 2024.

Joanne was born in Detroit to Wesley and Evelyn Newman. She enjoyed a career as an elementary school teacher, touching the lives of hundreds of children. Family was most important to her, and she also enjoyed walking, boating, daily breakfast at Big Boy and time in Florida, especially at Disney World.

She was predeceased by her husband, Donald Povlitz. She is survived by her children, John Povlitz, Linda Schalek (Tom), Mary Murphy (John) and James Povlitz; grandchildren, Kristie, David (Maria), Steven (Michelle), Kathryn (Jeff), Bryan (Jacqueline) and Michael; and seven great-grandchildren.

Service information is private at the request of Joanne's family.

## Cynthia Ann Warner

Cynthia Ann Warner, 86, passed away peacefully at home Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2024, surrounded by family.

Cynthia was born March 5, 1937, to Valentine and Ann Prybys in Detroit. She was the beloved wife of 60 years to Peter Warner; loving mother of Michael (Maureen), Paul (Cheri), Mary Ellen, Andrew (Kelly) and the late John; cherished grandmother of Olivia, Anastasia, Zachary, Sabrina, Alexander, Thomas, James, Lucy, Charlie and Henry; dear sister of the late Phyllis Noonan, Margaret Prybys, the late Christine McCotter, George Prybys, the late Jerry Prybys, Ed Prybys and David Prybys; and dearest aunt to her nieces and nephews.

Cynthia met the love of her life, Peter, at the University of Detroit, from which she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Master of Arts degree in elementary education. They married in August 1963, and she began her teaching career. They moved to Grosse Pointe while her children were young. After raising her family, she returned as an educator at the local Catholic schools and The Grosse Pointe Academy. After 50 years in Grosse Pointe, Cynthia and Peter moved to Northville to be closer to their children.

Cynthia and her family were longtime members of St. Ambrose Parish. She volunteered with Pregnancy Aid and, with Peter, was an advisor and counselor for St. Vincent De Paul and the Pre-Cana program for engaged couples.

She was fond of attending Detroit Symphony Orchestra performances, Detroit Institute of Arts and other city museums. She vacationed with her young family and then, with her husband, traveled to Europe and the holy sites of Rome, Jerusalem, Fatima and Lourdes.

Family and friends were the focus of Cynthia's life. With Peter, she enjoyed

her involvement in the Grosse Pointe Neighborhood Club, Grosse Pointe Sail Club and her community of Grosse Pointe Park and Westchester neighbors. Her faith was supported through her close friends at St. Ambrose Parish, St. Vincent de Paul Society and Teams of Our Lady.

Her warm smile and generous heart will be dearly missed by her family and friends. Cynthia leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter and memories that forever will be cherished by all who were fortunate enough to know her.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Vincent de Paul, St. Ambrose Conference, Attn: Chris Cavanagh, SVdP Conference President, 23124 S. Rosedale Ct., St. Clair Shores, MI 48080.

Add a memory at [dignitymemorial.com](http://dignitymemorial.com).

## Kathryn Louise Foucher

Kathryn Louise Foucher, 74, of Macomb, passed away peacefully Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024, after a sudden decline in her health.

Kathy, the eldest of six children, was born July 18, 1949, in Detroit, to Leonard and Virginia Kotowski. After graduating from Dominican High School in 1967, she went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University.

After graduating, Kathy taught English for a few years before proudly dedicating herself to raising her three sons, Jeffrey, Christopher and Kevin. As her sons got older, Kathy's creative flair and generous spirit were joined to create Forever Florals, a thriving floral design business through which she gave away many beautiful creations as gifts to family and friends.

Kathy had immense passion, pride and love for her family and friends, making everyone feel special with her open heart, open arms and radiant smile. Kathy enjoyed hosting social events, baking, spending time with "The Lunch Bunch," lounging in her pool, becoming an avid reader and meticulously decorating her home for the holidays. In her later years, her generous spirit extended to the many squirrels and other creatures of nature whom she warmly welcomed with snacks on her back patio.

Kathy was predeceased by her father, Leonard; and mother, Virginia. She is survived by her sons, Jeff (Catherine), Chris (Cheryl) and Kevin (Christine); and grandchildren, Karina, Will, Alexandra, Maggie, Larissa, John and Hudson. She also is survived by her sisters, Kris Hart (Jim), Karole Steen (Tom), Kim Tocco (Vito), Kerry Hall (Mike) and Mary Kay Reno.

Kathy was a beautiful mother, sister, friend, aunt, grandmother and human being, her family said; she embodied unconditional love, strength of spirit and an unending generosity.

A celebration of Kathy's

life will be held in the spring. Friends and family will be notified.

## Joseph C. Stelmark Jr.

Joseph C. "Big Joe" Stelmark Jr., 80, died Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024, at The Rivers Grosse Pointe.

Joe was born Jan. 4, 1944, in Brooklyn, N.Y. He was the third child and first son of Joseph C. Stelmark Sr. and Anna Catherine Farrell. After his mother passed away when he was 12, his two older sisters stepped in and provided for him and his brother, creating a strong bond between the four siblings that lasted his entire life.

Joe was a rule-follower. He graduated from Erasmus High School in Brooklyn, where he created friendships that lasted a lifetime. He graduated from Fort Lewis College in Colorado and subsequently joined the U.S. Marines, fulfilling a long-standing childhood dream. He served overseas in Southeast Asia for 21 months and upheld the ideals of the Marines for the remainder of his life.

After working a handful of jobs, including running trucks for Schaefer Beer, he made the best decision of his life: meeting and marrying Mary C. Sweeney, to whom he was married for 48 years.

He joined the U.S. Treasury Department and served as an officer of the U.S. Customs Service. Eventually, he transferred to Detroit and became a special agent. He and Mary moved into their home in Grosse Pointe Farms, where they lived 40 years.

Soon after moving to Michigan, Mary gave birth to their only child, Joseph C. Stelmark III. Joe and Mary spent the next few decades working full time, raising Joey and spending numerous nights and afternoons at concerts, practices and games.

Joe was an active member in his church, ushering for more than 20 years. He was a proud member of his local American Legion, Post No. 303 and was an avid firearm enthusiast, having memberships to multiple ranges in southeast Michigan. He was a friendly neighbor, always willing to help out or catch up. He loved cooking, specializing in Italian dinners, roast beef and roast goose for Christmas.

After retiring from U.S. Customs, Joe stepped into some assistant coaching roles, including opening the weight room for his son's wrestling practice. He also contracted with the U.S. Department of State, doing background checks part time for 10 years.

Joe and Mary enjoyed traveling the country and the world. They spent four years traveling the U.S. to see their son's University of Michigan lacrosse games and took annual trips to Cancun with great friends. Some other travel highlights included anniversary cruises and trips to Alaska and Europe.

Joe's loving wife, Mary, passed away unexpectedly Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2024.

Joe is survived by his son, Joey (Emily); and



Joanne Marie Povlitz



Cynthia Ann Warner



Kathryn Louise Foucher



Joseph C. Stelmark Jr.



Carl Robert Wesen



Sally Eileen McMinn

three siblings, Monica (the late Ike), Alice (Ralph) and Paul (Carmen). The last few years of his life were spent bragging about and reveling in his two granddaughters, Maddie (2 1/2) and Juliette (10 months), whom he loved dearly.

Joe will be remembered for his kindness, good humor, loud cheering at sporting events, interesting stories and his loving response, "Yes, dear," to Mary, the self-described best thing to ever happen to him.

A double funeral Mass for Joe and Mary takes place at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 16, with an in-state gathering at 10 a.m. at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to two charities Joe held dear to his heart: The Gary Sinise Foundation, [bit.ly/3HVDd3F](http://bit.ly/3HVDd3F), or Toys for Tots, [bit.ly/42E0KQv](http://bit.ly/42E0KQv).

## Carl Robert Wesen

Carl Robert "Bob" Wesen, 95 passed away peacefully Friday, Feb. 2, 2024, at Brightview Senior Living Center in Nottingham, Md. He was born March 30, 1928, in Bow, Wash., to Carl and Helen Wesen.

Bob grew up on a dairy farm with his parents and three brothers. He attended a one-room schoolhouse for elementary school and graduated from Burlington-Edison High School in 1946. He met his wife, Wendy, along with many lifelong friends, while attending Harvard University. He graduated in 1950, just as the Korean War began. He enlisted and served in the U.S. Army, teaching radar application in El Paso, Texas.

Bob married Wendy in 1951. At the completion of his Army obligation, Bob and Wendy moved to Catonsville, Md., where he worked continuously for Westinghouse as an engineer for 35 years. Upon retirement, Bob and Wendy spent time in Venice, Fla., and Grosse Pointe Woods. They also traveled extensively.

Bob was an avid map enthusiast. He loved camping, traveling, gardening, photography, researching genealogy and playing card games and board games with his family. He was remarkable for his love of learning and could speak on almost any subject. He was immensely kind and never uttered a cross or mean word to another person. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his loving wife, Wendolin "Wendy"; devoted children, Cheryl Wesen (Richard Baumgarten), Cynthia King (Norman), Dorothy Wells (Terry), William Wesen and Rolland Wesen (Claudine Pepin); beloved grandchildren, Karl Baumgarten (Kim Lamza), Lee Baumgarten (Nina), Lyle Baumgarten, Jonathan King, Joshua King (Jessica), Melissa Felter (James), Jennifer Wells, Kyle Wesen (Jennifer Kuskowski), Maura Hennessey-Wesen (Michael Hennessey), Caleb Wesen and Shorey Wesen; cherished great-grandchildren, Jordan Baumgarten, Brooke Baumgarten, Isla Baumgarten, Josiah King, Gloria King, Orson Felter, Hugh Felter, Ruby Felter and Alice Wesen; and other extended family.

Bob was predeceased by his brothers, Lyle, Charles "Lee" and Donald; and sister-in-law, Marilyn "Gail."

A memorial service in Bow, Wash., will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in Bob's name to The Helm at the Boll Life Center, [helmlife.org/donate/](http://helmlife.org/donate/).

## Sally Eileen McMinn

Sally Eileen McMinn, 69, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024. She was a beloved matriarch and esteemed social worker and leaves behind a legacy of love, kindness and dedication to helping others.

Sally was the daughter of the late John and Eileen Emery of Grosse Pointe. She was a loving partner to Marc Belair and was predeceased by her husband, Wayne McMinn. She was the proud mother of Ashley McMinn (Cathy), Matthew McMinn and Sarah McMinn (Tim); devoted grandmother of Mitchel McMinn, Madison McMinn, Shannon Solomon, Danika Edwards, Ashton Edwards, Blake Edwards, Brooklynn Edwards and Maythis McMinn; and special sister of Laaree Emery (Karen), Joanne Sintic (Rick), Mary Ellen Emery, John Emery and the late Mark Emery (Judy). Sally also will be missed by many special nieces, nephews and cousins.

Born on Palm Sunday, April 3, 1955, in Detroit, Sally's life journey was marked by unwavering compassion and zeal for life. Sally's educational journey began at St. Paul Catholic School and Grosse Pointe South High School. She later pursued

higher education at Grand Valley State University, where she majored in social studies.

With her keen intellect and passion for helping others, Sally continued her professional development, earning Master of Business Administration and Master of Social Work degrees. Her commitment to excellence led her to travel widely, developing valued expertise in crisis management, trauma-informed care, aging, cognitive behavioral therapy (under the tutelage of the renowned Aaron Beck), play therapy, interpersonal violence, supervision and community practice.

Throughout her life, Mackinac Island continued to be a source of joy and inspiration for Sally. From working at the iconic Grand Hotel to teaching at the local school, whether preparing meals for island residents or dispatching horse-drawn carriages, she embraced every opportunity on the island with enthusiasm and dedication.

Sally's many passions included playing catcher in softball, biking, reading, shopping, learning and helping others. Her greatest joy reflected a deep, abiding love for family and friends. Sally's contagious energy, fun-loving nature and easy-going attitude endeared her to all who knew her. She remained connected to her childhood best friends and was steadfast in her support for loved ones.

As a mother and grandmother, Sally exemplified the essence of family devotion. Her unwavering kindness, infectious laugh, genuine smile and steadfast love will be deeply missed by her surviving family members. Sally's legacy as an authentic, caring and empathic social worker and caregiver carries on through the countless lives she touched. Her impact will be felt for generations to come, a testament to her remarkable spirit and unwavering commitment to serving others.

Services were held at Northwood Funeral Home Cremation and Reception Centre in Ontario, Canada.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Algoma Family Services Foundation are appreciated by the family, [afs.foundation.ca/donate/](http://afs.foundation.ca/donate/).

Sally will forever remain in her friends' and families' hearts; through them her love and light will continue to shine.

Services were entrusted to Northwood Funeral Home, northwoodfuneral.com.

See OBITS, page 5B

## OBITS:

Continued from page 4B

**Richard Kane Oliver**

Richard "Dick" Kane Oliver, 78, passed away at home Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2024.

Dick was born Sept. 13, 1945, in Detroit, to Donald and Helen Kane Oliver. He was raised in Grosse Pointe Farms and graduated from St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School. Dick attended Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. While there, he was accepted into the U.S. Air Force ROTC program. After graduating in 1967, he joined the U.S. Air Force as a commissioned officer. In 1975, Dick joined the U.S. Secret Service as a special agent. He served in field offices in Memphis, Tenn., Grand Rapids and Bismarck, N.D.

From 1978 to 1981, Dick served on a protective detail in Calhoun, Ga., during the Jimmy Carter administration. Throughout his 23 years with the U.S. Secret Service, Dick traveled the world. He loved exploring foreign countries and always came home with interesting gifts for his children. After retiring in 1998, Dick became a contract investigator for federal agencies. Dick was devoted to his family. His children, grandchildren and great-grandchild were the center of his life.

He was committed to attending and/or supporting every educational endeavor, sporting event, theater performance or musical concert in which his children and grandchildren were involved. Dick was a lifelong member of St. Mary's Booster Club and proudly carried the chains at St. Mary's Saints football games for more than 30 years.

Dick was predeceased by his parents. He is survived by his six children, Richard Oliver II of Bismarck, N.D., Molly Kleinschmidt (Brett) of Australia, Sarah Johnson (Eric) of Bismarck, N.D., Elisabeth Davis (Jim) of Chicago, Ill., Mark Oliver (Olga) of Bismarck, N.D. and Katherine Oliver of Chicago, Ill.; 14 grandchildren; one great-grandchild; former wives, Suzanne Merz Oliver and Leslie Bakken Oliver; brother, Donald Oliver; girlfriend, Karen Treadway of Sioux Falls,



Richard Kane Oliver



Regina Engelhardt



Dorothy Dettlinger



Peter B. Ebner

Iowa; and best friend, Gary Groth of Milwaukee, Wis. A Mass of Christian burial will be held Friday, Feb. 16, at Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, 520 Raymond in Bismarck.

To share memories of Dick and sign the online guestbook, visit eastgatefuneral.com.

**Regina Engelhardt**

Regina Engelhardt, 95, died Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024, 69 years to the day she became a U.S. citizen.

