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MAY 5, 2022
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Food trucks slated for Pier Park

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — With the announcement that the Fishfly Café would close its shutters after a successful single-season run due to owner Holly Rutherford moving out of state, the Farms put out a notice last month for applications to run the Pier Park concession stand this summer.

The due date for proposals has come and gone without any formal submissions, leaving the city to fall back on a plan B that worked well for it in the past: food trucks, which are allowed access to the park at no cost and without any charge to the

city.

“They were very popular, the food trucks, and I think people actually liked the variety of different choices of food, from pizza to Greek to Mexican,” City Manager Shane Reeside said, “and it provided, actually, a greater variety of offering than the vendor was able to provide at the concession stand.”

“Frankly,” he added, “we had people come down to the park who would come down specifically to go to a food truck and have dinner at the park.”

From May 28, until Sept. 4, residents can expect to find a variety of

See TRUCKS, page 3A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Pitch perfect

Mary Claire Curtis of the Oregon Ducks zeroes in on throwing a strike during her team’s opening night game against the UCLA Bruins last Friday. Grosse Pointe Little League softball, as well as Little League baseball teams from the Park, Farms-City and Woods-Shores, all enjoyed parades and special ceremonies to kick off their new seasons on the diamond. See pages 6-7D for coverage on all the weekend’s festivities.

Mack/Vernier revamp in the works

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — When Wayne County approached Grosse Pointe Woods and asked if there were any joint projects the city may want to work on, city officials jumped at the opportunity to enhance one of its most dangerous intersections: Mack and Vernier.

Mack Avenue being a county road, Wayne County was looking to use its American Rescue Plan Act, or ARPA, funds toward improving county



Black mast arms, like the one pictured, will replace traffic signals at the intersection.

COURTESY PHOTO

streets and was happy to cost share a project on Mack with the Woods.

The cost share would involve the county footing two-thirds of the bill,

while the Woods would See REVAMP, page 4A

First look at new budget

By Ted O’Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — The Grosse Pointe Shores City Council will have some tough decisions to make in the coming months and years based on preliminary budget forecasts.

The proposed 2022-23 fiscal year budget shows expenditures up slightly from this year, at \$6.67 million, but with a shortfall of about \$109,000.

“The current environment is ever changing, so we want to make sure that we have attainable priorities and long-term goals,” Finance Director/Treasurer Candice Giles told city council at its meeting Tuesday, April 19.

See BUDGET, page 3A

Forestalling deficit, reestablishing capital improvement plan

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Rising health care and pension costs are being offset partially by instituting a municipal hiring freeze and not replacing three public safety employees due for retirement this fiscal year ending June 30.

“Health insurance and pension costs are the most significant fringe benefit costs to the city,”

said Nick Sizeland, city manager, during a budget workshop with the mayor and city council April 28.

Upon the retirements, the ranks of police and firefighters will total 77 and stay there until the across-the-board freeze is lifted.

Nevertheless, cost reductions alone won’t be enough to cover an anticipated \$1.1 million shortfall in the coming fiscal year.

“Our deficit is quite

large,” said Jane Blahut, city finance director and clerk. “But we have \$3.9 million in fund reserves. It’s a structural problem. We have to reduce expenses, including legacy, healthcare and pension costs. We’ll figure it all out.”

“It’s the elephant in the room we need to address head-on,” said Councilman Tom Caulfield, designated as the council member for finance. “It cannot sustain itself.”

Local governments in Michigan are required to draft an annual balanced budget.

Saddled without a plan

“It’s going to be important for this city council moving forward to reestablish a capital improvement plan, so we have a five-year plan looking at all departments,” Sizeland told the council.

See PLAN, page 2A

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Pages 9-16B

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A

Micah Darnell
Home: Grosse Pointe Woods Nurse and assistant track coach enjoys helping others



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Dame finalist for Portage gig

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — After 16 years at the helm of the City of Grosse Pointe, City Manager Pete Dame may soon be heading 150 miles west to be near his parents and lead another Michigan community. Dame is among three candidates being considered for city manager of Portage after the resignation of previous manager Joseph S. LaMargo, who also cited an interest in being closer to family, in August 2021.

The Grosse Pointe city manager noted he has not been seeking other employment opportunities, nor has he applied anywhere else. The potential career move is not about leaving Grosse Pointe, but instead about returning to his hometown.

Dame grew up in

Portage, where his parents still live in the family home where they’ve been since 1962.

“The opportunity to give back to the community that I grew up in and help (and) be close to my parents was too good to pass up the opportunity to try,” he said. “I love Grosse Pointe, but I love my hometown and I can bring my experience and do the things I do here with my hometown in Portage and also be close to my family, so that’s what my motivation is.”

The 33 people who applied for Portage city manager became five candidates invited to interview before city council and now have been narrowed down to three finalists invited to a second round of interviews. These will begin at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, May 5, with a live stream available at bit.ly/38yGSpN.

Alongside Dame will be Grand Haven City Manager Patrick McGinnis and Canton Township Municipal Services Director Jade Smith.

DeWitt Charter Township Manager Andrew Dymczyk and Brighton City Manager Nate Geinzer were eliminated from the running.

“When we had consultant Frank Walsh (of Walsh Municipal Services) screen the candidates, I was hoping that we would have two very strong candidates,” Portage Mayor Pro Tem Jim Pearson said during the April 26 city council vote to move forward with the three finalists, “and Frank delivered five very strong candidates. Any of these five could be city manager of Portage.”

A decision is anticipated to be made Thursday, May 12.



From left, DPW employees Jeff Chauvin, Tony Dewalls and Dan Berinde, Beautification Advisory Commission Chair Sierra Donaven and DPW Superintendent Thomas Joy.

COURTESY PHOTO

DPW employee honored with tree planting

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — In what is becoming an annual tradition, members of the Grosse Pointe Farms Beautification Advisory Commission, city administration and public works employees gathered outside the department of

public works last Friday morning to plant a Royal Raindrops crabapple tree in recognition of Arbor Day and in honor of a DPW worker who passed earlier this year.

Farms city council passed a resolution at its March meeting to recognize the importance of Arbor Day, a holiday that dates back to 1872. It was

then that J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture the concept of setting aside a day to plant trees. The first observance saw more than a million trees planted in Nebraska.

“The benefits of planting trees are numerous,” said Sierra Donaven,

See TREE, page 3A

PLAN:

Continued from page 1A

“This is something I’m going to bring to the council in the coming months for your review and consideration.”

Caulfield, one of five new members of the council, was surprised a capital improvement plan needs to be reestablished.

He wants to institute a five-year budget to help plan for the future. Multi-year budgets and related outlooks are old news in Grosse Pointe Farms, Shores, Woods and City.

“Five-year forecasts and two-year budgets were instituted quite a while ago,” said Pete Dame, manager of the City.

“We should have a rolling budget,” Caulfield said. “We don’t even have a capital improvement project fund, which we need to be forward-thinkers, not reactionary.”

“There was a capital improvement plan done prior by the former city manager,” said Sizeland, named manager in late 2019. “We have one being worked on now. It’s a priority for city administration.”

Debits and credits

Public safety pensions compose \$1.7 million of the Park’s overall \$2.2

million pension costs, the \$500,000 balance spread among all other departments combined.

The expense comports with government’s core function and public safety’s majority role in the city’s general fund budget, totaling \$13,170,682, for next fiscal year. The total is a 3.1 percent increase from this year.

The general fund represents daily operations and is separate from enterprise funds, such as those for marina operations, water and sewer services.

Public safety accounts for 65 percent of all expenditures in the forthcoming general budget, four times greater than the city’s second greatest outlay, \$2,028,795 for parks and recreation.

Top sources of revenue are:

- ◆ property taxes, \$7,348,331, representing 56 percent of total;
- ◆ the public safety millage, \$1,807,244, or 14 percent of total, and
- ◆ state shared revenues, \$1,242,000, or 9 percent.

“Property tax revenues have now recovered or surpassed pre-recession levels (from the mid-2000s),” Sizeland said. “However, between that time, the city lost hundreds of thousands in revenue. Some of this

(lost) revenue could have helped us in the long run paying our pension liabilities, which is a really big number for our city budget.”

The city met the recession by cutting variable costs, namely personnel.

“In 2008, we were at 80 staff members,” Sizeland said. “Today, we’re at 66. Still (being) able to provide those services that were back in 2008 with 66 people is pretty commendable of this community.”

Michigan shared revenue, which represents a portion of state tax receipts returned to local jurisdictions, hasn’t kept pace with inflation, which is at its highest level in a generation.

“State shared revenue in 2001 was \$1.4 million,” Sizeland said. “Now, in 2022, we’re at \$1.2 million. Think about that.”

This year’s \$1.2 million is worth only \$752,059 in 2001 dollars, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics consumer price inflation calculator.

Additional cost-saving strategies being considered include outsourcing some city services.

“We are going to look at what it will cost to bring a landscaping company to take care of our parks,” Caulfield said. “We don’t want to eliminate those jobs, but we’re at a point

where we have to look at cost-effective measures. The reality is, pension costs aren’t going away. No one wants to raise taxes, but I also don’t want to cut services. It’s a fine balance.”

Revenue quest

“We look to provide additional revenue to this budget,” Sizeland said.

Tactics include:

◆ Higher parking fees, currently 25 cents per hour.

“This is something we seriously need to adjust because it is a good income of revenue,” Sizeland said.

◆ Sharing services with the other Pointes.

“Does it make sense that each Grosse Pointe has a ladder truck when maybe we can consolidate three?” Sizeland said. “We have to get creative, not only in the Park, but the other Pointes, to combat inflation.”

◆ Reviewing employee compensation.

“Are we paying employees fair across the board, but are there areas we should make adjustments?” Sizeland said.

◆ Public safety organization.

Public safety, as the city’s biggest department, wears the biggest target.

“There will be further discussion of how we

allocate our public safety resources,” Sizeland said. “Salaries of full-time employees have gone up. We are at high staffing levels right now. We have four platoons with seven members on a shift, as well as hiring Chief (Bryan) Jarrell, which was in this budget. We also hired one new public safety officer.”

Hikes

Sizeland foreshadowed higher water and sewer charges.

He cited the council in March approving a \$58,000 contract with Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, an accountancy consulting network.

The network is tasked for advice on setting municipal rates, obtaining grants and other funding options as the city beefs up the sewer system to prevent recurrence of last summer’s water backups into basements during two big storms.

Sizeland estimated the city will receive a federal grant to recover 90 percent of the \$1 million cost of flood cleanup. There’s no certain outside source to help the city fund a roughly \$1.8 million modification of the sewer system to discharge unmanageable storm flows directly into Lake St. Clair.

“Baker Tilly will be coming to the council more than likely in summer to review our utility

rate structure,” Sizeland said. “More than likely, later in the year (we) will be looking at amending water and sewer rates even more to go with capital costs on the infrastructure side.”

That’s not the end of it.

“Our core focus is on the water and sewer fund,” Sizeland said. “We have preventive maintenance items we’re looking at.”

A contractor currently is making video inspections of 41 miles of the city’s sewer system.

“After their review of sewers, we might have further expenses to consider,” Sizeland said. “When there’s an opportunity to fix this item, we have unrestricted in the water and sewer fund close to \$1.9 million. If we need to make those expenses for maintenance, we can do so.”

Boat well rental fees at the 269-slip Windmill Pointe Park continue being increased. This coming year the marina budget is \$323,000, which is \$16,000 more than this year and is paid by rentals.

“The last three years, we have been increasing the boat well rates at about a 5 percent rate,” Sizeland said. “We’re going to continue to do such. Members of the parks and recreation commission and the marina subcommittee are going to be further discussing further opportunities for the marina.”

Not everything is a budget buster.

Funding for the Lavins Fitness Center at Windmill Pointe Park is dropping nearly \$57,000 to \$600,000 despite increased wages for part-time employees to meet market forces.

Budget matters are a frequent topic during council sessions in the run up to the new fiscal year.

“The next step will occur at our regular May city council meeting (7 p.m. Monday, May 9), at which time there will be a public hearing for the public to be heard yet again,” Mayor Michele Hodges said. “At that time, the council will be asked to consider a number of resolutions related to the financial situation related to the community.”

The Park has an AA bond rating, according to Blahut.



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Shred day set for Saturday

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — The Shores Beautification Committee is hosting a drive-through shred day from 9:15 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 7, at Osius Park.

The event, part of the Keep America Beautiful “Great American Cleanup Days,” is open to all residents of the Pointes and Harper Woods. The park is located across from city hall at Lakeshore

and Vernier roads.

Cost is \$5 for each banker-sized box or grocery bag of documents to be shredded.

Paper documents are welcome, including mail, letters, canceled checks, bank statements and other confidential information.

CDs, credit cards, floppy disks, cardboard, tissue paper and paper towels are not allowed.

National Honor Society students

from Grosse Pointe North High School will retrieve the boxes or bags from vehicles and take them to the shredder, which has a window where people can see their items being shredded.

According to Beautification Committee Chair Helen Bai, 105 vehicles drove through last year’s event and created almost 4 tons of shredded material.

— Ted O’Neil

TREE:

Continued from page 2A

councilwoman and beautification advisory commission chair. “Trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife.

“Trees in our city increase property values,” she added, “enhance the economic vitality of business areas and beautify our community.”

With a gap year in 2020 because of the pandemic, this is the third year the Farms has held a tree-planting ceremony in recognition of Arbor Day.

While last year the city also dedicated its tree planting to recognize the six resident deaths from COVID-19 that had taken place by that time, this year honored public works employee Mark Nesler, who unexpectedly passed away in February.

“May this tree be a reminder of the pride Mark took in his work, his cheerfulness and the attention he paid to all of his customers and his



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, DPW employees Tony Dewalls, Jeff Chauvin and Dan Berinde plant the tree outside the DPW building on Arbor Day.

community,” Donaven said.

In a statement released by the city at the time of his passing, the Grosse Pointe South High School alum was noted as a great person, devoted father and fixture in the community for decades, who “was well known amongst the residents on his rubbish route for his cheerfulness, personal attention to each of his customers and a huge part of the Farms’ small town appeal.”

Experienced officer joins Farms ranks

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — After a 10-year career with the Utica Police Department, Public Safety Officer Bryan Orlowski started as the newest member of the Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety Department last Monday.

Orlowski’s professional journey as a first responder began with the influence of his wife Tracy’s family, many of whom are firefighters.

“When I first started dating her back just after high school, they kind of pulled me in,” he said.

From there, he started work as a Utica firefighter and it was a natural progression through seeing officers on the



COURTESY PHOTO

Officer Bryan Orlowski, left, and Farms Director of Public Safety John Hutchins at the swearing-in ceremony Monday, April 25.

scene of fires, following the police chief’s suggestion to become a dispatcher and then

entering the police academy to become an officer after about 10 months.

Orlowski went on to

serve in roles including field training officer, taser instructor and defensive tactics instructor, as well as earn various department awards.

One such honor resulted from a smash and grab at a Jared Jewelers, during which Orlowski and his partner chased the suspects into Sterling Heights and ultimately arrested all those involved, while recovering \$250,000 in diamonds.

Additional recognitions included life-saving awards for incidents from heart attacks to stabbings, as well as a department citation for noticing, while on patrol, and arresting a suspect, who was wanted for

See RANKS, page 9A

BUDGET:

Continued from page 1A

“We also want to maintain the essential services that people expect. That’s why they move to our community.”

Looking ahead, projections show a budget of \$7.1 million for the 2023-24 fiscal year, with a shortfall of \$507,000. Due to a decrease in population based on the latest census — which the city is contesting — the Shores will see an estimated \$30,000 drop in state revenue sharing.

The shortfalls are primarily due to increased wages and large projects.

The proposed budget for the coming fiscal year is based on a 2.5 percent increase in property tax revenue and a 10 percent increase in contingency costs for large projects. Union contracts call for a 2.5 percent increase in salaries, as well as pay increases for seasonal employees including public works and lifeguards.

Big-ticket requests include two new police cruisers and new fire equipment for public safety, new equipment for public works and upgrades to city hall that include new windows, upgrading council chambers and repairing the

front steps to the building.

Giles said city council has three options when considering how to make up the budget shortfalls. The first would be to not do certain projects, followed by some type of revenue enhancement and finally, and least palatable, making up the difference with fund balance money.

“It’s a matter of prioritizing things,” she added. “We’re at the point where we’re noticing you can only put things off for so long. This is intended to give council the tools they need to make those decisions.”

The estimated fund balance at the end of the coming fiscal year June 30, 2023, would be nearly \$2.2 million, or 33 percent of the budget, if council used money from the fund balance to make up the \$109,000

shortfall. Doing the same the following year would deplete the fund balance to \$1.7 million, or 23.5 percent of the budget.

Giles said that would fall below the 25 percent threshold council set for itself.

“The GFOA (Government Finance Officers Association) recommends 20 percent, but council wanted to be above that,” she noted.

Some savings will be realized, but it’s too early to predict exact amounts, Giles said. Overtime pay for public safety is expected to fall after it went up during the pandemic due to the retirement of three command officers, and new equipment for public works means the department will be able to handle larger tree-trimming issues without having to hire private contractors.

TRUCKS:

Continued from page 1A

food trucks at the park between noon and 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. The current lineup, to be stationed at the inner lot at Pier Park, includes J&W Ice Cream On Wheels, Dragon Wok, JJ’s Fish & Shrimp, Noodle Topia, Tres Leches ‘n Snacks Tacos, Smokey Styles BBQ, Polish Mania Warsaw Cuisine, Endless Pastabilities, Motor City Sweet Treats and more.

A complete schedule of trucks and dates, which are subject to change without notice, can be found at yourneighborhoodbites.com/detroit/subdivisions/grosse-pointe-farms-pier-park.

“We’re going to try to utilize them to the extent possible,” Reeside noted,

“so particularly if there’s other days where there are things happening at the park that generate greater crowds too, we’ll try to take advantage of events to try to appeal for additional food trucks.”

To help fill the gap left by the lack of concession stand this year, the city is considering increasing the offerings in the park’s vending machines such as the inclusion of power bars. It also may sell ice and other items through the park office.

“Under the circumstances, I think we’re just trying to make lemonade out of lemons right now,” Reeside said.

Looking to 2023, one vendor already has expressed interest in leasing the Pier Park concession stand. He cited an inability to commit now because of the tight labor market.

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The Week Ahead

MONDAY, MAY 9

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

TUESDAY, MAY 10

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Parks Committee meeting, 4 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens’ Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Joint Finance/City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Beautification Advisory Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Farms Parks and Harbor Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 12

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

SATURDAY, MAY 14

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Town Hall meeting, 10 a.m.

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This Pointer is off to the races

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

For Micah Darnell, her career and favorite hobby both combine things she loves.

The 2015 Grosse Pointe North High School graduate is a nurse at Ascension St. John Hospital and volunteer assistant coach with the girls track team at her alma mater.

"I ran the 100, 200 and 400 (meters) in high school, so I focus on helping the sprinters," she said. "The last real track season was 2019, so it's almost like starting over again, but we're seeing a lot of progress. I had so much fun running in high school and it's great seeing the girls enjoy it, too."

As for nursing, Darnell wasn't sure about a career path when she started at Grand Valley State University, but knew she liked science and helping people.



Micah Darnell

"I took every science class I could in high school, even the ones that weren't required," she laughed. "Things like microbiology and anatomy and physiology."

As for helping people, the 25-year-old has been involved in the sign language ministry and choir at her church and was part of the Freshman Assist Program at North. "They pair older stu-

dents with a freshman and you help them get used to being in high school," she said. "You help them with homework and also do activities outside of school."

The Grosse Pointe Woods resident started in college as a biology major with a chemistry minor.

"At one point I realized, 'What am I going to do with that?' and switched to nursing," she said. "Nursing is such a broad field and there are so many things you can do with it."

Darnell started working in the cardiac step-down unit at St. John in fall 2020, after obtaining her associate's degree, and recently completed her bachelor's degree at the University of Michigan-Flint.

"I missed the first big wave of COVID, but then we had another spike in February and March of 2021," she said. "It was crazy."



PHOTO BY TED O'NEIL

Micah Darnell, fifth from left, a 2015 Grosse Pointe North High School graduate and nurse, poses with sprinters from the school's track team whom she helps coach.

A cardiac step-down unit is where patients go after a stay in ICU following procedures like bypass or open-heart surgery.

"Hospitals were delaying elective surgery when the pandemic was

really bad, but you can't do that with heart surgery," Darnell said. "It's a ticking time bomb."

Aside from working 12-hour shifts and helping the track team, Darnell said she likes spending time with fam-

ily and her boyfriend, Ramier, who is a nurse at Henry Ford Hospital.

"We had classes together so we know what each other is going through," she said.

See RACES, page 5A

REVAMP:

Continued from page 1A

pay the remaining one-third.

The city thought, at the least, it would be nice to beautify the intersection. As studies were conducted, the intersection proved to be problematic and available solutions arose that would make it less so.

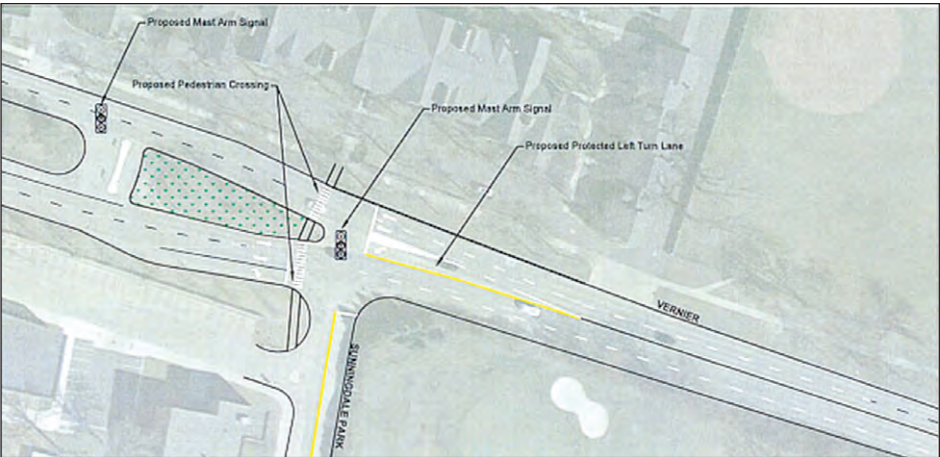
"It's not exactly the most functional intersection," City Engineer Scott Lockwood said. "Those direct lefts in three different directions are very hazardous."

As it stands, the intersection allows for three direct left turns, with only traffic heading

southbound on Mack unable to turn left onto Vernier. The southbound traffic must head straight through the light, with a Michigan-left available shortly after for access to eastbound Vernier.

"(The direct lefts are) hazardous to the vehicular traffic and, more importantly, they're hazardous to the pedestrian traffic," Lockwood added, "a huge majority of which is school children."

With Parcels Middle School located on the corner and Mason Elementary School just down the street on Vernier, the amount of school children trying to cross the busy intersection proved difficult for



COURTESY PHOTO

A light will be added at Sunningdale Park to allow for left turns onto the street. Pedestrian crossing will be added as part of the Safe Routes to School program.

traffic and crossing guards alike.

According to crash data provided by Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick Inc., from 2016 to 2021, excluding 2020, 34 angular crashes and 41 rear-end crashes occurred at the intersection. The next most-common accident, a sideswipe at 17 crashes, also can be reduced by eliminating direct lefts, officials said.

"Every year that is the top intersection for accidents," Public Safety Director John Kosanke said. "And I think with having different types of grant funding available, this would be a great time to address that intersection for the safety of the school children and

the average citizen as a whole."

City officials got to work — partnering with AEW Inc. — planning how to best revamp the intersection, taking into consideration vehicular and pedestrian traffic data. The solution they came up with for the complicated intersection is to eliminate all direct left turns, replacing them with Michigan-lefts and adding stop lights to direct traffic into Parcels.

"If we can get rid of all the left-turn movements there," AEW Inc. representative Michael Vigneron said, "that does a couple of things. It certainly reduces the conflict points, it reduces the amount of information and input that all the drivers need while they're negotiating that intersection and it eliminates the left turns against crossing pedestrians."

Per a proposal by AEW

Inc. to council, highlights of the project include replacing traffic signals with black mast arms — similar to mast arms recently installed at Kercheval and Moross in the Farms; improving pedestrian crossings via new push buttons and better striping of crosswalks; eliminating direct lefts at Mack and Vernier; increasing the size of the island; bettering landscaping; reconfiguring and landscaping median islands west of Mack on Vernier; and improving Sunningdale Park with a new black mast arm signal, dedicated left-turn lane and sidewalk and crossing for pedestrians. The turnaround west of Sunningdale Park also would be removed.

While the project is in early planning stages, its scope and extent is dependent on the amount of funding received through outside grants. As it stands, the project

has an anticipated cost of \$1,750,000.

Currently, it is estimated Wayne County will contribute \$660,000 via its ARPA fund. The city is applying for a safety grant via the Michigan Department of Transportation, with hopes \$750,000 will be granted toward the project.

If the full MDOT grant amount is awarded, the Woods will be responsible for \$340,000 of the improvements.

As the school board has expressed support for the plan, it is possible the project also may receive funds through the Safe Routes to School program for its enhancement of safety at the Sunningdale Park intersection. Any amount granted would reduce both the city's and Wayne County's contributions, with the maximum amount possible being \$440,000.

Once the city knows how much funding will be available for the project — likely by the end of the calendar year — next steps will be determined. City officials said public engagement will be a priority. They anticipate holding town halls, possibly spring 2023, to facilitate such engagement.

If approved, the project would be completed summer 2024.

"Anything that we can do to improve traffic flow and improve safety is a huge win in our books," Kosanke said.

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Grosse Pointe Park

Three of a kind

Officers monitoring traffic on Mack Avenue last week investigated three motorists for allegedly committing the identical offenses and arrested them on the same charge.

All three were pulled over for speeding and charged with violating a suspended driving license:

◆ The first incident of the week happened at 5:35 p.m. Monday, April 25, at Somerset and involved a 25-year-old man from Detroit.

◆ The second offender, a 28-year-old Detroit man, served himself up at 12:20 p.m. Tuesday, April 26, also at Somerset.

◆ The third, a 25-year-old Detroit man, came down the pike at 5:35 p.m. Tuesday, April 26, at Three Mile Drive.

Stop means stop

A few minutes before the school day ended Friday, April 29, and students started walking home on sidewalks, a 30-year-old female motorist from Detroit was arrested for disregarding a stop sign at Grayton and St. Paul.

If the case goes to Park Municipal Court, she'll face Judge Carl Jarboe, known to be fair, reasonable and tough on people for disobeying stop signs and red lights.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Expensive sip

A 24-year-old man from Romeoville, Ill., was arrested around 11:30 p.m. Sunday, May 1, for having an open intoxicant in his vehicle.

Officers were requested to do a welfare check after someone spotted a

running vehicle parked more than a foot away from the curb on Edgewood Drive near Lakeshore Road. They discovered the driver had an open pint of Hennessy cognac, which retails for around \$20, with some of the contents missing.

The report indicates the man failed several field sobriety tests, but a preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of 0.02 percent, one-quarter the amount necessary to be charged with drunken driving.

The man's 2017 Dodge Challenger was impounded and he was released on a \$100 cash bond, with fines and court fees yet to be determined.

— Ted O'Neil
Report information about this and other crimes to the Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety Department, (313) 881-5500.

City of Grosse Pointe

Intercepted deposit

After an employee made a cash deposit on behalf of a business into the night deposit box at an area bank Friday, April 15, the funds did not appear in the business account as the bank did not receive the deposit. An investigation is ongoing.

Bank fraud

An unknown suspect opened an account at Wells Fargo Bank in a Grosse Pointer's name Tuesday, April 26, and then transferred \$5,000 from the victim's Comerica Bank account to the fraudulent account.

Mile in someone else's shoes

Between 3:55 and 5

p.m. Thursday, April 28, Birkenstock sandals worth \$110 were stolen from an unsecured locker at a business in the 17000 block of Waterloo.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Suspended license

A 27-year-old Detroit woman was issued a ticket for driving while license suspended, driving an unregistered vehicle and not having insurance, as well as warned for defective equipment, after being pulled over at Mack and Hillcrest avenues for an expired plate at 11:54 a.m. Monday, April 25.

Every woman for herself

When an employee inside a business in the 100 block of Kercheval Avenue heard glass bottles clinking in an aisle at 5:34 p.m. Monday, April 25, she approached two women and asked if they were going to pay for the items concealed inside their bags.

The women took off running in opposite directions, stealing \$298.86 worth of alcohol.

The first suspect is an approximately 50-year-old black woman wearing blue jeans, a purple jacket, brown hat, black shower slides and carrying a turquoise duffle bag.

The second was described as an approximately 50-year-old black woman wearing tan pants, a plaid shirt and a brown hat.

Child support

After being pulled over

at Mack Avenue and Ashley Street for a defective brake light at 9:56 p.m. Tuesday, April 26, a 55-year-old Detroit man was arrested for two felony child support warrants out of Wayne County.

From free parking to jail

Officers were called to the area of Madison Street and Webster Road at 5:55 p.m. Friday, April 29, when a vehicle was reported for parking along a curb in a posted no-parking zone.

The 42-year-old Roseville driver was found to have a fraud warrant out of Warren, for which he was arrested.

Win some, lose some

A 30-year-old Harper Woods man was pulled over at Grosse Pointe Boulevard and Muskoka Road at 2:52 a.m. Sunday, May 1, for an out-of-service brake light and turn signal.

The man was warned about the defective equipment, but ticketed for improper plate and no proof of insurance. The vehicle was impounded.

Bad night to worse

While a vehicle was parked at a Mack Avenue and Shelbourne Road gas station waiting for roadside assistance for a flat tire at 10:51 p.m. Sunday, May 1, an officer noticed its expired license plate tab.

The 30-year-old Shelby Township driver was ticketed for driving while license suspended and not having insurance, and the vehicle was impounded.

— Laurel Kraus
Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe

Farms Public Safety, (313) 885-2100.

Grosse Pointe Woods

You haul it

A witness reported an older-model U-Haul truck circling the 1900 block of Manchester at 1:07 p.m. Wednesday, April 27, before the driver stopped by a landscaping trailer, removed a string trimmer, edger and backpack blower and sped off.

The total loss to the landscaper working in the area is around \$475.

Missing plate

A truck parked in a driveway in the 900 block of Blairmoor had its rear license plate removed sometime between 8:40 p.m. Wednesday, April 27, and the night before. It is unknown who stole the plate.

Bike, leaf blower missing

From an unlocked garage in the 1900 block of Manchester, a silver girl's Schwinn mountain bike and Stihl leaf blower were stolen sometime between 7:30 a.m. Thursday, April 28, and 7:30 a.m. Friday, April 29. Both items were purchased several years ago and value around \$250 each.

Turned around

A single-car accident reported at Mack and Brys at 4:25 a.m. Friday, April 29, showed a heavily damaged white Ford Escape stopped, pointing north in the midst of southbound lanes when public safety officers arrived on scene.

A streetlight pole was down, blocking the right travel lane.

Airbags deployed, the 40-year-old Ferndale driver, only able to produce her license, complained of right eye discomfort and appeared confused. Blood was observed on her face and left hand.

She told officers she was on her way home to Ferndale after a night out at a bar called "Winners," where she had consumed four 8-ounce vodka and cranberry cocktails.

When asked to exit the vehicle, she was unsteady on her feet. Her speech was slurred and she mumbled; her eyes were glassy.

She was taken to the hospital via ambulance and was placed under arrest for operating while intoxicated.

A search warrant was obtained for her blood.

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



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RACES:

Continued from page 4A

"He'll come to track meets, or more like I drag him along."

Darnell also is involved in an effort to get a privately funded indoor fieldhouse built that athletes from both

high schools could use. "Distance runners get to run a lot more during the year because they run cross country in the fall," she said. "Having something sprinters and field athletes could use during the winter would help them keep their momentum heading into spring."



