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COURTESY PHOTO

Councilwoman Angela Coletti Brown, Councilman Todd McConaghy, Officer Eugene Gunnery, Sgt. Walter Galat, Officer Dennis Walker, Sgt. Joseph Provost, Detective Ryan Schroerlucke, Councilman Kenneth Gafa, Mayor Arthur Bryant, Councilman Michael Koester and Councilwoman Vicki Granger.

Woods officers honored

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Five public safety officers were recognized at city council's meeting Monday, May 20, including two who received life-saving awards.

"This is just part of the amazing work our officers do for what they face day to day," Public Safety Director John Kosanke said. "I am humbled by their dedication given the training they keep up with and constantly fac-

ing high-pressure situations."

Sgt. Walter Galat and Officer Eugene Gunnery received the life-saving awards.

Galat was dispatched to The Rivers in February 2022, for a 78-year-old resident who was not breathing and did not have a pulse. He and the other responding officers began CPR and were soon joined by paramedics from MedStar.

The patient regained

See HONORED, page 2A

In the weeds on zoning

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The latest review of proposed zoning updates occurred last week in workshop fashion by members of the Grosse Pointe Park Planning Commission.

There was no posturing during the regularly

scheduled meeting Monday, May 20, only questioners seeking answers. Discussion ranged from minutiae to overarching.

Commission members have for a number of months conducted incremental and contextual assessment of zoning code revisions which, by definition, are intended

to have a lasting, deep and comprehensive impact on land use regulations.

"The hope was to be a little further along," said Warren Rothe, commission secretary and assistant city manager, during the commission's meeting May 20.

Commissioners thereby added to their

meeting schedule a July 22 session to help themselves toward passage of a finished code for city council enactment.

Proposed updates also are prompted by suggestions and inquiries from members of the public during prior meetings and open house sessions,

See ZONING, page 5A

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See how to join the fun in Section C

City park programs, building fees to rise

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — City fees for parks and recreation, building department services and marina well rentals will increase with the new fiscal year beginning July 1, as city administration continues pursuing new avenues toward sustainable future budgets.

"We want to ensure we're charging the market rate for the services we're providing," City Manager Joe Valentine said, "so we're not supplementing a lot of the general fund for those services and also making sure we're covering the cost of the operation appropriately."

While marina well rentals will see a 5 percent increase in anticipation of

See FEES, page 3A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Open for business

Memorial Day weekend, the opening of local pools and picnicking at the park are all signs that summer is beginning, as are lemonade stands around town. This one was spotted Saturday, May 25, along Grosse Pointe Boulevard. The young entrepreneurs had their first customer within five minutes of setting up. The boys, from left, Nick Rondini, Jude Litton and Conor Magee, hoped to make a little bit of pocket change for some summertime fun. Magee hands a cup of lemonade to Anita Sandercott. "I try to stop at all the lemonade stands around town to support the kids," Sandercott said.

Farms water, sewer rates rising 4 percent

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — While their neighbors in the City of Grosse Pointe are being dealt a 13.17 percent increase by the Great Lakes Water Authority due to changes in its calculation method, Farms residents will receive a 1.2 percent rate decrease from the GLWA for sewage disposal in the new fiscal year starting July 1.

The Pointe also is experiencing a continued

downward trend in water consumption — some of which may correlate to heavy rainfall leading to less lawn watering, as well as the rising efficiency of home water fixtures — but residents still will see a 4 percent increase to their water and sewer bills as the flat rate increases \$2.34 per billing cycle.

"In the years past, we relied on consumption to primarily fund the water and sewer fund and we're getting away from that a little bit now ... by

increasing the flat rate," explained Lev Wood, councilman and chair of the budget and audit committee.

Project costs set to come out of the water and sewer fund in the coming fiscal year include \$911,450 for a water plant generator; \$675,000 for a Muir water main replacement; \$300,000 for lead service replacements and catch basin rebuilds; and \$250,000 for sewer lining.

City council unani-

mously approved the 4 percent increase Monday, May 20.

Recycling rate

The Farms' bi-monthly \$12 charge for recycling will remain the same.

"We're currently under a five-year contract with GFL (Environmental) that expires Sept. 30, 2026," Finance Director Tim Rowland said. "It has a 3 percent annual increase in the rates from GFL, but our current rate

See RATES, page 3A

Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Howard Bouton

Home: Grosse Pointe Park
Married father of two helps restore the playscape at Patterson Park.



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Quilt of Honor presented in memory of K-9 Duke

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Farms K-9 handler Sgt. Tim Harris can recall more than one occasion when Detroit officers began clapping because former K-9 Officer Duke arrived at a scene, as though they already knew he would get the job done.

The sergeant also has a story or two about Duke playing with a couple’s young daughter during a domestic violence call and dressing up as Batman to go trick-or-treating alongside a young, chronically ill Farms resident.

Needless to say, Duke left some pretty big paws to fill when he retired in 2022, after more than eight years of service. He unexpectedly passed away in his sleep July 1, 2023, at 10 years old.

In honor of Duke, Farms resident Mary Lamparter, Friday, May 24, presented Harris with a quilt made by the non-profit Quilts of Honor. Its design features the American flag and a photo of Duke, which was taken

Lamparter shows the back corner of the quilt, which is dated with Duke’s years of service to the Farms — May 5, 2014, to Sept. 30, 2022.



PHOTOS BY LAUREL KRAUS

Farms resident Mary Lamparter presents Sgt. Tim Harris with a quilt in honor of former K-9 Officer Duke Friday, May 24. Also attending is Duke’s successor, K-9 Officer Rocco.

in Grayling, during an annual training as a member of the Eastern Wayne County Special Response Team.

“My daughter’s going to love that,” said Harris immediately upon unfolding the quilt. “It’s about to be her favorite blanket.”

It was a happy coinci-

dence that led Lamparter, who serves as an advisory council co-chair for Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs, to connect with Quilts of Honor — an organization which provides handmade quilts for veterans and active military members.

Nichole Garner, a niece of Selfridge Military Air Museum Director of Special Events Ed Kaminski, was just getting involved with Quilts of Honor, so Kaminski connected the two, hoping Lamparter could impart some nonprofit advice and wisdom.

“I was so happy that it came my way and it was just by accident,” Lamparter said. “It’s out

of those connections and that’s what I’ve always done with my Guardian Angels service dogs. That’s how I’ve been successful. It’s connections. It’s who you know and who wants to support you.

“And we need to support Tim, because I know that dog meant the world to him. ... Tim was so dedicated to Duke, and Duke to him.”

In Harris’ home now is a room dedicated to Duke. It houses a news clipping, which Harris’ wife had made into a metal sign, from when Duke won third place in criminal apprehension in a U.S. Police Canine Association regional competition, as well as a large canvas print of Duke gifted to Harris by another K-9 handler.

Unless Harris’ 3-year-old daughter, Becca, decides otherwise, the quilt soon will join the room of memories.

“Every time I get reminded of Duke, it’s awesome,” Harris said. “It makes me sad, but I really appreciate it.”

The sergeant — who is in the process of training Farms K-9 Officer Rocco — also is having made a shadow box containing his uniform shirt and Duke’s harness, badge and collar.

“The collar he wore 24 hours a day from the day I got him until the day I buried him hangs on my rear-view mirror with his badge right now,” he said.

Woods family bike ride on tap

By Ted O’Neil
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The second annual Cruisn’ Through the Woods is scheduled 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday, June 9.

The Citizens Recreation Commission, which sponsors the event, is looking for riders and volunteers.

“Last year was the first time we held it and it was about 50 degrees and rainy,” said Amanda Starkey, the commission’s treasurer. “It was the same weekend in June, it just happened to be some weird weather for that time of year. We’re hoping the weather cooperates and we get a better turnout.”

Starkey said there is no cost to ride, but registration is appreciated.

“That way we can let public safety know about how many people will be on the streets,” she said.

Starting point is the Jackson parking lot at Ghesquiere Park, which will close for the day at 3 p.m. Those arriving after that time can park in the lot next to city hall.

“We’ll start with bike decorating at 4 p.m.,” Starkey said. “We’ll have streamers and beads the kids can put on their bike wheels. Or adults can, too, if they want.”

The ride starts at 4:30 p.m. heading north on Jackson to Van Antwerp, then west to Helen, south to Kenmore and back to Jackson.

“We’re planning on doing two loops,” Starkey

said. “We only did one loop last year because of the weather and it took us about 30 minutes. We’re hoping to have more riders this year so it should take longer. It’ll be a slow roll, so we want people to take their time and enjoy the neighborhood.”

Only bikes and bike trailers will be allowed, meaning no skateboarders, in-line skaters or walkers.

The commission also is looking for volunteers to help make sure the ride is safe.

“We need about two dozen, which we almost have, but it would be good to have some extra people in case someone can’t make it,” Starkey added.

The volunteers will be positioned at intersections along Jackson and Helen at each cross street to prevent traffic from impeding riders.

“They can even bring a lawn chair to sit on and wave to the riders or cheer them on,” Starkey said. “They just need to monitor the corners to keep the path safe.”

Volunteers must be 16 years or older.

The Treat Dreams truck will be in the parking lot at the completion selling ice cream and Bikes, Blades and Boards will have a tent set up to do bike repairs and safety checks.

“We’ll have music in Ghesquiere Park afterward so families can hang out at the playground and enjoy the evening,” Starkey said.



HONORED:

Continued from page 1A

his pulse and was able to breathe on his own after 20 minutes. He was conscious and alert by the time the ambulance arrived at Ascension St. John Hospital.

Gunnery and two other officers were sent to a residence last October for a report of a pregnant woman in her third trimester who was bleeding, vomiting and experiencing cold sweats.

She gave birth almost immediately as Gunnery wrapped the baby in a towel and noticed it was not breathing and turning blue. Kosanke said Gunnery rubbed the baby’s chest to simulate breathing as another officer retrieved a turkey baster that Gunnery used to suction fluids from the baby’s mouth.

The boy’s parents attended the meeting and said their son, now 7 months old, is doing fine.

“Saving a human life is the ultimate

award,” Kosanke said, noting this was Galat’s sixth such recognition in his 23 years with the department.

Sgt. Joseph Provost, Detective Ryan Schroerlucke and Officer Dennis Walker received department citations for their actions after the Fifth Third Bank on Mack was robbed in March 2023.

The two suspects, who were armed but did not attempt to draw their weapons, were arrested within an hour in Detroit and all of the stolen money was accounted for. It was determined the pair had robbed three other banks in the area.

Later in the meeting, as council approved the 2024-25 fiscal year budget, Councilwoman Vicki Granger referenced the awards.

“Tonight is a perfect example of how important the budget is and public safety is a big part of that pie,” she said. “We fix the streets, we collect leaves, we provide parks. But we save lives.”

Public safety accounts for 44 percent of the city’s budget.



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SEE ALL THE PARK HAS TO EXPLORE...

Dispatcher embraces new role

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — “My daughter, she’s only like 3 now, but ... she was running around in my police hat just the other day and she’s hollering, ‘You’re under arrest!’” recalled Paige Thomas.

The enthusiasm for law enforcement runs in the family.

Thomas, sworn in Wednesday, May 15, is the latest public safety officer to join the ranks of Grosse Pointe Farms.

Her husband, Sgt. Tim Harris, is the department’s K-9 handler. The two met while Thomas was a Grosse Pointe Park ordinance enforcement officer — a position she heard about because her father, Nino

Thomas, was a longtime employee in the Park’s department of public works.

“She’s wanted to do this since I met her,” Harris said, “so I’m proud that she’s finally achieved her dreams.”

Thomas started working in the Farms as a dispatcher in 2018, but complications with her pregnancy in 2020, coupled with the pandemic’s psychological toll, led her to believe she no longer was capable of achieving that dream.

“I had a lot of physical issues after I gave birth (and) I almost passed,” she said. “I actually went septic and almost died in the hospital, so it was really rough coming back from that.”



COURTESY PHOTO

Three-year-old Becca dressed in fire engine red to visit her mom during family night at the fire academy.

See **ROLE**, page 8A

Supporting an end to gun violence

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Members of the city council support local recognition of National Gun Violence Awareness Day, held nationwide this year Friday, June 7.

“We renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have access to them,” according to a council resolution passed May 13.

Members also encouraged “responsible gun ownership to help keep our families and communities safe.”

The resolution cited the shooting deaths in February 2023 of Park resident Brian Fraser and Harper Woods resident Arielle Diamond Anderson on the campus of Michigan State University. The shooter, a Lansing man with a criminal history and emotional problems, targeted victims at random.

“(We) encourage all citizens to support their local communities’ efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives,” according to the resolution.

— Brad Lindberg

Park Farmers Market starts June 15

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

A 13-page concessionaire contract boils down to a farmers market scheduled to operate Saturdays, June 15 through Sept. 14, on lower Kercheval.

The mission is “inspiring community through an inclusive, family-friendly market that showcases high-quality, locally-made food,” according to an agreement the city council endorsed May 13, with representatives of Park Farmers Market, a 501(c)3 charitable orga-

nization.

Councilman Tim Kolar, a market board member, said establishing a farmers market was on his list of things to accomplish during his first year in office.

“It’s building community,” he said

“We have volunteers and sponsors,” said Justine Schneider, a market board member.

“We’ve found 16 vendors,” said Philip Crouse, also on the board.

“Our idea is to have a consistent market,” Schneider said.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the city-owned

parking lot behind the Corewell Health building on Kercheval at Lakepointe.

Operators can access the site from 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

“Members of Park Farmers Market have enlisted vendors, outlined operations and logistical details and collaborated with city administration,” said Nick Sizeland, city manager.

The market space is to be used only as a market.

“No other special events, fundraisers or activities that occupy any space in the concession premises shall be permit-

ted unless a written application for such use shall be delivered to the city manager’s office,” Sizeland said. “Approval for such events shall be given or withheld in the sole discretion of the city.”

The market is allowed to set up a portable toilet at its expense during the market season in a location to be agreed upon by both parties.

Board members agreed to a contract provision requiring they have \$1 million liability insurance.

As a board member, Kolar recused himself from voting to approve the contract.

RATES: change in the rate.”

As part of the contract, which is shared by the City, Park and Shores, GFL has guaranteed all materials collected will be recycled and not simply diverted to a landfill.

Continued from page 1A

of \$12 every two months is sufficient to cover the cost of that contract, so we’re proposing no

The Week Ahead

- MONDAY, JUNE 3**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
 - ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Committee-of-the-Whole meeting, 7:15 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Community Tree Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- THURSDAY, JUNE 6**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
 - ◆ City of Grosse Pointe Stormwater Project and Bond informational meeting, 6:30 p.m.

FEES:

Continued from page 1A

upcoming projects related to water level changes, the most significant increases are to the base fees for building inspections — estimated to bring into the next budget cycle around \$40,000 in additional revenue.

Among numerous changes, base fees for building department services, such as plan review, will increase \$55, while builder license registration — which previously was free — now will cost \$30.

“Actually, this puts us in comparability with what the other Grosse Pointes are at,” Valentine said. “Our building official also works with some of the other communities in the area and was able to pull those fees and we noticed that we were substantially low. So when adjusting our fees, we are now comparable to those other communities and those fees that we’re charging.”

Building department costs in the city haven’t been reviewed for some time.

“So in essence, we weren’t covering our costs,” Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak said. “We were supplementing them from the general fund.”

Affecting business owners, the cost for a portable sign permit also will increase from \$25 to \$75.

Increases to the city’s parks and recreation fee schedule, some of which previously were approved by council in January, include:

- ◆ annual morning lap swimming fee from \$75 to

- \$100,
 - ◆ tennis lessons from \$95 to \$125,
 - ◆ pavilion rentals from \$25 to \$75 per five-hour block,
 - ◆ platform tennis membership from \$175 to \$200
 - ◆ and lifeguard training from \$160 to \$200.
- Neff Park events also will see slight increases, such as the Fall Harvest from \$5 to \$10; Spring

Egg Hunt from \$5 to \$10 per bag; Winterfest admission and meal, which both previously were free, to \$10 and \$5, respectively; and outdoor movies, as well as campouts, from \$5 to \$10 per person.

Council Monday, May 20, approved the new fee schedule 6-0, with Councilman Seth Krupp absent.

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Restoring memories; making new ones

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Everyone is aging. And will continue doing so, it is hoped.

That doesn't mean everyone's getting old with age. Some stay young in spirit.

A group of people in Grosse Pointe Park are preserving part of their past, but their purpose is to ensure memories for newer generations.

This month, Howard Bouton and fellow volunteers began restoring the 30-year-old wood playscape at Patterson Park.

"It's a great mix of people involved," said Bouton, co-chair (with James Ceuninck) of the Recreation Commission's Playscape Subcommittee. "The first thing was sanding rough spots and power-washing to get mildew and everything off so we can eventually re-stain or at least seal it."

Not too many years ago, Bouton, 46, regularly took his now college-age son, Jack, to the playscape for endless hours of imagined mountain climbing, tunnel crawls, setting sails on pirate ships, flying faster than a speeding bullet and leaping tall buildings in a single bound.

"We were there all the time," Bouton said. "He loved it. I loved that he loved it. It is a fond memory and an early connection to this town that made us want to live here forever."

The volunteers' work reprises predecessors donating labor to build the structure. Some of



PHOTO BY STEDMAN TAYLOR

Volunteers armed with electric-powered sanders spearhead restoration Friday, May 17, of the wooden playscape built 30 years ago by a previous generation of volunteers at Patterson Park, Grosse Pointe Park. From left are Matt Kahl, Recreation Commission Playscape Subcommittee co-chairs James Ceuninck and Howard Bouton; Jeff Pressler and Commissioner Patrick Gleason. Commission Chairman Mike Bannon also volunteered that day but wasn't photographed. More work is needed. People signing petitions to preserve the playscape will be asked to serve.

those pioneers are eager to give again.

"Since my involvement," Bouton said, "probably 10 people have approached me at various places to tell me they worked on it 30 years ago. They must have had dozens if not hundreds of volunteers."

Radio royalty

Prior to moving to the Park nearly 20 years ago, Bouton was a radio station producer and news anchor in Grand Rapids.

"I was on the air every day," he said.

Broadcast talent was mindful to check their wit against slips of the tongue.

"You can't be afraid of the microphone," Bouton said. "You also have to respect it. You have to treat the studio like a church."

For nine years in Detroit he helped produce talk shows at WJR-AM 760, one of the nation's premier stations.

"It's remarkable how much work goes into

planning an hour of the Paul W. Smith Show," Bouton said. "It's striking. People like Ann Thomas (WJR morning producer) have been producing radio shows for decades and make it look easy. It's not."

Bouton said Smith's work ethic is remarkable. "I saw it bear out over and over again," Bouton said. "He walks in to start a radio show at five in the morning and is ready to go with a stack of questions and a stack of research. He's got all the 'if-thens' and what-if-the-guest-doesn't-show-up-how-am-I-going-to-fill-that-segment type of stuff. He's also the ambassador of the station and, in some ways, of Detroit."

Traffic reports

Bouton now is regional vice president of Affiliated Sales for the Total Traffic Network division of iHeartMedia, owner of around 900 radio stations.

"Our business is collecting traffic information, which is complicated," Bouton said. "It's a big, highly costly endeavor to do."

Traffic reports are sold to radio and television outlets around the country. Reports are updated and aired as frequently as every few minutes and, typical of the fast-paced world of live radio, often updated while being aired.

"Sometimes client stations just buy the information from us and use their own reporter to read it," Bouton said. "Sometimes it's our reporter on three or four different stations at the same time. Sometimes we're flying a helicopter, sometimes there's a TV graphic package. There are all kinds of a la carte services."

Grunt work plus mod-

ern technology make everything possible.

"We're talking to law enforcement and agencies multiple times every hour for every single city," Bouton said. "We're monitoring all publicly available cameras and also a network of our own cameras that are proprietary. We use airplanes and helicopters for surveillance. We own some and rent some."

The magic comes with tracking the movement of cell phones along roads and highways.

"It's all anonymous," Bouton said of the cell phone owners or users being tracked. "We have no private information."

Location, direction and velocity are bunched into "speed and flow" data.

"It's like an algorithm," Bouton said. "It knows the difference between 50 phones stopped at a bus stop while a bus is taking on passengers, and traffic eight feet away in the next lane passing at 30 mph."

Information is registered and updated continuously.

"We calibrate information and determine alternate routes," Bouton said. "We try to apply human expertise. We are experts about that, which requires people, places and things that are in place and costly. No one else will ever build a company like ours again because it's way too expensive."

Split-second reporting of ever-changing traffic

you were in the middle of talking about it. You always have to be ready."

Recreation

No wonder he focuses his personal time on something so low-tech as a recreation commission and playscape.

"The Park is small enough that individuals can make a difference," Bouton said. "I wanted to be more involved."

Inspiration developed from irritation.

"I was so annoyed at the state of the tennis courts at Windmill Pointe Park," Bouton said. "My son played tennis at (Grosse Pointe) South (High School). I liked to play tennis with him."

They don't play together as much now and not just because his son spends most of the year enrolled at Bouton's alma mater, Hope College, where Bouton also met his future wife, Anna. Their daughter, Betsy, 16, is finishing her junior year at South.

"My son's gotten so good that I can't beat him anymore," Bouton said. "But, we really loved the courts. They were in such terrible condition. I complained about them for months, then years. Eventually they did something about it. But, harkening to what I said: Grosse Pointe Park is small enough to where you can get stuff done if you just stand up and raise your hand."



PHOTO BY MATT KHAL

Howard Bouton sands the playscape.

conditions challenges broadcasters to be nimble-minded.

"I always say that our traffic business is a perishable commodity," Bouton said. "When you're a traffic reporter, every time you look at that screen it's entirely different. Our entire performance is basically extemporaneous. You have to be able to roll all the time. You might be looking at the screen and talking about a backup on I-75. Then, the backup disappears because an accident cleared while

Casting call

Within a few weeks there will be requests for more volunteers to continue refurbishing the playscape and make minor repairs.

"We are eventually going to need to fund-raise," Bouton said. "Some of the guys were involved with the original building of it and are talking about their grandkids coming. It speaks to the universal appeal of the structure. It seems as though every household is involved in one way or time or another."

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City of Grosse Pointe

Catalytic converters

Catalytic converters were stolen between 7:30 a.m. and 6:05 p.m. Tuesday, May 21, from two Jeeps parked in the 900 block of Washington. A catalytic converter in Grosse Pointe Park was stolen the same day. A witness to the Park theft observed a gray or silver Dodge Durango, which may be the suspect's vehicle.

Straight shot

A 41-year-old Eastpointe man, who ran a red light at Jefferson and Lakeland at 9:15 p.m. Friday, May 24, was found not to have a driver's license on him and was cited for such.

In a hurry

For speeding at Mack and University without her driver's license on her at 3:22 a.m. Saturday, May 25, a 23-year-old Roseville woman was pulled over and cited. — *Laurel Kraus* Report information about these and other crimes to the City of Grosse Pointe Public Safety, (313) 886-3200.

Grosse Pointe Farms

The run-around

After paying \$20,000 via PayPal to purchase a Farms man's car earlier this year, a 27-year-old Georgia man claimed the vehicle used too much oil and disputed the transaction, initiating a charge-

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

back through PayPal. The Farms man now is being sought by a debt collector for an outstanding amount owed to PayPal.

Fraud

A 64-year-old Farms man discovered a T-Mobile account with a \$3,880.97 balance fraudulently created in his name after being contacted by a debt collection agency last week.

Foraging

Before admitting his real identity, a 41-year-old Woods man told officers his name was "Jesus Jesus," and that he was collecting herbs when he was reported for wearing all black and going into backyards in the 400 block of McKinley at 10:38 a.m. Thursday, May 23. A black bag he was carrying was full of weeds. The man was found to have a Wayne County probation violation felony warrant, for which he was arrested.

Trespass

A 63-year-old Detroit man was cited for trespassing at 9:13 a.m. Thursday, May 23, after refusing to leave a business at Mack and Moross.

Off balance

After being pulled over at 2:16 p.m. Thursday,

May 23, at Lakeshore and Fisher because his vehicle's rear tire was defective from a prior accident and appeared to be angled, a 33-year-old Harper Woods man was cited for a second offense of driving with a suspended license.

Sharing resources

A Farms man told officers he has video evidence showing his elderly father's neighbor hooking up hoses to the father's house to fill up his own pool. The water bill has gone up approximately \$1,461.75.

Extortion

In 2022, a Farms boy — 17 at the time — added an unknown person on Friend Finder and exchanged explicit pictures of himself, after which he received extortion demands for money. His parents helped him block the individual, but last week a different account reached out via

Instagram and attempted to extort him with the same photos from the incident two years prior. — *Laurel Kraus* Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety, (313) 885-2100.

Grosse Pointe Park

Nothing to report per dispatch. — *Brad Lindberg* Report information about crime to the Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Department, (313) 822-7400.

Grosse Pointe Shores

Stolen vehicle

A 2022 blue Dodge Ram TRX was stolen from the driveway of a home on Renaud around 4:45 a.m. Tuesday, May 28. The vehicle was locked and the keys were not in it. No broken glass was found at the scene. — *Ted O'Neil*

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Leave one, take one

Officers dealt with two reports involving stolen vehicles in a matter of hours the morning of Thursday, May 23. An unlocked 2024 Dodge Ram was taken from a driveway in the 20000 block of Holiday. A neighbor reported hearing a vehicle speed away from the area around 3:30 a.m.

A Kia with Alabama license plates that was reported stolen in Detroit was found at Holiday and Renaud around 9 a.m. The rear window was broken and the ignition and steering column were damaged.

Gun theft

A loaded handgun was stolen from an unlocked vehicle in the 900 block of Roslyn sometime overnight Wednesday, May 22, into Thursday, May 23. — *Ted O'Neil* Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety, (313) 343-2400.



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ZONING:

Continued from page 1A

both usually attended by the city's planning consultant. Last week's meeting didn't touch on short-term rentals, a topic of citizen interest that commands meetings all its own. Rather, Rothe focused the agenda on three articles of the 16-article, 183-page code dealing with zoning districts, use standards and regulations of building materials, form and design. Article 1, Rothe said, "largely deals with what is allowed to go where." Multi-family dwellings Most discussion endorsed existing rules about permitted locations of multi-family dwellings. A newly proposed provision limits multi-family dwellings containing five or more units to corner lots in the NR-3 residential district. The district encompasses, above Jefferson, the Cabbage Patch and below, Nottingham and Beaconsfield toward Essex Drive. "That's essentially where they all are now," Rothe said. Senior living Regarding senior living, both independent and assisted, Rothe said the designation needs an all-encompassing definition in the code despite neither he nor commissioners being aware of any such facilities operating in the Park.

Sports structures

"Feedback I captured at the open house (concerns) outdoor recreation (facilities) — a tennis court (or) full-size basketball court," Rothe told commissioners. "We don't really have (regulations for) that. I'm bringing the matter to you for consideration." They instructed him to present rules in the next draft. During discussion of Article 2, "Use standards," accessory dwellings generated attention. Although accessory dwelling units are allowed in every residential district, regulations include but are not limited to complying with setbacks and having designated parking space. Accessory dwelling units also can't be sold separately from the main unit nor be used as short-term rental property. So, too, the property owner must either live in the main or accessory structure. Regarding Article 3, which addresses building materials, commissioners softened their opposition to outdoor stucco. Stucco has increased in quality and durability in recent decades, often substituting for limestone facades, according to Commissioner Jimmy Saros, a Realtor. "I don't know of any community where development is going on that outlaws stucco," he said.

