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Will it snow?

Like this deer family, we, too, may be surrounded by snow for the upcoming Christmas weekend, beginning Thursday, Dec. 22, according to the National Weather Service. With forecasts calling for a “strong winter storm” for the Great Lakes Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Grosse Pointers might be treated to a coveted “White Christmas,” though the storm could instead bring a dreaded wintery mix of rain and blustery winds. Only time will tell, but until Mother Nature decides, we hope to help set the holiday mood with “The Snow Scene,” a picture-perfect oil-on-canvas painting from Arthur F. Tait, widely considered “America’s greatest animal and sporting artist.” It is currently on display at Sterling | Boos, a newly renovated gallery in New York City. It is on loan from the art collection of Sean and Nancy Cotton, owners of the Grosse Pointe News.



Jeup wins again

By Ted O’Neil
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTE — After weeks of uncertainty and four long days of recounting ballots, Ginny Jeup remains the third and final winner in the Grosse Pointe Public School System’s Board of Education race — albeit by a smaller margin.

Jeup came out four votes ahead of Tim Klepp in the recount, which was certified by the Wayne County Board of Canvassers shortly after 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19.

When numbers were released on election night, Jeup held a 14-vote lead over Klepp for the third and final board seat. Numbers certified by the Wayne County Board of Canvassers two weeks later had Jeup with a 15-vote lead over Klepp, 9,889 to 9,874. Recount numbers put Jeup at 9,899 votes and Klepp at 9,895. All precincts in the Pointes and the portion of Harper Woods in GPPSS were recounted except for one from Grosse Pointe

See PUD, page 2A See RECOUNT, page 8A

HOLIDAY
pets

Chloe

Brady

Pets show grand style for the holidays!

Section C

St. Clair PUD gets the green light

By Ted O’Neil
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Council gave final approval to a planned unit development, or PUD, at its meeting Monday, Dec. 19, involving a four-story building with apartments and

commercial space at 582-606 St. Clair. Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak started the discussion saying she needed to clear up some misconceptions about the project, including that the city does not own the property and is not involved in its redevelopment.

That confusion, in part, could be because the developer named the project City Center Apartments. Tomkowiak added that council was only voting on the PUD. “This is not about whether the project goes forward or gets

scrapped,” she said. “Zoning has been in place on that property for 17 years.” John Jackson of McKenna Associates, the city’s planning consultant, explained that zoning on the property dates

See PUD, page 2A

Sidewalk snow removal first and foremost a resident responsibility

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Let it snow, but don’t assume it is the city’s responsibility to clean it up. As stated in the Farms’ sidewalk ordinance — Code No. 7-01 — owners and occupants of premises are required to keep sidewalks clear of snow and ice. “It is important to remember that home-

See SNOW, page 3A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

While the responsibility of plowing sidewalks rests with residents, city DPW crews like to help out during heavy snow accumulations.

GP North clinic gets final approval

By Ted O’Neil
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTE — The Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education Monday night approved a clinic with a maximum price of nearly \$989,000 to be built at Grosse Pointe North High School. As was the case with a vote to approve an inter-agency agreement with Corewell Health to run the clinic, Ahmed Ismail

and Lisa Papas cast the dissenting votes in a 5-2 decision, with Joe Herd, Margaret Weertz, Colleen Worden, Christopher Lee and David Brumbaugh voting in favor. Papas and Ismail both expressed concern that sinking fund money will be used to pay for the project. The district gets about \$3 million a year from the sinking fund millage, which was last approved in 2019.

See CLINIC, page 8A

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Mark Rieth
Home: Grosse Pointe Park
Former brewery owner sets sights on the future with new products



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Short circuiting a wire fire

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Lost minutes risk lives in a house fire, especially at the start.

Fire doubles in size every 30 seconds. Some say half that.

Which is why officers are gratified by their quick knockdown of a hidden electrical fire inside the walls of a 98-year-old, two-story house in the 1200 block of Bishop shortly before noon Friday, Dec. 16.

“We were successful in keeping it to a little area

of the attic above the bedroom,” said Park Sgt. Michael Miller, incident commander.

“We put water on it as fast as possible before it had a chance to expand,” City of Grosse Pointe Sgt. Michael Almeranti said.

He and four additional officers from his department answered the second alarm, issued automatically for fire runs. A third alarm drew Farms officers.

“Almeranti made a huge difference, keeping it a small attic fire as opposed to the whole house going down,”

Miller said.

“There wasn’t a ton of fire damage,” Almeranti said. “There’s a lot of water damage.”

In total, officers manning four fire trucks responded.

“It was an electrical fire,” Miller said. “The residents, a husband and wife in their 30s, were home, waiting for their kids to come home from school. (Circuit) breakers started popping. He (the husband) found out they were for the upstairs bedroom. When he went to check the outlets, he felt the wall. It was extremely hot. He heard crackling and popping inside the walls and in the attic, which was just above him. They called us and got out of the house.”

“We could smell something burning,” Almeranti said.

He began his attack without waiting to put on fire-resistant clothing, an assemblage of multi-layered overcoat, trousers, boots and more, called turnout gear.

“We were trying to get a jump on it,” Almeranti said. “There was smoke in the attic and then fire



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety last week responded to a house fire on Bishop.

Farms increases security measures at council meetings

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — The Farms recently began recording its council meetings for resident viewing convenience; however, those who still wish to attend the meeting at 7 p.m. the second Monday of each month at city hall, now can expect a brief security screening via the court’s metal detector to

enter the building.

Public Safety Director John Hutchins reported the added security measure is not in regard to any specific concerns raised by council members or city staff, but rather a result of an ongoing safety discussion between council and

See SECURITY, page 3A

in the wall. We pushed a hose in before anybody else could get their gear on.”

Park Officer Thomas Card, City Detective Sgt. Michael Narduzzi and Officer Matthew Wallis helped expose flames by ripping out portions of walls and ceiling.

“We took a hose or two, pulled the ceiling down and kept it contained,” Miller said.

“A house fire can go from incipient to fully involved in as little as four or five minutes,” according to firefighter insider.com. The website

features a demonstration video of a Christmas tree fire consuming a living room within one minute.

The Bishop residents moved into the house about a year ago.

“Something happened with old electrical lines,” Miller said. “It wasn’t like they put in a space heater or any of those other things that tend to happen. Just a couple old electrical lines going through the attic. One of them managed to spark.”

The fire was the second time this month Park officers answered a call from the location.

“We responded to an odor of smoke, but it was nothing,” Detective Sgt. Jeremy Pittman said. “They probably have an electrical issue that came to a head.”

Old dwellings weren’t wired to handle the glut of modern electrical appliances, home theater and stereo systems, security systems and computer hardware.

“Always unplug things when they’re not in use if you’re not going to harm the device,” Miller said.

A Go Fund Me for the family has been established at bit.ly/3WxEVgS

PUD:

Continued from page 1A

back to 2006, when Sunrise Development was approved to build a 79-unit senior apartment complex on the property. It tore down six houses before abandoning the project during the 2008 recession.

“A four-story structure was already approved there,” Jackson said, noting that previous discussions included building a hotel there. “For example, they could have built all one-bedroom apartments at 600 square feet, but the developer heard what council had to say

and revised his plans.”

Tomkowiak and other council members said they were appreciative that developer Michael Bailey of MTB Partners LLC chose the PUD approach.

“We want to be good stewards and good neighbors,” Bailey said. “We want to market to a variety of people and be collaborative.”

Construction is scheduled to start next year and will include apartments and 4,000 square feet of retail space facing the CVS parking lot.

What originally was proposed as an 81-unit structure will now have 77 apartments, including



COURTESY RENDERING

Construction of the four-story St. Clair apartment complex is scheduled to begin next year.

25 one-bedroom units, 38 two-bedroom units, five three-bedroom units and nine townhomes. All units will be between 720 and 1,500 square feet.

The number of units was reduced to comply

with the city’s ordinance regarding how many parking spaces are required. The city’s zoning ordinances will dictate what kind of businesses will make up the retail space. For example, there could not be a gas station or oil change bays, Jackson

noted.

The development is expected to bring in \$100,000 in property taxes annually for the city, \$130,000 for the Grosse Pointe Public School System and \$12,000 for the Grosse Pointe Public Library.

Council also approved plans to move forward with a \$1.7 million redevelopment of Lot 4.

“That’s been talked about since 2005, but we had to wait and see what would happen with the adjoining property,” City Manager Pete Dame said. “Right now you’ve got the exit from that lot, the pedestrian crosswalk, the alley and the entrance to the parking garage. It’s a disaster waiting to happen.”

Plans include moving the entrance/exit, adding pay stations and security cameras and disconnecting the sewer from the sanitary system.

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2023 road work to avoid repeat of Fisher debacle

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — While the Farm’s 2023 road construction program still is being developed, major roads likely to be included are a significant stretch of Kercheval and the remainder of Ridge that wasn’t completed this year.

City administration currently is looking to get ahead of the game and avoid a repeat of the many complications — supply chain issues, concrete shortage, lack of laborers, etc. — that occurred with the 2022 road program.

“There were a lot of issues,” City Manager Shane Reeside said, “but clearly it was a daily battle with keeping sched-



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

This year’s Fisher Road project, which only just recently wrapped up, saw continued delays much to the dismay of residents.

ules, dealing with delays (and) trying to explain those road delays to residents.”

Part of the city’s new tactic going forward is an intention to go out to bid for the 2023 work after the first of the year, which is much earlier than historically done. To achieve

this, the city’s engineer — Hubbell, Roth & Clark — already has begun some of the field work such as core sampling to learn the exact condition of the roads.

“But I think even more significantly, there currently was not any type of incentive built into the

contract (for road crews) for meeting an earlier time frame,” Reeside noted. “You had a date where they were supposed to be completed, but no incentives — or disincentives — if you didn’t meet that date and that’s something we will definitely be including

with our bid specifications going out after the first of the year.”

The monetary incentives would be simple: For work done ahead of schedule, there would be additional compensation. For work that takes longer than scheduled, there would be a daily fine.

This means the city would pay a bit more for road construction work going forward with the trade-off of achieving timelier projects.

The discussion was broached during the Farms’ December council meeting, when Councilman Lev Wood inquired whether the city could exclude a vendor from doing business with it in the future, due to bad service during this year’s Fisher Road reconstruction project.

While supply issues and a concrete shortage certainly played a role in the road work’s continued delays, it only wrapped up at the end of November.

“We don’t necessarily have a debarment procedure in our ordinances, where we can just vote to bar a contractor,” Mayor Louis Theros determined in response, “however, at the time the bids are considered (for next year’s projects), if we want to pick another vendor who might not be the lowest priced for reasons outside of that price — for instance, like they gave us bad service or they were untimely — those would be articulated on the record at the time of choosing another bidder over if these guys happen to be the lowest bidder.”

Firm picked to fix civic site

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Directors of the Downtown Development Authority channeled the appetite of Oliver Twist in their want for more from a firm they’d just retained to transform an empty lot beside city hall into as park-like of a parking lot as possible.

Jima Studio, of Troy,

beat four competitors to win an up-to \$15,000 contract to design the lot and environs.

Jima earned unanimous support from the DDA board Thursday, Dec. 13, by submitting a portfolio of creative ideas, accomplishments, urban insight and a deal-making pledge to participate in two in-person public engagement sessions.

But that wasn’t enough for the DDA’s gruel eaters.

“We would like to have an online survey in addition to the offer they have on the table,” Chairman Benjamin Wixson said.

“The survey is really important,” member Jamie Rae Turnbull added.

“Neighbors directly adjacent to this campus

should have their voices heard,” Wixson said. “We made that promise.”

Jima agreed, according to City Manager Nick Sizeland, based on his follow-up conversation with a studio representative.

“Sounds like they will meet our budget with the online survey added,” Sizeland said.

Bidders faced a \$15,000 cap to produce conceptual renderings of the lot and revamped civic campus “for the purposes of enhancing the beautification, walkability and accessibility to the area,” according to the Park’s solicitation.

“We haven’t designed anything yet,” said Ujiji Davis Williams, found-

ing partner of Jima and a landscape architect, during an interview Friday, Dec. 15. “But, the DDA described their project as a civic campus. It is very much for people.”

The lot — formerly commercial property (an auto dealer) on Jefferson beside city hall, in front of what is now the Ewald public library, across Lakepointe from a three-story condominium complex plus nearby houses — sat for about 20 years as an open, grassy and city-tended lawn from which adjacent condo residents profited as a de facto yet unpaid-for side yard.

Williams is aware of

the need to balance the forthcoming parking lot’s function and beauty.

“Part of my approach is rooted in talking with people — what type of experience are they having now and what type of experience would they like to have,” she said. “That’s why we wanted to center engagement in our approach. This is a space where people live. The landscape is going to have to have a quality and utility that responds to everyday living.”

“I like the idea of an online survey, just to reach more people who can’t attend (public meetings) in person, and

See FIRM, page 4A

SECURITY:

Continued from page 2A

public safety.

“We’ve actually been considering increasing our security measures for council meetings for some time now,” Hutchins said. “Given the current climate, we think it will make everyone feel a little safer to employ an extra measure of security prior to entering a meeting.”

“We already have a metal detector that we

make use of for every court date,” he added, “so setting it up before a council meeting once per month just seems to make sense.”

An added cost will come in the form of bringing in one of the city’s two part-time court officers to staff the metal detector for each monthly council meeting. It already is typical for an officer on shift to sit in the audience of council meetings for safety purposes.

“It only amounts to a

few hours, once per month,” Hutchins said. “We feel the enhanced security is well worth the minimal cost.”

December’s council meeting was the first at which a metal detector was implemented.

“It didn’t seem to create any issues with residents,” Hutchins said. “I think everyone feels a little safer — in prescribed settings — after a simple screening for concealed weapons.”

— Laurel Kraus

SNOW:

Continued from page 1A

owners do have an obligation to maintain their sidewalks with the right of way ... not only for snow removal, but even for tripping hazards and so forth,” City Manager Shane Reeside said. “It’s incumbent upon homeowners to make sure that those sidewalks are maintained in a safe manner.”

A common misconception that rises around the time of the first snow each year — that the city plows sidewalks as a courtesy service — likely is due to the notable exception that department of public works crews will clear sidewalks in the event of snow accumulations more than 3 inches.

“One of the great things about the Grosse Pointes is they’re very walkable communities,” Reeside said, “and unlike other communities that have school busing available for all of their students, Grosse Pointe Public School (System) doesn’t, so we do get a lot of students who are walking to school.”

“So we definitely take pride in helping facilitate clear sidewalks during

heavier snowfalls,” he continued. “... DPW takes a lot of pride in that and as a city we take pride in that, because it’s one of those services that are not often found in a lot of surrounding communities.”

But keep in mind that even during those heavy snowfalls when DPW crews take one for the team, the city’s plowing prioritization system means major roads are tended to first, followed by local streets, before the sidewalks are touched.

“And not only are we doing your streets, we’re doing your sidewalks, we’re clearing parking lots (and) there’s (addi-

tional) work you have to do in some of the business districts,” Reeside explained. “On The Hill, for instance, you can’t just plow the street, because everything goes onto the sidewalk, so in some cases the snow has to be stockpiled and then it gets hauled away.”

Typically, just five DPW crews tackle the whole of the city. These employees are on call 24/7 and often work overnight to keep the Farms traversable.

One way residents can help out this winter, Reeside added, is to remove vehicles from the street when it is evident a snowfall will warrant plowing.



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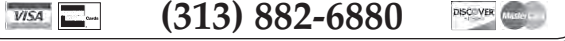
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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Beverage baron wants to ‘Fül’ a revolution

By Mike Adzima
Staff Writer

When Grosse Pointe’s Mark Rieth left his long-time position as owner of Atwater Brewery last year, the ideas for his next venture already were brewing. Always looking to be on the forefront of the next big trend, Rieth now is out to conquer some of the beverage world’s biggest emerging markets.

“We saw the writing on the wall of what we needed to do and Molson-Coors came knocking,” Rieth said about leaving Atwater. “It was the right time to move out and keep the brand going with the second-largest brewer in the world. ... It worked out really well and a lot of the employees are still there and thriving.”

Now, Grosse Pointers and people around the state of Michigan have the chance to try what

Rieth has been working on since then: Fül, a line of drinks designed to be healthier alternatives to alcoholic beverages and energy drinks.

Six different drinks currently make up the Fül brand, which launched this summer. Four of them are energy drinks for both pre- and post-workout purposes. “Savage” and “Lit” are Fül’s pre-workout energy drinks containing natural caffeine. “Recovery” and “Rehab+” are designed to help athletes recharge after a workout.

“Looking at the ingredients on Red Bull and Monster, I’d be shaking



COURTESY PHOTO

Mark Rieth, former head of Atwater Brewery, launched his new brand, Fül, this summer. Fül is a line of beverages designed to be a healthier alternative to energy drinks and alcoholic drinks.

my head that those are being sold in that kind of volume,” Rieth said. “I wanted to come out with something more natural and better for you with

no sugar. We don’t even use sucrose as a sweetener; we use monk fruit.”

Along with energy drinks, Rieth also has added two non-alcoholic beers to the Fül brand, with more likely to come. Shoppers can pick up a can of “NA IPA” or “Feel Better Blonde” to enjoy a brew with no alcohol involved.

Non-alcoholic beers are growing more popular every day across the country. It has turned into a trend Rieth did not want to miss, especially with how endless the possibilities seem to be.

