



# Grosse Pointe News

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APRIL 13, 2023 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

## Ready or not, 5G is here

### Farms lacks regulation ordinance

By Laurel Kraus Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Varied opinions go back and forth and around in circles over whether 5G cellular technology poses a health risk, but it seems the regulating arm of municipalities is significantly tied regardless, according to Farms City Manager Shane Reeside.

It is within his jurisdiction that residents of Colonial Court are up in arms over the installation of new 5G small cell equipment on a utility pole standing directly between the frontage of two homes and along the edge of what in the neigh-

borhood is known as “the secret sidewalk.”

“It’s a sidewalk that goes from Colonial Court onto Lexington that the kids all walk every single day to go to Monteith,” said Ginamarie Piscopo, who lives four houses down from the pole and whose concern — similarly to a number of her neighbors — rests in the uncertainty of what long-term effects of the higher radio frequencies in 5G may one day reveal.

The pole in question is sandwiched between two driveways that lead up to one home with a 6-year-old and the other with three children under the age of 8. One door over, there are four additional young children.

However, the Farms itself, as with all cities, is extremely limited in its ability to control where

See 5G, page 2A



COURTESY PHOTO

The pole resting on the ground will be replaced in the same Colonial Court location with a new utility pole, onto which the 5G equipment will be placed.

## Permit flap slows art center progress

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — The partially demolished public works complex straddling the Park’s border with Detroit represents a wrench dropped into the Schaap performing arts center construction schedule, according to the facility’s spokeswoman.

“There’s a stop-work order,” said Jaime Rae Turnbull, interim director of the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Center for the Performing Arts, a project of the Urban Renewal Initiative Foundation. “It’s an inconvenience, for sure, but I don’t think it’s an obstacle that can’t be solved. In the meantime,

See PROGRESS, page 4A

PUT AWAY THE BOOTS, GET OUT THE BOAT



Elk Rapids Marina on deck for a great boating season

Page 4C

## GPPSS could cut teachers

By Ted O’Neil Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — As the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education continues developing its 2023-24 budget, standards the district has used for years may necessitate a reduction of 10 full-time equivalent teachers.

Roy Bishop, deputy superintendent for instructional services, gave the board an update on class sizes and student-to-teacher ratios going back five years at the board’s meeting Monday, April 10.

Bishop said most, if not all, the cuts could be achieved through retirements or attrition such as teachers leaving for other districts or changing careers. The same situation occurred last fall when the district faced cutting 22 professional

staff positions but said at least five layoffs would be needed.

Since 2008, the district has committed to capping class sizes at or below 24 students for kindergarten, 27 students in first through third grades and 30 for fourth and fifth grades.

“Because of decreasing enrollment, we’ll necessarily have to cut teachers to maintain these ratios,” Trustee Valarie St. John said, noting she has heard concerns from parents regarding equity in the elementary schools when it comes to possible cuts.

“I’d say it’s a false conclusion people jump to that when there are reductions at the class level there are harmful results,” Bishop said. “If you look at our numbers in the classrooms, they are in line with our stan-

See CUTS, page 11A

## Rear-yard rubbish collection a thing of the past in City

By Laurel Kraus Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — The estimated 10 to 15 percent of City of Grosse Pointe residents still making use of the rear-yard rubbish collection service soon will be zero, as city council has reached unofficial agreement to do away with the service in its multifaceted approach to address department of public works sustainability issues.

“The reason why we’re doing this is that the solid waste fund does not have sufficient funds to pay for either the operating costs of the current operations or for capital projects,” City Manager Pete Dame explained, “and there also are no funds available in the capital projects fund or in the general fund that can pay for public works solid waste services.” Addressing a \$57,800



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Among the last three Michigan cities to offer rear-yard rubbish collection, the City of Grosse Pointe soon will discontinue the service due to budgetary constraints.

annual operating deficit in the solid waste fund, as well as \$119,600 in capital needs annualized over a 10-year period, eliminating rear-yard rubbish collection will save the City roughly \$33,200 annually, beginning to close the funding gap.

It also will free up one full-time DPW employee to be assigned to various

other necessary tasks, therefore easing the burden on employees across the board, as well as provide future cost savings as the City only will need to maintain three Toro/Cushman vehicles rather than the current five.

The City currently exists as, along with the

See RUBBISH, page 2A

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### Pointer of INTEREST

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**Sierra Donaven**  
Home: Grosse Pointe Farms City Councilwoman and Grosse Pointe gem



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# Vests received

The Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Foundation formed summer of 2022, with the help of Director Bryan Jarrell and Deputy Chief Jim Bostock, to tackle the equipment needs of the Park public safety department. The No. 1 need was ballistic vests, for which the foundation was able to raise funds — enough to provide officers 23 new ones, replacing vests around a decade old.

Next on the list, the foundation will raise money for in-car cameras and body cameras. A series of fundraising events will occur, though donations are accepted anytime. Donors need not live in the Park to contribute.

Zack Assaf, owner of Village

Wine on Jefferson, has a yearly holiday wine-tasting event and donates ticket proceeds to a charity every year. Last year, proceeds benefited the Park Public Safety Foundation.

“We are the only Grosse Pointe that has a foundation for the public safety officers and the support of the community has been overwhelming,” said John Wolski, executive director of the foundation. “We are so grateful to everyone who donates and assists in our mission to get equipment needs filled for the officers.”

The foundation is a 501(c)3 and all donations are tax-deductible.

— Renee Landuyt



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

From left, C.H. Crane, advisor, Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Foundation; John Wolski, executive director, Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Foundation; Doug Turnbull, treasurer, Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Foundation; PSO Jessie Lafriniere, PSO Ryan Nelson, Detective/Sgt. Jeremy Pittman; Deputy Director Jim Bostock; PSO Scott Gilchrist; Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Director Bryan Jarrell; Lt. Colin Connaire; Detective Ryan Willmer; PSO Chris Muklewicz; Lt. Terry Hays; PSO Brady Baetens; and Mike Shields, director, Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Foundation.

## 5G:

Continued from page 1A

the equipment is placed thanks to the 2002 enactment of the Metropolitan Extension Telecommunication Rights-of-Way Oversight (METRO) Act, followed by the later implementation of Michigan Act 365 of 2018.

The legislation aimed to help cellular companies cut through red tape without being held up by stringent municipal regu-

lations, long approval timelines and high permit fees, as well as be held to a uniform standard across the state.

It also trumps any municipal ordinance which isn't in compliance.

While city-approved permits — which supply the city with a one-time modist permit fee, also restricted by the act — still are required, they essentially are approved by the city on the basis they meet the Michigan act requirements.

“We can't unreason-

ably deny them,” Reeside said, adding the city has some grounds for regulation if the equipment were to create an obstruction or disrupt traffic, “but if it conforms with the requirements within the METRO Act, we don't have the grounds to deny it.”

However, some cities — including the City, Shores and Woods — developed small cell wireless communication facilities ordinances, which both comply with state law and provide, “what little authority we have left,” according to City of Grosse Pointe City Manager Pete Dame.

When it comes to regulating equipment location, for instance, the City of Grosse Pointe's ordinance mandates, “small cell wireless facilities shall be located no closer than 10 feet from any driveway.”

In the Woods, wireless

communication facilities only are permitted in residential zoning districts if “the application shows and the council is satisfied that the facility cannot be located in a commercial business district; the design involves a steeple, bell tower ... or tower harmonious with the site (e.g. church steeple, school tower); and the most recent use of property was non-residential.”

For its part, the Shores requires, “the setback of a new or materially modified support structure from any residential district (to) be at least the height of the highest point of any structure on the premises,” while the Park joins the Farms in lacking an ordinance.

“Federal and state laws really don't make it easy, but cities can put their own ordinances in place and I don't know that we have one, but perhaps we need one,” said Pam Albrecht, who lives two houses from the pole. “... In Ann Arbor, they require at least 15 feet from driveways. I mean, this thing is going literally right next to our houses. It's two feet from someone's driveway.”

Reeside said he is unsure whether the

Farms would consider implementing an ordinance, but “the act actually already provides in detail what is permissible and not permissible for installation.”

He added the case of Colonial Court also could be considered different because the equipment is being attached to a utility pole that's replacing an existing one in the location, meaning the infrastructure already is in place.

Other 5G installations, about the size of a backpack, already have gone up around the Pointes, Reeside noted, but for this round of implementation in the Farms, 5G equipment also will be installed in the 400 block of Chalfonte and 200 block of Moross.

“As with anything, you can find things that'll say, ‘No, there's nothing wrong with it,’ and you can find things that'll say, ‘Yes, there's something wrong with it,’” Albrecht said. “... It's just so unclear and no information is being provided. I guess that's the really frustrating thing.”

While technology companies are required to inform the city via the permit application when wireless communications

facilities are going to be newly installed, there is no practice in place to notify neighboring residents when 5G facilities are being placed in close proximity.

The Colonial Court residents were only clued in, they explained, when the existing pole was dropped to make way for a replacement and one homeowner asked the workers what was being done.

Because of the sheer volume, it would be impractical to notify residents every time new technology is placed in the city, Reeside said. When it comes to 5G equipment specifically — which is where the controversy lies — it is unclear whether the city would consider instituting a notification process as, “there's such a short duration of time that the permit has to be approved,” he added. The specific timeframe is within 45 days of application.

But the Farms isn't alone.

It is unlikely any of the Pointes have such a practice, but city administrators in the Park, Woods and Shores declined to respond affirmatively by press time.

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## RUBBISH:

Continued from page 1A

Farms and Shores, one of the last Michigan communities to offer the service.

“There are three in the entire state and maybe less than six in the entire country,” Dame noted. “The whole country does curbside pick up.

“They're already bringing their yard waste and recycling down to the curb,” he added of residents, “so it's really a non-issue.”

City council members — aside from Terence

Thomas, who was absent — and city administrators alike unanimously reached unofficial agreement on the matter during a committee-of-the-whole workshop last week.

“We will be incorporating the council guidance on this matter into the upcoming budget,” Dame said via email.

However, this does not mean discontinuation immediately will go into effect at the start of the new fiscal year July 1, 2023.

The timing, to be determined, depends on the city's preparedness for

implementation as it must budget and purchase bins to supply to those currently making use of the rear-yard service.

“We were actually, about six years ago, almost to the point of stopping that,” Dame recalled. “We had stopped buying Cushman's and the year that we were going to switch over, the council directed us not to.”

Beyond doing away with rear-yard refuse collection, City officials also are considering requesting a tax increase on the November ballot to address the DPW capital needs funding and annual operating deficit in the solid waste fund.

“That's due primarily to three things,” Dame reported. “We're paying far more for going to the transfer station that's close by. We're now contracting for the two yard waste people that ride the yard waste truck and we are paying our employees more. There's no longer a graduated (system) and when you make five years, you're making what everybody else is making in the industry. We had to jump everybody up to basically the full cost unless they don't have a CDL. So our operational costs do now substantially exceed the solid waste revenues.”

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# Woods sees drop in crime

By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — Despite an increase in some categories, overall crime fell 5.5 percent in 2022, compared to the previous year, according to the department of public safety annual report.

Index I and II crimes, those required to be reported to the FBI, decreased from 525 in 2021, to 496, Public

Safety Director John Kosanke told city council at its meeting Monday, April 3.

“Larcenies continue to be our biggest category, mostly autos,” he said. “It’s important to stress in our partnership with the community how important it is for people to lock their cars.”

Vehicle thefts increased from 17 to 28, with eight of those coming from the Ascension St. John Hospital parking lot. Of

the 28 auto thefts, 12 were Kias, which have gained popularity among thieves for their ease of theft.

“It seems like some auto companies aren’t making their vehicles theft-proof,” Kosanke noted.

Index I crimes, considered to be the most serious, rose from 142 to 164, primarily due to the increase in auto thefts and increases in larcenies and burglaries. Larceny

is defined as the unlawful removal of property, while burglary is the unlawful entry into a structure with the intent to commit a crime.

Index II crimes, considered less serious, fell from 383 to 332. That included a 48 percent drop in drunken driving arrests, from 21 to 11, and an 18 percent decrease in fraud from 107 to 88.

“A lot of fraud is moving online,” Kosanke said. “Criminals don’t

have to be in the city or even in the country anymore.”

Damage to property increased slightly, from 41 to 44. When asked by council what the common cause is behind damage to property crimes, Kosanke said it usually involves a vendetta.

“It could be neighbors who are mad at each other or a relationship gone bad,” he said. “People act out of anger.”

Total calls for service were 8,294, up from 7,924, but below the five-year average of 9,129.

Actual fires fell by one, to 20, and fire runs fell

from 249 to 161. Ambulance runs increased 10 percent, to 1,440, although those requiring advanced life support fell 49 percent, to 400.

In the detective bureau, 87 percent of the 586 cases assigned during the year were closed, with 8 percent open and 5 percent pending.

Total training across all divisions was just over 5,100 hours.

“That’s pretty good for a small department like ours,” Kosanke said. “We appreciate all the support we get from the mayor and council.”



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Retired

**Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Officer and Emergency Medical Technician Thomas Gamiccchia retired from his last shift after 26 years of service. Gamiccchia began his career with Park public safety Nov. 29, 1996, after working one year for the Detroit Police Department.**

**Asked what his plans are for retirement, Gamiccchia said, “I am a pistol and shotgun instructor, so I’ll help coach my son’s trap team at Lake Shore High School. I am playing the rest by ear, see what comes up. I will definitely take a break, do some things around the house and probably take up a hobby, maybe woodworking.”**

## Sewer safeguard ready by fall

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — The flood-fighting sewer relief valve should be installed by fall.

Having the \$2.7 million valve on guard by roughly late September represents 18 months of trying to protect the community from storm-related sewer backups, the latest and largest of which came during a monster storm in July 2021.

“We had a 1,000-year rain event that no one anticipated,” Councilman Max Wiener said. “It wreaked havoc in communities up and down Michigan and caused tens of millions of dollars in damage to residents of

Grosse Pointe Park.”

The flood resulted from runoff overwhelming regional sewer systems and backing through pipes connected to troubled pump stations in Detroit.

The need for corrective measures was a major reason Wiener, an engineer, ran for council in November 2021, and became chairman of the infrastructure improvement committee.

The valve — dubbed an extreme emergency relief valve to underscore both its importance and hoped-for rare activation — is designed to divert excess storm runoff into Lake St. Clair rather than letting it back into base-

ments. It will link existing sewer lines at the intersection of Three Mile Drive and Essex to an underground storm water collection tank near the head of the Patterson Park driveway. The park’s operations aren’t expected to be impacted, except for about three days when the driveway is blocked during excavation and laying of pipe, according to Wiener.

Once operational, the relief valve can be opened to vent excess flow directly into Lake St. Clair off Patterson Park.

“This is an insurance policy,” Wiener said. “We have been diligent in try-

See SEWER, page 8A

## City considers raising taxes for DPW deficit, capital project needs

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — At the same time officials in the City of Grosse Pointe have decided to discontinue the tradition of rear-yard rubbish collection, city council also is strongly considering requesting a 1-mill tax increase come November’s ballot.

With 1 mill equating to \$21 per household, per month and bringing in an additional \$433,000 in annual City revenue, the need’s justification is twofold.

The first is a significant sustainability concern within the City’s department of public works, which currently is funded primarily by a 1.6560-mill solid waste levy.

The DPW’s current operations result in a \$57,800 annual deficit in the solid waste fund, which can be traced to 3 percent employee pay increases to keep up with the rate of inflation; hiring two contract workers for \$51,200 next fiscal year and during compost season to ease the burden on full-time employees; and the recent switch to a nearby solid waste transfer station to save time and wear and tear on trucks, but costing \$32,000 more annually than the prior location.

Factoring in the department’s capital needs annualized over a 10-year period brings the total annual deficit to \$177,400. Doing away with the rear-yard rubbish collection service only removes \$33,200 annually from that funding gap.

“We have to come up with a way that would be

sustainable to keep our solid waste services operating over the long term,” City Manager Pete Dame said.

In concert with the DPW’s capital needs, the City’s capital needs as a whole account for the secondary reasoning behind a potential tax hike.

Unlike many other cities which have a separate line item in their budgets for a capital project fund, the City has been unable year over year to set aside any additional funding for capital projects or a rainy day fund. Instead, it decides what it can afford to spend on capital projects each year by what is left over at the end of the prior year’s budget.

“The last six years, we’ve spent on average twice as much as we’ve put back in the surplus,” Dame reported, adding the funds often go toward parking lot reconstruction, city vehicle replacements and other necessities.

The summer 2021 flooding did the municipality no favors in that respect, Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak added.

Notably, no plan to request a raise in taxes is yet set in stone, as the council has until July at the latest to decide to add the issue to the November ballot.

During a committee-of-the-whole workshop last week, council also momentarily considered requesting a 0.33-mill raise to the solid waste levy, bringing in \$142,900 annually and singularly addressing the DPW deficit.

By the end of the discussion, a majority of

council leaned toward exploring the full 1-mill increase to take care of both problems the city faces at once.

Of the members in attendance — Councilman Terence Thomas was absent — Councilwoman Maureen Juip was the only one to voice reservations, not necessarily to the act of raising taxes itself, but in

the need to ensure justification for where each dollar is specifically needed.

With an in-depth analysis on the state of the City’s DPW department already complete, city staff agreed to compile a data analysis of the capital expenditure projected needs before any deci-

See TAXES, page 8A

## The Week Ahead

### MONDAY, APRIL 17

- ◆ City of Grosse Pointe City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Committee-of-the-Whole Sitting as Finance Committee meeting, 7:15 p.m.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 18

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

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 22

- ◆ Hazardous Household Waste Collection, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Windmill Pointe Park. Open to residents of the Farms, Park, City and Shores.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

# A magnetic attitude and a life of gratitude

By Anne Gryzenia  
Publisher

Sierra Donaven's smile and positive attitude are so contagious, it's hard to believe she's ever had a bad day. Impeccably dressed and accessorized, at first glance one might assume she's an ad exec or in the fashion business. The last thing one might guess is that she's a retired law enforcement agent who started her life in a group home after losing her father and being taken away from her mother at age 4.

Despite facing childhood challenges, Donaven was blessed with a drive to succeed. She aims to help those in need and lives her life with courage, conviction and values. She has a deep faith and wonders if guardian angels walk the earth, as she credits a few people with changing her outlook on life. One of them has a recognizable name — John DeLorean.

When Donaven was in sixth grade, DeLorean visited the children's home and brought every child to a soapbox derby in Pontiac. Donaven was so touched by his kindness, it stuck with her.

"It was a short period of time, but I held onto those kinds of moments," she said. "They were so kind and loving, and love makes all the difference in this world."

Through her childhood, Donaven persevered and though she attended seven different elementary schools and constantly had to make new friends — a possible reason she gives for so quickly making new friends and getting involved wherever she goes — she pushed through and earned a criminal justice degree from Wayne State University.

As luck would have it, she recognized DeLorean years later in an elevator at her place of work. Dressed in a suit and car-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SIERRA DONAVEN

The DeLoreans pose during their soapbox derby outing with Donaven, right, and her sister, Darlene.

rying a briefcase some 20 years later as a senior federal investigator with the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, Donaven was shocked when DeLorean recognized her after their brief meeting at the soapbox derby. Those who have met her likely will not be surprised that a famous carmaker remembered Donaven all those years later; she has a magnetic personality that's hard to forget.

When Donaven first was appointed to Grosse Pointe Farms City Council, she almost couldn't believe her luck when there was a private screening of the film, "Framing John DeLorean." It proved to her that "all of our lives have a divine purpose for some good that is far bigger than that which we plan," she said.

Everything had come full circle and she knew she was exactly where she was meant to be.

"I am so happy that Sierra is on our city council," Farms Mayor Louis Theros said. "When we appointed her several years ago, I knew we had someone who understood the community and wanted to work diligently to support it. I was ecstatic when she was



Donaven at the movie premier of "Framing John DeLorean" about 50 years after the first time she met the automaker.

elected to her current term. I appreciate her perspective on many things that come before the council. She continues to provide input from our residents and is always diligently engaging with our community."

Donaven has been an important part of the community since the day she moved to Grosse Pointe in 2011, and as she likes to say, "I just hit the ground running." In addition to serving on the Farms council, she is on the board of the Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods, is a recipient of a Grosse Pointe Farms Beautification Award, is a volunteer for the Moross

Greenway Project, serves as a board member on the National Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependency (Greater Detroit Area) and chairs the Department of Public Safety Commission, among many other roles.

Donaven gives back to her community for many reasons, but is quick to



Donaven's green thumb earned her a beautification award in Grosse Pointe Farms.



mention her gratitude for those who helped her along the way. She intentionally gives her time to organizations that work to help families like hers. She works tirelessly on the Farms city council and is confident and proud of the work council does to keep the city running smoothly.

"Families matter," Donaven said. "Families here are engaged and giving — giving from their table, giving of their time and giving from their pocketbooks. That is so special and so important, and I want

our residents to know how important they are and how much giving back to the community means."

Most recently, Donaven started a business built out of organically helping others find their true potential and life's purpose.

Donaven Advisors, LLC, will present a lecture series beginning this spring at the Neighborhood Club. The first talk takes place Thursday, May 4. Details may be found on her website, sierradonaven.com/

## PROGRESS:

Continued from page 1A

a stop-work order is a stop-work order and we have to follow the law."

Center backers intended to break ground this month on the \$45 million, 424-seat theater and gallery space. The worksite is on land occupied for decades by the Park DPW building on Jefferson between Wayburn and Alter Road two blocks west of Park city hall.

A new DPW opened recently on lower Mack Avenue. The URIF took over the old site in exchange for funding improvements to the

city, such as increased parking at the city hall campus.

The Detroit border nearly bisects the performing arts center site and thereby requires developers to meet the demolition and construction standards of both the city and suburb.

Park Manager Nick Sizeland said the Park issued the URIF a demolition permit for work planned within the Park's jurisdiction.

"We followed all of our requirements within Grosse Pointe Park properly," he said.

He said he received a copy of Detroit's stop-work order although the Park no longer owns the DPW site.

"The property was transferred to the Urban Renewal Initiative Foundation through our memo of understanding, which stated once they reached their fundraising goal, we would transfer the property," Sizeland said. "Detroit's records reflected that they thought Grosse Pointe Park owned the DPW building and former site of the Deck Bar (at the corner of Jefferson and Alter). However, we, the city, notified Detroit to direct their comments and questions to the Urban Renewal Initiative Foundation, which now owns all of those properties."

"Detroit did a stop-work order for the project on the Detroit side of the property," Sizeland said.

"The contractor filed for the demo permit from Grosse Pointe Park," Turnbull said. "They

filed a building permit with Detroit two years ago, which included demolishing the DPW. I'm not totally sure what Detroit is going to require of us to move forward. But, I'm working to get the remainder of the building demolished."

The Urban Renewal Initiative Foundation dates to 2012. It is separate from the Grosse Pointe Park Foundation and has a mission that includes enhancing the city by fundraising for and construction of the performing arts center.

"It is important to distinguish between the URIF and the city of Grosse Pointe Park, which has no authority over the site," Park Mayor Michele Hodges said. "Because it is crucial that we work in partnership, it is significant to note that we are working closely with the city of Detroit. By working collaboratively, I have every confidence the end result will be strong and our communities will win as a result."

"The bottom line is there is a path forward," Turnbull said. "The Detroit Historic District Commission does have to play a role in issuing a permit for the parking lot in Detroit. We've all known that. There's no surprise there. We are required to get a building permit from Detroit for the parking lot and, in that process, we now know the Historic District Commission has to sign off or at least make a staff recommendation."

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## Grosse Pointe Farms

## Opportune pirate

An Amazon package containing \$36 worth of goods was stolen off a Radnor porch at 8:29 p.m. Friday, March 31.

Captured on security footage, the suspect is described as an Asian or Hispanic man, wearing long pants, a baseball cap and a Calvin Klein shirt under his jacket.

The man can be seen approaching the porch and looking around the front of the home. He waited just long enough for the camera to stop recording before grabbing the package.

## Happy ending

The day after a gray 2022 Dodge Charger Scat Pack Widebody with an orange stripe was stolen out of a Kerby driveway, Detroit officers recovered the vehicle undamaged.

## Vulgar drunk

Reported for speeding and swerving all over Lakeshore at 5:59 p.m. Monday, April 3, a 56-year-old Detroit man stopped the vehicle several times and began to drive away before successfully being pulled over.

Using slurred speech and with a strong odor of alcohol on his breath, the man aggressively used profanities and vulgar language through the interaction with officers and resisted arrest.

Arrested for suspected drunken driving and resisting officers, when the man agreed to a preliminary breath test an

hour and a half later, his blood alcohol content was 0.21 percent.

He had a valid license, no warrants and a properly registered vehicle, but did have a previous operating while intoxicated conviction years prior.

## Rental fraud

After renting a 39-year-old Farms man's Vermont Vrbo property, a suspect sent the payment via a \$7,845.70 fraudulent check.

This was \$3,100 in excess of the agreed-upon rent, so the Farms man sent a check with the excess amount back Wednesday, April 5, before realizing the first payment hadn't cleared.

## Drunken amnesia

Officers were called to Edgemere and Lakeshore at 5:25 p.m. Thursday, April 6, when a 62-year-old Woods man carrying grocery bags was reported for staggering along the sidewalk and urinating in the bushes.

The man told officers he only had four or five drinks, but believed it to be Sunday and could not think of an answer when asked to name the president of the United States.

Several times during the conversation he almost fell to the ground and ultimately agreed to be transported via ambulance to a local hospital.

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

## City of Grosse Pointe

## Free for all

Two thefts occurred from a business in the 16000 block of Kercheval last week.

The first — by a 5-foot, 9-inch black man with a beard — was of \$130 worth of various groceries at 4:20 p.m. Sunday, April 2.

The second — by two black women, ages 20 and 26 — was of approximately \$100 worth of various groceries at 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 4. The two left in a dark-colored Dodge Charger.

Investigations are ongoing into both thefts.

## Unaware benefactor

An unknown suspect used a Grosse Pointe man's AAA credit card at various local establishments over the course of several days last week. An investigation is ongoing.

## Drunken speeder

After speeding 56 mph at Kercheval and University at 4:30 a.m. Sunday, April 9, a 38-year-old Detroit man was arrested for operating while intoxicated.

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

## Grosse Pointe Shores

Nothing to report per dispatch.

— *Ted O'Neil*  
Report information about crimes to Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety, (313) 881-5500.

## Grosse Pointe Woods

Nothing to report per dispatch.

— *Ted O'Neil*  
Report information about crimes to Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety, (313) 343-2400.

## Grosse Pointe Park

## Kias stolen

Two parked cars were stolen the night of Monday, March 27 — one each in the 600 block of Westchester and 1300 block of Nottingham.

Both were Kia models. The brand is targeted as an easy mark by organized groups of thieves known as the Kia Boyz, some teenage male members of which Park police arrested earlier this year.

Detroit police recovered the car stolen on Nottingham before the owner knew it was missing.