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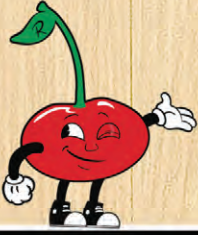


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Grosse Pointe News

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PHONE: (313) 882-6900 FAX: (313) 882-1585
E-MAIL: EDITOR@GROSSEPOINTENEWS.COM

SEAN COTTON: Owner

ANNE GRYZENIA: Publisher

JODY MCVEIGH: Editor in Chief

OUR VIEW

Short-term rentals aren't going away

To Airbnb or not to Airbnb. That is the question municipalities across Michigan are facing. Locally, Grosse Pointe Park is tackling the issue via its planning commission. While the other Pointes don't officially allow STRs, we wouldn't be surprised if there was a smattering of them around. A tenet of economics is that when government outlaws a product or service, it creates a black market. A cursory glance at the history of Blossom Heath in St. Clair Shores shows as much, replete with stories of gambling and prostitution for rum runners from Canada who only traveled by cover of night.

Three weeks ago this page offered two guest views outlining how the Park should address STRs. Both addressed the potential positives and negatives of the issue in a way that explained why the Park is being deliberate in its decision.

Jim Saros, a member of the Park planning commission, a real estate broker and a real estate investor/operator, took a very pragmatic approach. While he said he does not operate any STRs and is overall opposed to the concept — considering them a commercial use in a residential zone — he does not think an outright ban is proper based on community feedback.

David King, owner of Motownbnb.com, wrote that many of the reasons neighbors might oppose STRs are unfounded. One objection in particular stands out: availability in the housing market and how that potentially impacts the Grosse Pointe Public School System.

King noted the Park has approximately 4,600 houses, of which there are 1,150 long-term rentals, or around 25 percent. The Park also has around 20 to 30 STRs, or 0.0045 percent of the housing market.

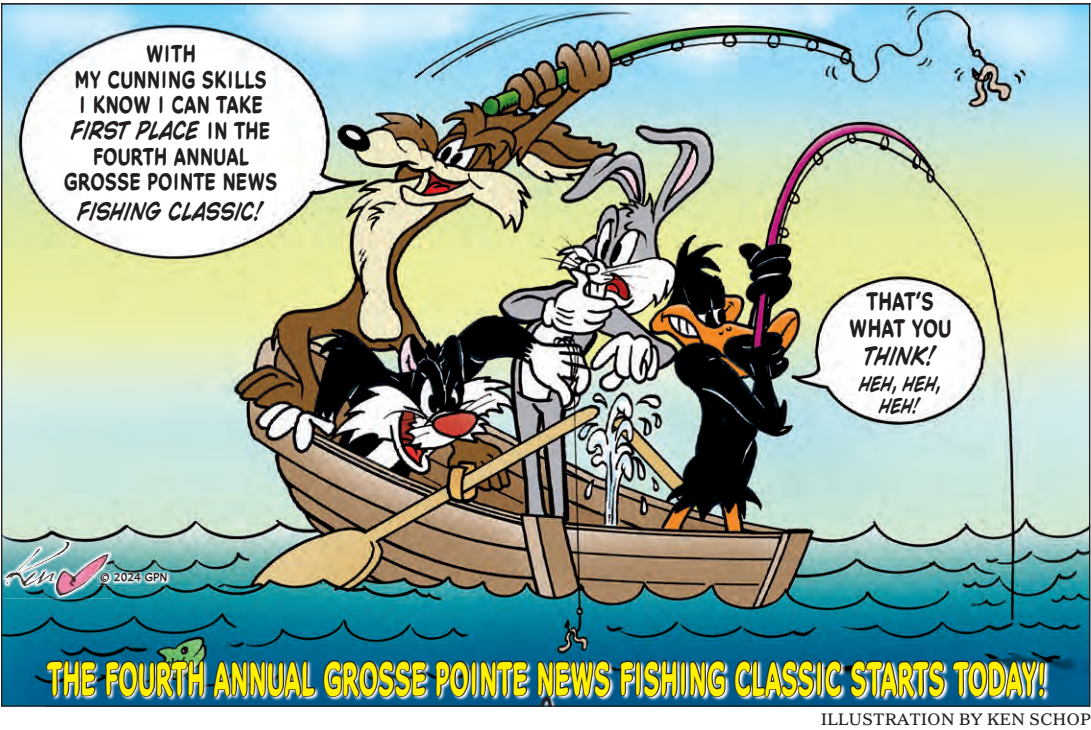
"Removing a property for STR usage may reduce supply and availability, preventing families from moving into the local school district," he wrote. "Given the decline from its height of over 12,000 students to approximately 6,000 students, 20 to 30 units have no measurable effect on enrollment."

We concur 100 percent. The main impact on falling school enrollment, other than families choosing other education alternatives, is the high number of longtime residents who no longer have school-age children but do not want to move, be it because of lower property taxes due to Proposal A, proximity to family, nostalgia or a host of other reasons.

While there may be safety and security concerns among neighbors of STRs, Saros and King agreed they are mostly unfounded. Since the Park isn't necessarily a vacation or tourist destination, many STR customers are in town for things like weddings, funerals, graduations or other life events. It's unlikely they would be rowdy tailgaters the way Ann Arbor or East Lansing might experience on football weekends.

The path the Park takes hinges greatly on proposed legislation in Lansing. House Bill 5438, introduced in February, provides for the registry and regulation of STRs. It has the support of advocacy groups like the Michigan Municipal League and Michigan Townships Association because it provides for local control, unlike previously proposed legislation that would have preempted the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act and forced a one-size-fits-all approach to STRs everywhere.

The bill would create a statewide STR database, meaning agents such as Vrbo or Airbnb could only book rentals for properties that meet criteria to be in the database. That ensures STRs are in good standing with local units of government on things like capacity, maximum rental days, insurance and



GUEST OPINION By Jennifer Fair Margraf

Tackling suicide takes dialogue, determination

Suicide is a devastating act. For the victim, it's a tragic outcome rooted in despair and desperation. For loved ones left behind, it's lingering pain, sadness and unanswered questions.

Sometimes, the response to this tragedy is a call to action. A movement to raise awareness and take proactive steps to lessen the likelihood of more self-inflicted harm.

That's what Gail and John Urso did after their son, Kevin, died by suicide in 2013. Their organization provides a unique role among those working on suicide prevention as it aims to strengthen the ecosystem by initiating resources, as well as providing a platform for a wide range of actors from many sectors to come together.

By working with school officials, health providers, researchers, the faith community, people who have lost a loved one to suicide and survivors, Kevin's Song helps to give voice to and lift up, replicate and scale promising and effective practices, approaches and policies.

Although May is Suicide Prevention Month, it is a 24/7 effort every day of every year.

And that voice is needed now as much as ever, with the latest Centers for Disease Control statistics showing that suicide deaths in the United States reached a record high in 2022 at more than 49,000.

Here in Michigan, there were 1,482 suicide deaths in 2021, the most recent year for which statistics are available. That's a 4 percent increase from the previous year, according to the state Suicide Prevention Commission's 2023 annual report.

With a rate of 14.4 suicides per 100,000 people, Michigan ranks 34th nationally.

A closer look at the Michigan data is eye-opening:

◆ Men accounted for 80 percent of suicide deaths in 2021, with the highest rates for those 70 and older. The highest rates for women were

between the ages of 40 and 59.

◆ Firearms accounted for more than half of Michigan's 2021 suicide deaths and were by far the most common means for men, figuring in 91 percent of the 1,200 fatal incidents.

◆ The suicide rate for black Michigan residents is up 39 percent over the past 10 years, from 7.2 per 100,000 in 2012, to 10 per 100,000 in 2021.

But even when the problem seems beyond control, there is some encouraging news in the fight against suicide. For example, Michigan in 2023 passed a law that allows judges to issue an "extreme risk protection order" that would remove guns from someone deemed at risk of harming themselves. The state also beefed up its firearm background check laws to cover weapons beyond handguns as well as strengthened firearm storage requirements related to the presence of minors.

Another positive development that may save lives is Michigan's recent ban on conversion therapy for LGBTQ youth, a segment of the population that's particularly at risk for suicide.

Overall, the only real way to address our suicide crisis is to keep it at the forefront. Awareness breeds dialogue. Dialogue spurs strategy. Strategy unleashes results.

That's the goal Kevin's Song is aiming for with its programs, events and outreach for both suicide awareness and prevention. Suicide is an uncomfortable subject, but it needs to be out in the open.

If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available. Call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org to reach the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.

Jennifer Fair Margraf, MBA, MA, CFRE of Rochester Hills, is executive director of Kevin's Song, a charitable organization dedicated to generating public awareness about the causes of suicide, its prevalence in society and possible preventive measures. For more information visit kevinssong.org.

other inspections.

It also would allow municipalities to decide the number of STRs to allow and where they could be located.

The icing on the cake for local governments is a 6 percent excise tax on the occupancy charge, most of which would be returned to the municipality where the STR is located to cover costs associated with licensing and inspections. This would eliminate the complaint of an "unfunded mandate" local officials often decry, and rightly so.

Nick Sizeland, Park city manager, told reporter Brad Lindberg last month he thinks the bill is the state's way of finding a middle ground.

"Having a tax is helpful for the municipality to make sure owners of STRs abide by our rules and be quality owners of the property," Sizeland added.

We applaud the measured approach the Park is taking on this issue and encourage residents, both those for and against STRs, to continue making their thoughts known to the planning commission.

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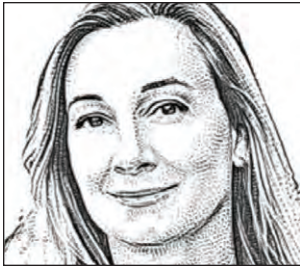
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LETTERS

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

Summer’s here and I’m here for it



Summer has unofficially begun in Grosse Pointe and I don't know

about you, but I'm here for it. Something about the not-amazing weather for half the year in Michigan really puts a punctuation mark on summer here, doesn't it? There's nothing better than seeing kids on bikes with fishing rods and recent grads all about town. The crack of Little League baseball bats and barbecue dinners.

Here are my top 10

- favorite things about summer here. What are yours? Feel free to drop me a line at agryzenia@grossepointenews.com to tell me what I'm missing.
- 10. The smell of freshly cut grass and sprinklers in the morning.
- 9. Boats bobbing around on the best bluebird days along Lakeshore.
- 8. Barbecue nights and low-key, spontaneous

- get-togethers with friends you haven't seen in awhile.
- 7. Planning and taking fun trips — either up north or around the world. It's fun to leave for great adventures and almost even better to come home.
- 6. Sleeping in just enough to feel like you got away with something, but getting up early enough to enjoy the birds

- chirping and a nice cup of coffee.
- 5. Not packing lunches. No homework. And no Schoology rage attacks. Parents, I know you feel this.
- 4. Walking out of the air-conditioning and into the humid goodness of summer. And also the opposite at the end of a long day outside.
- 3. Kids off their iPads and running wild around

- town wearing bathing suits and Jerry's Slushee-stained mouths.
- 2. Riding bikes to a fun dinner out with friends on an outdoor patio. And a glass of rosé.
- 1. All the little things: Everyone feeling a little lighter, a little less busy, a little less stressed and a little more serene.
- I wish everyone all the little things this summer and beyond.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1949

75 years ago this week

TO HONOR WAR DEAD AT MEMORIAL: The directors of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial Association held their first meeting in the Alger House War Memorial building May 23. Great enthusiasm was shown for the progress that has been made in setting up the administrative organization. The first thing on the agenda was the approval of the program for the memorial exercises May 30.

1974

50 years ago this week

SEEK PERMISSION TO PUT SEAWALL ACROSS LAKELAND: Two City residents who own the lakeside properties at the foot of Lakeland Avenue appeared before the city council May 22, to make the council an offer. The residents want to build a breakwall between their two properties which would span the public right-of-way at the foot of Lakeland. In return for their footing the bill for the breakwall, they are asking that the City relinquish its title for the right-of-way land and that the property become a part of the adjacent private properties.

LOCHMOOR CLUB PROUD OF FACILITY: "The finest in the Midwest" is how Thomas Russel, president of the Lochmoor Club, describes a \$700,000 tennis facility to be completed by October. Enclosing 29,000 square feet, the new building will be larger than Lochmoor's clubhouse, built in 1969. In addition to housing four tennis courts, the facility will handle golf bag and cart storage, and will replace an old stucco building demolished this week.

1999

25 years ago this week

PARK COUNCIL PONDERS WEBPAGE: Declaring that the Internet is not a fad, Grosse Pointe Park councilman Dan Clark believes it's time for the Park to get with the times and have a webpage. The World Wide Web is a network of interconnecting computers that can be accessed from individual personal computers maintained by businesses or private

citizens. Over the past several years the Internet has grown and more and more businesses and government bodies have been establishing their own webpages.

ACTIVITIES BUILDING ON DRAWING BOARD: A plan to construct an activities building took another step forward last week when the Grosse Pointe Shores village council sanctioned an architect to create a set of construction diagrams. The council voted to let Robert Wakely draw up plans for a 5,400-square-foot activities building to be located behind the gatehouse at Osius Park.

2014

10 years ago this week

DOGS DIG THEIR NEW PARK IN THE FARMS: Maggie, a 4-year-old Portuguese water dog, bolted into the newly opened dog park. She was the first to, ahem, use its facilities. An estimated 100 pet owners and a flurry of fur attended the May 17 dedication of the residents-only dog park between playfields at Mack and Moross.

THUMB THROUGH AN ARRAY OF EMAGAZINES: Reading magazines online is the latest free library offering through Zinio. The latest issue of a favorite magazine can be downloaded to a computer, tablet or Smartphone for those who hold a Grosse Pointe Public Library card. For a device, a free app must be downloaded.

BELLS SENT OUT FOR TUNING: The melodious sound of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church's 47 bells has been silenced while they are refurbished, returned and a new one cast. All 11 tons of the bronze bells were removed from the bell tower. A crane lifted each bell from the tower to be transported to Meek, Watson 7 Co., of Georgetown, Ohio, as part of the church's sesquicentennial celebration in 2015.



Cmdr. Janine L. Maisonneuve, U.S. Naval Nurse Corps, retired, gives the keynote address.



The ceremony was attended by military members, like Larry Bennett, left, and civilians, center, who dressed in uniform or patriotically in memory of those being honored.



A partial view of Grosse Pointe Woods' "Circle of Honor."

Photos courtesy of Ed Hall



To close the ceremony, Joshua Mason Ferry fired a cannon salute in honor of his dad, Mason Ferry, who fired the cannon in previous years. Mason Ferry, a U.S. Army veteran and history buff, passed away last September.

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PHOTO BY LAUREL KRAUS

Officer Paige Thomas with husband, Sgt. Tim Harris, and K-9 Officer Rocco.

ROLE:

Continued from page 3A

“That’s kind of what led me to telling myself constantly that I wasn’t going to be able to do this job.” Then, in 2021, the department began focusing on mental health training in preparation for the Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods Crisis Intervention Team to be formed late that year.

As though another side of the world opened to her, Thomas described, the training not only inspired her career trajectory, but also taught her valuable coping skills.

From there, she pursued 40 hours of crisis intervention training and, in record time, earned an associate degree in pre-psychol-

ogy. “I fell in love with it and I (realized) I’m capable of doing what I want to do as long as I can set my mind to it,” she said. Thomas underwent major surgery in early 2023, before entering the fire academy that September. She then completed her physical ability test in, “dominating fashion,” Harris said. “She did exceptionally well.” The former dispatcher graduated from the police academy earlier this month, grateful for a well-timed job opening in the department and most looking forward to now connecting in person with those she serves.

“I can’t believe the way that it worked out,” she said, “but I’m super thankful, because I had a lot of complications but

obviously made it through.” Although having taken the training as a dispatcher, Thomas is not a member of the crisis intervention team, but hopes to be in the future. “I hopefully will get an opportunity to be on the team, but that’ll come with time and experience,” she said. “... I still have a lot to learn just doing my job, so I try not to get ahead of myself, but I’ll be super excited if one day that opportunity opens up for me. I’ll definitely be taking it.”

Because Harris is a supervisory officer and to prevent any appearance of impropriety, the couple won’t be scheduled for the same shifts. “Typically, I wouldn’t recommend it,” Harris joked of working with his spouse, “but it worked for us.”

City to host sewer separation informational meeting June 6

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — City administration will make its sewer separation millage elevator pitch to residents at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 6, in the second-floor conference room at the Neighborhood Club, 17150 Waterloo. Following a project overview, the city’s engineering consultants and other representatives will be available until 9 p.m. to further discuss the project scope and answer questions. To address future basement backups and street flooding, the City is proposing the separation of its stormwater and sani-

tary sewers north of Waterloo and east of Washington, which would allow stormwater to flow directly to the lake rather than being processed through the Neff Road Pump Station. The sewer system south of Waterloo was separated in the 1960s. For the work to happen, voters would have to approve a 20-year, 1.88-mill levy and corresponding \$15 million bond proposal, which is set for the ballot Tuesday, Aug. 6. The up to \$15 million garnered would supplement a \$21.6 million Federal Emergency

Management Agency grant, which requires the city to cover the remainder of the estimated \$29,218,664 sewer separation project cost. While city planners are estimating a match amount of \$7,591,081, city council is asking residents for \$15 million to cover any increases in the actual project cost, as well as to provide a needed \$1.4 million for upcoming capital needs: two garbage trucks, a dump truck, front-end loader and the city’s match in another grant it received to resurface St. Clair.

— Laurel Kraus



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Park Assistant City Manager Warren Rothe tells city council May 13 he regards a municipal capital improvement plan as comparable to a community investment plan.

CIP forecasts the future

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The city’s first multi-year capital improvement plan in more years than anyone at city hall can remember took the scenic route to city council approval Monday, May 13. “The capital improvement plan is the sidecar to the budget’s motorcycle,” said Warren Rothe, assistant city manager. “It’s along for the ride. It’s not necessarily driving, though.” CIPs are, to retain the highways and byways motif, a road map and compass to future investment in infrastructure, from maintaining things already in place to making upgrades. “We can track projects the council choses to fund and the current state of those that are chosen,” Rothe said. Nor does adopting the plan require the council to commit to any appro-

priations. “You’re essentially planting a flag in the ground and saying, ‘This is the direction we want to go. These are the assets that are most critical and how we want to invest taxpayer and water-sewer ratepayer dollars,’” Rothe told the council. “You can’t solve problems until you identify them,” said Councilman Max Wiener, chairman of the Infrastructure Committee. “That’s one of the most crucial aspects of a CIP, identifying each critical piece.” The Park’s CIP looks outward six years to 2030. Projected revenues and expenses are balanced each year for everything from road resurfacing, sewer work and more. Combined outlays and revenues during the period total nearly \$42 million. Yet, line items detail far less costly anticipated expenditures. An

example is \$5,000 to replace fire hoses in years 2025, 2027 and 2029. “People can see things that are being replaced or improved,” Councilman Brent Dreaver said. “This is what people want.” “This shows what we’re doing,” Councilman Tim Kolar said. “Honestly, I’m surprised we’ve gotten away with not having a CIP for this long because it justifies our status as a city,” said Mayor Michele Hodges, re-elected last year. “Without it, we were running somewhat rudderless.” Also forecast are more costly expenses, such as \$1.3 million each year to replace old and increasingly brittle water mains. An additional \$600,000 per year is slated for road resurfacing. “It’s a dynamic document because as priorities change, we’ll make adjustments,” Wiener said. “But it does give us a forecast. It’s also a framework for residents. It provides transparency and accountability so residents can tell our priorities and how we are delivering on them.”

The state Planning Enabling Act requires a municipality’s planning commission and council to collaborate on writing CIPs. Park planners worked through drafts until approving the document in March. “It opens our ability to pursue grants (and) it improves our standing with various agencies,” Wiener said.

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Correction
The May 23 story, “Old-style estate in works,” contained an erroneous description of a razed residence formerly at 15450 Windmill Pointe Drive. The description given was of another residence, which its owners may be interested in knowing still stands.

Grosse Pointe News

BEST

of the

BEST

20 ★ 24

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VOTING DEADLINE: June 6, 2024

Winners will be announced
in the July 18 issue of the Grosse Pointe News.

2024 CATEGORIES

FOOD & DRINKS

Best All-Around Restaurant
Best Bakery
Best Breakfast
Best Carryout
Best Caterer
Best Dessert
Best Happy Hour
Best Ice Cream Shop
Best New Restaurant (1 year old or less)
Best Outdoor Dining
Best Perch
Best Pizza
Best Place for a Cold Beer
Best Place to Host a Party or Event
Best Place to Meet Someone
Best Private Club

RETAIL & SERVICES

Best Aesthetician
Best Auto Dealership
Best Chiropractor
Best Church
Best Dance Studio
Best Dermatologist
Best ER
Best Financial Planner
Best Gardening Service
Best General Contractor/Builder
Best Golf Course
Best Gym or Fitness Center to Work Out
Best Hair Salon
Best Handyman Services
Best Jeweler
Best Massage Therapy
Best Nonprofit to Volunteer
Best Nursery/Greenhouse
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Ballots will be available in the May 23 and May 30
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Scan to complete the
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DEADLINE for voting is midnight on June 6, 2024.

Winners will be announced in the July 18 issue of the Grosse Pointe News. (Ballots will be available in the May 23 and May 30 print editions of the Grosse Pointe News.)

2024 CATEGORIES

FOOD & DRINKS

Best All-Around Restaurant _____
Best Bakery _____
Best Breakfast _____
Best Carryout _____
Best Caterer _____
Best Dessert _____
Best Happy Hour _____
Best Ice Cream Shop _____
Best New Restaurant (1 year old or less) _____
Best Outdoor Dining _____
Best Perch _____
Best Pizza _____
Best Place for a Cold Beer _____
Best Place to Host a Party or Event _____
Best Place to Meet Someone _____
Best Private Club _____

RETAIL & SERVICES

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Best Hair Salon _____
Best Handyman Services _____
Best Jeweler _____
Best Massage Therapy _____
Best Nonprofit to Volunteer _____
Best Nursery/Greenhouse _____
Best Optometrist _____
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Best Personal Trainer _____
Best Real Estate Agent _____
Best Store to Buy Women's Clothing _____
Best Store to Buy a Gift _____

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Understanding MPERS: Past, present and future

The Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System (MPERS) has a complex history marked by significant policy changes and financial challenges. Let's delve into the evolution and current state of MPERS, plus the way it affects the Grosse Pointe Public School System and the future outlook for Michigan's public school employees.

1974-1994: The Early Years

MPERS was established in 1974 to provide healthcare subsidies for retired teachers. This system evolved to become a cornerstone of financial security for educators, functioning as their pension system. However, the stability of MPERS began to be challenged in the early 1990s. Gov. John Engler, elected in 1990, reduced state contributions to the fund in 1991 and 1992, sparking tensions with teachers' unions. This period also saw a significant increase in teacher retirements due to legis-



Academic Pointers

by Glen Hipple

1994-2012: Legislative Reforms and Economic Challenges

Proposal A, passed in 1994, reformed school funding in Michigan by replacing locally controlled property tax levels with a state-imposed cap on local school funding and introducing "Schools of Choice." This period also saw the implementation of the federal No Child Left Behind Act in 2001, which increased reliance on standardized testing and altered teacher certification processes.

The 2008 economic recession severely impacted Detroit, leading

to decreased student enrollment and property tax revenues, which in turn affected school funding. Govs. Jennifer Granholm and Rick Snyder responded by reducing state per-pupil allowances and making cuts to teachers' pay and healthcare contributions.

2012-Present: Addressing Unfunded Liabilities and Policy Shifts

In 2012, significant changes were made to MPERS with Senate Bill 1040, which increased personal contribution rates and offered a shift from a defined-benefit plan to a defined-contribution plan for new teachers, essentially placing new teachers in a 401(k)-type system. Locally, leadership

changes within GPPSS and fluctuating enrollment further complicated our financial landscape.

Contribution Rates Over Time

One of the most significant financial challenges for MPERS has been the rising employer contribution rates. In the 1999-2000 fiscal year, the MPERS contribution rate was 11.66 percent. This rate has seen a dramatic increase over the years, reaching approximately 44 percent in the 2023-24 fiscal year. This means that for every \$1 GPPSS spends on teacher salaries and benefits, they must send 44 cents to Lansing for MPERS. This escalation reflects the magnitude of the financial impact of MPERS on the state's education budget, driven by unfunded liabilities and the need to ensure the long-term sustainability of retirement benefits.

Current State of MPERS

As of 2024, the state continues to face chal-

lenges with MPERS. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's administration has been proactive in addressing these issues. For fiscal year 2023-24, the state appropriated approximately \$2.45 billion to cover MPERS costs. Efforts have been made to stabilize the retirement system, with projections indicating that the retiree healthcare system will soon be fully funded.

Gov. Whitmer has proposed redirecting \$670 million in retirement debt payments to other K-12 priorities once the healthcare liabilities are fully funded. This move aims to alleviate financial pressures on schools and improve educational outcomes without imposing additional tax burdens. However, this strategy has faced criticism from some who argue that it could jeopardize long-term financial stability.

Looking Ahead

The future of MPERS looks cautiously optimistic. The healthcare portion of the retirement fund is expected to be

fully funded soon, allowing for potential reallocation of funds to more immediate educational needs. The ongoing debate centers on balancing short-term financial relief for schools with the long-term goal of securing retirement benefits for educators.

Michigan's educational leaders and policymakers continue to advocate for measures that will sustain and improve the retirement system while also enhancing the quality of education. Maintaining a balanced approach to funding and debt management will be crucial in ensuring that MPERS can meet its obligations without compromising the state's educational standards.

Glen Hipple is a former GPPSS teacher. He currently is the academic director of Pointers for Academic Excellence, a community resource dedicated to supporting and endowing academic excellence in the Grosse Pointe Public School System. Contact him at glen@pf-ae.org.

