

**COVID-19 CASES AS OF 11/2**  
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	Cases	Deaths
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Harper Woods	1,617 (+27)	54 (+0)

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# Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 82, NO. 44, 28 PAGES

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NOVEMBER 4, 2021

GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

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## DPW breaks ground

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Contractors broke ground Wednesday, Oct. 27, on the new department of public works building to be built between Maryland and Wayburn on Mack Avenue.

For a department that has never worked out of a space built specifically for it, City Manager Nick Sizeland said smiles ran wide when the workers saw plans for their own place.

“It’s been a long time coming,” Sizeland said at the ceremony. “It’s going to be the best public works building

See DPW, page 4A

COURTESY PHOTO

## Vote your voice

We hope everyone took the time to vote this Election Day, Nov. 2. Edward L. Henry’s “Election Day 1844,” painted in 1913, looks at the divisive presidential election that pitted Henry Clay against James K. Polk. They clashed over the annexation of Texas from Mexico and the expansion of slavery into newly established territories. Henry signifies the country’s deep divisions and hints at the Civil War to come by using a road to split the crowd in two.

## Off to the races!

By Kate Vanderstelt and Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writers

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — Election day in the Grosse Pointes was off to a smooth start as of presstime Tuesday, Nov. 2.

With a highly contested election in the Park, voter turnout reportedly was high Tuesday, according to Clerk Jane Blahut. Out of 2,618 issued, absentee ballots returned reached 2,211 and 1,171 voters had shown up to the polls by 2:30 p.m.

The City had 208 in-person voters by 2 p.m., while 799 absentee ballots had been returned.

Election day voter turnout in the Farms also was light as expected, Assistant Manager/City Clerk Derrick Kozicki reported, because it is a local election with only one contested race.

“The lighter turnout at the polling places is due to the increase in absentee voting,” he added.

For example, the precinct at Grosse Pointe South High School saw only 96 voters by noon. However, 82 percent of 1,964 absentee ballots sent had been returned.

The Shores saw similarly low voter turnout with approximately 65 in-person voters by early afternoon, compared to

Hillary Brass inserts her ballot into the voting machine to be scanned while her children, Celeste Brass-Beers and Levin Brass-Beers watch the process. Brass voted at Defer Elementary in Grosse Pointe Park.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Chase Bank leaving Jefferson building

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — The two-story, white building at 17449 Jefferson — known today as a Chase Bank branch — has served the needs of Grosse Pointe residents since before World War I, according to the Grosse Pointe Historical Society.

Its uses have varied over the years and include doctors’ offices, a hardware store, a drug-store named Schettler’s from 1918 to 1947, a barber shop, a beauty shop, Board of Health offices and multiple banks: Grosse Pointe Savings Bank, Grosse Pointe Bank, National Bank of Detroit and Chase Bank.

“As a child, my dad had taken me there to get my

See BANK, page 3A

## Initial plans presented for Chene-Trombly

By Kate Vanderstelt  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — Chene-Trombly Park, located just off Mack Avenue on Ridgemont Road, is undergoing an anticipated makeover, headed by developers Stucky Vitale Architects. Initial design

plans were presented at a committee of the whole meeting Monday, Oct. 18.

According to John Vitale, CEO and president of Stucky Vitale Architects, the park will be redesigned to focus mostly on tots and be more prominent in a developing area.

“I think this is a great, great improvement for

this city and community,” Vitale said. “That whole block changed quite a bit. ... There’s so many new developments in that area, I think the park would be really a nice addition to that whole area that’s improving there.”

Adjacent to the park on Mack Avenue is a block growing in development

with businesses, namely Starbucks and Estia, a Greek street food business. With Licavoli’s Market near the park as well, Vitale believes the update could welcome parents looking to grab coffee or food and sit while their children play.

See PARK, page 3A

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



**Darrell Finken**

Home: Grosse Pointe Park  
Local business icon reflects on over 40 years of serving the community

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# It’s all fun and games at Court4 Detroit

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**DETROIT** — Located inside the dome structure at Mack and Marseilles/Rivard, community tennis center Court4 Detroit offers an all-encompassing experience for tennis enthusiasts of all ages.

“Grosse Pointe is such an incredible community in general, but especially for tennis players,” said Marella Diakonov, one of four co-owners.

The 40,000-square-foot dome, with state-of-the-art LED lighting and featuring five green and blue hard courts, opened Sept. 20.

Along with a variety of kids and adult programming, Court4 Detroit offers court time rentals, including permanent court time where a court can be booked for a particular day and time the entire season; private drill sessions with one of the pros, complete with music and focused on having fun; and one-on-one private lessons to improve technique and skills.

The player lounge, spanning the length of the court with lockers,



The 40,000-square-foot dome, with state-of-the-art LED lighting, offers five green and blue hard courts.

couches, coolers and TVs, features a viewing experience from the baseline of the court, meaning viewers are able to clearly see their children or friends no matter which court they’re on. Many tennis facilities only offer horizontal viewing where one may only be able to see the players from a distance.

“There are other tennis facilities in the area, but our main goal is to

be inclusive in the community for everyone,” Diakonov said, “so we try to make our lounge lobby area where you can watch your friends play or you can watch your children play and then hang out after. We want you to hang out after and use this as a spot to just engage.”

Named for its four co-owners, Court4 Detroit also is a play on words with the number and word “for” as a way to highlight its inclusive

brand.

Sharing a passion for the sport, the four owners — Diakonov and her brother Dmitri, along with married couple Kendall Wrigley and Paul Boisi — saw a need for the facility as area clubs were shutting down or reducing the number of indoor courts available, which was displacing tennis players in the community.

Even before opening, the community tennis center had around 350



The player lounge offers a viewing experience from the baseline of the court with lockers, couches, coolers and TVs.

members sign up. Now, its membership ranks are nearing 500 people.

“We’ve been getting a great feedback from the community about how inviting and comfortable the space is and invigorating for everyone,” Diakonov said.

As the business gains its footing and continues to grow, the owners intend to establish a Court4 501(c)3 to host tournaments and events raising money for community areas of need.

“We’re already looking at ways to invite tennis enthusiasts and those who may just be curious to our space with a variety of oppor-

tunities in terms of scheduling to just hop on the court,” Diakonov said. “Whether it’s a drill with a pro, hanging out with friends or a private lesson or you’re just getting back in the game, what we want to see is just Grosse Pointers and everyone in the surrounding area in Detroit, getting back into it and checking us out.”

*Schedule court time at Court4 Detroit, 4300 Marseilles, on the website court4.club or by calling (313) 683-0331. Connect on Facebook and Instagram @court4detroit.*

## Proforma Amplified a standout

Anita Shina and Jim Hanika, owners of Proforma Amplified, recently announced their woman-owned company has not only been named to the 2021 Inc. 5000, but has earned standout status in state, industry and local rankings.

Proforma Amplified was ranked No. 83 out of 5,000 companies, with a growth rate of 4,681 percent. This puts them at No. 1 in the Detroit area, No. 1 in the state of

Michigan and No. 7 in the Business Product & Services Industry.

“We are honored for the recognition Proforma Amplified has been able to achieve,” Shina said. “Being featured on this year’s ranking of fastest-growing companies is a testament to all the hard work that our team has done and continues to do to deliver customer-driven solutions, unparalleled customer service and high-quality prod-

ucts. Our accelerated success is largely due to the extensive support and resources provided by our Proforma network.”

The company, located in Grosse Pointe, has established itself as a leader in the branding and promotional marketing industry. As a full-service marketing resource, they provide clients with multimedia services, branded merchandise, decorated apparel, commercial printing, custom packaging, eCommerce sites, warehousing and fulfillment services all under one roof.

Proforma Amplified also is a member of Proforma’s esteemed \$5 Million Dollar Club, a level of recognition exclusive to Proforma owners with sales ranging between \$5 million and \$10 million.



## New in town

Marli Blackman & Associates, 17108 Mack, Ste. 105, City of Grosse Pointe, is a public relations, communications and crisis management firm that navigates public and private organizations through critical moments. Blackman also is the owner and founder of POP UP EVENTS, which caters to corporate client events across the country. For more information, call (313) 879-6505 or visit marliblackmanandassociates.com.

Pictured during a recent Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting event are, from left, Regan Stolarski, chamber director of administration; Gale Thompson; Blackman; Milan McLaurin; Cole Phillips; and Jennifer Boettcher, chamber president.

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## Grosse Pointe News

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Jennifer Palms Boettcher

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# Santa Parade around the corner

“This year’s Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade will be bigger and better than ever!”

So says Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce President Jennifer Boettcher, who noted the addition of more marching bands and floats than ever before, as well as dancing groups, magical characters, special performances, live animals and more.

“Everyone is so excited the parade is going to be live this year — especially Santa,” Boettcher added.

Though the traditional Santa’s sleigh Grosse Pointers have come to know and love won’t be a part of the festivities, Boettcher said Santa and Mrs. Claus will make their way through town “in a fun ride that you don’t want to miss.

“It’s a surprise, so you



FILE PHOTO

The Grosse Pointe Santa Parade returns to Kercheval at 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 26. Spots are still available for interested participants.

will have to come to the parade on Friday, Nov. 26, at 10 a.m. to see what we have in store.”

In addition to the more than 30 groups and seven bands slated for the event, parade-goers also will be able to trade

waves with this year’s parade marshal: Olympic medalist and Grosse Pointe native Catherine “Catie” DeLoof, who earned bronze in the 4x100-meter freestyle relay in Tokyo this summer. She will be joined by

her sisters, Ali, Jackie and Gabby.

Those who’d rather participate in the parade instead of sit on the enthusiastic sidelines have one more week to sign up. Interested parties should call the cham-

ber at (313) 881-4722 or email [info@grossepointechamber.com](mailto:info@grossepointechamber.com) to request a participation form.

In addition to the parade, the chamber is promoting another fun way to spread Christmas cheer.

“To increase foot traffic throughout the business community and to celebrate the holiday spirit, the chamber is having a snowman contest amongst the businesses,” Boettcher said. “Residents can participate as well and display their snowman in the window of their favorite business. Each participant will receive a block of foam to carve and create their snowman.”

A map listing the locations of the snowmen will be available Nov. 26, at the chamber and available to download from its website, [grossepointechamber.com](http://grossepointechamber.com).

Prizes will be awarded to first, second and third places for the most creative, funniest and traditional snowmen.

— Jody McVeigh



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

The building at 17449 Jefferson dates back to before World War I and has served as many uses over the decades.

## BANK:

Continued from page 1A

first bank account,” Harper Woods resident Keith McCaughrin remembers. “Back then it was known as the Grosse Pointe Bank. ... I was brought up on Lakeland and I would go there weekly to put my allowance in for grass cutting and had my own little bank account book.”

Now, plans are in motion for the Chase Bank branch to close Thursday, Dec. 9, and consolidate into The Village branch less than a mile away at 685 St. Clair.

“The role of the branch is changing and is now seen more as a place for advice and conversation, like buying a home or saving for retirement, as more customers are turning to online banking to

do more routine transactions,” said Stephanie Gostomski, vice president of regional communications for JPMorgan Chase, via email. “... We’re now able to enter a new market with fewer branches than we did five or 10 years (ago), while serving just as many customers, if not more. Sometimes we consolidate a branch when another is nearby or traffic is low. This allows us

to provide a strong, successful branch network that can serve our community for the long-term.”

The future of the building at the corner of Jefferson and Rivard is unknown — Gostomski declined to comment on whether it has been sold or currently is in the process of being sold — leaving community members concerned over its preservation.

While the site is zoned R-1B Single Family Residential, City Manager Pete Dame explained, the existing commercial office building use is grandfathered in, meaning the building can continue to be used for similar business purposes.

“Either the city actually wants this whole area to be redeveloped with single-family homes or it’s just a historic policy oversight that neglected the Chase building,” Farms resident Eric Fazzini said of the existing zoning via email. “What the city will

tell you is that it can still be used as a nonconforming use, but that’s not proper policy to preserve and reuse this building. It’s just kicking the can down the road when they could simply correct their maps and

treatment of this building.”

The City recently entered the beginning stages of a year-long process to update its master plan, which could provide the opportunity to rezone 17449 Jefferson.

## The Week Ahead

### MONDAY, NOV. 8

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Election Commission meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Farms City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

### TUESDAY, NOV. 9

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

### WEDNESDAY, NOV. 10

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Beautification Commission Awards, all day.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

### THURSDAY, NOV. 11

- ◆ Municipal offices closed in observance of Veterans Day.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Historical Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m.

## PARK:

Continued from page 1A

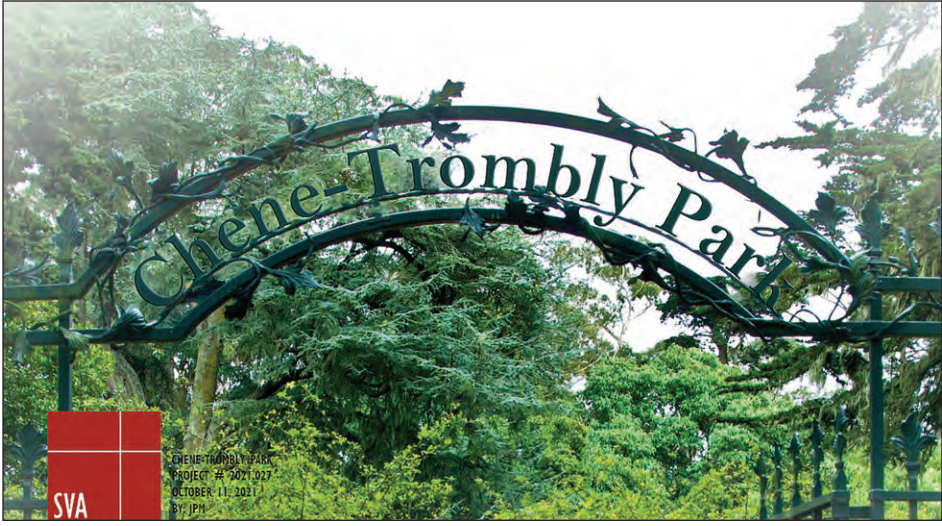
The first step in updating the park, said Vitale, likely will be to make the entry more prominent.

“It really starts with how you enter the park, giving it a more significant entrance,” he said. “We’re kind of focusing on the corner toward Mack Avenue so it becomes more visible, maybe, from some of the new developments up and down Mack.”

Currently, a standard chain-link fence surrounds the park, with a few plates designating it as the “Chene Trombly Memorial Park” fastened to the fence. Vitale hopes to create a distinct entrance to the park, complete with an arch and decorated with stone, brick and pavers. The paver program may end up being a fundraising effort, where patrons can purchase brick pavers placed at the entrance.

The team also is considering installing a boulder at the entrance, which would have engraved in it the history of the park.

The fence outlining the park likely will be changed to a lower, black vinyl-wrapped fence that would improve aesthetics and give a better line of sight



COURTESY RENDERING

The proposed archway will give a distinct entrance to the park facing the Mack Avenue corridor. It also likely will feature a vinyl-wrapped fence to improve aesthetics, contrary to the park’s current signage and chain-link fencing, pictured below.

into the park.

“The fencing I think will have a nice impact on just the general impact of the park itself,” Vitale said.

To make the park more tot-friendly, upgrades to park equipment likely will include a sand pit, imaginatively deemed a “Jurassic Park” type of “dig,” more educational pieces, climbing areas and tot-favorable swings, among other things.

Landscaping and lighting in the park also will be improved and a walking path may be designed along the outskirts of the park, allowing both kids and parents to exercise.

All updates are depen-

dent on obtaining funding, according to city administration.

According to Public Works Director Frank Schulte, the Grosse Pointe Woods Foundation may express interest in helping with the project, as may Avenue in the Woods. The \$500,000 project will need to be completed in phases and Schulte plans to create a five-year-plan to budget for it.

“Right now, we’ve got to think about a long-term budget,” Schulte said. “... It’s a great idea. We’d love to move forward with it, but we’ve just got to make sure we can fund it.”

While funding is sought,



the Woods council still will have opportunities to review the park proposal in public committee of the whole and council meetings to come.



PHOTO BY KATE VANDERSTELT

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Business icon has lasting impact on Pointes

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Writer

It might be hard to imagine what Grosse Pointe would be like today without the influence of someone like Darrell Finken. A resident and business figure in the Pointes for more than 40 years, Finken and his family’s businesses — like the famous Sparky Herbert’s restaurant and Blue Bay Fish and Seafood Market — helped shape the community.

Currently a resident of Grosse Pointe Park, where he has lived since the 1970s, Finken is a native of Washington, D.C., and was raised in Ohio. He eventually came to Ann Arbor, where a few connections landed him in the community he would come to call his home for decades.

“I got into the Grosse Pointe community through an Ann Arbor and University of Michigan connection,” Finken said. “I worked with the Heenan family at the Campus Inn and they were old east-siders and Grosse Pointers.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above, Darrell Finken has been working in the food and hospitality industry in the Pointes since the 1970s. Right, Finken was one of the founders of Sparky Herbert’s restaurant, a staple of the Pointes more than 20 years before closing its doors in 1999.

... Through those connections, I moved into Grosse Pointe in 1975, at age 25, as the general manager of the Grosse Pointe Club.”

Later in the 1970s, Finken was part of the founding group that opened Sparky Herbert’s restaurant. The establishment was beloved in the Pointes more than 20 years before shutting its doors in 1999.

Through Sparky Herbert’s, Finken saw the potential of what

businesses could become in a community like the Pointes. His vision for Sparky Herbert’s to become a staple of the area helped others follow suit and began a new age of business in the Pointes.

“I’ve been given credit for kind of starting the renaissance in the Park business district there about 41 years ago when Sparky Herbert’s opened up,” Finken said. “When we started Sparky Herbert’s, the sidewalks on Kercheval



had weeds maybe three feet high. ... It wasn’t inviting. The city hadn’t kept it up, because there wasn’t the attraction needed to give it the care it needed. My friends Randy and Rick at Grosse Pointe Harbor moved from Mack to Kercheval after we started Sparky Herbert’s and more business started to follow.”

Finken has seen his influence continue to grow even in the

decades after Sparky Herbert’s closed. His wife, Diane, now owns Blue Bay Fish and Seafood Market on Mack Avenue and the couple continue to do business in the community they love.

It started with Sparky Herbert’s and the tradition continues for Finken because of the bond he was able to build with the community over years of being in business.

“I think I raised about three generations of Grosse Pointe there through over 20 years owning Sparky Herbert’s,” Finken said. “... I just love the community and being here.”

Those connections and that bond continue today with Finken’s business beyond Sparky Herbert’s. People around the Pointes have come to know and trust Finken and his businesses for the quality and care they take with every customer.

“It’s community service and a business when you’re in the food business,” Finken said. “We know a lot of the community and they know us and trust us for our culinary offerings and love of the community.”

Today, Finken sees things continuing to grow and improve beyond what he ever could have imagined.

“I’m proud of the community and that other people are picking up the baton and running with it,” he said. “It’s supporting itself in the success that it has and I’m happy to be a part of it.”

DPW:

Continued from page 1A

in southeast Michigan.”

Mayor Robert Denner added the project will be a terrific asset to the Park, thanking the Tax Increment Finance Authority for its hard work and topping Sizeland’s statement: “This is going to be the best-looking public service garage in the state of Michigan.”

“All the guys, I know for a fact, are going to enjoy it,” said Pat Thomas, DPW director.

Stucky Vitale Architects has championed design for the project. Gino Roncelli, Roncelli Inc. vice president, has been assigned as general contractor and told the crew



The Park DPW crew celebrates the groundbreaking of their highly anticipated new building.

Wednesday the building would “look better than that drawing, (be) on schedule and (come in) under budget.”

A late spring or early summer completion is expected. Until then, the department will continue to operate out of its current grounds located at 1005 Wayburn, slated to be part of the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Center for the Performing Arts and Jane Manoogian Art Gallery.

— Kate Vanderstelt



After a long time coming, Grosse Pointe Park held a groundbreaking for a new department of public works facility, to be located on Mack Avenue between Maryland and Wayburn. From left, Roncelli Inc. Vice President Gino Roncelli; Tax Increment Finance Authority Chair John Hughes; Mayor Robert Denner; DPW Director Pat Thomas; City Manager Nick Sizeland; and Stucky Vitale Architects President John Vitale.



A rendering of the building, shows the view one would see when driving east-bound on Mack Avenue.

PHOTOS BY  
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PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID at Detroit, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

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Grosse Pointe Yacht Club announces major harbor renovation

The Grosse Pointe Yacht Club recently announced a major harbor renovation to take place this fall and winter, including the replacement of five docks, a new bridge, new fuel pumps and more. The new harbor design will increase the slip count by three, giving it a grand total of 246 slips. The renovation is being completed by EC Korneff Co.

“We are thrilled to finally deliver these harbor renovations that our members have been requesting for years,” General Manager Aaron Wagner said. “Not only will the new docks

make for safer walking surfaces for our members, but they will be more durable against the constantly changing water levels in Lake St. Clair.”