Regina knew no strangers and treated everyone she met with the love and respect she promoted in her life and art. Born Oct. 1, 1928, in Kiwerce, Poland, she survived the horrors of World War II German work camps, but could not help but see the beauty in everyone she met and the world around her.

Her mission in life was to bring into focus the love, harmony and feeling of caring that exists in nature and the world. That vision was reflected in her prolific artwork, through which she captured all the "crooked lines" and "perfection in the imperfections."

Her life was full of struggles as a single mother of three children, but she rarely complained. Until her dying day, she expressed gratitude for every breath and the smallest kindness shown by all the "angels" she drew to her. She also honored her own mistakes in life and turned them into lessons she shared as gifts of wisdom in her memoir, "That's Not a Scar; That's a Beauty Mark."

When she first emigrated from German refugee camps to Detroit, she worked her way from humble beginnings as a nanny, then behind the meat counter at Kowalski's Sausage Co. Her first professional job was as a mechanical and architectural draftsman.

She also joined the International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit,

where she befriended people from all over the world, from actors to doctors, from Iran to Poland. Some actors from the Warsaw Theatre, where she had performed, invited her to join Variety Theatre in Detroit, where she played a part in every show, from comedies to musicals to dramas. Some of her friends tried to convince her to go to Hollywood, but she lacked the confidence.

In 1960, she became a cosmetologist and loved bringing out the inner beauty of each customer, which made her very popular. People were drawn as much to her creative skills as to her patient listening to their life's problems and her empathetic and sage counsel.

She worked hard to provide her three daughters with a well-rounded education, including private music, dance and language lessons. She also exposed them to travel abroad, visiting Italy and Switzerland.

At age 51, she embarked on her lifelong love of painting, then branched out to sculpting. She showed talent in all media: oil, pencil, watercolor, tempera, pastels, acrylic and pink/white clay sculpting. She studied under the renowned Sr. Mary Ignatius at Mercy Center's Studio in Farmington Hills. She also studied at the Scarab Club studios and took portrait seminars from Daniel R. Greene, a renowned portrait painter. Within two years, she had created 70 artworks, then held her first one-woman show in 1982.

By 1985, she started competing in local, national and international arts competitions, winning multiple awards. In 1987, she was a National Audubon Society finalist. She won People's Choice Awards, gold and silver medals, at the International Arts Competitions hosted in Las Vegas in 1987, 1988 and 1990. She also won

the Michigan State Wildflower competition, which took her portrayal of state flowers on a tour across the state. She was featured on several television programs and highlighted in newspapers and various magazines.

In 1990, she created "the impossible": a solid sculpture of the crowned Polish white eagle perched on a map of Poland, the country's official emblem. She built the 25-inch-high clay eagle with a wingspan of 18 inches without any metal underpinning or support structure, a feat she later learned was "not possible." It still stands at the American Polish Cultural Center in Sterling Heights.

Her paintings now hang in private collections throughout the U.S., Canada, England, Poland, the Philippines, India and Austria. Her portrait of Princess Diana, titled "I Care," remains part of the permanent collection by the Althorp Museum in Northamptonshire, England. Her artwork also appears in the archives of Women Artists in the Library and Research Center in the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C. Her art was sold through the Shelby Gallery in Houston, International Gallery of Bloomfield Hills, Ambleside Gallery in Grosse Pointe and Dumochelle's Gallery in Detroit.

At 88 years old, she published her life story, "That's Not a Scar; That's a Beauty Mark," to share lessons learned and spare others her "mistakes." By then, she also was sought after as an inspirational speaker by corporate sponsors and organizations.

Regina is survived by her daughters, Miriam Twardon-Bielski (Christopher), Elizabeth Twardon (Bruce Israel) and Renee Gilchrist (Mark); grandchildren, Jacqueline Gilchrist-Althouse, Christian Bielski, Emily Bingham,

Elizabeth Bielski and Nicholas Israel; great-grandchildren, Kamdyn and Kamryn Bingham, with twin Bingham on the way, and Ava Althouse; and two nieces, a nephew and their extended families.

She was predeceased by her brother, Mitchell Engelhardt; sister-in-law, Josephine Engelhardt; and surrogate war-survivor sister, Eva Bielski.

Family hour will take place at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 16, with an 11 a.m. funeral Mass at Gesu Catholic Church, 17180 Oak, Detroit. Inurnment will follow at Elmwood Cemetery in Detroit.

**Dorothy Dettlinger**

Dorothy Dettlinger, 86, passed away Monday, Feb. 5, 2024. She was a former resident of Grosse Pointe.

"Dottie" was born Nov. 4, 1937, to John and Corinne Petrosky. She graduated from Grosse Pointe University School in 1956, and attended the University of Colorado and Western Michigan University. Her lifelong work was raising her four children and creating a welcoming home for family and friends. After raising her family in Grosse Pointe, she retired to Burt Lake and Metamora. She was involved with the Junior League of Detroit and Daughters of the American Revolution. In her later years, she hosted quilting groups in her homes and made quilts for hospitals and veterans.

Dottie was an avid traveler and took many trips to Europe with her husband, Bill. She loved the arts and was a prize-winning quilter and an accomplished painter. Dottie enjoyed home decorating and refurbished homes that became memorable gathering places for her children and grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her parents; husband, Bill; great-granddaugh-

ter, Audrey Eckert; and brother, Dale Petrosky. She is survived by her daughters, Darby Paddock (Anthony) and Dayle O'Keefe (John); sons, John and Peter (Peggy); grandchildren, Raleigh Eckert (Robert), Drew Dettlinger (Stephanie), Madison Dettlinger, Mackenzie Ruffcorn (Michael), Molly Paddock, Zach Dettlinger (Eugenie), Gretchen Carter (Austin) and Emmett and Addison O'Keefe; and great-grandchildren, Albert and Oliver Eckert and Jack and Barrett Dettlinger.

A private family service will be held in May at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. She will be laid to rest at the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church columbarium.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society, gpaas.org/donate.

**Peter B. Ebner**

Peter B. Ebner, 95, of St. Clair Shores, passed away Friday, Feb. 9, 2024, at home. He was a former resident of Cleveland, Ohio, and Buffalo, N.Y.

Peter was born in Buffalo, to Leo and Marie Ebner. He attended the University of Buffalo and worked as a self-employed real estate appraiser. He served in the U.S. Navy as a lieutenant in the Korean War.

Peter enjoyed spending time with his family, DIYing, completing home projects and volunteering at St. Ann Parish (now Communion of Saints) in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

He was predeceased by his wife, Jean (nee Hochheimer); and sister, Marcia Rindfuss. He is survived by his daughter, Laura Vary (Bill); sons, Peter M. Ebner (Susan) and Brian Ebner (Joan); as well as eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services took place at Our Lady Star of the Sea and he will be laid to rest in Resurrection Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, olsos.org/give.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

See OBITS, page 6B

# Worship Service



**Saint Ambrose Catholic Church**  
15020 Hampton  
Grosse Pointe Park,  
Michigan 48230-1302

**Masses**  
Saturday Vigil — 4:00 p.m. ☞  
Sunday — 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.  
Tuesday — 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday — 7:00 p.m.  
Friday — Noon

(313) 822-2814 • stambrosechurch.net • facebook.com/stambroseparish  
☞ Saturday Vigil is streamed online at 8:00 a.m. Sunday on our facebook page

**St. Michael's Episcopal Church**  
*sharing the Light of Christ*

February 18 ~ First Sunday in Lent  
*Come as you are,  
for God's embrace is wide*  
Sunday Worship at 10 am  
*followed by Coffee Hour in the parish hall*

20475 Sunningdale Park  
Grosse Pointe Woods 313.884.4820  
stmichaelsgpw.org

**Christ the King Lutheran Church and Preschool**  
Mack at Lochmoor • 884-5090  
www.christthekinggp.org

SUNDAY  
8:30 a.m. - Bible Study  
9:30 a.m. - Worship Service  
Sunday School - During Service

WEDNESDAY  
10 a.m. - Bible Study  
7 p.m. - Worship Service

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

**Grosse Pointe Congregational Church**  
(United Church of Christ)

**Worship Sunday at 10:00 am**  
**Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver**  
*An Open & Affirming Church*  
240 Chalfonte G.P. Farms  
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WE HAVE AN ARTS MINISTRY

## 6B | FEATURES

## OBITS:

Continued from page 5B

## Elaine Zimmerman Peck

Elaine Elizabeth Zimmerman Peck, 91, died peacefully Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2024, in Grosse Pointe, surrounded by family.

Elaine was born June 30, 1932, in Grosse Pointe, to Mary Campion Zimmerman and George Herbert Zimmerman. She graduated from the Covenant of the Sacred Heart and received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Duke University in 1953, majoring in history and English. After graduation, she started as a paralegal in New York City and then moved back to Grosse Pointe and married Rankin Phillip Peck Jr., in 1956. She had four wonderful children, Sheila, George, Lisa and Jennifer, to whom she passed along her competitive spirit. Rankin P. Peck Jr., her husband of 56 years, passed away in 2013, after many years of happiness together.

Elaine had many passions, from fast cars to tennis, golf and sailing. She was an accomplished tennis player who enjoyed the competition and played with many friends and family. She won the Michigan State Mother Daughter Tournament with her daughter, Sheila, and also played in the Mother Daughter National Tournament in Narragansett, R.I., where they ranked No. 6 in the country. She passed on her passion for tennis to her family and organized many local charitable tournaments, including Tennis and Crumpets. Later in life, she had time for more golf at St. Andrews Club in Delray Beach, Fla., where she registered two holes-in-



Elaine Zimmerman Peck

up for an adventure. Elaine was blessed to have had two of her eight grandchildren, Peter and Caroline, grow up next door, which kept her very busy. She also traveled out of town to enjoy her other grandchildren's religious activities, graduations, athletic and cultural achievements.

In addition to St. Andrews Club, she was a member of the Grosse Pointe Club, Country Club of Detroit and The Little Club in Delray Beach.

Elaine is survived by her sister, Doris Bato; brother, Louis Zimmerman; and daughters, Sheila (Timothy Pettee), Lisa (Douglas Cruikshank) and Jennifer (Richard Russell); son, George Rankin Peck (Vickie Phipps); and grandchildren, George, Alexander, Elizabeth Pettee, Katherine Pettee Hickey (John Hickey), Peter and Caroline Eckrich and Lindsey O'Reilly Cruikshank and Robert Peck Cruikshank, as well as many nieces and nephews. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

She was predeceased by her parents, Mary and George H. Zimmerman; sisters, Jessie Hitchens and Georgia Loftus; and other family members, Theresa Anne Hitchens and Brian Peck.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 23, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Visitation begins at 9:30 a.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to Catholic Foundation of Michigan, St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236. Write "St. Paul Preservation Endowment Fund, in memory of Elaine Z. Peck" in the memo line.

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# Attorney, former police officer teaches constitutional policing

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

Grosse Pointe native Tom Martinelli is a former Detroit police officer who currently works as an independent training consultant for the Institute for Intergovernmental Research, in conjunction with the Bureau of Justice Assistance. He addresses legal issues, risk management and liability training, legal and ethical concerns, as well as presents constitutional issues at law enforcement training conferences.

In short, he's a constitutional policing advocate and police ethicist who speaks to members of the law enforcement community across the country. His message? How to be a good cop.

"I train chiefs and commanders of intelligence units how to constitutionally gather, retain and disseminate personally identifying information on suspected citizens," he said, noting he's on the training teams for the Intelligence Commander's Course, Criminal Intelligence Sharing, Protecting Privacy, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties and Narcotics Management Training.

Having traveled for this post since 2007, the pandemic and subsequent lockdown put a damper on his presentations — but also inspired him to reach people a different way.

"During the COVID shutdown, I didn't know when I'd get back on road to train," he said.

Then his colleagues urged him to format his training into a book.

"Deterring Unconstitutional Policing: What all cops, civic leaders and citizens should know for improving police community interactions and reducing civil liability" was published May 2021.

"I take cases and read between the lines," he said.

The book includes chapters about noble policing, in regard to character, constitutional limitations, accountability and respect; intelligence-led policing; subcultural pathologies on and off duty; de-escalation; oath-based policing and more.

"It's for academy recruits, about the character in policing," he said. "It's a template for how to expect police officers to act. It's for undergraduate criminal justice students, but also for citizens. We all know what we expect from our police, but we find it difficult to verbalize what that is. ... Constitutional policing is professional policing served legally, humanely, ethically and respectfully. It's how we expect all officers to treat our citizens."

The material, he said, reminds officers of the oath they took — to protect, preserve, support and defend constitutional rights.

"We don't train our officers in that," he said. "We say the words, but we don't explain them. The book explains them."

Martinelli's 10-page CV proves he's knows what he's talking — and writing — about.

He held several positions in the Detroit Police Department while attending law school. Though he eventually left the department, he maintained a law practice for 25 years.

"I retired as a probate lawyer," he said. "My passion has always been policing. I'm from a family of cops and lawyers — and I'm both."

Martinelli added a master's degree in police conduct to his resume and, "That's when it started," he said. "I use my legal background to educate and empower police officers on what not to do.

"They say you can't really teach cops morality or ethics; they either have strong morals or they don't," he continued. "I give case samples of officers who have egregious misconduct and



COURTESY PHOTOS

Tom Martinelli

tell them what not to do. This has been my passion since grad school."

A member of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Martinelli's training is federally funded and offered free around the country. He also is a longtime contributor to The Police Chief magazine, belongs to the Midwestern Criminal Justice Association and is an adjunct professor of criminal justice at Wayne State University.

"We're trying to get away

from 1980s policing mentality — the war on drugs, the war on crime," Martinelli said. "Police officers in a 'war' dehumanizes the citizens we swore to serve. It's 'us vs. them' or 'me vs. him.' That's the problem we're having. We want to de-escalate, step back, pause to assess the situation — de-escalate the situation and de-escalate self.

"... Our fight as police trainers ... is to change the mindset and culture of policing," he added. "We're working with those in our communities. Without assistance from folks in the community, we'd never be able to stop crime or prevent crime. It's about integrity. You have to have character and trustworthiness to process integrity. To process integrity, cops can't lie. That's all you have is your word. We give you a gun, we give you a badge, now live up to those expectations."

Martinelli said his mission is an uphill battle, but one he embraces.

He has given his lecture at universities in the Midwest and sent his book to several academies.

"There are officers who want to read this," he said. "The only way to make the industry better is to acknowledge the issues and change the mindset.

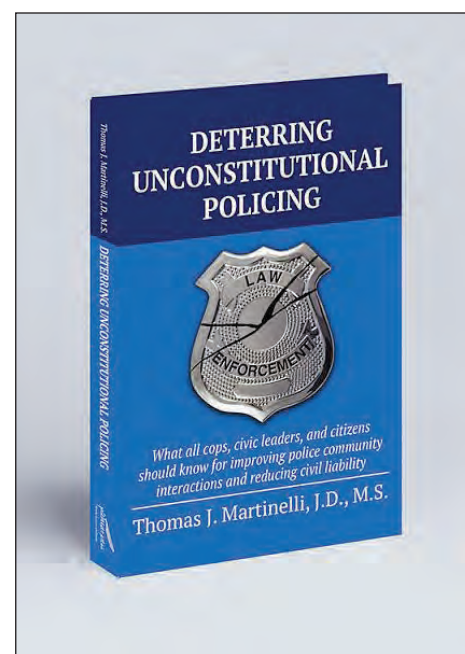
"This reinvigorates why they became a police officer," he added. "It reminds you of your vocation. You don't become a cop to become rich or powerful. You become a cop to protect and serve."