Liggett students earn top honors from Michigan Council for the Social Studies

Almost 40 University Liggett School students earned honors and recognition from the Michigan Council for Social Studies in the 2024 Michigan Social Studies Olympiad. The following ULS students earned recognition:

Elementary Division

Gold Medal

- ◆ Zachary Morgan and Elliott Hemler — Mapping Michigan's Past
- ◆ Meadow Montagne — Monologue
- ◆ Elliott Hemler —

Podcast

- ◆ Elliott Hemler, Jaxon Hughes and Sam Salvona — Historical TV Newscast
- Silver Medal**
- ◆ Ameerah Davenport and Vivienne McPherson — Podcast
- Honorable Mention**

- ◆ Tommy Bugg, Grace Logan, Isabella Jones and Elliott Hemler — Social Studies Song

Intermediate Division

Gold Medal

- ◆ BJ Clark — Poetry
- ◆ Lexie Spain, Bebe Noecker and Samantha Laethem — Investments
- ◆ Mac Costanzo — Political Cartoon Journal
- ◆ Amelie Duhaime — Take a Stand Essay
- Silver Medal**
- ◆ Amelia Unkel — Current Events Editorial Essay
- ◆ Antonia Randazzo and Alison Logan — Podcast
- ◆ Fernando Romine-Hernandez — Political Cartoon Journal

Senior Division

Gold Medal

- ◆ Liam Ferguson — Online Presentation
- ◆ Jillian Whitton — Poetry
- ◆ Teresa Romanelli — Speakathon
- Silver Medal**
- ◆ Madeline Unkel — Online Presentation
- ◆ Elliot Karr and Sishir Chamiraju — Podcast
- ◆ Lauren James — Political Cartoon Journal
- ◆ Olivia Marcero — Take a Stand Essay
- ◆ Reese Macek — Speakathon
- Bronze Medal**
- ◆ Zaire Polk and Annabel Klaasen — Podcast
- ◆ Teresa Romanelli — Podcast
- ◆ Mya Boctor — Poetry
- ◆ Mya Shah-Littles — Primary Documents

Journal

Honorable Mention

- ◆ Lucy Wujek, Landen Maltby and John Lubera — Podcast
- ◆ Nyiah Novak — Poetry
- ◆ Fred Talan — Primary Documents Journal
- ◆ Donal Rowlands — Primary Documents Journal
- ◆ Lucy Wujek — Speakathon
- ◆ Zaire Polk — Speakathon

This year's Michigan Social Studies Olympiad theme, "Stand Up! Risk Takers and Change Makers," provided students the opportunity to study historical and contemporary risk takers who stood up for something they strongly believed in and demanded change. Students examined what motivated these change-makers, what risks they took, what the outcomes of their decisions were and what impact they had on society and possibly future generations.



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University Liggett School



From left, Fiona Sierens, Elizabeth Dickey, Kerith Short, Isabel Jenkins and Lydia Fedewa Widick.

COURTESY PHOTO

Scholarships awarded

Five University Liggett School students have been honored with the Thelma Fox Murray Scholarship for the 2024-25 academic year.

This year's recipients are Elizabeth Dickey of Grosse Pointe Woods, Lydia Fedewa Widick of Detroit, Isabel Jenkins of Harper Woods, Kerith Short of Grosse Pointe Woods and Fiona Sierens of Clinton Township.

Head of Upper School Shernaz Minwalla said all five student-athletes exemplify the principles Fox Murray valued.

The Thelma Fox Murray Scholarship

is awarded each year to students who display integrity, humility, sense of humor, athletic achievement, academic excellence and leadership qualities. Fox Murray, a 1917 Liggett School alumna, left a lasting personal commitment to education in her endowment gift to University Liggett School upon her death in 1987.

Since that time, the scholarship has been awarded each year to deserving students at the school. The ULS scholarship committee and scholarship trustee, S. Gary Spicer Sr., select the students.

Community survey sees good response

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — The recent community survey conducted by the Grosse Pointe Public School System drew more than three times as many responses as the last one.

The survey during the 2021-22 school year had 780 responses. The most recent, conducted April 23 to May 7, drew 2,692 responses.

“I say responses, not people, because someone could take the survey more than once under different categories,” Chris Stanley, the district’s director of learning technology and strategic relations, told the Community Engagement Committee earlier this month. “But the response is all because of your efforts.”

For example, Stanley said he was able to fill out the survey as a staff member, as well as twice as a parent regarding the two GPPSS schools his daughters attend.

Full results should be available later in June as Virginia-based Hanover Research compiles the data.

Stanley said 1,307 responses came from parents, 566 from students and 337 from community members.

Respondents identifying as parents

include both those who have children in GPPSS or who live in the district and choose a different education path for their children. Community members are those who live in the district and either never had children in GPPSS or whose children are out of school.

Another 114 responses came from GPPSS alumni and 79 who have no connection to the district.

The survey was formatted with different trees based on how respondents answered the first few questions. Those questions included topics such as academic rigor, safety, building cleanliness and bullying.

As the committee was putting the survey together, Superintendent Andrea Tuttle said she was hoping to glean information from parents who live in the district but send their children elsewhere.

“I’d love to see a narrative as to why they didn’t choose GPPSS or, if their children are too young, do they intend on enrolling them here,” she said. “I’d also like to see if they left the district, why? If they never enrolled here, why?”

The final report from Hanover will include charts, graphs and a dashboard that tracks how each group responded.



From left, Lexie Eden Spain, Bebe Noecker and Samantha Laethem.

COURTESY PHOTO

Liggett students earn top honors from the Michigan Council on Economic Education

Three University Liggett School students earned top honors in the Michigan Social Studies Olympiad Stock Market Competition.

The seventh-grade team of Samantha Laethem, Bebe Noecker and Lexie Eden Spain received a gold medal for placing first in the middle school division. The trio placed third

overall.

This statewide competition gives student teams \$100,000 to invest in an online simulation of the global capital markets.

The Michigan Social Studies Olympiad Stock Market Challenge is sponsored by the Michigan Council on Economic Education.

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CMM celebrates decade of support for Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs

June 6 event honors efforts of Mary Lamparter

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The 10th annual Celebrate Michigan’s Military event, which honors the state’s military members while raising funds for Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs, takes place at 6 p.m. Thursday, June 6, at Andiamo Banquets & Catering, 7096 E. 14 Mile, Warren.

The past nine years, CMM has raised more than \$1 million to support Guardian Angels, which pairs highly trained service dogs with veterans and first responders with post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, seizure disorders, mobility issues and other disorders.

Thanks to the generosity of donors, dogs are paired at no cost to recipients.

The benefits of the program are priceless. Since its inception, Guardian Angels has a zero percent suicide rate among recipients and a less than 3 percent divorce rate among recipients, compared to 47 percent nationwide.

“This event is not just a celebration, but a mission to change lives,” said Carol Borden, founder and CEO of Guardian Angels, “and the support we receive each year truly humbles us. It ignites our commitment to continue the unwavering support of our nation’s heroes.”

The evening features a cocktail reception, dinner, raffle and live music by the Detroit Arsenal Choir Trio, as well as veterans, with their service dogs, who will share testimonies of the impact

Guardian Angels begins training service dogs at its Florida facility when the pups are just weeks old.



From left, honoree Mary Lamparter stands with Guardian Angels founder and CEO Carol Borden and her husband, Chris Borden, at a previous CMM event.

their dogs have had on their lives.

The event also features live and silent auctions with several notable items, including two VIP passes to Sunday’s final round of the 2025 PGA Championship; two tickets to a Detroit Lions game; a red, white and blue Swarovski crystal necklace and bracelet from Sabika Jewelry; and a pet portrait by artist David Fraser.

Additionally, Guardian Angels will honor Grosse Pointe Farms resident and CMM founder, Mary Lamparter.

“We sincerely appreciate

Mary’s unwavering dedication to our organization and her invaluable contributions to the success of this extraordinary event,” Borden said. “Her tireless efforts have not gone unnoticed and we are incredibly grateful for her hard work.”

“How can you not want to support the veterans who have gone through what they’ve gone through, serving our country and coming back and needing our help to be wonderful members of society again?” Lamparter said of her commitment to CMM and the military. “These service dogs provide an opportunity for them to give back, for them to be a viable part of the community and ease some of the burdens they face as they return.”

Lamparter was introduced to Guardian Angels when a team visited Michigan. She said the program immediately resonated with her and she, in turn, has stirred up community support.

“Over the past nine years, I have been humbled by the tremendous support of our local community, including our defense and military organizations,” she said. “Creating Celebrate Michigan’s Military has been extremely rewarding and I have been honored to represent Guardian Angels and

promote their dedication to serving our nation’s heroes.”

Lamparter said she will cherish the relationships she’s built with recipients over the years.

“They’re the ones who make this worthwhile,” she said. “It’s wonderful working with Carol and MJ (COO/CFO Mary Jo Brandt) all these years. They’re both very supportive of my efforts and have been there to give me whatever help I’ve needed. Guardian Angels has always been supportive.”

Lamparter also thanked the community groups and individuals who have supported Guardian Angels during her tenure. Groups include the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors, The War Memorial and Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. Individuals who have fully sponsored at least one dog include Heather and Stan Dickson, Patty and Jim Anderson, Alyssa Mertz and Ted and Mary Stahl.

The Stahls, who have sponsored five dogs over the years, will be honored at CMM as the 2024 Donor of the Year.

“I want this to continue here in Michigan,” Lamparter said. “CMM has done a good job of bringing awareness to this area about Guardian Angels and it’s important

to continue what we’ve been able to do here.”

Lamparter has recruited Melissa Werner to fill her shoes, though she plans to continue supporting Guardian Angels in some capacity. The wife of a retired general, the mission of CMM and Guardian Angels also is significant to Werner.

“This will be the fourth one I’ve attended and they just keep getting better and better,” Werner said. “I am looking forward to not only celebrating our military and this amazing organization, but also all of the wonder-

ful work Mary Lamparter has done for Guardian Angels and our community over the past decade.

“I was an Army spouse for over 25 years and I’ve experienced multiple deployments as the wife of an Army soldier,” she continued. “I’ve seen firsthand the effects of war on service members and their families. I’ve always wanted to be part of something with a significant impact to those who have served. And though I’ve participated in many important programs throughout my years, there have been none quite like this one. Guardian Angels demonstrates to me a meaningful and positive impact to our service members, veterans, first responders and their families and I am honored to be part of this amazing organization.”

Guests are requested to dress in semi-formal attire, with a touch of patriotic flair in red, white and blue. Those unable to attend but who wish to make a difference may donate to the event to help reach the fundraising goal of \$300,000.

For more event details, to purchase tickets or make a donation, visit medicalservedogs.org/event/

For more information on how to become a sponsor, contact Linda Jo Thornberg at lindajo@medicalservedogs.org

“Everyone should come out and be part of CMM this year to help support this national nonprofit organization dedicated to raising, training and donating medical service dogs to those who need it most,” Werner said. “Together we can unleash the power of hope, healing and giving.”



Lamparter created Celebrate Michigan’s Military a decade ago and will be honored June 6 for her dedication to the event’s benefactor, Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs.

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Celebrate summer in style

Pewabic House & Garden Show is June 6-9

For more than a century, Pewabic Pottery has added its iconic touch to houses and other buildings in Detroit, Grosse Pointe and beyond.

Guests are invited to celebrate the studio — and kick off the summer season — during the Pewabic House & Garden Show, which takes place June 6 to 9.

“We invite everyone to join us for this annual celebration of ceramic art,” Pewabic Executive Director Steve McBride said. “From discovering new artists, exploring our historic studios, watching live artist demos and more, there is something fun for the whole family.”

To start

The fun begins with a ticketed Preview Party Fundraiser from 6 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, June 6. The event features a strolling supper and cocktails by Two Unique Catering, live artist demonstrations by Laurie Sharkus and music by Nicole New, among other perks.

Making the party an even sweeter deal, guests will be the first to shop



COURTESY PHOTO

Pewabic Pottery has added its iconic touch to houses and other locations in Detroit, Grosse Pointe and beyond for 121 years.

Pewabic’s new Summer Collection releases. Highlights include pheasant, lion and hand-painted flower tiles; a mushroom trio; the Zodiac Series featuring Aries, Taurus and Gemini; a Detroit map necklace; and University of Michigan seal.

Topping off the night, an auction will feature Detroit experiences and one-of-a-kind Pewabic ceramics.

The preview party is Pewabic’s biggest fundraiser of the year; proceeds provide essential annual operating support for the historic pottery.

Tickets for the preview party are \$150; \$175 for patrons and \$250 for benefactors. Find tickets online at pewabic.org/gardenparty or call (313) 626-2002.

Open to all

Following the preview

party festivities, the House & Garden Show will be free and open to the public 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, June 7, and Saturday, June 8, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 9.

Guests will have a chance to browse Pewabic’s summer releases, as well as the work of more than 50 ceramic artists from throughout North America, including large-scale sculptures from Michigan artists Susanne Stephenson, John Stephenson and Mark Chatterley. The pottery’s newest iridescent glazes, tiles and jewelry will be for sale as well. Visitors also can watch live sculpting by artist Laurie Sharkus and wheel throwing demonstrations by Pewabic artisans.

The National Historic Landmark pottery will be open for strolling tours of the studios and for guests to learn about Pewabic’s 121-year history in Detroit in the expanded museum exhibition, “Pewabic: Detroit’s Pottery.”



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HEATHER NASH

Top, guests at a previous preview party dance to live music. Middle, guests fill the courtyard at a previous House & Garden Show. Bottom, a Pewabic artisan demonstrates wheel-throwing during a previous House & Garden Show.

Additionally, a week-end biergarten will be available, serving up food and live music. On Saturday, guests will hear music from Stereobabe while partaking in food from Papelon Arepa Bar. Sunday brings the sounds of Steve Jarosz.

“This is a chance to enjoy a fun-filled week-end at one of Detroit’s

most iconic cultural destinations,” McBride said. “We’re thrilled to welcome everyone to the pottery to experience the magic of ceramic art.”

The Pewabic House & Garden Show is presented by Strategic Staffing Solutions.

For more information or to purchase preview party tickets, visit pewabic.org/gardenparty.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HEATHER NASH

Pewabic House & Garden Show guests capture the moment in front of the pottery.

AREA ACTIVITIES

League of Women Voters

In advance of the Aug. 6 primary and Nov. 5 general elections, the League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe host a town hall on voting laws at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 30, at The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms. Voters’ rights include voting early in every

statewide and federal election; signing up to become permanent absentee voters; receiving prepaid postage on absentee ballots and applications; an enhanced tracking system for absentee ballots and more.

Attendance is free, but registration is encouraged to reserve space. Visit lwvgrossepointe.org to register.

Ford House

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

- ◆ Paint Out, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 1. Adults are invited to enjoy plein air painting with a chance to win prizes. Cost is \$30 for members, \$40 for non-members.
- ◆ Native Plant Sale, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 1.
- ◆ Fresh Paint Party, 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, June 1. Ages 21 and older are invited to celebrate those who participated in Paint Out. Cost is \$25 for members, \$30 for nonmembers.

- ◆ Botany & Brews, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays, July 24, and Oct. 16. Cost is \$35 for members only.
- ◆ Storytime: “How to Find a Fox,” at 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays, June 4 to 25, for ages 7 and younger.
- ◆ Summer Landscape Guided Tour, 11 a.m. Wednesdays, June 5, through July 31. Costs vary.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

GPAA

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association offers a variety of classes at its studio, located at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. To register for the

following, visit grossepointeartcenter.org.

- ◆ Mix & Remix: Collage, Surfaces and Textures with Marat Paransky, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 2.
- ◆ Landscapes in the style of Camille Pissarro with Donald Cronkhite, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, June 6, 13 and 20.
- ◆ Pet Portraits in watercolor with Nancy Philo, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, June 11.
- ◆ Two-day Mixed Media Print-A-Thon with Valerie Allen, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, June 22 and 23.

Family Center

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods offers free programs and resources that help build happier, healthier families. The following programs take place at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, unless otherwise noted. Learn more at familycenterhelps.org or RSVP to maryjo@familycenterhelps.org.

- ◆ The last session of the Mental Health Matters series takes place 7 p.m. Monday, June 3. “Understanding Trauma’s Presence in the Body,” is led by Gabrielle Deschaine, who uses

modalities such as dance/movement therapy and internal family systems to help all ages repair damaged connections to their bodies, families and environment. Register at hello@familycenterhelps.org.

- ◆ Yoga for Pride, in partnership with The War Memorial, Grosse Pointe Public Library and WeGP, takes place 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 4, at The War Memorial; 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 11, at the Ewald library; and 10 a.m. Tuesday, June 18, at Woods library.

Library

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

- ◆ Adventures of Drawing, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Monday, June 3, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
- ◆ 1st Tuesday Book Discussion, 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, June 4, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Jazz with RJ Spangler, 5 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 5, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Teen Leadership

See EVENTS, page 8B

City of ~~Grosse Pointe~~, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF GROSSE POINTE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024 7:00 PM.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, June 17, 2024 at 7:00 pm for the City Council to consider an application received by representatives of Pastaio GP, LLC for the transfer (purchase) of an existing Class C License and SDM License with an Entertainment Permit and Outdoor Service Area Authorization from Fort Street Brewery, LLC to Pastaio GP, LLC; consideration of a new Dance Permit, Catering Permit, and all-day Sunday Sales Permit for Pastaio GP, LLC, located at 17043 Kercheval Avenue, Grosse Pointe, MI.

Said hearing will be held in person at the City Council chambers, 17145 Maumee Avenue, Grosse Pointe, Michigan.

Public comment is welcome. If you are unable to attend the hearing, written comments will be accepted until 12:00 noon on June 17, 2024. Public comments can be mailed to City Hall or sent via email to city@grossepointecity.org. If further information is needed, please contact Grosse Pointe Building Dept., 17147 Maumee, Grosse Pointe, MI. 48230, Mon.-Fri., 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Telephone: 313-885-5800.

Christopher M. Hardenbrook,
City Clerk

PDD Hockey

Summer Development Program

Dates/Times

- June 17-August 21
- Mondays and Wednesdays
- 2-5 pm at Big Boy Arena

Groups

- 8th/9th Grade
- High School
- Elite (AAA/Jr)

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From hive to home

The buzz about Honey Help Apiaries

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Since 2015, Alison Johns has offered the community hive-to-home healthy products through her business, Honey Help. While fulfilling, it seemed only fitting to grow the organization, which is committed to sustainability.

That next step in Johns' plan was realized in March when Honey Help Apiaries opened at 22811 Greater Mack, Ste. L4, in St. Clair Shores.

"I've always wanted a storefront," the Grosse Pointe Woods resident said, noting plans were put on hold due to the pandemic and some personal challenges. "This fits perfectly. It's got great parking. It's a good location. I have retail space and event space."

On the events side, Honey Help's numerous classes and workshops have been a hit with children and adults. Offerings include classes about pollinator gardens, honey infusion, beeswax candle-making and herbs for healing, as well as honey-tasting experiences and kids' garden parties.

Her Kids & Bees classes are among the most popular.

"It's geared toward age groups," Johns said. "I talk about everything bees. I bring bees from my hive and we observe bees. I have the kids look for the queen and talk about what they're seeing. ... It's a lot of education and they love it. All these age groups love it, even adults. Not many people get a firsthand



look inside a hive."

It was Johns' own firsthand look inside a hive that set her on this path. "I started beekeeping years ago," she said. "I learned from my grandfather. My interest opened up more when I learned I'm Native American. Now I understand why I like bees so much, beekeeping and holistic medicine. ... I started with two hives and started learning more. I've been growing the hives each year and that bloomed when I developed a relationship with the bees."

"I really care about them," she continued. "When my dad passed away at the end of October and I was going through a divorce, I had a hard time. The only peace I had was working with my bees. People say it's like when a cat purrs,

it's comforting. The vibration of the bees is comforting to me. I feel attached to nature. I feel like I'm doing work that needs to be done. They need to be taken care of. I find peace and healing from working the hives."

Johns started with an apiary in Richmond and soon began selling products at farmers' markets. There she made friends with farmers, some of whom were struggling with their crops. Johns stepped in to help.

"I offered to bring out my hives," she said, "and when I did, their crops flourished. Then I expanded to communities. I have a hive at home in the Woods, in St. Clair Shores, Ferndale."

Johns has 24 hives altogether and does not consider herself a traditional beekeeper. She is a sustainable, or biodynamic,

beekeeper.

"Traditional beekeepers do it for the mass production of honey," she said. "They feed bees sugar, which makes them sick and pollutes the honey, and they use chemicals in beekeeping. All those chemicals are harmful to the bees and the environment and get into the honey. Sustainable beekeeping is centered around the health of the bees."

Johns can talk for hours about her bee babies, from her practice of Nuc cycling — which multiplies the bees and keeps the life cycle going — to the respect she has for the short, but productive life of a bee.

"I don't like looking at bees as replaceable," she said. "They are our food line, our ecosystem. Their lifecycle is only six weeks. A queen can live



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Left, Alison Johns opened her retail and event space, Honey Help, in March. Above, a variety of infused honey is available for sale at the shop.

up to two years, but all the other bees live six weeks — and they only produce a teaspoon and a half of honey. That's why it's called liquid gold. They dedicate their whole lives to the hive."

Every two weeks, Johns inspects every frame of every hive.

"I find the queen and make sure she's healthy," she said. "I look for the production of the brood; making sure they have a honey source, not sugar; making sure they don't have any mites. If they do, I treat it with essential oils, not chemicals."

Local honey has its perks, she noted.

"There's a huge black market with honey. Most of it comes from China and Argentina. On top of that, a lot of honey is not fully honey. It's maybe 5 percent honey with corn syrup and honey flavoring. And if you find one that says 'Michigan honey,' you don't know

where it's from. I guarantee it's from traditional beekeepers who use chemicals and feed them sugar versus us, doing the work — feeding them honey and using essential oils — and (incurring) the cost. Their honey is not pure. With local raw honey, it's live. We don't pasteurize, heat or treat. We call it hive to home. It's in its purest state."

Honey Help doesn't even use metal tools during the process, as metal is a corrosive agent. The purer, the better.

"I want people to get all the great benefits from it that they won't get from honey in a grocery store," Johns said.

Johns, an emergency room nurse, works long hours but always makes time for her bees. She credited that drive to her father.

"My dad was my best

See HONEY, page 8B

Sixth annual Run, Walk n Roll 5K continues mission

Pediatric palliative care supported through virtual event

Providing funding for pediatric palliative care is the goal of the sixth annual Run, Walk n Roll 5K. Due to medical challenges for the Sheeren family, this year's event is virtual, so participants can run, walk or roll from anywhere throughout the month of June. Established in 2019, the event helps drive greater awareness and support for palliative care, which focuses on quality of life and comfort for children with chronic and serious medical conditions and support for their families.

Since its inception, the event has raised nearly \$600,000 for the palliative care program at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. This year's event already has more than 70 sponsors, more than \$110,000 raised and participants on six continents and across the U.S.

For the second year, Village Market will serve as a community matching sponsor. Last year the Grosse Pointe business matched customer donations, raising more than \$8,500 for Elizabeth's Courage Fund.

Grosse Pointe resident Claire Sheeren founded the event and has direct ties to the program. Her sister, Elizabeth, has an incurable immune disease and has greatly benefited from the work of the pal-

liative care team at Mott. The success of the event enabled the family to establish Elizabeth's Courage Fund, which is 100 percent dedicated to supporting children and families facing complex or terminal conditions receiving palliative care at Mott.

"As we enter our sixth year, I am continually amazed by the support of our sponsors and our community," Claire Sheeren said. "It's been incredible to see people come alongside others battling complex and chronic diseases. It is deeply moving to witness the impact the funds are having on the families at Mott."

Examples of programs supported by Elizabeth's Courage Fund include:

- ◆ music therapy designed for complex chronic illness, NICU and

end-of-life situations.

- ◆ emotional support groups for parents;

- ◆ medical massage therapy to help alleviate nausea, pain and anxiety, and improve quality of life; and

- ◆ child life specialists who help children and teens cope with the stress of hospitalizations and serious illness, and also provide bereavement support when needed.

"I am so grateful to the Run, Walk n Roll 5K committee and community for supporting Elizabeth's Courage Fund to benefit the pediatric palliative care program," said Patricia Keefer, M.D., and director of the program at Mott. "ECF has enabled my team to provide much-needed support to Mott children dealing with medically complex and life-limiting health challenges. Many pediatric

palliative care patients encounter extended stays in Mott and have been treated at Mott a decade or more. ECF provides funds to help ease the pain for these children and bring joy to them while in the hospital and when they return as outpatients. These services are only made possible because of incredible philanthropic partners like

See ROLL, page 5B



Though past Run, Walk n Roll 5K events took place in person, this year's event will occur virtually throughout the month of June.

COURTESY PHOTO

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City of Grosse Pointe, Michigan

PUBLIC NOTICE - ORDINANCE NO. 463

Please take notice that the City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe has passed Ordinance No. 463 amending Section 78-143 of the Grosse Pointe Code of Ordinances regarding changes to the water rate, sewer rate, the readiness to serve charge, debt service, and industrial damage rate. This Ordinance will become effective ten days after the publication of this Notice. The complete text of Ordinance No. 463 is available at Grosse Pointe City Hall, 17147 Maumee, Grosse Pointe, MI, Mon.-Fri., 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Telephone 313-885-5800.

Christopher M. Hardenbrook,
City Clerk

4B | OBITUARIES

OBITUARIES

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

Eleanor “Dolly” Berendt

Eleanor “Dolly” Berendt, 98, died peacefully in her sleep Saturday, May 18, 2024. Dolly was born April 25, 1926, in Detroit, to Ann and John Walkoviak, both now deceased. She was married to Arthur Berendt in 1942, and they enjoyed 68 loving years of marriage until his passing in 2010. Dolly is survived by her children, Gregg Berndt (Julie) and Karol Berendt (Carl). Her grandchildren, Sean Berendt (Kasia), Kristen Berndt, Colleen Jones (Eric), Lauren Puhý (Adam) and Meghan D’Agnese (Michael), brought her unmatched joy throughout many memorable years of golf lessons, sporting events, school plays and sleepovers. She was blessed with five great-grandchildren who were the source of her ultimate happiness in the final years of her life: Addison, Jack, Noah, Henry and Elaina. Dolly was a friend to all and loved dearly by many

relatives and friends. Dolly was a graduate of St. Catherine High School in Detroit. She waited patiently through World War II to marry her grade-school sweetheart, Art, who truly was the love of her life. She was a stay-at-home mom until her children were grown. She then worked as a bank teller and always spoke proudly of her experiences in the workplace. She also sold moving and trucking space to folks coming into Detroit during the boom of the 1960s and ’70s. In her leisure time, Dolly enjoyed playing bridge, golfing, entertaining friends and traveling with her husband, friends and family. Dolly was heavily involved in her children’s and grandchildren’s activities, never missing a school play or sports game, and always with a smile on her face with perfect hair and lipstick. Dolly genuinely loved connecting with friends and family through these hobbies and activities, continuously

building her community and making new friends everywhere she went. Dolly was a devout member of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish and later St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, where she found solace and community. Her faith was an integral part of her life, guiding her through both joyful and challenging times. Dolly was one of the last surviving members of her generation and will be sorely missed by those who remember the joy she shared with everyone she encountered. A memorial service to celebrate Dolly’s life will be held Saturday, June 15, at St. Joan of Arc, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores. The gathering will begin at 9:30 a.m. with a memorial Mass at 10 a.m., which will be live-streamed on the St. Joan of Arc website, sjascs.org/st-joan-live. A luncheon will follow at the church. Friends and family are invited to attend and pay their respects to a remarkable woman who will be dearly missed.



