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Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 85, NO. 31, 32 PAGES
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Put to vote

Fate of stormwater separation project to be decided Tuesday

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Voters Tuesday, Aug. 6, will have their final chance to voice whether the City is able to accept a \$21.6 million federal grant at the expense of a tax hike.

Early voting at city council chambers, 17145 Maumee, ends Sunday, Aug. 4, giving poll workers a one-day reprieve before Election Day, which will see both the city's precincts housed at Maire Elementary School, 740 Cadieux.

Alongside a county parks millage renewal proposal and Grosse Pointe Public School System operating millage restoration and extension proposal, City of Grosse Pointe residents will be asked to select 'yes' or 'no' on a stormwater sewer separation and improvements bond proposal.

Costing the average taxpayer \$332 per year, the millage increase would enable the city to cover the remainder of an estimated \$29 million project to divert stormwater north of Waterloo between Neff and Fisher directly to the lake. It also would provide approximately \$1.4 million toward capital needs, such as the purchase of new garbage trucks, dump trucks and a front-end loader.

If residents do not pass the proposal, the city will lose the \$21.6 million grant through the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The ballot language is as follows:

"Shall the City of Grosse Pointe, County of Wayne, Michigan, borrow the principal sum of

See VOTE, page 2A



Alison Kulas, left, and Katie Burgess at the early voting station on the basement level of the city hall lobby.

Early voting this week

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A hot and hazy work week began Monday, July 29, with vacationing Regina High School social studies teacher Bailey Rothe getting an education on what President Lyndon Johnson called the "first duty of democracy," voting.

Rothe is on the city's crew of poll workers at city hall during this week's early voting for the Tuesday, Aug. 6, state primary election. Polls opened for early voting 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, July 27, and were scheduled to stay that way daily through 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 4.

Among issues being decided in the election is a request by the Grosse Pointe Public School System to renew the operating millage.

Rothe, the wife of Assistant City Manager Warren Rothe, said she's never missed voting in an election.

"As a social studies teacher, I vote in all of them," she said.

"We had 17 voters the first day," City Clerk Bridgette Bowdler said early this week. "We had five Sunday."

"Some people on (the first weekend of early voting) appreciated us being open because they couldn't make it to early voting Monday through Friday," said Katie Burgess, poll worker.

"Two were going to the Olympics," said Alison Kulas, poll worker.

"They came in to vote early before catching their flight to Paris," Burgess said. "They had a flight leaving at two o'clock."

— Brad Lindberg

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House district shifts

THE GROSSE POINTES — Local voters have been questioning an unfamiliar name listed on their ballots for the Democratic State House primary Tuesday, Aug. 6.

Rep. Veronica Paiz currently represents the 11th District in her first term. She appears on the ballot for the newly redrawn 10th District.

The district was one of several in the metro Detroit area that was redrawn after lawsuits were filed against the Michigan Independent Redistricting Commission based on 2020 Census numbers.

The current 11th District encompasses Harper Woods and the Detroit neighborhoods of Yorkshire Woods, Cornerstone Village and East English Village. The

See SHIFTS, page 3A

Embezzlement cases against attorney dismissed

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Both cases in Wayne County court alleging embezzlement from trusts by Farms attorney David Sutherland were dismissed early this week by prosecutors with the Michigan Attorney General's Office.

The first case entered court January of last year and alleged the former trustee to the Gretchen C. Valade Irrevocable Living Trust diverted millions in trust assets to his own use. Valade was a local philanthropist, owner of the Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe and granddaughter to the Carhartt fortune.

A jury trial was held early June and following conducting a criminal enterprise.

The jury remained hung, unable to reach a unanimous verdict, on the remaining two counts — the first count of embezzlement of \$100,000 or more and vulnerable adult of \$100,000 or more.

Rather than retry the two hung counts, the AG's office Monday dismissed the case.

"The Department of Attorney General takes allegations of embezzlement and theft very seriously — especially when perpetrated against elderly adults," said Kimberly Bush, director of the office of public information and education, via email. "We remain confident in the case we brought forward; however, we have heard and respect the jury's contrary decision. While we did not receive the resolution we

See CASES, page 2A

GROSSE POINTE Gabby

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A

Allison Mattes

Home: Grosse Pointe Shores

North student teaches English in Ghana, Tanzania

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Short-term rental critics doubt regulatory impact

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Property rights are infringing on community standards, according to critics of short-term rentals causing traffic and noise problems in residential districts.

Ground zero for the latest round of complaints is Trombley Road.

“I don’t think anyone in our neighborhood realized there was a short-term rental coming in,” said Cathy Sullivan, a resident of the 700 block. “When things started to change in the neighborhood in terms of traffic (and) noise level, I went online and looked at Airbnb and realized it. At one point they had a moving van unload party goods. There was a huge party for a graduate of Michigan State. (There) must have been 50 cars on the street.”

Short-term rentals are defined in the latest draft of a proposed municipal zoning ordinance update as any dwelling rented or sublet on a premises for 28 days or less.

Sullivan said she contacted the property owner, an investor not residing at the property who clamped down on the party. But the precedent had been set.

“I don’t want to have to police a short-term rental by my house,” Sullivan told members of the planning commission during a public advisory hearing

Monday, July 22.

“(This) is the first of what we expect will be several public hearings regarding the zoning ordinance,” Commission Chairman Patrick Coletta said.

“It’s our chance to hear input,” said Warren Rothe, commission secretary and assistant city manager.

The draft ordinance splits short-term rentals into two categories based on ownership. Investor-owned STRs, characterized by the owner living elsewhere, would be allowed only in commercial districts. On the other hand, principal-residence, or owner-occupied, operations would be allowed in commercial and residential districts.

The draft lets investor-owned STRs already operating in residential districts to continue doing so — under a practice called grandfathering — yet forbids the establishment of new ones. Such terms are intended to eventually rid residential neighborhoods of investor-owned STRs by attrition.

Craig Feringa, a Trombley resident nearly two blocks up the road from Sullivan, said short-term rental operations worsen already clogged on-street parking conditions.

“During winter, snowplows can barely get through if there are cars on either side,” Feringa

said. “With additional traffic, people on the even side of the street, where multi-family residences are, move their cars to the odd-numbered side of the street because they know the snowplow will come by and clear that. Then, our driveways get plowed in.”

Between Sullivan and Feringa lives Lee Stevens.

Stevens said he gave Park officials a photo of 12 cars parked curbside last May near houses being operated for commercial gain as short-term rentals.

Stevens opposes the ability of residential property owners to use their property as a daily business.

He told the commission, “If I want to open a retail store on the ground floor of my home, would you say, ‘Well, geez, why don’t we just let him do it?’ That’s not how it works. There’s no reason to reward that.”

City officials aren’t sure how many STRs are doing business in the jurisdiction. Some unknown operators are suspected of violating municipal rental provisions requiring property inspections, obtaining a certificate of occupancy and landlord business license.

Scofflaws prompted

extra criticism due to the draft’s grandfathering provision.

“Why are we rewarding people for non-compliance?” resident Jay Kennedy asked. “Apparently, grandfathering is not based on how close you’ve come to substantial compliance. Most of these guys are under the radar. Now, they want to be grandfathered.”

“I’ve always played by the rules,” Tom Stieber, owner of traditional residential rental property, told the commission. “I’ve had to get the two-year biannual inspection, tenants approved by the city, do national and state checks on my tenants. This is a residential community. We’re not in the business to compete with Hilton, Radisson and Courtyard. If they want that, they can build a motel elsewhere, but not on Trombley, not on Harcourt, not in Grosse Pointe Park. It’s a beautiful residential community. Why do you want to ruin it?”

“You’re going to find bad owners and you should be pushing them out,” said Dave King, an STR operator in the Park. “But this community has a need. It has over 50,000 residents in this area without any lodging. You’ll hear from good

owners around here who have (patrons) that come in for weddings, funerals and to visit family. They’re not coming to all-night bachelor parties or to throw massive graduation parties, even though that was the case of the one.”

“We have tried our best to address a lot of the concerns we heard tonight through the draft ordinance,” Commissioner Coletta said.

“Clearly, our neighbors are impacted greatly by what’s happening,” said Mayor Michele Hodges, a member of the commission. “To make sure we’re taking a zero-tolerance approach on Trombley — whether a noise violation, illegal parking or claiming a homestead when they’re not — I ask our staff (to take) a strong stance to mitigate the problem in the short term. Then, in the long term, continue to take that serious look at how we effectuate the result we want.”

Commissioner Kristin Taylor urged, as she has in past meetings, city officials to determine the number of STRs operating in the city before drafting rules for new ones.

“We still don’t know what we don’t know,” Taylor said.

Commissioner Michael

Vethacke agreed, especially because the draft ordinance doesn’t limit the number of short-term rentals allowed to operate in the city.

“The cap was taken out,” Vethacke said. “There’s no maximum built in here. We should find out how many are out there now and establish a cap based on that.”

“You’re telling me that we’re going to be able to clamp down on the bad guys through enforcement,” resident Stevens told commissioners. “I don’t see how you’re going to be able to do it because you don’t do it. Your current proposal sounds like it’s locked in. But, it’s contrary to everything Trombley residents have requested. I don’t think you’re going to help our problem going forward.”

“As we look at grandfathering, we absolutely should not reward bad behavior,” Hodges said. “Then again, we have good operators who contribute to the community. So, how do we parse out the difference between the two and make sure, if we get to that point, we are only enabling and allowing those who function at a high standard and are not presenting issues our residents are experiencing today on Trombley?”

VOTE:

Continued from page 1A

not to exceed Fifteen Million Dollars (\$15,000,000), and issue its unlimited tax general obligation bonds, in one or more series, payable in not to exceed twenty-one (21) years from the date of issue, to pay the cost of acquiring and constructing stormwater sewer separation improvements, including new stormwater sewers and pump station

improvements, and other capital projects including acquisition of Department of Public Services equipment and street resurfacing improvements? The estimated millage to be levied in 2025 is 1.8894 mills (\$1.89 per \$1,000 of taxable value) and the estimated simple average annual millage rate required to retire the bonds is 1.8844 mills (\$1.88 per \$1,000 of taxable value).”

— Laurel Kraus

State STR bills move through committees

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Efforts to regulate short-term rentals at the municipal level are taking place while Michigan legislators are doing the same thing statewide.

Although current state law forbids outlawing STRs, they can be bridled with local mandates.

The issue pits private property rights versus community norms.

A proposed Park zoning update defines short-term rentals as property rented or sublet on a premises for 28 days or less. STRs are thereby a variation on the theme of traditional residential rental property.

“Knowing there’s a law being contemplated by the state legislature, House Bill 5438 — and it sounds like that is moving toward advancement — we won’t legally be able to ban (STRs),” Park Mayor Michele Hodges

said.

The legislation, introduced in February by Rep. Joey Andrews, D-St. Joseph, a vacation spot on Lake Michigan, progressed through the Committee on Regulatory Reform to where it is now under consideration by members of the Committee on Local Government and Municipal Finance.

While the bill prohibits banning short-term rentals, it establishes regulatory parameters. Those

include safety standards, an annual registration process and a minimum \$1 million liability insurance per STR. The bill also defines STRs and property rented for up to 30 consecutive days, not 28 as in the update.

Local jurisdictions retain authority to set fire safety and blight mitigation standards, limit the number of units allowed and revoke permits.

See *BILLS*, page 3A

CASES:

Continued from page 1A

had originally sought, we hope this case, and the hundreds of similar cases we have successfully prosecuted, serves as a warning for those who aim to exploit vulnerable Michigan residents.”

The AG’s office at the

same time filed for dismissal of the second case, yet to reach trial, which alleged Sutherland embezzled more than \$1.4 million from the William Cardinal Living Trust — funds which go toward the St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School Educational Trust.

The case was scheduled for a jury trial to begin late January.

“I think he’s very happy that the cases are over,” Sutherland’s attorney James Sullivan said on behalf of his client. “Obviously, it’s been a long battle and we were able to tell our side of the story and I think it does say something that they have decided not to pursue the remaining charges.”

“There was a lot of

adverse publicity against him. A lot of it was erroneous, particularly the claim that he had taken money from St. Paul’s, which was absolutely, completely, wrongly represented. There’s a lot of damage done when a person gets accused of something like that falsely, but I hope that in some measure he gets his good name restored.”

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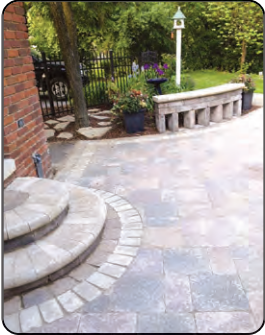
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Pier Park complex conceptual design includes three pools

Foundation’s annual fundraiser, Margarita Beach Party, is Sept. 19

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — With plans still in the initial stages, a conceptual site plan for a redesign of the Pier Park pool campus has been developed, from which the city will begin gathering resident opinions.

Highlights of the design include:

- ◆ A separate 25-meter pool for competitive swim with starting blocks. The current pool lanes are 33 meters, which is longer than desired for competitive

swim and has made Pier Park unable to host meets.

- ◆ A separate leisure pool with three additional lanes for lap swim, based on a forecasted continued increase of seniors using the pool.
- ◆ The introduction of a lazy river.
- ◆ A larger and relocated tot pool in the location of the current splash pad and which includes splash features.
- ◆ The addition of an interactive fountain at the entrance to the bath-

See COMPLEX, page 5A



COURTESY CONCEPTUAL DESIGN

The conceptual design for the Pier Park pool complex features a 25-meter competitive swim pool, a leisure pool with three additional lanes for lap swim, lazy river, kiddie pool and interactive fountain.

Defendant bound over on second-degree murder charge

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Some 104 people tuned in last Thursday to the livestream of a court hearing prompted by a single-car accident last November that led to the death of one Grosse Pointe boy and to a second-degree murder charge for another.

The 17-year-old defendant — 16 years old at the time — was the driver of a 2021 white BMW X3 that around 9 p.m. Nov. 17, 2023, traveled in excess of 100 mph along Ridge Road, hit a crown in the road near Moran and rolled numerous times, according to testimony from a man who witnessed the tragedy

while stopped at the intersection.

The front-seat passenger — 18-year-old Flynn Mackrell — was declared deceased at the scene.

The preliminary exam before Wayne County Circuit Judge Sheila Ann Gibson Thursday, July 25, saw the 17-year-old defendant bound over to pretrial on the counts of second-degree murder and felony commission of a motor vehicle under advisory.

“This is just for the purpose of the preliminary exam to make the determination whether or not this young man will be bound over for a pretrial,” Gibson said. “Taking into consideration what the court has heard relative to the testimony, as well as the

stipulations, as well as the medical examiner’s report, the court does find that there’s a sufficient basis probable cause exists to believe that offenses charged were committed and that (the defendant) did commit these acts.”

Testimony submitted to the court included that of Farms Officer Jim Labeau, who was first on scene and confirmed there was no evidence of intoxicants in the vehicle; crash data, which indicated the vehicle’s accelerator was at 100 percent activation five seconds before the event, it reached 105 mph 3.5 seconds before the event, its breaks were activated at 2.5 seconds before the event and it was traveling 73 mph 0.5 seconds

before the event; and a Wayne County medical examiner’s report, which classified Mackrell’s manner of death as an accident.

“Regarding the intent to kill, that is not needed by the statute,” argued James Hammer, an attorney with the Wayne County Prosecutor’s Office. “... There are three different avenues to second-degree murder. It is the intent to kill without premeditation; the intent to (cause) great bodily harm that causes murder; or this situation right here, where you don’t intend to cause a death, but you intend to cause a situation that (has a) high degree or high likelihood, in this case, quite frankly the inevitability

of it. And that’s what we have when we combine all these factors.

“Yes, it was an accident in that (the defendant) I don’t believe had any desire to kill Flynn. He did intend to drive that fast. To drive quadruple the speed limit in this zone to the point where even seat belts weren’t going to save them.”

The defendant will appear for pretrial before Wayne County Family Juvenile Court Judge Christopher Dingell at 9

a.m. Thursday, Aug. 8, via Zoom.

He is not being charged as an adult, but has been adult-designated.

“This means that, upon conviction, an adult designation allows the judge to have the option of sentencing the defendant as a juvenile or as an adult, or to fashion a blended juvenile sentence with the option of imposing an adult sentence if the juvenile is not rehabilitated,” according to a prior statement from the prosecutor’s office.

The Week Ahead

- TUESDAY, AUG. 6**
- ◆ Primary Election Day — Polls open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
 - ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Finance Committee meeting, 9 a.m.
- THURSDAY, AUG. 8**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- SATURDAY, AUG. 10**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lakepointe and Kercheval.

Park marina mostly shipshape

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Divers weren’t the only ones holding their breath during inspection of the municipal marina’s underwater support structures.

City officials feared the submerged look-see

would reveal boatloads of decay and correspondingly high repair costs.

Fears turned out to be for “knot.”

“It was a surprisingly good report,” said Councilman Tom Caulfield, liaison to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Although divers found part of the outer break-wall needed new or shored-up metal sheet pilings, repairs are considered sufficiently affordable to let city officials refocus on modernizing at least some of the 270-slip facility at Windmill Pointe Park.

Recreation commis-

sioners in November approved an idea to redesign Pier 1, the longest of five in the marina. Plans are to reduce the number of slips along the pier to accommodate fewer but wider boats typical of modern pleasure craft.