“I saw another emerging market and we’re looking at all non-alco-

holic beverages, from spirits to wine and mock-tails in cans,” he said.

One reason the non-alcoholic beer market is growing so rapidly is the social benefits it has for people who do not drink alcohol or are recovering from addiction. Being able to have a can in their hands in a social setting can help reduce the stigma or pressure that might come from not drinking, another factor that made Rieth eager to enter the market.

“We want to be able to offer it in a social atmosphere,” he said. “You can have a can in your hand and it’s a non-alcoholic beer and gives a person an opportunity to not worry about it.”

As a longtime resident of the Pointes, Rieth wants to make sure people around town have plenty of opportunities to be among the first to try Fül drinks. The products already are on shelves in

places like the Village Market, Woods Wholesale Wine and Village Wine Shop to name a few.

Growing a brand is something to which Rieth is no stranger. In the age of social media, there is no shortage of opportunities to get the Fül name out there. Being so passionate about his latest project, Rieth is not afraid to be on the cutting edge of marketing to help fuel the rise of Fül.

“What we’re doing is concentrating on influencers and possible NIL deals,” he said. “... We’re all about Detroit and Grosse Pointe and being local. We want to bring Fül Stations to life as brick-and-mortar places to go that are mainly outdoors in beer garden-type settings with food trucks, games and our products.”

To learn more about Fül and where to find it, visit fulbeverage.com.

Park DDA switches legal firms

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A former city manager and law enforcement officer is the Downtown Development Authority’s new point man on legal affairs.

Members of the DDA board chose new legal representation Oct. 25, replacing counselors Bodman PLC of downtown Detroit with the McGraw Morris Law

Firm based in Troy.

A McGraw Morris partner, Kevin Kilby, attended his first regularly scheduled Park DDA meeting Dec. 13.

“Interesting of note, (Kilby) was an officer in his former life, as well as a city manager in Clio,” said Nick Sizeland, Park DDA director and city manager. “He worked extensively in Clio, where they have a DDA for several areas, including

industrial parks. He has extensive knowledge of working with DDAs and tax increment finance authorities.”

Kilby listed water, sewer and drain law at the top of his areas of practice.

In September, the Park TIFA board selected McGraw for legal representation, which was another reason Sizeland recommended the firm to the DDA board.

He said retaining the same group of lawyers for both boards provides cohesive legal representation.

Eight law firms responded when the city put the DDA contract up for review.

“Interviews were scheduled with two firms. A consent was reached on the firm I’m recommending, McGraw Morris,” Sizeland said.

McGraw’s municipal clients also include Ypsilanti, Frankenmuth, Romeo, Vassar and Sault Ste. Marie.

McGraw’s hourly rate is \$175.

“We have budgeted about \$15,000 for legal services,” Sizeland said.

Another law firm, The Kelly Firm, of Auburn Hills, was chosen in September to replace Bodman as municipal attorneys.

FIRM:

Continued from page 3A

also having an in-person engagement session,” board member Laura Ochab said.

“About the online survey, I want to make sure we guarantee the genuineness of those that are responding,” DDA Vice Chairman Robert Farhat said. “That’s something I’ve always wrestled with when it comes to online surveys — are people being genuine; can you verify that? Otherwise, you can get a lot of noise. It takes away from your focus.”

“I have worked with Ujiji before, from Jima,” board member Mayor Michele Hodges said. “They might provide more of a strategic mindset, not just a basic planning and engineering exercise.”

“I liked Jima Studio most of all (because their portfolio) showed projects in more urban

areas,” Wixson said.

“Sometimes we fail to realize how urban an area we live in, especially in this part of the city where properties are so close together and we have the business district for Jefferson-Chalmers just down the street.”

Hodges said, “Connecting us next to Detroit would be strategic. Finding that connectivity could be an added benefit.”

The parking lot also will support the Schaap Center for Performing Arts to be built on land soon being vacated by the public works garage one block to the other side of the civic center campus. A new DPW headquarters is scheduled to open next month on Mack.

“(Park officials) are looking to encourage more downtown development to create a destination,” Williams said. “This is a place they want as a big welcome to Grosse Pointe Park for visitors, but also a place for residents to gravitate toward.”

A final design is due in four months.

“If Jima is ready to kick it off, we could call a special meeting in January,” Sizeland said.

“Make sure all the stakeholders are invited to attend and, of course, all the neighbors, too,” Turnbull said.

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Grosse Pointe News

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City of Grosse Pointe

Dishwasher fire

Units responded to the report of a dishwasher fire in the 16000 block of St. Paul at 10:15 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13.

Upon arrival, flames were seen coming from the control panel and extinguished using a dry chemical extinguisher.

Back for seconds

Although already wanted for an assault that previously took place in the Farms, a 26-year-old Detroit woman and 37-year-old Detroit man were located at 11:50 a.m. Friday, Dec. 16, at a business in the 16000 block of Kercheval while attempting to steal approximately \$35 worth of wine.

Stealing suspects

Two black men driving a black Ford Fusion were seen stealing an unknown amount of Red Bull energy drinks and meat products from a business in the 16000 block of Kercheval at 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 18.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Hears clatter

A man living in the 1400 block of Wayburn looked out his bedroom window at 3:15 a.m. Monday, Dec. 19, to see

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

an unknown person or persons using a GMC Envoy to push his 2020 Jeep Grand Cherokee from the driveway.

“Both vehicles (were) later recovered, unoccupied, in Detroit,” according to Park police.

Attempted auto theft

A resident of the 1200 block of Maryland discovered mid-morning Friday, Dec. 16, that someone during the prior 18 hours had smashed the driver-side door of her 2011 Honda CVR parked curbside.

“(The) steering column was also damaged, indicating an attempt was made to steal the vehicle,” a detective said.

Unlocked vehicles

All the stuff the Grosse Pointe News reported Dec. 8, about criminals capitalizing on unlocked parked vehicles is true. A set of car B&Es confirms it. Again.

Overnight Wednesday, Dec. 14, or early the next morning in the 900 block of Balfour: 1) wallet taken from unlocked vehicle parked in driveway; 2) \$4 in change taken from you know what; 3) \$2 ditto.

Checking checks

Police are tracing a paper trail leading, they expect, to whomever

tapped a Park resident’s checking account.

On Tuesday, Dec. 13, the resident realized several unauthorized checks written from his business account had been cashed by as-yet-unknown people.

Package stolen

Someone Monday, Dec. 12, stole a package containing a \$497 Ted Baker jacket that an Amazon delivery driver placed on the front porch of a residence in the 1300 block of Somerset.

It is believed the incident happened around 5 p.m.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Electrical problems

A 69-year-old Grosse Pointe Park woman was ticketed for operating a vehicle while intoxicated after crashing on southbound Lakeshore near Renaud around 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14.

When officers arrived they found her 2017 burgundy Lincoln MKC between the curb and sidewalk with front-end damage. Asked what

occurred, the woman told officers her vehicle was having “electrical problems.” Asked where she was coming from, she replied “Grosse Pointe.”

The woman could not complete a preliminary breath test, but due to the odor of alcohol on her breath and her unsteady movements, she was ticketed and released to her husband.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Skating away

A Vendome resident reported around 7:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, that his 2021 black Dodge Ram was stolen from his driveway sometime overnight after 8 p.m. the previous day.

The man said he thought he left a key fob in the vehicle and locked it with a second key fob, but later found that he still had both key fobs in his possession. Some \$600 worth of youth hockey equipment was in the vehicle.

Bye-bye

An abandoned 2011 Mitsubishi Outlander was towed in the 200 block of McMillan around 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, Dec. 15. It had received a 48-hour notice sticker Tuesday, Dec. 6.

Stealing spree

A 37-year-old Muskegon man and 26-year-old Detroit woman stole three bottles of liquor from a grocery store in the 18200 block of Mack and left despite attempts by witnesses to stop them around 4:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16.

A description of their vehicle led a City of Grosse Pointe officer to locate them at another grocery store on Kercheval in The Village a short time later, where they were attempting to do the same. They were ticketed for retail fraud.

Snow good

A Hillcrest resident reported around 12:45 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, that a red Toro snowblower was stolen from her detached garage. She told officers she did not close the garage door when she left home

earlier in the day.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Busy night

Officers are investigating five cases of vehicles being broken into and a variety of items stolen the night of Thursday, Dec. 15.

The larcenies occurred on Renaud, Oxford, Sunningdale and Linville. Items stolen ranged from wallets to boxes of fruit to wrapped Christmas gifts and various amounts of cash.

One resident on Sunningdale said security footage revealed four men getting out of a dark SUV and going through their vehicle.

— Ted O’Neil
Report information about this and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety, (313) 343-2400.



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Grosse Pointe News

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GUEST VIEW

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

Dear Editor:
I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?
VIRGINIA O'HANLON
115 West Ninety-Fifth Street.

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.
Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence.
We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.
Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.
You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.
No Santa Claus! Thank God! He lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.
An annual tradition reprinted from the Sept. 21, 1897, The New York Sun.

GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST						
December 22-28						
THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
40° 34°	24° 12°	19° 9°	19° 7°	22° 7°	28° 21°	35° 28°
Cloudy	Snow	Snow Shwrs Windy	Flurries	Snow Showers	Sct'd Snow Showers	Snow Showers
60%	90%	70%	40%	50%	30%	50%
SUNRISE 7:58 am SUNSET 5:03 pm	SUNRISE 7:58 am SUNSET 5:03 pm	SUNRISE 7:59 am SUNSET 5:04 pm	SUNRISE 7:59 am SUNSET 5:04 pm	SUNRISE 8:00 am SUNSET 5:05 pm	SUNRISE 8:00 am SUNSET 5:06 pm	SUNRISE 8:00 am SUNSET 5:06 pm

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

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ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

Birds of feather flock together, especially when putting the final touches on holiday celebrations. We wish you and your brood a memorable season of warmth, whimsy, wonder and unwrapping.

OUR VIEW

Christmastime can bring the blues

Elvis Presley once sang about having a blue Christmas because he was forlorn about no longer being with the one he loved.
Some churches around the country even hold services to mark an actual "Blue Christmas," which takes place on or around Dec. 21, during the Winter Solstice, the longest night of the year. The concept behind the Blue Christmas service is to comfort those who are grieving and struggling to find joy and hope during the season.
While we here at the Grosse Pointe News love to cover the fun and festivity of the season, we also recognize that its furious pace can occasionally overwhelm even the most committed extroverts with the demands of gift-giving, social engagements and family interactions. While it can be stressful, most Pointers still enjoy the beautiful lights on the tree, parties and presents as we celebrate being together with friends and family.
But for some, what's supposed to be the most wonderful time of the year can exacerbate symptoms associated with serious mental health issues. A recent survey conducted by the American Psychological Association found that more than 38 percent of people felt increased levels of not only stress, but also depression and anxiety during the holidays. Respondents also reported more instances of seasonal-related substance abuse.
In another just-released study of 2,100 Americans conducted by ValuePenguin, a consumer research organization, 55 percent of Americans said they are experiencing the holiday blues this season. Many report their loneliness is worse than last year. Gen Z'ers and single adults reported feeling lonelier than their counterparts at 75 percent and 65 percent, respectively. Among the top reasons given for loneliness are not being around loved ones (41 percent), seasonal depression (37 percent) and grief (36 percent).
Of note, more than 25 percent of Gen Z'ers and millennials attribute their loneliness to — you guessed it — social media.
But whether false picture-perfect images on social media or something else prompts a person's angst, local experts from The Family Center in Grosse Pointe Woods say it's essential to identify what triggers your sadness and stress during the holidays

and to find ways to successfully navigate through them, including:
◆ **Stop scrolling.** If social media intensifies your holiday sadness, reduce your screen time. Nearly 20 percent of Americans report they are taking a break from it to cope with holiday loneliness.
◆ **Stay namaste:** The Family Center experts recommend practicing mindfulness to help you stay in the moment during the holidays, even if it's doing an unwelcome task like dishes. For example, take time to notice the bubbles building in the sink, enjoy the warm water or the satisfying sound of squeaky clean dishes.
◆ **Stay flexible.** Creating the high expectation of a Norman Rockwell scene on Christmas morning or finding true love on New Year's Eve like in the movies may set you up for failure. Go with the flow and try to enjoy exactly what is happening, even if it's a little chaotic when the presents get torn open or plans go sideways.
◆ **Stay grateful.** Keeping a list of all of the things you are grateful for can help reframe your mindset. Instead of being bogged down by negative thoughts and stress, a list can serve as a great reminder of all that is good in your life.
If you are feeling increasingly lonely, depressed or isolated this holiday season, we encourage you to let someone know how you are feeling. Start by reaching out to a trusted friend or family member. In the most serious cases, there is immediate help through the National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline — pick up your phone and dial the number 988.
If you see someone struggling, even a little, reach out and connect with them. If you know someone who has suffered the loss of a loved one this year, be extra attentive. If you have an elderly neighbor who lives alone, drop off a tray of cookies or offer to hang a festive wreath on their door. Little gestures can make people feel connected, valued and less alone.
The holidays are cherished by some but can be extremely challenging for others, who likely are to suffer in silence. Our wish for all of our readers is that this holiday season is one filled with community, family, celebration and love. Grosse Pointers have always demonstrated a kind, compassionate and neighborly spirit toward one another. Let's look out for each other and show that in abundance this holiday season.

LETTERS

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

A different take

To the Editor:
As a neighbor who lives directly across the street from the proposed Village apartment project, I have a different take than Joseph Muzingo, last week's Guest Opinion writer. My family has been in this 90-year-old house since 1960, and the time is approaching when it will be too much for me

to maintain. When that time comes, it would be nice not to be forced to leave the community for lack of housing options. I have no objection to it being rentals as a rental apartment would be per-take for me and anyone else not wanting to sink all of their savings into a new home requiring personal maintenance.
Over the years my proximity to The Village has allowed me the abil-

ity to take care of most of my daily needs without the use of my car and while the empty green lot has made for a nice view for the past 20-plus years, it was not really usable as a neighborhood resource.
The Village is the perfect place for this kind of development and contrary to the writer's claim, there was outreach to the immediate neighbors by the developers long before the published article in the News. I find that in my discussion with other seniors that, while there may be some quibbles about the details (a few more two-bedrooms maybe), there is a lot of support for this project. And it is not just seniors as it has been shown in recent years that young people also gravitate to places with walkable neighborhoods and convenient amenities. There

is little doubt that The Village merchants would benefit from the additional foot traffic that would be generated by this project, not even to mention the City tax coffers.
While there is no shortage of big houses in the Grosse Pointes for people who want or need them, there is also a need for more modest housing for singles and people wanting to down-size.
KURT SHUCK
City of Grosse Pointe
Re: health clinic
To the Editor:
In the infinite wisdom of the GPPSS, I just want to know who sold them on this project. I want to hire this individual right away as he/she demonstrates the qualities of selling ice to an eskimo!
CHRIS BOETTCHER
City of Grosse Pointe

The opinions expressed in letters and guest columns are not necessarily views shared by the Grosse Pointe News.

I SAY By Laurel Kraus

Celebrate the hope of Jesus this Christmas



It's the busiest time of the year. Ironical that the month synonymous with the birth of Christ is exactly when we don't have time for God. Between children's Christmas concerts, packing in holiday activities with friends and family, and finding that perfect gift to express your love for each person on your list, it's more than easy to get swept up in the holiday season and forget, in Peanuts character Linus' words, what Christmas is all about. The true meaning and very essence of Christmas is originally recorded in the second chapter of Luke in the Bible and perhaps best recited by Linus in "A Charlie Brown Christmas:" "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. "And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them:

and they were sore afraid. "And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. "And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.' "And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." In a striking work of storytelling, Linus drops his blanket — a security blanket and object of comfort his character had never before let go of — as he utters the words, "Fear not." On a similar note, variations of "fear not" and "be not afraid" are said to be the most repeated commands in the Bible. While integral to surviving day-to-day life with any semblance of peace of mind, these phrases are not often connected to the spirit of Christmas, yet the correlation really is hidden in plain sight. It is because of the birth that Christmas cel-

brates — when God became fully like us, including experiencing all the suffering we do, to die on the cross for our sins — that we can have the promise of eternal life with our loved ones, simply through repentance and accepting Jesus as the son of God. Never has someone paid such a high price to give something away for so little. In 2020, the world was plummeted into a state of fear and since then — despite our resilient insistence that each year is a fresh start as the calendar flips to January — that fear only seems to be growing bigger and more suffocating. We need the hope of Jesus — and the hope that someone far greater than ourselves is in control — now more than ever. Whether your particular brand of ever-present anxiety is linked to COVID, inflation, health of loved ones or the state of the world, there is true peace in being able to say, and truly believe, that God is in control. Even if some problems are too big for us to handle, no problems are too big for God. Between all the wonder and joy of pajamas, crackling fireplaces and presents this Christmas,

don't forget to take a few moments to acknowledge what it's really all about and thank God for the greatest gift ever given.

Thank you

for supporting our community through the Grosse Pointe News

Dear Reader,

I wanted to take a moment to thank you for supporting local journalism, especially the Grosse Pointe News. After 82 years and so much change in the world, we are adapting and are thrilled to report that we have more advertisers than ever, and our subscriptions are 10 percent higher than two years ago. Digitally, our social media channels have more than doubled, and you can now find us on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and even TikTok.

But fear not, our main business is still our newspaper — the kind you can hold in your hands and feel that satisfaction, as you turn it page-by-page.