Martinelli is available to speak locally. He would embrace the opportunity to share his message in his hometown. The Grosse Pointe South High School graduate grew up in the City of Grosse Pointe.

Those interested may contact him online at thomasjmartinelli.com. His book also is available on amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com.

"I'm just trying to get the message out," he said. "I'm not defending the police. I'm training them to be better, to educate them and empower them.

"... I want to give hope to citizens we serve through training and through the book," he added. "I hope citizens read the book, the police stories in there, and highlight them, dog ear them and give the book to their mayor or city council member and say, 'This is what we want in our police department.'"



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BOB GRAMBO

## Ongoing support

From left, Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary Club President Sherrie Jones, Past President Paul Stockmann and Club Administrator Dennis Hyduk, during the club's Jan. 30 meeting at Ford House. Stockmann received the Paul Harris pin at the meeting, in recognition of his continued financial support to the Rotary Foundation.



## Upcoming at The War Memorial

The War Memorial Development Manager Meredith Hanoian, left, was welcomed by Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary Club President Sherrie Jones during the club's Jan. 30 meeting at Ford House. Hanoian updated attendees about the renowned history of The War Memorial, as well as activities and events coming this year. Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary Club members extend an open invitation to residents to join its Tuesday morning presentations at 7 a.m. For information, email dennis.rotary1591@gmail.com.



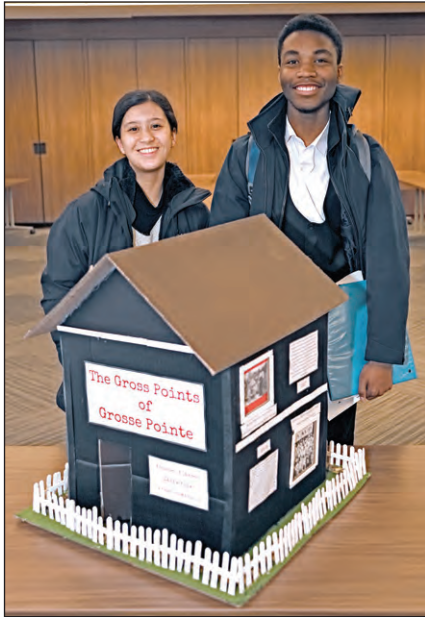
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PHOTOS BY  
 RENEE LANDUYT

**"The Gross Points of Grosse Pointes" was created by University Liggett School students Teresa Romanelli and Zaire Polk. Not pictured is classmate Annabel Klaasen, who also worked on the project.**



## Maire students fly through history

By Ted O'Neil  
 Staff Writer

A picture of a vintage airplane and its accompanying plaque hanging in the office at Maire Elementary School turned Sarah Neely's second-grade class into mini historians.

"Maire is just a treasure trove of historical facts," Neely said. "We took a walk around the school and the kids started asking questions about the picture."

What they found turned into a project that was presented at the first Grosse Pointe History Day Wednesday, Feb. 7, at Ford House. The event was coordinated by the Grosse Pointe Learning Collaborative.

The group, formed in 2023, is a partnership between University Liggett School, Grosse Pointe Historical Society, The War Memorial, Ford House, The Grosse Pointe Academy, Grosse Pointe Public Library and Grosse Pointe News, focused on local history.

"One of the big initiatives of the group was to do this local event so students could showcase their findings," Neely said. "And local history is a big focus of social studies in second grade."

The plane in question was "The Old Gray Maire," flown by Grosse Pointe Woods resident Lionel Montagne in World War II. The project was titled "In Our Small Way: How Maire Students Helped in WWII."

During the 1940s, Maire participated in a program run by the U.S. Treasury Department called "Schools at War," in which students set goals to sell stamps and bonds to support the war effort. Maire received the picture and plaque that have hung in the office since 1945. Schools had to raise \$3,000 to have a plane named for it.

The plane Montagne flew as a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army Air Corps was a Stinson L-5

ambulance plane, often referred to as a "flying Jeep." It was used to deliver personnel or supplies to the front lines and return carrying wounded soldiers.

"It was built in Wayne County and the school is in Wayne County, so they chose a pilot from here as well," Neely said.

Montagne, 103, was able to attend the event at Ford House.

"It was fantastic," he said. "It brought back a lot of memories and it was nice to meet the kids."

The students all wrote letters to Montagne and gifted him with a Maire T-shirt and sweatshirt.

A letter to the editor from Montagne's mother that appeared in the Grosse Pointe News Feb. 22, 1945, related his appreciation based on a letter he wrote to her.

"Those kids will never know how happy I am to get a plane sponsored by them," he wrote. "It just helps my heart feel good. All day I've worked on it, looking it over. It's perfect."

As part of the project, the students created a video, which can be seen at [shorturl.at/asxI6](http://shorturl.at/asxI6) that begins with a countdown and music reminiscent of the newsreels shown before movies during the war that kept the public updated. It also features pictures of Montagne with the plane and video of his 94th birthday party, during which he talks about his capabilities.

It also has a recording of Montagne taken last month, in which he says, "Thank you, thank you, thank you. I was



COURTESY PHOTO

**From left, Maire second-grade teacher Sarah Neely, student Ronan Gallery and Lionel Montagne at the first Grosse Pointe History Day.**

tickled when I found out Maire school represented me with the plane," adding that he thought about it "every hour" while in Europe.

Neely said the class was able to do research via a book written in 1986, marking the school's 50th anniversary titled "Maire Through the Ages." She also noted the Montagne family was a big help in providing photos and background information.

Like so many stories from World War II, Montagne signed up for the U.S. Army Air Corps. after Pearl Harbor was attacked.

"I had a low draft number so I was going one way or another," he

laughed.

Montagne had two brothers, also pilots, in the U.S. Marine Corps. The three got married within weeks of each other in December 1945. He was married to Ellen 52 years, with whom he raised several children. He's been married 22 years to Helena.

Montagne graduated from University of Detroit High School, then took night classes after the war at University of Detroit Mercy on the GI Bill, eventually retiring from Chevrolet after 42 years in materials handling.

"I have to give the Jesuits credit," he said. "They gave me a good education."

## History Day winners

The following projects won in their respective divisions at the first Grosse Pointe History Day, coordinated by the Grosse Pointe Learning Collaborative. Students had a choice of medium, picking from a documentary, exhibit, paper, performance or website. The theme was "Turning Points in History." Students from University Liggett School, The Grosse Pointe Academy and Maire Elementary School participated.

### Junior Division

"Henry Ford and the Auto Race"  
 Jacob Rabbani  
 Yuri Polnyi  
 Luca Rossi  
 8th grade, Liggett

"The Creation of Ford's Assembly Line"  
 Gisele El Etreby  
 Morgan Montagne  
 8th grade, Liggett

"The Detroit Institute for Children"  
 Alexis Harrington  
 Max Martin  
 Norah Hill  
 8th grade, Liggett

### Youth Division

"River Raisin and the War of 1812"  
 Elliott Hemler  
 4th grade, Liggett

"African American Experience in Grosse Pointe"  
 Oliver Lindow  
 Reagan Rochert  
 5th grade, The Grosse Pointe Academy

"Dr. MLK Speech"  
 Wilson Davis  
 Katherine Jerome  
 Elizabeth Osten  
 5th grade, The Grosse Pointe Academy

"French Heritage in GP including Ribbon Farms"  
 Alia Jenkins  
 Julianna Zuk  
 Mason Krasnicki  
 5th grade, The Grosse Pointe Academy

"The War Memorial; World War I, World War II, and Grosse Pointers"  
 Stella Milo  
 Riley Kimmel  
 Collin Bank  
 5th grade, The Grosse Pointe Academy

"Women's Suffrage in GP"  
 Blair Wright  
 Kendall Butler  
 8th grade, Liggett

### Senior Division

"Dr. Ossian Sweet"  
 Elliott Karr  
 10th grade, Liggett

"In What Ways Does the Introduction of the Assembly Line and Five Dollar Work Day Represent a Turning Point in History?"  
 Leighton Maltby  
 Lucy Wujek  
 Landon Maltby  
 Enzo Rossi  
 10th grade, Liggett

"In What Ways Did the Riot in 1967 Represent a Turning Point in History?"  
 Constantina Bournias  
 10th grade, Liggett

"The 1968 Tigers"  
 Liam Kurtz  
 10th grade, Liggett

"The Gross Points of Grosse Pointe"  
 Zaire Polk  
 Teresa Romanelli  
 Annabel Klaasen  
 10th grade, Liggett



Above, Liggett students Enzo Rossi, Leighton Maltby, Collette Peabody and Lucy Wujek. Rossi, Maltby, Wujek and Landon Maltby created, "In What Ways Does the Introduction of the Assembly Line and Five Dollar Work Day Represent a Turning Point in History." Peabody created "The Detroit Assembly Line" project. Right, Liggett students Blaire Wright and Kendall Butler worked on "Women's Suffrage in GP."



## SWEET MOMENTS AT FORD HOUSE

### Maple Syrup: Tapped, Shaken, and Served

March 7

Be captivated by the history and craftsmanship behind making maple syrup as you observe the boiling process firsthand at our wood-fired syrup evaporator. Indulge your taste buds with tantalizing syrup tastings at various stages of production.

Cap off the experience with specially crafted maple syrup-inspired cocktails and cozy warm beverages.

### Family Workshop: Maple Syrup

March 9

Discover the magic of maple syrup-making at Ford House! Join us for an experience exploring the art of tapping trees and crafting that delicious syrup we all love.

From learning the perfect time of year to tap a tree to witnessing the journey from sap to syrup, it's an adventure for the whole family!

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GET TICKETS

# Grosse Pointe Gabby

The Pulse Of The Pointes



## Artistic endeavor needs to reward friendly assistance

**Dear Gabby:** About a year ago I showed a friend of mine some art pieces I was working on. She loved them so much, she bought several and then offered a lot of advice about how to market them, etc. It was a bit much if you ask me, but after some cajoling I wound up starting a pretty successful Etsy shop.

Recently, she asked to bring some potential buyers to my home to

view my work. Well, they bought just about everything I had to sell.

Afterward, she basically suggested that I owe her for helping start the business and bringing over paying customers—in the form of a free or discounted piece. I think this is off-base and rude. Am I wrong? — Painter in the Park

**Dear Painter,**

Congratulations on

your business! Being able to make money doing what you love is certainly a gift.

Regarding this friend, though I do not love the idea of someone being so bold, I feel she is completely correct. Did it not occur to you to thank your friend for all she has done to help you? If I'm reading this right, she essentially bought your work, encouraged you to make a business out of it

(which proved successful) and then landed several more sales in your lap. If you have not already thought of something kind to offer in return, I think you better start thinking.

— Gabby

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

## Family strains and friend flakes

**DEAR ANNIE:** My husband and I are both in our second marriages, and we've been together nearly 27 years. I have no children. He has two grown sons. The younger one has lived with us since he was 11 years old. The older one was 17 when I moved in, and he decided to live with his mother instead of staying with us.

Somehow, he resents both me and his brother, even though I have been nothing but welcoming to him.

Over the years, he has lashed out with hateful words and actions.

At one point, he told his father and me that we

were not welcome in his home and wouldn't allow us to see his children. This rift lasted many years until, finally, everyone made up. Things were good for a while and then fell apart again.

I've decided I've had enough of this toxic relationship. His brother as well as his grown children have no relationship with him. And now

neither do I. The problem is, this is creating tension in my marriage, putting a wedge between me and my husband and causing a lot of arguments. My husband is the only family member who keeps in touch with him. He remarried sev-

eral years ago and is expecting a baby. My husband wants me to let bygones be bygones and forgive him. I have forgiven him; I just don't want a relationship with him. I don't know how to resolve this situation, and I would truly appreciate your advice. — SEEKING SERENITY

**DEAR SEEKING:** You've been through the wringer dealing with the older son's drama, and wanting to take a step back from the toxicity is understandable.

It sounds like your husband is holding onto hope for a family reunion that might never happen.

Having a heart-to-heart about your boundaries is key here. Let him know it's not about holding a grudge but about protecting your own mental health.

Consider bringing in a professional, like a counselor, to navigate this conversation. You're not alone in wanting a drama-free life. Your next step is communicating this with your husband.

**DEAR ANNIE:** My dear friend is turning into a chronic flake, constantly canceling plans at the last minute with vague excuses. It's becoming a bit of a pattern, and truth be told,



## Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

it's hurting my feelings. I can feel the resentment building up.

How do I address this without turning it into a full-blown fight? I genuinely want to keep her friendship, but these constant cancellations are really getting on my nerves. — FLAKED ON AND FRUSTRATED

**DEAR FLAKED ON:** Honesty is the best policy here. Share that you value your connection and want

to understand what's going on. It could be that life is throwing curveballs her way. Remember, relationships that weather storms often come out stronger.

An open conversation might bring clarity and even end up strengthening your bond.

*Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.*

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# CHILLY FEST

Photo story by Renee Landuyt

Grosse Pointe Park hosted its fourth annual Chilly Fest Feb. 10, in the Grosse Pointe Park business district on Kercheval and Charlevoix. The event included food trucks, rock climbing, a carnival ride, bed race demonstration, plastic fish toss, fowling and more.



Simone Keagle and Elitta Abousleiman had a blast on the Dixie Twister swing ride.



Jaxson Knapik walks away with confidence after getting the inflatable ax to stick to the target.



Jad Awan looks up at the rock climbing tower to see how high he has to climb.



Frieda Linford competes in the frozen fish toss to see how far she can toss the plastic fish. She made it at least 30 feet.



Ben and Charlie Steiger had fun knocking down pins while fowling, which is using a football to bowl.

# We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



When readers suggest a product to test, we listen. Recently we received a plea to try a cult-favorite product called Osea Undaria Algae body oil.

Sounds sort of ... gross. Doesn't it? But could thousands of high reviews lie? Would Victoria Beckham tout a product that charged \$50 (for a medium-sized bottle) if it didn't work? We wanted to find out.

Osea products are available online through the company itself, as well as Ulta and other beauty sites.

The company is dedicated to using products

from the sea for a few reasons: First, because of the super rich vitamins, minerals and nutrients in seaweed and second, because it's clean and sustainable.

Osea has many products, but the one we were asked to try specifically is an after-bath or shower oil that comes in a pump bottle. Though you can use it on dry skin, it is highly recommended for damp skin.

First off, the smell is so clean and soft, yet delicious. It gets a 10 out of 10 for scent. Second, it's an oil, but it's not as greasy as, say, baby oil or



coconut oil. So it gets a 10 out of 10 for consistency.

Several of us used it post-shower and immediately saw and felt glowing, hydrated, extremely soft skin. The oil seemed to not be oily enough to worry us about ruining our clothing; however, caution is in order if you're slipping into something like a silk dress. You never know.

