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GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

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Krupp, Moyer, Thomas win council race

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Sixteen-year Councilman Donald Parthum Jr. was voted out in favor of newcomer Christopher Moyer in the City of Grosse Pointe election for city council Tuesday, Nov. 7. Incumbents Dr. Seth Krupp and Terence Thomas retained their seats after 35.28 percent of registered voters in the City cast their ballots.

Krupp — who is an emergency physician at Henry Ford Hospital downtown and ran for election after being appointed to council in July 2022 — took home the greatest number of votes at 1,150 or 28.42

percent.

“I’d just like to thank (voters) for their trust in me and I hope to continue to exercise the things that I put out during my campaign and continue the exciting progress we have moving forward,” he said. “I’m really excited to have a new member on the council and look forward to working with Chris, as well as the other folks that I’ve been developing relationships with over the past year.”

Thomas, an attorney and co-founder of Activate Detroit, now enters his second term on council. He received 1,095 votes or 27.06 percent.

Moyer received 954 votes or 23.57 percent,

See RACE, page 2A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe City Municipal Judge David Draper, left, is sworn in by his predecessor, Judge Russell Ethridge, Monday, Nov. 13.

David Draper voted City judge

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — “Joy, relief and excitement to be able to take that role and do something that’s been a lifelong dream of mine,” were the reactions of attorney David Draper upon finding out he was voted municipal judge in the City of Grosse Pointe election Tuesday, Nov. 7, for which a little more than 35 percent of registered voters turned out.

The 24-year City resident whose practice, The Draper Law Firm, oper-

ates off Mack, received 690 votes or 38.14 percent of the total.

Compared to his fellow candidates, Draper ran on a platform best summarized by the adage, “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.” For his upcoming time on the City’s bench — which he hopes to extend until he ages out at 70, as is tradition for judges in the Grosse Pointes — he plans on continuing to run the court as it has been.

“I’ve had many conversations with the retiring judge, who is a mentor and a fabulous judge,” Draper said of 25-year

Judge Russell Ethridge, who is aging out of the position and endorsed Draper in the election. “We have a great staff. It’s going to look very similar to how it does right now, which is a very well-run court and I want to keep it that way.”

However, one tweak he is interested in exploring is a referral program for the large contingent of people who come through the court and struggle with mental health or addiction issues.

“We’re not a health and human services agency, but perhaps we can lead

people in directions that help them live a better life,” he said.

Draper, 57, was the only candidate with a practice in the Pointes and, since 1996, also has served as a case evaluator, mediator and facilitator at Wayne County Mediation Tribunal through the surrounding circuit courts, the Grosse Pointe municipal courts and privately through his office.

His passion project is serving on the advisory board, as well as offering pro bono legal services, to

See JUDGE, page 2A

INSIDE:

THE GROSSE POINTE LIONS CLUB
JINGLE BELL FUN WALK/RUN
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2023

THE GROSSE POINTE LIONS CLUB
JINGLE BELL FUN WALK/RUN TAB SECTION

Feel the love and community support!

GPAAS tends Park strays

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Stray animals are being afforded temporary haven thanks to a local animal rescue organization.

“The Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society will seek foster homes and permanent placement for unclaimed pets through our adoption program and humanely euthanize those that are critically injured, untreatable, aggressive or unadoptable,” said Jim Bostock, Park public safety director.

The Park City Council agreed unanimously Nov. 13, to have GPAAS

See STRAYS, page 3A

From left, new Councilman Tim Kolar, second-term Mayor Michele Hodges, new Councilman Brent Dreaver and second-term Councilman Marty McMillan attend the Nov. 13 city council meeting.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT



New Park council sets sail

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — “Let’s get to work,” newly re-elected Mayor Michele Hodges said dur-

ing the first meeting of the city council since the Nov. 7 municipal election.

New members Brent Dreaver and Tim Kolar joined incumbent Marty McMillan and Hodges in

taking the oath of office before addressing an agenda consisting of expanded parking meter operations, temporarily housing stray animals and other matters of small-

town importance.

“Thank you to the community for believing in us and entrusting us with this important responsibility,” Hodges told the audience in attendance and watching the meeting live-streamed on the internet.

The council voted unanimously to reappoint Councilman Tom Caulfield as mayor pro tem.

“Thank you,” Caulfield said. “I appreciate the support.”

“It’s not just a ceremonial position,” Councilman Max Wiener said.

Hodges reminded Caulfield that the office allows him to perform marriages.

“That’s a scary thought,” Caulfield said.

See SAIL, page 2A

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A

Linda Finger
Home: Grosse Pointe Park
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2A | NEWS

RACE:

Continued from page 1A

outpacing Parthum, who received 834 votes or 20.61 percent.

"This is just such an incredible honor," said Moyer, who currently serves as secretary on the Main Street Grosse Pointe Executive Board of Directors. "I feel very grateful to my family, to my friends, to the community of Grosse Pointe for putting their faith in me to be on city council. My highest aspiration is to be people's neighbor, not a politician. We're all in this together and I'm real

excited to get started and to continue to serve the community.

"I think everybody in the city, on council and who was a candidate really should say a lot of thanks to Councilman Parthum," he added. "He served this community for 16 years. He's a gentleman and a great person and it was an honor to get to be a part of the campaign with him. So I, for one, am really grateful to him for all he has done and I know he's going to continue to do great things for Grosse Pointe."

Parthum would have entered his fifth term on council.

JUDGE:

Continued from page 1A

Forgotten Harvest, a non-profit facilitating food distribution from the leftovers at large chain stores to shelters.

"When I started in the late '90s, they were doing 1 million pounds of food a year and now it's something like 50 million pounds per year is distributed to otherwise hungry people, who get really good food," Draper said. "It's magic."

"It will certainly be an option for community service for any offender in my court that has to do community service," he

added.

Draper has been married 30 years this September to wife, Nancy. The two share two grown children, Sophie and Zane.

"Thanks so much for your support, to the voters," Draper said. "I'm really excited to take on this challenge and I promise to do my best for the City of Grosse Pointe."

Sarah Colegrove, who previously ran for judge in 2003, came in a close second with 647 votes or 35.77 percent.

The remaining two candidates, Thomas Krall and Bryan Sunisloe, received 419 votes and 51 votes, respectively.

Hodges locks mayor's seat

Two reformers win council

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — An incumbent mayor and councilman retained their offices in an election balanced by the victories of two first-time council reformers.

Mayor Michele Hodges, herself a former councilwoman, won strong Tuesday, Nov. 7, over challenger Councilwoman Christine Gallagher, who halfway through her first term in elected office sought promotion to the highest rank.

"The community values results and the commitment to delivering them is clear," Hodges said. "We have been relentless in hitting the most crucial milestones and that momentum must continue. It is my goal to unite this team to that end."

Hodges' 2,448 votes represented 58.23 percent of all cast in the mayoral race compared with 1,756 voters for Gallagher, or 41.77 percent.

Gallagher retains her seat on council. Had she won mayor, the new council would have been allowed 60 days to appoint a replacement.

"Hopefully," Gallagher said, "the new council will be able to work collaboratively, which will result in better decision making."

Results were posted shortly after 10 p.m., two hours after the polls closed at Windmill Pointe Park.

Hodges campaign platform included the city recovering from deficit. She said the next step is establishing a capital improvement plan, con-



Michele Hodges

trolling finances and improving communication with residents.

In Gallagher's continuing role on council, she can pursue her campaign goals of fixing the city's structural deficit, hiring more public safety officers and resurrecting the city newsletter.

City council

In the council race, three of six candidates won office.

Incumbent first-term Councilman Marty McMillan received the most votes, 2,321, for 20.8 percent of the total.

McMillan campaigned on the city successfully eliminating a deficit this year, but said more work is needed to improve transparent operations and communications with residents.

"I am thrilled to be able to continue serving our community," McMillan said. "Our city has made great progress over the past couple of years. We will continue the positive energy and momentum."

Then came reformers Tim Kolar in his second

run for council, plus Brent Dreaver in his initial effort.

Kolar, recipient of the most votes in the August primary, nearly did it again this time. His 2,165 votes represented 19.41 percent of the total and placed him less than 200 shy of being top vote-getter.

During the campaign, Kolar, an accountant and state administrator, advocated for fiscal responsibility, community engagement and better communications.

"The voters' most common ask, in terms of a particular matter they wanted me to focus on and accomplish in office, was communication of our financial reality," Kolar said. "Now that campaigning is over, I'm hopeful that all my colleagues on the city council will fully acknowledge the problem Grosse Pointe Park is facing with its financial forecast and together we can begin working toward some solutions."

Dreaver, a senior business analyst, won the third of three open seats on council with 1,880 votes, or 16.85 percent of the total. He, too, advocated for better communications and transparency, particularly regarding municipal finances.

"I attribute our win to the care and compassion that our residents have for our community," Dreaver said. "I am enthusiastic to serve our city to the best of my abilities."

Coming up short in the council race were:

◆ Elvis Torres, 1,815 votes, 16.27 percent.

"As a first-time candidate, coming so close to victory has been an incredible experience," Torres said. "Our journey doesn't end here. I look forward to our shared future as we work together to make our city the best it can be."

◆ Heather Ulku, 1,800 votes, 16.13 percent.

"It was a great experience and I'm proud of myself and all the candidates," Ulku said. "Congratulations to Marty, Tim and Brent. They will do an outstanding job. I'll continue to support the city that we all love."

◆ Jay Kennedy, 1,175 votes, 10.53 percent.

"I'd like to congratulate the winners and wish them good luck," Kennedy said. "The new council will face many challenges. I have not yet decided if I will run again."

Proposals

Voters also passed Proposal 1 (2,724 votes to 1,470, or 64.95 percent to 35.05 percent) setting Sept. 14 as the annual due date for paying summer property taxes.

Voters also backed Proposal 2 (2,312 votes to 1,949, or 54.26 percent to 45.74 percent), eliminating municipal primary elections.

City administrators and all members of the council endorsed passage of Proposal 2 due to the roughly \$10,000 cost of operating a primary elec-

See PARK, page 3A

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SAIL:

Continued from page 1A

Hodges highlighted critical areas of work during the coming term, including financial stability, infrastructure, public safety and the fate of vacant Trombly Elementary School.

"The ongoing professionalization of this com-

munity must continue," Hodges said. "It's up to this team to make it so and to take the next steps on capital improvement plans, communications and other things we know are priorities. We have a choice to make. That choice is vibrancy and prosperity if we choose it."

Next month she'll announce assignments to

boards, commissions and committees.

"The process of appointments is complicated," Hodges said.

She'll meet with each member of the council to determine interests and skill sets.

"There are only so many opportunities," Hodges said. "Trying to put who goes where and where the talent distribution should be is not the easiest thing to do."

Dreaver and Kolar replaced Brian Brenner and Vikas Relan, both of whom did not seek reelection.

"We also thank council members Brenner and Relan for their service," Hodges said. "We will give them a more proper sendoff at our December meeting."

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Village tree lighting is Friday

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Kicking off the Christmas season as Kercheval Avenue prepares to transform yet again into Christmas Street, the annual Village Tree Lighting takes place 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17, at the corner of Kercheval and St. Clair.

Carols will be sung by the Grosse Pointe South High School choir until 6 p.m., when the honors of flipping the switch to light the downtown district this year will go to new City Manager Joe Valentine's children —

Griffin, 9; Paige, 8; and Brooklyn, 6.

Exemplary of a true community event, cocoa will be provided by the Grosse Pointe Boat Club; a photo backdrop was designed by Michelle Boggess-Nunley, owner of Posterity Art & Framing Gallery; and those who stick around after the tree lighting will be treated to an outdoor movie, thanks to the donation of a projector and big screen by Anne Murphy, owner of Apple Blossom Baby and Decor.

The traditional s'mores kits and warming fires will be stationed

near the movie screen, while Yukon Cornelius and Bumble the abominable snow monster from "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" will wander the festivities for photo opportunities.

"And then we have a special treat to hand out to the kids to help them light the night as well," Main Street Grosse Pointe Executive Director Cindy Willcock said, adding that it's a surprise perhaps more exciting than last year's glow sticks.

Despite being the likely culprit, the Grinch didn't have much at all to do with the fact live reindeer won't be taking

their station next to the Christmas tree this year.

The reindeer farmer, with whom the City has long worked, retired this year without advance notice. By the time city administration was made aware, Willcock explained, it was too late to find another properly licensed reindeer farmer in the area.

"We realize that the reindeer are always a big hit and a big draw, but sometimes in life you have to pivot a little bit," she said, "and so we're doing things to make the best of it and make it more fun and then we'll look at what we do next year."

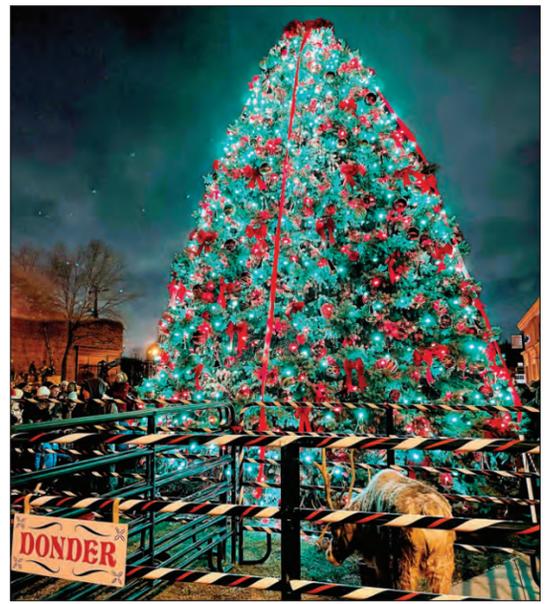


PHOTO BY OLIVIA MONETTE

While reindeer won't be part of this year's tree lighting festivities, the show will go on at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

AHEE has you covered

For the second year in a row, edmund t. AHEE Jewelers is paying Grosse Pointe Woods to cover some 900 parking meters in the city for all of November and December to make holiday shopping more convenient. The store first did it last year to thank the community as it celebrated its 75th anniversary. The total amount comes to \$27,500 to replace the lost revenue.

STRAYS:

Continued from page 1A

shelter lost, stray, injured and cast-out animals.

The society replaces, for the most part, a veterinarian in the Park who is remaining in practice while winding down his role handling public animal issues.

Qualifying animals with or without identification that Park officers encounter or are dropped off at headquarters will be, short of quick intervention by owners, delivered to the society's intake facility in Harper Woods for disposition.

The society is located at 20542 Harper, Harper Woods. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Sunday.

"(Animals) can be shel-

tered and receive veterinary care until they are reclaimed, evaluated and re-homed," according to the agreement.

Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Woods and Harper Woods have comparable arrangements, according to Bostock.

He said Park officers do their best to reunite animals with their owners rather than immediately using the society.

Depending on the circumstances, pets corralled during off-hours are detained in what Bostock described as doggy jail.

Costs to the Park are:

- ◆ boarding cats or kittens, \$15 per day up to five days;
- ◆ boarding dogs or puppies, \$20 daily up to five days;

- ◆ boarding bite cases, \$20 daily up to 10 days;
- ◆ tranquilizer services, \$75 per dose;
- ◆ euthanasia, \$57.50;
- ◆ cremation, \$49.50 and
- ◆ wildlife cremation, no charge.

"Fines and fees assessed to the (animal) owner by Grosse Pointe Park should be paid directly to the Park and will not be collected by GPAAS," according to the agreement.

"The question everybody's asking is why does it appear there's such an increase in strays and unattended dogs?" Mayor Michele Hodges asked Bostock. "Has it increased?"

"We're not seeing a big increase in the number of animals we're temporar-

ily housing," Bostock answered. "I think it's getting a lot more attention based on what's happening down the road in Grosse Pointe Shores."

Shores officials recently enacted a ban on pit pulls in response to an attack. Officials soon rescinded the ban.

Bostock also cited the recent deadly pit bull attack of a 4-year-old in Detroit.

"People's eyes are open to it," he said. "It's getting a lot of attention."

"Residents are empowered to (reduce) the number of strays by making sure gates are secured," Hodges said.

"This is a good opportunity to push residents to license their dogs," Councilman Tom Caulfield said.

Parking rates, meter hours raised

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Parking meters will operate into the evening starting next year.

In addition, meter rates are doubled on Mack Avenue and Jefferson. They're tripled on Kercheval.

Metered parking will be enforced an additional three hours per day, ending at 9 p.m. as opposed to the current 6 p.m., Monday through

Saturday, effective Jan. 2.

Daybreak for meters remains 9 a.m.

Hourly rates on Mack and Jefferson doubled to 50 cents and, on Kercheval, 75 cents.

Terms apply to roughly 250 meters and pay-to-park stations citywide.

Expanded meter operations and higher rates are expected to generate an additional \$20,000 per year, according to Jim

See RATES, page 8A

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, NOV. 20

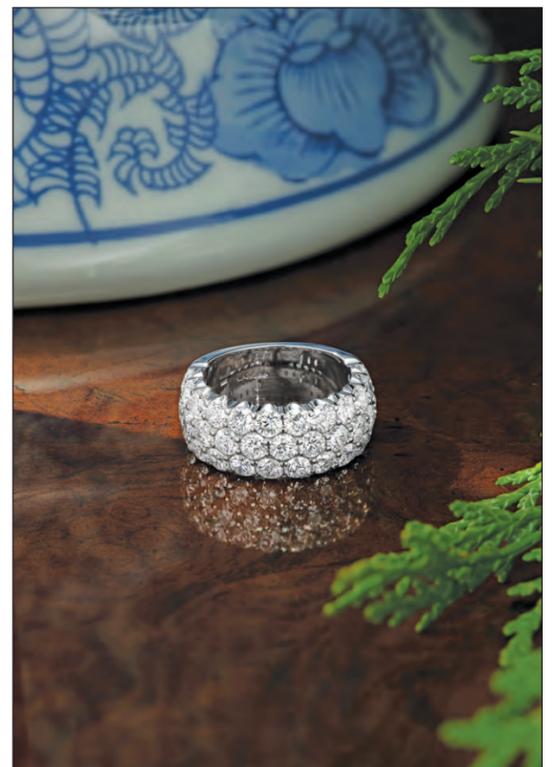
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Zoning Board of Appeals meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ City of Grosse Pointe City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOV. 21

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Senior Citizens' Commission meeting, 4 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods rescheduled Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Woods Aglow, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOV. 23

- ◆ Thanksgiving



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PARK:

Continued from page 2A

tion to eliminate a negligible number of candidates.

The widest margins on Election Day came with defeats of two proposals that, if passed, would have allowed the operation of up to two marijuana stores in the city.

The Open Stores Ordinance lost 3,398 to 979 votes (77.63 percent to 22.37 percent).

The Cannabis Licensing Charter Amendment lost 2,885 to 1,439 (66.72 percent to 33.28 percent).

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

A lifetime of spreading the spirit of Christmas

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

Linda Finger was just 17 and a new bride when she achieved “the best job in the world,” as a staple in the Hudson’s Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Like many young women looking for a part-time job at Christmas, she headed to Hudson’s Department Store to fill out an application, noting her passion for singing in the special skills category.

Unlike many others, she was told to go see a guy on the 14th floor and found herself asked to demonstrate her ability in a warehouse among racks of clothes. Once her talent was proven, and without any context, Finger was told she could have “the job” if an outfit hanging nearby — a red velvet jumper, with a red and white striped blouse beneath — fit her.

“I said, ‘What job?’ (and) he goes, ‘If that dress fits you, you’re Christmas Carol,’” she recalled. “I’m thinking, I’m getting in that dress if it kills me. Well, it fit me perfectly.”

Her affinity for song — the first time she was paid to perform professionally was to a Cobo Hall audience of 12,000 people at 12 years old — led to her joining the USO in the ‘60s. Her unit performed at military bases across Michigan during the Vietnam War, as well as at Northwestern High School during the Detroit riots.

“We would meet the military buses at 8 Mile



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Linda Finger still lives on Barrington, just up the street from where she was raised.

and Gratiot and we would take our clothes with us,” Finger said. “We had to sit on the floor of the bus. We had a police escort and they would take us to the high school and we would change in the restrooms with all the bugs.

“Those guys, if they weren’t out on duty, they had to stay inside. (They) were so happy to have something different, they would sit up in the window. I can just remember these guys sitting in the bay of this big, round window on the side of the auditorium, just because there wasn’t enough seating.”

Her efforts of goodwill did not end with the USO.

When state homes began to close around 1970, Finger’s father started nonprofit Effort, Inc., which organized group homes for the developmentally disabled, including her brother, Bill.

“We started literally by collecting household items and having flea markets to raise some of the money,” Finger said. “My dad invested some and some friends invested some, so we could get started.”

Upon her father’s death, she led the organi-

zation another two decades until state funding dried up.

Perhaps most recognizable locally is Finger’s work as an organizer of the annual Racing for Kids to The Hill fundraiser since its inception 17 years ago; her time as charter president of the Grosse Pointe Jaycees; and years co-chairing the Miss Grosse Pointe Pageant, which provides scholarships for young women.

She also was integral in starting a soup kitchen out of Faith Lutheran Church that fed hundreds of people in the Jefferson/Chalmers area the last week of each month during the 2008 housing crisis.

The church already had been cooking for seniors once a week since the early 2000s, so when Finger’s boss asked her to facilitate his donation of \$1,000 toward a charity for feeding people, she used it as seed money to expand the operation.

“It was like the stopgap measure for people,” she said. “They’d run out of food and money and not out of month, so this was a way to give them a hot

meal during the afternoon, so that they at least could make it through to the end of the month.”

It was also through church Finger met her husband, Gilbert, in a youth group while in middle school. The two reconnected when he came home on leave during Vietnam.

Because Gilbert was stationed on land at St. Albans Naval Hospital, the two decided they didn’t want to wait to be married the two years until he’d be discharged, but that meant her parents had to sign so she could get married underage.

“My dad was a little (unsure), so he took the dog for a walk and he was gone for like three hours,” Finger recalled with a laugh. “It was an old dog. That poor dog slept for like three days afterward. But he came home ... and he said, ‘I’ll give you permission.’

“... And I said, ‘Permission is not enough. If I can’t have your blessing then I’ll wait.’”

Her father gave his blessing on a Friday and the couple was married the following Thursday.

“He only had a 15-day leave,” Finger explained.

Those 15 days bled into 58 years. The Park couple celebrated their anniversary in September, their love evidenced by a five-page, handwritten letter Gilbert recently sent to the Grosse Pointe News nominating his bride as a Pointer of Interest.

“I was 17 when we got married,” Finger said, “so I’ve been married almost three times longer than I was (single).”

The two moved into a house on Barrington just down the street from where Finger was raised and, while her two kids are now grown Grosse Pointers in their own rights, she can recall a time when one of the greatest perks of living in Grosse Pointe was living a block and a half from Windmill Pointe Park.

“When our kids were little, they could get on their bikes and ride down there and (at) 5 o’clock I’d call down to the gate and say, ‘Kym and Geoff have to come home. It’s dinner time,’ and they’d get on the PA and they’d say, ‘OK, Fingers, dinner time,’ and they’d ride their bikes home.”



COURTESY PHOTO

Amid several years performing in the Grosse Pointe Children’s Theatre, Finger performed in “Annie Get Your Gun.”

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Correction

The Nov. 2 stories about playscapes at Windmill and Patterson municipal parks should have identified Michael Hindelang as chairman for the recreation commission in Grosse Pointe Park.

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City of Grosse Pointe

Mutual aid

Officers from the City assisted those in the Park with locating and arresting larceny from auto suspects on two occasions last week.

◆ Suspects were arrested in the 1200 block of Whittier at 2:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7.

◆ Two suspects were arrested at Mack and Bishop at 2:40 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 11.

—Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Road rage

Two Park residents got into a tiff, one landing an assault charge, when one attempted to back out of the Mack Shell gas station driveway at the same time the other was attempting to pull in at 9:10 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 8.

When the 41-year-old Park man flashed his lights and received a middle finger in return, he followed the other man into the parking lot, slapped him and threw him to the ground.

He also was cited for failure to disclose a concealed weapon to an officer, when a gun was found in his waistband after officers had been speaking with him more than 45 minutes.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Found phone

A white iPhone with a pink and purple cover was found on the sidewalk near Kerby and Beaupre at 4:27 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 9.

Drunken driver

After being pulled over for speeding 47 mph on Mack at 9:45 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 11, a 23-year-old Woods man was arrested for operating with a blood alcohol content of 0.17 percent or more.

A preliminary breath test showed his blood alcohol content was 0.188 percent.

Dashing away

When a vehicle was left empty and running outside a business in the 18000 block of Mack at 5:37 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 12, an officer took notice because it is common for thieves to use such tactics for a quick getaway.

When the officer went inside the store, the vehicle began to pull away and the 20-year-old Roseville man fled attempts to be pulled over.

It later was discovered he had picked up a DoorDash order from a nearby business.

—Laurel Kraus

Report information about these and other

crimes to Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety, (313) 885-2100.

Grosse Pointe Park

Speeds away

A porch pirate in the 1100 block of Devonshire fled the scene at 3:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 6, with a package in hand.

A resident reported the suspect, undescribed, fleeing in a white sedan. A patrol officer located the car but called off a high-speed chase to eliminate the odds of involving innocent motorists in a traffic crash.

Failed theft

Police logged the break-in of a 2018 Hyundai Sante Fe parked in the 1000 block of Lakepointe as an attempted theft of a motor vehicle due to the Hyundai's steering column being damaged.

"Damage (was) consistent with an attempted theft," an officer said.

The incident happened between 11 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10, and 9 a.m. the next day.

Thief & prowler

A 19-year-old male alleged thief from Detroit also was charged with resisting arrest around 2:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 11.

He and another male, 18, of Detroit, were caught rifling through vehicles parked in the 1100 block of Bishop.

"Officers responded to the area on a report of subjects seen on home surveillance cameras going through vehicles," according to police. "(The suspects) fled on foot. One (was) found to be in possession of items stolen from a vehicle nearby. (He was) charged with larceny and resisting. (The other suspect) was cited for prowling."

—Brad Lindberg

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Five-finger discount

Four people were accused of stealing items at an estate sale on Duval around 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 10.

The suspects said items in their vehicle were from other estate sales they visited earlier in the day. The case was turned over to the detective bureau.

Pistol Pete

A 31-year-old Southfield man was arrested for illegally

possessing a firearm around 5:45 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 12.

He originally was pulled over on Lakeshore near Vernier after an officer noticed the expired tab on his license plate. The man was ticketed for the expired registration and no proof of insurance and arrested for carrying a weapon without a concealed pistol license.

Drunken driver

A 27-year-old Eastpointe man was arrested around 1 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 12, for a second offense of operating while intoxicated.

An officer clocked the man driving 54 mph on Lakeshore near Edgewood. After failing several field sobriety tests, he registered 0.14 percent blood alcohol content.

—Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Wrong number

A lost cell phone at a business in the 20400 block of Mack resulted in fraudulent purchases.

A resident told officers she was shopping at the store the morning of

Monday, Nov. 6, when she lost the phone. While the phone was turned in, her debit card and Sam's Club membership card with the phone were not recovered and were used to make purchases at Sam's Club.

Keyed up

A garage door opener and key to a vehicle in the garage were stolen from an unlocked vehicle parked in the driveway in the 500 block of Briarcliff overnight Sunday, Nov. 5.

Retail fraud

A 34-year-old Detroit man was arrested around 9:20 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 9, after stealing \$370 worth of groceries from a store in the 20400 block of Mack.

The suspect was found riding a bicycle on Beaufait near Helen and taken to a local hospital after complaining of medical problems. He also was given information about the Hope Not Handcuffs program run by Families Against Narcotics after telling officers he had a substance use disorder.

—Ted O'Neil

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

No contest in Farms Shores or Woods

All four incumbents on the ballot in Grosse Pointe Woods, running basically unopposed, retained their offices Tuesday, Nov. 7, including Municipal Judge Theodore Metry and councilmembers Angela Coletti Brown, Kenn Gafa and Michael Koester.

Koester was the top vote-getter on council with 2,200, followed by Gafa at 2,181 and Brown at 2,113.

There were a total of 138 write-in votes for council. Of those, Phil Whitman received 74 and Julie Baumer got 39. Both filed a notice of intent to run as a write-in candidate before the Oct. 27 deadline. Per state law, only write-in votes for those candidates who filed said notice need be counted.

Metry received 2,490 votes. There were 18 write-in votes for judge.

A total of 2,634 voters cast ballots, or just

over 18 percent of registered voters.

In Grosse Pointe Shores, all four incumbents ran unopposed. Mayor Ted Kedzierski received 383 votes with 17 percent of registered voters casting ballots, followed by councilmembers Danielle Gehlert (344), Donn Shroder (305) and John Seago (287). There were 18 write-in votes for mayor and four for council.

The Farms also saw incumbent Mayor Louis Theros and incumbent council members Joe Ricci, Neil Sroka and Lev Wood run unopposed.

With 22 write-in votes for mayor — among 1,568 ballots cast by 17 percent of registered voters — Theros was re-elected by 98.5 percent of those who upheld their civic duty.

Ricci received 1,362 votes, followed by Wood with 1,268 and Sroka with 1,252.

Clarification

A public safety report in the Thursday, Oct. 19, edition should have said a representative of Continental Services, which oversees dining services at Ford House, contacted officers about an employee who was let go in May but continued to receive paychecks via direct deposit.