Specific construction bids weren’t sought at the time because no one

See MARINA, page 8A

BILLS:

Continued from page 2A

As indicated by the name of the committee in which the bill sits, there’s a financial component to the proposed state measure that impacts municipal finance.

It establishes a 6 percent excise tax to each rental that is rented for more than 14 days per

year. Ninety-nine percent of those funds would be directed to the host community to assist with costs associated with STRs.

“Based on limited data available on the short-term rental market, it is

estimated that the 6 percent excise tax under HB 5438 could generate anywhere from \$35 million to \$70 million,” according to an analysis by the House Fiscal Agency. “After allocating 1 percent or \$1 million, which-

ever is less, for the administration of the act, the balance of the revenue would be distributed to the local unit (city) where the short-term rental was located for which the excise tax was paid.”

SHIFTS:

Continued from page 1A

new 10th District includes all of those, plus Detroit’s Morningside neighborhood and all five Pointes.

Paiz is facing Justin Counts of Grosse Pointe Park in the Democratic primary. Griffin Wojtowicz of St. Clair Shores is unopposed in the Republican primary.

— Grosse Pointe News staff



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North student spends summers teaching English in Ghana and Tanzania

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

Just weeks ago, 17-year-old Allison Mattes was standing at a blackboard in Moshi, Tanzania, encouraging a particularly timid fourth grader to spell out the word “pineapple” in English for his classmates to read.

He got it right, just like she knew he would.

“His face lit up and the way it lit up is something I will always remember, because it showed me how much of an impact I’m able to have,” Mattes said. “Even though I left, he’s able to keep in the back of his mind that, ‘I’ve gotten it right before. I can do it again.’”

The rising senior at Grosse Pointe North High School returned Wednesday, July 3, from a two-week Global Leadership Adventures trip teaching Tanzanian fourth graders English alongside 25 other teenagers hailing from around the world.

Last summer, she spent 21 days in Anloga, Ghana, working daily at the school teaching English and math to second graders and helping expand the wall around the school by making bricks and digging trenches.

The two African countries are diverse — particularly in that Tanzania’s economy is aided by tourism to Mount Kilimanjaro and safaris — but students in both begin learning English in kindergarten. Mattes’ work, she said, focused on bridging the disconnect between memorization and comprehension.

“They know the words, but they don’t know what it is,” she explained. “They go through the motion, for example, when we play the game ‘head, shoulders, knees and toes.’ They know how to sing the song and they point to it, but they don’t realize when they’re touching their shoulders, this is what your shoulders actually are.”

Students are expected to be nearly fluent in English by fifth grade, at



COURTESY PHOTOS

Top, Allison Mattes and her student, Happiness, in Tanzania last month. Right, Mattes teaches English to a second grade class during her 21-day trip to Ghana last summer.

which point all class instruction begins to take place in the second language. Ewe is the language native to Anloga, Ghana, and Swahili is the native language in Tanzania.

“It makes me super grateful actually for my education, because the kids there just want to learn so badly, but they don’t have the resources for it,” Mattes said, “but here we have all the

resources and a lot of people look at it as a chore.”

While serving in Ghana, Mattes befriended a third grader named Felicia, who would miss school, because she helped her mom work at the market. The young girl would borrow one of Mattes’ bracelets on the days she attended class and, when it came time to say goodbyes, the

North student told her to keep it.

“I always wanted her to remember the bond that we had together,” Mattes said, “and then she was like, ‘Wait one second, I have something for you,’ and she ran inside and gave me one of the bracelets that her mom sells in the market.”

In Tanzania, this summer, Mattes bonded with a young girl who



she said fittingly was named Happiness.

“The kids there — just like how everybody is in Africa — they’re so happy and they have so little, but like they act as if they have everything they could ever want,” she said.

When the team arrived back at their home base each day, the village children would wait for them, ready to play soccer, braid their hair or just sit and chat for a while.

The Grosse Pointe Shores resident calls both African countries “the happiest places on earth,” noting how Americans tend to hyperfocus on worries that pale in comparison to what those in far less developed countries face, yet the villagers are so joyful, they dance in the streets.

“When I come back, there’s certain things I’m able to do that they couldn’t even fathom,” she said. “I’m so much more grateful now, because there’s so many things that are overlooked in our everyday lives that you wouldn’t ever think to be grateful for. But I’m able to now be grateful for those

things — like breakfast, literally, or like healthy, clean water that I can just drink every day.”

Back in Grosse Pointe, Mattes is on North’s student council, National Honor Society, varsity lacrosse and varsity gymnastics teams. She also often volunteers with St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church.

While she’s not yet sure which path she may take with her career, Mattes in the near future hopes to raise money — in a concentrated effort along with the other teens in her group, who hail from as far as Dubai, Lebanon, Spain, Italy and Mexico — to fund supplies for the school they served in Tanzania.

“We all decided as a group that we wanted to do something to be able to give back to the school there,” she said. “Their school supplies are literally a piece of paper and the kids barely even have pencils, so we all decided we were going to hope to raise money where we live, especially since we all live so far apart from each other, and we all were going to see what where we live can do and then hopefully donate it all back.”



Mattes, right, and her teaching partner, Ava Faughnan from Colorado, with their second grade class on their last day teaching in Ghana last summer.



Mattes and third grader, Felicia, in Ghana.

Grosse Pointe News

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Grosse Pointe Farms

Unlocked

Approximately \$10 in change and a Credit Union One checkbook were stolen from an unlocked vehicle in the 300 block of Fisher between 9 p.m. Sunday, July 21, and 7 a.m. the next morning.

Ongoing

A Farms woman who publicly accused her ex-husband and his boss of stealing her vehicle and then began receiving threatening phone calls, woke Tuesday, July 23, to derogatory words spray painted on her driveway and rental vehicle.

Gas guzzler

Five gasoline credit cards were stolen from an unlocked car in the 300 block of Mt. Vernon overnight into Tuesday, July 23.

Serendipity

After stealing a leather case containing a multi-tool and pepper spray from a vehicle in the 400 block of Madison at 4:55 a.m. Tuesday, July 23, the thief ditched it near Kerby and Charlevoix, where it was found by the deputy chief on his way into work.

Crossbow

When a 59-year-old Shelby Township man pulled alongside an officer on patrol and asked how to assemble a cross-bow Wednesday, July 24,

and then said he believed multiple people were looking to kill him, officers confiscated the weapon for safety.

Panhandling

A 51-year-old Pontiac man was removed from a business in the 19000 block of Mack for asking customers for money at 4:44 p.m. Wednesday, July 24.

2 of 3

A 56-year-old Farms man managed to cancel nearly \$700 in fraudulent purchases to his Macy’s credit card last week, but one transaction of \$469.20 made it through.

Red light

After running a red light at Mack and Moross at 9:09 p.m. Sunday, July 28, a 36-year-old Harper Woods man was pulled over and cited for driving while license suspended.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Nothing to report per dispatch.

—Ted O’Neil
Report information about crime to Grosse Pointe Shores Public

Safety, (313) 881-5500.

City of Grosse Pointe

Fisher spree

Nothing was stolen from six unlocked cars in the 700, 800 and 900 blocks of Fisher that were targeted overnight into Monday, July 22. An unlocked vehicle in the 700 block of Fisher also was rummaged through overnight into Wednesday, July 24. Nothing was stolen.

Facebook scam

A Grosse Pointe woman Wednesday, July 24, inadvertently gave access to her cell phone to someone posing as a Facebook customer service representative and who attempted to gain access to her bank account.

Grocery theft

A woman stole \$200 worth of various groceries by pushing the cart out of a business in the 16000 block of Kercheval without paying at 6:26 p.m. Wednesday, July 24.

Identification

A 23-year-old Hamtramck man was cited for not having his driver’s license with him after he was stopped for running a red light at

Mack and Rivard at 11:30 p.m. Saturday, July 27.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Drinking problem

For the second time in two weeks, a business in the 20100 block of Mack was broken into. Various liquor products were taken sometime overnight Sunday, July 21, into Monday, July 22, before 5 a.m.

Porch pirate

An Amazon delivery with contents valued at \$200 was stolen off a porch in the 1000 block of Vernier sometime before 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 24.

Parking lot rage

A black female driving a Mercedes Benz SUV struck the vehicle next to her in the Ascension St. John Hospital parking lot five times with her driver side door around 5:30 p.m. Thursday, July 25. The woman was seen on surveillance video inspecting the damage to her vehicle before driving away.

—Ted O’Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Credit still passable

A man living in the 700 block of Harcourt didn’t report his sports utility vehicle missing early Thursday, July 18. He thought it had been repossessed, according to Park police.

Farms authorities found it abandoned eight days later.

“It had been stolen and left in the Farms by unknown suspects,” a Park officer said.

Break-ins busted

Park police reported arresting two Detroit men shortly after 3 a.m. Thursday, July 25, for breaking into parked cars. One man, 18, was caught riding a stolen bicycle. Officers captured the second, 20, running away. Officers made the arrests while responding to a report of prowling in the 1100 block of Nottingham. “Both subjects admitted breaking into multiple vehicles and stealing items from inside,” according to police.

Slumped over wheel

A 69-year-old Park woman was neither coming nor going when police arrested her at 11:43 p.m. Friday, July 26, for having open intoxicants in a motor vehicle parked with the engine off on Kercheval near Beaconsfield. “(A) public safety officer responded to a report of a driver slumped over the wheel,” according to an investigator. “(She was) intoxicated. Investigation revealed an open container of alcohol inside the vehicle.”

Yack ’n’ slap

A 46-year-old Park man was arrested for drunken driving and assault shortly before 8:30 p.m. Saturday, July 27, on Charlevoix near Beaconsfield, according to police. An officer made the arrest upon sizing up a crowd in the roadway. “An intoxicated subject exited his vehicle and attacked another subject after a short verbal confrontation,” according to police. No injuries were reported.

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

COMPLEX: Continued from page 3A

house. The Farms’ pool committee also currently is working on plans for a redesign of the current bathhouse, but it has yet to be determined whether it would take place in the same time frame as the pool upgrades. “The overall size of the two pools, if you look at the actual square footage of the pool area and the deck area, it’s pretty close to what it is now,” City Manager Shane Reeside said. “It’s similar. It’s just trying to optimize the pool use as much as possible.” Along with the obvious advantages to having separate pools for competitive and leisure swim, it would allow for variations in water temperature — warmer water is typically desirable in leisure swim — as well as provide an avenue to address many recent complaints regarding pool closure due to bio-hazards. “If you have a biohazard incident, which

we’ve been plagued with for some reason more so this summer than past seasons, you could close one pool down and still utilize the other pool,” Reeside said. A public informational meeting will be held in the fall to garner further community input, before city council makes any official decisions. Reeside noted the city’s goal is to start construction toward the end of next year’s summer swim season and plan for completion toward the beginning of the 2026 swim season. While the project is too conceptual at this stage to begin talking numbers, the Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation has set a two-year goal to raise \$500,000 toward the project. Its effort will begin next month with its annual fundraising bash, this year dubbed the Margarita Beach Party. The open bar cocktail party with hors d’oeuvres catered by Waves will take place harborside at the Pier Park beach and pool deck 5:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19. Farms band Uncle Brown

and ME will provide live entertainment. “Because the pool is so close to our beach, which is a great asset that Grosse Pointe Farms has, we decided why not have an adult-like beach party (and) make it a little bit more casual, a little bit more of summer fun as we’re closing out the summer,” said Bridget Christian, Farms foundation board member, parks and harbor committee member and swim team parent. Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased at grossepointefarmsfoundation.org/events/2024-cocktail-party-fundraiser/ or by using the QR code, right. “We’ve lowered the ticket price this year,” Foundation President Michael Ottoway noted. “It was \$100 last year.” A silent auction during the Margarita Beach Party will include a VIP parking spot at Pier Park for a year, two reserved picnic tables on the Fourth of July and for the fireworks show, as well as a spot in the paddle board rack for a year. Prior Farms foundation annual fundraisers supported the new Pier

Park playground and pickleball courts. “This will be a significant capital project and the icing on the top of what’s been achieved in the park over the last two decades,” Reeside said, “with the new community building, harbor expansion, refrigerated ice rink, warming building, platform tennis and now pickleball courts that have been all headed to the park within the last 20 to 25 years. This is really the last and most significant piece of development of the park master plan. “... There will continue to be opportunities for

residents to provide input in a public format later in the year and we’re very appreciative of the Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation for their efforts in raising funds and awareness for this project.”





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PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Outside eats

Village Grille at the corner of Notre Dame and Kercheval in The Village is the newest local restaurant to open an on-street dining platform to offer further outdoor dining options to its patrons.

POINTES OF VIEW

GROSSE POINTE WOODS / GROSSE POINTE SHORES / GROSSE POINTE PARK / GROSSE POINTE FARMS / GROSSE POINTE

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

Vote ‘no’ on county park millage

Wayne County is asking voters to renew a five-year millage to support county parks, including Hines Park, Elizabeth Park and the aquatic facility at Chandler Park.

We urge voters in the Grosse Pointes to reject Proposition P.

The levy first was approved in 1996, and has been renewed in five-year increments five times since then. The amount is not the issue here. At 0.2442 mills, it equates to 24 cents of tax for every \$1,000 in taxable value for a property. If passed, it would raise roughly \$14.5 million a year.

This comes down to an issue of usage and fairness. Pointers already pay high enough taxes to enjoy top-notch municipal services, including fantastic parks in each city. We doubt many, if any, of you leave town to visit any of the county parks. Belle Isle, a popular destination for many of you, doesn’t count. It’s owned by the city of Detroit and managed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

As is the case with all countywide millages — particularly the school enhancement millage — the Pointes end up being donor communities. That means we pay more in taxes than we get back in funding or services.

The ballot language also says the money will be used to make improvements to municipal parks in the 43 communities that make up Wayne County. A quick check with administrators across the five Pointes shows none of them receive money from the millage.

To that end, we recommend a “no” vote on this question.

That said, here’s an updated list of reasons we presented last year about what makes our parks so great.

◆ **Grosse Pointe Woods:** Who doesn’t love a good water slide? Talk about a refreshing way to cool off after an exhilarating game of tennis or pickleball at Lake Front Park. Both slides received a new coat of paint on the exterior and a new gel coat on the interior last spring. A new liner was installed in the pool and work on a splash pad continues. There’s also mini golf, shuffleboard and bocce ball after you’re done swimming laps. If being in the sun isn’t your thing, the activities building offers basketball, racquetball, air hockey, pingpong and the landlubber’s version of pool with que sticks and balls.

◆ **Grosse Pointe Farms:** The pool at Pier Park has something for all ages, including a large pool, baby pool and splash pad. It is set to undergo renovations in 2025 that will, among other things, include zero-depth entry, corrected lane length for competitive swimming and an adjusted depth of the dive area. The pool is a great destination after taking some batting practice or playing pick-up soccer at Kerby Field. Four new pickleball courts also recently opened. After being closed much of last summer because of high E. coli levels, the beach currentlt is open for use this year.

◆ **City of Grosse Pointe:** If you enjoy Neff Park and are looking for something more exciting, try renting a kayak and heading out on the open water for anything from recreation to exercise to fishing in shallow spots. Elworthy Field offers tennis and

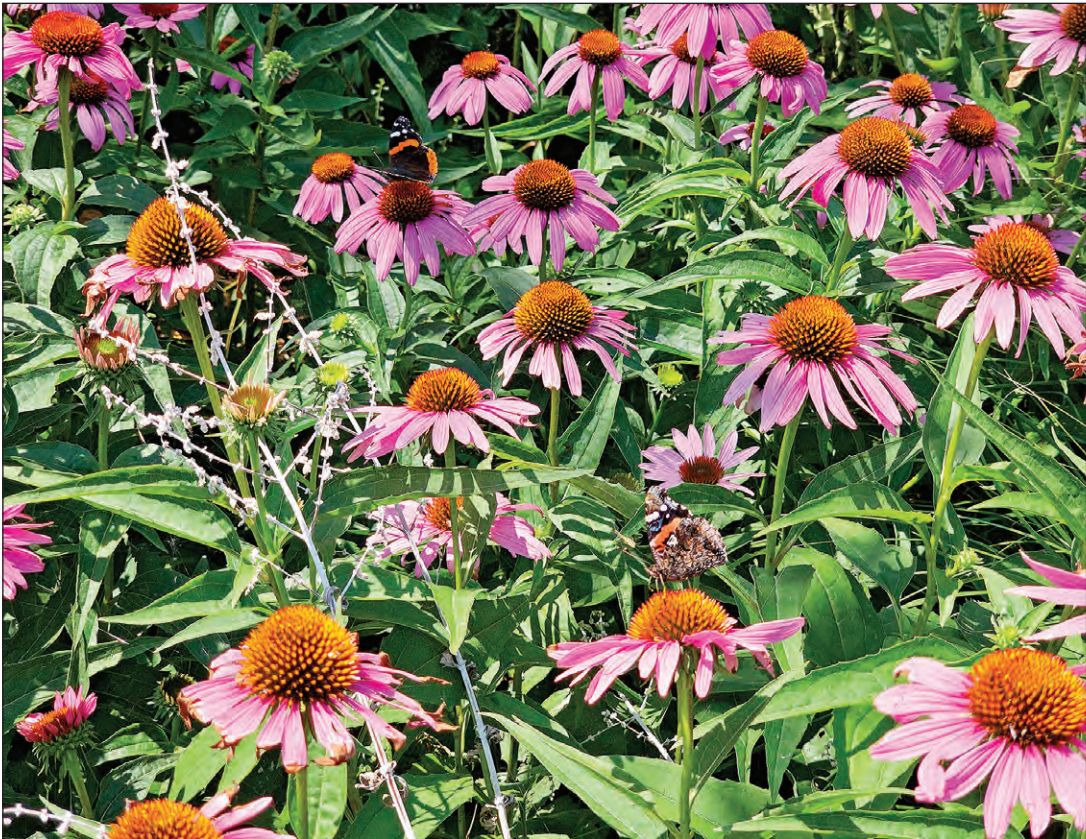


PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Hiding in plain sight

At Pier Park in Grosse Pointe Farms, near the tennis and pickleball courts, is an eye-catching pollinator garden. On any given day in the summer, passersby will see bees, dragonflies and a few different species of butterflies, such as red admiral and Monarchs. Can you spot the two red admiral butterflies on the purple cornflowers?