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I SAY By Renee Landuyt



Thank you for your service

Veterans. We know them, we love them, we respect them. They go into places we wouldn't dare. They fight to keep our freedom. I wish they didn't have to. Many veterans who return home face challenges — PTSD, injuries, physical handicaps, a struggle to find work — but some come back and are among the lucky ones, where after readjusting to civilian life, they pick back up and carry on with their lives. A soldier's job is a tough job; they are the nation's guardians.

I have veterans in my family. My dad was in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, my brother was in the U.S. Army Reserves, my brother-in-law served in the U.S. Air Force during Vietnam and my nephew currently is in the U.S. Navy, recently deployed. My dad used to tell us stories about one of his Army buddies who seemed to attract trouble and the attention of one of the sergeants. Some of his punishment included scrubbing the latrine with a toothbrush and cutting the grass with scissors. I told that story to a brigadier general and he chuckled and replied some of that is still used; however, they don't make them do it too long, but it's a way to learn respect for orders

and each other. Veterans of any era bring back pride of service and scars of war. The way veterans are treated today is, thankfully, very different from how they were treated in the 1960s. Many were spit on and encountered hostility upon their return from Vietnam. There were no touching videos like there are today, no welcome home fanfare like there was for previous wars. No parades, celebratory speeches or bands. During the Vietnam War, there were candlelight vigils stateside that were in support of the soldiers but not the war. Vietnam was considered to be the first television war, cameras capturing things the American public had not

seen before and it was a time of great controversy. Back then, the public expressed strong anti-war opinions and a poster was created by an artist that read, "War Is Not Healthy For Children And Other Living Things." This poster became the logo for Another Mother for Peace, a grassroots, non-profit, non-partisan, anti-war advocacy organization founded in 1967, by a group of women who wanted to advocate for peace by eliminating war as a way to solve disputes among people and nations. When I was in college, one of my jobs was bartending and I had a customer who came in somewhat regularly. His name was Don and he would only have a beer

or two, and as he sat at the bar, he would tell me stories about his time serving in Vietnam. He would get melancholy and, on occasion, teary-eyed, explaining that there were things he couldn't talk about, wasn't allowed to talk about, and how that made it difficult because it was hard to carry it around for so many years. As a creative outlet, he did woodworking as a release and made beautiful furniture. When he found out I didn't have a coffee table, he made one for me. I was so touched by this and to this day I still have the coffee table, 20-some years later. I will always cherish his gift. When I see someone in uniform or wearing a ball cap emblazoned with

their ship or their service status, I stop and thank them. At first, it was hard to do because I would get a bit choked up. Growing up, I didn't fully realize the impact they had by serving or what they had sacrificed. As a child I knew war was bad, but never fully understood it until I reached adulthood. I am more of a free spirit and not one who had the calling to serve in the military, but I am one to say thank you to those who do serve. Sometimes the best thing you can do is to make someone feel appreciated. To everyone who knows a vet, take the time to say thank you and to those reading this who have served or are serving: Thank you for your service.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1947

75 years ago this week

CITY EMPLOYEES GET WAGE RAISE: The budget for Grosse Pointe City for 1947 was adopted at a special meeting Saturday morning. The budget totals \$413,000. This is an increase of only \$15,000 over last year and Mayor Netting and the Council are greatly pleased to be able to announce that this has been met without the necessity of increasing the tax rate. **DRAFT BOARD 57, WHICH SENT 3338 POINTERS TO WAR, TO PASS INTO HISTORY:** The closing of Draft Board Office No. 57, which is scheduled for May 9, will mark finis on

one of the most dramatic and colorful periods in the history of Grosse Pointe. During the time Board No. 57 functioned, it handled the registration of 8,717 men in the 18 to 45 year age brackets, liable to draft for active service, and 4,349 in the 45 to 65 brackets, liable to assign to government duty other than combat work.

1972

50 years ago this week

THREE POINTES TRY NEW MUTUAL AID FIRE PROGRAM: Three Pointe fire departments are currently participating in a pilot program which modifies existing mutual aid fire assistance procedures as they relate

to certain (non-multiple), first alarm responses. The program, which includes the Park, Farms and City departments, became effective April 17.

1997

25 years ago this week

CITY TO TRY HIGHER-TECH VOTING MACHINES: The cumbersome lever voting booth may become a thing of the past in the City of Grosse Pointe, eventually, switching completely to high-tech optical scan voting machines. The change may mean reducing the number of precincts, just like Grosse Pointe Farms did last year when it switched to such equipment. Grosse Pointe Park is also considering the purchase of the high-tech

voting machines. **MARGE'S BAR GETS NO HELP FROM COUNCIL:** The request from the owners of Marge's Bar at Mack and Beaconsfield may have been simple, but the Grosse Pointe Park City Council spent over an hour Monday night telling the bar owners just what they could do. Jim De Puys, son of bar owner Marge De Puys, requested permission to have outdoor service along Beaconsfield between the alley that separates the residential part of the street from the business part and Mack for as long as the NHL playoffs continue. The request raised strong opposition from the council.

2012

10 years ago this week

DEVELOPERS SCALE BACK: Work on The Rivers of Grosse Pointe, the continuing care retirement community planned for the property on Cook Road once occupied by the Children's Home of Detroit, is expected to commence within the next 30 days. The announcement that the project would begin comes from city officials the same time developers of the project said they will present new, scaled-down plans for the development to city

council at its next meeting. **TO ALIGN BUDGET, BOARD APPROVES TEACHER LAYOFFS:** As a result of a forecasted 50-student decrease in elementary enrollment for 2012-13, the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education approved laying off 13 teachers, as well as reducing the full-time equivalency of several others. Next month, the board will approve potential layoffs of non-teaching personnel.

Calling All Annual GPN Subscribers!

The Grosse Pointe News will be conducting interviews of all participating candidates for the school board of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, starting after all candidates have declared. Please submit your questions to the Grosse Pointe News. The editorial staff will pick one or more of the questions to be used during the interviews.

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

points I would like to make. The trustees are often stubborn and bullheaded. Example: McCarthyism assignment. The assignment probably got the attention and reaction from the students the teacher was hoping for. In that respect, it was very effective. However, please understand why parents and the public were outraged over it. Passed out, on letterhead, with the potential of a student supplying sensitive information is the problem. Were it to be put up on an overhead projector with discussion on how this made students feel, I would be all for it. I find it disappointing that the trustees cannot come together, see the issue and come up with a common solution. Regardless, action should be taken to make sure the assignment is presented in a better way in the future. The teacher does not need

to be reprimanded, just reminded that the method used could be spun into an issue, which it did. Secondly, going hand in hand in terms of revenue, is the shrinking enrollment. The BOE states that all is well with our finances. They received a "clean audit," reserves are in check, \$111 million is being spent properly, etc. I hope they are right. It is obvious annual costs are going up and our enrollment, which is the key factor for revenue, is going down. How do you balance this reduced revenue problem? Laying off teachers and/or closing another school. Lastly, instead of reacting to the problem with more cuts, why isn't the board more aggressive in reversing the enrollment decline? The GPPSS needs to compete with the private schools. We have lost too many students due to Zoom schooling during the COVID pandemic. The

See LETTERS, page 8A

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Removal of colonial requirement OK'd

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — After much debate, future Grosse Pointe Woods developers will no longer be bound by the requirement of a colonial theme. The planning commission passed a final resolution at its meeting Tuesday, April 26, to push the ordinance readings to council for routine approval of the change.

As it reads, the 1952-established ordinance, sec. 50-373, required buildings to use architectural design “described as ‘colonial,’ ‘Williamsburg colonial,’ ‘Georgian colonial,’ ‘early American,’ ‘classic’ or ‘traditional.’”

The current ordinance is something planning commission members say is unenforceable and

something one member of the community says is part of what made the community what it is.

“The reason I moved to Grosse Pointe was because there was a sense of place,” resident Donald Sheff told the planning commission, at what he said was his first participation in a local government meeting. “At the end of the day, people want humane architecture.”

Sheff said while he did not feel married to the idea of colonial architecture, he wanted to ensure the Woods did not become overly modernized with no continuity.

“There’s a saying that nothing gets older faster than modern,” he said. “And I would say that there has to be, I think, a commitment. If there is no commitment to uphold some sort of tra-

ditional design standard, then obviously there’s no point in keeping the regulations in place, I agree. But I think there should be that commitment.”

Sheff compared the ordinance in question to an alpine architectural theme in place in Gaylord. While it is not the prettiest, most modern design, Sheff said, the similarly modeled buildings give a quaint feeling that makes the town feel like home. In Gaylord, he said, they were committed to the theme and haven’t gotten pushback on it.

While the planning commission did listen and respond to Sheff’s comments, the ordinance passed through the planning commission.

The commission responded to Sheff that

See PASSED, page 10A

Shores joins fight against HP surcharge

By Ted O’Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — The Shores is now the third of the five Pointes, joining the City and Farms, in withholding money from the Great Lakes Water Authority that goes toward paying for the city of Highland Park’s water and sewer debt.

City council unanimously approved the measure Tuesday, April 19, giving City Manager Steve Poloni the discretion to withhold the money. Several other municipalities in southeast Michigan have made the same decision.

“We’re all in agreement that it was time to take a stand and get this resolved,” Poloni said.

The Shores’ portion of the bill for the coming fis-

cal year is \$14,569, which will be placed in escrow. Poloni said the Shores is only billed for the water portion of the debt, since it gets sewer services through the Southeast Macomb Sanitary District.

The problem arose a decade ago when Highland Park closed its water treatment plant because it could not afford to maintain it. The state at the time required GLWA to provide water to the city. Highland Park since 2013 has paid about half of its water and sewer bills to the authority, and has paid nothing for the past year.

Highland Park over that time incurred \$52 million in debt to GLWA, which in turn has been assessed to the other members.

The authority provides

drinking water to 88 municipalities in southeast Michigan and sewer services to 125.

GLWA recently announced that water rates will increase 3.7 percent when the new fiscal year begins July 1, and sewer rates will go up 2.4 percent.

Farms Manager Shane Reeside told the Grosse Pointe News last month that municipalities voting to withhold the money think the burden should fall on the state.

“If the state required GLWA to provide the water and Highland Park is unable to make payments, the state should make good on that mandate.”

GLWA has filed a lawsuit against the state and Highland Park to reimburse municipalities for what they’ve paid.

RANKS:

Continued from page 3A

breaking into a gas station and stealing lottery tickets.

His efforts in Utica also involved significant time in the schools, “trying to be a positive influence on everybody in there, because kids are always a little bit shy toward police,” he said. “... So really just trying to put (the) best foot for-

ward with that and getting them used to us, so they’re not scared to ask for help.”

During Orlowski’s decade of service as an officer, he also continued working as a firefighter — Utica has a paid, on-call fire department, where firefighters carry pagers and respond on their off time — served as a captain since 2019, handled day-to-day operations and was in charge of the self-

contained breathing apparatus and junior officers.

Now in his second week on duty in Grosse Pointe, Orlowski hopes to stay with the Farms department until his retirement.

“Everything I’ve heard about it is (it’s) a wonderful place to work,” he said, noting interest in obtaining grant money for the department and a future leadership role aiding newer officers.

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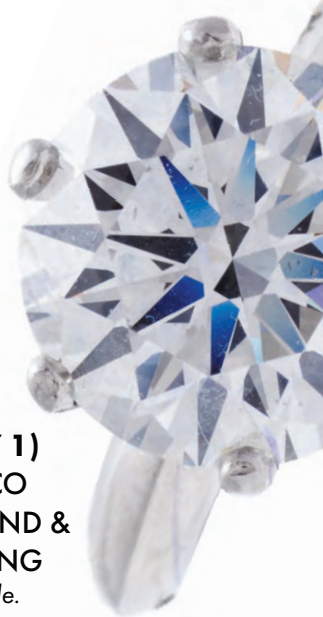
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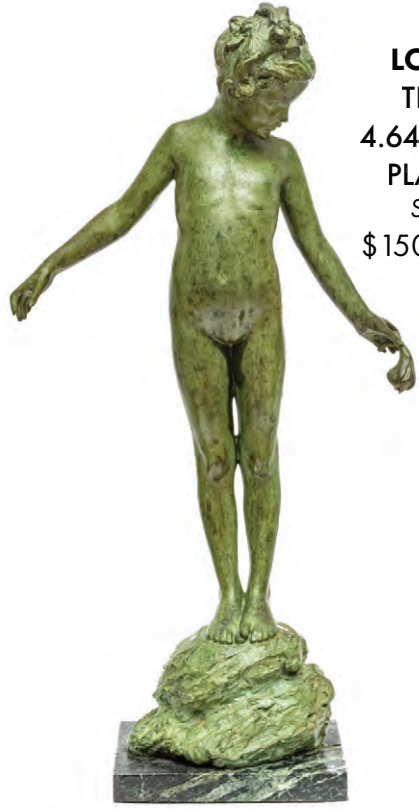
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BACCARAT
DOLPHIN CANDELABRAS
CRYSTAL, H 24”
Very large, quality work.
\$1,000-\$2,000



LOT 1013 (DAY 2)
MARY CHASE PERRY
MONUMENTAL PEWABIC
VASE WITH RELIEF
With photograph of Perry next to her work.
\$50,000-\$70,000

MONTHLY AUCTIONS OF ART & ANTIQUES

LOT 1001 (DAY 2)
JOAN MIRO
MIRO LITHOGRAPHIE
EIGHT PLATES
8 works on arches wove paper.
\$8,000-\$12,000



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6/5/2022

Voting consolidated to Windmill Pointe Park

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Some people like change, some don't. Both get some of each when the city's voting precincts are moved to Windmill Pointe Park. Permanently consolidating voting booths at the municipal park ends the city's irregular pattern of temporary precinct displacements imposed by the public school system's summertime construction schedule at two campuses in Grosse Pointe Park, plus the uncertain future of a third.

"Grosse Pointe school administration has informed the city that this year Pierce Middle School will be under construction, requiring the city to relocate two precincts this year," Jane Blahut, Park city clerk and treasurer wrote to the city council April 4. "If you recall, last year Defer Elementary was under construction." The issue was part of a consent agenda April 11, which received unanimous council support, thereby halting the voting merry-go-round by moving the city's six precincts to

Windmill Pointe Park's Lavins gymnasium and Tompkins Community Center. "I'll be able to have my deputy clerk at the park all day from the opening to closing of the polls," Blahut said. "Right now, we're running from precinct to precinct if there's a question or a machine has a problem. With everything being located down at the park, it's going to be more efficient." "The goal is to deliver a better experience to voters and make it more consistent and accessible in a cost-effective

way," Mayor Michele Hodges said. City officials thereby rejected the idea of temporarily shifting precincts from Defer and Pierce, both located in the 15400 block of Kercheval, to Trombly Elementary, located about three-quarters of a mile south in the 800 block of Beaconsfield. The school board closed Trombly in June 2020. "Trombly is available this year, but that's always a year-by-year decision by the school board because they never know what they're going to be doing with it," Blahut said. "Based on the last school board meeting a week ago, Trustees Ahmed Ismail and Lisa Papas found no support from other board members in holding bond money aside until a future for Trombly is identified," said Councilwoman Christine Gallaher, the Park's liaison to the public school district regarding Trombly. "Board members who voted no cited (the law

firm) Miller Canfield's counsel not to put bond money aside for buildings that are under discussion to sell." "They may sell it," Blahut said. "They may tear it down. We would have to permanently locate precincts at the park anyway." Windmill Pointe Park, at the foot of Windmill Pointe Drive, is 2.9 road miles from the farthest corner of the city. The residents-only park will be open on primary and election days to all residents of Grosse Pointe Park with or without a park pass, Blahut said. "We have overflow parking in the Barrington lot," she said. "If someone has a transportation problem, they can apply for an absentee ballot at city hall or you may go online to the Michigan Secretary of State." Construction last year at Defer prompted the clerk's office to send out a requisite flurry of correspondence to voters. "We had to send out new voter cards to

everyone in Precinct 3 that was merged with 5, letting them know their precinct is going to temporarily change," Blahut said. "After the election, we had to do the same thing, which is costly and we have to advertise." "It costs money when you have to send out notifications repeatedly," Hodges said. "It's all about quality and improving access to the voting process by implementing these more consistent processes." The Park has six precincts, down from seven due to consolidation. Prior locations were: ♦ Precincts 1 and 2, Trombly, ♦ Precinct 3, city hall, ♦ Precinct 4, Pierce, ♦ Precincts 5 and 6, Defer and ♦ Precinct 7, Pierce. "We merged 3 with 5 at Defer because it was difficult having it here, as when it was raining, everyone had to wait outside," Blahut said. New locations are: ♦ Precincts 1 and 2, Tompkins Center and ♦ Precincts 4, 5, 6 and 7, Lavins Center.

Shores begins water, sewer work

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Work began on Lakeshore Road last week that will replace a water line that spans nearly the length of the city. The city sold \$8 million worth of bonds in mid-April for that project and repairs to the sewer line on Oxford Road. Finance Director/Treasurer Candice Giles told city council at its April 19 meeting that the lowest of six bidders offered a 3.37 percent interest rate. Giles said most municipal bonds sold around the same time were between 3.5 and 3.9 percent. The city learned in early April that it retained its AAA bond rating, which is the highest available. The water main, which will run from Woodland Shores Drive to Fairlake Lane, will replace the existing 8-inch line with a 12-inch line and connect to a 12-inch line previously installed in front of the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House at a cost of \$4.6 million.

The field next to city hall has been used as a staging area where sections of the new line are being pre-chlorinated before installation. Rather than drilling a new path for the main, the contractor is using a method called "pipe break" that runs the sections into the existing main and breaks it apart. City Manager Steve Poloni said work crews will have to turn off water for short periods of time in small sections and residents will be notified ahead of time. The main starts on the west side of Lakeshore at the south end of the city, then crosses over to the east side at Vernier Road. Short portions of Lakeshore Road will be reduced to one lane as the work proceeds. The Oxford Road project, at \$2.4 million, will replace the existing 6-inch water line — which the state no longer allows — with an 8-inch one. Sewer work will include both repairs and replacements. Both projects are slated to be done by Oct. 31.

PASSED:

Continued from page 9A

the defining term, "colonial," was too hard to enforce. "There was a vision in the '50s of this ... Williamsburg-esque (town)," commission member Douglas Hamborsky said. "... You would try to really just make that up and down Mack Avenue. It has become increasingly — and I won't say difficult;

I'll say impossible — to achieve that in today's development world." With the removal of the requirement to make developments colonial in design, the city believes it will be better able to attract developers who will introduce quality designed projects to Mack. "As a planning commission, we've been bombarded by the challenge of how do we maintain quality, which is (Sheff's) topic, which we appreci-

ate, on Mack Avenue and not try to use the word 'colonial' or 'Williamsburg,'" Hamborsky said. "We take it deeply seriously. We love our community. I'm an architect. ... It's really personal to us." To officially put the ordinance change into effect, a first reading of the ordinance will be held at the Monday, May 16, council meeting. The second reading will take place Monday, June 6, at a council meeting.



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Request for proposal out for Poupard

By Michael Hartt
Schools Reporter

As of April 1, the request for proposal to purchase the recently closed Poupard Elementary School and the 6.49 acres of the land on which it sits is out.

The goal of the report, commissioned for the district by Great Northern Consulting Group, is to provide information to potential developers of the property so they can properly issue a proposal detailing their purchase plan.

The report includes details from the city of Harper Woods about its preferences for the property's development. While the plot of land is currently zoned R-1B, which allows for single-family housing with a minimum 50 feet of frontage and 5,500 feet in lot area, the city is looking for a concept to provide missing middle housing or STEP housing to fill a recently identified need in Harper Woods.

Amanda Matheson, deputy superintendent of business services for GPPSS, said Harper Woods is looking for types of housing currently not available in the community.

"Missing middle STEP housing is essentially a

type of house that is considered to be missing from the community in order to attract new residents," Matheson said. "In this case, the housing is considered to be row houses, townhouses or duplexes."

In the preferred scenario developed by the city through collaborative stakeholder working sessions in fall 2020 and early 2022, the preferred housing types are detailed as a mix of housing densities throughout the block, with detached housing grouped in the western portion and semi-detached townhouses grouped in the central and eastern portions.

According to the request for proposal, it is ultimately up to GPPSS to accept or reject any proposals that may come through. It also specifies the sale of the property must be through a short-term land contract and the developer must make a sizable down payment at closing and will have a designated time period to accomplish demolition of the building.

No detail about an official appraisal of the building and plot of land have been released by the district. As of the April 25 board of education meeting, an appraisal still is pending.

Calling new college grads

The Grosse Pointe News is crazy for the class of 2022 college graduates — and we want pictures of you so we can prove it.

If you walked across the stage this spring, please submit a picture of you in your cap and gown, along with Grosse Pointe family and friends at your upcoming college graduation ceremonies, and send it to us.

Directions for this assignment include:

- ◆ You must be an alum of Grosse Pointe North, South or University Liggett.
- ◆ The photo can just be of yourself in your cap and gown, or your family also can be included in the photo, and preferably somewhere on your beautiful college campus.
- ◆ Please identify with

first and last names, from left to right, every person in the photo.

- ◆ We welcome photos from colleges around the country.
- ◆ We know you will miss your roommates, but please have them take your photo for the Grosse Pointe News instead of being in it.
- ◆ Group photos: The more Grosse Pointe-based alums in the photos, the better.
- ◆ We will accept selfies, but please make it a good one.

Due date for this assignment is Monday, May 16. Please submit your hi-res photos to mleonard@grossepointenews.com. Congratulations! We are excited to brag about you and this huge accomplishment.

Dean holds listening session

By Michael Hartt
Schools Reporter

The names of parents and community members who spoke at the listening session were not included in this article so an environment of honest feedback, without concern for public retribution, could be maintained at the session.

On Wednesday, April 27, in the Parcels Middle School library, Grosse Pointe Public School System Superintendent Jon Dean held one of several scheduled listening sessions to connect with the school district community following his appointment to superintendent in June 2021.

Board of Education Vice President Colleen Worden, Treasurer Margaret Weertz and several district administrators attended to help answer questions.

Community members came with a variety of questions and statements they hoped to share with GPPSS officials.

Christine Wujek, a former GPPSS parent, said in an interview afterward that she enjoys attending the listening sessions, in large part because she feels they are more conversational than school board meetings.

"I have asked some pretty deep questions, starting from the first listening session that I have gone to, and (the administration and board members) have been very forthcoming," Wujek said. "I would absolutely suggest that people show up at a listening session, because you can get a (direct) answer."

Following Dean's opening remarks, the conversation started with a parent asking several questions about what equitable grading means and how the idea was addressed at a former listening session at Defer Elementary School.

Dean explained there are several aspects of equitable grading to consider when discussing ideas about grading that will be impacted by the inclusion of the term in the strategic plan.

One of them, he said, is how current grading policies relating to student absences are negatively impacting students' grades.

"If (a student) gets a zero, which

most often happens if (they) don't turn something in, (they're) not penalized by one grade, but by six," Dean said. "And so we are having conversations with our faculty about how we can avoid that so it isn't too much of a penalty. Especially when we realize sometimes when a kid doesn't come to school and especially when they're not an older kid, that might be an adult choice versus a kid choice."

He also discussed that while he still considers grades to be important, he does not believe everything should be graded, marking a distinction between formative assessments — meant to demonstrate growth — and summative assessments — often meant to demonstrate understanding.

Dean later related his ideas about grading to standardized test scores, saying as the emphasis on them changes, his view of their importance also changes.

"Tests are becoming less important at the college level. They just are," he said. "Almost every one of the selective schools is now test optional and they're gonna stay test optional. That doesn't mean we shouldn't pay attention to our test scores. But I'll tell you, what they expect drives eventually what we do."

A community member in attendance, having sent several children through GPPSS, said she agreed with Dean's approach to evaluating test scores. She said one of her children, who recently went through the graduate school admissions process, said those evaluating her were much more interested in how they conveyed their knowledge through methods that did not involve standardized test scores.

Another central topic of discussion was school reconfiguration, with several parents asking questions relating to their mixed experiences with the transition process.

One parent was troubled by their child's experiences as a fifth grader in a middle school building, especially because they noted they had heard such positive things about the reconfiguration process the year prior. Their concerns included several ways in which their child was being treated like a sixth grader rather than a fifth grader, even though they were promised

that having fifth-grade classes move into a middle school building would not impact the instruction environment.

Responding to these comments, Dean said while he is proud of how much the district has been able to accomplish in the reconfiguration process, he recognizes improvements may still need to be made.

He said the administration currently is exploring ways to engage parents in how to change the process.

"We are convening a group, with many parents, to do a fifth- and sixth-grade study," Dean said. "We are going to be looking at what are some things that we can do differently."

Another community member, who stated they had not had children in the district for many decades, said they felt compelled to come to the listening session to ask questions about the declining enrollment in GPPSS and what is being done to mitigate it. They noted they know of several families who have moved their children to private schools after they expressed dissatisfaction with GPPSS.

Rebecca Fannon, a communications specialist for the district, said the district has been attempting to regain many of the families it lost by embarking on an outreach campaign. In addition to taking exit surveys and having conversations with families who have left, Fannon said each month the communications team has developed a new way to reach out to the community and assure any prospective families of the quality of GPPSS.

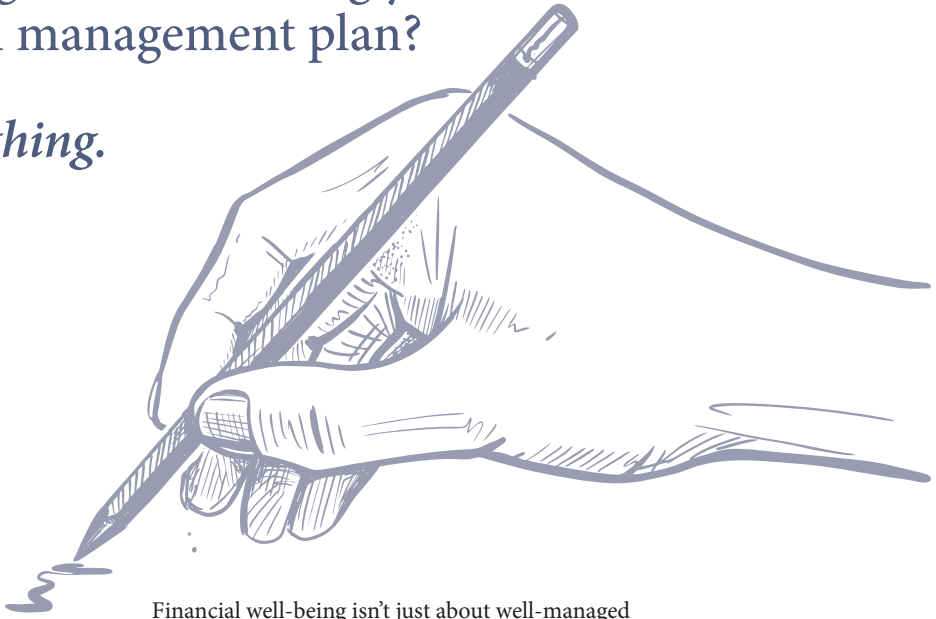
Weertz, who also helped respond to the community member's concerns, said she attributes the loss in enrollment to a decline in birth rate and parents' need to work during the pandemic, rather than their dissatisfaction with GPPSS.

"I don't think people left because they disliked the schools or because they thought the schools were going down," Weertz said. "I think they went because they needed to get their kids in school because they had to work."

The next listening session is scheduled for 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 11, at Grosse Pointe South High School, 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

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Liggett wins global robotics championship

By Michael Hartt
Schools Reporter

University Liggett School's robotics team has been feeling euphoric ever since it won the FIRST Robotics World Championship in Dallas, according to Liggett senior and team captain Cooper Ondersma.

"It was crazy. We were at the convention center where the competition was," Ondersma said. "It was super loud and everybody was cheering because all the other teams that had already been eliminated were still watching. It was just an amazing way to end the season. And it really felt like our hard work paid off."

Kimberlee Galea, the head coach of Liggett's FIRST robotics team, said she was incredibly proud of the team for its victory and recognized that winning the competition was the culmination of a long season of



COURTESY PHOTOS

ULS robotics team at Liggett arrives back in town as world champs.

hard work.

Not only did the team have to compete and perform well in the 24 matches at the world championship, Galea said, but it also had to qualify first for the state championship by doing well in two district competitions, then compete well enough at the state competition to qualify for the world championship.

Performing well at each of the competitions

meant not only building a robot with the propensity to perform, but also practicing enough so the team could control the robot on the field.

The first portion of the robot's maneuvers are preprogrammed, but after the autonomous period of 15 to 20 seconds, the students are the drivers and operators of the robots. During this period, the robot has to perform other tasks that

demonstrate its ability to perform well under the strict specifications in which it had to be built.

Given how many aspects contribute to the team's success in competition, Galea said she is proud of the team's ability to perform well in so many ways.

"There are just so many factors that go into each match and each event and to have everything fall into place, it's really

just miraculous," Galea said.

With the season finished, Ondersma said the team is now focused on how it will continue to perform at future competitions, while still focusing on outreach efforts with the wider community through events like blood drives and children's library visits.

"We're planning what we're going to do in the offseason — what sort of stuff we want to change about our process (and reflecting on) the stuff that we did well and what stuff that we thought was good," Ondersma said. "I'm really looking forward to taking a step back and watching them,

because I know all the people who are on the team that are still gonna be there next year are totally capable (of success)."



Kimberlee Galea, ULS robotics team faculty advisor, celebrates the team's win.

Analysis: How U.S. News & World Report calculates its rankings

By Michael Hartt
Schools Reporter

Schools Reporter Michael Hartt is supplementing his regular coverage of Grosse Pointe's private and public schools with analysis of commonly asked questions regarding schools in the community. Email him at mhartt@grossepointenews.org with questions that you would like covered.

In U.S. News & World Report's 2022 Best High Schools rankings, Grosse Pointe South High School was ranked 475 of 17,843 high schools in the United States and ninth of 1,142 high schools in the state of Michigan. Grosse Pointe North High School was ranked 1,650 nationally and 51st in the state.

While rankings like these often seem ambiguous without context, U.S. News offers specific details for how it calculates the rankings.

Thirty percent of the ranking is determined by a college readiness index number the publication

calculates by looking at both the simple proportion of students at any given school who take AP tests and the proportion of students who received at least one passing score on an AP test by the end of their senior year.

Another 10 percent of the ranking is determined by student participation in AP classes, the college curriculum breadth index. Every 12th grader during the 2019-20 school year was considered. If they got a passing score on four or more AP tests, they contributed a full credit point for their school's index, while students who got passing scores on two or three AP tests contributed 50 percent or 75 percent of a credit point, respectively, toward their school's index.

In addition to the 40 percent of the ranking determined by AP score data, 50 is determined by state assessment data. However, because of the cancellation of state assessments during the 2019-20 school year, data from the 2016-17, 2017-

18 and 2018-19 school years was used.

Three aspects of the assessment data were considered: student's proficiency, or the student's total assessment scores compared with other students in the state; student's performance, or how well students performed on assessments compared with how U.S. News predicted the school's students would perform given their demographic composition; and underserved student performance, or the measure of how black, hispanic or low-income students performed on the standardized tests administered at each school compared with the average for each of the group's performance in the state.

The only component impacting each school's ranking not impacted by test performance is the graduation rate, which for the 2022 ranking was based off of the percentage of students who entered high school during the 2016-17 school year and graduated from high school by 2020. This

constitutes 10 percent of the total ranking for each school.

Because the schools are being compared, each is given a percentile score based on the culmination of these components and are ranked accordingly. Grosse Pointe South was awarded an overall score of 97.34 compared to Grosse Pointe North's overall score of 90.75.

Examining the data that constitutes these scores more closely, many aspects of disparities between the two schools become more apparent. The graduation rate at South and North is 98 percent and 94 percent, respectively, compared to the state high school graduation rate — obtained from mischoolsdata.org — of 82 percent. At South, the percentage of students who were deemed proficient in mathematics and reading was 78 percent and 88 percent, respectively. While at North, the same respective proportions were 52 percent and 72 percent, respectively.