Eleanor “Dolly” Berendt

Larry Lee Roberts

Larry Lee Roberts, 82, formerly of Detroit, died at home Friday, May 17, 2024. He was the beloved husband of 56 years to the late Betty (nee Martin) Roberts; loving father of Laura Pechersky (David); cherished grandfather of Sasha and Theo Pechersky; and dear brother of Eileen Plescher and Kenneth Roberts. He was born March 5, 1942, in Hastings, to Elwin and Eva (nee McLaurý) Roberts, both now deceased. In 1963, Betty caught Larry’s eye while waiting at the Tally Ho. He was smitten right away and after asking Betty many times for her hand in marriage, she finally agreed to wed in 1966. Larry went on to complete college and received his Juris Doctor degree at Wayne State University Law School. The couple lived



Larry Lee Roberts

in Germany for three years while Larry served in the U.S. Army. After moving to Detroit in the early 1970s, Larry and Betty were blessed with their first and only child, Laura, in 1983. They were very active in their neighborhood of Indian Village where they entertained lifelong friends and cared deeply for its history and traditions. Larry worked as a dedicated prosecuting attorney for Wayne County for many years. His proudest accomplishment was winning a case in front of the U.S. Supreme Court in 1996, with his family in tow. Larry was an avid runner and spent most of his lunch hours with his co-workers jogging around Belle Isle. He completed a multitude of marathons and trail races. Larry also donated 16 gallons of blood to the American Red Cross throughout

his life and loved watching Formula 1 races, especially the Detroit Grand Prix. Betty and Larry remained committed to each other their entire lives and were always together. They enjoyed delicious food, the Detroit Institute of Arts and lively conversation with their neighbors. After Betty’s passing in 2022, Larry moved to Pittsburgh and spent his days with loving caregivers and the extended Pechersky family. He was fond of classical music, birdwatching and salmon, prepared in any way. His greatest joy was being “Papa” to Sasha and Theo and spending time with Hazel and Vivian, the family dogs. To those who knew him, Larry’s wit and sarcasm will be forever remembered. His favorite lyric by the Rolling Stones embodied his personality very well: “You can’t always get what you want. But if you try sometimes, you just might find, you get what you need.” There will be a private service and interment. A celebration of life will occur at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Betty Roberts’ Scholarship for the Arts, Indian Village Women Garden Club, 2990 Seminole, Detroit, MI 48214.

See OBITS, page 5A

THOMAS ANTHONY CRACCHIOLO

JANUARY 10, 1927- MARCH 29, 2024

Thomas Anthony Cracchiolo, a resident of Grosse Pointe Shores, was gifted by the Lord, with a wonderfully long life of 97 years. His beloved wife of 69 years, Carol Ann, joined him in their eternal life together, just three days later. Together, Tom and Carol proudly raised four daughters: Bernadette (Hartmut), Ann (Ron), Lisa (John), and Carol (Rick). Tom was lovingly known as “Poppie” to his eight grandchildren: Izzy, Christopher, Meghan (Alp), Claire, Natalie, Thomas John (Nanouli), Emily, Thomas William (Sabrina), and his first great-grandchild, Celeste. He is survived by his brother, Raymond. Tom was predeceased by his siblings: Phyllis, Roma, Joseph, Antoinette, Lena, Sam, and Peter. He was known as a supportive and loving uncle to numerous nephews and nieces. Tom was the youngest of nine children born to Italian immigrant parents. As a youngster he learned the importance and value of hard work, as he labored alongside his siblings to help support the family. After completing technical school, Tom enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Forces, and served his country in Guam. Upon his honorable discharge, Tom partnered with his brothers to co-found several corporations including Burns Automatic and Burns Cold Forge. Leveraging the combined talents of the brothers, they advanced the use of cold forging technology to manufacture tooling and industrial parts. Within years, Masco and the Burns companies would merge, and Tom and his brothers would assume other executive leadership



roles within Masco. Tom was a devoted son, brother, spouse, uncle, father, and grandfather. Family was paramount in his life. During their lives together, Tom and Carol’s greatest joy was raising their children. They enjoyed weekly family boat rides, walking in the countryside to observe wildlife, and traveling overseas. Throughout the years, Tom helped support and care for his family, and in his later years he focused his attention on lovingly assisting his wife and lifetime partner, Carol Ann. Tom’s Christian faith was a cornerstone of his life and actions. He was a devout Catholic who practiced the daily routine of studying the lives of the saints, morning and evening prayer, and devotions. He fully appreciated the many ways that “the Good Lord tapped him on the shoulder”, and blessed him and his family. Together with Carol Ann, they sought to improve the lives of others, especially women and children, both locally and internationally. Tom was dedicated to community service and supported many philanthropic endeavors in education, food security, medicine, the arts, and religion. Tom served on numerous

boards and foundations throughout his life including as the Founding Chairman of the Michigan Parkinson’s Foundation, the President of Holy Cross Children’s Services, and a Cabinet Member of the Solanus Casey Center. Tom derived great joy from nature and God’s earthly creations. He loved being outdoors, and walking in the woods identifying trees, plants, and birds. As a steward of the land, he planted many fruit trees and black walnut trees for the next generations to enjoy. He enjoyed the water and was an avid boater and fisherman. Tom shared friendly competition and laughter with his friends playing cards, and on the golf course and tennis court. He continued to play tennis and enjoy the company of his tennis buddies into his 90’s! Tom lived an exemplary life of personal integrity, hard work, humility, generosity, compassion, and humor. Many sought his wise counsel. Tom’s life example, loving care, and generosity have indelibly enriched the lives of all those who have had the privilege to know him. A joint Celebration of Life was held for Tom and Carol in a Funeral Mass on May 17, 2024 at St. Bonaventure Capuchin Monastery. Memorial donations to honor Tom Cracchiolo may be made to: Solanus Casey Center: thecapuchins.org; Capuchin Soup Kitchen: cskdetroit.org; East African Children’s Fund: eacfund.org



CAROL ANN (BARBA) CRACCHIOLO

JULY 5, 1936 - APRIL 1, 2024

Carol Ann (Barba) Cracchiolo, a longtime resident of Grosse Pointe Shores, died peacefully in her home. She was surrounded by love, music, prayers, and laughter as she left her earthly life. She followed her beloved husband of 69 years, Thomas Anthony Cracchiolo, who had joined his Lord just three days prior. Carol was born in Grosse Pointe, to Melvin and Bernadette Barba, the eldest of three children. She was predeceased by her beloved sister, Bernadette (Bea), and her brother, Thomas. Carol attended St. Paul’s Academy and was a devout Catholic whose faith served as a compass in guiding her life, in times of both joy and sorrow. She demonstrated her Catholic values through her compassion, gratitude, and generosity toward others. Carol was passionate about creating beauty in her home and garden for her family and friends to enjoy. She held a decorator’s license for many years, which enabled her to utilize her creative talents and love of color. She had a natural gift for combining color and pattern in unconventional, yet exquisite ways, which were expressed in her decor and wardrobe. She looked forward to the holidays, adorning the house with seasonal decorations that were both elegant and whimsical. Carol demonstrated her love through her cooking and gift-giving. Inspired by her husband’s culture, she became an experienced Italian cook. Carol had many hidden talents about which she was quite humble. She painted for many years, experimenting with various media and styles. She learned how to



design and create beautiful leaded stained glass windows. Carol had a lovely singing voice. She had an enduring sense of humor, often involving antics with her sister, Bea. She also enjoyed sharing laughter with her husband, children, and grandchildren. She was perpetually young at heart. Carol volunteered her talents of event planning and design in numerous community service organizations. She was chair of the Fonthonne Auxiliary of St. John Ascension Hospital’s White Christmas Ball, and created and implemented fundraising events for the University Liggett School. She served as Secretary for the Young Women’s Home Association. Carol served her church for many years as a CCD instructor, and was involved in Cursillo. She was a member of Project Hope and the Fr. Solanus Casey committee. Together with her husband, Tom, they left an impactful legacy with numerous philanthropic projects, especially those targeting the needs of women and children. In particular, they sought to alleviate food insecurity and support education and skills training. Carol and Tom encouraged their four daughters’ personal growth and academic pursuits. They took great joy in traveling internationally as a family. They exposed their

children to diverse cultures, art, history, architecture, and cuisine. Carol and Tom continued to foster their own friendships as a couple through their travels with the Nomads group. As partners they instilled a love of nature and animals in their daughters and grandchildren. They immersed the family in the outdoors through camping trips, walking in the fields and woods, planting and harvesting gardens, tending fruit trees, raising swans, and a veritable menagerie at their beloved “Farm”. Both Carol and Tom enjoyed the company of wild birds, and made sure that their numerous bird feeders were always full. Carol is survived by her four daughters: Bernadette (Hartmut), Ann (Ron), Lisa (John), and Carol (Rick); eight grandchildren: Izzy, Christopher, Meghan (Alp), Claire, Natalie, Thomas John (Nanouli), Emily, Thomas William (Sabrina), and her first great-grandchild, Celeste. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews, and shared a special bond with her sister’s son, Thomas. Carol’s inner and outer radiance and beauty were exemplified in her smile, laughter, zest for life, and her acts of love and generosity. She has inspired us all to carry and share her light. A joint Celebration of Life for both Carol and Thomas was held in a Funeral Mass on May 17, 2024 at St. Bonaventure Capuchin Monastery. Memorial donations to honor Carol Cracchiolo may be made to: Solanus Casey Center: thecapuchins.org; Capuchin Soup Kitchen: cskdetroit.org; East African Children’s Fund: eacfund.org

Grosse Pointe Theatre’s Purdon Studio Theatre presents ‘String of Pearls’

“String of Pearls” bands together the stories of more than two dozen women, all connected in some way to a pearl necklace. The tales weave a journey through love, loss, frustration, desire and destiny. Grosse Pointe Park resident Laura Ver Beek is directing this Purdon Studio Theatre production, which takes place May 31 to June 9, in the undercroft at Christ Church Grosse Pointe.

“I was cast in this play 15 years ago and I have wanted to direct it ever since,” Ver Beek said. “It inspired me and I hoped that someday I’d have the opportunity to present my vision of it. One of my favorite aspects of directing is working closely with the actors to help them create full-bodied, believable people on stage. In ‘String of Pearls,’ six actors play 27 different characters. The process of finding and defining who these characters are has been a creative joy.”

Purdon, or PST, shows are not the average Grosse Pointe Theatre main-stage productions chosen for broad appeal, but rather more contemporary stories that can-



PHOTO COURTESY OF DALE PEGG

The cast of “String of Pearls” includes, from left, **Laura Bartell, Julia Bayer, Elizabeth McQuillen, Fiona Donough, Elizabeth Schaffer and Samantha Scott.**

not be told in other theatrical spaces.

“PST allows us to present works on a smaller budget that are best performed in a more intimate setting with minimal sets and set pieces. The plays may be edgier and have more thought-provoking con-

tent,” Ver Beek said. “For example, ‘String of Pearls’ has explicit sexual content because the play deals with sex as a form of communication and sense of identity. It might make some people uncomfortable, but at

See PEARLS, page 8B

BIRTH



Charlotte Marie Brecht

Charlotte Marie Brecht

Chelsie and Karl Brecht of Grosse Pointe Farms announce the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Marie Brecht, Friday, April 26, 2024. Maternal grandparents are Michael and Jennifer Leathers of Bettendorf, Iowa. Paternal grandparents are Gregory and Michelle Brecht of Grosse Pointe Farms. Great-grandmothers are Mary Kay Leathers of Oreana, Ill., and Geraldine Pastewski of the City of Grosse Pointe.

ROLL:

Continued from page 3B

Elizabeth’s Courage Fund.”

This year’s goal is to continue providing funding for the music and child life therapists on the palliative care team, while helping pediatric patients, parents and siblings cope with the burden of chronic or terminal illness.

Registering for and/or donating to the 2024 Run, Walk n Roll 5K enables children in palliative care to feel some of the simple pleasures of life through these programs. Additionally, the parents receive much-needed mental health support to help them manage the enormous challenge of daily living with a sick child. The month of June is

the target to participate and gather in spirit for this cause. Groups of participants are forming across the country and around the world. This is an inclusive event designed to give everyone a chance to participate — whether on foot or in wheelchairs, adaptive bikes or strollers. All are welcome. To register or donate, visit run-walk-roll.org

OBITS:

Continued from page 4B

Kyle J. Koop

Kyle J. Koop passed away peacefully at his home Sunday, May 19, 2024, with his eternal love, Mandy, at his side. Kyle’s intense devotion to and love for his girls — Mandy and his daughters, Sophie and Stella — was reflected back to him every day by these women, especially as they courageously fought alongside Kyle after he was diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer almost four years ago. Kyle’s family provided him a beautiful send-off the last week of his life, allowing him to visit many longtime friends and family to reflect on a life that, while cut too short, was lived to the fullest. As Kyle said, filled with a grace and thankfulness worthy of admiration, “It has been a great 47 years.”

Any recitation of Kyle’s life must begin with the center of his universe: Mandy, Sophie and Stella. Kyle and Mandy’s love story took off like a supercharged Chevy truck. They were set up by mutual friends at an annual Christmas party. Eleven months later, after a long-distance relationship, they were married. The whirlwind adventure continued, as they promptly moved to California to start their lives together, the first of many moves for their family — moves that took them from California, to Detroit, then Grand Rapids, on to Atlanta and back to Detroit — all of which Kyle enthusiastically embraced.

In 2009, Kyle and Mandy embarked on building their family



Kyle J. Koop

with the birth of Sophie. A couple years later, Stella arrived and their family was complete. Kyle embraced his role as a girl dad, teaching them life lessons, instilling them with the same foundation in faith his parents imparted to him and providing unconditional love each step of the way. Sophie and Stella filled him with pride and purpose, and he made every attempt to share as much time as possible with them by waging his hard-fought battle with cancer. Kyle’s spirit lives on most indelibly through his girls, and he promises to be present for them at all major milestones and in the small, quiet moments when they need him most.

Kyle’s journey began in Livermore, Calif., where he was born Oct. 7, 1976, to his parents, Mary and David Koop. He was raised in Waterford with four siblings in a household where the Christian faith became the North Star guiding Kyle throughout his life. He made lifelong friends at a very young age and continued to forge deep friendships in each chapter of his life — friendships that surrounded him in love and filled his days with laughter.

Kyle earned a bachelor’s degree from Western Michigan

University, before receiving his first real job with General Motors. Kyle remained loyal to GM, spending his entire 26-year career working for the company in several major markets and at its headquarters. Along the way, Kyle earned an MBA and built security for his family. But he most appreciated the bonds he built that ran much deeper than those forged between typical business colleagues. Kyle’s family is incredibly thankful for the unwavering love and loyalty demonstrated by the GM family, Chevy team and Chevy dealers during his battle with cancer. His time with his Chevy family gave him a powerful sense of value, purpose and kinship that was a constant source of fuel as he battled his illness. For all of this, the Koop girls are eternally grateful.

Kyle undoubtedly left the world a better place, which is no more evident than in the poise and positivity of Sophie and Stella. In addition to his daughters, Sophie and Stella, Kyle is survived by his wife, Mandy; parents, Dave and Mary Koop; siblings, Kim (nee Koop) Roan, Cyndi (nee Koop) Fearson, Jeff Koop and Nathan Koop; mother-in-law, Gail Miller; sisters-in-law, Kelly (nee Miller) Myers and Teri (nee Miller) Looney; and numerous uncles, aunts, nieces and nephews, all of whom he loved very much. He was predeceased and has been welcomed into heaven by his grandparents, Wally and Elfriede Koop and Ewell and Artie Stotts; and father-in-law, Paul Miller. His family is certain he is enjoying spectacular rounds of golf with Paul now.

Kyle’s family is grate-

ful for the outpouring of support from friends, the community and everyone who took time away from their families to care for Kyle’s family. Kyle’s spirit was filled with love thanks to this overwhelming support. Kyle’s battle with cancer was primarily waged at the University of Michigan under the heartfelt care and expertise of the U-M Colorectal Cancer team, who he believed was responsible for extending his days well beyond all prognostications. The Koops are

forever grateful for the medical guidance and loving care provided by their dear friends in the community. All are welcome to attend a memorial service at 11 a.m. Thursday, May 30, at Crosspointe Christian Church, 21336 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Colorectal Cancer Alliance, bit.ly/3QUYTC7. To honor Kyle, pray, smile and hug the ones you love.

MEMORIAL

Frederick Edward Hesse Kilgus

Aug. 21, 1942 — Feb. 8, 2024

A memorial service for Frederick Edward Hesse Kilgus takes place Friday, June 7, at Grace Community Church, 21001 Moross, Detroit. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. with a service beginning at 2 p.m. His full obituary appeared in the March 28, 2024, Grosse Pointe News.

Dr. Paul Francis Brecht, DDS



Dr. Paul Francis Brecht, DDS, 82, of Troy, Michigan, passed away peacefully on May 7, 2024. Born on May 15, 1941, in Detroit to Lloyd and Mary Brecht, he dedicated 50 years to dentistry, serving in various capacities and gaining recognition from multiple dental associations. Paul’s commitment extended beyond dentistry; he was an active member of the Utica-Shelby Kiwanis for 49 years, serving as president and earning prestigious awards. He cherished time with family, supporting his children and attending his grandchildren’s sports events. A lover of nature, Paul enjoyed

golfing and gardening with his wife of 23 years, JoAnne. He was known for his curiosity, often found reading to satisfy his thirst for knowledge. Skilled in various tasks, he used his talents to help others, bringing joy to both himself and those he assisted. In September 2023, Paul volunteered for a clinical research study on prostate cancer, demonstrating his selflessness and unwavering commitment to helping others. He passed away at 11:09 pm, May 7th, 2024, embodying the spirit of St. Paul’s words, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.” Paul leaves behind his loving wife, Josetta “JoAnne” Brecht nee Fix; children: Jim (Melissa) Brecht, Phil (Nicole) Brecht, Ellen (Eric) Jordan, Greg Zub and Becky (Bryan) Eckstein; grandchildren: Alexis Brecht, Abbie (Matt) Moore, Gavin Brecht, James Eckstein, Philip Brecht, Avery Eckstein, Joseph Zub, Jackson Eckstein, Ava Brecht, Emery Jordan; siblings: Geraldine Brecht, Ann (Tom) Stock, Tom (Mary Ann) Brecht, Mark (Mary) Brecht, Greg (Michelle) Brecht; as well as beloved cousins, nieces, nephews, dear friends and fur-friend, Bailey. He is preceded in death by his parents, Lloyd and Mary Brecht; and his brothers, Fr. David Brecht OSA, and John Brecht.



SPRING showers

Bright florals make a real splash

A bouquet of amazing garden and wildflowers, above, set the tone for the stunning bridal shower of Kat Stevenson, of Grosse Pointe. The linen napkins, below right, borrow color from the flowers and strike a beautiful contrast with the fresh white linen tablecloth.

Inspiration for a season of beautiful bridal celebrations

By Donna Zetterlund
Special Writer

With its bright floral theme and lakeside breezes, the bridal shower of Grosse Pointe native Kat Stevenson was a true inspiration for spring and summer showers this season. Held at The Little Club, the event was a classic study in Grosse Pointe party elegance and charm. Kat was kind enough to share her beautiful pictures with us and they surely got us excited for a springtime of beautiful beginnings!

The bride-to-be was radiant in white, and guests looked the epitome of warm-weather style in trending pastels and feminine eye-catching patterns. Bright orange and pink accents weaved throughout the event, from the table linens to decor to the bride’s accessories. The effect was bright, breezy and lovely.

The menu consisted of a delicious array of hors d’oeuvres for nibbling, including hearty appetizers, select crudite and tasty charcuterie. Dessert was an assortment of tarts, macarons and festive cookies. The ladies sipped Pinot Grigio and Rose wines as they chatted and enjoyed the day.

Since the shower and wedding (Kat and husband Ian Hollerbach were featured this month in our 2024 Grosse Pointe News Wedding Guide as the cover story) the newlyweds have already started their beautiful new life together as man and wife.

They married in Snowmass, CO amid gorgeous backdrops of mountains and aspen trees. The bride and groom had special cowboy hats made for the festivities and the bride wore her cowboy boots for the wedding and the reception. Their love for natural beauty shone through all of their celebrations, from the bridal shower to all the special touches during their wedding weekend last September.

The couple connected over a childhood love of sailing in the Detroit area — Kat at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and Ian at Bayview — and the rest is history.

We wish the new husband and wife all the very best, with a future as wonderful as the start.

Bride in white

Bride-to-be Kat Stevenson, above right, looks gorgeous in a breezy white sun dress with a fitted-bodice. Her jeweled hairpins reflect the theme colors of the party and add personality to her ensemble. With one side of her long hair pinned up and the rest flowing naturally, she has captured the best of both worlds, exuding a relaxed yet classic look.

Left: Mom of the bride Colleen Stevenson, right, shares a moment with mother of the groom, Karen Hollerbach, far right. Their gorgeous smiles perfectly illustrate the joy and beauty of the day.



Lakeside lunch

Guests take part in celebrating Kat and Ian amid perfect weather, beloved family and friends — and delicious food.





Ambiance

Lake St. Clair, below, is the perfect natural element to add beauty to the party decor.



Flower girl

Precious niece-to-the-bride Charlotte Hollerbach, below, holds a pretty bouquet of wildflowers whose colors set the tone for the stylish event. From flowers and key limes in the centerpieces, pink and orange balloons and matching bright table linens, the colorful theme was tied together perfectly to create a fresh, natural atmosphere.

Charlotte's darling pink and white floral patterned dress with oversized white eyelet detail on the bodice makes the shower even more festive.



Party alfresco

An inviting table awaits the cheerfully mingling guests! Bright-colored linen napkins are wrapped with a sensational Twilly-style scarf, a delightful party favor for each guest. Small clear vases with handfuls of colorful blooms run the length of the table and serve as the perfect centerpieces, at an ideal height — where guests can make eye contact and enjoy conversation. Simple clear glass water goblets lend to the purity of the table design, creating a fresh, modern yet natural, appeal.



Happy couple

Kat and hubby Ian Hollerbach are the picture of bliss at their Summer Soiree last year. The event was their Michigan wedding celebration. Kat charms in her fresh white butterfly applique dress that's as pretty at spring itself.



Generations of love

Kat's cute niece Charlotte, far left, mother of the bride Colleen Stevenson, center, and grandmother GG Gallagher, left, can't hide their joy for celebrating this happy occasion. The well-attended event was a chance for generations of family and friends to gather, and turn out in their lovely warm-weather fashions.

The European-inspired party was hosted by Kat's sister-in-law Melissa Hollerbach and her daughter Charlotte, both of Grosse Pointe Farms, sister-in-law Emily Stevenson, of Grosse Pointe Park, mom Colleen Stevenson, of Grosse Pointe Farms and grandmother GG Gallagher, of Naples, FL.



Cover girl

Kat's wedding was also our featured cover story in the 2024 Grosse Pointe News Wedding Guide. Along with hubby Ian Hollerbach, they shared the exquisite wedding photos from their breathtaking Colorado nuptials. With stunning natural backdrops and an elegant "down home" vibe, their wedding was a page out of an All-American storybook.

Missed your copy of the Wedding Guide?

You can still get one by calling us at (313) 882-6900 or stopping in the GPN offices at 16980 Kercheval Ave. in the Village. The back issue price of the magazine is \$5 (plus postage if mailed.)

8B | CHURCHES

PEARLS:

Continued from page 5B

the same time it will probably make them laugh or cause them to sympathize with the character. There is also adult language, which we avoid on the main stage.”

Ver Beek said rehearsals are going well and the cast is talented and open-minded.

“They enjoy the process, which requires play and experimentation,” she said. “This allows for their characters to grow in an organic way as opposed to a cerebral approach.”

The cast of “String of Pearls” includes Laura Bartell, Julia Bayer, Fiona Donough, Elizabeth McQuillen, Elizabeth Schaffer and Samantha Scott. In addition to Ver Beek, the crew includes Dominic Aldini, producer; Shelby Marie Holley, apprentice director; MaryLynn Bertetto, stage manager, co-properties; Jeff Ver Beek, sound design; Janie Burkey, lighting

design; Jaquelyne Pfaff, co-properties; andGwen Wunder, costume design. Performances take place 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday evenings and 2 p.m. Sundays. The Saturday evening performances include a mix-and-mingle social hour beginning at 7 p.m. with complimentary appetizers and wine and beverages in the lobby area before the show begins.

Ver Beek expects audiences to have strong reactions to this play.

“I think this play will elicit a lot of laughter, some heart-tugging, some self-reflection and perhaps some discomfort,” Ver Beek said. “You meet many different types of people in the journey of this play and the audience may not like or agree with all of them, but they will be challenged by peeking into their world, if only for a moment.”

She also added one thought she hopes audiences leave with: “Never underestimate your words and deeds and how they may impact someone else’s life.”

The details

What: Purdon Studio Theatre’s “String of Pearls”

When:

8 p.m. Friday, May 31

8 p.m. Saturday, June 1

2 p.m. Sunday, June 2

8 p.m. Friday, June 7

8 p.m. Saturday, June 8

2 p.m. Sunday, June 9

Where: The undercroft at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms

How: Tickets are \$20 including fees at gpt.org/pearls or call the Ticket Office at (313) 881-4004. Tickets also are available at the door.

Content Warning: This show is rated R for ADULT CONTENT. Those younger than 18 are not admitted.

HONEY:

Continued from page 3B

friend,” she said. “I’m honored to say that. ... My dad was a business owner on Mack for years and he was really proud of me that I got that business sense from him. As an ER nurse, I’m constantly going. I’m used to managing it. I look at myself as a bee; they’re nonstop.

“I have help; I couldn’t do this without it,” she added. “They help at the store, at events and at my hives. It’s like a community and the Honey Help team as well.”

On the retail side, a wealth of honey-based products are sold at Honey Help Apiaries. Johns uses her background as a holistic health practitioner to incorporate holistic means into honey.

She offers daily honey samples and sells infused medicinal honeys — turmeric is an anti-inflammatory and basil is an antihistamine, for example — as well as all-natural gummies, a propolis throat spray, alcohol-free tinctures, charcoal-honey face masks and much more.

“With leftover wax, I make healing balms, natural sunscreen, insect repellent, wound spray,” she said. “Honey Help started because I would bring things to work for other nurses and doctors. Everything has been tried before I sell it. They’d say, ‘My kid let me clean their boo-boo and said it didn’t sting — and it works.’”

Johns said she’d eventually like to leave behind



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Alison Johns and Honey Help Apiaries have been a fixture at the St. Clair Shores Farmers Market this year.

the hospital work and make beekeeping and Honey Help her full-time job.

Those interested in learning more about Honey Help don’t necessarily have to visit the storefront. Johns often can be found at church events, nursing homes, farmers’ markets, summer camps, classrooms and other locations, to which she brings books and bees and a wealth of knowledge.

“It’s expensive to be a sustainable beekeeper, but everything I do goes back into the hives,” Johns noted. “It’s the same with farmers; it’s all about the cycle of life. Without bees, we really don’t have much. They say in four years the whole planet would be done without bees. One in four bites of food is from the bees.”

Honey Help is open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday.

For more information, find Honey Help on

Facebook, visit honey-help.store or call (313) 409-2658.