On Westchester, a female resident reported

an unknown male entered her neighbor's car and sped away.

## BB vandals

Someone shooting a BB gun broke windows and dented the sheet metal of several vehicles parked in the 700 blocks of Harcourt, Berkshire and Middlesex between the hours of 7 p.m. Saturday, April 8, and 8 a.m. the next day.

## Stolen car &amp; LFAs

Police think a stolen white 2016 Audi A3 was used by multiple unknown suspects committing larcenies from autos the evening of Saturday, April 7, and early Sunday, April 8.

The Audi was stolen while parked in the driveway of a house in the 100 block of Grayton sometime after 1:30 a.m. Saturday, April 8. Police spotted it while responding to at least five reports of larcenies from autos in the 700 block of Barrington, 1300 block of Audubon, 800 block of Whittier and 1000 block

of Yorkshire.

"While investigating, Park police located a white Jeep Cherokee being followed by another white sedan without their lights on," a detective said. "Both vehicles fled when attempts were made to stop and investigate. The white sedan is believed to be the stolen Audi."

## Pulls up drunk

Shortly before 10:30 p.m. Friday, April 7, police arrested a 39-year-old woman they encountered while responding to a welfare check of children at a house in the 700 block of Westchester.

"(An officer) arrived at the same time as the mother, who pulled her vehicle into the driveway," police said. "(An officer) attempted to investigate, but the suspect was uncooperative. A follow-up investigation revealed her to be intoxicated."

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



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# POINTES OF VIEW

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## Grosse Pointe News

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### OUR VIEW

## Is age really just a number?

A dirty little secret we never really tell our kids is that after the milestone 21st birthday, things kind of go downhill from there. And by downhill, we mean over the hill — as in people gradually stop celebrating and being excited for the number that young adults are turning and begin an unwelcome countdown clock for what they should be accomplishing by what age.

And worse yet, society stops defining them as “growing up” and instead begins to put them into various categories of “getting older.”

Yes, ageism starts early. To think someone in their 20s could be considered old. But as Hollywood standards of youth and beauty seep into middle America, along with the powerful omnipresence of social media, we are relentlessly messaged that aging is a bad thing, something to be avoided at all costs.

Tell that to the Grosse Pointes, where our senior population is at the heart of our community. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the over-65 population averages 19.6 percent across the Park, City, Farms and Woods (data for the Shores was not available). That’s a decent jump above the national average of 16.8 percent. We are not an ultra-young community by any means, but our multi-generational make-up is a source of pride.

But celebrating aging is not necessarily a hallmark of American society. Keeping score and placing value on the number we turn is alive and well in nearly every facet of it. But a few post-50-and-famous faces are attempting to buck that mentality and it’s sparking a national conversation about unapologetically embracing the aging process.

Exhibit A is film star and model Andie MacDowell, 64, who arrived — gasp! — with gray hair at the 95th Academy Awards ceremony last month (only certain things like the Oscars are allowed to be celebrated for their longevity, apparently). She turned heads with her now-natural salt-and-pepper hair, which generally is an absolute no-no for most actresses as it hints at the slightest bit of the aging process. Ironically, the same isn’t true for men in Hollywood, who are generously coined “silver foxes” for their aging locks.

Exhibit B comes from Justine Bateman, 57, most notably from the ’80s sitcom “Family Ties,” who recently spoke to “60 Minutes Australia” about her refusal to dye her hair or get anti-aging injections or plastic surgery.

Bateman’s overarching point? Be aware of the ridiculous societal pressures put on people — particularly women — as we age and of the entities that are making money off of our insecurities about aging.

MacDowell and Bateman have newsrooms and people buzzing. Vogue and Glamour magazines celebrated MacDowell’s look immediately following her Oscar’s appearance. Her reason for going gray is pretty straightforward. She told Katie Couric in a Prevention magazine article, “I want to be old. I’m tired of trying to be young. I don’t want to be young. I’ve been young.”

MacDowell said she initially stopped dying her hair during COVID, but soon decided she felt more “real and honest” with gray hair.

She also found that her silver strands gave her a new perspective on beauty. “As it was growing out, my eyes popped, the color of them looked a little different. I liked the way my skin looked better,” MacDowell told Couric. “And there was a feeling, it empowered me more. I felt more powerful and I felt more genuine and I felt more myself.”

But America’s obsession with age is not letting up. Advertising for anti-aging beauty products is worth a staggering \$60 billion and it only will become more



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Pure Grosse Pointe

Little Tony’s in Grosse Pointe Woods was the main reason WCSX-FM selected the Woods as its “City of the Week” last week. They also stopped by Lou’s Pet Shop and city hall to take photos, but went to Little Tony’s for lunch. Little Tony’s chili topped more than 30 other metro Detroit restaurants, as chosen by WCSX’s listeners in three rounds of voting. Little Tony’s has been serving its chili 45 years, following the specially crafted recipe of Carol Alfonsi, the family matriarch who passed away last year.

“She was proud of her chili so this is a nice tribute to her and her chili recipe,” owner Tony Alfonsi said. “It’s a comfort chili. It was very surprising to win, but sort of not surprising because we have people who have moved out of the area who still come back for the chili. People come from all over so we knew people loved our chili.”

Pictured from left are Will Spurrier, videographer, WCSX; WCSX DJ Screamin’ Scott Randall; Joel Morgan, WCSX event coordinator; Tony Alfonsi, Little Tony’s owner; and Little Tony’s managers Anthony Alfonsi and Jack McLaughlan.

### GUEST OPINION By Jennifer Boettcher

## New businesses popping up in the Pointes

New businesses opening up in Grosse Pointe have a number of positive effects on the community.

◆ **Job creation:** New businesses create job opportunities for people in the community. This can help reduce unemployment rates and improve the local economy.

◆ **Increased local spending:** When new businesses open, they often attract new customers who may not have shopped or spent money in the area before. This can help increase local spending, which benefits other businesses in the area.

◆ **Economic growth:** When new businesses open and existing businesses grow, the local economy can experience growth. This can lead to more investment in the community, improve

infrastructure and other benefits.

◆ **Innovation and diversity:** New businesses can bring new ideas and innovation to a community. They can also provide a diverse range of products and services, which can help meet the needs of different groups of people in the area.

◆ **Community development:** New businesses can become active members of the community and contribute to its development through sponsorships, donations and other forms of support.

Overall, new businesses opening up will bring a range of benefits to the community, including job creation, increased spending, economic growth, innovation and diversity, and community development.

Jennifer Boettcher is the president and executive director of the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce.



profitable over time. That figure is expected to double by 2030.

In her 60 Minutes interview, Bateman, sister of “Ozark” and “Arrested Development” star Jason Bateman, said she doesn’t care about her wrinkles anymore and said she thinks she looks “rad.” She also said she is bothered by America’s fixation on halting the aging process or trying to reverse it.

She described some reasons why she values getting older in an interview on the “Today Show” last week.

“It’s silly. I’ve never been smarter. I’ve never had more connections,” she said. “It’s like when you’re younger, you know the [guy at the] door of the nightclub? When you’re older, you know the person who owns the building that the nightclub is in.”

We say “amen” to that mentality. With age comes confidence, wisdom and the freedom to not sweat the small stuff as much. And if you don’t own a nightclub, you at least begin to own who you are and all that you have gone through and accomplished. We should feel lucky and blessed with each trip around the sun, even if some wrinkles and gray hair come along for the ride.

But we want to know what you think. Is age really just a number? What do you appreciate the most about getting older? Write to us at editor@grossepointenews.com.

## LETTERS

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

## Return Trombly as elementary school

### To the Editor:

For nearly 100 years, historic Trombly Elementary served as an anchor for the Park community south of Jefferson. It was a walkable school as mandated in the school system charter. Once the cornerstone of a wide neighborhood, an empty building now stands where children and devoted families interacted for generations; PTO meetings, plays, fundraisers, scout groups, neighborhood events and even elections are now fading memories.

Now closed for cost savings never realized, Trombly’s elementary students are forced to cross Jefferson and attend an overcrowded Defer Elementary, fifth graders are pushed to middle school while lacking early childcare programs for growing families.

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0%	0%	50%	80%	60%	0%	0%		
SUNRISE 6:54 am SUNSET 8:11 pm	SUNRISE 6:53 am SUNSET 8:12 pm	SUNRISE 6:51 am SUNSET 8:13 pm	SUNRISE 6:49 am SUNSET 8:14 pm	SUNRISE 6:48 am SUNSET 8:15 pm	SUNRISE 6:46 am SUNSET 8:16 pm	SUNRISE 6:45 am SUNSET 8:17 pm		

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

See LETTERS, page 7A

I SAY By Mike Adzima



# MLB's new rules are saving baseball

In the first couple weeks of the MLB season and even before the games began, plenty has been written about the new rules put in place this year by the MLB and the affect they have had on the game. So to begin, I'd like to apologize if this is the hundredth time you've read something about the new rules. But with it being one of the hottest topics in the sports world right now, I want to give my input.

From everything we've seen so far, my first instinct is to say the new rule changes have

become the first major step on the road to saving baseball. The baseball purists will always have their argument that the slower pace of the game is what makes baseball unique. However, it cannot be denied that something had to be done to help the sport bounce back among rapidly declining interest.

The biggest rule change has been the installment of a pitch clock. Pitchers now have 15 seconds, or 20 if there are runners on base, to throw a pitch. For hitters, they must be in the batter's box with at least eight seconds remaining on the pitch clock. If the pitcher takes too long, it's an automatic ball; it's an automatic strike against the batter if they take too long.

According to CBS Sports, after the first week of the 2023 season, the average length of an MLB game was 25 minutes shorter than in 2022. Full nine-inning games are taking two and a half or three hours to finish, which pretty much puts baseball back on par with the amount of time it takes to complete an NHL or NBA game.

Personally, when the new rules were announced, I wasn't quite sure how to react. Part of me knew it was probably the right move, but part of me also wanted to keep that feeling of baseball being unique for having a slower pace. After watching a week's worth of games, I have to say the MLB got it right.

Watching baseball feels

so much easier now. I haven't been able to see how the new rules affect the pace of play watching a game live at the ballpark yet (at the time of writing this, the Tigers have only played one home game), but sitting down and watching a full baseball game on TV feels like a much less daunting task.

The new rules also are helping make the game more exciting. I'm not the biggest fan of them banning the shift, as I think it's unfair to take away something that's simply just good defensive strategy, but over time it should lead to more offense. Another new rule allows pitchers to attempt pick-offs against baserunners just twice, which already has led to an increase in stolen bases

and stealing attempts.

Not everyone might like it, but it is hard to deny this was desperately needed. People in their 20s like me and in the younger couple of generations were becoming less and less interested in baseball and I think it's safe to say that pace of play was one of the biggest reasons. With so many different options competing for entertainment nowadays, there was little incentive to sit down for three or four hours to watch a baseball game. It hasn't helped that the Tigers have been at or near the basement of the American League the better part of a decade, but that's beside the point.

There still are steps the MLB has to take to bring the national pastime back

to the forefront of American sports. The most important, I would say, would be marketing the game's stars better. In this day and age, younger sports fans are becoming more attached to individual athletes as opposed to teams. The NBA and NFL have leaned into that more in their marketing and the MLB should do the same. However, that feels more like an argument for another day.

The evidence is already there that the new rules are helping the MLB achieve the goal of bringing interest back to baseball. Now that games don't seem like marathon events anymore, there is more inclination to actually tune in. Love it or hate it, this is how we begin the road to saving baseball.

GUEST OPINION By Terence Collins

## What took so long?

The budget issues facing the Grosse Pointe Public

School System are not a new phenomenon even though the administration has just recently recognized the problem. At the March 20, 2023 GPPSS board meeting, Superintendent Dr. Jon Dean publicly acknowledged the structural budget issues facing our school district. Dr. Dean indicated that he along with Assistant Superintendent Dr. Roy Bishop and Assistant Superintendent Amanda Matheson have under-

stood that the budget issues have needed to be addressed for about nine or 10 months. I will save this thought for later, but I must ask, what took so long?

As recently as March 21, 2022, at the GPPSS board meeting, Superintendent Dean assured residents that despite what I and many others in our community had been saying, the GPPSS school district was "not on the precipice of financial ruin." So how, one year later, does the administration finally recognize a crisis at least three-plus years in the

making?

On June 21, 2021, I met with then GPPSS Assistant Superintendent Dr. Dean, Assistant Superintendent Matheson and Board Treasurer Colleen Worden to voice my dismay at the proposed 2021-2022 GPPSS budget. Despite losing 531 students (8



percent) and \$3.5 million in fund equity in the 2020-2021 school year, the district took no cost-cutting actions in the 2021-2022 budget. Instead, they projected a head count increase of 145 students to 7,047. I expressed my concern that this headcount

number was clearly not achievable based on historical enrollment declines, but they reassured me their estimates were achievable.

In October 2021, the administration released the fall headcount showing another drastic reduction to 6,630 students, 417 students less than the predicted 7,047. Each student enrolled in our district represents approximately \$10,000 in state aid annually. This single enrollment miscalculation by our administration caused a revenue shortfall in the 2021-2022 school year of over \$4 million. Overestimating revenue while simultaneously maintaining expenditures was shortsighted and extremely costly to our district, contributing to a loss of over \$5 million in

additional fund equity in the 2021-2022 school year (\$14.85 million to \$9.7 million — Plante Moran November 2022).

The 2022-2023 GPPSS budget prepared by the administration and adopted by the board on June 27, 2022, included the elimination of 22 teaching positions originally announced in April 2022. The budget included no additional cuts to any administrative or support positions in the district despite losing 826 students (11 percent) in the two prior years. Prior to the adoption of the budget, the board did extend the contracts of the superintendent and executive administrators on the heels of the teacher layoff announcement. On May 18, 2022, well before this budget was adopted, the

Grosse Pointe News published an editorial aptly titled "Our View: School layoffs, cuts should start with administrators." GPN offered multiple suggestions for cutting costs in the coming school budget, including reducing the disproportional number of administrators in GPPSS, freezing pay increases and eliminating administrative bonuses. The district took none of these actions despite having lost over \$8 million in fund equity while receiving over \$7 million in COVID dollars in the prior two school years.

Remember, that on March 20, 2023, Superintendent Dean told us the administration acknowledged the budget issues for the last nine or

See COLLINS, page 9A

## LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

Clearly it is in the best interest of our children and our community that Trombly Elementary return as a neighborhood school, not just to preserve a building for mixed use. Trombly as a school is a great asset to our community and should be prioritized as such.

We need to bring students and parents back to our school district and Trombly as an elementary, early childcare school, trade program school or perhaps even a GPPSS classical educational school alternative could do just that.

We need an all-out effort to reverse the 2019 closure and the negative effects on enrollment and property values. Our constituents are our children and should be our No. 1 priority.

I encourage families to contact our school board with your desire to see Trombly Elementary School as a school once again.

CHRISTINE GALLAGHER  
Grosse Pointe Park

### Help for first responders

To the Editor:

I would like to congratulate the newly formed Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Foundation for their recent purchase of custom-made vests for each officer. The Detroit Public Safety Foundation started in 2003 as the

Detroit Police Foundation and in 2011 was expanded to support the Detroit fire and EMS first responders as well as Detroit police.

Esteemed philanthropist and Grosse Pointe resident James B. Nicholson was the first chairman of the board and instrumental in guiding the foundation through the years. We owe much gratitude to Mr. Nicholson for his vision, compassion and wisdom he has shown throughout his life.

We are very fortunate to have support from many local corporations,

individuals and our elected officials. CNN recently reported their search of police foundations found 150 police foundations in the country. Proudly, DPSF was listed as the fifth in revenue. I know many parents of officers that are grateful for the support we can offer for extra training, equipment and community programs to support our first responders outside the city's annual revenue. The flexibility a foundation in emergencies can provide is important too. As a large family of communities, we can all come

together to help our brave first responders feel supported.

PATTI KUKULA CHYLINSKI  
Executive Director  
Detroit Public Safety Foundation

### Follow your dreams

To the Editor:

'John5 is Home Sweet Home' (April 6 Grosse Pointe News) was a truly engaging and inspiring article. I hope it encourages many more of our local singers, actors and musicians to follow their

dreams. I applaud the Grosse Pointe News for such fine writing, as well as the news of our

schools, businesses and local government.

JOHN SELDEN  
Grosse Pointe Farms

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# Donors get down and dirty

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Credit Shakespeare for a line in an aptly-named play to describe how the mayor hopes to stretch municipal donations to ensure all's well that ends well regarding water and sewer infrastructure improvements.

"If they can be used as a match grant or some other way of bringing resources to the table, that gives the respect our donors deserve — that we're really honoring those dollars and making sure they have as much impact as they possibly can," Park Mayor Michele Hodges said.

While Shakespeare was dealing with the triumph of love when writing, "The gift doth stretch itself as 'tis receiv'd," Hodges was addressing remarkable acts of charity and the civic pride shown by benefactors and taxpayers who dug deep to fund construction of the flood-fighting extreme emergency relief valve.

"Our community deserves a note of gratitude for trusting us and giving us the capacity to move this forward," Hodges said during a special council meeting Monday, April 3.

The council approved a nearly \$2.8 million low bid to install the valve by autumn.

Funding for the project first came last summer with a \$130,000 donation from the Grosse Pointe Park Foundation.

Voters followed up in November by supporting a 10-year millage to generate a total \$17 million for water and sewer system improvements.

When the EERV bid came in nearly 40 percent higher than expected this month, three members of the Cotton family — Shery and her sons, Jon and Sean — bit off as much as they could chew with a \$900,000 donation.

"Our Cotton family has put the 'special' in our special meeting tonight by being that exceptional partner," Hodges said. "It's truly extraordinary what's been accomplished. They're part of the testimony of what public-private partnerships can do and how you move a community forward."

The names of sewer donors and millage supporters aren't destined to be memorialized in public places like parks and plazas.

No, the drab and dull improvements they are helping fund are to be built underground, covered and, if things go well, forgotten.

The valve is intended for use during extreme emergencies only, such as if storm and sewer

water overwhelm the regional sewer system and back into thousands of basements, as happened to thousands of property owners during July 2021.

"It's sort of an unsung thing," said Sean Cotton, owner of the Grosse Pointe News and member of the Grosse Pointe public school board. "This is about getting stuff done."

"We will do everything we can to ensure we never need to use this system," Councilman Max Wiener said. "However, given the gravity of the issue we face, and the cost to residents and the fear of another potential (storm) event, we are pursuing this failsafe."

"The city said the valve is their No. 1 goal for infrastructure," Sean Cotton said. "For us to be able to support that made sense. Other than tornadoes, flooding is the most serious natural disaster that happens in the Grosse Pointes."

Wiener has been focused on improving the municipal sewer system since being elected in 2021 and named to head the infrastructure committee.

"Sewers and infrastructure aren't really the sexiest projects out there," he said. "It's extraordinary that people are willing to support that."



# Tear down

Late last month, the former Grosse Pointe Park Department of Public Works building at Wayburn and Jefferson was partially torn down — before a stop-work order was issued (see story page 1A) — to make way for valet parking for the new Schaap Art Center, scheduled to open in 2024. Top, the chimney in the old building is taken down, knocked off its base and crumbled to the ground. Bottom, the mouth of the crane drops a piece of the old building to the ground.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

## TAXES:

Continued from page 3A

sions are made.

"I think the compelling argument is not to cheapen the services," Tomkowiak said. "I mean right now, people are getting high-end services for very low fees."

Options explored, and rejected, by city staff that wouldn't require a new revenue stream included:

- ◆ contracting out yard waste and leaf collection to a company, which then would require residents to bag their own leaves. City staff also is not confident any companies would be interested in only collecting yard waste as opposed to that and refuse.

- ◆ Contracting out garbage collection to a company as well, which then would take away from the City control over the

quality of service.

As neither would provide enough annual savings to properly address the department's deficit, both were deemed non-options.

"We can make a case and say, 'If you want to bag your own leaves, don't vote for this,'" Councilman Chris Walsh said, as the council member most strongly outspoken in favor of the tax hike to address city needs.

The only other viable option would be to add a \$5.21 per-month charge for yard waste collection to resident utility bills.

"This is what the new model for funding solid waste is," Dame explained. "You pay for what you use. You divide all the parts of your service and you charge people for what it costs to operate and then you take the levy away, so we

would not have a levy."

This would bring in up to \$150,000 annually, successfully putting the DPW in the green, but not addressing the capital expenditure needs.

"There are many people fighting for space on raising revenue, including ourselves for multiple purposes," Dame said. "... You're about to hear at the next meeting, the millions of dollars of stormwater repairs that are needed and we have absolutely no funding source."

He was referring to an upcoming application by the City for revolving loan funds from the state to address flooding prevention efforts. The city will hear back by the end of the year whether it will be granted the loans, at which time, "the question becomes, how do you pay those back?" Dame noted.

## SEWER:

Continued from page 3A

ing to improve our overall system so this never needs to be used. That's the irony of this. Infrastructure work doesn't stop."

Discharges into the lake won't consist entirely of sanitary water.

"We are going to be blending it with storm-

water that's already in our wet well," Wiener said. "We can track and monitor that. We are able to tell when, where, what is going out."

The project's \$2,772,084.40 cost includes 800 feet of piping and totals nearly 40 percent more than consultants predicted.

"This work is unique in many ways," said Patrick Droze, an associate of

OHM Advisors, the city's consulting engineers.

"It's tough to estimate this type of project because it rarely happens in Michigan," said City Manager Nick Sizeland, alluding to the reluctance of state environmental regulators to approve construction of combined sewage overflow systems.

Wiener cited inflation, labor and supply short-

ages as drivers of the high cost.

"I assumed there would be some overage, but not quite the percent there was," he said.

Financial solace came in a \$900,000 donation for the EERV from Shery Cotton and her sons, Jon and Sean. The latter is a member of the Grosse Pointe Board of Education and owner of the Grosse Pointe News.

"When it's raining, you can't have people wondering if there's going to be flooding," Sean Cotton said. "Our infrastructure needed another tool in the toolbox to help manage our city."

The Cottons' donation is in addition to the Grosse Pointe Park Foundation last August giving \$130,000 toward construction of sluice gate components.

Residents provided crucial funding in November last year by supporting a 10-year millage to raise \$17 million exclusively for water-sewer infrastructure improvements.

"In a community where people don't feel safe in their homes when it rains, maybe the best thing they can give is peace of mind," Wiener said. "That's the linchpin of what this project represents."

"People have the will to pay for these big projects that help keep our community the special community it is," Cotton said.

"I'm so in awe of the community in general," Wiener said. "It's not just about financial support. It's about the overall support of residents of Grosse Pointe Park."

The city council — minus the excused absences of members Christine Gallagher and Vikas Relan — held a special meeting Monday, April 6, to approve the construction bid. It was the lowest of four bids, the highest being \$3.9 million.

"Bids were posted for about a month shortly after the council authorized this to be put out for bid (in February)," said Warren Rothe, assistant city manager.

"We are fortunate to be here today to move forward on this project, which we all identify as a critical step toward the

well-being of the residents of Grosse Pointe Park," Wiener said.

Low-bidder L.D'Agostini and Sons is a family-owned contractor based in Macomb County.

"They will look to mobilize in later July and work diligently and consistently to get the work completed," Droze said. "Favorable references were received for the contractor. I, also, am currently working with them on another project. It's going well. They met the schedule on that as well."

"Their schedule is to have this thing functional at the beginning of autumn," Wiener said.

The Park contract includes a \$1,500-per-day penalty for not finishing the project in about eight weeks.

"The emphasis is to get this job done," Droze said. "They know that."

So does the council. Its special meeting came slightly more than two weeks prior to this month's regular session, which, teamed with the foundation's donation and November millage results, gave the project a head start.

"We want to get this project functional as quickly as possible," Wiener said. "The sluice gate has a 40-week lead time. Saving half a week makes a big difference."

"A lot of people thought this was something that would never happen and certainly wouldn't happen as quickly as it has," said Councilman Martin McMillan. "It's a great day for the city."

Mayor Michele Hodges told Wiener, "Mr. Wiener, your leadership has been tremendous. We are so grateful for your leadership in this regard, There's not enough hyperbole to shower on you at this moment."



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# Ripe Records going round five years

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — In a 2014 BBC interview posted on YouTube, Jimmy Page leans forward from an easy chair toward a turntable.

He reaches out, lowers a needle onto a vinyl recording of “Stairway to Heaven” and tells how he and his Led Zeppelin bandmates wrote the classic rock song 43 years prior.

“I wanted to try to put something together which started with a quite fragile, exposed acoustic guitar playing sort of in the style of a poor man’s Bourree by Bach,” he says as the record spins and the tonearm undulates slightly.

Robert Plant is a few words into singing the second stanza when Page picks up the gatefold album cover, removes an insert on which the lyrics are written and reads

along. It’s a ritual shared by millions of listeners when the song hit record stores in 1971 and, due partially to a revival of vinyl pressings, are doing still.

“That’s part of vinyl. While sitting down listening to it, you’re reading about it,” said Andy Curcuru, owner of Ripe Records Detroit in Grosse Pointe Park. “You could read who composed it, produced it, who’s playing on it, what studio it was recorded at, who arranged it. All that stuff is like reading a book when it comes to vinyl.”

His store’s record bins contain more than 13,000 albums, about one-fifth of Curcuru’s total inventory. The sheer number of records is why he established the business five years ago this month.

“My wife was bugging me to get 10,000 records out of the basement,” Curcuru said. “It started as a joke when I told her



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

**Andy Curcuru, owner of Ripe Records Detroit on Charlevoix in Grosse Pointe Park, has been “pushing through the market square” for five years and has no room to spare. David Bowie would understand. In back, regular customer Karl Fets makes the rounds.**

I was going to open a record store to get rid of them.”

He’s celebrating the anniversary 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 22,

with a street party and live bands outside the store at 15212 Charlevoix.

Still, he gets a kick out of his business winning a Grosse Pointe News

readers’ pole as the best record store in the Pointes.

“I’m the only record store in the Pointes,” he said.

Curcuru’s been collect-

ing records his whole life.

Growing up, he was a denizen of the former Car City Classics used record store on Harper in St. Clair Shores. The owner changed the name to Car City Records because he kept getting telephone calls from people seeking parts for vintage automobiles.

“I was there four days per week,” Curcuru said.

He listed more of his old haunts while growing up in the Park: “Harmony House, Record Time, Memories of Melodies, Korvettes.”

Some of Curcuru’s steady customers visit the store with the regularity of trolleys on rails.

One is Karl Fets, 22, of Detroit.

“Whenever I see the store open, I come in,” Fets said.

He likes the sound and look of vinyl records.

“I use Spotify and stuff while working out and

See RECORDS, page 10A

## COLLINS:

Continued from page 7A

10 months. That would mean that prior to the budget submission and approval in June 2022, the GPPSS administration knew they needed to take action on the budget, but failed to cut anything other than 22 teaching positions. Two consecutive budget years lost without addressing the fundamental structural budget problems facing the district.