Run, Walk n Roll scheduled June 18

The fourth annual Run, Walk n Roll 5K begins at 9 a.m. Saturday, June 18, at Grosse Pointe South High School.

The event was created in 2019, to raise money for the palliative care program at the University of Michigan's C.S. Mott Children's Hospital. Claire Sheeren, executive director and co-founder, created the event after seeing the difference palliative care made directly on her family.

Her older sister, Elizabeth Sheeren, has a complex, progressive and incurable immune disease and has greatly benefited from the work of the palliative care team at Mott.

Given all of the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, palliative care patients and families need support more than ever before. Every dollar donated will go to Elizabeth's Courage Fund at Mott, with a mission of improving quality of life for children facing complex chronic or terminal conditions and their families.

This year's Run, Walk n Roll will include an in-person event in Grosse Pointe, as well as a virtual 5K so

participants can join from anywhere. The inclusive event was designed to give everyone a chance to participate — whether on foot, in wheelchairs or adaptive bikes, or in strollers.

Cost to participate is \$35 for the in-person and virtual events, \$25 for ages 22 and younger.

"We hope to expand the Medical Massage Therapy Program for palliative care patients, which is fully funded by Elizabeth's Courage Fund," Claire Sheeren said in a press release. "Our goal is to extend this service to outpatients, like Elizabeth, to help with pain, nausea and distress during long treatment or clinic days. We will also work to expand the role of music therapy within the palliative care program and hope to provide musical instruments for patients to use at home or in the outpatient setting."

Visit bit.ly/3MM662U to participate or become a sponsor of the June 18 event.

For more information, visit run-walk-roll.org, email runwalknroll5k@gmail.com or call (313) 682-8880.

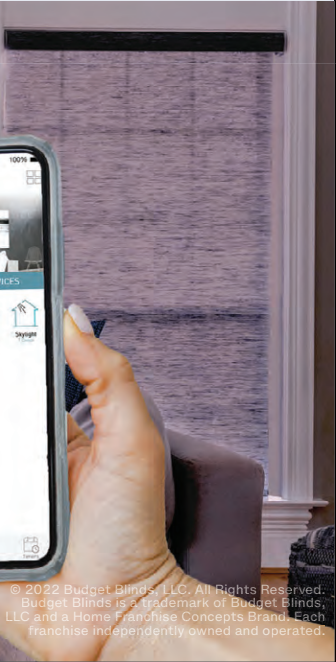
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Around the world

Local volunteers make impact serving refugees across the ocean

By Meg Leonard
Associate Editor

“Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks with compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world.”
— Prayer of St. Teresa of Avila

In his line of work, Fr. Andrew Kowalczyk has often meditated on the prayer of St. Teresa of Avila, from before the time he left Poland as a young priest and since arriving in America to lead and serve others of faith. This April, he left the United States for a 10-day



From left, Scott Lowell, John Schrage and Pastor Sean Motley make their daily supply run to restock essentials for the refugee retreat center in the Polish mountains.

mission trip, this time returning to his native country to serve those in need. Kowalczyk, pastor at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Park, along with 17 other volunteers, each

packed 50 pounds of their belongings and donated supplies to help Ukrainian refugees entering Poland from April 4 to 13. Fluent in Polish and English, but not Ukrainian or Russian, Kowalczyk said communication was



COURTESY PHOTOS

Mission trip volunteers arrive at the train station in Przemyśl, a Polish border town to Ukraine where they helped refugees eat, rest and register for admission into a new country.

a frequent barrier for everyone on the trip, but the language of caring mattered most when helping displaced families. “Compassion is a universal language,” he said. St. Clare parishioner and mission trip member Sue Backer agreed. “Google Translate can

only do so much,” she said. “The unspoken word is a powerful tool.” Backer joined Kowalczyk and other parishioners from St. Clare, St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church and the Rev. Sean Motley, senior pastor of First English Evangelical Lutheran

Church in Grosse Pointe Woods, on the ecumenical mission trip. Motley is part of the Grosse Pointe Ministerial Association, aka the “Holy Squad” — a group of ministers and church leaders of different denomina-
See TRIP, page 7B

Shores native refocuses business to help people, pets in China

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

“We’re scrambling. We’re doing what we can. Day by day, it’s changing; it’s surreal.” That’s the viewpoint of Erin Leigh, a Grosse Pointe Shores native who has lived in Shanghai, China, the last 10 years. The onset of COVID-19 in late 2019 was scary, Leigh said, but as the city is undergoing its worst outbreak since the virus began two years ago, the intensity has escalated the past month. “This is like something I never thought I would witness in Shanghai,” she said. “It’s surreal. This has been my home for 10 years, so I’m very overprotective of it, but it’s kind of disappointing.”

Most of Shanghai’s 25 million residents are confined to their homes. Those who test positive for COVID are taken to a centralized quarantine facility with little time to prepare. The predicament has forced a change in focus for Leigh and her pet tech company, Spare Leash.

Change of plans

Spare Leash was created in 2016, offering in-home pet services to residents. The business has grown over the years to offer dog walking, house sitting, boarding, veterinarian runs, dog



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ERIN LEIGH

Erin Leigh and her rescue dog, Zoe.

training, pet taxi services and pet insurance, among other options. “We have a database of pet sitters,” Leigh explained. “Pet sitters are based on experience and location. They all go through an interview with us, so on top of everything, they’re verified. We have to be very hands-on and safety first here because there are no animal laws. Training and screening happen before they come on the platform.” Pet owners sign up for services and are matched with pet sitters nearby. With the shift in sever-

ity of COVID-19 came a shift in services offered. Leigh and her team pulled together a system to share information about pets left behind. A handful of Spare Leash administrators work 24 hours a day, recording cases of distressed pets and their locations, making note of the most urgent cases. When Shanghai residents test positive for COVID, they have 20 minutes to gather their belongings before being transported to a quarantine facility. Quarantines typically last 14 to 20 days — much too long to leave a pet to fend for

itself. “Shanghai dropped this bomb on us,” Leigh said. “We used to have a couple days between our tests where we could prepare and now they’re scooping people up between 1 and 3 in the morning. “... We now realize they’re taking people to facilities,” she added. “We saw a bunch of people who needed help, so we were able to plug in their addresses and find pet sitters nearby. Before they’re taken to quarantine, our pet sitters or volunteers can step in and help take the pet to safety.” Using a public Excel spreadsheet, pet owners note their concern for pets that need care. A team of volunteers translates the plea, makes flyers and posts them throughout the network. “Groups of over 2,000 people get these flyers,” Leigh said. “The database alone is 20,000 to 30,000 people.” Though their efforts are streamlined, there have been roadblocks along the way, including limited transportation. “And every compound has guards,” Leigh explained. “The sitter could be outside, in front of the gate, and the driver could be there doing a contactless hand-over and the guard can be like, ‘No, this dog’s not going to come out today.’ We spend hours talking to guards, (telling them) if this dog,

cat, bird, bunny, hamster can’t get out, it’s going to die. We’re making it important, because animals, sadly, aren’t important to everybody here.” While pet owners may see their pets as beloved family members, she continued, Shanghai has no animal protection laws and, as such, no penalty for those who mistreat animals. A recent, widely reported case of a healthcare worker euthanizing a dog on the street created

an uproar, but went unpunished. “It was a very sad day when that happened,” Leigh added. “Our volunteer requests were at 500 a day. They went up by thousands right after that happened. ... This cannot happen again, so we need to be faster. More volunteers came. It brought us together if anything. “... Instead of waiting until the last minute, you test positive and we’re

See PETS, page 2B



All Spare Leash pet sitters need to perform contactless handovers wearing personal protective equipment in order to transfer a pet while its owners go into quarantine camps.

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2B | FEATURES

Before and after photos of Miles, one of the dogs Leigh rescued. Right, Miles was abandoned in a cage a day before lockdown. Below, Leigh took him in and he has been thriving ever since.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ERIN LEIGH

PETS:

Continued from page 1B

taking the dogs and animals into safety,” she added. “We can’t wait anymore. It’s just too big of a risk.”

New beginnings

Leigh fell in love with Shanghai while studying for her degree in public relations and communications, which she earned from Western Michigan University.

“My mother worked for General Motors and took a job position in Shanghai, China, my senior year of college,” the 2007 Grosse Pointe North High School grad said. “As everybody was going to Royal Oak, Birmingham, Chicago, New York, I applied for a PR firm in Shanghai. I ventured out and we lived here together for three years. She went home and I stayed and it’s been 10 years now.”

A trip back to Michigan, during which she hired a student to watch her dogs, helped inspire Spare Leash.

“The services that I was offering before (COVID) were a perk,” Leigh said. “You don’t want your dog to be alone. You want to treat

your dog like a family member and have 24-7, around-the-clock care. It’s like hiring a babysitter. Now it’s life or death. You cannot leave a cat with an automatic cat feeder and water. The feeder breaks; we’ve seen it happen. We can see the cat in the camera and it’s slowly getting dehydrated, slowing down. If you didn’t have a pet sitter, that cat would have been dead. Dogs, you can’t just leave a bunch of food out. Dogs don’t know how to ration. It’s absolutely crucial that everybody have a plan.”

Spare Leash still rescues animals, perhaps more so under current conditions. Donations are being raised, but because of the lockdown, a bank account to manage the funds has yet to be established.

However, Leigh said encouraging words are just as necessary.

“People from all over are reaching out,” she said. “Since we’re in lockdown, in isolation, even just ... someone saying, ‘We hear what you’re doing. We see you,’ it’s just a big (help).”

“You can get tunnel vision,” she continued. “It’s 21 days for me and I haven’t been out of the



house. How long can we keep this up? The support has been amazing.”

If Leigh gets her way, she won’t be subjected to lockdown or isolation much longer. Though she has no formal plans, she is ready to reunite with family.

“I’m coming home,” she said. “I definitely have plans to come home and start Spare Leash in the U.S. I want to thank everyone for the support and I will see everyone, hopefully by the end of this year.”

However, she added, health officials have

indicated they expect COVID to spike three to five more times by the end of the year, so “this time next year, I could be in the same situation,” she said.

“But I’ve given all I can give,” she added. “I’m going to ride this one out and help as many as possible. Now, we have standards set in place, the volunteers know what to do, but I think I need to pass the torch and get home with some animal laws and do something I can actually have some control over.”

GPT’s Take Ten — Ten-Minute Play Festival is May 7

When creative playwrights and their short original plays, eight talented directors, 18 amazing actors and a troupe of dedicated volunteers come together, the result is Grosse Pointe Theatre’s Take Ten — Ten-Minute Play Festival. This creative endeavor featuring eight original 10-minute plays from Michigan and North Carolina playwrights will be performed at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 7, in the undercroft at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

This marks the eighth year of Grosse Pointe Theatre’s playwriting festival. A series of playwriting workshops were offered last fall. Workshop participants and other playwrights were asked to submit their 10-minute plays by the end of 2021, for consideration in the 2022 Take Ten festival.

According to Take Ten creator and executive producer Mary Lou Britton of St. Clair Shores, one need not be an accomplished playwright to enter a play; they need only a desire to tell a story in play form, developing a plot, characters and setting that can engage the audience around this year’s theme, “While You Were Out.”

The judges who participated this year span from Monroe to Cadillac and are not affiliated with Grosse Pointe Theatre. They reviewed and critiqued the plays based on the set criteria. The plays that received 75 points or more were selected to be featured at this year’s festival.

“Playwriting opens up another dimension to storytelling, connecting each character’s experiences in a believable and entertaining way — in this case, within 10 minutes,” Britton said. “We’re excited to showcase these eight original works. We believe audiences will find these 10-minute plays to be entertaining, comical and thought-provoking — a great value for the \$10 ticket price. Everyone is welcome.”

This year’s Take Ten festival producer is Peter DiSante, also from St. Clair Shores. DiSante has participated in the play festival for several years. A playwright him-

self, this year he joined the committee to help facilitate the event.

According to DiSante, creating an original work, of any kind, is a liberating process.

“For playwriting, there are characters in your mind and they have a story to tell and a relationship to reveal. The play writer has the power to let their fictional voices be heard. And the Take Ten festival gives the opportunity for others to hear those voices and hopefully have their emotions stirred as they experience this new creation.”

“Attendees will not only enjoy the playwright’s original works, but they will also be supporting the actors and directors who have taken the time from their everyday lives to create a 10-minute moment-in-time for others to enjoy. The audience will hopefully laugh, shed a tear and perhaps be brought to thinking of an existing subject in a new light.”

This year’s original plays featured in the May 7 Take Ten festival are as follows:

◆ “The New Wife” by Stella Woitulewicz, directed by Emmajean Evans

◆ “Thanksgiving, Exit.” by Leslie Wagner, directed by Peter DiSante

◆ “Moonlight Run” by Peter DiSante, directed by Michele Karl

◆ “Blaze of Glory” by Shawn Henry, directed by Janie Burkey

◆ “While You Were Out” by Julie Nixon, directed by Laura Bartell

◆ “The Last Word” by Margie Reins Smith, directed by Arlene Schoenherr

◆ “Battle Scars” by Peter DiSante, directed by Elizabeth Rager

◆ “Dan & Diane’s Delightful Deli Diner” by Dan Woitulewicz, directed by Krista Pennington

Eighteen actors will play a total of 23 characters, and several other volunteers are working behind the scenes to make sure each area of the festival runs seamlessly, resulting in a wonderful experience for audiences. Guests may stay for the entire festival or arrive or leave in between presented plays. There will be an intermission.

Tickets may be purchased online at gpt.org/playfest or at the door.

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Walk, fair raise awareness for mental health

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The sixth annual Suicide Prevention Walk and Mental Health Fair takes place from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday, May 15, at Grosse Pointe North High School, 707 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods.

The event, presented by The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods and the Healthy Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods coalition, is back after a two-year pandemic-related hiatus. Its purpose is to educate and raise awareness for mental health and suicide prevention, while also raising funds for Kevin's Song, a local organization dedicated to generating public awareness about the causes of suicide, its prevalence in society and possible preventive measures.

"Attendees can walk through the mental health fair tables and gather information on local mental health resources and info," said Sasha Murphy, community organizer for Healthy Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods and CARE of Southeastern Michigan. "Then we'll have speakers and walk the one-mile route. People are welcome to hang out at the fair instead of walking."

As of last week, 11 vendors were signed on to the fair, though organizers hope to have 20 locked in when the event occurs.

"We are calling them vendors, but really nothing is being sold," Murphy said. "They are all local organizations, groups and businesses sharing their mental health resources. Even if families and people don't need the information now, we hope they take it home, save it and use and share the resources when needed."

Visitors who walk through the fair will have access to information about resilience, lists of local therapists and counselors, stress management tips and more. Healthy Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods will share its "8 Dimensions of Wellness" program book as well.

"Since COVID, the need for mental health services has really grown and, fortunately, the stigma for mental health has decreased," said MaryJo Harris, director of programs and administration for The Family Center. "People are more willing to discuss their mental health needs and reach out for mental health services. This event gives people the opportunity to learn about different resources through the

many companies present and support the need for mental health services."

The entire community is invited to participate.

"Families with kids, people who have lost a friend or family member to suicide and want to honor them or need support, people who have attempted suicide, parents, teens, everyone in the surrounding cities is invited," Murphy said. "We do ask that participants keep their furry four-legged friends at home for this event."

"This is an educational and awareness walk to show the students the community supports them," said Suzy Berschback, Healthy Communities manager with Beaumont Health. "The last few years has been hard on everyone, but we are losing teens at an increasingly alarming rate."

"We had a mental health crisis for teens prior to the pandemic," she continued. "Isolation has only made it worse for everyone. This event is outside and good for the community, for all to see the mental health resources and the community support to know you are not alone."

Harris thanked the students and staff of Grosse Pointe North High School for hosting the walk.

"The students in the Peer 2 Peer program at Grosse Pointe North High School and their advisors have been an integral part of planning the event," she said. "... These students act as mental health advocates for their peers by focusing on raising awareness of mental health and reducing the stigma around mental health. We are so impressed with this program and the many students who truly want to help their peers and others learn to talk openly about mental health and find resources."

Added Christine Kuhl, school psychologist at Grosse Pointe North, "It means so much to me and our students to be a part of this event to shed light on the importance of mental wellness and suicide prevention. Our North community was deeply impacted by the loss of one of our students to suicide in 2020. We want to communicate to our students and our whole community that no one is alone. We want people to know that it is OK to reach out for help when they are struggling."

"Grosse Pointe North's Peer to Peer program, which is helping to organize and run the event, works to reduce the stigma around and raise awareness about mental

health," she continued. "It also encourages help-seeking at Grosse Pointe North. This walk is a great way to work toward our mission and we are grateful for the opportunity to be a part of it. We also appreciate that the proceeds from the event will stay local and benefit Kevin's Song. Kevin's Song has been a wonderful community partner with the schools. We are so lucky to have them stand with us to save lives by preventing suicide."

Participants may donate or raise money for Kevin's Song, but it's not a requirement to attend the fair or participate in the walk. Those who wish to make a donation may do so via Venmo at [Kevin's Song](#) or online at [kevinsong.org](#). Additional support may be made by purchasing a Kevin's Song T-shirt or hoodie from The Campus Shop at [campusshopusa.com](#). A portion of apparel sales benefits Kevin's Song.

"Kevin's Song is grateful to The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods and Healthy Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods for sponsoring the 'Saving Lives Together' walk on Sunday, May 15," said Gail Urso, founder of Kevin's Song. "We are also grateful to Grosse Pointe North High School

for hosting the walk. Suicide is the second leading cause of death among young people today and we at Kevin's Song are thrilled that the community is coming together to raise awareness about suicide and to erase the stigma that surrounds it."

"We really want this to be a community event," Murphy concluded. "We are all in this together. We want to show our love and support to those who struggle each day with their mental health and to let them know it's OK to reach out and ask for help. We want those who have attempted suicide to know we see them, we love them. We want to show support for those who have lost family or friends to suicide. We hope by showing up, talking about mental health and suicide, we can help save lives here in our community."



Scan this QR code to make a donation to Kevin's Song.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Ford House

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

- ◆ "The Birds of Gaukler Pointe" photography exhibition, through June 12, in the Teague Gallery.
- ◆ Storytime: Bird Watch, 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays during May.
- ◆ Preservation Workshop Series: Historic Plaster and Paint, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 5.
- ◆ Preservation Workshop Series: Masonry, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, May 6.
- ◆ Guided Bird Walks, 7 a.m. Friday, May 6, and Sunday, May 8.
- ◆ Preservation Workshop Series: History of Residential Painting, 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 7.
- ◆ Spring Flower Tour, 3 p.m. Saturdays, May 7, 21 and 28, and Sunday, May 15.
- ◆ Paint Out! 8 a.m. Saturday, May 14. Painters may submit their work to be considered for juried prizes. Admission is \$30 for members, \$35 for nonmembers.
- ◆ Paint Out! Fresh Paint Party, a celebration of open-air paintings, 6 p.m. Saturday, May 14. Cost is \$8 for members, \$10 for nonmembers.

For tickets and information, visit [fordhouse.org](#).

The Helm

The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers a variety of classes and programs. Registration is required at (313) 882-9600 for the following:

- ◆ The movie "A Dog's Way Home" is shown at

12:30 p.m. Friday, May 6. Cost is \$2 for members, \$3 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.

- ◆ Bocce League, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning Tuesday, May 17. Cost is free for members, \$5 for nonmembers.

Questers

Pear Tree Questers meet at 1 p.m. Friday, May 6, at South Pointe Vintage on Mack Avenue in Grosse Pointe Woods. The day chair will be Madeleine Phillips. The host is owner Ginamarie Piscopoe. She will present about how she turned her hobby into a business and will give the group a tour of the store. South Pointe Vintage offers original 1800s and 1900s stone-lithograph posters from around the world, as well as antiques, art, rare finds and gifts.

Library

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

- ◆ Books on the Lake, noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 7. Tickets are \$35.

- ◆ Bean in a Bag to-go kits, 9 to 11 a.m. Monday, May 9, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms; and Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
- ◆ Writing Group, for ages 11 to 13, 4 to 5:15 p.m. Monday, May 9, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Storytime with Miss Melissa, 1:30 to 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 10, at

Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

- ◆ Drop-In: I Will Assist, for hands-on assistance with Hoopla, Libby, internet searches, social media and remote printing, 10 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, May 11, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
- ◆ ArtLab: Mysteries of Art, for ages 11 to 13, 4 to 5 p.m. Thursday, May 12, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Horror/Thriller Book Club, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 12, via

Zoom. The group will discuss "The Girl Next Door," by Jack Ketchum.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

- ◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 10, The Shores Church, 24905 Manhattan, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 10, Lakeshore Presbyterian

See **EVENTS**, page 8B

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12:45-1:45pm	U13 Boys (2010)	U7 Girls (2016)
2:00-3:00pm	U12 Boys (2011)	U12 Girls (2011)
3:15-4:15pm	U14 Boys (2009)	U16 Girls (2006)
4:15-5:15pm	U16 Boys (2007)	U15 Boys (2008)

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SENIOR LIVING

‘Sew’ ready to retire!

Community icon hanging up her scissors after 40 years

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

After four decades of serving customers in Grosse Pointe and surrounding communities, Theresa Mollicone has made a life-altering decision.

She’s sticking a pin in her career, which began at La Strega Boutique and concludes this month at The Alteration Shoppe, located on Fisher in the City of Grosse Pointe.

“Forty years and done,” Mollicone said, glancing at the tools of her trade — sewing machines at her sides and a colorful spectrum of thread on spools behind her. “It’s going to be a bittersweet kind of retirement, because all of my customers have become my friends. All of my neighbors have become my family.”

Mollicone didn’t set out to become a fixture in the community when she first opened La Strega Boutique on The Hill.

“My daughter had just graduated from high school,” she recalled. “She wanted to be a boutique owner. So that’s how I got started.”

However, once her daughter got married and started a family, the boutique became Mollicone’s own, “and I enjoyed every moment of it,” she said.

“Eventually we moved down to The Village, where Starbucks is,” she added, noting she sold to Starbucks after her husband became ill. “I had it more than 15 years. Then my customers talked me into keeping the alteration shop open. It’s been 25 years now.”

It’s also been three generations of families Mollicone has served, from expecting mothers to their children, and now their children’s children.

“I really have enjoyed being in Grosse Pointe and serving the community,” she said. “I’m grateful that I’m here. I have enjoyed redoing dresses for



people — people who had a dress and loved it, but didn’t like certain things about it. I remade it to look like a totally different dress and they loved it again.”

She also gets a kick from customers telling her they still

proudly own an item she once sold them from the boutique.

“It’s good to have those memories,” she added.

However, Mollicone chose to retire this year to start mak-

ing new memories with her family. The mother of two and grandmother of six is expecting three great-grandsons before the year ends.

“I’m going to be blessed with three great-grandchildren, all in the same year,” she said. “I want to be able to enjoy my great-grandchildren. I’m looking forward to being with them and teaching them Italian.”

Mollicone also hopes to spend more time traveling — Italy is her No. 1 destination — as well as getting back to the gym.

“That’s on top of my list,” she said. “And having lunch with friends. I haven’t been able to because I’ve either been too busy or because of COVID. I will finally be free to do whatever I want.”

Though Mollicone is stepping away from the working world, The Alteration Shoppe — which was named Best Alteration Shoppe by the Detroit Free Press in 2002 — isn’t going anywhere. New owners Jennifer Bojarczyk and Jeremy Tick officially took over operations May 1.

“The new owners of the store are eager to serve the community as well as I did,” she said. “The Alteration Shoppe will be here a long time.”

To assist them through a busy prom season, Mollicone will be at the shop Saturdays during May.

“I’m volunteering those days to make the transition go smoothly,” she said, adding her full retirement begins June 1.

“I will miss them all,” she said of her customers, “but I will still be around. ... I’m not going to be a stranger. Just because I’m retiring does not mean I’m disappearing from the face of the earth.”



Above, Theresa Mollicone in her Grosse Pointe shop, counting down the days until her retirement.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Day trippin’: 3 fun things to do nearby (but not too near)

When it seems that planned summer vacation is still way too far in the future for your liking — and your cabin fever is in overdrive, a day trip can be a perfect solution. Day trips can revive moods, infuse energy and inspire the appetite for trying new things that keeps seniors young.

There are some amazing options that won’t take much gas, while giving you the exhilarating feeling you’ve traveled outside of your usual radius. Our metro area has many historic attractions, shopping districts, restaurants, and museums sure to pique your interest. Since they don’t require much in the way of advanced planning, and tend to be easy on the wallet, day trips are ideal for seniors who have the time and want to add a little adventure into their lives.

Trips that are no more than two to three hours away ensure travelers will have plenty of time to see the sights and still get home at a reasonable hour.

Need day trip inspiration? We’ve got some great ideas that are guaranteed to pick up your spirits and tide you over until your days at the beach this summer.

Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park

This Grand Rapids horticultural treasure is home to Michigan’s largest tropical conservatory and boasts five indoor theme gardens as well as outdoor gardens, nature trails, a permanent sculpture collection, library, cafe, gift shop and education center. Guests will have plenty to see as they absorb the natural beauty of woodlands and wetlands including bird-watching trails and a tadpole pond. There are four season plantings, so there is something to enjoy all year.

The 158-acre main campus is barrier-free and handicap accessible.

Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park is located at 1000 E. Beltline N.E. in Grand Rapids. Adult group tours can be planned so you can bring along friends. Contact them at (888) 957-1580 or hello@meijergardens.org.

Toledo Zoo

Just over an hour by car, this Ohio destination is not to be missed. In addition to a first-rate zoo, aquarium

and animal museum, the Toledo Zoo offers some great special events through May. A Cinco de Mayo celebration will take place Sunday, May 1, featuring music and Mexican folklore dances.

Guided birding tours with photography workshops are available May 4 and May11, tickets are required.

Visit toledozoo.org for more information.

Tabor Hill Winery and Restaurant

Located in Buchanan in Southwest Michigan, you can reach this lovely wine paradise in just about two-and-a-half hours. Perfect for a day of sipping some of Michigan’s finest vino in their tasting room, then enjoy a relaxing meal afterward. Groups of eight or more will need reservations for the wine tasting, restaurant reservations needed for seven or more.

If you’d prefer to stay longer than a day, there are two vineyard estate homes nearby you can lease for a minimum of two nights.

Contact Tabor Hill Winery for more information at (269) 422-1161 or online at taborhill.com.

THE ENCORE YEARS

Patricia Maus: Helping others the key to a happy life

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Helping others has long been a priority of Patricia Maus.

From the start of her career to the numerous volunteer activities in which she's been involved, putting her focus on those who need her is of the utmost importance.

"It changes your outlook," she said. "You're so happy helping other people that you don't have to think about what you're missing."

Born in Battle Creek, Maus, whose father was in the military, spent her childhood moving throughout the continental United States.

"I went to 13 different schools," she said. "We landed back in Michigan in 1960. We were on our way to Florida, but stopped here to visit family and friends and never left."

With firm roots in Detroit, Maus began working for Lutheran Social Services of Michigan, through a unit at Calvary Senior Center.

"We would go into their homes for two hours, twice a month, and do whatever it was we could do to keep that senior in their own home," she said.

The work was gratifying, but came with challenges. Losing elderly clients, either by death or being put in nursing facilities, often was hard to swallow. When she inquired about receiving grief counseling, her supervisor told her to ask if anyone else was interested.

"Every person in the building signed up for grief counseling," she reported. "Knowing that someone is listening really helps."

While grief counseling helped lighten her load, it was a day on the road that helped ease her mind. A friend introduced her to another way to unwind: hitting the

highway on the back of a motorcycle.

"He thought it would be good for my soul to go for a ride on a bike," she said. "We weren't gone 20 minutes and I knew I had to be up front. It was like clearing out a closet — a messy one no one ever cleans. It made my head feel better. I could feel it all the way to my core; I had changed by the time I got back. When we got back, I said, 'I need to know how to do this.'"

Maus, 49 at the time, and her 19-year-old son enrolled in classes at Macomb Community College and earned their motorcycle endorsements.

At first she had a hard time finding anyone to ride with. She hooked up with The Retreads, "but they were all so old they could hardly get onto their bikes," she laughed. "Then I found a group in Livonia — Wolverine Riders. I rode with them for one year. They did a lot of charity runs."

Eventually a friend introduced her to the Motor Maids — a perfect match for the then-64-year-old.

"In one of my first years with the Motor Maids, I got more miles on my bike than any other Motor Maid in Michigan," Maus said.

The all-female motorcycle club was formed in the 1930s to unite women motorcycle riders and promote interest. The group currently has more than 1,300 members. National conventions take place annually in different parts of North America.

"You have to be on a bike," Maus said. "You can't ride a car out to a convention and then ride your bike; you have to ride your bike. Each state has a director who sets up the trip so you see the best areas of that state. I've been to 15 states."

Her involvement in Motor Maids also led to her helping out at the Americade motorcycle rally in Lake George, N.Y.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Above, Patricia Maus relaxes at home and reminisces about her colorful and fruitful life, on and off her motorcycle.

"We got free room and board, but we had to put in 40 hours a week," she said. "They kept us busy the whole week, but we went to different places and did different things while we were there. I did that 23 years."

And for five of those years, the week before Americade, Maus volunteered for The Elvis Festival, featuring hundreds of tribute artists at an event sanctioned by Elvis Presley Enterprises.

"They needed volunteers to usher people to their seats — and then keep them in their seats," she said of the concerts' raucous fans.

Maus also was a volunteer usher for Grosse Pointe Theatre — one of many

volunteer efforts of which she's been a part. After serving 15 years with Lutheran Social Services of Michigan, the chapter folded and she went in search of work at Cottage Hospital. There were no job openings, she was told, but she was welcome to volunteer.

"I sat at the front desk and directed people to wherever they were looking to go," she said. "I did that for 10 years. It was a lot of fun. There were wonderful people around there and I wanted to be a part of it."

After Cottage closed, she volunteered at Pierson Clinic before finding a spot behind the registration desk at Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe. In 1980, she began delivering Meals on Wheels for the Kelly-Morang Senior Center and later transferred her meal delivery skills to Services for Older Citizens — now The Helm. She delivered Meals on Wheels there during five holidays each year until 2020.

For nearly two years, the 81-year-old has been living at The Rivers in Grosse Pointe Woods. Though her health has caused her to slow her efforts — she hasn't done much volunteering for a few years and her last motorcycle ride was in 2019 — Maus still sings the praises of both avocations.

She still fondly recalls the way she felt before going on a ride.

"I kept my bike in Monroe because I had nowhere to keep it," she said. "When I would go down there, when I pulled into the driveway, my heart would pound so hard I swear people could hear it."

And she still trumpets the benefits of being there for someone in need.

"No matter what you do, if you're volunteering, the rewards you reap are far better than what you could secure for yourself if you're working for somebody," she said.

Gotta stay sharp!



If asked to describe how they envision retirement, many professionals might reference travel, time spent with grandchildren and various recreational pursuits. Few, if any, would mention cognitive issues. However, cognitive decline poses a significant threat to aging men and women, especially during retirement. But there are steps you can take to prolong brain health and memory longevity.

In fact, the CDC estimates that as many as 40 percent of dementia cases may be prevented or delayed. In addition, the CDC reports that it's not uncommon for routine memory, skills and knowledge to stabilize or even improve as the brain ages.

That's good news for retirees who want to spend their post-work life pursuing their passions and hobbies. It's never too late to embrace strategies to stay mentally sharp in retirement.

- Consider delaying retirement. Even if early retirement is a dream, it might be better to work a little longer than you had planned. A 2021 study published in the journal SSM - Population Health found that postponed retirement is beneficial to cognitive function for all genders, races/ethnicities, educational levels, and professional status. The study reported that individuals who waited until age 67 to retire experienced less cognitive decline than those who retired prior to turning 67.