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POINTES OF VIEW

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Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

GPPSS faces another tough budget battle

As baseball legend Yogi Berra once said, it's like déjà vu all over again. That about sums up how we feel as the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education takes an initial look at putting together its 2024-25 fiscal year budget. As the Grosse Pointe News reported last week, the board approved a budget committee to jump-start the process. The committee held its first meeting this past Monday, quite possibly the earliest the board has taken up the task, which normally starts after the first of the year and concludes in spring.

While trustees Colleen Worden and Valarie St. John voted against creating the committee, saying it would be seen as micromanaging the administration and could turn away potential superintendent candidates, we applaud the board for the move. We hope the district's next superintendent would appreciate a board that took quick action earlier this year to rescue a budget that was sinking faster than a rock thrown into Lake St. Clair.

The "majority board," as opponents derisively began calling President Ahmed Ismail, Vice President Lisa Papas, Treasurer Sean Cotton and Secretary Ginny Jeup, quickly showed fiduciary responsibility less than a month into the year by putting an end to an ill-conceived clinic at Grosse Pointe North High School that came with a price tag topping \$1 million before turning attention to the budget.

Despite assurances from the previous board and superintendent that the district's finances were healthy, the numbers say otherwise. The district's own budget book notes \$9 million in operating losses during 2021-22 and 2022-23 as seen here (page 3, parameter 10) <https://shorturl.at/aJKL3>

The heavy lifting by that majority was a 2023-24 budget that contained \$4.6 million in cuts aimed at keeping the district's fund balance from further depletion. The final vote was 4-3, with Worden, St. John and former trustee David Brumbaugh opposed. Brumbaugh, who resigned due to a job relocation, was replaced by Terry Collins last month, a frequent critic at board meetings and in letters to the editor about the district's spending the past three years. Will future 5-2 votes now be called a "supermajority board"?

And yet the resistance persisted. Remember that nine-hour board meeting in May? Remember all the talk about how the district was in great financial shape and those saying otherwise were hurting the reputation of GPPSS, therefore making it difficult to reverse falling enrollment? We sure do.

We should be thankful for the current board's actions regarding finances, as a situation just west of us shows us what could have happened here if not.

The Detroit Free Press reported Nov. 7 that Wayne-Westland Community Schools Superintendent John Dignan shared a grim outlook in letters to the community after an audit uncovered serious financial issues. The district had about \$135 million in revenue in FY 2023,

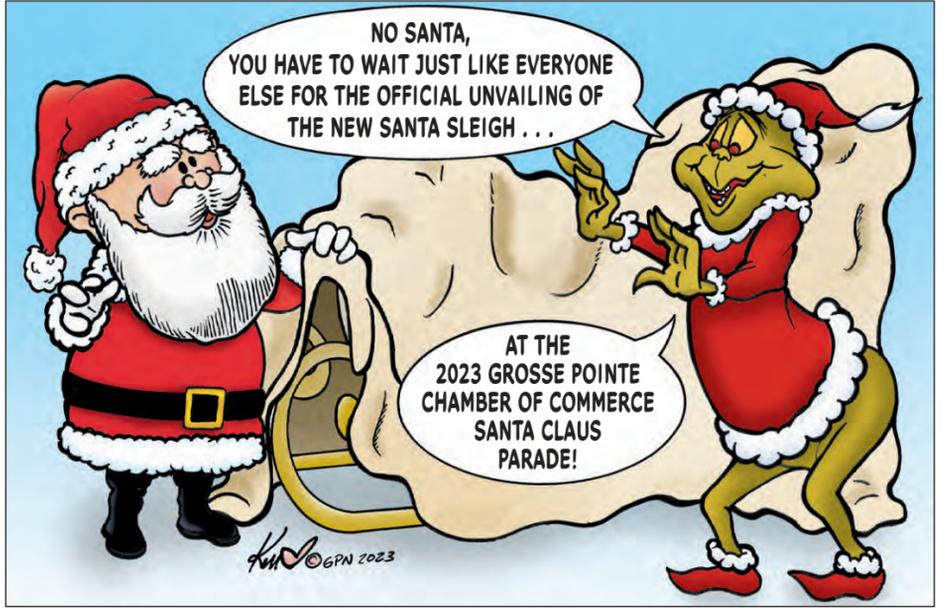


ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

OUR VIEW

Be thankful Park voters nipped pot shops in the bud

There's still a week left before the country celebrates Thanksgiving, but we're already feeling grateful here in the Pointes, especially after the news broke of an armed robbery and burglary at Cloud Cannabis, located in the 16000 block of Mack in Detroit, along the border it shares with Grosse Pointe Park.

While the crime itself is disturbing, we are thankful voters in the Park turned down the possibility of pot shops opening within our borders in the recent Nov. 7 election, for exactly this reason.

According to Detroit Police, at approximately 6 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 11, two armed suspects "exited a black Cadillac SUV and approached the 45-year-old male victim (security officer) as he was sitting in his vehicle. The suspects took the victim's keys and cell phone, then fled the scene."

"At the same time, three other suspects used an older model Chevy SUV to gain access into a marijuana dispensary and stole items from inside the location. The suspects fled the scene in the Cadillac. The Chevy was recovered at the scene."

You can read more about it on page 10A.

Meanwhile we are counting our lucky stars we don't allow these types of businesses in the Pointes, seemingly magnets for crime.

As our own Ted O'Neil reported last summer in his story, "Concern about potential pot shops," on Aug. 16, the facts support that notion.

According to a 2019 study by the University of Colorado, neighborhoods in that state close to dispensaries saw crime increase between 26 percent and a whopping 1,452 percent.

Further, the Michigan Cannabis Regulatory Agency reported 117 dispensaries statewide were broken into last year.

One reason why dispensaries may be such a hot spot for crime is they often have large amounts of cash on the premises. Marijuana is still illegal under federal law, so dispensaries are banned from depositing money in banks insured by the FDIC.

If you're a criminal, what's not to like about that?

Kudos, Pointers, for keeping your heads on straight when it comes to not welcoming in weed and, from what we can tell, the whole heap of trouble that comes with it.

but spent about \$152 million — a \$17.6 million discrepancy.

He wrote what district officials "believed to be a surplus was actually a budgetary shortfall."

Whether from indiscriminate spending or messy accounting, or both, that district is now facing deep, mandatory cuts. Yet, the district has told its stakeholders they are "not prepared to name a specific amount" involved in the budget ramifications.

Not prepared indeed.

We need to look no further as to why our board jumped into action than by looking at the district's 2022-23 audit, which came out just last week (see page 9A for details or read it here in full: <https://shorturl.at/krAI3>).

In particular, look at page 12. The district's fund balance in 2020 topped \$18 million. It now stands at half that. How did it fall so far, so fast? By using federal COVID relief funds to make up for that

\$9 million in overspending. The district may call it "operating losses," but let's call it what it is. When a government entity spends more than it takes from taxpayers, it's overspending. Full stop.

Now for the bad news. The federal COVID gravy train has reached the end of the tracks. There's no more of that money coming and what the district does have left over must be spent by Sept. 30, 2024.

GPPSS has to cut \$4.4 million from next year's budget before the first pencil is sharpened to make up for the relief dollars. That's before even addressing increased costs for wages, benefits, supplies, services, etc.

As President Ahmed Ismail put it, "We have a big reality check coming up."

We are confident the board, budget committee and administration will at least maintain, if not grow, the current fund balance and the overall fiscal health of the district entrusted to them.

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Mostly Sunny Rain Partly Cloudy Partly Cloudy Mostly Cloudy Rain Partly Cloudy

0% 70% 0% 0% 0% 60% 20%

SUNRISE 7:23 am SUNRISE 7:24 am SUNRISE 7:26 am SUNRISE 7:27 am SUNRISE 7:28 am SUNRISE 7:29 am SUNRISE 7:31 am

SUNSET 5:09 pm SUNSET 5:08 pm SUNSET 5:07 pm SUNSET 5:07 pm SUNSET 5:06 pm SUNSET 5:05 pm SUNSET 5:04 pm

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

LETTERS

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

I SAY By Anne Gryzenia



Throwback Thursday: Why the '80s rule

Last Wednesday in Detroit was electric. Or should I say electronic.

A last-minute opportunity to “catch up” with Depeche Mode (if you know you know) presented itself so my '80s loving husband and I got downtown as fast as I could lace up my Doc Martens.

I wondered if the concert would be empty. Did anyone remember '80s new wave electronic music? When we first entered Little Caesars Arena, the concourse was completely barren save for a few stragglers and employees. But when



PHOTO BY ANNE GRYZENIA

The author got a blast of nostalgia at a recent Depeche Mode concert.

we made our way inside I was in total awe of the packed stadium. I'm pretty sure it was a sold-out show by the looks of it and the roar of the

crowd was deafening.

Over 15,000 fellow '80s lovers were absolutely belting out the songs of their youth, with flashbacks of dates and parties and moody nights dancing through our collective heads. I couldn't locate a single bored person in the crowd — it was pure '80s bliss.

I always wonder why the '80s were so special and what made it “the best” decade according to so many. That night I had somewhat of an epiphany: I think it was the best because it was such a positive and, well, just a “big” time. Big hair, bright clothes or all black — but ALL black. Go big or go home. Not just one bracelet — 100 rubber bracelets. The world was everyone's oyster and it was such a time of optimism and amazing mov-

ies like “Ferris Bueller's Day Off” and Tom Cruise in “Top Gun” before he got weird. You haven't lived until someone you had a crush on made you a mix tape. Kids, you'll have to look that one up.

Was there anything like sitting next to the phone trying to make it ring? There was no stalking people online, checking their exact location on Snapchat or texting someone. You had to actually make a phone call and possibly talk to someone's parents to get to them. How about getting to Blockbuster Video and there being one copy left of “Footloose”? It was the magic of mystery and suspense of not knowing. Of course there were a few drawbacks, like your house getting egged and no Ring camera to find the culprit.

The '80s shows had “Full House,” “Dallas” and “The Facts of Life.” Today we have the most depressing shows ever — there are a zillion of them — and we can binge watch the entire season in one night. Does anyone else remember how urgent it was to be in front of the TV at the exact right time to catch your show (if you didn't program your VCR)?

Everything today has to have a counterpoint. Let no Facebook post, however rosy, go without a dissenting argument or salty response. In the '80s we had a conversation on the telephone or wrote notes expressing our pleasure or displeasure to ONE person (not your 10,000 social media “friends”). The '80s had kids playing the sports (or not) they wanted and

their parents may or may not have showed up. We played because we wanted to and usually had to beg.

I'm going to make a point to bring the '80s positive vibes back into my life. I might leave the neon and hairspray there, but conjure up the fun, freshness and element of surprise. I may have to use some technology to get there (like screen-time limits on myself) in order to make time for some Rubik's Cube, fashion magazine reading, candy cigarettes and note-writing. I am thankful to Depeche Mode for coming to Detroit to bring back the nostalgia and giving inspiration for an '80s state of mind. As they croon in one of their best songs, I haven't felt so alive in years ...

GUEST OPINION By Marlene Joshi, MA, LPC, CAADC; and Dr. Matthew LaCasse

Vaping: The teen health crisis

The popularity of vaping in recent years has gained traction among teens, especially those in middle school. While the number of teens smoking cigarettes has dramatically decreased, the use of e-cigarettes or “vape” devices has increased tremendously.

E-cigarettes or vapes are battery-operated devices that heat liquid containing nicotine and other chemicals. It then converts it to aerosol or vapor for inhalation. These devices are especially enticing to adolescents. They feature different flavors and can be hidden in plain sight when designed to look like ordinary devices such as pens, USBs and highlighters.

The dangers of vaping

Vapes do not have the typical smoke smell and provide a less noticeable plume. Astonishingly, a

common commercial nicotine vape sold at the local gas station has more than the equivalent of 12 packs of cigarettes in one small device. The same company recently came out with a new, slightly larger device with the nicotine equivalent of more than 25 packs of cigarettes.

Vaping devices have been advertised as an alternative to cigarette smoking; however, they pose many adverse health consequences. Vaping devices provide higher nicotine concentrations and faster absorption, which can lead to the user becoming quickly addicted. Through research, we now understand that although vaping might decrease cigarette use in someone who is addicted to cigarettes, the

opposite is true for kids — youth who start vaping tend to smoke cigarettes



later on. The long-term effects of vaping or smoking tobacco include lung diseases like COPD, emphysema and chronic bronchitis. It can also lead to cancer, heart disease, stroke and complications for pregnancy. Vaping and cigarette use among adolescents can harm the developing brain and increase risk of addiction to other drugs. In addition, the other chemicals found within vapes can contribute to other health conditions. Vapes can increase blood pressure and heart rates, cause inflammation

of the lungs and exacerbate asthma. Exposure of chemicals found in vapes through the skin, eyes or mouth can result in poisoning.

Vaping and the marijuana industry

Vaping devices also have been used in the marijuana industry. Marijuana vapes work much like e-cigarettes, heating liquid or oil containing THC (the psychoactive chemical in cannabis) that becomes a vapor that is inhaled. The

concentration level of THC in marijuana vapes is higher than plant-based marijuana, which can quickly lead to overuse and addiction.

Use of marijuana, especially in adolescents, can have a serious impact on brain development. A person's brain develops during their teen years and young adulthood. While the brain develops, a person learns to control impulses and develop skills related to critical thinking. Use of marijuana can lead to impaired memory and reaction time, poor school performance and

increased risk of mental health issues such as anxiety, depression and psychosis.

We are witnessing more and more teenagers being diagnosed with psychosis and schizophrenia after using high-potency marijuana products. The high-potency THC products appear to be the most dangerous. It's for these reasons that states such as Colorado have lobbied for regulations on potency of THC products that are eligible to be sold to the public.

See VAPING, page 8A

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To the Grosse Pointe Park Community,

I'd like to sincerely thank my fellow residents, City Council colleagues, the administration, our business community, volunteers, stakeholders, partners and all who are moving our community forward.

We are a team, and together we are making a difference, and I am honored to be serving side by side with each and every one of you.

Thank you for believing in me, and entrusting me with another term as your Mayor. I am most honored, and committed as ever to a vibrant and flourishing Grosse Pointe Park, the place we have the privilege of calling home.

Michelle Hodges

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Michelle Hodges for Grosse Pointe Park Mayor, 1015 Devonshire, Grosse Pointe Park, MI, 48230

8A | NEWS

VAPING:

Continued from page 7A

Vaping and addiction

Another unfortunate consequence of vaping devices is the physical dependency our youth are experiencing. Today, with nicotine and THC vapes being easy to hide and potent, kids (and adults for that matter) are able to inhale tremendous amounts of these chemicals easily and quickly. After a short while, their bodies become dependent on the chemicals and will go into withdrawal if they don't continue to get more.

We did a wonderful job with the cigarette epidemic. Now, after all of the hard work and tremendous amounts of money, our kids' bodies and minds are more nicotine dependent than ever before. The same is true for marijuana. Kids are able to vape nicotine and THC from sun up to sun down, every day and everywhere, all in a very inconspicuous way.

Parents and adults can take an active role in preventing and helping teens and youth understand the consequences of vaping through the following ways:

- ◆ Talk with your kids about nicotine, drugs and alcohol, directly and hon-

estly. Promote open and positive communication without lecturing.

- ◆ Set expectations and share your concerns about vaping with your child.

- ◆ Set a positive example. Don't vape or smoke as an adult.

- ◆ Support your teen and get professional help if you are worried about their use of tobacco, drugs or alcohol.

For more information about addiction resources, visit the Adolescent Addiction Recovery Center at universitypediatricians.org/division/adolescent-addiction-recovery-center or call (248) 377-8717.

For more resources to quit vaping, visit The Family Center and the Healthy Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods coalition website at familycenter-helps.org/

Marlene Joshi, MA, LPC, CAADC, is a certified advanced alcohol and drug counselor in the Adolescent Addiction Recovery Center at Children's Hospital of Michigan.

Dr. Matthew LaCasse is an addiction psychiatrist, child and adolescent psychiatrist and serves as director of the Adolescent Addiction Recovery Center at Children's Hospital of Michigan.



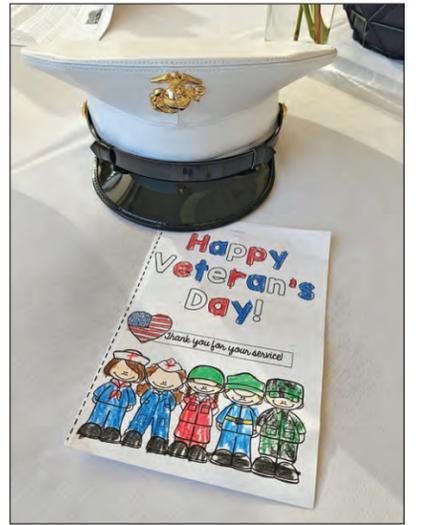
Honoring veterans

The War Memorial hosted its annual Veterans Breakfast Nov. 10, which approximately 220 people attended.

The event was co-sponsored by the Veterans Garden Committee of the Grosse Pointe Garden Center. There were Veterans Day cards handmade by Grosse Pointe Public School System elementary students at each place setting and in the lobby. Members of the Motor City Brass Band provided the music and led a medley of service songs for each branch of the armed forces.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Above, Army Sgt. Charles Perry and Navy Aviation 2nd Class Petty Officer Robert Calhoun enjoyed breakfast and chatting with other veterans. Left, WWII Cpl. Jean Gilbert talked with Brig. Gen. Michael Lalor, who wanted to meet Gilbert, 105, when he found out she was a WWII veteran.



Above, a Marine's military cover sits on a table with one of the cards made by GPPSS elementary students.

Left, Mary Lamparter, Ted Everingham and Maria Miller, president and CEO of The War Memorial, hold their hands over their hearts during the national anthem.

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RATES:

Continued from page 3A

Bostock, director of public safety.

"The city administration has been tasked with getting more revenue," he said at the Nov. 13 city council meeting. "This is

one way to do it. This will help offset increased costs to sustain a modern parking program."

Attending the financial motive, it is hoped that extending higher fees will induce motorists parked curbside to move on and make way for others, especially in districts hosting stores and restaurants.

"After 6 p.m., currently, visitors have no incentive

to move their vehicle from on-street to off-street parking as there is no enforcement past 6 p.m.," Bostock said.

New rates mirror those in the City of Grosse Pointe.

Bostock anticipates some penny-pinchers evading fees by parking on residential side streets.

"The concern I have is they're going to go onto

streets in the community," agreed Councilman Tim Kolar, elected last week, in his first council meeting.

"There are always going to be outliers who don't want to pay for parking," Bostock said.

Managing parking in residential neighborhoods is something the city administration will look into prior to next month's council meeting.

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Top GP Farms Vote Getter Joe Ricci wins Fourth Term on Farms Council!

Joe Ricci is sworn in to begin his Fourth Term on the Farms City Council. Ricci received 1362 votes out of 1568 votes cast.

In addition to continuing his "Coffee with Joe" community forums, Ricci's focus for 2024 will be sidewalk repairs and storm repairs from recent weather incidents.

Please contact Joe at joericci1@aol.com

GPPSS receives clean audit

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — The Grosse Pointe Public School System's audit for its fiscal year 2022-23 budget received an "unmodified," or clean opinion.

The report was presented to the district's Finance and Facilities Committee Tuesday, Nov. 7, and was expected to go before the full Board of Education at its meeting Tuesday, Nov. 14, after press time.

"A basic audit assesses the controls that are in place to make sure they are functionally set up to correct issues," Lisa

Vargo, a partner with Plante Moran, told the committee. "It's meant to ensure the accounting is accurate in accordance with the best practices of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board."

Vargo said an unmodified opinion is the "highest level of assurance" an audit can provide.

For FY 2023, GPPSS had revenues of \$110,798,242, with expenditures of \$110,686,059. That left the district with a surplus of \$112,183, or a fund balance of nearly 9 percent.

The budget included a one-time pass through of \$6 million for the

Michigan Public School Employee Retirement System. Each district in the state was allocated money to help shore up MPERS, which is underfunded by billions of dollars.

"That was strictly money in, money out, since the state can't directly fund MPERS," Michael Walsh, a senior manager with Plante Moran, said. "The total contribution from the district to the retirement system was \$16 million."

The audit noted without the pass-through money, the district's fund balance would have been closer to 9.5 percent

The fund balance was at

18 percent in 2020, then fell to 14 percent in 2021 and 9.6 percent in 2022, as the district used COVID relief money to make up for overspending. The board began to address the issue with the passage of the 2023-24 fiscal year budget that included \$4.6 million in cuts.

The Plante Moran representatives said most districts they deal with have a 20 percent fund balance, depending on enrollment, the age of their buildings and maintenance needs assessments.

The board will need to cut spending by at least \$4.4 million in the 2024-25 fiscal year budget as federal COVID dollars come

to an end.

"We have a big reality check coming up," Board President Ahmed Ismail said.

The audit showed the biggest source of revenue for the district, 67 percent, or slightly more than \$74 million, is state funding. The next largest chunk, at 20 percent, is local funding, which amounts to \$22.6 million.

The largest expense for the district, more than \$94 million, or 85 percent, is for wages and benefits. Within benefits, \$29.5 million, or 68 percent, goes toward retirement, with \$10.3 million, or 24 percent, for insurance.

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GPPSS zeroes in on academic performance

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — The Grosse Pointe Public School System has long prided itself on producing top-notch students who go on to some of the most prestigious colleges in the country.

It's what parents, taxpayers, teachers and students expect. Now, the GPPSS Board of Education aims to further formalize that goal.

The board's Policy and Contracts Committee discussed language that could become a "policy

on educational excellence and progress monitoring" at its meeting Tuesday, Nov. 7.

"This introduces the importance of collecting data and promoting transparency," according to Keith Howell, the district's executive director of teaching and learning. "It contains a lot of things we already do, some of which are mandated by the state, including professional development resources, continuous improvement and best practices for monitoring data."

Howell added that

state reporting guidelines have changed, making the new policy more adaptable.

"It used to be we had to check off boxes and then the report would sit on a shelf for a year," he said. "Now, it's more active compliance. The EPLC (Educational Programs Leadership Council) meets monthly to review data and school improvement plans by building."

Howell added that data and measurables are the key components of pursuing educational excellence.

"It provides accountability to the goals we want to achieve," he said. "We don't want to create goals in a vacuum."

The district uses several measurables in determining what goals to set, including the PSAT, SAT and NWEA. The Northwest Evaluation Association creates academic assessment tests that are given to students in K-12 in a variety of subjects at different stages of learning.

Howell said results from various measurables are looked at each fall and are used to set

goals by subject area.

"It's a long process because once the goals are in place, the results are examined at the end of the next school year," he added. "It's a cycle of continuous review."

Howell said there also can be automatic feedback because some online assessments provide instant results.

"Teachers can look at that and determine what each student needs right away," he said. "They can find out the why faster and decide if some other intervention or approach is needed."

The committee agreed that while the state might change its reporting requirements from time to time, that guidance will be considered the minimum.

"This gives us the accountability to set high standards for our students," said Roy Bishop, deputy superintendent of educational services. "We can communicate to the public why we do what we do."

The policy will be revised with input from the BoE's Curriculum Committee before final approval.

What kind of car is GPPSS?

Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — That was the question the Grosse Pointe Public School System's Branding Committee pondered at its meeting Thursday, Nov. 9.

The list of answers is one of several pieces of information that will be given to the firm eventually selected to coordinate the district's planned branding campaign.

"It will give the chosen firm an idea of who we are in terms of our strengths and opportunities and what we can work on," said Ted Coutilish, a marketing executive at the University of Michigan

who is co-chairing the committee. "This is an enormous resource to help them better understand what makes us tick."

Several people on the committee likened the district to some sort of SUV, including those from Detroit's Big Three. Models such as the Cadillac Escalade, Jeep Grand Cherokee, Jeep Wagoneer, Ford Bronco and Chevy Suburban were mentioned specifically.

In most cases, committee members said GPPSS is like an SUV in that those vehicles can carry many passengers, are safe, family friendly, able to deal with many different circumstances and enduring.

Participants also noted, however, that some models have been outpaced by their competitors and lack innovation.

The Ford F-150 was mentioned not only for the Ford family's ties to the Pointes, but the fact it is the backbone of the community, much like the

district is the backbone of the community.

The Buick Enclave also was part of the mix and said to be a luxury vehicle that remains attainable and can be equipped with various levels of amenities and technology. Several on the committee laughed and drew comparisons to the former advertising campaign — "Not your father's Buick" — relating to the fact a majority of homeowners in GPPSS don't have school-aged children.

There were a few unique choices, as well, including the 1961 Lincoln Continental for its timeless design and spacious interior, and the Mustang Shelby, for

its equal power yet lower price tag than competitors.

The committee also discussed the RFP it will disseminate for firms interested in creating the tools for a branding campaign.

"We're not looking for a price for a proposal to do the campaign. We're looking for ideas and recommendations of what it should look like," Coutilish said. "It's meant to show them why we need help. We've lost students, cut the budget and closed schools."

Bids will have to include things such as research methodology, key messaging, brand

See CAR, page 11A

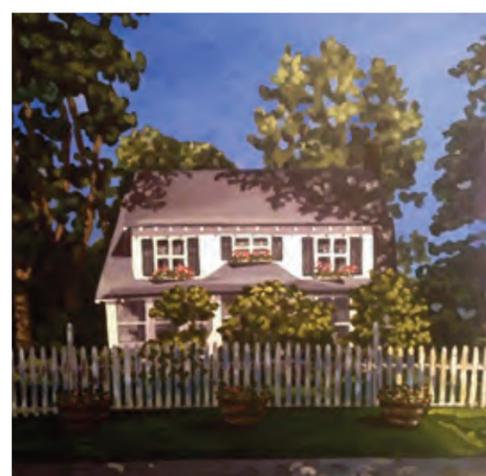
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Marijuana burglars gone in a poof

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

DETROIT — Two pairs of early birds took flight last weekend with unspecified loot of undisclosed value stolen from a marijuana dispensary and its outdoor security guard in the 16000 block of Mack Avenue across from Grosse Pointe Park.

Rumors the guard was kidnapped are false.

Operators of the store, Cloud Cannabis, on Mack at Devonshire, complied with a Park resident's request in January to dim the store's exterior safety lights.

The crime began at 6:01 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 11, and ended slightly more than two minutes later, according to time-stamps on outdoor and indoor store security video provided by Detroit police.

Video shows the first pair of what appear to be thin, masked males, one grasping a pistol in his right hand, jump out of



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cloud Cannabis B&E suspects.

black Cadillac SUV stopped in the eastbound lanes of westbound Mack. They run up the driveway on the west side of the store to the guard's vehicle, an SUV with regular lights and a flashing yellow strobe on top, parked at sidewalk

level. Within seven seconds of arrival, the men opened both front doors of the 45-year-old male guard's vehicle.

"The suspects took (his) keys and cell phone, then fled the scene," according to Detroit police. "At the same time, the other suspects used

an older model Chevy SUV to gain access into (the) marijuana dispensary."

They gained access by ramming a hole in the east side of the building beside the store's main parking lot.

In-store video shows the second pair, wearing hoodies and masks, enter

an office. Each quickly beelines it to two nearby small, mini-refrigerator-sized containers or safes resting on a shelf and the floor, respectively. The first suspect manhandles a container out the office within 12 seconds; the other five seconds behind.

"The suspects fled the

scene in the Cadillac," police said. "The Chevy was recovered at the scene."

Detroit police ask anyone recognizing the suspects to contact the department's 5th Precinct at (313) 596-5540, Crime Stoppers at 1 (800) Speak Up or DetroitRewards.TV.

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Driver in 2019 Moross chase sentenced

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Following more than four years making his way through the court system, Dawaun Al McQueen of Clinton Township, on Monday found out the consequences for driving

speeds up to 140 mph on Moross while firing bullets at another vehicle, causing it to crash through the Pier Park exit gate and wind up in Lake St. Clair.

Before Wayne County Judge Kelly Ramsey Monday, Nov. 13, McQueen was sentenced to 42 months to 10 years in the

Michigan Department of Corrections for one count of assault with intent to do great bodily harm and one count of felony firearm — two years consecutive.

Upon pleading guilty to the two counts during a previous court date, all other charges were dismissed.

He initially was charged with three counts of assault with intent to murder, three counts of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, three counts of assault with a dangerous weapon, discharge from a vehicle

See CHASE, page 11A

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Schaap gets conditional go-ahead

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A member of the Detroit bureaucracy that until last week held up construction of the privately funded \$45 million Schaap art center straddling the two cities commiserated with project backers trying to navigate an approval process worthy of Henry Baskerville's Grimpen Mire.

"Whenever someone engages with the City of Detroit and they've come out with agreement, they believe that they have an agreement with the City of Detroit," said Richard Hosey, a member of the Detroit Historic District Commission, emphasis his, during a commission meeting Nov. 8, in the 13th floor auditorium of the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center.



COURTESY RENDERING

A nighttime look at the proposed A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Center for Performing Arts.

Confusion between Detroit and Detroit comes consequent of an otherwise legally binding memorandum of understanding (MOU) allowing construction of the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Center for Performing Arts on Jefferson Avenue between Maryland in the Park and Alter Road in Detroit.

The MOU was approved July 10, 2019, by Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan; signed that

month by Park resident and philanthropist A. Paul Schaap and Park Mayor Robert Denner; and signed Aug. 10 of that year by Maurice Cox, then-director of the Detroit planning department.

Inclusive of that document came the seemingly obvious imprimatur of the Detroit legal department:

"The effective date of the MOU shall be the date upon which it has been signed by an authorized representative from each of the parties," concluded a memo from the director of the Detroit law department's legislative policy division to the Detroit City Council.

Yet, the planning department, the mayor, the council and legal team weren't sufficient.