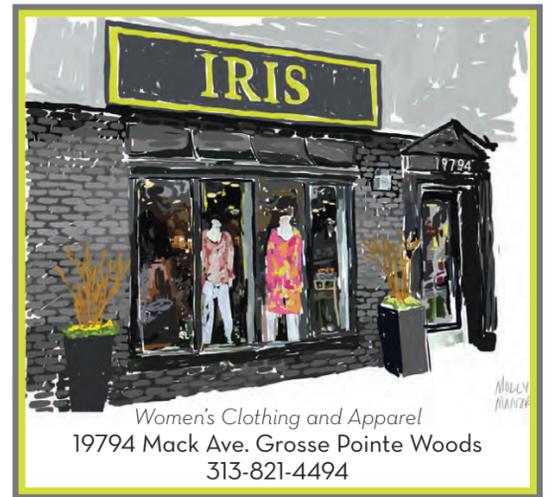
On Nov. 14, 2022, Plante Moran finally acknowledged what we all understood for a long time. Their presentation clearly showed a decline in fund equity from 2020-2022 from \$18.4 million (\$18.2 percent) to \$9.7 million (9.2 percent). They also showed that the district had received over \$7.2 million in COVID dollars in the same time period. Combined, that is a nearly \$17 million overspend in two years. Continuing on this path would put our district on the precipice of

disaster, contrary to what Superintendent Dean told us in April 2022.

One thing is now certain and agreed upon. The current board inherited a significant budget crisis. A problem years in the making will not be solved overnight. Our current board members have taken decisive action in directing the administration to cut costs while developing the 2023-2024 budget. Failing to act over the past two budget cycles has made this process even more difficult, but it can and must be

done. As noted by the Grosse Pointe News almost a year ago, the cost cutting needs to start at the top. This process needs to be painful for everyone, not just our teachers and para pros. A 22 percent enrollment decline over the last 10 years demands that right-sizing our district must include rightsizing our administration at the same time.

Terence Collins is a resident of Grosse Pointe Park.



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## Record party on Charlevoix

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Ripe Records Detroit is throwing a birthday party for itself and, as they say in the Grand Funk Railroad song, everybody's invited.

The store's been open five years at 15212 Charlevoix in the Park.

Owner Andy Curcuro thereby organized a street party 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 22.

The date coincides with Record Store Day and Earth Day.

Live music starts at 10 a.m. with The Mellow Tones. Every hour thereafter comes the Innovative Jazz

Ensemble featuring Lizzie Grace, Oopapada featuring Dr. Professor Leonard King, East Side Still Alive with former members of the Trash Brats and Grayling, The Hourlies and, again, The Mellow Tones.

"That's what this party is about, too, local artists who have traveled the world," Curcuro said. "The party is about giving back to them so they can play here. A lot of bands travel and play bars here, but are more recognized everywhere other than in Detroit because there are so many good acts coming out of Detroit."

Mere fans can participate in a free pig roast, hamburgers and hot-

dogs; a beer giveaway; and sift through hundreds of used records on sale.

"In the five years I've been here, the inventory has changed so much that I have a little bit of everything," Curcuro said. "New records come in every Friday, so I'm up to date."

Party sponsors are Howlers and Growlers Bar, Iris Mortgage, Sprout House Natural Foods Market, Absopure, Warner Records and Audio-Technica.

"All my sponsors are the people who come in here," Curcuro said. "I wouldn't be here without all the people in the neighborhood."

## Comerica hosts 5th annual Prom Dress Drive

Comerica Bank is welcoming donations for its fifth annual Prom Dress Drive which began Monday, April 3, and continues through Friday, April 21, in support of community partner Jackets for Jobs. Individuals and businesses alike can drop off new or gently used dresses at participating Comerica locations to benefit southeast Michigan students.

Eleven Comerica Bank banking centers and offices throughout metro Detroit will serve as collection sites, among them the Comerica at 415 Fisher, City of Grosse Pointe.

Participating locations will also accept accessories such as jewelry, shoes, purses and wraps.

For the first time, Comerica will supply the donated dresses and accessories to Jackets for Jobs, a Detroit-based nonprofit that focuses on career development and removes barriers by providing high-quality clothing that makes clients look and feel professional to support work-

place success.

"For the past several years, our colleagues, customers and communities have come together with tremendous generosity during our previous prom dress drives to support local teens," said Linda Nosegbe, Comerica Bank national community impact manager. "As the interest in contributing to this great cause remains strong, our new partnership with Jackets for Jobs allows us to continue connecting to the community through an outstanding community organization driven to help others to thrive and succeed."

Since 2017, Comerica has donated more than 5,300 dresses to benefit local teens who otherwise may not be able to afford formal attire and experience the high school tradition of prom, including more than 900 last year following a two-year postponement due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For a list of all participating drive locations, visit [comerica.com/promdressmi](http://comerica.com/promdressmi).

## RECORDS:

Continued from page 9A

driving, but when I'm home, it's a different feel and sound from the record player," Fets said. "It's got that rasp to it. Everyone likes a good, classic record."

He enjoys the store's wide selection, especially folk, country and, recently, a copy of "The Very Best of the Rat Pack." The cover has a black and white photo of Dean, Sammy and Frank. "Classic cool," Fets said. "That's my display record right now next to my record player."

"It's artwork," Curcuro said. "That's why records are displayed on the walls of the store. When I used to go to Car City Records, I'd buy records from artists I didn't know about simply because of

the cover of the record. I thought the cover was cool."

Such as the original edition of Herb Albert's Tijuana Brass "Whipped Cream & Other Delights." The cover shows a brunette lathered in whipped cream.

"Everybody has one in their collection because of the cover," Curcuro said. "They might not listen to it, but they have it because of the cover."

He said his typical customer is everyone.

"All ages," he said. "From 5 to 80-year-olds because the music I carry is all across the board: jazz, bop, big band, funk, classical, classic rock, indie. The typical customer comes in here for new releases, but will also pick up a couple used records to fill their collection. Now that vinyl is back, big labels are

reproducing music from CD format to vinyl format."

Some listeners say vinyl records have better sound.

"Everything's clearer and warmer," Curcuro said.

He no longer hoards records for himself.

"My fun is finding records for other people," Curcuro said. "Anything you want, I can get it. The thing is, you might have to pay a lot for it, but I can get it."

He ships collectible albums worldwide twice per week.

Gone are the days when a new album cost a few dollars.

"Now, they're \$22 and up," Curcuro said. "A Nirvana boxed set is \$300. It's gotten to be a really expensive hobby."

The highest-priced album in his current

inventory is a \$2,000 copy of jazz trumpeter Lee Morgan's "City Lights," released by Blue Note in 1958.

It's common for customers like Fets to buy a record or two but leave the store with three or four. That's the way things add up when Curcuro gives things away.

"Used prices in the store start at four for \$1," he said. "I don't want records to end up in a landfill. If somebody wants to give it a roll at home but doesn't like it, they can do what they want with it."

The inventory is always changing.

"I buy big collections all the time," Curcuro said. "New releases and reissues come in every Friday. People selling records come in here two or three times per day."

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# Mason PTO ups playground efforts



By Ted O'Neil  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — With a goal of \$250,000, the Mason Elementary School PTO is increasing its efforts to build a barrier-free playground.

“This is something we talked about for a while but our board really started the push last fall after we were past COVID,” said Amanda Starkey, co-fundraising

chairperson for the group. “We have students with disabilities who aren’t able to use the current playground during recess.”

The current playground equipment is 25 years old and cannot be retrofitted due to its age.

Through two clothing drives, a flower sale and some donations, they have raised \$40,000 toward their goal. The clothing drives have been through Second

Renew, which pays non-profit organizations for collecting gently used clothes, shoes, accessories and toys.

Local restaurants, including Telly’s Place, Jet’s Pizza, Estia Greek Street Food, Amigo’s Street Tacos and Ferlito’s have offered special nights where a portion of sales go to the effort.

“It’s been an uphill battle,” Starkey said. “We’re the only fully Title I school in the dis-

trict, so a lot of our families don’t have the means to give.”

Some 45 percent of students at Mason qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.

The latest effort is masonplayground.com, just unveiled last month. It includes an option to contribute money through Zeffy Donations, which unlike similar organizations does not keep any money for overhead costs.

Corporate sponsorships also are welcome, ranging from Honorary Moose — a moose being the school’s mascot — at \$1,000 up to Platinum Moose at \$25,000.

“We’ve also been talking with the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education and the Grosse Pointe Woods Foundation,” Starkey said. “We’re looking to partner more with entities that have a philanthropic effort.”

The PTO currently is hashing over ideas for a big event in the fall.

“We’re not sure what it will look like but we want to do something big,” Starkey said. “We’d like to do something where we invite the entire community and not just our school.”

# College night coming up

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — An annual event waylaid by the pandemic is making a return as the Grosse Pointe Public School System offers College Night 2023, from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, at Grosse Pointe South High School, 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

“This is our first one in three years, but it’s back and looks like it will be a great evening,” said Beth Walsh-Sahutske, chair of

the counseling department at South.

The delay wasn’t entirely local though. Walsh-Sahutske explained that high school counselors around the state are affiliated with the Michigan Association of College Admissions Counselors.

“Not only were they shut down for a while, but in order to schedule a night we need to register with them,” she said. “That way they can coor-

dinate with all the colleges and spread the word about the event to all the high schools in the region. They want to make sure it’s worthwhile for the admissions reps to travel.”

More than 80 colleges will be represented from around Michigan and across the country, in addition to the U.S. Armed Forces.

COVID, however, changed the nature of college admissions.

“Virtual tours became very popular and I’m sure those will continue,” Walsh-Sahutske said. “But it’s also nice for students to talk directly to the people who know the process best. I think colleges are trying to sort out what the future looks like.”

Such college nights often were held in the fall, but Walsh-Sahutske thinks spring is a better time frame.

“In the fall juniors haven’t quite caught on to what’s going on and the seniors already have a good sense of where they’ll be applying,” she noted. “Having it in the spring really helps the juniors get ready heading into their senior year. I hope it becomes standard practice.”

Walsh-Sahutske said students can find a list of institutions attending at [shorturl.at/muEJ0](http://shorturl.at/muEJ0).

“We suggest students review the list of who will be attending and select some schools that will be a top priority to meet the representative and ask some questions,” she said.

Walsh-Sahutske also recommended students planning to attend this event or any college fair review [shorturl.at/RW019](http://shorturl.at/RW019) to get prepared.

— Ted O'Neil

# Looking sharp

Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education board member Brendan C. Walsh shows off Grosse Pointe North High School’s new marching band uniforms. The foundation put \$25,000 toward the \$55,000 cost for 100 new uniforms, replacing the original ones from when the school opened. The band and orchestra boosters club is hosting its second annual spring craft show at the school 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 22, with more than 100 vendors. The fundraiser will help purchase new instruments and pay for field trips. Cost is \$3, or \$2 for seniors.



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# CUTS:

Continued from page 1A

dards and some are substantially below our class caps.”

Also at issue is another parameter coming into play: seeking to cut \$3 million in support services, something board members who supported the move said would result in cuts “furthest away from the classroom” and would come from purchased services and supplies. Amanda Matheson, deputy superintendent for business services, previously said such cuts would not impact special education, which falls under the instructional line item of the budget.

Vice President Lisa Papas said she would prefer any personnel cuts come at “the top of the pyramid,” meaning the administration. She noted as a public school teacher in another district that paraprofessionals allow her to be a better teacher.

Trustee Colleen Worden, on the other hand, said she has heard a lot of talk on social media that the district should cut from central administration, but said, “they work diligently every day.”

The district should have a clearer picture of its next budget by the end of May after Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and the Legislature present their state budgets.

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# 12A | SCHOOLS

## Career day gives Broncos glimpse into future job possibilities

Brownell Middle School hosted a career day for students Friday, March 24, where nearly two dozen professionals ranging from a helicopter pilot and crew members to a crime scene investigator, infectious disease doctor and television news producer gave students an inside peek at various careers to explore.

Students also were treated to the inspirational story of keynote speaker Anthony Ianni, a former Michigan

State University basketball player who is the first athlete with autism to play for an NCAA Division I college basketball program.

Standing 6 feet, 8 inches and towering over his audience, Ianni spoke to students about overcoming obstacles and achieving his dream — earning a bachelor's degree from Michigan State and playing for Spartan coaching legend Tom Izzo.

— Renee Landuyt



**Bob Koteles, forensic science lab specialist with the Oakland County Sheriff's Office, talks about how to process a crime scene, while skipping the gory details. When asked if he watched crime shows, he said the show "Forensic Files" is pretty accurate most of the time.**

Sgt. Chad Gruenwald, with the Michigan State Police Emergency Response Team, gives students insight into what an emergency response team does and talks about the Michigan State Police driving school. When a student asked if they'd ever chased anyone, Gruenwald said they'd just chased three murder suspects the day before. The students and teacher were surprised by his answer, not expecting it, but also impressed.



**Capt. Bradley Dolittle with Delta Airlines talked about what pilots do to prepare before a flight to be ready for takeoff and explained air traffic routes, here showing the overhead of a route to an Orlando airport to which he often flies.**



**Above, a major highlight of career day arrived when a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter out of Selfridge Air National Guard Base landed on the field at Brownell Middle School. Left, Teddy Ward, sporting a helmet, got to sit in the pilot's seat to experience what it would be like to fly the helicopter.**

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

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Dr. Parveen Siddiqui and Dr. Julia Tesch are honored to welcome Dr. Khamoshi Patel to join their well known practice in The Village.

- Dr. Patel is board certified in Internal Medicine.
- Graduate of New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine - Old Westbury, NY and completed her residency at Saint Michael's Medical Center - Newark, NJ.
- Provides Internal Medicine care to adults of all ages and has a special interest in hypertension, diabetes, musculoskeletal injuries, and preventative care.
- She believes that the path to great health starts with patient education and teamwork.
- Committed to help her patients gain access to the best medical resources and services available to ultimately improve their health and overall wellness.
- Outside of the office, Dr. Patel enjoys nature walks, cooking, painting, and spending time with family and friends.
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- Grew up in Grosse Pointe Woods and graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School and went onto University of Detroit Mercy to complete her undergraduate degree.
- Graduated from Wayne State Medical School of Medicine in Detroit and completed her General Surgery Residency at Ascension St. John Hospital in Detroit. She received the Anthony B. Chambers Award for best performance during residency, chosen by faculty.
- Completed her fellowship training (Advanced Abdominal Wall Surgery) with Dr. Yuri Novitsky, one of the world renowned pioneers in the hernia field, at Columbia University in New York City.
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2B AREA ACTIVITIES | 4-5B OBITUARIES | 5B CHURCHES

## Imagination collaboration Woods woman, granddaughters publish children's book

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

Anytime J. Lee Burke visits her grandchildren in Ann Arbor, she's bombarded with pleas to help them with their next book.

Burke, along with three of her five granddaughters, ages 8 and younger, co-authored "Can I Tell You Something?" The children's book, which was published last month by Archway Publishing from Simon & Schuster, includes four short stories and an activity.

"It's all about adventure," said Burke, a veteran author whose typical writing falls under the mystery/thriller genre. "I have five little girl grandchildren and three of my grandchildren wrote the book."

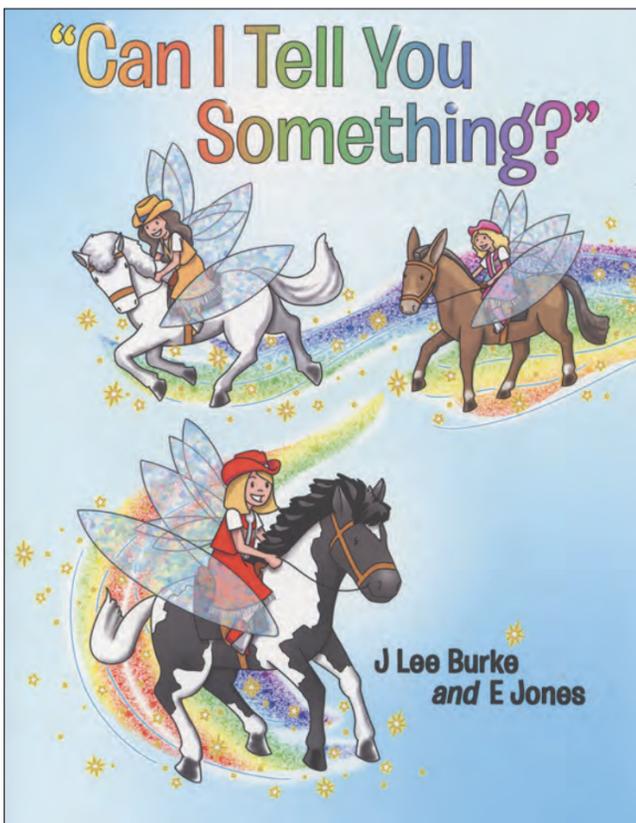
"Can I Tell You Something?" is a collaboration among two sisters from Ann Arbor and their cousin, who lives in Spokane, Wash.

Burke identifies them only by their initials to protect them.

E. Jones, the oldest granddaughter, started working on the book when she was 5. Soon, her sister and cousin joined the process.

"The book should have been done when she was 6, but there were issues with the publisher," Burke explained. "Each year that went by, they added more short stories."

The original "Can I Tell You Something?" was quickly completed. Rather than rest on their laurels, the book evolved in the interim.



COURTESY PHOTOS

**Grosse Pointe Woods resident J. Lee Burke, above, helped three of her granddaughters publish their first book, left, "Can I Tell You Something?"**

fun and fanciful."

Other chapters include stories about a fox and a henhouse; leprechauns and winged goats; and two troublemaking Christmas elves. The book ends with a valentine-making activity.

"They spent three years writing this book," Burke said. "They're thrilled to death about it. Their little friends now want to get published."

The girls so loved their collaborative efforts, they named themselves Adventure Book Club Authors, hoping to encourage other children to read and explore other worlds with creativity and imagination.

They're currently working on a follow-up book.

"Every time I go (to Ann Arbor) they say, 'GaGa, I want to do the next book,'" Burke

said. "It's about a castle covered in ivy with people trapped inside. ... The minute I walk in the door, they say, 'This is where we left off.'"

"... They're really excited about content, plot, story," she added. "They're very inventive and move things along. They come up with twists."

They also come up with solutions, Burke added, each one adding their two cents to how a conflict should be solved.

"They literally collaborate on the book," she said. "I wish I had this when I was little."

Hoping to follow in her grandmother's footsteps, 8-year-old E. would like to write a mystery. She's enlisted help from Burke, whose third thriller is in New York for editing and fourth thriller is well underway.

"I'm a college English professor," Burke noted. "I work and then I write every day. I start at 5 a.m., I grade papers, then it's fun with friends and family and then I write at night."

"Can I Tell You Something?" is available online through Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Archway Publishing, as well as in store at Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy in Harper Woods and Apple Blossom Baby in the City of Grosse Pointe, with more local locations possibly coming soon.

"It's dedicated to them," Burke said of her granddaughters. "I also acknowledge how hard they worked, their dedication and perseverance. I can't wait to continue with them. They're in a phase right now."

## Fontbonne fashion show raises funds for Ascension St. John NICU

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

After a three-year hiatus, the Fontbonne Auxiliary is proud to present Fashion, Fun & Friends, a haute couture fashion show fundraiser benefitting the neonatal intensive care unit at Ascension St. John Hospital.

The festivities begin at 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

"This is the first time we're doing a physical show there," said Camille Cracchiolo, Fontbonne recording secretary and chair of the fashion show. "It's right in our backyard, so it's convenient."

The event includes cocktails, raffles, a sit-down dinner and, of course, fabulous fashions selected by Cheryl Hall Lindsey, who specializes in fashion, public relations and special events for Saks Fifth Avenue.

"Cheryl will feature commentary of the beautiful fashions she will bring and the models will stroll the runways showcasing the latest styles," said Madeline Phillips, Fontbonne corresponding secretary. "Cheryl must have an ironclad memory. She's amazing. I never see her use any cards — she has them in her hand — but she just knows where each item is from, who the designer is. She'll say it before model even walks down the runway."

Models will sashay down the runway in ladies' fashions from three Somerset Collection stores — Ann Fontaine, Lilly Pulitzer and Saks Fifth Avenue — as well as two Grosse Pointe stores — Village Palm and J. McLaughlin.

Dior is providing event favors.

Following the fashion show, winners of the fish-bowl raffle will be called.

Raffle prizes have been contributed "from a lot of

local stores and a few from stores that are in the fashion show," Fontbonne President Lorna Zalenski said.

Close to 25 raffle items and packages will be awarded. Big-ticket items include a black Tahitian pearl ring donated by LaLonde Jewelers & Gemologists; a Sydney Evan necklace and Gucci backpack purse donated by Girlie Girl; a David Yurman gold and silver necklace and a Shinola ladies' watch donated by Edmund T. AHEE Jewelers; and several Waterford Crystal items donated by Fontbonne member Jean Azar.

Donations from Spa in the Woods, Small Favors, Gaudino's and Saks Fifth Avenue also are included among the prizes.

"We have a good variety — something for everyone," Cracchiolo said.

Added Zalenski, "And there's a few more we're still working on."

Though the show



focuses on ladies' fashions, men are welcome to attend.

"Men from the St. John Guild, our counterpart, will be helping us by sell-

ing raffle tickets that evening," Zalenski noted.

Organizers hope to bring in 200 guests to the show, which will raise money to benefit the NICU at Ascension St. John.

"We are providing a protective environment to support the medical needs of our smallest and most vulnerable patients," Cracchiolo said.

Added Zalenski, "They have an abundance of needs. ... By supporting Fontbonne and what we're doing for the NICU, you're supporting Ascension St. John Hospital, which is our community hospital. It's the place to go for care. The hospital is doing everything possible to provide quality care for our patients."

"We've provided other pediatric support in the past," she continued. "A lot of people don't know there's a pediatric hospi-

See FASHION, page 2B

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2B | FEATURES



# 'Fusions of Water, Light & Time' to be displayed

Posterity Gallery, 17005 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe, invites the community to experience the artwork of local artist, Roselyn Rhodes, whose "Fusions of Water, Light & Time" exhibition runs Friday, April 21, to Saturday, May 20.

An opening reception takes place 3 to 7 p.m. on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22. Complimentary refreshments and snacks will be provided.

The impressionistic to abstract quality of Rhodes's work is loose, spontaneous and full of



COURTESY PHOTOS

The artist, Roselyn Rhodes, above, and samples of her work, left.

expressive color. Her brush strokes evoke an

energy that can visually transmit the emotional experience in her paintings.

She is continuing her exploration of oil painting through classes at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, various workshops and plein-air painting. Rhodes has a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in graphic design and fine arts from the University of Michigan, and has taken additional classes from College for Creative Studies. She worked as a graphic designer and art director prior to teaching art.

"My paintings are a tapestry of colors and forms that together create moods I sense, almost more than see," she said, "the movement of the water or breezes blowing around and through me — or the motion of the fish just below me. I feel strongly that these 'moods' I sense can only be visualized through the process of plein-air painting, then reimagined in the studio through intuition."

For more information, visit posterityartgallery.com.

# Henry Payne speaks to Republicans Tuesday

Award-winning Detroit News auto columnist Henry Payne will speak to the Eastside Republican Club at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Mike Vethacke, ERC chairman, cited Payne's wide-ranging talents in a statement in advance of the meeting.

"Mr. Payne is a student of history, closely follows current events and now drives and writes about electric vehicles, so we are eager to get his perspective," Vethacke said. "The forum is open to the public at no charge, so we invite everyone to hear Mr. Payne and to ask questions."

Forum doors open at 7 p.m. for coffee and networking in advance of the meeting.

Payne's coverage for The News includes vehicle reviews, product trends and breaking auto news. He's won multiple awards for his car columns, including the SPJ Excellence in Journalism prize.

He has written for The



PHOTO COURTESY OF HENRY PAYNE/THE DETROIT NEWS

Henry Payne, Detroit News auto columnist.

Wall Street Journal, National Review, New York Post, Washington Times and other outlets.

Payne also is an active race driver at the helm of a vintage Lola.

Born in Charleston, W.V., Payne received a degree in history from Princeton University in 1984. As editorial cartoonist for two student newspapers, The Daily Princetonian and the Nassau Weekly, Payne won the College Media Advisers Cartoon Contest and the Tribune Company

Syndicate's National

College Cartoonist's Contest.

Upon graduation from Princeton, Payne began his newspaper career as staff artist and editorial cartoonist with the Charleston Daily Mail. In 1986, he joined Scripps Howard News Service and began syndication with United Feature in 1987.

Detroit News hired Payne in 2000, and he now contributes auto reviews, videos and product reporting.

His weekly "Car Radio" show for WFDF-910 AM Detroit is a live talk show that follows the auto industry's news, products and trends, featuring interviews with newsmakers from car executives to race car drivers.

Car Radio also is available via podcast on Spotify, Apple, Google, Detroit News and Stitcher.

A Pulitzer Prize-nominated cartoonist, Payne produces five cartoons a week for Andrews McMeel Syndicate, which run in 60 publications across the U.S. He has

been awarded Michigan's Best Editorial Cartoonist by the Associated Press and Best Auto Columnist by the Society of Professional Journalists. He was a runner-up for both the Mencken awards.

As an author, Payne has published three books, including two children's books by Random House. His first book, "Payne & Ink: The Cartoons and Commentary of Henry Payne, 2000-2001," was published in 2002. He also has illustrated two children's books for Random House: "Where did Daddy's Hair Go?" (by Joe O'Connor) in 2006, and Dr. Seuss' "The Ear Book" in 2007.

Payne is the father of two boys and lives with his wife in Bloomfield Hills.

The Eastside Republican Club Forum meets the third Tuesday each month, September through May, at The War Memorial. Admission is free and the public is welcome. Stay up to date at eastsiderepublican.club.



# Deadline extended for Grosse Pointe News' 'Fresh Takes' art contest

The deadline for the 2023 Finer Pointes art contest has been extended to Monday, April 17.

"Fresh Takes" invites artists to submit "fresh" art in the forms of photography, digital art and sneaker art. All submission must be original and must have been created within the past year.

Eric "El Cappy" Lowry will judge the sneaker art portion of the contest.

Photographer Joe Gall, aka Camera Jesus, will judge the photography and digital art category.

Visit [grossepointe-news.com/art](http://grossepointe-news.com/art) for more details or to enter or email [media@grossepointenews.com](mailto:media@grossepointenews.com).

Finalists will be announced Thursday, May 4, and winners will be announced during a mid-May reception in Grosse Pointe.

Prizes will be awarded for the winner and one runner-up in each category. An additional award will be presented in memory of the late Gretchen Valade.

Complete rules may be found online at [grossepointenews.com/art/rules](http://grossepointenews.com/art/rules).

# AREA ACTIVITIES

## Ford House

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

- ◆ Nooks & Crannies guided tours are offered at 11 a.m. Tuesdays through Sundays until May 28. Admission is \$18 for adults, \$15 for seniors and \$9 for children; admission for members is reduced.