The complete list of renovations includes:

- ◆ five new, state-of-the-art floating docks replacing the current docks on Bridge, Hickory, Gas, Moby and Tee docks;
- ◆ seven new fixed docks facing the Olympic-sized swimming pool;
- ◆ four new fixed docks added to Shoreline Dock on the north side of the harbor;

- ◆ the drawbridge leading out to the east wall replaced with a new swing bridge, similar to what is on the south side of the harbor;
- ◆ new walkways along the guest wall and out to the east wall;
- ◆ the east wall dock’s walkway resurfaced with wood decking;
- ◆ new pump out systems on all newly renovated docks; and
- ◆ four new fuel pumps with increased fuel speed.

“The GPYC Board of Directors is committed to our ‘VISION 2026,’

See HARBOR, page 5A



City of Grosse Pointe

Help yourself

Two black men, one wearing a silver jacket with blue jeans and the other wearing an orange jacket with gray jeans, were seen taking a basket full of groceries out of a store in the 16000 block of Kercheval Avenue without paying at 7:54 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26.

Red light, not stop sign

A 40-year-old Southfield woman admitted to having three drinks before she was pulled over at Mack Avenue and Rivard Boulevard at 1:50 a.m. Friday, Oct. 29, after initially stopping at the red light and then proceeding through the intersection while it still was red. A preliminary breath test showed her blood alcohol content to be .192 percent, for which she was arrested.

Ex-boyfriend troubles

A 27-year-old Grosse Pointe woman filed a report with public safety Saturday, Oct. 30, after her ex-boyfriend sent her repeated texts following their breakup and drove by her residence. Officers advised the man not to contact her and she received information on filing a personal protection order.

Gift card scam

A 79-year-old Grosse Pointe woman was scammed out of \$10,000 at 9:33 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 30, when a suspect who claimed to be calling from Chase Bank advised her to purchase the amount in Target gift cards to prevent hackers from exhausting all the funds in her account.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Old shots, new wounds

A resident in the 1800 block of Newcastle discovered two bullet holes made by 0.22 caliber and 9 mm caliber bullets as the source of a roof leak at 4:11 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26.

The bullet holes report-

edly may be up to 12 months old.

Temporarily entering

Around a year ago, a home in the 1300 block of North Renaud caught fire. Scheduled for demolition soon, it was found someone removed temporary plywood and entered the home at 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 28.

While it is unknown who was responsible, aluminium trim also has been removed from the home.

Missing Jeep

A 2019 Jeep was taken from a home in the 900 block of Woods Lane overnight Thursday, Oct. 28.

One of the car fobs is missing and the owner reports the other may have been in the Jeep.

Lease payments and vehicle insurance are up to date.

Fake money for real money

A black man estimated to be in his 40s, wearing a ball cap and red sweat-suit and driving a black Escalade, used counterfeit currency to purchase four GreenDot MoneyPaks at 10:47 a.m. Friday, Oct. 29.

Twelve \$100 bills, all boasting the same serial number, were used in the transactions, gifting the man four GreenDot MoneyPaks and \$44.04 in change each of the four times he did it.

DTE worker or diamond stealer?

A white man knocked at the door of a residence in the 2100 block of Anita at 1:12 p.m. Friday, Oct. 29, claiming to be an employee of DTE there to perform work.

Approximately 6 feet tall and wearing a yellow vest with silver stripes and dark pants, the “employee” asked the resident to go to the basement and shut off electrical breakers.

When he came back upstairs, the man, standing on the porch, told the resident it did not work and asked him to try again.

While the resident was in the basement the second time, the man, who

was not invited inside, found his way to the basement and confronted the homeowner. Back upstairs, the resident found the suspect at the kitchen table doing paperwork.

Thinking something strange was happening, the resident took down the license plate number of the “DTE worker’s” vehicle.

The suspect offered the resident \$50 for helping him before leaving the home.

Upon the suspect’s departure, the resident identified a wooden jewelry box containing a diamond ring missing.

Careless on Halloween

A 31-year-old Detroit resident was issued a citation for careless driving at 10:25 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 31, after reports of running red lights and speeding came in and the driver was clocked on a motorcycle going 68 mph on Mack Avenue, a 35 mph road, near Lochmoor.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

No stealing

A 57-year-old Detroit man was arrested at 1:40 a.m. Monday, Oct. 18, for breaking into a vehicle in the 900 block of Three Mile and stealing credit cards from inside.

Investigation showed the man at the scene of the crime and the credit cards inside his home.

Speeding and suspended

A 29-year-old Warren man was arrested for driving with license suspended at 10:26 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26.

He was pulled over at Jefferson and Trombley for speeding.

In the dark

A 30-year-old Detroit man was driving after dark without headlights or taillights at 10:28 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26.

He was stopped at Mack and Chatsworth

and found to be driving on a suspended license.

Speeding before dawn

A public safety officer pulled over a 28-year-old Detroit man at Mack and Maryland at 4:11 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27, for speeding.

His license was found to be suspended.

Drill and mower

Surveillance footage showed two men taking a Milwaukee drill and Lawn-Boy push mower, valuing \$425, from an unattached garage in the 1400 block of Maryland at 5:12 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27.

The men were seen via the video fleeing east-bound in the alley.

Operating while intoxicated

A 20-year-old Park man was arrested for operating while intoxicated after causing a one-car accident at Fairfax and Beaconsfield at 8:38 a.m. Friday, Oct. 29.

The driver left the roadway and struck a DTE pole. Though no other injuries were reported, damage was sustained to the pole and the car.

— Kate Vanderstelt  
Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety, (313) 822-7400.

Grosse Pointe Shores

Unlicensed speeder

After being pulled over for speeding 44 mph on Lakeshore Road at 12:25 a.m. Friday, Oct. 29, a 43-year-old Detroit man was arrested for not having a license or vehicle insurance.

Bumper cars

A 43-year-old Detroit woman driving on Vernier Road at 5:11 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 30, lost control of her vehicle as she turned onto Lakeshore Road and entered the median, striking planter pots and a light post. Upon re-entering the road-

way, she struck a vehicle in the northbound lane before striking head-on a vehicle parked at the traffic light.

There were no major injuries and the woman was issued a citation for a property damage accident.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Items stolen from unlocked car

A tablet and Bluetooth headphones were discovered missing at 7:04 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26, from a work truck left unlocked in the 400 block of McKinley Avenue.

Digging deeper

A 28-year-old Westland man on tether with Wayne County for selling drugs to an undercover police officer was pulled over at Mack Avenue and Moross Road at 4:36 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27, for not wearing a seatbelt, driving a work vehicle without working brake lights and failing to signal a turn.

When marijuana was found on his person, the man received multiple citations along with citations issued to his company for the condition of the work vehicle.

Can only run so far

When officers attempted to follow up on a recent flee and elude case where the driver is known to live in the 700 block of Lincoln Road, the man once again sped away in his vehicle once officers announced themselves at 9:08 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 28.

Officers discontinued the chase as the man was

speeding 50 mph in a residential 25 mph zone. An out-of-custody warrant has been sent to Wayne County.

Stalker scam

A 50-year-old Farms woman received a phone call from an unknown suspect at 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 28, who knew her home and work address and claimed to be with the Macomb County Sheriff’s Office and calling about a warrant for her arrest.

She then received a text message of a sexual nature, which also threatened that she was being watched, from the same number.

Creepy coworker

A young woman working at a business in the 18000 block of Mack Avenue reported a 40-year-old coworker Thursday, Oct. 28, for making multiple comments about how he would kidnap her, as well as for grabbing her inappropriately.

Take the candy, leave the kids

Officers were called to the 200 block of Hillcrest Road at 6:46 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 31, for a report of a 5-year-old, 1-year-old and infant left alone in an unlocked car.

When the mother, a 25-year-old Detroit woman, was located, she admitted she left the children unattended to trick-or-treat for more candy for them, because it was too hard to handle the children and carry the infant in the car seat.

A child protective services referral was completed.

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

HARBOR:

Continued from page 4A

which is a strategic plan to focus on the future of the club,” said David Schaden, a member of the GPYC Board of Directors. “The harbor renovations represent a significant improvement to our facilities for

our current and future members to enjoy.”

VISION 2026 has been the spearhead for the club’s major capital improvements in the last year, including the remodeled Spinnaker restaurant, main dining room, foyer and rotunda.

Although these renovations have been highly

requested by current boaters at the club, the GPYC has also seen increased interest in the harbor since the 2020 boating season and club management wants to prepare the harbor accordingly for an influx of new boating members. Due to COVID-19, boat sales have skyrocketed across the country.



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Grosse Pointe News

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY WEEKLY BUGLE, LLC  
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OUR VIEW

Baby bust,  
not boom,  
in GPPSS

Enrollment in the Grosse Pointe Public School System has declined by nearly 1,000 students since 2018-19, resulting in a loss of some \$10 million in annual revenue.

The Grosse Pointe Public School System had expected to see a gain of 125 more students enrolled in the district this year. Instead of gaining, the district lost 282 students compared to last year.

The loss this year is especially disconcerting since enrollment last year was down 526 students. Of course, the 500-plus students lost in 2020-21 mostly can be attributed to the pandemic.

2018-19 was a pivotal year for school enrollment. It was the unexpected loss of 218 students that year that triggered actions that would lead to the eventual closing of Poupard and Trombly elementary schools.

Enrollment has declined by some 980 students from 2018-19, administration announced at last week's board of education meeting.

Using mental math, the hit to the budget is not hard to guesstimate. The district loses about \$1 million in revenue for every 100 students lost in enrollment. That equates to \$9.8 million in reduced funding this school year vs. 2018-19.

Last year's loss of 500-plus students was mitigated by the state averaging the enrollment declines — like profits or losses — to reflect a loss of just 122 students, rather than the actual 526. That largesse — \$6.5 million — was expected to go away for this fiscal year.

Further, we no longer have pandemic relief funds to count on, and we have some \$4 million in approved wage increases in union contracts to cover. The shortfall in revenue vs. expenses will have to come out of the districts' fund equity, which is already below the recommended 15 percent of expenditures. A nearly \$10 million hit to the fund equity will bring it dangerously low.

But what explains the continued decline in enrollment, besides the pandemic?

Some blame fewer children being born. Some students due to the pandemic are not coming back. Whatever the cause, we need to find a remedy.

Increasing the availability of homes for families should be a top priority. Perhaps incentives for seniors to downsize by grandfathering in home-stead caps for senior buyers might be a way to go. As it stands now, seniors who seek to buy a smaller home — if they can find one — find themselves paying more in taxes for less square footage.

Whatever the case, time — and fund equity — is running out.

Election results

Results of Tuesday's election were not available at presstime. They will be posted as they are available on our website, grossepointenews.com.

Wayne County vaccinations*		
As of 11/2	Initiation**	Completions***
Vaccinations	667,104	615,034
% of residents 12+	72.6	66.9
% 12-15 years old	49.0	44.7
% 16-64	70.1	64.3
% 65+	89.3	83.7
*Excluding Detroit **1 of 2 doses *** 2 doses or J&J		

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EDITORIAL CARTOON BY KEN SCHOP

OUR VIEW

You're a mean one, Mr. Nick

With the election Tuesday as we go to press, we did not plan on opining about Grosse Pointe Park this week. But quietly selling the iconic and unique Grosse Pointe Santa Claus sleigh by Park City Manager Nick Sizeland has the community in an uproar.

In fact, a Facebook page, Bring Back the GP Santa Sleigh, was created to address the issue and come up with a ride for Santa in this year's parade, just weeks away.

For background, the sleigh with Santa's eight reindeer soaring over Kercheval and the landmarks of Grosse Pointe, with Rudolph leading the way, was sold at auction for \$4,300, along with other items from Soltz's Quality Meats. The sleigh was put up for auction at the urging of Park DPW supervisor Pat Thomas with Mr. Sizeland's OK.

It appears the stakeholders of the sleigh — Grosse Chamber of Commerce, which hosts the parade; Friends of the Grosse Pointe Parade; civic leaders; the local newspaper — were not told of the pending sale beforehand. Had they been informed, we would most certainly still be in possession of the sleigh.

The sleigh was the brainchild of Grosse Pointe resident John Stevens after his granddaughter Sammy asked him during the 2004 parade why Santa and Mrs. Claus were riding in a horse-drawn wagon and not a sleigh. With the help of GM design engineer Dick Ruzzin in the Park and defense contractor

Bruce Burton of the Farms — and \$80,000 donated — the feat was accomplished in time for the 2005 parade, where the majestic Grosse Pointe Santa sleigh debuted.

It was — and is — a truly amazing work of engineering.

Also sold at auction was the Toys for Tots train. In all, the Friends of the Grosse Pointe Parade — the nonprofit formed by Stevens, et al. — created four floats. In addition to Santa's Sleigh and the Toys for Tots train, there are the Toys for Tots caboose and the White Christmas carriage.

Following the 2016 Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade, the Friends donated the sleigh and train to Grosse Pointe Park. The city's sole responsibility was to keep the equipment safe and maintained and parade-ready.

According to the sleigh's new owner, the sleigh and train were in no condition to be in this year's parade. It is no wonder DPW chief Thomas wanted to dump the equipment as quietly as possible before this year's parade came around.

Fortunately, it looks like Santa won't have to call Uber for a ride. The Chamber of Commerce is looking at several options for providing Santa with transportation, including bringing the older Bresser family sleigh out of retirement.

We have likened this incident to the Grinch. Perhaps we should quote Ebenezer Scrooge:

Bah, humbug!

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.

Santa's sleigh:  
How it  
came to be

To the Editor:

The Santa Claus sleigh was donated to the city of Grosse Pointe Park on Dec. 25, 2016. It was designed, built, maintained and driven by Grosse Pointers.

Very special Grosse Pointe friends and volunteers were Bill Demeter, Marcia and Steve Sholty, Vince Muniga, Greg Muliett, Mark Lorkowski, Rich Poznaniak and Alison Larson.

The Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Sleigh and the Friends of the Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade

The idea to create a float for the Santa Claus Parade in Grosse Pointe was brought forward by Betty Stevens. She and her husband, John, put together the organization that would become the Friends of the Grosse Pointe Parade, made up of people from the Pointes. A board of directors was created that we later added to by includ-

ing all of our volunteers.

Everyone did a great job. There was great success and pride in supporting the Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade.

The vision for the Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Sleigh

I was asked by John Stevens to design the Santa Claus sleigh. I had a blank sheet of paper, a rare opportunity for a designer.

I decided to first write a vision statement that would define what the new Santa Claus sleigh would be. That was then discussed and agreed to by John and Betty Stevens.

Included in the statement were certain characteristics that we all felt the sleigh must embody. No preconceived design solutions would be considered, as that would diminish my design opportunities for outstanding success.

I next went to the Grosse Pointe main library to the children's Christmas section for inspiration. I wanted to reconnect with what

Christmas was all about for children.

I then created a vision statement to be my design guide and after approval by John and Betty, I was then ready to search for a design. At that point I had no idea what the float would look like or be, but I was very relaxed and confident. With my experience at the library and the vision statement in hand, I started looking for a theme for the float. I had not allowed any possible ideas to come forward to that point, either by myself or anyone else.

The Grosse Pointe Santa Claus sleigh vision statement

The first must-have point was self-propulsion. This was seen as very important in early discussions. The sleigh must be powered and not towed by another vehicle.

Second was that it must have a life size and realistic scale, a sleigh that looked like the real thing, created in the proper scale, a sleigh that looked like you could get into it and fly away. The reindeer also had to look graceful and real, not exaggerated in any way.

Third was to reflect the character and landscape of the Grosse Pointes. When writing this I had no idea how I would do it, but I felt that this feature was very important and it would prove to become the key design point and it would have a profound effect on the

final design solution.

Fourth was to develop a theme that was like no other Santa Claus parade float — anywhere. That was really very important to me. It was what I always tried to do as a car designer for General Motors.

The vision requirements were the harsh realities I would face in order to define and then evaluate the quality of my design solution. I did not know how at that point, but I trusted that I would be able to include all of them. I then sat down to sketch a design with the vision points fresh in my mind.

Immediately character and landscape came forward and my quick conclusion was the design theme as we know it. Santa, in his sleigh, flying over The Hill on his way down Kercheval in The Village, the actual route of the parade, would be part of the theme. This simple concept that seemed so logical was a reflection of the very parade itself!

I then made a very quick and almost abstract concept sketch of the design to solidify the concept in my mind.

Next was a more precise and detailed mechanical drawing that reflected the design character in the concept sketch; it would include seating and vision criteria for the driver with the engine located behind him but in front of the

See LETTERS, page 7A



I SAY By John Minnis

# G.L. National Cemetery a moving experience



Terry and I attended our first service last week at the Great Lakes National Cemetery In Holly. Even without a 21-gun salute, it was moving. The service was for Terry’s Uncle Bill, who served in the U.S. Marines. It was windy, but not too cold. We had maybe 30 in attendance.

The Great Lakes National Cemetery, established in 2005, is the second national cemetery in Michigan. The first, Fort Custer in Augusta, was established in 1917. The 544 acres in Holly was originally owned by Bryson Dexter Horton, a Spanish-American War veteran-turned-industrialist who invented the “Square D” switch. A successful inventor and entrepreneur, Horton reportedly entertained such preeminent locals as Henry and Edsel Ford, who both hunted and fished there, according to the cemetery’s website. At both national cem-

eteries in Michigan, visitors enter via the Avenue of Flags — a gauntlet of American flags along the curved roadway that leads to the welcome center. A sea of the standard veterans markers covers the cemetery’s rolling hills. The sight is breathtaking. The services appear to be held on the half hour. Since there are two committal shelters, only two services can be held at a time. When entering, there is an electronic sign with the deceased’s names. One line for each. At the given time the precessional leads to the appropriate shelter. The shelters are open-air pavilions with

benches. The service begins with a recording of “Taps.” Always very moving. Then two members of the Armed Forces ceremoniously unfold an American flag and then painstakingly refold it perfectly. It is then presented to a spouse or family member. Like I said, it was very moving. I was disappointed, however, without the 21-gun salute. But given the number of back-to-back committals they perform each day, I can understand why they cannot do a salute. According to Wikipedia, there were over 23,000 interments at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in

2014. On our visit, there was a lot of ground being worked for new grave sites. Wall columbariums are also available. If you have a loved one who served honorably in the military, I would consider having her or him placed at the Great Lakes National Cemetery. What a great place to bring grandchildren and great-grandchildren to honor a family member who served our country. For more information, go to cem.va.gov. Google Alert: Grosse Pointe Did you know there was a “Grosse Pointe” in Haiti? I didn’t either. It came

up in an automatic “Google Alert” I set up for anything appearing on the web with “Grosse Pointe.” “Several killed in shipwreck off Grosse Pointe, Haiti,” reported the Jamaica Obsesrver. “The mayor, who told reporters that at least 20 people, including six women and two babies died, added that the ship was ‘overloaded,’ because in addition to people it was carrying goods, including bags of cement.” What a tragic way to learn of a Grosse Pointe outside of our Grosse Pointe. Our hearts and prayers go out to the people of Haiti who have seen so much suffering.

## YESTERDAY’S HEADLINES

1946  
75 years ago this week  
BENNETT RESIGNS POST: Arthur Hart Bennett, who has been superintendent of the Grosse Pointe Shores village for the past 24 years,

has resigned. Mr. Bennett would have reached the compulsory retirement age of 68 on March 1, and at his request his resignation was accepted to take effect immediately. He will remain in the office until March 1, to give his successor, Thomas K. Jefferis, the benefit of his experience.

73 VETERANS ENROLLED AT HIGH SCHOOL: The first classes in the Grosse Pointe Veterans’ Institute began Oct. 7 in the high school building. A total of 73 veterans is now enrolled. The average veteran is attending classes three nights a week for either two or

three hours per night. In addition, there are five veterans who are attending the regular day sessions of the high school.

Deciding whether or not to place a traffic light at an intersection is tougher than you might think. Just ask the experts who have been asked to decide if the intersection of Cook and Chalfonte in Grosse Pointe Woods should have a lights. POINTES, HARPER WOODS TO GET NEW \$47,000 BUS FOR SENIORS: City leaders for the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods gathered to announce a new \$47,000 addition to their fleet of buses that provide transportation to area seniors and physically and/or mentally challenged residents of any age. The communities obtained the new vehicle without spending money — rather they obtained it through a federal grant. Writing the grant were residents and city leaders who make up the board of the Pointe Area Assisted Transportation program.

2011  
10 years ago this week  
THRIFT SHOP NOW ON MACK: The Neighborhood Club Thrift Shop is operating at 17888 Mack, between Rivard and Washington. Although the shop is no longer located within club headquarters, being rebuilt at the corner of Waterloo and St. Clair in The Village, it remains a club operation.

## LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

rear wheels. The platform directly below the flying sleigh would depict The Hill, a high point for the float; it would easily allow the required vertical space for both driver and engine. The driver would look through the windows of one of the small scale buildings on The Hill and down Kercheval toward The Village. I proposed a canopy like a fighter plane for driver entry. Everything the driver needed would be hidden under the small-scale buildings to his right and left. My next step, on a clear, cold and cloudless February Sunday afternoon was to make a 1/10th scale mechanical drawing, the side, front, rear and plan view of the sleigh, on my dining room table. The sleigh and Santa’s reindeer were drawn in the proper position. Upon completion the next day I reviewed the drawing of the sleigh with Michael Stapleton at Prop Art Studio, who would ultimately build the float. A designer himself, he added great value to the concept, and I then went to Bruce Burton with a copy. He graciously had offered to build a running mid-engine chassis that would fit under my design profile without alteration; it would provide the structure and drivetrain that would match and support my design concept. On each side of Kercheval on the float were scale models of stores, schools, churches, community centers and signs. And, of course, on the left side, Lakeshore Road and Lake St. Clair. The buildings were labeled and scaled to be in the proper proportion to match the Ford House, a prominent landmark in Grosse Pointe Shores. The design was set, and over the next several months the sleigh was built in Michael’s shop. Butch Edgar was very supportive and had chronicled the design and building of the sleigh along the way in the Grosse Pointe News, so there was great expectation by Grosse Pointers for the sleigh’s first appearance. We tested the sleigh the second week of November, driving it through the leaves up and down the streets in Grosse Pointe Park. We could not risk a mechanical failure during the parade; everything was evaluated and checked many times over. Then it was time. Early Friday morning after Thanksgiving, we all met and took the sleigh on its first trip to Kercheval east of The Hill. That first parade was a spectacular day, and we had a great Santa Claus. We walked along with the sleigh over The Hill and then on the way down to

The Village in Grosse Pointe with all of our fingers crossed, hoping that nothing would go wrong. We, all of us from the Grosse Pointes, had created a Christmas icon for the Pointes, a number of great volunteers would join to help us and in 11 years we never had a single mechanical failure in the parade. There were a couple of scary times, but we never disappointed the people, especially the kids, who came out to see one of the best Santa Claus parades in the country. We always saw a lot of smiles by children both young and old. When you walk with the sleigh in the parade, about a 45-minute trip, you really see the wonderful passion that Grosse Pointers of all ages have for Santa Claus and Christmas. On Christmas Day 2016, the Friends of the Grosse Pointe Parade donated the Santa Claus Christmas parade float to Grosse Pointe Park. To their great credit, many of our volunteers have decided to continue support for the float during the Christmas season. Have a great and merry Christmas — always! DICKRUZZIN Grosse Pointe Park

WOODS PONDERES TRAFFIC LIGHT AT COOK, CHALFONTE:

Obituaries: William McIntyre, Frank Welcenbach, Alfred S. Kress, Rhoda D. Baker, Herbert I. Lord, Janet M. Anderson, Edity Joy Metz, Elizabeth “Betty” Dettloff

Obituaries: Howell C. Windsor, Elaine Renaud McHenry, Countess Leslie DeVergenne Lavalley, Lorraine J. Bremer, Elian Harants

Obituaries: John J. Carey, Elizabeth E. Pinkston-Colton, Peggy Pease Hickey, Denise Hillier, Penny D. Gallant, Robert Paul Kaled, W. Curtis Keegin, Beverly Brown Kerr, Joseph P. Zanglin

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**EBI Project #6121008630**  
AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to modify an existing wireless telecommunications facility on a building located at 11 Grosse Pointe Boulevard, Grosse Pointe Farms, Wayne County, MI. The modifications will consist of antennas collocated at +/-102’ and +/-91’-9” AGL on the 107’-4”-tall smokestack. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 6121008630 - JLD EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403, or (203) 231-6643.  
GPN: 11/4/21

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# Homeowners, organizations earn beautification awards

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Residents of the Farms who put significant effort into their landscaping this year were honored with recognition, a lawn sign and a Pewabic tile during the annual Beautification Awards ceremony Tuesday, Oct. 12.

“I just want to thank everybody for all the hard work that you guys put into your homes,” Mayor Louis Theros said. “One of the things I spoke about at a city council meeting a couple weeks ago is that over the last let’s say 10 years, I’ve seen an unfortunate decline in some people putting attention into their properties and it’s residents like you who make me feel proud to live in this community, because you do put time and effort into making your home beautiful.”

This year’s award recipients were John and Tracey Secco at 232 Lothrop; Jennifer and Raymond Morris at 318 Fisher; Andrea and Tom Joy at 466 Calvin; Jennifer and Dr. Scott Barnes at 120 Stephens; Lee Temrowski and Ryan Gelisse at 79 Cloverly; Joan and Joseph Alam at 164 Lothrop; and Fred and Pam Rollins at 55 Touraine.

Special recognition awards, which recognize special efforts to keep Grosse Pointe Farms beautiful, went



Left, the property at 120 Stephens is decorated with dogwood trees, boxwoods and hydrangeas, as well as bordered by colorful annuals. Below, 466 Calvin was noted for its neatness and nice variety of plantings and colors.

COURTESY PHOTOS

to the Grosse Pointe Farms-City Little League for its improvements to Kerby Field and to Stephen Hansen, owner of the Garden Chef of Grosse Pointe, for his service to the community.

The Kerby Field improvements completed in 2021 include upgrades to the dugouts and press boxes, a new brick paver plaza and baseball statues, new picnic tables, improved baseball diamond fields, cement walkways around the entire complex, improved batting cages, replaced bleachers and improved irrigation.

“We hosted the 12-year-old state tournament, which is the pinnacle of Little League,” outgoing Little League President Jay Ricci said. “We had 16 teams from

across the state come and I can’t even count how many people said that it’s the best Little League facility in the state.”

Along with beautification work through the Garden Chef of Grosse Pointe, named for Hansen’s three-decade career as a chef before going into landscaping full time, the landscaper also is a member of the beautification commission.

Efforts of his this year included collaborating with a professional designer on garden beds along Lakeshore and on Moross, which were made pollinator-friendly to attract butterflies and bees.

“I feel very blessed to be a part of this community and be a part of the beautification (commission),” Hansen said.



## Pumpkins in the Park

The first annual Pumpkins in the Park drew a big crowd for trick-or-treating, pumpkin painting, bonfires and stories.

Above, the Stackpooles — Reid, Allison, Molly, Dean and Mark — dressed as family trophies. Allison Stackpoole made most of each costume herself. Right, Amelia Recabarren, dressed as a sundae with sprinkles, enjoyed eating a sundae with sprinkles.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



Left, Darien Ross and his mom, Brittany Ross, and their dog, Coco, show off their costumes as The Incredibles. Above, Miles Kingrich dressed as a cheetah and his brother, Wesley, dressed as a cookie.



Trick-or-treaters got to spin the wheel to see what they won — or what they had to do for candy. Kathy Garrido was excited when a trick-or-treater’s spin landed on, “Dance for your candy.” Left, Alex Curcuru handed out the candy.



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# Friendly competition turns into decades-long career

## City welcomes new officer

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — The newest public safety officer in the City of Grosse Pointe comes with a nearly 25-year background in law enforcement, but initially wound up in the field somewhat unintentionally.

Steve Mukavec, sworn in Monday, Oct. 25, was interested in going into

engineering or psychology as a young adult and only applied for a job with the Detroit Police Department because a friend did not want to do it by himself. “At first it’s kind of like a competition between me and him to see who could get in first,” Mukavec said, “and then it became, as I was going through the process, like, ‘I really like this.’” Following five and a



half years with the DPD, he began a 19-year career

with the Harper Woods Police Department. There, he formed family-like bonds with fellow officers, served on the honor guard team, conducted thousands of arrests for a wide variety of crimes and was coordinator of the field training program and a patrol sergeant when he left. “You name it, I’ve seen it and done it and arrested for it, unfortunately,” he said. Mukavec contemplated leaving the Harper Woods department for two years, waiting for the right place to open up,



COURTESY PHOTOS

**Left, Public Safety Officer Steve Mukavec’s wife, Flora, pins his badge. Above, City Clerk Julie Arthurs swears him in Monday, Oct. 25.**



**Mukavec’s family attended the ceremony to show their support. Pictured from left are his mother, Rose Trotto; daughters, Gabrielle and Isabella; and wife, Flora.**

before his friend, Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Officer Matt Reyes, told him about the City of Grosse Pointe department. “He’s like, ‘I think you’d be a perfect fit there. The guys are really good guys and I know the type of person you are,’” Mukavec said. “... So I decided to do it and I absolutely think it is the right fit.” With more than two decades in law enforcement, Mukavec hopes he can add to the Grosse

Pointe department with his experience. “I’m very appreciative of the opportunity,” he said. “By no means did I go in thinking that I was a shoo-in. I was just very appreciative of everybody that gave me the opportunity to be there and hopefully I can come in and help out and be an asset to the community.” Although Mukavec’s friend didn’t initially make it into the DPD, he now works for the Dearborn Police Department.

# Lawsuit alleges mishandling of scam on elderly Pointe residents

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Following a July scam that cost an elderly Grosse Pointe couple \$92,600 — a majority of their life savings — a complaint was filed in Wayne County Circuit Court in mid-October against Comerica Bank.

Attorneys for the couple allege the bank chain failed in its role as a fiduciary by not canceling the transaction when there was plenty of time to do so, not flagging the situation as a possible scam despite a variety of warning signs and then immediately attempting to avoid any liability.

### The timeline

While on the Costco website Monday, July 26, a warning claiming illegal access to her account came across the screen of a Grosse Pointe woman

in her 70s and directed her to call the Comerica Bank fraud department. “She had attempted to access their account, like she always does and has for years, by putting in the password and her access was denied,” explained John Urso, an attorney for the couple, “which further led her to believe there may be something legitimate going on here.” When she called the number claiming to be Comerica’s fraud department, the woman was connected with a man identifying himself as Comerica employee Sam Peterson, who said they were investigating the possibility of inside unauthorized access to her savings account. Claiming an employee at Comerica could be involved, the woman was directed to go to a branch where she does not normally bank and transfer

her funds to an account set up for her at Evolve Bank & Trust. While this is a legitimate banking institution, Urso explained, the routing and account numbers provided by “Peterson” were not registered with Evolve Bank & Trust, but instead were international. “As she’s leaving the bank driving back home, Mr. Peterson calls and inquires, ‘Have you completed this transfer?’” Urso explained. “And that’s when my client’s wife became suspicious. ... She called (her local) branch and said, ‘Do you have a Mr. Sam Peterson working in your fraud department?’ She was told no.” With the transfer entered at 4:30 p.m., the woman requested the transfer be stopped by 4:45 p.m. From that point July 26, through Friday, July 30,

the transaction appeared to be pending, with the money remaining in the couple’s account. Early afternoon July 30, the couple was called and advised the money had been transferred. **The allegations** Though a participant without having initiated the scam, said Mark Rossman, partner with Rossman, P.C. and co-counsel on the lawsuit, Comerica was in a position where it could have prevented the loss. “It was and should have been possible to reverse that transaction while it was pending,” Rossman said. “... In addition to that, and really perhaps more importantly than what the bank failed to do in order to correct the transaction when (it was requested), was what the bank failed to do at the counter.”

Various red flags any banking institution should be knowledgeable in, he said, included an elderly woman asking to transfer a substantial portion of her account to an outside account with international routing and account numbers, with no prior notice and without the co-signer on the account, her husband, present or even contacted. Adding insult to injury, Comerica sent the couple an indemnification agreement once the transaction completed. “That email said, ‘We are asking you to sign a release and indemnification agreement, basically holding Comerica and Evolve Bank harmless before we can tell you whether there’s any money remaining to be refunded to you,’” Urso explained, “which I find so remarkably awful.” Attorneys for the cou-

ple are seeking \$277,800 in treble damages — or three times the amount lost — along with plaintiff’s costs and attorney fees. “It’s one thing if she effectuated this transfer from the comfort of her own home and everybody was none the wiser until the money was gone,” Rossman said. “This actually went through two levels of command at the Grosse Pointe Woods branch from Comerica on Mack Avenue. ... It pended for four days and then it released on the last day and it was gone.” A Comerica Inc. representative declined to comment, citing customer privacy. “We tried to reach out and resolve this matter without having to file a lawsuit, but to no avail,” Rossman said. “They indicated they wouldn’t even negotiate with us.”

## Treats in The Village

The City of Grosse Pointe hosted its annual Trick or Treat in The Village on Friday, Oct. 29. Despite the rain, lots of trick-or-treaters came out to walk along Kercheval for candy. Hugo, dressed as a lion, was a big hit with trick-or-treaters.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Joe Bonanni, owner of Beyond Juicery + Eatery, and Sara Martin of Speech with Sara handed out candy in front of their businesses. Check out more photos online at [grossepointenews.com](http://grossepointenews.com).



Sam Conn dressed as the Reaper, Lucy Conn dressed as a skeleton and Lily Conn dressed as a taco.

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# District open house is Nov. 7

The Grosse Pointe Public School System is opening its doors to the public from noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7. This event is held in conjunction with the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors; numerous homes on the market also will be showcased.

“Every school will be open with a variety of fun events at each site,” said Rebecca Fannon, community relations specialist. “This event is also a wonderful opportunity to see the investment of your bond dollars in each school to keep our students safe, warm, dry and connected. Ask students and staff questions — about the depth of our course offerings, our recent state and district championship sports teams, the amazing fine and performing arts, the hundreds of clubs and extracurricular offerings and so much more.”

The open house gives



prospective parents the opportunity to:

- ◆ Meet principals and teachers, with representatives from each grade level or department on hand to share curriculum resources and discuss best practices.
- ◆ Walk the halls to view displays of student

work.

- ◆ Take student-led tours, including by leaders from Link Crew, WEB, National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society.
- ◆ Listen to string quartets and performances by other student musicians.
- ◆ Learn about electives

- such as world language, visual and performing arts, life skills/foods, TV production, drama and innovation and design.
- ◆ Discover extracurricular and enrichment opportunities, including sports, clubs and student service organizations.
- ◆ Learn about instruc-



COURTESY PHOTOS

The exhibits in Grosse Pointe South’s Cleminson Hall, above, and the Boll Athletic Center, left, feature 100 years of GPPSS history.

tion and support services available to students, including students with disabilities and special needs.

- ◆ Check out preschool offerings and learn about the Young Fives program, an alternative for eligible children whose parents feel they are not yet ready for a traditional kindergarten experience.
- ◆ Connect with PTO members and enjoy refreshments courtesy of volunteers.

Also open to the public

as part of the district’s centennial are history exhibits at Grosse Pointe South High School. Visitors are welcome to visit Cleminson Hall and tour the history hallway in the Boll Athletic Center, which features a timeline of when each school building was occupied.

Look for balloons and signage to mark the preferred entrance at each school. For more information, email [info@gpschools.org](mailto:info@gpschools.org).



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Merit semifinalists

Grosse Pointe North Principal Kate Murray, right, stands with the school’s Merit Semifinalists, from left, Sophia Graham, John Hetzler and Noah Dean. Not pictured is semifinalist Ana Todesco.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Bode Neumeister was University Liggett School’s Merit Semifinalist.



Grosse Pointe South Principal Moussa Hamka, left, stands with the school’s Merit Semifinalists. Pictured back row from left, are Ronak Parikh, Ethan Harr, Nicholas Litsas, Jack Restum and Igor Trifunovic; and front row, from left, Meghan Wysocki, Lilly Geer, Joseph Sabella and Shannon Dame.

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More information may be found online at  
<https://grossepointe-mi.aauw.net>

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American Cancer Society hosts Detroit Discovery Ball Nov. 12

Cullens, Shafers co-chair event

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

It was a simple decision when Karen and Matt Cullen and Mary and Tom Shafer were asked to co-chair their second Detroit Discovery Ball. Both couples are adamant about doing their part to raise awareness and funds for the American Cancer Society.

“The American Cancer Society is a guiding light to our communities, through education, research and response,” Mary Shafer said. “It is such a wonderful organization. Tom and I feel fortunate and honored to co-chair this event and to help move the needle much closer to achieving the bottom line ... curing this disease.

“I don’t know anyone who’s not touched by cancer,” she added, “if not yourself, then a family member, a friend. It’s devastating.”

For Karen Cullen, the devastation was personal. Her mother-in-law succumbed to lung cancer and her sisters-in-law have battled breast cancer. Her own breast cancer diagnosis

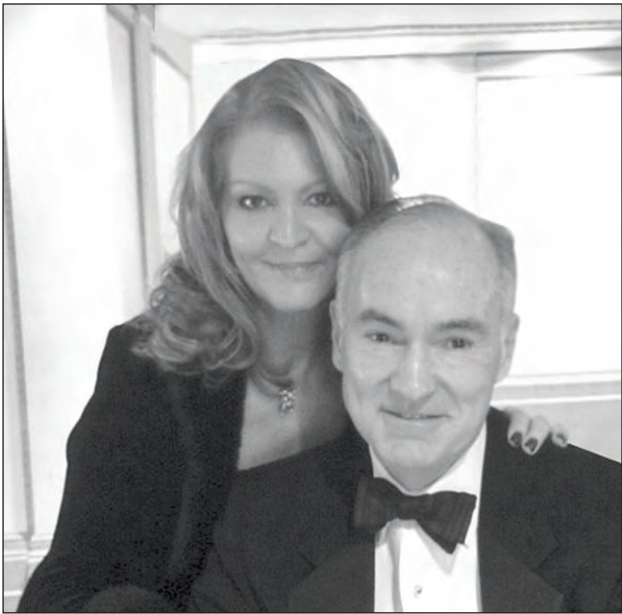
came shortly after a radiologist noticed something suspicious in her mammogram. She said she was fortunate her breast cancer was detected in its early stages.

“Once you’ve had it, it’s something that you want to support,” Cullen said. “It touches so many people.”

The Cullens and Shafers, residents of Grosse Pointe, invite other supporters to the American Cancer Society’s Detroit Discovery Ball, which takes place from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 12, at Eastern Market in Shed 3. The event features a VIP reception, strolling supper, entertainment by NUCLASSICA and silent and live auctions.

Grosse Pointe resident Bill McAllister will serve as emcee of the event, which also includes special guest Nicole Curtis, executive producer and star of HGTV’s “Rehab Addict.”

“This is one of the most dynamic and entertaining events of the year,” Shafer said. “Every ticket sold, every auction item bid on,



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHRISTOPHER PHELPS

Karen and Matt Cullen, left, and Mary and Tom Shafer are serving as co-chair for the Detroit Discovery Ball for the second consecutive year.

every paddle raised will get the American Cancer Society closer to getting more patients the help they need.”

Formerly called the Cattle Baron’s Ball, the Detroit Discovery Ball aims to present an authentic, one-of-a-kind experience to honor those battling cancer, Shafer said.

“The Detroit Discovery Ball launched in 2020 as a virtual event,” she added. “(It’s) mission paddle raise will raise funds for the Michigan Cancer Research Fund, so donations support Michigan researchers directly.”

Added Cullen, “I have

so much respect for the doctors and researchers who are essentially trying to work themselves out of a job. The care with which they approach their work ... the people fighting against this disease are so important. The American Cancer Society is a big player in this.”

Cullen, who sits on the board of directors of the Karmanos Cancer Institute, said there have been great strides the last few decades in terms of new therapies and medications, “but the last five or six years, exciting things have been happening on the

research side. The fact the funds stay in Michigan to help the community is really important.”

The Detroit Discovery Ball is presented by Huntington and Lineage Logistics, as well as Ascension Michigan, Bosch, Campbell Marketing and Communications, Cooper Standard, Nikola Motor Company and others.

Close to \$20 million in 19 years has been raised to support the American Cancer Society’s mission to save and celebrate lives and lead the fight for a world without cancer.

“It’s going to be a great event,” Cullen said. “I’m so happy to be doing it in person this time ... to have the opportunity to come together at Eastern Market to support this very important cause.”

Tickets are \$250 and available until Nov. 10. Sponsorship opportunities also are available.

For more information, corporate sponsorship opportunities or to purchase tickets, call Catherine Deep at (313) 523-1944 or visit [detroitdiscoveryball.org](http://detroitdiscoveryball.org).

“We welcome any and all who want to join us in this fight,” Cullen said.