“It’s a lot of work, but it’s rewarding,” she said. “I just want to teach people how amazing these

creatures are and how much we need them. I’m honored I can do this work, sharing with people. I’m blessed to do it. It’s really a gift. Their support keeps me going.”



In the Honey Help event space, Johns displays items she uses for beekeeping, including an observation hive.

EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

Council meeting, 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 5, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ All-Ages Comic-Making Club, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 5, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Saturday Drop-In Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday, June 8, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Hustle for Health Dance Classes, noon to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 8, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, June 3, Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 5, Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, June 6, American House Lakeside, 28801 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Monday, June 10, Grosse Pointe Sail Club, at the Tompkins Community Center, 14920 Windmill Pointe Dr., Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, June 13, St. Margaret of Scotland Church, 21201 E. 13 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 18, Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 19, Jefferson Masonic

Lodge No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Friday, June 21, St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, June 21, Ascension St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

The Helm

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

◆ Share for Dementia, Mondays and Thursdays by appointment only, with care consultant Gray Jessiman.

◆ Bocce League, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, beginning June 4.

◆ Premier World Discovery

hosts a presentation about two upcoming trips, Italy’s Amalfi Coast and San Antonio Holiday, 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 4.

◆ The movie “The Boys in the Boat” will be shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, June 7. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.

◆ Monday Morning Speaker Series: Travels with Peter Haley, 9 to 10 a.m. Monday, June 17.

◆ The movie “The Hundred-Foot Journey” is shown at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 18.

◆ Juneteenth Bingo, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Thursday, June 20. Cost is \$2 for members, \$5 for nonmembers, and includes one card and refreshments. Additional cards are 25 cents each.

◆ The movie “The Hill” is shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, June 21. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 5, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Michael Tengler, founder of the nonprofit Happy Cheeks, speaks. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

Air Show

The Michigan National Guard’s 127th Wing will host the 2024 Air Show and Open House at Selfridge Air National Guard Base June 8 and 9. The event is free and open to the public, and features The Thunderbirds, U.S. Army Golden Knights Parachute Team, Franklin’s Flying Circus, A10 Thunderbolt II, KC135 Stratotanker and several ground displays. The theme is “Innovation Focused: STEAM Driven.”

Worship Service



Saint Ambrose Catholic Church

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Michigan 48230-1302

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Tuesday — 8:30 a.m.

Thursday — 7:00 p.m.

Friday — Noon

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EyesOn Design: Teamwork

By Dick Ruzzin
Guest Writer

This is part two of a three-part series about the origin of EyesOn Design.

The purpose of the show I envisioned was to recognize automobiles that had been blessed with outstanding artistic content by their designers. That required a completely different set of judging rules, as well as a team of car designers to make the judgments. There would be designers from Ford, Chrysler and General Motors. With my contacts and those of others, we were able to assemble a diverse group of professional car designers that first day to judge all the vehicles present and make awards to the exceptional cars that met their aesthetic design standards. The show was about automotive aesthetics, not about how much money was spent to restore a car or how absolutely perfect it was in comparison to how it was built originally. At Eyes On The Classics, a car in poor condition but of outstanding design quality



EyesOn Design judges Ken Lingenfelter, Stu Reed and Wayne Cherry stroll through a previous car show.

could be there and get an award for design excellence. Originally I wanted the name EyesOn Design for the show, but we chose Eyes On The Classics and then Eyes On Classic Design to appeal to owners of the elite classic car world. We changed the name to EyesOn Design

for the fifth show. Working with a small team, we established an aggressive goal of more than 100 cars as a good start for the first event. I then approached my neighbor across Whittier, Doug Stair, and he immediately volunteered to help. He belonged to the Chrysler

Car Club and they proceeded to contact all the of car clubs in the Detroit area. Doug would prove to be a great contributor to EyesOn Design for many years. We had six weeks to put together a show as our small, newly formed committee, about a dozen people, decided to have it Sunday, July 10, 1988. I immediately

started to work with the ladies from the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology who were the experienced muscle behind its fund-raising events. They were led by Judy Dara and Carolyn Mulford, who quickly mustered a small group of volunteers to help. I was the idea man and they were the ones who would

make suggestions and get things done — and I quickly saw they really knew what they were doing. My direct contact during my work day was to be Marilyn Moss, the Cadillac Studio secretary and my assistant. Dennis Little and many others in the Cadillac Studio helped in many ways. In spite of my busy days, my confidence started to grow; the ladies did all the work and made all the contacts. It was really fun when Judy and Carolyn finally met Marilyn at the show after six weeks of intense daily communication. The GM Design Graphics Studio head, Tecla Rhodes, was contacted by her father who had received one of the flyers at a local show. She had not heard about the show at work, but offered to design a logo for us. The studio had a new intern for the summer, Mary Ann LaVerge, and she was quickly given the task to design the Eyes On The Classics logo in two short weeks. She presented two design proposals to me. Both were excellent. I had a favorite but gave her the opportunity to choose the one she liked best. She made a great choice and it is still used today more than 35 years later. Directing a design stu-

See TEAM, page 9C

ASK THE EXPERTS By Frank Wilberding

The gifts of grief

Grief hurts and there is no roadmap. The often referred to five stages from work by Elizabeth Kubler Ross always were meant to apply to stages of dying, not grieving. Grief is as individualized and personal as our love for another itself; every life, every path is unique. Given that there is no atlas of the heart to guide us, what are some truths we can take on our grief journey?

- ◆ If I did not love so deeply, I would not grieve so intensely.
- ◆ I must look through the lens of my attachment and love, not just my loss.
- ◆ Would my loved one want my grief to define me or the love we shared to define us?

So, what are these gifts of grief that can sustain us on this journey?

First Gift: Compassion for self

In intense grief, our prefrontal cortex, responsible for executive function, is shut down. At the same time the brain’s limbic system, responsible for survival functioning, is on high alert. Brain fog, lack of concentration, blurred judgment and flawed decision-making all are normative. As stress increases, the body keeps the score and our immune system is weakened and our appetite and sleep are negatively affected. Given this assault on all aspects of our life, the gift of compassion for self requires acceptance, patience and even pampering.

Second Gift: The power of choice: “Being here now”

Victor Frankl said, “Everything can be taken from a person, but one thing ... the last of the human freedoms: the right to choose one’s attitude in any given set of circumstances ... to choose one’s way.” If we allow our grief to choose our mood for us, its all-encompassing strength can easily result in isolation, followed by a gathering depression. A choice we can make is to engage with our grief and in doing so begin to see grief as a visitor.

Third Gift: Connection ... forming continuing bonds

Through engagement with our grief, we validate the legacy for our loved one. The most exciting new understanding of grief is how the formation of continuing bonds can transform our lives.

We can frame our lives in the sense that we are representing our loved ones by taking them with us as we initiate and participate in family affairs and rituals.

Fourth Gift: The courage to seek help

Complicated grief, and particularly prolonged grief disorder, are diagnosable conditions, affecting nearly 10 percent of those who suffer losses. They are characterized by numbing our emotions, feeling hopeless about the future, anger and bitterness about the death and avoiding reminders of the loss.

The good news is there are evidence-based therapeutic treatments for complicated grief and insurance will pay for a share of that expense.

Fifth Gift: Finding meaning ... Living to good purpose under all conditions

Grief is an assault on our identity. Who are we without our loved one? We co-created the meaning of our relationship, but we learn in grief that we can continue to find meaning as we take the relationship forward. Because we have been open to all the emotions and pain in our grief, because we have taken our loved ones with us, because we have the resilience to be intentional and not just reactive to our grief, we can grow in our wisdom and connection to ourselves and others.

To read the full article, including suggestions for working through grief and recommended readings, visit: familycenterhelps.org/the-gifts-of-grief

Frank Wilberding is a clinical social worker and certified Hazelden trained addiction counselor in Grosse Pointe Park. He helps families with substance dependence, relationship dependence, grief and loss, trauma and attachment disorders, co-occurring disorders and more. He can be reached at (312) 550-9876 or fdwilberding@gmail.com. If you are seeking a grief group, Wilberding facilitates one the first and third Thursday of each month at The Helm. Visit helmlife.org or call (313) 882-9600. The Family Center provides free programs and resources that help build happier, healthier families. Learn more at familycenterhelps.org.



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Taking care of yourself is the best way to care for others

Dear Gabby: I am a caregiver for my mom who has Alzheimer's. I love her and am so glad to be with her, but I need some support as I get overwhelmed some days. Is there a place to go?

— In Need of a Respite

Dear In Need,

Caregiving can be rewarding but also draining. The importance of self-care is essential, so we are glad you reached out. First of all, if your mom is able to get out and about, take a drive and enjoy the scenery, pack a picnic lunch and stop at the park or visit a favorite restaurant.

Visit The Helm. Sign your mother up for an exercise class, bingo, an art class, the occasional lunch gathering,

movie matinee or even bocce. If she's unable to play bocce, you can sit outside and enjoy watching others play or relax on one of the benches on the various patios. While you'll need to stay with your mother at The Helm, if she's able to participate or not, you get a bit of a breather by being out of your normal environment.

Some of the caregivers we know at The Helm suggested a few easy tips to help take care of yourself. All of them suggested something to help clear the mind when you start your day — a shower, exercise, walk, meditation or prayer — and something to decompress at the end of the day like reading, watching television, journaling, deep-breathing exercises or a hobby like

jewelry making. Caregiving can be all-consuming so it's important to take care of yourself and ask for help when you need it.

The Helm maintains a list of care providers. You can hire someone for multiple days, one day or even hours weekly to help provide relief. This break might give you time to take an exercise class, rediscover an old hobby or find a new one, run errands or just do nothing. And, a caregiver can bring your mom to The Helm for activities, too.

The Helm has an Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group that meets 5 to 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of every month. This will give you a break and an opportunity to talk with others in

a similar position.

It truly helps knowing you aren't the only one going through this — and you may pick up other ideas to help manage more effectively. You may register for the support group at helmlife.org. Respite care during the meeting is provided by Sunrise Senior Living. Please call Mary Jo at (313) 642-2000 to arrange for care while you attend the support group.

If your mother is in the early stages of dementia, you may want to consider a new program offered at The Helm, Share for Dementia. Through this care-planning program for persons living with early-stage dementia and their primary caregivers, you will work with a



SHARE counselor to determine your needs, find appropriate resources and create an action plan to ease caregiving duties. Caregiving can be part of the plan.

For more information about the SHARE program or any of the above programs, please call The Helm at (313) 882-9600.

Having a loved one with dementia is difficult. Taking time for yourself and asking for help are imperative.

—Gabby

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

Mixed signals tell you all you need to know

DEAR ANNIE: I've been in an on-and-off relationship with a guy for four years. He has a lot of female friends, and I'm not really sure how I am supposed to feel about that.

He goes to dinner with them for their birthdays and meets them out for drinks, and yet he won't introduce me to them as his girlfriend. He tells me that my jealousy is a turnoff, but I feel like some boundaries are being crossed here. Please help. — JEALOUS

AND CONFUSED

DEAR JEALOUS AND CONFUSED: You have every right to feel jealous and confused. But there is not much confusion, really. He is dismissing your feelings and shutting you out of a part of his life. I say move on and find someone who is better for you.

DEAR ANNIE: This is the first time I've ever written to an advice columnist, but I recently

read your column with the letter from "Baffled Daughter," whose mother was a 77-year-old woman who admitted to having an affair with a young male nurse who is married with children.

You gave sound advice about reporting it to the rehab facility, but I just wanted to suggest one possibility: She could have dementia.

My mother is now 90 years old and has been in a nursing home for 12 years with dementia (bed-

ridden now), but 14 years ago, she told me she had been kidnapped by a neighbor on the block and that he had taken her keys and had a priest marry them.

This was my first sign of realizing that my mother was mentally off; the neighbor had died six months earlier of the same disease, so she had not seen him that day but she thought that she had.

It's just a thought — that the 77-year-old woman also has a form



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

of memory loss and therefore has problems with reality.

I enjoy your column, so keep up the great work! — DEMENTIA ADVICE

DEAR DEMENTIA ADVICE: You bring up a great point. She should have her mother checked for memory care, as the

whole affair might have been something she imagined because of dementia. Thanks for writing.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

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Estia to Zestia right at our fingertips

The quickest "quick serve" restaurant in the area seemed like it took forever to open once the news broke in late 2020. The neighborhood's favorite food truck secured the perfect spot for its then-third brick-and-mortar location, in a new strip on Mack Avenue in the Woods.

Now, Estia Greek Street Food is at our fingertips. With plenty of parking spots in the back parking lot and the newly renovated Chene-Trombley Park and playground steps away, the town was ready to get its Greek on when the doors opened in December 2021.

Hearth. Home. Flame. The meanings behind the Greek word "Estia." It seemed only natural to owners, Nina and Paul Bittas, and Paul's first cousin, George Xenos, to bring their dream of excellence to their neighboring hometowns, Grosse Pointe Woods and St. Clair Shores.

While "Estia" made the family business successful, they had a big decision to make and a name change was imminent to secure their growth, development and trademark. Without risking the name and flame-adorned logo everyone has grown to know and recognize, the new name wasn't a hard choice. Taking "zesti," a Greek word meaning "heat" or "hot," Zestia was the winner — and the new sign is now finally up.

Gyros, salads, bowls, Greek fries, spinach and feta triangles — are you

drooling yet? The quick-serve assembly line is by far the easiest-run line I've ever experienced with this type of restaurant. The obvious cleanliness of said assembly line does not go unnoticed either. Question is, are you placing an order for one of their six signature pita wraps, or building your own by following four steps: pita + protein + spreads + toppings?

Maybe you're building a delicious, filled-to-the-brim salad or bowl? Either way, know you are getting the freshest of fresh ingredients, like pita bread made in front of your eyes, veggies and meats sourced locally from Eastern Market and four Greek staple ingredients — oregano, olives, olive oil and the best feta — coming straight from the motherland. From fresh lettuce and



Greek fries.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Zestia Greek Street

cabbage to seasoned rice — and my absolute favorite topping, Greek-O-de Gallo — your gyros, bowls and salads will be flavor filled.

Hummus or YCG (its tzatziki) are just two of my favorite spreads. Obviously you have to choose the garlic dip; that's a given. Aside from its famous pink Greek dressing there's also Vasco, made with fresh basil, garlic and lemon. And there's the classic EVOO. New this year Zestia added some excellent new sauces to elevate any gyro or gyro bowl. There's Freaky Greeky, a smoky pepper aioli, and Florina, a sweet and spicy pepper purée, just to name a few.

The scent of the deliciously seasoned halal chicken being grilled and the juicy lamb and pork spinning on their spindles, ready to be shaved for orders, definitely amp up anyone's appetite. Made fresh daily is its famous

chicken lemon rice soup. This family recipe — and I can attest — is the real deal, as are its stewed sweet Greek peas.

Fries and pita chips are the go-to sides, but as they say at Zestia: "Everything's betta with feta." I recommend ordering it Greek style: feta mixed with olive oil and oregano on top of piled-high fries or homemade pita chips. But don't sleep on those spinach and feta filo dough triangles either. Speaking of pita chips, how about an order covered in cinnamon and sugar? Because they have those, too, along with giant chocolate chip cookies. Dine in, dine out on the patio, carry out or delivery — there's no way not to enjoy.

Zestia offers vegan, vegetarian, keto and gluten-free options, as well as a kids' menu. Delivery is available via DoorDash, Uber Eats and GrubHub.

During the hard days of COVID, Nina, Paul, George and their amazing crew took to the streets in their



Food truck.



Food Gossip

by Nina Taormina



Assembly Line.

then-1-year-old food truck, doing pop-up locations around town. With their other two storefronts at the time, in Troy and Warren, both temporarily closed because of the pandemic, they were introduced to the local area and that's what helped them stay afloat.

Lines filled the parking lots wherever the truck

could be found. The speed and perfection gyros were being made on this massive vehicle was and still is remarkable. They've since joined multiple food truck rallies, brewery rotations, social districts and festivals, and can be rented for private parties all around town. Follow the business on social media this summer for food truck locations. I heard SterlingFest and Arts Beats & Eats are two of its favorite annual events.

Catering also has been a huge part of Zestia. With graduation season upon us, I highly recommend a gyro bar. Easy ordering of all the plentiful fixings you can possibly imagine, including salad, sides and desserts, via the website or app, is promised to find your guests happy and full. If you haven't downloaded the app yet, you should.

See FOOD, page 3C

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



Yet again, I was drawn into an ad on Instagram that began to pop up on my feed. This time, it was for a travel bag. I was in the market for an overnight bag and thought this might fit the bill. If you follow this column, you may remember I reviewed the Hulken bag — a much larger bag I bring with me on hockey weekends with the kids, etc.

The Foldie is a much smaller and completely different product. This is a carry-on that fits the bill of “a personal item,” to use airline lingo. This bag, even at its largest, fits under an airplane seat and will not get you dinged for a roller-bag fee. The internet marketing is so savvy that before I knew it, I was buying two bags for the

price of one — \$79 for both. Not terrible.

Somehow I got sold on this bag because it can fold up into almost nothing, in case you want to bring an extra bag on a trip for purchases and such. Also, by unzipping a section, it becomes larger by several inches. Both of these features sounded pretty cool, but in actual fact I have not taken advantage of either.

I don't know about you, but give me a bag and I will fill every cubic inch and then some. In addition, I'm too cheap to pay for my bags on a flight, so no need for the “extra bag” idea.

My first trial run with the Foldie was a weekend in New York City, followed immediately by a two days in Phoenix for a

work trip. Somehow I managed to squeeze in everything I needed: Score one for the Foldie.

I like the multiple pockets and it was fairly comfortable to carry — though I definitely maxed out the weight and volume. I would not say the shoulder strap is extremely comfortable, but it's not terrible.

The bag did fit easily under my seat, which was the smallest seat I've ever experienced. Am I getting bigger or is the space getting smaller? I'm not sure I want to know the answer.

At any rate, so far the Foldie has lived up to my expectations.



The quality of the bag seems very heavy duty, yet it's relatively stylish.

Look, it's not like you are trotting around town

with Louis Vuitton luggage, but it's decent and not embarrassing I would say. There are many color options. I wound up with a black and tan bag. There are actually bright and fun colors I might have considered if I wasn't feeling boring at the time I clicked “Buy now.”

Overall, the Foldie is a great bag. It is not the most earth-shattering purchase and I am not obsessed with it, but the truth is I have used it multiple times and plan to use it many more. It's not

something I worry about ruining, so I look forward to throwing stuff in it for boat days and weekends up north.

I give it 4.5 alligators, only taking away for the non-exciting factor. But the fact is, it's a solid purchase. You can purchase the Foldie on Amazon, but the real deals are on its website, the-foldie.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.



4.5 Out Of 5

Fresh finds

Courtesy of Mombeau’s Table

I was honestly clueless what I was going to make this week. That is until I went to a farmers market for inspiration. Asparagus was everywhere. Big, fat, bulbous asparagus that you just could not ignore.

And beautiful radishes freshly picked that morning were selling like hot cakes. An idea was quickly coming together.

I was thinking of a bruschetta of some sort with goat cheese. But as I was tossing and turning that night, I thought of making a green pan-

zanella salad with sourdough. Raw asparagus cut into coins is so flavorful, almost sweet.

The radishes give the salad a peppery taste and the goat cheese mellows everything out.

I added thinly sliced red onions for a bite. The toasted sourdough croutons make this a perfect side dish to any grilled meat.

I would suggest finding your closest farmers market and find the inspiration that I found at mine.

Cheers, Mombeau

- Green Panzanella Salad**
- 1 lb asparagus, trimmed
 - 6 oz goat cheese
 - 1 cucumber
 - 5 radishes
 - ¼ cup sliced red onion
 - 2 thick slices of sourdough bread
 - 2 tbsp olive oil
- Preheat your oven to 350. Then cut the bread into one-inch cubes. Place them on a baking sheet and toss them with the olive oil. Cook for about five to seven minutes or until they are crisp.

- Cut the asparagus into coins. Slice your radishes thinly and peel and dice your cucumber. The onions should be sliced into half moons and sliced thinly.
- Place everything into a large salad bowl. Crumble in the goat cheese. Drizzle in the salad dressing and croutons. Stir and let sit for a few minutes before serving so the croutons can absorb the dressing.
- Dressing**
- 2 tbls red wine vinegar
 - 2 tbps olive oil
 - 2 tsp dijon mustard
- Whisk together to combine.



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON



Wine aromas

Baseball aficionados would tell you that 60 percent of the game is about pitching; others would say that pitching represents more than that.

To create a wine phrase parallel to this, it might be said that 60 percent or more of a wine is based on its aroma. For serious wine lovers, the enjoyment of any wine is as much if not more in what it smells like; taste is simply a bonus.

But the aroma of anything that we smell is an extraordinarily complicated subject that eventually comes down to chemistry, most of which is not very interesting to people who are simply looking to grab a glass of something to go with their ham-

burger, salmon or pizza.

What makes this so complicated includes how the wine was treated in the winery, how the grapes were grown, where they came from, what the weather pattern was like in the year they were harvested and at least a dozen other impacts.

The most popular white wine in America today is chardonnay. Most winemakers say this grape is one of the least interesting in its aroma profile. Winemakers often call this a blank canvas.

In most cases, it offers delicate citrus aromas that can be faintly tropical.

One major reason that Americans like chardonnay so much is that it can

be made rather soft and appealing, and its aroma is somewhat easy to understand.

Riesling, by contrast, has a more obvious aroma that starts with apples, Asian pears and subtle spices and can include such exotic elements as ginger, peach, nutmeg, honey, petroleum (!) and guava.

One of the most complicated aromas in fine wines is in sauvignon blanc, which is one of the few popular grapes that display what scientists called thiols (or methyl mercaptans).

Jamie Goode, who has a doctorate in plant biology, published a book in 2012 that explained that the human nose is so sensitive that it can pick up thiols in sauvignon blanc that can only be measured in nanograms. They are difficult to analyze because the equipment needs to be so sophisticated.

Goode wrote that the importance of thiols in sauvignon blanc should not be underestimated. In particular, sauvignon blanc from New Zealand has a plethora of thiols, which most Americans appreciate.

We sense the aromatics in sauvignon blanc more readily than with other grapes. That allows people who understand this wine to gain a great appreciation of all of its different and complex forms, from cool/cold regions, such as New Zealand, all the way to warmer sites, where the aromatics are significantly different.

One of the most easily identifiable wines by aroma alone is gewurztraminer, which emanates from Northern Europe, and in the United States produces wines that can be tremendously exotic with aromatics of gardenia, carnations and other spiced elements.

Red wines also have unique aromatic elements, but many of them are harder to define because most red wines are aged in oak barrels, which gives them a kind of woody aromatic.

The difference between European-styled cabernet-based reds such as Bordeaux (pyrazines or bell peppers) and pinot noir (beets, rose petals) is widely understood by wine lovers.

Two grapes that can display subtle aromatics of black pepper include gamay noir and Syrah, but the black pepper only shows up in grapes that were grown and cold regions. Both grapes do extremely well in New Zealand, although not very many examples are exported to the United States.

The aromatics in wine tend to be volatile in the sense that once the bottle

has been opened, they begin to change slightly and dissipate. The best way to retain those aromatics is to recork the bottle soon after a few glasses have been poured.

Once a fine wine has been poured into a wine glass, swirling it will help to improve the aromatics for a certain length of time. However, too long in the glass might actually harm the aroma and impair its taste.

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

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FOOD:

Continued from page 2C

You can earn points and get app-only weekly specials for delivery or in-store pick-up, as well as enjoy happy hour deals when advertised. Your first gyro is free on the app, too.

When the decision came to close the first location in Troy about a year ago, the team was on the hunt for its next location. It is now in the home stretch of a

brand new Clinton Township storefront opening soon near 19 Mile and Garfield roads.

Everybody needs some “Zest” in their lives. This amazing family is giving just that and there's no stopping in site. You might even catch them on Fox 2 Detroit in the morning again. Onward and upward, opa!

Fun fact: For those who follow the GP Eats & Treats Facebook page, Zestia's Nina first coined

the term I often use to address the page as a whole: “Eaters & Treaters.” Thanks, Neen! Find it on



Signature Wraps: Americano, Edgy Veggie, Kato, The Real Greek.

Instagram: @zestiagreek-streetfood or Facebook at Zestia Greek Street Food. Stay tuned. Stay hungry.

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SEE MENU





Talented little fisherman, Teddy Whittingham, left, hooked himself an impressive bass off Lake St. Clair. Great work, Teddy!

Last year's Classic brought in an amazing array of largemouth and smallmouth bass, pike, walleye and muskie.

Expanded Fishing Classic kicks off this week

By GPN Staff

Anglers of all ages once again are invited to participate in the annual Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic, which returns today, May 30, and runs through Thursday, June 27.

As the contest continues to grow in popularity, it also is growing in options.

“People asked and we listened,” said Anne Gryzenia, Grosse Pointe News publisher. “There are so many fishermen that want to participate on their boats, so we are doing that. There will be a \$10 entry fee for boating division participants who are 18 and older.”

As usual, anglers are aiming for the biggest catch, qualifying with smallmouth and largemouth bass, pike, muskie and walleye. Prizes will be awarded based on fish length.

Divisions are split into age groups: 12 and younger, and 13 and older.

Each week brings several chances to win great prizes, including gift cards and gear from Lakeside Fishing, Fishbones, Fairway Packing Co.’s The Steak Shop, Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy, Wally’s Frozen Custard and Chocolate Bar Cafe. Everyone who enters any size fish is eligible to win prizes via a random weekly drawing.

Cash prizes also are awarded for pier fishing; competing boaters need to confirm the boat specifics.

“We’re delighted to be a part of the Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic again this year and join the community in coming together to enjoy this activity and the great outdoors,” said Kyle Hecht, independent branch leader and financial consultant at Charles Schwab’s Grosse Pointe Independent Branch. “We’re honored to be the premier sponsor of this special local event. At our Charles Schwab branch, we provide local access to a range of modern investing, wealth management and personal finance guidance and services that combine the best of what people and technology can provide. We are

See FISH, page 6C

2024 Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic

DIVISION A (ON SHORE) - Ages 12 & under
DIVISION B (ON SHORE) - Ages 13 & older
DIVISION C (BOATING) - Ages 12 & under
DIVISION D (BOATING) - Ages 13 & older

Fishing area: Anywhere in the Grosse Pointes and surrounding areas on land or boat

Dates: May 30 - June 27, 2024

Cash prizes:

- \$50 per fish category for the A & C divisions, plus \$100 for the largest fish of the week.
- \$25 per fish category for the B & D divisions, plus \$50 for the largest fish of the week.

ALSO weekly drawings for gift cards, gear and other prizes.

Visit grossepointenews.com/fishingclassic for full contest rules and details.

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Kyle Hecht
Branch Leader
Jackie Piper
Financial Consultant

Grosse Pointe Branch
20879 Mack Ave., Unit #5
Grosse Pointe, MI 48236
313-743-0433

Get started at schwab.com/GrossePointe

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See schwab.com/pricing for additional information.
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FISH TIPS
by Lakeside Fishing Shop

For the daily fishing report:
Call (586) 777-7008

THIS WEEK'S TIP:

Bass are hitting everywhere on rattle traps and tube jigs. Lots of pike near Farms Pier. Walleye aplenty biting purple and anti-freeze-color lures. Good fishing!