- ◆ Storytime: "The Earth Gives More," by Sue Fliess, 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays, through April 25.

- ◆ 10 Out of 10 Tour, 6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, through July 29. Explore the Ford family's home while learning about 10 artifacts. Admission fees vary.

- ◆ Garden Workshop: Native Plants, 1 p.m. Saturday, April 15. Participants will learn how to assess the conditions of their gardening space and prepare the site for planting. Cost is \$10 for members, \$12 for nonmembers.

- ◆ Coffee with Collections, 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. Thursday, April 27. Members are invited to enjoy coffee with the Collections staff, who preserve and maintain the historical elements of Ford House. Admission is \$20.

For tickets and information, visit [fordhouse.org](http://fordhouse.org).

## Jardinieres

La Société des Jardinieres hosts its first meeting of 2023 at noon Thursday, April 13, at the home of member Cheryl Nelson. The program is "Spring Inspiration," followed by lunch provided by the hostess.

## Library

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

- ◆ 3D Thursday, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

- ◆ Calligraphy Saturdays, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 15, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

- ◆ Hour of Code: Star Wars, 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 15, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

- ◆ Ewald Stick Streamer To-Go Craft, all day Monday, April 17, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

- ◆ Youth Coding, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, April 17, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

- ◆ Capturing the Moment Photography Workshop, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday, April 17, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

- ◆ Shelf Indulgence, 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, at Cellar 313, 15112 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park.

- ◆ Smart Money MI Kids Read Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 19, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

- ◆ Appy Hour, 3 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, at Ewald, 15175 E.

See **EVENTS**, page 6B

# FASHION:

Continued from page 1B

tal within the four walls of the main hospital."

Fontbonne's last planned fashion show in 2020 was canceled due to the pandemic.

"We hit a bump with COVID and took three years off," Cracchiolo

said.

During its time away, Fontbonne appealed to members for donations. Several patron donors stepped up and for their contributions were listed in Fontbonne Facts, the organization's newsletter.

"They were extremely generous even though we didn't have an event,"

Zalenski said. "Most of our ladies truly live the mission of Fontbonne."

The Fontbonne Auxiliary was founded in 1947, by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Nazareth. Membership is open to all who wish to participate in helping meet the health-care needs of the community through service to and support of Ascension

St. John Hospital.

Tickets for Fashion, Fun & Friends are \$125 per person. Sponsorships and raffle prize contributions are welcome.

For more information, to purchase tickets or contribute a raffle prize, call Zalenski at (313) 590-5607 or email [llz523@aol.com](mailto:llz523@aol.com).

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# Volunteers key to Forgotten Harvest mission

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

As one of the nation's largest food rescue organizations, Forgotten Harvest is a name with which many are familiar. Since 1990, its mission has been to fight hunger and food insecurity. It does so by "rescuing" surplus food and delivering it to local charities who then provide fresh, nutritious meals at no cost to families in need.

"Being a large, grassroots organization, we are as effective as we are because of the collaborative partnerships in the community," said Timothy Hudson, chief development officer with Forgotten Harvest and a Grosse Pointe Farms resident. "Our ability to be effective is because of the role of community engagement and volunteers. We couldn't do it without them."

Last year, he added, more than 42 million pounds of food were distributed in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties, through partnerships with 200 food pantries. More than 15,000 volunteers contribute 55,000-plus hours of service to the organization. Of those 15,000, there are 1,077 active, registered volunteers from Grosse Pointe, Hudson said.

"This fiscal year, 215 Grosse Pointers came through and volunteered," he added. "That's

business employees, retirees, schools — students from North, South and Liggett. We think it's great, teaching kids about community service. We feel it's important to engage them in service participation, whether they're repacking food or working on our farm in Fenton, learning about farm-to-table aspects."

Volunteer opportunities vary, from helping pack food, distributing food at pantries, planting and harvesting crops at the farm and more.

"Our farm in Fenton is 100 acres," Hudson said. "We harvest 800,000 pounds of food each year. ... The farm is operating thanks to the generosity of the Moroun family. It's been nine years now, with 2,500 to 3,000 volunteers at the farm each year. It's hard work; you come home muddy. Whether you're planting broccoli or harvesting corn or watermelon ... you're in the field. It's a very engaged experience. You come home tired, but rewarded."

Volunteers who make the process run smoothly no matter the capacity are invaluable to the organization.

"We can't do what we do without volunteers," Hudson said. "It would become extremely expensive. Our mission wouldn't be as strong without volunteers."

"I'm grateful to the Grosse Pointe community for their activism and

support," he added. "Also, financially. One of our longtime supporters is Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, who does a monthly outreach offering. Other civic and religious organizations in Grosse Pointe also partner with us, but Memorial Church is one of the largest."

Hudson praised local volunteers for not only assisting in the local community, but extending

*"As a Grosse Pointer, I feel very grateful to be a member of a community where parents and children understand the importance of giving back and wanting to help when times are difficult for other people."*

TIMOTHY HUDSON  
Chief Development Officer, Forgotten Harvest

their reach to families outside of Grosse Pointe.

"They have a willingness to want to help," he said. "As a Grosse Pointer, I feel very grateful to be a member of a community where parents and kids understand the importance of giving back and wanting to help when times are difficult for other people."

That goes for businesses, too. Locally, Forgotten Harvest rescues food from Trader Joe's, Kroger, ALDI, SAM's Club and other stores.

"We have hundreds of store partners," Hudson

explained. "Because of the need and the scale, we do 1.2 million distributions to families in need. We're resourcing and recovering as much food as possible. With the ability to source as much food as possible, we feed 300,000 households in a year."

Apart from its large food rescues, Forgotten Harvest operates on a smaller scale with its Harvest Heroes program.

"We have about 50 volunteers, called Harvest Heroes, who do small pickups," he said, noting there are several Grosse Pointers currently in the program.

"We are always looking for volunteers," Hudson said. "The need has not gone away. ... We're seeing increased need in the pantry line."

Local pantry partners include Crossroads and Matrix Human Services.

Additional volunteer opportunities are available on the Forgotten Harvest board of directors. Of its 40 board members, six are Grosse

Pointe residents, each of whom serve on a variety of committees. Of its staff of 93, seven are from Grosse Pointe, he added. Their time of service ranges from two to more than 15 years.

Hudson, who has served in the nonprofit sector since age 18, has worked in the healthcare, housing and education sectors doing fundraising. His role at Forgotten Harvest, which he took on nine years ago, was a natural fit.

"What gets me out of bed in the morning is wanting to help people improve their quality of life," he said. "I believe in people helping people. When you focus on the positive, when you're creating a solution rather than animosity, good things can happen. I've been at Forgotten Harvest nine years and I love its mission. We rescue surplus food that otherwise would be thrown away — perfectly good food — and give it away for free. It's effective, it works and it helps a lot of people."

"I like being in an environment and working with people whose goal is improving quality of life," he added. "I appreciate the support of my family allowing me to have this type of career. What I find exciting and rewarding is the relationships and partnerships and engagement with other people who care about it like I do. We have the

same understanding and willingness to help."

Apart from time and talents, financial donations also are welcome. Of the 30,000 donors who give to Forgotten Harvest annually, 1,400 are from Grosse Pointe.

"We have people wanting to support our mission and work," Hudson said. "Some of the strongest nonprofits are ones that have active community engagement. Whether you're a volunteer, on the board, helping with the financial part, it all makes a pretty critical difference in how we go about helping our neighbors in need."

Volunteers interested in getting involved, no matter the form of service, should call Hudson at (248) 298-3421 or email [thudson@forgottenharvest.org](mailto:thudson@forgottenharvest.org)

More information, as well as volunteer and donation opportunities, also is available on the website, [forgottenharvest.org](http://forgottenharvest.org).

"Communities are stronger when neighborhoods are involved in them," Hudson said. "Neighbors helping neighbors makes our society a better place. We all know that. The next time you want to help and give back, come and be partners with Forgotten Harvest."

Additionally, those in need of food assistance are encouraged to visit [forgottenharvest.org/findfood](http://forgottenharvest.org/findfood).



COURTESY PHOTO

The Provencal-Wier House will host a yard sale April 29 and 30.

## Quester yard sale April 29-30 will benefit historic Provencal-Weir House

A spring yard sale the last weekend in April will be a collaboration of Grosse Pointe area Questers and the Grosse Pointe Historical Society.

The "Je Ne Sais Quoi" yard sale takes place Saturday, April 29, and Sunday, April 30, on the grounds of the Grosse Pointe Historical Society campus at 375/376 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. The community is invited to come and purchase a special little vintage something or perfect new item. Eric Stroh photographs will be on sale and available to view.

The historical society is reaching out to residents who wish to contribute items to the sale, vintage or new. Those who would like to donate are asked to bring items to the Provencal-Weir House by 9:30 a.m. Saturday, April 29, already priced.

Organizers also are

looking for folks to bring portable tables to display wares.

This project serves as a fundraiser toward the preservation and restoration of the oldest house in Grosse Pointe, the Provencal-Weir House. It is in need of interior work, including painting, electrical work, fixtures, wall covering, roof and

gutter repair, as well as restoring the LaBelle Country Store.

The Questers have been supportive of GPHS over many years.

Scheduled times for the sale are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 29, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 30.

For more information, visit [gphistorical.com](http://gphistorical.com).

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## National Living Donor Day was April 11

In honor of National Living Donor Day, April 11, Grosse Pointe Shores resident David Galbenski is continuing to spread awareness of living organ donations.

After receiving a living liver donation from his brother-in-law, Mark Dybis of Grosse Pointe Woods, in 2019, Galbenski made a commitment to use his time, talents and energy to promote living donor awareness to pay forward the gift of life. In 2020, Galbenski and Dybis began to publicly tell their story to raise awareness of the impact of living organ donation.

In 2023, David and Lynn Galbenski founded the Living Liver Foundation,

hoping to spread the word and encourage living donor transplants. Their goal is to save the lives of up to 17 people per day who might otherwise die while on the transplant list.

By providing key information and resources about living organ donation, they inspire others to potentially consider becoming a living donor.

Anyone can sign up to be a donor. Medical tests help line up donors with recipients. Oftentimes, people misunderstand who qualifies to become an organ donor. An organ donor can be:

◆ Anyone age 18 to 60 years old, at most transplant centers.

SEE DONOR, PAGE 6B

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## 4B | OBITUARIES

# OBITUARIES

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

## Paul Henry Wehmeier

Paul Henry Wehmeier passed away Wednesday, March 8, 2023.

He was born July 21, 1938, and spent the first half of his life in Grosse Pointe and the second in Palos Verdes Estates, Calif.

Paul was a 1956 graduate of Grosse Pointe High School and a 1964 graduate of Wayne State University Law School. In 1970, he matriculated to the Real Estate Department of S.S. Kresge where he eventually became director of real estate development and chief legal counsel for Kmart Corp. He developed scores of large retail properties throughout several Western states. After two-plus decades with the Big K, Paul retired from corporate life.

After moving to California, he and his partner, Allen Potts, formed a private real estate development corporation.

Paul was a consummate competitive sailor, racing the Great Lakes for 40 years before moving West. He enjoyed skiing with family and friends. After his move, he became a convert to paddle tennis, playing almost daily. He was a member of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and Palos Verdes Beach Club. As a member of the California Yacht Club, he worked on several race committees. Paul, with an excellent eye for design and his love of succulent and cacti, made a wonderful garden at his home in Palos Verdes Estates. He took pride in his collection of terracotta planters from around the world.

He was predeceased by his parents, Victor and Flora Wehmeier; sister, Victoria Wehmeier; and son, Henry Wehmeier.

Paul is survived by his wife of 31 years, Susan; daughter, Alexandra Fortna (Andrew); son, Wilson; stepchildren, Benjamin Gravel (Tuppy) and Anne Gravel; grandchildren, Heidi, Henry

and Briget Fortna and step-grandchildren, Maysie, James and Lia Makrianes; and his former wife, Sandra Wilson Gommel.

A memorial service will be held in Michigan later this summer.

## Ronny Oscar Barrigar

Ronny Oscar Barrigar passed away Tuesday, April 4, 2023.

He was born in 1947, in Saginaw, and grew up in rural Lapeer County.

A man of St. Francis's humility, Ronny spoke softly, never pridefully. The young men and women at the grocery store and Subway who Ronny loved to talk with knew him well. He had a genuine interest in them and their lives, how they were doing in school, their hopes and their dreams. While he enjoyed the subs and stores, it was the people behind the counter that brought him back. And they seemed to genuinely enjoy hearing his perspectives and listening to his guidance. He was just that kind of guy.

In his soft-spoken, though quietly confident intellect, Ronny completed an undergraduate degree at the University of Michigan and later, a master's degree in social work at the University of South Carolina.

Ronny spent two tours of duty in Vietnam, as a "door gunner" on board a Huey helicopter — among the most dangerous duties in the military. More than 10 percent of Vietnam casualties were helicopter crew members and most of those were the door gunners that protected the helicopter, its crew and transports from their exposed position. According to reports, "the average life expectancy of a door gunner on a Huey in Vietnam was just two weeks." Being the man he was, however — and like many veterans in those most dangerous rolls — Ronny simply never talked about it.

Ronny's greatest happi-

ness was his 25 years of marriage to his wife, Cindy Wilberding, M.D.

## Beverley Margaret Georgi

Beverley Margaret Georgi, 82, died peacefully Tuesday, April 4, 2023, in Sarasota, Fla., surrounded by her family. Beverley was diagnosed in 2019 with corticobasal degeneration, a rare and progressive neurological disease about which little is known and for which there is no effective treatment or cure.

Born in Welland, Ontario, Canada, in 1940, Beverley moved to Birmingham with her parents, Margaret and Anthony Nimeth, and younger sister, Judy, in 1953. She graduated from Seaholm High School in 1958, and Michigan State University in 1962, where she was a member of the Tri Delta Sorority. She met and later married her husband of 61 years, Neil Georgi, at Michigan State and became a United States citizen in 1963.

Beverley lived in Grosse Pointe Shores for 36 years. She taught second grade and pursued a master's degree in education and counseling at Wayne State University. She was very active raising her three children and volunteered her time to many nonprofit organizations, including the Junior League of Detroit, University Liggett School Parent's Board, Planned Parenthood of Detroit and Tau Beta Association. In recognition of her leadership, Beverley was named Volunteer of the Year by the Junior League of Detroit in 1983. She remained a sustainer member of the Sarasota Junior League and an active member of the Detroit YPO women's forum.

A lifelong athlete, Beverley played competitive tennis, golf and paddle tennis; learned to downhill ski at age 35 and taught her husband and children to ice skate. Hockey became a sport both her son, Steve, and grandson, Will, played competitively through high school. She spent many weekends skiing with her family in Gaylord at Otsego Ski Club and even coached her daughter's softball team, a sport she didn't play but quickly picked up. Beverley spent many summers at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and cruised the Great Lakes and Georgian Bay aboard the "Georgia" with her family. Beverley enjoyed playing golf in various women's leagues at the St. Clair Golf Club in St. Clair and later at The Oaks Club in Osprey, Fla. She also was an excellent bridge player and played until the last years of her life.

Beverley especially loved the beach and spent many happy years at her condo on Siesta Key with her children and grandchildren, before moving to the Oaks Preserve in 2007, and later to Venice, Fla. A lifelong Episcopalian, Beverley most recently attended Church of the Redeemer



Paul Henry Wehmeier



Ronny Oscar Barrigar



Beverley M. Georgi

in Sarasota, Fla.

Beverley is survived by her husband, Neil; and three children, Steve Georgi (Kristin) of San Clemente, Calif., Nancy Georgi Free of Winnetka, Ill., and Susan Georgi of Venice, Fla. She also is survived by five grandchildren, Katie, Gracie and Ryan Georgi and Annie and Will Free; and sister, Judy Caldwell of Troy. Beverley will be greatly missed by her family and many friends.

Beverley's family is incredibly grateful to all of her caregivers, especially Carolyn Goff, Melani Duenas, the nurses and staff at The Springs Nursing Home and Tidewell Hospice.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Beverley's memory may be sent to Tidewell Hospice of Sarasota, 5955 Rand Blvd., Sarasota, FL 34238, tidewellfoundation.org/donate.

## Abbie Onlee Monteith, RDH, MS

Abbie Onlee (nee Shumaker) Monteith, RDH, MS, 88, of Grand Rapids, passed away Thursday, Dec. 31, 2020, at Hospice House in Traverse City. She was surrounded by her children, Dr. Scott Monteith and his wife, Kathy, of Traverse City, and Sharon Monteith of Bethel, Conn.

Abbie was born July 9, 1932, in Fremont, to Dr. Jay and Katherine Shumaker. She earned a dental hygiene degree from the University of Michigan Dental School in 1952, a bachelor's degree from the University of Detroit Dental School and a master's degree in higher education administration from Central Michigan University.

Abbie cared for the dental health of countless school children through 20 years of work with the Macomb County Health Department. She was legendary, often running into grateful former students decades later. Her next career step was in academia, serving as a professor in Ferris State University's Dental Hygiene program where she was responsible for the development and implementation of Dental Public Health and Community Dentistry. Her third career chapter was with the State of Michigan in a variety of dental hygiene and public health roles.

Abbie was an avid and acknowledged "master" baker and cook — her pies and chip dip were legend — and she enjoyed experimenting with recipes until the end. As a connoisseur of good food, she frequently enjoyed visiting restaurants throughout Michigan, new and old, and was a trusted source of "good places to eat." Her incredible intelligence and sense of humor were always appreciated.

Abbie's most cherished role was "Mom." She



Karen Bolton Deneweth



Jean Cassels Hagman

delighted in frequent visits with her extended family and reveled in the wonders of Michigan, especially the Lake Michigan shoreline and northwest communities of Traverse City, Glen Arbor, Northport and Mackinac Island.

Abbie is survived by her daughter, Sharon; son, Scott (Kathy); granddaughter, Courtney Doan Rodriguez (Carlos); grandsons, Justin and Andrew; great-grandchildren, Cate, Finn and Jack Rodriguez; sister-in-law, Beth Monteith (Gary); nephew, John Shumaker (Mary Jane); niece, Susan (nee Shumaker) Latronico (the late Kenneth); and many much-loved grandnieces and grandnephews. She was predeceased by her brother, Dr. Donald B. Shumaker of Grosse Pointe Farms; and nephew, Dr. Daniel B. Shumaker (Debbie) of Grand Rapids.

Memorial contributions in Abbie's honor may be made to the Cherryland Humane Society of Traverse City, 1750 Ahlberg, Traverse City, MI 49696, cherrylandhumane.org/donate.

Abbie and her family have been cared for by Reynolds Jonkhoff Funeral Home.

## Karen Bolton Deneweth

Karen Bolton Deneweth, 63, of Clinton Township, passed away Saturday, April 8, 2023.

Karen was born Jan. 5, 1960, in Pittsburgh, to Tom and Betty Coolohan. She attended Indiana University of Pennsylvania, class of 1977. She worked as an account manager at Metcom in St. Clair Shores.

Karen was involved in movie and book clubs and enjoyed live music, as well as the Pittsburgh Penguins, Pittsburgh Steelers and her Irish heritage.

She is survived by her husband, Chuck Deneweth; daughters, Candice Courrage (David), Tara Mader (Frank) and Haleigh Pieroni (Joe); stepdaughter, Andrea Deneweth; stepson, James Deneweth (Maggie); grandchildren, Nora Mader and Quinn Deneweth; and brothers, Kevin Coolohan and Brian Coolohan (Kathy). She was predeceased by her granddaughter, Amelie Courrage.

Visitation will be held from 2 to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 13, at Chas Verheyden Inc., 16300

Mack, Grosse Pointe Park, with rosary at 7 p.m. She will lie in state Friday, April 14, from 10 a.m. until the time of her funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m. at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park, with interment to follow at Resurrection Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Michigan Ovarian Cancer Alliance (MIOCA), 315 E. Eisenhower Parkway, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, mioca.org/donate.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

## Jean Cassels Hagman

Jean Cassels Hagman, 75, passed away Sunday, Jan. 29, 2023, in Denver. She grew up in Grosse Pointe Park and attended Grosse Pointe High School and Christ Church Grosse Pointe, where for many years she was a member of the choir.

She was a graduate of Michigan State University and Wayne State University, where she received bachelor's and master's degrees in art history. At Michigan State, she had minors in math and Russian. Later, she received an MBA degree in nonprofit management. She attended executive finance courses for nonprofit executives at the University of California-Berkeley, the University of Chicago and the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

Jean was employed as an executive at art museums in Grand Rapids, Flint and Tulsa, Okla. She was the executive director of art museums in Midland, Texas, and Oklahoma City. In Midland, she also supervised the construction of a children's museum and planetarium, as well as the purchase of a planetarium projector from the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Jean was the daughter of Mary and Harlan Hagman of Grosse Pointe Park; sister of William, Richard, Thomas, James and Donald; and proud aunt of Erin, Sarah, Pauli, Elizabeth, Grant, Arthur and Jeffrey.

Contributions may be made to Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, christchurchgp.org/ways-to-give; or to the American Cancer Society, bit.ly/3nSeq9Y.

See OBITS, page 5B



## Donna Rossetti

It is with great sadness we lost Donna Rossetti to leukemia on Thursday, March 9, 2023. Donna lived life as fully as possible. She was a great woman and mentor. As a wife, mother and friend, her love, wisdom, and support were endless. Donna loved to travel, excelled in sports, was the consummate host, ensuring that everyone left her table fully content on pasta and wine.

Sixty-six of her ninety years were cherished with her husband and best friend Gino Rossetti. The family they made from her solid foundation is strong. Gino, Dina, Matt, Andrea, Miga, grandchildren and great grandchildren, plus the many others she called family, Jim, Muffy and Benny, are all wanting without her. She will be missed every day, but we know she is smiling and watching over us all.

## OBITS:

Continued from page 4B

## Charles Albert DuCharme III

Charles Albert DuCharme III passed away Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at his residence in Tryon, N.C., surrounded by family.

Chuck was born July 22, 1939, to Charles Albert DuCharme II and Mary Janice (nee Rice) DuCharme of Grosse Pointe.

Chuck is survived by his son, Charles Bagley DuCharme II of Grosse Pointe Woods; daughter, Elizabeth DuCharme Elwell (Tristan) of London, England; and their mother, Mary Kathryn DuCharme; along with four grandchildren, Charles Hayden DuCharme, Cameron Xavier DuCharme, Evan Forbes Elwell and Edward Charles Elwell. Also surviving are his sisters, Julie Haynes (the late Pryce) of Huntington, W.V., and Mary Janis Gunsaulus (Clyde) of Mt. Pleasant, S.C.; and companion, Mary Jo Kellogg of Landrum, S.C.

Chuck graduated from the Berkshire School in Sheffield, Mass., Denison University and the University of Pennsylvania School of International Politics.

Professionally, he followed in the footsteps of his father and enjoyed a career as a stockbroker and financial advisor. He belonged to the Financial Analysts Society.

He had a deep love of fishing and the outdoors that developed over a lifetime spent at the Huron Mountain Club in



Charles A. DuCharme III

Big Bay, Mich., as well as summers spent at Beach O'Pines in Grand Bend, Canada.

He was a lifetime member of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, where he served as deacon and usher.

Over the years Chuck enjoyed many memberships, some of which included the University Club, Country Club of Detroit, Huron Mountain Club, Witenagemot Club and Kiwanis Club.

As a lifelong student, he pursued interests in genealogy, astronomy and history. He was part of the Michigan Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) and Michigan Regimental Roundtable, and served in the U.S. Coast Guard.

Chuck delighted in the companionship of his grandsons as they shared his enthusiasm for stamp collecting, trains and the joy of being in the woods.

A memorial service will take place at 11 a.m. Friday, May 12, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, gpmchurch.org/.

## St. Michael's hosts Lunch, Laugh and Learn

The next Lunch, Laugh and Learn program takes place at noon Thursday, April 20, at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods. David Swank, aka The

Plant Advisor, will present, "Nature is Waiting." Swank will share his work in bringing greater biodiversity to home gardens. Among his many professional experiences, he has most

recently trained as a Master Gardener at the Missouri Botanical Garden and is a contributor to the Grosse Pointe Park city garden program.

Soup and sandwiches are on the menu. To reserve seats, call the church office at (313) 884-4820 by Tuesday, April 18. The public is welcome to attend; free-will donations are gratefully accepted.

## GPMC presents Hymn Festival Sunday, April 16

The Easter celebration continues with a special service of congregational singing and inspiring commentary Sunday, April 16, at both the 9 and 11 a.m. worship services at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

This hymn festival, with the theme "We Have Seen the Lord," centers around the people who encountered the risen Christ. Guest speaker Michael Silhavy will talk about each hymn and the music will be led by the GPMC Choir with James Biery at the organ.

Silhavy is an editor at GIA

Publications, Inc. in Chicago. He currently is a member of the editorial review board of The Hymn, a journal of the Hymn Society of the United States and Canada. He has authored entries on American composers and authors for the Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology. He worked with Marilyn and James Biery many years at the Cathedral of Saint Paul in Minnesota.

A fuller version of the Hymn Festival will be presented at 3 p.m. the same day at Kirk in the Hills, 1340 W. Long Lake Rd., Bloomfield Township.



Michael Silhavy

## Memorial Church invites children to 'Stellar VBS'

A summer kids' event called "Stellar VBS" will be hosted at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, July 10 to 14.

This event has opportunities for children entering kindergarten through eighth grade

this fall, to launch on a cosmic quest where they'll have a blast discovering how they can shine Jesus' love and hope in everyday life.

Children entering kindergarten through fourth grade will meet for Vacation Bible School from 9 a.m. to noon. Their time includes games, music, art and Bible study. Middle school youth are invited for a full day of activities from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. They will serve as counselors-in-training each morning, assisting adult volunteers in classrooms. After lunch,

they will go off-site to enjoy activities like a TreeRunner ropes course and mini golf. Further details on pricing and registration are available using the link on Memorial's website, gpmchurch.org, or calling the church offices at (313) 882-5330.

## Mental health programs sponsored by Corewell Health East

Residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties can benefit from a 15-week, online mental wellness program for \$10 — a fraction of the cost of traditional mental-health care — thanks to funding from Corewell Health East. Mood Lifters gives people practical skills to help improve their longterm mental well-being, which ties in with Corewell Health's efforts to increase healthy lifestyle opportunities in the area through its Healthy Communities initiative.

The health system's 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment determined that mental health should be the top priority for the entire southeast Michigan service area. Interviews with community members, focus groups and 81 percent of survey respondents identified mental health as their greatest health and well-being concern. Interviewees and focus groups emphasized the critical need to address

See HEALTH, page 6B



PHOTO COURTESY OF KENT COMMER

The contestants in the Optimist Oratorical Contest were, from left, Maya Walker, Ana Kozak, Maureen Scanlon, Evie Berger, Charleigh Miller, Ryn Fultz, Maddox Barksdale, Robert Warner and Rocky Bocci.