Absolute approval required acceptance by the Detroit Historic

SEE SCHAAP, page 13A

CHASE:

Continued from page 10A

causing injury, discharge of a firearm from a vehicle, concealed weapon in a motor vehicle, unlawful possession of a firearm, unlawful possession of firearm ammunition, 14 felony firearm counts and fleeing and eluding.

McQueen was 23 years old when, at 5:30

a.m. Saturday, July 13, 2019, he was the driver of a 2006 gray Dodge Charger that began a pursuit from the Sunoco gas station at 7 Mile and Hoover into the Farms.

Despite numerous bullets being fired, the front car crashing through the Pier Park iron gate at 80 mph and one of the three occupants still inside when it rolled into an unoccupied boat well,

no one involved in the chase was injured beyond superficial scratches.

Shores officers responding to the incident found McQueen walking along the breakwall, sweaty and out of breath, while the gray Charger was found abandoned in a yard of a home in the 400 block of Kercheval.

Michael Thomas Sims of Chesterfield Township, who was

found with McQueen and pleaded guilty to assault with intent to do great bodily harm, will be sentenced before Ramsey Tuesday, Jan. 16.

In an interview with a Farms detective the day after the incident, Sims admitted to being a passenger in the gray Charger and also stated the car they had chased had shot up his brother's house earlier that day.

CAR:

Continued from page 9A

identity and potential logos for the district.

"We're looking for measurables like increasing visibility and awareness, increasing enrollment and retention and getting more alumni participation," Coutilish added. "This isn't an enrollment campaign, but that part will come if we do this right."

The committee is expecting bids to come in between \$30,000 and \$50,000, with what Coutilish called "execution costs," to be determined later. A final proposal should go to the Board of Education in February.

One of two students appointed to the committee asked why the district would spend money on the effort rather than have the committee itself lead the effort.

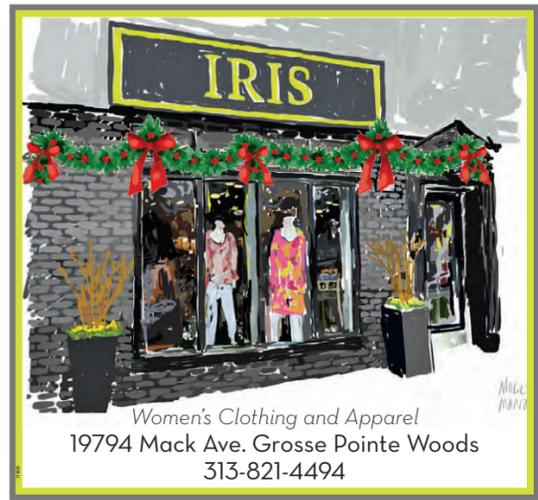
Coutilish likened it to other services the district pays for, such as

putting a new roof on a building.

"You don't just get 15 community members

together and put the new roof up," he said. "We need experts who will be objective. This will pay

for itself many times over in the coming years."





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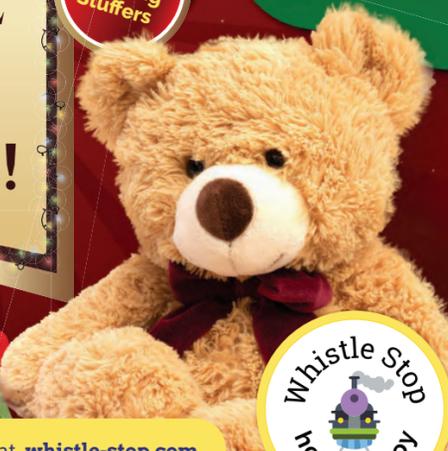


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Welcome to the 'new' Blue Goose

Revamped restaurant, music venue reopens

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

ST. CLAIR SHORES — It's been more than two years since Deda Paloka took over the aging Blue Goose in St. Clair Shores. The popular club had seen better days, but became a passion project for Paloka, who also owns the Salvatore Scallopini locations in Grosse Pointe Woods and Eastpointe.

"It was an old building," he said. "I wanted to bring it up to code."

After two years of extensive renovations — including interior and exterior upgrades — the Blue Goose reopened Halloween night, Oct. 31.

"What hasn't been done?" Paloka responded when asked about renovations. "We have new floors, a raised ceiling, a complete new roof with new beams, a new kitchen, new bar, new bathrooms. Even new seats. And we added a patio."

Also, the entranceway was rebuilt, larger windows installed and a freshly painted exterior boasts a new modern logo.

Paloka said he invested in the business, which he purchased in 2021 from Gloria Chambers, who operated it with her late hus-



The revamped exterior of the Blue Goose includes a new logo and patio seating.

band, Robert, for 36 years, because he wanted to try his hand in something new.

"It was a big project," he said. "It needed a lot of work. I've owned Salvatore Scallopini for 16 years and I wanted to try something other than Italian food. Let me try to make a dollar on a bar business. It turned out better than I dreamed."

Every night since the Goose has reopened, Paloka said the wait for a table begins around 4 p.m. and lasts until 10 p.m. A new menu features a variety of soups, salads, burgers, steaks and sandwiches, as well as a variety of "land" and "sea" options.

"I tried to do more to bring back what this place used to be known for: fish," Paloka said. "Also steaks, burgers, salad. It's fresh food based on American cuisine."

What the Goose also has been known for is live music, which Paloka said will be reintroduced.

"We're easing ourselves into it," he said. "We'll have the first band the day after Thanksgiving. We'll have live music two or three times a week."

According to its website, live music nights will ensure something for everyone, from rock and blues to country and

more.

Paloka hopes the fresh food and live tunes are a winning combination.

Based on the steady flow of customers, he's got good reason to stay positive.

"What makes me happy is ... people come in once and try it, sure, but will they come back?" he asked. "I've been talking to a lot of people and they've been back for a second, third, fourth time."

"My goal is to make it a restaurant for the neighborhood where you can have a nice dinner and hang out, then have live music, dancing and have fun. Time will tell. We're getting a lot of people in here now. We'll see what happens."

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

The Blue Goose is located at 28911 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores. For more information, visit bluegoose.info or call (586) 296-0950.



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SCHAAP:

Continued from page 11A

District Commission. This is due to the art center's stage loading dock, accessway and some parking spaces being located on three vacant parcels in Detroit at the intersection of Jefferson and Alter.

The lots are located within the Jefferson-Chalmers Historic Business District, established in 2008. Hence the meeting last week.

"And so should their MOU have said, 'subject to Historic District Commission approval?'" Hosey continued. "I'm absolutely certain it should have. But, to the extent it didn't, I can't blame any person for thinking they have a full and finalized agreement when, if (the Detroit) planning commission, (Detroit) development (department) or (Detroit) City Council or whoever put together this MOU left us out of the process that now leaves them [Schaap proponents] at risk."

"It is unfortunate that the Detroit Historic District Commission was left out of the review process with the City of Detroit prior to the execution of the 2019 MOU," said Jaime Rae Turnbull, Schaap Center executive director and Park resident. "However, the Schaap Center is confident that all parties are working together to create something meaningful to benefit the residents of Detroit."

The mix-up extended this year to commission representatives issuing a stop-work order against Schaap contractors clearing the Detroit parcels in preparation for construction.

"Our general contractor was not made aware of the need for DHDC approval by the City of Detroit until filing for a permit to construct the parking lot in 2021," Turnbull said.

Commissioners last week voted to let construction proceed upon Schaap representatives

proving they will meet the following conditions:

- ◆ increasing the scale of a pedestrian plaza at the corner of Jefferson and Alter to accommodate public gatherings,
- ◆ adding amenities to the plaza,
- ◆ linking the plaza to the art center,
- ◆ mitigating stormwater runoff,
- ◆ hosting more community engagement and
- ◆ installing a plaque or marker stating the cultural significance of buildings formerly occupying the site.

Specifically, the corner of Jefferson and Alter until nearly 10 years ago hosted "a strikingly handsome two-story red brick and stone building once known as the Deck Bar," according to a recommendation to deny the art center's plans for the parcels by Commission Director Gerrick Landsberg.

By cultural significance of the corner building, the Deck Bar was a gay hangout. The Park bought the property in 2004, offered it for sale, then tore it down in 2015, with permission from Detroit's building department, which cited safety reasons when overriding the Detroit Historic District Commission wish for preservation.

Landsberg judged the art center will have an adverse effect on the district. "The project introduces visual elements that are out of character with the resource and its setting, that being a surface parking lot in a district identified and designated specifically for its pedestrian and urban character," he wrote.

Detroit residents supporting the art center during commission testimony last week were thrilled it's out of character with the neighborhood.

The 49,000-square-foot center and its 424-seat auditorium and galleries replace the Park public works garage and storage sheds. It will stand

across Alter from an empty lot and vacant commercial buildings, kitty-corner to a Mobile gasoline station on Jefferson and across Jefferson, originally an Indian footpath, the DHDC reports, from a Marathon station.

"My husband and I are residents of Jefferson-Chalmers, but we are also new business owners in the area," testified Tatiana Grant Saunders. "We were in awe of the level of investment that will be made. The Schaap Center will have both community benefits to those of us who live in the areas, but those of us who also are doubling down in that area and are investing our money and growing businesses."

Joseph Sutton, an eastside Detroit resident for more than 30 years and currently teaching at Detroit Southeastern High School, called the Schaap Center "transformative."

He said, "A lot of kids I teach live in the area in which the project will be built. It's not the lack of talent within our community, it's the lack of resources that support the talent. My students need spaces like this for after-school programming. More importantly, my neighborhood needs space like this to build community. Not an extra liquor store, nor more idle, vacant land. We need shared spaces that will bring black folk, white folk, rich folk, poor folk together under one roof. What better way to do this than through the performing arts?"

It went on like that for the better part of an hour. Most speakers were supportive.

Those included Paul Schaap and Park Mayor Michele Hodges; representatives of the Detroit

Concert Choir, Detroit Institute of Arts, Pewabic Pottery and the current director of the Detroit planning department, Antoine Bryant.

Among a handful of opponents, Park resident Graig Donnelly suspected promises by "rich" Schaap backers to allow space for community programs are bunk.

"This project's going to happen because it's getting built on the Grosse Pointe Park site," he told commissioners. "But what you can demand is that what gets built on the Detroit side meets the character of the neighborhood. It's a vanity project. I hope you disallow it."

Father Tim Pelc, pastor of St. Ambrose Catholic Church, expressed concern about rainwater runoff from the center. He doesn't want a repeat of summer 2021, when stormwater flowed

down a below-grade entrance to a church basement room called the Ark.

"St. Ambrose lost \$4 million in that flood," he testified.

Martell Bivings, a Howard University graduate, classically trained ballet dancer and Jefferson-Chalmers resident, said, "This (Schaap Center) will be the beacon that transforms Jefferson-Chalmers. Westsiders will come together to watch the arts, watch their niece perform, watch their nephew sing."

All of that was good to hear, but off point, according to Commissioner James Hamilton.

"We're not voting on the Schaap Center," he said. "We're dealing with a much more narrow issue, the three parcels in Detroit. What matters to the Schaap Center is access to the

back side (off Alter). I don't have any trouble on that. I agree to proceed with approval of the access drive."

His colleagues agreed with the center's application to proceed with work on the Detroit parcels, despite seemingly contradictory wording.

The commission's decision reads, in part, the "application will not be appropriate according to the standards of review ... and therefore issues a notice to proceed."

"We did not receive a 'certificate of appropriateness,' so we received the 'notice to proceed,'" Turnbull said. "The third option would have been a denial."

The next step is seeking from Detroit a demolition permit to continue razing remaining parts of the old Park public works building.

"We are headed in the right direction," Turnbull said.

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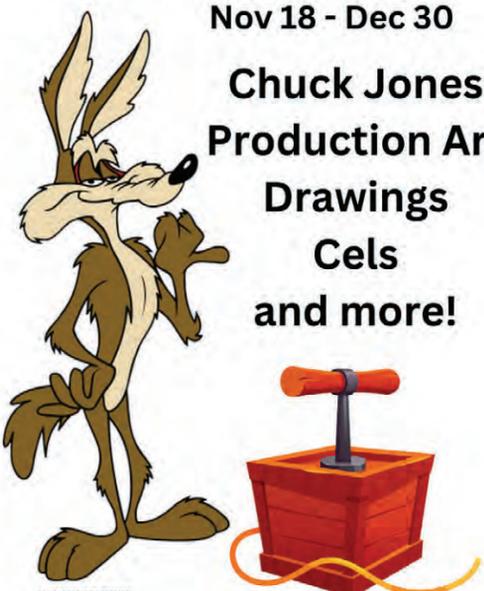
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STRs to be limited, licensed

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Short-term rental properties will be limited in number, regulated and inspected.

Questions to be decided are how many? To what extent? And how often?

Tentative answers are 30; tough, but shy of draconian; and, at least during a three-year break-in period, annually.

Members of the planning commission this month continued drafting regulations about short-term rentals, or STRs, defined as a property rented or sublet for 28 days or less.

Commissioners intend to catch up with STRs already operating in the city and intercept those expected to come.

“Short-term rentals is a discussion in just about every municipality across the country,” Commissioner Jimmy Saros said.

Warren Rothe, assistant city manager and commission secretary, estimates around 30 STRs are operating in the Park.

“They’ve been here and have not been regulated,” Saros said. “A ban is not the best solution. We have to be smart about it.”

Rothe wrote the bulk of

the first draft of proposed short-term rental regulations, which commissioners considered at a regularly scheduled meeting Nov. 8.

“It establishes a licensing for short-term rentals,” Rothe said. “I propose a three-year trial period.”

He also proposed limiting the total number of STRs to 30, reserving 20 licenses for owner-occupied operations, leaving 10 for off-site owners.

“In that limit of 30, two-thirds of licenses would have to be issued to properties where the operator of the short-term rental is on site,” Rothe said.

“As a neighbor, I would feel better if I were next to a property that had an owner to make sure everything was going well,” Chairman Patrick Coletta said. “It’s worth finding a way to make sure most are owner occupied. This will be on the table for open houses.”

Open-house public meetings by the commission at locations to be determined are scheduled

◆ 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, and

◆ 6 to 9 p.m. Monday, Dec. 4.

“This is just the beginning,” Coletta said.

Rothe proposed issuing the first round of licenses

by blind draw.

“We can change that,” he said.

“We have to talk about how we handle existing units,” Commissioner Michael Vethacke said. “Are they going to be grandfathered? Are they going to get some relief with the cap? Do we issue a cap with incremental units versus a baseline?”

The drafting of short-term rental ordinances is common in Michigan.

“There was talk about the state taking over consideration of these,” said Morgan McAtamney, assistant city attorney. “That’s not happening. So, municipalities are able to make these regulations themselves. That’s why a lot of our municipalities are considering this.”

She said Rothe’s draft is in the right direction. “A lot of other municipalities that we’ve done short-term rental ordinances for don’t cap licenses, but they have really strict requirements to make sure inspections are being done, making sure it’s safe, but also making sure there is a local contract person in the instances (of) complaints from neighbors to make sure neighbors are not negatively impacted by these,” McAtamney

told Rothe. “(You) just need to add more information for inspection procedures and what constitutes a violation.”

Short-term rentals would require a certificate of occupancy and be inspected annually, at least during a three-year trial period.

“At the end of the three-year period, if it’s extended, inspections would no longer be annual, but would revert to the same as a long-term rental,” Rothe said.

Breaches of whatever rules are developed will be civil infractions, not criminal.

“The likelihood of something happening in a short-term rental that would disrupt the neighborhood is far more likely than with a long-term,” Rothe said. “It essentially requires a ‘three strikes, you’re out’ policy.”

“There’s a stigma around the mismanagement of short-term rentals,” said Saros, a Realtor. “I’ve found it’s the exact opposite because of the way the rating system works with Airbnb. I find short-term rental properties are much better kept than long-term rentals. The likelihood that this is going to lead to the decay of property, I don’t know how valid that is.”

Santa to stick around in Village until Christmas

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Beginning the day after Santa comes to town during the grand finale of the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce Santa Claus Parade Friday, Nov. 24, he’ll set up shop in The Village on Saturday mornings leading up to the big day.

An influx of new and upcoming businesses into the downtown district — including Lululemon, which in July moved into the space where Santa’s workshop was held the past two years — means the festivities this season will be held in the first-floor lobby of the Kercheval Place building at 17000 Kercheval, which can be accessed through the entrance off Notre Dame between Pet Supplies Plus and the Old Pony Martini Pub.

“It’s a good problem that we don’t have vacancies to accommodate Santa, but Santa’s flexible and we’re flexible,” Grosse Pointe Main

Street Executive Director Cindy Willcock said. “We were going to make sure, one way or another, that Santa made visits to The Village this holiday season.”

While this means the full workshop experience of prior years won’t be possible, children still are invited to visit and take photos with Santa 9 a.m. to noon Nov. 25, and Dec. 2, 9 and 16.

Special guest readers also will host storytimes each Saturday.

“There’s nobody going up into the offices on Saturday mornings, so we can have that whole hallway to queue people,” Willcock said of the creative use of space. “We have the little area in front that we can still have some stories there and some books, so that people can entertain themselves, or the kids can entertain themselves while they’re waiting to see Santa.”

Registration is not necessary and the festivities are free to all good little boys and girls. Parents are invited to take their own photos.

Time catches up

DETROIT — A federal jury in Detroit convicted a former Grosse Pointe Park pharmacy owner on 26 counts concerning the unlawful distribution of

prescription drugs.

Offenses occurred between 2013 and 2018 at the Beacon Pointe Pharmacy, on Jefferson, owned and operated by

Hasna Bashir Iwas, 62, of New Baltimore. The business is closed permanently.

“(She) regularly filled forged prescriptions for controlled substances presented to her by one or two individuals,” according to a Nov. 7 news release from

the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Detroit. “The 1,291 forged prescriptions were presented in the names of over 50 different ‘patients.’”

Illegal receipts exceeded \$640,000, authorities added.

Transactions consisted

of more than 70,000 doses of Oxycodone 30mg and 36,000 doses of Xanax 2 mg, they said.

“(We) will continue working with our law enforcement partners to ensure that bad actors are held accountable for such

egregious disregard for public safety,” said Mario M. Pinto, special agent in charge with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General.

Iwas is scheduled for sentencing Feb. 20, 2024.

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- ◆ Assume the best intentions
- ◆ Show respect to all

Memory care from A to Z

Sunrise on Vernier offers specialized services for people with memory loss

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

There were a variety of reasons David and Ann Marie Stevenson selected Sunrise on Vernier to care for David's mother, Maureen.

They investigated several options before deciding on the Sunrise on Vernier community, the staff of which "treat her like a queen," David

Stevenson said.

"It's like a large home," Ann Marie Stevenson noted. "It's warm and welcoming and cozy and kind of elegant. ... And it's a location where friends and family can come visit her. We wanted to keep up her social life as much as possible."

What the Stevensons, who live in Grosse Pointe Farms, have found is a

memory care community that not only has provided their mother a comfortable place to live the last 14 months, but also continuously meets her needs, whatever they may be.

Preserving dignity

"Sunrise on Vernier specializes in helping people who are living with Alzheimer's and other forms of memory

loss," said Mary Jo Fresard, director of sales. "We are the only Sunrise in Michigan that is all memory care. ... Therefore, folks can move in with early signs of memory loss all the way through end-stage dementia. This benefits new residents moving in, opportunities to connect and engage with others, no matter what stage they are at. We allow our residents to age in place through end of life."

Though Maureen Stevenson is on hospice,

her son and daughter-in-law said there has been no lapse in service and no breakdown in communication.

"The lines of communication are wide open between the staff here, the hospice staff and us," Ann Marie Stevenson said. "This has met every expectation and exceeded that."

The award-winning community, which opened its doors in 2006, has a bed-and-breakfast feel, including restaurant-style dining and a vibrant activities program.

"Our resident-centered care model features one-to-one attention and helps residents live purposeful lives," said Fresard, who joined the Sunrise on Vernier staff seven years ago, but has spent 17 years in senior care.

The team at Sunrise on Vernier practices validation therapy, a method of communicating with and helping disoriented older adults. It is a practical way of reducing stress, enhancing dignity and

See SUNRISE, page 18A

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PETS

Tips for traveling with your dog

Enhance the holiday fun when you take a pet along

The holiday season is here — and that often means traveling to celebrate with family and friends, from a few miles away to all the way across the country. As individuals and families set their travel plans in motion, they may think about bringing a beloved pet along.

According to a AAA/Best Western survey, 85 percent of dog owners travel with their dogs and are sometimes looking for pet-friendly accommodations. While the most popular destinations to let pooches tag along include going to the beach, camping and hiking, more people want to take pets along for holidays or indoor travel these days. As a greater number of people want to include furry family members in their plans, businesses in the travel and hospitality sector are taking notice and have become more accommodating to four-legged guests. However, there's still plenty to learn when taking a dog along as a travel companion.

Since many families don't consider it a party without their fuzzy best friends, explore these helpful dog travel tips as you plan for your holiday celebrations away from home:

Invest in a crate

Even if the dog does not need a crate at home, it's best to have one for travel. Crates often are required for airline travel and can keep dogs safer in cars. Many hotels also require that dogs be crated in the rooms to keep them out of trouble and prevent damage. A crate should be large enough that the dog can stand, turn and lie down, according to the American Kennel Club.

Carry copies of pet documents

It's important to prove that the dog is healthy and current on vaccinations. Officials may ask to see documentation when traveling abroad. Some travelers also may want to investigate pet passports. The USA does not require a pet passport, but the European Union pioneered pet passports to enable animals to move more freely throughout its member nations.

Plan a short excursion first

If you have never traveled with a dog before, make the first trip a short one, such as an overnight or two-day stay. This way, if the trip turns into a fiasco, checkout isn't a week away. Shorter trips also help people figure out what works

and what will need to change the next time.

Expect some fees. Most hotels charge a fee for doggy clients. A fee of \$25 to \$50 is pretty standard. There also may be a designated pet floor to minimize the chances that guests without pets will be forced to interact with animals.

Don't expect normalcy

A dog who is calm at home may be out of sorts while traveling. It's not uncommon for a dog unphased by people at home to suddenly be anxious and bark at sounds in a hotel hallway.

Search pet-friendly restaurants

Smarter Travel says that some hotels won't allow a guest to keep the dog alone in the room. That means meal time can be tricky. Find restaurants nearby that allow pets. In warmer climates, many that have outdoor seating may enable a leashed pet to stay near the seating perimeter.

Bring water from home

For car travel, when packing food, pack a few gallons of water as well, even though it can be cumbersome. Some dogs with

delicate digestive systems may be upset by drinking the local water. A case of diarrhea is compounded further by having to make it into an elevator and outside the hotel in time.

Tire the dog out

Exercised dogs tend to be well-behaved dogs. Make time to go on long walks, visit a dog park or engage in other activities that will make the pup tired so it's less likely to cause problems at the hotel.

Ask permission

If staying with relatives or friends, always ask in advance if it's ok to bring your dog. Even if the answer is yes, as the responsible owner, you should be sure that the arrangements will be comfortable for your dog and that everyone's safety is paramount.

With some advance information and planning, taking Fido along for the holidays should be a time of wonderful family memories and fun. As a pet mom or dad, you're the one who can ensure that it will be a tail-wagging good time for your dog as well.

Happy howl-idays!

Grosse Pointe News
NEWSHOUND
SAYS:



Think pet safety this holiday

Bandit here, getting really excited for the holidays. I'm hoping I get a chew toy — but that's just me. What are you hoping for?

I thought it might be a good time to remind Grosse Pointe about protecting pets during this busy season, like with Christmas trees. Dogs and cats are curious, so make sure your tree and lights are secure and that nothing will fall down or come loose if nosy noses start sniffing around. Also block off the base of live trees so we can't get into the water, which could give us an upset tummy or cause the tree to tip over. We WILL find that water, hehe.

Lastly, inspect and secure any wires for indoor displays. We think the wires are just as interesting as the decorations, so we'll want to play with them if they are all over the place. Better to hide them.

Have a safe and happy holiday! XO,



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The Helm receives \$25k from Michigan Nonprofit Relief Fund

The Helm at the Boll Life Center has been awarded \$25,000 from the Michigan Nonprofit Relief Fund, established by the Michigan Nonprofit Association and the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity.

"The population The Helm serves was greatly impacted by COVID-19," The Helm Executive Director Krista Siddall said. "Literally overnight we had to figure out how to provide services in a new, safe way to seniors in Harper Woods and the Grosse Pointes. We needed to revise our protocols for Meals on Wheels, medical escort driver program, medical loan closet, assistance and wellness checks and congregate lunches and more. We had to cancel our emerging and growing evening programs. We are grateful to both the Michigan Nonprofit Relief Fund and the

Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity for this grant that allows us to reinvigorate our programming and expand our services. We are proud to serve our community. This grant will help with the growing needs of our organization, as well as day to day operations."

The \$35 million Michigan Nonprofit Relief Fund was created from the American Rescue Plan Act funds awarded to Michigan to support Michigan-based 501(c)3 nonprofits with annual revenues of less than \$1 million that have demonstrated necessary expenditures and losses incurred after



March 3, 2021, due to the pandemic. The fund was designed with special attention to underserved and underrepresented populations, including non-

profits in rural areas and those led by and serving black, indigenous and people of color communities who have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic. Michigan-based nonprofits applied to the Michigan Nonprofit Relief Fund in spring 2023. Applications were reviewed by a panel of Michigan nonprofit leaders in the summer and awardees were selected this fall. "The Michigan Nonprofit Relief Fund is vital for helping to remove barriers to economic prosperity and providing residents with the resources they need following the pandemic," said Kim Trent, LEO deputy director for prosperity. "We're proud to support eligible nonprofits who have been resilient and innovative these last few years so that we can continue to lift Michiganders out of

poverty and empower communities across the state."

In addition to the Michigan Nonprofit Relief Fund, LEO is administering an additional \$15 million Michigan Nonprofit Impact Grant program to support larger nonprofits working tirelessly to lift people out of poverty and beyond the Asset Limited Income Constrained, Employed threshold. This initiative is supported by federal award number SLFRP0127 granted to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Development by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

More information about The Helm can be found at helmlife.org. For more information about the Michigan Nonprofit Relief Fund and to see a list of all grantees, visit mnaonline.org/policy/nonprofit-relief-fund.

Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe earns 'A' Hospital Safety Grade

Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe, part of Corewell Health, earned an "A" Hospital Safety Grade for fall 2023 from The Leapfrog Group, a national nonprofit watchdog that sets standards for excellence in patient care.

This national distinc-

tion recognizes the achievements of the hospital in protecting patients from preventable harm and error.

"We are very proud of Grosse Pointe achieving a Leapfrog 'A,'" said Jeffrey Ditzkoff, M.D., senior vice president, chief of quality, safety

and experience for Corewell Health East. "This is reflective of a tradition of delivering extremely high-quality and exceptional care and a dedication to keeping patients safe." Several other Corewell Health Lakeland hospitals also

earned an 'A' Hospital Safety Grade from The Leapfrog Group for fall 2023.

"We are very proud to have seven Corewell Health hospitals receiving an 'A' Safety Grade

and continue to look to Leapfrog to help us on our safety journey," said James Moses, M.D., chief of quality, safety and patient experience for Corewell Health. "That said, we

continue to have more opportunity to ensure we get all our hospitals to 'A' when it comes to safety. We are looking forward to the work ahead that will get us there."

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18A | HEALTH

SUNRISE:

Continued from page 15A

increasing happiness. “Every behavior and expression is an unmet need,” Executive Director Sheila Lyons said. “We’re here to find out what that unmet need is to help the resident have a better day. Once we find out what the need is, we can help.”

Lyons said a goal of the team is to allow residents to continue doing as much as they can while helping them with what they can no longer do.

“Maybe that’s putting toothpaste on a toothbrush so they can brush their own teeth,” she said. “It’s about preserving their dignity. We make sure what they can do for themselves is not taken away.”

“Providing our residents with purpose every day allows them to keep wanting to be a part of society,” she added. “... Being specialized in memory care really provides peace to our families, knowing their loved one is being cared for.”

Added Fresard, “They’re not losing control. They’re just gaining all of our team — experts who can help them on the rest of the journey.”

Actively engaged

One of those experts is Lead Care Manager Krystal Bass, who has been a part of the team since 2006, making sure the care managers she oversees are carrying out their duties, which involve assisting residents with activities of daily living and provid-



COURTESY PHOTO

The garden at Sunrise on Vernier allows residents to sit outside and enjoy sunshine and flowers as if sitting in their own backyards.

ing physical and emotional support.

“I like to help people in need,” Bass said. “Our facility is all memory care, so most of our residents need all of our assistance. ... I like feeling like I’ve helped them accomplish something. I get joy from taking care of them.”

Following the Sunrise mission of championing quality of life for all seniors, Bass said she does so by helping keep residents active, involved and engaged, and providing care for all aspects of their lives — body, mind and spirit.

“Our team members really take pride in making sure your loved one is cared for,” she added. “We’re a smaller community where we can provide that specialized

care.” The facility currently has 39 residents and is able to accommodate 45 at full capacity.

Engagement is key to keeping residents fulfilled. Sharon Grates, one of five life enrichment managers, helps make that happen by facilitating activities like coloring, as well as by sitting down to chat or calming residents if they’re upset.

“I think I probably get in 10,000 steps a day,” Grates said, noting the best part of her job is interacting with residents. “When you see them smile, when they kiss you. You can get them from a bad mood to a good mood if you know the right tricks.”

Grates joined the team seven years ago and has

enjoyed getting to know and spending time with residents from the start.