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.

Hire security

To the Editor:

You requested thoughts from the community about the theft issues in your July 18, 2024, op-ed. We completely agree with all of the points made in your op-ed.

We refused to shop at Lululemon so far this summer with five of our kids due to the same incident your son witnessed. We feel shoppers are endangered and that children should not be exposed to this type of situation. We will continue to stay away from Lululemon.

To pay for parking, shop for clothes and then be exposed to open theft is just not worth the price — figuratively and literally.

Lululemon should definitely hire a security guard to mitigate situations and deter theft in the first place.

BARBARA AND MARK TROMBLY
Grosse Pointe Farms

Protect the community

To the Editor:

I just read your article about Lululemon’s high theft rate in our community store. I agree totally with you. It may be “just mer-

chandise,” but this is placing our citizens at risk of being hurt or killed. If it were my child witnessing this crime with ski masks, I would be highly concerned too.

I agree with the security guard, but they would have to carry a gun to deter the criminals. Having this would place the community at risk also.

I thought of a panic button for the workers, but the criminals would be long gone. I believe Lululemon’s administration must have other solutions that would help decrease and deter these criminals. I also believe the City of Grosse Pointe should step in and demand Lulu do something in order to protect the community.

CHERYL HAMMOND
Grosse Pointe Park

Concerned about commercial districts

To the Editor:

I am concerned about recent articles in the News’ Public Safety section. In the 7/25 issue, three City entries mentioned thefts from the Lululemon store in The Village. That store has been plagued by theft virtually since it opened. The three entries in the paper state that the five juveniles were caught in the act, admitted stealing or arrested after an investigation. They were interviewed and released to their parents. There were similar reports in previous editions of the News.

No doubt the value of the items stolen amounted to felonies. Have the arrest reports been turned over to the Wayne County Prosecutor for further action? If not and the worst the youthful thieves can expect is that they were released to their parents, what is to deter them from repeating these activities in

See LETTERS, page 7A

pickleball courts, along with the Rotary Tot Lot. Thanks to a donation from first-time City Councilman David Fries, the clock tower is back in working order.

◆ **Grosse Pointe Park:** Why do dinner and a movie when you can do swimmer and a movie? Head to Windmill Pointe Park to enjoy a dip in the pool, then catch a first-run movie in either the Okulski Family Theatre or the Carol C.

Schaap Theatre. Patterson Park, meanwhile, offers a splash pad, bocce ball, a putting green and, in the winter, an ice rink. A new playscape recently was installed at Windmill Pointe Park, thanks to the generosity of the city’s foundation to the tune of \$400,000. Volunteers also are busy raising money to refurbish a 30-year-old, wooden playscape at Patterson Park that community members built.

◆ **Grosse Pointe Shores:** Last but not least, it’s said the best thing about Osius Park is that it’s never overcrowded. That makes sense to us, given that the Shores is the smallest of the Pointes. The pool and other aquatic features are about to get a major facelift after the city received a gift of \$1.2 million from the estate of a former resident with the caveat that the money be used to improve the park. Aside from the pool and splash pad, the city recently outfitted its beach volleyball court so it also can be used to play beach tennis. The budding sport uses a slightly different racket and ball than regular tennis, but the rules are the same other than the point ends when the ball hits the ground. The Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation also paid to install a new beach volleyball court.

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August 1 – 7

LOCAL 4

Expect More.

THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
87° 72°	86° 69°	83° 67°	85° 66°	85° 58°	76° 67°	77° 66°
Showers & T-storms	Showers & T-storms	Chance T-storms	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Clear	Partly Cloudy	Chance of Rain
50%	70%	50%	10%	10%	30%	30%
SUNRISE 6:25 am SUNSET 8:51 pm	SUNRISE 6:26 am SUNSET 8:49 pm	SUNRISE 6:27 am SUNSET 8:48 pm	SUNRISE 6:28 am SUNSET 8:47 pm	SUNRISE 6:29 am SUNSET 8:46 pm	SUNRISE 6:30 am SUNSET 8:44 pm	SUNRISE 6:31 am SUNSET 8:43 pm

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

I SAY By Jody McVeigh

Confessions of a shoe-aholic



My name is Jody McVeigh and I am a shoe addict.

I don't remember when this affliction began. Probably around the time I started working full time after college. When I first got a steady paycheck, but lived with my parents and had little to no financial responsibility.

Back then — when I was much, much younger and much, much more coordinated — the higher the heel, the better. Not that I needed the height; I'm just shy of 5 feet, 10 inches. But I could rock a heel.

Also, the weirder they

looked, the better (see photos for proof —>). I wanted to wear the shoes no one else would be caught dead in. Multicolored platforms were my favorite. I only regretted wearing a pair once — five-inch platforms — when I teetered in them for 19 hours after rushing a friend to the emergency room. I also once awkwardly danced a céilidh at a wedding in Scotland (sooooo many kilts) wearing six-inch espadrilles without falling over. A proud moment for sure.

Since working remotely during the pandemic, I have largely given up anything with a heel. Now my collection of flats continues to grow because, like a true addict, I need them in every color — and in the slightest variations of every color.

Everyday footwear aside, my eyes were finally opened to the depth of my addiction last summer, when I raced



home after getting an alert from my security company. The back door to my house had been breached and the cops were on their way. I panicked my entire 30-minute drive, wondering what may have been stolen, what we would have

to replace, if my beloved cat had escaped, etc.

My stepson happened to be working nearby and was able to be there when the police arrived. By the time I got home, they already had come and gone. Thankfully, the “break-in” was the result



PHOTOS BY JODY MCVEIGH

The author's current Chuck Taylor collection.

of my husband not securely closing or locking the door the night before. The “perpetrator” was a strong gust of wind, not someone out to pilfer my possessions.

As my heart rate slowed, I asked my stepson for details — what he saw, what the police said, what they did. He took me step by step through the ordeal ... and then a smile crossed his face.

He said the officers did a thorough walk-through of the house, just to be

certain no one was lurking behind any closed doors. When one of them inspected my bedroom closet, his eyes were drawn to row after row of my all-time favorite shoe: Chuck Taylors. All 56 pairs neatly boxed and stacked on the shelf. He said the officer stood and admired them for a few minutes and asked who they belonged to.

I'm not going to lie: I didn't know it was possible to be proud and embarrassed at the same time.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1949

75 years ago this week

POINTE ENJOYS BUILDING BOOM: There have been a total of 154 building permits issued by the City of Grosse Pointe, the Park, the Farms, the Shores and the Woods between June 1 and July 21. The estimated total cost of this construction will be close to one and a half million dollars, according to figures supplied by the several building inspectors.

ALL RECORDS SHATTERED AT FARMS BEACH: All existing records for attendance at the Farms municipal beach have been broken this year. Village Clerk Harry Furton has compiled figures which were submitted to the trustees at their meeting Monday. Up to July 22, a total of 74,779 had used the beach park this season. A new daily high attendance record was set June 26, with 4,222 using the facilities there. This mark was broken July 3 and 4, with attendance records of 4,255 and 4,361.

\$ 1 4 5 , 0 0 0 EXPANSION PROJECT AT FARMS PUMP S T A T I O N COMPLETED AFTER 18 MONTHS: The \$145,000 expansion project at the Farms

Sewer Pumping Station at Chalfonte and Kerby roads has been completed. Final tests were run on the two gigantic new pumps last Thursday and they have been accepted. The project has expanded the size of the station one and one half times.

1974

50 years ago this week

REGATTA BREAKS RECORDS: Perfect weather and a record crowd made last weekend's annual Grosse Pointe Farms Boat Club Regatta at the Farms Pier Park the biggest success ever. From Friday evening's teen dance to Sunday's parade, the events were enthusiastically received by Farms residents and guests. Parks and Recreation Director Ed Lauer said 12,800 persons attended the three days of events at the Pier, a record crowd.

PARK SAYS ELM TREE LOSSES REACH 100: At its July 29 meeting, the Park council awarded a job contract to the James Tree Service company to remove an additional 75 dead and condemned elm trees on public property. The work will cost the city \$10,350. At its July 8 meeting, the council authorized the same firm to remove 25 elms, at a cost of \$2,985,



1999

25 years ago this week

making the total count 100 trees, and the total cost \$13,335. City Manager Robert Slone said the extra 75 were found after a survey was made, when the initial contract was given to the company. There is a possibility that more trees will be found to be diseased and will have to be cut down, he added.

PARK FIRE-FIGHTERS FIRST TO WIN STATE CERTIFICATES: Every member of the Park Fire Department, from chief to pipemen, was awarded a certificate attesting he had completed a full 66 hours of in-service training which added to his skills in the firefighting trade. The Park Fire Department members are included in the number of about 5,000 firemen throughout the state who have completed the training. But the Park department is the first in the Pointe area and the first in Wayne County to complete the full 66 hours and win their certificates.

S C H O O L S SCRAMBLE TO FILL MANY TEACHER VACANCIES: Like many schools and districts around the nation, the Grosse Pointe Public School System and private and parochial schools in the areas are finding themselves in a crunch to find qualified applicants to fill numerous teaching positions, especially positions in specialty areas. The district has 31 teacher and therapist openings.

CITY BUYS PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS FOR V I L L A G E STREETSCAPE PROJECT: In a \$109,000 move, the council for the City of Grosse Pointe has approved the purchase and installation of pedestrian traffic signals for the revamped Village shopping district. The signal poles and lights are in keeping with the design of the Village streetscape

improvement project, currently underway. The purchase included audible pedestrian signals that sound in conjunction with green lights to let blind people know it's safe to cross the street.

NEW SPLASH FOR WAR MEMORIAL: Alger Sheldon Jr. and Mark Weber stand before the new fountain in the courtyard of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. The fountain joins two new bronze lions in front of the community center, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

2014

10 years ago this week

DETROIT/PARK BORDER WORK

QUESTIONED: It was standing room only Monday night as supporters and opponents of the new design for Kercheval involving market sheds and a traffic roundabout told city officials exactly what they thought of the project. About 75 people crowded into the council chambers, with many questioning the Park's motive in closing off Kercheval just steps away from its border with Detroit.

F R U E H A U F S DONATE \$1M TO ULS: University Liggett School alumni H. Richard Fruehauf Jr., (Class of 1948, Detroit University School) and Janet Fruehauf, (Liggett Class of 1950), recently donated a \$1 million gift in support of the school's Sure Foundations capital campaign. The school is in the first phase of a two-phase athletics project culminating with the construction of a state-of-the-art athletics complex adjacent to McCann Ice Arena.

MOVE PAYS OFF: The decision to go the healthy route and use fresh water at the splashpad is paying off. “Most of the kids over there have their mouths open,” said Brett Smith, Grosse Pointe Shores public works director. The pad at Osius Park opened seven weeks ago.

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

the future?

What message does this give other national retailers who might be possible tenants for the numerous empty storefronts in the Grosse Pointe area? Will such desirable retailers consider leasing the large, vacant Rite Aid store on The Hill? Will Lululemon renew its lease or use the pattern of thefts it is experiencing as a basis to terminate its tenancy before the lease expires?

We should all be concerned about the future of our commercial districts. We are grateful that many of the vacant storefronts are now or will soon be occupied by nice restaurants. However, it would be nice to be able to buy personal items locally rather than driving to Somerset Mall.

JOHN YOUNGBLOOD
Grosse Pointe Farms

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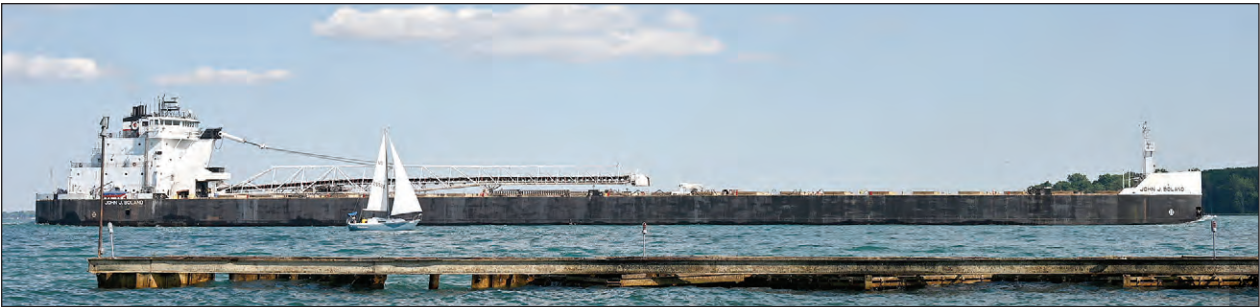


PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Steaming downriver to Toledo Monday afternoon, June 24, the 678-foot freighter John J. Boland passes a gap-toothed section of Windmill Pointe Park marina’s west outer breakwall.

MARINA:

Continued from page 3A

knew if or how much it would cost to repair whatever divers found.

“Now, we’re in a phase of scoping out the proposal and going forward,” said Mike Hindelang, Commission chairman.

The marina is managed by the Recreation Department and city administrators, overseen by the Commission and self-funded by boaters through annual slip rentals and interest revenue. No general tax dollars can be used to build and operate the marina other than portions — such as the main observation pier, inner breakwall and fencing — which are open to the general public or of benefit to the entire jurisdiction as normal shoreline protection.

Breakwall gaps

In the same way it was surprising to learn marina underpinnings were in good shape overall, nothing new came from an assessment of the outer breakwall west, or downstream, of the marina entry and exit to Lake St. Clair.

“We anticipated the west breakwall would be a project in itself,” said Chad Craig, director of Parks and Recreation.

“Where sheet pile meets land on the bottom, there is sheet pile missing,” according to a summary generated during three days of inspection, April 30 to May 2, by a five-man crew from Underwater Construction Corp. “There is an opening 3-by-4 feet wide. Sheet pile that is still there is bent out toward the lake. In the last 35 feet of the wall that is closest to the entry point of the marina, the diver found seven pieces of sheet pile laying on the bottom, as well as four pieces of whalers and some hardware.”

Whalers are horizon-

tal cross members used in construction to strengthen and stabilize a structure.

Three of the gaps are visible from shore. “The sheet pile that remains there has six to eight inches of play when waves hit the sheet pile,” the report continued.

When bigger than normal waves or wakes of passing motorboats impact the section, loose panels shifting with the water move back and forth and squeak as though they are rusty hinges on the lid of Davey Jones’ locker.

“The outer entry wall is a disaster,” Caulfield said. “We knew that. That will be a major repair needed.”

He attributed damage to ice flows.

“(The wall) juts out a bit,” Caulfield said. “Who knows how many boaters have hit that, too.”

“I do not know why it got designed the way it did, but unless we want to really, totally re-do that, we are kind of stuck with that,” said Commissioner Larry Haggart, chairman of the marina subcommittee.

Caulfield said the downstream breaches provide the practical benefit of increasing water flow through the marina.

“Maybe they did it that way to try to get more flow into the marina so it doesn’t stagnate,” Haggart said.

Minor snags

Throughout the rest of the marina, divers found only two things wrong.

One was on the east, or upstream portion of the outer breakwall near the marina opening.

“There was a gap between the south breakwater wall and east entry wall,” according to the report. “On the bottom, it is five inches wide and travels toward the surface. It stops two feet from the surface and narrows to three inches.”

The other defect was

on Pier 1, due for reconfiguration.

A metal piling that supports a finger dock between slips 127 and 128 has a broken weld seam one foot above the rocky, muddy and sandy lakebed. Piling above the break shifted one foot and rests offset atop the bottom portion.

Caulfield again attributed the break to ice damage. Called “jacking” or “pile uplift,” ice commonly snaps pilings by forming tightly around them and, when water levels rise, yanking pilings with it.

“Ice can lift piles completely out of harbor bottoms and can shove harbor structures off their foundations,” according to the pamphlet, “Designing Small-Boat Harbors for Ice Conditions,” by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Inner wall

While breakwalls forming the marina’s outer boundaries to the lake were in good shape, the concrete and metal inner seawall guarding the city shoreline from erosion was judged to be in good but deteriorating condition for its age, estimated to be about 60 years.

“There was some spalling (of concrete between Piers 4 and 5) along the waterline, most likely due to freezing and thawing,” according to the report. “This spalling was one inch at its deepest point. ... There was exposed rebar near Pier 3 at the waterline.”

“That’s not a marina issue,” said Caulfield, citing the inner seawall’s role in protecting the city from lake incursion. “That’s our city issue.”

“It’s nice to know that the east wall, while it still needs some work, could potentially be reused in the overall project,” Craig said.

Costs

In May 2021, city officials retained consulting engineers Hubbell, Roth and Clark to evaluate the marina.