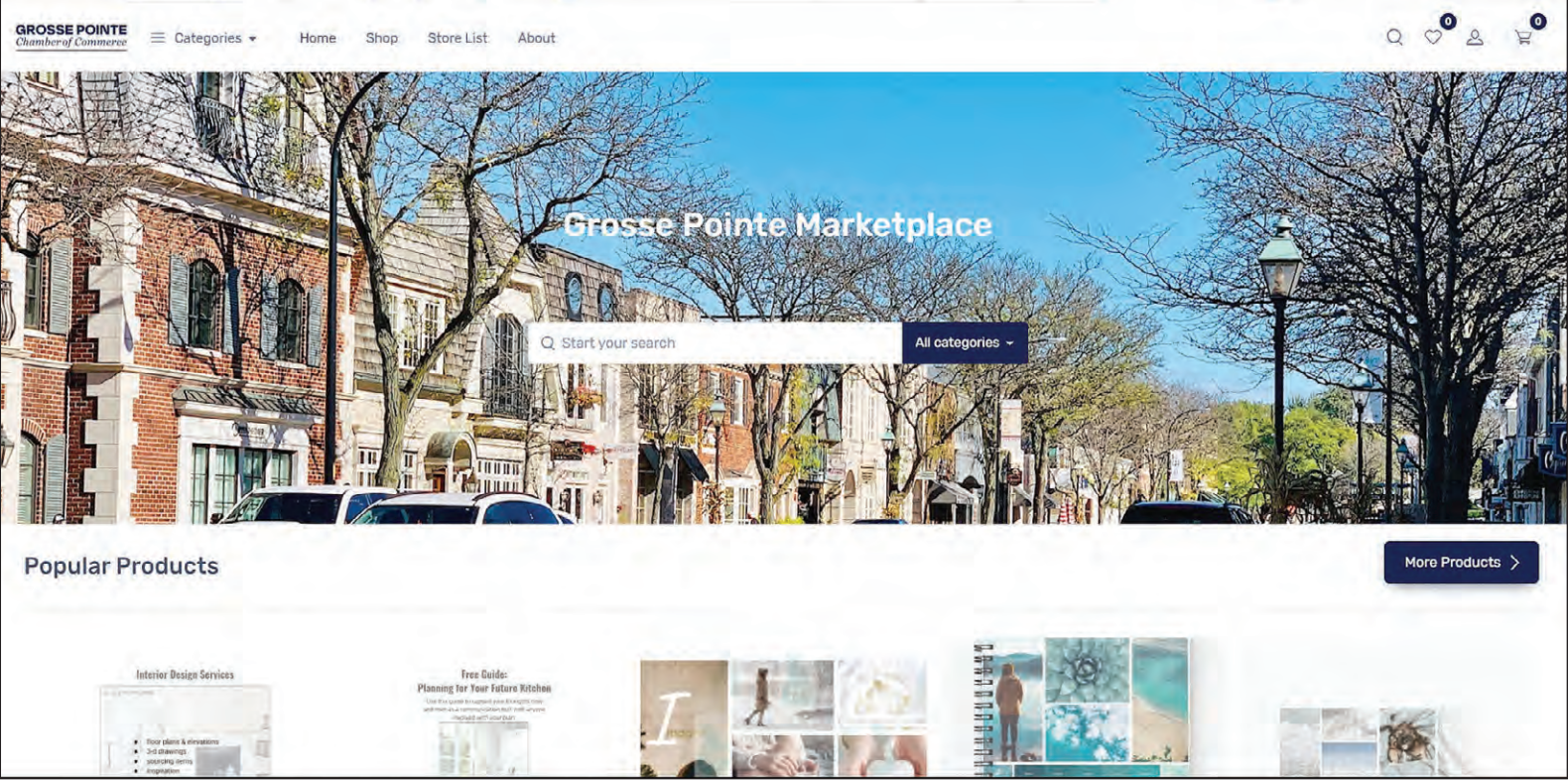
Chamber to launch Grosse Pointe Marketplace

In an effort to showcase the variety of businesses in the Grosse Pointes, the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce is launching Grosse Pointe Marketplace, a one-stop place to shop locally.

If all goes according to plan, [grossepointemarketplace.com](http://grossepointemarketplace.com) will go live Monday, Nov. 8.

“Proceeds from the chamber’s street art project allow the chamber to invest back into the business community with specific projects, programs or initiatives,” Chamber President Jennifer Boettcher explained. “This year’s project is an online marketplace that will allow businesses to have an online presence under one umbrella selling their product(s).”

The marketplace allows businesses that currently have an online presence an additional avenue to promote their offerings.



For businesses that don’t have a website, “Grosse Pointe Marketplace will be a real game changer,”

Boettcher said. Currently, chamber members may take advantage of this online tool at

no charge for the first year. “This initiative will further our mission to

encourage folks to keep their dollars local — shop in your own backyard at businesses owned by your

neighbors,” Boettcher said.

— Jody McVeigh

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# Honoring the brave this Veteran's Day

War Memorial, The Helm and more remember those who served

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

While the ongoing pandemic has changed the face of traditional group gatherings, efforts still are underway to celebrate and honor the men and women who put their lives on the line for the country through their service in the U.S. military.

The War Memorial, the Grosse Pointes' hub for all things patriotic, hosts "Red, White and Blue Jeans," from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7. The event puts a spin on its posh "An Evening of Red, White and Blue," by offering a casual afternoon on the back lawn at 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Though the name has changed, the focus remains the same: honoring the nation's heroes. Veterans, their families and the community are invited to experience this free fall festival, which includes live music by The Brad Phillips Band, Veterans Day card making with the ScrapMobile from Arts and Scraps, a petting zoo courtesy of GP Zoology, a community paint party with Mini Picassos, bounce houses, lawn games, pre-ballet demonstrations with Lil' Dumplins and more.

Burgers, hot dogs, chips, cookies, doughnuts and apple cider, as well as a cash bar, will be available for purchase throughout the event. Veterans eat free of charge.

Admission to the festival is free; however, advanced registration is required, as capacity is limited because of parking constraints due to ongoing construction. Timed admis-

sion is available at 1 and 2:30 p.m. To register, visit [warmemorial.org/redwhiteblue](http://warmemorial.org/redwhiteblue) and select a time.

The Grosse Pointe Public Library also hosts a brief Veterans Day celebration at its Central branch, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Veterans, their families and community members are invited to gather at the outdoor plaza between 1:30 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, for a patriotic program that includes a flag raising, a soloist singing the national anthem, music and a student reading the poem, "Flanders Fields." Light refreshments will be available.

The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, will recognize military veterans during a special program from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

The Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 154 Color Guard will perform a flag ceremony and Daughters of the American Revolution members will individually recognize each veteran in attendance by presenting them a medal to honor their service.

Afterward, veterans and guests are invited to lunch prepared by Grosse Pointe American House at Cottage and then join the Grosse Pointe Men's Club choir in singing patriotic songs.

This event, a perennial favorite at The Helm, is free to members and nonmembers. Registration is required and may be made online at [helmlife.org](http://helmlife.org) or by calling (313) 882-9600. Veterans should indicate their branch of service when making a reservation.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Present at the 2019 War Memorial breakfast were four WWII veterans. Jean Gilbert, Army Air Corps; Bob Jarvis, Army; Eugene Ignasiak, Navy, and George Lesperance, Navy. Ignasiak is wearing his original Navy issued uniform from when he enlisted in 1940.

## Let's play bocce at The Helm!



Above, Cindy McMahon, Jerri Haselmire, Bernie Beutel and Ed Salisbury wait their turn as Marti Loria gets ready to roll her bocce ball down the court.

At right, Jerri Haselmire is excited when she sees how close she rolled her green bocce ball to the pallino (white ball). The game is played with eight colored balls and one pallino.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



The Helm at the Boll Life Center in Grosse Pointe Farms recently added a bocce court to the grounds, and the sporty crowd showed up for some of the first fun.

Bocce ball, also known as Italian lawn bowling, is played with two competing teams. These friends made an afternoon of the good-natured competition and enjoyed the fall weather.

## An ideal retirement job: Park needs crossing guards



By Kate Vanderstelt  
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A vital element in schoolchildren's safety, crossing guards serve at main school-crossing intersections in Grosse Pointe Park during the school year's drop-off and pick-up times.

Park Sgt. Dan Kolar, in charge of coordinating crossing guards, says the position is a perfect one for retirement-aged individuals.

"If you're close by, you can walk to where your crossing is at," Kolar said. "You get out, get some exercise (and) get to socialize with people."

With multiple crossing guard vacancies, the Park recently has had to send public safety officers from their stations to the job. Newly hired crossing guards would allow officers to focus on parking and traffic enforcement, Kolar said.

"(Your job is) to ensure the safety of the kids and the parents getting across the street," Kolar said of the importance of the position. "You're there to assist them. At times, around some of these crossings, you do get a lot of vehicle traffic and having that crossing guard (presence) greatly helps out."

Anticipated crossing guard vacancies are at the intersections of Jefferson and Westchester, Vernor and Cadieux and St. Paul and Somerset. Training and equipment are provided for hirees. The hiring wage for the position is \$16/hour.

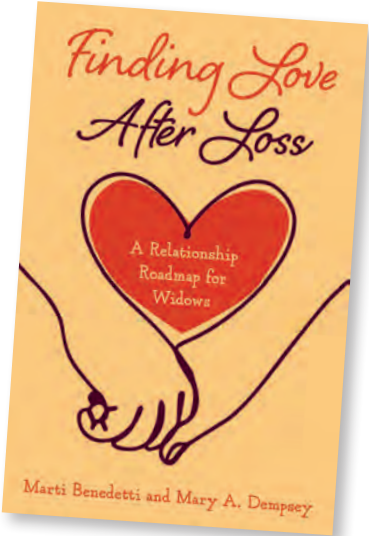
For more information about the openings, call the public safety non-emergency line at (313) 822-7400. Applications may be filled out and turned in at the public safety department, 15115 E. Jefferson. A printable copy also may be found online at [bit.ly/3nICoRd](http://bit.ly/3nICoRd).





By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

# Author’s legacy lives on in shared book about loss



Friends Marti Benedetti (top) and Mary Dempsey co-authored “Finding Love After Loss” as a way to offer hope to widows seeking a partner.

Late last month, Marti Benedetti’s first book, “Finding Love After Loss: A Relationship Roadmap for Widows,” co-authored by Mary A. Dempsey, was released.

Its launch was bittersweet. The book was inspired by a blog Benedetti began writing after the death of her husband, Tom Andrew.

In March, shortly after she approved the cover art and proofread the pages, the Grosse Pointe Farms resident, 66, died of breast cancer.

The book was a labor of love for the authors, who largely wrote it before COVID-19, then found a publisher during the pandemic.

“What happens with people who write for a living is they use writing to sort out what they’re going through,” Dempsey said. “... A couple years after her husband died, she started thinking it was possible to be in a relationship again.”

Online research proved fruitless for Benedetti, who was in her 50s and knew the dating scene had changed during her marriage. Her blog, “LifeAfterWidowhood,” detailed her efforts, experience, frustrations and triumphs.

Dempsey, who dated a widower for several years, said the blog resonated with her. The longtime friends, who met through mutual friend Judy Putnam — all three of them journalists — started talking about the possibility of writing a book together.

“This was really a collaboration between Marti and Mary, their different roles on dating,” Putnam said. “Marti’s was after her husband died. She wanted to get back into the dating world. There were bumps along the way; her blog was quite honest and true to her nature. And Mary was dating a widower. ... They came together as a perfect complement with two different perspectives.”

“Because the blog inspired the book, we worked off of things from the blog,” Dempsey said. “The chapters include lots of widow stories; we interviewed many dozens of widows.”

The book began with the idea it would be a how-to guide for widows who wanted to seek romance again, but soon the authors realized there’s more about widowhood that affects relationships. Chapters include information about widow health, finances, relationships, matchmaking and more. Additionally, portions of Benedetti’s blog appear in their original state, bringing “snapshots of Marti’s life in widowhood” to the pages.



“Marti’s blog went unedited; how they are in the book is the way they originally appeared,” Dempsey said. “When you write with two people, you create a third voice. Her actual voice — her interesting, clever, snarky perspective on things — comes through.”

“Marti was a really good storyteller,” Putnam agreed. “She was opinionated and very frank. She didn’t hold back. For the most part, that was good. ... She was adventurous and lived her life to the fullest.”

Dempsey said the friends were warned against collaborating on a book — that it could cause a rift. That warning couldn’t have been further from the truth, she added.

“We really had a good time,” she said, describing their Thursday morning phone meetings. They created an outline and split chapter writing between the two of them. Once a draft was complete, they’d exchange what they’d written and add to each other’s material.

“Each chapter went through many iterations,” Dempsey said, noting Benedetti fell ill not long after they started working on the book, “but we had fun with it. Marti had a very strong work ethic. Working with her kept me honest.”

“As Marti got sicker and sicker, they kept their calls every Thursday morning,” Putnam said. “I know that was something that was helpful to Marti. She was a widow who was facing cancer. Then came the pandemic. The isolation she faced is pretty hard to imagine.”

The pair uncovered a wealth of information during their research — even a few surprises.

Dempsey said she was surprised to

learn how widows are reshaping their lives; she assumed those who had been married a long time would be looking for similar relationships.

“That’s not the case,” she said. “They want something different. Widows are carving out these unorthodox pathways to romance. Some are married and not living together, or living together and not married. ... They’re carving new models of how these relationships can be forged.

“What I find inspiring is that these are resilient women who are rebuilding their lives in interesting ways,” she added. “And they’re doing it without taking any prisoners.”

What surprised Benedetti, Dempsey added, was the sheer number of widows and widowers in the United States — more than 11 million. Another 700,000 women are added to that number each year.

“If you took all the widows in the U.S. now, you would have New York City and a half,” she said.

While “Finding Love After Loss” was intended for widows, Dempsey said she’s received feedback from non-widows who said the book inspired them to look at their relationships in a different way. She said it also would be a good read for people who date widows or widowers, because, “They’re a different group with different experiences than the rest of us. Widows and widowers carry their grief forever. What does that mean if you’re in a relationship with them? It’s a different dynamic.”

Writing the book while battling stage 4 cancer was a testament to Benedetti’s feisty nature, Putnam said. Days before her death, Benedetti dictated what would become the book’s final essay.



But she also was every bit as fun-loving as her husband, who loved playing jokes.

“They always had a lot of fun,” Putnam said. “They had very fun parties; they would fill their house with people. It is so tragic they both died so young.”

Benedetti was diagnosed with cancer in 2015. Before she died, she was able to see both of her children — Nick Andrew and Molly McCarthy — get married. She also welcomed a granddaughter, Edie.

“Finding Love After Loss” is available in hardcover and eBook. It can be found online at bookshop.org, amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com, politics-prose.com and powells.com. It also may be ordered from Pages Bookshop at pagesbkshop.com

“I do think it’s something that will help people navigate a pretty tough road,” Putnam said. “Witnessing some of my friends, Marti among them, it takes guts to get out there and start dating again. I think this book will be helpful.

“I’m glad she has this legacy. She worked hard her whole life. She was a great writer, a great storyteller. It’s sad and it’s tragic she couldn’t be here, but it’s wonderful to have her work be so relevant and live on.”

# How to easily make your favorite foods healthier



- Tone down the cream. Delicious dishes like fettuccine alfredo typically are made with lots of butter and cream. Replace cream sauces with a healthier base made of low-fat milk thickened with flour. Increase the flavor with favorite spices.

- Fry with care. Use healthy oils like olive or coconut sparingly. Many foods that are traditionally fried also can be lightly coated with cooking spray and baked for a crunchy texture.

- Choose sodium-free seasonings. The USCA recommends limiting sodium to less than 1 teaspoon of salt per day. Try options like fresh herbs or lemon juice to add some sodium-free flavor.

- Increase fiber content. Fiber helps one feel fuller longer and can also be helpful for digestion and heart health. Choose the “brown” varieties of rice, pasta and breads.

- Replace meat with leaner forms of protein. Lean chicken, turkey and pork can replace red meats in many recipes. Some traditional meat dishes, such as burgers, also can be modified using vegetables or seafood. Lean meats dry out quickly, so keep foods moist by watching cooking times.

- Stock up on yogurt. Greek and other varieties of yogurt can replace sour cream and mayonnaise in many dishes.

Resolving to eat healthier while still enjoying meals to the fullest can be easy by making some simple swaps when preparing your favorite foods.

Challenge yourself to make one swap every day in your usual list of recipe ingredients. When you see that you are still loving your favorites just as much, but pounds come off, maintaining the new habit will become easy. And the health benefits will be something to

- Choose crunchy foods. Those who are prone to snacking can reach for noisy foods. These include crunchy items like apples, carrots and pretzels. Scientists say that when people listen to what they are chewing - called the “crunch effect” - they eat less of that item as it satisfies the senses.



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# Van Elslander Foundation donates \$1.5 million to Beyond Basics

## Funds support literacy at Denby High School

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

The A.A. Van Elslander Foundation on Oct. 20 announced a \$1.5 million gift to Beyond Basics, to impact literacy among Denby High School students. The donation will be leveraged to create the Beyond Basics Legacy Program at Denby High School Honoring Art Van Elslander.

The foundation was endowed by the late Van Elslander, a Grosse Pointe businessman and philanthropist — and Denby graduate — who passed away in 2018.

“It is an honor to have a 1948 graduate of Denby High School still have relevancy in the success of our school,” Denby Principal Tanisha Manningham said. “We are truly grateful.”

The mission of Beyond Basics is to achieve literacy and, in turn, transform lives and create stronger communities through intensive tutoring that helps students achieve grade-level proficiency in reading.

“I read and I believe that literacy is one of the single most significant skillsets needed to function effectively in school, in the workplace and in society,” Manningham said. “It is vital to a successful education, career and quality of life.”

While Beyond Basics has been a part of Detroit Public Schools several years, last year, during the pandemic, it was introduced virtually at Denby.

“What I admire most about the students who did virtual learning is ... they didn’t let the challenges of learning virtually prevent them from having a successful learning experience and forming lasting relationships with their tutors,” Manningham said, not-



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above, siblings Debra Van Elslander and David Van Elslander attended the press conference in which the A.A. Van Elslander Foundation donated \$1.5 million to further the Beyond Basics program at Denby High School, their father’s alma mater. Left, Beyond Basics founder and CEO Pamela Good addressed attendees.

ing Denby prides itself on strong partnerships like the one it has with Beyond Basics.

“We are blessed at Denby High School to have so many partners that want to be part of the success of our students,” she added. “It’s the partnerships that we have that keep us going through the journey. I am proud, thankful, grateful. The students are grateful. They’re special, they’re gritty, they’re tough, they’re strong. They come from the direction of wanting to do better than when they came in ... and Beyond Basics will continue to help us do that.”

While Denby students learned virtually during COVID, Beyond Basic founder Pamela Good said, they were able to improve, on average, by two grade levels in regard to reading proficiency.

“This partnership between DPS and Beyond Basics, addressing the crisis of literacy, is really showcasing a solution,” Good said. “... There’s a silent epidemic in America — it is across this nation; it isn’t just in

Detroit. It is illiteracy and it is killing the futures of our children.

“Today, we’re here to really recognize the generous donation of a family that is donating \$1.5 million for intensive, one-on-one literacy intervention for the students here at Denby High School,” she added. “(Art Van Elslander) has a tremendous life story and legacy. He grew up here in the city, he became a phenomenal businessman and he went on to give back to his community while he was still with us and is still continuing to do that through his foundation.”

Detroit Public Schools Superintendent Nikolai Vitti noted his personal interest in having Beyond Basics in the district.

“When I left high school, I was below grade level,” he said. “I made it to college because luckily I was a good athlete. ... When I went to college I started to find out very quickly I was behind my peers.”

Vitti said he then learned he is dyslexic. After receiving the help he needed, he went on to

earn master’s and doctorate degrees from Harvard University Graduate School of Education and find success in his life and career.

Vitti said students struggle when they are not connected to the right curriculum or instruction. Beyond Basics helps fill that gap.

“I can say from my own experience that it has nothing to do with talent, it has nothing to do with potential, it has nothing to do with intelligence,” he said. “It has to do with certain skills that we lack. ... The challenge with our students aren’t our students. The challenge with our students is opportunities and opportunity gaps.”

He encouraged students to continue to push forward and persevere. He thanked the A.A. Van Elslander Foundation for its support.

“I am proud of Art Van and family for investing in their alma mater, investing in our city, but most importantly, investing in our children, in our future,” Vitti said. “If you don’t have the ability to

read and speak, it’s very hard to advocate for yourself, regardless of the experience you have, the confidence you have. The ideas you have can’t materialize, can’t become real.”

Beyond Basics currently is in 10 DPS high schools and serves around 500 students.

“Thank you to the family for your investment, thank you for your partnership and thank you, students, for having the perseverance and confidence to move forward,” Vitti said. “I’m telling you as someone who experienced some of the same challenges you experience in literacy ... wherever you are now does not define you. It’s these partnerships and your willingness to work through it, to admit you have more to do. Each and every one of you have a gift and a purpose beyond what you see right now. These partnerships allow that to happen.”

Speaking on his father’s legacy, David Van Elslander, a Grosse Pointe Park resident, also

addressed students during the press conference.

“My father ... grew up in a small apartment not far from here,” he said. “His father had just an eighth-grade education. If you’d known my father when he was a child, you would never have predicted his success. So what happened? He was lucky enough to meet some people along the way who taught him some valuable skills; that he listened, he learned and he changed the direction of his life. Beyond Basics offers the same opportunity, giving students a chance to change and control their future through literacy.”

“In life, it’s the people you meet along the way, the lessons that you learn and ultimately how you apply what you’ve learned, and that’s what makes all the difference,” he continued. “We’re so proud to support Beyond Basics as they work to give students the skills that they need to succeed. And we encourage other businesses and community leaders to join us. We know these students are capable of incredible things.”

Added Good, “We have to get rid of stigma that says that something is wrong and really just start working on getting the help we deserve and need.”

She noted one of Van Elslander’s favorite quotes: “It’s not the hand you’re dealt, but it’s how you play it.”

“That’s the story of his life and really, it’s the story of each one of our lives: how we each play the hand we’re dealt,” she said. “We’re here today to help you play that hand better.”



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## Chamber honored

The Michigan Association of Chamber Professionals recognized the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce with the 2021 Award of Distinction at the MACP Leadership Conference & Annual Meeting Oct. 22.

“Michigan chambers of commerce played an extraordinary role in keeping businesses informed about changes in government regulations, safety protocol and funding relief sources,” said Joe Bauman, chairman of the MACP and president and CEO of the Birmingham Bloomfield

See CHAMBER, page 6B



# 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.

### Charles Hemstead Horner Jr.

Charles Hemstead Horner Jr., 93, died at Henry Ford Hospice in Sterling Heights Thursday, Oct. 7, 2021.