We pride ourselves on having professional local editors and reporters covering news from each of our five cities (we are so fortunate to be able to say this, as it's sadly uncommon these days.) We also work on providing additional coverage from St. Clair Shores and Harper Woods. We have expanded sports coverage, have added several columns this year, are innovating our subscription portal, have started to offer business services such as social media marketing and much more.

Without you, our loyal subscribers, none of this would be possible. And for that we are very grateful. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts.

Your friend in the newspaper business,
Anne Grygenia
Publisher

Grosse Pointe News

grossepointenews.com

New phones save money

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Dropped calls and lost transfers should be less of an occurrence when an upgraded telephone system is installed at city hall. "One of the challenges we've had is if somebody calls city hall, we could not transfer to the department of public works," City Manager Nick Sizeland said. "We have to hang up and then call DPW." There's also no backup connectivity if the primary circuit, which handles multiple transmissions simultaneously, fails. A new phone system the city council approved last month improves call transfers while saving money on municipal phone service. A united council Nov. 28 approved a five-year,

\$56,202 total contract with Centaris information technology services, based in Sterling

Heights, for a phone system compatible with the more modern aspects of the city's communication infrastructure. See PHONES, page 9A

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Merry Christmas AND A Safe New Year

2023 Wish List

- Fixed the "Damn" sidewalks
- Clean-up the Moross/Mack intersection
- Pickleball Courts for Pier Park

For more details Contact joericci1@aol.com

Joe Ricci
Farms Councilman
Mayor Pro Tem Ex Facto

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8A | SCHOOLS

North student charged in school threat case

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — A Grosse Pointe North High School student is charged with making a false report or threat of terrorism after a brief lockdown at the school Monday, Dec. 19.

According to a press release from Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy, the 14-year-old female had a preliminary hearing Tuesday, Dec. 20, at the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Center.

She was given a \$2,000/10 percent cash bond and ordered to comply with school disciplinary action and continue therapy services. Her next court date is Feb. 28, 2023.

An email sent to parents Monday afternoon by the Grosse Pointe Public School System said the lockdown was requested by the Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety Department. Officers responded to the building

and determined there was no threat. The Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety Department also responded.

“We are grateful for the quick response from our public safety officers and the organized and appropriate response from our administrators and staff at North,” Superintendent Jon Dean wrote in an email to families.

A later communication from Dean indicated,

“School administration and the police have identified and detained a North student who is potentially responsible for this situation. At no time did the student have a firearm on their person.”

After the 35-minute lockdown was lifted, parents were able to pick up their children early at the school’s main office or give school officials permission to let students with their own vehicles leave early.

A post on the district’s Facebook page said students were allowed to leave at 1:45 p.m. once students and staff were deemed to be safe and all after-school sports and activities Monday were canceled.

—Ted O’Neil

GPPSS offers Parent Info Nights

The Grosse Pointe Public School System presents its Middle School/Fifth Grade Info Night on Tuesday, Jan. 10; Incoming Freshman Info Night on Wednesday, Jan. 11; and Kindergarten and Young Fives Info Night on Thursday, Jan. 12. All sessions are from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Families who are unable to attend may contact the building principal for a tour or go to gpschools.org to request a tour

(under “About GPPSS”). Enrollment for fall 2023 opens Jan. 13. Visit gpschools.org for more information or contact info@gpschools.org or the building principal with questions.



RECOUNT:

Continued from page 1A

Woods. That precinct within the Woods could not be recounted after it was discovered there were 20 ballots missing from the sealed envelopes delivered to the county.

Woods Clerk Paul Antolin told the board of canvassers they were found inside a counting machine at city hall. Antolin was not available at press time to discuss what caused that to happen.

All 10 candidates saw their vote total change by a handful, either up or down. Sean Cotton, the top vote-getter on Election Day, gained eight votes, up to 12,500. Valarie St. John, who finished second with 10,712, now has 10,717. Cotton, St. John and Jeup will be seated when the board holds its organizational meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4, at Brownell Middle School.

The day after the certification, Nov. 23, Klepp announced he would petition for a recount and filed that paperwork Nov. 28. Klepp also paid a deposit of \$1,050 to initiate the process. The full cost of the recount, yet to be determined, will be paid by GPPSS taxpayers.

The board in early December voted 4-0 to approve Klepp’s petition while also denying an objection filed by Jeup and Cotton through their attorneys, as well as an objection from Terry Collins, who finished sixth in the race.

“It’s a very detailed and thorough process, but I didn’t know what to expect having never done this before,” Klepp said. “The largest discrepancies were in the Woods, especially the absentee voting.”

When asked if he would consider running again, Klepp paused and said, “too soon, too soon.”

Jeup was not available for comment at press

time.

The recount began Wednesday, Dec. 14, with county employees going through more than 31,000 ballots by hand and tallying votes for all 10 candidates.

After the first day, with 10 precincts completed, Klepp had gained three votes and Jeup lost one. Day two saw Klepp gain 14 votes and Jeup five, for a net gain of nine for Klepp.

The biggest change Thursday saw Klepp gain five votes and Jeup gain four votes in absentee ballots for precinct 1 in the Woods.

Friday saw Klepp gain seven votes while Jeup picked up three. That included Klepp gaining five votes from absentee ballots in precinct 2 in the Woods.

When the recount resumed Monday morning, Jeup’s overall lead stood at two votes, with Klepp having picked up a net 17 votes and Jeup a net four votes.

CLINIC:

Continued from page 1A

Papas referred to an information sheet the district created prior to the 2019 vote that said the revenue would be used to pay for projects that keep buildings and grounds in “safe and good condition.”

“This is irresponsible and we’re not talking chump change,” Papas said. “This is corporate welfare and we’re taking the money off the backs of our children.”

Ismail said he is not opposed to the concept of the clinic, but rather the funding source.

“The sinking fund was never proposed to the public for anything other

than to fix buildings we can’t afford from the general fund,” he said. “This is a coffin nail to passing any sinking fund in the future.”

Turner Construction was awarded the final contract to build out the clinic in an unused science lab at North. Construction and project management will cost \$915,716. The district also agreed to set aside a contingency fund of \$73,262 to cover cost overruns, bringing the guaranteed maximum price to \$988,978

The district will retain any unused portion of the contingency.

There was no cost mentioned when the plan first was announced in a May districtwide news-

letter.

Discussion at the two board meetings in November included mention of a \$700,000 price tag, which also was part of an FAQ page on the district website that has since been updated. That price jumped to \$915,000 at a Facilities Committee meeting in early December and the full cost was revealed at the board’s work session Dec. 12.

Superintendent Jon Dean previously told the Grosse Pointe News that the \$700,000 figure came from a development and design estimate Turner provided in August. He added that the cost increased after Turner received bids from its subcontractors.

Work on the clinic will include a separate HVAC and sanitary system, as required by state law for a clinic to be located in a school, plus a security system for an outside entrance and one inside the school.

The clinic will be run by Corewell, formerly Beaumont Health, through a grant from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. It will be available to students and adults up to age 21 in the Pointes and Harper Woods.

Brumbaugh, noting that several people have called on the board to table the issue and reconsider, said that would serve to drive up the price even higher.

“We have \$252 million in critical needs over the next 10 years,” he said. “There will always be projects where we could do something else with the money.”

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Tribute concert benefits ULS alum memorial fund

University Liggett School kicked off the Larry Lees '97 Memorial Sound Fund fundraising effort with a concert Nov. 26, in tribute to the alumnus who passed away March 2022, at age 42.

The Larry Lees '97 Memorial Sound Fund was established in memory of Lees to provide ongoing support for upgrades to the school's theater sound system and future technology needs in the ULS auditorium.

While a student at ULS, Lees advocated for using wireless microphones for performances; thanks to his leadership and encouragement, in the late 1990s the school purchased its first set of five wireless mics for use onstage — some of which are still in use at the school today.

More than 100 friends, family and alumni attended the two-hour concert, which paid tribute to Lees and his years as an active and influential member of the theater and performing arts community at ULS. A company of more than a dozen performers and musicians — led by Broadway per-



COURTESY PHOTOS

Stacie Hadgikosti Mitchell and J. Oconer Navarro sang "It Takes Two" from "Into the Woods."

formers J. Oconer Navarro, Class of 2000, and Leonard Sullivan, Class of 1997, as well as musician Paul Rossen, Class of 2000 — performed songs and scenes from the productions in which Lees took part as a student. More than a dozen classmates and ULS administrators who were unable to attend shared their memories and tributes to Lees via video.

Lees attended ULS from eighth through 12th grade and was instrumental in changing how the-

ater was presented at the school. He was the first student to student-direct a show and he encouraged his classmates to take leadership roles on subsequent productions. He convinced classmate Leonard Sullivan, a well-known dancer in the area, to become the first student to choreograph a show.

By the time of his graduation, the theater department had transformed from primarily adult-led productions to student-led productions, with students taking the lead in



Larry Lees was posthumously inducted into the Alumni Arts Hall of Fame during the concert. Phill Moss presents Larry Lees Sr. and Diane Lees with a commemorative statuette to mark the honor.

every area of a show's creation, from lighting and sound to costumes and makeup to vocal coaching and choreography.

"All of our shows since the late '90s have had significant student leadership and that was due to Larry and his leadership, his drive and his vision," said Phill Moss, ULS creative and performing arts department chair. "You can look on the wall in the auditorium and see the names of all the shows we've done since then and reflect on the leadership those students provided. This was the group that started that."

Contributions to the Larry Lees '97 Memorial Sound Fund may be made at uls.org/giving/larry-lees-memorial/.

PHONES:

Continued from page 7A

structure.

"The city has a fiber data connection between our building and the City of Grosse Pointe for (public safety) dispatch services to allow us to move calls back and forth between the two cities seamlessly," Sizeland said. "Our current phone system is a five-year-old analogy system using copper wire."

The new system replaces the current one with connections made

over the internet.

A contractor currently maintaining the phone system charges \$171 per month more than the deal with Centaris.

"We've always talked about getting new phones," Sizeland said. "This gives us that ability while saving costs."

"I like budget relief," Mayor Michele Hodges said.

"I made a similar move at my business a few years back," Councilman Max Wiener said. "The financial ramifications were similar. It's a no-brainer to do this."

— Brad Lindberg

The company of performers included more than a dozen alumni singers, musicians and tech support from the classes of 1996 to 2001. The company also included two current ULS students.



Correction

The article "Taxpayers on hook for GPSS recount," published in the Dec. 8 edition, should have quoted Superintendent Jon Dean as saying, "Per state law, a recount is a matter between a candidate and election officials."

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OVER-THE-RANGE MICROWAVE: 1.9 cu. ft., Sensor cooking, 1000 watts (JVM7195SKSS)

DISHWASHER: Dry Boost™, Steam + Sani, 48 dBA quiet (GDP645SYNFS)


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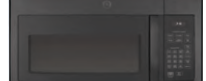
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PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

More than 70 kegs were used to form a Christmas “tree” at Atwater in the Park.

Keg-styled Christmas

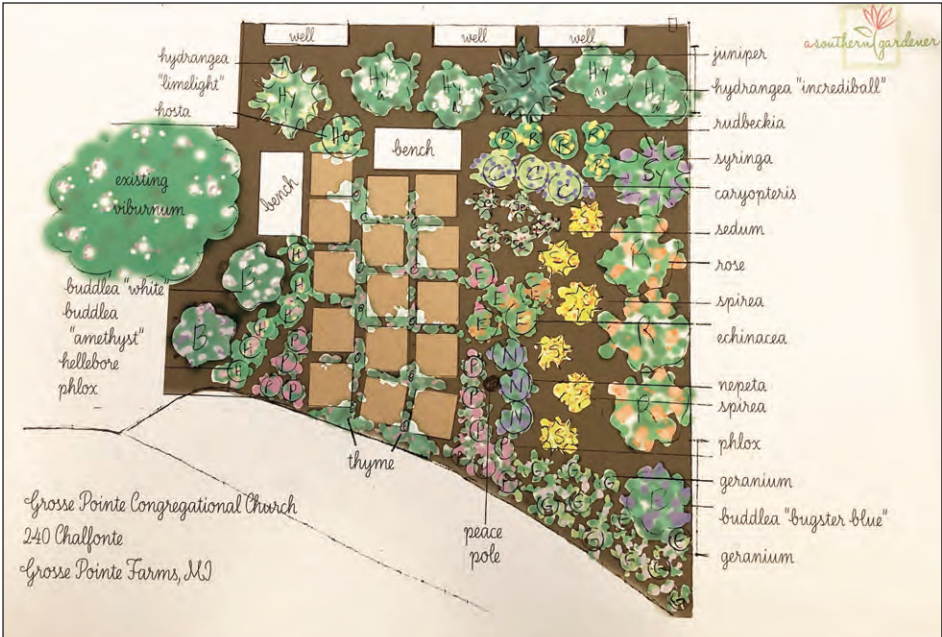
Atwater in the Park builds, lights unique holiday ‘tree’

There’s quite a sight to see in the biergarten at Atwater in the Park. For the first time, the brewery has constructed a Christmas tree made out of kegs, even hosting a tree-lighting ceremony Wednesday, Dec. 15. Seventy-six kegs are secured with banding around and throughout the tower, offering passersby a unique photo opportunity while on strolls through the Park. “We had such a great turnout (at the lighting ceremony) that we’re going to make this an annual tradition,” said Katy McBrady, president of Atwater Brewery. “We would love for people to pop by and check it out, take photos in front of it. It is open to the public.” McBrady, who has been with Atwater just eight months, came up with the idea while chatting with a representative of the Grosse Pointe News about what Atwater has previously done to celebrate the holidays. “We talked about the tree-lightings around metro Detroit,” she recalled. “To get a tree like the one they’ve got in downtown Detroit, you have to plan for it months in advance.” With no hulking tree in sight, McBrady focused on what Atwater does have plenty of: kegs. “We used what we could,” she laughed. It took a full day’s work assembling and securing the tree, and a handful of hours decorating it. “(When) we fired it up, people seemed excited about it,” McBrady said. “It’s a great way for the community to walk up and celebrate Christmas and celebrate a great Detroit brand.” “I encourage people to come down and check it out,” McBrady said. “We did the keg lighting and also started brewing beer in Grosse Pointe Park again.” For more information, visit atwaterbeer.com. — Jody McVeigh

‘Peace on Earth’ all year long

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church kicked off last spring by planting a peace garden, covering an unused patch of land to the left of the building’s main entrance. More recently, it hammered home its message of peace with the installation of a peace pole amidst the flora. “It’s in eight different languages, plus Braille,” said the Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver, lead pastor at Congregational Church. “No mater how you read, whatever fits your ability, you’ll be able to read, ‘May peace prevail on Earth.’” The message is shared in English, French, Spanish, Swahili, Mandarin, Hebrew, Arabic, American Sign Language and Braille. The pole was planted just before Thanksgiving, in time to coincide with an interfaith service at the church. One of the illustrations Yeager-Stiver used in his message was based on the movie, “Miracle at Midnight,” streaming on DisneyPlus. “The gist of it is in Denmark,” he said. “When the Nazis were



PHOTOS BY JODY MCVEIGH

Above, the garden was designed for Grosse Pointe Congregational Church by Mil Hurley, founder of A Southern Gardner and Moross Greenway Project board member. Right, the Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver stands by the peace pole, which was installed just before Thanksgiving.

coming in, people hid Jewish folks. The Danes hid everybody or helped them get out of the country. When the Jewish families returned, they found that their homes were pristine, their businesses had been cared for. It was a testimony of the Danes being able to come together. The message was, with different faith groups, we’re here for each other and we’re supposed to support each other. “... The key thing (with the peace pole) is we should be making peace,” he added. “Be that political peace or peace in the schools — the list is long — we need to be making peace with each other. Stop the rhetoric, stop the hate. It’s unbecoming. Whether you’re a Christian or some other faith, the arguing and the disagreeing is immature.” The message Yeager-Stiver hopes to impart is

one of caring for one’s neighbor. He first learned peace poles while attending Manchester College, now Manchester University. “For me, it’s the vision,” he said. “It goes back to a historic vision that, as Americans, we should not be policing the world, but being a peaceful nation. We’ve stumbled at times, but it’s supposed to be that we care for our neighbors.” Surrounding the pole



in better weather is a garden featuring multiple varieties of flowers, including juniper, rose, hydrangea, sedum, phlox, geranium and others. An assortment of plants will attract pollinators, Yeager-Stiver said. “It’s the first spot people come to,” he said, “so we wanted to dress it up. “... Mil Hurley with the Moross Greenway Project designed, planned and planted everything,” he added. “It will grow in early and come up late, so there will be something there all year — a constant flurry of colors and smells.” Stepping stones lead to

See PEACE, page 4B

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Racing For Kids plays Santa with special Christmas visit

Racing For Kids kicked off the holiday season with a special visit to hospitalized children at Ascension St. John Hospital in Detroit. The visit was a Christmas gift “drop off” to help brighten a hospital stay for many metro Detroit children.

For the visit, some of Santa’s best elves — Racing For Kids’ Linda Finger and Pat and Debby Wright — stopped by the hospital Friday, Dec. 16, with bags full of gifts for the kids. Each child received a “Star Night” rotating planet night light projector to magically transform their hospital room ceiling into a sky galaxy constellation.

Racing For Kids’ CEO Pat Wright explained, “These past three years have been tough, especially for hospitalized kids who haven’t been

able to have visitors to take their minds off their tests and treatments. We’re hoping these rotating galaxy lamps will bring a little magic into their rooms to comfort and entertain them during their recovery.”