“The overall marina facility is in fair to poor condition and functionally obsolete for the current needs of today’s boaters,” according to HRC’s findings.

“HRC gave us a ball-

park cost of roughly \$10 to \$15 million for what a new marina would cost,” City Manager Nick Sizeland said at the time. “Since that time, we’ve been working to get engineering proposals to provide us options on whether we Band-Aid the marina or do a new rebuild.”

In November 2022, the city council approved a \$23,200 contract with marina specialists Abonmarche to redesign the facility no-frills style:

- ◆ widen boat slips on Pier 1, which forms the marina’s eastern, outer breakwall and main walkway, from the current 8½ feet to 10 feet, resulting in the elimination of 12 wells;

- ◆ replace dockside electrical and water lines and outlets on all five piers,

- ◆ raise the marina’s inner wall to better protect the park against flooding during periods of high lake levels and

- ◆ make structural improvements as needed, including those revealed by divers.

Wells in Piers 2, 3, 4, and 5 are to remain configured as of now.

Some improvements totaling around \$100,000 and funded by boaters were completed this spring:

- ◆ removing dock risers no longer needed because high lake levels that prompted their installation a few years ago have receded,

- ◆ replacing plastic dockside water service lines, installed five years ago as a temporary stop-gap during high water but kept in use longer than anticipated,

- ◆ replacing rub rails, a cushion or bumper attached to dock pilings to protect boats from collision damage and

- ◆ painting the upper inside portion of the outer breakwalls.

The prospect of lower-than-expected structural repair costs adds room in the marina budget for consideration of other improvements previously set aside.

“I’m throwing into the design to see how much it would cost to put risers about one foot up on (docks) in case we have another high-water event,” Caulfield said. “With that comes ramps to entry piers, so we have to figure it out.”

GPSIF turns 40

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Consider them sort of like candles on a birthday cake.

Those yard signs people have been noticing in and around Osius Park and city hall are meant to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation.

“We placed them at different spots in the community just before our big Fourth of July celebration,” according to Rob Sattler, who has been president of the foundation for 15 months. “It’s our 40th year and we’ve made a lot of improvements around the village.”

There are 40 signs, each pointing out a specific project the foundation funded and the year it was done. Sattler said there has been a surge of interest in the foundation over the past month.

“We’ve had a couple new donations and we had three new members join because of them,” he noted. “Bringing visibility to what we’ve done is pretty cool.”

There isn’t one sign for each year, however.

“There have been some years where we did smaller projects,” Sattler added. “With the signs, we wanted to highlight the 40 most impactful projects.”

The foundation is considering having a contest before taking the signs down.

“We were talking about maybe having people visit

the signs and take selfies,” he said. “Whoever submits the most would win a prize of some sort.”

The foundation has spent \$2 million on improvements over the last four decades. The most recent include a new, heated set of stairs and entrance to city hall, new trash bins and a beach volleyball court in Osius Park and upgrades to the bleacher areas at the Vernier Hill baseball field.

Past projects have included barbecue grills and the splash pad in the park, construction of Schroeder Field House and the Vernier School bell tower.

The next big project will be a new pool in Osius Park. That stems from a gift of \$1.2 million the city received last December from the estate of Carole Ann Williams. Williams, who grew up in the Shores and whose father was mayor 1954 to 1964, specified the money must be used to improve the park.

The foundation paid for architectural design costs for a new pool. Upon receiving the gift, City Manager Steve Poloni said the final cost will be much more than the \$1.2 million, but said it was a good start.

“We’re not going to be able to pay for the entire project, but we’ve got a great group of trustees,” Saddler said. “We’ll definitely be getting the word out and organizing the fundraising.”

See gpsif.org for more information.



COURTESY PHOTO

This is one of the signs celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation and the projects it has paid for.



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Restoration efforts

Restoration of the Fox Indian Massacre state historical marker site and fundraising to privately pay for the work intersected last week along converging paths. Volunteers from fleurdetroit cleared the location on Windmill Pointe Drive at Lakepointe of overgrown vegetation that hid the marker from easy view. Installation of a more open design contributed by Phillip Morici, Park resident and co-founder and CEO of fleurdetroit, began with laying sleeper stones. Next came installation Thursday, July 25, of plants and trees. “We are making great progress on the site,” said Jaime Rae Turnbull, a Park resident and member of the Friends of the Fox Creek Massacre. The historical marker commemorates the victory of French and allied Indians over enemy Fox Creek natives seeking to besiege Fort Pontchartrain in Detroit in 1712. The outcome further established groundwork for French settlement of what became the Grosse Pointes. Project partners also include the Grosse Pointe Park Foundation, Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission and Junior League of Detroit. To help meet the \$30,000 fundraising goal, Turnbull said to donate online at grossepointeparkfoundation.org, by email at info@grossepointeparkfoundation.org or by calling (248) 672-2020.

**Village of Grosse Pointe Shores,
A Michigan City**
795 Lake Shore Road
Grosse Pointe Shores, MI 48236
313-881-6565

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held at **7 p.m., on Tuesday, August 20, 2024** before the Grosse Pointe Shores City Council sitting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, Council Chambers at 795 Lake Shore Rd.

- The petitioner at 824 Lake Shore Rd. is requesting the following:

1. Special Land Use for an outdoor athletic court
2. Special Land Use for a four (4) car garage
3. Variance to expand the deck of a non-conforming structure
4. Variance to construct pavement within three (3) feet of a side property line
5. Variance to retain an existing impervious surface crossing over property lines
6. Variance to front setback, rear setback, accessory building and pavement dimensions

At the July 23, 2024 Planning Commission meeting, the Commission recommended to approve the petitioner’s requests for the Variances and Special Land Uses.

Plans of the proposed projects are available for your viewing at the Office of the City Clerk, 795 Lake Shore Road, during normal business hours Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Bruce Nichols,
City Clerk

Published: Grosse Pointe News: 8/1/24

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held at **7 p.m., on Tuesday, August 20, 2024** before the Grosse Pointe Shores City Council sitting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, Council Chambers at 795 Lake Shore Rd.

- The petitioner at 1040 Lake Shore Rd. is requesting a Special Land Use for a four (4) car garage.

At the July 23, 2024 Planning Commission meeting, the Commission recommended to approve the Petitioner’s variance request for a four (4) car garage.

Plans of the proposed projects are available for your viewing at the Office of the City Clerk, 795 Lake Shore Road, during normal business hours Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Bruce Nichols,
City Clerk

Published: Grosse Pointe News: 8/1/24

New Parcels principal named

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Jason Wesley has been named the new principal at Parcels Middle School. He replaces Sara Delgado, who in June was named principal at Grosse Pointe North High School.

The Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education approved hiring Wesley at its July meeting, as well as three other administrators who will join Delgado at North.

“We are elated to welcome Mr. Jason Wesley to the Parcels Middle School team this fall,” Superintendent Andrea Tuttle said while introducing him. “Mr. Wesley joins us from Romulus Community Schools,



Jason Wesley

where he served as assistant principal. With 27 years of educational experience, including six years in administration, he has consistently focused on maintaining high expectations for both student and adult learners.”

The Inkster native originally went to Michigan State University to study food



Kevin Shubnell

science. “I had people asking me why I was going to college to study food service,” he laughed. “I’d have to explain to them it was about the biology and chemistry of food.”

After graduating in 1994, Wesley said there weren’t many jobs available in that field.

“The market just wasn’t any good and my



Melony Cargill

mom was having some health issues at the time, so I wanted to stay close to home,” he said. “I started substitute teaching and found I had a passion for education. I found I loved it.”

He was able to get his teaching certification while working as a substitute and eventually attended the principal’s academy through Wayne



James Ellis

RESA, the local intermediate school district, before taking on administrative roles.

Wesley became interested in GPPSS after attending the Michigan Association of Middle School Educators annual conference at Brownell Middle School in March.

“I met a lot of Grosse Pointe educators and really liked the district

and what I heard,” he said. “I’m excited about this opportunity and feel blessed to be here.”

Joining Delgado at North will be Assistant Principals Kevin Shubnell and Melony Cargill and Athletic Director James Ellis.

Shubnell, who has been in education 18 years, joined GPPSS as a social studies teacher and most recently served as dean of culture and community at North, along with coaching the varsity baseball team.

Cargill has spent the last 19 years at Clintondale High School, starting as an English and Japanese teacher and serving most recently as principal.

Ellis most recently was assistant principal and athletic director at St. Clair High School and has coached varsity baseball and varsity girls basketball in Troy, Ferndale and Berkley.

A lineup of past presidents, from left, Liam Taylor as Barack Obama; Obsydian Wisniewski as Abraham Lincoln; Roy Bishop III as Obama; Oliver Bott as Lincoln and Magnus Gutierrez as Obama.



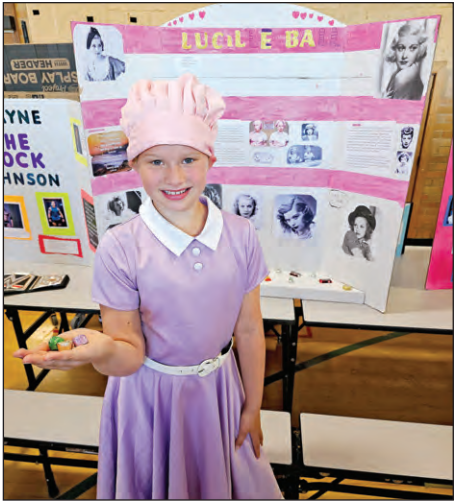
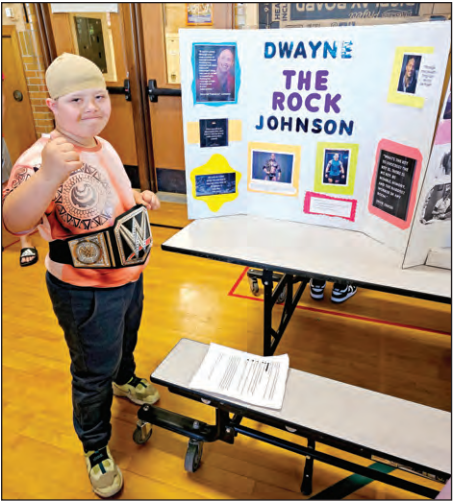
Keith Hollings was Frederick Douglas and Faith Tarver was Harriet Tubman, both born into slavery and in their 20s escaped slavery; both became part of the Underground Railroad helping to free slaves.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



History comes alive

Before the end of the school year, Mason Elementary School hosted its annual living museum, in which students researched a historic person, made posters showing what they learned about their subject and dressed as the person for the event. Participants were third and fourth graders from Julie Nurse’s 3/4 split class and fourth graders from Alison Locke’s and Laura Tannheimer’s classes.



Far left, Caden Wettstein dressed as Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson and wore a bald cap and a weight belt to represent the former WWE wrestler. Left, Martha Faner choose Lucille Ball from the iconic “I Love Lucy” scene at a chocolate factory. Above left, Bella Dellamora was Jane Goodall for the project. She brought a stuffed monkey and stuffed gorilla along with binoculars and talked about the importance of saving wildlife. Above right, Nolan Weber chose painter Bob Ross as his research subject.

PRIDE OF THE POINTE

Bode Neumeister of Grosse Pointe Farms and **Joshua Thomas** of the City of Grosse Pointe recently were named to the Dean’s List for the spring 2024 semester at Tufts University.

◆◆◆

Coalter Smith of Grosse Pointe Farms recently earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in legal studies and political science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison College of Letters and Science.

◆◆◆

Emily Widgren of Grosse Pointe Shores recently earned a Bachelor of Science degree in political science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison College of Letters and Science.

◆◆◆

Emily Ebenhoeh of the City of Grosse Pointe recently earned a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology with Honors in the Liberal Arts from the University of Wisconsin-Madison College of Letters and Science.

◆◆◆



Audrey Smihal

Hadley McSunas of the City of Grosse Pointe recently earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison College of



Nathan Benton

Letters and Science.

◆◆◆

Audrey Smihal of the City of Grosse Pointe was named to the Dean’s List at Northern Michigan University during her

sophomore year with a 4.0 each term — fall 2023, winter 2024 and summer 2024. She is studying forensic psychology.

◆◆◆

Nathan Benton of Grosse Pointe Woods was named to the fall 2023 and spring 2024 Dean’s List during his sophomore year at the University of Kentucky. He is in the University of Kentucky Global Scholars Program and Honors College.

◆◆◆

Patrick Kuchta of Grosse Pointe Park earned a Bachelor of Science degree, summa cum laude, in computer net-

works and cybersecurity from the University of Maryland Global Campus in spring 2024.

◆◆◆

Alexandra Karolak of Grosse Pointe Park was named to the Dean’s List for the spring semester at Washington University in St. Louis. She is enrolled

in the College of Arts & Sciences.

◆◆◆

Jamie Kalus of Grosse Pointe Woods recently earned a Master of Business Administration degree in healthcare management from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.



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High Pointe Burger Jointe to open across from South

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Aptly named for its student-centered business model and proximity to Grosse Pointe South High School, High Pointe Burger Jointe will open in September, at 369 Fisher, which formerly housed Extreme Pizza.

Two-ounce smash burgers, slushies and a TouchTunes jukebox make up its concept.

“We’re really focusing on servicing the kids at lunch,” said Jennifer Bierkle, who is opening the restaurant with her husband, Jason. “We hope to have an app, so they will have paid and pre-ordered by the time they get to us for lunch-time. ... And we’re hoping to be open after school, so they can come in after school or after practice. Our first and foremost mission is to service the students.”

With the ability to seat about 30 people inside and the goal to eventually add an outdoor patio, High Pointe’s menu also will include french fries, salad, chicken sandwiches and fried pickles.

A collaboration with Cheese to Please in the Woods will feature a spe-



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

High Pointe Burger Jointe will occupy the former Extreme Pizza space at 369 Fisher, next to The Sugar Bar and across the street from Grosse Pointe South High School.

cial High Pointe Burger Jointe cheese board available only at the Fisher restaurant.

“You’ll be able to come in and grab one and then go to the football game with it,” Bierkle said of her vision.

High Pointe Burger Jointe also obtained a liquor license, with the

aim to cater to adult patrons in the evening.

“We’re still trying to figure out some evening (menu) options, because we are going to be a bar in the evening,” Bierkle said. “And I want those people to be able to come in and have a glass of champagne and something a little more ele-

vated.”

A fifth-generation Grosse Pointer, Bierkle’s great-great-grandparents once owned peach farms along Brys Drive and Vernier. She grew up in the Woods and currently lives in the Farms with her husband and two children — one of whom will be a sopho-

more at South this fall.

“I told my husband, ‘Don’t make me move past Cook Road,’” she joked, “but he got me over to the other side and we couldn’t be happier.”

The couple doesn’t have past restaurant experience — Jennifer Bierkle’s background is in the automotive industry, as her family owns Snethkamp Chrysler Jeep, and her husband owns a data processing company called Diversified Data — but are learning from the best, as Jason Bierkle’s parents own a couple restaurants in Lexington.

“That kind of gave us the idea to bring a restaurant to Grosse Pointe,” Jennifer Bierkle said. “One of our favorite restaurants up there in Lexington is called Wimpy’s Place. A lot of Grosse Pointers vacation in Lexington and know what Wimpy’s is. We were up there last summer and enjoying Wimpy’s burgers and we wanted to bring a similar

smasher to Grosse Pointe.”

High Pointe’s manager, Luis Guevara, also is a lifelong Grosse Pointer with a daughter who attends South. He’s credited with brainstorming the business name.

Concrete hours of operation are yet to be determined, but Bierkle anticipates High Pointe will be open Monday through Saturday.

“We just want it to be a really fun place for neighborhood kids, families (and) parents ... coming over to us and grabbing a burger box and bringing it home after a game or practice,” she said. “... We’re really excited to serve our local community and the surrounding neighborhood right there at Lincoln and Fisher.”



Rodney L. Arroyo recognized for impact on planning profession

Rodney L. Arroyo, partner emeritus with Giffels Webster, has achieved the planning profession’s highest honor by being selected to the title of American Institute of Certified Planners Fellow for his achievements in urban

planning. Arroyo is one of 33 inductees into this year’s College of Fellows. Inductions are done biennially.

Fellowship is granted to planners who have achieved certification through the American Planning Association’s

professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners, and have achieved excellence in professional practice, teaching and mentoring, research, public and community service and leadership. Fellows are selected after a thorough

nomination and review process, ensuring the nominee has had a positive, long-lasting impact on the planning profession.

“Members who have earned the FAICP designation are the true leaders of the planning profession,” said Karen Wolf, AICP president. “Their contributions and impacts to the profession serve as inspiration for future generations of planners of how to best serve our communities.”

Arroyo serves as partner emeritus with Giffels Webster and has more than 35 years of planning consulting experience in Michigan, in addition to work in Florida and Georgia earlier in his career. As a lifelong advocate for people and places, he has sought to innovate and advance the way planners approach community planning. He is the driving force behind the creation of Clearzoning®, which transforms zoning codes to be user friendly and accessible. His plans

resulted in the creation of better places and boosted economic development, including the award-winning Big Beaver Corridor Study in Troy, which ignited more than \$200 million in new investment in the corridor.

Arroyo’s educational efforts led to advancement of the profession through graduate coursework (serving as adjunct professor at Wayne State University), sharing best practices and offering hands-on learning opportunities. He co-authored the Michigan Economic Development Corporation Zoning and Development Best Practice training programs used in the redevelopment ready certification process.