Charlie was born April 8, 1928, in Haddon Heights, N.J., to Charles Hemstead Horner and Rose Miller, both now deceased.

He had one sister, Muriel Peyton who died in 2018.

Charlie joined the U. S. Army after high school, serving 2 ½ years in Japan.

His passion for sailing began at an early age. He moved to south Florida, attended the University of Miami and continued to sail and race. He raced in more than 30 Port Huron to Mackinac races. He was a member of the Great Lakes Yacht Club for 28 years and in 2000, when he was commodore, he was instrumental in beginning the Leukemia Cup Regatta which raises funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Charlie married his first wife, Joanne Wilson, with whom he had three children, Charles III, Jennifer Buda (Tom) and Joseph Wilson Horner, the latter of whom predeceased him.

After moving to Detroit and working for Union Carbide, he started Horner Transportation Services.

He married Elizabeth Ann Bitonti Kingins in 1989, to whom he was married until his death.

Apart from his children, Charlie also is survived by one granddaughter, Olivia Grace Buda; step-children, David Kingins, Deanna Zapico (Frank), Christopher Kingins (Lorinda) and Kathleen Batson (Traywick); and three step-grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Donor Services, PO Box 22324, New York, NY 10087, or [lls.org](mailto:lls.org).

### John Nowosad

John Nowosad, 85, of Grosse Pointe Shores, passed away peacefully Saturday, Oct. 23, 2021, with family at his bedside.

John was a retired educator. He worked as a consultant for the HighScope Foundation and taught early childhood education classes at Wayne State University. Most notably, John was a first-grade teacher in the Grosse Pointe Public School System, having taught at Monteith Elementary School for 19 years.

He had Master of Education and Bachelor of Arts degrees from Wayne State University, having graduated from Chadsey High School in Detroit in 1954.

John grew up Russian Orthodox as a first-generation Ukrainian American and attended church at Sts. Peter and Paul Orthodox Cathedral in Detroit.

He also served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

John loved to stay

abreast of current events; he was an intellectual and was well-read on a variety of topics. He was an avid reader of newspapers, reading the New York Times and the Detroit Free Press daily.

He was a lover of jazz and enjoyed live music, as well as shopping for and listening to vinyl records with his close friends and son-in-law.

Much of his free time and retirement were spent with family and friends at his cottage, his home-away-from-home, in Harrisville. A home he designed himself, he enjoyed the fresh Northern Michigan air and views of Lake Huron.

John leaves behind his wife, Susan Nowosad, and their beloved golden-doodle, Lulu. He is survived by his daughters, Sarah and Anna; son-in-law, Jon; and granddaughter, Norah.

### John Lester “Jack” van Becelaere

Jack van Becelaere, 92, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away peacefully Sunday, Oct. 24, 2021, at his home, surrounded by family and friends during his brief home hospice stay.

He was a Father Solanus miracle baby, born Feb. 20, 1929, in the family home in Grosse Pointe to Adiel and Marie van Becelaere (née Warnez), both now deceased.

He grew up in Grosse Pointe, graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in the December class and went to work at a Chevrolet plant, as well as entered the U.S. Naval Reserves. He went on active duty on a destroyer escort along the East Coast and after his honorable discharge, used the GI Bill to attend the University of Detroit, University of Texas and University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where he met the love of his life, Shirley Clark, whom he married shortly after graduating.

After earning his Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering, Jack joined Chrysler Defense, earning his Master of Science degree in mechanical engineering through the Chrysler Institute. He then moved to General Motors where he had a 30-year career in various engineering and administrative positions, finally retiring to keep up with his commitments to family and church.

Jack was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather and friend who treated everyone he met with much respect. He was a longtime member of Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church and served in nearly every capacity available to lay members. After Shirley’s death, Jack reinvented himself, revealing previously unknown musical talents, playing guitar and singing in worship and at special events.

Jack is survived by his son, Charlie (Heidi); daughter, Jacki Rumpp (Gary); grandson, Christian van Becelaere (Mariam Aoraha); and granddaughters, Alecia

Ward (J.T.), and Kayla and Faith Rumpp. He was predeceased by his wife of 61 years, Shirley, his parents and his younger sister, Joan.

A memorial celebration of Jack’s life will be held at a later date at Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the church’s memorial fund.

Share a memory at [ahpeters.com](http://ahpeters.com).

### Paul H. Townsend Jr.

Paul H. Townsend Jr. passed away Sunday, Oct. 31, 2021.

He was born Oct. 28, 1932, in Detroit, to Paul H. Townsend and Clarissa M. Davis Townsend, both now deceased.

He moved to Grosse Pointe Park with his parents in 1946, and resided in the City of Grosse Pointe.

He graduated from The Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Conn., Yale University with a Bachelor of Arts degree and The University of Michigan Law School with a Juris Doctor degree.

Paul served on active duty in the U.S. Army from 1954 to 1956, as an officer in 553rd Field Artillery Battalion and later the 77th Field Artillery Group at Fort Sill in Lawton, Okla., followed by six years in the U.S. Army inactive reserve.

He was admitted to the State Bar of Michigan in 1958, and joined Dykema, Jones and Wheat (later Dykema, Gossett) law firm the same year. He specialized in labor and employment law, representing both private and public employers.

He served as the firm’s labor and employment law practice group leader and taught labor law as an adjunct faculty member at Wayne State University Law School during the 1960s.

He retired from the Dykema firm in 1998, after almost 40 years.

During his active legal career, he also served as board member and later president and chairman of Hutzel (formerly Woman’s) Hospital in Detroit. He played an active role in the formation of Detroit Medical Center and served on its board of trustees.

He also served as a trustee of University Liggett School from 1973 to 1979.

Following retirement from law practice, Paul served as a neutral arbitrator, a member of labor arbitration panels for the American Arbitration Association and Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, serving in cases in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and West Virginia.

He also served as administrative hearing officer for the Civil Service Commission of Detroit for grievances of the city’s non-union employees.

He was a member, board member, secretary and later, president of The Huron Mountain Club in Michigan’s Marquette County. He



Charles H. Horner Jr.



Paul H. Townsend Jr.

devoted considerable time to defending the club against potential environmental damage from proposed sulfide mining underneath the Salmon Trout River.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, hiking, canoeing and reading history.

Paul was predeceased by his spouse, Elizabeth “Betsy” Townsend (nee Wheat), to whom he was married 61 years at the time of her death in 2016. He is survived by his children, Paul H. III (Cathy), David R. (Reggie), Elizabeth Alltop (Robert) and Sarah Reiser (Chris); grandchildren, Clarissa Klomparens (Brent), Sgt. David M. Townsend (Michelle), Rebecca (Matthew Hill), Ann (Zhu-Yi), Margaret Elizabeth Braestrup (Paul), Eli Townsend, Andrew Alltop, James Alltop and Katharine Alltop; and seven great-grandchildren. He also was predeceased by his sister, Ann T. Wood.

At Paul’s request, there will be no memorial service.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Huron Mountain Club Community Fund for its endowment fund, at Community Foundation of Marquette County, 228 W. Washington St., Ste. 6, Marquette, MI 49855, or [cfofmc.org/giving/huron-mountain-club-fund](http://cfofmc.org/giving/huron-mountain-club-fund).

### Marilee Rinke

Marilee Rinke, 90, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away peacefully Monday, Oct. 25, 2021.

Marilee was born Mary Louise Jaglowicz on April 3, 1931.

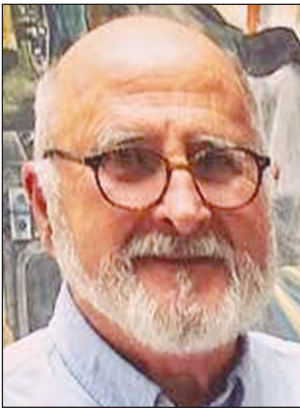
She was educated at St. Mary’s Academy of Monroe and received her Bachelor of Arts degree in early childhood education from Marygrove College in 1953.

Marilee married Richard “Dick” Rinke in 1954, and they enjoyed 61 years of marriage before Dick passed away in 2015.

She was a 50-year member of the Pettipointe Chapter of the Questers historical organization and held the office of state president. In her later years, she became an avid, prize-winning quilter and was a member of the Metro Detroit Quilt Guild.

She also was an active participant in fundraising for the Fontbonne Auxiliary of St. John Hospital.

Marilee and Dick spent many happy days with family and friends at their summer home on Sand



John Nowosad



Marilee Rinke

Point, near Caseville.

Marilee will be lovingly remembered by her children, David (the late Linda), Paul (Linda), Jeff (Sandra) and Cheryl (fiancé Dan Thornton). She was a doting grandmother to Dan Rinke (Katie), Dayna Novak (Tim), Ryan Rinke, Regan Rinke, Richard Morawski (Ashley) and James Morawski; and the great-grandmother of three. Marilee was the sister of Nancy Kucyk (Don) and the late Judy DeCosmo (Ron).

Marilee will be interred alongside Dick at Resurrection Cemetery. No services are planned at this time, but the family will hold a Celebration of Life Mass and gathering in her honor next year.

### Daniel Patrick Foy

Daniel Patrick Foy, 26, of the City of Grosse Pointe, passed away Sunday, Oct. 31, 2021.

He was born Sept. 2, 1995, in Ann Arbor, to David and Mary Foy.

Daniel graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School in 2014. In 2019, he graduated with honors from Hope College, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in communication with a minor in organizational leadership.

Daniel was co-manager of the football team at Hope College and also was involved in a Bible study group.

He worked as a video specialist in the communications and financial industry.

Daniel was an eight-



John van Becelaere



Daniel Patrick Foy

year heart transplant and stroke survivor. He was born with a congenital heart condition and treated at CS Mott Children’s Hospital, where the hospital staff became his second family. He loved all of them dearly and especially enjoyed being involved in fundraiser tailgates during his high school years to support Mott and the University of Michigan. Daniel conquered many challenges along the way with courage and determination, touching many hearts.

Daniel loved all sports, especially football and hockey, with emphasis on the University of Michigan, Detroit Lions and Detroit Red Wings. He enjoyed his Fantasy Football team more than anything.

He loved to travel and was especially attached to Seattle, where he visited his cousin, and Boston, where he visited a friend. He loved to spend time with family and friends and play cards and cornhole. He loved his dog, Moose, with all his heart.

He is survived by his parents, David and Mary; sister, Emma Rose; and brother, Ian.

A service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Mott Save A Heart Campaign Fund, Michigan Medicine Office of Development, 777 E. Eisenhower Pkwy., Ste. 650, Ann Arbor, MI 48108; or call (734) 764-6777 or visit [victors.us/danielfoy](http://victors.us/danielfoy).

See OBITS, page 6B



A memorial service for Carolyn “Candi” Royer will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Friday, November 12, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lake Shore Dr., Grosse Pointe Farms. Carolyn’s obituary appeared in the Grosse Pointe News March 26, 2020.

A memorial service for Richard Kinsey Royer also will be celebrated at the same time and place.



6B | CHURCHES

OBITS:

Continued from page 5B

Theresa Delisi DeRoo

Revered Detroit artist and painter, Theresa Delisi DeRoo, passed away Saturday, Oct. 30, 2021, at the age of 57, of cancer.

Theresa is survived by her husband, Timothy; mother, Judith; and daughters, Nicole (Franklin), Kaycee (Wyatt), Julia and Rose. She was the beloved sister to Ann, Salvatore, Francesco and Nino and adored Nana to six grandchildren.

Through her company, Paintwork Detroit, she beautified and restored historic Detroit landmarks including the Fox Theatre, Orchestra Hall, The Fisher Building and The Detroit Yacht Club.

Visitation takes place from 2 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 6, at Chas. Verheyden Inc., 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park. The family will receive guests from 10:30 a.m. until the time of the service at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 7.

Doris Michaux

Doris Michaux, 90, of Grosse Pointe Shores, passed away at her home Friday, Oct. 29, 2021, surrounded by her family.

She was born July 14, 1931, in Sterling Heights, to Edward and Hattie Boettcher, both now deceased.

She was the beloved wife of the late Harold Michaux, whom she married in 1953. They raised their five children while helping her husband and in-laws, William and Mary, with chores on the Michaux family farm, one of the last working farms in all of the Pointes.

She was a loving mother to her children, Sharon Lovric (Peter), Harold Michaux (Lynn), Kenneth Michaux



Theresa Delisi DeRoo



Doris Michaux

(Mary), Kathy Michaux and David Michaux (Deanna); dear grandmother to Megan, Erin, Evan, Emily, Rebecca, Jenna, Sarah and Jacob; and special great-grandmother to Sophia and Lily. Doris was predeceased by her husband, Harold, in 1987.

Private services will be held at a future date.

Memorial contributions may be made in her memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 32121 Woodward Ave., Ste. 350, Royal Oak, MI 48073, stjude.org.

Memorial

Anna "Ann" Kondak

Family and friends are invited to a Celebration of Life luncheon gathering for Ann Kondak at noon Saturday, Nov. 20. Contact the family at (248) 644-5698 for details. Ann's obituary appeared in the Grosse Pointe News Oct. 8, 2020.

Promising Artists hope to spread holiday spirit across the Pointes

The Promising Artists Council of the Grosse Pointe Artists Association wants to do its part in sharing the spirit of the holidays with friends and neighbors.

Student artists are offering their creative talents across the Pointes, to businesses

looking to spruce up their holiday displays with glad tidings painted on their windows.

The process is easy. Those interested merely need to let the Promising Artists Council know what they'd like their display to look like by Friday, Nov. 12. The team will have a design

meeting Saturday, Nov. 13, then share their ideas with the businesses before painting begins Saturday, Nov. 20. Cost is \$150 per window.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Samples of students' work.

The fee covers design, materials, labor and removal after the holidays.

The council hopes this project helps promote the holiday spirit among business customers and neighbors, while at the

same time supports the Grosse Pointe Artists Association's free arts programming for seniors and veterans.

To place an order, email gpaa@grossepointeartcenter.org or call (313) 881-3454.

Fundraiser this Friday, Saturday

The Pieces Be With You quilt association at St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church hosts a fundraiser sale of hand-crafted quilts and more to help members recover from the June flood that destroyed everything in the ministry. The sale is

from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 5, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 6, at 375 Lothrop in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Just in time for the gift-shopping season, hundreds of affordable items are for sale, from \$3 to \$300. The sale includes

more than 50 quilts in modern to traditional styles, plus fashionable bags and totes; colorful backpacks; Christmas and Thanksgiving décor, from wall hangings to tree skirts to ornaments; kitchenware like microwave cozies, potholders

and casserole carriers; quilts and books for baby; pillow cases, wine bags and more.

An online auction featuring six quilts runs through Sunday, Nov. 7, at spelc.betterworld.org. Donations also may be made on the site.

Music at Memorial presents 'Melodies for Two'

Music at Memorial's 2021-22 season continues Sunday, Nov. 7, with "Melodies for Two," an afternoon of Scandinavian music to celebrate a new collection of arrangements for two players by Marilyn Biery and Stephanie Shapiro.

"Melodies for Two" was published by GIA Publications of Chicago in 2021, and features music by Grieg, Sibelius, Nielson and three Swedish female composers.

The performers are Laura Larson on flute, Stephanie Shapiro on oboe, Rose Urbiel on violin and Marilyn Biery on organ and piano.

This concert is made possible by a bequest from the Dahling family.

The Nov. 7 concert begins at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door, and are available at the church reception desk or by visiting eventgroove.com and searching "Grosse Pointe Memorial Church."



COURTESY PHOTO

Stephanie Shapiro, left, and Marilyn Biery.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Questers

The next meeting of Pettipointe Questers Chapter 243 takes place at 10:45 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 4, at Ardmore Place in St. Clair Shores. David Dolby will speak on "The Importance of Preservation of Cherished Items."

Meetings take place the first Thursday of each month at various locations, usually on the east side of Detroit. Email pettipointequesters@gmail.com.

Find a complete listing of Area Activities online at [grossepointenews.com](http://grossepointenews.com)

CHAMBER:

Continued from page 4B

Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber organizations across the state served as clearinghouses for thousands of businesses and their communities struggling to make sense of rapidly changing mandates that forced many organizations to close their doors, move to remote operations or identify essential employees overnight. Chamber staff worked tirelessly at the forefront to answer

questions, direct resources and advocate for the entire business community.

"Despite facing changes to their own business models and losing event revenue and dues investments from members going out of business, chambers stayed committed to serving the businesses in their communities and finding innovative ways to deliver programming," said Bob Thomas, chief operating officer of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce.

The MACP traditionally awards the Outstanding Chamber of Commerce Award to individual chambers of commerce based on a comprehensive application judged by chamber of commerce professionals from other state associations. This year, the association board of directors elected to award all the chambers in the state an award of distinction for their roles in supporting the business community and making tough choices to survive the pandemic.

"Any chamber that is able to offer programs and support its members after a year of being shut-down deserves to be recognized," Bauman said.

The MACP is the industry association for more than 300 chambers in Michigan. Its mission is to build excellence in chambers of commerce through organizational and board-level resource support, professional development for chamber staff and to promote the importance of chambers of commerce across the state.

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

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

**WEDNESDAY**  
10 a.m. - Bible Study

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# LIFE & ENTERTAINMENT

2C DEAR ABBY | 3C WINE TALK | 5C MOVIE JUNKIE MARK | 7-8C COMICS & PUZZLES

## Creating a community of kindness

### Readers invited to pick up a book

By Kate Vanderstelt  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — Maureen Bennett, a Woods resident more than 30 years and a healthcare professional, learned about Little Free Libraries when her 24-year-old book-loving daughter, Delaney Bennett, visited home from Boston and was upset all the big bookstores were closing.

“She likes to just hold a book and read it,” Bennett said. “She went with her girlfriend, Katie, and said, ‘We’re going to take a tour of where the free libraries are.’”

She told her mother there were lots in St. Clair Shores and Bennett was confused as to why there weren’t many in the Woods, their town.

“That became the journey of getting a hold of the city and asking them,” Bennett said. “And they graciously said yes.”

She ordered the Little Free Library and, once it came in, got to work building, decorating and installing the project—something which brought her artistic side great joy.

“I love to paint,” Bennett said. “I work in healthcare and for the last two years, it seems, it’s been nothing but very stressful and those hobbies have gone to the wayside. I decided to kind of take back that control in what gives me happiness and thought, ‘Alright, I’m going to add my personal touch to it and kind of create a community of kindness because I think we all need that.’”

“It was probably one of the nicest couple of weeks painting this in the backyard that I’ve had in quite a while,” she added.

Bennett painted the sides of the Little Free Library to encapsulate each of the four seasons, with the inside covered in wintry trees. She paid homage to her daughter on the side, painting the spine of her daughter’s



Above, Bennett used her artistic skills to paint spring on the Little Free Library. Below, summer is depicted.



favorite book, “The Outsiders” by S. E. Hinton, and her own, “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” by Roald Dahl. On the back, she added the spine of “Paddle to the Sea” by Holling C. Holling out of respect for all the Mason Elementary School teachers, who she remembers teaching her kids the book.

A dog lover at heart, the Little Free Library is named after Bennett’s past and present pups, Takoda, Luna, Otter, Loki and Belle. She even attached a metal hook with an engraved paw print to hold a doggy-bag dispenser, on which a bottle of hand sanitizer also hangs, in tribute to her healthcare background.

Bennett’s library has been installed in front of her home a little more than three weeks now, filled with books ranging from infant to adult that the family was willing to part with. She encouraged all her neighbors to stop by and pick up or drop off a book.

“I have learned that we are so fast-paced,” she said. “We are so on the phones and social media. We never have a chance to converse like this normally. I think I just want to step back to a time where books are able to be held and neighbors are able to share and enjoy that.”

The “Sharing Library of Takoda, Otter, Luna, Belle and Loki” may be visited on the 2000 block of Van Antwerp.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT.

Maureen Bennett’s Little Free Library is painted to depict the four seasons on each side, with the inside covered in wintry trees. Attached is a paver encouraging visitors to “scatter kindness” and a dog-themed hook holding doggy bags and hand sanitizer, paying homage to Bennett’s love for pets and healthcare. The library may be found in the 2000 block of Van Antwerp.



Two of the seasons, fall and spring, are depicted on two sides of the Little Free Library. Bennett painted hers and her daughter’s favorite books on the first side of the Little Free Library.

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# The Science Advice Goddess

by Amy Alkon

## On crowd nine

*I'm a 43-year-old woman in my second marriage with a man who's also on his second marriage. We are both determined to make this marriage our last! We have a scheduled date night. We make sure intimacy happens weekly. I'd like to know whether there are other things we can do to keep from walking down the aisle a third time.*  
—Hopeful

In some marriages, somebody could lose consciousness and it wouldn't be all that noticeable. Date nights are good for keeping the marital jets firing, as is having sex weekly, but regular dates and romance don't change how being married is like subscribing to Netflix. No, my copyeditor isn't day-drinking, and yes, I mean "flick." Netflix would have only one movie, and you and your partner would be forced to watch it every night of your life together...until one or both of you shrivel up and die of boredom or start dialing jackals with law licenses (aka divorce lawyers).