“Our caregivers here know the people one on one, get them out of their rooms, get them to do things, make sure they’re fed,” she said. “It’s much more personable here than anywhere else.”

With plenty to do within its walls, Sunrise on Vernier — with easy access to I-94 and other amenities — also offers weekly outings to residents. Grates is part of the team who facilitates trips, whether to the Grosse Pointe Woods community center for lunch and a movie or to a cider mill or baseball game.

“This is their home too,” Fresard said. “They all have passes to the Woods park. We’ll drive

them to Belle Isle. I don’t know of any other memory care community that does that. We treat them like they should be treated — real people (who are) still part of the community.”

“... We don’t hold them back, but just the opposite — we want them to still thrive,” she added. “They are still a vital part of the community, so we also participate in many intergenerational programs and keep engaged in giving back to the community.”

Residents have given back by decorating lunch bags with inspirational messages for Detroit’s homeless population; collecting and assembling care packages for Detroit Vets Center; and raising funds through an annual garage sale, bake

sales and donations.

“The best part of the job is working with families in Grosse Pointe and surrounding communities,” Fresard said. “It brings me joy to see our residents and families be part of our Sunrise family.”

One big family

Lyons has been overseeing the Sunrise on Vernier family since May 2022, but has been a Sunrise employee since 2001. In addition to making sure things run smoothly, she welcomes open communication.

“My open-door policy allows families or team members to come and talk about anything,” she said.

Added Fresard, “We are more of a family than co-workers. There is a lot of longevity on our staff. Our frontline team members don’t do this job for the money. It is for what we call at Sunrise a second paycheck — that reward of the heart.”

“And of course, the residents,” she continued. “Each and every resident is on a different journey and it is so interesting to me how they interact with each other. It is the environment that we provide that allows our residents to still be engaged in life with independence, dignity and choices. It’s magic how quickly they feel at home.”

Part of that engagement comes from encouraging residents to leave their suites and interact with each other, she added.

See SUNRISE, page 20A

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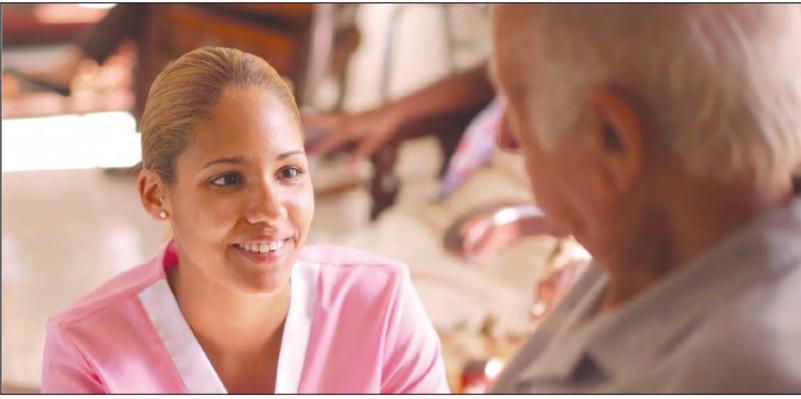
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Founder and owner John Hackett is a Grosse Pointe Farms native with a bachelor of science degree in nursing. After playing professional baseball he worked in the medical field and sold pharmaceuticals. The business began as he took care of his own parents, who struggled with issues related to Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease. He decided to create a home-care business for other elderly people.

"It just kind of hit home and made sense," Hackett said.

Hackett Homecare specializes in companion care; personal care; Alzheimer's/Dementia and Parkinson's care; and traumatic brain injury, A.L.S. and catastrophic injury care.

"If you or a loved one is growing increasingly

dependent on others with everyday activities," the company's brochure reads, "Hackett Homecare can help regain and restore your quality of life."

Because it's personal to him, Hackett visits the cases himself. He regularly checks in on clients. He also covers for the caregivers at times if he is needed.

"It's not just a job," Hackett said. "I'm just very fortunate and blessed to have some outstanding caregivers who are hardworking, trustworthy and compassionate and that's what makes things work so well. I am so thankful to have such a special group of caregivers. There isn't a day that goes by that I don't hear a new story about how wonderful they are."

Many of his team members have been with him for 13-plus years and embody the company's core values. They are the best, the heartbeat of the company and the reason why the company has been so successful. Going above and beyond is the standard at Hackett Homecare.

His staff consists of registered nurses, certified nursing assistants and companion aides who provide care from a few hours at a time to 24/7 care.

Above all, Hackett prides himself on the depth and quality of service the company does, which sets them apart.

"We kind of reach into (our clients') world a little bit farther than maybe others do," he said. "I wouldn't place a caregiver into any client's home unless I felt comfortable enough to have them in my own parents' house. I grew up in Grosse Pointe and have raised a family here. We understand the importance of receiving some assistance in your home and being assured that the caregivers you're inviting into your house are honest, experienced and treat you like you are family. That is what we have been providing to the Grosse Pointe area for years."

To learn more, visit hacketthomecare.com. To schedule a free consultation for service, call John Hackett at (313) 319-8050.

Ferrara Dermatology uses a pan-facial approach to skincare

Having offered comprehensive dermatologic care covering both medical and aesthetic needs since 1960, the Skin & Laser Center at Ferrara Dermatology has both the foundational history and cutting-edge techniques to give the highest quality care.

Consistently keeping an eye on the latest clinical trials and approved products, the practices' two board-certified dermatologists, Dr. Richard Ferrara and Dr. Katie Caretti, recently attended a master injection series to further build their expertise on the science, techniques and new features in the filler market.

"We're always trying to fine-tune our skills and see if some of the national experts have little contributing points that make our injections better," Ferrara said.

With their passion to provide a pan-facial approach to care, the doctors now can offer patients Volux, a product with special properties that help redefine the jawline.

"With the whole repertoire of fillers, we can concentrate on working the whole face and not just the old-school way of injecting around the nasolabial folds or just the cheeks," Ferrara said. "We can really assess and have tools to manage the whole face, which is an exciting direction."

"It's expanding our repertoire of being able to offer the full servicing of these fillers and hydrators," he added.

The Skin & Laser Center also is proud to offer the newest product to come on the market: Skinvive, a hyaluronic acid microdroplet injection meant to help improve skin smoothness around the cheeks.

"Because of the hyaluronic acid component, it's going to improve hydration of the skin and enhance the skin's natural glow," Caretti said. "The results of this product typically will last about six months."

Skinvive is considered a skin booster, which is not meant to fill volume loss like traditional dermal fillers, but rather replenish hydra-



Dr. Richard Ferrara



Dr. Katie Caretti

tion, thereby improving skin quality and smoothness.

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20A | HEALTH

SUNRISE:

Continued from page 18A

“Everybody kind of helps each other,” Fresard said, noting dementia does not discriminate; residents come from all walks of life, career paths and ages.

“We’re not like a lot of places,” Grates said. “... I’ve seen how dementia takes people away. You need a specialized service who knows how to handle them. We are that. That’s all we do.”

Staff at Sunrise on Vernier take the time to get to know residents through a questionnaire that allows them to learn more about each person’s complete history.

“It’s their story, their

life,” Fresard said. “We get to know them — their preferences, their strengths, their needs — so we can focus on their individual well-being. ... We know our residents’ history and their family members, so when the families come to visit they feel like part of our Sunrise on Vernier family.”

“Working here has made me a better mom to my twins and being a mom to my twins has made me a better worker here,” Lyons said. “All in all, the equation is patience.”

That family feeling reflects in the Stevensons’ experience.

“This is very first class, professional and caring,” Ann Marie Stevenson said. “They’re very sensi-

tive to residents’ needs. They’re attentive and approachable. And you can tell they’re happy doing their job. It’s an extended family.”

Added David Stevenson, “That goes from top to bottom, from Mary Jo (Fresard) to the maintenance guy to the kitchen staff. I’ve never heard someone say, ‘That’s not my job.’”

“Every resident is getting the care they need,” Ann Marie Stevenson added. “She’s in the most perfect spot. If I ever need this, this is where I want to be.”

Sunrise on Vernier is located at 1850 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods. For more information, email Mary.Fresard@sunriseseniorliving.com or call (313) 642-2000.

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Q & A with Red Baron Enterprises

With the remodeling season upon us, we thought it would be a great idea to sit down with one of the owners of Red Baron. As the weather gets colder, our customers tend to take a closer look inside their home. Let’s take a look into the creative mind behind Red Baron Enterprises. We’ve got questions, let’s get answers...

Q: Tell us who you are and what you do at Red Baron?

A: I’m Chris-and my brother Jonathan and I are the owners of Red Baron Enterprises.

I like to get my hands dirty; and always been that way. You could say I’m like the grease in the gears – My job is to keep things moving smoothly at Red Baron. I’m in charge of custom wood working projects, interior/exterior designs, and overseeing logistics of some of the more complicated projects.

Q: What are some of the services you provide?

A: At Red Baron we offer:

- ◆ Remodeling (kitchens, bathrooms, basements)
- ◆ Roofing (installing new roofs)
- ◆ Carpentry
- ◆ Masonry
- ◆ Siding
- ◆ Painting
- ◆ Plumbing
- ◆ Doors

◆ Windows

◆ Electrical Services

◆ Landscaping

◆ Dumpster Rental

◆ Garbage Removal

◆ Gutter Cleaning

◆ Power Washing

◆ Garage Door Repair

◆ Blown in Insulation

◆ And 24/7 Emergency Service

Q: As a company, what are some of your favorite things to do?

A: Definitely remodeling! Specifically, kitchens, bathrooms and basements. We take boring, outdated spaces and transform them into spaces people love.

Q: Are you a franchise?

A: No, but we get asked that question all the time. We are a second-generation family-owned business. My family originates from Poland. And my father, brothers and I each play a specific part in making sure our customers are happy and satisfied at the end of the day.

Q: What are some recent projects you're passionate about?

A: I enjoy the challenge of going to customer’s homes and diagnosing problems when no other companies can figure them out.

Q: Where do you live?

A: Grosse Pointe Woods

Q: What sets Red Baron apart from the competition?

A: We take great pride in establishing relationships with customers and keeping them happy.

Q: What are some of the more unique jobs you’ve done?

A: Catching woodpeckers (no woodpeckers were harmed in the process). We have also installed several bedroom mounted love swings.

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: Spending time with my family, hunting, fishing, traveling, working out and camping

Q: Why is the name Red Baron?

A: Funny story about that. We combined part of my father’s last name and my grandmother’s maiden name, which is Baron. The Red comes from the first part of my last name Redziniak.

Q: Do you have a favorite tool?

A: My MIG welder that is use for metal work I’m actually self-taught (school of YouTube)

Q: Was Red Baron, always the dream?

A: Definitely not. It was something we did with expectations of having different careers. Originally, I went through a full-time Police Academy and landed a job as a part time officer in hopes to become full time. After starting Red Baron and establishing relationships with customers, we got busier and busier as the months went on. It eventually turned into

Chris Redziniak, co-owner of Red Baron Enterprises.

a passion with full focus and the rest is history.

Q: Why do we see Red Baron in Grosse Pointe so much?

A: We work in the community that we live in. Repeat customers mean everthing! Word of mouth to neighbors, friends and family in the community is what keeps us busy and visible and have built our reputation within the community

Q: What was one of the most difficult times at Red Baron?

A: The Grosse Pointe floods from 2021.

When we had to turn away long-time customers because we couldn’t get to them fast enough due to the demand

Q: What is something interesting about you that people may not know?

A: I’m Bilingual (I speak Polish) and I have the appetite of a caveman.

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54 by 24

Suicide prevention campaign in full swing

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Next year will be huge for Detroit and the military.

In back-to-back events, the National Guard Association of the United States and the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States will descend on Detroit for two professional development conferences over 10 days.

“We have been attempting to get the national conference back in Michigan quite some time,” said Deb Salters, interim executive director of the National Guard Association of Michigan. “We finally bid and won in 2019. We’ll have the enlisted association, which includes national representatives and advocates for all the associations in the National Guard. And on the officer side, we’ll have the National Guard Association of the United States, which represents 54 states and territories, officers and guards as a whole.”

It’s a unique situation, Salters said, as typically the two conferences are held in different states. Former NGAM executive director Jeff Frisby made a push for Detroit to host both.

“This will be the first time ever these events will be back to back, in the same city, in the same year,” Salters said.

The conferences take place mid to late August 2024.

“And 2024 is the presidential primary, so we anticipate Republican and Democratic primary candidates will be in attendance at one or both

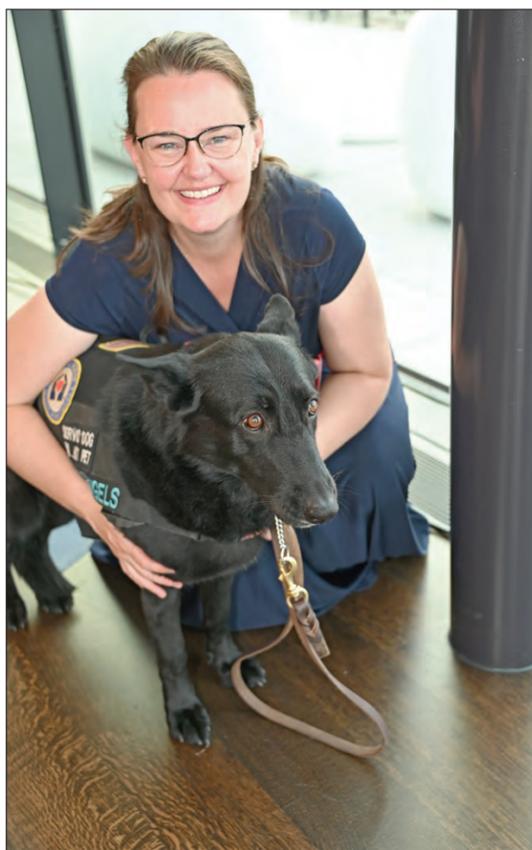


PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Recipient Kate Melcher and her Guardian Angel service dog, Cat, were among special guests to the Celebrate Michigan’s Military fundraiser this summer at The War Memorial.

conferences,” Salters added. “Historically, they have the opportunity to address the entire constituency in attendance.”

In addition to the conferences, evening events through their duration will highlight the host city.

“When people think of Detroit, they don’t think of the beautiful city it is today,” Salters said. “Our goal is to give people a new way to look at Detroit.”

The Ovation Yacht will host a retiree luncheon; the Detroit Institute of Arts will host a spouses luncheon; Detroit Yacht

Club will host a TAG spouses luncheon and The War Memorial will host a TAG reception with adjutant generals from each state and territory.

“The enlisted are going to Eastern Market, where we’re renting three sheds for special events,” Salters added. “We’re in conversations with the restaurants around Sheds 3, 5 and 6. We’re presenting opportunities for people all over the United States to see Detroit, experience Detroit, taste Detroit.”

With approximately 7,000 U.S. military members in attendance, not only will Detroit be in the spotlight, but Adjutant Gen. Paul Rogers decided the conferences would be the perfect opportunity to further an initiative behind which he firmly stands.

GAMSD

Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs is no stranger to the Grosse Pointes. For several years, Mary Lamparter of Grosse Pointe Farms, in her role as regional coordinator, has championed the non-profit, raising hundreds of thousands of dollars to provide specially trained

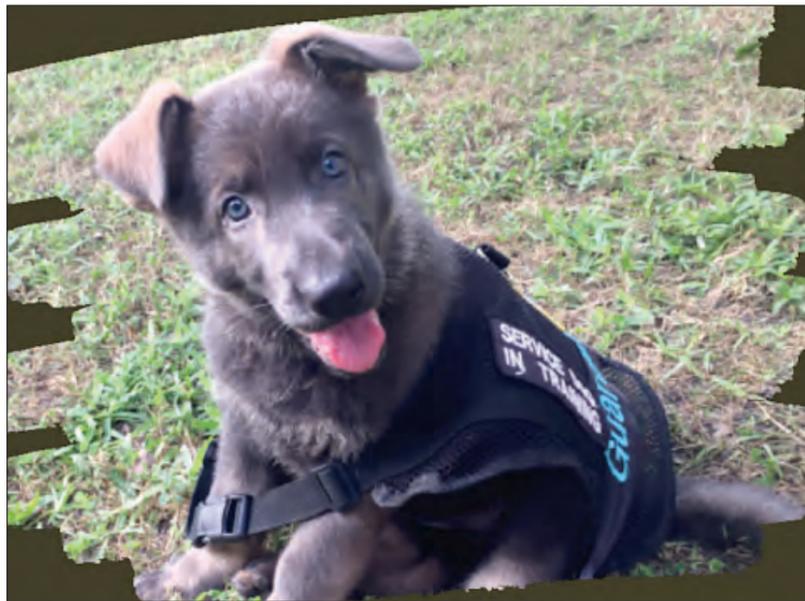


PHOTO COURTESY OF GAMSD

There is a zero percent suicide rate among veterans paired with specially trained Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs. Pups like this one undergo two years of training before being paired.



service dogs to veterans and first responders with post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, seizure disorders, mobility issues and other disorders.

Through Lamparter’s annual Celebrate Michigan’s Military event, more than \$1 million has been raised for Guardian Angels the last nine years and 25 dogs have been sponsored.

“A number of years ago I introduced Gen. Rogers to Guardian Angels,” Lamparter said. “He is a huge supporter.”

“The National Guard has a higher suicide rate

than any other branch of service,” she continued. “The association in each state running the NGAUS conference, whatever revenue they have as a result of the conference they put it back into the local association; however, instead of profits from the 2024 conference going to NGAUS, Gen. Rogers decided he’d like to do something to help veterans receive service dogs, so he came up with 54 by 24.”

The initiative hopes to raise enough money for each U.S. state and territory to provide a service dog for a veteran in that

state or territory by 2024, Lamparter explained.

“Through 54 by 24, NGAM will be raising funds here in Michigan, as well as reaching out to every state, in order to sponsor a service dog that will be donated to one veteran in each of our 50 states and four territories.

“The cost is \$25,000 for each dog and it is an amazing undertaking,” she continued. “And Guardian Angels is proud to be partnering with this initiative.”

In advance of the conferences, efforts have been made to secure corporate partnerships to help raise funds. Additionally, military installations have joined the effort and hosted fundraisers of their own.

Camp Grayling has hosted two fundraisers, raising enough money to sponsor two Guardian Angels dogs. Selfridge Air National Guard Base also has raised funds for a service dog.

“The very first dog for 54 by 24 was sponsored by Selfridge,” Lamparter said. “Every bit helps go toward saving a veteran by pairing them with a service dog.”

Plenty left to do

“Gen. Rogers felt we had an opportunity to host the conference, provide a different Detroit, increase our relationship with citizens of Detroit and make a difference in the lives of veterans and soldiers alike,” Salters said. “We chose to do that as a partnership with Mary and with the service dogs.”

“We have a terrible suicide rate with veterans,” she added. “In 2016, 6,261 veterans nationwide were lost to suicide; 30.6 per 100,000 took their life. That’s compared to civilians, which is 16.8 per 100,000. ... Gen. Rogers takes every instance personally and has been working to reduce/rid our force of the epidemic of suicide since becoming

See CAMPAIGN, page 8B



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Guardian Angels recipient Matthew McMurray and his service dog, Cobalt, attended Mary Lamparter’s CMM event this summer.

Combating suicide

A 2018 Department of Defense suicide report demonstrated the unique challenge combating suicide has become for service members and veterans. The suicide rate for active-duty members averages 24.8 deaths per 100,000 personnel; in the National Guard the death rate is 30.6 per 100,000 service members. As a predominately part-time force, Guard members face stressors in both their military and civilian capacities that far too often go unnoticed due to the infrequent interactions with leaders or others they feel can understand their struggles. NGAM has resolved to be a part of the solution by raising awareness and sponsoring medical dogs nationwide.

Evidence shows that compared to drug therapy and counseling, service members and veterans often have lower PTSD symptoms, reduced depression and increased social participation when paired with a medical service dog that is fully trained to mitigate a person’s visible and invisible disabilities.

—Source: National Guard Association of Michigan

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Family Center

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods offers Preschool Playgroup, 10:30 a.m. through Nov. 21, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Led by Danielle Mitchelson, parents and caregivers join in as toddlers play, sing and dance. For ages 2 and older. For information or to register, email maryjo@familycenterhelps.org.

Library

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

◆ Nonfiction Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 16, via Zoom.

◆ Weather Watch! A Michigan Science Center Hands-On Workshop, Session 2, 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov.

18, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Weather Watch! A Michigan Science Center Hands-On Workshop, Session 3, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Shelf Indulgence, 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 21, at Cellar 313, 15112 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Central library reopening and 70th anniversary celebration, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 24, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ GPPL Friends \$5 Bag Sale, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 25, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Readers Choice Book Discussion Group, 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 25, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

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:

◆ Sign Language, 1 to 3 p.m. Tuesdays, through Dec. 5, with instructor April Stotts.

◆ Crocheting for Beginners, 10 a.m. to noon Wednesdays, through Nov. 29.

◆ The movie, "Race," is shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.

◆ Field trip to Meadow Brook Hall for lunch and a tour, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30. Cost is \$70 for members, \$75 for nonmembers.

◆ Field trip to Zehnder's and Bronner's, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 4. Cost is \$10 for members, \$12 for nonmembers. Registration and payment are due by Monday, Nov. 20.

◆ Wrongful Convictions and the Michigan Innocence Clinic, 1 to 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, with instructor Elizabeth Cole, Esq.

◆ The movie "White Christmas" is shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.

◆ Out-to-Lunch Bunch visits Nautical Deli from noon to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12. Cost for the bus

ride is \$5 for members, \$7 for nonmember. Registration is required for all who attend.

◆ Detroit Symphony Orchestra field trip, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15. Cost is \$45 for members, \$48 for nonmembers, and is required by Friday, Nov. 17.

Audubon Society

Grosse Pointe Audubon hosts its next meeting Monday, Nov. 20, in the Grosse Pointe Unitarian Resale Shop, behind the church at 17150 Maumee, City of Grosse Pointe. Birder and photographer Andrew Sturgess will present a program on one of the world's most remote birding destinations, the frozen continent of Antarctica. In addition to its avifauna, including albatrosses, skuas, prions and penguins, Antarctica also is home to whales and seals. Doors open at 7 p.m. for social hour and refreshments; the free meeting starts promptly at 7:30 p.m. For more information, email imokruok2@aol.com or visit gpaudubon.blogspot.com/.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 11 a.m. to 7:15 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 21, Recreational Authority of Roseville & Eastpointe, 18185 Sycamore, Roseville.

◆ 7:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Friday, Nov. 24, Ascension St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 24, Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church,

28301 Little Mack, St. Clair Shores.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, The Lake House, 23500 Pare, Ste. 1, St. Clair Shores.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30, St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 21620 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1, Grosse Pointe Woods Parks & Recreation Community Center, 20025 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 4, Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, St. Clair Shores City Hall, 27600 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20, Jefferson Masonic Lodge No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

Ford House

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

◆ Fall Garden and Grounds Tours are offered through Nov. 22. Tickets prices vary.

◆ Holiday Main Residence Tour, offered various dates Friday, Nov. 24, to Sunday, Dec. 31. Costs vary.

◆ Accessible Holiday Tour, Tuesdays, Nov. 28, and Dec. 5, 12 and 19. Costs vary.

◆ Cookies with Santa, 2 p.m. Dec. 2, 5, 6, 9, 12,

13 and 16. Cost is \$20 for member children, \$30 for nonmember children.

◆ Breakfast with Santa, 8:30 and 11:30 a.m. Sundays, Dec. 3 and 17. Costs vary.

◆ Mistletoe Mingle, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14. Admission is \$55 for members, \$70 for nonmembers.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

Lions

The Grosse Pointe Lions Club hosts its 26th annual Jingle Bell Walk Run beginning at 9 a.m. Friday, Nov. 24. Participants should meet between 8:15 and 8:40 a.m. in the banquet room of Village Grille. The 2.2-mile course includes prizes and, of course, jingle bells. Registration is available online at jinglebell2023.eventbrite.com or by mailing in the registration form, which may be found in the Lions Club special section in this issue. All are welcome to participate.

Posterity Gallery

Posterity Gallery, 17005 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe, hosts the following programs and classes:

◆ The gallery offers refreshments, light snacks, prizes, coupons and holiday shopping on Small Business Saturday, Nov. 25.

◆ The Artist Holiday Market at Posterity holiday open house takes place 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30.

The War Memorial

The War Memorial, 32

See **EVENTS**, page 5B



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True tall tales

Farms man shares funny narratives in new book

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

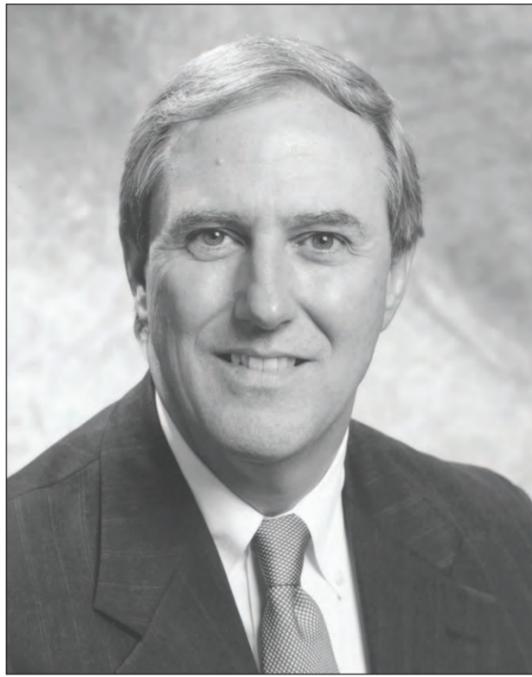
Charles Reagan has no shortage of stories.

There was the time he accidentally swallowed his wife's contact lenses while on a trip in Carmel, Calif. And the time he ran into President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore at the airport in Portland, Ore. Or the time he "helped land" a Boeing 767 wide-body aircraft in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

The now-retired traveling salesman has a slew of stories to tell and shares them in his newly published book, "Tales From the Road (and other short stories that occurred along the way): My 40 Years as a Traveling Salesman."

"I was never planning on writing a book," said Reagan, who lives in Grosse Pointe Farms with his wife of 47 years, Joan. "There have been some really funny events in my life that I put on sticky notes and put in a file so I would remember them. Then my best friend told me, 'You gotta write this stuff, if not for a book, then for your family.'"

Reagan expanded upon his sticky notes for the 128-page book, which boasts more than 50 short stories, with titles including "President Kennedy, Jackie and



COURTESY PHOTO

Charles E. Reagan recently released a book of short stories from his 40-year career as a traveling salesman.

Me!" "The Orlando Billboard Incident and Extra Terrestrials," "The Worst Airline Flight ... EVER!" and "Amelia Earhart's Sister ... and Me!"

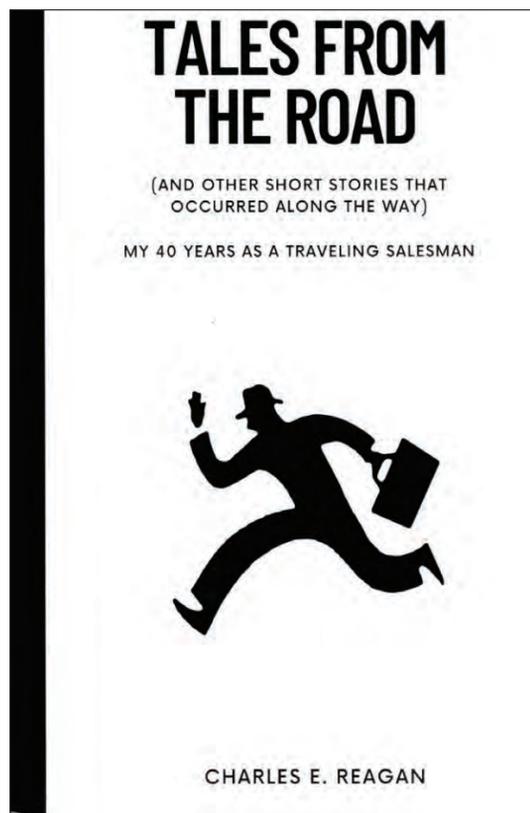
"My market is commuters," Reagan said. "People don't read books anymore. If it's not on a phone or iPad, they don't read it. This is for commuters who aren't going to get into 'War and Peace' on their commute, but they will get into a page and a half that's

humorous."

A handful of stories are based in Grosse Pointe and all of them are true, he said, though, "There are only two in the book I can't confirm. They all either happened to me, someone I worked with or a close friend."

Reagan found a publisher in Virginia Beach, who, upon reading the book, told him, "Charlie, you're like Forrest Gump. These things just fall into your lap!"

The book launched two



months ago and has been received with good reviews.

"People that know me can picture me telling the stories," he said, noting people who don't know him likely will get a chuckle from them, too.

He recently drafted a letter to Jimmy Fallon, hoping "The Tonight Show" host will give him some notice.

"He promotes authors and books on his show," Reagan noted.

Reagan, who grew up outside of Boston, lived in Chicago four years before moving to Detroit. He and his wife, who hails from northern New Jersey, met at the Cheers bar in Boston.

"She's in the book," he noted. "There are Grosse Pointe stories she's mortified to know are out there."

His sales job with Ford Motor Co., and then "the heavy truck side of things," took him around the world, to China, Japan, Europe and elsewhere. He felt most at home in Germany, he said.

Thanks to his travels, he easily filled the pages of his first book and has another 40 or so stories ready for a second volume.

"I did it to make people's commute a little easier," he said. "I didn't

plan it that way; it fell into my lap."