On hand to receive the presents was Child Life Specialist Genevieve Brown.

Since 1989, Racing For Kids has used the popularity of motorsports to raise funding and awareness of children’s healthcare needs. At the heart of the mission are driver visits to hospitalized children, bringing the excitement of the auto racing world, as well as hats and toys, to their bedsides. Racing For Kids also make donations to the hospitals they visit, with the funds earmarked for special therapies or for playroom development.

Founded in 1989 and celebrating its 34rd anniversary next year, Racing For Kids has touched the lives more than 45,000 children in more than 750 children’s hospital visits in the United States, Brazil, Canada, Mexico, Japan and Australia. It has raised nearly \$8 million for the hospitals visited and other children’s health institutions.

Major sponsors of Racing For Kids include TranSystems, Bridgestone Firestone Trust Fund, Douglas E. Fregin, Michael B. McCallister, Humana, the Cotton family, Wells Fargo and Benson Ford Jr. Racing For Kids is a charity partner of the IndyCar Series, as well as the official charity of Historic Sportscar Racing.

For more information, visit racingforkids.org.



Racing For Kids representatives Linda Finger, left, and Debby and Pat Wright met with Ascension St. John Child Life Specialist Genevieve Brown, second from left, to deliver gifts for children hospitalized at Ascension St. John during the holidays.

COURTESY PHOTO

GP Symphony searching for new French horn player

Auditions slated Jan. 15

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

It’s not often there’s an opening in the Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra. Typically, members hold on to their seats for the long term, committing to the organization, which currently is midway through its 69th season.

That’s exactly the kind of commitment hoped for as the organization searches for a new principal French horn. The seat is open after Virginia Cunningham decided to retire after 22 years with the symphony, though her experience started years before.

“Through the years I’ve played with at least a dozen of the regional orchestras and did a couple years with the Windsor Symphony,” Cunningham said. “In the Washington, D.C., area I did some commercial playing — including being in the pit for Sonny

and Cher, when they toured with Steve Martin as the warm-up comedian — and did extra plus subbing with the National Symphony Orchestra under (conductor Antal) Dorati.”

Cunningham landed in Detroit in 1974, and played with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra under two different conductors, including Dorati. In 2000, she joined the brass section of the Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra.

“She has been a sweet friend and I’m sorry to see her go,” said Nancy Sutton, the symphony’s personnel manager and principal flutist.

Sutton is spearheading the hunt for Cunningham’s replacement.

“There are four horns in the orchestra; the whole brass section is really strong,” Sutton said. “We’re looking to get a good, strong, accomplished, educated



horn player — professional or semi-professional.”

Auditions already have begun, though Sutton is taking a “the more, the merrier” approach. The symphony will host formal French horn audi-

tions beginning at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15, at St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms.

“Most of the people we’re auditioning already have music degrees, but that’s not a requirement,” Sutton said.

What is required is the player’s commitment to the orchestra.

“We’re looking for someone who stays long term,” she explained. “And they have to be available for Wednesday rehearsals and Sunday concerts.”

The symphony’s season runs October through April and includes four concerts; an additional summer performance is a bonus. Each concert features a professional soloist — for example, someone from the Detroit

Symphony Orchestra or a professional opera singer.

Each performance requires three rehearsals. In advance of its concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26, rehearsals are scheduled at 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 8, 15 and 22.

The April 23 season finale, which Sutton said should tempt more than a few hopefuls to audition, includes Rimsky Korsakov’s “Scheherezade.”

Another enticement, she added, is that it is a paid position.

And despite its namesake, musicians are invited from outside of Grosse Pointe as well.

“If you want to add to your playing schedule, this is a really fulfilling way to do that,” said Sutton, who has been a part of the symphony since 1984.

Her greatest delight is “being able to play the classical music I studied,” she said. “It’s thrilling to be able to play with these amazing musicians. It’s fun. And it’s challenging sometimes, but who doesn’t

like a good challenge? “... A lot of times it’s something you already know or have played before,” she added. “Sometimes it’s easy, sometimes it’s hard. But if you’re at all interested, just come and give it a try.”

The Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra, which includes approximately 65 members and is conducted by Joseph Striplin, was formed in 1953. In the foreseeable future, the organization — along with Grosse Pointe Theatre, Grosse Pointe Community Chorus and Detroit Concert Choir — will move into its new home at the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Center for the Performing Arts.

“The Schaap Center — a cultural arts center with an art gallery and auditorium — will become the symphony’s new rehearsal and concert venue,” Sutton said. “Groundbreaking is scheduled for early 2023, opening in 2025. It features a world-class performing arts center with state-of-the-art acoustics and lighting.”

For additional audition information, email Sutton at artemis01959@hotmail.com or visit gpsymphony.org.

Required audition materials

Mozart’s Horn Concerto No. 2, first movement (exposition)
Strauss’s “Till Eulenspiegel’s Merry Pranks” — horn call
Wagner’s “Siegfried Rhine Journey” — horn call
Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 5, movement II, mm 8-28
Brahms’s Symphony No. 1, movement II, mm 85-115
Sight reading also will be provided.
Candidates should bring two copies of their resumes to the audition or email one in advance.
For more information, visit gpsymphony.org.



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Join us as we celebrate the meaning and wonder of Christmas

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve service, 9 pm
Dec. 25 Christmas morning service, 11 am

View all services via livestream
<https://gpumc.info/SundayMorningWorship>

Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church
211 Moross Road, GP Farms
www.gpumc.org
313-886-2363



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.

Janice Hackenberger

Janice Hackenberger, 83, of Grosse Pointe, died peacefully Monday, Dec. 12, 2022, surrounded by loved ones.

Janice was born June 21, 1939, in Detroit, to Joseph and Lillian Raff. She graduated from Denby High School in 1957, and began working for National Bank of Detroit.

Janice married the love of her life, Jim, in 1960, marking the beginning of a beautiful, 59-year partnership that ended with Jim's passing in 2019. Jim and Janice shared not only a great romance, but also a wry sense of humor, marked by her moniker as "Jim's first wife" to the very end.

Janice was a loving wife and mother. From making home-cooked meals every evening to chauffeuring her children to endless sport practices, Janice always put her family first. Once her children were grown, she grew her mind by working in public accounting. Janice always was the best speller in the family and then proved numbers were her friends too.

Janice had the gift of gab; no matter where she was, she never met a stranger with whom she couldn't spark up a conversation — something for which her children often gave her grief. In her spare time, she loved doting on her grandchildren, gardening, meeting friends for coffee, watching the sun rise and set on Marco Island and taking in Michigan football games.

Janice is survived by her brother, Bob (Patricia); children, Sue (Bob), John (Cathy) and Nancy (Ted);

and grandchildren, Amy, Samantha, Paige, Zach, Ryan, Sarah, Grace and Mason.

A celebration of Janice's life will take place at a future date.

Edward J. Schwartz

Edward J. Schwartz passed away Saturday, Dec. 3, 2022, at Ascension St. John Hospital.

Edward was born Aug. 8, 1930, in Detroit, and raised in Roseville. He met the love of his life, Marieanne, in school when they were both 14. They were married May 27, 1950, at age 19. Ed served in the U.S. Army, then the Army Reserves for three years. He also volunteered as a police officer for the city of Harper Woods for many years.

Edward worked as an apprentice tool and die maker at various companies, and eventually became lead die maker at Hillside Tool & Die Co., where he worked for 28 years. He later retired and bought his own tool and die company, Woolauer Tool & Die Co. He also became co-owner of another company, BAE.

Edward was an avid sportsman; boating, fishing and hunting were his passions. As a hobby, Ed took great pride in carving decoys and enjoyed drawing and painting as well. He and Marieanne loved boating and traveled the Great Lakes with their many friends. He was a former commodore of the Grosse Pointe Boat Club and a former member of the Grosse Pointe Power Squadron and Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. He and Marieanne were members of First English

Evangelical Lutheran Church more than 50 years.

Ed and Marieanne lived in Grosse Pointe Woods more than 30 years, then fulfilled their lifelong dream of living in a house on Lake St. Clair.

Edward was predeceased by his wife, Marieanne; parents, Edward and Helen Schwartz; and sister, Dorothy Mae Jeffers. He was a loving father to his daughter, Denise Homuth (Scott); loving grandfather to Jeffrey Homuth (Amy) and Bradley Homuth (Kristin); and loving great-grandfather to Emery, Aurelia and Kallahan Homuth.

A funeral was held Dec. 8. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, cancer.org/involved/donate.

Eula Margo Hoover

Eula Margo Hoover (nee Horn), 92, of Grosse Pointe Woods, peacefully passed away Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2022.

Eula was born Dec. 17, 1929, in Chicago, to Cordelia and Forest Horn, but largely was raised on the family farm in Ohio, near Miami University.

Affectionately known to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren as "Grandma Kuku," in honor of the cuckoo clock at her home, Eula was a doting wife, mother, daughter, sister, grandmother and great-grandmother, as well as a loyal friend.

Eula graduated from Dixon Township High School in Ohio, then from Miami University, where she met her late husband, Dr. W.F. Hoover Sr., to whom she was married



Janice Hackenberger

for 57 years.

In addition to assuming the traditional role of a stay-at-home mom and wife, Eula held many jobs. Prior to having children, Eula taught school with her husband on an Air Force base in England, as well as in Ohio and at St. Clair Shores South Lake High School.

After having children, Eula became president of the International Childbirth Education Association and was a founder of Childbirth Information Service. Eula taught thousands of birthing classes to expecting couples and spread information on natural child birthing, via the Lamaze Method, across the country. She was a major force in getting fathers into the delivery room to support their wives.

At age 59, Eula rejoined the workforce. She spent about three years with the Lupus Foundation, before helping found the American Autoimmune Related Disease Association (now the A u t o i m m u n e Association), for which she wrote the national newsletter until her retirement at age 89.

Despite the strains on her time, she always was present for her kids' plays, concerts, recitals, athletic events, graduations and award ceremonies, and always was proud to see them acolyte during church services at the Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church.

Eula also was a regular at driving the kids to and from school, play dates and practices, and did much more to help raise



Edward J. Schwartz

her entire flock.

Eula was an amazing example, leaves a tremendous legacy and was greatly loved. She is survived by her children, Valerie Hoover Majcher and William Franklin Hoover Jr.; grandchildren, Lindsay (Jason), Kendall, Christine, Olivia, Billy III and Brooke; great-grandchildren, Hunter, Logan, Broderick, Aurora and Nova; brother, Victor Horn (Laura Jo); nieces, Karen Marchant (Jeffrey) and Andrea Fehr (Scott); and great-nieces and nephews, Andrea, Michael, John (Melisa) and Kyle.

Viewing took place at Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons in Sterling Heights, followed by a funeral service at Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church in Grosse Pointe Farms and burial at Memorial Burial Park in Wheelersburg, Ohio.

Mary Clor

Mary Clor, 63, passed away Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022, from pulmonary fibrosis.

Mary was born Oct. 26, 1959, in Detroit. She was a University of Detroit Mercy graduate and devoted the majority of her life working as a dietician with an emphasis on dialysis patients. She lived in Millville, Del., and pre-



Eula Margo Hoover



Mary Clor

viously lived in Chandler, Ariz., and Grosse Pointe. Mary is survived by her husband, James; daughters, Rachael Clor and Hannah Rouse (Andrew); granddaughters, Ella and Clara; brothers, Tom Vandenbussche (Susan), Mike Vandenbussche (T e r e s a) , Dave Vandenbussche (Shirley) and Rick Vandenbussche (Shari); and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mary was predeceased by her parents, Albert and Gertrude Vandenbussche (Koss); and brothers, Albert Vandenbussche Jr. and Mark Vandenbussche.

A memorial celebration of Mary's life will be held in July 2023. In lieu of flowers, the family asks to consider contribution to the Tri-State Basset Hound Rescue, tristate-bassets.org/info/donate; the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation, pulmonaryfibrosis.org; or the Disabled American Veterans, dav.org.

Holiday deadlines

Due to the Christmas holiday, the deadline to submit obituaries for the Dec. 29 edition of the Grosse Pointe News is 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 22. Email kbazzy@grossepointenews.com

AREA ACTIVITIES

Ford House

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

◆ Holiday Tea & Tour, noon, 12:15 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 22. Cost is \$55 for members, \$75 for non-members.

◆ Mistletoe Mingle, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29. Includes drinks light refreshments and a tour of the estate. Cost is \$45 for members, \$65 for nonmembers.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, Dec. 23, Ascension St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 23, Pointe Fitness, 19556 Harper, Harper Woods.

Register online at red crossblood.org.

Library

The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts a

variety of programs. To register for the following, visit grossepointelibrary.org.

◆ 5th & 6th Grade Book Group, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 27, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ ArtLab: Nom Nom Cookies, 2 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

GPAA

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association hosts "Imitating the Masters," oil-painting workshops with Donald Cronkhite. A John Singer Sargent portrait class takes place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 5 and 12. A Mary Cassatt portrait class takes place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 16 and 23. A Caravaggio portrait class takes place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, March 16 and 23. Cost is \$115 per class for members, \$135 per class for nonmembers, materials included. Visit grossepointeartcenter.org to register.

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association hosts "Acrylic Painting through

Thick and Thin with Valerie Allen," from 10

a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14. Early-bird prices end Jan. 9. Register at grossepointeartcenter.org.

Men's Club

The Men's Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next lunch and speaker

meeting at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10. Todd Bettison, deputy mayor of Detroit, speaks. Men and women visitors are welcome to attend the meeting. Cost is \$20 at the door. To reserve a seat, email gmcatten

dance@gmail.com or call (313) 550-9661.

The Helm

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

See EVENTS, page 4B

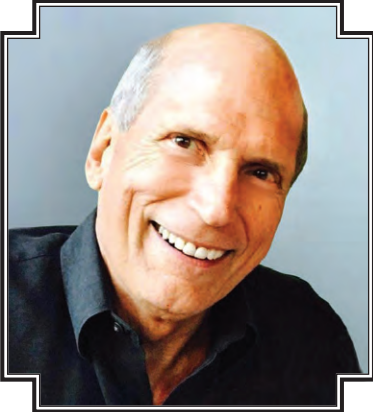
With great sadness, the family of Don R. Berschback shares that their cherished husband, father and grandfather died on Friday, Dec. 16, 2022, with his beloved wife of 56 years, Anne, at his side.

Born on July 7, 1942, Don met the love of his life, Anne, and they married in 1966, with children Martha and Donald F. II (Duff) born in 1967 and 1969. Daughter Katie perfected their family in 1978.

Don had a fierce devotion to family. He lived in the Grosse Pointe area his entire life, within three miles of five of his six siblings. Although possessing a meager dancing ability, he never missed a family wedding. Don's time spent with children and grandchildren was his love language. He didn't make a big deal of things—he just showed up. Some of the ways Dad showed his love for his children were countless trips to visit, attending endless sporting events and recitals and simple phone calls to check in. Most of all, Dad showed his truest self in his devotion to Anne. He lived out his vows and his faith with his sacrifice, selfless devotion and care for her.

Don was a longtime member and supporter of St. Clare of Montefalco Community and the Midwest Augustinians. Tending toward practical, he had a servant's heart, evidenced in the way he helped hundreds of people without notice or expectation of return. He wondered at the awe of God's creation; his 2018 Africa trip was one of the highlights of his life.

Don graduated from Austin Catholic



Don R. Berschback

Prep in 1960 and continued to the University of Detroit for his undergraduate studies. Don attended the University of Detroit Law School at night while he worked in labor relations at General Motors, as his father did. Graduating from U of D Law School in 1968, Don passed the Michigan Bar exam in 1969, then established a private law practice. His most rewarding work was using his skills to protect the weak, and especially the old. He never expected you to be particularly smart, but you'd better be prepared because you owed it to the noble profession of the law. Don loved and found great joy in work. He enjoyed success, mostly in the way it allowed him to express his generosity.

Don had an incredible work ethic, especially for maintaining his beautiful lawn. He had an unwavering sense of justice

and was loyal and dependable. Losing his parents early in life helped fix his priorities on things of lasting importance, and gave him a gregariousness from knowing that tomorrows are not guaranteed. His enthusiasm for golf and tennis overcame his modest athleticism. Humility came later in life for Dad, but it was beautiful to see. All those who benefitted from his fierce protection were grateful, but all those who got to experience his tenderness were truly blessed.

Despite health struggles near the end, Dad maintained a sunny outlook, sharing his contagious smile with all. He was grateful to God for all his many blessings, and for the time to reflect on them with those he loved most.

Don was predeceased by his father, Don F., and mother Charlotte. His is survived by his wife Anne Meyers Berschback; their three children, Martha Obenauer (Todd), Donald F. II (Kathryn) and Katie Cooper (Carlos); seven grandchildren: Raleigh, Donald F. III, Grayson, Piper, Juliet, Beckett and Deacon; and siblings Barbara (the late Rick Faubert), Tom (Mary Marie), Jim (Karen), Bob (Terri), Rick (Mary) and Chip (Suzy).

A funeral mass was held at St. Clare Catholic Church on Dec. 20. In lieu of any flowers, a tribute may be made to St. Clare of Montefalco Community in his honor and memory, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park, stclarem.org/electronic-giving, or the Midwest Augustinians, midwestaugustinians.org/donate.