The super-hydrated and moisturized feeling lasted at least half the day and overall our skin felt much better and less crepey in general for a full 24 hours.

With repeated use, all

agreed the benefits were well worth the price tag of (gulp) \$50 for five ounces. After about a week or two of use, there was hardly a dent in the bottle, so a little does seem to go a long way.

According to a survey, 100 percent of users felt they had improved skin elasticity and moisturization, 98 percent agreed their skin looked smoother and 100 percent agreed it made their skin more firm — among many other extremely favorable ratings. We agree.

Osea body oil is the real deal. The price is high,

but it makes a great gift. We are giving it a 4.5 out of 5 alligators — only knocking it down for the high price. This is no ordinary oil. You can find Osea at oseamalibu.com.

*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.*



# Mexican night

## Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

My kids and I love taco night. It's a staple in our house when my husband is away.

Ground beef, loads of sour cream and lettuce and tomatoes. We all fight over the taco sauce perfectly drizzled over a hard shell.

Alas, on those nights when we crave it and dad is back, I have to come up with an alternate solution that everyone is happy with. I've found the way to my husband's heart is with pork. So, carnitas are here for the win.

Pork shoulder is slowly cooked until fork tender and then shredded. It's marinated with cumin, oregano and lots of orange juice.

After it's shredded, it's placed under the broiler just for a bit so the edges crisp up. It's crispy and tender and a perfect addition to a warm flour tortilla.

I like to serve this with

a homemade pico de gallo. I use grape tomatoes, onions, cilantro and lots of lime juice. These are simple ingredients that brighten up the flavor of the heavy meat.

Also, I actually slow cooked the pork the day before so all I had to do was crisp it the next day.

This recipe freezes well and could be used for anything. My twins prefer it over rice. Try it and stock your freezer with it when you don't feel like cooking. It's currently \$1.99 per pound at Costco.

Cheers, Mombeau

### Carnitas (Slow Cooker Mexican Pulled Pork)

4lbs pork shoulder

1 tbsp ground oregano

2 tsp cumin

2 tsp salt

1 tsp pepper

4 garlic cloves, minced

2 bay leaves

1 onion

¾ cup orange juice (2 large oranges juiced)

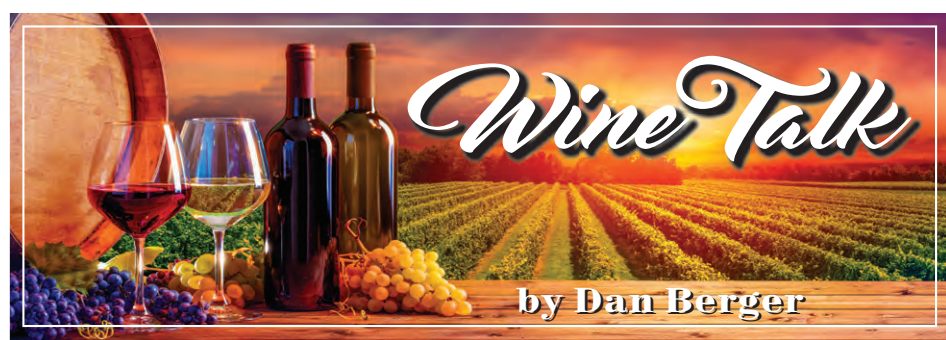
Start by cutting the pork into two inch chunks and rub it with the oregano, cumin, salt and pepper. Place in the slow cooker along with the garlic, sliced onion and orange juice. Cook on high for seven hours. Remove the bay leaves.

Shred the pork, once fork tender and add the meat to a parchment lined baking sheet. Save some of the fat to help crisp under the broiler.

Broil the meat for two to three minutes or until the edges are browned and crisp. Serve in warm tortillas with a fresh element such as pico de gallo.



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON



# Delicate white wines

Just 40 years ago, wine was a kind of hit-or-miss beverage. But times change, and today almost every wine we see on the retail shelf or in a restaurant is perfectly sound.

Spoilage was so rampant in the 1970s that experts were employed at most upscale restaurants to make certain that the wines being purchased were sound and free of imperfections.

Even though Louis Pasteur had investigated the principles of fermentation in the mid-1850s for decades after, some aspects of alcoholic fermentation were still not widely understood. But scientists made huge strides in this area, and clean, fault-free wine today is a result.

The proof is in the development of excellent

delicate white wines, which decades ago were wildly inconsistent.

For centuries it was true that red wines were revered far more than whites. Today, some of



the finest wines in the world are light whites that offer flavors we never saw in the past.

That's because winemaking is improving, and most wineries now have modern equipment

that handles the fruit more gently, protecting it from the ravages of air and keeping it fresher and livelier than it's ever been.

Most of today's white wines need no aging at all—they are simply delightful when fresh and young. Most whites benefit from being served cool; if served too cold, white wines' subtle aromas can be stunned into submission.

One of the most dramatic examples of great charm in white wines is the development of great sauvignon blanc. Once called poor man's chardonnay, sauvignon blanc was badly handled and often aged in oak, and the wines were erratic and not very tasty.

Beginning in the late

1990s, a wave of great sauvignon blancs from New Zealand began to be seen in the United States that displayed a grassy or gooseberry sort of aroma and were crisp enough to work with lighter foods.

Now that style has been widely adopted by hundreds of California wineries. Among the brands that now do stellar work with SB are Hanna, Dry Creek, St. Supery, Matanzas Creek, Quivira, Rodney Strong and Robert Mondavi.

Years ago, pinot grigio and its U.S. counterpart pinot gris were lackluster whites with little flavor, but numerous California wineries now make great examples.

Perhaps the best "new" wine to hit the market is the rebirth of riesling in America. Riesling is now being made better than ever, and we are seeing terrific rieslings from many states, primarily Washington and New York, but also Ohio, Michigan and Oregon.

Italian white wines once were considered to be so erratic because of bad equipment.

However, Italy today makes some of the finest white wines in the world, including some made from Trebbiano, a grape variety that has

been widely planted throughout Italy for a century, but rarely was seen outside of its own country.

### Wine of the Week:

2021 Colle Chiocco Trebbiano Spoletino (\$30): This is a superb grape when it is handled properly.

This example is bright, citrus-y and tropical,

with a lemon-oil finish. It is dry but still lightly succulent: a delight! It's available primarily at <https://www.chigazola-merchants.com>.

*To find out more about Sonoma County resident Dan Berger, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com). COPYRIGHT 2023 CREATORS.COM.*

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Grosse Pointe News BEST of the BEST 2023

4C | LIFE & LEISURE



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PATHÉ PRESENTS, BBC FILMS AND LEFT BANK PICTURES

Left, Keira Knightley as Sally Alexander and Jessie Buckley as Jo Robinson in the 2020 movie "Misbehaviour," directed by Philippa Lowthorpe.

**MOVIE REVIEW**  
 "Misbehaviour"  
 2020 - Not Rated  
 1 hr 46 min  
 ★★★★★

"Misbehaviour" tells the story of the birth of the women's movement, set against the backdrop of the Miss World competition in London, England, in 1970. It's an engaging tale told, appropriately, by women.

This engaging film was directed by Philippa Lowthorpe, known chiefly for her TV work, which includes "Call the Midwife" and "The Crown," and penned by Rebecca Fay and Gaby Chiappe.

The three leads, Keira Knightley, Jessie Buckley, and Gugu Mbatha-Raw help make it a memorable movie-viewing experience.

The film opens with three significant snapshots. We see Bob Hope (Greg Kinnear) on stage entertaining the troops in Vietnam, as part of the USO tour. The world's most unfunny comedian delivers a series of sexist, misogynist one-liners that displays just how clueless he is.

We witness a discussion of the ideal measurements for participants in the Miss World event.

Then we see Sally Alexander (Knightley), a 27-year-old divorced mother as she's interviewing to be a graduate student at university. The panel is all men, the old boy's network typical of academia at that time. It's these narratives that are the backbone of the movie.

As the events unfold leading up to the compe-

testion, there are issues that need resolving.

Eric Morley (Rhys Ifans) and his wife Julia (Keeley Hawes) are the organizers and they're eager to pull off the con-



Left, Keira Knightley as Sally Alexander and Jessie Buckley as Jo Robinson.

test without a hitch.

For the past 20 years, the competition has only included white women. With the world's attention focused on apartheid in South Africa, there's pressure to have black participants. It's almost comical when the solution is to allow two women from that country to enter; a Miss South Africa (white) and a Miss Africa South (black).

A bulk of the story is focused on Ms. Alexander and Jo Robinson (Buckley). Sally is a genteel, buttoned-down indi-

**Movie Junkie Mark**  
 by Mark Domin



vidual who's determined to change the system while working within it. On the other hand, Jo is a fiery, impulsive radical who likes nothing better than to spray graffiti, lead demonstrations and rile up folks.

While the two headstrong women are seemingly at odds with each other, they eventually realize they can accomplish much more by working together.

The movie takes us behind the scenes to reveal the story as it unfolds. We're treated to Bob Hope interacting with his wife Dolores (Lesley Manville). She's

have depicted the women involved in the Miss World contest as a group of giggly, ditzy girls, but it does the opposite. It presents them as individuals working to get ahead in life through a sexist event whose time had come long ago. It treats them with the dignity they deserve.

Miss Grenada, Jennifer Hosten (Mbatha-Raw) is particularly introspective. One of the most powerful scenes in the movie is also one of the quietest ones. Sally encounters her in the bathroom right after it's announced that she's the winner of the contest. She comments that while it's not the most ideal way to get ahead, her winning can give hope to young girls around the world. Hosten was the first black woman to be crowned Miss World.

All this leads up to the big event — the riotous protest during the contest itself. It's full of well-planned mayhem where you'll practically jump up to egg them on. You almost wish you were there to witness the protest in person. The event is the culmination of one of the initial stages of the women's liberation movement.

While it did lead to significant changes in the world, it also indicates just how much more work needs to be done.

Note to parents: The film is Not Rated but I'd give it a PG-13.

Currently streaming for free on Kanopy and Hoopla (with your library card), and Tubi. Also available 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](https://www.youtube.com).

If you have any suggestions, feel free to email me at: [dominmark@yahoo.com](mailto:dominmark@yahoo.com).

Also, if you're looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: [moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com](http://moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com).



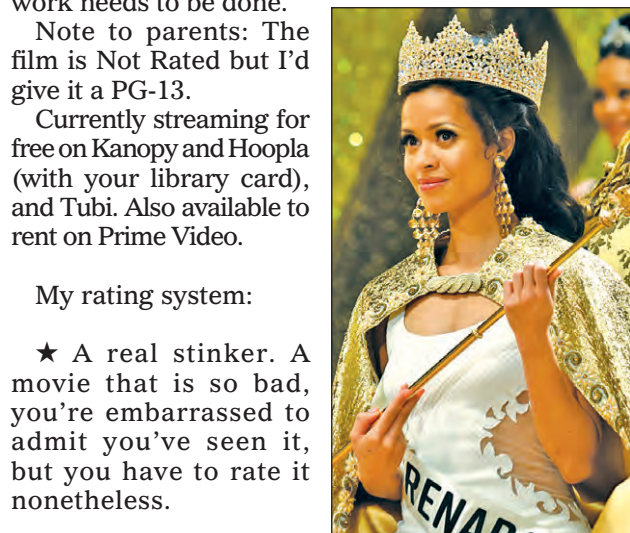
Left, Lesley Manville as Dolores and Greg Kinnear as Bob Hope.



The contestants in the bathing suit competition.



Sally (Knightley) and Miss Grenada (Gugu Mbatha-Raw) share a moment after her victory.



Miss World played by Gugu Mbatha-Raw.



MC Bob Hope played by Greg Kinnear.



Sally (Knightley) taken into custody.

# Royal Stars

## Weekly Horoscopes

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

**Happy Birthday** for Thursday, February 15, 2024:

You're adventurous, enthusiastic and fun. You live life fully, and you value your intellectual freedom. You might renew your religious or spiritual beliefs this year. You might explore certain philosophies, because you want to learn the true meaning of your life. You also might teach someone.

**ARIES**  
(March 21-April 19)

Guard against impulsive decisions that affect your finances or your assets today, because you will be inclined to make an off-the-cuff move that you might later regret. For example, you might spontaneously buy something. Postpone important discussions for another day to avoid arguments. Tonight: Protect your belongings.

**TAURUS**  
(April 20-May 20)

You feel emotional today, which is why you might find yourself at odds with parents, bosses and VIPs. It could be minor stuff; nevertheless, it's unsettling. In fact, later in the day, you might feel downright impulsive. Think before you speak or act. Tonight: Be prepared.

**GEMINI**  
(May 21-June 20)

If you're making travel plans today, leave yourself some wiggle room in case you need to cancel. You might impulsively do something and then later want to change your mind. This also applies to decisions about universities, schooling, the law, medicine and publishing. Tonight: Feeling restless!

**CANCER**  
(June 21-July 22)

Be careful with matters regarding shared property, taxes, debt and inheritances. You might make a fast decision today that impacts these areas. If so, make sure you know what you're doing. Disputes are possible. On the bright side, an unexpected gift might come your way. Tonight: New contacts.

**LEO**  
(July 23-Aug. 22)

People notice you today, and they will certainly notice a public argument. (Stage whispers or loud hissing.) Because of this high-viz quality, do your best to be patient with partners and close friends, even if you feel annoyed. After all, your public is watching. Tonight: A surprise.

**VIRGO**  
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Steer clear of squabbles with co-workers and customers or anything related to your job today. Likewise, quarrels related to a pet or even with health-care workers might arise. Change your routine. Go someplace you've never been before. Tonight: Stay flexible.

**LIBRA**  
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Parents must be patient with their kids today, because it's easy for things to go south in a New York minute. Patience is the key. Likewise, romantic partners must be patient with each other today. This is a glitch that will blow over quickly. Tonight: Check your finances.

**SCORPIO**  
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Today you have to go more than halfway when dealing with others, which means you have to encourage feelings of cooperation within yourself. Be patient especially when

dealing with partners and family members. Tonight: Patience.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You have opinions and thoughts about many things. You are the philosopher of the zodiac. Resist the urge to get into disputes about issues today. Don't take the bait. Instead, focus on potential travel in the future, especially work-related travel. Tonight: Observe.

**CAPRICORN**  
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Parents must be patient with their kids today. This is the only way to keep the peace and your sanity. Likewise, romantic partners must be patient with each other, especially in discussions about shared costs, shared finances and the division of labor. Tonight: Sudden changes.

**AQUARIUS**  
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Four planets are in your sign right now, which is empowering. However, today the Moon, at the bottom of your chart, is at odds with these planets which is why you might be drawn into domestic arguments or disputes that you don't need. Forewarned is forearmed. Tonight: Family surprise.

**PISCES**  
(Feb. 19-March 20)

Disputes with daily contacts, siblings and relatives will be challenging today. Don't get involved. Instead, they will drain you. This is an excellent day to do research or look for answers behind the scenes. Avoid anyone who doesn't have your best interests at heart. Tonight: Change of routine.