- Make exercise part of your retirement routine. A lack of structure may seem enticing to individuals who have spent decades working and tied to tight schedules. However, many

retirees find that little structure loses it appeal quickly after calling it quits. When creating a new routine in retirement, include regular exercise. According to the Mayo Clinic, studies indicate that people who are physically active are less likely to experience a decline in their mental function. So daily exercise not only gives retirees something to do, but also benefits the brain.

- Enroll in an adult education course. A 2014 study published in the journal JAMA Neurology examined the association between lifetime intellectual enrichment and cognitive decline in the older population. The study's authors found that higher levels of late-life cognitive activity were associated with higher levels of cognition. The study's authors concluded that lifetime intellectual enrichment might delay the onset of cognitive impairment. Retirees can look into adult learning programs at local colleges and universities to see if anything piques their interest.

Local groups that focus on pet hobbies and talents often offer classes that are fun to try while enhancing one's social life. Painting, gardening, cooking, book and writing groups or history and nature clubs offer a chance to learn new things or hone existing skills further while making new friends.

Retirement can be everything you hope it will be, especially for those who make a concerted effort to maintain optimal cognitive function after entering the chapter of life where personal freedom takes the place of work.

100 loving years young



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Flo Kliber, a resident of Sunrise of Grosse Pointe Woods for nearly two years, recently celebrated her 100th birthday.

A Grosse Pointe Park resident since 1957, Kliber worked as an executive secretary at AT&T before becoming a mother of four. She also studied journalism and several years ago was a columnist for the Grosse Pointe News.

Kliber instilled the importance of education in her children, cheered them on at their sporting and scouting events, and encouraged them to make new friends. Passionate about music — her father was in the Detroit Symphony Orchestra — Kliber loves to sing and often can be heard singing along with the entertainers who play for the residents at Sunrise.

"You always talked about music and loved to sing around the house as you worked and enjoyed home life," wrote her son, Dave, in a letter to Kliber. "Later you were in theater and loved being in musicals with song and dance. You always said you wanted to see your name in lights."

Kliber sang on the radio with her sister, and loved the arts and theater. She was an active member of Grosse Pointe Theatre for many years. She also volunteered with Northeast Guidance Center, helping with mental health work.

"You and Dad taught all four of us about the importance of family and we had so many good times with cousins, aunts and uncles and grandparents on both sides of the family," Dave Kliber said. "You said it's important that your children love each

other and get along. Our friends got to know our family, too. That was because of you and Dad and your love."

Kliber loved to travel, cook and share strong opinions about politics and society. She also was quite the movie critic and traveled to several movie conventions.

Flo Kliber as a young woman, at right, and as a youthful centenarian, above.



"Most of all you have been a loving mother, very strong willed from your Irish background as a Fisher and with a drive to be your own person and encourage your children to do the same, whatever it was we chose," Dave Kliber said. "Thank you for all you taught me, our many long talks and your love, hugs and support."

Family members came from out of town for Kliber's birthday celebration April 29, at Sunrise.

"May your special day be filled with sunshine, smiles, laughter and love — exactly what you have brought to the world for 10 decades," said Rachael Herbon, activities volunteer coordinator at Sunrise. "A very happy birthday to you, Flo. We are honored to share your special day with you."

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.

Arthur Wilhelm

Arthur Wilhelm, 87, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away Friday, April 22, 2022, at Ascension St. John Hospital. He was born April 7, 1935, in Detroit, to Max and Rose (nee Debrowski) Wilhelm, both now deceased.

Arthur trained as a die designer, first working at Wilhelm Engineering and ending his career at General Motors. Among his favorite pastimes were hunting and fishing; he was a member of the Drummond Island Hunting and Fishing Club on Potagannissing Bay. He also was a devoted parishioner of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church.

His loving wife, Lynda Wilhelm, and his brother, Lawrence “Francoise” Wilhelm, survive him. He also is survived by three sisters-in-law, Mary Kay, Betty and Candace.

He was predeceased by five brothers and a sister, Leonard (Louann), Daniel (Joyce), Robert, Joseph, Catherine (Richard) and John.

Visitation takes place from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 5, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, with a rosary service at 7 p.m. A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, May 6, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Art’s memory to a favorite charity.

Richard William Budinger

Richard “Dick” Budinger passed away gracefully Wednesday, April 27, 2022. He is loved, missed and survived by his wife of more than 61 years, Gay (nee Mercer); his three children and their spouses, Cindy and Russ Daniel, Rick and Tammi Budinger, and Virginia and Eric Krueger; and six grandchildren, Larry (Kendall), John, Cathy, Ricky, Barrett and Lissa.

Dick was born April 27, 1937, the youngest of four boys in Bronxville, N.Y. He attended the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass., on a Navy scholarship, and was a student leader and soloist in the Glee Club and a barbershop quartet. He served honorably as a gunnery officer on a destroyer before retiring and entering the private sector. He was passionate and creative in his professional career.

Dick and Gay lived many years in Grosse Pointe, where he began his career as an investment banker and moved on to the Treasurer’s Office at General Motors, followed by Midwest Advance Computers, ultimately leading to his development and co-ownership of cable television companies representing franchises in several markets around the United States. Dick and Gay moved from Grosse Pointe to Glen Lake, where he then served

five years as an administrator and father figure at the Leelanau School and owner/operator of the Traverse City Tall Ship Company.

Dick served as commodore of the Glen Lake Yacht Club, president of the Traverse Symphony Orchestra, president of Noontiders, trustee at the Leelanau School, president of the Glen Lake Association and chairman of the finance council at St. Philip Neri Church, where he also performed frequently as a lector, Eucharistic minister and cantor.

In his free time, Dick loved golfing, hunting and walking the beaches of Boca Grande. Dick was devout in his faith and loyal and kind in his love of family and friends. He approached life with patience and good humor. In his passing, the choir of angels in heaven gained a beautiful voice and his family cherishes the memories of a life well-lived.

Dick was predeceased by his parents, John M. and Mary Alice (nee Merrill) Budinger; and brothers, John, David and Daniel.

A Mass of Christian Burial took place May 2, at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church of Empire.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Dick’s memory to the Leelanau School, leelanau.org; or St. Philip Neri Church, stphilipneriempire.org.

Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services, reynolds-jonkhoff.com, is caring for Dick and his family.

Carl Edward Berger

Carl Edward Berger, 93, of Grosse Pointe Woods, died peacefully Thursday, April 28, 2022.

Born March 10, 1929, in Detroit, Carl was a graduate of St. John Berchmans School and De La Salle Collegiate High School, and went on to earn a master’s degree in chemistry from the University of Detroit Mercy.

Carl was employed more than 40 years by the Detroit Edison Company, now DTE, where he was an accomplished industrial water treatment expert and forged many cherished, life-long friendships. Carl was a gentle soul who enjoyed many things, including fishing, golf, softball, pool and family summer vacations on Manitoulin Island.

He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Dolores, in 2009; and is survived by his sons, Eric (Melanie) and Tom (Jennifer); daughter, Karen; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The family would like to give special thanks to all of the caregivers who provided invaluable love and support to Carl over the years.

Visitation takes place Thursday May 5, from 3 p.m. until the service at 6 p.m. at Kaul Funeral Home, 28433 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

Anita Goertz Mushro

Anita Goertz Mushro passed away peacefully Thursday, Jan. 20, 2022, at The Rivers retirement community in Grosse Pointe Woods, just shy of her 93rd birthday.

Anita was born Jan. 31, 1929, in Cleveland, to Norma and Nelson Goertz. She grew up in the German part of Cleveland, on Clark and Lorraine avenues. As children, she and her brother, Nelson, spent their summers with their grandparents in Vermillion, Ohio, playing on the beach, reading and watching minor league baseball games.

Anita and her father were very close and were dedicated Ohio State University Buckeye fans (her father played football at OSU). After graduating from St. Mary’s High School in 1947, Anita moved with her family to Detroit, where she became an executive secretary to the general manager of the Jefferson Chrysler plant. She attended Wayne University and received a two-year degree in music. There she met the love of her life, Louis Mushro, at a sorority luncheon. Shortly thereafter, Anita was crowned Miss Boblo Island and won a trip to Hollywood and took Louis with her.

While there, Anita was asked to stay and start an acting career. She decided not to move to California and instead married Louis and started a family. Anita was beautiful inside and out. Those who knew her often said what a caring, fun-loving and kind person she was.

She and Louis traveled the world and loved participating in classic car events. They were both active members of the Vintage Motor Car Club of America and Packard Club, as well as lifetime members of The Manuscript Society and The Daguerreian Society. Anita was actively involved in the Detroit Institute of Arts and Detroit Symphony Orchestra with her friends and was an avid card player. She loved bridge and played regularly with friends. Her other passion was horse racing. She loved going to Belmont Park with her children and could lay a bet with the best of them.

Anita was remarkably selfless. If anyone in her family needed help, she was there in a flash to lend a hand. Anita treasured her family and loved doting on her many grandchildren. She was a great inspiration to everyone around her and was very loved. She will be dearly missed.

She is survived by her children, Julie, Gregory (Sara), Mark (Amy) and Amy Rose; and grandchildren, Noelle and Dorothea Mushro, Derek and Lauren Mushro, and Jameson and Olivia Rose.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 14, at St. Clare of Montefalco Parish, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park.

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Anita and in honor of Julie may



Arthur Wilhelm



Anita Goertz Mushro



Richard W. Budinger



Elizabeth E. Rands



Carl Edward Berger



Robert John Stark



Onofrio LaBara

be made to The Schizophrenia and Related Disorders Alliance of America, 2308 Mt. Vernon Ave., Ste. 207, Alexandria, VA 22301-1328, or sczaction.org/donate/.

Elizabeth Endicott Rands

Elizabeth Endicott Rands, 78, passed away peacefully at home Monday, April 25, 2022. Affectionately known as “Happy,” she was predeceased by her beloved husband of more than 53 years, William C. Rands III.

Mrs. Rands was born Feb. 27, 1944, in Chicago. She was adopted when she was 3 months old from The Cradle in Evanston, Ill., by George Monroe Endicott and Edna Bohn Endicott of Grosse Pointe. On Sept. 16, 1967, she married Mr. Rands, also a “cradle baby,” and they made their home in Grosse Pointe.

Mrs. Rands volunteered for many years, creating auction displays for The Grosse Pointe Academy’s annual Action Auction, The Children’s Home of Detroit and other local charitable organizations. In the 1980s, she volunteered with the hospice and pastoral care programs at Bon Secours Hospital in Grosse Pointe. Mrs. Rands was a supporter of the Southern Poverty Law Center, Planned Parenthood of Michigan and the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society. She also was a lifetime member of Tau Beta Association.

Mrs. Rands attended Grosse Pointe Country Day School, Grosse Pointe University School and graduated from Hathaway Brown School in Shaker Heights, Ohio. She graduated with an associate degree from Briarcliff College in Briarcliff, N.Y., and spent a few years post college working at the Ted Bates Advertising Agency in Manhattan before returning to Michigan.

She loved her family, dear friends, pets, NASCAR and rock ‘n’ roll.

She is survived by her children, Barbara Rands Valente (ex-husband, Sergio Valente and fiancée, Margarida Ventura) and William Endicott Rands (Dianna Simpson Rands), as well as Stash Capponi, whom she loved like a second son; and her grandchildren, Rebecca and JJ Valente and Will and Charlie Rands. She also is survived by her beloved cat, Missy, and

her granddog, Cinnamon. She was predeceased by her brother, Charles M. Endicott.

The family will receive visitors between 4 and 8 p.m. Friday, May 6, at Chas. Verheyden Funeral Home, 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 7, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Mrs. Rands will be interred along with Mr. Rands at Rock Falls Cemetery, Harbor Beach.

Memorial donations may be made to the following organizations or the nonprofit of the donor’s choice: Southern Poverty Law Center, splcenter.org; The Grosse Pointe Academy, gpacademy.org/donate; Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society, gpaas.org/donate; or Planned Parenthood of Michigan, plannedparenthood.org/planned-parent-hood-michigan.

Robert John “Bob” Stark

Robert John “Bob” Stark of Grosse Pointe Woods passed away Thursday, April 28, 2022.

Bob is survived by his daughter, Karen Bogle (Bill); son, Gary Stark (Kristen); granddaughter, Rebecca Bogle; and grandson Daniel Stark. He was predeceased by his wife, Judy Stark, and his parents, Marie and George Stark.

Born April 6, 1940, in Detroit, Bob graduated from St. Veronica Grade School in 1954, Notre Dame High School in 1958 and the University of Detroit, from which he received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1962 and Master of Arts degree in 1970.

Bob began his professional career as a teacher at St. Clement High School, where he taught business education and coached track and field. He also taught at Harper Woods High School and Notre Dame High School before serving as professor of accounting at Macomb Community College. For his teaching excellence, Macomb Community College conferred the title of professor emeritus of accounting on Bob in June 2014. In addition to his teaching career, Bob also owned and operated his own accounting, bookkeeping and tax practice for many years.

A loving husband, father and grandfather, Bob was a devoted family man. He adored his wife,

Judy, and cherished their loving relationship. Bob was most proud of his family and considered them to be his greatest accomplishment.

Visitation will be held from 2 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 5, with Rosary at 7 p.m., at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. He will lie in state Friday, May 6, from 8:30 a.m. until Mass at 9 a.m. at St. Matthew Catholic Church, 6021 Whittier, Detroit.

Onofrio LaBara

Onofrio “Joe” LaBara, 86, of Harper Woods, died Friday, April 29, 2022, at The Rivers in Grosse Pointe Woods. He was born Feb. 26, 1936, in Detroit, to Paola and Josephine (nee Coppola) LaBara, both now deceased.

Joe started the LaBara Barber Shop in 1965, located at 20207 Mack — what is now Bow Wow Baketique. Due to his high-quality work and larger-than-life personality, Joe quickly grew into acquiring local commercial and residential properties to become a well-respected property owner and successful investor.

Joe’s one passion was golfing. He was a very active member of the Gowanie and Boulder Lakes golf clubs, where other golfers around the community knew him well.

He is survived by his wife, Janice LaBara; sons, Timothy LaBara and Joseph LaBara (Vanessa); daughter, Josephine LaBara (Brent Kinney); and grandson, Jay LaBara.

Aside from his parents, his son, Paul LaBara, predeceased him.

A memorial Mass will take place at noon Friday, May 6, at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, 15020 Hampton, Grosse Pointe Park. He will lie in state at 11:30 a.m.

Arrangements and care provided by A.H. Peters Funeral Home in Grosse Pointe Woods.

OBITS:

Continued from page 6B

Elizabeth Mae Wagner

Longtime Grosse Pointe Park resident Elizabeth “Betty” Wagner, 90, passed away Saturday, April 30, 2022, at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital in Pontiac.

Betty was born May 17, 1931, to Frank and Bernadine (nee Theisen) Millenbach, and married Albert “Al” P. Wagner Jr. on Dec. 28, 1957, at St. Matthew Catholic Church in Detroit. They shared 57 years of marriage prior to Al’s passing in 2015.

Betty was a golfer, bowler, tennis player and



Elizabeth Mae Wagner

avid downhill skier. She and Al were longtime members of Otsego Ski Club in Gaylord.

Most importantly, Betty was a loving and dedicated mother. Family was central to her life.

Betty is survived by her loving daughter, Liz Rader (Bob); sons, Al IV (Nancy), Doug and Bob;

adoring grandchildren, Lindsay Green (Scott), Bob Rader III, Al V, Ryan and Ellie Wagner; and great-grandson, Cameron Green. Betty also is survived by her adored sister, Fran Kieling, and many nieces, nephews and friends.

In addition, to her beloved husband, Al, and parents, Betty was predeceased by her sisters, Mary Jo Mallon and Peggy Kaiser.

Visitation will be held from 4 to 9 p.m. Friday, May 6, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 7, with visitation beginning at 9:30 a.m., at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic

Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park.

Donations may be made to St. Clare of Montefalco at the above address or to a charity of choice.

Memorial

Thomas Robert Andris

A Celebration of Life service for Thomas Robert Andris takes place at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 12, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Mr. Andris passed away Friday, Oct. 29, 2021. His obituary appeared in the Grosse Pointe News Nov. 18, 2021.

Christ Church welcomes pianist Stewart Goodyear

Pianist, improviser and composer Stewart Goodyear returns to Chamber Music Detroit with a concert at 8 p.m. Friday, May 6, at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

Goodyear’s wide-ranging program includes works by Jennifer Higdon, Anthony Davis, Claude Debussy, Franz Liszt, plus the Midwest premiere of “Phoenix,” a new work by Goodyear himself.

Proclaimed “a phenomenon” by the Los Angeles Times and “one of the best pianists of his generation” by the Philadelphia Inquirer, Goodyear is an accomplished performer and composer who has performed with and been commissioned by many major orchestras and chamber music organizations around the world.

See PIANIST, page 8B

TRIP:

Continued from page 1B

tions throughout the Pointes who regularly gather to meet and pray together.

Motley first learned of the mission trip at a Ministerial Association meeting March 16. After approaching Kowalczyk to see if he could join him abroad, Motley had exactly three days to commit.

“(Ukraine) had been on my mind before that,” Motley said. “I’m not one to sit still. ... I knew I had to do something.”

By April 4, Motley and crew were on a plane, heading to Poland by way of Frankfurt, Germany, with an additional stop in Krakow. Once the group settled in the border town of Przemysl, the weary-but-inspired travelers set down their bags, had a quick meal and headed out to the refugee center, located in a Costco-like warehouse called the Tesco Center.

Half of the group began the trip by working with refugees there. The other half left the next day for a retreat center in southeast Poland, nearly two-and-a-half hours away, surrounded by the lush forests of the country’s only national park. Some volunteers switched places midway through the trip to help at both sites, while others stayed put.

“It was just a sea of humanity (at the Tesco Center),” said Mike McDevitt, St. Clare’s coordinator of christian service and maintenance. McDevitt was part of the group that headed to the



From left, Scott Lowell, John Schrage, Sue Buckley, Sandy Kondrat, Roseanne Jamieson, Pastor Sean Motley, Nancy Hempe and Mike McDevitt prepare for a full day’s work at the Tesco refugee center.

mountains after the first day.

“It was two very different experiences,” he said. “The refugee center was just buzzing with activity. It was ‘organized chaos.’”

At Tesco, volunteers did everything from cleaning, unloading supplies, shopping for basics and medical supplies, playing with children, serving meals with the World Central Kitchen, transporting families in vans and washing piles and piles of laundry.

Some volunteers even had pet duty — cleaning up after the dogs and cats some families brought with them. The pets helped provide families with some comfort and normalcy, McDevitt noted.

That atmosphere juxtaposed to that of the 200-bed retreat center in the mountains, where refugees were sent to decompress and collect

themselves before heading to the countries that accepted them like France, Sweden and Spain.

“Signs of peace, hope and courage were everywhere,” Backer said. “I never got the sense that (Ukrainians) felt like they were victims. They were fortified by their commitment to persevere.

“I felt helpless that I couldn’t do more.”

Volunteers at the retreat center assisted and made important contributions. They worked in the medical clinic, prepared bedrooms, made welcome packages and played games with newly arriving families, handing children lollipops they brought from the U.S. (“Always a big hit,” Kowalczyk said).

McDevitt said despite the wear and tear of being displaced, the refugees’ positive attitudes kept everyone going.

“They were trying to make the best of a terrible situation. We did whatever little things we could do to make them feel better.”

Motley said he was struck by the demographic of the refugees

coming in.

“It was largely moms, grandmothers and children. We saw very few men because they were all away fighting (in the war).”

Motley recalled a significant moment when he helped unpack a large van of supplies and wheeled out multiple strollers.

“Everyone should see that (sight),” he said. “The image of how many children have been impacted. Think of all the babies and children who may never see their fathers, grandfathers or uncles ever again.

“It was a good trip, but it was also sad to see the human devastation and suffering.”

McDevitt said one of the things he took away from the experience was “to be on the ground and to witness the work the Polish people were doing.”

Kowalczyk agreed and said he felt great pride about his native country.

“I want to shout it from the rooftops, ‘Praise the goodness and compas-

sion of the Polish people,’” he said. “... I am very proud of being Polish.”

The volunteers said they saw dozens of countries with representatives at the Tesco Center ready to accept refugees except for one — the United States.

It was “disheartening” to see all of the flags on the wall and see it empty under the U.S. flag, according to Kowalczyk.

“Under the (U.S.) flag it said, ‘We are not processing anyone at this time,’” he said.

But Kowalczyk said they kept their focus on the families’ basic needs, giving them as much love and comfort as they could through service and warm smiles.

Kowalczyk, a Catholic priest, and Motley, a Lutheran pastor, even had a special opportunity to speak about faith and service to a group of young seminarians preparing for the Catholic priesthood. According to Motley, the discussion was respectful and insightful.

“We put aside our theological differences and put our hands together to help people,” Kowalczyk added.

A potential second trip to Poland is being discussed, Kowalczyk said, but with a sharpened focus to bring people with specific skill sets, like nurses, teachers and physicians.

“(Caring for refugees) is such an enormous task,” he said. “But it’s the ‘cup of water’ theory. You just need to share your cup of water with the person next to you.

“For those 10 days, we made a difference.”



COURTESY PHOTOS

Roseanne Jamieson, Sandy Kondrat and Nancy Hempe sort supplies in the retreat house pantry.

Worship Service



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

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

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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

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

Detroit Concert Choir to perform at Christ Church GP

The Detroit Concert Choir, under the direction of Michael A. Mitchell, presents “Grant Us Peace — Music to Heal the World,” at 4 p.m. Sunday, May 15, at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

The Michigan Sinfonietta joins the DCC for this message of hope, courage and unity featuring “Dona Nobis Pacem” by Latvian composer Pēteris Vasks, “Across the Vast, Eternal Sky” by Ola Gjeilo and John Rutter’s “A Ukrainian Prayer.”

Highlights also include Mitchell’s “Gloria, Pax, Alleluia” and music by U2, Susan LaBarr and Rene Clausen. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors and \$10 for students. They may be purchased online at detroitconcertchoir.org through Eventbrite, at the door or by phone at (313) 882-0118.

The DCC currently requires all guests to provide proof of full vaccination for COVID-19 or a negative PCR taken within 72 hours for admission to the concert. Masks are optional. Learn more online at detroitconcertchoir.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pianist Stewart Goodyear performs at Christ Church on May 6.

PIANIST:

Continued from page 7B

His discography includes the complete sonatas and piano concertos of Beethoven, as well as concertos by Tchaikovsky, Grieg and Rachmaninov, an album of Ravel piano works and an album entitled “For Glenn Gould.” His Rachmaninov recording received a Juno nomination for Best Classical

Album for Soloist and Large Ensemble Accompaniment. Goodyear’s recording of his own transcription of Tchaikovsky’s “The Nutcracker (Complete Ballet)” was chosen by the New York Times as one of the best classical music recordings of 2015. His discography is released on the Marquis Classics, Orchid Classics and Steinway and Sons labels. His new album, “Phoenix,” was released

in fall 2021, and includes Mussorgsky’s “Pictures at an Exhibition.” A limited number of complimentary tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Call (313) 335-3300 or visit cmdetroit.org. The Chamber Music Society of Detroit will adhere to all state, federal and venue COVID-related policies in effect. For details on the most up-to-date policies, visit cmdetroit.org.

Players Detroit closes 111th season with weekend shows

By Ted O’Neil
Staff Writer

In what’s been described as a cross between a fraternity and an amateur theater group, Players Detroit will wrap up its annual season with invitational performances the next two weekends.

In a tradition dating back to Shakespearean days and more recently reminiscent of Monty Python’s “Flying Circus,” the all-male troupe plays all parts, including female roles.

The first Saturday of each month in October, December, February, March and April, the group presents three one-act plays — called a frolic — performed just for members. A full-length play is put on each November with members inviting guests.

The scripts generally

are lighthearted.

“Comedy sells well,” according to Andrew Turnbull, a member who recently moved back to his native Grosse Pointe Park after serving on city council in the City of Grosse Pointe nearly eight years.

“We’re having a Mark Twain monologue this time around, but most of what we do is completely farcical,” he continued. “We’ve been threatening to do a musical, but we don’t have the voices.”

Turnbull estimates about a third of the 160 members are from the Grosse Pointes.

One of the plays being presented over the next two weekends is “Ad Value,” written and directed by Turnbull.

“It’s about a consumer products company whose sales are tanking and they think they’re meeting with these New York

marketing experts,” he said. “Turns out it’s these four high school kids who got lost on a field trip and end up in the boardroom.”

Turnbull said the high schoolers start coming up with all kinds of crazy ideas and the company executives eat it up.

“The hook is at the end when the chaperone comes in and finds the kids,” he said.

The other presentation will be “Superman Lives,” based on an anecdote by comedian Kevin Smith and his attempts at getting a movie by the same name made that never got off the ground.

While tickets are sold out for the next two weekends, the group offers tours and rentals of its English Renaissance playhouse that dates to 1926. Call (313) 259-3385 or visit playersdetroit.org for details.

EVENTS:

Continued from page 3B

Church, 27801 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 11, Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 12, Roseville Library, 29777 Gratiot, Roseville.

Men’s Club

The Men’s Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next lunch and speaker meeting at 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 10, at the Tompkins Community Center, located in Windmill Pointe Park. Christopher Pratt, the Michigan Education Association’s UniServe director of South Oakland

Districts, speaks. The club encourages attendees to wear face masks when not eating, drinking or speaking to the group. Cost is \$20, paid at the door. To reserve a seat, email gmcattendance@gmail.com or call (313) 550-9661.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 11. Carolyn Cassin of Michigan Woman Forward will speak. Visit grossepointerotary.org for information. Those who wish to join the meeting via Zoom should email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

Mini Picassos

Mini Picassos, 21520 Harper, St. Clair Shores, offers several programs

and classes. To register, visit minipicassosstudio.com.

◆ Toddler Art Parties, 10 to 11:15 a.m. Wednesdays, May 11 to June 8. Ages 2 and older are invited. Cost is \$115 for five weeks.

The War Memorial

The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, presents the following programs:

◆ “The Wine Counselor: Best of the Boot,” from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 12. Tickets are \$59.

◆ An Evening with Chef Joe Paxton: Celebrating Spring in Michigan with Food and Wine, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, May 20. Deadline to register is Friday, May 13. General admission tickets are \$75.

Register online at warmemorial.org.

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ART CONTEST

Grosse Pointe News
THE FINER POINTES PRESENTS



2022

SECOND ANNUAL

THE FINER POINTES ART CONTEST FINALISTS

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Finalists from across Michigan have been selected in the second annual “The Finer Pointes” art contest. The competition returned on a larger scale and with a broader theme, asking artists throughout the state what “Made in Michigan” means to them. Around 100 entries were received from artists whose work ranged from paintings and textiles to sculptures and relief work.

Though featured on the following pages, finalists’ work also will be available for viewing in person at the former Scott Shuptrine building, 17145 Kercheval, in The Village, beginning May 7. Exhibition hours are: Saturday, May 7, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, May 8, noon to 4 p.m., Thursday, May 12, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, May 13, 4 p.m. to 7 pm and Saturday, May 14, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fine artist and muralist Richard Wilson — whose key works include an 80-foot wall portrait of Will Smith in West Philadelphia and an 8,000-square-foot portrait of Stevie Wonder in downtown Detroit — served as juror. He will further narrow the finalists to a first-place winner and one runner-up, who will receive \$2,500 and \$1,000 cash prizes, respectively.

In addition to Wilson’s selections, Grosse Pointe News subscribers will be able to vote for their favorites. The top Readers’ Choice vote-getter also will receive \$1,000.

Email your vote to media@grossepointenews.com or vote via Jotform at grossepointenews.com/art.

The deadline to vote is Thursday, May 12. Winners will be announced during a public reception at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 14, at the exhibition.

Any digital artists or photographers who missed out on entering “The Finer Pointes” should keep an eye out for details as the Grosse Pointe News plans to announce a digital art/photography contest later this year.



1. Winged

Jeanne Bieri

Grosse Pointe

Medium: Textile | Price: \$2000

Artist Contact Info: jeannebieri.com | Instagram: @jeannebieri

Throughout my life the women in my family have worked in textile. Resourceful and resilient, these “homemakers” remade their environments. My grandmother held onto fabric with the idea that it could be mended and remade into something useful and lovely. The tiniest scrap could have a new life.

When I was given one of my Great Aunt’s quilts, I was put in touch with a group of relatives I’d never met. This particular quilt was the ocean waves pattern, striking in red and white. These ladies lived on the edge of the great plains of Iowa, I sensed a tongue-in-cheek humor within their group. The quilt was worn, yet vibrant. The red and white triangles and perfectly-stitched feather quilting put me in touch with a group of relatives I’d never met. I began to cut and stitch pieces together, I added pillow ticking and denim, gold leaf and calico.



2. The Story Within

Michelle Boggess-Nunley

Grosse Pointe

Oil & Acrylic on Canvas | Price: \$850

Artist Contact Info: boggessart.com | Instagram: @boggessart

For me, art is how I connect with the world around me. Some days I’m restless and want to try something new, and other days I want something more comforting, like the smell of oil paint and linseed oil. We always hear about how artists should have this ‘great body of work,’ but it’s never been that easy for me to create the same way everyday. My work represents an evolving journey, in which you will find my thoughts, happiness, hardships, love, obsession with maze puzzles, heavy brush strokes and everything in between. I hope you find something that speaks to you.



3. Dock At Idlewild

Lori McElrath Eslick

Muskegan

Oil Painting | Price: \$925

Artist Contact Info: EslickART.com | Instagram: @mcelratheslick

My career started off with a nice job at Hallmark greeting cards as a full-time illustrator. I learned a lot at that job, now I am a freelance artist and have illustrated lots of children’s books, as well as paint for me. My hope is that people will find in my art joy, art education with a story. And in my paintings the same thing, a joy in a moment. The light on the subject, and spirit within that moment. I was a chosen artist at the (recent years) Idlewild Jazz Festival, and my art was on the poster, so this is very special to me, and consequently I have painted some of the moments there, of a very special historically significant place in Michigan. And submitted two works pertaining to this moment in our State’s history.

10B | FINER POINTES: MADE IN MICHIGAN ART CONTEST FINALISTS



4. Peony

Annie Effinger

Grosse Pointe
Painting - Acrylic | Price: NFS
Artist Contact Info: Instagram: @colormefuzzy

Much of my inspiration comes from the natural environment of my home state, Michigan, particularly during the spring and summer months. The movement in the skies is enchanting, with pastel mornings and brilliant sunsets. The lush green landscapes, peppered with vibrant flowers, and the blue gradients of the abundant waters invigorate me and satisfy my love of color.

When I started to paint more frequently, during the lockdown in March of 2020, it was cold and rainy, the world so bleak and worrisome. Dreaming of springtime, the budding flowers and blossoming trees, I took to the canvas, creating lively and colorful paintings that would bring me joy. Today I share my work in the hopes that it will delight and amuse.

5. Tokyo

Amelia Currier

Ortonville
Type: Sculpture | Price: \$625
Artist Contact Info:
ameliacurrier.com
Instagram: @ameliacurrier77

I am a Detroit-area artist, deeply rooted in the Cass Corridor Movement. Being an artist was a given in my family, one in which my mother and grandfather were both committed artists. Every summer of my youth was spent on the shores of Bois Blanc Island, a pristine jewel that would eventually inform and inspire my work.

I began my education painting large abstract paintings under the tutelage of George Vihos at The Roeper School, and then continued by studying intaglio printmaking, earning a BFA at Wayne State University. I also attended the Instituto Allende, Mexico and The Boston Museum School of Fine Arts. My prints and drawings are in the collection of Fidelity Investments, The Duffy Collection, The Ontological Museum, and private collections



I chose this assemblage, 'Tokyo' because it is constructed of toy sailboats, which I altered into an abstraction of a Japanese temple. My work is informed and inspired by the natural world and more specifically the unique beauty of the Great Lakes.