While serving as assistant director of the South Florida Regional Planning Council, his projects included Hard Rock Stadium, home of the Miami Dolphins, and other developments of regional impact. While in Georgia, he worked with

former American Planning Association President Leon S. Eplan to successfully obtain some of the first Federal Communications Commission licenses for cellular phone service including Atlanta.

“I have worked with Rod since 2008, and am delighted by this recognition for him,” said Jill Bahm, AICP and partner at Giffels Webster. “Rod’s innovative spirit, willingness to share knowledge with others and leadership style have been meaningful to countless professional and community planners. I’ve drawn from his example in the way I lead our planning team today.”

Arroyo received a Master of City Planning degree from Georgia Tech and Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of South Florida. He also is a photographer and a supporter of jazz in Detroit. He and his wife, Beth, live in Grosse Pointe Farms.

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council will be considering the following proposed three (3) Ordinance amendments for second readings at its meeting scheduled for August 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers/Court Room of the Robert E. Novitke Municipal Center. The proposed Ordinance amendments are available for public inspection at the Municipal Center, 20025 Mack Plaza Dr., between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Council meeting is open to the public. All interested persons are invited to attend.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS, CHAPTER 2 - ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE III - DEPARTMENTS, DIVISION 2 - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES; SECTION 2-129, AND DIVISION 3 - PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION; SECTIONS 2-159, 2-160, 2-161 (a - g), AND 2-162, AND DIVISION 5 - COMMUNITY CENTER DIVISION; SECTIONS 2-193, 2-194, 2-195 (b - f), AND 2-196, TO CHANGE THE JURISDICTION AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PARKS AND RECREATION AND FOR THE COMMUNITY CENTER FROM THE PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS, CHAPTER 30 - PARKS AND RECREATION, ARTICLE I - IN GENERAL; SECTION 30-1. - DEFINITIONS; AND ARTICLE II - LAKE FRONT PARK; SECTION 30-60, TO CHANGE PARKS AND RECREATION FROM A DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS, CHAPTER 48 - WATERWAYS; SECTIONS 48-2 (b) and (d), 48-4 (b)(5) and (e), 48-9(a) and (d), 48-10(a), 48-13, 48-15, 48-17, AND 48-18, TO CHANGE AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE RECREATION SUPERVISOR TO THE DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION.

G.P.N.: 8/1/24

Paul Antolin
City Clerk

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CITY OF HARPER WOODS
19617 HARPER AVENUE
HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A BROWNFIELD PLAN FOR THE PROPERTY
LOCATED IN THE AREA OF 20506- 20655 LENNON, CITY OF HARPER WOODS,
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE CITY OF HARPER WOODS
AND AFFECTED TAXING UNITS:

The Harper Woods City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, August 19, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers located at City Hall, 19617 Harper, Harper Woods, Michigan, to consider the adoption of a resolution approving a Brownfield Plan (“Brownfield Plan”) for the property located in the area of 20506-20655 Lennon (the “Property”), pursuant to and in accordance with Public Act 381 of 1996, as amended. The Property is located on Lennon and is formerly operated as Charles A. Poupard Elementary School.

The proposed brownfield plan would allow the developer to be reimbursed for eligible costs incurred to prepare the brownfield property for redevelopment. Eligible costs may include environmental, demolition, infrastructure, site preparation and other eligible costs. The brownfield plan must first be approved by the City Council.

All maps, plats and a copy of the proposed Brownfield Plan are available for public inspection in the City Clerk’s Office, Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Harper Woods City Hall, 19617 Harper, Harper Woods, Michigan.

All aspects of the Brownfield Plan are open for discussion at the public hearing. All interested persons desiring to address the City Council shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the Brownfield Plan. Residents who are unable to attend this hearing may submit their comments in writing to the City Clerk’s Office before August 19, 2024.

POSTED: July 29, 2024
PUBLISHED: August 1, 2024

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

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Partnership breathes new life into Tree of Strength

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

For years, colorful ribbons streaming from the metal tree in front of the Henry Ford Medical Center — Cottage attracted attention and questions, both of which were a welcome part of the project.

The Tree of Strength, dedicated in 2016, to raise cancer awareness, was created by a group of students called Every Step Counts.

“A group of girls started it in 2013, as they were entering fourth grade,” said Michelle Applegate, a Grosse Pointe Woods resident. “They didn’t want to do Girl Scouts anymore. They wanted to do more for our community. My daughter and her friend created the group, Every Step Counts.”

“They started to do things once a month or once every other month,” she continued, “like go downtown to Gleaners (Food Bank), clean up the garden at The Helm, donate time at Mott Children’s Hospital or the food bank at Capuchin Soup Kitchen, help at St. Paul events or at the Farms park. Small or big, they were just finding stuff around

town.”

During a campus tour of Notre Dame University, Applegate’s daughter, Alyse, noticed the university’s cancer awareness tree and wondered why Grosse Pointe didn’t have one.

“So she went to Henry Ford Cottage and proposed the idea,” her mother said. “They didn’t like the idea of a real tree, so they created a metal tree. It’s an area for people to take a moment, say a prayer, sit in silence.”

Their original contact was Marianne Langlois, senior site administrator, who Applegate said was instrumental in getting the project off the ground.

“She inspired these girls,” Applegate recalled. “They were so empowered. It’s so inspiring for young girls to create something and see it come true.”

Passersby were invited to select a ribbon and tie it to the tree in honor of a loved one battling cancer. Choices included pink for breast cancer, purple for pancreatic cancer, orange for kidney cancer and leukemia, blue for prostate cancer and teal for cervical and ovarian cancers.

The Tree of Strength



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

From left, Alyse Applegate, Victoria Vorhees, Maeve Hix and Moira Hix tie ribbons on the Tree of Strength.



Members of Every Step Counts, who were students at Brownell Middle School at the time, dedicated the tree in 2016.

was welcomed and admired by many in the Pointes; however, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic put a stop to it.

“Henry Ford decided they didn’t want to create a gathering space,” Applegate said. “They didn’t feel that was safe.”

The last six months or so, Applegate and her daughter have been inquiring about reestablishing the Tree of Strength program, during which the ribbon box is filled with new ribbons each April, then the ribbons are removed in December and disposed of and buried around the base of the tree.

As part of its resurgence, Applegate was asked to add more colors to the ribbon selection. Now, in addition to the

original five colors, black ribbons symbolize skin cancer and green ribbons are for liver cancer.

In a written statement, Henry Ford Health said, “We remain grateful to the young people who brought the Tree of Strength to us and we’re happy that it will again bloom with brightly colored symbols of hope. The public will find ribbons in more colors so that they can honor loved ones who have bravely fought all types of cancer.”

Applegate said guests to the tree also can expect a new sign and new ribbon box to replace weather-worn items.

“Anybody is invited,” Applegate said. “Just open the box and tie a ribbon. There’s seating



Two-year-old Eleanor Bean and her 4-year-old sister, Georgia Bean, tie ribbons on the newly re-opened Tree of Strength.



From left, Moira Hix, Maeve Hix, Victoria Vorhees and Alyse Applegate, four of the original Brownell students, stand in front of the tree eight years after its dedication.



Ribbons in seven different colors, representing various forms of cancer, are available to be tied to the tree.

around it, a circular area, with beautiful landscaping.”

While members of Every Step Counts currently are in college, studying abroad or immersed in internships, Applegate said the project still has meaning to them all.

“Like everybody, my daughter and all these girls realize so many people we love are affected with cancer,” she said. “It hits home. Just taking a minute to say a prayer or whatever you do, just having that moment

makes you feel good.

“... Though the girls are grown and doing amazing things in the world, I hope this inspires other young adults — boys and girls — to put their mark on their community and do something that will be incredible for them,” she added. “Everyone feels good when they do things for someone else. Seeing the tree come alive again is exciting for us. The girls and their parents have watched it over the years. We’re all excited to see it come back.”

Limited edition posters part of artist’s offerings at Belle Isle Art Fair

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

A limited number of the first official Belle Isle Art Fair poster, created by Grosse Pointe Woods artist Ashley Menth, will be available for purchase during this year’s fair, which takes place 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 3, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 4, near the Belle Isle fountain.

The poster features Menth’s “Other Side of MacArthur,” which, in the artist’s words, “was inspired as a love song to the MacArthur Bridge leading to Belle Isle. This painting depicts the sky as bright pink and the bridge in vibrant colors. The island breeze is captured to convey a wonderful sunny, summer day.”

Although she loves the architecture of the bridge, the structure itself symbolizes coming together as a family, she added.

“I see the bridge and it’s heartwarming. You know you’re going to have a great day when you see it.

“Plus, there’s the romanticism of it,” she continued. “The old-fashioned lights when you drive over the river are so beautiful; you never get tired of seeing it. ... If you live in the area, it’s an origin image that you have. It’s near and dear to us.”



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ASHLEY MENTH

The artist stands with some of her work.

A limited number of signed, limited edition prints of the painting will be available for purchase at the fair, which will feature more than 100 artists, as well as food trucks.

“This is the first ever Belle Isle Air Fair poster, a really good collectible piece,” Menth said. “It’s only \$50, but there’s only 50 of them.”

This year the fair is focusing on gardens and garden art — and so is Menth.

“I’ll have a lot of original paintings, vibrant cityscape paintings from photos I took while I was on a boat ride in the river,” she said. “I’ll also have other artwork, more figurative pieces, like one of my dog, Angus, in the

garden. I’ve been spending more time in my garden this summer. I’ll have some portraits as well.”

The Belle Isle Art Fair is the latest event showcasing Menth’s work. She had a solo show in October with Crain’s Communication in Brewery Park, as well as a dual show in March with artist Debbie LaPratt at Posterity Gallery.

“In the meantime, I’ve had shows at a lot of galleries,” she said. “I was at Irwin House Gallery in December. Someone from Gallery 100 in Chelsea saw my work there and asked me to show in December 2025. I’ll be at Gallery 100 with other artists with a very saturated color scheme. It will be a vibrant holiday show.”

Menth also was asked to do a solo show at The Congregation Detroit, 9321 Rosa Parks Blvd., Detroit, the entire month of October. First she’ll take part in the fourth annual CREATE Arts Festival, a pop-up show at the coffee shop, 5 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17.

In the meantime, Menth also is working on illustrating a children’s book with a man from India who now lives in

Ann Arbor.

“He is an engineer,” she said. “When he was 26, within his network, he found out about a cow at an Amish farm that was no longer producing milk. They were going to send it to a slaughter house. Without land, without a trailer, within a short time, he figured out how to rescue this cow. Now he has a very successful cow sanctuary in Maybee, Mich.”

Goloka Eco Farm includes a cow sanctuary that offers an Airbnb-type experience, Menth said, providing visitors opportunities to pet, brush, feed and do yoga with cows. During a visit, she was inspired by the author’s story.

“We got to talking and he said he had written this book and asked me to illustrate it,” she said. “It’s not a religious story, but it’s about following your drive to do the right thing and make the world a better place.”

The artist and author meet via Zoom every few weeks to stay updated on the book’s progress. Menth is creating each piece by hand with watercolor and pen.

With the breadth of work the artist is creating, she likes to stay



The first Belle Isle Art Fair poster, “Other Side of MacArthur,” by Ashley Menth.



“Hart Plaza Summer” by Ashley Menth.

immersed in the artist culture. She accomplishes such by being part of the Detroit Fine Artists Breakfast Club, which meets every Monday.

“Don’t be fooled by the name,” she said. “It’s not a morning group; it’s an evening group. We meet at 6 p.m. at the Marygrove Conservancy, 8425 W. McNichols in Detroit.

“Every artist has two minutes to talk about two pieces of work,” she continued. “Collectors come, too, so it’s an opportunity to buy directly from the artist. If you’re thinking

of collecting art, this is a great place to go. Really well-known Detroit artists attend.

“... It’s like a free museum every Monday,” she added. “Henry Harper of Harper Galleries runs meetings like an auction. And it’s a good place to hear where people like myself are going to be showing their art. You hear about events you wouldn’t normally hear about.”

Find more information about Menth on her website, ashleymenthart.com.



Menth’s “Dazzling Detroit Boat Club.”

AREA ACTIVITIES

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:

◆ Restorative Evening Yoga, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, beginning Aug. 1, with instructor Allie Short. Cost is \$7 for members, \$10 for non-members.

◆ Field Trip to MGM Grand Detroit Casino, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 7. Cost is \$8 for members, \$10 to non-members.

◆ The movie “Anatomy of a Fall” is shown at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 8. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers, and includes snacks.

◆ The movie “Book Club: The Next Chapter” is shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 9. Cost is \$3

for members, \$5 for non-members, and includes snacks.

◆ Courtyard Cookout, 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 9. Cost is \$20 for members, \$24 for nonmembers.

◆ Fresh Produce at The Helm, with the Full Circle Farms Market 11 a.m. to noon Thursdays, and with Eastern Market at The Helm 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, Aug. 13 and 27.

◆ The Gift of Grief, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 13, with facilitator Frank Wilberding, psychotherapist.

◆ Out to Lunch Bunch heads to the Blue Goose Inn, noon to 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 15. Cost to ride the bus is \$5 for members, \$7 for non-members. Guests are responsible for the cost of their own lunch.

◆ Keeping Yourself Safe, 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 20, with Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety Director John Hutchins.

Library

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

◆ Teen Movie Friday, 2 to 4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 2, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Saturday Drop-In Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 3, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Craft-to-Go: S’more Friend, all day Monday, Aug. 5, at all branches.

◆ Adventure Into Writing, 11 a.m. to noon Monday, Aug. 5, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Blades of the Caribbean Pirates, 4 to 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 5, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Teen Pirate Cutlass Class, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 5, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Sensory Friendly Movie, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Bubble Party, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 7, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ DigiLit Series, 3 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 7, at Ewald, 15175 E.

Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Teen Leadership Council meeting, 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 7, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ All Ages Comic Making Club, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 7, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 8, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Bike Blender, 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 8, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Reader Dog, 10 to 11 a.m. Friday, Aug. 9, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Teen Airplane Escape Room, 1 to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 10, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Teen Airplane Escape Room, 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 10, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Reunions

◆ Grosse Pointe South High School’s Class of 1984 is hosting its 40th reunion 6 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 3, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht

Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores. Tickets are \$55 in advance, \$65 at the door, and include a cash bar, appetizers and music from the 1980s. Checks may be mailed to Amy Kish, 1023 Bishop, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230 or sent via Venmo to Amy-Kish-2 or Zelle to (313) 770-1772, with the note “GPS 84 Reunion.” For those in town early, a casual get together will occur 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 2, at Rustic Cabins in Grosse Pointe Park. For information, call Marianne Stavale Benkoski at (703) 901-0080, Johanna Staub Judson at (313) 580-3813 or Carey Fitzgibbon Baldwin at (828) 318-2628.

◆ Grosse Pointe North High School’s Class of 1984 seeks classmates for its 40th reunion, which takes place at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24, at Fishbones Rhythm Kitchen Cafe, 23722 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores. The reunion includes a cash bar, light appetizers and live ’80s music by Lunar Sessions.

See EVENTS, page 8B

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STAYING HOME

With a little help, many seniors can remain in beloved familiar environments as they age

By Grosse Pointe News Staff

A desire to live independently seems to be part of human nature. Though that desire may continue to burn as individuals approach retirement age and beyond, unforeseen circumstances like medical issues or the death of a partner may result in a need to work with a professional caregiver. After spending a lifetime in a home they worked hard to create, so full of wonderful family memories, it’s understandable why seniors may be reluctant to leave their familiar surroundings and a place they have grown to love.



Enter home health aides (HHAs). They can be the heroes who help aging individuals — or those with certain physical or cognitive limitations live full lives without requiring them to move into assisted living facilities or seek alternative housing arrangements. HHAs provide a host of services and individuals living in well-populated areas may have no shortage of options as they seek to hire a professional to help themselves or a loved one with the tasks of daily life. Individuals or families beginning their search for a home health aide can keep these tips in mind.

Identify required services

There are several main areas to assess when identifying the ways in which individuals may need a little help.

- *Personal care* consists of bathing, eating, dressing, toileting and grooming.

- *Household care* involves cooking, cleaning, laundry and shopping.
 - *Medical care* aides may help clients manage medications, provide physical therapy and help clients get to their doctor’s appointments.
 - *Companionship* is a component of emotional care, which also may entail engaging clients in meaningful activities and conversation.
- Clearly outlining the services needed can help families zero in on the professional who is best suited to assist them.

Seek recommendations

Trusted doctors and confidantes are a great place to start. Physicians undoubtedly have had previous patients who have benefited from the services of HHAs, so they can likely recommend local professionals who have good reports on quality care.

Trusted confidantes, such as neighbors, relatives and friends,

The role of a home health aide

Home health aides are considered health care paraprofessionals and must meet established training requirements, which vary by location. HHAs typically will not provide skilled nursing care and may not be able to offer recommendations on treatment or medications.

It can be useful to interview several potential HHAs to find one who will fit with the needs and personality of the person requiring assistance. Home health aides serve vital roles in the health care community by providing care and companionship to those who can no longer live independently or need assistance to continue to stay in their own homes after an illness or disability.