**BORN TODAY**  
"The Simpsons" cartoonist Matt Groening (1954), actress Alex Borstein (1971), actor Callum Turner (1990).

Word search puzzle

# Winter



D	G	F	T	S	N	O	W	M	A	N	D	G	O	X
S	F	L	F	K	H	S	A	O	P	H	O	S	Z	B
K	H	O	L	I	D	A	Y	S	V	I	F	L	S	N
P	D	N	G	I	B	D	X	X	F	C	E	E	A	H
A	T	G	I	N	G	E	R	B	R	E	A	D	P	A
A	N	S	O	G	Q	Y	W	S	A	G	H	K	I	T
N	H	O	A	N	P	S	A	F	A	F	P	S	C	A
E	E	D	M	W	I	N	T	E	R	N	G	A	I	G
T	A	Q	Z	R	V	O	G	B	A	F	T	C	C	A
Q	F	R	M	V	F	W	T	S	B	H	F	N	L	R
O	R	E	G	L	D	F	G	K	S	N	O	D	E	A
C	O	L	D	D	F	L	S	H	A	D	L	O	S	J
H	S	M	I	O	Y	A	W	A	D	G	F	E	W	A
M	T	D	G	A	S	K	A	T	I	N	G	S	N	N
F	G	F	A	S	G	E	V	K	A	Z	J	A	P	O

cold skiing sled holidays snowman icicles frost skating winter ice snowflake gingerbread

## Find 10 Differences



## Contract Bridge

GIVE A LITTLE, GAIN A LOT

West dealer.  
East-West vulnerable.

**NORTH**

—  
♥ A J 7 5  
♦ J 9 7 5 2  
♣ 7 4 3 2

**WEST**

♠ Q 10 7 6  
♥ Q 9 4  
♦ A Q 8  
♣ A K 10

**EAST**

♠ K J 9 5 3  
♥ 10 8 6 3  
♦ K 10 6 3  
♣ —

**SOUTH**

♠ A 8 4 2  
♥ K 2  
♦ 4  
♣ Q J 9 8 6 5

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	3 ♣
3 ♠	4 ♣	4 ♠	5 ♣

Dble

Opening lead — six of spades.

Point count is usually a helpful guide to the number of tricks you can take, but it is not a perfect yardstick. Freak distribution can seriously affect the accuracy of high-card point count, particularly in the case of suit contracts.

Consider this deal where South got to five clubs doubled. West had 17 points and probably thought he'd tear that contract to pieces, especially with East having bid twice. But things didn't quite turn out the way he had expected.

West led a spade. Declarer won with

the ace, played the king and another heart, finessing the jack, and discarded his singleton diamond on the ace of hearts.

These four plays established a perfect crossruff position, and South proceeded to take full advantage. He ruffed a diamond, a spade, a diamond, a spade and then a third diamond and a third spade.

Ten tricks had now been played, and declarer had taken them all. West was down to the A-K-10 of trump, and South the Q-J-9. When declarer next led a club to his queen, West could score only two trump tricks, so South wound up making five clubs doubled despite East-West's 24 high-card points!

Observe that the outcome would have been altogether different had West elected to start off with the A-K-10 of clubs. In that event, South would have gone down two.

It should be said parenthetically that there are very good reasons for West to begin by leading three rounds of trump. North-South were obviously bidding on distribution rather than high cards, so West should have taken steps to short-circuit any impending crossruff. Although this was likely to cost West a trump trick, it was highly probable that the trick would come back with interest.

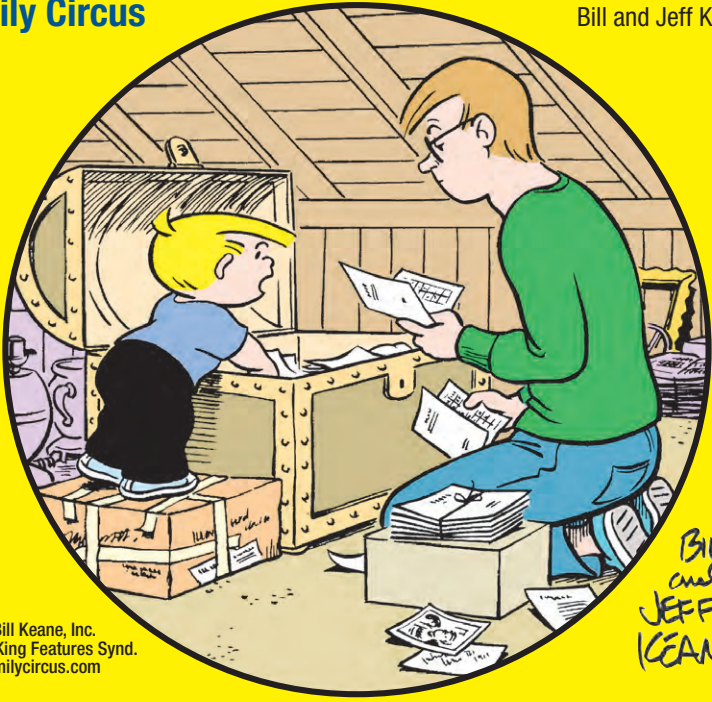
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by Steve Becker

# Puzzles and

## Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



©2024 Bill Keane, Inc. Dist. by King Features Synd. www.familycircus.com

Bill and Jeff Keane

"I can't believe it! You saved all your report cards and not a single baseball card."

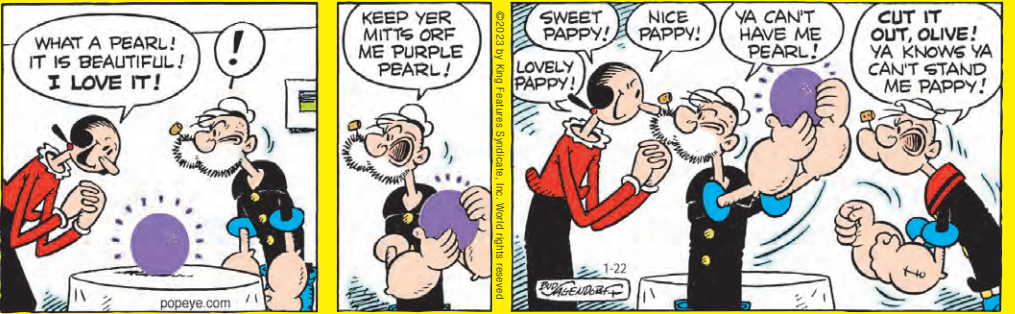
## Garfield

Jim Davis



## Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



## Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



## Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



## Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



## Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



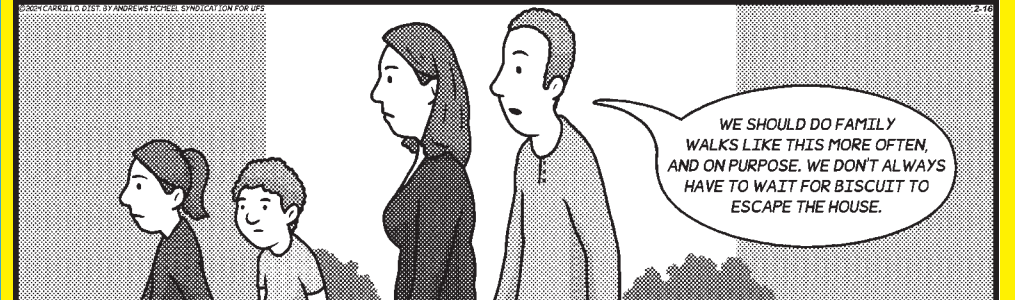
## Wizard of Id

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



## F Minus

Tony Carrilo

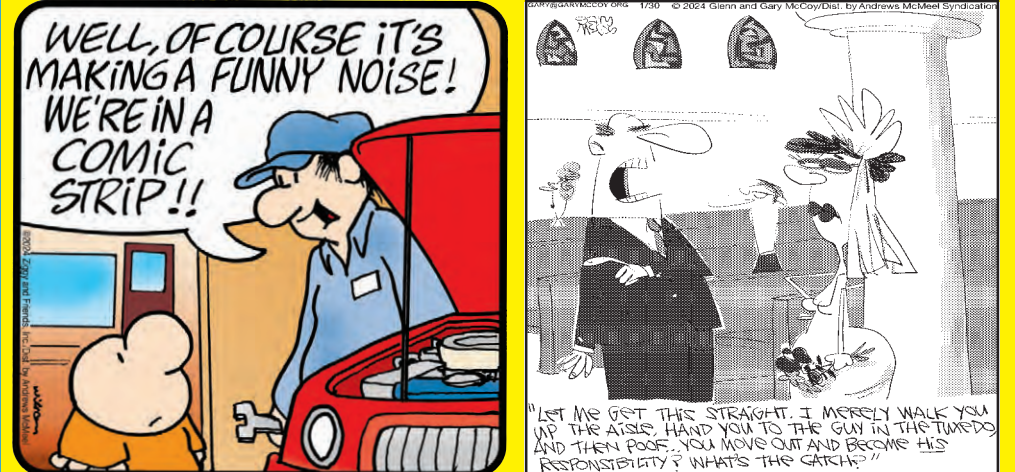


## Ziggy

Tom Wilson

## Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



## UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

### Previous puzzle solution

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

2/15

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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2/8 Solution

## Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg February 15, 2024

### ACROSS

- 1 Artsy L.A. district
- 5 Unfilled, on a TV schedule
- 8 Intoxicating Polynesian drink
- 12 Muscat's country
- 13 "With 16-Across, summer fabric print?"
- 14 "You said it!"
- 15 Give up
- 16 See 13-Across
- 18 Source of zest
- 19 Gets older
- 20 So far
- 21 Genre for videos that evoke tingling
- 22 Church leader
- 24 "Over here!"
- 26 "Spring or fall fabric print?"
- 30 Kind of union
- 33 \_\_\_\_\_ Lilly (company harmed by a fake tweet announcing free insulin)
- 34 Coffee that won't give you a buzz
- 38 Urban cause of some lung issues
- 39 Mainstream music genre
- 40 First, second, third or home
- 41 Unexpected defeat
- 43 Egyptian snake

- 44 Not working perfectly, in slang
- 45 "Winter fabric print?"
- 48 \_\_\_\_\_ Vegas
- 50 "You just made yourself an enemy"
- 51 2024 and others: Abbr.
- 54 Subject of a will
- 56 Soccer star Ramos
- 58 Climates, or the starred clues' answers?
- 62 "Othello" villain
- 63 South Asian yogurt drink
- 64 Rocket launch org.
- 65 Women in \_\_\_\_\_
- 66 Like milk that shouldn't be cried over
- 67 Contacted privately, online

- 9 Sect unlikely to solve this puzzle online
- 10 Cash App alternative
- 11 Prefix with -gynous
- 16 South Asian garment
- 17 Eyelid affliction
- 23 Manual boat
- 25 Propeller
- 25 Repetitive condition, briefly
- 27 Like many Sherpas
- 28 Metaphorical place for one who isn't openly gay
- 29 "Hungry Hungry" animals, in a children's game
- 30 Baton Rouge sch.
- 31 Hype (up)

- 32 Final level, say
- 35 Valentine's Day purchase
- 36 Query
- 37 Comedian Tina
- 42 Word before "paste" or "fairy"
- 44 "Rhythm Nation" singer Jackson
- 46 Potters' spinners
- 47 Sticky note
- 48 Author Carroll
- 49 "Please, \_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_"
- 52 Quickly wash
- 53 "A pity"
- 55 It has a nucleus
- 57 Tear apart
- 59 Genre for Doja Cat
- 60 Letter before 2-Down
- 61 System for the Deaf, briefly

### PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

2/8 Solution

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2/15

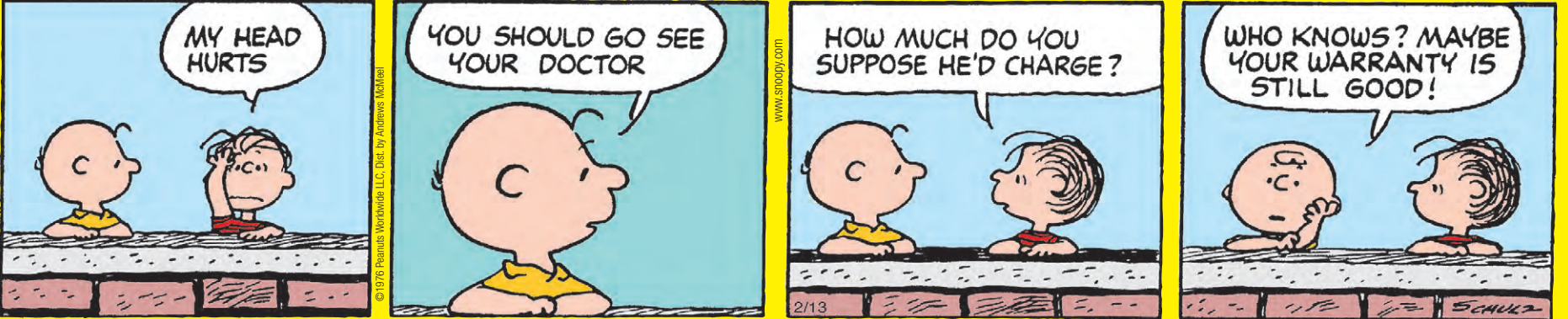
## Fashion Seasons by Spencer Leach and Lila Goldenberg

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11			
12					13				14						
15					16				17						
19					20				21						
22					23				24	25					
					26				27	28	29				
30	31	32							34		35	36	37		
38									39				40		
41									42	43			44		
									45	46			47		
48	49								50				51	52	53
54									55				56	57	
58									59	60	61				
62									63						64
65									66						67

# Comics

## Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



## Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



## Dennis the Menace

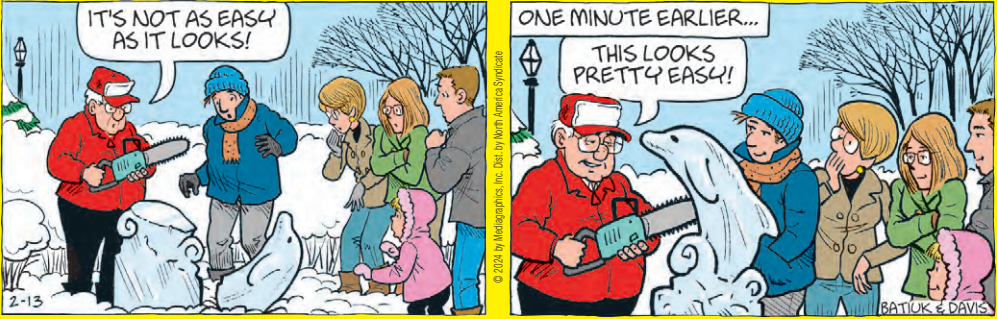
Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



"YES, MONEY LAUNDERING IS ILLEGAL... BUT I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE QUARTER YOU LEFT IN YOUR POCKET."

## Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



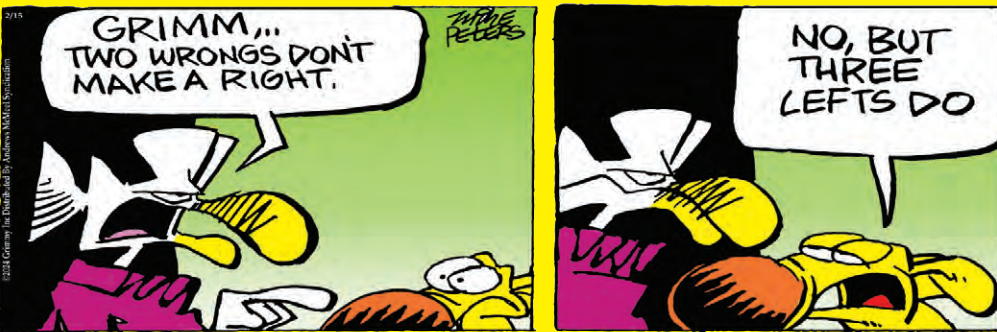
## Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



## Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



## Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



## B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



## Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



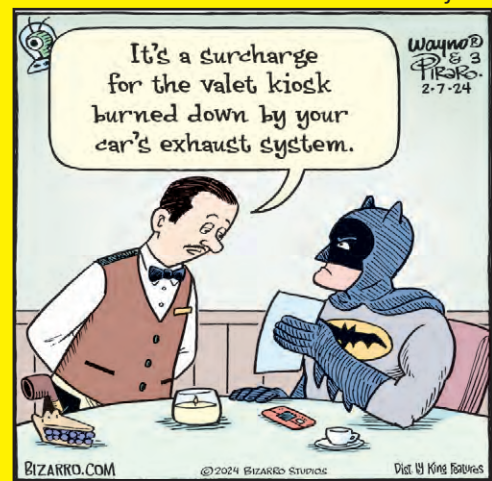
## Reality Check

Dave Whamond



## Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



## The Lockhorns

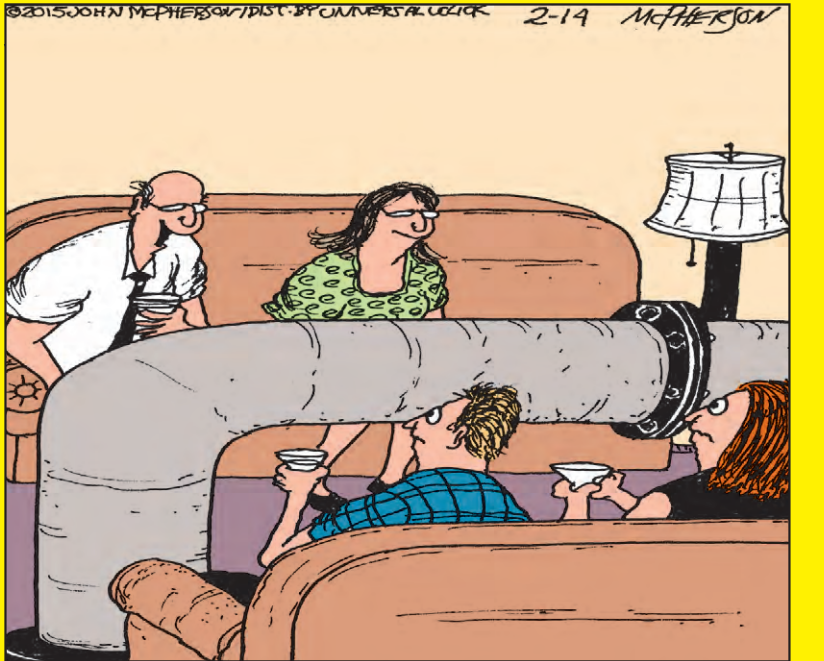
Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



"THIS IS THE THIRD DAY IN A ROW WE'VE HAD YOUR SOUP DU JOUR."

## Close To Home

John McPherson



"The plumber said it was either this or I had to give up chilli nachos forever."

## Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



"One of the main goals of the Neighborhood Watch is to keep an eye out for Marmaduke."

# Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

Get puzzle answers, recipes and more at [www.kidscoop.com](http://www.kidscoop.com)

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**Kid Scoop Together**

## Make a Timeline!

Look at the timeline dates below. Next to each one, write something you learned from today's **Kid Scoop** page on the lines next to each date.

1827 \_\_\_\_\_

1847 \_\_\_\_\_

1861 \_\_\_\_\_

1905 \_\_\_\_\_

1926 \_\_\_\_\_

1952 \_\_\_\_\_

1964 \_\_\_\_\_

## FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH African American Newspapers

### First African American Newspaper

*Freedom's Journal* was the first African American owned and operated newspaper. The newspaper editors said, "Too long have others spoken for us." They wanted to write about and for their fellow African Americans. Starting in 1827, *Freedom's Journal* helped lead the way for other Black-owned newspapers in the 1800s.



**Standards Link:** Read informational text about Black history and journalism.



Cut out each piece and paste the paragraph in the correct order in the space below.

so popular that he became one of African American newspaper. Abbott started the newspaper about \$7.30 today. His paper was In 1905, Robert Abbott founded Chicago's first Black millionaires. with 25¢. That's the same as *The Chicago Defender*. It was an

### 1847

Frederick Douglass started a newspaper called *The North Star* in 1847. This was a newspaper where black people could write about their news, ideas and share opinions.

Use the code to find out what Frederick Douglass said about reading.

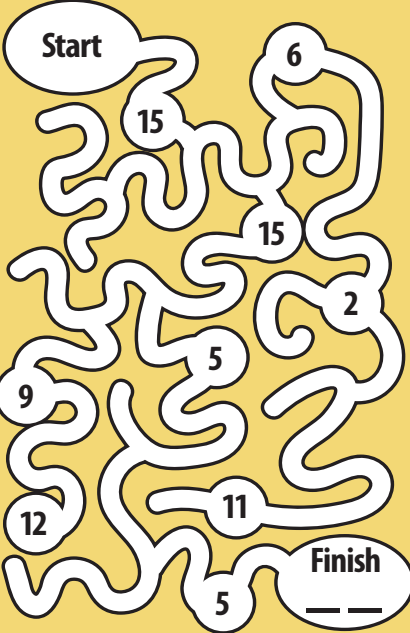
A = 16	E = 12	N = 8	U = 4
B = 15	F = 11	O = 7	V = 3
C = 14	I = 10	R = 6	W = 2
D = 13	L = 9	T = 5	Y = 1

7 8 14 12 1 7 4  
9 12 16 6 8 5 7  
6 12 16 13 1 7 4  
2 10 9 9 15 12  
11 7 6 12 3 12 6  
11 6 12 12

— FREDERICK DOUGLASS

### How many papers?

Add up the numbers on the correct path of the maze to find out how many African American owned and operated newspapers circulated throughout the U.S. in 1861.



**Standards Link:** Read informational text about Black history and journalism.

## SUNDAY CHICAGO BEE

Twenty-one years after Robert Abbott founded *The Chicago Defender*, Anthony Overton, an African American millionaire, started *The Chicago Bee* to compete with *The Chicago Defender*. It was a remarkable business as the staff was mostly women. That was very unusual in 1926. Olive M. Diggs was one of the newspaper's managing editors. Other female editors included Ida B. Wells. She helped start the civil rights organization known as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

What year did Anthony Overton start *The Chicago Bee*?

\_\_\_\_\_

### Simeon Booker Jr.

In 1952, Simeon Booker Jr. became the first Black reporter for a well-known and well-read newspaper that still publishes today. Circle every other letter below to find out the name of this newspaper.

T R H K E U W B A L S V H W I J N  
P G S T R O H N Y P A O N S B T  
T H

Extra! Extra!

### Newspaper ABCs

On one page of the newspaper, find and circle every letter of the alphabet that you can. Then connect the letters to create a design. Color your design and share! Have fun!

**Standards Link:** Language Arts: Follow written instructions.

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

#### 1964

*The Washington Informer* is a weekly newspaper published in Washington, D.C. It is owned by a woman and reports on the African American community in the D.C. area.

The publisher is Denise Rolark Barnes. Her father, Calvin W. Rolark, founded the paper in 1964.

Fill in the missing vowels to find out something special about *The Washington Informer*.

THE WASH \_NGT \_N  
INF \_RM \_R P \_BLISH \_S  
K \_D SC \_ \_P!

**Standards Link:** Language Arts: Spell words correctly.

### Double Double Word Search

BEE  
CENTS  
FREE  
IDEAS  
LEAD  
NEWS  
PAPER  
REPORTER  
RIGHTS  
SHE  
STAFF  
STAR  
TODAY  
WEEKLY  
WRITE

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

S T N E C E G Y T P  
E H S V M S T A F F  
A W U T S L B I F H  
S N Y W A E T Q R S  
T P A P E R Y D E W  
H Q D K D E L A E E  
G V O M I O K E J N  
I N T S Y C R L P V  
R E P O R T E R Y W

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

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### Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **NEWSPAPER**

The noun **newspaper** means paper printed with news, opinions, ads and other information.

A newspaper brings the world into your hands.

Try to use the word **newspaper** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

### FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

#### Analyze the News

Work in teams to measure how many column inches your newspaper devotes to news from different groups of people in your community, such as children, seniors, men, women, people of color, etc. Graph your results.

**Standards Link:** Mathematics: Graph data.

*"The time is always right to do what is right."*

— MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

### Write On! Leadership

What are three things good leaders do? Make a list and explain how each of these things makes a good leader.



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# SPORTS



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PHOTO BY MELISSA SPAIN

Grosse Pointe North varsity wrestling defeated Harper Woods 46-24 Wednesday, Feb. 7, to win its first team district championship since 2013.

## North wins districts, Pointes' wrestlers punch regional tickets

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

The wrestling post-season officially got underway last week, with Grosse Pointe South and Grosse Pointe North beginning the journey to Ford Field and the state finals. The Norsemen and Blue Devils took part in both team and individual district tournaments last week, with North claiming its first district title in more than a decade and wrestlers from both schools securing their spots in the regional round.

**North**  
North entered its

Division 2 team district matchup against Harper Woods last Wednesday, Feb. 7, looking to lift the district trophy as a team for the first time since 2013. The Norsemen were able to do just that in front of their home crowd, beating Harper Woods 46-24 and winning their first team district championship in a little over a decade.

"I'm very proud of this team for grasping this accomplishment," North wrestling head coach Jaron Nelson said. "We've been talking about it for a few years, and the team has made great efforts to get more student athletes involved in and on

the team. We finally put together enough bodies to make a team and we went out and got the job done. We have a younger team so it's a great time to make this our standard and the new expectation at North."

It was then on to individual districts on Saturday, Feb. 10, with North's wrestlers traveling to Lake Shore to fight their way to regionals. The Norsemen ended the day with three wrestlers who earned the right to advance in the postseason.

After winning a MAC league championship at 144 pounds a week

## Contest champ!

Though it took some overtime heroics from quarterback and game MVP Patrick Mahomes, the Kansas City Chiefs beat the San Francisco 49ers 25-22 last Sunday night in Las Vegas for the team's second consecutive Super Bowl championship.

Back home, we also have a local high school coach to crown as winner of the Grosse Pointe News Super Bowl LVIII "Guest Picker" contest in one Jay Ricci, University Liggett School's new head varsity baseball coach. The Knights' rookie skipper gave us the most accurate picks

for the game's winner (Chiefs), final score (24-20) and MVP (Mahomes).

Ricci's savvy prediction earned him city bragging rights and a prize pack that includes a GP News subscription, mug and 2024 calendar, as well as a \$100 gift card from The Bricks Pizzeria in Grosse Pointe Park. He also will get an oversized "fan face" of himself (as seen above) to display anywhere to his liking, serving as a

happy reminder of his big win.

Of note, many other coaches gave similarly accurate predictions in all three categories, but Ricci was the only coach to

not go over in total points. At kickoff, the "over/under" betting line was 47.5, while some books closed at 47. Ricci's was 44.

— Meg Leonard



before, North senior Preston Auld was looking to add a district title in the weight class to his list of accolades. He ended up being just short, losing 6-5 on points to Brother Rice's Deacon MacNeill in the district final match, but made it far enough to secure a spot at regionals.

Another regional qualifier from North was Andrew Persyn. The senior made it to the district semifinal round at 150 pounds before losing Ayden Tatum from Orchard Lake St. Mary's. However, in the consolation bracket, Persyn

battled his way to the third-place match. There, he would fall to Warren Woods-Tower's Xavier Brooks, but Persyn still qualified for the regional round with his performance.

Derand Sako was the third of North's regional qualifiers. Wrestling at 157 pounds, Sako lost in the quarterfinal but made a run in the consolation bracket, making it to the third-place match. Sako lost to Aidan Eded from Woods-Tower in the third-place matchup, but had advanced far enough to secure a

regional qualifying bid. North wrestled in the team regional tournament on Wednesday, Feb. 14, after press time. Auld, Persyn and Sako will wrestle at the individual regional tournament in Division 2 on Saturday, Feb. 17, at Warren Woods-Tower starting at 9:30 a.m.

**South**  
The Blue Devils competed in their Division 1 team district tournament last Wednesday, Feb. 7. After dominating Detroit Cass Tech in the semifinal, South ultimately secured a

See WRESTLE, page 2D

### ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

## Ancona acing comeback season with Liggett girls varsity hockey

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Anyone who has seen the University Liggett girls varsity hockey team play this season could tell that senior Sofie Ancona is one of the most dominant players on the ice on any given night. However, during this time last year, Ancona was watching the Knights from behind the bench, sidelined for nearly the entire season with an ACL injury.

Now, Ancona is back and arguably playing better than ever. It was a long road to get here, but the Knights' senior captain is back to playing at what she thinks is her highest level.

"I'd definitely say that it was tough coming back," Ancona said. "Mentally, it took a toll on me and I had to



PHOTO BY LEON HALIP

Senior captain Sofie Ancona currently leads the Knights with 34 goals this season.

prove to myself that I could still play at the level I wanted to be at. The first few games definitely weren't my best, but I didn't do bad. The first month or so was a stepping stone for me to reach where I'm at now, and I worked hard every single practice and game improving myself and allowing myself to grow as a player."

Ancona seemingly has not missed a beat this season in her comeback and the numbers show it. She currently leads Liggett's team in goals (34) and points (49).

Looking at the stat sheets from the Knights' games in just the past couple of weeks show how dominant of a run Ancona is on. It began with a four-goal performance against Ann Arbor Skyline-Huron

Jan. 27. She followed that up with a hat-trick against Sacred Heart and scored twice in the Knights' win over Grosse Pointe South Jan. 31. Ancona then had another four-goal game against Washtenaw United and hat-tricks against both Grosse Pointe North Feb. 7 and Northville two nights later.

"I think I've just been able to find the net a bit easier than I was really early in the season," Ancona said about her

See ATHLETE, page 2D



Grosse Pointe News  
**ATHLETE OF THE WEEK**  
**Sofie Ancona**  
School: University Liggett  
Sport: Hockey  
Sponsored by Pointe Capital Management

### Super Sofie

- Leads Liggett in goals (34) and points (49) thru 19 games
- Scored multiple goals in 7 of 8 games from Jan. 26 to Feb. 10
- Missed majority of 2022-23 season with ACL injury



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## 2D | SPORTS

### WRESTLE:

Continued from page 1D

mately came up short in the team final, losing the district title 54-21 to Lakeview.