6. Michigan Wildflowers

Chelsea Cousineau

Grosse Pointe
Wood/Woodburning | Price: \$250
Artist Contact Info: detroitcraftswoman.com | Instagram: @detroitcraftswoman

I've been working at my family's hardware store, Pointe Hardware, since I was just a kid and always was intrigued by all the beautiful hardwoods we had in our lumber room. When I first started experimenting with wood art a few years ago, I would cut out stencils and spray paint onto planks of wood like mahogany and oak. My craft has since progressed into a process that involves many cut pieces that I stain with handmade colored stains and then glue together to create different designs. Some of my work is very geometric, involving only abstract designs and using only a miter saw, while other pieces are meant to look like landscapes with curved pieces that I cut out using a scroll saw.

A lot of my work is heavily influenced by nature, especially when it comes to my colors choices. The newest addition to my woodworking skill set is wood burning which is included in one of my submissions here. I always use stain rather than paint so that I never cover up the woods natural and beautiful grain. It's all about enhancing what is naturally occurring!



7. Rusty Train Afternoon

Kevin Clifford

Clarkston
Watercolor Painting | Price: \$1500
Artist Contact Info: kevinclif@gmail.com

Michigan watercolor artist with a focus on creating texture. These are paintings of 'Made in Michigan' trains located in Coopersville Michigan



8. Violet

Paul Erlandson

Royal Oak
Oil on Canvas | Price: NFS
Artist Contact Info: Instagram: @paulerlandsonart.com

Paul Erlandson is a self-taught oil painter who began painting in 1989. He sometimes does photorealistic work, sometimes other forms of realism, but always with an eye toward revealing the unseen world behind the visible world he paints.

FINER POINTES: MADE IN MICHIGAN ART CONTEST | 11B



9. Great Blue Heron

Brian Fritz
Howell
Painting - Acrylic on Canvas |
Price: \$450
Artist Contact Info:
brianleefritz.com |
Instagram: @brianleefritz

My name is Brian and I love birds. I love the way they speak to people, the way they all mean something different to people who have been in their presence. No matter how many times I see a Great Blue Heron, I'm always amazed at its size.

My inspiration comes from long bike rides in the Southeast Michigan countryside down endless dirt roads and long walks through the woods. I also love landscapes and wildlife art in general, but birds are amazing in the way that they culturally connect us.



10. Downwind Flight

Barbara Kennedy
Grosse Pointe Farms
Oil | Price: \$600
Artist Contact Info: Instagram: @Barbkennedy44

I began oil painting only 10 years ago at the recommendation of an artist friend. My background is so in interior design. I began alongside her painting plein air and gradually moved to a home studio. I strive for an Impressionistic style. Initially, I began painting merely for my own enjoyment but have evolved into entering juried art shows and art fairs. I have shown in Grosse Pointe, St. Clair Shores and Ferndale, placed second at Lac Ste. Clair Art Fair in St. Clair Shores in September of 2021. I am passionate about painting and head to my paints at every opportunity.



11. Dancing Through The Storm

Caroline Kerfoot
Bloomfield
Mixed Media & Water Soluble Oil Paint
Price: NFS
Artist Contact Info: Instagram: @moi_cava

After being raised in Grosse Pointe, I went on to earn a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree as an early graduate from the Maryland Institute College of Art (Baltimore, MD) during which I completed an Honors program at the Central St. Martins College of Art (London, UK).

My major and professional career have been focused on marketing and interior design. I currently work full time at Regina Andrew Detroit- however painting and drawing have always been a creative refuge for me. Most recently, I've finished my first illustrated children's book which is due to release this year titled, 'Hi, I'm Fox!'.



12. Shoulder To Shoulder

Ian Matchett
Detroit
Oil On Canvas | Price: \$8000
Artist Contact Info: matchettian.com | Instagram: @matchettian

My paintings focus on people who lead work for transformative change; and the connection between historic figures and present-day community organizers. I am fascinated by the humanity of people working to change the world: by their dedication despite their flaws, and their greatness even amidst difficult or humble circumstances. I think art, and in particular painting, allows people to rapidly build emotional and relational bonds across time, space, and experience. I see my paintings as a bridge between the complex feelings that motivate organizers and people outside of this work. At their best my works allow people to connect with what drives organizers in a way that a historical text, recorded speech, or even a photograph are unable to translate. My work is a form of storytelling and memory, for both the viewer and for the subjects. My paintings work to elevate, explore, humanize, and valorize - connecting the viewer and subject to the struggle.

13. Houses Within A Grove of Trees

Barbara Greenwood
Williamsburg
Mixed Media | Price: \$950
Artist Contact Info: greenwood3863@att.net

Working with paper allows me to rip, cut and place the various textures and colors side by side. The shape and textures tell me what must be done next. Wishing to be a quilter, paper gives me a sense of flow and freedom that fabric does not. As I sew the pieces together I see myself sewing all parts of my life together as it becomes one image. These pieces are about being newly retired, my move back to Michigan, our first fall in our new house we have been building and a completely new life. I grew up in Grosse Pointe so this feels as if I am returning home though I now live in Traverse City.

12B | FINER POINTES: MADE IN MICHIGAN ART CONTEST FINALISTS

14. Wednesday Night

Callie Lewicki

Grosse Pointe
Oil Painting | Price: NFS
Artist Contact Info:
Callielewickiart.com | Instagram: @Callielewickiart

Callie oil paints and sculpts daily in her home studio. Painting people and scenes of beautifully fun times, or experimenting with pottery – there’s never a dull moment! She lives in Grosse Pointe with her husband and two kids.



15. Cherished Refuge

Sarah Kasper

Romeo
Acrylic On Canvas | Price: \$1000
Artist Contact Info: Instagram: @sarah_kasper_fine_art.com

This work explores the natural gifts our planet shares with us. By removing and blurring other details of the environment, the paintings’ intended emphasis are naturally highlighted and the essence of their moments are revealed. The technique used was stumbled upon when waste was recognized in the clean-up process of a single painting. Catching the canvas paint runoff and allowing it to settle was a great method to salvage the wastewater created from traditional brush paintings.



16. Lake Michigan Reverie

Julie Kroppe

Rochester Hills
Oils | Price: \$800
Artist Contact Info: Facebook: juliekroppefineart.com | Instagram: @juliekroppefineart.com

I am a proud native of Michigan and was born in Grosse Pointe before later moving to Rochester Hills. I find myself painting subject matter looking through windows or appearing near windows. To me, the window represents a vessel for hope, self reflection, longing, change, and a step into the unknown. Whether I am painting figures, objects or flora, I am drawn to the natural light that windows can provide as well as reflected images that capture the essence of my subject.



17. Motor City Muscle

Basil Zaviski

St. Clair Shores
Acrylic on Birch | Price: \$700
Artist Contact Info: gunstonstreet.com | Instagram: @detroitartproject

My Name is Basil Zaviski, creator of the “Detroit Art Project” and Stars & Stripes comic strip “Gunston Street”. I have been creating unique pieces for unique places all around Michigan. It’s a great time to be an artist, and no better place than Michigan!



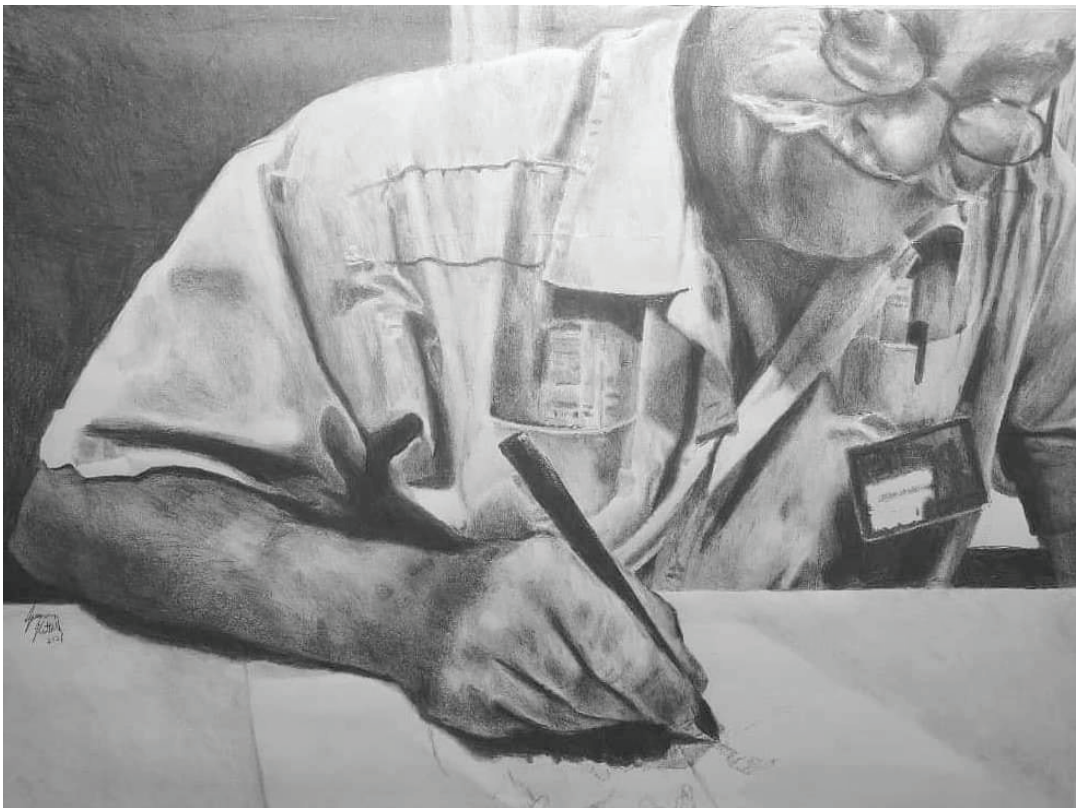
18. The Royale Dinner

Irene Huse

Grosse Pointe
Acrylic Painting | Price: \$525
Artist Contact Info: irenehuse105@gmail.com

I started painting about eight years ago after I retired. At that time I never expected to enjoy the artistic process as much as I do. In this painting, the “ghost” image of the wolf is a nod to the nearly extinct gray wolf population found on Isle Royale. The wolf also represents one with a voracious appetite. After all, who amongst us can resist devouring a Coney dog, an icy cold beer and salt-sour pickles. Some of the true wonders of Michigan.

FINER POINTES: MADE IN MICHIGAN ART CONTEST FINALISTS | 13B



19. Sergio Aragonés: The Moustachioed Maestro At Work

Jason Nuttall

Bay City
Graphite | Price: \$1250
Artist Contact Info: nuttallart.net | Instagram: @jasonnuttall_artist

I am a portrait artist and cartoonist in Bay City, Michigan. I earned a Bachelors of Fine Arts 2007 from Saginaw Valley State University. I have done artwork for Sammy Hagar, Joe Walsh, BB King, and Jeff Daniels, to name a few. I have had three solo art exhibits, multiple group exhibits, displayed in countless juried art exhibits across Michigan since 1996. My inspirations are Sergio Aragonés, John Byrne, multiple comic book artists and many impressionist artists, as well as photo realists.

I am a big fan of comic books, classic rock and blues, and I show my love of the music by depicting the musicians in my drawings and paintings. It makes me feel connected to them and the music that inspires me.

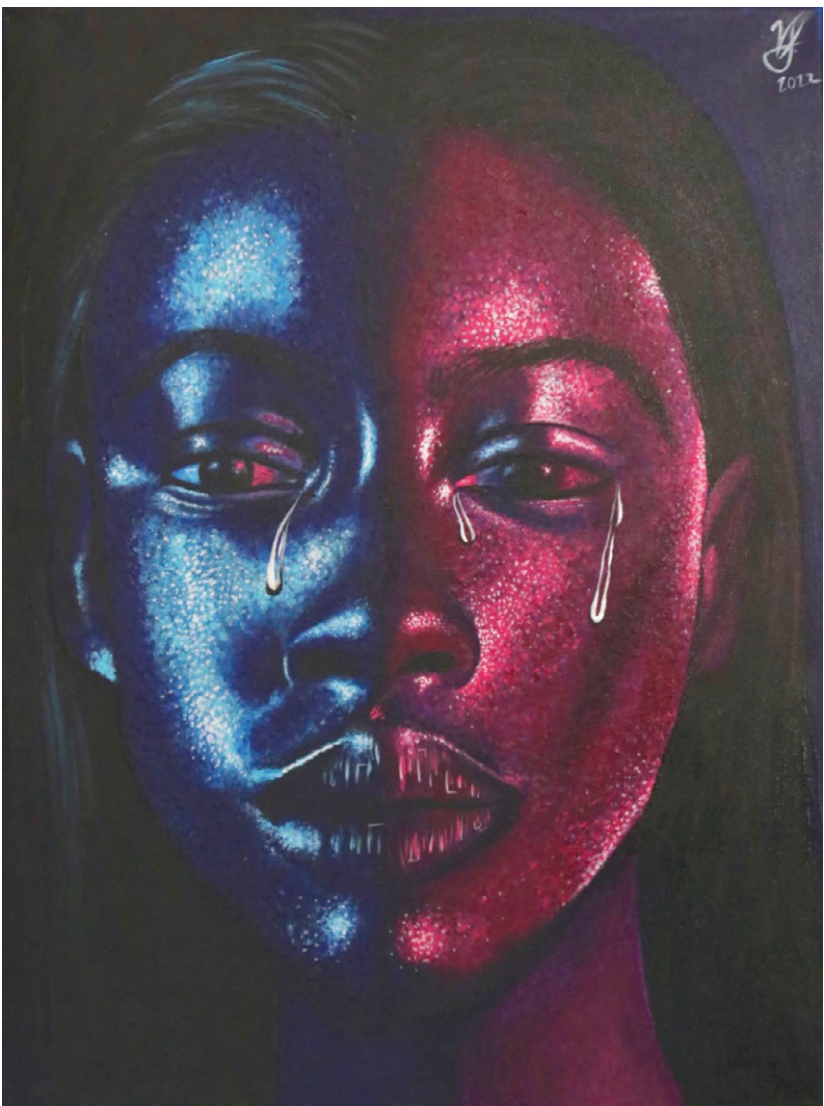


20. Art Deco Musings

Molly McCarthy

Oden
Acrylic on stretched canvas | Price: \$250
Artist Contact Info: mollymaccollection.com | Instagram: @molldoll_27

I am a longtime educator who recently decided to pursue my passion for art full time. I am obsessed with colors and patterns and I love finding new ways to express myself through my art. My style is eclectic and ever-evolving. I paint what I love.



21. Cry In Halves

Veronica Grace

Chesterfield Township
Acrylic Paint, gloss varnish | Price: \$450
Artist Contact Info: Instagram: @theartofVGrace

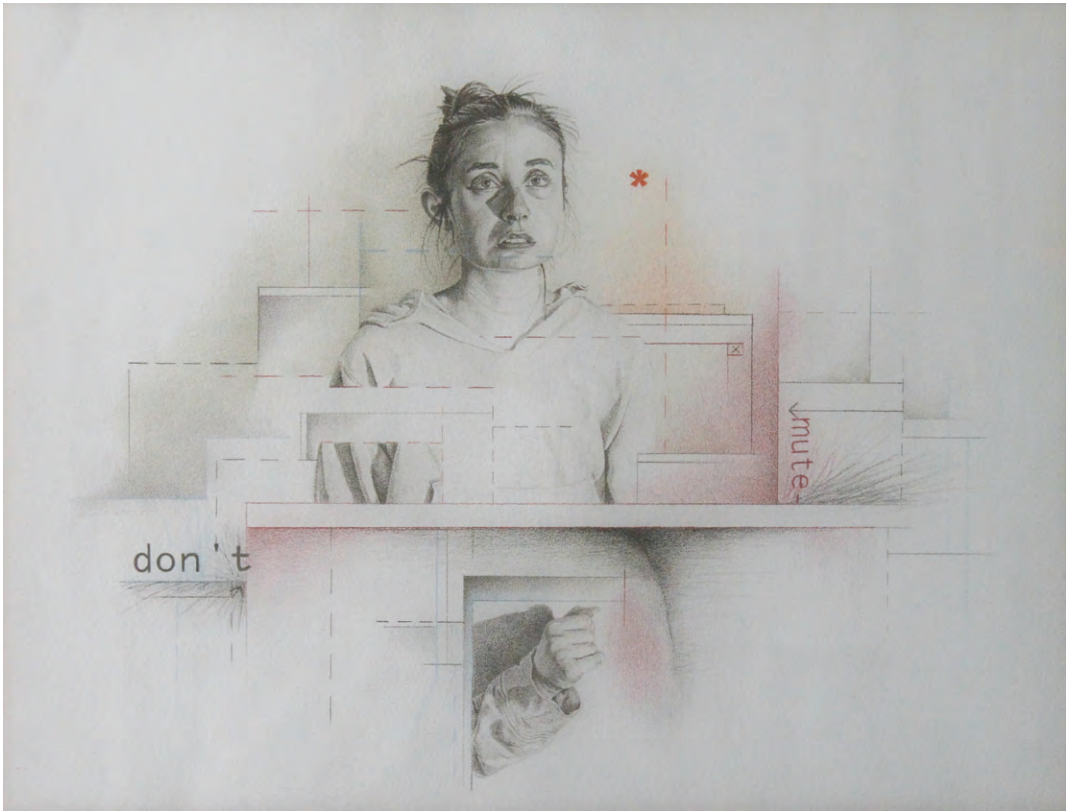
I am 18 years old, I'm self-taught with no formal training, ranging from 3D to 2D mixed media. I would consider my art to be figurative or contemporary. I use air-dry clay to make sculptures, and acrylic on canvas. My goal is for my viewer to feel, to be entranced with different emotions, and to see the passion within my work.

22. Trying Windows-005

Chrillz

Marysville
Colored pencil, oil paper, and resin on wood panel | Price: \$640
Artist Contact Info: chrilz.com | Instagram: @chrilzart

I am a drawer working in some kind of blend between Neo-figurative and Neo-expressionism, utilizing the human form as my vessel of expression. My focus is human nature – our experiences, our emotions, our relationships. It is the culmination of life unfolding that fuels my need to create. The conceptual side of the art is paramount to me. In every piece, the formal elements are intentionally composed, all in an effort to serve the idea. Each piece is always an effort to express something more, whether that be a complete concept or the subtlety of emotion.



14B | FINER POINTES: MADE IN MICHIGAN ART CONTEST FINALISTS

23. The Wind and the Wild:
First Tee at Stonycroft Hills

Jon Parlangeli

Bloomfield Hills

Oil on Canvas | Price: \$1350

Artist Contact Info: jonparlangeli.com | Instagram: @painterjon303



My story is easy enough to tell...I've been creating since childhood driven by a need for order amongst disorder, new harmonies amongst objects, visually seduced by repetition, pattern and color and onward the dance goes. At some point many years ago a rather observant art teacher stepped in to put me on the path from wayward youth to wayward artist. From there it's been an epicurean circus of creation, like a Jacques Cousteau dive special into the deepest reaches of my mind...no clowns but definitely sharks!

My work is held in multiple corporate and private collections throughout the US, Canada, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.

My work is seeded in process painting and material discovery. Elements of sculpture, textural curiosities and color/form relationships combine to create a unique dimensional aesthetic in each work. There are also elements of nature and/or humanity in my work that, depending on what may be happening at the time, mix about with the abstract elements to create a sort of historic bibliophile in the paint. I capture a moment that reflects for a lifetime.



24. Sable Falls Wonder In The U.P.

Forrest Miller

Grand Rapids

Oil Painting | Price: \$1500

Artist Contact Info: Facebook: facebook.com/forrest.miller.140

I am Michigan-born, growing up in Bay City and first studying art at Delta College, and then at Kendall College of Art & Design. I earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Illustration in 2013. I live in Grand Rapids, where I do commissioned paintings and portraits, and recently I was the courtroom artist for WXMI TV and WXYZ TV for the Whitmer Kidnap trial. I have exhibited my work at Grand Rapids Art Prize for nine years, and my work has also been featured in the Greater Michigan Art Exhibition at Midland Center for the Arts, The Bloomfield Hills Art Center, and the West Michigan Art Competition at the Lowell Art Center.

Oil on Gessobord panel is my preferred medium, and I work to capture every detail in Michigan's beautiful landscapes. I have also done a lot of portrait work, commissioned for major donors at Delta College, for music CD Covers, and family and wedding settings. As an artist, I am always evolving and improving my artist's eye as it translates to a painting or drawing. Michigan is a perfect venue for this work, with its ever-changing seasons.

26. Fragile

Denise Carozza

Grosse Pointe

Manufacturing Scraps | Price: \$200

Artist Contact Info: Facebook: Denise Carozza

I am a military spouse, so our family has lived all over the country and joined various art organizations in order to connect to the community. I don't know how to paint or draw, so when I get an idea for an art piece, I figure out a way to portray the image using fabric remnants, embroidery, and salvaged items. One of the characteristics of Michiganders that I admire is their ability to make it work with what they have. So for this Made in Michigan contest, I went to Arts and Scraps in Detroit to see what they had and created this entry based on what I found. I have also done a good bit of sewing in Michigan since we moved here shortly before the pandemic.



25. Midst of Winter

Catherine Sweeney

Clinton Township

Sculpture - Steel | Price: \$2000

Artist Contact Info: Instagram: @catherinesculpts



FINER POINTES: MADE IN MICHIGAN ART CONTEST FINALISTS | 15B



27. Big Read

Paul Van Heest
Holland
Color Pencil | Price: \$4600
Artist Contact Info: day6art.com | Instagram: [@paulvanheest](https://www.instagram.com/paulvanheest)

I retired from teaching art, mostly at the middle school level five years ago. Since then, I’ve been able to pour more of my energy into my drawings. I’ve had my work exhibited in galleries and museums across the United States. A primary goal in my compositions is to invite the viewer into taking a closer look at some of the beautiful things that surround us, but are often taken for granted.



28. Silt
Kelsey Sauerwein
West Bloomfield
Alcohol Ink on Yupo, Mounted to Cradled Wood Board | Price: \$600
Artist Contact Info: Instagram: [@kelsoruss](https://www.instagram.com/kelsoruss)

Detroit-based and trained, Kelsey earned her BFA in Product Design with a minor in crafts from the College for Creative Studies in 2015. She specializes in alcohol inks and mixed media outside of her day job as an environmental and experience designer. Her work focuses on the natural world and the textures that are found through serendipitous encounters. Through gestures held in the ink, she conveys a sense of flow. This, juxtaposed with the stone-like line work, she creates a dynamic between the suspended moment and the ever-changing landscape around her.

29. Tumbled By The Greats

Kristy Liebetreu
Owosso
Jewelry - Sterling Silver, Fine Silver, Great Lakes beach glass | Price: \$325
Artist Contact Info: leebatroystudio.com | Instagram: [@lee.ba.troy_studio](https://www.instagram.com/lee.ba.troy_studio)

I’ve always loved art. I have been creating my whole life, but my love of metalsmithing did not happen until later in my life. Teaching, completing college while processing grief and PTSD, walking the beaches in Michigan to heal, a toxic teaching environment – all of this has shaped my art. Gratitude and love is what I choose to lead with everyday. That is why I choose to create beautiful things. I am not avoiding the negatives of the world but instead focusing on the positive, beautiful things. Working with beach glass fully embodies that because the glass was once sharp and essentially trash. It gets tumbled in the Great Lakes and turns into a beautiful treasure.



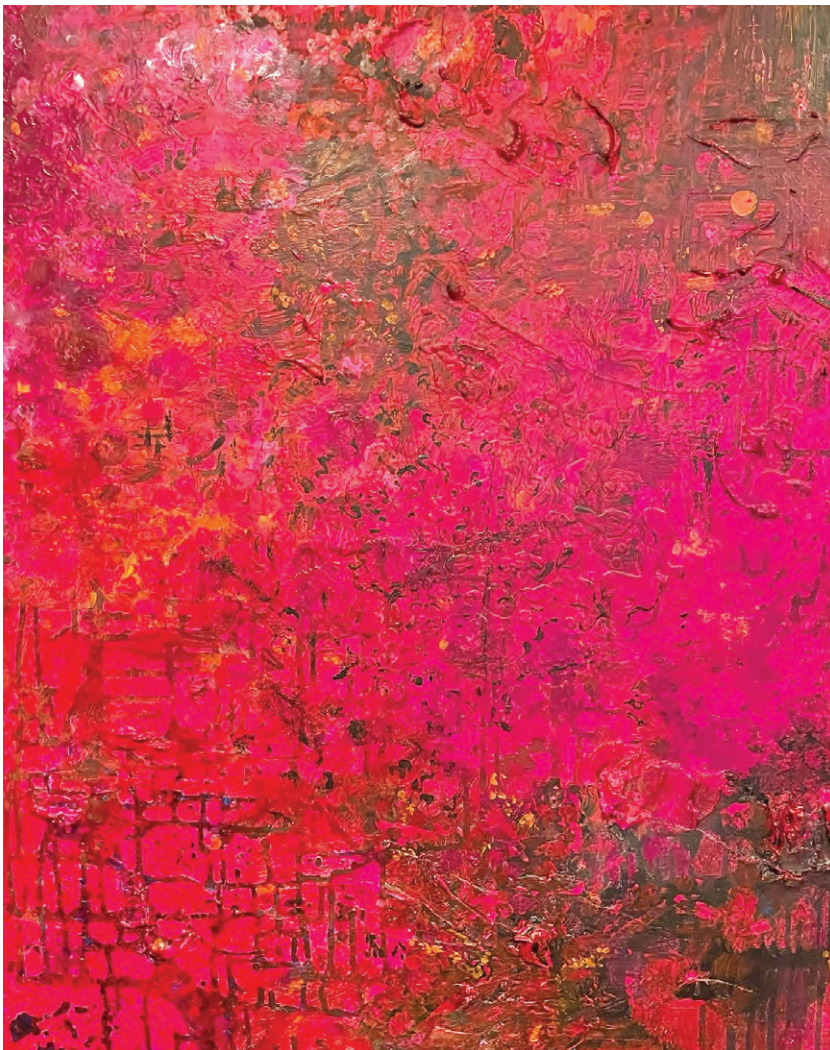
30. Strings of Spring

Robert Perrish
Livonia
Oil on Linen | Price: \$1500
Artist Contact Info: robertperrish.com | Instagram: [@robertperrishart](https://www.instagram.com/robertperrishart)

I believe composing at the easel is like visual music, inspired by nature, the character of people, and parts of my life that move and inspire me. I paint primarily in oils, my style representational with additional spices, textures and flavors. Before putting brush to canvas I’ve decided on the direction my painting will take... dramatic and bold, light and simple, realistic, or loose and suggestive.

While in the studio I begin with a composition in mind, but each painting seems to bring forth happy – or unhappy – accidents, and gives opportunity to make the painting better.

16B | FINER POINTES: MADE IN MICHIGAN ART CONTEST FINALISTS



31. Boudoir Mystique

Nicolena Stubbs
Detroit
Acrylic on Canvas | Price: \$1200
Artist Contact Info: nicolenacreates.com | Instagram: @nicolecreates

I am a self-taught abstract painter who works purely from intuition, utilizing primarily acrylics, molding paste and various recycled materials. I find the inspiration to create everywhere. My life, nature, my experiences as a black woman and mother, my relationships, joys, pains and struggles inspire my moods and my work.



32. Benzie County Hay Farm

Kari Rasmussen
Grosse Pointe
Oil Painting | Price: \$125
Artist Contact Info: blaufenster@gmail.com

Kari is inspired by Michigan, a great agricultural state.



33. The Forests Will Have Their Revenge #2

Ronald Rodriguez
Sterling Heights
Wood & Bronze | Price: \$2200
Artist Contact Info: ron.houseproud@gmail.com

I am a sculptor working out of a renovated stamping plant in Highland Park. The work that I'd submitted deals with deforestation and its eventual effect on mankind.



34. Solace

Colin Payne
Grosse Pointe
Acrylic Painting | Price: \$1000
Artist Contact Info: Instagram: @colinpayne45

My work revolves around figure painting. I like the drama of faces. I am inspired by the colors of Jasper Johns but adore the lighting techniques of Caravaggio and Rembrandt. Being a musician and composer as well as a painter, my work has been inspired by music scenes. While I strive for realism in my paintings, I try to add something that can't be expressed through photography or hyper-realism. I use different colors to depict skin-tones, I use different brush strokes to create a sense of spontaneity and improvisation, which I believe adds life to my paintings.



HONORABLE MENTION
St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans

Colleen Solomon
Grosse Pointe
Pencil/Charcoal | Price: NFS

I am submitting this for my wife, Colleen, who passed away in December. These works were done around 1956 and are pencil/charcoal drawings. One is of St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans.

LIFE & ENTERTAINMENT

2C GP GABBY | 3C WINE TALK | 5C MOVIE JUNKIE MARK | 7C & 8C COMICS & PUZZLES

Another century begun

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Gar Wood, born 1880, wasn't present at last week's centennial opening of a time capsule from under a cornerstone he helped seal in 1922, at the Detroit Yacht Club clubhouse on Belle Isle.

But 13 of his descendants and relatives were. One of them, Rob Wood, lives in Grosse Pointe Farms.

"Gar Wood was my great uncle," Wood said. "He died when I was about 7."



A 48-star American flag was the last item placed in the time capsule April 22, 1922, and the first removed April 22, 2022.

He stood within feet of the north corner of the clubhouse where, 100 years ago to the hour, his famous ancestor set the cornerstone at 3 p.m. Friday, April 22.

Wood smiled and looked beyond the club's marina to the empty Gold Cup hydroplane course on the Detroit River and tried to remember what might have been.

"I never got a chance to meet him," Wood said. "He was going to come up and drive Miss America around the track, but passed away



PHOTOS BY MARTIN CHUMIECKI

Thirteen relatives of Gar Wood attended the Detroit Yacht Club centennial time capsule opening April 22, including, back row, from left, great nephew Rob Wood, his wife, Tricia, and their son, Logan, of Grosse Pointe Farms.

about 10 days before."

Gar Wood, club commodore at the time of the cornerstone dedication and the stuff of a great nephew's admiration — self-taught engineer, inventor, industrialist, the first man to pilot a boat at more than 100 mph — died in 1971 at age 91.

"He had more patents than anyone else in the United States at that time, more than Edison even," Wood said. "1922 must have been an amazing time to be in Detroit. Think of the Dodge brothers, the Fishers and Fords. Gar Wood facilitated much of the industrial development. It must have been fascinating."

Club officials honored the past and challenged the future during the time capsule opening.

"Today's simple ceremony recognizes the determination and grit required to create this most treasured clubhouse," Commodore Dr. John McGill said. "To the members here today, it is now our turn to serve the

club and make a positive difference. Perhaps in 100 years, in 2122, the cornerstone removal ceremony will have your name on it."

Upon dislodging the 1,000-pound granite cornerstone and transporting the roughly 12-by-15-inch, oxidized copper time capsule to the clubhouse's second floor east lounge, it took a few minutes of effort with a hammer, screwdriver, tin snips and pliers to pierce, cut and peel open the top.

Inside lay a miniature American flag. It had only 48 stars. In 1922, the outposts of Alaska and Hawaii needed more than 35 years to achieve statehood.

Club members wearing white, cotton gloves carefully removed fragile

yachting magazines, photographs, blueprints and brittle, folded newspapers.

Among notices of the day, one newspaper announced the original laying of the cornerstone: "Elaborate ceremonies were planned for the laying of the cornerstone of the new \$500,000 clubhouse for the Detroit Yacht Club. Governor Alex J. Groesbeck and Mayor Couzens were to speak. Commodore Garfield A. Wood is to spread the mortar with a silver trowel."

A membership roster listed Russell A. Alger, governor of Michigan from 1885-87 and father of Russell Alger Jr., whose widow deeded their lakeside Italian Renaissance villa, "The Moorings," to become the

Grosse Pointe War Memorial in the Farms.

"Members have been asked to submit ideas of what might go into the new time capsule, such as short, written, personal member accounts, photographs or artifacts," McGill said. "The next time capsule will be placed in the same location and the cornerstone will be replaced on top for the next 100 years."