Like the time he accidentally caused a ruckus among Secret Service agents in Rochester, N.Y.

"My last name is the same as the former president," Reagan said. "In the early '80s, I was on a business trip ... relaxing on the bed in my hotel room before a dinner engagement. The phone on the bedside table rang."

The caller was short with him, asking to speak with Bill. Reagan told him he had the wrong room and hung up. A second call followed, this time curtly asking for John, to which Reagan again said he had the wrong room and hung up. The same thing happened a third time, the caller's voice increasingly urgent with each call.

"I hung up and got ready for dinner, then took the elevator downstairs," he recalled. "There was a flurry of activity in the lobby. Nancy Reagan was staying at the hotel. Well, Charles Reagan comes before Nancy Reagan (alphabetically) and they were calling the wrong room. Secret Service were panicking because they thought nobody was watching out for the first lady."

"Tales From the Road" is available in paperback at amazon.com.

Republicans to welcome journalists Jacques and Buss next Tuesday

USA Today journalist Ingrid Jacques joins Detroit News writer Kaitlyn Buss at the Eastside Republican Club podium Tuesday, Nov. 21, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. The forum begins at 7:30 p.m.

Jacques is a USA Today columnist and Buss is assistant editorial page editor at The Detroit News.

"With presidential debates in full swing and one of Michigan's U.S. Senate seats to be filled in November 2024, elections are a hot topic," said Mike Vethacke, Eastside Republican

chairman. "Amid this drama, these two editorial writers are in a perfect position to offer insight into affairs of state, national and international event."

"The forum is open to the public at no charge, so we invite anyone interested in current events to hear our guest speakers and to ask questions," he added.

Forum doors open at 7 p.m. for coffee and networking.

Jacques has worked in journalism nearly two decades. Prior to starting at USA TODAY in May 2022, she served as a columnist and deputy editorial page editor at The

Detroit News, where she spent 12 years as a member of the editorial board.

She has written frequently about Michigan and national politics, with a focus on education and cultural issues. In addition to The Detroit News, her work has appeared in The Wall Street Journal, National Review (online), Washington Examiner, Real Clear Politics and The Weekly Standard, among others.

A native of Salem, Ore., Jacques has a degree in English from Hillsdale College and a master's degree in journalism from Michigan State University. She

currently lives in metro Detroit with her husband.

Buss previously served as vice president of public affairs at TDS Public Affairs and vice president of communications at Iron Light.

She is a frequent contributor to The Detroit News' editorial page and other media outlets throughout the state and has been a communica-

See ERC, page 5B

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Gro-Town to receive Michigan Governor's Service Award

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Grosse Pointe Woods-based Gro-Town will be honored later this month by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan Community Service Commission for its initiative, Motown is Gro-Town. The multimedia children's endeavor was nominated for and won a Youth Impact Award.

"This is acknowledgment from Gov. Whitmer for the folks statewide who dedicate their time and services to making stuff better," said Gro-Town founder Danielle Carlomusto of Grosse Pointe Woods. "There's a limited number of awardees — only 42 — who will be honored at the Fox Theatre on Nov. 28."

The past five years,



Motown is Gro-Town has distributed 28,000 free seed packets to the next generation of gardeners at "seed stations" located in libraries throughout metro Detroit. Among its 35 community partnerships

is each of the Detroit Public Library's 16 branches; colleagues at the main branch on Woodward nominated Gro-Town for the award. "It feels wonderful, validating," Carlomusto said of the honor. "It's nice to be acknowledged. I'm not in it to win awards, but to get a 'We see you and we think you're doing good,' to get that pat on the back, that attaboy from the governor of Michigan, is such a good feeling.

"It puts that spring in your step to keep going forward and keep making the effort when you have someone prominent say, 'We see you.'"

Gro-Town got its start after Carlomusto became a mom.

"I'm a lifelong musician," she said. "When I had my own children, I wanted to write music and create my own songs to validate the things that were floating their boat. Those things



COURTESY PHOTOS

Danielle Carlomusto distributes seed packets to youngsters after a Motown is Gro-Town performance.

were gardening and nature and the world around us."

From there, she decided to elevate her efforts, first by creating videos to go with the

music. "Then I wanted to walk the walk even more," she added. "I wanted to provide an avenue for children to get out and experience

their community. Motown is Gro-Town is the community outreach arm of Gro-Town. I started to solicit donations from seed companies and local hardware stores to install 'seed stations' in public libraries."

Via seed stations, children can help themselves to a variety of free seed packets to grow vegetables or flowers at home.

Gro-Town also now includes downloadable activities for children, including coloring and scrapbook pages; "Green Album," featuring songs about vegetables and gardening; and a podcast.

"We're going to keep doing what we're doing," Carlomusto said. "We're working on a half-hour video special that we're going to document. We're really focused on the garden initiative."

"It's all about highlighting the community," she added.

For more information about Gro-Town, visit gro-town.com.

For more information about or to register for the Governor's Service Awards — which is free to attend — visit tinyurl.com/4t84vnea.



Seed stations at various libraries encourage children to celebrate nature and learn about gardening by growing vegetables and flowers at home.

An Evening Under the Stars

FULL CIRCLE FOUNDATION 2023 GALA

Words cannot describe the gratitude that we at Full Circle Foundation feel towards the Grosse Pointe Community. Because of your unwavering support and continued generosity, we have been able to continue our mission and commitment to helping those with special needs.

Thank you to the many businesses and individuals whose donations make it possible for the young adults in the Full Circle community to live more enriched and purposeful lives.

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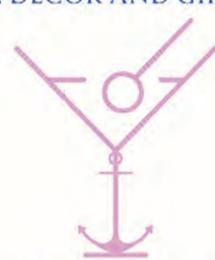
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Carlomusto founded Gro-Town five years ago and has since distributed 28,000 free seed packets to youngsters throughout southeast Michigan.

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Be a Secret Santa at Posterity Gallery

Posterity Gallery, 17005 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe, is hosting a giving tree this holiday season in partnership with Spaulding for Children, a Michigan-based nonprofit whose mission is to ensure safe and caring family environments for children in the foster care system.

Participation is simple: Stop by the gallery and grab a tag with a child's name from the giving tree, located at the

front of the gallery. Each tag has a gift wish and age of a child waiting to be adopted or in the foster care system. Buy the gift and place it under the tree by Saturday, Dec. 16.

Last year, Posterity Gallery was able to deliver more than 60 gifts to Spaulding for Children.

For more information, visit poterityartgallery.com or call (313) 884-8105.

'Holiday Music Around the World' is Dec. 3

Grosse Pointe Community Chorus's new music director, Kayvon Kashani-Gharavi, will direct the 65-member chorus in a choral concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park.

The program features a wide range of holiday music from around the world, all of which was selected to start off the holiday season.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for children ages 12 and younger. Tickets will be available at the door, as well as in advance at Posterity Framing, 17005 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe; or Moehring Woods Flowers, 20923 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

The Grosse Pointe Community Chorus was formed by Malcolm Maclean Johns and Marian Johns in 1953, and has been in active existence since then. Thanks to opportunities to rehearse by video and in various outdoor settings in 2020 and 2021, during the pandemic, the music never actually stopped. The December 2023 concert will be the chorus's 70th holiday performance.

Members of the chorus are excited to perform this concert with their new music director, who joined the chorus earlier this year. They will be accompanied by Ron Pietrantoni.

For more information, visit grossepointecommunitychorus.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOB GRAMBO

All about audio

Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary Club member Chris Flynn and President Sherrie Jones, center, stand with Kevin Williams and Phil Stewer of WexMix Studios. Williams presented at the club's Nov. 7 meeting examples of how he produces, records and mixes audio.



USA Today journalist Ingrid Jacques and Detroit News writer Kaitlyn Buss.

ERC:

Continued from page 3B

tions strategist for political, policy, advocacy and nonprofit groups and associations at the state and national levels.

Buss was a member of the News editorial board from 2014-18, and during that time served as an editorial writer, opinion editor and columnist. Before returning to Michigan in 2014, Buss worked in communications in Washington, D.C., where she specialized in opinion writing and strategy at private public relations firms, as well as political nonprofits.

She graduated cum laude from Hillsdale College in 2008, with Bachelor of Arts degrees

in political science and journalism. She is a native of metro Detroit and lives with her husband and four children in Birmingham.

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 EastsideRepublicanClub.com and "follow" the ERC on Facebook and X, formerly Twitter.

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EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers a variety of programs and classes. Register for the following at warmemorial.org.

◆ Comedy and Cocktails: The All-Star Showdown with Go Comedy!, 6:30 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30. Show-only tickets are \$25; tickets for the show and a pre-glow reception are \$45.

Chamber

The Grosse Pointe

Chamber of Commerce sponsors a networking event from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, at Capricious, 74 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Adaptive yoga

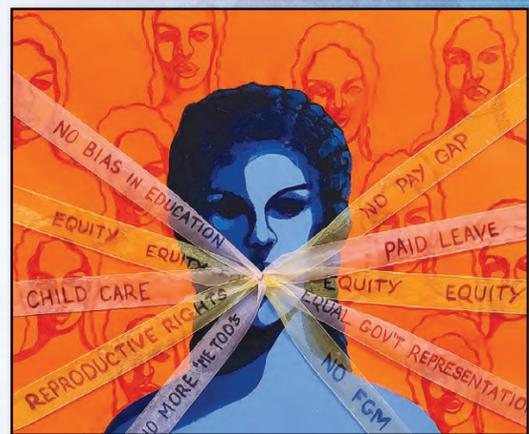
Yoga Moves MS, in partnership with the Kirk Gibson Foundation, hosts Adaptive Chair Yoga classes at 11:30 a.m. Mondays at Full Lotus Yoga, 20365 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Adaptive yoga benefits those with multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease,

stroke and other neuromuscular conditions. Cost is \$12 per drop-in class or five classes for \$50 in advance. Visit fullotusyoga.net.

Toastmasters

Northeastern Toastmasters meets in person at Wayne County Community College District's Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center, 19305 Vernier, Harper Woods, as well as on Zoom, at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of each month. Call (313) 720-8444 for the link and password.

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6B | 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.

Anthony "Tony" Ostosh

Anthony "Tony" Ostosh, 90, passed away Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023. He was a husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend.

Born Oct. 20, 1933, Tony was a 1952 graduate of Denby High School. He graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering from Lawrence Institute of Technology in 1958. He also served in the U.S. Naval Reserve from 1951 to 1963, retiring as a chief petty officer.

Tony was involved in many things, including as a member of the Men's Guild at Ascension St. John Hospital, a guild member of the Capuchin Monastery, an alumni member at LIT, a member of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club since 1979, a cabinet member for the Father Solanus Casey Building Project and a benefactor of Focus Hope, the Capuchin Father Solanus Casey Center, North Branch High School seniors' annual engineering and medical scholarships and Verence McQuade Society of Ascension St. John Hospital. Tony also coached the girls hockey Mini Wings team for two years, winning a U.S. championship.

Tony was the former owner of Hamilton Die and Mold Co., and an accomplished mold maker for the auto industry for 40 years. Tony also owned Accurate Duplicating and Machining. In 1972, he was awarded the Pontiac Firebird honor for his outstanding mold accomplishment. Tony's specialties were plastic molds, prototype tooling and die-cast die components.

Sports, music, reading, eating out, boating and walking were his favorite pastimes. Time spent with his family and friends were important to him. Anthony was a loyal man, a man of integrity, a brilliant man, a man of substance, a humble man and a quiet man. His pleasures were simple, but he was very generous and supportive of others, especially those in need.

Tony was predeceased by his loving wife of 66 years, Patricia Ann. He was the dear father of Michelle Rene Kroetsch (Charles), Monette Marie Dudek (David), Curtiss James Ostosh (Sue), Christopher John Ostosh (Lynda) and the late Gregory Ostosh; grandfather of David Dudek (Beth), Timothy Dudek (Rita), Christopher John Ostosh Jr., Amanda Bergen (William), Geoffrey Ostosh (Ivy), Curtiss Ostosh II, Rebekah Ostosh, Andrew Ostosh (Lauren) and Nicolas Ostosh; and great-grandfather of Hudson Bergen and Sullivan Bergen.

Tony was predeceased by his son, Gregory; mother, Marion "Mary" Ostosh; and father, Felix Ostosh.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to The Capuchins, Father Solanus Casey Center,

1780 Mt. Elliot, Detroit MI 48207, thecapuchins.org/donate.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 18, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. His family will receive guests at 9:30 a.m. at the church.

Stephen "Steve" McGratty

Stephen "Steve" McGratty, 80, passed away peacefully surrounded by family Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2023. Stephen was born Jan. 27, 1943, in New York, N.Y., to Edward and Catherine (nee Dillon) McGratty.

Stephen was the beloved father of Therese (Michael Schrage), Stephen Jr., Shannon (Kevin Brophy) and Christopher (Stacy Viniello), who, along with their mother, Therese, raised their four children in Grosse Pointe Farms. Stephen also was the grandfather, aka "Gramps," of Ryann, Mackenzie and Kevin Brophy, and Caitlin and Colin McGratty. He was the loving brother of Edward McGratty (Marcia Fredericks) and was predeceased by his parents and sister, Constance (James Glynn).

Stephen grew up in New York City where he attended St. Ignatius Loyola School. In 1957, at age 14, he moved to Michigan and graduated from University of Detroit Jesuit High School in 1960. Stephen graduated from the College of the Holy Cross in 1964, and earned the Chartered Financial Analyst designation in 1974. Stephen also served in the U.S. Army Reserves and received an honorable discharge in 1973.

Steve began his professional career at Comerica Bank, where he worked in the Trust Department for 25 years, and then at the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation as a senior investment manager for 18 years, until his retirement in 2011. As part of a philanthropic organization, Steve's efforts helped countless charities and persons in need, speaking to his character and priority of giving back to those less fortunate.

Stephen also was a devoted family man who never missed one of his children's games or school activities and was always recording family videos that have provided a lifetime of memories. He also had his passions — he loved the game of golf, enjoyed the camaraderie of his bowling leagues, was gifted at and had an ear for piano and always was up for a game of cards. He also had tremendous faith, traveling to Medjugorje and was an active volunteer with the Jesuits at Colombiere for many years.

A memorial Mass to celebrate Stephen's life will take place at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 25, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores, with vis-

itation beginning at 9 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Colombiere Center, 9075 Big Lake Rd., Clarkston, MI 48346, colombiere.com/donations.html.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Dr. Timothy Andrew Brennan

Dr. Timothy Andrew Brennan, 73, passed away at home Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2023, surrounded by his loving family. He left behind his wife of 43 years, Renée Siegan; sons, Paul (Kaelyn) and Nathaniel; and daughter, Dr. Julia Brennan, whom he saw married last month to Dr. Patrick Glisczinski. In addition, he has two wonderful grandsons, Jack and Elijah Brennan.

Born Nov. 17, 1949, in Detroit, Tim was the son of Dr. Michael James Brennan and Rita Jugaszek Brennan. He grew up in Grosse Pointe along with his siblings who survive him: Catherine Molloy (Brian), John (Linda), Theresa Klaasen (David), Patricia Sullivan, Dr. Mary Kaplan (Dr. Howard) and Joseph (Margaret). His sister, Ann O'Brien (Dr. Kevin), and brother-in-law, Peter Sullivan, predeceased him. He also leaves behind 25 nephews and nieces, their spouses and children, as well as Renée's siblings, Cherie Chosid (Richard), Dr. Steven Siegan (Dr. Lisa Vickery) and the late Dr. Bruce Siegan. Many of his nieces, nephews and his daughter became physicians, in part inspired by his devotion to medicine.

Tim attended Montieth College at Wayne State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy in 1971. He subsequently was awarded a medical degree from WSU in 1976, then served a residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in rheumatology at Henry Ford Hospital. In 1982, he started his own practice, Shores Rheumatology, where he continued to serve the public as a rheumatologist until his retirement in 2018. Throughout his career, he mentored many physicians and other medical personnel. He worked selflessly to help his patients and the medical community and was known to be a "doctor's doctor."

After his retirement, Tim and Renée moved to Green Oak Township on Fish Lake to be closer to their children and grandchildren. There he spent his time enjoying many interests, including all water activities, recreating outdoors, watching and caring for local birds, landscaping and gardening, splitting wood, buying useful items online or at garage sales, flower arranging, hunting, fishing, cooking, maintaining his home impeccably and playing with his grandsons. He also helped maintain a cottage in Otsego County on Clear Lake, left in trust to his family after his parents' deaths. As a child, he



Anthony Ostosh



Stephen McGratty



Dr. Timothy A. Brennan



Bruce Eugene Tayler



Judith Ann Belfore



Heidemarie Mason

spent his summers at Clear Lake and continued to love going there his entire life. He was an honest, hard-working, humble and caring husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend to all who knew him.

At his request, his body was cremated. There will be a private memorial service.

Donations in his memory may be made to Alliance for the Great Lakes, greatlakes.org/campaigns/, to protect the region's freshwater resources and support the ecosystems he so fiercely loved.

Bruce Eugene Tayler

Bruce Eugene Tayler, 86, passed away Friday, Nov. 10, 2023.

Bruce was the beloved husband of Bernadette LaLonde Tayler; adored father of Marcy Tayler and Joelle Gallagher (Rick); loving grandfather of Tayler Leamon (Angelina), Madeline Struble (Christopher), Joseph Gallagher, Elizabeth Gallagher, Lindsay Gallagher and Meghan Gallagher; dear great-grandfather of Carson and Henry Struble; cherished best friend of Jerry Yatros (MeMe); and brother-in-law of Celia "Sis" Tayler. He was predeceased by his parents and his brother, Ross Tayler.

Bruce was born Sept. 29, 1937, in Detroit, to Carlton and Margaret Tayler. He attended Cass Tech High School and later enrolled in college and became a block printer for Barber Printing and Pointe Printing for 45 years. Bruce enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard in 1959, and was honorably discharged in 1966.

Bruce lived a blessed life in Grosse Pointe, raising two beautiful daughters who went on to create families and lives of their own. Bruce and his wife, Bernadette, were happily married 46 years. Bruce's greatest joy and highest honor was spending time and watching his six grandchildren grow into wonderful adults. He took pride in being the giver of nicknames and blessed each of his grandchildren with one of their own: Tater, Maddog, Big Joe Gallagher, Lizzy, Larnsey and Merg.

Bruce enjoyed playing golf, vacationing in Florida, walking on the beach and spending time with his family and friends. He also had a passion for horse racing and owned various stan-

dardbred horses. His most recent winner, Righteous Resolve, landed him in the Winner's Circle at age 85, an exciting family moment his loved ones will never forget.

His family said, "He will be dearly missed and life won't be the same, but he will always be in our hearts."

A celebration of life service for Bruce will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 16, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, with a memorial service at 6 p.m.

Memorial donations may be made to Shriners Hospitals for Children, bit.ly/40zQSG6, or the Van Elslander Cancer Center at Ascension St. John Hospital, 19229 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236, two causes he supported.

Judith Ann Belfore

Judith Ann Belfore, 81, of Grosse Pointe, passed away peacefully Friday, Nov. 3, 2023. Judy was born March 10, 1942, in Grosse Pointe, to Erwin and Gertrude Sattelmeier, both now deceased. She leaves behind her loving husband of 37 years, David Belfore.

Judy also is survived by three children, Rick Lass (Lora), Wendi DeSchutter (Doug) and Lindsay Koenigsknecht (Roger); and three stepchildren, Barb Belfore (John), Gary Belfore (Jessica) and Jill Belfore (Chuck). She also was a loving grandmother to Ben, Tyler, Stone and Sage, and step-grandmother to five step-grandchildren.

Judy attended The Grosse Pointe High School and graduated in 1960. She went on to attend Valparaiso University and graduated in 1964, with a degree in social work. After graduating, she held various hospitality professions during her younger years. In 2000, Judy and Dave retired to South Carolina before returning "home" to be closer to family in 2020.

Judy enjoyed spending time with friends and family, playing cards, golfing, being social and cheering on Detroit sports teams and PGA professionals. Along with her passion for loving people, she was deeply devoted to her faith and spreading her love to all.

Judy fought the good fight with cancer three times in her life. Her final battle was fought with great courage and a smile. In her life she took great comfort and

strength from her relationship with God. She now rests with God and her family in his peace. She will truly be missed.

Family and friends are invited to attend a Celebration of Life gathering at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 27, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Shriners Hospital for Children, donate.lovetotherescue.org, in memory of Judith Belfore.

Heidemarie Mason

Heidemarie Mason, 79, passed away peacefully Sunday, Nov. 5, 2023, in Waverly, Ohio, shortly after her birthday.

Heidi was born Oct. 25, 1944, in Oberhof, Thuringen, Germany, to Hildegard "Hilda" and Anton "Tony" Schlegel. In November 1954, Heidi and her mother emigrated to Canada to join Tony, who had preceded them to Ontario and was working on a farm. Heidi's father ultimately continued his career as a groundskeeper in Michigan, with the family moving to Grosse Pointe Park.

After graduating from Grosse Pointe High School, Heidi trained as a hairdresser and went on to work in the profession for many years at Meier & Werner Hair Salon. In her spare time, Heidi was an avid gardener and a great lover of cats and was passionate in her pursuit of lifelong learning.

Heidi met James F. Mason of Chatham, Ontario, Canada, and they were married Aug. 23, 1969. They lived in Chatham for 14 years, during which time they had two daughters, Ericka and Alexandra. In 1983, the family moved to Grosse Pointe Park. Heidi and her family became U.S. citizens in 1989. In August 2019, Heidi and Jim celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a large gathering of friends and family.

Heidi was predeceased by her parents and, in 2019, by her husband, Jim. She is survived by her daughters, Ericka (Kenneth A. Osen) and Alexandra (Mark T. Hacala).

A private remembrance will be held for immediate family members on a date to be determined. In lieu of flowers, donations in her name may be sent to the Alzheimer's Association of Michigan, alz.org/donate.

See OBITS, page 7B

OBITS:

Continued from page 6B

Charles "Chuck" Lawrence Stefek

Charles "Chuck" Lawrence Stefek, 84, passed away Friday, Nov. 10, 2023, surrounded by his loving family. Chuck was the son of Mary Angeline (nee Battani) and John Francis Stefek.

He leaves behind his loving wife of 62 years, Valorie Joy (nee Michie) Stefek. He is also survived by his daughter, Mary Katsiroubas (Dean); son, John Stefek (Lori); grandchildren, Nicole Fredrickson (John), Zachary Smith (Samantha), Jack Stefek, Kyle Stefek and Maxwell Katsiroubas (Victoria); and five great-granddaughters.

Chuck loved spending



Charles Lawrence Stefek



Audrey Mac Mechan

MEMORIAL**Audrey Beirne Mac Mechan**

A Celebration of Life service for Audrey Beirne Mac Mechan takes place at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 21, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. She passed away Aug. 29, 2023. Her obituary appeared in the Sept. 28 Grosse Pointe News.

time with his wife at the casino, playing poker, golfing, traveling and country line dancing. His dedication to his family was unmatched. He never missed a single event for his children or grandchildren.

One of his greatest passions was the Detroit Lions; he attended almost every home game with his father, son and grandchildren over the last 60-plus years.

CHURCH EVENT**Memorial Church**

The Grosse Pointe Memorial Church Men's

Bible Study Group is hosting its second annual food drive from 9

a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18, at Fresh Farms Market, 355 Fisher, Grosse Pointe. The drive benefits the Second Mile Center of Detroit. For information, call (313) 882-5330.

Christ the King hosts live nativity

A celebration of Christ's birth with a living nativity will be presented by Christ the King Lutheran Church, 20338 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10. This is the 37th year the church has hosted this event.

A tent on the church grounds will host live animals, including sheep, goats, donkeys and camels. Children are welcome to pet the animals as well. A manger scene also will be housed under the tent where preschool children will be dressed as angels, shepherds, Joseph and Mary. A narrative will be read about the birth of Jesus, along with playing and singing of Christmas carols.

The church basement will serve as a warming station for hot drinks and snacks.

For more information, call the church at (313) 884-5090.



COURTESY PHOTO

A variety of live animals will be part of the nativity program offered at Christ the King Lutheran Church on Dec. 10.

Drop-off sites open for Operation Christmas Child

As the Thanksgiving season approaches, many families and children are giving thanks for their blessings and sharing those blessings with children in need by packing shoeboxes with Operation Christmas Child.

Shoebbox gifts prepared by donors and filled with toys, personal care items and school supplies may be dropped off during National Collection Week, Nov. 13 to 20. More than 4,500 drop-off sites are now open, including Crosspointe Christian Church, 21336 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Operation Christmas Child has been collecting and delivering shoebbox gifts to children worldwide for three decades. In 2023, Operation Christmas Child hopes to collect enough shoeboxes to reach another 11 million children. This season, there's still time for individuals, families and groups to transform empty shoeboxes into fun gifts. The project of Samaritan's Purse partners with local churches across the globe to deliver these tangible expres-



COURTESY PHOTOS

Donated items for Operation Christmas Child may be dropped off until Nov. 20, at Crosspointe Christian Church in Grosse Pointe Woods. Shoebboxes filled with school supplies and toys are donated to children around the world, through Samaritan's Purse, to introduce youngsters to Jesus Christ.

sions of God's love to children in need. Find a step-by-step guide on the "How to Pack a Shoebbox" page at samaritanspurse.org.

"This season, children around the world need a tangible reminder that there is hope and that God loves them," said Franklin Graham, presi-

dent of Samaritan's Purse. "Through these shoebbox gifts packed with special items, children also receive the opportunity to hear about the eternal hope found in Jesus Christ."

At Crosspointe, shoeboxes will be collected 9 to 11 a.m. Thursday and Friday, Nov. 16 and 17;

noon to 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 18 and 19; and 9 to 11 a.m. Monday, Nov. 20. Signs will identify the drop off.

Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 209 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories.

**Worship Service**

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Sunday — 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.
Tuesday — 8:30 — Morning Prayer
Wednesday — All Saints Day — Nov. 1st
10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Thursday — All Souls Day — 7:00 p.m.
Friday — Noon

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



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Mack at Lochmoor • 884-5090
www.christthekinggp.org

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

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

8B | FEATURES

CAMPAIGN:

Continued from page 1B

the adjutant general of Michigan in 2019.”

Since 2019, Salters reported, Michigan Army National Guardsmen reported 127 suicidal ideations, 20 suicide attempts and 10 suicide completions. Since 2019, the Michigan Air National Guard has reported three suicide ideations, three suicide attempts and one suicide completion.

“In the Michigan National Guard, we have had our own struggles with that,” Salters said. “We’ve lost many soldiers to suicide and many others who have attempted but not been successful. Those numbers are unacceptable, from attempts to completion, statewide for Michigan National Guard members and veterans as a whole.

“Guardian Angels has a proven track record of making a difference,” she continued. “These dogs become a compassionate entity to hang onto.”

In 13 years, Guardian Angels has a zero percent suicide rate among recipients.

To promote 54 by 24, veterans and their service dogs have attended nearly every event hosted by NGAM the last couple of years, Salters said, each of them sharing their stories and the impact a service dog can have. One veteran and his dog were on hand for a NGAM-sponsored event that featured a Josh Turner concert.

“He wasn’t sure he’d be able to do it, but he said he’d try,” Salters said of the veteran. “There were 3,800 people, plus workers and exhibitors, people everywhere, noise everywhere. He was an amazingly different person by the night of the Josh Turner concert. That’s a lot for someone just integrating back into what we would call normal life. But I give credit to that service dog for him doing it and credit to Guardian Angels (reps) who were there. That’s what we want to do for as many people as we can. Gen. Rogers says we’re not stopping at 54. If we can raise funds for more than 54, that’s what we’re doing.

“... Corporations have funded dogs. Individuals have provided funds toward purchasing a dog,” she added. “States have pledged to purchase dogs for their state through golf outings and such things. There are many fundraising things out there.

“Sponsorships can be a large donation down to whatever you’re comfortable with — \$10 is the world to someone who needs a service dog — so we’re advertising at every event we go to.”

So far, 14 dogs have been fully sponsored through 54 by 24, with another four dogs pledged, with funds still coming in, Salters said.

“One (suicide) is too many,” Salters said. “Anything you can do to help us combat this horrible thing, we would welcome the partnership, even if it’s just sharing information.”

For more information about Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs, email Lamparter at marylamparter@gmail.com. To make a donation to 54 by 24, visit ngam.org/54-by-24/

Selfridge tees off for GAMSD

The Team Selfridge Family Relief Fund, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, was founded in 2007, by PGA Life Member Winn Moore, as well as Tom Sierakowski and Wally Sierakowski.

“With deployments increasing due to multiple warfronts and roles the military branches from Selfridge were playing in the Middle East, we created the nonprofit to help reduce the stressors of deployment,” Wally Sierakowski said.

The fund initially aided with simple tasks like garage door or hot water heater repairs, Sierakowski said, noting eventually money was raised for college tuition for deceased military members’ children, medical costs for members’ children battling cancer, a seizure

dog, “and now a suicide dog,” he added. “All the monies raised are spent on military families’ needs.”

Sierakowski and Moore are both PGA of America members and direct golf operations at Red Run Golf Club.

“We wanted to help those that sacrifice the most for us, our local military members and their families,” Sierakowski said. “Seeing we both have family members serving stateside and abroad, we truly understand the stressors that go along with deployments.

“The plan was to use the game of golf to raise money,” he continued. “We created the Team Selfridge Pro-Am, partnering with the Michigan Section PGA Eastern Chapter and Callaway Golf. We then moved to create military sup-

port days at Red Run Golf Club and other clubs throughout the Detroit area.”