4B | FEATURES

EVENTS:

Continued from page 3B

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

- ◆ Wise Guys conversation group for men, 9 to 10 a.m. Mondays.
- ◆ Canasta Club, noon to 4 p.m. Mondays.
- ◆ Body Alignment, 1 to 2 p.m. Mondays for beginners and 2:30 to 3:45 p.m. Mondays for intermediate students. Gwendolyn J. Scales instructs this free class.
- ◆ Watercolor Painting with Roselyn Rhodes, 2:30 to 4 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month. Cost is \$25 per class for members, \$35 per class for nonmembers.

Healthy GP

Healthy Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods meets

via Zoom at 8:30 a.m. the third Wednesday of each month. Its mission is to reduce substance abuse among youth and across the community, as well as promote optimal mental health through action, education and collaboration. Email Sasha Murphy at smurphy@careofsem.com.

Alliance Francaise

The Alliance Francaise de Grosse Pointe is an organization that promotes French culture through monthly activities for members. The group seeks members for its new membership year, which begins in September. It also offers French lessons for adults at Assumption Cultural Center, from September to May each year. Detailed membership and French classes information may be found at afdegrossepointe.org.

PEACE:

Continued from page 1B

two benches for quiet contemplation. Between the stones, patches of thyme were planted, “so when you step on it, it releases a fragrance,” Yeager-Stiver noted.

“It’s a peaceful spot,” he added. “There are two benches. It’s open 24-7 and there’s great lighting in the parking lot. It’s a nice way for people to come and embrace that stillness.”

Yeager-Stiver credited congregants Diane Strickler and Cathy Leverenz for getting the project rolling while he was away this summer.

“Diane says everything you do in life is faith and service put together,” he

said. “And Cathy, once I started planting a little bit of seed, it took off and grew. While I was on sabbatical during the summer, they were doing the behind-the-scenes stuff, empowering the congregation.”

Yeager-Stiver welcomes anyone in the community to come and sit and take in the peace garden and the message it sends.

“No matter our differences, we are a people of God,” he said. “We’re brothers and sisters in this together. ‘Peace on Earth’ means take care of our brothers. That was God’s message to all of us.”

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church is located at 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Tessa Weiczorek, left, and Eva Grose, students of Pierce Middle School art teacher Jane Plieth, painted the windows of Oxford Beverage. This is the third year Oxford has participated in the GPAA program. The money raised helps the GPAA pay the costs of free arts programming for veterans and senior citizens.

Getting in the holiday spirit

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association’s Promising Artists, working with National Art Honor Society advisor Sarah VanDagens, has been busy painting the windows of participating businesses with seasonal scenes, hoping to spread the joy of the holiday season while raising funds for the GPAA’s veterans and seniors art programs.

Left, pictured in front of their finished project at the Grosse Pointe News office are, from left, Vera Bresser, Lauren Winiarski, Sophia Martell, Charlie Goustra, Margo Murphy and National Art Honor Society Advisor Sarah VanDagens. Not pictured is student Anna Nyquist, who also participated.



Support for military families

Chandra Graves, head of the Family Readiness Group supporting military families at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Harrison Township, recently visited the Grosse Pointe Optimist Club. The Optimists are participating in the FRG’s Adopt-a-Military Family program to provide Christmas presents to military children this year. Pictured, Graves receives an Optimist Certificate of Appreciation from Dave Fries, club president.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KENT COMMER

CHURCH EVENT

St. Michael’s

The community is invited to Christmas Eve services at St. Michael’s Episcopal Church. At 4 p.m., the church offers a family service featuring the Christmas story, as told in music, song and Communion. At 7:30 p.m., the church shares a Celtic Christmas with readings, music and Communion by candlelight. St. Michael’s is located at 20475 Sunningdale Park, next to the Parcels field, Grosse Pointe Woods.

The Christmas Season at St. Ambrose Catholic Church

VIGIL OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Saturday, December 24, 2022,
Mini Concert starting at 3:30 p.m. ((••))
Children’s Mass AT 4 P.M. ((••))

FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Sunday, December 25, 2022
Mini Concert starting at 11:30 p.m. ((••))
MIDNIGHT MASS AT 12 A.M. ((••))
Masses on Christmas Morning
8:30 A.M. AND AT 11:15 A.M.

NEW YEAR’S EVE & DAY

Saturday, December 31, 2022
Mass AT 4 P.M. ((••))
Sunday January 1, 2023
Masses AT 8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 7, 2023
CONFIRMATIONS AT 1:30 P.M. AND MASS AT 4 P.M. ((••))
Sunday, January 8, 2023
MASS AT 8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.

** ((••)) - Service will be livestreamed online at facebook.com/stambroseparish

St. Ambrose Catholic Church is located at 15020 Hampton Road between Wayburn and Maryland, one block north of Jefferson, just west of the Grosse Pointe Park City Hall. (313) 822-2814 • stambrosechurch.net

Worship Service

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

SUNDAY
8:15 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service
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

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church
(United Church of Christ)

Worship Sunday at 10:00 am

Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver
An Open & Affirming Church

240 Chalfonte G.P. Farms
313-884-3075 • www.gpcong.org
WE HAVE AN ARTS MINISTRY

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church
(United Church of Christ)

Christmas Eve 7:00 pm

Candlelight service and bell choir.

240 Chalfonte G.P. Farms
313-884-3075 • www.gpcong.org
WE HAVE AN ARTS MINISTRY

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MI

Christmas Eve
4:00 p.m. (family service)

7:30 p.m. Celtic Christmas

20475 Sunningdale Park
(313) 884-4820 www.stmichaelsgpw.org

FIRST ENGLISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

800 Vernier Road
(Corner of Wedgewood)
(313) 884-5040

9:30 am - Worship Service

11:00 am - Worship Service
Everyone is Welcome!

Amanda Onoro,
director preschool@feelc.org

Rev. Sean Motley, Senior Pastor

~ “Go Make Disciples” ~

www.feelc.org



Grosse Pointe Gabby

The Pulse Of The Pointes

Grandparents out of control at holiday gatherings

Dear Gabby: Every holiday I dread hosting Christmas because my parents and my husband’s parents inevitably end up drinking too much and getting into arguments about politics, whose children are better and anything else they can come up with to disagree about. It’s almost unbearable.

I put so much effort into an elaborate meal, decor and flowers but their behavior ruins all of the effort. What can I do?

— **Distraught in the Farms**

Dear Distraught,

It must be disappointing and anxiety-inducing to deal with this every year. The anticipation no doubt is the worst part.

Here are my thoughts. First, have you considered getting even more elaborate and having two separate tables? Sometimes a little space is all it takes to

keep the peace.

Also, you could try seating some of the children (if any) among the adults. In my experience, kids are often a wonderful addition to the conversation and they can provide a buffer that promotes better manners.

Should you feel like a larger change is needed, have you ever considered changing the location and going out for dinner? It might provide a new, needed change and keep certain relatives on their best behavior when members of the public can see their antics.

Happy holidays and cheers to a wonderful year ahead.

— **Gabby**

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



I don’t want mom to spend Christmas alone



DEAR ABBY: My parents have been divorced for 15 years. Dad is remarried; my mother lives alone.

My brother and I alternate holidays every year, and this year he was supposed to host our mother. Instead, he just informed me he has decided to invite our father and his wife to dinner, leaving our mother no place to go.

I would love to invite her to my in-laws’ house, but my husband doesn’t want her to come. When I told him he could take the kids to his family’s house, he got very upset and told me I should consider him and our children first, before my mother.

So, what should I do? Should I leave my mom home alone on Christmas, or stay with her so she’s not alone? — **WORRIED ABOUT MOM IN PENNSYLVANIA**

DEAR WORRIED: Has your brother told your mother he won’t be celebrating Christmas with her? If he hasn’t, he should let her know NOW.

Because your husband refuses to share Christmas with your mother, I assume their relationship is strained. If that’s the case, it may be time for her to start mending fences.

As to whether you should sacrifice Christmas with your husband and children to be with her, I’m not sure you should.

Your mother would be wise to learn to be more independent than she appears to be, and a way of doing that would be to start making plans of her own. If there is a church celebration, or an opportunity to volunteer in your community, suggest she investigate it.

Also, consider seeing

her on Christmas Eve, or for brunch or for lunch if she can’t join you for dinner.

DEAR ABBY: I was co-host of a celebration where one of our guests, a seemingly very nice young man who is dating a relative, was observed “goosing” half a dozen women while on the dance floor. I don’t know if my relative is aware, nor do I know how the recipients felt about it, but I wonder if what he did could be considered sexual assault.

Should I talk to my relative about it? Would it be proactive and protective, or hurtful and intrusive?

I had a partner who once suffered from, and is now in recovery from, sexual addiction. I believe in advocating for awareness, recovery, healing, amends, open dialogue and respect for everyone.

I don’t know what, if any, next steps are appropriate, other than to mind my own business. Can I please have some input? — **WITNESS IN WASHINGTON**

DEAR WITNESS: If what your relative’s date did was observed by other guests, he must have been the talk of the party. I do think what happened bears discussion with your relative. However, rather than frame it in terms of a sex addiction, it might be more accurate to suggest that he may not know how to handle alcohol.

DEAR ABBY: I’ve been married to my husband for 38 years. He has three grown children from a first marriage, who were young teens when we married. My husband recently lost a grandson. When I read the obituary, I was shocked. Listed as



Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

“Mamaw and Papaw” were “Sara and Steve Smith.” Sara was my husband’s first wife. There was no mention of me anywhere, not even my name in parentheses next to Steve’s.

They mentioned plenty of other people, including spouses, but there was no mention of me or Steve’s and my daughter.

I really didn’t expect to be named, but couldn’t they have at least separated the names? It looks like my husband is still married to his ex-wife! I just feel so hurt and angry. Am I being petty? — **SAD IN NORTH CAROLINA**

DEAR SAD: I understand your feelings. But please take into consideration that when there’s a death in the family — particularly the death of a child — grieving relatives are not always thinking clearly.

There might also have been a miscommunication between whoever submitted the obituary and the newspaper employee who published it. Unless there is something you omitted from your letter, the slight may not have been deliberate.

DEAR ABBY: A former friend cheated me on a business deal. Our mutual friends know about it, yet they still associate with him even though I will not attend any social functions with him there. Is it time to move on from this entire group of friends? — **DUPED IN MICHIGAN**

DEAR DUPED: One would think that knowing someone was dishonest in their business dealings would be enough reason to step back before they, too, could become victims. Birds of a feather have been known to flock together, so yes, it’s time to cultivate some new friends.

TO MY READERS: I wish you all a joyous, meaningful and safe Christmas. Merry Christmas, everyone! — **LOVE, ABBY.**

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.

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



I love buying unnecessary things. I pretty much get an Amazon delivery every single day. It’s a terrible waste of

money but it’s so convenient that I can’t stop. One of my latest unnecessary purchases was the Nanosteamer Facial

Steamer. As someone who takes skincare very seriously, I had a few logical reasons to make this purchase.

reading about the benefits of facial steamers and deciding I absolutely needed this product, I purchased it on Amazon for \$39.95 and it was at my doorstep that same afternoon.

Setting up the machine couldn’t be easier. All you have to do is fill the small chamber with water, plug it in, and allow the water to heat up. Once it’s heated, steam will come out. Simply sit or stand over the steamer for 20-30 minutes to allow it to work fully. This particular steamer also comes with a five-piece blemish extractor kit. Steam typically helps to loosen any blemishes that might be hiding under the skin so after a steaming session, you can use the kit to remove these.

After using this product quite a few times, I can say that I actually really enjoy and look forward to using it. The steam is very warm and soothing and the experience is relatively spa-like. I noticed that the steam hydrates my skin well and opens my pores. I like to add my nighttime skin serums and lotions after using this facial steamer, and I think it helps my products absorb better into my skin.

As an added bonus, it’s super nice to use when you’re sick, too. The day after I received this product, I came down with a pretty bad cold. Breathing in the warm steam definitely helped break up some of my conges-

tion and helped me breathe better.

If you’re on the fence about purchasing one of these facial steamers, I can’t recommend it enough! I am giving this steamer 5 out of 5 alligators for ease of use, effectiveness, and an overall enjoyable experience.

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



English sausage roll

Courtesy of Mombeau’s Table

Love from our community is all around us if you stop to listen for it. Great friends, neighbors and family make life that much better. Take this season to notice how much people can give and more importantly help. This rubs off on you so you can give back just the same.

My next recipe is a classic English sausage roll. It’s a savory delight that goes very fast when little hands grab them. Think of an upscale pig in a blanket.

Puff pastry seemed to be a bit short around town but all you have to do is ask. You would be amazed what people will do to go out of their way to help you. Larry at Fresh Farms Market went above and beyond to help get what I needed.

The pastry should be defrosted in the fridge and kept cold. Once you

- are ready for assembly, it will be easier to cut and roll the mixture together.
- The addition of Everything but the Bagel spice makes it that much better. Depending on how you cut the rolls, mine yielded 30 rolls, served best with your favorite mustard.
- | English Sausage Rolls | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 2 sheets puff pastry | |
| 1 medium onion, finely diced | |
| 1 lb sausage | |
| 3 eggs | |
| Pinch of salt and pepper | |
| Flour for dusting | |
| Everything but the bagel spice | |
| Honey mustard | |

Preheat the oven to 425, sautee your onion for about 10 minutes or until soft. In a medium bowl, add the raw sausage, two eggs, salt and pepper.

Once the onions are slightly cooled, add them to the bowl with the sausage. Give everything a good mix. Clean hands work best.

Cut the pastries in half on a floured surface and divide the mixture between the four halves. Roll them up and pinch to seal.

Cut the rolls into one to two inch pieces and place on a parchment lined cookie sheet. In a small bowl, whisk an egg with a tablespoon of water. Brush the mixture over each piece. Sprinkle the everything seasoning over the top. Cook for 25 minutes.

Let cool and serve with the mustard of your choice but honey mustard is my favorite.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAREN FERGUSON

English sausage roll is a savory delight for the holidays.

Holiday party strategies

When several people gather to celebrate, such as at year-end holiday parties, the beverages often aren’t particularly upscale, which is perfectly appropriate.

In multiparty festivities, people rarely pay attention to the nuances that are in the glass. It doesn’t make sense to serve classics like 1961 Chateau Petrus at large gatherings. Classic wines call for introspection and sharing with people who appreciate them — and won’t put ice cubes in them!

Large holiday gatherings usually call for simple, tasty wines. At such events, some people can overindulge, which is a pitfall of any large gathering where libations flow freely. Hosts must be aware of such issues and plan ahead.

Wine is one of the few alcoholic beverages of restraint. Moderation-wise, wine makes more sense than do hard spirits, many of which can be made much easier to consume by adding additional flavors (i.e., cola) that can mask the alcohol.

But wine can also prove to be risky.

For example, a chardonnay whose label says it has 14 percent alcohol may seem to be moderate in relation-

ship to the 40 percent alcohol of whiskey. But compare that chardonnay to a German riesling that comes in at 7 percent alcohol. It’s evident that the latter can be saner and perhaps even more tasty.

Those who are concerned about total alcohol intake have several options available today that didn’t exist just a few years ago.

ing and refreshing white wine called vinho verde of Portugal. One superb value is from Broadbent, with only 9 percent alcohol (\$11).

Lower-alcohol beers also can be excellent choices. One of the most interesting nonalcoholic beverages is from Lagunitas, the Northern California brewer. It makes a delightful beer alternative with no alcohol.



Among the lower-alcohol wines available to consumers, there are also several New Zealand sauvignon blancs, such as Giesen, a Marlborough producer, whose dealcoholized SB (\$10 to \$12) is tasty and true to type.

Savvy wine lovers also know of the excit-

Hoppy Refresher, as the company calls it (locals call it “hop water”) is described on the company website as “chock-full of Citra, Equinox, and Centennial hops for a big splash of flavor that’s surprisingly fruity.”

Mimosas are another festive drink you can easily make at home



with inexpensive sparkling wines (cava from Spain or prosecco from Italy) and orange juice. The more juice you use, the less important the quality of the sparkling wine. It’s a waste of money to use a quality French Champagne to make mimosas because adding anything to a fine wine almost always dilutes the qualities of the wine we are paying more to get.

One popular mixed beverage for festive occasions once was known as a “champagne cocktail,” with a lowercase c.

It didn’t necessarily use real French Champagne. It called for a bit of sugar as well as a dash of biters, and today isn’t as popular as it was a century ago.

I suspect that the champagne cocktail became popular after the end of Prohibition (1933), when quality

French Champagne (post-World War I) was expensive. At the time, cheaper Champagne was sour to American palates.

As a result, the drink needed a cube of sugar to make it palatable.

No Wine of the Week.

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

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Cookies with Santa

Photo story by Renee Landuyt

The Ford House hosted Cookies with Santa a few nights in December while St. Nick passed through town on his way to the North Pole, where he planned to check on the elves making toys. Children had the opportunity to tell Santa their Christmas wishes, write him a letter, take a photo with him and get a cookie. The Jolly Old Elf asked the children about school, their favorite Christmas ornaments and other questions, as well as reminded them to leave milk and cookies for him and a carrot for the reindeer.



Kinsley O'Neill and Madison White read along with Santa as he looks over their lists.



Samantha and William Esler hold up their decorated letters to Santa while they wait their turn to see him.



Amelia Fiordellisi and Siena Bennett help Eliza Bennett put her letter to Santa in the mailbox.



Johnny Holliday and his sister, Evie, chat with Santa about important items on their Christmas wish lists.



Jack Polson, Ruby Madynski and Ellis Madynski get their letters filled out for Santa.



Caleb Jansen carefully puts his letter to Santa in the North Pole Express Mailbox.