- Assistance with personal care
 - Help with dressing and toileting
 - Feeding support
 - Moving from bed to chair, etc.
 - Checking vital signs
 - Monitoring elder safety
- Light housekeeping
 - Meal planning and cooking
 - Picking up prescriptions
 - Companionship
 - Rides to medical appointments
 - Assistance with shopping, outings



who have been in similar situations, or have family members who have required HHAs, also can be an invaluable resource for quality care. Hiring an aide or service based on a recommendation from someone you trust gives you confidence in your decision.

Look into a direct-hire group

AARP® notes that direct-hire agencies maintain networks of independent caregivers and facilitate connections between those professionals and individuals and families seeking help. When working with a direct-hire group, inquire about their fees and ask if they can share any information regarding how to pay independent contactors who can be found through their agencies. It’s also important to ask if direct-hire groups formally vet professionals that can be found through them or if individuals and families must conduct their own background checks.

Contact a local agency

There are many agencies in the area who provide elder care services. Here are a just a few local options:

- Hackett Homecare
hacketthomecare.com

Home Instead
homeinstead.com

Pointe Care Services
pointecare.com

Right at Home
rightathome.com

Visiting Angels
visitingangels.com

Don’t stop searching until you feel completely comfortable with your choice. Err on the side of caution and seek help from professionals to find just the right aide that will make you or your loved one’s golden years easier and more secure.



Second Time Around

By Margie Reins Smith

Where do babies come from?

Words that are unacceptable in polite conversation come and go. Some that are OK to use today in schools, on television and in PG-13 movies were taboo in the past. In the 1940s, “pregnant” was a no-no. My mother said she was eight months pregnant with me when she had lunch with an old high school girlfriend she hadn’t seen for several years. My mother claims her obvious baby bump was never mentioned. Not a word.

“Baby bump” is one of those new acceptable phrases. Today, women are proud of their pregnancies and often wear tight-fitting outfits to deliberately display the progress of their pregnancy. They wear T-shirts with “Baby” written on the front and an arrow pointing to the baby’s location. When I was pregnant, we had moved beyond my mother’s era and actually used the word “pregnant,” but we wore loose-fitting over-

blouses that ballooned over our bumps. Skirts (yes, we wore skirts quite often back then) and pants had an elastic insert in the front that expanded over our bumps as the baby grew bigger and bigger, but the over-blouse attempted to conceal the bump. I got my first teaching job because of a baby bump. It was mid-August after I graduated from U of M and I still didn’t have a job. I was hired by Livonia Public

Schools to replace a teacher who had gotten pregnant during summer break. Back then, women had to quit teaching when they started to “show.” I’m not sure of the reasoning behind this rule. Children witnessed their mothers and their mother’s friends’ expanding waistlines during their pregnancies. Why were teachers not allowed to “show?” Which reminds me. When I was 4 or 5 or so, I asked my mother where

babies came from. She sidestepped the question, which of course I repeated again. And again. She finally prattled on about the stork and cabbage leaves and other such nonsense. So I asked my grandmother. “God makes them,” my grandmother said. “He has a great big oven in the sky. He has a collection of little baby-sized bread pans. He kneads baby-dough like we do when we make bread.” I had helped my grandmother make bread so knew what she was talking about. “He fashions their little legs and arms, their tiny feet, their fingers and fingernails, their tiny noses and ears and toes. Then he puts them in the oven,” she said, “and sets the oven timer.” So far, so good. I bought this. “When the timer goes off,” she said, “God

starts taking the bread pans out of the oven. He has to remove them out one at a time, very carefully, because after all, they’re brand new babies. But God only has two hands! Some of the babies in each batch are pale and barely toasted; others are light brown; and by the time he gets to the last ones, they’re dark brown. That’s why some people have pale skin, others are browner and some are very brown.” OK. “Right before he takes each one out,” she said, “he puts his finger on the baby’s tummy so see if he or she is done. Those touches become belly-buttons. Your bellybutton is where God touched you to see if you were done.” I bought this lovely story — especially the bellybutton thing. Believed it for several years.

The key to a long life

Courtesy of The Helm

W e a l t h ? Accomplishments? Good genes? Exercise and a healthy diet? Are these the keys to living longer? Maybe they contribute, but an 85-year-old Harvard University study revealed that close relationships significantly impact health and happiness.

“The Harvard study reinforces what we know and experience at The Helm,” Executive Director Krista Siddall said. “People dismiss activities like bingo or bocce or pinocle, but we know any activity that brings people together is beneficial. Every activity stimulates the brain, but more importantly, interaction with others builds relationships and those

relationships give us purpose.” The Harvard study began in 1938, with 268 Harvard sophomores — all of them male since the college did not admit women at that time. Over the decades, the study expanded to include the participants’ offspring and Boston inner-city residents and their spouses. After 85 years, the research revealed that close relationships, more than wealth or fame, are crucial for happiness and longevity. These relationships protect against life’s challenges, delay mental and physical decline, and are better predictors of a long, happy life than social class, IQ or even genetics. Senior citizens are more susceptible to having fewer close relationships. “As you age, it’s natural to have fewer and fewer people to do



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE HELM

Members gather for a game of bocce on a recent sunny morning at The Helm.

Whether it’s meeting for a cup of coffee or lunch, joining in a game of cards or bocce, or participating in an exercise class, connecting with other people is the key factor to living a longer and healthier life.

things with. That’s even more true if your family has moved away or you have moved away from family,” said Allie Short, case coordinator and social worker at The Helm. “The Helm offers a place to meet people and develop relationships that help you stay active and connected.” When Grosse Pointe Park resident Sue Jones began taking yoga at The Helm several years ago, she got more than just an exercise class. “Several of us have been taking class together for so long,” she said. “We really care

about each other. We have a text group and we let each other know if we won’t be at class so the others don’t worry.” “It’s no surprise that some of our most popular activities are the social activities — cook-

outs in the summer, field trips and our monthly out-to-lunch or breakfast groups,” Siddall said. “These are easy activities to chat and connect. People need connections to other people.” “In a Harvard Gazette article about the study, Dr. Robert Walinger said, ‘Loneliness kills. It’s as powerful as smoking or alcoholism,’” she continued. “We know it’s important to exercise. It’s important to eat healthy. But it’s most important to get out of the house and connect with others.”



MEMORY CARE | SHORT-TERM STAYS

Join Sunrise on Vernier for a Farmers Market

You’re invited to our community for a special farmers market on **August 22 from 4:00-6:00 p.m.** Come shop for fresh baked goods, fresh fruits, vegetables, and flowers. All proceeds will benefit the Alzheimer’s Association. You can also enjoy complimentary refreshments and appetizers as you mingle and see our beautiful community for yourself.

To learn more, call **313-643-5845.**

Sunrise on Vernier
1850 Vernier Road
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236
SunriseVernier.com



Bridge, canasta, pinocle and euchre are a few of the card groups that play weekly at The Helm.



From left, second graders Jad Awan, Gabriel Olewicz-Bogg and Letty Nyenhuis hold Beanie Babies they won playing bingo at The Helm.



Second grader Ava Martusiewicz and The Helm member Shirley Whelan check their bingo cards.

Bingo buddies

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE HELM

Second graders from Sarah Neely’s class at Maire Elementary School walked to The Helm in June to play bingo with the seniors. Every second grader had the opportunity to select a Beanie Baby. Above, The Helm member Brien Howey and second grader Walt Miller appear to be discussing the various flavors of Timbits instead of watching their bingo cards.



Left, second grader Scarlett Dubrulle and The Helm member Hazel Hart review their cards hoping for a bingo. Right, Willie Waller, right, makes sure second grader Wesley Powell marks in bingo numbers.

Grosse Pointe’s

Teen Summer Tours

Bob Hope (left) and Chet Sampson (right) in Hollywood surrounded by Grosse Pointe teenagers, c.1950.

Swap the Grosse Pointe diner for Hollywood glitz! In the 1940s and 50s, adventurous teens could embark on a five-week western adventure with local guide, Chet Sampson. For just \$375, these lucky young explorers journeyed across the country in a convoy of station wagons, exploring national parks and iconic landmarks. But the real magic happened when they reached the West Coast: rubbing elbows with Hollywood royalty like Bob Hope and Elizabeth Taylor.



Elizabeth Taylor with Grosse Pointe teenage boys in Hollywood during one of the Chet Sampson Western tours, c. 1950.



Want to learn more about Grosse Pointe’s past? Scan the code or visit www.gphistorical.org

Grosse Pointe Historical Society

The hub for history in the Grosse Pointes

375 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
development@gphistorical.org
(313) 884-7010

The Grosse Pointe Historical Society has thousands of resources about the history of the Pointes and adjacent communities. Visit our web site at www.gphistorical.org to find out more.

Scan the blue code for information on research requests and donations.

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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.

The Rev. Kenneth R. Kauchek

The Rev. Kenneth R. Kauchek, 77, passed away peacefully Thursday, July 18, 2024, after a valiant battle with cancer.

Fr. Ken was born Oct. 14, 1946, in Highland Park, the youngest son of Madeline (nee Quinlan) and Jacob “Jack” Kauchek. He also had an older brother, Larry. They settled in the Grosse Pointe area, where Fr. Ken enjoyed a happy childhood.

A dedicated intellectual and a voracious reader, Fr. Ken excelled in academic endeavors as evidenced by his facility with languages and his many degrees, including a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from his cherished Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, a master’s degree in theology, a master’s degree in divinity, a licentiate and doctorate in canon law from the Gregorian University in Rome, Italy, and a doctorate in ministry.

Ordained as a Catholic priest Feb. 28, 1976, Fr. Ken embarked on a remarkable journey, touching countless lives throughout his 48 years of faithful service. His compassionate spirit and innate ability to connect with people from all walks of life made him a beloved figure in the community.

Fr. Ken served as an associate pastor at Guardian Angels, Sacred Heart Dearborn and Christ the King parishes. In 1982, he became pastor of Epiphany, followed by St. Anastasia, Our Lady Star of the Sea and finally St. James and St. Mary’s parishes. Fr. Ken dedicated himself to guiding and nurturing his parishioners, providing spiritual solace and instilling hope in their hearts. His homilies were not mere words but a source of inspiration, encouraging all to live lives of compassion, humility and love. He was a true shepherd, always ready to lend an empathetic ear, offer guidance and extend a helping hand to those in need.

Fr. Ken was a campus minister of the University of Michigan-Dearborn. He was on faculty at Sacred Heart Major

Seminary, St. Cyril and Methodius Seminary and Madonna University. He was certified in Ignatian spirituality and served as a spiritual director to many, and led more than 500 individual directed retreats, as well as more than 200 group retreats for parishes and other organizations.

Beyond the walls of the church, Fr. Ken actively participated in various charitable endeavors, most recently co-founding Gianna House, a residency program for pregnant young women and mothers with new babies, which offered not only safe housing but also parenting and life skills. Fr. Ken recognized the importance of living out the gospel message through acts of kindness and service. His commitment to social justice and advocacy for the marginalized were a testament to his unwavering faith and dedication.

Fr. Ken was a lover of all sports and enjoyed watching the Detroit Lions and Tigers. He relished watching the resurgence of Detroit, the city he called home.

Fr. Ken’s warm smile, gentle demeanor and unwavering faith touched the lives of many, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts of those who knew him. He was a beacon of hope and a source of strength in times of despair. His love for God and his flock was evident in every aspect of his life.

Fr. Ken is survived by his sister-in-law, Ann Marie Kauchek; niece, Kendra Goodrich (William); spiritually adopted son, Mark Calvird (Dorothy); numerous cousins, nieces and nephews from both the Quinlan and Kauchek families; and various godchildren, friends and countless lives he touched throughout his ministry.

The Mass of the Resurrection for Fr. Ken was held at St. Anastasia Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to the Solanus Casey Guild Detroit, 1780 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207; or Gianna House Parenting and Pregnancy Center, 21357 Redmond, Eastpointe, MI 48021, giannahouse.org/donate/.

Delores J. Spezia

Delores J. Spezia, 94, passed away peacefully in her sleep Sunday, July 21, 2024, surrounded by her family. She was a longtime resident of Grosse Pointe Woods.

A 1948 graduate of Detroit’s All Saints High School, Delores was a cheerleader and baton twirler who once showcased her twirling talents in Detroit’s Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Upon graduation from business secretarial school, she became the executive secretary to the master mechanic at Ternstedt Manufacturing Co./General Motors. During her tenure, she was selected as the model for a citywide GM advertising campaign, her smiling face adorning bus posters throughout Detroit. She readily offered that warm, beautiful smile to friends and strangers alike, making everyone feel seen and welcome. Her outgoing personality complemented that of her husband Roy’s more reserved demeanor, which undoubtedly contributed to their long and happy marriage of 65 years.

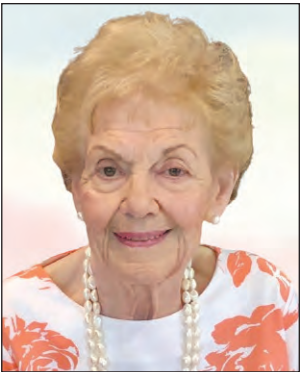
Even while raising five children and helping with her husband’s dental practice, Delores made time to give back to her community. She volunteered at the American Cancer Society and local election polling places, and served on the board of directors for the Detroit District Auxiliary Dental Society. She was a longtime member and steward of the Quiddlers, a local arts group that included many of her dearest friends.

But it was the family home that was the center of her universe, where she took pride in creating a lovely and gracious environment. Even with the frequent chaos of five children, Delores never sweated the small stuff, meeting life’s challenges with patience and understanding. Her door was always open to family and friends, and she never hesitated to set an extra place at the table for an unexpected guest.

One was lucky to have a seat at her table, since she was an excellent



The Rev. K. Kauchek



Delores J. Spezia



Carrie Lynn Baker

cook. Her family said her golumpki (cabbage rolls) and handmade ravioli were legendary. She often would lead family outings to U-pick orchards to harvest produce for her fresh-baked fruit pies, canned fruit jams and canned tomato sauce. In recent years, she would make extra portions to share with widowed friends or those who had given up cooking at home.

Delores not only was proud of her five children, but also relished her role as a grandmother and great-grandmother. Having been blessed with a long life, she enjoyed attending their school plays, sporting events, graduations and professional degree ceremonies. But most important were family gatherings such as grandchild baptisms and holiday dinners. She was extremely proud of her strong and tight-knit immediate and extended family.

Delores was the loving mother of Nancy J. Spezia, Esq., Susan M. Klapchar, RDH (Dr. Richard), Roy A. Spezia, Esq. (Karen), Kenneth J. Spezia and Thomas J. Spezia; dearest grandmother of Dr. Michael T. Klapchar (Dr. Amanda) and Dr. Kimberly S. Klapchar; dearest great-grandmother of Sarah K. Klapchar and Rachel G. Klapchar; special aunt of Dr. James Vogler (Jill), Dr. Harold Vogler (Tina), Louis DeGennaro Jr., Esq. (Carol), Joseph DeGennaro, CPA (Mary Ann), Dr. Ronald Spezia (Ruth), Kathleen Stevenson, Esq. (the late George Stevenson), Terry Vogler (Margurite), Sharon Vogler, Gretchen Dimmer (William) and Max Vogler (Diane). Delores was predeceased by her husband, Roy; her parents; and her siblings, William Vogler and Leo Vogler.

Visitation takes place 3 to 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 2, at A. H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, with a 7 p.m. Rosary. A funeral Mass of Resurrection takes place

10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 3, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods. Following Mass, interment takes place at Resurrection Cemetery’s Most Holy Trinity Mausoleum.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in her honor may be made to Better Way Detroit, P.O. Box 2923, Detroit, MI 48202, or betterwaydetroit.org/donate.

Carrie Lynn Baker

Carrie Lynn (nee Kendall) Baker, 52, of Grosse Pointe, passed away Friday, July 26, 2024, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Born March 30, 1972, Carrie grew up in Rochester Hills. She was a valued and beloved team member at Ross Steel, where she worked with dedication and excellence.

Carrie was known for her unwavering devotion to her family and fierce love for her husband and daughter. Family mattered most to Carrie, and she was a loving and considerate mother who always put her family first.

Carrie was a talented person who knew how to get things done, often taking charge of situations with her quick and agile mind. Her subtle sense of humor and quick wit made her a joy to be around. She was also an excellent cook, a gifted hostess and math wizard.

Beyond her professional and personal achievements, Carrie had a kind heart and deep love for reading. She adored her pets and was a dedicated dog walker. Known for her resolve, Carrie was famously stubborn, a trait her loved ones remember with fond smiles and laughter. Above all, she was the beautiful love of Tom’s life.

Carrie’s spirit and love will be deeply missed by her family and friends.

Carrie is survived by her loving husband, Tom Baker; and her cherished daughter, Zoe Baker. She also is sur-



Beverley Shanley

vived by her devoted mother, Janet Kendall; and beloved brother, Curt Kendall.

A private celebration of Carrie’s life will be held at her brother’s house in Rochester Saturday, Aug. 10.

Beverley Shanley

Beverley (nee Jaco) Shanley, 86, passed away Saturday, July 20, 2024.

Bev was born and raised in the Detroit area. She raised her family in Grosse Pointe and spent her final years in St. Clair Shores. Over the course of her life, she held various jobs and retired as the office manager at Jefferies LLC.

Bev had a passion for knitting, especially for charities, volunteering at the St. Clair Shores Senior Center, golfing and cherishing time with her friends and family, especially her sisters.

She was predeceased by her husband of 52 years, Jerome; parents, Favor and Dorothy; and brother, Mike.