Past Commodore Bill Lynch of Grosse Pointe Park raised a glass in honor of the day and crowded around to look at artifacts.

He wasn't surprised the time capsule contained nothing whimsical. All business.

"In those days, they were a lot more serious in terms of formality," Lynch said.

ASK THE EXPERTS By Kaitlin Arnold, LPC

Helping teens build coping skills

Q: Is my teen moody or depressed? What can I do to help?

A: Is your teen having trouble getting up in the morning? Failing to shower or brush their teeth? Feeling tired much of the time? More irritable or tense? Are their grades slipping? Eating or sleeping habits changing? Less interested in activities they used to enjoy? Spending more time alone?

According to the Centers for Disease Control, in 2018-19, 15.1 percent of adolescents had a major depressive episode, 36.7 percent had feelings of sadness or hopelessness and 18.8 percent seriously considered attempting suicide. These increased during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We all have bad days, but if you notice a trend, say something and be ready to listen. Share what you observed and get your teen's take. Are they feeling different? Are things harder to do? Are they feeling overwhelmed? What feelings are they experiencing toward activities they used to do easily or used to enjoy?

Suggest some coping skills and practice them with your teen. Paced breathing, visualization techniques and ground-

ing skills can be helpful. Specific exercises can be found with an internet search. Here are some links you and your teen can use to access easy coping skills from home:

- ◆ Paced breathing: youtu.be/cEqZthCaMpo
- ◆ Visualization exercise: youtube.com/watch?v=ceh94IpbD9A

Imagine a walk on the beach with this 3-minute guided meditation.

- ◆ Progressive muscle relaxation (a helpful grounding technique): youtube.com/watch?v=86HUcX8ZtAk&t=19s

This 15-minute guided, progressive muscle relaxation meditation will help you release tension, relieve anxiety, manage panic attacks or fall asleep. It is good for everyone, all ages, even kids.

Resist relieving your teen of their responsibilities (e.g., chores, going to school, participation in extracurriculars). While giving them a break may seem appropriate, it can increase isolation and lethargy. Instead, empower your teen to take responsibility while giving them support to help them feel less over-

whelmed. Try to find a time when you can do their chores together. Set the expectation that they attend school, but work with them to identify a self-care plan they can implement when they return home.

If your teen is experiencing continued depression, it is important to seek professional help. A mental health therapist can help give an accurate diagnosis, develop a treatment plan and give additional resources. Be kind to yourself during this time too. It is hard to see someone you care about going through a difficult time.

Kaitlin Arnold, LPC, is the founder and therapist at Finding Your Balance Therapy. She helps individuals and families dealing with depression, anxiety, other mental health issues and stressors from life challenges to develop positive coping skills, navigate and gain confidence in dealing with stressful situations, and improve their relationships.

The Family Center provides free programs and resources that empower families to successfully navigate life's social, emotional and physical challenges. Learn more at familycenterweb.org.

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050522



Grosse Pointe Gabby

The Pulse Of The Pointes

Friends can’t stomach my cooking

Dear Gabby: I am pretty sure that some of my friends have cooking parties without me. I think that I am invited only some of the time and other times it feels like they all ghost me on a day that I am sure they are together.

What should I do? I don’t want to alienate my friends?

— **FOMO in the Farms**

Nora Nanny: This sounds like something I would be dealing with for a

middle school-aged child. Find some new friends who make you happy not suspicious. Drama is only good for school plays and Netflix.

13 year old: Maybe your cooking technique is bad and they are looking for someone else.

Dedicated Dad: This is something that a guy wouldn’t understand, because generally men don’t care if they aren’t invited and we really don’t

even “invite” people other than a casual text here and there.

Stay off social media and give them another chance before you stir up any drama.

Gabby: Dear FOMO, feeling left out is an empty and terrible feeling.

Friendships are sometimes difficult to navigate, but is there one of these friends you feel comfortable enough to approach about it? That would be my advice.

And if not, maybe try hosting the next cooking club and see how that goes.

Sometimes a little effort goes a long way. And sometimes it doesn’t — if they act cold or make you feel bad, it’s time to find some new cooks for your kitchen.

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



Dear Ann Landers: I am a male escort working on my master’s degree at a university in Washington, D.C. I take out women (usually my mother’s age) and am well paid. There is no sex involved.

Very few friends know about my “moonlighting,” which is the way I want it. I have met some interesting, intelligent women in my work, most of them widowed or divorced. Three of these women would like to marry me.

Dear Mr. X: No. A negative response to the marriage proposals is adequate. There is no need to go into detail about your personal life. Meanwhile, don’t be ashamed of your part-

Dear Ann Landers: My husband and I divorced last summer. We have a 9-year-old son and a 6-year-old daughter. I bought a house a few miles from my ex-husband, and the children and I have been living there for the last five months.

My daughter slept with me for the first month we were in our new house, until I could afford to buy her a bed. I admit it was nice, and I didn’t mind. I like having my children close.

The problem is, it has been five months, and she still wants to sleep in my bed. I wouldn’t mind, but I am afraid it could be damaging to her in some way. I could use some advice, Ann.

-- Suzi in Houston

Dear Suzi: It is not a good idea for young children to become accustomed to sleeping with an adult parent. Put the child back in her own room, and help her go to sleep there. Divorced parents should

Classic Ann Landers

not use a child as a spouse substitute.

Dear Ann Landers: I just read the letter from the woman who asked her daughter’s friends to do charitable good deeds rather than bring gifts to the girl’s birthday party. She said she didn’t want her daughter to grow up to be materialistic like the previous generation.

Well, OK, so her daughter won’t be materialistic. Big deal. She will grow up to be a good little socialist instead. I say let the kid get presents. My generation may have been materialistic, but we aren’t nearly as screwed up as today’s touchy-feely generation.

-- Hal in Texas

Dear Hal: You’re out of

the loop. Touchy-feely is old hat. The trend is now toward the materialistic and the acquisitive. Check the online crowd, and you will see what computers have done to our society.

There are so many goodies to be had, and people want more of everything. Ralph Waldo Emerson said it best: “Things are in the saddle and ride mankind.” If Emerson came back today, he would get an eyeful.

Gem of the Day: A wonderfully consoling thought about marriage is that when you look around, you will always see someone who did worse.

ANN LANDERS
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These women simply need a decent-looking, well-dressed guy to take them to various social events at which they would feel ill at ease if not accompanied.

Marriage is out of the question. I am gay. Should I tell them? It would be easier than trying to make up reasons for my lack of interest. Yes or no, Ann? -- Mr. X in D.C.

time job.

The older women are no doubt grateful for the company. And escorting them to social events is a lot easier than cleaning office buildings at night.

Widow’s friend unsettled when mystery man appears

DEAR ABBY: A friend of mine lost her husband a couple of years ago. I didn’t think she was looking for love or companionship, but all of a sudden she has met a younger man, and I’m concerned.

I have observed several red flags, but I’m not sure if I should say something.

She owns a home in a big city and another smaller, very nice one with a view of the lake

in a resort town three hours away. This man



has posted on his main Facebook page a pic-

ture of “his” new cabin. (I don’t have any details regarding who else was there.) I looked at his Facebook pictures and saw one of his daughter, who looks to be around 13, along with several pictures of a woman I assume to be his beautiful significant other posing with

him and his daughter.

On my friend’s birthday, he showed up at her door with a huge bouquet, balloons and all. She called a mutual friend about the flowers and was all giddy. This scenario makes me suspect he’s a predator who may start asking her for money. What, if anything, should I do? -- FRIEND SEEING SIGNS

DEAR FRIEND: If it were me, I’d ask my



Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

friend how SHE enjoyed the family party at her lake house -- and whether she has seen what this new man in her life has posted about it on his Facebook. Then, I would tell her how seeing his claim that the place is “his” made you do a double-take. After that, I would simply listen.

DEAR ABBY: My mother-in-law, “Gladys,” was never a particularly good mother as her kids were growing up. We don’t get along very well. She interjects herself into every aspect of my family’s life, especially when some sort of crisis happens.

Most recently, it concerned the death of my wife’s father’s second wife. Gladys actually parked her truck in front of ours to prevent us from going over there to give him emotional support.

When she acts like this, my wife refuses to stand up to her. This woman has more

than once come between me and my family. How should I confront her and my wife about this? I feel like Gladys had her chance, but now it is my place to call the shots. Please tell me if I am being unreasonable. -- HUSBAND AND DAD IN GEORGIA

DEAR HUSBAND: I don’t think you are being unreasonable. I do think you need to have a serious, private conversation with your wife. You both need to learn how to set firm boundaries for her mother. If you need help doing that, consult a marriage counselor.

A marriage in which one spouse feels sidelined is headed for trouble.

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.



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A Mother's Day tribute

For this week's recipe, Mombeau has the week off, a well-deserved break celebrating Mother's Day!

This is Mr. Mombeau, doing his best to fill in. To all the mothers out there, have a wonderful day - hand this column to your other half and take a break!

Since we've been married Mombeau has always been passionate about cooking. On one of our first dates she made me the most incredible roast salmon. I knew it was love when I popped into the kitchen to see how it was going and she was scraping a piece of salmon off the floor back onto a plate... she was about to serve herself this piece - that selflessness sealed the deal for me.

After almost 18 years of marriage, five kids, four houses across two states and she still gives the best servings to others.

Watching Mombeau cook and seeing how much she loves to make meals for family and

friends has inspired me to cook more. Over the years I've branched out from handling hot breakfasts on the weekend, breakfast for supper, or cooking frozen pizzas when she is away.

Today we're making something easy - grilled rib eye steaks, roasted vegetables and my favorite - chimichurri sauce. When I cook my goal is efficiency and little cleanup.

Cook the steaks on the grill, roast the vegetables in the oven and make the chimichurri sauce a few hours in advance if you'd like.

Buy your favorite cut of beef - we are partial to New York Strips or Ribeyes, since they tend to have more of that great marbling of fat that adds so much flavor.

You want your steaks at room temp before you grill them. Take them out of the fridge and packaging, apply liberal amounts of kosher salt and fresh ground pepper. Massage that all over the

steaks (don't forget the sides) as they come to room temp. For medium rare you want an internal temp of about 140F.

Fire up the grill - turn it to medium/high for the next 4 -5 minutes. Grill 4-6 minutes on high heat per side, depending on your thickness.

If you don't have a meat thermometer (get one, they make it so easy), you can use the thumb pad on your palm - press your other thumb into your palm and the closer you get to the base of your wrist, the harder the flesh is.

The area closer to your thumb is in the rare to medium realm and it becomes more well-done as you move to the base of your wrist. So press your finger into your steak after about 5 minutes on each side for a rough approximation - take your steak off the grill and let it rest on a cutting board for 15ish minutes before slicing.

- Chimichurri Sauce**
- 1 tsp red pepper flakes
 - 3-4 garlic cloves, finely chopped
 - ½ cup red wine vinegar
 - 1 tsp. kosher salt, plus more
 - 1 bunch finely chopped cilantro
 - 1 bunch finely chopped flat-leaf parsley
 - ¾ cup extra-virgin olive oil

Combine red pepper flakes, garlic, vinegar, and 1 tsp. salt in a medium bowl. Let sit for 10 minutes to mellow the red pepper flakes and garlic. Stir in cilantro and parsley. Using a fork, whisk in oil. If it tastes too bitter, drizzle in some honey to balance out the vinegar. Once you get this sauce down - it's great on everything! Use it as a marinade for beef or chicken- add to white rice with vegetables... I love it! For the vegetables- use



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAREN FERGUSON

whatever you have. I like to look through the fridge and see what's ready to be used. In this case I used carrots, onions, green onions and brussel sprouts.

Make sure you cut the vegetables into similar sized pieces so they cook evenly (if you're using green onions, just trim up and leave whole). Line a sheet pan with parchment paper and then mix the vegetables around in some olive oil, salt and

pepper. Roast at 350F for about 20 minutes or until tender with a fork. Halfway through roasting, take the vegetables out and stir them around.

I like to serve this all on one platter- slices of steak down the middle, vegetables on each side and the chimichurri sauce spooned over the steak.

I hope you enjoy this meal and don't worry- Mombeau will be back next week, cheers!



Wine list dilemmas

One of the headaches of modern life, especially post-pandemic, comes while dining out and searching for a decent bottle of wine.

We study the wine list, trying to find something we can afford. Half the items are only vaguely familiar and the rest are priced beyond our budgets.

You are not alone. Most Americans aren't equipped to deal with today's complex wine lists, especially those computer-generated spreadsheets that contain words or wine regions we can't pronounce or understand. And prices that make no sense.

Back when wine lists had only "house red" and "house white" (for \$2 a glass), wine ordering wasn't as challenging. Most of the offerings were modest, simple, safe and were OK to sip while waiting for the Thousand Island dress-

ing to be glooped on the iceberg lettuce.

Today, even modest



cafes carry wines with brand names that sound familiar but probably aren't. And today, by-the-glass wines are \$10 to \$13 a glass. And for that we're probably getting something that cost the restaurant \$7 for the whole bottle.

Ordering wine off wine lists can be maddeningly frustrating. In the past, we could rely on popular brand names. However, even though names as exalted as Mondavi, Beaulieu and Beringer still offer some exceptional wines, they also have some wines that sound exalted but aren't.

In most cases, the fault here lies not with the winery, but with restaurants aiming to make a lot of money on their wine program. Many restaurant owners figure that the less diners know the better. Putting a recognizable domestic wine brand on the list at a price that's far too high is an old and nasty trick.

Not-very-sophisticated diners who tend to be impressed by such tactics are the industry's lawful prey.

Imports are no guarantee of a better wine either. A few years ago, a quality pinot grigio came in from Italy's cool, prestigious Alto Adige region. It was excellent. But as the brand grew in popularity, the winery had to make a lot more of it, and it was too expensive to keep making it from the Alto Adige area.

So, the brand name stayed the same, but the district on the label (in smaller print) said the wine was from the larger, not-quite-as-good region called Valdadige. Yet today the wine sells in most restaurants for as much as \$65 a bottle!

Generally, the best white wine value on most wine lists these days is

sauvignon blanc, whether from California or New Zealand. And occasionally you'll see a sauvignon blanc from South Africa or Chile that offers great value.

When the white wine list doesn't offer much, a nice alternative is California sparkling wine.

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

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Border Patrol

Walleye fishing Detroit and Canada

By Brian Owen
Special Writer

The Cow Pasture, The Dumping Grounds, Peche Island, The Pavillion, The Lighthouse, Belle Isle, The Post Office, etc. The list of spring walleye spots in Detroit and Canada goes on and on as you head downriver and so does the line of boats.

The Detroit River is now full of spawning walleye completely oblivious to the invisible border above.

People from all over the Midwest and Ontario come to The Detroit River in hopes of limiting out on its delicious occupants before they make their run to the lake. Ryan Paulsen, Troy Paulsen, Tim Paulsen and Rick H. stayed at an AirBnb on Fox Creek over the weekend, got their limit early Friday and enjoyed a fish fry along the creek. Their biggest walleye was 23.5 inches. Fifteen inches is a legal keeper and 29 inches will get you a trophy patch. (Their biggest fish was a 15 pound carp.)

Matt Allemon of St. Clair Shores was fishing the U.S. side of the river late Friday afternoon before the rains came through. It was a tough bite at The Pavillion but he got his limit Saturday at an undisclosed location. I asked him what we should all know about walleye fishing and his answer wasn't surprising. He reminded me of the importance of boater safety and knowing the rules and regulations. "The river can be dangerous. There is a strong current and there are a lot of boats sometimes. The freighters cruise by and kick up some big waves." As he jigged one of his home made jig heads that he also packages and sells, the 647-foot Arthur



rent and there are a lot of boats sometimes. The freighters cruise by and kick up some big waves." As he jigged one of his home made jig heads that he also packages and sells, the 647-foot Arthur

M. Anderson and 740-foot Erie Trader freighters passed by each other in the distance as a timely reminder. Allemon also shared some of his favorite colors and presentations. "The Dirty Larry, Blue Ice, and Green Bass are some good colors for minnows. Smoke and dark colored paddle tails and Wyandotte Worms are working good with anti-freeze, green and blue sparkle colored jigs."

Captain Steve Van Asshe and a few of his groups who chartered his services out of Fox Creek focused on the Canadian side this weekend, fishing the mud line near the Cow Pasture. Each



group got their limits but in different amounts of



PHOTOS BY BRIAN OWEN

times, the fastest being just under three hours for 30 walleye.

Steve has been offering charter fishing trips on the



Detroit River for over 15 seasons and his clients keep coming back. Steve is double booked for the next two weeks with a good majority of repeat customers but

wasn't too busy to share a few tips.

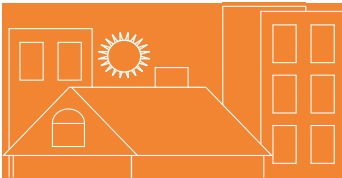
For the last week Steve hasn't even bothered stopping for minnows. A black

4" worm on a 1.5 oz chartreuse jig head has done the trick for him. That's it. That's the tip that filled the box for this group of friends from the west side of the state. The best part was they took home bags full of walleye filets, skinned, trimmed and deboned. That's right. No mess, no fuss. They stood by and watched Captain Steve run an electric blade up and down dozens of fish

in a matter of minutes, most likely thinking about dredging them in some batter and dropping them in some oil. What a way to start the season.

After much research, it was finally my turn to get out on the water and put to rest once and for all which side of the border the walleye prefer. I spooled some new braided line on each of my spinning reels, tied on some fluorocarbon leaders (you never want to catch a snag directly with braided line) and with perfect polymer knots secured my chartreuse jig head tipped with a black worm. Unfortunately, my article was due before I could get out on the water. Darn deadlines!

Be safe out there and stay in the strike zone!



EVENTS

Things to do in and around Grosse Pointe this week

THURSDAY, MAY 5

- » **Ben Sharkey**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,
6-8 p.m.
97 Kercheval.
- » **Mayor's Prayer Breakfast**
1018 Sunningdale Dr,
7:30-9 a.m.
- » **Monica, Tank and Jeremih**
Fox Theatre, 8 p.m.
2211 Woodward Ave.
- » **Rodney Whitaker Quartet**
Cliff Bell's,
7:30-11:30 p.m.
2030 Park Ave.
- » **The Tenors: Best Of Our Lives**
The Colosseum at Caesars Windsor, 8 p.m.
377 Riverside Drive East.

FRIDAY, MAY 6

- » **Herb Society of America Grosse Pointe Unit, Herb Plant Sale**
Cook School House, Grosse Pointe Wood Community Center,
9 a.m.-3 p.m.
20025 Mack.
- » **Jeff Tyzik**
Orchestra Hall, 10:45 a.m.
3711 Woodward Avenue.
- » **Jesse McCartney - The New Stage 2022 Tour**
The Fillmore Detroit, 7 p.m.
2115 Woodward Ave.
- » **Kevin Jones at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,
97 Kercheval.
- » **Kings of Soul**
DSO, 10:45 a.m.-5 p.m.
3711 Woodward Ave.
- » **Mother's Day Celebration**
Fox Theatre, 8 p.m.
2211 Woodward Ave.

» **Rodney Whitaker Quartet**

Cliff Bell's,
7:30-11:30 p.m.
2030 Park Ave.

SATURDAY, MAY 7

- » **Books on the Lake - Sponsored by GPPL**
788 Lake Shore Rd,
12-3 p.m.
- » **Derby For Kids with The Children's Foundation**
220 Country Club Dr,
4-8 p.m.
- » **Grosse Pointe Theatre's Take Ten - Ten-Minute Play Festival**
Christ Church Grosse Pointe,
2-4:15 p.m.
61 Grosse Pointe Blvd.
- » **Herb Society of America Grosse Pointe Unit, Herb Plant Sale**
Cook School House, Grosse Pointe Wood Community Center,
9 a.m.-3 p.m.
20025 Mack.
- » **Jeff Tyzik**
Orchestra Hall, 8 p.m.
3711 Woodward Avenue.
- » **Kevin Jones**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,
6-8 p.m.
97 Kercheval.

- » **Kings of Soul**
Detroit Symphony Orchestra,
10:45 a.m.-5 p.m.
3711 Woodward Ave.
- » **Rodney Whitaker Quartet**
Cliff Bell's,
7:30-11:30 p.m.
2030 Park Ave.
- » **Stars On Ice**
Little Caesars Arena, 7:30 p.m.
2645 Woodward.

SUNDAY, MAY 8

- » **Alex Harding & Organ Nation**
Cliff Bell's,
7:30-11 p.m.
2030 Park Ave.
- » **An American in Paris (Touring)**
Fox Theatre, 3 p.m.
2211 Woodward Ave.
- » **Jeff Tyzik**
Orchestra Hall, 3 p.m.
3711 Woodward Avenue.
- » **Kings of Soul**
Detroit Symphony Orchestra,
10:45 a.m.-5 p.m.
3711 Woodward Ave.

MONDAY, MAY 9

- » **Bean in a Bag To Go Kit**
Ewald Branch,
9-11 a.m.
grossepointelibrary.org
- » **Bean in a Bag To Go Kit**
Central Library, 9-11 a.m.
- » **Writing Group**
Central Library, 4-5:15 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 10

- » **GP Badminton Association**
Parcells Middle School,
6:30-8 p.m.
20600 Mack Ave.
- » **Read, Rhyme & Play on Zoom**
Offsite, 10:30-11 a.m.
grossepointelibrary.org
- » **Tuesday Night Book Discussion**
Offsite, 7-8 p.m.
grossepointelibrary.org

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

- » **Alexander Zonjic**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 6 pm.
97 Kercheval.
- » **Author Event with Andrey Kurkov**
Offsite, 7-9 p.m.



Mothers have pencils and scissors and strings

And know how to fix almost any old thing,

Make costumes for Halloween, dress-up and plays,

They're full of ideas, original ways.

Mothers have band-aids and scotch tape and glue

And calamine lotion and shoelaces, too;

Their natural talents equip them to make

Hot chocolate, popcorn and angel food cake.

Mothers have patches and needles and thread

And know how to tuck you the best into bed;

They're backscratchers, back-ups and ports-in-a-storm

And great to come home to, to eat and get warm.

Mothers are most often willing to lend

And somehow, can always find room for a friend.

They're fine-fingered, neat-handed, sure-footed, too;

They're fiercely protective, supportive of you.

Mothers get angry and, sometimes, they cry

(They're human as we!) but they always stand by.

Mothers have powers to caution them when

To reach out and hug you then let go again;

Mothers are marvelous messengers of

All that is comforting, caring and love.

They're fenders of iron but gentle of touch!

Where else in a word can a kid find so much?

Joan LeGro Bushnell

Joan LeGro Bushnell is a freelance writer and composer who has been performing since age 5. A vocalist, actress and radio talk show hostess, the Grosse Pointe Farms resident has long been active with Detroit theater groups, the Fine Arts Society and the Theatre Arts Club. Her published credits include several plays and a book about theater, as well as a pair of cookbooks.

Check out the online calendar on our website for more details & registration links

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



I am not a big fan of electronics and screen time for kids in general. But one time I don't bat an eye about it is during an air travel situation.

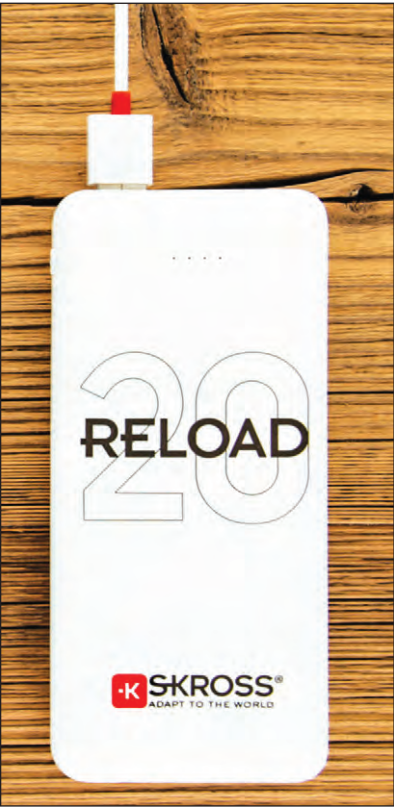
Not long ago I found myself with a travel fiasco that left me with a six-hour layover in Philadelphia alone with my four children.

There's only so much S'barro and walking the halls one family can endure, and the kids didn't appreciate me sitting in the lounge with a sauvignon blanc for more than half an hour.

After a while I just threw in the towel and let them watch movies or YouTube — or whatever it takes to keep them from annoying me and other travelers.

That said, there never seems to be a working plug when you need it —

and those games and movies drain phones and iPads before you



can even get through one chapter of your beach read. Feeling des-

perate, I power-walked into the InMotion airport electronics store.

Fully expecting to get ripped off by the somewhat sleazy salesman, I agreed to pay \$60 for a "brick" they claimed could charge more than six devices on a single charge — and it came fully charged. That was it — sold! — I HAD to try it.

The "brick" they referred to is actually the Skross(R) Reload 20. You can plug in two devices at a time and the thing is lightning fast. I mean, my phone was just about dead and within minutes I had a 30 percent charge. My daughter's iPad took slightly longer, but not by much. After that we rotated and got everyone's devices situated. I have to say I was very surprised and

am still impressed to this day. It's great to bring along in your purse or car for a long day at a sports game, a travel day, a work trip, really anywhere. It's only about two inches wide by about five inches tall, so it's not difficult to travel with. When it comes time to recharge the Reload, just plug it in overnight — a full charge takes between six and eight hours.

I never leave home without it and have helped out desperate parents, panicking businesspeople on a Zoom call with 2 percent battery and more. It really is a great tool to have in your toolkit. I have not been able to find the Skross(r) Reload 20 anywhere other than the InMotion store in the airport. And do not be fooled — they are not all the same. If you do have to purchase a different brand or type, make sure it's at least 20,000



mAh. Otherwise you will be sorely disappointed, not to mention stuck with a dead battery.

I have to give this five alligators. It's well worth the price and performs above expectations.

We LOVE testing out new things! Tell us

about your favorite item or something you want us to try for you! Drop us a line at media@grossepointenews.com.



5 Out Of 5

Movie Junkie Mark by Mark Domin

MOVIE REVIEW
"All for One"
2017 - TV-14
1 hr 47min

I don't watch a ton of documentaries, but every once in a while I see one worth reviewing. This is one of them. It's all about competitive cycling, however you don't need to be a biking enthusiast to enjoy this entertaining film.



I've participated in a couple of bike races, just for the fun of it. I use the term "fun" loosely. Both the "Tour de Troit" and the "Baroudeur" were local events that were grueling experiences for me. And they were only 25 miles long.

I have nothing but respect and awe for the cyclists on the world tour.

The story begins in

2010, when Gerry Ryan, an Australian businessman noticed there wasn't a single Australian flag on any team car at the Tour de France.

He decided to assemble a crew of riders from his home country. Thus, GreenEDGE, Australia's first professional cycling team was born. However, as tempting as it was to go out and hire famous cyclists, he and his col-



that not only showed the team in action, but the crew goofing around in their spare time.

Backstage Pass became hugely popular and helped them gain a worldwide audience of adoring fans. You can tell by watching the videos included in the movie that these were a special bunch of guys. Regular folks that would be a blast to hang out with.

One of the inspiring stories the movie focuses on is the special relationship that evolved between roommates Esteban Chavez and Matthew Hayman.

Chavez was an up and coming cycling superstar from Columbia. He was involved in a catastrophic accident that nearly destroyed his life.

He reflected on the fact that after the accident, nine out of the ten doctors who examined him concluded that he might never walk again or lead a normal life. However, he had faith in the one doctor and without giving away too much of the story, miraculously

fought back and returned to the world of cycling.

His roommate, Matthew Hayman, was an older veteran of the cycling world. Shortly before one of the shorter, but no less punishing races on the tour, he too was involved a horrible accident and broke his arm. Competing in the race was considered pretty much out of the question.

Hayman's raw determination and guts made him spend extra time training to help him attain the seemingly impossible feat of racing.

You'll have to see this excellent film to find out how he fared. But beyond this couple's achievements, is the close bond that developed between them. Hayman ended up becoming sort of a second father to the young Esteban Chavez.

All for One is pure entertainment from beginning to end. It features some remarkable cycling footage, especially the shots from helmet cams. You really get a sense of what it's like travelling at high speed through rough terrain. I was especially surprised to see one section of a race that traversed ancient cobblestones. I can't imagine how difficult that must be to ride over at a leisurely pace, let alone at racing speeds.

Watching this movie made me want to get my bike out of the



garage and head out for a spin!

Note to parents: The film is rated TV-14. About the only thing some may find offensive is a liberal sprinkling of F-bombs and some other minor cursing. Nothing your kids haven't heard before.

Currently streaming for free on IMDB TV, Tubi, 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:

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

They include both mainstream and indie films streaming on services like Netflix, Hoopla, and Kanopy. I'll also review noteworthy new theatrical releases as well.

For movie trailers, visit youtube.com. If you have any suggestions, feel free to email me at: dominmark@yahoo.com. Also, if you're looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: moviejunkie.mark.blogspot.com.



6C | LIFE & ENTERTAINMENT

Spring Fest in the Woods

Grosse Pointe Woods hosted Spring Fest on Saturday, April 30, which included games for kids, a dance party, food trucks, superheroes and more.



Elsie Kettel and Jubilee Wojtowicz play checkers on the grass. PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Nora Brumbaugh poses for a fun photo with Wonder Woman, Spider Man and Captain America.



Sam Wakefield, a student with Zanchin Karate, plays a game with Alex Girodat, who kicks the pad when instructed.



Spiderman asked Theo Chapman if he brought his web-making abilities to the event and when Chapman said yes, Spiderman replied, "On the count of three, let's jump as high as we can and shoot out webs." Mission accomplished.

CORRECTION:

In last week's edition of the Grosse Pointe News, you may have noticed your answers for the April 28th, 2022 crossword puzzle were not fitting into the corresponding numbered boxes which was due to a mishap on our part of not updating the correct box. We are printing what should have been published last week below, with the correct answers on page 7. We apologize for the mistake and inconvenience.

4/28 Puzzle Pieces by Ryan Patrick Smith

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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56						57	58					59		
60						61						62		
63						64						65		

Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

MOON ALERT: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Cancer.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Thursday, May 5, 2022: You are a caring, compassionate person. You are outgoing, friendly and opinionated. However, you are also a good listener.

WELCOME OPPORTUNITIES that will come to you this year to be reflective and allow you to ponder your spiritual values. This is a year of learning and also of teaching.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Be careful today, because you will be tempted to do impulse shopping and spontaneously spend money. "I want that!" This might be a good thing, or it might not be. Save your receipts and the box. Something unexpected could impact your income. Again, it might be positive -- or not. Today is a crashshoot. Tonight: Chatty conversations!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Today the Sun in your sign is lined up with wild, wacky Uranus, which makes you feel impulsive and given to rash actions. Therefore, think twice before you act or speak. If you don't, you might say or do something that you later regret. On the upside, you're ready for anything! Tonight: Moneymaking ideas.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You will feel restless today. You have the feeling that you're waiting for the other shoe to drop. In fact, something unexpected might occur that takes place behind the scenes -- something you least thought could happen. Stay grounded so you're ready for anything. Tonight: You have something to say.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) A friend might do something that surprises you today. Or possibly your interaction with a group will amaze you or go off in a new direction. Someone might take a stand that you disagree with. The thing is, anything can happen today when dealing with friends and groups, so be ready and expect a few surprises. Tonight: Research.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Today you feel strongly independent and won't take kindly to being bossed around or told what to do. This could make your relations with bosses, parents or supervisors a bit touchy. Meanwhile, someone in authority might do something that surprises you. ("Busted!") Tonight: Socialize.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Sudden travel opportunities might fall in your lap today. Or conversely, planned travel might be changed or canceled. This same unpredictable quality could affect education, something to do with medicine and the law, or issues related to publishing and the media. "It's a crashshoot!" Tonight: Talk to the boss.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Something unexpected might impact the assets that you share with others, or something to do with shared property, inheritances, taxes or debt. Double-check everything and make no assumptions. Anything can happen. It could be a boon or a windfall -- or the opposite. Tonight: Study and learn.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) In all likelihood, a friend, partner or spouse will do something that surprises you today. They might throw you a curveball. Perhaps they will suggest more freedom in the relationship. Or they might introduce you to someone who is different or unusual in some way. Tonight: Check your finances.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Be careful, because work-related accidents can take place today. However, you also might see ways to introduce reforms to where you work. Meanwhile, your work routine could be interrupted by staff shortages, power outages, technical problems, machinery breakdowns or something unexpected. Tonight: An important conversation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Parents, please take note: This is an accident-prone day for your kids. Be vigilant and aware. Meanwhile, social activities will suddenly change. You might receive a surprise invitation, or social plans might be canceled. Something unusual could impact a romantic relationship. Tonight: Work.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Your home routine will be interrupted today. Small appliances might break down or a minor breakage could occur. Someone unexpected might knock on the door. Get dressed so you are ready for anything. And charge your phone. Tonight: Playful ideas.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Be mindful of everything you say and do today, because this is an accident-prone day for your sign. Definitely. Be careful driving, jogging, cycling or walking. On the upside, you might suddenly have a genius-like idea. Nevertheless, your daily routine will change. Expect the unexpected. Tonight: Home repairs.