Left, Ty Burrell as Bob Pickler, Jennifer Garner as Laura Pickler and Yara Shahidi as Destiny in the 2011 film “Butter.”

MOVIE REVIEW
“Butter”
2011 - Rated R
1 hr 30min

With as many movies as I watch, you’d think I’d come across more comedies than I do. It seems rare to find one that makes me laugh out loud. But comedy is a funny thing, as they say. Different things make people laugh. I’ll admit, I’m a big fan of Sir Christopher Guest’s movies. His “This is Spinal Tap” is on my top 10 list of all time favorites. I love his zany satirical bent. I also like “Best in Show,” not only for the plot and writing, but the ensemble cast he put together for it. When I saw the title “Butter,” I was intrigued. Then I read a brief synopsis and it described the film as being about a butter-carving contest. What?!! This could be either one of those movies that tries too hard to be weird, or actually be really funny. It turned out to be the latter. It features an all-star cast, pithy dialogue, and an abundance of laugh-out-loud bits. I

haven’t seen anything this comical in a long, long time. Butter is set in a conservative, small town in Iowa. Bob Pickler (Ty Burrell) is the reigning



Jennifer Garner with her butter creation.

butter carving champion 15 years running. His sculptures are over the top, including a life-sized rendition of the Last Supper and one titled “Newt on a Horse.” At the urging of the judging committee, he decides to step aside and let someone else have a shot at the championship. His wife Laura (Jennifer Garner), not to be out of the limelight

makes up her mind to enter the competition. I was caught off guard by her performance. Ms. Garner usually plays a wholesome, sweet character. Here she’s not only vindictive and sarcastic, but foul-mouthed to boot! As expected, Laura is faced with some interesting competition. First there’s Destiny (Yara Shahidi), a young black girl who’s been making the rounds with foster parents. She’s found a loving home with Jill and Ethan (Alicia Silverstone and Rob Corddry). Destiny’s an intelligent and clever girl and is a



delight to watch. A real scene stealer. “Butter” is few years old, and when I looked up Shahidi on IMDB, sure enough, she’s gone on to make a number of memorable films and TV shows including Salt and Black-ish. Bob’s relationship with his wife is less than fulfilling. As an outlet, he cats around with Brooke (Olivia Wilde), a stripper and prostitute. Brooke is quite the character and adds an edge to the film. She’s funny, brash, full of tattoos and rides around town on a kid’s bike! And she’s another scene-stealer. When Bob refuses to pay the \$600 he owes her for her services, she decides to enter the butter carving competition as well. She’s determined to get on Laura’s nerves. The fourth contestant

is Carol Ann Stevenson who’s played by Kristen Schaal (“Flight of the Concorde”). The film races towards the big showdown at the competition. But it’s not all that simple. There are a few surprises along the way, which makes for one hilarious and exhilarating ride. A few other actors I enjoyed seeing are Phyllis Smith and Hugh Jackman playing supporting roles. They round out a

tremendous cast. You can tell they had an absolute riot making this movie. Be sure to watch the credits — they include some bloopers worth sticking around for. I should mention that there’s a more recent comedy with the same title about an overweight high school boy that’s worth watching as well. Note to parents: The film is rated R, mainly for a lot of swearing and a couple of sex scenes. But no nudity, if that’s a concern. Currently streaming for free with your library card on Kanopy.com and Hoopla.com, and Freevee. Also on Prime Video. ★★★★★
About this column: My main focus is on films that I feel have



gone under the radar and deserve more recognition. They include both mainstream and indie films streaming on services like Netflix, Hoopla, and Kanopy. I’ll also review noteworthy new theatrical releases as well. For movie trailers, visit youtube.com. If you have any suggestions, feel free to email me at: domin-mark@yahoo.com. Also, if you’re looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com.



Left, Yara Shahidi as Destiny and Olivia Wilde as Brooke.

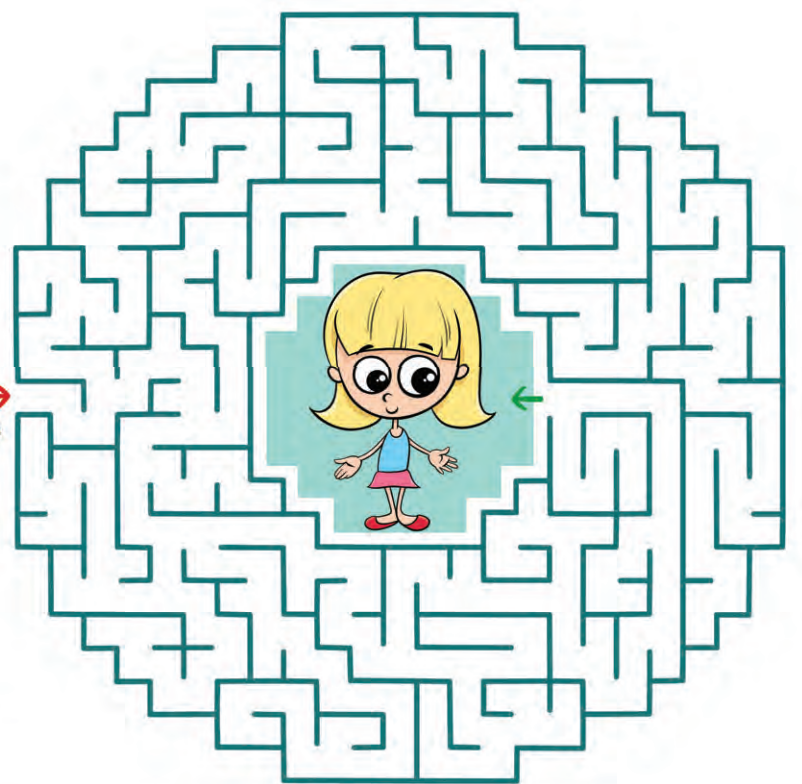
How many Santa's do you see?



Find the 10 differences and then color



A cartoon illustration of Santa Claus. He is wearing a red suit with white trim and a red hat with a white pom-pom. He has a long white beard and is holding a yellow gift box with a red bow in his right hand. He is standing on a white base, possibly a cloud or a platform, and is looking towards the viewer with a slight smile.



HOLIDAY PETS



Pets are a gift

Beloved pets are lifelong presents you give yourself, a treasured gift that gives back love, adoration and fun every day. No matter what type of pet you have, one thing is certain – life is more wonderful with a cute little companion. Here are some adorable Grosse Pointe area pets decked out in their holiday best. One of these cuties, at random selection, will win a \$50 gift certificate from the Village Groom Room at 16894 Kercheval Place, Grosse Pointe.



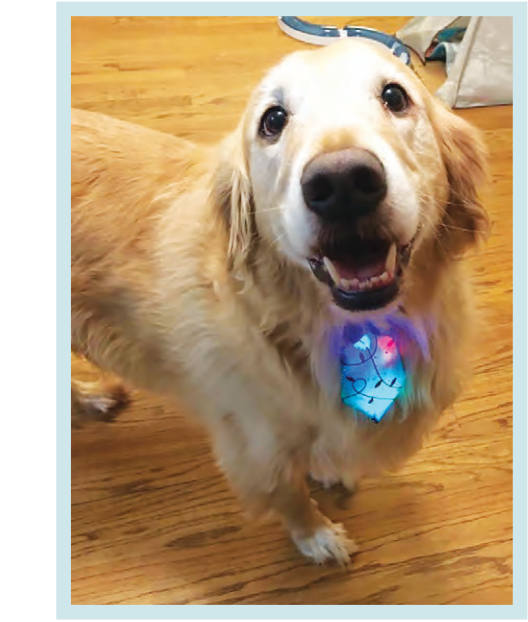
Dewey

Adopt me! Oh-so-cute Dewey, above, along with brothers Huey and Louie, are looking for their forever homes this Christmas. Could that be with you? Adopt Dewey or other deserving pets, at Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society. Visit online at gpaas.org – or call (313) 881-1551 for information. Make someone's Christmas wish come true!



Tucker

No Grinches will mess with the Ford family's tree – or sneak any presents away this year with faithful Tucker on guard during the holidays. He'll stand watch over the gifts all night, for his share of Christmas goodies. No peeking! Tucker and the Fords live in Grosse Pointe Farms.

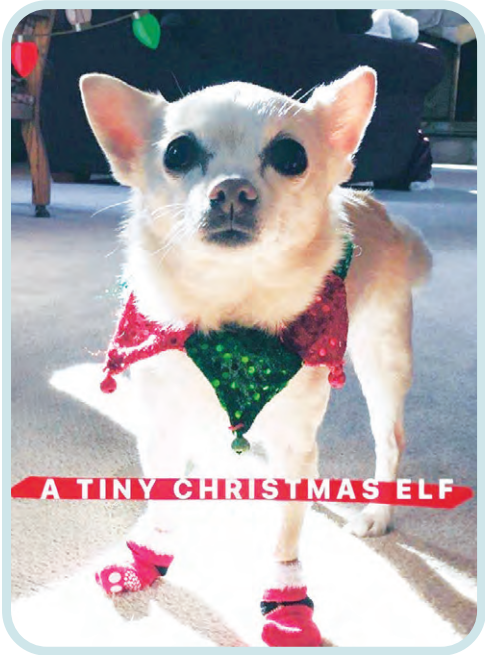


Finn

Finn, left, proudly owns a whole collection of themed ties for every holiday, so he really loves a good office 'pawty' to show them off. He's a happy part of the holiday fun as a member of the Cornillie and Feldman family in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Chalupa

It's the elf, herself! Tiny Chalupa, right, is decked out, booties and all, for Christmas at the Cumpata house, in Grosse Pointe Park. So much holiday joy packed into one mighty little package. Hope your season is merry and bright, little elf.



Kaela & Callie

These pretty girls, left, know how to celebrate for the holidays! And judging from the anticipation on their faces, it's a good bet that they know some of those presents are for them. They're the charming fur babies of Marta Carrion, of Grosse Pointe Farms.



Tout Ça

Her name means, "all of that" in French, and her mom says this lovely Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, left, more than lives up to it! She loves naps, peanut butter and her grown up sibs of the Heimbuch family of Grosse Pointe Park. We're pretty sure Santa will be bringing her the bone she is wishing for. How could he resist?

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Sylvia

Waiting for Santa to bring some catnip is Sylvia, right, head of the household year round at his home in St. Clair Shores.



Little Rosie, right, is looking pretty for her first Christmas in a cool holiday sweater. If happiness is a warm puppy, we think we've found it in adorable Rosie. She's part of the McCabe family from Chesterfield.



Rosie

Benji

A rabbit in a hat means some Christmas magic must be nearby! Benji the bunny, left, is right at home inside a Santa hat in Grosse Pointe Farms.



Louie

This cutie-pie, left, is a native Grosse Pointer who moved to Ferndale, but his heart is always home for Christmas. Louie is an Australian Shepherd who puts the warm fuzzies in every ho-ho-holiday for the Monette family.

Ranger

Precious Ranger, left, is coordinated with the Christmas tree in this lovable shot from the Lombardo residence in Grosse Pointe Woods.



Winnie

Little Winnie, above, is cozy and warm in her pretty reindeer holiday sweater at the Muzingo home in Grosse Pointe Park. She sure helps put the 'merry' in Merry Christmas!



Ruby

Sweet Ruby, above, matches the festive Cotton residence in Grosse Pointe Farms in her adorable customized holiday finery. What a good girl! She knows that Santa is watching...

Mick & Foxy

Talk about party animals! Little Mick and Foxy, above, get their Christmas spirit on at the Kerfoot home in Bloomfield. Watch out Rudolph, Foxy is on her way to help you with Santa's sleigh this year, and Mick can fill in for Santa, should the need arise.



Louie

Christmas came early for Louie, left, this year when he was made an honorary big brother to the newest addition to the Hayner household in Grosse Pointe Farms. Congrats, Louie and here's to the best Christmas present ever!

COURTESY PHOTOS



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- Dean D.





8C | LIFE & ENTERTAINMENT

Christmas Times

Christmas comes but once a year (or so it’s said) and, yet, I fear

It may be more than quite enough for those of us who do this stuff;

For those of us who join the fray and live to fight another day

It’s Hark, the Herald, blow the horn, expect no rest ‘til Christmas morn!

Our world takes on another realm with Mommy firmly at the helm;

She clears the decks and sets her course, a whirlwind of female force;

The kitchen virtually hums with everything from sugarplums To shortbread, fruitcake, glug! Beware, there’s powdered sugar everywhere!

Our basement rec room has been stormed, to winter wonderland transformed

With wrap and ribbon, tape and bow and, yes, there’s even ersatz snow

To sprinkle hither, scatter yon, make festive all it falls upon.

And Daddy says, “Just let it snow! The icicles will sparkle so!”

I peer out through the candy cane and thank my luck it isn’t rain!

With many, many little lights all set to brighten up the nights, Festooned on doors and windows, too, with heartfelt welcome shining through.

Though days are filled with Season’s Cheer, Rejoice! It comes but once a year!

Oh, yes, we treat the season right attacking it with mirthful might

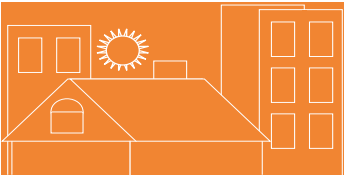
And, once the battle’s waged and won, God rest ye merry, everyone!

While taking note, (and here’s the best) first matter of importance — rest!

My wish list, never out of sight, boasts one last entry — SILENT NIGHT

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.



EVENTS

Things to do in and around Grosse Pointe this week

THURSDAY, DEC. 22

» **Holiday Tea & Tour**
Ford House
1100 Lake Shore Rd.,
12-2 p.m.

» **Mistletoe Mingle**
Ford House
1100 Lake Shore Rd.,
7-9 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 23

» **Mistletoe Mingle**
Ford House
1100 Lake Shore Rd.,
7-9 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 24

» **Mistletoe Mingle**
Ford House
1100 Lake Shore Rd.,
7-9 p.m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 25

» **Mistletoe Mingle**
Ford House
1100 Lake Shore Rd.,
7-9 p.m.

MONDAY, DEC. 26

» **Blues Jam**
The Cadieux Cafe,
8-11 p.m.
4300 Cadieux Rd..

» **Mistletoe Mingle**
Ford House
1100 Lake Shore Rd.,
7-9 p.m.

TUESDAY, DEC. 27

» **5th & 6th Grade Book Group**
Ewald Branch, 7-8:30 p.m.
15175 E Jefferson

» **Middle School Book Group - 5th/6th**
Ewald Branch, 7-8 p.m.
15175 E Jefferson

» **Mistletoe Mingle**
Ford House
1100 Lake Shore Rd.,
7-9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 28

» **Read, Rhyme & Play**
Ewald Branch, 10:30-11 a.m.
15175 E Jefferson

» **Ron English : Tuesday Nights at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,
6-8:30 p.m.
97 Kercheval.

» **Dave McMurray at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe**
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,
97 Kercheval.

» **Jam at Cabbage Patch Saloon**
Cabbage Patch Saloon,
9:30-11 p.m.
15130 Mack Ave.

» **Mistletoe Mingle**
Ford House
1100 Lake Shore Rd.,
7-9 p.m.

Check out the online calendar on our website for more details



☾

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping after 3 p.m. EST today (noon to midnight PST). After that, the Moon moves from Sagittarius into Capricorn.

♈

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)
Unexpected praise or a promotion from your boss or someone in a position of authority will please you today. Suddenly, you are admired! People think highly of you, which is why some of you might begin a romance with your boss. Someone might seek your advice. Tonight: You’re high-viz.

♉

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)
A sudden opportunity to travel will please you. Or you might have an unexpected opportunity related to publishing, the media, medicine or the law. A legal decision might surprise you, for example. You also might have a sudden chance to take a course or go to school. Jump at this. Tonight: Explore!

♊

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)
Unexpected gifts, goodies and favors from others might come your way today. Just say, “Thank you!” You might get unexpected approval for a loan or mortgage. Meanwhile, intimate relationships will be intense and exciting! Stay light on your feet so you can entertain new ideas. Tonight: Check your finances.

♋

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)
Relations with partners and close friends are excellent today. Something unexpected might occur that makes you realize how fond you are of an individual. This is a two-way street, which means they might realize how fond they are of you. Tonight: Cooperate.

♌

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)
Unexpected praise and good news related to your job or your health will please you today. Some of you will have the same sudden pleasure regarding a pet. You create a good impression on co-workers today, which is why they might offer to help you or show you unexpected support. Tonight: Work.

♍

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
A surprise invitation might come your way today! Perhaps an invitation to lunch, dinner or fun event? Sports events might take an unexpected turn. Meanwhile, romance is delightful. In fact, love at first sight might take place today. Enjoy outings with kids. Tonight: Play!

♎

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Today you might buy something high-tech or modern for your home. Stock the fridge, because you might unexpectedly entertain at home. Something pleasant that is unexpected and related to a family member will please you. Real estate news might delight you. Tonight: Cocoon.

♏

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
This is a pleasant day. Surprising news and encounters with others, including meeting someone new, will delight you. You might take an unexpected short trip. Something about your daily routine will change,

♐

and whatever it is will be pleasant. Tonight: Conversations.

♑

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Keep your pockets open, because unexpected gifts, goodies and favors from others will come your way today. You might see new ways to earn money. You also might make more money or get a raise. If shopping, you might buy something unusual, avant-garde or high-tech. Tonight: Organize your possessions.