What can help is making your married life more like single people's lives -- uh, in ways that don't remodel your vows into something more along the lines of suggestions. In a New York Times op-ed, social historian Stephanie Coontz explains, "Single people generally have wider social networks than married couples, who tend to withdraw into their coupledom." Though marriage "can provide a bounty of emotional, practical and financial support ... finding the right mate is no substitute for having friends and other interests." Disappointingly, Coontz trots out a view widely (and uncritically) accepted among researchers: "On average, married people report higher well-being than singles." And sure, there are studies that conclude this. However, social psychologist Bella DePaulo points out rather glaring flaws in some of the research making this claim. For example, she observes that even respected developmental



psychologist E. Mavis Hetherington couldn't see her faulty reasoning in concluding: "Happily married couples are healthier, happier, wealthier, and sexier than are singles." The problem? Hetherington is comparing a subset of married people -- HAPPILY MARRIED people (as opposed to ALL married people) -- with ALL single people. I put this in perspective in a 2013 column: "Yes, shockingly, happily married people are happier than clinically depressed single people." In fact, people who are unhappily single -- who feel "distress" about being single -- tend to be those who'd previously been

married (and especially those newly divorced or widowed), notes Coontz. About the single-'n'-miserableness of the newly divorced or widowed, you might think, "Duh... they're lonely or grieving!" Some or many might be. But I think Coontz is onto something in advising married people to "cultivate the skills of successful singlehood." (Conversely, "people who are successful as singles" -- meaning socially connected and relatively content with their lives -- "are especially likely to end up in happy marriages, in large part because of the personal and social resources they developed before marrying.") Coontz suggests you bring other people into your marriage -- though not like they did in the

'70s at those suburban parties with all the couples dropping their keys into a bowl. She's talking about friendships with people beyond your spouse, and ideally, not just one or two others but a whole group. Research (by evolutionary social psychologist Stephanie Brown, among others) consistently finds being socially connected increases individuals' personal well-being and is even associated with better physical health. Likewise, "maintaining social networks ... after marriage" can also "enhance and even revitalize your marriage," writes Coontz. As for how you two could put this into practice, you might start by making some date nights double-date nights. This might seem like a bad idea -- a date-night romance- and intimacy-killer. However, Coontz describes a date-night experiment in which researchers "assigned some couples to spend time by themselves and have deeply personal conversations," while others were set up with a couple they'd never met "and told to initiate similar conversations." Afterward, all of the couples "reported greater

satisfaction with their relationship," but only those who'd been on the double date reported feeling more "romantic passion" for each other! Because it seems "the more" really is the (maritally) merrier, you and your husband could also host regular dinner parties, cocktail hours, brunches, and/or game nights. However, it's also important that you each maintain individual interests, activities, and friendships. Ironically, regularly spending less time together -- as well as following wise advice from Coontz to each maintain your ability to be self-reliant -- should help you avoid going your separate ways. It's great if your relationship starts to remind you of an iconic one in a classic movie -- but not if the movie is "Cast Away," starring Tom Hanks and a volleyball he draws a face on so he won't be all alone on a desert island. Got a problem? Write Amy Alkon, 171 Pier Ave, #280, Santa Monica, CA 90405, or e-mail AdviceAmy@aol.com. @amyalkon on Twitter. Weekly podcast: blogtalkradio.com/amyalkon. (c)2021, Amy Alkon, all rights reserved.

## Me too wasn't enough

The #MeToo movement outed only the top guilty parties, but the entertainment industry is filled with similar expectations of newbies and up-and-coming actors, alleges a woman who wanted nothing but to write film scripts until she discovered the extras that were expected of her. As a highly attractive young woman with a sharp mind and high test scores, Ms. X was accepted into the competitive program in screenwriting. She learned the topic quickly, yet despite her quick-study performance, the professor asked her what she was willing to do for her degree. She firmly refused all advances, completed the degree and secured a coveted job. It was then made clear the expectations of "extras" were an industry standard. It wasn't enough to be good or even great, and she dis-

covered being attractive had major drawbacks. At first, she blamed herself; maybe her hair was too beautiful along with her total appearance. She made a point of covering her body with conservative clothing; it didn't change things. From every man she met, she received unwanted "solicitations." These went up the ladder as did the connections. Their job titles made no difference. The propositions were not physically threatening, but the threat of success on the job was there. It was upsetting to discover that being good in the job was not valued on its own. "They all wanted more ... and each time I got solicited sickened and angered me. I even cried but it made no difference." The goal of becoming an accomplished scriptwriter was not going to happen without fulfilling these sexual expectations.

The question then becomes: "What if a woman is not attractive?" Does she not get hired? Does she get hired and left alone? She discovered that even women who were not "lookers" were propositioned. The #MeToo movement seemed to help only the top movie stars when it should have exposed all the guilty parties in the entertainment business. Instead, many of the affected women left the business and the experience ended their dreams. She began wondering how far those propositions went in school, so she called her previous classmates to ask about their experiences. They agreed to be open and admitted the professor made the same proposition of sex for the degree. Some gave in, but those who did not discovered his threats about their grades were not to be carried out. The question now is how

## At Work

by Lindsey Novak



any woman survives in the industry without a champion who protects her. What happens with the young men who share similar dreams? Cleaning up an entire industry seems impossible when those in power aren't on board. Morals and values have disintegrated in this country. We have seen this in many fields, not just in entertainment. The public has been split in their emotions -- some groups revolt but address irrelevant issues, which doesn't help any major group, while others post complaints about misogyny but do nothing to organize a movement against the contributing problems. "The problem is in the women's attitudes. They

continue to be nice to the very parties who threaten them. Women don't speak out." The only time Ms. X expressed anger was when she was alone with a man. She voiced that anger loudly and the man backed off. Perhaps it's the women who need training in finding their voice. Perhaps they need to learn that angrily saying no might actually work. Until assertiveness training returns to the forefront, women will remain as guilty parties in a behavior they profess to hate. In the meantime, the public is left hanging and forced to accept the status quo. It seems every industry needs leaders to shape it and take charge to ensure talented individuals get acknowledged. The future of the workplace

needs people like Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr.; unsung heroes for the unknown; perhaps even Joan of Arc. People who know what they stand for and make sure the public hears the message are needed for changes to be made. The female population has to take responsibility for their behavior. They must learn that the courage to say no and mean it is their path to the freedom to follow their dreams. Email career and life coach: Lindsey@LindseyNovak.com with your workplace problems and issues. Ms. Novak responds to all emails. For more information, visit www.lindseynovak.com, Copyright 2021 Creators.com.

## Rape victim has kept it a secret for decades

**DEAR ABBY:** Thirty-five years ago I was raped by a stranger. He told me he would kill me if I ever

told anyone. I never told my husband (now ex-), mostly because I was afraid if I did he would

never touch me again. So I lived with the secret. It eventually tore our marriage apart and

we divorced. Although we have both moved on and remarried, we have remained in touch.



## Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren



## For the holidays everything tastes better on a new stove...



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I am 60 now and he is 64. I yearn to tell him the story before one of us leaves this Earth. I want him to understand and hopefully forgive me for the events that drove us apart. The need to tell him is so strong, I cry about it. Please advise me on this. -- STILL NOT OVER IT IN MARYLAND

**DEAR STILL NOT OVER:** If it will bring you comfort, reveal the secret you hid from your ex-husband. However, before you do, I urge you to first disclose it to someone trained to help victims

of rape. If there's a rape treatment center near you, please make an appointment. If there isn't one, a referral from your doctor to a licensed mental health professional would also be beneficial. Trust me on that.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.





# New rules

The conventional wisdom that has pervaded the wine-loving community for the last several decades could very well be updated by newer rules that make more sense.

into the bottle.

Another old rule is that white wine should be served well chilled. Although this is probably fine for certain wines, such as those with residual sugar

and many Loire Valley Sauvignon Blancs are best served just cool.

Similarly, red wines probably should never to be served at “room temperature,” especially if the room is at



60 or 65 degrees, meaning that you probably have been served red wines in restaurants that simply are too warm to enjoy.

Pulling the cork on a bottle of wine to let it “breathe” is yet another ancient rule that makes no sense at all. The tiny amount of air that gets to the wine through the small neck of the bottle is negligible. To help a wine breathe, decant it.

Decanting is also at the heart of another myth, that old wines should be aerated by decanting. Old wines tend to be fragile and are most susceptible to oxidation. This is only accelerated if you decant them.

The older a wine is, the more you should consider not decanting it at all, except perhaps to pour it off the bottle -- and then plan to consume it as quickly as you can, before oxygen ruins it.

Another silly old rule is that older wines are better than younger ones.

Such generalizations make no sense. Some wines are at their absolute best when they are young, and others probably shouldn't be consumed until they're 10 years old.

Each wine has its own aging cycle, and knowing a lot about wine helps you to know when to enjoy it at its peak.

And there are no particular rules that are general enough to apply here. Beaujolais, for instance, is typically made to be consumed quite young, but several quality Beaujolais are intended to be aged for two to four years.

Wine of the Week: 2019 Foppiano Sauvignon Blanc, Russian River Valley (\$20) -- The aroma of this attractive medium weight white wine leans a little bit on kiwi fruit, citrus, and tangerine, and the mid palate is relatively lush and textured, but the acid is high enough to make it a superb companion to seafood. The winery suggests that it be served lightly chilled.

To find out more about Dan Berger and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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But for reasons that are unclear to me, the new rules have never been widely disseminated.

One of those old “rules,” in which we talk about serving white wines with fish and red wines with meat, has long since been debunked as ridiculous. There are so many exceptions to that generalization that it simply doesn't make any particular sense.

Sea bass is a fish, but “sea bass Veracruz,” made with olives and tomatoes, likely would be best with a medium weight merlot or a pinot noir.

Other new rules are not quite as obviously incorrect. For instance, the old “rule” about aging all wine bottles on their side to keep their corks moist (so they don't dry out) is still a sound idea, but Champagne and other sparkling wines probably ought to be kept standing upright.

Several sparkling winemakers told me this over the last few years. They say that keeping a Champagne cork wet for years actually might compress it so much that it loses its elasticity and could allow oxygen

such as riesling or gewurztraminer, wines such as chardonnay

75 or 80 degrees. I believe red wines taste much better at around

need to worry about on the day of.

The dish pairs perfectly with the beautiful Oval Eared dish from Pillivuyt. I found it at Atelier along with their new line of beautiful fall towels from Coucke.

My suggestion? Change it up this year and serve them some tasty amuse-bouche to start.

Amuse-bouche, in French, literally means “mouth amuser”. This recipe encompasses that meaning perfectly. I make it every year for Thanksgiving. It's not heavy and gets everyone's palate ready for the main event.

If you go through all the trouble of cooking so much for the meal, why stuff them beforehand.

This recipe is my interpretation of a bar snack served in our favorite French restaurant in Boston, Brasserie Jo. The restaurant unfortunately closed so we try to keep it's tradition alive.

Crunchy, flavorful carrots and fennel soak up all the delicious marinade. I'm always heavy handed with horseradish and parsley.

Lemon makes it almost sing in your mouth. It really does need 24 hours, which I love because it is one less thing I

## Thanksgiving : Act 1 Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

### Brasserie Marinated Carrots and Fennel

- 8 large carrots
- 1 fennel bulb
- 2 tbsp horseradish
- ¼ cup parsley, chopped
- Juice of 1 lemon
- ¼ cup white wine
- 1tbsp dijon mustard
- ¼ cup apple cider vinegar

- ½ cup olive oil
- 1 tsp each sugar, salt, pepper

Start by peeling the carrots and cutting them into uniform planks, about 4 inches long. Using a peeler, peel the outer layer of the fennel, take out the core and slice thinly.

Add the vegetables to a large ziploc bag. Now make the vinaigrette. In a medium bowl, whisk together the lemon juice, mustard, white wine, vinegar, sugar, salt and pepper. Slowly whisk in the olive oil until emulsified.

Add to the carrots and fennel along with the horseradish and parsley.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAREN FERGUSON

Give the bag a good shake and place in the fridge for at least 24 hours. Serve on a platter with cocktail napkins, readily available.

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4C | LIFE & ENTERTAINMENT



Is it too early to get excited about the holiday season? I know Halloween is barely over, but every child I know is perpetually looking forward to Santa, snow and all things Christmas.

In addition to estate and grounds tours led by incredible staff members, Ford House boasts a

packed calendar full of events for all ages, including kids! There's plenty of holiday magic to be found at Ford House this year and we are sharing a few events we think would be perfect for kids and families to enjoy! These events sell out quickly, so make sure to head online and purchase



your tickets early!

1. There's always time for a story! Ford House is offering storytime sessions every Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. between Nov. 2 and 16. After listening to the story, "Stone Soup," children and families can spend the day exploring the grounds of the house. These storytime sessions are free and pre-registration on their website is recommended prior to attending.

2. There's something so magical about holiday lights. Enjoy a winter

walk with your family and friends at Starry Lights. This interactive display of light and sound allows visitors to walk the grounds and view a beautiful light show and animations. Plus, there is a concession stand that will sell snacks and warm beverages — or try dining at their amazing new restaurant, The Continental. This event runs every Thursday through Sunday, from Nov. 18 through Jan. 9.

3. Another popular event at Ford House is Breakfast with Santa! The opportunity to see Santa



is always fun for kids, especially right before Christmas. This event is offered on two dates, Dec. 12 and 19. Santa will be visiting with guests during their meal in Ford House's new Visitors Center. This breakfast is sure to make every kid smile!

Sometimes, the best events and activities for

the family are right around the corner. Whether you are headed to Ford House for a nature walk, to eat at their restaurants or for a great event, Ford House is a can't-miss for the holiday season and beyond. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [fordhouse.org](http://fordhouse.org) or call (313) 884-4222.

**Dear Ann Landers:** My 32-year-old daughter is getting married for the second time. My daughter and I have a good relationship, but my ex-wife and I barely speak. She and my daughter made all the wedding preparations and paid for the whole thing without any assistance from me. I received a wedding invitation, but it excluded my fiancée, "Greta."

Greta and I have been together for the past six years. During this time, my daughter has visited us often and always seemed comfortable with the relationship. Greta is very hurt and angry that she was not invited to

the wedding. She asked me to speak to my daughter about the "oversight" and said that if no invitation was forthcoming, I should not go to the wedding, either.

I spoke to my daughter, who told me it was the expressed desire of her mother, my ex-wife, not to invite Greta. My daughter receives a lot of financial help from her mother and is obviously reluctant to go against her mother's wishes.

What should I do? If I attend the wedding alone, Greta will think I let her down. If I don't go at all, my daughter will assume I favor my fiancée over her and will be crushed. Any suggestions

would be appreciated. -- Dad in Bonita, Calif.

**Dear Dad:** Greta should have been invited to the wedding because she has been your significant other for six years. She was not invited, however, which means she is not welcome. It would be classy of Greta to say, "Go -- have a good time, and bring me a piece of wedding cake." If she does not choose to be gracious, go anyway.

This is your daughter's day, and her wish to have you there takes precedence.

**Dear Ann Landers:** I need help -- fast. I have a very dear

friend who will be flying to California next month to visit her family. She has never flown before. This woman is large -- I am talking nearly 300 pounds, at least.

"Ruth" is not going to fit into a coach seat, and I am not sure she could fit into a first-class seat, either. I don't want her to be embarrassed when she boards the plane. You know how cruel people can be about those who are overweight.

How should I approach her? Should I ask whether she is flying first class? I don't want her to be humiliated, Ann. Thanks for your help. -- A Heavy

Classic Ann Landers

Problem in the Motor City

**Dear H.P. in M.C.:** Call the airline, and explain the situation. Ask whether they would advise Ruth to buy a first-class seat or two coach seats. Then, tell Ruth you have heard that airline coach seats are getting smaller, and let her know what the airline recommended.

It is important that she call ahead so there will be no surprises at the airport. You are a thoughtful friend to be concerned. Bless you.

To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com). COPYRIGHT 2021 CREATORS.COM

EVENTS Things to do in and around Grosse Pointe this week

**THURSDAY NOVEMBER 4**  
**Ashnikko**  
7 p.m. The Fillmore Detroit, 2115 Woodward Ave, Detroit.

» **Destroy Rebuild Until God Shows**  
7 p.m. The Shelter, 431 E Congress St, Detroit.

» **Detroit Pistons vs. Philadelphia 76ers**  
7 p.m. Little Caesars Arena, 2645 Woodward, Detroit.

» **Exhibition ISLAND**  
7 p.m. 1604 Clay St, Detroit.

» **Kimmie Horne at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe**  
6-8 p.m. Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 97 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe.

» **Michigander at The Magic Stick**  
7 p.m. Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave, Detroit.

» **Piquette Fall Art Fair**  
3-8 p.m. Ford Piquette Avenue Plant, 461 Piquette St, P.O. Box 2127, Detroit.

» **Sean Dobbins and the Jazz Messengers**  
7:30-11:30 p.m. Cliff Bell's, 2030 Park Ave, Detroit.

» **Zoom Storytime w/ Miss Jane**  
10:30-11 a.m. Offsite, Grosse Pointe. [grossepointelibrary.org](http://grossepointelibrary.org)

**FRIDAY NOVEMBER 5**

» **2021 Set it Off**  
8 p.m. Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison St, Detroit.

» **Detroit Pistons vs. Brooklyn Nets**  
7 p.m. Little Caesars Arena, 2645 Woodward, Detroit.

» **Emmet Cohen at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe**  
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 97 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe.

» **GMAR Gives Back Casino Night Fundraiser**  
6-10 p.m. Capper and Capper, 1 Park Avenue, Detroit.

» **House Tours**  
12-4 p.m. Ford House, 1100 Lake Shore Rd., Grosse Pointe Shores.

» **K CAMP**  
7 p.m. The Garden Theatre, 3929 Woodward Ave, Detroit.

» **Live Blues at Beale Street Smokehouse & BBQ**  
7 p.m. Beale Street Smokehouse & BBQ, Detroit.

» **Parker McCollum**  
7 p.m. Saint Andrew's Hall, 431 E Congress St, Detroit.

» **Sweet Willie Tea at Slo' Bones**  
6:30 p.m. Slo' Bones BBQ Smokehaus, Detroit.

**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 6**

» **Champagne and The Motor City Blues Crew at Bert's**  
9:30 p.m. Bert's Warehouse Theatre, 2739 Russell St, Detroit.

» **Deeper Graves**  
7 p.m. The Sanctuary Detroit, 2932 Caniff St, Hamtramck.

» **Je'Caryous Johnson Presents "Set It Off"**  
3 p.m. Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison St, Detroit.

» **Patton Oswalt Live: Who's Ready to Laugh?**  
6 p.m. The Fillmore Detroit, 2115 Woodward Ave, Detroit.

» **Power Play for Heroes: Detroit Red Wings vs. Team STAHL'S Hockey Game**  
12 p.m. St. Clair Shores Civic Arena -- 20000 Stephens Street St. Clair Shores, MI

» **Rain: A Tribute To the Beatles (Touring):**  
8 p.m. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave, Detroit.

» **Stavros Halkias**  
7 p.m. The Garden Theatre, 3929 Woodward Ave, Detroit.

» **Sweet Willie Tea at Bert's**  
11 a.m.-5 p.m. Bert's Warehouse Theatre, 2727 Russell Street, Detroit.

» **We Came As Romans: To Plant A Seed Anniversary Tour**  
6 p.m. Saint Andrew's Hall, 431 E Congress St, Detroit.

**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 7**

» **Alex Harding Organ Trio**  
7:30-11 p.m. Cliff Bell's, 2030 Park Ave, Detroit.

» **Cory Wells, Oliver Baxxter**  
6 p.m. The Sanctuary Detroit, 2932 Caniff St, Hamtramck.

» **Detroit Red Wings vs. Vegas Golden Knights**  
6 p.m. Little Caesars Arena, 2645 Woodward, Detroit.

» **Jason Bonham's Led Zepppelin Evening**  
7 p.m. The Fillmore Detroit, 2115 Woodward Ave, Detroit.

» **MasterChef Junior Live!**  
7 p.m. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave, Detroit.

» **Sky Covington at Woodbridge Pub**  
7:30-11 p.m. 5169 Trumbull, 1970 Yemans, Detroit.

» **Veteran's Day Celebration**  
1:30-2 p.m. Central Library, Grosse Pointe.

**MONDAY NOVEMBER 8**

» **Silversun Pickups**  
7 p.m. Saint Andrew's Hall, 431 E Congress St, Detroit.

» **Special City Council Meeting**  
Harper Woods.

**TUESDAY NOVEMBER 9**

» **7th & 8th Grade Book Group**  
7-8:30 p.m. Central Library, Grosse Pointe.

» **Detroit Red Wings vs. Edmonton Oilers**  
7:30 p.m. Little Caesars Arena, 2645 Woodward, Detroit.

» **Grosse Pointe Badminton Association**  
6:30-8 p.m. 20600 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Woods.

» **Jazz Montage: A Conversation with Author Robin Wilson & Tisha Hammond**  
5:30 p.m. Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 315 E Warren Ave, Detroit.

» **Read, Rhyme & Play on Zoom**  
10:30-11 a.m. Offsite, Grosse Pointe. [grossepointelibrary.org](http://grossepointelibrary.org)

» **Tuesday Night Book Discussion**  
7-8 p.m. Grosse Pointe. [grossepointelibrary.org](http://grossepointelibrary.org)

» **Wild Superpowers with the Howell Nature Center**  
4-5 p.m. Offsite, Grosse Pointe. [grossepointelibrary.org](http://grossepointelibrary.org)

**WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 10**

» **Demetrius Nabors at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe**  
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 97 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe.