Through its efforts, the Team Selfridge Family Relief Fund covered the cost of a seizure dog two years ago, as well as the cost of a Guardian Angels service dog, named Lily.

“This (54 by 24) campaign matches our mission and supports our military members and their families with everyday needs,” Sierakowski said. “Several of our veterans struggle every day with the thoughts of suicide. Suicide is a huge issue for our military members and veterans. If a dog can assist that individual with the everyday struggles of life and help them find a way to cope, our fund is there to support it.”

Camp Grayling does it with Derby Days

When Col. Scott Meyers learned that NGAM committed to being part of the solution to end veteran suicides via 54 by 24, he saw it as an opportunity not only to support a program that has proven to drastically reduce veteran suicide rates, but also support NGAM, which advocates on behalf of Michigan guardsmen. With assistance from Community Relations Specialist and Event Organizer Jenni Caverson, Camp Grayling hosted its first Kentucky Derby Gala and 5k Run for the Roses in 2022, during which more than \$30,000 was raised for one dog.

The event was so popular, the community asked Camp Grayling to do it again the following year. In 2023, the second annual Kentucky Derby



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JENNI CAVERSON



The winner of the biggest hat contest.

Camp Grayling hosted a Kentucky Derby gala to raise funds for Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs.

Gala raised more than \$35,000 toward another service dog.

The gala takes place at the Camp Grayling Officer’s Club the first Saturday in May — the

same day as the actual Kentucky Derby. Attendees are encouraged to wear derby attire and prizes are awarded for best dressed and biggest hat. The event also includes silent and live auctions, games, Southern fare, cocktails, dancing, horses, raffles, a live race feed and fireworks.

“They say that the Kentucky Derby is ‘the most exciting two minutes in sports,’ yet what really motivates me is how the Grayling community came together that evening to save a life,” former NGAM executive director Jeff Frisby said. “Beyond the thrill, fun and exhilaration that the gala brought, we also gave hope to a veteran. With the funds raised that night, we will be able to support a fully trained dog being matched to a service member suffering from PTSD, anxiety, social integration issues or some other medical concern.”

While it may look like just another fun party, the event makes a difference in someone’s life and the community is eager to be a part of it, Caverson added.

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Make the season bright with Wild Lights at the Detroit Zoo

Wild Lights at the Detroit Zoo is back and bigger than ever this holiday season.

Presented by Strategic Staffing Solutions, this event kicks off Friday, Nov. 24, continuing its annual tradition of awing visitors with millions of twinkling holiday lights and hundreds of unique, expertly designed sculptures and

displays.

“Wild Lights is an unparalleled tradition for many metro Detroiters,” said Emily O’Hara, senior manager of guest experience design. “What makes Wild Lights so magical is that the layout is different every year. This year’s event is bringing back many fan-favorite features and introducing

some new and enhanced attractions that are sure to spread the holiday cheer.”

Highlights of the 2023 Wild Lights event include:

- ◆ The Enchanted Trail, sponsored by Kroger, that allows guests to stroll through an immersive forest scape;
- ◆ Toyland, sponsored by Michigan First Credit Union, an immersive installation featuring lighted sculptures of larger-than-life toys;
- ◆ An underwater-themed trail that transports guests to the depths of the sea and includes a new, interactive digital wall;
- ◆ The Wild Lights Lodge, a space to warm up and enjoy festive



COURTESY PHOTOS

Wild Lights at the Detroit Zoo kicks off Friday, Nov. 24.

décor and drinks;

- ◆ Three walk-through light tunnels; and
- ◆ Seasonal treats, such as s’mores, hot cocoa and warm pretzels.

Wild Lights spans 32 evenings from Nov. 24 to Jan. 7. Hours are 5 to 10:30 p.m. most Fridays and Saturdays and 5 to 9

p.m. on select week-nights and Sundays.

Tickets are on sale now, with general admission packages ranging from \$17 to \$26, based on the time and day of visit. Guests can take their visit to the next level by purchasing one of four additional ticket packages, includ-

ing the Total Experience Package, which includes food, unlimited hot cocoa, a carousel ride, a film screening inside the Zoo’s 4D Theater and access to the Polar Patio, sponsored by KeyBank.

Visit dzoo.org/wild-lights for more information or to purchase tickets.



Wild lights features millions of holiday lights.

Food Gossip

By Nina Taormina
 Guest Writer

Welcome to the first installment of Food Gossip. I’m Nina, creator of the GP Eats & Treats page on Facebook. You can now find me here once, twice, maybe even three times a month to catch up on all the juicy details, happenings, hot spots, new openings, old-school classics, you name it, when it comes to anything locally delicious and exciting. We’ll even go outside of “the bubble,” because why not? There are a lot of great places in our surrounding communities, too, that are owned and enjoyed by your neighbors. While I’ve always been known for “having the scoop” (IYKYK), I’m here to give the community a different kind of scoop — the kind you can taste.

Speaking of scoops, have you stopped into Treat Dreams yet for some ice cream? Well, this new addition to Mack Avenue, located between Hampton and Roslyn in Grosse Pointe Woods, has a very sweet twist to it. Opening early fall, this is its third location, its others being Ferndale and Madison Heights. Owner of both locations, Scott Maloney, is a resident of the Woods and the anticipation of his new location was a hot topic as soon as the news broke this past summer. In September, he opened the doors of the freshly

Painted whimsical blue building, with welcoming taste buds and tons of excitement.

Treat Dreams offers ice cream flavors unlike the norm: Cinnamon Mocha Pecan, Pretzel Madness, White Chocolate Raspberry Chambord ... which includes liquor! Say what?! Kooky Monster is the most popular and that’s just to name a few. They have 3,000 flavors, with 200 in constant rotation between locations. Can’t decide? No problem. Ask for a sample taste. If your favorite weekly flavor is off the board when you arrive, check the pint cooler. They also offer vegan flavors, milkshakes, sundaes, parfaits and grab-and-go sweets as well, including Mimi’s Brownies from Mimi’s Bistro. Delicious coffee and espresso is always a bonus in my book too. I can’t wait to see what their Christmas flavors will be.

Starting the end of this month, on Mondays they’re welcoming “Treat Dreams Gives Back,” where 50 percent of sales will go to the school/organization hosting the event. Call directly for more information. This also is a fun and learnable environment for eager students. Scott welcomes anyone age 15 and older to stop in and apply to work flexible hours and weekends. Exciting things are coming soon that you’re going to want to know about. Follow the flavorful updates on Facebook:



Nina Taormina

Treat Dreams Grosse Pointe Woods and Instagram: @treat-dreamsgp.

Twice in October Treat Dreams invited The French Cow Crepe Shop to host a pop-up Sunday crepe stand and let me tell you, I’m still thinking about how good those crepes were. Marie Wallace, the founder, originally from France, has put her heart into her small business, her little taste of home, with the hopes of one day becoming a Grosse Pointe neighborhood name to recognize with her own storefront. She offered a variety of sweet and savory options that made the decision quite difficult. I went with savory this time, but am looking forward to sweet next time. Keep an eye out for her next pop-up around town. You don’t want to miss it, trust me.

You can also find her in Shed 5 at Eastern Market on Saturdays. Follow The French Cow on Instagram to see where she’s grazing next @thefrenchcow.

This is just the start of more goodness to come! Stay tuned. Stay hungry.



Holidays at Ford House

Holiday Main Residence Tour
 Begins November 24

Home for the Holidays at Ford House
 Presented by Landscape Services Inc.
 Begins November 24

Holiday Tea and Tour
 December 10

Mistletoe Mingle
 December 14



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Grosse Pointe Gabby

The Pulse Of The Pointes

Parents in denial of needing assistance

Dear Gabby: I live out of state and talk to my parents weekly and they seem fine. However, when I was home for the holidays, I noticed there was not a lot of food in the house, there was quite a bit of dust on the furniture and floors and dishes were building up in the sink.

Also, they both seemed to be holding on to furniture and walls as they walked through the house. All of this is out of character and I'm not sure who to call.

— Back in Town and Concerned

Dear Back in Town and Concerned,

Even though you keep in touch with your parents regularly, it isn't the same as physically seeing them. I'm sure they've told you they are fine — most likely not to burden you, but maybe they don't want to recognize they are slowing down and need help.

A lot of people don't want to admit things are different than when they were younger, but there is so much you can do to maintain quality of life as you age. From what you have described, there could be several issues and concerns.

Contact The Helm and discuss your findings and concerns with the case coordination staff. They will help you find

ways to ferret out the underlying cause or causes of your parents' issues. The staff will work with you and your parents and may even visit them at home. The trained staff knows what to look for and what to ask to help uncover underlying causes.

It could simply be a need for proper nutrition. The Helm can arrange for your parents, if they qualify, to receive Meals on Wheels. They also may be able to find a resource to do some grocery shopping. Perhaps there is something physically wrong and they need a physical exam. The staff will contact you. If your parents need a ride to the doctor,



arrangements can be made for a medical escort driver or with Pointe Area Assisted Transportation Service. Maybe they are slowing down as they age and can use some additional help around the house. The Helm has volunteers who can help with cer-

tain chores, but also a list of cleaning businesses and individuals for hire who may be able to help.

Maybe they've gotten in a bit of a funk and need to get out and do something. There are tons of things to do at The Helm, including playing cards, exercise classes

and topical lectures.

If you don't know, you can't help. The Helm can help you navigate available resources.

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

Babysitter blasts on social media

DEAR ANNIE: I consider myself to be a self-aware social media poster. However, there is a family member on Facebook who posts her childcare needs at least once a week. She posts the day and time she needs and has said the names of the children who need a sitter. She has three children.

Her circumstance is difficult as she is going through a divorce. I am not particularly close with her, but not in a bad way.

I, too, have been a single mother and know how difficult it can be to find cheap, reliable childcare. There is part of me that wants to message her to tell her how unsafe it is to continually post when her children will be alone with a sitter, but I guess this is her business. Annie, should I bring up my concerns with her? — **WORRIED FOR THE KIDS**

DEAR WORRIED FOR THE KIDS: She is a family member, and you are both single mothers. Yes, by all means bring up your concerns with her. Kids come first, and if you think that what she is doing is unsafe for them, then say something

sooner rather than later. Maybe even offer to help take care of her kids when she is in a pinch so that she is not so desperate to post it on social media. Perhaps you could offer her some of the ways you found a sitter without announcing it to everyone on social media.

DEAR ANNIE: My wife left me a little over a year ago. She handled all the finances and was a stay-at-home mom while I worked to earn money. After six months of counseling and her refusing to budge, it was evident the marriage was over.

Upon review of my finances, I discovered that over the last four years of our marriage, she spent 55% of my take-home earnings without my knowledge. For what, I don't know. This amounted to \$155,000.

She says it was spent on groceries, gas, gifts and other living expenses, while our family checking account shows those expenses were drawn from it. Another way to put it is this: Combining our family checking account and her spending without my knowledge, 90% of my

earnings were spent before a single bill was paid. Is this plausible? Or does some malfeasance seem probable? — **BAFFLED BY CHECKING ACCOUNT**

DEAR BAFFLED: Good riddance. Consider yourself fortunate to be rid of her. It does sound like she might have been taking money for a separate account or spending it on things you didn't know about. I am sorry that you had to go through that, but now is the time for a new beginning. The best revenge is living well.

Take some time to heal from your divorce and try to focus on things that make you happy. You sound like a wonderful person, and I have no doubt that you will find someone who appreciates you and does not take advantage of your trust and kindness.

DEAR ANNIE: My husband and I were best friends with another couple, but the wife was difficult to be friends with. She criticized many people, some of whom were our mutual friends.

It was uncomfortable to be around her at times,

but we had so many common interests that I overlooked a lot of the negatives. Apparently, she had kept a mental list of the things she disliked about me, and when we had our final falling out, she recited all of my transgressions against her.

I told her that we were no longer friends, that I would remain cordial in public but nothing else. Since then, she has acted like I'm invisible. When I spoke to her just to say "hello," she would turn her back to me. Both she and her husband say "hello" to my husband but pretend I'm not there. It's awkward.

For the last two years, I've not spoken to either of them. We are around them often, as we have mutual friends and interests. Is my only response ignoring them, too? I would like to shock them out of their arrogant attitude. They really think they've done nothing wrong. — **FEELING SHUT OUT**

DEAR FEELING SHUT OUT: She sounds like a toxic person and not a friend to anyone. Believe it or not, the saddest part about her is how much



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

she must dislike herself that she has to badmouth others and make lists of people's negative traits.

Your ex-friend would be a much happier person if she took note of the positive qualities of others. She is not likely to change, but you can make yourself a happier person by not sinking to her level. Make a list of good things about her. Only once, I promise. But after recognizing her positive qualities, see if there is a shift in the way she treats you. Whether or not she changes her attitude, my guess is that you will not be bothered by her any longer.

DEAR ANNIE: I have been married to my second husband for 40 years, and we are both in our 80s and not in the best of health. My problem is extended visits from my sons — one son lives in Asia, and the other lives across the other side of the U.S. Due to the time and expense involved in traveling, the one living in another country likes to stay three or four weeks.

The last visit caused tension and was almost more than I could bear.

Talk has begun about the next visit, and I don't know how to communicate that the visits are too much for me to handle. Last time we spoke, I told him that I could only open my home for a day or two. He became angry and said that wouldn't make it worth his while to come. I would appreciate any advice you could give me. — **Feeling Guilty**

DEAR ANNIE: Traveling across the world for a one- or two-day visit is indeed not worth his while. You can find a happy medium between a couple of days and three or four weeks. Set a finite amount of time for the trip — maybe two weeks — and then communicate your boundaries before your sons get home.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2023 CREATORS.COM.

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer

This week at the We Tried It lab, we really wanted to find a fun game for the whole family to play over the holidays. A family football game is great, but difficult for the very young and older crowd to really participate. Board games are also fun but usually only a handful can play at once, and again the age range can be an issue.

Lucky for all of us, a video of "the perfect holiday family game" was submitted by a reader. We were skeptical mostly because of its sheer simplicity, but of course we had to try it.

Turns out the simple things are often the best

things. An aged game of beer pong has been translated into a family-friendly game that we have decided to call "Cheer Pong."

Essentially you need any decent sized table or kitchen island, a bunch of Solo cups, a ping pong ball and some cheap and easy prizes. One trip to a Rite Aid or CVS and you are all set. Lottery tickets, mini bottles of liquor (if the children



aren't playing), candy, gift cards, pop sockets, fun costume jewelry, cash or anything else that fits in a cup and floats your boat will do.

All you have to do is place one prize into each of the Solo cups and spread them out on the table. Players take turns bouncing the ping pong ball toward the cups with the goal of it landing in a cup. If it does,

the player gets to keep the prize in that particular cup. One try per person per turn.

This is a game that requires almost no skill, and is super inclusive for all ages. Wait until you see how crazy and excited everyone gets — it's just plain fun and could not be easier. One twist we tried was having a really difficult smaller cup which contained a \$50 bill. It really caused a stir and the competition really heated up.

Be a hero this holiday season and bring this fantastic ice breaker game to your next gathering. We give it 5 alligators. It's cheap, easy, really fun, and

gets the whole family involved and interacting. Happy Thanksgiving and may you have a fun and entertaining holiday! Please email us YOUR family cheer pong photos or whatever your go-to family game is to media@grossepointenews.com

We LOVE testing out new things! Tell us about your favorite item or something you want us to try for you! Drop us a line at media@grossepointenews.com.



5 Out Of 5

Thanksgiving cravings

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Thanksgiving season is upon us and my family cannot wait. So much so, that over the weekend I basically made an entire Thanksgiving meal for them. I don't have to cook this year so I felt obligated to do so.

Roast chicken was the main event so as to not spoil the excitement of the upcoming turkey and the beloved tryptophan nap that swiftly follows dinner.

Everyone's favorite is pumpkin pie and I was way too lazy to make one and too cheap to buy one. So after some research on different pumpkin desserts, I thought of doing a mousse, a super easy no bake mousse.

It was like a super creamy pumpkin pie filling without the crust and it was to die for. I served the mousse in individual glasses and topped with a crumbled, crunchy cookie for some texture.

This is perfect for a

weekend dessert. It tastes exactly like pumpkin pie. It's not overly sweet and perfectly spiced. I won't say that pumpkin pies are in my past but when I'm feeling lazy again, this will be my go to.

Cheers, Mombeau

No Bake Pumpkin Mousse

1 15oz can of 100 percent pure pumpkin puree

1 14 oz can sweetened condensed milk

2 tsp pumpkin pie spice

½ tsp vanilla extract

Pinch of salt

2 cups heavy whipping cream

Whipped cream (for garnish)

Crumbled Bordeaux cookies (for garnish)



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

In a large mixing bowl, add the pumpkin puree, condensed milk, vanilla and spices. Mix everything really well to combine.

Next, in a standing mixer or with a hand-held mixer, whip the heavy whipping cream until the cream has stiff peaks. You'll know it's whipped enough when you pull out the attach-

ment and the peaks stand straight up.

Gently fold the heavy whipping cream into the pumpkin mixture. With a spatula, start in the center and fold together until there are no white streaks left. Don't over mix or you'll lose the air that was whipped into the cream.

I like to serve this in

pretty glasses. Carefully spoon into eight glasses almost to the top. You want to leave some room for the whipped cream. Cover with plastic wrap and set in the fridge for two hours or up to four hours.

Once the mousse is set, take them out of the fridge and remove the wrapping. You can top with store bought

whipped cream but making your own is so much better. I use 1 cup of heavy cream, a splash of vanilla and 1 tbsp of sugar. Then I whip to stiff peaks.

Add a big dollop of the cream over top of each cup and sprinkle with the crumbled cookies. This set should be done right before serving so the cookies don't get soft.



Merlot

The film "Sideways," which was released 19 years ago (October 2004), shows its absurdist antihero, Miles Raymond, trashing the merlot grape variety and the wines it makes.

The film is intended, in part, to elevate pinot noir to a position of prestige. And the movie does pay homage to that Burgundian grape variety from start to finish.

However, the film also came out at about the same time that a lot of fairly mediocre merlots were being produced, which filmmaker Alexander Payne emphasizes often.

There's one line in the film that does this most convincingly. Every winemaker who made merlot at the time, on hearing that line, probably winced and had acid reflux for a month.

At one point in the film, long after Miles proclaims his passion for pinot, and before going into a restaurant, he blurts out, "... if anyone orders merlot, I'm leaving. I am NOT drinking any (expletive) merlot!"

It's true that the movie jump-started U.S. sales of pinot noir, which continue to soar. But at the same time, we also saw sales of merlot immediately decline. In a certain way, that was a fitting blow to a grape variety that, when it is not made from exceptional fruit, can indeed make a rather lackluster wine.

Merlot long has been seen as a lower-tannin alternative to cabernet sauvignon. The lower-tannin image of merlot was discovered by

acreage went from 8,000 acres planted statewide to 58,000 acres. And much of that new acreage was in areas that were either too warm or had the wrong soils to make a great red wine.

The merlots that Miles was railing against were part of that vast sea of mediocrity that soon developed.

To be sure, the film's anti-merlot comment had a negative impact on merlot sales to newcomers. But sales of iconic merlots from producers like Markham, Duckhorn, Clos du Val, Frog's Leap, Mondavi and dozens of others really weren't hurt.

Merlot remains an excellent and widely respected grape variety, often being blended into

cabernet sauvignon to soften its "savage" nature. Merlot is best when it is grown in slightly cooler regions than cabernet prefers. Also, merlot really likes being planted in soils with clay content.

Some people may find the tea leaf/olive/bay leaf aroma of quality merlots to be slightly challenging, but the grape's flavors really work nicely with savory foods such as beef stew. And such wines often respond nicely to decanting, which allows the wines to open up and display additional notes of complexity.

Wine of the Week: 2021 Decoy Merlot, Sonoma County (\$22) — This medium-weight red wine has a slightly



complex varietal aroma of black cherry and tea, and its balance is charming, allowing it to be good with hamburgers and other simple foods.

To find out more about Sonoma County resident Dan Berger, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2023 CREATORS.COM.



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4C | LIFE & LEISURE

Grosse Pointe News *Favorite Features* RAMP UP TO THE HOLIDAYS WITH SOME OF OUR BEST SPECIAL SECTION CONTENT FROM THE PAST YEAR

All through the year we are hard at work behind the scenes beyond local news, staging fashion shoots, curating and presenting great local products from the amazing shops that Grosse Pointe has to offer, testing recipes, finding slice-of-life photos to share and so much more. We are also devoted to gathering your feedback to ensure we are bringing you the type of content that you find interesting, entertaining and useful.

We put our heart and soul into developing the pages of our newspaper, special sections and website. Sometimes it seems that one time is just not enough to publish some of these special pages

with you. So we've put together a selection from a few of our favorite special sections and magazines that might prove to be particularly useful as you gear up for this year's holiday season.

Whether you are looking for gift ideas, creative ways to style your table for an upcoming dinner party, or what to wear to your next holiday celebration, — we hope taking a second look at what we put together will inspire you for the season ahead.

And for those who haven't subscribed yet, it's just a taste of the "extras" you receive when you sign up for an annual subscription. Along with

weekly local news, school updates, community information, neighborhood happenings, high school sports and more — you'll receive weekly special content designed to enhance gracious living in the Pointes. To subscribe, visit grossepointenews.com/subscribe or call (313) 882-6900.

It's a fun way to spend your week, and help you stay connected to the community around you.

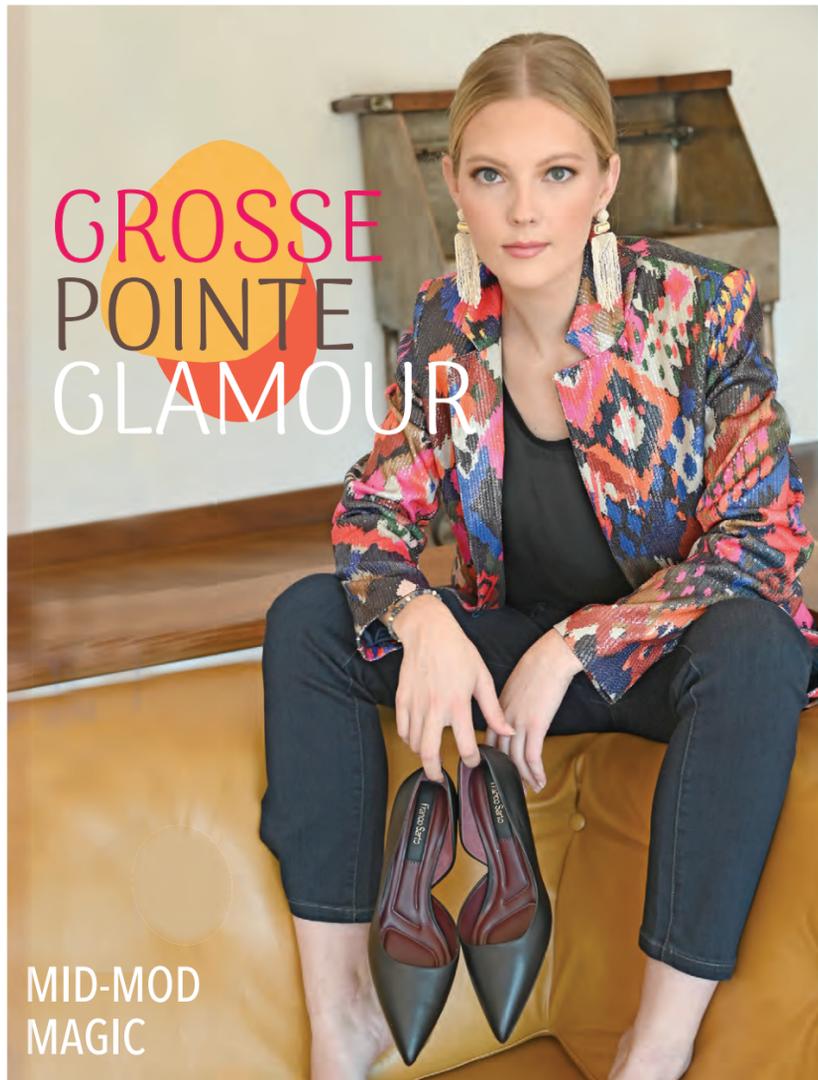
We hope you enjoy it as much as we enjoyed creating it for you.



Anne Gryzenia
Publisher, Grosse Pointe News



FALL STYLE GUIDE



An impeccably-decorated mid-century modern home in the Grosse Pointes served as our inspiration for this year's fall fashion photo shoot. The space became the perfect backdrop for the muted gem-tones and clean lines of autumn 2023. Above: Sequined ikat blazer from Faircloth Boutique pairs beautifully with a black tank top and DL1961 jeans from IRIS. The ideal closet staple black heels can be found at Savvy Chic Boutique. The eye-catching statement earrings are from Faircloth Boutique.

Model above, on left, hot pink fringe cardigan in exotic tweed, cream elbow-sleeve peplum top and boot-cut jeans, all by Lilly Pulitzer. Trending gold metallic sandals and slingback shoes accent both models' outfits. All from Village Palm. Model above, on right: Fringe blazer, over a black one-piece swimsuit, worn as a bodysuit and gold-tone earrings, all from Faircloth Boutique. Topped off with a glitter headband, from Village Palm. Oval: Good American dark jeans.



Fall weather takes us from the warm days of waning sun to the crisp chill of a first frost. This mid-weight dress is the ideal solution for creative seasonal dressing. Add a few to your closet with some interchangeable accessories and you're ready for all autumn has to bring. Model above, is wearing a captivating long indigo dress from Taylor Reese. Her go-with-everything leather wedge shoes are from Glitter & Scotch. The sweet woven bag and work-of-art jewelry are from Taylor Reese.

Inset: A gorgeous Chanel-inspired medallion necklace adds instant style. From IRIS.

For all of the dressy occasions that come during the fall season, you'll want a selection of classic upscale pieces to rely on.

Above, far right: An elegant sleek long-sleeve patterned dress and bootie, from Capricious.



Inset: A classic tailored evening look with a leather blazer paired and black leather pencil skirt. A dark green floral top finishes the look. All from Savvy Chic Boutique.

SUMMER ENTERTAINING

Refreshing cocktails, Grosse Pointe style!

Check out these friendly neighborhood mixologists' creations, designed to quench your summertime thirst (or appear at your next holiday soiree) and make this the best season ever.

This feature from a summer past popped into our favorites because these cocktails can easily be adapted and enjoyed any time of year! Irish coffee is a great wintertime treat, and there's nothing wrong with bringing a little bit of summer punch into the holiday season with some delicious citrus drinks!



WILLIE'S "KILLER JOE" PUNCH

This Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe creation has all the elements of a dog day afternoon but its just as welcome in the seasonal chill. The mix of Amaretto, Southern Comfort, Watermelon Pucker, orange juice, pineapple juice and a splash of Grenadine will remind you of sunshine and summer picnics during the cold winter months.



THE BRICKS BONNIE COCKTAIL

When you're ready for a break, it's time to hit The Bricks. Their "Bonnie" cocktail hits the spot any time of year. Made with Blanco Tequila, thyme simple syrup, grapefruit, lime, and soda, it's a refreshing surprise for yearning taste buds. It's a citrus marvel that's as pretty as a snowflake. The Bricks is open to quench your thirst at 5 p.m. daily.



IRISH COFFEE

Stay warm as the temps drop with a delicious Irish Coffee from (you guessed it) Irish Coffee! Nobody does it better, and paired with their famous burger and hot fries, you'll be warm down to your toes in no time. The atmosphere is just as warm, so take a break from holiday shopping or getting your tree — and treat yourself.

A NEW YOU 2023

This new year health special section featured new looks, workout gear, health treatments and healthy recipes to assist in keeping or inspiring new year's resolutions that would be easy and fun to maintain. The clothing is for inspiration only, since these items may have been snapped up — but they are a sample of the great things you'll find in-store at these retailers.



RAINBOWS AHEAD

Cute rainbow sweater, left, from IRIS, features a textured chevron stitch design in fun multicolor stripes. Pair it with high rise, flared-leg denim jeans from IRIS and sneakers to complete the look.

Also from IRIS, the raw-edge fringe button-down shirt, left, has a fun and vibrant dragon print. Wear with vintage high-rise jeans, below left, that are fitted through the waist and seat, and taper outward for a wide-leg fit that hits the ankle. Together, they're so cool they're hot. From IRIS.

YOGA AND BEYOND

Work it in Corner Active & Leisure's Beyond Yoga racerback cropped tank and high-waisted midi leggings. Look great as you reach your health goals.



Silk envelope clutch, below, in a colorful checkerboard design with delightful zipper tassel, from IRIS.

It's a **GUY THING**

New Year's resolutions don't have to be painful.

If you've promised yourself that this is the year you are going to devote to a healthier, happier you, Corner Studio is in your corner! From fitness classes to workout gear, Corner Studio and Corner Active and Leisure can assist with this year's goals. Check out some of the great men's casual and sporty clothing that will keep you looking in top form all through 2023.

Men's shacket, top, by Faherty, is so warm you won't even need a coat. Try it over the camel hoodie for a cool guy look, while you stay toasty warm.

Camel hoodie, also by Faherty, is soft and would pair great with a pair of jeans or joggers and your favorite sneakers.

Alo teal hoodie, right, is soft and versatile. It's the perfect to-and-from workout hoodie and great for downtime too. All from Corner Active & Leisure.



Moving more while doing something fun counts!