## GP Optimists honor students

Nine Grosse Pointe students from Pierce and Brownell middle schools recently competed in the annual Optimist Oratorical Contest at The War Memorial, sponsored by the Grosse Pointe Optimist Club. Each contestant delivered a 4- to 5-minute speech on the topic "Discovering the Optimism within Me," and were judged on poise, content, delivery and presentation, and overall

effectiveness.

The gold medal was awarded to Robert Russell Warner of Grosse Pointe Woods; the silver medal was won by Maddox Barksdale of Grosse Pointe Farms; and the bronze medalist was Rocky Bocci of Grosse Pointe Park. Warner and Barksdale advance to the Area Optimist Oratorical Contest on April 22.

The Optimist Oratorical Contest

gives youngsters the chance to speak to the world. More than \$150,000 in college scholarships funded by the Optimist International Foundation is awarded annually from this program. First conducted in 1928, this is the second most popular Optimist International Program and nearly 2,000 clubs worldwide participate in this program each year.

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

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

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

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

6B | FEATURES

HEALTH:

Continued from page 5B

barriers to accessing mental healthcare, especially around cost and overcoming stigma.

Suzanne M. Berschback, healthy communities manager for Corewell Health, saw Mood Lifters as a program that broke through those barriers, after participating in the program herself. “Everything about the course was not only useful but potentially life-changing for some people,” she said. “We believe that by underwriting the cost of the Mood Lifters program we will help reduce stigma and increase access by offering group wellness at a very affordable cost. This program is about learning new stress coping strategies and reflecting on the strategies that work best for each person. Each week there is a new focus and reflection. It is creating building blocks for individuals to lean into.”

“Once again, Corewell demonstrates their forward-looking vision by providing evidence-based mental wellness care to people in our state by bringing our Mood Lifters program to people in need,” said University of Michigan professor Dr.

Patricia Deldin, founder and creator of Mood Lifters.

Unlike many of the thousands of app-based programs developed in recent years, Mood Lifters adheres to strict privacy standards and has data-proven effectiveness. Last year, on average, members cut their anxiety, depression and feelings of stress in half. They also experienced better sleep and improved relationships and reported feeling more positive emotions generally. Since its first pre-pilot group in 2016, Mood Lifters has helped more than 1,000 people online and in person with similar results. The program’s data-proven success attracted the attention of California-based Color Health, which acquired the company in December.

The online program works differently than a therapy or support group. Each week, a trained peer-leader presents the latest science related to a specific topic involving behavior, thoughts, emotions, physical health and social connection. After the hour spent learning about and discussing the topic, group members put the strategies to work in their day-to-day lives. The sharing among group members breaks

down stigma and further empowers people to help themselves to feel better. According to one member, “Mood lifters is a safe space where you can allow yourself to be vulnerable while getting the necessary skills needed to carry on in daily life.”

Group members often refer to the program as a class and say working with peers is their favorite aspect. Recent members said, “The conversation was awesome. Getting to speak with others who are facing similar issues, problem solving together and just providing encouragement was a mood lift weekly” and “It gives inspiration to set goals and stay motivated throughout the week.”

Deldin created Mood Lifters to help the epidemic of people who aren’t receiving sufficient mental health care — a worldwide problem.

“I’m determined to make instant, broad access to effective, evidence-based mental health treatment available to people in pain, wherever they are and whatever their means,” she said.

For more information on joining an upcoming group, visit moodlifters.com or email info@moodlifters.com.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DANNY BEEVER

Art in the Park

Grosse Pointe Park resident Danny Beever — Patterson Park’s resident environmental artist — has been hard at work cleaning up the park’s shoreline this winter.

“I thought since spring is here now, I’d send you a few happy photos of some sculptures I made out of rusty metal I found in the rocks, as well as some updated photos of the hippo (below left) and the Waters Edge pathway (above). The tetradactyl in flight (below right) is just counterbalanced rusty metal and no welding.”



DONOR:

Continued from page 3B

- ◆ A parent, sibling or adult child.
- ◆ Other relatives, such as an uncle, aunt or cousin.
- ◆ A biologically unrelated person who knows the recipient, such as a friend, co-worker, significant other or spouse

of a friend.

◆ Anyone who knows the recipient’s need for the organ.

◆ A good Samaritan living donor who decides to donate because they are a match to a stranger who is in need of an organ.

National Living Donor Day celebrates and honors those who step up and save lives by donating

their living organs and tissue to heal those in need.

“If National Living Donor Day only saves a single life, it still will be worth it as it will give that individual a second chance at life and allow them to make special memories with friends and families that would not have otherwise been possible,” Galbenski said.

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FINANCING AVAILABLE

EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Dinosaur Craft, 4 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 1,000 Hours Earth Day Walk, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Little Learners Coding, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, April 20, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ ArtLab: Slap Bracelets, 4:40 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, April 20, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Nonfiction Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 20, via Zoom.

◆ Calligraphy Saturdays, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 22, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ James Patterson Book Discussion, “The Red Code,” 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 22, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

Ecumenical Breakfast

The Grosse Pointe Ecumenical Men’s Breakfast Group meets at 7:45 a.m. Friday, April 14, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Rosann Kovalcik, owner of Wild Birds Unlimited—Grosse Pointe Woods, speaks. Cost for breakfast is \$7. Registration is not required and first-time

guests eat free.

Questers

The Pear Tree Questers meets at 11 a.m. Friday, April 14, at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores, for a private tour. Lunch will follow at The Continental. Pam Barthel is the day chair for this event.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Friday, April 14, Our Lady of Hope Church, 28301 Little Mack, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 16, St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 21620 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, Jefferson Masonic Lodge No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile Road, St. Clair Shores.

Register at redcross blood.org.

The Helm

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

◆ The movie “Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris” is shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, April 14. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.

◆ Sen. Hertel’s Coffee Hour, 10 to 11 a.m. Monday, April 17.

◆ Purposeful Retirement Workshop, 1 to 2:45 p.m. Tuesdays, April 18 and 25, with instructors Dr. Bob Inskeep and Dick

Rappleye.

Audubon Society

Grosse Pointe Audubon hosts its next meeting Monday, April 17, in the Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church Resale Shop, behind the church at 17150 Maumee, City of Grosse Pointe. Several Grosse Pointe Audubon members will give mini presentations about their favorite birding online or phone technology. Doors open at 7 p.m. for social hour and refreshments; the free meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. Contact brapai@aol.com or visit gpaudubon.blogspot.com/

Rotary

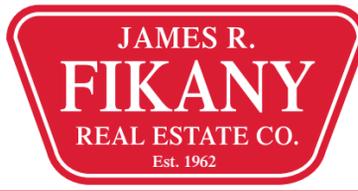
The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 19. Deborah Moffatt of The Arc of Grosse Pointe/Harper Woods speaks. Email grossepointe rotary@gmail.com.

The Family Center

The Family Center hosts Preschool Playtime from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, through May 17. Structured playtime with parachute games, songs and stories is led by Danielle Mitchelson. The group is free, but registration is appreciated.

The Family Center presents a Community Book Club meeting based on “The Gifts of Imperfection: Let go of who you think you are supposed to be and embrace who you are,” by Brené Brown, from 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. RSVP to info@familycenterweb.org or call (313) 447-1374.

# LIFE & LEISURE



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## Characters come alive GPT's Youth on Stage production of 'Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr.'

Take a trip "Under the Sea" in the Youth on Stage production of "Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr."

Grosse Pointe Theatre continues its 75th anniversary season with this popular musical, based on a classic fairy tale with a Disney twist.

"The energy of the music, the charm of the characters and the



Director Rachel Hutchison and the cast of "The Little Mermaid, Jr." having fun at rehearsal.

strength of the story have thus far stood the test of time," director Rachel Hutchison said.

The show will be performed at Pierce Middle School April 21 to 23, and is sponsored by the John A. and Marlene L. Boll Foundation.

"For this show, we are bringing something new to the Grosse Pointe Theatre — professional-grade puppets," Hutchison said. "GPT will be renting puppets that look just like the classic Sebastian, Flounder and Scuttle, plus many more, from the Hardin Public Schools Performing Arts Center. These puppets have been used in other productions all across the country to bring 'The Little Mermaid' to life. Our cast members will be learning a whole new way to tell stories and to use their imaginations, and to captivate the imagination of the audience."

Hutchison, who moved to Michigan from northern Montana in July 2021, is a first-time director for Grosse Pointe Theatre,

but has extensive theatrical and directing credits with Montana Actors Theatre, including working with youth.

"I love doing theatre with kids," she said. "Their energy and enthusiasm make the job such fun and they always have wonderful ideas for how to bring a story to life. I bring a lot of energy and ideas to the table and I ask for a lot from them. The kids never disappoint."

The show features 56 student actors and 14 technical theater students working backstage behind the scenes. Many have performed theatrically before while others are new to the process, but the latter are being guided by seasoned cast members, according to Hutchison.

In addition to three regular performances, Grosse Pointe Theatre will offer one sensory-friendly performance of "The Little Mermaid, Jr." at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 22. This performance is specifically designed for those with autism, sen-

sory sensitivities or cognitive disabilities. The performance will be adjusted to create a comfortable and welcoming atmosphere. A social story will be provided in advance to those attending this performance, as well as other special accommodations — lighting will remain on, sound levels will be lower, they'll have the ability to move around as needed, a simplified synopsis and visual schedule will be provided.

This also is a perfect opportunity to introduce young theater-goers to their first live production. Sponsored by a grant from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, this is the second in GPT's sensory-friendly series this season.

The show offers important lessons the audience can explore, according to Hutchison.

"The characters do wrestle with big emotions and grow in substantial ways," she said. "We can admire King Triton for learning how to show love to his daughter, Flounder for finding his bravery,



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GPT

Eleanor Pilsner, left, and Kenzie Luyk take a break from rehearsal. The pair are tentacle and grotto puppeteers for the show.

and Eric and Ariel for striving to stay true to themselves in a world pressuring them to conform. Fairy tales, whether cautionary or celebratory, give us a safe way to explore difficult themes and feelings."

This one-hour musical presentation is high-energy, with lots of drama and a huge emotional arc.

"The kids are really leaning into it, so the audi-

### The details

**What:** "Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr." presented by Grosse Pointe Theatre Youth on Stage

**When:**  
7 p.m. Friday, April 21  
1 p.m. Saturday, April 22 (sensory)  
7 p.m. Saturday, April 22  
1 p.m. Sunday, April 23

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

**How:** Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for students at gpt.org/mermaid

**For tickets for the sensory-friendly performance, visit** gpt.org/sensory

**Or call the ticket office at** (313) 881-4004. Tickets also are available at the door.

**Length:** One hour, no intermission.

ence can expect to see a lot of drama on stage, as well as some very funny moments," Hutchison said. "Our clowns — Sebastian, Flounder, Scuttle — are doing an incredible job. Be ready to gasp and laugh and maybe even tear up a little."

### ASK THE EXPERTS By Ed Lazar

## Finding balance during, after sports seasons

Balance and capacity are the keys to success and well-being for families and student athletes.

In part one of this two-part series, I discussed the first three of seven guiding thoughts to help keep student-athlete family lives in balance. Read on for the last four thoughts to keep at the forefront of your family's decision making.

4. Encourage a variety of sports to facilitate "cross training" and mental health. If a student-athlete wants to compete all school year long, encourage alternating sports that supplement whole body and mind growth. While stick and ball sports are most popular, the endurance-based sports like swimming, track, cross country and wrestling are undervalued. The general strength and endurance those sports provide benefit every other sport. Also, doing something different optimizes the student athlete's mental health by creating new neural net ways and broadening experiences and perspectives.

5. Encourage pairing sports with one other school activity. The variety and availability of extracurricular activities is broader than ever. Student-athletes can find clubs to support their

other passions without looking too hard. When paired with sports, those activities create a natural balance between mind and body. When the whole family shows up for those events, everyone enjoys them, shares in the pride and excitement and celebrates with, uh, maybe pizza and ice cream!

6. Have student-athletes use summer for active recovery and family time. When school is out, so should sports be, at least for a time. Student-athletes should take a few weeks, not days, of active recovery before starting the general or specific training for fall sports. Active recovery means doing something physical, but fun. It means doing something academic, but fun. It means doing community service, which is fun. It means taking time, at home or away, with family doing something or nothing at all.

7. Avoid sports and teams that demand student-athletes compete all year long. Clearly, those organizations care more about winning than the overall well-being of their student-athletes. Nothing bothers this coach more than sports and teams that demand year-round full engagement. They demand daily practice,

multiple competitions per month, at home and on the road, and discourage any time off. I recently learned of a sports team that requires 50 out of 52 weeks of full engagement, "or you'll lose your spot on the team." That's just wrong. Though that team wins, it wins at the expense of the physical and mental well-being of their student athletes and of the families that buy into that destructive way to live.

A family must do its best to keep all areas of life in balance. It must make immediate corrections if it gets out of balance. Just like student-athletes, families must recognize their capacity to make the most of every day. Work and play to capacity, not less so laziness doesn't become a habit, nor beyond capacity so we have the physical and mental energy to get up and enjoy another fantastic day.

This is part two of a two-part series. Part one was published in the March 30 Grosse Pointe News.

Ed Lazar is head coach and president of East Metro Athletics, 18350 Mack, Grosse Pointe Farms. He can be reached at coach@edlazar.com or (313) 515-0700.

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# Grosse Pointe Gabby

The Pulse Of The Pointes

## Destination wedding is just not in the budget

**Dear Gabby:** Our friends' son is getting married this summer out of state and though we appreciate the invitation, we have never met the bride or groom. It is on an exclusive island and out of our price range. To add insult to injury, we were asked to co-host a very high-end bridal shower. Is there any way to politely decline without damaging our friendship?

— Out of Our League

**Dear League,**

I completely understand your predicament;

however, if your budget doesn't support a destination wedding and hosting a shower, then you should politely decline.

To help preserve the relationship, guests who cannot attend a destination wedding may want to send a note or make a phone call ahead of their written decline explaining how disappointed they are and wishing them all the best on their upcoming wedding.

There is no need to give a long-winded response. Sometimes

longer explanations with multiple excuses for why you can't attend can seem ingenuine.

If possible, offer to be supportive of their pending nuptials in other ways that may fit within your budget.

You also can offer to have an intimate dinner/mini celebration for the family as well.

At all costs, reserve judgment on their choices. For example, "If you had a local wedding, then I could attend." Leave your thoughts and opinions out of the conversa-

tion. Stick with expressing how disappointed you are to miss and wishing them a wonderful event.

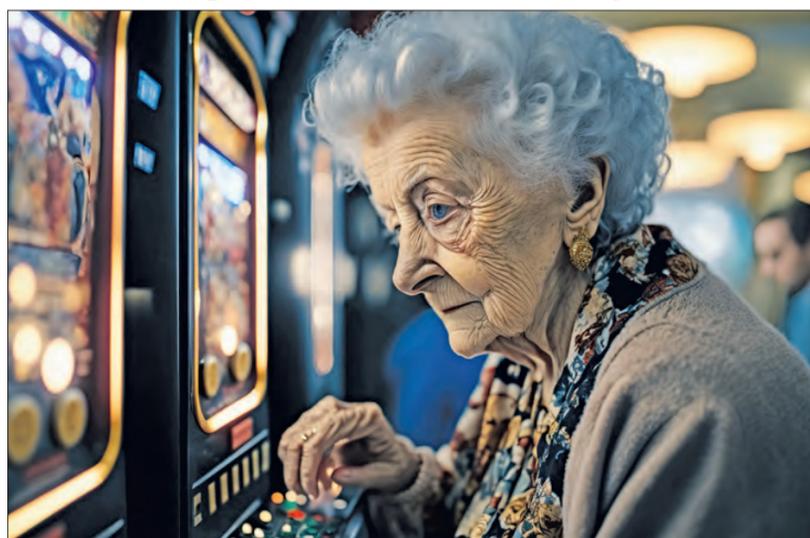
— Gabby

*This weeks Gabby advice comes from Danielle Kovachevich, Etiquette expert and founder of Detroit Academy of Etiquette.*

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



## Marriage is strained by mother-in-law's gambling addiction



**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I have been happily married for 28 years. We rarely have a problem we can't settle, but I'm stymied over this issue. His 72-year-old mother took up gambling several years back, and it has become an issue.

Over the past year, she has been asking us for "loans" of \$300 to \$500 to cover her gambling losses. More than once, she has told us for weeks on end not to cash the check she gave us to repay us.

We were late paying our insurance because she has yet to repay us. This is stressing me out.

We have financial responsibilities of our

own. We both work, but we are not wealthy. We have medical bills, as well as car and house payments. We have children attending college.

I tell my husband that we are not a loan institution for his family. I feel he is enabling his mother by lending her money.

I think she needs to suffer the consequences of her behavior. I'm willing to pay a bill for her, but giving her an open-ended loan is not, in my opinion, the right thing to do.

Why can't he tell her no? I don't want her to come between us. It has already affected my feelings toward her. I know she's an addict, but she doesn't seem to want to

stop. I work too hard for my money to throw it away. What should we do? — NOT A BANK IN INDIANA

**DEAR NOT A BANK:** If you continue down the path your husband has put you both on, it will eventually damage your credit score and possibly your marriage.

His mother may, indeed, be addicted to the rush she derives when she gambles. This is why, even when she runs out of money, she's unable to call it quits. For everyone's sake, it's imperative that you stop being her enablers. A support group for families of gambling addicts could be helpful for you and your spouse. If

there isn't one nearby, find another 12-step group for family members of addicts and attend the meetings. They may help your husband understand the importance of no longer allowing his mother to make her problem yours.

**DEAR ABBY:** I need help. For 10 years I have worked in the deli department at a grocery store and try my very best to get things done. My problem is my boss. She nitpicks and criticizes me to the point that I get so frustrated and angry I can't focus on work.

Abby, I have Asperger's syndrome, so it's tough to socialize with customers I don't know.

Half the time when she starts in on me, I become so rattled I can't finish my task. She accuses me of wearing clothes that aren't clean even though I wash them every day.

I don't want to do anything I'm going to regret later. Any advice you can give me will be appreciated. — LOSING IT IN HAWAII

**DEAR NOT CLOSE:** Because you feel you are being discriminated against by the person who heads your department, make an appointment to talk privately with the store manager to discuss



### Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

what's going on.

If, after that, you continue to be picked on, contact Legal Aid at Work ([bit.ly/3G2zTDu](http://bit.ly/3G2zTDu)), or call their helpline: 877-350-5441) and talk to someone there. I wish you luck.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been friends with a woman I'll call "Blanche" for 40 years.

We used to work together, and we supported each other during our divorces and other life problems. We lost touch for a time, then reconnected.

I kept in touch with her for years through email at her work. We both are on Facebook, and she knows how to contact me.

Since she retired six months ago, I haven't heard from her. She comments online and "likes" things I post, but that's it.

I have now blocked her and moved on, which may seem harsh, but the story is too long to explain. I was depressed early on, but I'm over it now. I had

to accept that she no longer wanted to continue our friendship. And yes, we have discussed this before. Am I wrong to let it go and move on? — OVER IT IN NORTH CAROLINA

**DEAR OVER IT:** Sometimes in life we must make a conscious decision to do what's right for ourselves. In a case like the one you have described, it is not only NOT wrong to let go of a relationship that has withered, it is healthier. Move on and waste no more time looking back.

**DEAR ABBY:** Many years ago, shortly after our mother's death, my sister and I impulsively gave our friend my mother's pearl necklace. We have regretted it ever since. We wish we hadn't acted so quickly, because the pearls were a gift from our dad to our mom.

Is it too late to ask her to return it? I'd like to pass it on to my granddaughter but don't want to offend

See DEAR ABBY, page 3C

## We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



We are officially in the home stretch of the school year. With spring break and Easter behind us, the kids are just two months shy of summer break.

I love summer for so many reasons and one of them is a three-month break from packing school lunches.

At this point in the year, everything I'm putting in their lunches is boring or "mid." For those who don't know, "mid" essentially means below average or low quality. This was news to me, as I considered the "mid lunch" review to be pretty positive until the tweens told me what it really meant.

The chief lunch complaint seems to revolve around sandwiches. While there are many other lunch options, after

trial and error, we always seem to come back to them. For reference, here are a few past lunch reviews:

Soup: extra mid  
Salad: absolutely not  
Thermos full of leftovers: I wouldn't dare  
Fruit and yogurt: too soggy

Bagels with cream cheese: nope  
Microwave pizza: tastes like cardboard

So, back to the sandwiches. A few popular options in our house are the tried-and-true PB&J, turkey and salami sandwiches.

While these are approved lunch options, upon opening the brown paper bag in the lunchroom, the jelly and peanut butter seem to spread all over the inside of the

sandwich bag. Same with the mayo or mustard in the other sandwiches.

The lunch is then deemed as "mid" and we

are back to square one.

While I'm quick to blame the delivery of the sandwich as the problem (shoving the lunch bag in

between 13 folders and a computer probably isn't going to keep the food in perfect condition), there's nothing worse than a disappointing lunch after a tough math class, so I headed to Amazon to try and remedy my problem.

I found a sandwich cutter and sealer on Amazon that has been a pretty great way to level up my lunch game. Essentially, you can make any sandwich you'd like and then cut and seal it. This means you are able to make an Uncrustable-style sandwich at home and none of the contents spill out.

At first, I'll admit I thought this thing was kind of dumb, but it really works. I can make any normal sandwich and with a quick press down, the edges of the sand-

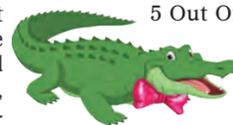
wich seal. It's neat, fun and I can control the quality of the ingredients instead of purchasing Uncrustables at the grocery store.

And even when the lunchbox is thrown around and smashed between gym shoes and folders, it doesn't seem to break open.

One small step for sandwiches, one giant leap for mid lunches.

*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](mailto:media@grossepointenews.com).*

5 Out Of 5



# A Spring staple

## Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

This is a vibrant soup that is so pleasing in every way possible. It's earthy, woody and has a wonderful texture from great, green vegetables. Asparagus, peas and spinach work wonders together.

The trick to its vibrancy is so smart because it gives much needed texture and body to a well deserved smooth soup.

The key to its color is not cooking the spinach. It's just blended raw into the hot soup at the end. The heat of the soup cooks it just enough to perfection.

Add wine, crispy prosciutto and creme fraiche to finish. This lunch could not be beat.

Cheers, Mombeau

### Asparagus Soup with Crispy Prosciutto

½ large onion, chopped

1 garlic clove, smashed

2 bunches, asparagus, trimmed and cut into one-inch pieces

1 cup frozen peas

2 cups fresh baby spinach

4 cups chicken stock

½ cup white wine

8 slices of prosciutto

1 tbsp butter and olive oil

Creme fraiche for garnish

Saute the onion and garlic for two minutes or until tender.

Next add the wine to deglaze the pot. Cook for five minutes while stirring until the liquid reduces by half. Add the asparagus, peas and chicken broth and let simmer for seven minutes.

Once the soup has been bubbling away, in small batches, blend until smooth. Each batch should have a big handful of fresh baby spinach.

The spinach will cook with the hot soup.

To finish, crisp up slices of prosciutto on a skillet. Serve the soup with a crispy prosciutto slice and a dollop of creme fraiche.

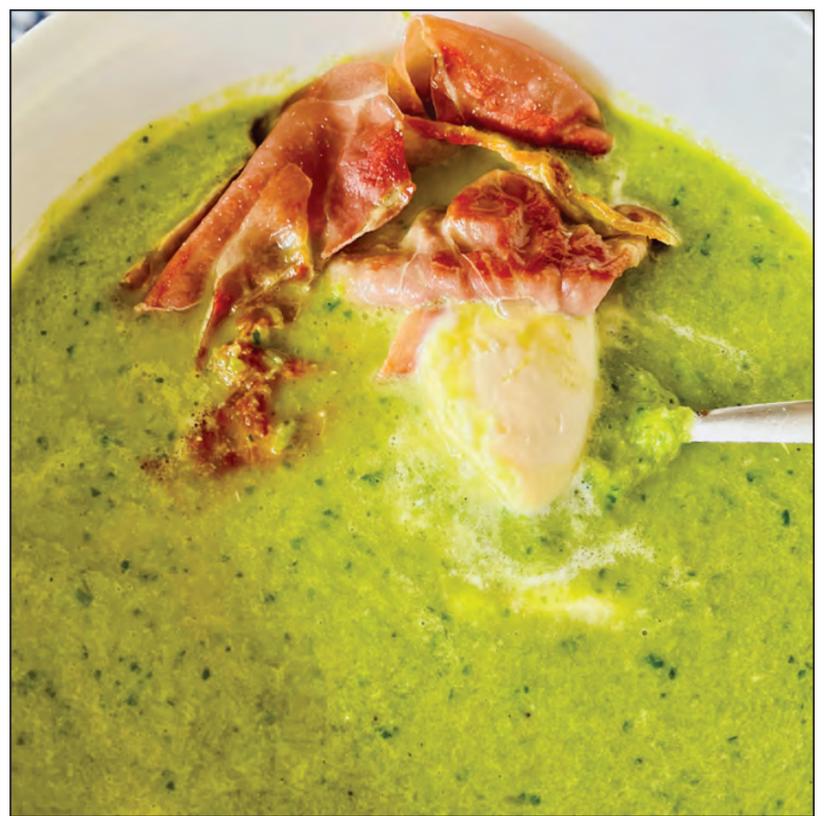


PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON



# Dealing with wine snobs

Ever encounter a wine snob? I have — far too often, alas.

And dealing with wine snobs is an art form calling for subtlety. Rule No. 1: laughing out loud is verboten.

Still, you'd simply not believe some of the things I've heard over more than 40 years of drinking wine. Bad times often happen when buffoons are in charge of the wine selections.

There was the time a guy brought to a dinner a bottle of 1969 Chateau Latour. He displayed it with a flourish and proudly said it was a First Growth (it is), implying that the wine had to be very good. It was swill. The 1969 vintage in Bordeaux was horrid.

Then there was the Burgundy from the 1940s that was so maderized only the guy who brought it would drink it — while waxing poetically about its ethereal existence.

And I can't count the number of sparkling wines that had no fizz, the chardonnays that

were closer to vanilla shakes or undrinkable 96-point reds I thought came from Sun-Maid. And I haven't scratched the iceberg yet.

Here are some tips when confronted by snobs.



First, as previously mentioned, keep a straight face. Even a smirk will be seen as a putdown. Second, come up with a vocabulary that doesn't place you into the snob category or embarrass the elitist.

When a wine is sound but weird, say it is "interesting." Or "exotic." When a wine is flawed because of bad storage (oxidized or maderized), just

say it's "just over the hill."

If the flaw is a lot worse, smelling like nail polish remover, and it is so bad you won't drink it, just wait until the next wine arrives. An all-purpose escape clause is, "What a wine!"

And what do you do when the wine you brought is of questionable quality? My strategy is to try serving it first. The first wine of any party is often likely to be OK since there's no wine prior to it to which it can be compared.