Sponsored by:
Lakeside Fishing Shop
25110 Jefferson Avenue/10 Mile Road
St. Clair Shores • (586) 777-7003

Fishbones
GOOD LUCK
-TO ALL-
FISHING CONTEST PARTICIPANTS!
9 Mile & Jefferson • St. Clair Shores • 586 498-3000



POLES UP, GROSSE POINTE!

MAY 30 - JUNE 27, 2024

NEW THIS YEAR:
BOATING DIVISIONS!

CASH PRIZES
PLUS GIFT CARDS AND FISHING GEAR

CONTEST RULES:

- 4 divisions to enter
DIVISION A (ON SHORE) - Ages 12 & under
DIVISION B (ON SHORE) - Ages 13 & older
DIVISION C (BOATING) - Ages 12 & under
DIVISION D (BOATING) - Ages 13 & older
- Fish categories:
BASS (LARGEMOUTH AND SMALLMOUTH)
MUSKIE
PIKE
WALLEYE
- Catch and release fishing only
- Lake St. Clair or the Detroit River
- Submit a photo of your catch next to this ruler page, like this
- Contest is for length of fish only
Must be measured with ruler provided/ assembled from this page or bench rulers
- Enter as many days/fish as you wish!



SEE COMPLETE RULES ONLINE AT:
grossepointenews.com/fishingclassic/rules

Announcing weekly winners in 6/6, 6/13, 6/20, 6/27 and 7/18 issues
of the Grosse Pointe News.

Grosse
Pointe
News



Lakeside Fishing

Chocolate
Bar Café



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ALIGN WITH 19.5' MARK
AND TAPE TOGETHER

CUT RULER EXTENSION AT RIGHT IF ADDITIONAL LENGTH IS NEEDED AND TAPE TO THE BOTTOM END OF RULER AT LEFT

GROSSE POINTE NEWS • CHARLES SCHWAB GP • CHOCOLATE BAR CAFE

FISHBONES • FAIRWAY PACKING CO. • WHISTLE STOP HOBBY & TOY • WALLY'S FROZEN CUSTARD • CHARLES SCHWAB GP • CHOCOLATE BAR CAFE

GROSSE POINTE NEWS • CHARLES SCHWAB GP • LAKESIDE FISHING • FISHBONES • FAIRWAY PACKING CO. • WHISTLE STOP HOBBY & TOY • WALLY'S FROZEN CUSTARD • CHARLES SCHWAB GP • CHOCOLATE BAR CAFE

A-May-zing!

The 2024 season is off to a great start

By Brian Owen
Guest Writer

May has been a wonderful month for fishing in Grosse Pointe's Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River. Fishermen from all over Michigan and beyond and countless locals were gifted with a consistently hot bite throughout the month.

Roger Scott of Grosse Pointe Farms boated a 21-inch walleye in the Detroit River, putting him at the top of the leaderboard for a local club fishing contest. Charter fishing captain Steve Van Asshe of Bushwacker Charters has brought nothing but limits to his clients in search of walleye. Local fishermen are returning from the river every morning with walleye to fill their freezers. From handlining and trolling to bottom bouncing and jigging, multiple techniques are proving to be productive in the river.

In the lake, pre-spawn and post-spawn smallmouth bass are being caught in shallower water ranging from three to eight feet in depth off shell beds holding larger females pre-spawn and smaller males guarding the bed post-spawn. Spinner bait or jerk bait will be productive on a windy day while calmer conditions will require a finesse presentation such as a tube or a drop shot. Both presentations will be productive well after the fish have completed spawning, which will be soon.

May 15 concluded the St. Clair Smallies pier tournament with Paul Gryzenia and Henry Burghardt

tallying the biggest fish of their division. Henry caught an 18-inch smallmouth bass from the pier at Neff Park in the City of Grosse Pointe and Paul caught a 25-inch northern pike from Pier Park in Grosse Pointe Farms.

The Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic starts today and will include a boater division along with the traditional pier fishing division of anglers. Prizes will be awarded weekly for multiple divisions so be sure to read the rules to make sure your entries qualify and look for the official ruler printed each week.

This has been one of the most productive Mays I have experienced as a fisherman and therefore my expectations are very high for June. It is a privilege to have these two incredible fisheries so close to our community. Grosse Pointe's boating and fishing communities are essentially ambassadors of Lake St. Clair, greeting guests from anywhere and everywhere. That includes DNR officers who were inspecting every boat in Grosse Pointe Park and City of Grosse Pointe waters just last week. This fisherman is proud to report passing inspection with flying colors. My license is always nearby with the Michigan DNR app right on my phone!

Brian Owen is a local fishing aficionado and resident of the City of Grosse Pointe. A-May-zing!



Brian Owen, left, is pictured last summer with a great catch off of Lake St. Clair. The Grosse Pointe resident is a seasoned fisherman and regular fishing contributor for the Grosse Pointe News.

Lake St. Clair

Area: 430 square miles – 26 miles x 24 miles

Average depth: 10 to 11 feet

Maximum natural depth: 21.3 feet

Maximum dredged depth: 27 feet in the navigation channel, made deeper to accomodate freighter passage

Elevation: 574 feet above sea level

Most popular fish to catch: Perch, walleye, smallmouth bass and muskie

Fed by: The St. Clair River, which flows to the south of Lake Huron.

FISH:

Continued from page 4C

champions of investors and we're passionate about working one-on-one with our clients to help them achieve their financial goals. It is always gratifying for our company to be a part of what this event brings to the greater Grosse Pointe community and we look forward to building connections that go well beyond our branch."

Several additional sponsors also are responsible for making this family-friendly event possible.

Have you been to Fishbones yet this year? Their outdoor patio is the perfect place to enjoy a meal with friends, family and fresh air.

Don't forget to pick up your fishing gear and tackle at Lakeside Fishing Shop. They'll be providing helpful weekly fishing reports, as well as great prizes any angler would love to add to his or her bag of tricks.

Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy meets all your fun indoor and outdoor summer needs. Plus, Whistle Stop is supplying prizes for GPN Inshore Fishing Classic kickoff coloring contest.

And don't forget these sweet sponsors: Wally's Frozen Custard is the ideal spot to hit after fishing for a delicious cooldown. Chocolate Bar Cafe is ready to serve up cold treats all summer too.

When you visit a sponsor business this year, be sure to say hello and let them know you joined in on the fishing classic fun.

Participants must have an adult subscriber to the Grosse Pointe News in the household to enter this contest, so now is the perfect time to get a subscription. Sign up online at grossepointenews.com or call (313) 882-6900.

For complete rules of the Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic, catch all the details online at grossepointenews.com/fishing.



COURTESY PHOTO

2023 grand winner, Andy Hauswirth, left, brought in the largest fish of the contest. Premier sponsor, Kyle Hecht of Charles Schwab Grosse Pointe, right, brings young son, Hunter, to meet the champ.

Fishin' for fun



COURTESY PHOTO

Hunter Hecht, left, 4-year-old son of Kyle Hecht, center, fishes with 1-year-old daughter, Piper Hecht off of Lake St. Clair. The sporty family is practicing for the 2024 Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic. Kyle is an Independent Branch Leader and Financial Consultant at Charles Schwab Grosse Pointe, premier sponsor of the Classic. Prepare your rods and reels and get ready to join the Hechts for some good old fashioned family fun all along the Pointes side of Lake St. Clair, as well as on the Detroit River. Everyone is looking forward to an exciting season of great fishing while enjoying the best of nature.

Many thanks TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS



Without our sponsor partners, we couldn't bring this annual event to the Pointes each year, and we are grateful to everyone involved. Together, we are happy to provide an opportunity for family fun, a chance to enjoy nature at our beautiful neighborhood lakes and rivers, and engage in a little friendly competition. Join us in thanking our wonderful sponsors, who have so generously underwritten the contest and contributed the exciting prizes for the winners of the contest and raffle. We are thrilled to be a part of this great community of kind and engaged businesses. Now, let's GO FISH – and bring back some legendary catches, great memories and amazing fish tales!

Lakeside Fishing



The little anglers and big fish of last summer

Grosse Pointe kids are alright! These talented boys and girls had what it takes to reel in some of the best catches of the 2023 Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic last year. They may not be full-grown, but they had no problem bringing in the big fish. Hoping to see you all at the docks this year for even more great times.



Victoria Whittingham



Kate Andris



Ashley Andris, right



Sam Andris



Anna Skowronski



Luke Skowronski



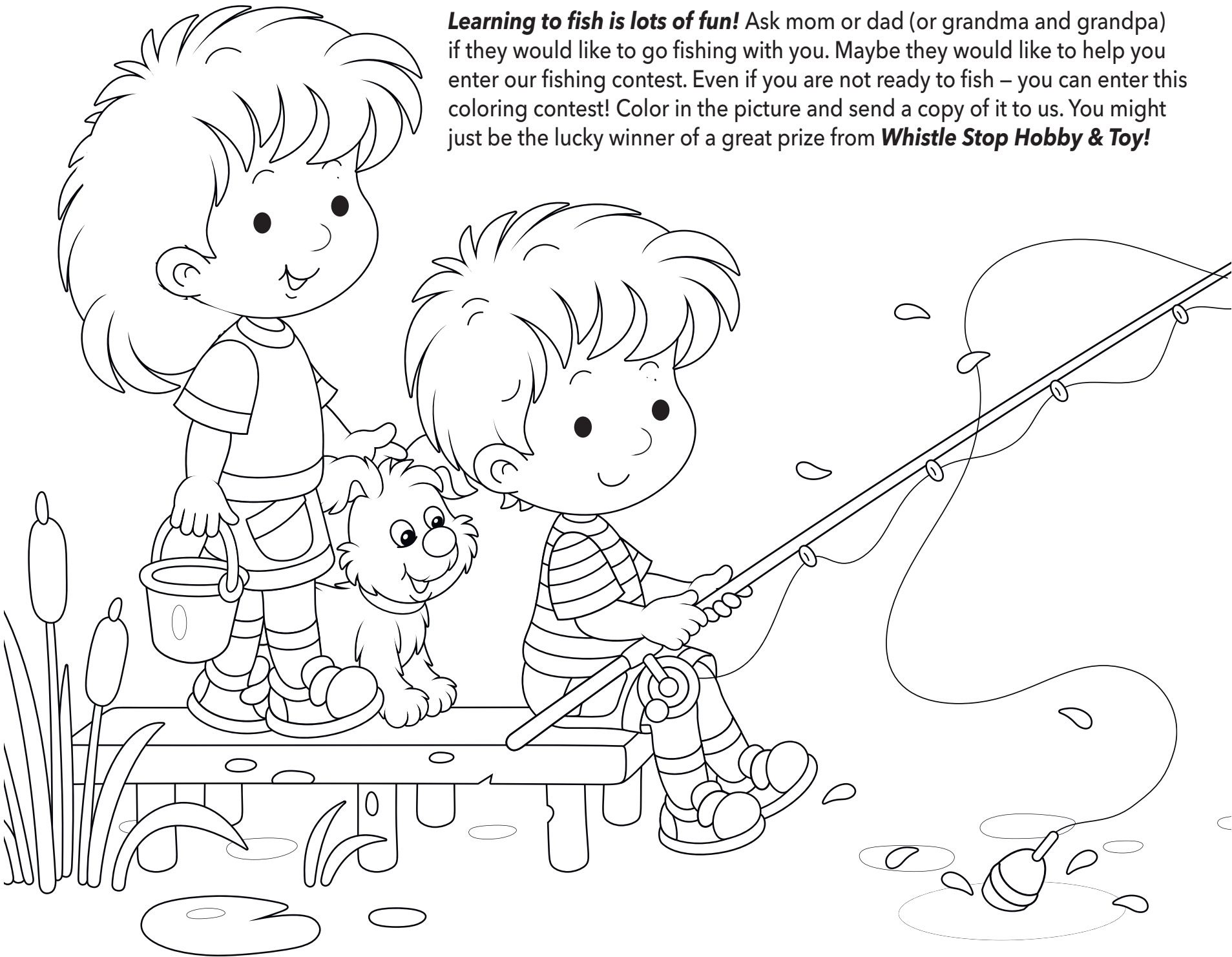
Sam Wakefield



Brooke MacMillan

FISHING FUN • COLORING CONTEST

Learning to fish is lots of fun! Ask mom or dad (or grandma and grandpa) if they would like to go fishing with you. Maybe they would like to help you enter our fishing contest. Even if you are not ready to fish – you can enter this coloring contest! Color in the picture and send a copy of it to us. You might just be the lucky winner of a great prize from **Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy!**



WIN a \$25 gift card to Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy!

Child's name _____	Age _____
City _____	
email address _____	
Phone number _____	

KIDS ages 2-12, have an adult email a photocopy of your coloring contest entry to: media@grossepointenews.com or deliver to: 16980 Kercheval Ave., GP by 5pm on 6/6/24.

8C | LIFE & LEISURE



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BABY COW PRODUCTIONS, INGENIOUS MEDIA AND BBC FILMS
Left, King Richard played by Harry Lloyd and Philippa played by Sally Hawkins, have a chat in the 2022 movie “The Lost King,” directed by Stephen Frears.

MOVIE REVIEW
“The Lost King”
2022 - Rated PG-13
1 hr 48 min
★★★★☆

A few weeks ago I read a New York Times article about Philippa Langley, an amateur British historian and her quest to find the remains of King Richard III. It was a fascinating story and it mentioned a movie “The Lost King” that was recently released.

The film is based on the book “The King’s Grave: The Search for the king’s Richard III,” by Ms. Langley and Michael Jones.

Being a student of history and a serious Anglophile, I absolutely had to see this movie. As luck would have it, the film is available on Kanopy and I immediately watched it. What a charming and moving film!

The project was the brainchild of writers Steve Coogan and Jeff Pope, Director Stephan Frears, and composer Alexandre Desplat. They were the team behind the excellent drama “Philomena,” which starred Dame Judi Dench and Steve Coogan. If you haven’t seen this remarkable 2013 film, I highly recommend it.

In “The Lost King,” Sally Hawkins plays Philippa Langley, a working mom who lives in Edinburgh where she’s raising her two energetic and rambunctious young sons. She’s divorced and shares parental duties with her ex-husband John (Coogan), who while supportive, can be a bit snarky at times.

She’s been passed over for a promotion at work because of tardiness due to her suffering from chronic fatigue syndrome. In short, life is a struggle for her.

One evening she attends a performance of Shakespeare’s “Richard



Philippa (Hawkins) and her ex, John (Steve Coogan).

III” with her son Max (Adam Robb). Seeing the play awakens some inner drive in her to not only search for the king’s body, but to restore his rightful place in history.

For those not familiar with King Richard III’s story, for over 500 years he’s been depicted as a hunchbacked tyrant who locked his two nephews up in the Tower of London, then had them murdered to gain the throne. There’s a whole contingent of historians who feel these falsehoods were promoted by Henry VII, who was the first in the new Tudor line of royalty. The myth was furthered by the way Richard was presented in Shakespeare’s



Philippa (Hawkins) has a premonition about the “R” in the car parking lot.

famous play.

Philippa decides to embark on this mission. Needless to say, she’s up against some fierce opposition, chiefly from the historians and professors she encounters.



Mark Addy as Dr. Richard Buckley confers with Philippa (Hawkins).

She’s ridiculed because she has some “feelings” about the truth behind Richard’s story. Even her ex-husband makes fun of her notions but he eventually becomes one of her staunchest supporters.

Her calling becomes an obsession. She throws herself into researching the king and devours every book she can find on the subject. She meets and joins the local chap-

mines a likely location of Richard’s body. It’s actually a parking lot in Leicester, which is potentially the site of Greyfriars, a long gone Franciscan friary.

During her journey to expose the truth, she’s accompanied by an apparition of King Richard (Harry Lloyd), decked out in his royal garb. He’s her inner voice and he appears frequently to guide her on her way.

Coincidentally, he’s also the actor who played King Richard in the play she attended. At first, he’s totally silent, but eventually starts talking to her. When asked why he never said anything he smiles and responds, “You never asked me anything before.”

Once the location has been determined all that’s needed is money. So Philippa launches a Go Fund Me type campaign and the money pours in from folks around the world.

It’s rousing seeing the reactions from everyone involved. It’s a bit of a David & Goliath feeling and you’ll find yourself rooting for her and her team all the way.



Their enthusiasm is quite contagious.

I won’t give away any more of the story, but let’s just say, you’ll be smiling by the time the credits are rolling. I can’t recommend this fun and engaging movie highly enough. It’s something entertaining the whole family will love.

Currently streaming for free with your library card on Kanopy. Also on Hulu, Acorn TV, AMC+, IFC Films Unlimited, YouTube Movies, and to rent on Prime Video.

My rating system:

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

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

★★★ Pretty good. In fact, if there weren’t any other movies in your queue, you might watch it again.

★★★★ One you’d recommend to friends.

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

About this column:

My main focus is on films that I feel have gone under the radar and deserve more recognition.

They include both mainstream and indie films streaming on services like Netflix, Hoopla, and Kanopy.

I’ll also review noteworthy new theatrical releases as well.

For movie trailers, visit youtube.com.

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.



Philippa (Hawkins) and Richard’s army.



**May 31 - June 2
and June 7 - 9**

Friday and Saturday evenings
at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

Performances at The Undercroft
at Christ Church Grosse Pointe
61 Grosse Pointe Blvd.
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI

Free parking at the church and
Grosse Pointe South High School

Join us Saturday evenings
for a special pre-glow before the
performance with complimentary
wine and appetizers.

Tickets \$20 (with customer service fee)
and available at gpt.org/pearls

String of Pearls
by Michele Lowe

Rated R – adult content.



The excavation site.



The gravesite of Richard III



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHY LIGHTBODY

Tailfins were featured during a past EyesOn Design car show.

TEAM:

Continued from pge 1C

dio requires the coordination of different professionals working on many different kinds of tasks. As chief designer, it was my job to tell people what had to be done but not how to do it. I realized because time was so short I had to give clear directions quickly and simply to give the ladies a chance to make the most of the available time. I decided to use an organizational plan to move the show idea forward based on the Cadillac Vehicle Leadership Team I was part of and told the ladies what had to be done. They were golden, every single one of them. It was my idea, but they were the ones who made it happen.

In the meantime, the DIO’s Dr. Philip Hessburg recruited Keith Crain, a Grosse Pointer, to be the show’s grand marshal. He also presented the awards the day of the show to all the class winners.

In 1984, I had suggested and created an

earlier show for GM Design staff at the General Motors Technical Center and was assisted by Stu Shuster, a graphic designer and good friend. When I told Stu about my idea to start a design show, he immediately offered to help and provide artwork for a flyer I could use when visiting small shows in the Detroit area to recruit entries for the first event. A number of people at GM, Ford and Chrysler Design with special cars signed up and I then spent my Sundays touring neighborhood shows in the Detroit metropolitan area looking for special cars to invite. The flyer was what I called a keeper — one you would want to keep simply because of the artistic content. It was a nice piece of artwork, a design sketch by GM designer Gray Counts of a unique and advanced future Chevrolet accompanied by a historic Rolls Royce in the background. People had never seen anything like it and Stu Shuster’s flyer would soon become the

cover for the Eyes On The Classics event program.

I then had asked Dave Holls, executive director of GM Design and a member of the Meadowbrook Concours show committee, if he would help me define the classes, as he was a world-renowned classic car authority. He realized immediately a new design show would be competition for Meadowbrook, where his loyalties had been as he helped evolve that show many years. It was a special moment when I approached him on the subject. He paused and grimaced, then said, “OK, but don’t you ever tell anybody that I did this. I’ll be back.”

I had given Dave my list of classes on a sheet of yellow paper and two hours later he returned and put it back my hand. Added to the classes I proposed were several for classic cars as the show’s core. That is what we used. Dave Holls, a great car designer, let his love for car design supersede his loyalty to the Meadowbrook Concours.

Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

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

Happy Birthday for Thursday, May 30, 2024: You are charming, entertaining and energetic. You have a restless energy that is thirsty for knowledge. This is a year of reflection. Make time to renew your spiritual beliefs. Explore philosophies that give you a better self-awareness and get you closer to the true meaning of your life.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Be careful about financial matters today, because it will be easy to jump the gun or spontaneously do something that you might later regret. For example, you might suddenly act on a moneymaking idea. Or you might impulsively buy something. Be aware. Tonight: Check your belongings.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Oh boy! Today Mercury is lined up with unpredictable Uranus, which is exciting but possibly a tad nerve-racking. This will be a fast-paced day for you! You’ll be fast in your thinking and in your style of communicating. Your intuition will also be active! Tonight: Think twice.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Today your ruler Mercury is lined up with wild, wacky Uranus in a hidden part of your chart, which means you might feel nervous and a bit on edge. Ideas keep changing in your mind, which makes you appear indecisive. Be careful. Tonight: Privacy.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Unexpected interactions with younger people might be exciting and stimulating today. You might talk to someone who is full of ideas, and in turn, this stimulates your thinking as well. Perhaps you will try new things and explore new areas because of something they say or do. Tonight: Friends.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Relations with bosses, parents and authority figures (including the police) are unpredictable today. They might go well, or not. Note: This is the classic day to be busted. Since you’re not sure of your reception when talking to authority types, watch your step. Tonight: Show respect.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Travel plans are unpredictable today. A chance to travel might fall in your lap. Conversely, scheduled plans might be canceled or delayed. Many of you will meet someone unusual who is from another country or a different culture. It’s an interesting day! Tonight: Explore!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Be aware of your banking situation and anything to do with shared property, inheritances, taxes and debt, because today, surprises and sudden changes might impact these areas. Therefore, as much as possible, you should know what’s happening. Make friends with your bank account. Tonight: Check your finances.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Interactions with partners and close friends will be lively and surprising today. You’re full of inventive ideas, and oth-

ers might build on them. (Or vice versa.) Possibly, someone close to you will surprise you today because they might say or do something you didn’t expect. Tonight: Listen.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Your work routine might be interrupted today. Nevertheless, this is a fast-paced, exciting day, and you’re insightful and intuitive, which means you might see fast solutions to problems at work. Tonight: Work.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Your creative abilities are fantastic today! In addition, this is a social, fast-paced, exciting day, which means you’ll enjoy unexpected encounters with others. Your sense of adventure is high! However, be mindful of children so they are free of accidents. Tonight: Play!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Family discussions might surprise you today. Someone might suggest something unusual and everybody is up for it. Stock the fridge, because unexpected situations might occur at home. Company might drop by. Be prepared! Tonight: Entertain.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

This is a fast-thinking, fast-moving day for you. You’re full of inventive ideas because your intuition is hot. Puzzles and mysteries will fascinate you. By all means, look before you leap! If traveling, be careful and avoid random impulses. Pay attention. Tonight: Schmooze.

BORN TODAY Country music legend Wynonna Judd (1964), actress Rachael Stirling (1977), singer, actress Idina Menzel (1971).



CHOOSE YOUR BIRTH MONTH

- JAN - RED
- FEB - SKINNY
- MAR - PORTAGE
- APR - CAP'N
- MAY - STINKY
- JUNE - SLICK

- JUL - LUNKY
- AUG - GAFFY
- SEP - SALTY
- OCT - PLUGGY
- NOV - CHUNKY
- DEC - SHARKY

CHOOSE YOUR BIRTH DAY

- | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 - DECKHAND | 11 - CORKAH | 21 - WETLINE |
| 2 - GOOGAN | 12 - JIGGAH | 22 - FISH WHISPERER |
| 3 - SURFCASTER | 13 - BOTTOMFISHER | 23 - CHUNKBAIT |
| 4 - BAITBOY | 14 - CRANKBAIT | 24 - LEADHEAD |
| 5 - GAMEFISH | 15 - DRAGGAH | 25 - EELRIGGER |
| 6 - GONE WILD | 16 - BAITCASTAH | 26 - GREENHORN |
| 7 - SHARKBAIT | 17 - BIGSTICK | 27 - FISHMORE |
| 8 - SHORTSTICK | 18 - MERMAID MEAT | 28 - LASTCAST |
| 9 - LONGCAST | 19 - FISHIN' HOLE | 29 - SPINNERBAIT |
| 10 - DRIFTER | 20 - SEASICK | 30 - TUNAFISH |
| | 31 - CHERRYPOPPER | |

COMBINE YOUR BIRTH MONTH WITH YOUR BIRTH DAY AND THAT IS YOUR FISHERMAN NAME.

Contract Bridge

DESPERATE CIRCUMSTANCES

East dealer.
East-West vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 8 7 6
♥ A Q 10
♦ J 9 8 2
♣ A 8 7

WEST EAST
♠ — ♠ K 5 4 3 2
♥ J 8 6 4 ♥ 7 3 2
♦ A K 6 5 ♦ 7 4
♣ K J 10 9 5 ♣ 6 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A Q J 10 9
♥ K 9 5
♦ Q 10 3
♣ Q 4

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1 ♠ Dble
Pass Pass 2 ♣ 3 ♠
Pass 4 ♠
Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Assume you’re declarer in four spades and West leads the K-A and another diamond. East ruffs and returns a club, on which you hopefully play the queen, but West covers with the king, and you win with dummy’s ace.

You lead a trump and finesse the queen, on which West discards a club. Learning that East started with five trumps is enlightening, but while it solves the problem of avoiding a

trump loser, it does not solve the problem of avoiding a club loser.

Thus, if you next crossed to the queen of hearts to take a second trump finesse, then led a heart to the ace and took another trump finesse, you’d capture East’s king, but because you don’t have an entry in dummy to collect the good jack of diamonds, you’d still have to lose a club and go down one.

It can’t be right to settle for such an outcome without trying to do something about it. So you start looking for a line of play that offers you a chance for the contract.

The solution is not all that hard to find. At trick six, you lead a low heart and finesse dummy’s ten! When the finesse succeeds, you are well on the way to victory.

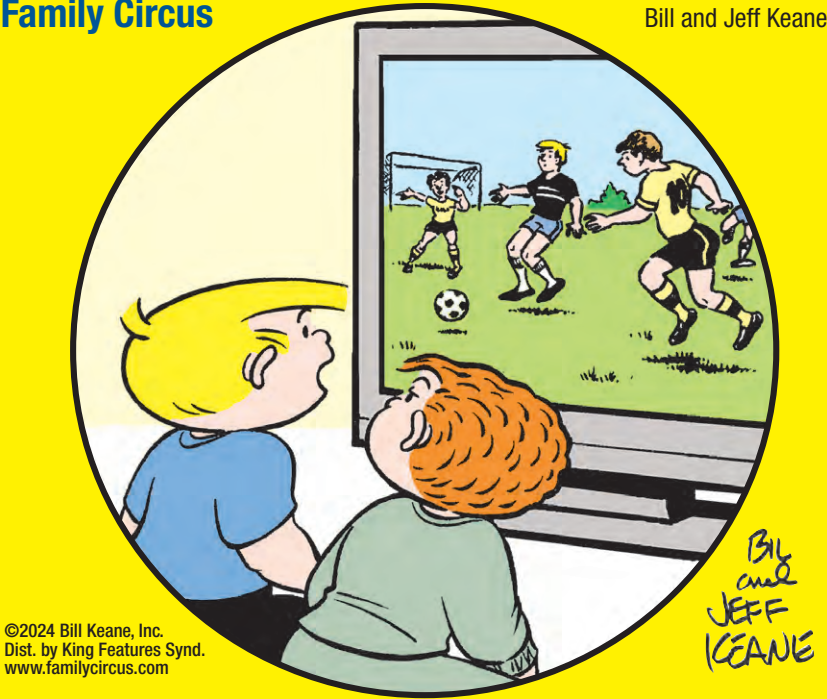
You take a second trump finesse, lead a heart to the queen and take a third trump finesse. The ace of trump draws East’s king, after which you lead the king of hearts to the ace and deposit your club loser on the jack of diamonds.