Corner Active & Leisure is located at 15124 Kercheval Ave. in Grosse Pointe Park. Visit their Instagram @thecornerstudiogp or call (313) 821-4941.

BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS

ALL IN GOOD TASTE

Top 10 bridal registry gifts from The League Shop



CONTEMPORARY STYLE WOOD AND METAL BLEND SALAD SET

Vagabond House salad bowl and servers
Above, an excellent choice for casual yet elegant family gatherings combining beautifully crafted acacia wood with sculpted pewter song birds. It can be paired with optional matching servers, below, for a complete ensemble.



Mary Jurek 14" Aurora tray
This dishwasher-safe tray is as durable as it is elegant. In hammered stainless steel, the uses are endless for entertaining and decorating. This will become a favorite gift that will be used for generations.

Mary Jurek Helyx ice bucket and Helyx ice scoop
This ice bucket, right, makes a striking statement with its handsome design and functionality. The sassy knot detail is a sweet nod to marriage. Paired with the optional matching ice scoop, it's a lasting gift that will make its presence known at many parties to come.



Mary Jurek 12" Luna bowl and Versa servers
A perennial favorite for an evening meal at home or for entertaining friends or family. This beautiful dishwasher-safe pounded stainless steel bowl with optional servers is the epitome of gracious entertaining ware.

Waterford Lismore cake plate
Below, a piece that truly combines elegance, functionality, and hospitality. It adds beauty to any celebration.



Nambe cheese block with knife and spreader
Left: This is the must-have for the couple who entertains. The knife and spreader are magnetized to the cheese block.

These stunning gifts were featured in the Beautiful Beginnings special section – but we think you'd agree that they would make equally lovely gifts for the holidays.

A gift that adds to the beauty of the home while being indispensably useful is always a great Christmas present. When it comes to gifting, The League Shop never disappoints!

For exquisite gift selections for the next wedding on your calendar, one local name always rises to the top. The League Shop has been delighting happy couples for over 50 years with bridal registry selections that will provide a lifetime of usefulness and joy. Owner of The League Shop, Patrick Fabian, is a gracious guide for all those searching for the ideal gift. He recently spoke with the Grosse Pointe News to share his top 10 picks from the shop's wedding registry.

From contemporary wood pieces to traditional crystal servingware, The staff at The League Shop expertly directs clients to gifts that express the perfect sentiment to the new bride and groom.

The League Shop is located at: 16847 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe. Phone (313) 882-6880 or visit their website at: theleagueshop.com.

WEDDING GUIDE

ESSENCE de PARIS

Paris in the spring
Love is in the air
Life's a love affair
And ev'ry pair of arms a rendezvous for two
Paris in the spring
Hearts begin to dance
And in ev'ry glance you'll find
An invitation to romance
You must fall
You simply can't evade love
The moon is there to aid love
Find someone you can call your own
- Lyrics, Paris in the Spring,
by Mack Gordon

A sea of chiffon, soft hair and sparkling fingers, this spring's brides seem to float on air. The eye petal embellishments are made from live flowers that have been preserved.

The trend is ethereal, feminine and extra with oodles of ruffles and petal hues and a focus on eyes and brows.

Makeup tones are aglow in naturals and baby pinks. Hair is classic with gentle wisps that soften and accentuate the face.

Fluffy, off-the-shoulder gown is the epitome of wedding-cake-bride appeal. From The Hive.

Starburst earrings with a large center stone, staggered baguette band and an elegant leaf wrap ring add a touch of glamor. All from Girlie Girl.

The hair is drawn back into a loose braid design. By The Beauty Parlor.

Makeup by Danielle Paquin.

Planning a wedding this year? Then you won't want to miss the annual Wedding Guide! This year's 56-page glossy magazine featured a fashion spread of Paris-inspired bridal wear, along with other helpful features for brides planning their dream weddings. From showstopping desserts to perfect shower and wedding gifts, each edition of the Grosse Pointe News Wedding Guide is full of beautiful love stories and amazing pro advice that will get you down the aisle in style. This magazine publishes in May each year and is a complementary special supplement to the newspaper subscription.



Tiered cheesecake from The Cheesecake Shoppe and decorated cookies from Morning Glory.

HOLIDAY PETS

Pets are a gift

A walk down memory lane with some precious holiday pets who graced our pages last Christmas season.



Rosie

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



Ruby

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



Sylvia

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



Louie

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



Ranger

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



Benji

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



Winnie

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

COURTESY PHOTOS

THANKSGIVING 2023



PRETTY PIECES TO BE THANKFUL FOR

Small Favors is a mecca for gifts for the home year round, but they simply outdo themselves for the holidays! You can be certain you will find the beautiful, the fun and the unusual on their ample shelves. A "must-stop-in" destination every year for the holidays. See what's in store this year!



Decorate your home for the holidays with this adorable round throw pillow, top left, from Small Favors. It's also a year-round reminder to stay grateful.

Generous-sized turkey platter, above, holds your bird nicely while it adds a festive touch. It's at Small Favors.

"Every turkey for himself" bowl serves up munchies and giggles, from Small Favors.

Small Favors is located at 17112 Kercheval Ave in Grosse Pointe. Call them at (313) 887-1774 or visit online at shopsmallfavors.com.

Garden flowers, white roses and fall stems bundled in various vases make a pretty and eclectic centerpiece on a beige and brown houndstooth tablecloth, left. Leather chargers frame beautiful autumn-themed mixed china with coordinating cloth napkins, topped with pheasant feathers for a fall touch. Lush feather placemats under the chargers add even more textured beauty to the setting. Silver stemware completes the look.



Cute Mr. Tom Turkey, right, is made of sturdy metal, so he can come back year after year, unlike the fellow being served for dinner. Check out this sweet Thanksgiving decoration, and so much more to brighten up your party, at Small Favors.



(Reminder: Items are from last Thanksgiving. While some may still be available, there is no guarantee they will still have every item pictured here in stock.)



Congratulations to Kiki Robinson of Grosse Pointe Farms, who is the winner of a \$100 League Shop gift card!

8C | LIFE & LEISURE



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MANO A MANO FILMS & CLASSIC FILMS

Above left, Gotaro Tsunashima as Hiromitsu Tachibana and Toni Collette as Sandy Edwards in the 2003 movie "Japanese Story," directed by Sue Brooks.

MOVIE REVIEW
"Japanese Story"
2003 -Rated R
1 hr 46 min
★★★★☆

No doubt you've heard me say this before, opals aren't the only gems to come out of Australia. Quite a few excellent films also come from down under, which sadly are largely ignored by

the rest of the world. If you're a regular reader of this column, you've probably seen reviews of my favorite ones.

I recently discovered this beautiful film by director Sue Brooks and I've added to my "Best of..." list of great Australian flicks.

"Japanese Story" is a bit hard to describe. It's sort of a (anti-) buddy

road trip movie. After you watch it you'll see what I mean. It focuses on two characters and I want to say it's dialogue driven, even though there are long periods of silence between the two leads. What they say with their facial expressions often serves as conversations that slowly propel the movie forward.

Sandy Edwards (Toni Collette) works for an Australian mining company. One day a visitor Hiromitsu Tachibana (Gotaro Tsunashima), arrives from Kyoto, Japan. His father has a financial stake in the company, and against her will, Sandy has been tasked with showing him



Sandy (Toni Collette) & Hiromitsu (Gotaro Tsunashima) enjoy the scenery.

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin



around. She's miffed and complains that, "she's a geologist not a Geisha girl." Right from the start, Hiromitsu treats her like a servant/driver. He even makes her load his luggage into their rental vehicle.

One couldn't find a more dissimilar couple. He's a quiet, stiff, boring type, while Sandy is a fiery, brash woman who speaks her mind. The couple visits one of the company's mining operations, which is basically just a massive hole in the ground. But Hiromitsu wants to see more. A whole lot more and Sandy is pressed into service.

As they head further and further into the Outback, she constantly warns him that it's dangerous territory and people die out there all the time. He's having none of it and eggs her on.

The scenery is not only desolate as you'd expect, but breathtakingly beautiful as well. We're treated to striking mountains, rich red panoramas, and thick scrubland. Accompanying the lonely vistas is a quietly haunting score by Elizabeth Drake. Ian Baker's fine camerawork also contributes to the feeling of isolation.

They make a few attempts to communicate as they venture farther from civilization. All the while, Sandy constantly reminds him of the potential for their demise. The turning point comes when their Jeep gets stuck in a rut. After hours of struggling with the vehicle, they

eventually give up and brace themselves for a wickedly cold night. They gather firewood to keep them from freezing to death.

It's after this close encounter with the grim reaper that their relationship changes. They don't exactly fall in love, however they realize they need each other more than they initially thought.

Spoiler alert (sort of)

It's at this point where the movie takes a dramatic turn. There isn't an unexpected twist near the end that will make you gasp in surprise. But something happens about two-thirds of the way through the movie that changes everything. If you don't want to hear about it dear reader, I'd stop here and just see the movie for yourself.

If you're still reading, I'll tell you what happens next. In a freak accident, Hiromitsu dies. It comes as a total shock, and you can sense just how deeply this affects Sandy. Ms. Collette's facial expressions alone tell you so much. She not only feels grief, but also seems to be saying, "It wasn't supposed to turn out this way!" The last part of the movie involves her handling the details of dealing with the body, and you can totally empathize with her situation. Few actors can convey such a feeling of hopelessness and despair as well as she does. When you consider she's on the screen for about 90 percent of the film, that's a significant accomplishment.

I can't recall ever seeing Toni Collette in a film that was less great. Her credits include "Knives Out," "Hearts Beat Loud," "Little Miss Sunshine," and "The Hours." I think "Japanese Story" ranks right up there with her finest work.

Note to parents: The film is rated "R" due to some brief nudity and a

tasteful lovemaking scene.

Currently streaming for free on Kanopy and Hoopla (with your library card), Freevee, and Tubi. Also on Plex, Pluto TV, and Prime Video.

My rating system:

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

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

★★★ Pretty good. In fact, if there weren't any other movies in your queue, you might watch it again.

★★★★ One you'd recommend to friends.

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

About this column:

My main focus is on films that I feel have gone under the radar and deserve more recognition.

They include both mainstream and indie films streaming on services like Netflix, Hoopla, and Kanopy. I'll also review noteworthy new theatrical releases as well.

For movie trailers, visit [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com).

If you have any suggestions, feel free to email me at: dominmark@yahoo.com.

Also, if you're looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com.

Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: After 2:55 a.m. EST today, there are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions. The Moon is in Capricorn.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, November 16 2023:

You are intelligent, perceptive and full of purpose. You are also caring and have the best interests of others at heart. This is a year of learning and teaching. Explore philosophies that will give you better self-awareness and get you closer to the true meaning of your life.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

This is a good day to talk to bosses, parents and people in authority, because you look successful. Not only that, you have solid, realistic plans, and are able to forecast practical realities. Others will be impressed! You appear trustworthy and reliable. Tonight: You're noticed.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)

This is an excellent day to travel. It's also an excellent day to study or explore opportunities in publishing, the media, medicine or the law. All aspects of higher education will flourish because you have focus, concentration and, at the same time, you will network with skill. Impressive! Tonight: Explore!

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

Financial negotiations will go well because you're awake and hip to what's going on. Your mind is mentally focused so that you won't overlook details. You will also be concerned with the practical results later. Meanwhile, everyone wants to press the flesh and say hi. Tonight: Check your finances.

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

Discussions with partners and close friends will be productive today. Your interactions with others will be upbeat and friendly. At the same time, you will be down to earth, practical and ready to make serious plans for the future. In fact, your ability to network today is excellent! Tonight: Cooperate.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

This is a positive day at work (or for any task that you set for yourself today), because your ability to relate to others is excellent. Furthermore, you can accomplish things. You will see the most efficient way to do something. Even your health feels better today. Tonight: Work.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

This is an excellent day to schmooze and promote the arts or anything to do with the entertainment world or the hospitality industry. It's a good day to relate to your kids. It's also an excellent day for financial speculation. This evening, feelings might be touchy. Nothing's perfect. Tonight: Play!

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Family discussions will go well today. In fact, you might enjoy entertaining at home, especially if you want to deal with some practical, down-to-earth matters, or get answers or help from someone. This is also a good day to ask for money — perhaps a loan or a mortgage. Tonight: Relax.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You're happy today, which is why you're glad to talk to others. But you won't just be a social butterfly. Oh no. You have practical ideas and something solid in mind, which

is why you might network with people and enlist the help of someone to achieve your goals. Smart! Tonight: Conversations!

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Today the Moon is in your Money House dancing with your ruler Jupiter, which bodes well for your ability to make money today or improve your earnings. Or perhaps you will buy something that really pleases you. Either way, trust your moneymaking ideas. Tonight: Check your belongings.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You feel friendly to others today, which is why your social skills are excellent. In particular, you will enjoy interactions with your kids. Financial speculation is favored today. Likewise, your enjoyment of the arts, sports and entertaining diversions will please you. Tonight: You're strong.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

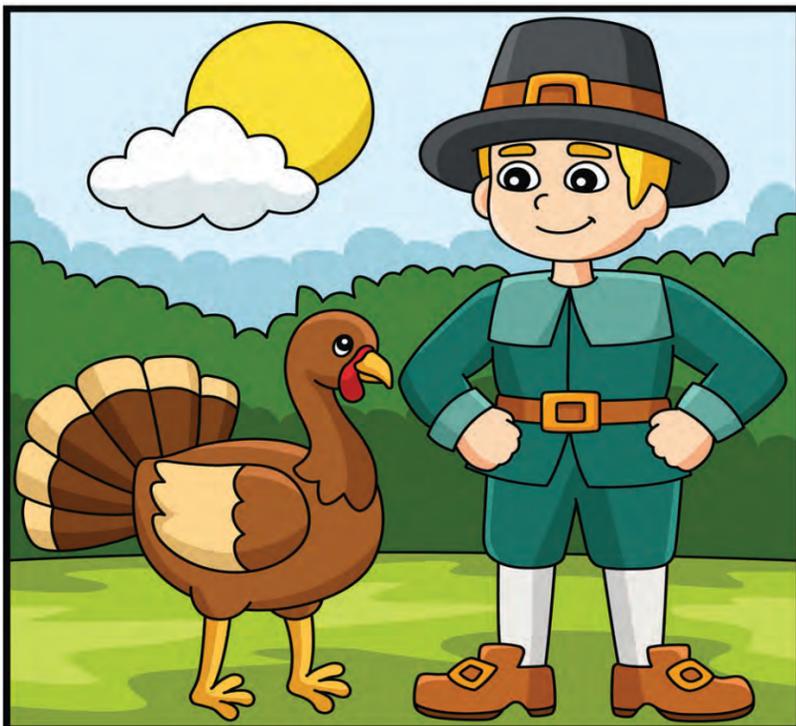
This is a feel-good day! You might relax and take some private time for yourself. Nevertheless, you will also enjoy travel opportunities or chances to explore your world. You will be prudent financially. Tonight: Solitude.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

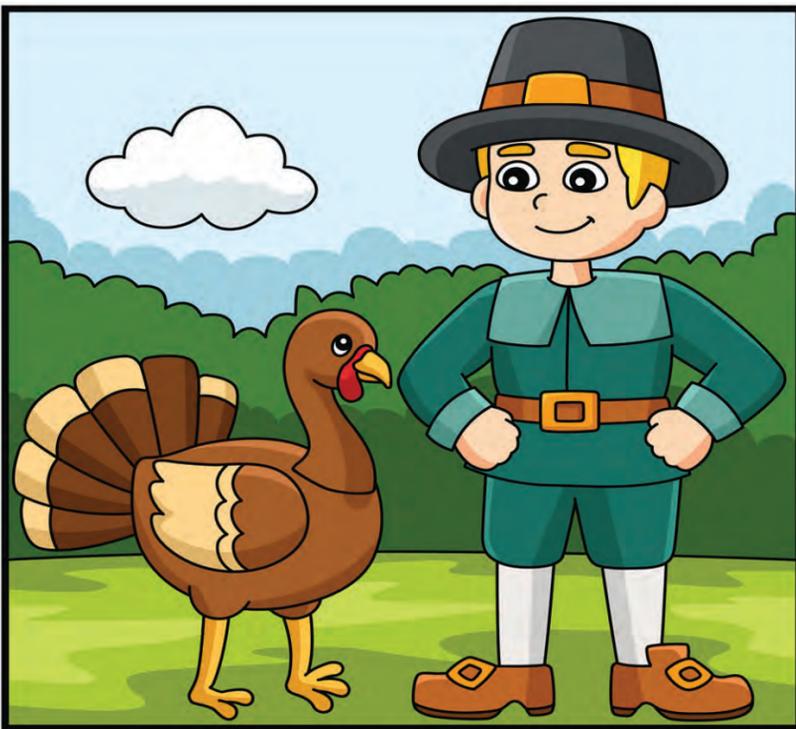
This is a wonderful day to enjoy the company of others. Not only will you be happy to hang out with friends, you'll enjoy interacting with groups and professional associations. It's an excellent day to think about long-term goals for the future. Tonight: Be friendly.

BORN TODAY

Jazz singer, pianist Diana Krall (1964), actress Lisa Bonet (1967), comedian, actor Pete Davidson (1993).



Find 8 Differences



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South dealer.
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NORTH

♠ 8 7 5 4 2
♥ 6 4 3
♦ 9
♣ 9 7 6 3

WEST

♠ A Q 9 6
♥ K 7 2
♦ A J 5 4
♣ J 8

EAST

♠ 3
♥ J 10 9 5
♦ K 8 7 3 2
♣ A 4 2

SOUTH

♠ K J 10
♥ A Q 8
♦ Q 10 6
♣ K Q 10 5

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Dble	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening lead — four of diamonds.

In tournament bridge, you run into all kinds of bidding systems. Players are generally permitted to use any system or convention they want to, provided it can be readily explained to their opponents.

It is normal for a pair arriving at a table to announce that they play weak notrumps, or Flannery, or Precision, and so on.

Many years ago, when I was playing in a national tournament, we ran into a pair who announced they were playing "Goldschmidt." This was a brand-new

one to us. They started to explain the convention, but we suggested that they hold the explanation until the situation to which Goldschmidt applied actually came up.

It never did. On the first deal, our opponents overbid their values a bit, got doubled and went down four vulnerable — 1,100 points. On the second deal, the one shown, they wound up in one notrump doubled.

I was East. I won the diamond lead with the king and returned the three. My partner cashed the J-A and led the five to my seven. I shifted to the jack of hearts, not bothering to cash my fifth diamond.

West took South's queen with the king and returned a heart, my nine forcing the ace. Declarer led the king of clubs to my ace, and I cashed two hearts and a diamond.

On the diamond, South, who by now had only the K-J-10 of spades and the queen of clubs left in his hand, was squeezed. My partner at this point had the A-Q-9 of spades and jack of clubs. When South discarded a spade, my partner discarded his club. A spade lead then gave us the rest of the tricks.

So the outcome was that South took only one trick, the ace of hearts. He went down six — 1,100 points (1,400 in today's scoring) — again!

We never did find out about Goldschmidt.

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by Steve Becker

Comics

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



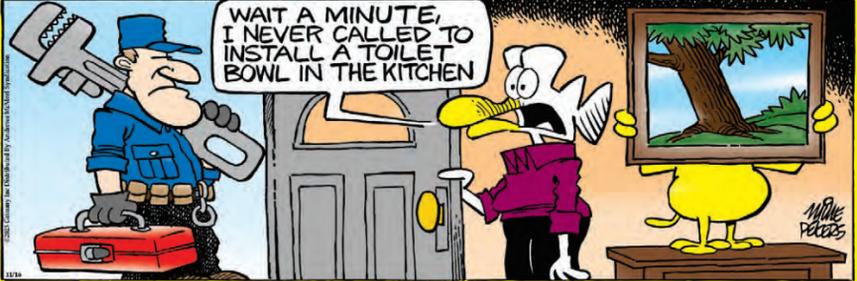
Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



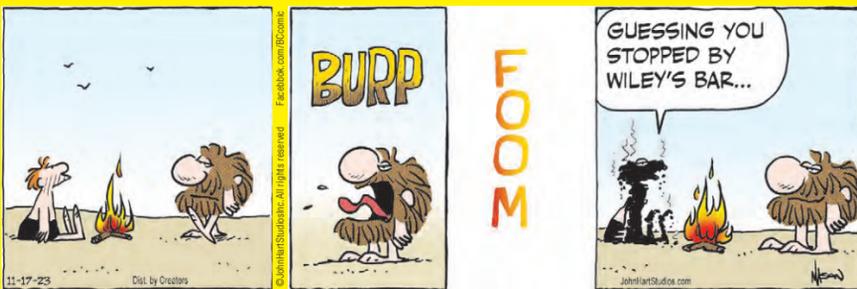
Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



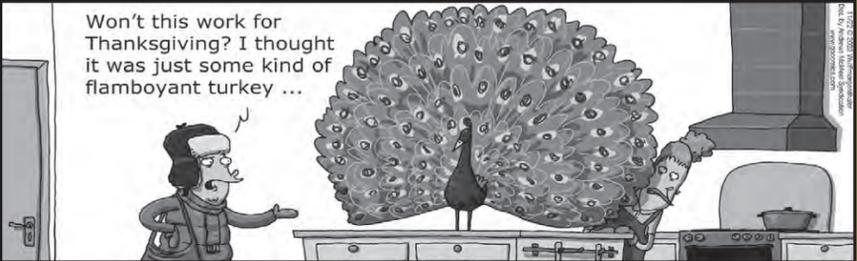
B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Wumbo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Reality Check

Dave Whamond



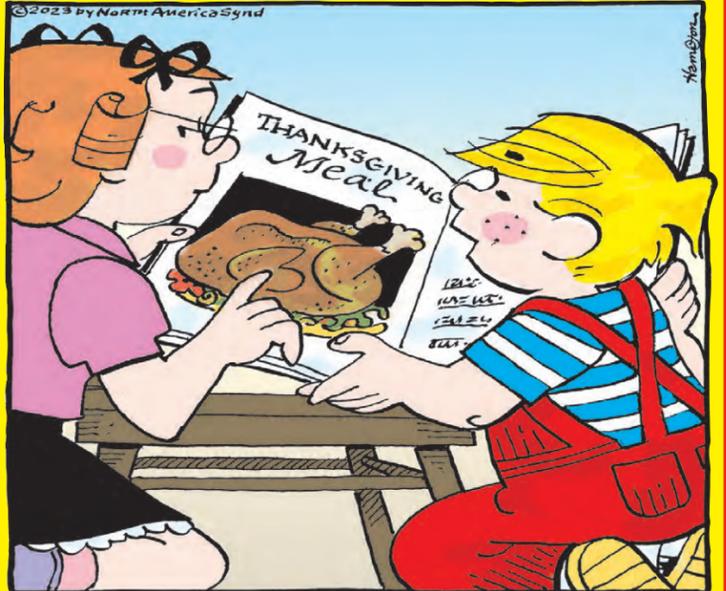
Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



Dennis the Menace

Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



"MY MOM SAYS THERE'S SOMETHING IN TURKEYS THAT MAKES PEOPLE SLEEPY. SO HOW DOES THE TURKEY STAY AWAKE?"

The Lockhorns

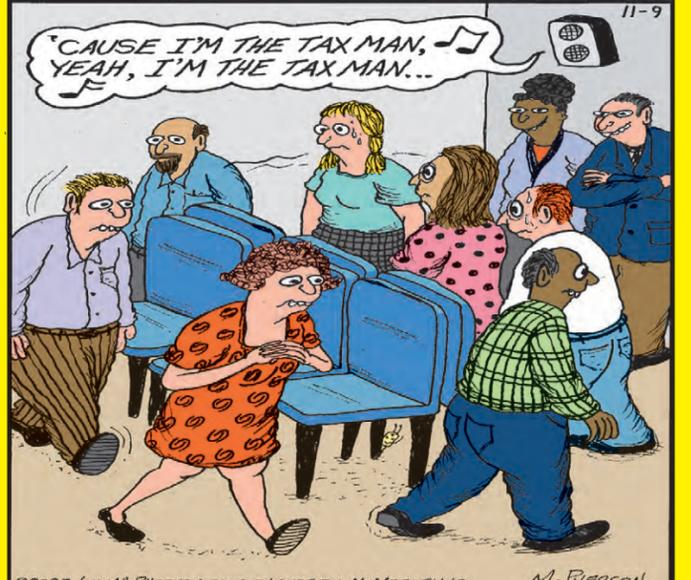
Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



"AND PLEASE SEND THE BILL FOR MY HUSBAND'S BLOOD PRESSURE MEDICATION TO THE JETS."

Close To Home

John McPherson



"Hoping to lighten its image, the IRS now has taxpayers play musical chairs to determine who will be audited."

Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



"You can stop looking, Dad. I found the TV remote."

A landfill is a place where garbage is taken and buried. Over time landfills start to fill up and then more land needs to be found. Recycling and composting reduce the waste sent to landfills. That way they are usable for a longer period of time.



COMPOSTING IS AWESOME

Do the Rot Thing!

Composting turns food scraps into good dirt that is healthy for plants.

Food scraps and other compostable trash make up the largest category of waste in our landfills. When you stop sending food scraps to the landfill, it helps to slow down the filling of the landfill. The compost facility turns it into soil that's healthy for plants.

What goes in a compost bin?

Anything organic can go in the compost bin.

Organic: Things that were once alive. For example, paper made from trees is organic because trees were alive.

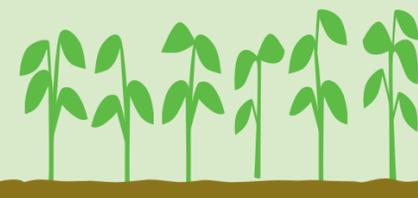
Inorganic: Things that are made of things that are not from animals or plants, living or dead. For example, diamonds, table salt, and silver are inorganic.

Standards Link: Life Science: Understand that matter can be organic or inorganic.

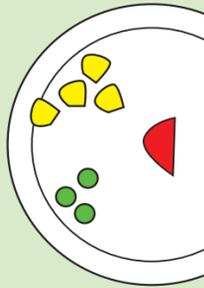


Use a green crayon to circle all the things that belong in the compost bin.

Composting: An Action That Helps the Planet



1. Composting starts with food that is left uneaten, or "food scraps."
2. Put the food scraps into the compost or "green" bin to be sure it goes to a composting facility.
3. At the composting facility, your organic waste is mixed with things like woodchips, branches and shredded newspaper. This slowly rots and turns into healthy soil.



Composting Is Good for Us!

When healthy compost from composting facilities is mixed with soil, it makes plants grow better and improves the nutrition of our food. And it keeps food waste out of the landfill where it would have created methane gas.

Standards Link: Life Science: Understand the health and environmental benefits of composting.

Don't forget to compost these things!

Do the math to see what else can go in the compost bin. The items that add up to even numbers can go in the compost bin. Odd-numbered items can be recycled.

10 + 8 = pizza box

6 + 6 = orange peels

8 + 2 = coffee filters and coffee grounds

3 + 4 = yogurt cup

4 + 2 = fries

2 + 2 = carrot tops

9 + 6 = aluminum cans

6 + 4 = pizza

3 + 17 = leaves

8 + 8 = food soiled napkin

5 + 11 = salad scraps

Why is methane gas a problem?

Food scraps and other compostable waste create methane gas when they rot in a landfill.

Methane gas molecules are released from the landfill into the atmosphere. They absorb heat and make more heat by heating up molecules around them. This can cause the earth's temperatures to rise.

ANSWERS: Things that **DO** go in the compost bin are the apple core, bread, banana peel, carrot tops, cheese, chips, coffee filters and coffee grounds, fries, food soiled napkin, grapes, leaves, pizza, pizza box, napkin, orange peels, and salad scraps. Things that **DO NOT** go in the compost bin are the aluminum can, plastic bag, plastic bottle, and yogurt container.

Extra! Extra! Organic or Inorganic?

Look through the newspaper and circle organic things (things that can be composted) in green. Circle inorganic things that cannot be composted in purple.

Standards Link: Science: Matter can be organic or inorganic.

Send Less to the Landfill

What is the number one thing that people throw away that ends up in a landfill?

Circle every other letter below to find out.

F C O L O B D A

Draw a line from each item on the lunch tray to the correct bin.



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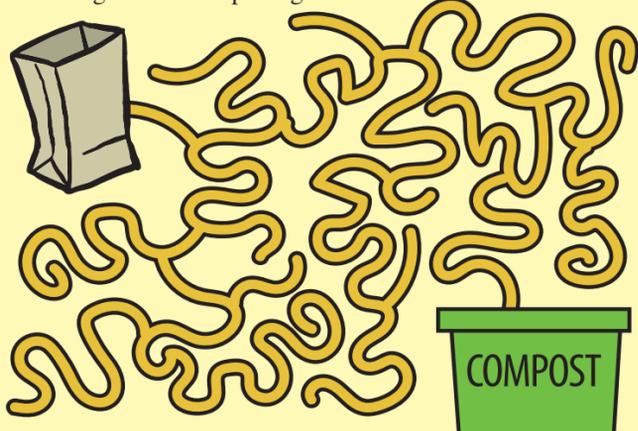


kidscoop.com/activity-pages/

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Avoid the Landfill

Putting less waste in the landfill helps our planet. Get this paper lunch bag into the composting bin.



Double Double Word Search

- ABSORB
- BIN
- COMPOST
- FOOD
- GAS
- GREEN
- GROW
- HEAT
- LANDFILL
- METHANE
- PAPER
- PLANTS
- SALT
- SOIL
- WASTE

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

T G R O W V J E D Q
L B A C D W B Y O P
L A R S O I L M O K
I B M G N M T L F P
F S W T R E P A P L
D O A V Y E U O T A
N R S A L T E N S N
A B T T A E H N Y T
L B E N A H T E M S

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **ROT**

The verb **rot** means to decompose or break down into smaller parts.