♒

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You will be bored with your daily routine today, which is why you want to do something different and stimulating. The people you meet today might be different from your usual friends. Some of you might suggest an unconventional arrangement with a lover or partner. Tonight: You win.

♓

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Solitude in beautiful surroundings will please you today; nevertheless, something unexpected will surprise you. Fortunately, it will likely be pleasant. You might have an epiphany about something or see the light, as it were. A deeper realization within you could be edifying. Tonight: Solitude.

♈

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)
Today you might encounter someone new in your life who is different from your usual acquaintances. This person could introduce an electric, exciting energy into your world. They might encourage you to join a club or a nonprofit association, which benefits others. Tonight: Be friendly.

BORN TODAY
Singer-songwriter Meghan Trainor (1993), actor Ralph Fiennes (1962), broadcast journalist Diane Sawyer (1945).

Contract Bridge

STEP-BY-STEP REASONING

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 7 4
♥ K
♦ Q J 7 3 2
♣ A K 7 3 2

WEST
♠ 8 3
♥ Q 8 7 3 2
♦ A 10
♣ Q 10 6 5

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 6 2
♥ A 9 5
♦ 6 5
♣ 9 8 4

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
3 NT			

Opening lead — three of hearts.

because the opponents, in the meantime, are sure to score at least three hearts and the A-K of diamonds.

The spades can also be ignored for the moment, because if they are divided 3-3, the contract is certain, while if they are divided 4-2, their establishment would lead to only eight tricks at best.

Therefore, by elimination, the suit to attack is clubs, where a 3-2 division assures nine tricks. Accordingly, declarer cashes the ace of clubs at trick two. When East produces the jack, South takes care to play the eight to unblock the suit if West started with four clubs.

Declarer then leads a low club to the nine. If West takes the trick, South has no problem scoring nine tricks with the aid of a subsequent club finesse -- so let’s assume West ducks. The club suit having been milked dry, declarer now shifts his attention to spades. The objection to playing spades at the start is no longer valid because of the extra club trick gained in the interim.

Just one more precaution is needed, however: To guard against a 4-2 spade division, and to maintain communication with both hands, South leads the spade deuce from his hand at trick four to assure scoring the extra spade trick he needs for his contract.

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by Steve Becker

Comics

Peanuts
Charles M. Schulz

LOOK AT THIS PICTURE OF SANTA CLAUS.. TALK ABOUT FAT CITY!

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE CAN CRAWL UP AND DOWN ALL THOSE CHIMNEYS WITHOUT LOSING A LITTLE WEIGHT...

DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN? ONE OF THESE TIMES HE'S GONNA HAVE A CORONARY RIGHT IN SOME POOR LITTLE KID'S LIVING ROOM!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT... MERRY CHRISTMAS

IT COULD BE OUR LIVING ROOM!

Hagar The Horrible
Dik Browne and Chris Browne

WHAT'S WRONG, KID?

I DIDN'T GET ONE THING I DEMANDED FOR CHRISTMAS!

I GUESS HE GOT WHAT HE DESERVED FOR CHRISTMAS!

Crankshaft
Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis

WHAT DO YOU SAY WE PUT THIS TIN OF RUM BALLS SOMEWHERE ELSE?

JUST WAIT...

AGGHHH! A HUNDRED-POUND FRUITCAKE WITH YUCKY GREEN THINGS IN IT!

Crock
Created by Bill Rechlin and Brant Parker

LOOK WHAT SANTA BROUGHT, FIGOWITZ

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GAVE THAT MEAN, EVIL CROCK A BIG PRESENT

JUST WAIT...

AGGHHH! A HUNDRED-POUND FRUITCAKE WITH YUCKY GREEN THINGS IN IT!

F Minus
Tony Carrilo

OH, SHOOT. I JUST REMEMBERED WHAT I FORGOT TO BUY THIS YEAR. ANYTHING FOR ANYONE.

Wumo
Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler

Buying presents on the 23rd is the true nightmare before Christmas ...

B.C.
Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVE

Mother Goose and Grim
Mike Peters

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVE

Reality Check
Dave Whamond

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVE

Bizarro
Dan Piraro and Wayno

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVE



The Lockhorns
Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVE

Close To Home
John McPherson

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVE

"What am I doing? I'm wrapping the gifts that I got to be the things you are giving me for Christmas!"

Marmaduke
Paul & Brad Anderson

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVE

"There's cookies and milk for Santa and kibble for the reindeer."

SPORTS



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Girls hockey programs battle for city supremacy at Liggett tournament

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Pointes are home to three of the best teams currently in the Michigan girls hockey landscape. Last weekend gave those teams a chance to prove that by taking on each other in some highly anticipated matchups with Grosse Pointe South, Grosse Pointe North and University Liggett all hitting the ice as part of Liggett's girls Holiday Hockey Tournament.

Opening up the weekend on Thursday evening was a highly anticipated rivalry showdown between North and South. With both teams entering the game undefeated so far on the season, only one could keep its perfect record intact and move on to Saturday's championship game.

It took just 23 seconds to get the game's first tally on the scoreboard as South's Charlotte Harr lit the lamp to put her team in front 1-0. The early deficit did not seem to shake North at all at first. The Norsemen bounced



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

North's Ella Dobbs and Grace Lindsay from South go after a puck in the corner as the Blue Devils took on the Norsemen last Thursday night.

back just a few minutes later with a goal from Alyssa Burney to tie the game. Sophomore Josie Cueter netted one more for North to take a 2-1 lead into the first intermission.

Cueter's goal was her 22nd of the season, making her one of the most prolific scorers in the entire state. While she did find the back of the net early, South knew

that defending her would be a tough task all night long.

"(North) have a skilled team with one of the best scorers in the league," South coach Lexi Bohlinger said. "Our girls had to make adjustments to play against their style of hockey and isolate this player. They took the in-game adjustments we gave them and applied them to earn the victory."

The Blue Devils managed to hold Cueter and the rest of the Norsemen off the scoreboard for the rest of the night. Ella Smith scored the first goal of the second period for South to even the game back up at two apiece. To retake the lead, Ruby Verlinden scored and then Giada Cavaliere extended it to two with a goal to put South in front 4-2, which

would hold through a scoreless third period.

While South advanced to the championship, they then got to see who they would face as Thursday evening ended with a game between Liggett and Regina-Lutheran North United. It turned out that the Knights would advance to the championship with ease, taking a 7-0 win in the semifinal.

Liggett was boosted to the win thanks to a pair of goals each from Morgan Hamilton and Elle Quinlan. Sophia Secco, Giuliana Lutfy and Annaclaire Doppke also all found the back of the net for the Knights.

While Liggett was set for a date with South in the final on Saturday, North got to face off against Regina-Lutheran North first for third place. The Norsemen also had little trouble with Regina-Lutheran North, skating their way to a 7-2 victory. Ella Dobbs had a hat trick for North in the win while Quinlan and Burney both scored twice as well.

With South and Liggett set to meet in Saturday's

final it was another meeting of undefeated teams.

As expected, both sides pushed each other to the limit and ended a thrilling weekend of hockey with a great game.

Just like they did in the semifinal against North, the Blue Devils pushed out to an early lead just seconds into the game. An opportune pass found South's Ruby Lenhard on a breakaway to put her team up 1-0 less than 30 seconds into the night.

Quinlan for the Knights scored her first of two goals in the game to even the score back at one apiece just a few moments later. She quickly netted her second to put Liggett ahead 2-1, but the high-scoring first period was not over yet. Lenhard took advantage after creating a Liggett turnover at the blue line and scored her second goal of the game to even things up two.

Things slowed down for a bit in the second period after a whirlwind opening frame. After four goals in the first period, just one was

See HOCKEY, page 2D

Athlete of the Week

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

While many might look at a 3-9 start to the season as disappointing, the Grosse Pointe North boys hockey team knows that it is all part of the long process to get back to being a successful program. The three wins are already more than the team tallied the entire season last winter, and senior forward Leo Dragovic is playing one of the biggest parts in helping the Norsemen on their road to improvement.

As one of the top scorers in the league, Dragovic has helped give North hockey fans a reason to cheer again this winter. Catching up with him after North's rivalry matchup against Grosse Pointe South last week, Dragovic revealed that

his love for hockey was inspired by – of all things – a Blue Devil.

"I got into hockey actually because of my cousin River (Kraus) who graduated last year and played for South," Dragovic said. "I went to one of his practices when I was really little and it

his cousin's former team by scoring the Norsemen's only goal, his 14th of the season. Along with seven assists, the senior has 21 points on the year, making him the team's leading scorer.

What really put on the map were his performances in two games earlier this month. When North faced off against Livonia Franklin on Dec. 10, Dragovic had three goals and an assist helping lead his team to a 5-1 win. Two nights later on Dec. 12, the senior added another hat trick and two more assists as the Norsemen won 7-1 against Port Huron. Those two performances marked the first time in eight years that a North player scored hat tricks in back-to-back games. Nights like those

can really help boost the confidence of a player and a team as a whole, and plenty more games like that could be in store, given just how easily Dragovic seems to find the back of the net.

"I guess I'd really call myself a natural goal scorer," he said. "I try my best to play defense but my role on this team really is to score goals."

Leading his team on the stat sheet is impressive, but Dragovic also likes being a leader for his team both on and off the ice. He has embraced a leadership role as a senior this year and is fully comfortable with playing at the varsity level now in his second year with the team.

While North has improved from last year, Dragovic's desire to be a leader drove him to improve himself knowing it would be for the good of the team.

"I've never been the fastest skater but over the summer I worked on power skating and did off-ice training," he said. "Those really helped me get a lot better. Last year

See ATHLETE, page 3D



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

North senior Leo Dragovic currently leads the team in goals (14) and points (21) in the young hockey season.

Grosse Pointe News

ATHLETE
OF THE WEEK

Leo Dragovic

School: Grosse Pointe North
Sport: Hockey

Sponsored by Racing for Kids

looked fun so that's when I decided that I wanted to play too."

Although North ended up on the losing side of last Friday's rivalry game, Dragovic still made his mark against

as the Norsemen won 7-1 against Port Huron.

Those two performances marked the first time in eight years that a North player scored hat tricks in back-to-back games. Nights like those

Nice on the Ice

- Leads North with 14 goals and 21 points
- Had 4 points (3 goals, 1 assist) on Dec. 10 vs. Livonia Franklin & 5 points (3 goals, 2 assists) on Dec. 12 vs. Port Huron

RACING FOR KIDS

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Knights reign victorious after action-packed boys hockey weekend

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Whenever teams from across the Pointes meet on the ice, the games seem to bring the best out of everyone, with chances to earn rivalry wins on the line. Last weekend’s boys Holiday Hockey Tournament at University Liggett brought all three teams from the Pointes together, bringing plenty of rivalry action to fans pacing McCann Arena.

The boys tournament began Friday evening when Grosse Pointe South and Grosse Pointe North faced off in the first game of the bracket. While things were close at the start, the Blue Devils eventually pulled away and took the win over their rivals.

South started lighting the lamp quickly when junior forward Hayden Crane found the back of the net in the game’s opening minutes to help the Blue Devils jump in front early. Senior Harry Wright added another goal as South increased its lead by two in the first period. North held off the Blue Devils for the rest of the frame, and senior Leo Dragovic scored with less than ten seconds before the intermission, giving the Norsemen hope they might flip the momentum.

However, Dragovic’s tally would end up being North’s only cause for celebration Friday night. The Blue Devils put up three unanswered goals in the second period thanks to Anthony Zaccagni, Massimiliano Warner and Crane to go up 5-1 entering the third.

The Blue Devils remained firmly in control of the game as the final period rolled around. Robert Rahm scored to extend the team’s lead. To close out the game, Wright scored back to back goals to finish off a hat trick and secure South a spot in Saturday’s championship game with an 8-1 win.

It was then up to the host team University Liggett and the M-1 Griffins to decide who would take on South in the championship game. The Knights followed up the Blue Devils’ high-scoring night with one of their own to ensure that the title game would include another crosstown faceoff.

Liggett took care of business 7-3 against the Griffins. Senior captain Ian Gudenau helped bolster the Knights with a two-goal performance. Campbell Marchal, Andrew Johnson, Michael Eugenio, Stephen Wheatley and Gary Stacy scored Liggett’s other goals in



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

South sophomore Jack O’Keefe brings the puck into the attacking zone as North’s Massimo Todesco defends.

the win.

The Griffins bounced back with a 7-0 win over North in the third place game on Saturday before the Knights and South took the ice for the boys championship.

While South got out to the fast start against North the night before, Liggett found itself jumping ahead on the scoreboard to start the final on Saturday afternoon. Eugenio opened the scoring in the first period, while Sean Sullivan followed it up with another goal for

the Knights to make the lead 2-0 after the opening 17 minutes.

Liggett increased the lead to three early in the second when Jake Kolk found the back of the net. Just as the Knights looked like they might be easily on the way to taking the trophy, South started to storm back.

William Rauh scored the Blue Devils’ first goal of the game to cut the deficit to two before the second period ended. To start the third period, South’s Everett Kielt scored to pull the

game back within one. However, Liggett quickly answered and put the game to bed when Gudenau scored to make it 4-2, which would eventually be the final.

The win brought Liggett the Holiday Tournament trophy and improved the team’s record to 8-2 this season. It was the Knights’ last game of the 2022 calendar year as they return to action on Tuesday, Jan. 3 against Riverview Gabriel

Richard.

A loss in the championship game was just the Blue Devils second loss this season. South still sits atop the MIHL South division at 7-2 and is packing up the bus for a road trip up to Traverse City on Thursday, Dec. 22 to face Bay Reps.

North’s pair of losses dropped its record to 3-9. The Norsemen also get a break until the new year with their next game set for Saturday, Jan. 7 when they host Marysville.



HOCKEY:

Continued from page 1D

scored in the second. That single tally benefited South, who retook the lead 3-2 thanks to Charlotte Peabody.

The Knights were left with just 15 minutes to try and keep their undefeated streak alive. With less than three minutes remaining, Liggett finally managed to pull back

even as Hamilton found the back of the net.

With the teams knotted up at three goals apiece to end regulation, the winner of the girls tournament had to be decided by shootout. The shootout ended up favoring Liggett, who brought home the win in the Holiday Tournament and kept its perfect season alive.

That perfect record for the Knights now stands

at 9-0. They get a break for the holidays before returning to the ice to face South again on Wednesday, Jan. 4 at 7:30pm at East Side Arena. That is also the next game on the schedule for the Blue Devils, who now sit at 6-1. The Norsemen’s split weekend puts their record at 9-1 this season with their next game on Friday, Jan. 6 at 7:30pm hosting Livonia United.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LIGGETT ATHLETICS

The Knights celebrate keeping their undefeated season alive and winning the Liggett Holiday Tournament with a shootout win over South.

City of **Grosse Pointe Park**, Michigan

NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF REVISION AND AMENDMENT TO ZONING MAP

On December 12, 2022, the City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe Park (the “City Council”) enacted a Zoning Ordinance Map Amendment, to become effective January 1, 2023, which Ordinance provides for the amendment of Chapter 27 of the Code of the City of Grosse Pointe Park, “Zoning Map,” by changing the zoning of the described and highlighted section of the zoning map from R-D Two-Family Residential to P-1 Vehicular Parking, provided certain conditions for the necessary permits and construction time frame are met. This Zoning map Amendment is adopted to change the zoning designation as approved by the Grosse Pointe Park City Council resolution for Zoning Map Amendment. This Summary of the Ordinance is published pursuant to Michigan Compiled Laws Section 117.3(k). True copies of the full text of the Ordinance and any law, regulations, code, or other material adopted in reference in such Ordinance are available for inspection or photocopy at the Office of the City Clerk, City of Grosse Pointe Park, 15115 East Jefferson Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan 48230.

Jane M. Blahut,
City Clerk

GPN: 12-22-22

City of **Grosse Pointe Woods**, Michigan

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council will be considering the following proposed Ordinance amendment for a second reading at its meeting scheduled for Monday, January 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers/Court Room of the Robert E. Novitke Municipal Center. The proposed Ordinance amendment is available for public inspection at the Municipal Center, 20025 Mack Plaza, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Council meeting is open to the public. All interested persons are invited to attend.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS, CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE VII, FINANCE; DIVISION 4, PURCHASING; TO AMEND SECTION 2-674 AND 2-677 TO AMEND THE PURCHASING ORDINANCE TO INCREASE THE THRESHOLD FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL FROM \$5,000 TO \$10,000, WITH FUTURE ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AMOUNT TO BE DETERMINED BY THE COUNCIL.

Paul P. Antolin
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 12/22/22

City of **Grosse Pointe Woods**, Michigan

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council will be considering the following proposed rezoning request for a second reading at its meeting scheduled for Monday, January 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers/Court Room of the Robert E. Novitke Municipal Center.

An applicant proposed rezoning of approximately 0.14 acres of land from P-1 Parking, to RO-1 Restricted Office District. The proposed rezoning includes the following property: 20100 Mack Avenue, PN: 40-012-05-0090-000. Land situated in the City of Grosse Pointe Woods, County of Wayne, and State of Michigan, described as follows: Lot 90, Fairholme No. 1, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 68 of Plats, Page 84, Wayne County Records.

The proposed rezoning request is available for public inspection at the Municipal Center, 20025 Mack Plaza, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Council meeting is open to the public. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Paul P. Antolin
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 12/22/22



Top: South’s student section was in the holiday spirit bringing a Christmas theme to last Thursday’s crosstown rivalry game. Bottom: Norsemen students entered enemy territory dressed in all black as they packed the visiting stands at South.