South moved on to individual districts on Saturday, Feb. 10, at Royal Oak, with four wrestlers ultimately moving on to regionals, with two individual district champions.

Junior Wyatt Hepner continued his dominant season for the Blue Devils by adding a district title to his resume. Hepner was the top seed in the 138-pound bracket and made the most of it, cruising on his way to the district final match and ultimately

taking the crown with a 7-0 points victory over Warren Mott's Adil Salam.

In the 175-pound bracket, senior Paul Wilson began his quest to return to Ford Field during the district tournament. He took a big step closer to his goal by winning the district title in the weight class, working his way through the bracket and eventually defeating Hussein Ajami from Dearborn Fordson 5-4 in the final.

Lex Wilson was another South wrestler to make it to a district final match. Wrestling at 215 pounds, Lex Wilson came up just short of a district title, being pinned by Fraser's

Bryce Warner in the championship match. As runner-up, Lex Wilson still locked in a spot in the regional round.

CJ Schervish from South also punched his ticket to regionals at 285 pounds. Schervish was eliminated in the quarterfinals, but made a run in the consolation bracket to get to the third-place match. Schervish ultimately finished fourth, but still earned a regional spot.

Those four South wrestlers will head to the Division I individual regional tournament, which will be held on Saturday, Feb. 17, at Chippewa Valley High School starting at 9:30 a.m.

### Tickets punched

The following wrestlers are headed to regionals:

- GP NORTH**
- Preston Auld
  - Andrew Persyn
  - Derand Sako
- GP SOUTH**
- Wyatt Hepner
  - CJ Schervish
  - Lex Wilson
  - Paul Wilson

At right, North senior Andrew Persyn's performance at the individual district championships last Saturday earned him a qualifying spot in regionals.

PHOTO BY MELISSA SPAIN



### ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

recent hot streak. "... My team helps me embrace the dominant player I can be on the ice at times. Being around phenomenal people and really good hockey players has boosted my ability to score. It's been cool to help my team win. Really that's all."

While she has been piling up the points this season, Ancona still makes it a priority to be as much of a team player as possible. This is her second consecutive season serving as a captain for the Knights, but her tenure as a captain last year was largely spent leading from off the ice.

However, that led to Ancona picking up a different perspective on leadership, one she is passing on to her fellow captains and the rest of her teammates throughout this campaign.

"I'm really lucky to have such a great team with me and supporting me and helping me grow as a leader," she said. "Last year, I got the chance to be a captain as well and see the game through a different lens. ... It helped me put into perspective what's important playing hockey and going through school. I think I've been able to relate that to the team a lot this year, about what are our priorities and what we can do to win."

The main priority for Ancona and the Knights this year is winning a fourth consecutive Michigan Girls High School Hockey League Division I state championship. Liggett would become the first girls hockey team in state history to "four-peat," and it would mean that Ancona and her fellow seniors would end every season of their high school careers as champions.

"It's kind of crazy when I think about it," Ancona said. "Winning it one time is cool enough, but three times in a row has been really special. Working for the fourth, sometimes you need to stay motivated when you're used to winning. ... It definitely takes hard work and focus to reach that goal, and if we can end up doing it again I'll be forever grateful to this program and what they've let us build."

Ancona and the rest of the senior class, six in total on this year's Liggett roster, would leave quite the legacy with the Knights' program if this season ends with another state title. What makes it even more special is the fact most of those seniors have been together on the team the entire ride for nearly four seasons.

Scoring hat-tricks and helping lead the team to dominant wins is definitely a plus, but Ancona wants to stay focused not only on winning, but on enjoy-



PHOTO BY LEON HALIP

Sofie Ancona is serving as a captain of the Liggett girls hockey team for a second straight season. She was sidelined for a majority of the 2022-23 season with an ACL injury.

ing every last opportunity she gets to take the ice alongside her fellow Knights and friends.

"It's always been a privilege to play with my friends and being able to reach our senior year together has been everything I could've dreamed of," she said. "... Having played together so long, we know what each other are going to do before we even do it. That chemistry has really built with us throughout the years, and even the new additions to the team have been pieces that fit into the puzzle really well."



At right, Ancona, left, celebrates with teammate Sophia Secco after scoring against Grosse Pointe South Jan. 31.

PHOTO BY LEON HALIP

#### CITY OF HARPER WOODS POLICE DEPARTMENT WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN NOTICE AUCTION OF IMPOUNDED/ABANDONED VEHICLES

Pursuant to PA 104, an auction will be held on **FEBRUARY 28, 2024** at 5:00 p.m. at Woods Towing, located at 22755 Lexington, Eastpointe, MI. The following impounded/abandoned vehicles will be auctioned:

- 2002 CHEVY AVALANCHE.....3GNEK13T02G359818
- 2015 HYUNDAI ELANTRA .....KMHDH4AE3FU355365
- 2014 DODGE JOURNEY .....3C4PDDFG9ET161732
- 2001 TOYOTA SIENNA .....4T3ZF13C41U390812
- 2014 CHRYSLER 300.....2C3CCAGG8EH384422
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- 2017 KIA FORTE.....3KPFK4A74HE124069
- 2003 CHEVY AVALANCHE.....3GNEK13T73G267686
- 2014 DODGE CHARGER.....2C3CDXBG4EH174519
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- 2004 FORD FOCUS.....1FAFP38Z14W111143
- 2005 SATURN ION.....1G8AJ52F25Z183057
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The above vehicles can be viewed 1/2 hour prior to the auction, at Woods Towing. Payment by cash or certified check only. Cars listed may be pulled or released prior to the auction by the Harper Woods Police Department.

Lt. Thomas Teatsorth  
Traffic Safety Section  
POSTED: February 12, 2024  
PUBLISHED: February 15, 2024

A copy of this notice can be viewed on [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org) under Public Notices.

#### City of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan

#### BOARD OF REVIEW

Meetings for the purpose of reviewing the 2024 Assessment Roll for the City of Grosse Pointe Farms, Wayne County, Michigan, will be held by the Board of Review on:

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024  
From 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
and  
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2024  
From 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
and  
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

at City Hall, 90 Kerby Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan 48236.

Hearings will be scheduled by appointment. Please contact City of Grosse Pointe Farms at (313) 640-1618. You may also petition the Board in writing through the mail if you cannot make the hearing dates. These letters HAVE TO BE IN THE OFFICE BY FRIDAY, MARCH 22nd.

G.P.N.: 2/15/24; 2/22/24; 2/29/24; 3/7/24

### Nominate Your Athlete

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, visit [grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week](http://grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week).

#### City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council adopted the following ordinance amendment at its meeting held on Monday, February 5, 2024. The ordinance amendment was adopted in accordance with the City Charter and will become effective February 15, 2024, and is hereby published by title:

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS BY REPEALING IN ITS ENTIRETY CHAPTER 32, SIGNS, AND REPLACING IT WITH AN UPDATED AND REORGANIZED CHAPTER 32, SIGNS.**

The ordinance is available for public inspection or purchase from the Office of the City Clerk, at the Robert E. Novitke Municipal Center, 20025 Mack Plaza Drive, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, or [www.gpwwi.us](http://www.gpwwi.us).

Paul P. Antolin  
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 2/15/24

# South survives first-round scare

By Meg Leonard  
Senior Editor

Two points separated Grosse Pointe South boys varsity basketball from an unceremonious first-round exit in the MAC Red league tournament against a team the Blue Devils had beaten twice this season, but junior co-captain Vince Vachon heated up at the right time to help South escape with a 47-45 win at home over Chippewa Valley Thursday, Feb. 8.

The Blue Devils managed to shake off a few factors leading into the game, the first coming in the form of senior co-captain Karter Richards missing his first practice in four years the night before the game due to a stomach bug.

“He was a little sluggish in the first half, and not playing like himself,” South head coach Steve Benard said.

The second was the inability to have shots fall until the final quarter.

“It’s been about three years — that was the last time we got in that situation where we could not make our shots, when we have been that cold,” Benard explained.

“In the Roseville game (last week), we knocked down 10 or 11 threes in that game, we couldn’t miss.

“When you’re at home, we need to make shots.”

The third factor, Benard said, was a lack of focus to start the game.

“It falls back to one thing, I don’t know that these guys were 100 per-



PHOTO BY MEG LEONARD

**Karter Richards gets air and scores on a breakaway against Chippewa Valley last Thursday.**

cent dialed in like they need to be, getting themselves ready to play.”

But the Blue Devils put all of that aside to pull off an important win.

The first quarter included sloppy play on both sides. The Blue Devils missed two dunk attempts from Richards and Nate Davey. The Big Reds capitalized on South’s mistakes and pulled ahead after the first eight minutes, 14-10.

In the second quarter,

South found a bit more life, scoring the first four points to tie things up at 14 all. The teams kept exchanging the lead, but South turned over the ball on its last possession of the quarter, which ended with the visitors up 23-20.

During halftime, Benard said he reminded his team what time of year it is.

“We’re in tournament time, so it’s really a one and done,” he said. “I mean if we lose this game, we go to the con-

solation bracket and one of our goals is to be in the MAC championship.”

Vachon got South’s first points of the second half with a nice mid-range jumper to cut the Chippewa Valley lead down to 23-22. But after that, the Blue Devils saw miss after miss and were down 27-22 by the five minute mark of the third quarter. South pulled within one point in a 31-30 game after Richards hit two free throws, but the quarter ended with the Big Reds still up 35-30.

The fourth quarter opened with South’s shots still not falling.

Tory James missed two three-pointers and the Blue Devils found little scoring from their offensive rebounds. Despite their offensive woes, South continued to play aggressively on defense, which resulted in good scoring opportunities. Richards stole the ball and took the ball down the court for a basket, after which James stole the ball on the next possession. He fed it to Richards, who dished it to Davey for a score and 35-34 game.

Finally, a big three fell for South with just more than four minutes left in the game when freshman Kooper Richards, Karter’s younger brother, found the hoop to put South up 37-35 and got the home crowd on its feet.

“I tell him, you’re not a freshman anymore,”

Benard said. “We’ve had 17 games, and been going since summer, so Koop is no longer a freshman, that’s the way we look at it. If he’s going to be up with us, he’s going to have to perform...and that’s why I put him out there.”

South used the final two minutes to move the ball side to side and effectively play keep away with Chippewa Valley, which helped the Blue Devils take a 39-37

Benard said Vachon stepped up on a night when his team needed him.

“Vince really didn’t find his stroke, but boy he sure knocked down a big shot,” he said. “Right place, right time. He’s a three-year varsity player, a team captain and guys look up to him...He’s really figured out a way to navigate how he gets his looks. His confidence is always there. Even when he’s not hitting, his confidence is there.”

Karter Richards had 17 points, three assists and

three steals in the win. Vachon and Davey added eight points apiece, while Kooper Richards and James each contributed five.

South hit the road to Port Huron Northern for round two of the MAC Red tournament Tuesday, Feb. 13, after press time.

Whether South’s winning ways, defensive intensity or “next man up mentality” have created good karma or luck for the team, Benard said, he just hopes it continues.

“Going on the road will help us, will give us a little more focus,” Benard said after last Friday’s game. But at the end of the day, my guys believe that we are going to win. We come into it believing we are going to compete to win...We got some momentum. I think it’s our year.”

*“When you’re at home, we need to make shots.”*

STEVE BENARD,  
HEAD COACH, SOUTH BOYS BASKETBALL

# ULS, South boys hockey teams heat up

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Playoffs are just around the corner in the boys hockey season now, and teams from the Pointes are getting ready for the intensity of the postseason. In the final weeks of the regular season, both University Liggett and Grosse Pointe South have found themselves on hot streaks in some of their most recent games, looking as if they might be hitting their peaks around the right time.

## Liggett

Since the calendar flipped to 2024, the Knights have only seen two losses added to their record, one of them being to defending Division 3 state champion Flint Powers Catholic Jan. 12. Liggett has won seven of eight games since then, and tallied a few more wins over the last week.

“In the last few weeks, the guys have really bought into the identity of this team,” Liggett boys varsity hockey coach Colin Smith said. “We’re kind of like the Lions in that regard where it’s all about grit for us...We don’t have as much finesse as we did last year, but we’re a hard-nosed forechecking team. The kids are really trusting the process of what we’ve been trying to do all year, and the execution lately has been tremendous.”

The first of last week’s



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

**South’s Drew Brady scored in overtime Feb. 7.**

wins was a 4-2 result over Orchard Lake St. Mary’s White Wednesday, Feb. 7. Gary Stacy led the team in the win with two goals, while Francis Blake and Griffin Marchal added the other pair of goals for the Knights.

The Knights then went on the road again last Friday, Feb. 9, to take on Allen Park in what ended up being a low-scoring battle. Even with offense seemingly hard to come by, the Knights prevailed 2-0 thanks to goals in the final period by Blake Shock and Griffin Marchal.

Liggett finally got back to its home ice Monday, Feb. 12, for another meeting with St. Mary’s White. The Knights’ winning streak was able to continue, but in dramatic

fashion with a 2-1 victory in overtime.

Drake Griffin scored the goal for Liggett in the third period that would ultimately force overtime deadlocked at one goal apiece. In the extra period, junior Alex Gould ended up being the hero, scoring the game-winner with an assist from brother Nick Gould and from Alex Macek.

Liggett went on the road to face Gibraltar Carlson Wednesday, Feb. 14, after press time. The team returns home for its final game of the regular season at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, hosting Detroit Country Day.

## South

After a long losing streak that ran through much of December and

January, the Blue Devils have finally picked themselves back up and found a stride. South has been victorious in four of its last six games. The team picked up one win last week followed by a losing result.

The victory came last Tuesday, Feb. 6, when the Blue Devils hosted Romeo. It was a close, high-scoring game that ended 5-4 in favor of South. Drew Brady led the Blue Devils with two goals, including the overtime game-winner. Charlie Wade and Evan Bernard were the other goal scorers for South in the win.

## North

The victory over Romeo put South on a

three-game win streak, but that would come to an end just a few days later. South visited U of D Jesuit Saturday, Feb. 10, and was on the wrong side of a shutout, losing 5-0.

The Blue Devils have just a couple of games left to close out the regular season before playoffs begin. South plays its final regular season home game Thursday, Feb. 15, hosting the M-1 Griffins at 5 p.m. The team then closes out the regular season on the road at Port Huron at noon Saturday, Feb. 17.

The Norsemen have struggled this season,

not adding a tally to the win column since early December. North hosted Utica Ford Unified Wednesday, Feb. 7, and suffered another loss, with the final result being 6-2. Seniors Massimo Todesco and Matthew Lorelli were the goal scorers for the Norsemen in the loss.

North has a couple of its final regular season games this upcoming weekend as part of the MAC Showcase at Mount Clemens Ice Arena. The Norsemen will take on Port Huron at 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 16 at 5 p.m. On Saturday, Feb. 17, North goes up against St. Clair Shores with a 3 p.m. puck drop.