There is a major exception to opening older reds first: With truly great older wines, try to open them after a mediocre one. A great wine will usually stand on its own merits, but it's often a contrast to a mediocre wine served just before it.

Another art form is knowing what to bring to wine parties. A great deal of this relates to who's going to be there and the format of the event. If it's a sit-down dinner and you're asked to bring a wine for the main course, find out what that course is

and who the guests are.

The larger the group, the more likely a modest wine will be broadly appealing. At such events, great wines usually will be disliked by some people.

It's also important to get to know what kinds of wines the guests prefer. I once knew a terrific cook who drank only white zinfandel. One of my sons loves grenache, so that's an

easy choice.

One friend likes carefully matured older red wines, but once told me that after 10 years, most don't have enough fruit. Three others love Italian reds, any age will do.

Two other friends prefer young, bold reds from the New World. One person told me she hates any sort of chardonnay and recently discovered bone-dry riesling — much to my personal joy.

Finally, if the host of the party says the choice of wine you bring is "wide open," one guarantee of success is to bring a dessert wine. A great dessert wine often seals a fun evening since no one dislikes great dessert wines.

Wine of the Week: NV Gazela Vinho Verde, Portugal (\$7): This extremely light (9 percent alcohol!) white wine is an absolutely perfect prototype of the northern Portuguese region from which it comes. Made from a blend of two local white grapes with excellent acidity, Vinho Verde is the ultimate summer quaffer. It's slightly off-dry, has a delicate aroma of kiwi and lime and is easy to sip on a patio with light cheeses.

To find out more about Dan Berger, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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## DEAR ABBY:

Continued from page 2C

my long-lost friend. At any rate, I have learned — and hope others will heed this advice — do not act impulsively when giving away precious mementos of your loved ones. You may regret it.

Thank you, Abby, for considering this sensitive issue. God bless. —

REGRET IT IN THE EAST

DEAR REGRET: It may not be too late to ask for the necklace, provided you can locate your "long-lost" friend. It's worth a try, but keep in mind that once the gift was given, it belonged to the recipient. I am printing your letter because I am sure you and your sister are not the only folks who have done

this, which is why grieving family members are advised to postpone making serious decisions for one year after the demise of a loved one.

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](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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RESERVATIONS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

April 7 and April 8	April 12 through April 15	April 19 through April 22	April 26 through April 29
<b>EUGENIE JONES</b> JAZZ VOCALIST	<b>GENE DUNLAP</b> JAZZ DRUMMER	<b>DAVE BENNETT</b> JAZZ CLAIRNET	<b>DEMETRIUS NABORS</b> JAZZ PIANIST

**-TUESDAYS-**  
**1 SEATING: 6:00PM-8:00PM** (Ron English plays from 6:30PM-8:00PM)

**-WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY-**  
**1 SEATING: 6:00PM-8:30PM** (Performer plays from 7:00PM-8:30PM)

**-FRIDAY & SATURDAY- 2 Seatings each night**  
**1st SEATING: 6:00PM-8:00PM** (Performer plays from 6:30PM-7:30PM)  
**2nd SEATING: 8:30PM-10:30PM** (Performer plays from 9:00PM-10:00PM)

**Happy Hour Tuesday through Friday 3PM - 5PM**  
**LUNCH Tuesday - Friday 11:30AM - 3:00PM**

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# BOATING



## A “dam” good idea



### Nautical pandemic project becomes more than a marina

**Top:** The beautiful new and improved marina is a great way to welcome visitors to Elk Rapids. The green lawn area is a community gathering space that has become a central hub for local fun and activities.

By Anne Gryzenia  
Publisher

As many can relate, Grosse Pointer Susie Cooper had an “aha” moment during the COVID shutdown. When her husband and children each “went to their spots” for their work or online school each day at their cottage on Torch Lake, Cooper started to contemplate ideas for going back to the working world. After raising her children, the time was right — she wanted something for herself.

“All the kids are pretty much gone and I needed something for me,” she recalled.

Cooper kept eyeing a nearby marina, which played into her lifelong love of boating. After all, she got her first boat at age 12, and spent some of her best childhood moments with her family on the water. When she broached the subject with her husband, Lewis, he was immediately all in. After a collaborative meeting with the city, they quickly closed on Elk Rapids Marina.

Once they took it all in, the wheels really started turning and, according to Cooper, “My little, small project just exploded.”

With grand plans and a hard deadline of just four months, they managed to run crews 24/7 to get it done. To start fresh, they knocked down buildings, replaced 900 feet of seawall, built 117 new docks and much more. Soon, Cooper’s vision and dream began to take shape.

As it was, the marina did not have the welcoming entryway to Elk Rapids they wanted.

“We adore the area and we love the town and we just thought the community deserved an amazing, beautiful welcome the minute you arrive,” Cooper said. “It is just such a special place and there are so many neat people. We knew we needed to attract more young families to the area and we hoped that we could help in some way.”

In short order, the project started to become much more than just a marina. It’s now more like a de facto community center. The Coopers listened

carefully to community members to get a sense of what they wanted and what would be positive community additions.

“I put a coffee bar in, because the community said they wanted it,” she said. “We have a tremendous amount of merchandise in the Dam Shop (aptly named because the marina is located right by a hydroelectric dam), fireplaces, food, etc. I have a phenomenal team to make it all possible.

“And now, instead of a three-month season, we are operating all year long.”

In winter, they host the community ice rink. This way, residents and visitors can use the rink while enjoying amenities provided by Elk Rapids Marina like food trucks and restrooms.

Cooper hopes to add to the list of ways they can contribute to the community. They currently give to several organizations, such as the Michigan Boat Builders School, Right Tree, Torch Lake Protection Alliance, Paddle Antrim, and Elk Lake Skegemog Lakes Association. They also provide what Cooper calls “Elk Bucks.” To create excitement and drive traffic to other amazing local businesses, slipholders can earn Elk Bucks for every dollar they spend at Elk Rapids Marina to spend around town.

Elk Rapids Marina boat sales also provide a unique offering, including electric boats like the X Shore, which has become somewhat of a passion for Cooper. Electric boats are gaining in popularity, especially as super chargers are installed throughout the state. They are so advanced, some of the boats even turn themselves around to go home should their power get low.

All in all, the marina has been an absolute joy for the Coopers.

“We want the whole community to thrive and look forward to continued collaboration and growth,” she said.

In addition to boat sales, service, docks, storage and all the “boat stuff,” Elk Rapids Marina has lawn games in the summer to keep families engaged, entertained and unplugged.

“It’s gotten so much bigger than my



**Top:** The Elk Rapids Marina is home to many local watercraft. An electric boat charges its battery.

**Above center and above:** An EV Hummer pulls a 100-percent electric boat.

**Right:** The Dam Shop caters to happy customers from land or sea, with a full-service espresso bar, delicious food, drinks, a retail store and a marine pro shop.





initial vision,” Cooper said. “To watch these kids come every day after school and doing healthy activities not on their phones, it’s so gratifying to see them.

“Having gone through four teenagers and fighting against all the technology, it’s so great to just see kids being kids getting fresh air, exercise and having fun.”

Elk Rapids Marina is also getting into larger events like parties and wine tastings.

Said Cooper, “There’s no other place in town to have big events. Whatever we are going to do, we’re going to do it well. We haven’t gotten into weddings just yet, but never say never.”

**Top left: The Iguana is an amphibious boat made in Normandy. It rests on tracks with retractable landing gear. It was originally designed for super yachts to just drive into the water, no dock needed. Captains can park the boat, everyone climbs off, and you’re good to go. A real showstopper.**

**Top right: Sleek Manitous are an established line of luxury pontoons, just made for group fun on the water.**

**Above left: The Montara Surf Boss 2.0, a 25’ surf boat with a pontoon deck for maximum summer fun.**

**Above right: The X Shore electric boat, made in Sweden. The X1 is a game changer. It’s a great first electric boat, at the right price.**



**The Dam Shop offers outdoor dining and cocktails, events and plenty of shopping for locals and tourists alike. A little bit of everything ensures that visitors have everything they need for a perfect day on the water.**

- CLOSER TO HOME -



The Blossom Heath Park gazebo is a town centerpiece.

# Visit The Nautical Mile

The Nautical Mile of St. Clair Shores has something for everyone, with more than 30 businesses offering everything from dining and shopping to marina activities. It is a premier destination to enjoy Lake St. Clair. Events on the Nautical Mile include organized pub crawls, Aqua Fest and Aqua Freeze.

Located between 9 Mile and 10 Mile roads on Jefferson, the Nautical Mile is made up of lakeside restaurants and bars, gift shops, ice cream shops and marinas.

Fishbone’s, Pegasus, Nautical Deli, WaterMark Bar and Grille and Golden Chopsticks are just some of the bars and

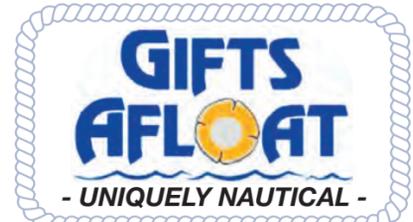
restaurants on the Nautical Mile.

Families may want to get a sweet treat at Mastro’s Ice Cream, or even check out membership options at its newest addition, the Freedom Boat Club. The Nautical Mile is truly a local hot spot where visitors can spend a few hours for lunch or an entire day exploring its many treasures.

Boaters can inquire about use of the marinas on the Nautical Mile, including Emerald City Harbor, Safe Harbor Jefferson Beach Marina, Miller Marina, Michigan Harbor Marina or Trader Todd’s Marina. Contact the marinas directly for availability.

SINCE 1976

DONNA FLAHERTY



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# Annual Marshmallow Drop in the Park

Photo story by Renee Landuyt

Grosse Pointe Park hosted its annual Marshmallow Drop April 8, at Patterson Park. The event was rescheduled from April 2, because heavy rains had saturated the grounds. There were two drops, one for ages 1 to 5 years old and one for ages 6 to 10 years old. Once the marshmallows dropped from the helicopter, there was a countdown, then a rope holding back the kids was lifted and they raced to collect the marshmallows, which were turned in for bags of candy.



A helicopter drops the marshmallows.



Kids ages 1 to 5 make a dash to collect marshmallows.



Wesley Gruenwald found a golden egg, which meant he got an extra prize.



Eloise Haslem shows her bag is half-way filled with marshmallows she collected.



Isabella Coletta wanted her photo taken in front of the orange bunny.



Kids ages 6 to 10 make a dash to collect marshmallows.



Emma and Odessa Stevant, with their mom, Karen Stevant, pose with the Easter Bunny for a holiday family photo.



Evelyn Jensen found a golden egg and got a LEGO Creator to make a bunny and carrot out of LEGOs.

## EVENTS Things to do in and around Grosse Pointe this week

**THURSDAY, APRIL 13**

» **Gene Dunlap**  
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,  
6-8:30 p.m.  
97 Kercheval.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 14**

» **Gene Dunlap**  
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,  
6-8:30 p.m.  
97 Kercheval.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 15**

» **Calligraphy Saturdays**  
Ewald Branch,  
9:30-10:30 a.m.  
15175 E Jefferson

» **Code your own Star Wars Game**  
Ewald Branch, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.  
15175 E Jefferson

» **Gene Dunlap**  
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,  
6-8:30 p.m.  
97 Kercheval.

**MONDAY, APRIL 17**

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

» **Capturing the Moment Photography Workshops**  
Ewald Branch, 6:30-8 p.m.  
15175 E Jefferson

**TUESDAY, APRIL 18**

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

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19**

» **Appy Hour**  
Ewald Branch, 3-4 p.m.  
15175 E Jefferson

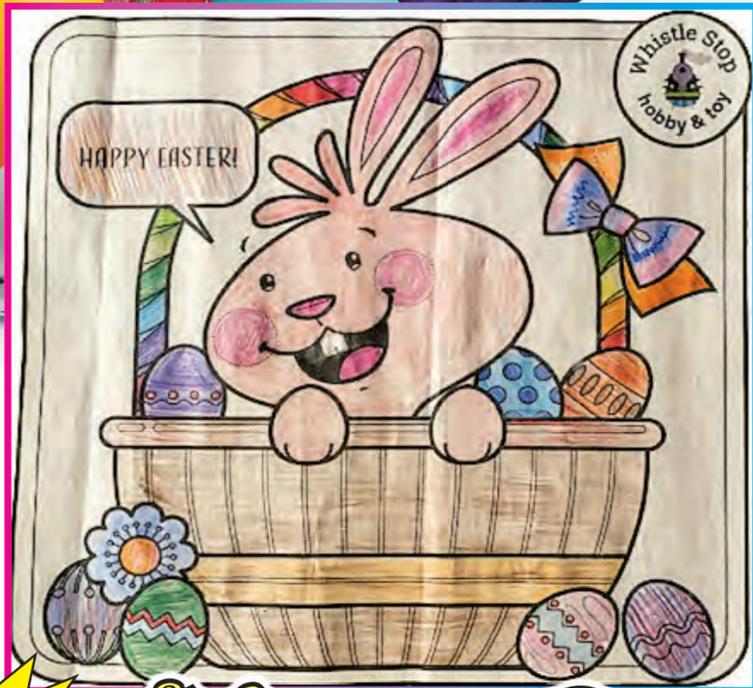
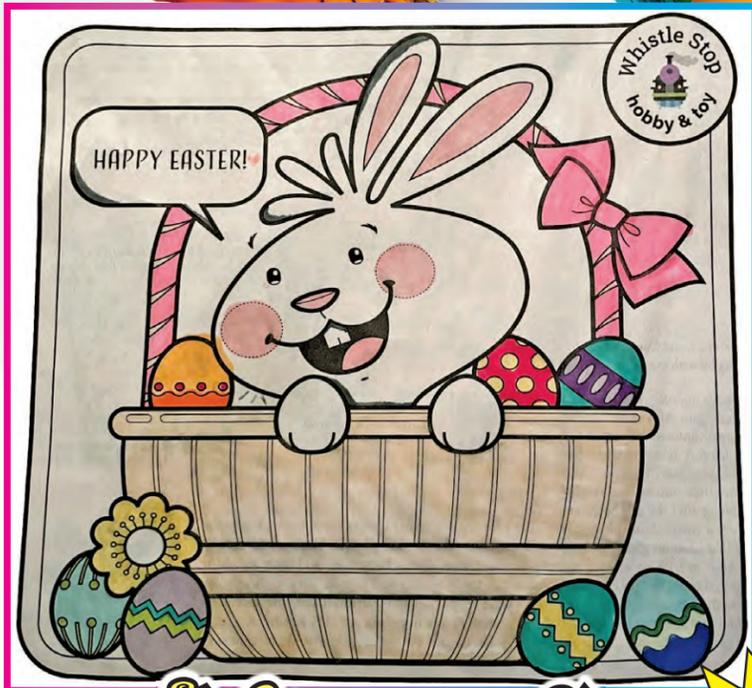
» **Dave Bennett**  
Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe,  
6-8:30 p.m. 97 Kercheval.

» **Dinosaur Craft**  
Woods Branch, 4-5 p.m.  
20680 Mack Ave.

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

**Check out the online calendar on our website for more details & registration links**

# Winners and Runners Up Of The Grosse Pointe News Coloring Contest



Winner 1

Claire O'Neill

Congratulations to our two winners of a \$25<sup>00</sup> Whistle Stop Gift Card!

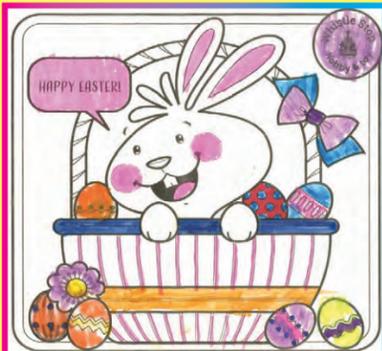
Winner 2

Hadley Ebner

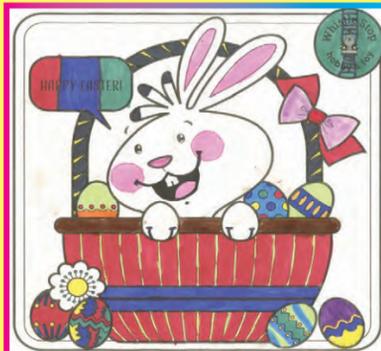
## Runners Up



Aubrey Hayner



Carlie Haggart



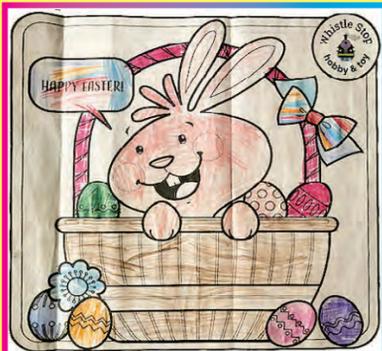
Declan Haggart



Claire Tavery



Olivia Bahr



Ella Ebner



John Card



Rowan Beskange



Honorable Mention

Alex Penrose



8C | LIFE & LEISURE



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AUSTRALIAN FILM FINANCE CORPORATION (AFFC)

Left, Daniel Radcliffe as Maps, Christian Byers as Spark, James Fraser as Spit and Lee Cormie as Misty.

MOVIE REVIEW  
 "December Boys"  
 2007 - Rated PG-13  
 1 hr 45min  
 ★★☆☆☆

If you're looking for a sweet, fun, coming-of-age movie the whole family will enjoy, you need to put "December Boys" in your queue. It's not new and even though it stars Daniel Radcliffe, it somehow managed to slip under the radar.

In the middle of making his slew of "Harry Potter" films there was a break and he decided to take on this project.

The film is based on the novel by the same name by Michael Noonan and Radcliffe proved that he has a career outside of the world of wizardry. And "December Boys" turns out to be magical in its own right.

The film takes place in a Catholic orphanage in the



Above, Victoria Hill and Sullivan Stapleton, play Teresa and Fearless.

Australian Outback in the 1960s. Maps (Radcliffe) is one of a quartet of boys who celebrate their birthdays in December, hence the movie's title. They include Misty (Lee Cormie), Sparks (Christian Byers), and Spitz (James Fraser).

There are cute stories behind how they each got their interesting monikers — You'll simply have to

watch the movie to discover what they are.

The boys are raised by strict nuns and live a fairly normal albeit mundane existence. They've been in the orphanage together for so long, they're almost like a family.

One day, it's announced that their institution has been endowed with a tidy sum of money. Since it's Christmastime, it's

# Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin



decided that it's only appropriate that the four December boys are chosen to spend the holidays by the seashore.

A priest drives them to their vacation spot through the bleak countryside, with one exhilarating stop along the way. They visit a carnival that's full of games, rides, and other attractions.

There they take in the thrilling display of bravado when they witness Fearless, a motorcycle daredevil ride through a ring of fire. It would be hard to top that kind of excitement, but their vacation actually does.

The story is narrated by an adult Misty, which adds an air of authenticity and a bit of nostalgia to the telling of the story.

When they arrive at their destination, they meet their benefactors and hosts, retired naval

officer Bandy McAnsh and his wife Skipper. They're a middle-aged couple that never had kids of their own, but are happy to treat the young boys to a couple weeks of fun and adventure.

Skipper is sickly and while Bandy takes care of her, the boys are free to spend their days exploring their surroundings.

"December Boys" was filmed on Kangaroo Island, and what a remarkable place it is. What young kid wouldn't love to spend part of their childhood here?

The area is filled with interesting natural phenomena including immense cliffs and unusual rock formations.

The small enclave is also home to some unique people. As luck would have it, Fearless happens to live a couple doors down from the McAnsh's

a kid. What's more, the entire movie is filled with excitement and adventure, where nothing really bad happens.

After watching it, I wanted to check the library and see if the novel "December Boys" is available.

Note to parents: The film is rated PG-13. About the only things of concern are a very brief topless scene and implied sex.

Currently streaming for free on Kanopy.com (with your library card) and Tubi, and to rent on Prime Video.

My rating system:

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

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

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

★★★★ One you'd recommend to friends.

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

About this column:

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

They include both mainstream and indie films streaming on services like Netflix, Hoopla, and Kanopy. I'll also review noteworthy new theatrical releases as well.

For movie trailers, visit [youtube.com](http://youtube.com).

If you have any suggestions, feel free to email me at: [dominmark@yahoo.com](mailto:dominmark@yahoo.com).

Also, if you're looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: [moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com](http://moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com).



Sliding down a sandune on a car hood.

with his beautiful French wife Teresa (Victoria Hill). When Misty accidentally overhears that the couple can't have children and are interested in adopting, the four lads turn on the charm with the hopes of being the chosen one.

The other characters populating the area include an old salt named Shellback who's determined to land a legendary and elusive fish he's dubbed Henry.

There's also a wild black stallion that it's rumored, lives off fish it snags from the sea.

Then there's Lucy (Teresa Palmer), a beguiling young girl who Maps becomes smitten with, and who awakens the passionate side of him.

I enjoyed the fact that this is one of those rare films that truly captures the joys and fun of being

Grosse Pointe Theatre's - YOUTH ON STAGE presents



# THE LITTLE MERMAID



April 21-23, 2023  
 Pierce Middle School Auditorium  
 15430 Kercheval Ave, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230

For Tickets - [gpt.org/mermaid](http://gpt.org/mermaid) or call 313-881-4004

Disney's The Little Mermaid is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All Authorized performance materials, are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

## Sensory Friendly Performance

The 1 p.m. performance on Saturday, April 22 will be a Sensory Friendly Performance.

Sensory-friendly performances are designed to create a welcoming and comfortable arts experience for people with autism, sensory sensitivities, or social, learning or cognitive disabilities.

This performance is also perfect for young, first-time theatre goers.

For this performance we will offer:

- Ticket price of \$15 for adults \$10 for students (with fees)
- Ability to move around as needed
- Advanced social narrative with pictures
- Quiet space in the lobby
- House lights will remain on
- Personal headphones, cushions or fidget welcome
- Reduced special effects and lighting
- Complementary allergy-free snacks
- Reduced sound levels
- Visual schedule and simplified synopsis available at performance

[www.gpt.org/sensory](http://www.gpt.org/sensory)

GPT's Sensory-Friendly series is graciously supported by a grant from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation.



Left, Teresa Palmer as Lucy and Daniel Radcliffe as Maps.



# Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

**Moon Alert: Caution!** Avoid shopping or important decisions from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. EDT today (7 a.m. to 2 p.m. PDT). After that, the Moon moves from Capricorn into Aquarius.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, April 13, 2023:

You are confident and goal-oriented. You keep your wits about you in the midst of chaos. Trust in your success. Service to others, especially family, will be a theme this year. Therefore, take care of yourself so you can be of support to others. Time for a makeover?

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

Most of today is a Moon Alert. Postpone important decisions until tomorrow. Likewise, during the Moon Alert today, restrict spending money to food and gas. Don't volunteer for anything and don't make promises you can't keep. Tonight: Be friendly.

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

Today you might go overboard with plans to travel or when dealing with authority figures. You might feel intensely about something. Meanwhile, most of this day is a Moon Alert, which means tread carefully! Avoid important decisions and shopping (except for food and gas.) Tonight: Show respect.

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

You might be tempted to give away the farm today. If you're focused on how to divide something, or are discussing shared property or an inheritance, be careful! Most of this day is a Moon Alert. It's a poor time for important decisions, especially about wealth. Tonight: Explore!.

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

You continue to make an excellent impression on others; however, be careful when dealing with partners and close friends today. You might promise more than you can deliver. Because most of this day is a Moon Alert, it's a poor day for important decisions or shopping. Tonight: Check your finances.

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

Be careful about what you agree to today, especially with work colleagues. It's easy to go out on a limb. The fact is that much of today is a Moon Alert. Don't make promises you can't keep. Don't volunteer for anything. Easy does it. Tonight: Cooperate.

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

You might have strong feelings about something today, which is why you will be tempted to go overboard. Instead, check yourself. Don't do it. Most of this day is a Moon Alert. It's a bad time for important decisions. Don't waste time trying to get others to agree with you. Chill out. Tonight: Get organized.

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

Discussions about home or family might be intense today. You might feel strongly about making a decision or taking something in a new direction. Bad idea. Most of this day is a Moon Alert. Be smart and wait until the alert is over. Tonight: Socialize!.

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

Today you might be raring to go! However, because most of today is a Moon Alert, it will be wise to check yourself and pull in your reins. Avoid important decisions during the Moon Alert. Don't jump into any-

thing. Tonight: Cocoon at home.

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

Today you have a strong focus on money, cash flow, earnings or something to do with a possession. However, because it's a Moon Alert for most of this day, it's a poor day for financial matters. Restrict spending to food and gas during the Moon Alert. Tonight: Conversations.

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

Today begins with the Moon in your sign, which can heighten your feelings about issues. Later in the day, you might have strong feelings related to matters about money or anything that's important to you. However, most of today is a Moon Alert. Avoid making decisions then. Ditto for shopping. Tonight: Money ideas.

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

This is a tricky day. You want to stand back and watch it all happen. However, you won't be able to do this because you'll get sucked in. Furthermore, you might feel intensely about something. Check the times of the Moon Alert. Tonight: You're in charge.

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

Stay mellow when dealing with friends and groups today. Don't volunteer for anything. Ideally, watch from the sidelines. For most of this day, there's a Moon Alert, which means it's bad time for decisions or spending money. Tonight: Seek privacy.

**BORN TODAY**

Actress Allison Williams (1988), actress Kelli Giddish (1980), actor Ron Perlman (1950).

# Springtime the rebirth

It all begins softly ... it's subtly sly  
With lasting impressions of winter gone by  
Then, feeling its rightfulness, joyful and bold,  
As nature would have it, begins to take hold  
And, pregnant with promise of all that's to come,  
The whole world's awaking, beginning to hum.

Then, suddenly, almost as if with a boom,  
Everything beautiful bursts into bloom —  
The buds of pastel popping out of the trees,  
The fragrance of lilac adrift on the breeze,  
A sliver of moon shining high in the sky  
As bright as the light in a new baby's eye.

An aura of born again, joyous rebirth,  
A sign of the cycle that governs the earth,  
The call to begin again, set on a mission  
To reach up and stretch out and grow to fruition  
And, glowing with promise of all that's to come,  
The whole world's awaking, beginning to hum.

The colors of wildflowers are starting to spill  
In a palette of hues down the side of a hill  
And, into the valley below, form a scene  
From a masterpiece painting in shadings of green  
That is capped by a rainbow with raindrops that fall  
Over everything growing to nurture it all.

The robins are roosting and geese on the wing  
Heading northward to herald the coming of spring;  
The catfish are jumping as high as can be  
And the salmon are making their way from the sea  
And the streams running faster, the ponds near their height  
With tadpoles transforming to frogs overnight.

A little bit later the sun goes to rest,  
A little bit higher its bed in the West,  
A little bit sooner a new day is born,  
A little bit earlier up in the morn  
Till, all of a sudden, the rebirth is clear;  
The whole world rejoices that springtime is here!