Hot shooting helps South roll over Norsemen

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

With just one scheduled meeting on the boys basketball calendar this season, last Thursday’s rivalry matchup between Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South may end up being the only chance either side has to secure bragging rights for the year. In a packed South gym with plenty of supporters for both teams bringing the energy, the Blue Devils avenged last winter’s loss and controlled the floor on their way to a 78-55 win.

“I preached all week that this was just another opponent on our schedule,” South head coach Steve Benard said after his team’s rivalry game win. “We have a lot of goals that we set for later in the year for our whole program and we take things one game at a time, but it was a great confidence boost.”

For most of the night, North could not keep pace with the Blue Devils. While the opening minutes were fairly even, South eventually began

pulling away and building the lead that it would carry for the rest of the game. By the eight minute mark, the Blue Devils were in front by double digits 20-9.

South continued building on its lead in the second quarter. North kept having trouble slowing the Blue Devils down and the difference remained at double digits at half-time with South on top 37-21.

Neither team had much trouble scoring in the third quarter. However, South padded its lead enough so there was no problem staying in front, especially thanks to hot three-point shooting. The Blue Devils built their lead up to over 20, leading 64-41 going into the fourth quarter looking to bring the game home.

That the Blue Devils did in the final quarter. Leading by 23 at the end of the third, South used a big night from beyond the arc to secure the rivalry victory.

“We penetrate and share the ball and hit the open guy and hit threes,” Benard said. “The first couple games it didn’t

show because those were really good defensive teams and we didn’t have Alex (English), but that’s what we do. We made eleven threes on Saturday against Ferndale and 15 against North...We got really good looks at the basket and our guys can shoot.”

Anthony Benard led the top of the stat sheet again for South and ended the night with a double-double at 28 points and ten assists. Karter Richards was right behind with 27 points continuing the hot start to his junior season.

The Norsemen had two players in double-digit points in the loss. James Phillips led the team with 15 points while Drew Hill finished with ten.

Following its first win of the season, South got a week off before facing Birmingham Groves at home at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 22. The Norsemen took on Monroe on Tuesday, Dec. 20 after press time and will be back in action after Christmas playing in the Tars Holiday Classic in Anchor Bay on Dec. 27 and 28.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

South senior Anthony Benard looks to make a move around North defender Leo Perettie. Benard was the game’s leading scorer with 28 points.

ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

was my first year playing varsity so I was nervous but this year I really feel like I have more confidence in (myself).”

The steps that Dragovic and the North team have taken from last year to this year are certainly showing. Off-season training is not the only thing that has helped, but Dragovic

feels like more team chemistry on and off the ice has really helped everyone feel more confident in their abilities as a team.

One of the biggest connections that the Norsemen have right now is between Dragovic and linemate Zach Potter. Potter is currently just behind Dragovic as North’s second leading scorer with 17 points. The way Dragovic sees it, with his natural scor-

ing ability and Potter’s toughness, the two can be an unstoppable pair whenever they hit the ice together.

“He gets me a lot of goals by feeding me and he’s great down low working hard by the boards,” Dragovic said. “Whenever he gets me the puck I do what I can.”

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, visit grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Dragovic, pictured during North’s game last Friday against Grosse Pointe South, gives credit for his inspiration to start playing hockey to his cousin, River Kraus, a former all-state hockey player for the Blue Devils

CITY OF HARPER WOODS WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING DECEMBER 5, 2022

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Valerie Kindle at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: All Councilpersons were present.

MOTIONS PASSED

- 1) To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held November 21, 2022.
- 2) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED

- 1) to add to the Consent Agenda, payment to Uni Dig, Inc.
- 2) (1) approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 125997 through 126092 in the amount of \$1,126,382.74 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) approve the payment to Cummins Sales and Service in the amount of \$6,973.10 for the repair to Engine 1. (3) approve payment to Core and Main in the amount of \$6,380.34 for the purchase of water main and water system repair parts. (4) approve payment to Turf and Timber LLC in the amount of \$7,500.00 for the removal of several dead/ dangerous trees. (5) approve payment to RKA Petroleum Companies in the amount of \$38,871.43 for the purchase of 5,000 gallons of regular fuel and 7,000 gallon of diesel fuel. (6) approve payment in the amount of \$13,600.00 to Guardian Sewers for their assistance with several water main breaks and gate well repairs at various residential locations. (7) approve payment to Uni Dig Inc. in the amount of \$20,880.00 for leaf disposal in conjunction with our leaf pickup program.
- 3) to approve the attached Resolution in Support of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Spark Grant Program for the Roscommon Pocket Park project and further to acknowledge that the City of Harper Woods is not committing to any obligations, financial or otherwise.
- 4) to approve the proposal dated December 1, 2022, submitted by Simplified Business Solutions LLC in the amount of \$15,783.79 for the infrastructure cabling project.
- 5) to accept the proposal dated November 20, 2022 from Turf and Timber LLC in the amount of \$5,000.00 for the trimming of trees in Johnston Park.
- 6) to approve payment to L. Anthony Construction Inc., in the amount of \$18,908.37 for Progress Payment No. 2 on the 2022 Concrete Pavement Repair Project, #180-283.
- 7) to approve payment to Wayne County in the amount of \$353,263.50 for the operation and maintenance of the Milk River Drain.

Valerie Kindle, Mayor

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

4D | SPORTS

WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW

Liggett forms first boys swim team since 2015

By Meg Leonard
Associate Editor

For the first time since 2015, University Liggett School has formed a small boys varsity swim team of four that intends to use its mix of experience and athleticism to set season goals of enjoying team camaraderie, competing hard and qualifying for county and state cuts.

Bart Bronk, Liggett’s head of school, has taken on the role of head coach for the team, which includes three freshmen, including his son, Charlie Bronk, Brendan Beland and Zach Rabbani, along with sophomore Michael Darlington.

“Liggett has a small enrollment, but there’s lots of great athletes,” said the rookie head coach, who also is the announcer for Lochmoor Club’s Seadragons summer swim team.

With his son being an accomplished, year-round club swimmer who trains through Pointe Aquatics, Bronk said he believed he could gather enough swimmers to field a boys team at Liggett, despite the program’s six-year hiatus. He just needed enough boys willing to swim so the team could form a relay, which requires four participants. He knew he had his son, Beland and Rabbani, all of whom swim for PA, but Bronk still needed to recruit one more swimmer to launch the team.

He found that in Darlington, a strong cross-country runner and



PHOTO COURTESY OF BART BRONK

From left, Liggett boys varsity swimmers Brendan Beland, Michael Darlington, Zach Rabbani and Charlie Bronk hit the pool deck against Grosse Pointe North and Anchor Bay high schools Dec. 13, in the team’s first meet of the season.

varsity basketball player at Liggett, who was willing to add swimming to his athletic commitments.

“I approached Michael and recruited him (to join the team),” Bronk said. “He’s a good freestyler and a varsity athlete in basketball and cross country. It’s going to be exciting to see what he can achieve over the course of this year.”

The Division 3 team has dived right into the season, swimming in the Catholic High School League against the likes of Division 1 and 2 swim-

ming powerhouses like University of Detroit-Jesuit, Catholic Central and De La Salle Collegiate. The team also has upcoming meets scheduled against Grosse Pointe South and Fraser.

But the season’s first test came Tuesday, Dec. 13, in a dual meet against neighboring Grosse Pointe North and Anchor Bay. Thanks to some strong swims and fast finishes, the Knights put points on the board against both squads, but fell short 112-46 against North and to Anchor Bay

by a score of 105-47.

Beland and Bronk led the Knights with first-place finishes in each of their individual events. Beland finished the 200 IM in 2:10.58 and the 100 fly in 57.64. Bronk touched first in the 500 free in 5:15.27 and in the 100 back in 1:06.49.

Rabbani took second in the 100 breast in 1:24.83 and finished fourth in the 200 free in 2:24.03. Darlington made a splash in his first official meet, taking fourth place in the 100 free in 1:22.76 and grabbing sixth place in the 50 free in 34.64.

The team took third place in both the 200 medley (2:06.64) and 200 free relay (1:53.91). “Our small numbers will make winning dual meets difficult, so we are focusing on individual swims and improving our relay times,” Coach Bronk said.

Bronk added that he hopes experience should help his most seasoned swimmers, Beland and Bronk, reach the state meet.

“(They) will be chasing Division 3 state cuts in their first high school season,” he said. “Zach

(Rabbani) is a versatile swimmer who will score points in multiple disciplines and we look forward to seeing how Michael (Darlington), who is the school’s top cross-country runner, improves throughout the season, as he is brand new to the water.”

Despite the six-year layoff from the pool, Bronk said he hopes to build on Liggett’s history of success in boys swimming, such as Andy Sheldon’s 1998 state championship in the 500 free. The foundation of a strong past, combined with the team’s potential to add to the record books this season, makes Bronk hopeful other Liggett athletes will be inspired to swim.

“This team has the willingness to swim whatever is necessary; there’s no self-interest,” he said. “Their attitudes have been great and there’s a great energy.

“Whether they are experienced or brand new to swimming, they are all rooting for each other.”

Bronk said the team’s “focus meets” will be the Wayne County Championships in February and the CHSL Championships in early March, with the goal to qualify for D3 state finals at Oakland University in mid-March.

The Knights have nearly a month off until their next dual meet, which takes place at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24, against Cabrini and De La Salle at Warren Woods Tower High School.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAM RAHMAAN

South senior co-captain Adam Johnson has helped the Blue Devils to a No. 2 ranking this season.

South dives into swim season

Grosse Pointe South senior co-captain Adam Johnson, above, competes in the breaststroke against St. Clair High School on Dec. 13, where the Blue Devils, who are currently ranked No. 2 in Division 2, scored a big 142-43 win over the Saints in its second home meet of the

season. South kicked off its season Dec. 8, in a double dual meet against No. 1-ranked University of Detroit-Jesuit and Dakota high schools. While UDJ bested the Blue Devils by just 15 points, 100-85, South pounced on the Cougars, beating them 145-40.

The team hits the deck

again Thursday, Dec. 29, in the SHACK Invitational at Cranbrook Kingswood in Bloomfield Hills before resuming meet action at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 5, at home against archrival Grosse Pointe North.

— Meg Leonard

Williamson to join Big Red

Former Grosse Pointe South defensive back and wide receiver Johnny Williamson, a class of 2022 graduate, recently committed to play football next fall at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.

Williamson, a two-way player who is currently attending a post-graduate year at Canterbury School in New Milford, Conn., also was named the team’s Most Valuable Player and the league’s Offensive Player of the Year in the Evergreen Division in the New England Preparatory School Athletic Council. He led his team to a 6-2 record and a post-season bowl appearance, where he led the division with 10 touchdown receptions and eight interceptions. He also earned First-Team Offense and First-Team Defense honors.

Williamson is set to become a third-generation football player in his family. His grandfather, Tom Smith, played football at Villanova and his dad, John, played at Columbia. Williamson, who is slated to play safety in college, will attend the S.C. Johnson College of Business — Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management at Cornell.

— Meg Leonard



Nothing but net



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHIGAN STATE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Former Grosse Pointe North basketball star and current Michigan State Spartan Julia Ayrault, above, sinks a shot in the Spartans’ game against Detroit Mercy on Dec. 18, on her way to scoring a season-high 13 points. Ayrault currently is playing her redshirt junior season at MSU after missing the entire 2021-22 campaign due to injury. In her return to the court, she is averaging 3.6 points and 2.6 rebounds and has seven blocks through 12 games.

South girls drop MAC Red hoops opener

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The girls basketball season has only been underway for just a few weeks, and the Grosse Pointe South Blue Devils have experienced both the good and the bad, winning their first two games to start the season but suffering its first loss to Anchor Bay Dec. 8 by just two points. But South hit the road last Friday looking to bounce back from that narrow loss and make it three wins in its first four games. Taking on L’Anse Creuse North in the first game of MAC Red league play, the Blue Devils fell short of that goal and instead dropped its second game in a row falling 48-32. The Blue Devils started out looking strong on Friday night and were in front for most of a low-scoring first half. South held the lead for the entire first

quarter, which ended 8-5. In the second quarter, the Blue Devils kept adding to that lead and were up by as much as nine before L’Anse Creuse North looked as though it finally found its rhythm. For the last few minutes of the first half, South’s offense stalled while the Crusaders began to roll. The half ended with the Blue Devils on the wrong side of an 11-0 run and L’Anse Creuse North up 16-14 heading into the break. South reclaimed its lead briefly in the third quarter going up by just one point. However, it seemed clear that the momentum shift late in the first half gave the Crusaders a large enough boost for the rest of the game. L’Anse Creuse North’s defense held the Blue Devils to just five points in the third quarter and went into the final eight minutes on an 18-2 run lead-

ing by 15. The fourth quarter was not much different, although South did manage to pick its offensive production back up a bit. It was not enough, however, to catch up to the Crusaders well-established lead. L’Anse Creuse North hit cruise control and closed out the night with a 16-point victory. Much of the scoring from South in the loss last Friday came from two key players. Sophomore Madison Benard had 14 points while senior Olivia Bachert ended the night with ten. Up next for the Blue Devils is a meeting with Ann Arbor Huron in the Motor City Round Ball Classic at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27 at Westfield Prep in Redford. After that it is time for another MAC Red matchup to start the new year as South hosts Eisenhower at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 5.

SPORTS CALENDAR

DECEMBER2022

- GPS Girls Hockey @ Regina- 5pm
- GPS Boys Swim & Dive vs. U of D Jesuit- 6pm
- GPS Girls Basketball vs. Anchor Bay- 7pm
- GPS Boys Hockey @ De La Salle- 7:45pm
- GPN Boys Hockey @ Marysville- 6pm
- GPN Girls Basketball @ Cousino- 7pm

8

- GPN Boys Basketball vs. Crosswell- Lexington- 7pm
- GPN Girls Hockey vs. Sacred Heart- 7:30pm
- ULS Girls Hockey vs. Downriver United- 5pm
- ULS Girls Basketball vs. Sacred Heart- 5:30pm
- ULS Boys Hockey vs. Gibraltar Carlson- 7:30pm

9

- GPS Wrestling @ Cousino Invitational- TBD
- GPS Boys Hockey @ Livonia Churchill- 1pm
- GPS Girls Basketball @ Best of Michigan Tournament- TBD
- GPS Boys Basketball @ Ferndale- 5pm
- GPN Wrestling @ Frankenmuth- 9am
- GPN Boys Hockey @ Livonia Franklin- 9am
- GPN Girls Hockey vs. Downriver United- 6pm
- ULS Girls Hockey vs. Livonia United- 2:15pm

10

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

11

- GPN Boys Hockey @ Port Huron- 8pm

12

- GPS Boys Swim & Dive vs. St. Clair- 6pm
- GPN Boys Swim & Dive Tri-Meet (@ GPN)- 6pm
- ULS Girls Basketball vs. Our Lady of the Lakes- 5:30pm

13

- GPS vs. GPN Wrestling “Battle of the Pointes” (@GPS) 5:30pm
- GPN Girls Basketball @ Lake Fenton- 7pm
- GPN Girls Hockey vs. Troy- 7:30pm

14

- GPS vs. GPN Boys Basketball (@ GPS)- 7pm
- ULS Boys Basketball @ Parkway Christian- 7pm
- ULS Girls Hockey vs. Regina- 7:15pm
- Unified Gymnastics vs. Farmington- 6:30pm
- GPS vs. GPN Girls Hockey (@ McCann Arena)- 5:15pm

15

- GPS vs. GPN Boys Hockey (@ McCann Arena)- 5:30pm
- GPN Girls Basketball @ Dakota- 7pm
- GPS Girls Basketball @ L’Anse Creuse North- 7pm
- ULS Boys Hockey vs. TBD- 7:30pm

16

- GPN Wrestling @ Lakeview- 9am
- GPS, GPN, ULS Girls Hockey in ULS Tournament (@ McCann Arena)
- GPS, GPN, ULS Boys Hockey in ULS Tournament (@ McCann Arena)

17

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

18

- Unified Gymnastics vs. Bloomfield Hills- 6:30pm

19

- GPS & GPN Wrestling Macomb County Meet- 2pm
- GPS Girls Basketball @ Port Huron- 7pm
- GPN Girls Basketball @ Eisenhower- 4:30pm
- GPN Boys Basketball @ Monroe- 7pm

20

- GPS & GPN Wrestling Macomb County Meet- 9am
- GPS Girls Hockey vs. Metro Jets- 7:30pm

21

- GPS Boys Basketball vs. Groves- 7pm
- GPS Boys Hockey @ TC Bay Reps- 7pm
- GPN Girls Basketball vs. Monroe- 6pm

22

- GPS Boys Hockey @ Big Rapids- 6pm

23

24

CHRISTMAS EVE

24

CHRISTMAS DAY

25

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

26

- GPN Boys Basketball @ Anchor Bay- 5pm
- GPS Girls Basketball vs. Ann Arbor Huron (@ Westfield Prep)- 9am
- GPS Boys Basketball vs. West Bloomfield (@ Ferndale)- 4:30pm

27

- GPN Boys Basketball vs. TBD (@ Anchor Bay)- TBD

28

29

- GPS Boys Basketball vs. Saline (@ North Farmington)- 3:30pm
- GPS Boys Swim & Dive SHACK Invite (@ Cranbrook)- TBD

29

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

30

NEW YEAR'S EVE

31

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