» **Exhumed, Creeping Death, Bewitcher, Enforced**  
7 p.m. The Sanctuary Detroit, 2932 Caniff St, Hamtramck.

» **Jim Snidero**  
7:30-11:30 p.m. Cliff Bell's, 2030 Park Ave, Detroit.

» **Let's Play : Among Us**  
4-5 p.m. Offsite, Grosse Pointe. [grossepointelibrary.org](http://grossepointelibrary.org)

» **Lincoln, Hope Waidley, The Skinny Limbs**  
7 p.m. DIME, 1265 Griswold St, Detroit.

» **The Music Lady: Beverly Meyer**  
10:30-11 a.m. Offsite, Grosse Pointe. [grossepointelibrary.org](http://grossepointelibrary.org)

» **Open Jam at The Blue Goose**  
8 p.m. BLEU, 1540 Woodward Ave, Detroit.

» **Thoughts to Action Discussion Group**  
7-8:30 p.m. Grosse Pointe. [grossepointelibrary.org](http://grossepointelibrary.org)



# Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

**MOVIE REVIEW**  
**“Victoria & Abdul”**  
2017 - 1hr 51min

This movie really resonated with me. I’m an Anglophile and love all things English—especially when it comes to history. Before I launch into a review of this marvelous film, I’ll give you a brief primer about this time period.

Queen Victoria was born in 1819 and ascended to the throne in 1837. She reigned over the British Empire at its peak and the realm included Canada, Australia and New Zealand, Hong Kong, large swaths of Africa, and the sub-continent of India. Her beloved husband Prince Albert died in 1861 and she reigned until her death in 1901. She never remarried. It’s against this back-

drop that “Victoria & Abdul” takes place. To help celebrate the queen’s birthday, India sent two men to present her with a commemorative medallion.

One is Abdul, who is honored to be part of the ceremony, and the other is Mohammed (Adeel Akhtar), an Indian who is pressed into service against his wishes.

At the lavish birthday banquet, Abdul is to give Victoria the medallion. Beforehand, he is given explicit instructions that he is strictly forbidden to make eye contact with the queen. Well, as expected, the couple gazes at each other and the queen is quite intrigued.

This is the beginning of a special relationship that would last for the rest of her life. The always amazing Dame



Judi Dench plays Queen Victoria. She goes well beyond portraying Victoria; she is transformed into the queen. I can’t imagine any other actor who could come remotely this close to personifying the queen this well.

Ali Fazal does a remarkable job playing Abdul. He’s such an interesting character, in some ways he’s innocent and naive, caught up in the drama as it unfolds, other times, he seems slightly devious, manipulating Victoria to achieve his own goals.

The story unfolds with the queen pressing Abdul into service as her teacher and personal aide. Victoria admits that although she’s the queen of India, she knows next to nothing about the country. She becomes fascinated by all things Indian, and becomes an eager study for its history, languages, religions, and culture and Abdul becomes her “Munshi”—her spiritual advisor and teacher. All this comes as a shock to her household servants and especially to her son Bertie, the Prince of Wales (Eddie Izzard).

They’re even more appalled when they learn Abdul is a Muslim.

I enjoyed seeing the opulence of the world that surrounded the monarchy during this time period. But what I especially enjoyed was the interaction between Abdul and Victoria. Even though the relationship was scandalous and taboo at the time, the two became close friends and confidants. She could open up to him in ways that would never be allowed with her other subjects. What’s amazing to me is that this story wasn’t made public until recently. Why not?



Eddie Izzard

You’ll have to watch this beautiful film and find out for yourself!

Currently streaming on Netflix and Prime Video.

★★★★☆

My rating system:

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

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

★★★ Pretty good. In fact, if there weren’t any other movies in your

queue, you might watch it again.

★★★★ One you’d recommend to friends.

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

**About this column:**

While I watch a lot of movies, this column will feature those I feel have gone under the radar and deserve more recognition. They’ll include both

mainstream and indie films streaming on services like Netflix and Kanopy, as well as theatrical releases. For movie trailers, visit youtube.com. If you have any recommendations, feel free to email me at dominmark@yahoo.com. Also, if you’re looking for more movies, be sure to check out my blog: moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com.



Judi Dench as Queen Victoria and Ali Fazal as Abdul Karim in the 2017 film “Victoria & Abdul”.

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# 2022 Ford Mustang debuts first-ever stealth edition

**DETROIT, Mich.,** – Adding even more personalization features and thrills for Mustang customers direct from the factory, Ford introduces an all-new appearance package and a performance-minded update for the 2022 model year.

Mustang, the world’s best-selling sports car\*, will debut a first-ever Stealth Appearance Package available for the

EcoBoost® Premium model, while Mustang GT California Special will offer for the first time ever a GT Performance Package option.

“Since 1965, Mustang has been synonymous with performance and play, and the 2022 model year continues that call with the new Stealth Edition and an updated Cali Special,” said Jim Owens, Mustang brand marketing manager. “Mustang owners have always loved personalizing their ride, and these new flavors of Mustang are ready to inspire and excite new enthusiasts.”

Orders for the 2022 Mustang, including Stealth Edition and California Special, open later this year. Vehicles are due in showrooms in the first quarter of 2022.

First-ever Stealth Edition joins Mustang lineup adding even more style to the 310-turbocharged-horsepower Mustang EcoBoost Premium model, the available Stealth Edition Appearance Package stays true to its name, giving customers a more menacing-looking fast-back with uniquely blacked-out appointments.

The Stealth Edition Appearance Package features 19-inch Ebony Black-painted aluminum wheels, black pony badges, performance rear wing from the GT Performance Package is

caps and new clear LED taillamp covers, also shared with the new Mustang Ice

White Appearance Package. Unique new interior appointments include a matte and gloss black instrument panel badge and lighted sill plate.

“The black accents really give the car a whole new persona, sinister and sporty all at once,” said Owens. “Naturally, the package needed the right name. Stealth Edition says it all.”

The Stealth Edition is available in Atlas Blue, Carbonized Gray, Dark Matter and Shadow Black.

California Special adds excitement with GT Performance Package option.

Since the first-generation Mustang, the California Special has represented a uniquely regionalized appearance package with special styling cues.

The updated 2022 Mustang GT California Special embodies this tradition.

Based on the 2022 Mustang GT Premium fastback and convertible models, the latest California Special Appearance Package pays homage to the original version’s blacked-out grille, side racing stripes and rear fender scoop.

The heritage-inspired “GT/CS” side stripe trademark traces from the front fender to the signature rear fender scoop. A California Special badge in Ebony Black and Race Red script adorns the trunk lid, while the honeycomb grille with “GT/CS” badge provides a unique look. A larger front splitter from the GT Performance Package underscores the icon’s handling prowess.

A performance rear wing from the GT Performance Package is

available for the fast-back model, while spoiler delete is standard for the California Special convertible. The California Special wears unique five-spoke 19-inch painted machined wheels. Under the hood, this special edition features a signature strut tower brace with California Special badge atop its 5.0-liter V8 engine.

Interior appointments include rich black Miko®sueded-trimmed door inserts and sueded-trimmed seats with the embossed “GT/CS” logo and red contrast stitching, along with custom embroidered “GT/CS” floor mats. The instrument panel is finished in carbon hex aluminum with a signature California Special script badge on the passenger side.

As a California Special-first, the GT Performance Package is now available, enabling greater handling and driving dynamics for the most capable California Special ever.

The GT Performance Package adds an array of performance and handling features including Brembo six-piston front brake calipers, unique chassis tuning with heavy-duty front springs, larger tubular rear sway bar, overall lower ride height, K-brace, strut tower brace, front subframe V-brace, TORSEN® limited-slip differential, unique stability control and electric power steering tuning. Staggered 19x9-inch front and 19x9.5-inch rear wheels with Pirelli summer tires further the handling grip.

The California Special is available in Atlas Blue, Carbonized Gray, Cyber Orange, Dark Matter, Grabber Blue Metallic, Iconic Silver, Rapid Red, Shadow Black and Oxford White.



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

Happy Birthday for Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021:

You are hardworking and take pride in your achievements. You are determined and in control of what you do; however, beneath this calm exterior you are a sensitive person. You have a dry wit that others appreciate. This year is slower-paced as you concentrate on your closest relationships. Take extra time for yourself and focus on your own needs.

**ARIES**  
(March 21-April 19)

Today both the Sun and the Moon are opposite wild Uranus, which will create hiccups related to finances, shared property, inheritances, taxes and debt, as well as banking. Check out these areas to make sure something hasn’t gone awry. Stay on top of things! Tonight: Check your finances.

**TAURUS**  
(April 20-May 20)

Your relations with partners and close friends will be disrupted by something unexpected today. Someone might make unusual demands. They might do something that surprises you, or they might introduce you to someone who is “different.” One thing is certain: It’s not a boring day. Tonight: Be cooperative.

**GEMINI**  
(May 21-June 20)

Something will interrupt your work routine today. Staff shortages, power outages, canceled appointments, late deliveries -- something. It could be an announcement that surprises everyone. To be safe, give yourself extra time for whatever you have to do so you have wiggle room to cope. Tonight: Get organized.

**CANCER**  
(June 21-July 22)

Parents: Please know that this is an accident-prone day for your kids, which means you need to be vigilant. Be aware of potential hazardous situations. Know where your kids are at all times. Meanwhile, social occasions might be canceled or suddenly changed. Avoid sports accidents. Tonight: Socialize!

**LEO**  
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Your home routine will be interrupted today. Small appliances might break down or minor breakages could occur. Perhaps someone unexpected will appear at the door. Brace yourself. Get dressed and prepare to deal with something you didn’t think would happen. “Whaaat?” Tonight: Entertain at home.

**VIRGO**  
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Please be aware that this is an accident-prone day. (We’re talking physical accidents or verbal accidents.) Obviously, an accident doesn’t have to happen and will probably not happen, but the odds do exist. Therefore, pay attention to everything you say and do. Tonight: Speak up!

**LIBRA**  
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Keep an eye on your finances and your possessions today, because something unexpected could impact them. You might find money; you might lose money. Make an effort to protect what you own against loss, theft or damage. Be on guard! Tonight: Be cautious.

**SCORPIO**  
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Something surprising might occur in your closest one-on-one relationships today. Someone might suddenly speak up about something they’re unhappy about. They might make a radical suggestion. Personal freedom

will be an issue. Patience. Tonight: Tread water.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You feel restless today. You have a feeling that you’re waiting for the other shoe to drop. Indeed, something surprising in your personal life or something going on behind the scenes might catch you off guard. Be wise and pace your day so you can handle the unexpected. Tonight: Enjoy time alone.

**CAPRICORN**  
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

This is an interesting day because a friend or a member of a group might do something that amazes you or blows you away. Admittedly, it could be minor; however, it could be major! You might be ejected from a group. You might be involved in a protest. Tonight: Be friendly with others. Listen.

**AQUARIUS**  
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Parents, bosses, VIPs and the police might do something that surprises you or catches you off guard today. Be prepared for this. If you think something unusual might happen, it will. If you are challenged by authority, be polite. Never underestimate the power of courtesy. Tonight: Watch your step.

**PISCES**  
(Feb. 19-March 20)

Travel plans might suddenly change today. They could be canceled or, alternatively, you might suddenly have to travel. Likewise, school schedules might change. People will be excited about politics, religion and racial issues. This is a tricky, stimulating day with lots of unexpected detours. Tonight: Think before you speak.

**BORN TODAY**

Actor Matthew McConaughey (1969), actress Markie Post (1950), actor Ralph Macchio (1961).

## Contract Bridge

### BAD LUCK COMES IN BUNCHES

East dealer.

East-West vulnerable.

#### NORTH

♠ A J 2  
♥ J 6 2  
♦ A Q 5 3  
♣ Q 9 4

#### WEST

♠ 7 3  
♥ 10 9 5 4  
♦ J 9 8 2  
♣ 8 7 5

#### EAST

♠ Q 10 9 6 4  
♥ Q 7  
♦ 10  
♣ K J 10 6 3

#### SOUTH

♠ K 8 5  
♥ A K 8 3  
♦ K 7 6 4  
♣ A 2

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 NT

Opening lead — two of diamonds.

This is one of those hard-luck deals where you can’t help sympathizing with declarer, even though you might not have played his cards exactly the way he did.

West led a diamond, taken by South with the king. Declarer had eight solid tricks and quite a few chances for a ninth. He started by leading a low heart to the jack at trick two. This gave him two chances for an extra

trick: one if West had the queen, and another if the opposing hearts were divided 3-3. But East took the jack with the queen and returned a heart. When South next played the A-K, he learned the hearts were 4-2.

Declarer now tried a low club to the queen, hoping West had the king. But East took the queen with the king and returned the jack of clubs to South’s ace.

The situation took a further turn for the worse when declarer next led a diamond to the queen, hoping West had led originally from a three-card suit. But after East showed out, South decided that his last remaining chance was to try a spade finesse.

So he led a spade to the king and finessed the jack on the return. East won with the queen and cashed his remaining clubs to put the contract down two. All of which indicates that bad luck comes in bunches, though it’s true that South could have made the contract easily had he known the queen of hearts was doubleton.

One reasonable but somewhat unusual method of play — without the benefit of a peek at the East-West cards — is to allow East’s ten of diamonds to hold the first trick! Assuming West made a normal lead from a four-card suit, East would then be forced to return a spade, a heart or a club, all of which would hand declarer his ninth trick.

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by Steve Becker









# Comics

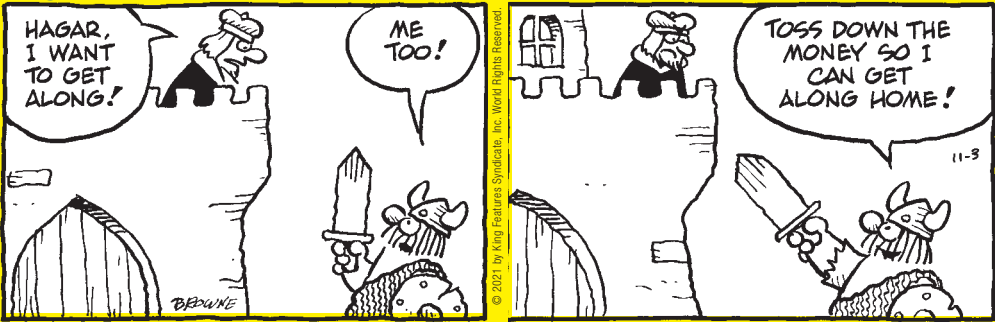
Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



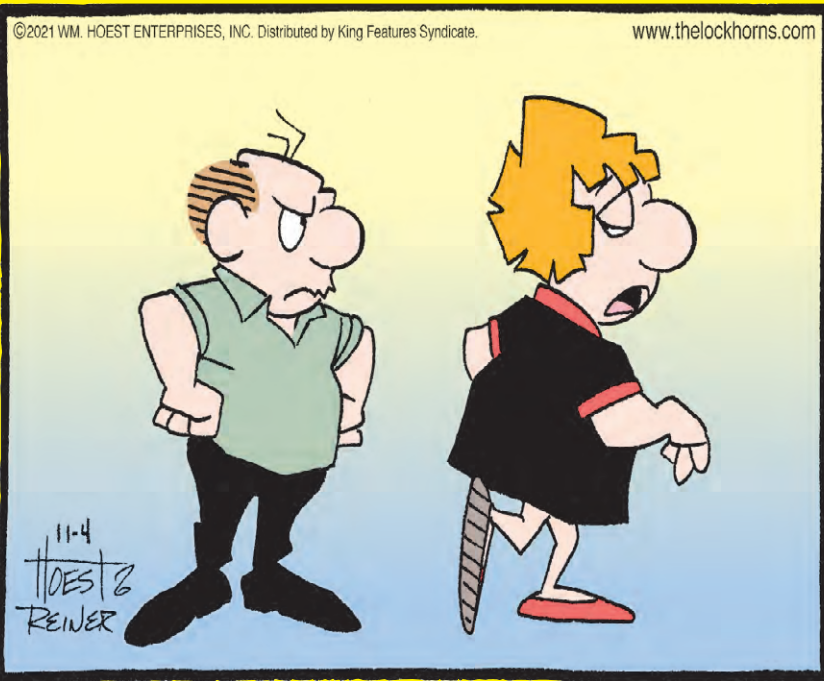
Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



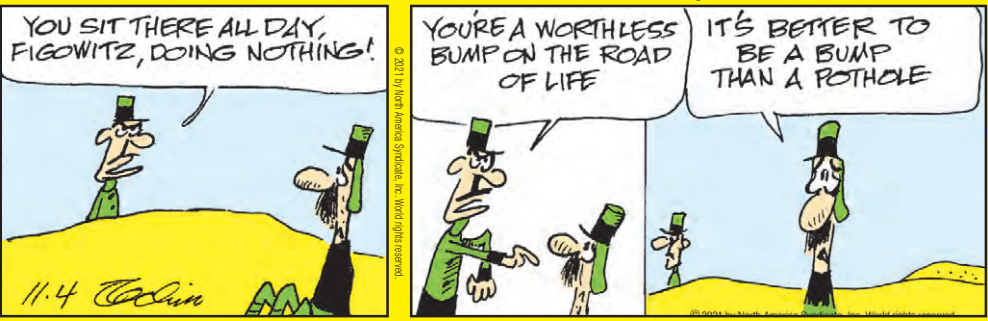
Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



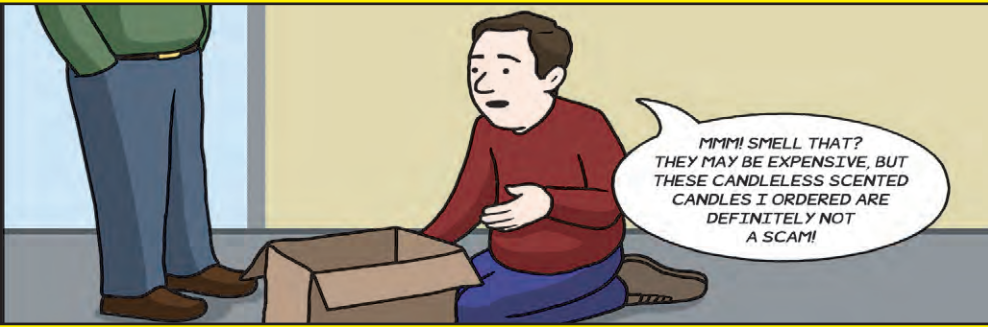
Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



F Minus

Tony Carrilo



Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



Reality Check

Dave Whamond



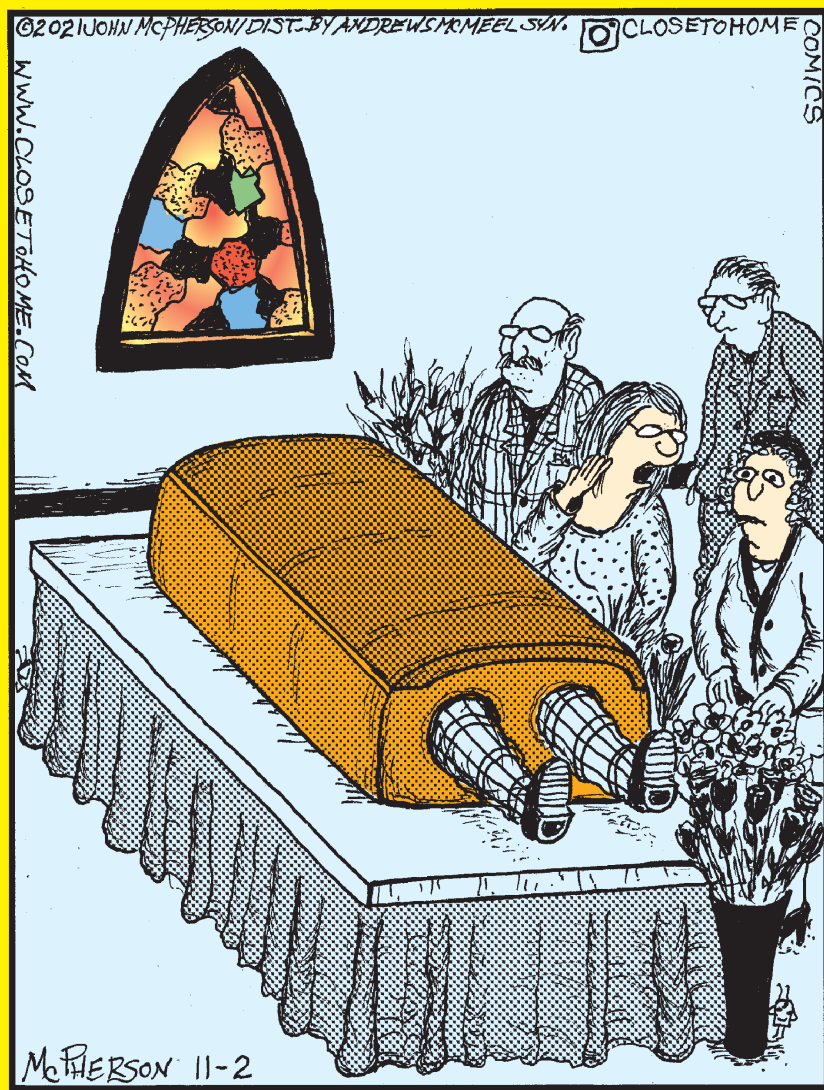
Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



Close To Home

John McPherson



“He invented Popsicles.”

Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



“Just what did you dig up?”



# SPORTS

SPORTS

**Regional champs**  
South's soccer team beats Salem  
for regional title **PAGE 2D**

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## South wins field hockey state title

By Mike Adzima  
*Sports Reporter*

For the Grosse Pointe South field hockey team, the only way to properly end 2021 after an incredible regular season would be with a state championship. After earning the No. 1 overall seed in the Division 2 playoffs, the Blue Devils marched all the way to the title game and kept the momentum rolling to a 3-0 victory over Cranbrook on Saturday to claim the MHSFHL championship.

The Blue Devils struck first with nine minutes to go in the first quarter.

Katelyn Carion scored South's first goal of the day with an assist coming from Kate Adams. Both defenses were resolute throughout much of the game, with South's lead standing at 1-0 until the fourth quarter. With just under 10 minutes remaining, Moira Hix was able to knock in the ball after a scramble in front of the Cranbrook net to extend the Blue Devils' lead to two.

Molly Ryszewski added another to the scoreboard for the Blue Devils just a couple minutes later. Adams got her second assist of the day



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM GEBECK

**The Grosse Pointe South field hockey team defeated Cranbrook 3-0 to win the MHSFHL Division 2 state championship. The team's postseason roster includes: Alex Bonahoom, Mia Craparotta, Molly Ryszewski, Meredith Tiderington, Emma Palazzolo, Josie DiSanto, Natalie Clarke, Lauren Carron, Katy Griffin, Julia Gebeck, Joey Beckerman, Katie Vandewyngearde, Katelyn Carion, Emily Fox, Moira Hix, Olivia Frye, Kate Adams, Lydia O'Hall, Evelyn Young, Natalie Coffey, Erin Brady, Alyse Applegate, Maeve Jamieson, Addison O'Keefe and Elise Charbonneau.**

on that goal, which gave South the winning 3-0 lead and cemented them as state champions. "The team played with poise, control, speed and grit. ... They're strong, focused and incredibly fast," South coach Jessie Rouleau said about her team's effort in the cham-

pionship game and all season long. "The championship game was the third game this week, which created its own physical and mental challenges. ... Despite all the pressure, this team kept their energy light and loose. They played hard while having fun

and they never stopped working." The 3-0 win was South's second shutout victory in a row after defeating Chelsea 1-0 in the state semifinals earlier in the week. Defense was key for the Blue Devils throughout the playoffs as they allowed

only two goals through four games on the road to a state title. South's championship win brings the team's final record to 16-2-1 for the fall. The Blue Devils were dominant throughout the year in Division 2, going 14-0 against opponents in their division.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LIGGETT ATHLETICS

**Penelope Griffioen, Kerith Short, Emilia Bronk, Kelsey Beckett, and Fiona Sierens led the University Liggett girls cross country team to a first place finish in the regional finals.**

## Liggett wins regional, North and South runners qualify

By Mike Adzima  
*Sports Reporter*

When it comes to girls cross country, the Pointes will be well represented at the upcoming state finals after some strong outings in this weekend's regional competitions. The University Liggett Knights came out victorious in their regional, while the Norsemen and Blue Devils were able to send individual qualifiers to states.

In the Division 3 Regional final, the Knights were at the top

of the standings out of five schools. Penelope Griffioen (20:40.2) was Liggett's top finisher, coming in second place overall. Her teammate Kerith Short (21:07.0) was right behind, crossing the line third. Emilia Bronk (22:42.2) and Kelsey Beckett (22:52.0) made it four Liggett runners in the top 10. Freshman Fiona Sierens (23:58.6) made it into the top 15.

In the Division 1 Regional final, South and North finished next to each other in fifth and sixth place respectively.

Both came up just short of qualifying for states as a team, but both schools will be represented by individual qualifiers. Lillian Deskins (21:06.3) from North finished 17th overall to earn a spot at states. South's Savannah Spangler (21:09.1) was right behind in 18th to also be named an individual qualifier. Both freshmen runners will represent the Norsemen and Blue Devils at the Michigan International Speedway for the state finals Saturday.

## Athlete of the Week

By Mike Adzima  
*Sports Reporter*

In her fourth year as a member of the varsity volleyball team at Grosse Pointe South, Jada DiVita has grown into being a focal point whenever she is on the court. Playing volleyball since she was 12 years old, DiVita's strength and physicality have propelled her through an impressive high school career and into an opportunity to play at the collegiate level.

DiVita began her journey to being one of the best volleyball players South has seen in a long time just a few years before entering high school. A decision to focus on volleyball full

time when beginning her career as a Blue Devil has helped lead her to being a Division 1 recruit. "I was kind of between volleyball and softball at the time," DiVita said. "I ended up quitting softball going into my freshman year and focused on volleyball and made varsity my freshman year. That and a lot of club stuff and being around a lot of high-level athletes was very good for me."

Whenever she is on the court, DiVita is always a threat to come up with a big play when the Blue Devils need it. Whether it's a block or a kill, her size and strength define DiVita's game. "I'm very physical," she said. "I have a lot of power behind my arm. My parents, coaches and everyone in the recruiting process would always use that to describe me. My shots and understanding

where to place the ball on the court when I can't hit hard make me describe myself as a physical and complete player."

That power and physical style of play certainly has helped DiVita get noticed throughout the years during her high school career. The senior found herself with multiple Division 1 offers to continue playing at the collegiate level and that is exactly what she is going to do.

Next year, DiVita will join the volleyball program at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tenn. The new era of college recruiting has changed a lot due to the pandemic. However, it

Grosse Pointe News

**ATHLETE**

OF THE WEEK

**Jada DiVita**

School: Grosse Pointe South  
Sport: Volleyball



PHOTO COURTESY OF JANEIL DIVITA

**Senior Jada DiVita has played varsity volleyball at South since her freshman year and will continue her career in college playing at Lipscomb University.**

See **ATHLETE**, page 3D



# North, South battle in playoff opener

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Whenever the volleyball teams from Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South have met on the court this season, there has been very little separating the two sides. South was victorious in the first two matchups that both went down to the wire in five sets. The Norsemen hosted the Blue Devils Monday night in the opening round of the MHSAA District playoff tournament, and once again the crosstown rivals were locked in a close battle. No points came easy for either squad, but South was able to come out on top once again by defeating North in four sets. The opening set of Monday night's playoff meeting almost seemed to sum up how the two

teams have played against each other all year. The Blue Devils got out to an early lead with a 10-1 run to open the match, but North never gave up. Steadily, the Norsemen pulled closer throughout the opening set and eventually managed to tie the game at 21-21. North seized the momentum and rode it to a victory in the first set 25-22 to take a 1-0 advantage in the match. The second set of the night saw North take a small lead to open, forcing the Blue Devils to fight from behind a bit. South did fight and took the second set 25-20 to even the match at one set apiece. South was victorious in the third set as well, again by a score of 25-20. The fourth set would determine the match to

see if the Blue Devils would be victorious or if the Norsemen could once again force a deciding fifth set. There would be no fifth set this time between North and South. The Blue Devils took the fourth set 25-19 and moved one step closer to a district championship. Senior Jada DiVita led the Blue Devils with 25 kills. She also had three aces, along with Ellie Martin and Mary Clare Hessburg who each had a trio of aces for South. North finishes the year with a final record of 13-15-1. South improves to 21-7-1 and will look to add a district championship to go with the MAC White division title it won a share of in the regular season. The Blue Devils are scheduled to face Warren Woods Tower in the district semifinals.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

The Norsemen battled from behind to take a victory in the first set but ended up losing in four sets to South on Monday night.

Grosse Pointe News  
High School

SPORTS

THIS WEEKS GAMES\*  
HOME/AWAY/TRYOUTS

**GROSSE POINTE NORTH**  
Thursday, November 4  
Girls Varsity Swim & Dive Diving Prelims @Dakota  
6 pm Girls Varsity Volleyball MHSSA District Finals  
Friday, November 5  
5 pm Girls Varsity Swim & Dive - MAC Red Division Meet @Dakota  
Saturday, November 6  
Girls Varsity Cross Country State Meet @TBD  
Boys Varsity Cross Country State Meet @Michigan International Speedway  
12 pm Girls Varsity Swim & Dive MAC Red Division Meet @Dakota

**GROSSE POINTE SOUTH**  
Thursday, November 4  
3:30 pm Boys Varsity Ice Hockey Tryouts @ESH  
Friday, November 5  
5 pm Girls Varsity Swim & Dive Divisional MAC Prelims @Dakota  
Saturday, November 6  
12 pm Girls Varsity Swim & Dive Divisional MAC Prelims @Dakota  
Coed Sailing MISSA Great Lakes Championships @Chicago  
Monday, November 8  
3:30 pm Girls Varsity Competitive Cheerleading Tryouts @Boll Athletic Center  
5:30 pm Girls JV & Freshmen Basketball Tryouts @Main Gym  
7:30 pm Girls Varsity Basketball Tryouts @Main Gym  
Tuesday, November 9  
3:30 pm Girls Varsity Competitive Cheerleading Tryouts @Boll Athletic Center  
5:30 pm Girls JV & Freshmen Basketball Tryouts @Main Gym  
6 pm Girls Varsity Swim & Dive Last Change Meet @Boll Athletic Center  
7:30 pm Girls Varsity Basketball Tryouts @Main Gym  
Wednesday, November 10  
3:30 pm Girls Varsity Competitive Cheerleading @Boll Athletic Center

**UNIVERSITY LIGGETT SCHOOL**  
Thursday, November 4  
Girls Varsity Volleyball District Tournament @Bishop Foley  
Saturday, November 6  
Boys & Girls Varsity & JV Cross Country States @Michigan International Speedway

\*Check school websites for updates on playoff games

PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH ATHLETICS

The Grosse Pointe South boys soccer team defeated Salem 2-1 to win the regional championship and advance to the state semifinals.

# Blue Devils are regional champs

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

After winning its third consecutive district championship this post-season, the Grosse Pointe South boys soccer team wanted to do something it had not done in over a decade — win the regional championship. The Blue Devils got their shot after cruising to a 4-1 win over Monroe in the regional semifinals to set up a showdown with Salem for the regional title and a spot in the Division 1 final four. South and Salem met on the pitch Thursday night in a heated battle to see who could keep advancing in the playoffs. In the end, the Blue Devils came out victorious 2-1 to capture their first regional title since 2004. One key for South in the win, like so many times before this season, was getting on the board first and establishing an early lead. Junior Lucas Frye has been one of the focal points for the Blue

Devils' offense all season. That stayed true Thursday night when Frye found the back of the net just five minutes into the match to put South up 1-0. After the Blue Devils got the early lead, both teams remained stout defensively for the rest of the first half. South entered the break up 1-0 and just 40 minutes away from claiming the regional crown. Coming out of the half-time break, South once again was able to get on the scoreboard early in the half. Senior Michael Tengler came up with a huge goal in the game's 46th minute to extend the Blue Devils' lead to 2-0. With a two-goal lead on the board, South's defense focused on shutting down the Rocks to preserve the win. Salem did get its share of chances to make the game interesting as the clock wound down. Salem was given a chance at a penalty kick with 18 minutes left that

could have cut South's lead in half. However, the Rocks were unable to take advantage of the chance as the shot soared high over the Blue Devils' net and out of play. The defense for South continued to hold off Salem as the match neared an end. The Rocks were able to finally get on the board with just under two minutes remaining to make it a 2-1 game, but it was too little too late for Salem. "We're tactical. ... I told them what to do and they responded," South coach Francesco Cilano said about his team after the big playoff win. "It's just simple soccer and we got it." After winning the regional championship, the Blue Devils are now just two wins away from taking the Division 1 state championship. To get there, they must get through Anchor Bay in the state semifinals. That game is scheduled Wednesday night at Troy High School.

# Detweiler wins for Blue Devils, Agius to represent Norsemen at states

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Conditions were far from ideal Friday for the boys cross country regional finals. With Grosse Pointe South hosting more than a dozen other schools at Chandler Park Golf Course, the wet and rainy weather did not stop the race from going. It also did not stop some incredible performances, including a race win and state-qualifying spot for the Blue Devils and a trip to states for one of the Norsemen. South junior Logan Detweiler ran his way to a commanding victory with a finishing time of 17:01.8. Detweiler's winning time was more than 30 seconds better than second place, and helped propel the Blue Devils to

a third-place finish in the team standings and a team berth in the state finals. The Blue Devils had three more runners finish in the top 20 to help the team qualify for states. Seniors Jack Hurst (17:57.7), Jake Vallan (18:06.8) and Chas Mathis-Balatico (18:11.8) were among the top 20 to cross the finish line. Michael Wholihan (18:16.6) and Brendan Downey (18:27.5) were not far behind with top 25 finishes. The Norsemen were right behind South in fourth place of the team standings. North fell just short of making it to states as a team, but the Norsemen will still be represented at the finals thanks to a strong day in regionals by Alex Agius. Agius (17:54.8) was

North's top finisher Friday, crossing the finish line 12th overall. Senior captain Max Kluge (18:31.3) recovered from an early fall on the slippery course and ended up with a top-30 finish. Paul Ciaravino (18:53.3) and Daniel Weber (18:53.7) crossed the finish line back-to-back to make the top 40. Michael Villeneuve (19:00.9), Michael Fox (19:10.0) and Jack McConaghy (19:11.2) rounded out the field for the Norsemen on a day where all of North's runners finished in the top 50. The Blue Devils and Agius now get ready to move on to the Division 1 state finals this weekend. They will run Saturday at the Michigan International Speedway.





PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

South's Donovan Moody rushed for 91 yards and one touchdown in a rainy win over Lakeview.

# South beats Lakeview, advances to district finals

By Mike Adzima  
*Sports Reporter*

The Grosse Pointe South football team went through the ups and downs of the regular season to finish with a 5-4 record and earn a spot in the MHSAA Division 2 playoffs. Meeting St. Clair Shores Lakeview in the opening round, a team South defeated earlier in the season, the Blue Devils used their strong ground game to win a wet and rainy battle 35-8 and advance to the district finals.

The weather Friday was far from ideal throughout the day and that did not change at night when it was time for football. South and Lakeview fought through the elements for a nearly scoreless first quarter. The Blue Devils finally got on the board with less than a minute left thanks to a 45-yard

rushing touchdown by Donovan Moody to take an 8-0 lead.

Battling the wind and rain, South continued to lean heavily on the ground game in a night where QB Anthony Benard only attempted two passes. The Blue Devils' versatility in running came to their advantage again in the second quarter, as this time it was Jonathan Drake who found the end zone to put South up 15-0 to close out the first half.

South came out in the second half ready to build on its lead and did just that with a strong third quarter. Benard got the first of three scores in the quarter for the Blue Devils by taking the ball himself into the end zone on a one-yard QB run to make it 21-0.

Drake got his second touchdown of the night following that, this time from seven yards out to

push South's lead to four touchdowns. Finally, Chase Campbell ended the scoring for the Blue Devils on the night with a four-yard touchdown rush to put South up 35-0.

The Huskies were able to get on the scoreboard in the fourth quarter to avoid being shut out. Lakeview QB Tristan Witt connected with Karsten Younes for a TD pass that helped bring the game to a final score of 35-8 in favor of South.

The win over Lakeview is the second time the Blue Devils have defeated the Huskies this season after South won a blowout 41-0 matchup in week two. South now finds itself preparing for a much tougher test in the upcoming district championship. The Blue Devils are set to meet undefeated De La Salle Friday night at Hazel Park High School.

# Successful North soccer season ends

By Alexis Bohlinger  
*Staff Writer*

The Grosse Pointe North boys varsity soccer team ended its season Thursday in a hard-fought regional finals game against Brother Rice at Clarenceville High School. Both teams showed amazing effort and perseverance as they played through two overtime periods. In the end, Brother Rice was able to hold the lead for a final score of 3-2.

"The is the first time the team has been to the regional finals in over 20 years, so this was a great accomplishment for our program," said North head coach Brad Vandevorde.

The scoring started just minutes into the game with a goal from Brother Rice's Giulino Denipoti. Trailing by one, the Norsemen were on their heels much of the first half. A big rush by senior Tom Sheffield with two minutes remaining in the first half turned things around for the Norsemen. The Brother Rice goalkeeper attacked Sheffield, leaving a loose ball in front to be put in by James Streberger.

Heading into the second half at a 1-1 tie, North put in one more goal, this one by senior Tommy Harris, to take the 2-1 lead. With 10 minutes remaining in the second half, Brother Rice tied the game 2-2 with a goal from forward Liam Heming.

Playing out two full overtime periods, the Warriors put one final goal on the board ending the game at 3-2 and advancing Brother Rice to the state semifinals.

Despite a disappointing overtime loss, Vandevorde believes his team was focused and prepared heading into the game.

"I think being scored on so quickly caused our guys to get a little shell shocked, but I'm proud of how they responded coming back and putting one in the net right before half-time."

Vandevorde believes his team dominated the second half of the game once they regained their confidence.

"The guys played so hard," he said. "Obviously, they were heartbroken after the loss, but I couldn't be more proud of them."

Vandevorde believes the team's success this

season has set a standard for North soccer that they will continue to play by in the future.

"We compete every day, work hard and go for championships," he added.

Senior captain Tom Sheffield left his remarks on the season.

"We had a tough start and a few hard losses, but we hit the reset button and came together as a team," Sheffield said. "From there, everyone on our team was committed to our process and knew what we wanted to accomplish."

Sheffield grew up playing soccer in Grosse Pointe and has had the pleasure of playing with many of his teammates since he was 8 years old.

"It was amazing to end the season on a high note after playing with these guys for so many years," he said. "I just wanted to say a big thank you to the coaches and the rest of the soccer program for believing in our team and giving their best effort every day. I also wish the best of luck to our juniors, sophomores and freshman going into next season. I know they will succeed, no matter how hard it gets."

# Knights fall in dramatic regional final

By Mike Adzima  
*Sports Reporter*

University Liggett's boys soccer team accomplished great things throughout the 2021 season. From sophomore Claudio Cavallo setting a new program record for goals to winning the Catholic League and district championships, the Knights had plenty to be proud of. Liggett wanted to keep that magic rolling into a regional championship win and a spot in the Division 4 final four, but a heartbreaking 1-0 loss to Allen Park Inter-City Baptist put an end to the Knights' post-season run.

The Knights and Chargers found them-

selves in a dramatic showdown throughout Thursday night's regional final. Both sides had their share of chances and Liggett nearly found itself on the board first when a shot by Cavallo went just wide in the 32nd minute. A strong goalkeeping performance by Liggett's Alex George helped keep the game level in a scoreless tie at halftime.

Inter-City Baptist got the first big opportunity on goal in the second half with a free-kick, but a wide shot kept the Chargers off the scoreboard and the game scoreless. The Knights had another big chance with 25 minutes remaining when Doug Wood

put a shot off the post.

As time wound down, the Knights' offense continued to get chances on goal. Cavallo had another great shot that again went off the post and dashed Liggett's hopes of taking the lead.

George's strong play in net for the Knights continued as the match got down to the final moments. With just 10 seconds left, the Chargers managed to find the back of the net for the night's first and only goal and ended Liggett's season with a tightly contested 1-0 loss.

The loss brings the Knights' 2021 season to an end with a final record of 19-3.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JANEIL DIVITA

## ATHLETE:

*Continued from page 1D*

did not stop DiVita from falling in love with her soon-to-be new team.

"The recruiting process was a little crazy because it was during COVID, so I couldn't really meet a lot of coaches or play in front of them," DiVita said. "In the end, Lipscomb University was the one that really stood out to me. ... I just really enjoyed the coaching and the girls and the program has a lot of potential."

Alongside DiVita for the recruiting process and throughout her growth as a player has been her mother, Janeil DiVita, who also is the head coach

of South's volleyball team. It may not always be easy to be the coach's kid, but DiVita sees that connection as a key to the success of both them and the Blue Devils as a whole.

"I've really loved it because we're really good at being able to communicate about a lot of topics," DiVita said. "I think that's made this program become what it is and has so much more potential with her coaching. I really enjoy it because it's nice having my mom there and being able to talk to me and see things from my perspective, but also from a coaching perspective."

The connection and chemistry with her coach also is there with DiVita and her teammates.

DiVita and the Blue Devils enter this year's volleyball playoffs after winning a share of the MAC White division championship. With help from herself, her mother and her teammates, DiVita is seeing South's program continuing to grow and leaving a legacy once her senior season is over.

"The team chemistry is the best it's been since I've been playing at South," she said. "A lot of the girls have been playing since when they were freshmen until now and we've created those bonds. Everybody's open to sharing with everybody on the team and we really get along."

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, visit [grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week](https://grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week).

Grosse Pointe News

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OF THE WEEK

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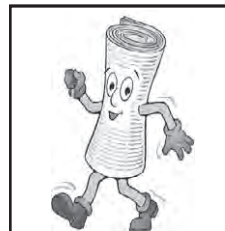
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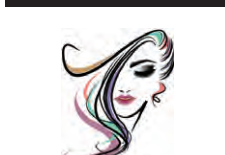


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