BORN TODAY Singer-songwriter Adele (1988), actor Vincent Paul Kartheise (1979), actor Henry Cavill (1983).

Contract Bridge

FAMOUS HAND

East dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 8 5
♥ 10 7 4 2
♦ A 9 6 3
♣ K 5 4

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

EAST
♠ A K
♥ K J 9 8 6
♦ 10 2
♣ J 9 6 3

SOUTH
♠ Q J 7 6 3
♥ A Q 5
♦ K J 7
♣ A Q

The bidding:
East 1♥ South Dble West Pass North 2♦
Pass 2 NT Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — two of clubs.

In my opinion, this is one of the most remarkable deals ever played. The declarer was Helen Sobel, considered by many to be the greatest woman player of all time. She won the club lead in her hand with the ace and then proceeded to deduce that East had been dealt the doubleton A-K of spades! Accordingly, she led a low spade from her hand at trick two and eventually finished with 11 tricks. The question is how Sobel could tell at trick one that East's A-K of spades could be driven out without wasting her high spades or using up valuable entries to dummy for spade leads toward the Q-J.

When the logic of her low spade play at trick two is examined, it is found to be eminently sound. Since only 14 high-card points were missing, East had to have the A-K of spades and king of hearts for his opening bid. Next, it was also reasonable to suppose that West did not have two hearts, or he surely would have led his partner's suit in preference to his own, which was at best 10-x-x-x. Therefore, West had either a singleton heart or a void!

But West could not be void. If he were, he would have a five-card suit, in which case he presumably would have led that suit in preference to a four-card suit (as indicated by West's deuce lead). Hence, West had precisely one heart. The inevitable consequence of this conclusion was that West's distribution was 4-4-4-1.

Since West was thus marked with four spades, it followed that East had exactly two, and that they were the doubleton A-K! To cross to dummy with a club or a diamond — which would either cost a trick or use up dummy's last entry — was therefore pointless. So Sobel led a low spade at trick two and wound up making more tricks on the deal than anyone else.

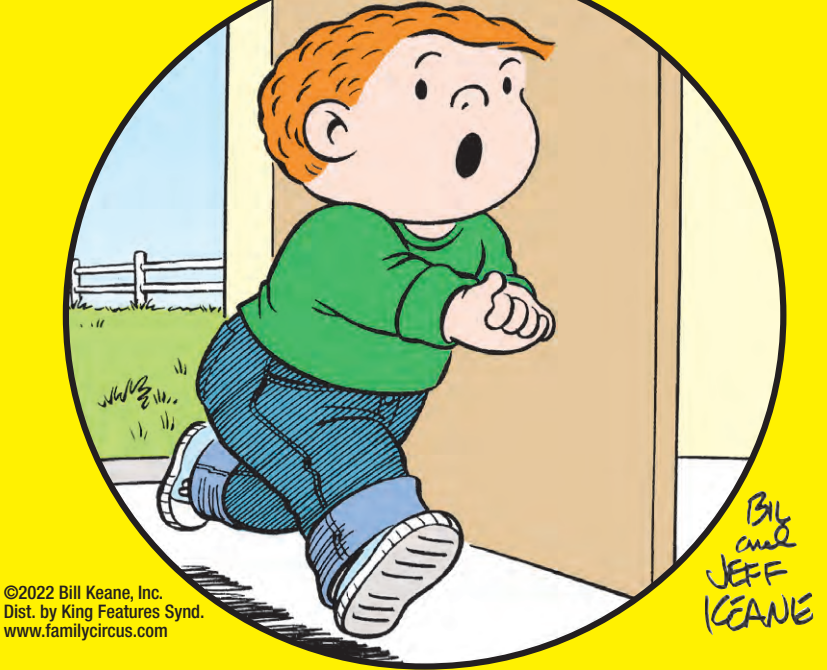
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by Steve Becker

Puzzles and

Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane

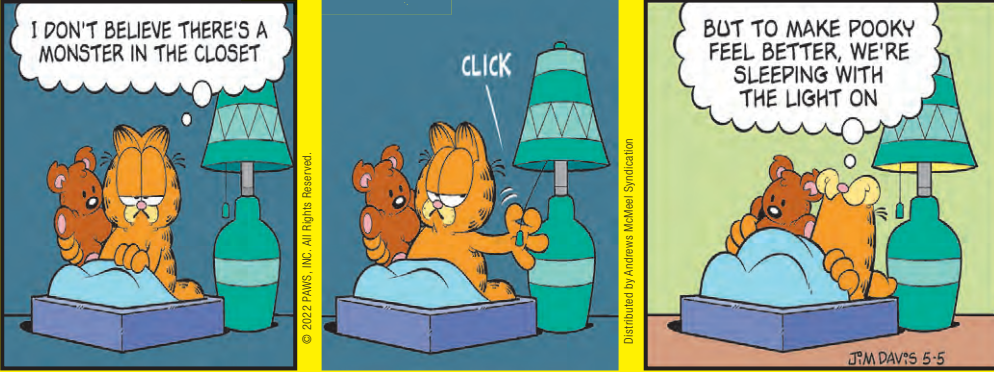


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"I need a jar quick, Mommy!
This guy tickles!"

Garfield

Jim Davis



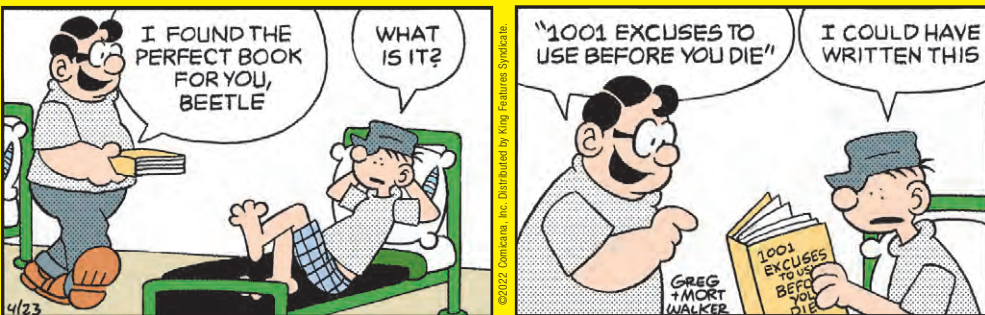
Dilbert

Scott Adams



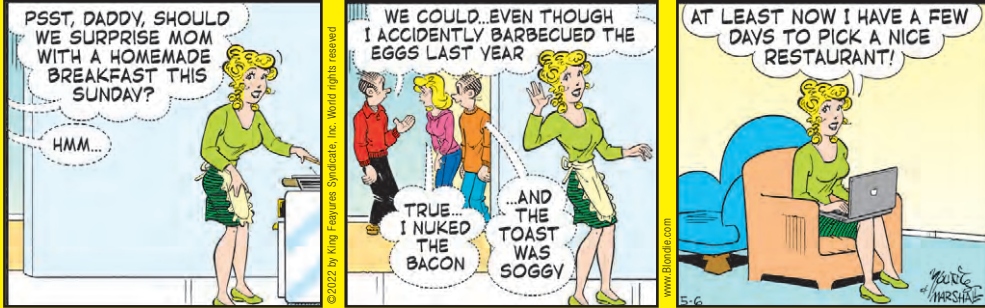
Beetle Bailey

Greg and Mort Walker



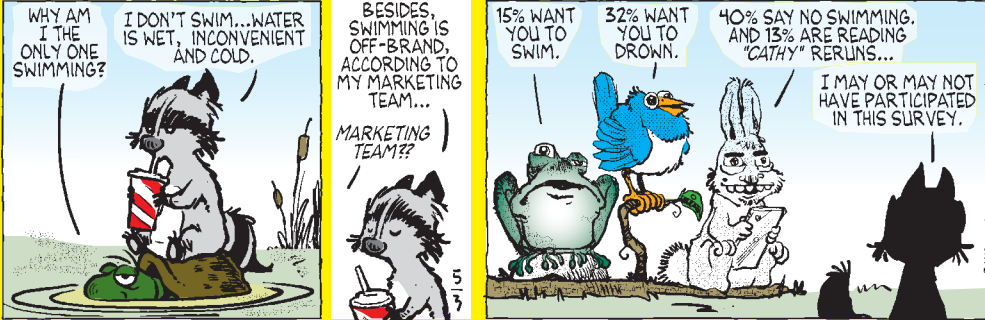
Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



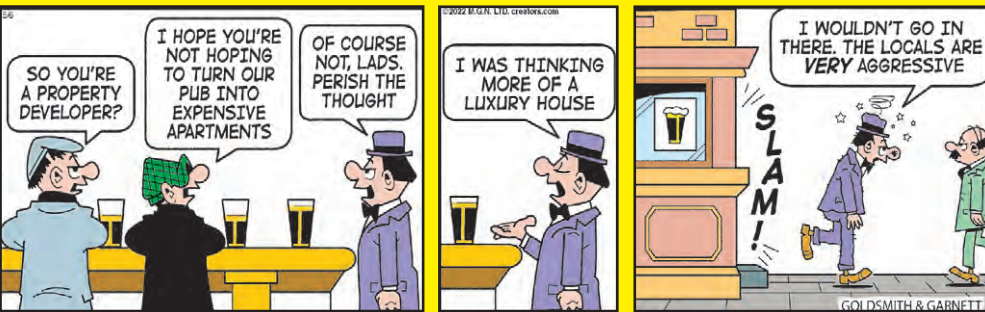
Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



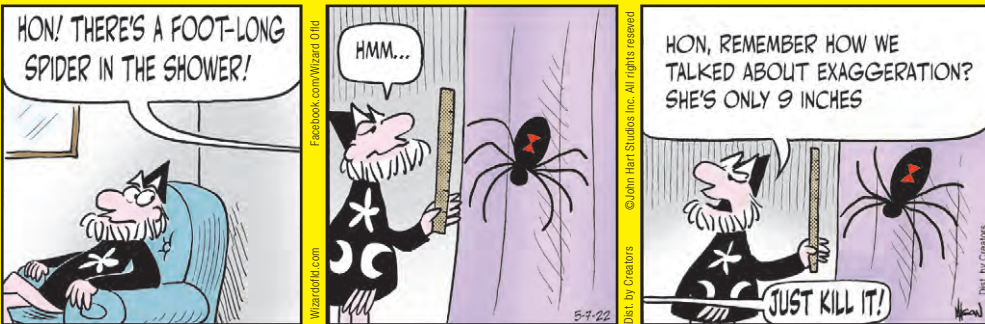
Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



Wizard of Id

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



Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



Ziggy

Tom Wilson

Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

5/5

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg May 5, 2022

ACROSS

- 1 Toot your own horn
- 5 Waffle brand
- 9 Sound of a perfect basketball shot
- 14 Put to sleep, perhaps
- 15 Queen consort of Jordan
- 16 Japanese bread crumbs
- 17 "You kids hush now!"
- 19 Muppet with a rubber duckie
- 20 Gambler's wager
- 21 Genome molecule
- 22 Game of checkers?
- 23 Back talk
- 25 Ingredient in fries, informally
- 27 "Dropped" drug
- 30 "Flying saucer's purpose
- 34 Artist Yoko
- 35 Christmas lights might hang from one
- 36 "Mad Men" hat
- 37 Gear teeth
- 39 Psychic power, briefly
- 41 Knighted fellows
- 42 Impede
- 45 Part of B.A.
- 48 Army bed
- 49 "When college students may hit the beach

- 51 Triage ctrs.
- 52 En pointe, in ballet
- 53 "Judge" of taste
- 55 It floats up the flue
- 57 He/him/
- 59 Big name in cubism?
- 63 Alumnae, e.g.
- 64 "Complete 180 (Note: The title hints at what can follow both words of each starred clue's answer)
- 66 Declares
- 67 Diagram type with circles
- 68 Cut loose
- 69 Unlike this clue, which is far too wordy and could have simply been just "curly"
- 70 CEO, CFO, COO or CTO
- 71 "I've better"

DOWN

- 1 Jul. 4 cookouts
- 2 Defeat soundly
- 3 Big song at the Met
- 4 Some speak fluent
- 5 Finish
- 6 "Talked your way out of that!"
- 7 Oscar night dress
- 8 Lavishly decorated

- 9 Titular org. in a 2015 Bond film
- 10 "Extreme Sour" candies
- 11 What only you can hear
- 12 Goes down a snowy hill, say
- 13 Tools to break up soil
- 18 Taunt
- 24 The aptly named business
- 26 DOJ division
- 27 Bodies of water that sound secure
- 28 Be nosy
- 29 One who makes a boxer look smart?
- 31 Labor activist Chavez
- 32 Editor's catch
- 33 Isn't just a fad

- 38 Bad eggs or rotten eggs
- 40 "To continue in English,"
- 43 Like a strong feeling
- 44 "The GOAT" hides it
- 46 "The Joy Luck Club" author Amy
- 47 Hybrid activewear garment
- 50 "Act nice!"
- 54 Polishes
- 55 Sultan of (Babe Ruth nickname)
- 56 "You're in my way!"
- 58 Goat with curved horns
- 60 Naked
- 61 Slushy treat
- 62 Avid
- 65 Tar Heels' sch.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

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www.upuzzles.com

5/5

Ahead of Time by Trent H. Evans

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
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63						64			65					
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69						70				71				



Comics

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz

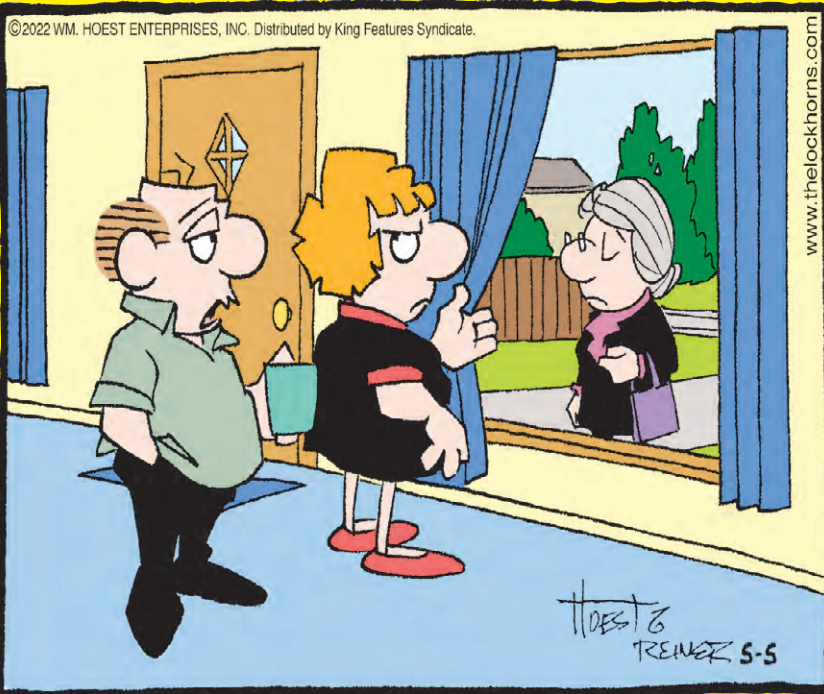
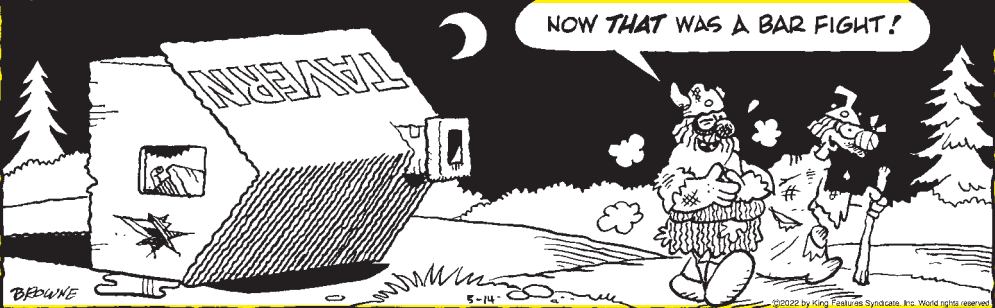


Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne

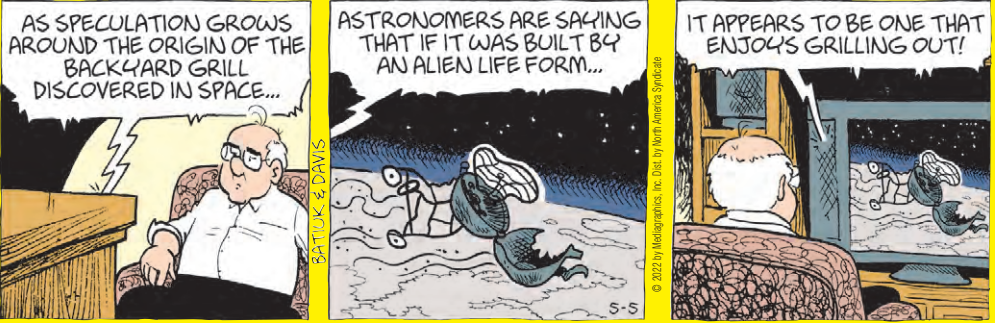
The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



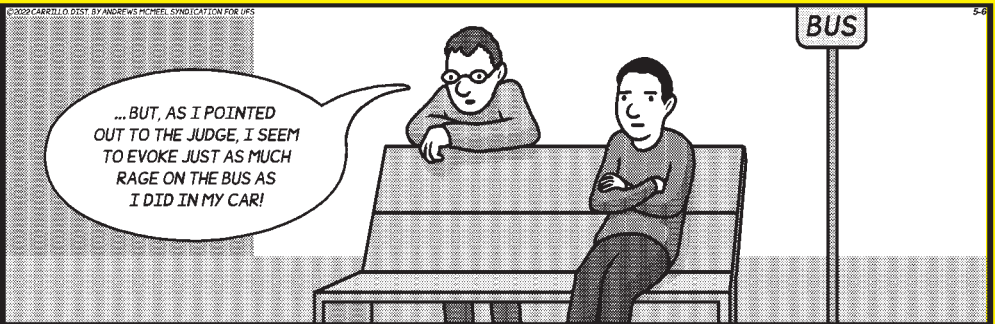
Crock

Created by Bill Rechlin 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

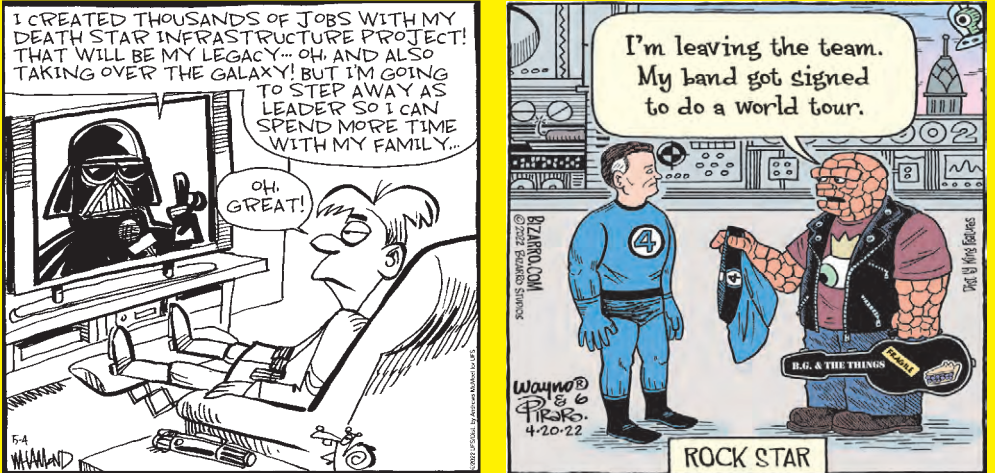


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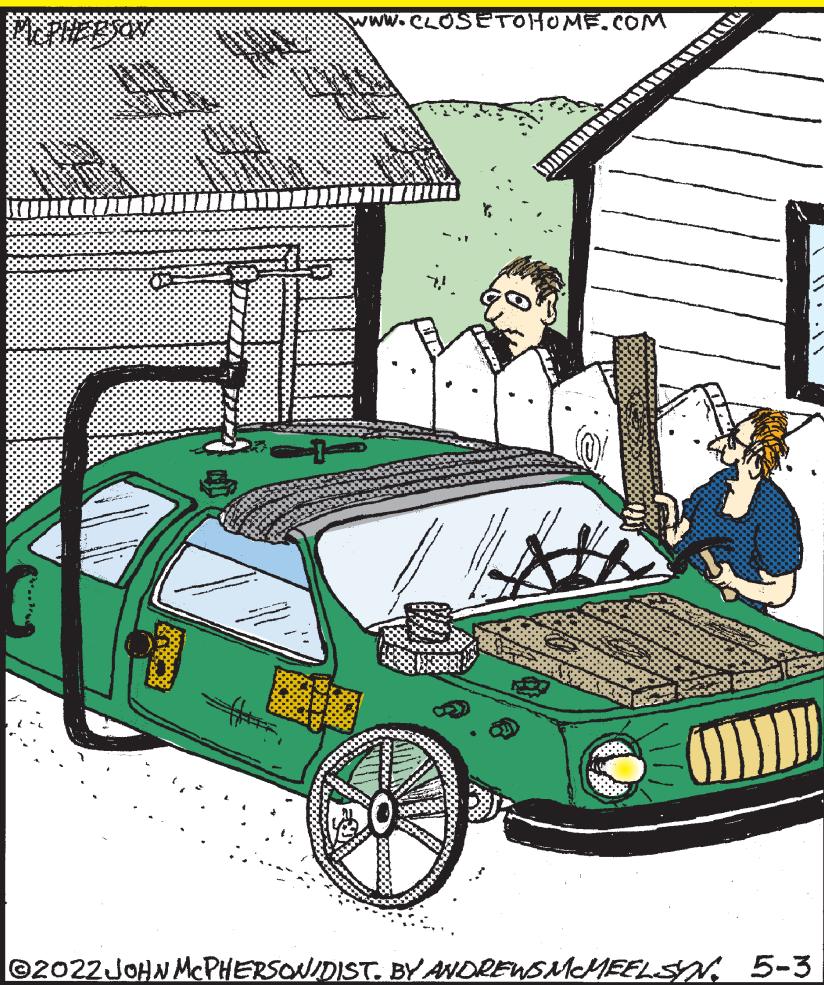
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Baseball teams scoop up league wins

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

By Meg Leonard
Associate Editor

The Pointes varsity baseball teams packed in a busy week of work, picking up important league and non-league wins. The following is a round up of last week’s action on the diamond:

Grosse Pointe South
The Blue Devils used hot bats and stellar pitching to carve out key league victories last week in a three-game sweep against Sterling Heights Stevenson, then capped things off at Comerica Park with an 8-6 victory over Allen Park last Saturday.

“No matter how many times we have been (to Comerica), it’s always special,” South head coach Dan Griesbaum said. “It’s not about winning, it’s about making it something special for our guys.”

“But to win on top of it makes it extra special.”
The week began with a great pitching performance by Junior Chase Mazey, as South beat Stevenson 2-0 on April

27, then followed up with two more wins against their MAC Red foe – a 6-1 victory and a whopping 14-6 win to close the series. Senior Robbie Leonard commanded the mound in Game 2 of the series, while sophomore Hunter Belanger, junior Joey McEvoy and senior River Kraus pounded the ball for multiple hits in Game 3.

South’s performances at the plate moved the needle on the team’s season batting average from .230 to .295. The Blue Devils have won eight out their last nine games and are 12-7 on the season.

This week, they face Romeo in a three-game league series before hosting the Grosse Pointe Invitational, where they will face Detroit Western, L’anse Creuse and Stevenson this weekend.

University Liggett
The Knights competed in two Catholic League doubleheaders last week, one on the road and one at home. As the team continues to adjust to playing in the league’s highest division this season, Liggett is beginning to look comfortable in



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN GRIESBAUM JR.

South head coach Dan Griesbaum Sr. (left), his assistant coach and son, Dan Griesbaum Jr. and members of South’s varsity baseball team take in the big league atmosphere at Comerica Park last Saturday before the Blue Devils take on Allen Park.

that position as they took three of four games.

In a road doubleheader against Detroit Catholic Central Thursday, Liggett went down early in both games, but came back each time on its way to a sweep with victories of 9-1 and 6-3.

The Knights fell behind 1-0 in the first inning of

the opening game on Thursday and failed to get a whole lot going offensively until the fourth. Liggett managed to tie the game at one in the fourth inning when Preston Barr drew a walk with the bases loaded.

Three more runs would come in for the Knights in that same inning,

including two that came when either a batter walked or was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded. However, it was enough to get the offense rolling for Liggett, who scratched across three more runs in the fifth and two in the seventh to capture a 9-1 win in Game 1. Kurt Barr got the victory on the mound, pitching all seven innings and allowing one run off of four hits.

The fourth inning was a major turning point for the Knights in Game 2 against Catholic Central. After going down 2-0 in the third, Preston Barr once again sparked the Knights’ comeback with an RBI double. A single by Reggie Sharpe brought Barr into score shortly in what was the beginning of a five-run inning for Liggett.

The Knights did not look back from there and won 6-3. Liggett got another complete game performance on the mound, this time from Jack Jones. Jones tossed all seven innings and had just one earned run count against him on four hits.

Liggett hosted Brother Rice for two games on

Saturday. This time, the Knights split the games, taking a win in Game 1 and a loss in Game 2.

Joey Randazzo led Liggett’s offense in the first game, a 5-1 win for the Knights. The junior had two RBI while Jones, Oliver Service and Matthew Greene each brought in runs. Preston Barr got the win on the bump while pitching a complete game with one earned run and three hits against him.

After some strong offense in Game 1, the bats were largely silent for the Knights in the later game. An RBI ground ball by Ryan Jones brought in Liggett’s one and only run in a close 2-1 loss. Freshman Blake Ilitch pitched a full game for the Knights while taking the loss, but allowed only one hit and struck out six.

Liggett continues Catholic League play this week both on the road and at home. The Knights visit Orchard Lake St. Mary’s on Saturday afternoon and then are back home on Monday for a doubleheader against De

See BASEBALL, page 3D

Athlete of the Week

By Meg Leonard
Associate Editor

Somewhere around the third or fourth inning, Emily Peacock knew she was firing on all cylinders.

The right-handed pitcher for Grosse Pointe South girls varsity softball continued to strike out batter after batter, relying on her wicked curve ball in a 10-0 win against Dearborn High

School April 23.
Not until the final out did Peacock and her teammates realize she had just secured a no-hitter. It also happened to be her second no-no of the season.

Safe to say that Peacock, this week’s Grosse Pointe News Athlete of the Week, has earned the right to strut her stuff.

“Emily is very determined and has a work

ethic you don’t usually see in someone who is 14, 15 or 16,” said South head softball coach Bill Fleming. “Everyone wants to be a pitcher, but you have got to put in the work, and she does.”

“It’s incredibly impressive for a high school kid.”

Peacock, a sophomore, began playing softball in 2014 as an eight-year-old in the now defunct Harper Woods softball league. Soon after, she joined the newly-formed softball Little League in Grosse Pointe. Around this same time, Peacock also tried dance, but it “just wasn’t my thing,” she said.

“I think I am just more naturally aggressive and competitive, and I like sports that are aggressive, so dance just wasn’t for me,” she said. “I watched a lot of baseball games growing up and it made me like softball too, so I decided to try it.”

Success on the diamond came quickly. As a seventh grader in 2018, Peacock’s team made it to the Little League state championship game. Though they lost, she knew then she had discovered her “thing.”

“I love how you get to connect with friends in softball,” she said. “I also

got to have my dad as my coach early on, so just everything about the game clicked for me,” she said.

Peacock said her father, Tim Peacock, always kept a calm demeanor as coach, which helped her learn how not to absorb the game’s ups and downs.

“He helped me in a positive way,” she said. “He didn’t over-react if I made a mistake. I knew if I made one, it wasn’t the end of the world. I just focused on the next play, knowing I would get another opportunity.”

Her dad said he aims to keep a good balance between his inner-coach/dad dynamic.

“I learned a long time ago that my biggest contribution has to be to support her love of the game and making it fun,” he said. “She puts in a ton of hard work, but once it becomes ‘work,’ that’s when the dad (in me) needs to come out.”

Her steadiness on the mound was key as she stepped on the bigger stage of varsity high school softball as a freshman. During her first year, Peacock pitched 89 innings, struck out 31 batters and finished the year with a record of 8-6.

So far this season, she

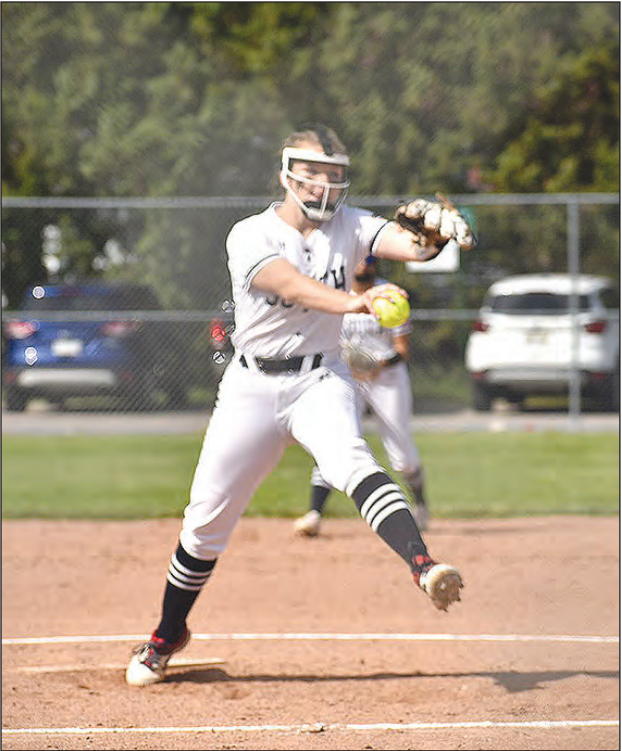


PHOTO COURTESY OF TIM PEACOCK

South softball’s Emily Peacock has two no-hitters on the season so far, with 22 strikeouts.

Grosse Pointe News



Emily Peacock

School: Grosse Pointe South
Sport: Softball

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has pitched 34 innings, recording 22 strikeouts, with a 4-2 record. She pitched a three-inning mercy no-hitter against Rochester on April 16 before securing her six-inning no-hitter against Dearborn one week later.

“I don’t get distracted by what’s behind me, whether it’s the runner on base or the last pitch,” she said. “I focus on the pitch in front of me.”

Teammates value Peacock, describing her as “focused, driven and passionate,” said South junior outfielder Ellie Smith.