Joan LeGro Bushnell

## Contract Bridge

**THE CLUES POINT THE WAY**

South dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**

♠ 7 6 5  
♥ 6 3 2  
♦ A Q 8 4  
♣ 10 7 3

**WEST**

♠ A J  
♥ J 7 5  
♦ K J 10  
♣ Q J 9 8 4

**EAST**

♠ Q 10 9 8  
♥ K  
♦ 7 6 5 3 2  
♣ K 6 5

**SOUTH**

♠ K 4 3 2  
♥ A Q 10 9 8 4  
♦ 9  
♣ A 2

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♥	Dble	Pass	1♠
2♥	Pass	Pass	3♦
3♥	Pass	4♥	Dble

Opening lead — queen of clubs.

The secret of good declarer play lies mostly in visualizing how the unseen cards are divided and putting this knowledge to effective use. The clues that furnish declarer with a picture of the opposing hands can come from the bidding, the play, or both.

Consider this deal where declarer failed to process the many clues available. It was played in the South Africa-Ireland match at the 1960 World Team Olympiad.

The South African declarer got to four hearts doubled as shown, and West led the club queen. South won with the ace, cashed the ace of trump, felling East's king, then led a diamond and successfully finessed the queen.

After discarding a club on the ace of diamonds, declarer led a spade to the king, losing to the ace. South eventually lost two more spades and a trump trick and finished down one, -200. He was able to ruff his fourth spade in dummy to prevent an even greater loss.

South's early plays were certainly correct. The diamond finesse, though dangerous, was necessary, but after it succeeded South should have reassessed his prospects and made the contract.

It was a serious mistake to lead a spade to the king at trick five. To play a spade from dummy was surely right, but to play the king was surely wrong. South should have placed West with the spade ace for his takeout double, because East had already turned up with the king of hearts and (by inference from West's opening lead) king of clubs.

Had South played a low spade on East's eight at trick five and later played a low spade again, he would have gained a spade trick and made the contract. He also would have been 990 points to the better.

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by Steve Becker

## SPRING EVENTS AT COREANDER'S CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOPPE

4/13 SPRING STORYTIME  
April 13, 10:30 AM

4/15 JEFF JANTZ  
READ & SCULPT  
April 15, 10:30 AM

4/29 INDEPENDENT  
BOOKSTORE DAY!  
AUTHOR KATY KLIMCZUK  
April 29, 10:30 AM & 11:00 AM

4/29 MAGIC OF READING  
April 29, 1:30 PM

5/6 PRINCESS ARIEL  
May 6, 10:00 AM & 10:30 AM

5/7 AUTHOR  
LINDSAY GIZICKI  
May 7, 12:00 PM

5/20 MISS PAULA  
READ & SING  
May 20, 11:00 AM

5/21 AUTHOR  
KRISTIANA SFIRLEA  
May 21, 1:00 PM

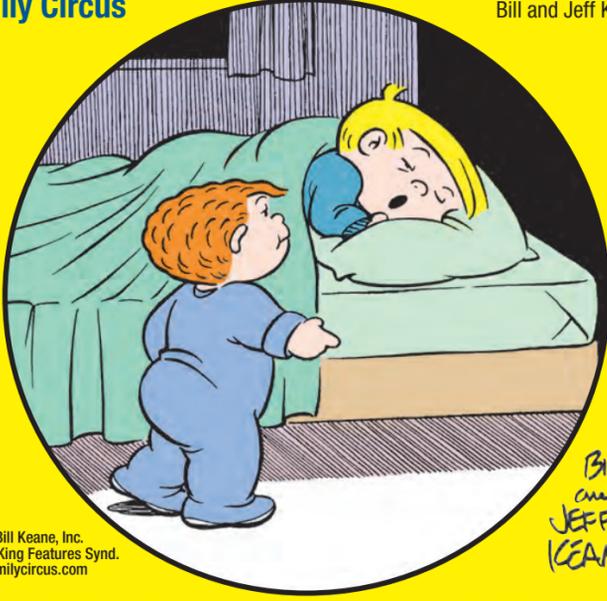
SEARCH COREANDER'S CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOPPE ON EVENTBRITE TO REGISTER FOR THESE EVENTS AND SAVE YOUR SPOT!  
15118 KERCHEVAL, GPP | 313.514.7999 | @COREANDERSBOOKSHOPPE

10th Anniversary  
INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORE DAY  
SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023

# Puzzles and

## Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



©2023 Bill Keane, Inc. Dist. by King Features Synd. www.familycircus.com

Bill and Jeff Keane

**"That's not thunder, Jeffy. It's Daddy snoring."**

## Garfield

Jim Davis



## Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



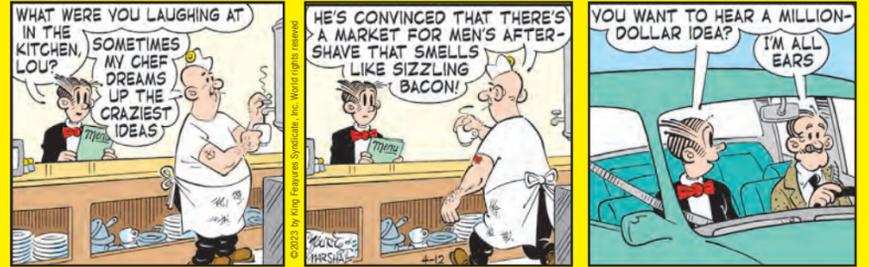
## Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



## Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



## Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



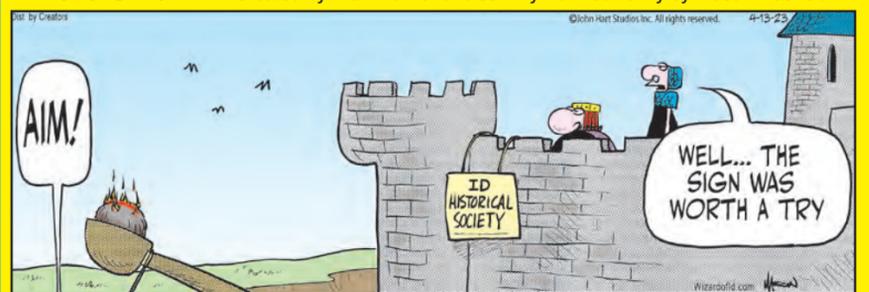
## Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



## Wizard of Id

Created by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart. Currently by Mason Mastroianni



## F Minus

Tony Carrilo



## Ziggy

Tom Wilson

## Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



## UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

		6		3	7			
9				4	8			2
8				2		3		
4	6	7		8				
3				9				7
				7		6	4	5
		5		1				2
	3		8	6				1
			2	5		8		

Complete the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

### Previous puzzle solution

7	5	2	9	6	8	4	1	3
3	6	1	4	5	2	7	9	8
9	8	4	3	1	7	6	5	2
5	9	3	8	4	1	2	6	7
2	1	7	5	3	6	9	8	4
6	4	8	7	2	9	1	3	5
4	7	9	1	8	5	3	2	6
8	3	6	2	9	4	5	7	1
1	2	5	6	7	3	8	4	9

4/13

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

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4/6 Solution

## Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg April 13, 2023

### ACROSS

- 1 Not at work today
- 4 Slack-jawed with shock
- 9 Marxist Guevara
- 12 Medium for some painters
- 13 Doesn't enunciate
- 14 Bean topping?
- 15 Univ. teacher
- 17 Theorize
- 18 Particles with charges
- 19 Blackens on the grill
- 21 Check deposit device
- 22 Oscar winner
- 23 Pedometer unit
- 24 "La la" preceder
- 25 Rolling in dough
- 26 Like weather that isn't fair
- 27 Feeling low
- 28 Leftovers at a cookout?
- 30 Guinness of "Star Wars"
- 31 Some collared shirts
- 33 Middle of a bagel
- 34 Fit together nicely
- 35 Sheep-related
- 36 The "C" in UPC

- 37 "Low Rider" cover band from Seoul?
- 40 Uninspired
- 43 Molecule in some vaccines
- 44 Do some intelligence gathering?
- 48 Ready to go
- 50 Navy engineer's nickname
- 51 Places with mud baths
- 52 Outfit seen at a nunery
- 56 Sail holder
- 57 "Huh, you don't ..."
- 58 Turned down
- 60 Apex
- 61 High poker card
- 62 Accumulated over time
- 63 Important period
- 64 "Way cool!"
- 65 "Maybe"
- 66 Pigpen

- 8 Winter NYC hrs.
- 9 Cartoon train's sound
- 10 Like portable electronics
- 11 Crafty website
- 16 "Rock and Roll All Nite" cover band from Paris?
- 18 "Sunshine of Your Love" cover band from Dublin?
- 20 Sleeper agent, e.g.
- 22 Undergarment with an underwire
- 26 Smash into
- 29 "Told you I was right!"
- 31 "\_\_\_ favor"
- 32 Do some tailoring
- 38 Tribute poem
- 39 Beer style often made by Trappist monks
- 40 College in Poughkeepsie
- 41 Wool-producing animal from the Andes
- 42 Got in the game
- 45 Peters out
- 46 Vacation recreation destination
- 47 After-tax salary
- 49 Motif
- 50 Expensive
- 53 Off in the distance
- 54 See 6-Down
- 55 "Insecure" star Rae
- 58 Coi Leray's genre
- 59 Periodontist's deg.

### PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

4/6 Solution

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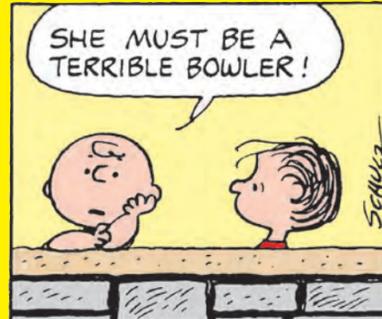
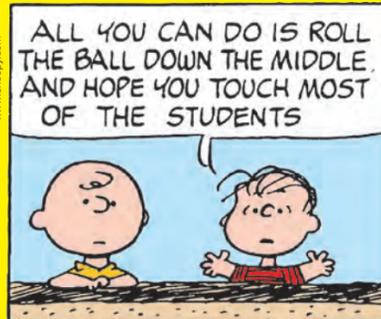
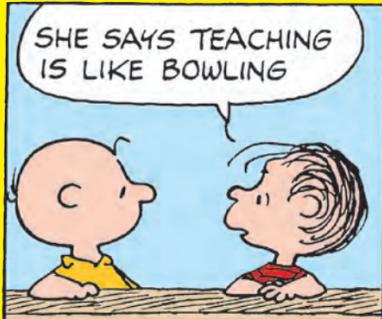
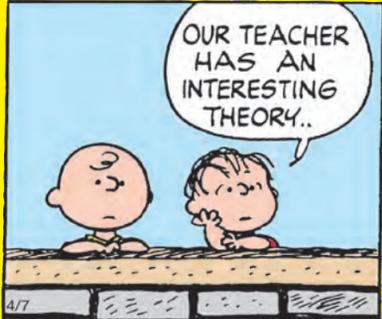
## Travelin' Band by Gary Larson and Amy Ensz

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	
12				13								14	
15			16		17						18		
19				20		21				22			
	23					24				25			
26						27				28		29	
30						31				32		33	
34						35						36	
						37				39			
40	41	42				43				44	45	46	47
48						49				50			
51						52	53	54	55			56	
57						58						59	60
61						62						63	
64						65						66	

# Comics

## Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



## Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



## Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



## Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



## Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



## Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



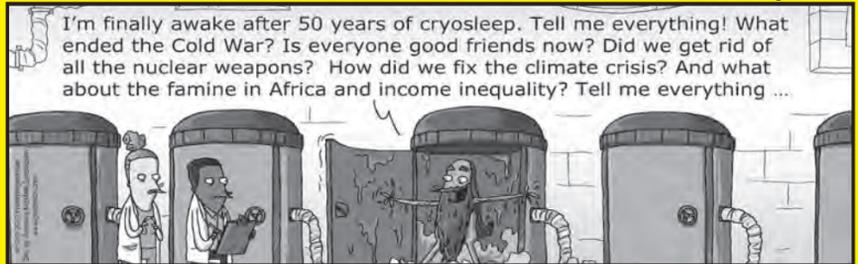
## B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



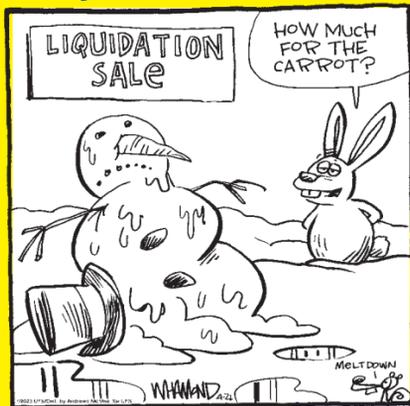
## Wumbo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



## Reality Check

Dave Whamond



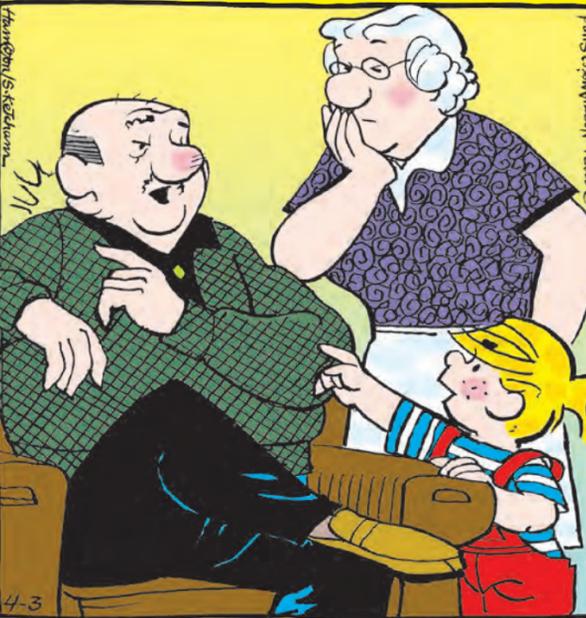
## Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



## Dennis the Menace

Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



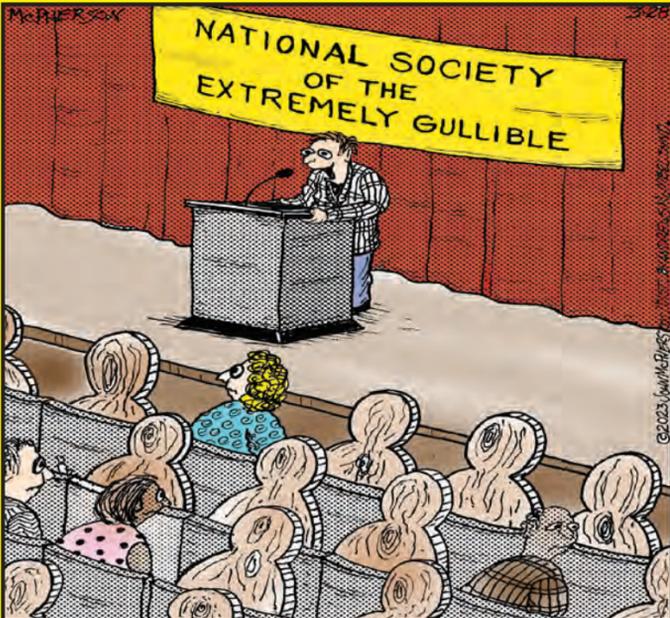
## The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



## Close To Home

John McPherson



## Marmaduke

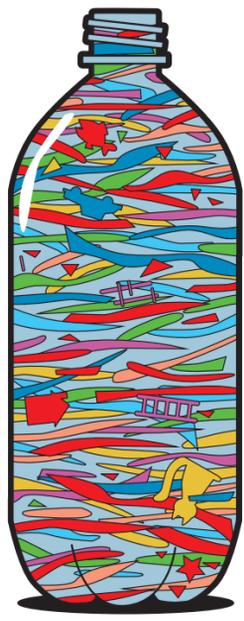
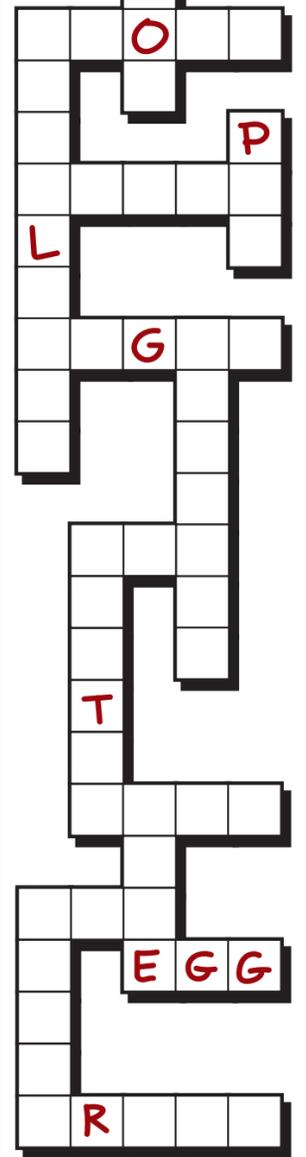
Paul & Brad Anderson





## Picture Crossword

Using the pictures as clues, work with a family member to fill in the missing letters.



## Ecobricks

Some soft plastics are not recyclable and end up in landfills.

People around the world are using these soft plastics to make ecobricks. Ecobricks are plastic bottles tightly packed with wrappers and other soft plastics. They can be used for building walls, furniture, play structures, houses and more.

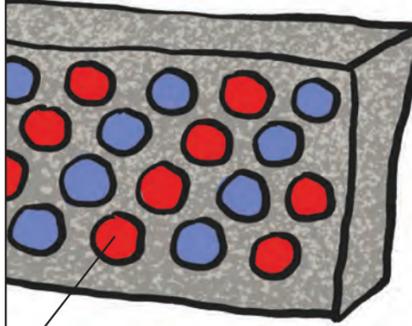
All it takes is imagination and some plastic bottles and plastic waste.

Can you find these things hidden in the ecobrick?



## The Plastic Problem

Over 380 million tons of plastic is produced every year. The world uses 500 billion single-use plastic bags every year. A plastic bag is used for only 15 minutes on average, but the plastic itself can last more than 1,000 years!



Plastic pollution is a big problem, but people around the world are finding solutions. Ecobricks is one of the solutions.

Ecobricks can be set in concrete to build walls for homes, planter boxes and much more.

Standards Link: Solutions for human impact on ecosystems.

## How to Make an Ecobrick

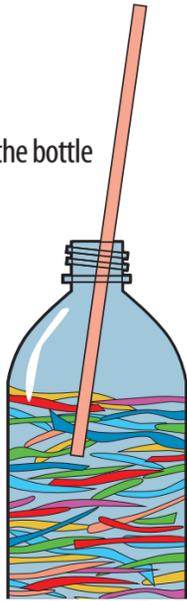
### Stuff you need:

- Plastic bottles (including lids)
- Clean and dry plastic garbage
- Scissors
- A stick that is at least the length of the bottle
- Scales
- Permanent markers (for writing on the bottle)

### What to do:



**STEP 1:** Make sure your plastic materials are clean and dry

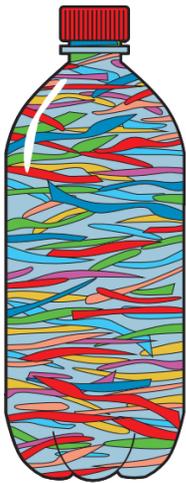


**STEP 2:** Add small pieces of plastic, plastic bags and other kinds of clean plastic to the bottle. Use the stick to push more plastic in as you fill the bottle.



**STEP 4:** Choose a project to support. Find out if there are any local community projects that are looking for ecobrick donations. If you can't find one, there are hundreds online to get involved in.

**STEP 3:** Pack it tight. Tip: mix up soft and hard plastic. Don't overfill it. There should be 1-2 cm between the cap and the plastic inside.



## What can go in an ecobrick?

Do the math under each item. Even-numbered answers can go in ecobricks. Odd-numbered answers can not. Circle the things that can go into an ecobrick bottle in green and cross out the things that can't in red.

### PLASTIC BAGS

4+4+4=     

### STYROFOAM

6+4+2=     

### FOOD WASTE

3+7+5=     

### PAPER

2+8+9=     

### STRAW

3+7+4=     

### GLASS

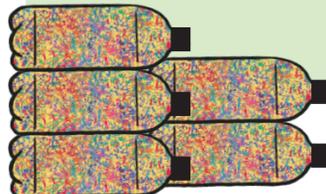
7+7+7=     

### CELLOPHANE

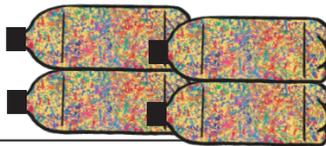
8+4+6=     

### METAL

1+1+3=     



Ecobricks are sometimes called **bottle bricks**. Why do you think that name fits?



**Extra! Extra!**

## Plastic Scavenger Hunt

Look through a newspaper to find examples of products that come in plastic or have plastic in them. Choose five and come up with a way to get that product without plastic.

Standards Link: Use the newspaper to locate information.

## Kid Scoop Puzzler

### How much should an ecobrick weigh?

A 2-liter bottle should weigh about 1 1/2 pounds when full of clean plastic.



Look very carefully. Can you find the ecobrick that's different than all the others?

Standards Link: Understand point of view using visual cues.

## Double Double Word Search

- BAGS
- BOTTLES
- CAP
- CLEAN
- DRY
- GREEN
- LOCAL
- PACK
- PLASTIC
- PROBLEM
- STICK
- STRAW
- TONS
- WALLS
- WORLD

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



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

## Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **SOLUTION**

The noun **solution** means a way to solve a problem.

A recycle bin in class was the **solution** to our litter problem.

Try to use the word **solution** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

## FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

### Solutions News

Look through your newspaper for examples of people finding solutions to the plastic problem. Write a letter to the editor about how making ecobricks could help reduce plastic pollution in your community.

Standards Link: Write persuasively from a particular point-of-view.

## What is the hardest type of water to keep in a bottle?

ANSWER: Spring water!

## Write On!

### Planet Protector Tip

Share a tip with other children on ways they can help protect our planet.

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# SPORTS



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2D SAILING & CREW SPRING PREVIEWS | 3D BASEBALL & SOFTBALL | 4-5D CLASSIFIEDS

## Late penalty kick lifts North over Blue Devils

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Anticipation always surrounds an early season rivalry matchup in the Pointes, with fans, coaches and players not knowing quite what to expect. Though many probably counted on a close and competitive matchup between the girls varsity soccer teams from Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South, the game brought even more drama and excitement than most likely saw coming on Monday night, April 10.

After the match was postponed from its original date of April 5 due to weather, Monday night provided a perfect evening for soccer on South's home field. The Blue Devils saw that

perfect night get off to a good start with a goal in the 12th minute from senior Olivia Dimuzio to give South an early first-half lead. About 12 minutes later in the game's 24th minute, the Norsemen scored the equalizer off the foot of Amelia Stregberger to even the scoreboard at 1-1, which would hold all the way until half-time.

The second half remained a stalemate for much of the rest of the match, leaving many thinking that this early-season rivalry contest would end in a draw. However, plenty of drama was on the horizon.

With just over four minutes remaining, the Norsemen were awarded a penalty kick after a violation by



PHOTO BY LEON HALIP

South's Eleni Melhem, left, and Leah Burney from North battle for a loose ball.

South's defense. North's Gabby Miller stepped up to the spot and was able to get the ball past the left side of Blue Devils' keeper Elsa Bachert to put the Norsemen ahead 2-1.

The remaining minutes were a scramble for South to try and find a late equalizer. Some clock errors added to the confusion, a game-tying goal for the Blue Devils going in the net,

only to be called back, leaving North with the 2-1 win when the final horn sounded.

The two teams are scheduled to meet again on Friday, April 21 with North playing host.

Before then, the Norsemen will host another crosstown rival, University Liggett, at 6 pm. Thursday, April 13. South hosts Stevenson at 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 14.

## Athlete of the Week

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

For someone who had never participated in organized cross country or track until high school, Grosse Pointe North sophomore Lillian Deskins has already made a name for herself in her running career.

"I had never run before freshman year," Deskins said. "I was really into soccer before that and had played that pretty much my whole life... Freshman year I decided to join cross country because the coach was a former teacher of mine and my sister was on the team. I kept improving as the races went on, going from fifth on the team to first in a matter of a few races."

After her sophomore season of cross country in the fall and her second season of track and field getting underway this spring, some might say Deskins' resume is already stacked enough. In her most recent cross country season she qualified for the state finals and earned both First-Team All-MAC Red and First-Team All-County honors.

The list does not end

there. With distance running as her specialty, Deskins also holds the second best 1600 time in North school history (5:05) and the third best time in the 800 (2:23). She also earned a spot as a 2023 New Balance Nationals qualifier in the mile.

be able to continue competing at a high level. But trusting in herself and her abilities has helped Deskins persevere and prove that nothing can hold her back.

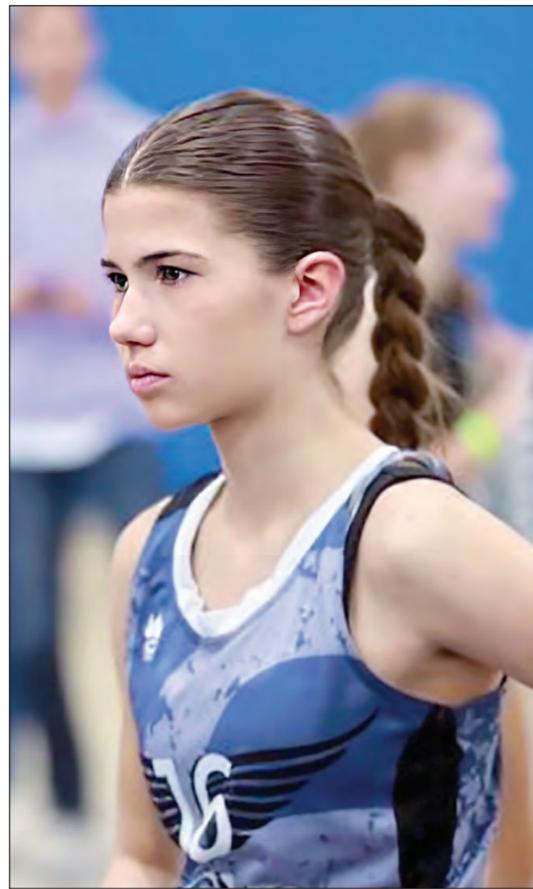
"I was a little scared because I wondered what if nothing was fixed," she said. "I just have to trust

Cross country and track are sports that require a strong mental game, and Deskins has embraced that. Even though they are team sports, it is ultimately up to the runner to control their own results. In adopting that mentality, Deskins takes pride in making sure her preparations before each race gets her into the winning mindset.

"There's always a lot of preparation with just getting my legs loose, eating healthy and getting plenty of sleep the night before," Deskins said. "...I just make sure I'm mentally there and not stressing myself out. Especially when there's a lot of time before the race, you can really work yourself up and you can lose the race before it even starts if you don't have a good mentality going into it."