It is true that you must take what appears to be a foolish first-round heart finesse to make the contract, but you can easily justify that play by saying that desperate circumstances require desperate measures.

Puzzles and

Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



©2024 Bill Keane, Inc.
Dist. by King Features Synd.
www.familycircus.com

"The reason they play so good is their parents aren't yelling at them from the sidelines."

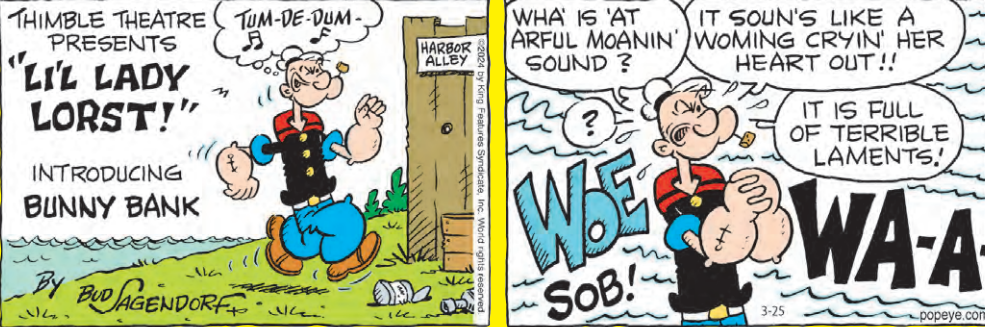
Garfield

Jim Davis



Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



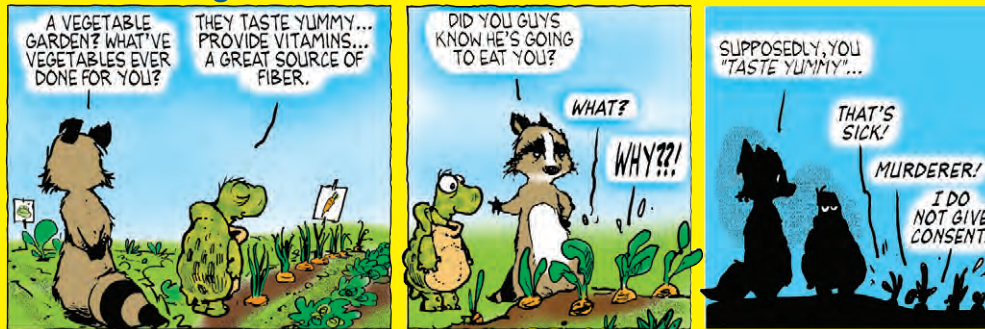
Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



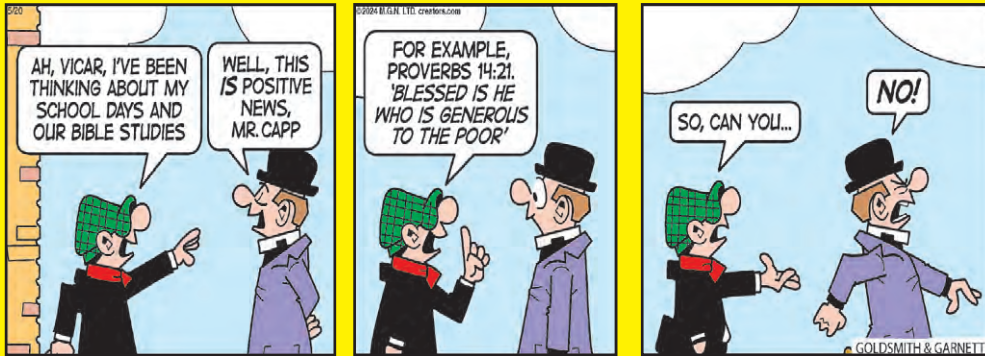
Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



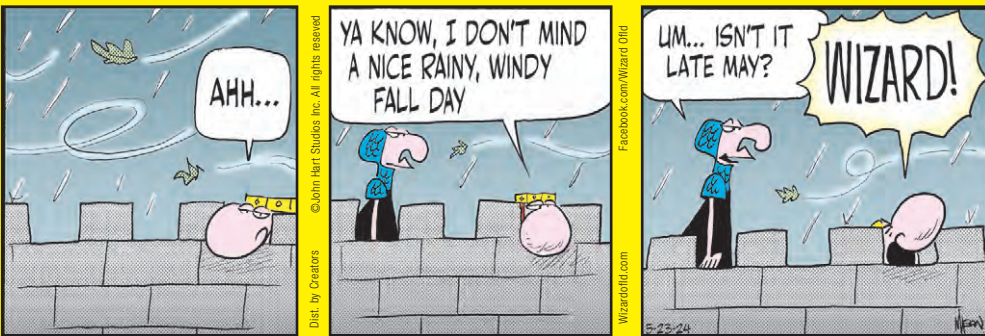
Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



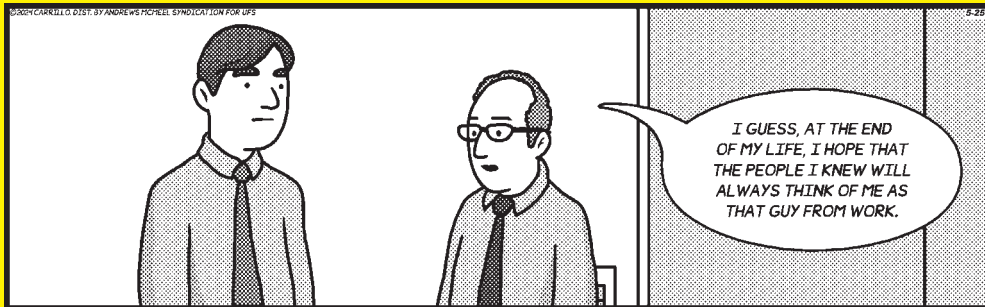
Wizard of Id

Created by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart. Currently by Mason Mastroianni



F Minus

Tony Carrilo

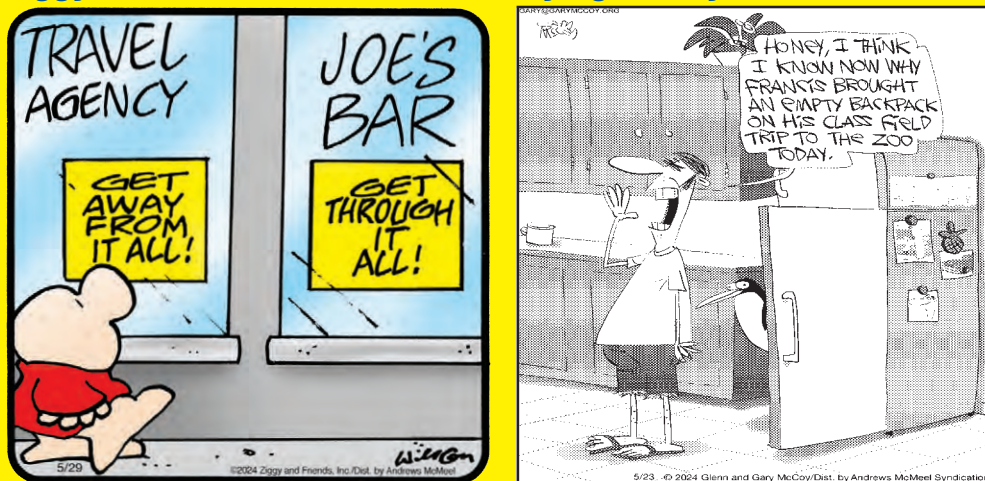


Ziggy

Tom Wilson

Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

3	6				4			1
	1		3	5				
		4		6				3
						5		8
	7	1		8		9	3	
5		3						
4				2		3		
			1	7			2	
1			5				4	9

5/30

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

Complete the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Previous puzzle solution

5	4	1	2	9	7	6	3	8
2	9	6	3	8	1	4	5	7
8	7	3	5	6	4	2	9	1
1	2	8	4	7	5	3	6	9
7	5	4	9	3	6	8	1	2
6	3	9	1	2	8	7	4	5
9	8	5	6	4	2	1	7	3
3	6	7	8	1	9	5	2	4
4	1	2	7	5	3	9	8	6

5/23 Solution

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg May 30, 2024

ACROSS

- Capital of Latvia
- Singer Parks or Guthrie
- Name hidden in "solar system"
- Personal hero
- Solar panel locale, often
- jar
- Championship boxing match (In this clue's answer, see letters 1-6)
- Pathetic groups
- When things wrap up
- Nickname for Letitia
- "Killer whale," e.g. (... letters 1-5)
- Meal plan
- Wash, neighbor
- Obama health law: Abbr.
- Imitate
- Sneaks a look
- In unison
- "Sneaky trick that you "pull" (... letters 1-6)
- "Vessel for making goulash (... letters 1-4)
- Very pale
- Make more youthful via CGI
- Many, many years
- Gridiron org. rebooted in 2020

- Director Lee
- Sister of Elsa in "Frozen"
- "They just want to see how we'll react" (... letters 1-5)
- Nickname for a muscly mythical hero
- Province that borders four Great Lakes
- Some public transit diagrams
- Visibly amazed
- Gymnasts' heels-over-head maneuver ... and a hint for making sense of the starred clues' answers
- Fathered
- Father's sister, maybe
- Beauty store chain
- Golf props
- Govt. rules
- Exam for an aspiring atty.

- Frequently
- Pangaea, once
- Indian tea region
- Planned path
- Nasty look
- Treat with drugs
- Apple's mobile platform
- Surveillance org.
- "Mighty" tree
- CNN anchor
- Bash
- Wall St. debuts
- "A good ___ is its own reward"
- Heated like oolong tea leaves
- Graceful bird
- Auditions for anyone interested
- Midday

- Sicily's tallest peak
- Potentially scandalous videos
- Some Easter festivities
- Have a bagel, maybe
- Flowery necklace
- Big baby, say
- Lift one's spirits?
- "The Hate U Give" author Thomas
- As yet
- Winter hrs. in Maine
- Smoke shop purchase
- Bread served with hummus
- Tiff
- "I ___ the day ..."

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

S	O	D	A		B	A	S	K		E	L	I	T	E				
P	U	R	R		E	T	T	A		J	A	P	A	N				
O	T	O	E		I	M	A	M		E	C	A	R					
R	E	P	A	I	R	F	R	A	N	C	E							
T	D	S		R	U	E				E	T	U	D	E	S			
			A	B	I	T	E	T	O	R	E	P	E	A	T			
			O	N	U	S			R	U	D	D		B	R	A		
			G	M	C	S		T	E	A	R	Y		M	A	N	Y	
			A	A	H		N	A	R	C		B	E	T	S			
			S	H	O	W	E	R		R	E	P	T	I	L	E		
			H	A	R	I	B	O			A	S	K		T	S	A	
							P	U	T	I	N	T	H	E	R	E	P	S
			L	A	P	E	L		S	A	R	I		H	A	L	T	
			U	L	T	R	A		A	M	O	R		E	M	I	R	
			G	L	A	S	S		W	E	N	T		A	S	T	O	

5/23 Solution

© 2024 by Andrews McMeel Universal
www.upuzzles.com

5/30

Take a Turn by Adam Wagner

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13					14					15				
16					17					18				
19								20	21					
		22					23							
24	25				26	27			28					
29					30			31		32		33	34	35
36				37				38	39					
40						41	42					43		
					44	45		46				47		
48	49	50				51			52	53				
54								55					56	57
58						59	60							
61						62					63			
64						65					66			

Comics

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



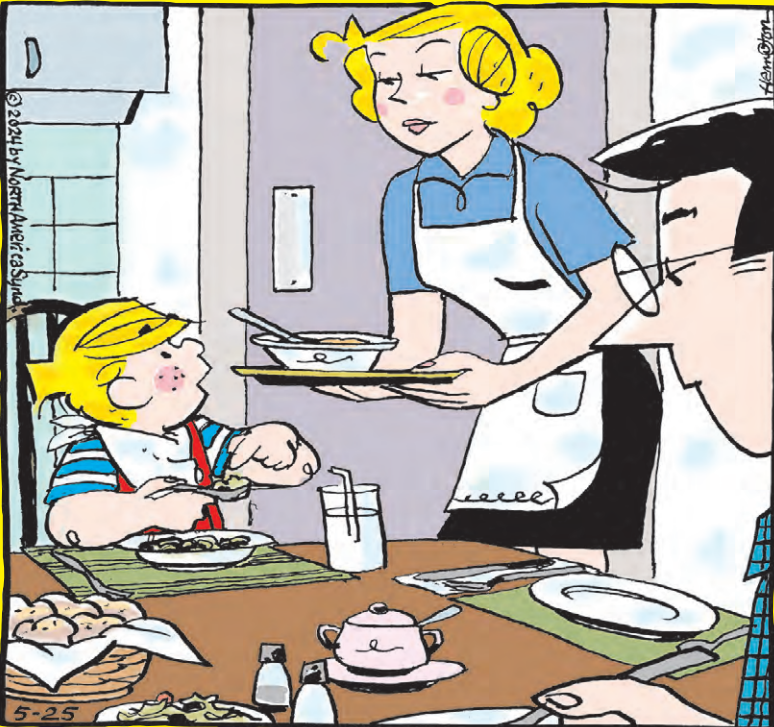
Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



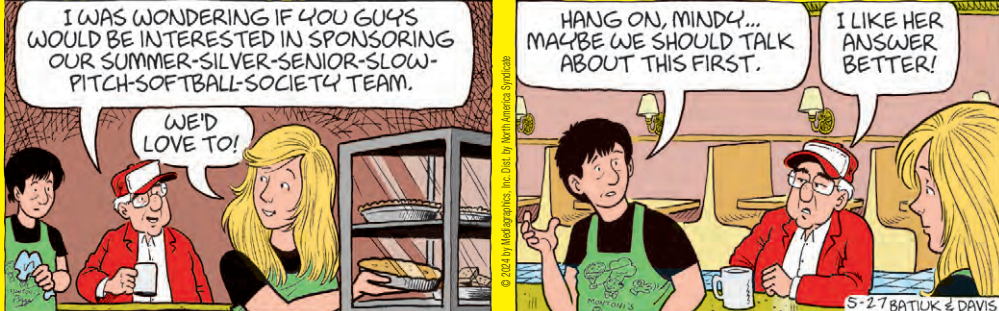
Dennis the Menace

Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



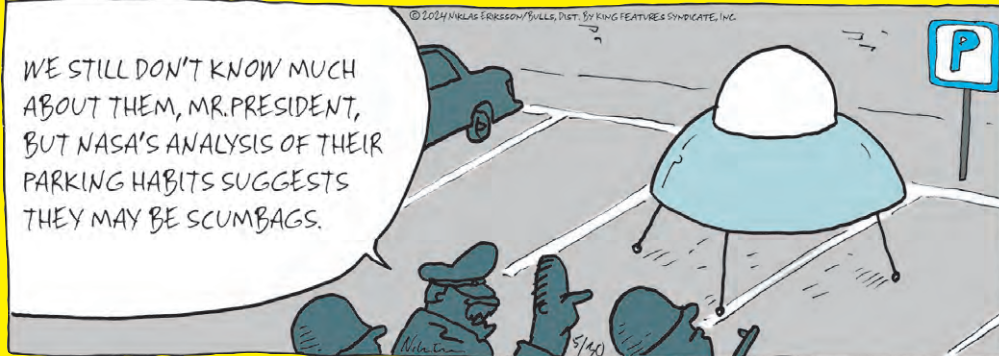
Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



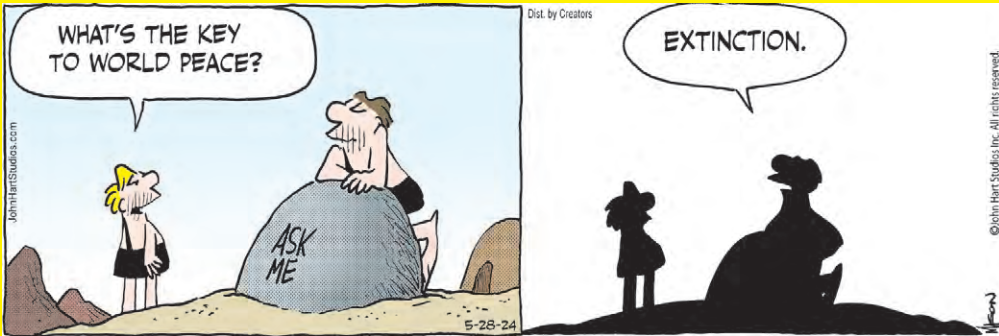
Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



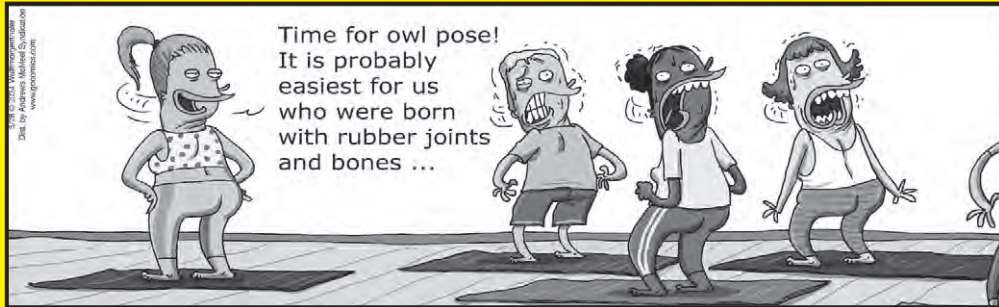
B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Reality Check

Dave Whamond



Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



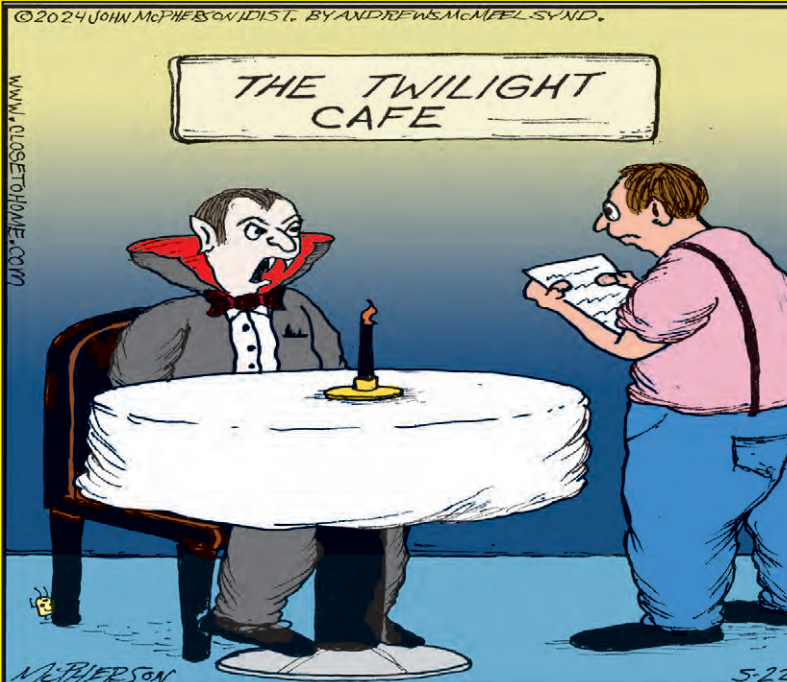
The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



Close To Home

John McPherson



Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



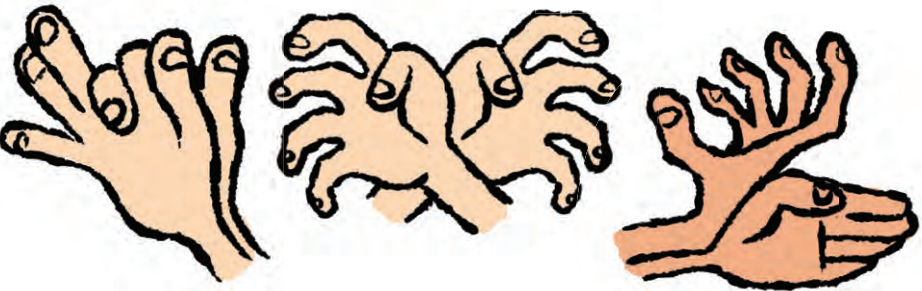
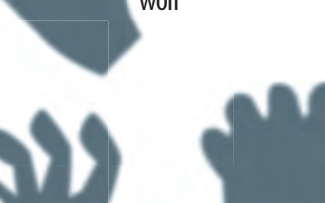
Hand Shadow Puppets

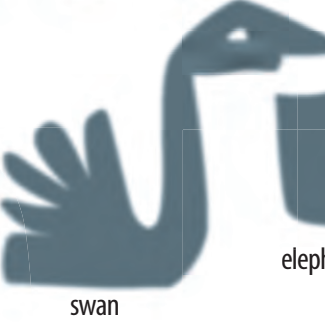
Creating the shapes of animals, trees and faces using hand shadows is fun and sometimes challenging. You'll need a dark room and a flashlight or small desk lamp. Then, try to create some of the hand shadows on this page. See if you can make your hand shadow puppets speak or move realistically. It takes some practice!

Standards Link: Follow visual cues.

Match the hands to each of the animal shadows.

Can you create these shadow animals? Give it a try!





wolf

bull

crab

bird

chicken

snail

reindeer

elephant

swan

bunny



How many differences can you find?



Standards Link: Find similarities and differences in common objects.



Kid Scoop Together

Shadow Path

Work with a family member to see how a shadow changes throughout the day.

STUFF YOU'LL NEED:



sunny day



modeling clay



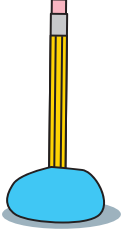
pencil



sidewalk chalk

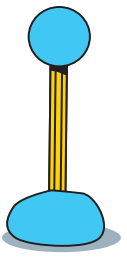
STEP 1

Make a ball of clay and place it on the cement outside. Stick the pencil in the clay so it stands upright.



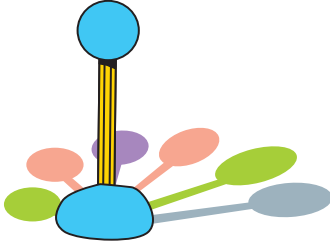
STEP 2

Make another small ball of clay. Stick it on the top of the pencil.



STEP 3

Starting at 1:00 p.m., use sidewalk chalk to trace the shadow. Trace it once an hour for six hours to show how the shadow moves and changes as the sun gets lower in the sky.



Standards Link: Follow multiple-step directions.

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: CREATE

The verb **create** means to make something.

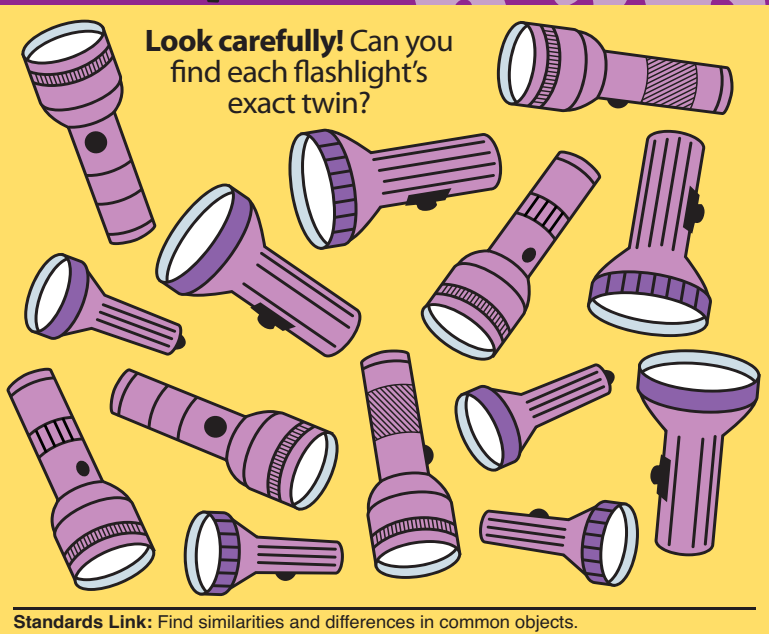
I was able to **create** a small cow out of modeling clay.

Try to use the word **create** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.



Kid Scoop Puzzler

Look carefully! Can you find each flashlight's exact twin?



Standards Link: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

ANIMALS
CREATE
CUT
DRAW
FIND
FLASHLIGHT
FUN
HAND
LAMP
MOVE
PAPER
PUPPETS
SHADOW
TAPE
WALL

T	H	G	I	L	H	S	A	L	F
S	J	M	W	D	F	U	N	S	L
L	D	O	T	N	R	S	K	T	C
A	W	J	S	A	Z	A	P	E	R
M	M	A	V	H	P	M	W	P	E
I	O	B	L	W	A	E	K	P	A
N	V	H	C	L	M	D	I	U	T
A	E	V	D	N	I	F	O	P	E
C	U	T	R	E	P	A	P	W	A

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Highlighting Happiness

Look through the newspaper for a story about a person or group of people making a positive difference in your community. Discuss with your family ways you can also help.

Standards Link: Social Science: Understand civic responsibility.



Why do flashlights love pancakes?

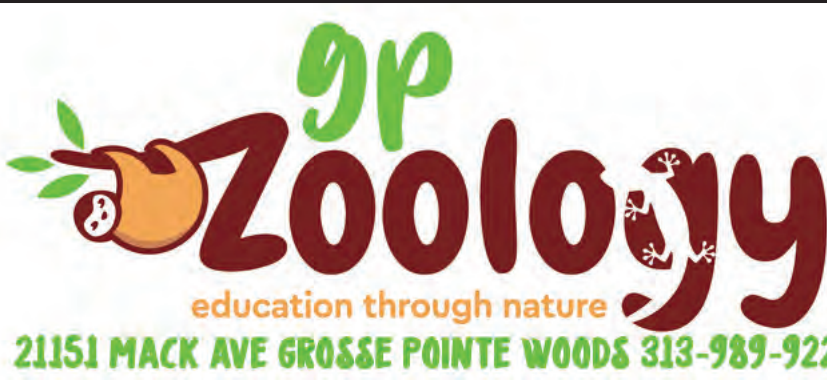
ANSWER: Because they're batter-y!

Write On!

Where does your shadow go at night?

Write about it. Be creative!

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write using descriptive details.