“Emily is our primary pitcher, pitching almost every game, all game,” she said. “She’s always determined to get the out, and perseveres no matter how bad we are

down.”
Smith said she respects how taxing the pitcher position can be.

“She can easily shake off criticism and doesn’t let it affect her,” she said. “Her performance sets the stage for the whole team.”

Fleming agrees. “Emily is a role model and example of someone who works really, really hard and that spreads throughout the whole team,” he said. “She is just a really great teammate.”

South currently stands at 9-4 on season, with a big game against rival Grosse Pointe North looming on Friday, May 6.

“North is our biggest

See ATHLETE, page 2D

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2D | SPORTS

ATHLETE: Continued from page 1D

competition,” Peacock said. “We have good friendships between the players on our teams and there’s that competitiveness about ‘Who is the better team?’” South’s ace said North’s tradition of softball success “pushes our team to work harder,” Peacock said. “We all just try to do the best we

can.” The sport of softball continues to gain momentum. Locally, Grosse Pointe Little League Softball won the 2021 state championship; the Pointes have three strong high school softball programs; and the 2021 Women’s College World Series outperformed the men’s College World Series in viewership by 60 percent. To any young girls con-

sidering playing softball, Peacock encourages them to give it a chance. “People are so supportive in softball. You will become a better teammate and better person by playing this sport,” she said. “Give it a chance because it just might become ‘your thing.’” To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, visit grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TIM PEACOCK

South softball ace Emily Peacock fires a pitch last weekend during a tournament in Holland.

Grosse Pointe News

High School

SPORTS

HOME GAMES

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Thursday, May 5
4 pm Girls Varsity Tennis vs. Novi @Elworthy
4:30 pm Girls Varsity Softball vs. Marine City
4:30 pm Boys JV Baseball vs. Romeo
4:30 pm Girls JV Softball vs. Marine City @Messner
6 pm Boys JV Lacrosse vs. Dakota
7:30 pm Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs. Dakota

Friday, May 6
5:30 pm Girls JV Lacrosse vs. North Farmington
7 pm Girls Varsity Lacrosse vs. North Farmington

Saturday, May 7
8 am Girls Varsity Tennis Quad @Elworthy & ULS
10, 12, 2 Girls Varsity Softball Round Robin @South & Messner
10, 12, 2 Boys Varsity Baseball GPS Invitational @South & Elworthy
12 pm Boys JV Lacrosse vs. U of D
2 pm Boys Varsity Lacrosse Senior Night vs. U of D

Monday, May 9
4:30 pm Boys Varsity Baseball vs. Dakota
4:30 pm Girls JV Softball vs. L'Anse Creuse
6 pm Girls JV Soccer vs. L'Anse Creuse
7:30 pm Girls Varsity Soccer vs. L'Anse Creuse

Tuesday, May 10
4:30 pm Boys JV Baseball vs. Utica @Elworthy
5:30 pm Girls JV Lacrosse vs. Eisenhower
7 pm Girls Varsity Lacrosse vs. Eisenhower

Wednesday, May 11
4:30 pm Girls JV Softball vs. GP North @Messner
4:30 pm Boys JV Baseball vs. Dakota
4:30 pm Girls Varsity Softball vs. Lake View
4:30 pm Girls JV Tennis vs. Detroit Country Day @Elworthy
6 pm Boys JV Lacrosse vs. De La Salle
7:30 pm Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs. GP North

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Thursday, May 5
4 pm Girls Varsity Tennis vs. Berkley
4:30 pm Boys Varsity Baseball vs. Anchor Bay
4:30 pm Girls JV Softball vs. Chippewa Valley
4:30 pm Boys Freshmen Baseball vs. Romeo @Ghesquire
6 pm Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs. Romeo

Friday, May 6
6 pm Girls Varsity Soccer vs. GP South

Monday, May 9
4 pm Girls JV Tennis vs. Renaissance
4:30 pm Boys JV Baseball vs. St. Clair
6 pm Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Romeo

Tuesday, May 10
4:30 pm Boys Varsity Baseball vs. St. Clair
4:30 pm Girls JV Softball vs. Dakota

Wednesday, May 11
3 pm Boys Varsity Golf vs. Eisenhower @Lochmoor Club
4 pm Girls JV Tennis vs. Groves

UNIVERSITY LIGGETT SCHOOL

Thursday, May 5
4 pm Girls JV Tennis vs. Regina
4 pm Girls Varsity Tennis vs. Regina

Friday, May 6
4 pm Girls Varsity Softball vs. Cabrini
5 pm Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs. Lake Shore

Saturday, May 7
11 am Boys JV Baseball vs. St. Mary Prep

Monday, May 9
4 pm Boys Varsity Baseball vs. De La Salle
4 pm Girls Varsity Softball vs. Bishop Foley
4:30 pm Girls Varsity Lacrosse vs. GP North

Tuesday, May 10
4:30 pm Girls Varsity Tennis vs. Academy of the Sacred Heart

Softball teams spend weekend on the road

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Both the Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South softball teams did a bit of traveling over the weekend, treating them kindly for most part, as the Blue Devils and Norsemen earned some big victories during their travels.

North took a trip to Grand Blanc to take part in the 30th annual Michigan Stars Tournament, featuring 30 of the top softball teams from around the state. North played four games, with a strong performance as champions of their bracket. They ended the weekend at .500, winning two and losing two.

In a thrilling Game 1 against an always tough Clarkston team, Maraina Smith and Sarah McCloskey combined for the victory on the mound. But the big story was the comeback in the last inning. Down 6-3 in their last at-bat, North loaded the bases as the go-ahead run came to the plate.

Lizzy Rheaume, with a 2-2 count, hammered a walk-off, grand-slam home run to straight away centerfield to earn a 7-6 win for the Norsemen.

But the thrill of victory brought the agony of defeat in Game 2, as North lost a high-scoring 11-10 game against Shepherd. Aliya Abraham, Jessica Alway and Sophia Borowski boosted North’s offense in a productive fourth inning that saw the Norsemen scratch across five runs.

Sunday’s Game 1 saw Alway and Barr smack home runs in a 5-4 victory over Gaylord. Barr also got the win while pitching for North, allowing four runs on six hits through four innings. In the day’s second game, North got another win, 2-1 against Brandon. Saturday’s hero Rheaume led the Norsemen’s offense with three hits in a low-scoring game.

While the Norsemen were in Grand Blanc, the Blue Devils headed west to Holland for the Holland Invitational. The bats were on fire for South as the team notched two high-scoring victories.

Addie Waller, Lily Stidham, Katie Steiner, Audrey Smihal, Avery Harris, Peyton Greiser, Ellie Budziak and Luna Agosta all had at least one RBI in a 15-13 win over Holland. South scratched across seven runs in the fifth inning alone on its way to the win.

The runs kept on coming for South in Saturday’s Game 2. Greiser led the offense with three RBI in a 13-8 victory over Loy Norrix. Stidham tossed three innings on the mound and surrendered six earned runs on just three hits.

South hosts Marine City on Thursday for a MAC Blue Division matchup. North and South then face off on Friday evening at South’s home field in a non-league rivalry showdown.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH SOFTBALL

The Blue Devils softball team enjoyed a trip across the state to Holland over the weekend to take part in the Holland Invitational Tournament.

Golfers take course at CCD



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRANDON WHEELER

South’s Jack Jones, left, and Michael Puzzuoli from North on the course at Country Club of Detroit on Monday for the Blue Devil Invitational. The team from Ann Arbor Greenhills would end up placing 1st in the event. University Liggett earned 2nd place while the Blue Devils finished 6th and North in 11th.

South soccer kicking into high gear

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The first month of the season felt like a roller-coaster ride at times for the Grosse Pointe South girls varsity soccer team. With more lows than highs in the first few weeks, things now seem to be heading in the right direction for the Blue Devils.

This year’s South team is made up of a mostly young roster. Younger players and a change in division are just a couple of factors that are making this spring a bit different for the Blue Devils. But the younger roster has South hopeful for the future with the challenge to not use that youth as a scapegoat.

“We graduated like ten seniors last year,” South coach Chris Bolio said. “Losing a big chunk of players wasn’t great for a program that is still kind of rebuilding over the last couple of years. We did move down to the MAC White, which has helped a bit. The season still started out a bit rough.”

Back in late March, the Blue Devils opened the

season with a 6-0 loss on the road against L’anse Creuse North. South did not play again for nearly two weeks following that first loss due to spring break. The rough ride for the team continued after the break with a close 2-1 loss against rival Grosse Pointe North.

South finally captured its first win of the season just a few days later, and has managed to get some promising results ever since. A tie against highly-ranked Northville and a win over Fraser in late April have helped shift some of the momentum from the Blue Devils’ slow start. While the recent results have helped the team form a more positive outlook on this season, they know the job is not close to being finished.

“We’re trying to look forward and not necessarily focus on making a run in the White, but more on peaking at the end of the season,” Bolio said. “That way, we can make a run in our district.”

While this year’s roster has given the team a new look, it has also given the program a new attitude.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Freshman Ava Pappas is one of several young players already getting experience at the varsity level for South girls soccer.

Fighting hard in every game and adapting to every situation is what South seems to be all about this year. For Bolio, the team’s new competitive attitude is akin to a breath of fresh air.

“I think this year is the first year since I’ve been here that we have a real gritty team that will go to work and it’s not just talent,” he said. “In years in the past, we’ve had a lot of talented kids who maybe don’t always want to work hard. This year, it seems like they want it more.”

Players like sopho-

more goalkeeper Elsa Bachert have made an impact already. Bachert came up with some key saves in recent big results against Northville and Fraser. Freshmen such as Ava Pappas, Sarach Cook and Lilia Moussiaux are seeing their fair share of playing time and getting used to the varsity game right out of the gate.

Even in situations like having to deal with injuries, specifically to the defense, that fighting attitude has helped South this season. Having players who can play several different positions on the

fly and not being scared to face any challenges is what is bringing this year’s South team to life.

“We have girls that we can put anywhere on the field who aren’t going to be a liability,” Bolio said. “That’s something we haven’t really had the blessing of the last couple of years.”

With the second half of the season now approaching for the Blue Devils, more tough MAC White Division games and some non-league tests are on the way before District playoffs begin at the end of May.

South has pulled its way to an even 4-4-1 record and is comfortably in the middle of the MAC White. The Blue Devils could be hitting their stride soon, but the top priority for now is being healthy.

“It’s not going to be necessarily about finding a rhythm, but more about trying to get all of our injured players back before the end of the year,” Bolio said.

Getting the team back to 100 percent before the final stretch of the season is crucial. However, South is showing its new

identity could be a team that can fight through anything. Part of that is from their young roster.

That youth and fighting attitude is giving the Blue Devils program hope not only for the rest of this year, but for the years to come. The promise that many of the younger players are showing – along with their desire to compete right out of the gate – is sending a message that South is going to be a team to look out for very soon.

“We’re very young and the team only has six seniors this year,” Bolio said. “We have three freshmen who start. The fact that we’re so young and doing so well this season, it gives me a positive outlook for the next season and years after that. The fact that they’re already making an impact on the game is huge.”

The Blue Devils get a rematch on the road this Friday against Grosse Pointe North. The team then returns home Monday, May 9 for a MAC White Division showdown with L’Anse Creuse.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

The Norsemen celebrate on their home field Monday afternoon following a 10-0 victory over MAC White rivals Anchor Bay.

BASEBALL

Continued from page 1D

La Salle.

Grosse Pointe North
The Norsemen captured a few important MAC White Division victories over the past week. Starting with a double-header against Chippewa Valley on Thursday, the Norsemen swept both games over the team currently sitting at the bottom of the White.

North dominated Game 1 of the double-header with a 13-2 win. Four Norsemen hitters ended up with multiple RBI in the victory, led by junior Cam Schafer and his four RBI. Fellow junior Nick Jarackas brought in three runs with his bat while the Hill brothers, Drew and Brennan, had two RBI each.

Senior pitcher Jake Tedesco took the mound and got the win in Game 1, which took just five innings to complete. Tedesco allowed one earned run and four hits in four innings, while Rocco Cardinale pitched one shutout inning of relief.

North followed up that first win with another strong performance in Game 2. Drew Hill had another two-RBI game and senior infielder Parker O’Neil brought in a pair of runs as well. Brennan Hill and Cardinale had RBI as

well in what ended up as a 9-4 victory for the Norsemen.

Bryan Carney, a senior, spent five innings on the bump for North, allowing two runs on three hits while picking up the win. Senior James MacAuley surrendered two runs in two innings of relief.

The Norsemen were at home again on Monday for a single game with Anchor Bay, another MAC White foe. North cruised to another victory while needing only five innings to pull off the 10-0 win.

Tedesco and Brennan Hill led the offense with

two hits and three RBI each. Drew Hill, MacAuley, Jordan Arsenau and Luke Babcock each brought in runs with their bats as well.

Arsenau was also the starter for North in the win. He would toss all five shutout innings while giving up just three hits and striking out seven batters.

The Norsemen host Anchor Bay again on Thursday for another MAC White matchup. North then heads downtown for a Friday night battle under the bright lights of Comerica Park against Utica Eisenhower.

North comes up short against Eagles



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

North goalkeeper Ava Mattaliano dives for a save in Monday’s 1-0 loss to Utica Eisenhower. The loss drops the Norsemen’s record to 2-7-1 on the season. The team hosts crosstown rivals Grosse Pointe South on Friday.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held at 7 p.m., on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 before the Grosse Pointe Shores City Council sitting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, Council Chambers at 795 Lake Shore Rd.

- The petitioner at 840 Lake Shore Rd. is requesting a dimensional variance for a front yard set-back of 40.24. Our ordinance requires a set-back of 145 feet. The current set-back is 45.19.

At the April 26, 2022 Planning Commission meeting, the Commission recommended to approve the petitioner’s request for a 70 foot front yard set-back based on the Building Department and Community Planner’s approval of the final details.

Plans of the proposed project are available for your viewing at the Office of the City Clerk, 795 Lake Shore Road, during normal business hours Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Bruce R. Nichols
City Clerk
Village of Grosse Pointe Shores,
A Michigan City

GPN: May 5, 2022



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Pointers help bring pro hockey back to Big Boy Arena

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Professional hockey is officially returning to Big Boy Arena for the first time in more than 15 years. Last week, the Motor City Rockers were officially announced as the newest team to join the Federal Prospects Hockey League. The team is set to begin its inaugural season this fall and play home games at Big Boy Arena in Fraser.

“We couldn’t be more excited to bring the Rockers to Metro Detroit,” said Nick Field, ownership member and General Manager in a statement released last Friday. “This is something we’ve been work-

ing on for a couple of years and we intend to deliver a competitive, entertaining game-day experience for all of our fans who love hockey as much as we do.”

Joining Field in the group of seven new owners reviving the team after a failed initial launch in 2020 are two Grosse Pointers. Pointe resident Frank Sorise is a part-owner of the Rockers and will serve as the team’s Director of Marketing and Communications. Fellow Pointer Mitch Capp is another owner and the Director of Operations.

The Rockers are the tenth team to join the Federal Prospects Hockey League, which

began operations in 2010. The team joins the Port Huron Prowlers as the league’s second currently active franchise based in Michigan. Other current franchises are based in New York, Connecticut, Georgia, North Carolina, Delaware and Mississippi.

Updates on the team’s personnel, jersey release and season schedule are still to come. Merchandise as well as information on tickets is already available on the team’s website, mcrockershockey.com. Team news also will be available on the website as well as their social media channels, @RockersHockey on Twitter and Facebook.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ELIZA HIX

South’s No. 4 singles player and freshman phenom Olivia Kowal scored another come-from-behind victory last week against Port Huron Northern.

Kowal serves up another win for South, North netters hang tough

South tennis continued its winning ways last week and defeated No. 9 Port Huron Northern 5-3, which came down to the deciding match for No. 4 singles Olivia Kowal. Once again Kowal captured a come-from-behind win to seal the victory for South. She lost the first set 6-2, but battled back to win the second set 7-5. Down 6-5 in the third set and fighting off two match points against her, Kowal brought the match into a third-set tie-breaker. Kowal ripped a

midcourt backhand winner to secure the match win, and capture the team victory.

Grosse Pointe North varsity tennis cruised past Jackson Lumen Christi Catholic by a score of 6 to 2. No. 1 singles Helaina Pietrowsky bested Lumen Christi’s Maggie Page 6-0, 6-1 and No. 2 singles Meredith Olzen breezed past her opponent 6-2, 6-1.

Elena Shaheen at No. 4 singles, and No. 1 doubles Kristine Bonnell and Mya Jackson also took home wins.

In doubles action, No. 2 doubles Lauren Rendzikowski and Gianna Roux won their match 6-3, 6-4, while No. 3 doubles Stephanie Karoutsos and Maggie McSkimming took home a victory, 6-4, 6-3.

In a tightly contested match against Grosse Ile, the two teams ended the day locked in a 4-4 tie. Highlights include Nos. 1, 2 and 4 singles taking home W’s as well as No. 2 doubles Stephanie Karoutsos and Maggie McSkimming.

— Anne Gryzenia



COURTESY PHOTO

The Motor City Rockers will become the 10th franchise to join the Federal Prospects Hockey League. The team is scheduled to begin play this fall and will play home games at Big Boy Arena in Fraser.

CITY OF HARPER WOODS WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING APRIL 18, 2022

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Valerie Kindie at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: All Councilpersons were present except for Tom Jenny

MOTIONS PASSED

- 1) To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held April 4, 2022 and furthermore receive and file the minutes of the Beautification Commission meeting held on March 23, 2022.
- 2) To open the Public Hearing on the Continuation of a Special Assessment District.
- 3) To close the Public Hearing.
- 4) To adopt and commit to use the Training Strategy Plan as recommended by the MEDC’s Redevelopment Ready Community Program.
- 5) To adjourn to closed session for the purpose of discussing the Stormwater litigation strategy and a written legal memorandum.
- 6) To add to the agenda the attorney recommendation regarding the Stormwater litigation.
- 7) To adopt the recommendation of the attorneys as discussed in closed session with regard to the Stormwater Litigation issue.
- 8) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED

- 1) (1) approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 124338 through 124416 in the amount of \$282,728.47 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) approve payment to Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc. in the amount of \$24,707.40 for professional services during the month of March 2022 for the following projects: Beaconsfield Resurfacing, #180-231; Kelly Road Ped. Crossing, #180-208; Eastland Center, #180-244; Johnston and Salter Park Basketball Courts, #180-263 and #180-264; Concrete Pavement Repair, #180-283; Miss Digs, #180-255; Signal Modification, #180-228; Storm Sewer Repair, #180-282; Sanitary Sewer FCIPP, #180-284; Sanitary Sewer Cleanup, #180-259; Fire Hydrant Map, #180-287; Water Svc. Material Invest, #180-265; Everstream Fiber, #180-274; Beaconsfield Resurfacing, #180-253 and Beaconsfield Crossing, #180-266. (3) approve payment to Simplified Business Solutions in the amount of \$5,147.20 for the email hosting, security and backups of our computer system for the month of April and for IT support services for all departments and the purchase of cameras and thumb drives. (4) approve payment to RKA Petroleum Companies in the amount of \$27,357.44 for the purchase of 5,000 gallons of unleaded fuel and 3,500 gallons of diesel fuel. (5) approve the purchase of Checkerboard Tables, Corn Hole Games and Waste Receptacles from We Build Fun in the amount of \$5,980.00, using Park Grant funds. (6) approve the quote submitted by Otis Elevator to perform the necessary repairs to the Library’s elevator in the amount of \$6,539.96. (7) approve payment to Midwest Property Maintenance in the amount of \$7,688.80 for the renovations and repair work at 21226 Brierstone as part of the CDBG rehab loan project. (8) approve payment to SAFEbuilt LLC in the amount of \$43,148.20 for the contractual building department services performed during the month of March 2022.
- (2) to adopt the attached resolutions to continue a Special Assessment District in the City of Harper Woods. (Attachment No. 1)
- (3) to approve payment to Wayne County in the amount of \$250,668.75 for the operation and maintenance of the Milk River Drain for April to June 2022.
- (4) to approve the purchase of one (1) Stryker LIFEPAK Monitor, one (1) LUCAS Chest Compression System and one (1) AED Device from Stryker Medical in the amount of \$49,104.87.

Valerie Kindie, Mayor
Published: GPN, May 5, 2022

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

Wenger wins title

University Liggett School alum and former Grosse Pointe Gator Alexis Wenger, a senior at the University of Virginia, had an elite year swimming for the

Cavaliers, capturing the championship in the 400 medley relay and helping her team win its second consecutive 2022 NCAA Women’s Swim and Dive championship.

Wenger and her 400 medley relay teammates set NCAA, meet, American, U.S. Open and pool records at the NCAA Championships.

— Meg Leonard



COURTESY PHOTO

University Liggett and Grosse Pointe Gator alum Alexis Wenger, a senior swimmer at the University of Virginia, grins with her new championship hardware.

Pointe Aquatics, Gators swim like champs

By Meg Leonard
Associate Editor

Thanks to consistent pool access as COVID restrictions lifted, regular training schedules and ample hard work, swimmers from two local clubs made a major splash at multiple recent championship meets.

Swimmers ages 8 to 18 from Pointe Aquatics and Grosse Pointe Gators swim clubs earned countless championship performances, new records and impressive state and national finishes to cap off their 2022 short course seasons.

“Nearly 225 Grosse Pointe Gators participated in the short-course season and did so with a lot of energy and enthusiasm,” Gators head coach John Fodell said.

Pointe Aquatics head coach Kevin Hafner said he is proud of his team’s accomplishments so far. “We started 2022 with strong championship performances,” he said. “PA athletes achieved multiple noteworthy swims.”

Each club had top finishes in state-level and national championship meets. State-level championship highlights

include:

Pointe Aquatics
Michigan Club Swimming Association Junior Cup, Feb. 25-27:
10 and under girls
Vanessa Haladjian – 2nd place (50 back)
12 and under girls
Liliana Haladjian – 2nd place (400 IM)
Nicole McEnroe – 1st place (400 IM, 100 IM, 100 breast, 200 back), 2nd place (50 breast)
Campbell Shore – 2nd place (500 free, 100 breast)
12 and under boys
Logan Bogner – 2nd place (200 breast, 50 breast)
Brady Bond – 2nd place, (50 free, 100 back)
Tyler Collins – 1st place, (200 butterfly, 100 butterfly, 50 back), 2nd place (200 free)
Relays
12 and under boys
Logan Bogner, Christian Azoury, Brady Bond and Tyler Collins – 1st place (200 Medley Relay)
12 and under girls
Ella Hafner, Nicole McEnroe, Mia Melhem, Campbell Shore – 2nd place (200 Free Relay)
Nicole McEnroe, Campbell Shore, Ella Hafner, Elliana Orlando – 2nd place (200 Medley Relay)

Michigan Club Swimming Association Senior Cup, March 4-6
For ages 13 and older, the Senior Cup included some of the fastest swimmers in the mid-west. PA’s Lorelei Carr achieved her national qualifying time in the 50 freestyle at this meet.
Top finishers included:
Brendan Beland (14 and under boys) – 1st (100 Breast, 400 IM)
Clare Hafner (14 and under girls) – 1st (50 free, 100 Free and 200 Fly)
Cailey Hard (14 and under girls) – 2nd (1000 Free)

Grosse Pointe Gators
Great Lakes Regional Championship and Michigan Ultra Championship, March 5-6
Gators brought 69 swimmers and won the meet with 2378.5 points. Ten-year-old Hannah Brownsberger scored a team-high 89 points for Gators. Brownsberger had impressive finishes, including 1st (50 Free), 1st (100 IM), 2nd (200 Free Relay) and 2nd (200 Yard Medley Relay).
2022 Michigan Age group Championship Meet (14 years old and younger, and formally



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE GATORS

Team members from Grosse Pointe Gators enjoy a break from the water during their busy championship meet season in March.

known as the State Meet), March 25-26
Caroline Bryan – 2nd place (50 butterfly)
Ronin Hobson - 1st place (100 fly, 50 fly and 200 IM), 2nd place (50 back). Hobson also was the meet’s High Point winner for 10-year-old boys, scoring 111 points.
Relays
12 and under girls
Quinn Ryan, Avery Stevenson, Caroline Bryan and Gabriella Mannino, 2nd place (400 Medley Relay)
This week, our coverage includes state meet results. Come back next week to Sports for national meet results.

College signings

Two local athletes from Pointe Aquatics swim club recently made their official college commitments. See Sports next week for more signings.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Ian Donahue, a senior from Grosse Pointe North and Pointe Aquatics, will swim next fall at the University of Delaware.



Gianni Carlino, center, a senior from Grosse Pointe North, will swim at Florida Atlantic University. Joining him on signing day are Pointe Aquatics head coach Kevin Hafner, left, and North boys swim and dive coach Kyle Kinyon.

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

Notice of Public Hearing
On the Proposed 2022-23 General Budget
And Various Other Fund Budgets

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe Woods will be meeting on May 16, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 20025 Mack Plaza, for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the proposed 2022-23 General Fund Budget as well as the various other Fund Budgets of the said City.

The subject of this hearing is the property tax millage rate of 16.7360 proposed to be levied on July 1, 2022 to support the proposed General Fund, Public Relations, Solid Waste and Road Budgets. If adopted, the proposed millage will generate \$13,507,577 in operating revenue from ad valorem property taxes for all funds, which is a \$485,786 or a 3.7% increase compared to the 2021-2022 total collection of \$13,021,791. It is anticipated that the winter millage levied for the Milk River Drainage tax will be 4.6912 mills.

Purpose of Millage	Millage Rate	Revenue Generated
General Operating	12.9269	\$10,433,263
Road Bond Debt	1.2761	\$1,029,937
Act 359 – Public Relations	.0619	\$49,959
Act 298 – Solid Waste	2.4711	\$1,994,418
Total Special Acts Millage	2.5330	\$2,044,377

TOTAL GENERAL, PUBLIC RELATIONS SOLID WASTE & ROAD DEBT MILLAGE

16.7360

\$13,507,577

The City Council expects to take action on the proposed millage rates as well as taking action to approve the aforementioned budgets at the Council meeting immediately following the public hearing. The taxing unit publishing this notice, identified above, has complete authority to establish the number of mills to be levied from within its authorized millage rate.

City of Grosse Pointe Woods
2022 - 23 PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY

	2022-23 PROPOSED
GENERAL FUND	
General Government	\$4,013,379
Public Safety	\$7,040,380
Public Works	\$2,528,915
Management Info. Systems	\$533,109
Parks & Recreation	\$2,060,894
Total General Fund	\$16,176,677
SPECIAL REVENUE	
Major Street	\$1,561,171
Local Street	\$1,023,053
Parkway Beautification	\$56,700
Cable Fund	\$0
Act 302 Training	\$5,000
Solid Waste	\$1,935,585
CDBG	20,000
911 Service Fund	\$60,747
Drug Forfeiture	\$1,500
SOM MIDC Grant	\$59,068
Total Special Revenue	\$4,722,824
DEBT SERVICE FUND	
Grosse Gratiot Drain (Milk River)	
Road Bond Debt	\$1,154,998
Capital Improvement Debt	\$220,238
Total Debt Funds	\$1,375,236
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	
Municipal Improvement	\$472,800
Total Capital Projects Fund	\$472,800
INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS	
Workmen’s Compensation	\$154,652
Motor Vehicle Fund	\$1,109,740
Total Internal Service Funds	\$1,264,392
ENTERPRISE FUNDS	
Water & Sewer	\$8,139,866
Parking	\$587,505
Boat Dock	\$186,434
Commodity Sales	\$29,500
Total Enterprise Funds	\$8,943,305
FIDUCIARY FUNDS	
Supplemental Annuity	\$266,750
Pension Trust Funds	\$3,754,458
Retiree Healthcare (OPEB)	\$0
Total Fiduciary Funds	\$4,021,208
Budget Total	\$36,976,442

A copy of the proposed budget will be available for inspection during regular business hours at the office of the City Administrator. Public comments, oral and/or written, will be welcome at the public hearing on the aforesaid proposed General Fund Budget and the various other Fund Budgets.

Frank Schulte
City Administrator

GPN: 05/05/22

6D | LITTLE LEAGUE OPENING DAY



The Iron Pigs AAA Farms/City Little League Team are all smiles after putting up a W in their opening day game. From left to right are Brady Lamb, Assistant Coach John Denvir, Jacob Mitchell, Coach Casby, Zader Kopp (front), Assistant Coach Baubie, Matthew Mattei and John Denvir.

Four area little leagues, including Grosse Pointe softball, Park, Farms-City and Woods-Shores kicked off their seasons with Opening Day parades, ceremonies and games April 29-30. Nearly 1,300 kids from the Pointes will grab a mitt and take the field this spring.

Count one Vicki Granger, Woods Mayor Pro-Tem, as a fan of local Little League traditions.

“(Opening Day is a) great day of community, and wonderful to see families out there, but really great that we were able to have a parade for the first time in three years.

“Just that sense of community, that sense of normal. It was good.”

Photos by Renee Landuyt



With hands over hearts, fans in the Park enjoy a rousing national anthem performed by the Knuth family.



The Farms Timber Rattlers and Ironbirds hope to outlast the competition this season.



The Los Angeles Dodgers from Grosse Pointe Park Little League cruise down Kercheval during their parade on April 30.



The Rockhounds from Woods-Shores Little League hope to be top dog this baseball season.



Teams from Woods/Shores hop off their floats and head to the field on a cloudy but dry opening day.



Little Leaguers from Grosse Pointe Woods-Shores stand tall, showing honor for the national anthem, by removing their hats during opening ceremonies.



Farms/City float winners, the Knights, show off their hard work on Saturday pre-parade. The float was constructed of cardboard and spray foam with a painted gold baseball bat into a baseball to resemble the sword in the stone.



The Iron Pigs from the Grosse Pointe Farms-City AAA Little League team roll through town full of team spirit during Saturday's Opening Day parade, then continued the fun with their first win.



Twins Mason and Joel Meyers from the Farms/City Tin Caps enjoy the fun of their Opening Day parade.



The San Diego Padres blessed fans with their enthusiasm along the parade route.



Grosse Pointe North baseball players cheer on Little Leaguers during the Woods/Shores parade.

AROUND THE HORN

This week's Little League baseball and softball highlights from around town



Jenna Hess commands the mound for the Bruins

Grosse Pointe Little League Softball kicked off its regular season last week and held its opening night on Friday, April 29 at Elworthy Park. The league introduced 380 players in the Rookie, Machine Pitch, Minor, Majors and Senior divisions to the community. Opening night wrapped up with "showcase games" for all the divisions.



Jake Duffy pitches for the Woods/ Shores Tigers

Woods/ Shores - In the Majors, pitching was the name of the game as Zane Hemler led the Dodgers out to an early lead with 11 strikeouts and no hits through four innings. The Tigers kept their cool and battled back with good pitching from Ben Savich, Owen Kozlowski, Jake Duffy, and Sam Loflin. In the end, Ben Savich connected for a walk-off single to put the Tigers on top 4-3 in extra innings.



The Iron Pigs, celebrate their win over the Bulls

Farms/ City - AAA Iron Pigs 6 Bulls 5. The Iron Pigs and Bulls battled back and forth on opening day. The Bulls took an early 3-0 lead on hits from Kate Denomme and Nino Randazzo. The Iron Pigs battled back to tie the game in the fifth with a big hit from Ryan Shalla. Will Stines led off the bottom of the 6th inning with a base hit, then stole home to lead the Iron Pigs to victory.



The Twins' fell short against the Pirates

Park - Opening weekend in the Park featured a lot of action highlighted by a barnburner between the AAA Pirates and Twins. The back and forth game ended with the Pirates winning 9-8 after holding off a bottom of the sixth rally by the Twins.

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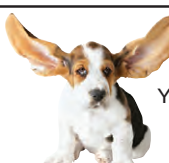
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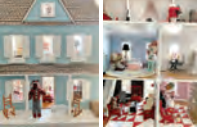
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