## CITY OF HARPER WOODS BOARD OF REVIEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN 48225 PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the City of Harper Woods Board of Review for March 2024 will be meeting at 19617 Harper Avenue on Monday, March 11, 2024 from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and on Monday, March 25, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to consider appeals on property assessment and exemptions. Property owners may obtain a Petition to the Board of Review from the Assessor’s office or on line at [www.harperwoodscity.org](http://www.harperwoodscity.org) or [www.michigan.gov/taxes](http://www.michigan.gov/taxes); Property Taxes; Forms-Instructions; Board of Review

Residents who are unable to attend this meeting may submit their appeal in writing/ letter to the Assessor’s office at 19617 Harper Avenue, Harper Woods, MI 48225 on or before March 25, 2023, until 3:00 p.m. No postmarks are accepted. For information please call 313.343.2500.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2024 are as follows:

Agricultural .....	50.00%
Commercial .....	48.01%
Industrial .....	49.77%
Residential .....	42.63%
Timber-Cutover .....	50.00%
Developmental .....	50.00%
Personal Property .....	50.00%

City of Harper Woods  
Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

Published: GPN, Feb. 15, Feb. 22, & Feb. 29 2024  
Posted: Feb. 15, 2024

4D | HITS & HIGHLIGHTS

# HITS & HIGHLIGHTS



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Grosse Pointe North junior point guard Leo Perettie takes the ball up the court against Stevenson Thursday, Feb. 8, in the consolation bracket of the MAC Tournament. Perettie had 21 points in the team's 45-33 win.

Here are some of the week's bonus highlights from around the Pointes:

## GROSSE POINTE UNITED GYMNASTICS

Grosse Pointe United Gymnastics continues to gain steam as the season rolls along and last week illustrated that, beginning with a home quad meet Tuesday, Feb. 7. GPUG earned 137.95 — it's highest score of the season — in an invitational against teams from Athens-Berkeley, Port Huron and Troy-Avondale. On Monday, Feb. 12, GPUG bested Tecumseh, scoring 132.225 points. According to GPUG head coach, Izzy Nguyen, junior gymnast Lucy Tull, who placed in all four events at both meets, is hitting her stride at the right time in the season.

"Lucy did an amazing job at both invites," she said. "It's very hard to place in these meets. I am very proud of her and she's improved so much."

Tull, a junior at Grosse Pointe South, also has qualified for postseason regional competition for vault, bars, beam and floor. Six other gymnastics have also qualified for regionals in the following events, including:

- Makiya Latham, senior, Grosse Pointe North — vault, bars and floor
- Allie Mattes, junior, Grosse Pointe North — vault, bars, beam and floor
- Anna Nguyen, freshman, Grosse Pointe North — vault, beam, floor
- Penny Roustemis, senior, Grosse Pointe North — vault, beam and floor
- Ainsley Tanghe, senior, Grosse Pointe North — vault, floor and beam
- Jessi Taylor, sophomore, Grosse Pointe North — vault, bars, beam and floor



Grosse Pointe residents Charlie Driscoll and Brady Roberts were part of the Triple-A Oakland Jr. Grizzlies 18U team that defeated rival Little Caesars 4-1 to win the ESE Top 20 Challenge Jan. 28.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TOBIAS ROBERTS

Does your team have a newsworthy quick hit or highlight from the week to share? Send it along to [mleonard@grossepointenews.com](mailto:mleonard@grossepointenews.com).

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**Yard & Estate Sale Map**

**THIS WEEK: 1. 1452 N. Renaud, GPW | 2. 904 Westchester, GPP**

See Classifieds for more details

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## 6D | SPORTS

## Swim and dive teams keep cruising

By Meg Leonard  
Senior Editor

Getting faster is the name of the game at this juncture of the boys swim season and, as league and state championship meets begin to loom, varsity athletes from Grosse Pointe South, Grosse Pointe North and University Liggett School are steadily positioning themselves for individual and team titles.

Last week, the Blue Devils and Norsemen tuned up for a huge weekend competition against each other by hosting fellow MAC teams at their home pools Tuesday, Feb. 6.

South hosted Anchor Bay and came out with an emphatic 124-43 win. Two swimmers earned

co-captain Ben Bryan took first in the 500 free, earning a state cut in 5:02.06.

With their two latest cuts, both swimmers are making the most of their final high school seasons, before next month's state final, March 8 and 9 at Eastern Michigan University. Each has qualified in the 50 free, 100 free, 200 free, 200 IM and 100 back. Bryan has tacked on the 100 back, in addition to his most recent cut in the 500 free.

South won all but two events, though the Blue Devils didn't concede them to a Tars swimmer. Instead, Liggett's lone varsity swimmer this season, Brendan Beland, competed in the meet on behalf of the

Beland earned a state cut in the 200 free and set a new school record in the 100 fly.

For the Norsemen, the team swam fast and enjoyed the success that followed against Fraser Tuesday, Feb. 6.

North kicked off the meet with a win in the 200 medley relay, led by James Jewell, Connor McMahon, Tommy Moreland and James Gusmano in 1:45.41. North went on to win six other events including:

200 IM, won by Moreland (2:05.53).

50 free won by Gusmano in 22.54. McMahon finished in second place in 22.80, while Alex Robinson finished third in 25.27.

100 fly, won by Moreland (55.32), with

200 free relay won by Robinson, Wettstein, Collins and Gusmano in 1:39.03.

100 breast, won by McMahon (1:04.41).

400 free relay, won by Collins, Brady Winbigger, Moreland and McMahon in 3:37.44.

To cap off the week, South hosted North, Cranbrook-Kingswood, Detroit Catholic Central and Rochester High School Saturday, Feb. 10.

In head-to-head competition, South bested North 133-55.

The Blue Devils won five events including the 200 IM (Bryan, 1:56.48), 50 free (Liu, 21.53), 100 free (Liu, 47.56) and 200 free relay (Liu, Vincent Maffesoli, Joey Drawbaugh and Bryan, 1:29.19).

South also earned an important state cut in the 200 IM when CJ Schindlbeck took sixth place in the event in 2:04.79. Schindlbeck also qualified for the 100 breaststroke in a previous meet.

Among North's top finishes of the day came in the 500 free, where Moreland finished third overall in 5:14.91. Moreland also took fifth in the 50 free in 22.57. North's 200 medley relay of Jewell, Moreland, Collins and Gusmano finished in fifth place in 1:47.54.

Kyle Kinyon, North's head coach of boys varsity swim and dive, said he has been happy with his team's steady progress. He pointed out Moreland, who earned a new state cut in the 50 free and Paul Stephens for putting "in the work every day" to recently drop two seconds in the



PHOTO BY JESSICA BRYAN

North freshman Brady Winbigger gets loose before stepping up the starting block last Saturday.

50 free and 3.5 seconds in his 100 free.

"I am thrilled with the effort the boys are putting in and how they are stepping up to support one another," Kinyon said. "It's such a great sport, community and team to be surrounded by."

Both teams dove right back into more competition and honored their graduating classes in special senior night ceremonies Tuesday, Feb. 13, at their home pools after press time. South faced Dakota, while North took on Henry Ford II.

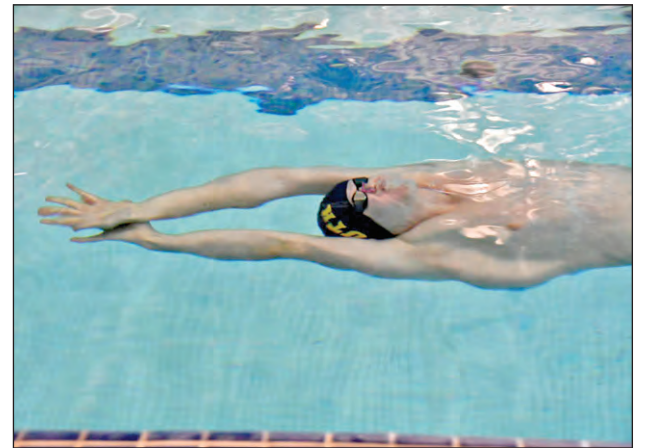


PHOTO BY JESSICA BRYAN

South's Ben Bryan gets the work done under the water to start off the 100 backstroke last weekend.



PHOTO BY JESSICA BRYAN

South swimmers dress up on dry land before team pictures last week, including, from left, Josh Koch, Henry Doyle, Duncan Richards, Owen Mulcahy, Thomas Brieden, Jack Finazzo, Johnny Klepp and Brody Fitzgibbon.

new state cuts for South, Knights' and out-in events they also won. Senior co-captain Troy Liu qualified in the 200 IM with his first-place time of 2:05.61. Fellow

Knights' and out-touched everyone, winning the 200 free (1:05.28) and 100 fly (54.66).

With those times,

Tyler Collins taking second place in 1:00.71.

100 free, won by Gusmano (51.74) with Keegan Wettstein taking second (54.82).

## North girls varsity basketball returns to winning ways, dominates Anchor Bay

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

After losing back-to-back games to end the month of January, the transition into February has been much kinder to Grosse Pointe North girls basketball. The Norsemen secured a nearly 40-point victory over L'Anse Creuse North Feb. 6, and looked dominant again on their home court last Friday, Feb. 9, earning a 68-53 win over Anchor Bay.

"I thought we lost our energy for a couple of weeks, but last week we really got it back," North girls basketball head coach Gary Bennett said. "One area of focus now is to try and keep that energy going for the rest of the year. It happens to every team in every season, we just went through it, but we bounced back and I think our energy against Anchor Bay was particularly outstanding."

The win over North senior Jenna Winowiecki scored 25 points in the team's win over Anchor Bay Feb. 9.

marked the second game in a row where North scored more than 60 points. The offense was firing on all cylinders right out of the gate and never looked back, with the

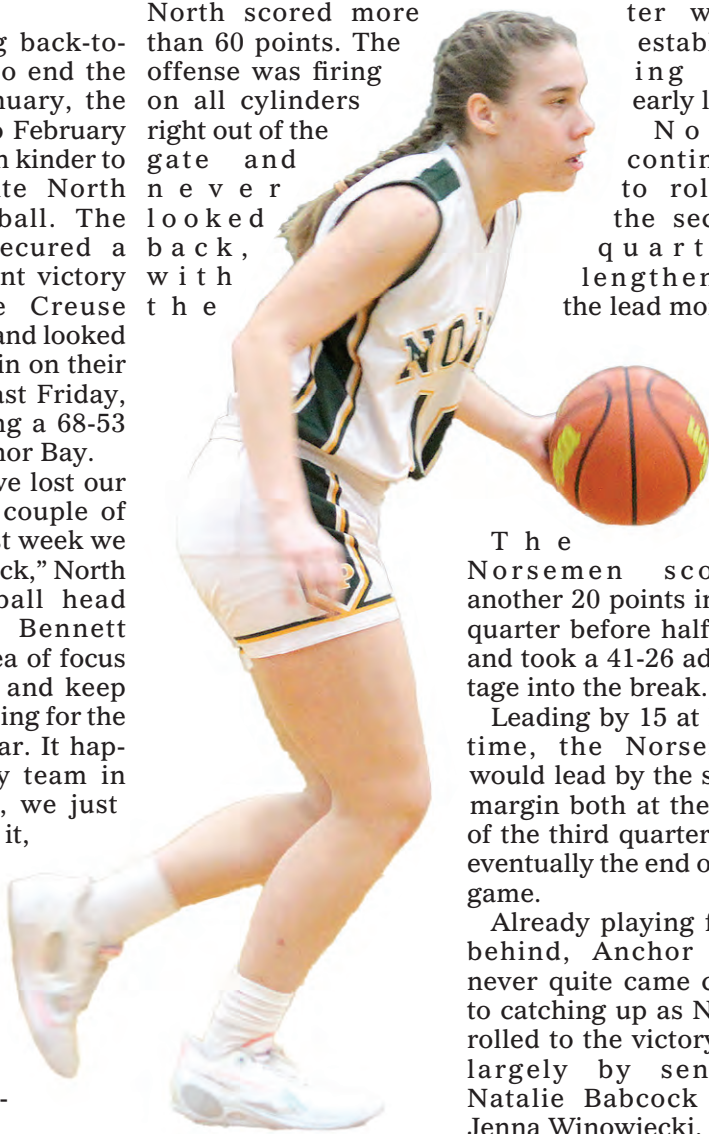


PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Norsemen scoring 21 points in the first quarter while establishing an early lead.

North continued to roll in the second quarter, lengthening the lead more.

The Norsemen scored another 20 points in the quarter before halftime and took a 41-26 advantage into the break.

Leading by 15 at halftime, the Norsemen would lead by the same margin both at the end of the third quarter and eventually the end of the game.

Already playing from behind, Anchor Bay never quite came close to catching up as North rolled to the victory led largely by seniors Natalie Babcock and Jenna Winowiecki.

Winowiecki ended the night as the leading scorer with 25, and Babcock was close

behind scoring 20. Babcock and Winowiecki have been part of North's core for a couple of years and now seem to be in their prime at the right time.

"It just makes me happy that at the end of their senior year, they're playing their best basketball," Bennett said. "If they can continue to do that, then hopefully we'll finish up strong."

State playoffs begin in early March, but this year's MAC Tournament is more imminent for the Norsemen. North, who finished second in the MAC Red Division behind champions Dakota, enters the league tournament as the No. 2 seed.

The No. 3 seed the Norsemen will face in the opening round of the league tournament just so happens to be their crosstown rival, Grosse Pointe South.

"The rivalry matchup absolutely adds to the intensity," Bennett said. "It's a good game to have going into the state tournament in a few weeks. That's the whole idea of the MAC Tournament, to get you ready for state tournament time, and in that respect I think it's defi-

*'It just makes me happy that at the end of their senior year, they're playing their best basketball.'*

GARY BENNETT,  
HEAD COACH, GROSSE POINTE NORTH  
GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

nately a good thing." round of the MAC North hosts the Blue Tournament at 7 p.m. Devils in the opening Thursday, Feb. 15.

#### Village of Grosse Pointe Shores, A Michigan City 2024 BOARD OF REVIEW SESSIONS

The Assessments for the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores in Wayne and Macomb County has been completed for 2024. The Board of Review will hear petitions on the following dates:

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING 1:00 P.M.**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 11TH**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**795 LAKE SHORE RD.**

**MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024**  
**1:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

**MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024**  
**9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

The Board will meet in the Grosse Pointe Shores Municipal Building (first floor), 795 Lake Shore Road, Grosse Pointe Shores. All property owners wishing to appeal their assessments must make an appointment or file a write in appeal. Either appeal method must be accompanied by the petition form (L-4035) provided by the state of Michigan ([http://www.michigan.gov/documents/l4035f\\_2658\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/l4035f_2658_7.pdf)). Appointments may be made by calling 881-6565. **Petitions by mail must be received by the Board PRIOR to the last session (3/18/24) so they may be reviewed in a timely manner.** You may call 881-6565 for an appointment.

If there are any questions, please contact the Assessor's Office at 313.881.6565 or email [pbierzynski@gpshoresmi.gov](mailto:pbierzynski@gpshoresmi.gov).