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Knights, Norsemen start girls soccer playoffs with wins

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The intensity and excitement of playoff soccer has returned as the varsity girls soccer season has entered the state tournament. Teams from University Liggett School and Grosse Pointe North were both in action Wednesday, May 22, playing in first-round games of their respective district tournaments. Both the Knights and Norsemen earned wins in the opening round to keep their seasons alive and advance in the postseason.

University Liggett
The Knights began their journey in the Division 4 playoffs last week by facing Bishop Foley in the opening round of the district tournament. Liggett was tested on the road to begin the postseason as Bishop Foley was the host. The game delivered all of the drama that comes with playoff soccer. In the end, the Knights were able to



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Liggett senior Sofie Ancona follows through on a shot that found the back of the net to tie the game 1-1 in the opening round of district playoffs last Wednesday, May 22. Ancona would score again in overtime to lift Liggett to a 2-1 win over Bishop Foley.

outlast the Ventures, but it took overtime to do it, with Liggett winning 2-1. “We knew that with Foley in the first round, it wasn’t going to get much tougher,” Liggett girls soccer head coach

David Dwaihy said. “... If you want to make a run in the tournament, I think that’s the way to do it. I always cite Rip Hamilton from the Pistons when he said, ‘If it ain’t rough, it ain’t right.’ You kind of want

to have every game test you and that’s exactly what we got.” Last Wednesday’s game brought action right out of the gate when Bishop Foley scored just two minutes after the opening kick-

off. It did not take too long for Liggett to answer, however, by capitalizing on a mistake by the Ventures’ goalkeeper.

A long shot from Sofie Ancona bounced toward the net and past the goalkeeper who missed the save, allowing the Knights to tie the game at one goal apiece in the 15th minute.

The 1-1 score held until halftime. The teams entered the second half still deadlocked and continued to play through a stalemate throughout the second 40 minutes, sending the first game of the playoffs into overtime.

The first of two 10-minute overtime periods went by with neither team able to find the back of the net again. The momentum then turned in Liggett’s favor in the second overtime period, when the Knights were awarded a penalty kick.

Ancona stepped up to the spot to take the kick for the Knights. The senior ended up with her second goal of the day,

sending the penalty kick past the Bishop Foley keeper to put the Knights ahead 2-1.

“She’s been our leader all season and she really stepped up big,” Dwaihy said about Ancona. “... It was a team effort, but I think the girls really follow her lead and she sets an awesome example.”

The Knights had to defend for about five minutes after the penalty kick to run down the rest of the clock in overtime. Liggett’s defense was able to do the job, keeping the Ventures out of the net in the final minutes to come out with the victory.

With the win, Liggett moved on to the district semifinals, where it faced Bloomfield Hills Roeper on Tuesday, May 28, after press time. The district final is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, May 30, and will be hosted at Shrine Catholic in Royal Oak.

Grosse Pointe North
In the opening round of the Division 2 district

See SOCCER, page 6D

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Rochon aims to finish North running career strong at track states

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

For a runner like Grosse Pointe North’s David Rochon, no distance seems too far. The senior has run both track and cross country since he first got to high school and it all began when he started joining his older sister, Sophie, who also ran for North, on her runs.

“My sister joined the cross country team when she was in middle school and she had great experiences,” Rochon said. “I started joining her on runs when I was in eighth grade and decided to join the team from there.”

Rochon has not stopped running since and has excelled throughout high school in distance events. He was a captain of North’s boys Saturday, June 1, to end the spring.

team in the fall and now is headed to the Division 1 track and field

state finals



COURTESY PHOTO

North senior David Rochon

With distance events being his specialty, Rochon is headed to states in the 1600- and 3200-meter races. He qualified at regionals Thursday, May 16, finishing second in the 1600 with a time of 4:36.46 and also got second in the 3200 at 10:15.63.

“Because I ran cross country first, I knew I wanted to keep doing longer distances,” Rochon said about excelling at distance running. “As I tried out different events I realized that my strengths really lay in the mile and two-mile during track.”

This will be Rochon’s second year in a row going to the state finals. He qualified in the 3200 last season and finished in 30th place at states, running a time of 10:22.27 in the finals.

The nearly seven-second improvement from his state final time last year to his qualifying

time at this spring’s regionals shows how far Rochon has come in just a year. At states this coming weekend, he hopes to run personal-record times in both events to prove he can compete with the best in the state, something he feels he was not quite ready for in 2023.

“(Qualifying for states) is a really meaningful way to end my time running,” he said. “I made the state meet last year in track, but I never really felt like I was ready for that level of competition until this year, so I’m just excited to be able to run in states.”

Rochon has gotten faster over the past year, but also has improved

his mindset while running. He takes a simple approach before every race, whether in track or cross country, only thinking about what he needs to do and blocking out everything else.

“I mostly try not to think about the race itself too much,” he said. “I think about how I’m going to strategize the race, but I don’t like to worry too much about my competition so I don’t get anxious before the race. When the race comes I’m usually just ready to go.”

Run Like Rochon

- Qualified for Division 1 track & field state finals in 1600 and 3200
- Became first North runner since 2019 to run 3200 in under ten minutes
- Was co-captain of North varsity boys cross country team in fall of 2023

Grosse Pointe News



David Rochon

School: Grosse Pointe North
Sport: Track and field

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Those who have helped him become faster on the track and cross country course and also develop that tough mindset are the coaches who have been with Rochon since he first became a Norseman. They include cross country head coach Diane Montgomery, cross country and track assistant Joe Ciaravino and North boys track and field head coach Eric Eplin.

They have been mentors for Rochon when it

See ATHLETE, page 2D



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North dominates opening playoff game, South and Liggett look to end season strong

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The varsity softball regular season is almost at a close for teams in the Pointes and last week the postseason began early for Grosse Pointe North. The Norsemen kicked off the holiday weekend with a first-round victory in the district playoffs, while Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett School faced some of their final tests in the regular season.

Grosse Pointe North
After a 10-0 loss to Ford II in one of its last regular season games Thursday, May 23, the Norsemen had to face Detroit Western Friday, May 24, in the first round of Division 1 district playoffs. While the game was hosted at Grosse Pointe South, North was the home team and needed just three innings to take a dominant 16-1 win over Western's only run of

the game was scored in the top of the first inning, giving it an early 1-0 lead. When North's bats took over in the bottom of the first inning, an RBI bunt by Eva Borowski that brought Natalie Babcock in to score started a rally that ended with the Norsemen up 4-1 when the inning was over. The second inning was when the bats really exploded for North. A 12-run inning by the Norsemen helped seal the victory. At the end of the day, Borowski had three RBI and so did Charlotte Julien. Addie Molitor and Addie Wakefield brought in a pair of RBI each in the big win. Elliot Jarvi got the victory on the rubber, allowing only one run and one hit through three innings of work. The junior also recorded three strikeouts.

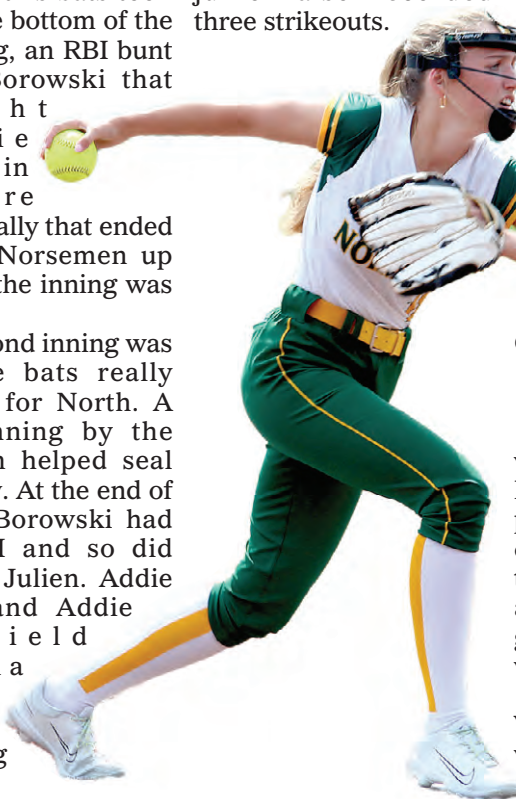


PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

North pitcher Elliot Jarvi allowed just a single hit in the team's district playoff first-round win over Detroit Western on Friday, May 24.

North returned to regular season play Wednesday, May 29, facing New Haven after press time. The Norsemen go back to postseason action with a district semifinal game at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 1, against Cass Tech. The district semifinals and finals will be hosted at Grosse Pointe South.

Grosse Pointe South
The Blue Devils are winding down the regular season before the playoffs begin at the start of June. South went on the road twice last week and split those away games, coming away with a loss and a victory. The loss came Wednesday, May 22, when South visited Port Huron. Despite going out in front 2-0, a big third inning for Port Huron doomed the Blue Devils as they went on to fall 7-3.

Lucia Gabel, Addison Waller and Avery Bellish brought in South's three runs. The team bounced back in a big way Thursday, May 23, going to L'Anse Creuse and cruising to an 11-0 win. South's bats were hot all day as the Blue Devils finished the game with 14 hits. Eight out of nine players in the lineup for South finished the game with at least one RBI, with Gabel and Kelsie George bringing in multiple runs with a pair of RBI each. Freshman Makenzie Waterson was the winning pitcher that day for South. Through six innings of work, Waterson allowed only two hits and notched eight strikeouts. South closed out the regular season after press time Wednesday, May 29, with a game against Flushing. The Blue Devils begin their playoff journey Saturday, June 1, hosting Lakeview

in the district semifinals at noon.
University Liggett
The Knights played a single game last week after losing to Grosse Pointe North Monday, May 20. The team had a break until Thursday, May 23, when Liggett took on Cass Tech and dominated in a 17-2 win. Isabel Nihem had four RBI in the win for the Knights. Victoria Nugent and Margaret Weiss brought in a pair of runs each as well. Nugent also got the victory as the starting pitcher, allowing two runs on three hits with eight strikeouts. Liggett's postseason began Tuesday, May 28, after press time, with a first-round district game in Division 3 against Bishop Foley. A Knights victory would advance them to the district semifinals, which would be against Clintondale at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 1, hosted at Clawson City Park.

South boys lacrosse falls to Cranbrook in regional semifinal

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe South varsity boys lacrosse season came to a close Thursday, May 23, as the Blue Devils found themselves eliminated from the playoffs in the regional tournament. South traveled to Divine Child in Dearborn to take on Cranbrook in the

Division 2 regional semifinals and was unable to overcome an early deficit as the Cranes marched to a 12-4 win. South earned its trip to the regional semifinals after defeating De La Salle Collegiate 12-7 in the first round May 16. Last Thursday's matchup with Cranbrook saw the Cranes score early and often right out of the

gate, taking a 4-0 lead after the first quarter, which put the Blue Devils in a difficult hole early on. The Cranbrook lead got up to 6-0 in the second quarter before South answered. Ryan Peabody scored the Blue Devils' first goal, taking the ball straight to the net after winning a faceoff. John Monahan scored his first of the day for

South later in the second quarter to make the game 7-2 going into halftime, with Cranbrook still ahead. Monahan scored twice more in the third quarter; however, the Blue Devils could not mount a comeback as the Cranes continued adding to their lead. Cranbrook was still in front 9-4 going into the fourth quarter and scored three more unanswered goals to ultimately win by eight. Cranbrook went on to face Divine Child in the regional championship game, which took place Tuesday, May 28, after press time. The loss brings South's season to an end with a final record of 6-11.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

South's John Monahan scored three goals in a 12-4 loss to Cranbrook in the Division 2 regional semifinals last Thursday, May 23.



SOCCER: Continued from page 1D

tournament, North hosted Port Huron last Wednesday. The Norsemen were victorious 5-3 in a high-scoring matchup, with an early lead helping North to victory. Meredith Dodenhoff opened the scoring for North in the ninth min-

North sophomore Leah Burney uses her head during the Norsemen's district playoff win over Port Huron on Wednesday, May 22.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

ute of the game to put her team up 1-0. Amelia Streberger added to the lead in the 22nd minute with her first goal of the day. Streberger found the back of the net again in the 36th minute to make it 3-0 North. Just two minutes before halftime, the Norsemen continued to pile on, with fresh-

man Ellie Darlington scoring the first goal of her high school career to make the game 4-0 heading into the break. In the second half, Streberger completed her hat trick to give the Norsemen their fifth goal of the game. The lead the team built proved to be exactly what it needed, as Port

Huron scored all three of its goals in the second half, but still fell short. North advanced to the district semifinals, taking on Marysville on Wednesday, May 29, after press time. The district championship game will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, May 31, hosted by Grosse Pointe North.

ATHLETE: Continued from page 1D

comes to running, as well as to life outside of running. As he prepares to head to Wesleyan University in Connecticut, where he plans to study physics, Rochon knows the lessons he learned from coaches and teammates throughout his time at North will stick with him long after graduation. "They've really helped me realize my full potential in running and it's made me a more confident person outside of the sport, too, and showed me a lot about dedication," he said. While he has plenty of praise to give his coaches, those coaches feel just the same about Rochon. They have seen the hard work and dedication he has put in over four years of running both cross country and track with the Norsemen, and know that Rochon has set himself up for success going forward. "David has been so coachable, I wish I had an entire team of David Rochons," North boys varsity cross country head coach Diane Montgomer said. "He not only works hard in practice, he does whatever he can outside of practice to become the best runner he can be."



COURTESY PHOTO

Rochon qualified for the track & field state finals in two events, the 1600 and 3200.

Grosse Pointe News

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Do you know an outstanding high school athlete?

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Pointe Pride!

13 Grosse Pointe athletes sign on the dotted line to play at collegiate level

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Friends, families, coaches and teammates gathered to support 13 athletes from throughout the Pointes who signed their National Letters of Intent (NLI) at special ceremonies this spring, which took place at Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett School. Three athletes from Grosse Pointe North, three from University Liggett School and seven from Grosse Pointe South signed on the dotted line to make their futures in college athletics official.

Here are the sports and schools where these student-athletes will take their talents next fall.

UNIVERSITY LIGGETT

- Jermaine Calloway Jr**
Football
Kalamazoo College
- Sebastian Courtright**
Tennis
Kalamazoo College
- Sofie Ancona**
Ice Hockey
Hood College



GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

- Jacob Haack**
Ice Hockey
Indiana Tech
- Troy Liu**
Swim & Dive
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy
- Vivian Rizer**
Swim and Dive
Calvin University
- Marcus Giaquinto**
Football
University of Olivet
- Cosette Muldoon**
Cheer,
Wayne State University
- Millie Robarge**
Cheer
Butler University
- Isabella Deveroux**
Soccer
Lawrence Tech

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

- Matthew Hallam**
Football
Calvin University
- Jaden Laster**
Track & Field
Calvin University
- Kyle Maloney**
Track & Field
The College of Wooster



2023-24 Miss Hockey Sofie Ancona signs to take the ice with the women's hockey team at Hood College in Frederick, Md.



Sebastian Courtright will continue his tennis career at Kalamazoo College. In the fall, Courtright captured the Division 4 No. 1 singles state championship.



Jermaine Calloway Jr. makes the next step in his football career official, signing with Kalamazoo College.

(Photos for Liggett courtesy of University Liggett Athletics)



Parents Suzan and James Hallam watch as their son, Matthew Hallam, signs his letter to join the football team at Calvin University.



Jaden Laster's North boys track and field teammates join him as he signs with Calvin University's men's track and field squad.



(Courtesy Photo) Kyle Maloney, joined by his mom Sandra and siblings Kyle and Nora, inks his letter to run with the men's track and field team at The College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio.



North photos by Mike Adzima

Congratulations!

13 Grosse Pointe athletes sign on the dotted line to play at collegiate level

Pointe Pride!



South cheer teammates and coaches celebrate with Cosette Muldoon as she signs to join the cheer team at Wayne State University.



Troy Liu is joined by his parents and Grosse Pointe South boys varsity swim and dive coach John Fodell as he signs on to swim at the United States Merchant Marine Academy in New York.



Isabella Deveroux from South signs the dotted line to continue her soccer career at Lawrence Tech.



South varsity boys hockey goalie Jacob Haack will spend his college hockey career between the pipes for Indiana Tech in Fort Wayne, Ind.



South's Marcus Giaquinto signed to continue his career on the gridiron playing football for the University of Olivet in Olivet, Mich.



Vivian Rizer is joined by some of her fellow Blue Devil swimmers as she inks her commitment to swim at Calvin University next year.



Millie Robarge officially becomes a Bulldog, joining the cheer team at Butler University in Indianapolis, Ind.



(All Photos for South courtesy of Grosse Pointe South Athletics)

Congratulations!

HITS & HIGHLIGHTS

The Grosse Pointe News sports staff has the week’s biggest sports stories covered, along with bringing you additional hits and highlights from the exciting week that was. Here’s a look:



GIRLS LACROSSE

University Liggett girls lacrosse seniors Allie Roth, Brynn Collins, Brooklyn Cole, Chloe McFarlane and Hallie Marcero wear periwinkle ribbons in honor of Muriel E. Brock before a game on May 14. Brock, who passed away in April, was a former girls lacrosse coach at Liggett. She also coached tennis, field hockey and girls ice hockey along with being the school’s athletic director.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT



CYO CHAMPION

Keegan Price of the St. Clare of Montefalco School track team took home gold at the Catholic Youth Organization Championship on Saturday, May 18th. The event took place at Detroit Catholic Central High School where the 8th grader placed first in the shot put event.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CLARE CONWAY

SOUTH JV SOFTBALL UNDEFEATED SEASON

The Grosse Pointe South JV softball team defeated the L’Anse Creuse JV team 31-5 on Thursday, May 23 to finish the regular season with a perfect record of 27-0. The Blue Devils’ roster includes Elizabeth Carswell, Courtney Cowan, Elen Czarnik, Charlotte Harr, Claire Hathaway, Katelyn Kalminck, Aubrey Lindow, Amelia Macgillis, Margaret O’Brien, Piper Obermork, Lydia Prysak, Isabelle Romolino and Makenzie Waterson.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH SOFTBALL

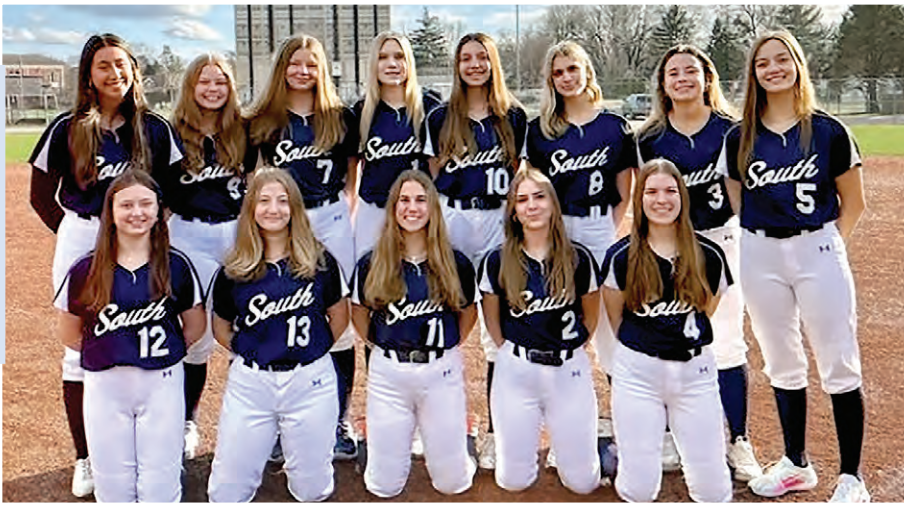


PHOTO COURTESY OF DIANE MONTGOMERY

Grosse Pointe North senior Sarah Westrick places sixth in the 100 meter hurdles at the Wayne County Championship meet.

WAYNE COUNTY TRACK CHAMPIONSHIP

The Grosse Pointe North track team competed in the Wayne County Championship meet on Friday, May 24, where the girls team finished 4th and the boys team finished 3rd. The event brought many personal bests and medals for individual competitors. Clintin Allen won the discus in a new personal best of 169’6” and Marcus

Robinson was second with a new personal best of 154’6”. In the shot put, R.J. Williams won it in a new personal best of 53’1” and Clinton Allen was 2nd in 48’6”. On the girls side, Bailey Hopko won both the discus with 118’2” and the shot put with 32’10 1/2”. Both Allen and Hopko were named field event MVPs and received special plaques. Other All-County finishers include Caleb

Kosel who placed first in the 3200, Kyle Maloney who placed first in the 400, Zofia Lutoborska who placed second in the 1600, Sam Parish who placed third in the 1600, Paul Stephens who placed 4th in the 400, Liliana Ivanaj who placed fourth in both long jump and high jump, Cassidy Finley who placed fifth in the 400, and Sarah Westrick who placed sixth in the 100 hurdles.

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GARAGE/Lawn sale Miscellaneous household items, including small rototiller, Stiffel lamps, collectibles. 15216 St. Paul, Grosse Pointe Park Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 1, 10-4.

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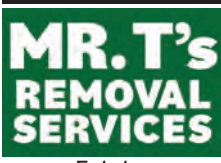
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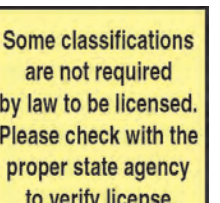


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Grosse Pointe News Yard & Estate Sale Map

THIS WEEK

1. 1665 & 1653 South Renaud, GPW
2. 1953 Lennon, GPW
3. 204 Grosse Pointe Blvd, GPF

4. 15216 St. Paul, GPP
5. 23200 Greencrest, SCS

See Classifieds for more details

South girls track and XC coaches inspire generations of athletes

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

In coaching, there is longevity and then there is the Grosse Pointe South girls cross country and track and field staff. The three mainstays of the Blue Devils coaching staff, head coach Steve Zaranek and assistants Leo Lamberti and Shawn McNamara have more than 200 combined seasons of coaching under their belts between track and field and cross country.

While having plenty of success, including four state championships, has helped, what really has kept this coaching staff together is the culture Zaranek, McNamara and Lamberti have built.

“The best decisions I ever made were hiring Leo and having Shawn inquire about (coaching),” Zaranek said. “The three of us together are all on the same page and the philosophy is based on taking anybody. A lot of our kids have never done track before. ... We have a large percentage (of girls) that go all four years. ... We love coaching them and it all starts with the basic philosophy that we’re there for them and they’re there for each other.”

Zaranek, who retired as a physical education teacher at South a few years ago, is about to wrap up his 45th season at the helm of South’s varsity girls track and field program. He has been with it and the girls cross country program since their inception.

“My goal was to coach the girls for a couple of years and then take over the boys, and it helped me get hired (as a teacher) here too,” he said. “After a couple of years coaching the girls, I never looked back. It was just that good.”

For the past 38 years of track and cross country, Lamberti has been by Zaranek’s side. Lamberti began his



COURTESY PHOTOS

From left, Leo Lamberti, Steve Zaranek and Shawn McNamara pictured during the 2024 track and field season. The three coaches have combined for over 200 seasons of leading the girls track and field and cross country programs at Grosse Pointe South.

career coaching middle school track and field in Warren in the 1970s before moving to Grosse Pointe.

When he came to Grosse Pointe, Zaranek brought Lamberti on to his coaching staff and the pair instantly clicked. From the beginning, Lamberti recognized what was being built with South’s girls track and cross country programs and has helped grow the culture even more by setting expectations that generations of South runners have lived by.

“Steve laid the foundation for this program,” Lamberti said. “I’ve coached football and basketball, but I’ve never been around someone who’s done such a phenomenal job in terms of organization. You have over 100 kids out there and they’re all moving in different spots, but we’re all so organized. ... It starts from Steve down.”

In 2001, the trifecta was completed when McNamara joined the staff. While Zaranek and Lamberti already were decades into their coaching careers, McNamara gelled with

them instantly because he immediately recognized what was special about the culture that had been and is continuing to be built within the two programs.

“It’s about doing things the right way and that’s what I learned when I started coaching with these guys,” McNamara said. “We

the right way academically, athletically and with sportsmanship. The results come after.”

One thing that helped Zaranek, Lamberti and McNamara work so well together as coaches is their passion for education. Zaranek and Lamberti both are retired from teaching while McNamara con-

being teachers, fathers and mentors helped keep them together as a coaching staff. They know what to expect from each other and what expectations to set for their athletes, just like they would with their students or their kids.

“The chemistry is incredible,” Zaranek said. “We’re really good friends to begin with because we have the same values when it comes to education and family and how we teach the kids.”

Even with four state championships and dozens of All-State athletes across track and cross country, what these coaches preach is more about integrity than respect. While the results have been good, it is not necessarily the results that have kept Zaranek, Lamberti and McNamara around for so long. It’s the lessons they have taught generations of athletes.

“All three of us are educators or retired educators,” McNamara said. “This is an extension of the classroom and we’re trying to teach them life skills. That’s why, whether

their daughter should run track or cross country,” Lamberti said. “That’s something that we should be proud of, that they talk the program up and want their kids to be on this team.”

For the athletes, they know the results are not what make the program stand out either. While athletes have won state and league championships and set school records under the leadership of these three coaches, the lessons they learned from Zaranek, Lamberti and McNamara are what have stuck with them for years after high school and beyond.

“(Steve) gets emails and contacts from athletes who are now in their 40s or 50s or even 60s,” McNamara said. “What they remember is not what time they ran in a certain 5K or how high they jumped, but their teammates and friendships and what they learned and how it’s now what they use with their children or even grandchildren, and that’s what you want them to leave high school with.”

The three coaches do not see an end to teach-



McNamara, Lamberti and Zaranek during their first season coaching as a trio in 2001.

have a common mindset and we want the kids to commit and do things

tinues to teach science at South.

Sharing the bond of

you’re fast or slow, it doesn’t matter. You’re a teammate first and we preach being committed from the start of the season to the end of the season, and the seasons can be grueling and mentally and physically challenging.”

Saying they have influenced generations of athletes is not an understatement. Zaranek and Lamberti especially have reached the stage where they have coached the children and even grandchildren of past athletes who came through the program.

One advantage that brings is that generations of athletes within the same family know what the expectations are and that their students will be in the best hands when it comes to track and cross country coaching. Generations of athletes have spread the word, too, trying to bring even more athletes into the South track and cross country family.

“The parents, they talk to each other and they say if they have an eighth grader coming from middle school that

ing those lessons in the immediate future either. Zaranek plans on remaining head coach at least five more years — when he reaches 50 years and 100 total seasons between track and cross country — and McNamara and Lamberti plan on sticking with it as long as they can. Also, all three give full credit to their wives and families for supporting them on their coaching journeys for so long.

The reason they want to continue goes back to the culture of hard work, integrity and respect that has been built in the track and cross country programs through the decades. The more generations of athletes who get to experience it, the better.

“We’re getting grandkids now of girls that ran who are in their 50s or 60s now and that’s pretty special,” Zaranek said. “... We’ve had our share of championships, from state championships on down, but it doesn’t come up when we talk to the former athletes; it’s the relationships.”



Lamberti, Zaranek and McNamara celebrate with the 2013 girls track and field state championship trophy. Joined by fellow coaches Mike Novak, far left, and Tereza Schiabile, far right.