That is how Deskins will get herself ready for each race during this spring's track season, which began April 12 against Chippewa Valley. Deskins will be racing several times over the next couple of months looking to help lead the

See ATHLETE, page 6D



COURTESY PHOTO

North sophomore Lillian Deskins has her eye on breaking the school's records in the 1600 and 3200 during her career.

### Running For Records

- 2022 Cross Country First-Team All-MAC Red and All-County
- 2nd best 1600 time in North school history & 3rd best 800 time
- Qualified for 2023 New Balance Nationals

Grosse Pointe News



**Lillian Deskins**

School: Grosse Pointe North  
Sport: Cross Country, Track & Field

Sponsored by Pointe Capital Management, L.L.C.

However, it has not always been easy. In between her freshman and sophomore seasons, Deskins dealt with some health issues that had her questioning if she would

myself and my training because I always control what happens at the end of the race and what the result is, and ever since I've had that mentality it's really helped."



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## 2D | SPORTS



# Spring SPORTS PREVIEW

## South sailing on steady course to raise more trophies this spring

By Meg Leonard  
Associate Editor

Some young new additions to Grosse Pointe South's coed varsity sailing will team up with a core crew of upperclassmen and women to lead the team into the 2023 spring season.

South's roster of 16 cruises into competition this Saturday, April 15, with a Mallory and Baker pre-qualifying regatta at the Pontiac Yacht Club.

"Next Saturday is a big one for us," said South head coach Christina Noland. "It's the first step of many for us to get to nationals."

Last fall, the team won its second consecutive MISSA state championship, putting them in good position to capture a district/regional title and national championship by the time the spring season ends in June.

"We have the potential to make it to nationals, but it will definitely be challenging," said senior sailor Charlie



PHOTO BY CHRISTINA NOLAND

South's coed varsity sailing team hits the chilly waters of Lake St. Clair March 20, near the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

Gmeiner. "Our team has grown up so much together since the start of the season. I feel like we all have a good time together and we build each other up on a daily basis."

Gmeiner also is one of two team bosuns, along with junior Eric Brieden, who serve as the team's regatta, logistics and dock chairpersons. Team

captains are senior Colin Hexter and junior Gavin Webster.

The team will sail in local regattas in Pontiac and Grosse Pointe throughout the season, but will travel to Illinois to compete against other teams from the Midwest in its remaining qualifiers. They then have the potential to compete in Minnesota, New Jersey

or Virginia, depending on the outcomes of those earlier races.

Noland, who has been coaching sailing at South since 2019, after starting her career at Regina and DeLaSalle, said the Blue Devils successes are a reflection of the team's hard work, dedication and perseverance.

"The water's cold this time of year," she said.

She also said the support of her sailing parents and the community at large helps the team succeed year in and year out.

"We get tons of parental support and I am really grateful for that," Noland said. "I have been around the high school sailing world for years and we have respect as a program in Grosse Pointe. It takes time to build that respect and I'm really proud of what we have accomplished."

Gmeiner credited his head coach with leading the team and setting a positive tone.

"Our coach is our biggest asset," he said. "She brings us all together and keeps us motivated even when morale is down."

Noland said one big reason she maintains a positive attitude is she knows how tough the teen years can be and hopes sailing can be an outlet for the high schoolers she coaches.

"Teenagers are going through a lot," she said. "I preach all the time to (my team) that sailing

should be your outlet. This is when you unplug, leave your phone behind and just get out on the water.

"This is my passion and I love coaching sailing," she added. "I love watching them grow up, then head to college. It's really rewarding."

### South varsity coed sailing 2023 spring schedule

**April 14-16** — Baker/Mallory PreQualifiers, Pontiac Yacht Club

**April 22** — Earth Day Regatta hosted by Grosse Pointe South at Grosse Pointe Yacht Club

**April 29-30** — MISSA Mallory Qualifier, Lake Forest, Ill.

**May 6-7** — MISSA Baker Qualifier, Lake Forest, Ill.

**May 13-14** — Regatta hosted by Grosse Pointe South at Grosse Pointe Yacht Club

**May 20-21** — ISSA Baker Nationals, Lake Minnetonka, Minn.

**June 3-4** — Mallory Nationals, Tom's River, N.J., or Phoebe King Memorial Trophy Regatta in Va.



PHOTO BY KAREN HAMPTON

Detroit Boat Club Crew coach Mike Gentile addresses the team before last year's Midwest Championships, an event the club is hoping to have success at yet again in 2023.

## Boys and girls crew teams look to be among best in nation

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

With the ice and cold gone and the start of spring, the boats are hitting the water once again for the boys and girls crew teams in Grosse Pointe. In what's becoming an annual habit, athletes from Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and around the area are on a mission to row their way into the ranks of the best in the nation.

Both boys and girls junior rowing teams, run out of Detroit Boat Club Crew, have their sights set on big performances at the Midwest Junior Rowing Championships in May. The goal is to compete with the best in the country at the national championships, but winning the Midwest is the key to getting there.

The club's best shot at

a Midwest and possibly a national title this year comes in the form of an experienced four-person boat. South seniors Olivia Bachert, Ryleigh O'Donoghue and Ava Sjogren are all future NCAA Division I rowers and will be joined again by junior Carly Brown looking to build on what was a phenomenal 2022 spring season.

"They came in fourth overall in the country at nationals and we're sending them back this year if we do well at the Midwest Championships," said Mike Gentile, coach of Detroit Boat Club Crew's junior girls team, said. "Our goal is to win the national championship in that boat."

While the boys team may not have as much experience competing on the national stage yet, there is still optimism that the club can get

there. The number of boys joining the club this year has increased after a few down years. However, the upside of those leaner years has led to the more experienced boys rowers to hone certain skills.

"The boys numbers have been lower the last few years so they've been doing smaller boats, which involves a lot of skulling," said Ryan Kingsley, Detroit Boat Club Crew's junior boys coach. "It uses two oars instead 'sweep' rowing, which is one oar, and these guys have gotten really fast and really good at skulling."

Both the boys and girls rowers are headed to western New York this weekend for one of the first big competitions of the spring at the Buffalo River Sprints in Buffalo, N.Y. beginning Saturday, April 15.

### Grosse Pointe News



Do you know an outstanding high school athlete?  
Nominate them for Athlete of the Week and put them in the running for Athlete of the Year.

All weekly winners will be invited to the end of year Athlete of the Year Awards Gala – with top athletes winning scholarships!

Submit online at:

[grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week](http://grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week)

Grosse Pointe News

City of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan

### NOTICE OF LAST DAY FOR FILING NOMINATING PETITIONS FOR CITY OFFICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the City Charter and the Michigan Election Law of 1964, as amended, Tuesday, April 25, 2023 is the last day for filing Nominating Petitions for the following City Offices:

One (1) MAYOR  
Three (3) COUNCILMEMBERS

Petitions will be received by the City Clerk until 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 25, 2023

DERRICK KOZICKI  
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER/CITY CLERK

PUBLISH GPN: 04/13/2023

# North, South split early-season doubleheader

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Nothing says baseball season is here quite like a showdown on the diamond between Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South. Although the morning of Saturday April 8 did not really feel like baseball weather, fans still packed the stands at North to watch what ended up as a split doubleheader between the Norsemen and Blue Devils.

Game 1 of the day was all South, which ended up with a 16-2 win. The Blue Devils took control in the top of the second inning, scoring their first three runs on either errors or passed balls. A Cliff Grabowski RBI single made it a four-run lead for South before the inning was over.

The Blue Devils scored six more in the fourth inning. Three of those runs came from a three-RBI double by Connor Stafford. North's two runs in the fifth, brought

in by Drew Hill and Brennan Hill, already seemed like too little too late, and South added six more runs in the final inning before taking its dominant win in the opening matchup.

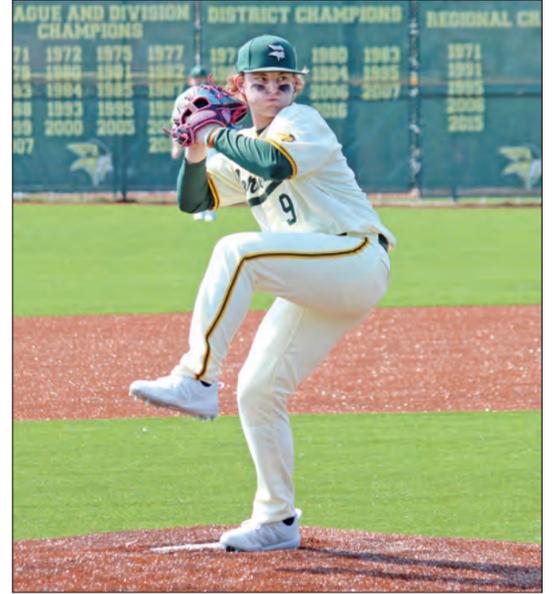
Stafford led South with three RBI in the win while Hunter Belanger and Joey McEvoy each had two. Wells Graham earned the victory with his start on the mound. The senior went 4.1 innings allowing two runs on five hits. Grabowski

pitched two innings of shutout relief and did not allow a hit.

"Playing a team like (North) will certainly prepare us for the MAC Red," South head coach Dan Griesbaum said. "... That first game wasn't indicative of North's talent. They made a few mistakes that hurt them...I was very pleased with our effort and when you play a North-South game it's always intense but respectful, and we both respect each other so much and always enjoy the competition."

South took an early 1-0 lead in the opening inning of game two with a sacrifice fly by Ben Domzalski and looked like it could be on the way to another big win when it added two more runs in the top of the second. However, North got one run back in the third with a Jordan Arsenau RBI double and would see its window for a big inning finally open not too long after.

Five turned out to be the magic number for the Norsemen in the second game with a five-run fifth inning. The rally began with a three-run homer by Rocco Cardinale to put North in front 4-3. An RBI each by Luke Shanley and



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

**Cam Schaefer pitches in relief for North during the first game of a doubleheader against South last Saturday, April 8.**

Shane Armbruster helped North pad onto its lead later in the inning and eventually take the 6-3 win to split the doubleheader.

North used three pitchers in the victory for the afternoon game. Nick Jarackas got the start, surrendering three earned runs but not allowing a hit. Henry Rocho and Drew Hill allowed just two total hits and no runs in a combined three innings of relief.

The Norsemen stayed on their home field to host Ford II on Tuesday, April 11 after press time and are on the diamond for another crosstown rivalry Saturday, April 15, when they host University Liggett in a doubleheader beginning at 11 a.m.. South was at home against Brother Rice on Wednesday, April 12, after press time, and hosts a doubleheader at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 15 against Roseville.



**South's Hunter Belanger had two RBI in the opening game of last Saturday's doubleheader against North.**

# South softball triumphs over Liggett, North opens season with trifecta of wins

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Last week saw all three varsity softball teams from the Pointes open their seasons on the diamond. Two of those teams, Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett, faced off in a high-scoring crosstown showdown to begin the spring campaign while Grosse Pointe North collected a trio of wins in its opening contests.

## South vs. ULS

The Blue Devils made the short trip across town to Cook Road last Thursday, April 6 for opening day against the Knights of University Liggett. Things were explosive from the start on both sides with no shortage of offense throughout the afternoon. Eventually, South prevailed 15-8 to take the season-opening win.

South struck first with three runs in the first inning. The rally began with an Avery Harris RBI double with Harris later scoring on a wild pitch to extend the lead. Liggett rallied right back in the bottom of the first starting with an RBI single by Isabel Standish. After the first inning, the scoreboard stood at 4-3 in favor of the Knights.

Katherine Stenier tied the game at four with an RBI single for South in the top of the second. The Blue Devils took the lead back in the third inning when Viviana Ostrowski tripled bringing in two runs. Liggett brought the game back to within two runs in the bottom of the fourth and tied the game 7-7 on a two-run homerun from Jasmine Maxwell.

The Blue Devils would regain the lead in the fifth inning and never relinquish, eventually taking home the win in a game that saw 25 combined hits between the two teams. Ostrowski led South with three RBI while Steiner, Harris, Luna Agosta and Alex Lupu all had two each. For the Knights, Sasha Deimel had a major day at the plate knocking in four runs on two hits.

Liggett faced Southfield Christian on Tuesday, April 11, after

press time and is on the road Thursday, April 13, at Cranbrook, with first pitch scheduled for 4:30 p.m. South took on Fraser on Tuesday, April 11, after press time and will host Port Huron Northern at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13.

## North

The Norsemen also found themselves in a high-scoring battle last Thursday, April 6 to begin the season. North hosted West Bloomfield for the first game on its

newly minted turf field with the excitement and expectations high for the new season. The Norsemen and Lakers both hung tough, but North prevailed 15-11 by the end of the afternoon.

North took the lead early in the bottom of the first inning thanks in large part to a triple on the very first pitch of the season hit by Natalie Babcock. Scored as a triple, it became an inside the park homerun after an error by the West Bloomfield outfield let Babcock get to home plate. Lizzy Rheume added an RBI double later in the first to make it 2-0 North.

The fireworks continued on both sides after that. Other highlights of the afternoon for North included a three-RBI triple in the fifth inning by

Isabella Boedecker and a two-run homerun in the sixth by Sophia Borowski. Kaitlyn Barr started the game on the mound and pitched a total of four innings, giving up just two hits and tallying nine strikeouts.

Barr continued a strong start to the season on the rubber last Saturday, April 8 in the first game of a doubleheader with Livonia Franklin. The opposite of North's season opener, the Norsemen took down the Patriots 2-1 in Saturday's first game, with Barr striking out 15 batters and allowing just the single run. Rheume and Addie Wakefield brought in both of North's runs with their bats.

The offensive fireworks returned in Game 2 of the doubleheader, but not until late for North.

Trailing 9-5 in the seventh inning, the Norsemen rallied from behind to win 10-9. North's late rally began with a two-RBI double by Borowski, which was followed shortly after by a two-RBI triple from Rheume that tied the game.

Two walks then helped North load the bases with a chance to win the game on a walk-off. That is exactly what happened as junior Cameron Beers singled to bring in the winning run and make it three wins for the Norsemen in their first three games of 2023.

North visited Eisenhower on Tuesday, April 11, after press time and is on the road again Saturday, April 15, as part of the Lake Orion tournament, slated to begin at 9 a.m.

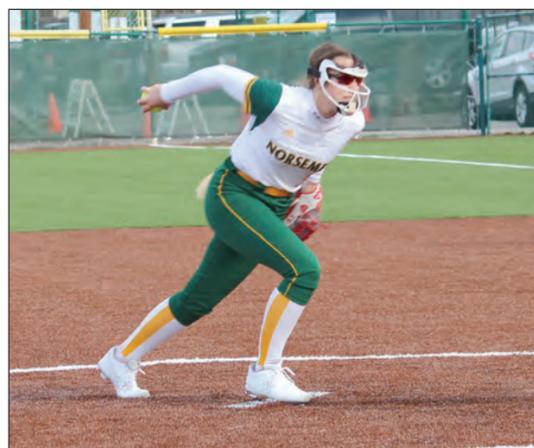


PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

**North's Kaitlyn Barr winds up a pitch in the team's season opener against West Bloomfield.**

City of **Grosse Pointe**, Michigan

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2023 SINGLE LOT ASSESSMENT ROLL

The City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe, Michigan, 17147 Maumee Avenue, Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48230, 313-885-5800, will hold a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 17, 2023 on the proposed 2023 City Single Lot Assessment Roll. Copies of the Single Lot Assessment Roll will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the City Hall Building (17147 Maumee) beginning April 13, 2023.

Public comments, oral or written, are welcome at the public hearing on the proposed Single Lot Assessment Roll.

**Christopher M. Hardenbrook**,  
City Clerk

GPN: 4/13/23

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6D | SPORTS

# South girls track dominates first dual meet, boys finish top 10 at Lincoln Classic meet

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

With the track and field season just beginning, the boys and girls teams from Grosse Pointe South have been getting their legs under them in some of the first competitions of the spring. The Blue Devils' girls team opened its season last week with a blowout victory in a dual meet with Warren Mott, while the boys team finished in the top ten out of 20 teams at the Lincoln Indoor Classic.

Both teams were in action against Mott last Tuesday, April 4. The boys earned a 93-39 win

before heading into weekend competition while South's girls also dominated 116-21 in their only event of the week.

The girls took victories in 16 of 17 total events for the Blue Devils. The team swept the field events with Olivia Barba winning both shot put and discus. Grace Winner won high jump, Madison Duff took first in the long jump and Ava Rogowski earned the win in the pole vault.

On the track, Savannah Spangler had a banner day with wins in the 800 and 1600 as well as a victory with the 3200 relay team. Morgan Deenik

was also part of that 3200 relay team and was victorious in the 3200 individual run. Selga Jansons was dominant in the hurdles with victories in both the 100 and 300 races. The Blue Devils also had wins in sprint events with Claire Zurowick winning the 400 and Jaimison Diamond taking the 200.

While the girls got a week to rest after facing Mott, South's boys team was back in action on Saturday, April 8 at the 2023 Lincoln Indoor Classic. In a field of 20 teams, the Blue Devils finished eighth overall with strong performances throughout the day, especially in the



PHOTO BY MIRANDA BARBA

South senior Sofia Guevara hands off to senior Claire Zurowick enroute to a victory in the 800 sprint relay.

relays.

The 800 relay team of Brendan Downey, Christian Potts, Stephen Peck and Logan Detweiler earned fifth place with a time of 8:29.8 in South's best fin-

ish of the day. The 400 relay team was sixth as Downey, Alex Rajewski, Conrad Squitieri and Sam Morandini combined for a time of 3:30.4.

Both the girls and boys teams hosted Anchor Bay

after press time on Wednesday, April 12 in the first MAC competition of the year. The two squads are in action together again on Saturday, April 15 at the Allen Park Relays.

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

## QUICK HITS & HIGHLIGHTS

The high school spring sports season is in full swing, and the Grosse Pointe News is here to bring you all the varsity action. Some of the week's biggest hits and highlights include:

### ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

Norsemen to success in the region and in the state. While she does that, Deskins also wants 2023 to mark the year she enters her name into North's history books.

"(My goal is to) break five minutes in the 1600, or the mile, which is a big goal for any high school runner," she said. "I also want to make a run and break the school record in the 1600 and the 3200, which I think are right in my reach. I would also like to win at least one

event in the region and qualify for states, and I could also become the first All-State runner from the region since a girl from South almost ten years ago."

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, visit [grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week](http://grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week).

### NORTH BOYS LAX

The 1-3 Norsemen dropped two games last week — a 12-2 loss to Notre Dame Prep and a 9-8 overtime loss to Cass Tech. But the team grabbed its first win of the season 11-3 against Grosse Ile Monday, April 10. After a game Wednesday, April 12, against L'Anse Creuse North that took place after press time, the boys in green and gold will play away at Chippewa Valley at 6 p.m. Friday, April 14.

### LIGGETT BASEBALL

The Knights dropped two games against powerhouse Orchard Lake St. Mary's Prep last Thursday, April 6. Liggett lost a close one in Game 1 by a score of 8-5, and were shutout 10-0 in Game 2. Next up, the team hosts Plymouth Christian Academy at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 13, in a Catholic High School League matchup.

### NORTH GIRLS LAX

A trio of losses against Rochester Hills Stoney Creek, Farmington and Athens left the Norsemen seeking their first win of the season. But the team chalked up its first victory by beating Temperance Bedford 10-6 Monday, April 10. They have a chance to make a big statement this week when they travel to archrival Grosse Pointe South for a 7 p.m. game Thursday, April 13, in a battle for city bragging rights.

### SOUTH BOYS LAX

South beat University of Detroit Jesuit 11-8 Thursday, April 6, getting the Blue Devils to 1-1 on the season. The team heads to Rochester Adams for a 3 p.m. game Saturday, April 15.

### LIGGETT GIRLS SOCCER

The Knights blanked Bishop Foley 6-0 Thursday, April 6. They hit the road twice this week, facing Adrian Lenewee Christian Tuesday, April 11, after press time, then against Grosse Pointe North at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 13.

### SOUTH GIRLS LAX

The 1-2 Blue Devils lost on the road to Cranbrook 18-3 Thursday, April 6. They next face archrival Grosse Pointe North at home at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13.

### SOUTH GIRLS TENNIS

Grosse Pointe South varsity tennis has started its season at an undefeated 3-0, thanks to a successful quad meet Saturday, April 8, in Grosse Ile. South took on host Grosse Ile, along with Allen Park and Tecumseh, and emerged 3-0 on the day. The Blue Devils swept Allen Park and Tecumseh 8-0 and 8-0 respectively. South beat Grosse Ile 5-3 including sweeping all doubles contests. After a match Tuesday, April 11, against North Farmington, which took place after press time, South hits its home courts in another quad meet against Athens, Cousino and Grosse Pointe North at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 15.

Does your team have a newsworthy quick hit or highlight from the week to share? Send it along to [mleonard@grossepointenews.com](mailto:mleonard@grossepointenews.com).

## SPORTS CALENDAR

# APRIL 20/23

Photo by Leon Halip

**15**

- > ULS boys golf @ Greenhills - 9am
- > ULS @ GPN baseball (DH) - 11am
- > ULS boys + girls track & field @ GPN - 11am
- > ULS boys lax vs. Cass Tech - 1:30pm
- > GPN softball @ Lake Orion - 9am
- > GPS boys + girls track & field @ Allen Park - 9am
- > GPS softball (Round Robin Tourney) - 10am
- > GPS girls tennis @ GPN - 12pm
- > GPS baseball vs. Roseville (DH) - 11am
- > GPS boys lax vs. Adams - 3pm

Photo by Jarif Rashid

**16**

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

**19**

- > GPS boys golf (Tri-match @ Gowaine) - 2pm
- > GPS girls tennis @ Eisenhower - 4pm
- > GPS girls soccer @ Fraser - 7pm
- > GPS girls lax @ Northville - 7pm
- > GPN @ GPS boys lax - 7:30pm
- > ULS @ GPN boys golf - 3pm
- > GPN girls tennis vs. Romeo - 4pm
- > GPN baseball @ LCN - 4pm
- > GPN girls soccer vs. Eisenhower - 7pm
- > ULS baseball @ UD Jesuit - TBD
- > ULS girls lax vs. DC - 4:30pm
- > ULS boys lax @ Bishop Foley - 5pm

**20**

- > GPS baseball @ Ford II - 4pm
- > GPS softball vs. PH - 4:30pm
- > GPN boys golf @ Eisenhower - 2pm
- > GPN girls tennis vs. Groves - 4pm
- > GPN softball @ Anchor Bay - 4:30pm
- > GPN baseball vs. LCN - 4:30pm
- > GPN girls lax vs. ND Prep - 7pm
- > ULS girls tennis @ Regina - 4pm
- > ULS boys + girls track & field (CHSL Meet) - 4pm
- > ULS girls soccer vs. St. Catherine - 4:30pm

**13**

- > GPS baseball vs. Anchor Bay - 4:30pm
- > GPS softball vs. PHN - 4:30pm
- > GPN @ GPS girls lax - 7:30pm
- > GPS girls tennis vs. Dakota - 4pm
- > GPN baseball vs. Ford II - 4:30pm
- > ULS @ GPN girls soccer - 6pm
- > ULS baseball vs. Plymouth Christian - 4pm
- > ULS girls lax vs. Royal Oak - 4:30pm
- > ULS softball @ Cranbrook - 4:30pm
- > ULS girls tennis vs. Country Day - 4:30pm

**14**

- > GPS girls lax @ N. Farmington - 7pm
- > GPS girls soccer vs. Stevenson - 7:30pm
- > GPN boys golf tri-meet (Twin Lakes) - 3pm
- > GPN boys lax vs. CV - 6pm

**17**

- > GPN @ GPS girls tennis - 4pm
- > GPN @ GPS softball - 4:30pm
- > GPS girls lax @ Farmington - 7pm
- > GPS girls soccer vs. LC - 7:30pm
- > GPN baseball vs. LCN - 4:30pm
- > GPN girls soccer @ LCN - 6:30pm
- > ULS golf vs. Shrine - 3pm
- > ULS girls soccer vs. Royal Oak - 4:30pm
- > ULS boys lax @ St. Clair - 6:30pm

**18**

- > GPN @ GPS boys + girls track & field - 4pm
- > GPS softball @ Berkley (DH) - 4:30pm
- > GPS baseball vs. Ford II - 4:30pm
- > GPN softball vs. Romeo - 4:30pm
- > GPN girls lax vs. Seaholm - 7pm
- > ULS softball vs. Cabrini - 4pm
- > ULS baseball vs. Shrine - 4:30pm
- > ULS girls soccer vs. Cranbrook - 4:30pm
- > ULS girls tennis @ FGR - 4:30pm

**19**

- > GPS boys golf (Tri-match @ Gowaine) - 2pm
- > GPS girls tennis @ Eisenhower - 4pm
- > GPS girls soccer @ Fraser - 7pm
- > GPS girls lax @ Northville - 7pm
- > GPN @ GPS boys lax - 7:30pm
- > ULS @ GPN boys golf - 3pm
- > GPN girls tennis vs. Romeo - 4pm
- > GPN baseball @ LCN - 4pm
- > GPN girls soccer vs. Eisenhower - 7pm
- > ULS baseball @ UD Jesuit - TBD
- > ULS girls lax vs. DC - 4:30pm
- > ULS boys lax @ Bishop Foley - 5pm

**20**

- > GPS baseball @ Ford II - 4pm
- > GPS softball vs. PH - 4:30pm
- > GPN boys golf @ Eisenhower - 2pm
- > GPN girls tennis vs. Groves - 4pm
- > GPN softball @ Anchor Bay - 4:30pm
- > GPN baseball vs. LCN - 4:30pm
- > GPN girls lax vs. ND Prep - 7pm
- > ULS girls tennis @ Regina - 4pm
- > ULS boys + girls track & field (CHSL Meet) - 4pm
- > ULS girls soccer vs. St. Catherine - 4:30pm

**21**

- > GPS boys golf @ DLS - TBD
- > GPS baseball vs. Ford II - 4:30pm
- > GPS @ GPN girls soccer - 6pm
- > GPS boys lax @ Farmington - 7pm
- > ULS girls lax vs. Sacred Heart - 4pm
- > ULS softball @ Marian - 4:30pm
- > ULS boys lax vs. PH - 5pm

**22**

- > ULS girls tennis quad - 8am
- > ULS baseball vs. CC - 11am
- > ULS girls lax vs. FGR - 12pm
- > GPS boys tennis quad - 8am
- > GPS boys track & field @ Dexter - 9am
- > GPS Softball (Round Robin Tourney) - 10am
- > GPS boys lax @ Novi - 1pm
- > GPS baseball vs. TBD (@Comerica) - 4pm
- > GPN girls tennis @ Groves - TBD
- > GPN boys + girls track & field @ Woodhaven - 9pm
- > GPN softball @ Lake Orion - 10am
- > GPN boys lax @ Bishop Foley - 4pm
- > GPN baseball vs. Lake Shore (@Comerica) - 7pm