The apple in the bowl started to **rot**, and we put it in the compost bin.

Try to use the word **rot** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Have a Good Day!

Look through the newspaper and cut out pictures and words that make your life "good." Make a collage with your selections and share it with your family members. Do they appreciate the same things as you?

Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow simple written directions.

What do you call a fake noodle?

ANSWER: An Impasta!

Write On!

Take Action!

What is one action you can take to stop wasting food at school or at home?



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South's Okonoski wins diving regional; Blue Devils, Norsemen zero in on state final

By Meg Leonard
Senior Editor

Grosse Pointe South diver Alayna Okonoski edged out Warren Cousino's Sara Kozel by a 0.40 difference to capture the Division 2, region 4 title Thursday, Nov. 9, at Groves High School.

Okonoski won 335.45 to 335.05, rounding out South's team lineup to 14 individual qualifiers at this weekend's Division 2 state final, which takes place at the Holland Aquatics Center Friday, Nov. 17, and Saturday, Nov. 18, in Holland.

"Bringing 14 swimmers to the state meet, that's way above what I thought we'd have," South head coach John Fodell said.

Blue Devils heading to the state final include:

Charlotte Bedworth, Heidi Bryan, Lorelei Carr, Keira Collins, Hannah DiDio, Betty Engel, Mischa Eng, Whitney Handwork, Lily

Irby, Okonoski, Lily Petz, Vivian Rizer, Betsy Ropke and Maryn Smith.

With several swimmers qualifying for multiple events, South's prelims lineup is not yet set for finals weekend. Those decisions will be kept close to the vest, so competitors don't get advance notice to arrange their lineups in response.

Fodell said the team will begin to taper later this week, a training method that builds major yardage leading up to competitions, after which they decrease yardage while increasing rest to achieve best times.

"We will be getting in tons of yards as we build up to this meet," Fodell said. "Then we will come down real slow."

Grosse Pointe North has three individual qualifiers and added four relay swimmers to its state roster.

But before its state roster was set, North



COURTESY PHOTO

South's Alayna Okonoski graces the deck at Groves High School last week as the Division 2 regional diving champion, alongside her diving coach Tom Mulhern.

had some excitement in its final opportunity to achieve additional state

cuts in the Nov. 7 "Last Chance" meet at South. Avery Beal qualified for

the 200 free at the meet, placing first in 1:57.23 and knocking 4.64 seconds off her seed time. With that swim, Beal has earned a state cut in all eight individual events.

Addie Wakefield also qualified in another individual event at Last Chance, dropping 0.79 seconds off of her seed time to win the 100 free in 55.91. She earned a state cut in the 50 free earlier in the season.

Rylee Nugent narrowly missed a state cut in the 500 free by 0.8 seconds in the final meet.

Cailey Hard rounds out the Norsemen's three individual state qualifiers, earning state cuts in the 200 free, 500 free, 50 free and 100 free. Per MHSAA rules, each swimmer is allowed to swim two individual events and two relays, or three relays with no individual entries. In addition to three individual qual-

ifiers, North also will field three relay teams at finals. They include the 200 medley (Nugent, Elianna Orlando, Mia Melhem and Kennedy Hasting), the 200 free (Wakefield, Melhem, Hard and Beal) and 400 free (Hard, Hasting, Wakefield and Beal).

For individual events at states, Beal will swim the 50 and 100 free. Hard will swim 200 and 500, while Wakefield will compete in the 50 free and 100 free.

North head swim and dive coach Chris Trepanowski said his team is riding momentum at the right time.

"Our girls had a fantastic MAC Red meet (Nov. 4)," he said. "We had 17 girls swim season-best times and nine earned All-Conference honors. ... We were successful in meeting our season goal of taking second place overall at the meet. The girls were all super supportive and encouraging of each other."

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Petz pulls off the impossible to qualify for 50 free in this weekend's state meet

By Meg Leonard
Senior Editor

To the delight of her coaches, family and teammates, Grosse Pointe South senior Lily Petz achieved what some experts told her was impossible by earning a state-qualifying cut in the 50 free for this weekend's Division 2 state final in Holland — and she did so in her first and only meet of the season Tuesday, Nov. 7.

Petz, a Blue Devils swim and dive co-captain, earned the cut by

0.02 seconds in a qualifying time of 25.57. Her comeback performance was akin to a fist-pumping movie ending, considering she has spent the entire 2023 season out of the pool after an Aug. 14 surgery to repair her ACL.

Early last week, when doctors finally cleared her to compete again, she took her one and only shot at qualifying for states in what's known as the season's "Last Chance" meet, which took place at South.

"I definitely did not

think I would be getting a state cut time at Last Chance," said Petz, who has slowly been taking part in practices the last few weeks.

"I was just so overjoyed to be swimming again that I didn't care what I went or how I did."

Instead, for the first time in a long time, she swam just for the love of it.

"Last year I kind of lost my love for the sport because I was so focused on times and pushing myself so hard," she said. "This year when swim-

ming was almost taken from me, I found my joy for swimming again and how it was way more than the numbers up on the board."

Petz said she felt calm before her race, despite facing the last opportunity of her high school swim career to make the state team.

"Walking over to the block, I had some teammates telling me I was gonna do it, I was gonna get my cut, but I laughed it off because how could I? It was my first meet back swimming high school in over a year," she said.

Her head coach, John Fodell, said no one expected Petz to have the kind of swim she did.

"We were all just so excited to have her back to race, at least so she could have a taste of



Grosse Pointe News
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
Lily Petz
School: Grosse Pointe South
Sport: Swim and dive
Sponsored by Pointe Capital Management



COURTESY PHOTO

Lily Petz (center) learns she just earned a state cut in the 50 free at last week's Last Chance meet, the first and only time she has competed in 2023 after suffering an ACL injury last summer.

competing this season, and she elongated that taste," he said. "So everyone was pretty excited for her."

Fodell said he believes

through Petz's recovery, she managed to get stronger physically and mentally.

"I think a lot of it is that she was so focused on getting rehabbed that she actually got stronger," he said. "Last year, she was supposed to be the fourth-fastest returning 50 in the state and she just didn't quite have the year she hoped, so there's a mental component to it too," he said. "I mean this is just icing on the cake."

See ATHLETE, page 6D

Captain Comeback

- Earned a state-qualifying time in the 50 free in her one and only varsity swim meet this season, which was delayed by an ACL tear and surgery in August
- Co-captain for Grosse Pointe South's girls varsity lacrosse and swim and dive teams
- Named 2023 second team All-State for girls lacrosse as a center midfielder



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2D | SPORTS

Red Barons celebrate season of success

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The East Detroit Tiger Cats varsity football team had not trailed this entire fall season, that was until the clock read 0:00 at the end of the Eastern Suburban Football League varsity championship game. On that day, Nov. 4, it was the Grosse Pointe Red Barons varsity team that was ahead in the seconds when it mattered most.

The Red Barons were victorious that night 6-0, with those six points coming on a 21-yard touchdown pass from Ethan Morgan to Cole Parlangelini in the game's final seconds.

"Ethan put the ball up high and Cole went and snatched it against their two best players," Red Barons varsity coach Barre Mackie said about the final play. "...A fairy tale ending. But there was never a doubt or flinch in the kids."

That final play was set up by a few other key plays during crunch time.



COURTESY PHOTO

Cole Parlangelini, center, goes up to make the game-winning catch for the Red Barons in the ESFL varsity championship game Nov. 4.

The Red Barons converted on a fourth down a few plays before that allowed the team to not only keep holding onto

the ball but also stay in control of the clock. A nearly 20-yard run by Shelby Jones was one of the other final big plays

that then put the Red Barons in position to make the game-winning throw. The win allowed the Red Barons to avenge their only loss of the season. It was also redemption for the varsity team in the championship, as the Red Barons fell in last year's ESFL varsity championship to the Warren Jets.

"Really, the pursuit for this championship started a year ago in that game," Mackie said. "I believe the motivation and hunger and experience some of those players gained in going through that, sometimes in order to be successful you have to learn how to handle struggle and defeat. Working to get back to that spot with a core group of players and some who stepped up from JV to join us made it special."

Winning the varsity championship capped off what was a year of overall success for the Red Barons program. Along with the varsity team

winning the title, the Red Barons' JV and freshman level teams were the runners up in their respective divisions.

Sharing in the success was the Red Barons' cheer program, who also produced its share of

was super exciting."

The success that the Red Barons program has seen this year has made 2023 another landmark in the growth of one of the area's top youth football programs. The Red Barons are seeing more

'...A fairy tale ending. But there was never a doubt or flinch in the kids'

BARRE MACKIE, RED BARONS VARSITY HEAD COACH, ON HIS TEAM'S LAST-SECOND WIN

champions. The Red Barons cheerleaders were ESFL champions this year at the varsity, JV and freshman levels, making the program this year's all-around cheerleading champions.

"To be honest, there's almost never a time when every single stunt hits," Red Barons cheer coordinator Renee Jakubowski said about the championship cheer competition. "But that day, the hard work really paid off and everything hit. They were up for every stunt and everybody remembered where to be and when. It

and more interest from kids around the Pointes every year. With this season ending with a championship capped off by an incredible play that has made the rounds on social media, leaders of the Red Barons believe it will only drum up more hype for the program.

"A lot of kids that I know have a much greater exposure to (the program)," Red Barons Vice President Brian Arnold said. "We're really hoping that an exciting moment like that can really draw a bunch more people in."

Cooper retirement party set for Nov. 18

Calling all past and present Grosse Pointe North cross country runners, as well as family and friends from the Norsemen community: It's time to celebrate the retirement of legendary girls cross country coach Scott Cooper

from 7 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18, at Fishbones Rhythm Kitchen and Cafe, 23722 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

Event attendees will celebrate Cooper's accomplished 31-year coaching career with

appetizers, desserts and soft drinks, as well as a cash bar for those 21 and older.

While there is no charge to attend, guests can donate to defray direct event costs and support North student scholarships via

Venmo, @cooperRetirement. Guests also can drop off cash or checks at 830 S. Oxford, Grosse Pointe Woods.

The cross country family also is encouraged to create a video message and/or upload a favorite cross country

photo with Cooper for a slideshow that will run at the event. Videos and photos may be uploaded on North's girls cross country Facebook page.

In lieu of gifts, Cooper requests donations go to the Macomb County Humane Society, an

organization where the retiring head coach volunteers weekly, at humanesocietyofmacomb.org

RSVP for the event on North's girls cross country Facebook page.

— Meg Leonard

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Marian outmatches South in three straight sets to win regional title

By Meg Leonard
Senior Editor

In what head coach Janeil DiVita called “the toughest match of the season,” Grosse Pointe South varsity volleyball faced Division 1 juggernaut and reigning state champion Bloomfield Hills Marian in the regional final at Cass Tech Thursday, Nov. 9, and got a taste of how difficult it is to dethrone a champion, losing in three straight sets 25-13, 25-15 and 25-15.

“We knew we had to prepare for a faster and more dynamic offense than anyone we have seen throughout our season,” DiVita said. “They just have more depth in their lineup than we’ve been used to, obviously going to who they want as far as attackers, and they play great defense too.”

The Blue Devils witnessed Marian’s depth

of talent before the first whistle, when a technical glitch during the national anthem brought the Mustangs’ Cecelia Murray up to the mic. The middle blocker belted out “The Star-Spangled Banner” in an a capella performance worthy of an “American Idol” finale.

South then saw even more talent on the floor. The Blue Devils opened the first set with a service error, giving Marian the ball and the game’s first point. South stayed in the fight, using middle hitter Gabby DiVita’s big swing to go up 5-4.

From there, South had a series of miscommunications and difficulty getting the ball out of the back row. Good volleys were few and far between in the set, often disrupted by Blue Devil errors. Up 20-13, Marian rattled off five straight points to take set one.

“First set, we obvi-

ously struggled passing,” DiVita said. “We were out of system and had trouble getting our offense going.”

The second set brought much of the same, with South facing a quick 13-7 deficit before calling a timeout.

“We just talked about being better with our ball control and had to get that ball back in front of our setter so we would have more options on offense,” DiVita said. “I thought we really cleaned that up in the second set, but at the end, we struggled with some of our blocking. We have some weaknesses and they exposed those. And they went over some of our blocks, so that was hard to strategize and do much about it on that front.”

Down 19-9, South took advantage of some unforced errors from the Mustangs, closing the gap to 20-14. From there, the Mustangs got aggressive at the net and allowed only one Blue Devil point before taking set two 25-15.

“Their tempo is faster than we have seen all season and our blockers were having a hard time adjusting,” DiVita said. “... All around (Marian is) well-coached and even though they are young, they have a lot of experience at the same time.”

The third set was a virtual duplicate of set two, with South scoring intermittent points in between Marian runs. The Mustang offense took advantage of its weapons, moving the ball between its middle



PHOTOS BY MEG LEONARD

South’s Sydney Hoffman sets the ball during the regional final against Marian.



South senior Ally Edwards passes the ball while Liliah Supino (No. 12) approaches the net in the Blue Devils regional final match against Marian.

hitters and pins, hitting open spots near the 10-foot line and deep in the back row for kills.

South stared down a several-point deficit for most of the set, eventually losing 25-15.

The win advanced Marian to the Division 1 quarterfinals against Farmington Hills Mercy at Dearborn High School Tuesday, Nov. 14, after press time.

In the Blue Devils’ loss, Gabby DiVita had 11 kills, 14 digs and one ace. She ends the season as the No. 2-ranked sophomore in Michigan

and the No. 8-ranked player nationally.

Senior Eleni Melhem had 12 digs and one ace, while senior Ally Edwards had three blocks in the regional final.

Despite the season-ending loss, Coach DiVita said it will serve as a good learning experience.

“We have a lot of youth on this team, so to be able to be in a game like this, (we learned) we have to stay consistent and fight throughout the whole match,” she said. “I thought we did a

decent job with that. We did have some lulls, but I think we started to lose a little confidence. We have never played Marian since I have been here in the program and they have been a powerhouse, so it’s just good to have this experience.”

DiVita said a team priority will be to develop other weapons in the off-season.

“... Ultimately we are a team and the more dynamic we can be, the more we can get other hitters involved,” she

See SOUTH, page 6D

Local teacher helps immerse fans in some of football’s biggest rivalries

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Many would say that what makes college football great is the passion and tradition shared by the teams and fans. Rivalry trophies have become part of many traditions over the decades in college football, especially for programs like Michigan and

Michigan State.

In fact, the in-state rivalry is what inspired Brian McDonald, a social studies teacher at Parcels Middle School, and his business partner Pat Kelly, to kickstart a new business that has become bigger than they could have imagined. It all began in 2008, when the duo’s beloved Spartans defeated

Michigan for the first time in six years.

“(Pat) sends me a text saying how sweet it would be to have a Paul Bunyan Trophy,” McDonald said. “... That was also the year Michigan State brought it out on the field, which hadn’t really been done before, so it wasn’t as well known as something like the Little Brown Jug (at Michigan).”

“... That’s really how it started, with the idea that my buddy and business partner has a sweet basement and just wanted one to display in his mancave. We did some research and started to figure out this might be something people want to buy.”

That was how Rivalry Trophy came to be. McDonald and Kelly now help fulfill orders from football fans around the world who want to commemorate their fandom with replicas of some of the most historic trophies in the game.

Since it all began with the Paul Bunyan Trophy, McDonald and Kelly have largely focused on creating replicas of trophies fought for throughout the Big Ten, such as the famous Little Brown

Jug and Paul Bunyan’s Ax. Even now, they are planning on adding more Big Ten trophies to their selection. Soon, fans can look to buy replicas of the Victory Bell, fought for between Penn State and Minnesota, Illinois and Northwestern’s Land of Lincoln Trophy and more.

“These really are a Big Ten thing for the most part just because of our footprint and where we’re located and the ease of getting them to customers, we’ve always been Big Ten centric,” McDonald said. “When we look to expand, it’s either in the case of a really cool rivalry with good history, and there has to be a fanbase for it. We get people emailing us all the time about ones we have to make... It’s about coolness of the trophy and the ability to replicate it well, especially in cases when we aren’t doing it for a big school.”

The Big Ten has certainly noticed as well. As Rivalry Trophy began to grow, McDonald and Kelly have had the chance to work with several football programs throughout the conference to both improve the quality of their products

and even become part of the celebrations.

Schools have let the company come and examine some of the real trophies in order to take detailed pictures and notes that McDonald and Kelly can then give to their manufacturers overseas in order to ensure high quality and detail. Several programs, including Michigan and Michigan State, have even included replicas made by Rivalry Trophy as gifts to players, coaches and season ticket holders.

“It was incredible validation for what we were doing having the people who play for these trophies seeing the greatness and us as worthy of something to give out to players as a reward,” said McDonald. “It really is the ultimate compliment for us. These aren’t



COURTESY PHOTO

The Paul Bunyan Trophy.

just some shoddy knock-offs, they’re really high quality products that people feel proud of to give to their players or to their donors to show the importance to their program.”

One example came nearly ten years ago, when McDonald got to help deliver special gifts to the Minnesota football

See TROPHY, page 4D



COURTESY PHOTO

Parcels teacher Brian McDonald, left, and business partner Pat Kelly are the co-founders of Rivalry Trophy, a business that allows fans to purchase detailed replicas of some of the most famous trophies in college football.



4D | SPORTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Ice time

University Liggett and Grosse Pointe South's boys hockey teams line up after the first scrimmage of the year at ESH Arena Saturday, Nov. 11. In a very tight game played in front of hundreds of fans representing both sides, South Senior Vincent Sceglia scored the one and only goal of the game for a 1-0 Blue Devils win. South plays its official home opener at 7 p.m. this Saturday, Nov. 18, against Marysville.

TROPHY:

Continued from page 3D

team. This came after a season where the Golden Gophers defeated several of their rivals, including Michigan, and turned into a trip that McDonald will never forget.

"Minnesota ordered Paul Bunyan's Axes and Floyd of Rosedale trophies and the Little Brown Jug," he said.

"(My dad and I) got this big U-Haul full of trophies and we were going to drive it there and fly back. We go to Minnesota and get a tour of the football facility. My dad was a big football fan, and he's since passed away, but they were giving us tons of Minnesota gear and treated us extremely well. We didn't get to meet coach Jerry Kill, but it was a first class experience.

"For me, being able to take my dad on that trip when the business was starting to take off and he saw what we were doing was a really cool moment."

At the end of the day, McDonald still loves his full-time job as a teacher more than anything. He has been a teacher for more than 20 years, starting at De La Salle Collegiate in Warren before teaching English at Grosse Pointe South

High School and now social studies at Parcels.

"I love the students and my colleagues and the unpredictability of it from day to day," McDonald said. "Middle school can be wonderfully chaotic on a day-to-day basis."

Balancing being a teacher, a family man and the co-founder of a flourishing college football rivalry trophy replica business has never been too much for

McDonald to handle. In fact, he thinks it is what has helped Rivalry Trophy grow into what it is today and what it will be in the future, as slow and steady often wins the race.

"Our goal has always been steady growth," McDonald said. "...We'd like to continue to grow at a pace that allows us to have that balance. My business partner is a dentist and I'm a teacher and we love our day

jobs...The goal is to continue to grow and as we get bigger and bigger we'll adjust as needed. The fact that the trophies haven't been needed to pay our bills has allowed us to grow at a nice pace and allow us to do what we want to do."

Football fans interested in getting a replica of their own favorite college football rivalry trophy can visit Rivalrytrophy.com to learn more.

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6D | SPORTS

ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

It just proves you also have to have your head in the right space.”

Petz also is a four-year varsity lacrosse player and a center midfielder who served as South's team captain last spring, earning second team All-State honors. After the season, she injured her knee at a summer lacrosse camp and suddenly faced a premature end to her athletic career.

“When I got hurt, I was told swim season was 100 percent not going to happen for me and I would be lucky to play in the

table, but was still a definite no for swimming competitively.”

Petz credits determination and her support system — including her parents, teammates, Fodell, her PT team at the Pistons rehabilitation center and Detroit Body Garage trainer Terra Castero — for getting her back in action.

“My goal was to swim at Last Chance, even though I was told pretty early on that was impossible,” she said. “I think that, and the support from my team, friends and family, that (was what) allowed me to do so well in PT and keep working hard when it felt



COURTESY PHOTO

South senior Lily Petz wears the joy on her face (and a kiss on the cheek from mom, Melissa) after earning a state cut in the 50 free Tuesday, Nov. 7.

“As soon as I hurt myself, instead of going down the deep hole of what-ifs, which is so easy to get caught (up) in, I asked, ‘What’s next?’”

LILY PETZ, ON HER POSITIVE MINDSET AFTER ACL SURGERY

spring for lacrosse,” she said. “Post-surgery, I was told my ACL was able to be repaired instead of reconstructed, so lacrosse season was back on the

easy to get discouraged.” Petz echoed Fodell's sentiment about the importance of getting into the right headspace during her recovery.

“My fastest 50 free time last year was either a high 25 or low 26 (seconds). I didn't do as well my junior year as I did my sophomore year, mostly because I was too in my head the entire season.

“This year, my time at Last Chance (25.57) and then my relay split (24.80) was faster than I swam all year last year, which just goes to show how much better I am

when I don't overthink it,” she said.

Ironically, it turns out timing was everything for this swimmer.

“If I were to tear my ACL a year prior, I think mentally it would have taken me out,” she said. “This year, after changing my mindset and trying to just take things as they come and learning from these setbacks, this entire experience has definitely made me

stronger. As soon as I hurt myself, instead of going down the deep hole of what-ifs, which is so easy to get caught (up) in, I asked, ‘What's next?’”

That mindset propelled Petz through recovery.

“I kept pushing through surgery, through PT, through strength training, through doubt, to get myself to this point. My confidence is almost better now

because I know the work I did to get here and know what I am capable of.”

The Blue Devils team co-captain is hopeful to maintain her positive momentum into the state final meet, with hopes of not only swimming in the 50 free, but also getting put on a relay.

“Relays are my favorite,” she noted.

“Getting a 24.80 on my relay split definitely helps my chances of being on a relay. I think I am the only one on our team other than Whitney Handwork to have broken a 25,” she said.

For now, just as Marlin advises in the Disney classic “Finding Nemo,” Petz plans to just keep swimming. Her new goals are to make it back to this Saturday's finals after Friday's prelims and to swim a personal best time.

“I definitely didn't see this coming at all but am so, so happy I can be part of the state team.”

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

SOUTH:

Continued from page 3D

said.

“You can see with a team like (Marian), you have to be unpredictable. You can't just have one person because it's an easy thing to defend,” she continued. “We need to continue to be more dynamic, spread our offense around more. I thought defensively this year was one of our best

years. We had the want to keep the ball off the floor and that was definitely a big plus, so we have to keep building on that.”

South will have to contend with filling holes left by the departing senior class, including libero Melhem and hitters Edwards and Lilah Supino.

“I thought they stepped up in some big ways tonight,” DiVita said. “They showed some heart and some

grit and they wanted it.

“It's gonna be a loss for us next year, but I'm proud of them,” she added. “They knew this was going to be a big opponent and they didn't back down. They came out and played hard, but we are gonna miss them. They made a change in the culture that we are trying to create here.”

South volleyball wraps up 2023 with one of the program's most successful seasons on record. The Blue Devils won the

MAC White and the postseason division championship over Grosse Pointe North. South finished the regular season at 20-9-3, with an overall record of 24-10-3, including its playoff run to the regional final.

DiVita said she saw the benefit of scheduling hard teams in preseason and non-league play and will continue that into the new season next fall. League competition will get even tougher in 2024,

when the team moves up to the MAC Red.

“We are moving up to the MAC Red, so we accomplished a lot of goals this season in terms of becoming more competitive,” she said. “But in the preseason, playing some of those difficult teams led us to undefeated conference play and then we beat a couple ranked teams at the end of our season as well.”

“We're right there,” she added. “It's just

learning how to adapt and play to the tempo of that more dynamic offense and to compete better.”

In other regional action, University Liggett varsity volleyball lost its regional opener against Riverview Gabriel Richard in three straight sets Tuesday, Nov. 7, at Clawson High School. The Knights finished the season with a 8-7-1 record.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

AUDITORIUM WATER DAMAGE REPAIRS PIERCE MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, Wayne County, Michigan, will receive sealed bids for the necessary repairs due to water damage in the auditorium at Pierce Middle School; 15430 Kercheval Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230. The work generally consists of:

- Removal and replacement of damaged adhesive-applied acoustical wall tiles including plaster substrate, etc.
- Removal and replacement of damaged decorative plaster crown molding, etc.
- Decorative painting of repaired / replaced plaster
- Exterior masonry joint tuckpointing and replacement of damaged brick
- Roofing / flashing repair

Specifications and Bid Forms will be available to General Contractors beginning **Wednesday, December 13, 2023** by contacting the office of the Architect, Ehresman Architects, via email at architects@ehresmanarchitects.com. The Architect will issue the requesting company(s) electronic (.pdf) files of the Contract Documents including drawings and specifications. The cost of document reproduction will be the responsibility of the requesting party.

Bid documents will also be available for examination (no purchase) at the following locations:

- Ehresman Architects
- Grosse Pointe Public School System
- Construction Association of Michigan (CAM)
- Dodge Data & Analytics
- Construction Market Data (CMD)
- Construction Data Company (CDC)

A **MANDATORY Pre-Bid** meeting will be held on **Thursday, January 4, 2024 @ approximately 4:30 p.m. (local time)** at Pierce Middle School (immediately following the mandatory pre-bid meeting being held at Grosse Pointe South High School). Please email your intent to bid on one or both projects to the architects' office at architects@ehresmanarchitects.com.

The meeting will begin in the Receiving Room at Pierce Middle School; located at 15430 Kercheval Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230 at the conclusion of the preceding meeting at Grosse Pointe South High School. Contractors intending on submitting a bid to the Grosse Pointe Public School System must have a representative in attendance at each school meeting and sign in at each school or their bid for the unattended school(s) will be rejected by the Board of Education.

If the contractor desires to visit the project site at other times, please contact the Director of Facilities, Mr. Ben Matteson @ (313) 432-3082 to schedule its visit. It is the contractor's responsibility to review and become familiar with the job site, conditions, etc. prior to submitting its bid to the district.

Sealed bids will be due **Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. (local time)** at the Administration Building of the Grosse Pointe Board of Education, 20601 Morningside Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, 48236, at which time and place the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud. Contractor to note that the Central Administration offices are located within Grosse Pointe North High School but has its own address and entrance.

The School Board will not consider, accept, or open a bid received after the date and time specified for bid submission in this advertisement for bid.

The bids shall be accompanied by the following documents listed below. The Board will not accept a bid that does not include these documents

1. Bid Security in the form of a Bid Bond valued at five percent (5%) of the proposer's maximum bid amount.
2. A sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the Owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board of Education of the School District.
3. A sworn and notarized Affidavit of Compliance - Iran Economic Sanctions Act representing and warranting that the Contractor (including its officers, directors and employees) is not an “Iran linked business” within the meaning of the Iran Economic Sanctions Act, Michigan Public Act No. 517 of 2012.

Grosse Pointe Public School System's Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Bid Proposals, either in whole or in part, to waive any informalities or irregularities therein, or to award the contract to other than the contractor(s) submitting the best financial Bid Proposal (low bidder), in its sole and absolute discretion.

This project will not be funded by federal or state monies. Please direct any questions to Marc Chamberlin, Senior Architect / Partner at (248) 244-9710 (ext. 105) or email marc@ehresmanarchitects.com.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Grosse Pointe Public School System
Virginia Jeup, Secretary

Published: GPN, November 16, 2023

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

AUDITORIUM WATER DAMAGE REPAIRS GROSSE POINTE SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

The Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, Wayne County, Michigan, will receive sealed bids for the necessary repairs due to water damage in the auditorium at Grosse Pointe South High School; 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236. The work generally consists of:

- Removal and replacement of damaged decorative plaster walls, columns, column bases, ceilings, etc.
- Decorative painting of repaired / replaced plaster
- Exterior masonry joint tuckpointing and replacement of damaged brick
- Roofing / flashing repair

Specifications and Bid Forms will be available to General Contractors beginning **Wednesday, December 13, 2023** by contacting the office of the Architect, Ehresman Architects, via email at architects@ehresmanarchitects.com. The Architect will issue the requesting company(s) electronic (.pdf) files of the Contract Documents including drawings and specifications. The cost of document reproduction will be the responsibility of the requesting party.

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- Dodge Data & Analytics
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A **MANDATORY Pre-Bid** meeting will be held on **Thursday, January 4, 2024 @ approximately 3:30 p.m. (local time)** starting at Grosse Pointe South High School. After this meeting, we will proceed to Pierce Middle School. Please email your intent to bid on one or both projects to the architects' office at architects@ehresmanarchitects.com.

The meeting will begin in the Receiving Room at Grosse Pointe South High School; located at 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 and will conclude in the Receiving Room at Pierce Middle School; located at 15430 Kercheval Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230. Contractors intending on submitting a bid to the Grosse Pointe Public School System must have a representative in attendance at each school meeting and sign in at each school or their bid for the unattended school(s) will be rejected by the Board of Education.

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This project will not be funded by federal or state monies.

Please direct any questions to Marc Chamberlin, Senior Architect / Partner at (248) 244-9710 (ext. 105) or email marc@ehresmanarchitects.com.

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