She will be deeply missed by her children, Kevin (Julie), Tracy (Jeff) and Susan. She was a loving grandmother to Andrew (Whitney), Allison (Eric), Tyler (Joy) and Hailey; and a cherished “gran-gran” to Elizabeth, Shannon, Everly and Elodie.

A funeral service will be held at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 3, at St. Pio of Pietrelcina Parish, 18720 13 Mile, Roseville. It will start with a family gathering at 8:30 a.m. A reception with coffee and pastries will follow at the church.

See OBITs, page 7B

Victoria Hayat Salamas

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved aunt, Victoria Hayat Salamas, who left us peacefully at the age of 88 on June 26th, 2024. Aunt Vickie remained vibrant and active until her final days, a testament to her zest for life and indomitable spirit.

Born on February 16, 1936 in Detroit, Michigan, Aunt Vickie’s energy, enthusiasm and sense of humor were an inspiration to all who knew her, and her

positive outlook on life will be missed. She is survived by her three devoted nephews, Michael, Jonathan, and David, as well as seven great-nieces and one great-nephew who adored her deeply and will carry her memory in their hearts. Aunt Vickie was very active in her community of Grosse Pointe Park and was an inspiration for those who knew her. She spent many years volunteering at Bon Secours Hospital in Grosse Pointe and remained very active up until her passing.



One of her favorite sayings was “health is wealth,” and she truly lived by this maxim.

A private family service will be held to honor her memory. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in her name to a local hospital or charity of your choice.

Rest in peace, dear Aunt Vickie. Your legacy of humor and vitality will forever inspire us.

‘Ford at War’ Speaker Series talk is Aug. 11 at Piquette

The first World War began 110 years ago in the summer of 1914. The war and its aftermath changed the world forever and the city of Detroit played a key role in the success of the Allied Forces.

The Ford Piquette Avenue Plant Museum will present a Speaker Series talk on this cataclysmic conflict titled, “Ford at War: World War I” at 10 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 11. Using photographs and other historical material, museum Trustee Mike Skinner will explore the history

of Henry Ford and Ford Motor Co., based on the book, “Ford in the Service of America: Mass Production for the Military During the World Wars,” by Tim O’Callahan.

The presentation will take place in the museum’s first-floor event space. Coffee, juice, and breakfast items will be served. Tickets are \$20 per person or free for museum members and those purchasing a membership.

Following the event, attendees also may take a noon or 2 p.m. guided

tour of the museum for the discounted price of \$10; members are admitted free. Proceeds from this event will support museum operations.

Skinner’s talk will cover topics including Henry Ford’s unsuccessful pacifist efforts to end the war before the United States entered it; the role of the Model T cars and trucks and Fordson tractors in military and supporting war operations; and the development of warfare technology such as the

See SERIES, page 7B

OBITS:

Continued from page 6B

Michael D. Rutan

Michael D. Rutan, 63, of Rochester Hills, passed away peacefully at home Tuesday, July 16, 2024, in the company of his cherished rescue dog, Diana Ross. He was a beloved son, brother and uncle.

Michael was born Oct. 16, 1960, to Charles R. and Gloria A. (nee Poust) Rutan. He was raised in Grosse Pointe Farms and graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School.

Michael’s early passions for technology and music shaped his life’s journey. He pursued studies at Macomb Community College and Lawrence Institute of Technology, leveraging his technical skills to provide set-up and tech support for popular bands in the metro Detroit area, including the popular Detroit band Adrenalin.

Deeply rooted in his Christian faith, Michael found purpose and joy at Kensington Church in Troy. Leading by example, he became a proud member of Promise Keepers. His technical prowess propelled his desire to guide the installation of the audio and visual systems in new churches across the country, including in Florida, Texas and throughout the Midwest.

Michael answered God’s call to bear witness, dedicating just shy of 25 years to production arts and youth ministries. He excelled at connecting with and supporting teens as they navigated their faith, school and relationships with family and friends. Michael’s devotion as a skilled and talented educator and



Michael D. Rutan

mentor left a lasting impact on countless lives within the church community and beyond.

Michael is survived by his brother, Charles Rutan (Judith); sisters, Kathryn Dean, Michelle Rutan (Norman Grosse) and Jeanne Murray (David); as well as four nieces, five nephews, extended family and treasured friends. He was predeceased by his parents; sister, Mary Rutan; and niece, Lara Rutan. Known affectionately as Uncle Buck, Holmes and Ruddy, Michael will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

The family extends heartfelt appreciation to all of Michael’s medical providers for their exceptional and remarkable care, empathy and expertise, along with relentless support and time.

Michael’s Celebration of Life will be held Wednesday, Aug. 28, at Kensington Church in Troy. Visitation begins at 1 p.m. with the service at 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Kensington Church Youth Edge Ministry, kensingtonchurch.org/giving-at-kensington/, or Michigan Humane, bit.ly/4fz3LYm.

Share a message with Michael’s family on his memory page at dignitymemorial.com.

Assumption’s GreekFest is Aug. 15-18

With authentic Greek food, entertainment and culture, Assumption Greek Orthodox Church’s GreekFest typically draws more than 10,000 people from throughout metro Detroit for a four-day weekend.

This year’s GreekFest kicks off at 4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 15, and runs through Sunday, Aug. 18. Festival-goers will enjoy live entertainment, Greek dancing, marketplace shopping, church tours, a special exhibit in the Hellenic Room, a kids’ tent and games, Greek pastries and more.

“GreekFest is a wonderful event that our entire community looks forward to annually,” said Tom Thomas, who co-chairs GreekFest with George Dallas, Bob De Waele, Nick Moschouris, Achilles Papakonstantinou and Tony Marchiori. “Over 250 volunteers from Assumption and the community really enjoy serving the thousands of people who visit us each year. We have something for everyone, it is truly a family event.”

The opening ceremony takes place at 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 15, and features several community leaders.

The band Enigma will perform Greek music throughout the weekend. Assumption dance groups, including the Hellenic Society for the Performing Arts, will provide colorful entertainment with costumes and dances from the regions of Greece. Open dancing follows, with Assumption Dancers teaching Greek dancing throughout the weekend.

GreekFest hours are 4 to 10 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 15; 4 to 11 p.m.. Friday, Aug. 16; 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17; and 11 a.m. to

7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18.

Popular Hellenic menu items include kebobs, spinach pie, lamb shanks, stuffed grape leaves, pastitsio, flaming cheese, Greek salad, Coney dogs, gyros and more. Chicken tenders, hot dogs and fries are popular with kids.

Homemade pastries galore, prepared by the ladies of Assumption, include baklava, custard rolls, Greek breads and cookies and loukoumades. A Taverna also is available for adults ages 21 years and older.

These classic food dishes are available for carryout. Drive-thru hours are 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Call (586) 596-6326 or (586) 779-8071 to place an order. View the menu or order online at assumptionfestival.com.

Children’s activities include games, magic and puppet shows, jugglers, face painting, stilt walkers, a balloon man and, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, a giant slide and inflatables. Detroit Tigers mascot Paws will be on hand to delight the crowds.

An indoor marketplace with vendors from the U.S. and Greece provides a unique variety of items for shopping, including icons, art, photography, jewelry, oil paintings, handmade crafts, home accessories and imported women’s clothing, among other items.

Another highlight of GreekFest is tours of Assumption Greek Orthodox Church and the history and development of the iconography. Tours will be given daily.

The Hellenic art exhibition, “Odyssey of Colors,” is a mini pop-up exhibit featuring an array of

captivating works. Each piece offers a unique perspective on Greek culture and artistic tradition, inviting visitors to explore and appreciate the richness of Greek artistry. The exhibit also provides a special opportunity to experience the vibrancy of contemporary Greek art within the festive atmosphere.

“Olympic Echoes: Athens 2004 and the Ancient Games Legacy” also will be exhibited. The Olympic Games in Athens 2004 were considered a “homecoming,” given that Greece was the birthplace of the Ancient Olympiad and the host of the inaugural Olympic Games of the modern era in 1896. This exhibit will incorporate both the ancient Olympics and the Athens 2004 Games, showcasing highlights emphasizing the historical continuity and evolution of the Olympic spirit.

The GreekFest grand raffle takes place at 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18, and features a \$10,000 cash first prize. Second prize is a signature AHEE diamond pendant, donated by edmund t. AHEE Jewelers and valued at \$3,600. Third prize is \$500 cash, and fourth, fifth and sixth prizes are \$200 cash.

Raffle tickets are \$10 each and may be purchased online at assumptionfestival.com or at the Assumption office.

Parking and shuttle service are free. Admission to GreekFest is \$3; children younger than age 12 are admitted free. A portion of proceeds benefits community programs and charities.

Assumption is located at 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores. For information, call (586) 779-6111 or visit assumptionfestival.com.

SERIES:

Continued from page 6B

submarine-chasing Eagle-class boats, the Kettering Bug unmanned bomber, Liberty aircraft engines and more.

Skinner, a resident of St. Clair Shores, is a founding member and past president of the Henry Ford Heritage Association. The association’s members donated the bulk of the funds to purchase the Ford Piquette Avenue Plant in 2000, and saved it from demolition. Skinner has served on the Ford Piquette

Avenue Plant board since its inception and represented the organization during the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Henry Ford’s birthday. Skinner frequently delivers Ford-related presentations and leads tours of Ford heritage sites in southeastern Michigan.

The Ford Piquette Avenue Plant Museum is a U.S. National Historic Landmark, the first facility built by Ford Motor Co., and the birthplace of the Model T, one of the oldest surviving automotive plants in the world.

The museum is open

year-round to the public, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$10 for students and youth. Ages 4 and younger are admitted free.

For a complete event schedule, visit fordpiquetteplant.org.

For more information, email piquetteplant@gmail.com or call (313) 872-8759.



A Ford ambulance used to carry rations to the dressing station of Field Hospital 307 at Blanzky, France, in 1918.

COURTESY PHOTOS



Left, a Kettering Bug aerial torpedo. Right, the Ford Peace Ship, circa 1915.

Worship Service



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

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

(313) 822-2814 • stambrosechurch.net • facebook.com/stambroseparish
☛ Saturday Vigil is streamed online at 8:00 a.m. Sunday on our facebook page

St. Michael’s Episcopal Church
sharing the Light of Christ

August 4 ~ Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

*Before you judge another’s sin,
examine your own heart*

*Sunday Worship at 10 am
followed by Coffee Hour in the parish hall*

20475 Sunningdale Park
Grosse Pointe Woods 313.884.4820
stmichaelsgpw.org

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

SUNDAY
8:30 a.m. - Bible Study
9:30 a.m. - Worship Service
Sunday School - During Service

WEDNESDAY
10 a.m. - Bible Study
7 p.m. - Worship Service

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

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church
(United Church of Christ)

Worship Sunday at 10:00 am
Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver
An Open & Affirming Church

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

Art in The Village

The “It Takes a Village” public art display was installed on Kressbach Fountain at the corner of St. Clair and Kercheval in The Village Friday, July 24.

Showcasing 18 pieces by local artists, the display is intended as a creative temporary solution to costly repairs needed to make the fountain operable. Artists were asked to follow the theme of the meaning of community and what it takes to create a welcoming, inclusive and cultural downtown district.

The Main Street Grosse Pointe project was led by board member and owner of Posterity Art Gallery, Michelle Boggess-Nunley.

“There’s this fountain here and we can’t use it currently,” she said. “Let’s plant flowers on top and install artwork and make it pretty.”

Artists participating in the display are Angelo Sherman, Aimee Tomlinson, Michelle Beaupre, Ellen Doyle, Sue Majewski, Cheryl Barill, Amanda Koss, Valarie St. John, Carol Bueno, Alessandra Halpin, Jason Kimble, Alyssa Schuetz, Alice Schneider, Tim Burke, Emily Bush, Pamela Viviano, Carrie Smith and Suzy Fishback.

— Laurel Kraus



City Manager Joe Valentine, left, and Main Street Grosse Pointe Executive Director Cindy Willcock hold pieces of art before they’re incorporated into the Kressbach Fountain display Friday, July 26.

PHOTOS BY
RENEE
LANDUYT



“Growing up in The Village,” by Sue Majewski, is a mosaic featuring popular stores that were in The Village in the ’70s and ’80s — Winkelman’s, Kay Baum, 31 Flavors ice cream, Sanders and the Miss J Shop, which was part of Jacobson’s. Majewski sketches out her mosaic pieces, then puts them together by hand.



“Phaerie Tale” by Jason Kimble.

EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

For those in town early, a casual gathering at Rustic Cabins in Grosse Pointe Park takes place Friday, Aug. 23. Cost for the reunion is \$40; Venmo @amytrederholland. For information, contact Amy Treder Holland at amyt holland@live.com or call (313) 790-9667, or Marla Ruhana at (586) 801-4701.

◆ Dominican High School will host its “Classes of the ’80s Reunion,” from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 8, at Cadieux Cafe, 4300 Cadieux, Detroit. The event will feature ’80s music by Eastside is Alive. There is a \$10 cover at the door. Email suestatic@gmail.com for information.

◆ The Grosse Pointe North High School Class of 1974 seeks classmates for its 50th reunion, which takes place Saturday, Sept. 21, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores. Tickets are \$100 and include food stations, a photo booth, commemorative gift and cash bar. A casual gathering takes place Friday, Sept. 20, at Watermark Bar and Grille, 24420 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores. Payment may be made via Venmo: @gpn74reunion or by mailing checks to Gary Lannen, GPN 74 Reunion, 7124 Chapel View Dr., Clarkston, MI 48346. Further information can be found online at grossepointe north1974.com

Ford House

The Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, 1100

Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores, offers the following programs:

◆ Bug Tales: Stories & Art Activities, 10:30 a.m. Thursdays, through Aug. 15, for ages 4 to 7. Admission is \$5 per member child, \$7 per nonmember child.

◆ Archeology Lecture: What is a House Without its Yard? 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 3.

◆ Family Picnics, all day Tuesdays, Aug. 6 to 20, for Ford House members.

◆ Storytime: “What Do You Do With an Idea?” 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Aug. 6 to 27, for ages 7 and younger.

◆ Wellness Series: Tai Chi for Health, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Aug. 6 to Sept. 10. Cost is \$10 per session for members, \$12 per session for nonmembers.

◆ Botany & Brews, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 7. Cost is \$35 for members.

◆ Shakespeare Stroll with Grosse Pointe Theatre, 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 8. General admission is \$50; VIP tickets are \$75.

◆ Outdoor Summer Concert: Dave Hamilton Band, 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 9. General seating for members is \$20; general seating for the public is \$25. Reserved seating also is available.

◆ Explorers: Night Sky, 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 10, for ages 6 to 10. Cost is \$7 per child.

◆ Movie on the Meadow, “Shrek,” Wednesday, Aug. 14. Grounds open at 7:30 p.m., concessions begin at 8 p.m. and the movie begins at 9 p.m.

◆ Dog Days of Summer, 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 20, to

Sunday, Aug. 25. Usually an exclusive perk for members, the public is welcome to bring their dogs to explore the grounds at Ford House.

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.

◆ Combining Pen and Ink with Watercolor, with Paula Fiebich, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Aug. 7 to 28.

◆ Portraits in the Style of Henri Gervex with Donald Cronkhite, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, Aug. 15, 22 and 29.

◆ Basic Block Printing on Fabric with Ann Jacob, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17. Registration closes Aug. 10, so supplies can be assembled.

◆ Something New in Printing: Try Gomuban with Nobuko Yamasaki, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17. Registration is required by Sept. 6, so supplies can be ordered.

The War Memorial

The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers programs and activities for the community. For information on the following, visit warmemorial.org

◆ SummerFest Concert featuring Thornetta Davis, 6:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 7.

◆ Summer Beer and Wine Soiree on the Bay, 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 11. General admission is \$60, VIP tickets are \$75.

◆ Outdoor Family Movie Night:

“Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire,” 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 14.

◆ SummerFest Concert featuring Air Margaritaville, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 21.

◆ Fever Candlelight Open Air Concert: From Bach to the Beatles, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 28. Tickets range from \$30 to \$58.

◆ Fever Candlelight Open Air Concert: The Music of Hans Zimmer, 9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 28. Tickets range from \$30 to \$58.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 7, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Bill Jasman will speak about Rotary’s efforts with people in Ghana. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

The Family Center

The Family Center and the cities of Grosse Pointe Farms and Grosse Pointe Wood host a free Family Movie Night Friday, Aug. 16, at Ghesquiere Park, 20025 Mack Plaza, Grosse Pointe Woods. The movie “The Trolls Band Together” will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Families should bring their own chairs or blankets for seating.

In conjunction with several nonprofit organizations, The Family Center will participate in the fourth annual International Overdose Awareness Day event 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 27, at the WCCCD Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center, 19305 Vernier, Harper Woods. The event includes overdose rescue training, coalition and community

partner presentations, vendor tables and more.

Grosse Pointe Talent

Grosse Pointe Talent is hosting a youth theater camp for ages 6 to 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Aug. 19, through Friday, Aug. 23, at Patterson Park. Camp directors Sharron Nelson and Emmajeane Evans, both veterans of Grosse Pointe Theatre’s Youth on Stage program, will lead children in singing, dancing and playing improvisation games, as well as teach them how to audition for film, television and theater roles. Campers will perform for family and friends at 1 p.m. Friday, Aug. 23. Cost is \$320 per camper and registration is required by Monday, Aug. 12. Visit <https://our.show/gpp2024>

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 12, Cornerstone Baptist Church, 17017 12 Mile, Roseville.

◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16, Ascension St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 20, Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 21, Jefferson Masonic Lodge No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

Register at redcross.blood.org.

Lions

The Grosse Pointe Lions Club hosts its next meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 15, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Guests are welcome.

Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening returns to Grosse Pointe when it hosts affordable health screenings Monday, Aug. 26, at the Neighborhood Club, 17150 Waterloo, City of Grosse Pointe. Guests can learn about the risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes and other chronic conditions. Advanced registration is required. Special package pricing starts at \$159, but consultants will work to create a package right for each individual. Call (877) 237-1287 or visit lifelinescreening.com.

Adaptive yoga

Yoga Moves MS, in partnership with the Kirk Gibson Foundation, hosts Adaptive Chair Yoga classes at 11:30 a.m. Mondays at Full Lotus Yoga, 20365 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Adaptive yoga benefits those with multiple sclerosis, Parkinson’s disease, stroke and other neuromuscular conditions. Cost is \$12 per drop-in class or five classes for \$50 in advance. Visit fulllotusyoga.net.

Toastmasters

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

LIFE & LEISURE



2C GP GABBY | 3C RECIPE | 4C MOVIE JUNKIE MARK | 6C & 7C COMICS

Life saver North student helps save woman from Lake St. Clair

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

As an avid fisherman, John Agnello got the catch of his life last week. Agnello, a rising sophomore at Grosse Pointe North High School, helped rescue the driver of a vehicle that went into Lake St. Clair at Lake Front Park around 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 23. “I heard it hit the water and it was going pretty fast,” Agnello said. “By the time we got to it, it was probably 65 percent filled with water.” Agnello was fishing at a friend’s house in St. Clair Shores on the water across from the park’s pier. He and another person, who did not wish to be identified, swam to the car and pulled the driver out through the open driver’s side front window. Agnello said the woman was gripping the steering wheel and staring straight ahead when he got to her, saying it

looked like she was in shock. “We took her to shore and she said there was a 3-year-old in the car,” he said. “I grabbed a rock and broke the back window to feel inside. Then she said there was a 23-year-old in the car, so I went back and checked.” The driver was the lone occupant. St. Clair Shores police have not released any details about the driver or what caused the accident. The vehicle entered the water after driving through a wooded, grassy area and crossing the boardwalk near the park’s fishing pier. Although Grosse Pointe Woods owns the park, it is located within St. Clair Shores. The Woods pays the Shores \$100,000 a year to supply first responder services to the park. Agnello, 15, got a small cut on his right knee in the process. “It was a small cut, but

it was bleeding a lot,” he said. “The firefighters bandaged it up.” He also said he didn’t realize he was still wearing his glasses until afterward. “They didn’t come off, but my Crocs did,” he said. “Someone grabbed them from the water and gave them back to me.” Both the St. Clair Shores police and fire departments posted information about the incident to their social media pages. The fire department encouraged Agnello to contact them. “We should point out the heroics of the teen who jumped in the water to help save the driver,” the fire department wrote. “Well done young man! In a few years when you’re looking for a career, we’re going to need some good candidates (hint, hint). That photo with a cop car might look cool now, but a fire engine is way better! Plus we have life jackets.”

Battalion Chief Adam Wallemann echoed those sentiments. “We brought our rescue boat fully expecting to use it,” he said. “That young man reacted and did what needed to be done.” Agnello at the time was wearing his Detroit Lions jersey bearing the No. 14 of his favorite player, wide receiver Amon-Ra St. Brown. The jersey got some blood on it, but came out in the washing machine. Agnello started playing football in grade school at St. Joan of Arc Catholic School and now plays for North. He said he doesn’t know what he eventually wants to do career-wise, but said math is his favorite subject. Agnello’s dad, Joe Agnello, said he wasn’t sure what to think when he found out what occurred. “He called me and it didn’t really hit me at first because my thought was that’s what he was sup-



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Fifteen year old John Agnello in his front yard in the City of Grosse Pointe.

posed to do,” he said. “Then someone told me most teens would have pulled out their phone to record it and I realized it was a big deal.” Buffalo Wild Wings at Harper and Nine Mile covered the bill for a celebratory dinner the family held and Pendency’s Restaurant has offered to treat them to a meal. The Edsel & Eleanor Ford House plans to host the family for lunch at The Continental and give them a membership. The St. Clair Shores and Grosse Pointe Woods city councils and the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education plan to recognize Agnello at future meetings.

ASK THE EXPERTS By Emily Robson, LPC

Consistency is key in establishing routines

Q: Why do my kids listen to everyone but me?
A: I often get calls from parents regarding their child’s behavior at home and the No. 1 complaint is that their child just does not listen. Parents wonder: What is it about the school or daycare environment that causes their child to listen, but at home a parent has to repeat themselves or raise their voice or give their child a countdown? In most cases, the answer lies in maintaining a consistent routine. I know many parents are relieved to take a break from routines during summer, but August is a great time to start easing back into a schedule. Consistent routine helps children understand what is expected of them, which helps them learn to self-regulate their emotions and behaviors. Here is a list of strategies that, done consistently, can help with better listening skills:
1. Fully stop whatever you are doing and give your child your full attention. Look them in the eyes. Give them short, clear instructions. For example, it’s better to say, “Put your toys in the toy bin” than to say “Put your toys away.”
2. Ask them to repeat what you asked them to do. If they cannot repeat back to you, calmly and



clearly ask them a second time and ask them to repeat it.
3. Only ask them to do one or two things at a time, for example, “Take your books to your room and put them on your bookshelf.” Some kids are better with visuals, so for example, if bedtime is a struggle, you could have pictures or a chalkboard checklist with the bedtime routine (get changed, put clothes in hamper, brush teeth, pick out a book to read).
4. Make time for transitions. Not all kids can execute transitions smoothly, especially with only a minute’s notice. Try setting a timer on your phone or getting a small kitchen timer for this purpose. Set the timer for 5 to 20 minutes, depending on the situation, and let them know what your expectations are for when it goes off. Have them repeat what the timer is set for and what they are expected to do when it goes off. As

the timer is counting down, give reminders: “You have 10 minutes before we leave for swimming, so you need to put on your bathing suit and go to the bathroom.”
5. Stay calm when engaging with your child, even as they may meltdown or try to push your buttons. Your calm and consistent behavior will eventually help them learn to regulate their emotions and behavior as well.
Emily Robson, LPC, helps children, adolescents and adults explore ways to build skills and resiliency, and navigate challenges in their lives to create a more joyful and balanced lifestyle. For more information, visit emilyrobsoncounselingservices.com/
The Family Center provides free programs and resources that help build happier, healthier families. Learn more at familycenterhelps.org.

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A few tips to calm your dog during fireworks and storms

Dear Gabby: My dog is so scared of thunderstorms and it seems to be getting worse the older he gets. What can I do about this? Help! — Scared in the Shores

Dear Scared,
We turned to the professionals for some good advice from Corinne Martin (GPAAS):
A common fear with many dogs is lightning, thunderstorms, and of course, fireworks. We find that many dogs are not phased during their younger years but as they get older,

they can develop a fear of storms and particularly fireworks. One never knows which dogs will become fearful, but it is important to help them get through it safely. Every dog is different and there are several ways to minimize their fear. Some dog owners are successful using “thunder shirts” or tightly fitting body shirts that help calm the dog’s nerves. Other dog owners are successful in closing window shades and playing the radio or television for distracting noise.

Some owners choose to use veterinary drugs. Trazadone, an anti-anxiety medication, can be very effective and obtained from your veterinarian. They will prescribe the proper dosage based on your dog’s weight. It takes two to three hours to be effective so it must be given in anticipation of the storms (or fireworks). Most important, never... put a frightened dog outdoors during a storm/fireworks. If they have to potty, try to wait until the noise has stopped. If you must go outdoors, keep them on a

secure leash. One thunder boomer or hissing fireworks can cause a dog to scale a fence to escape the frightening sound. Dogs will continue to run away from the sound. The 4th of July fireworks are the highest point of stray and lost animals each year. Keep them safe!

— Gabby

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



Does affection breed affection

DEAR ANNIE: Over the years, I have read numerous letters to advice columnists from women complaining their man doesn’t show the amount of affection they want. Most advice has usually been for them to tell him what they want. But my question is, what’s the problem with showing him? I can’t remember reading letters from women who say their man pushes them away when they hug, kiss or take

his hand while walking? Affection usually breeds affection, unless there really is little love there to begin with. — Give Affection to Get Affection

DEAR AFFECTION: Thank you for your letter and sound suggestion. I’m sure you are correct that giving affection leads to getting more affection in most cases. It reminds me of a happiness study conducted that said if you smile at strangers in an

airport, they usually smile back at you, but if you frown at people, they frown back at you — so your theory of giving more affection to your partner and getting more might be just the answer.

DEAR ANNIE: I am at my wits’ end when it comes to my wife doing things around the house. For instance, I asked her to hang up the clothes for our bedroom that just came out of the dryer. Two hours later, I

go in the bedroom, the clothes are half hung up and the entire contents of our closet shelves are spread all over our bed. My wife’s response was, “It needed to be done.” She starts to do one thing, never finishes and starts two more things. My wife does this with all simple house tasks. I’m afraid to ask her to do anything, knowing that a simple task turns into clutter all over the place. What do I do? — Wife Problem

DEAR PROBLEM: I



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

can understand that this is frustrating. Don’t attack her; just tell her how you feel when you walk into a cluttered, messy room. It clearly upsets you. She might say that it doesn’t bother her at all. Thus the compromise of marriage begins.

Hopefully when you tell her how the mess makes you feel, she will listen more to your concerns.

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

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Quite a legacy

Photo story by Renee Landuyt

The Grosse Pointe Chamber Foundation presented its ninth annual Legacy on the Lake at Ford House, this year honoring Dan Jensen, retired director of public safety in Grosse Pointe Farms. Since 2015, the Chamber Foundation has made various contributions to community initiatives. The event included dinner, a ceremony in honor of Jensen and live music. The dance floor quickly filled and people danced until the end of the evening.



The Jensen family, from left, Dan Jensen Jr., Lisa Jensen, Laurie Jensen, Dan Jensen, Joe Jensen, Libby Schiling and Clay Schiling.

Left, Grosse Pointe Farms City Manager Shane Reeside presents the Legacy Award to honoree Dan Jensen.



Marie and Tim Reinman, center, had a blast on the dance floor.



From left, Mark Heppner, president and CEO of Ford House and chairman of the Grosse Pointe Chamber Foundation; David Balle, M.D.; Jenny Boettcher, president and executive director of the Grosse Pointe Chamber; Andre Ahee and Stefan Ahee.



Taking a selfie together at the end of the successful Legacy on the Lake event is Susie Starns, Chamber President and Executive Director Jenny Boettcher, Chamber Membership and Events Coordinator Abigail Turnbull, Lisa Gabel and Dan Rafferty Band singer Derek Rafferty.

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



As the weather gets hotter and the sun’s rays are beating us down in the summer, my mind turns to ways of staying hydrated — and that includes my skin. Because the brand Laneige has grown extremely popular with the success of its famous lip mask, I was curious about its new Water Sleeping Mask. It sounds tranquil and luxurious, so I had to try it.

Apparently it’s “a powerful complex with lactobacillus ferment lysate derived from 23.8 billion green tea probiotics and trehalose to help add a hydrated glow...”

Are you still with me? That sounds ridiculous, but also very scientific — or completely made up using AI.

In any case, the list of reasons why it works to improve your skin tone, hydration and more goes on and on.

From hydrating squalane (a skin-friendly hydrating element derived from sugar

cane), to being a hypoallergenic formula that is free of animal ingredients, mineral oil and more, it has all the bases covered.



Essentially the Water Sleeping Mask is an overnight gel mask that absorbs into the skin while you sleep.

According to the web-

site, Laneige sells one of these products every nine seconds. Wow, sure wish I was selling something every nine seconds!

The instructions are to wash and moisturize your face as usual, then apply the overnight mask. So I did.

The mask is cooling as you put it on. It also has a

nice, thick consistency, but it’s not goopy or gross.

All you have to do is rinse it off in the morning, which is easy because it is essentially not colored, so it doesn’t make a mess or ruin your towels.

their skin softer, 100 percent felt their skin was moisturized, 100 percent found their skin hydrated for 24 hours and 91 percent felt their skin looked radiant. I would agree with these stats.



Laneige research claims that after one week of use, 100 percent of users found

I felt hydrated and maybe a little radiant. I would agree that it’s help-

ful with hydration and moisturizing as I have dry skin to begin with for the most part.

Overall, I would recommend the Laneige Water Sleeping Mask. It’s sort of an indulgence for me, as it’s not a necessary product, but I would definitely purchase it again. We are giving this 4.5 alligators. Nice product, good results!

You can purchase it at Sephora, or online at Amazon or the Laneige website directly. It runs about \$30 and will last you a while if you plan to use it only occasionally.

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

Chicken parmesan meatballs and arugula salad

By Lisa Monette,
Guest Writer

Recently, we found out that my husband has some health problems that need addressing. Many of his issues could be solved by losing a little bit of weight, so we are on a mission to eat healthy and put whole foods first!

This recipe is truly a crowd-pleaser and a very low-carb meal. It has 10 net carbs for the entire thing.

This dish offers a ton of versatility as you can substitute ground turkey for ground chicken, if you wish, and can change the size of the meatballs depending on the amount of people you have.

We also love this meal for leftovers.

Chicken Parmesan Meatballs and Arugula Salad

- 1 bag baby arugula
- 2 eggs
- 1 lb. ground chicken
- 1 small bunch of parsley
- 1 lemon
- ½ block grated mozzarella cheese
- 4 oz. grated parmesan cheese
- 1 shallot
- 2 cans of tomato sauce
- Crushed red pepper
- 2 tsp. Extra virgin olive oil
- ½ tsp. garlic powder

1 tsp. Italian seasoning

- ½ tsp. oregano, dried
- ½ cup panko bread crumbs
- ½ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. black pepper

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees F.

Shave parsley leaves off the stems; discard stems and mince the leaves. Divide parsley between two medium bowls.

Divide parmesan between the two bowls. Add the mozzarella cheese to one of the bowls, stir to combine and set aside.

Add chicken, bread crumbs, eggs, oil, oregano, garlic powder, salt and black pepper to the remaining bowl of pars-

ley and parmesan. Use your hands to combine the chicken mixture.

Use a tablespoon and form the mixture into rounded meatballs and place on a plate.

Preheat a large skillet over medium-high heat.

While the skillet heats up, place tomato sauce and Italian seasoning, crushed red pepper and a sprinkle of salt in a baking dish. Stir to combine the sauce.

Once the skillet is hot, add oil and swirl to coat the bottom. Working in batches if necessary, add meatballs and cook, turning often, until browned on all sides, three to four minutes (the meatballs will not be cooked all the way through). Transfer to the baking dish with the sauce and turn to coat. Top the saucy meat-



PHOTO BY LISA MONETTE

balls with reserved parsley and two-cheese mixture. Place the baking dish in the oven and bake until cheese is melted and meatballs are cooked through, seven to eight minutes. Remove from the oven. Meanwhile, zest and juice lemon in a bowl. Peel and mince shallot. Add to the bowl with

the lemon along with 2 Tbsp. extra virgin olive oil, ¼ tsp. salt and ¼ tsp. black pepper. Whisk to combine the dressing.

Add arugula to the bowl with the dressing and toss to combine the salad.

To serve, divide meatballs, sauce and salad between plates. Enjoy!



A change in persona

When a car company decides to make a major change in the way an updated model’s engine is designed to operate, more than likely the vehicle also gets a major change in how it looks.

Cosmetic changes do have a way of attracting new buyers, some of whom are so in love with the new image or color schemes that they could not care less about how the car performs. But most buyers are eager to learn about the additional performance features.

Wine does not really conform to this model. Occasionally a wine undergoes a major change in style, and the label doesn’t indicate this. Or, conversely, the label changes radically, but the wine stays exactly the same.

For various reasons, wineries like to maintain a certain consistency in how their wines are per-

ceived from vintage to vintage. Making radical changes can turn off regular consumers who are reliant on the brand delivering what it did a year ago.

Yet in its purist form, wine ought to change from year to year, depending on how mother nature dealt with the fruit in the vineyard and accounting for variations that were inevitable in the winery. Wine purists do not expect identity from one year to the next. Similarity is fine; minor changes are inevitable. Purists accept that.

Other changes can occur slowly over time, such as how the climate has changed in the last 30 years, leading to some of the changes we have seen in all regions where wine is a staple commodity.

Around 1980, the Carneros district south of Napa and Sonoma, bridging the county line,

was a classic region for chardonnay and pinot noir grapes. The wines from them often were spoken of as parallels to France’s Burgundy.

This is because the district, still highly regarded for growing wine grapes, has cooling breezes coming up from San Pablo Bay. It still produces attractive wines from the same two grapes. But decades later, global climate change has increased Carneros’ temperature slightly, making it less likely that its wines will be compared to Burgundy.

Similarly, Sonoma County’s handsome Russian River Valley continues to make superb wines. But over the last 30 years, it was found that the area could make sensational pinot noirs, making other grape varieties less profitable.

As a result, other grape varieties have suffered by being removed from vineyards, including zinfandel, gewurztraminer, sauvignon blanc and cabernet sauvignon. Today, the Russian River Valley really is a two-wine region.

Living in Northern California, I have witnessed these changes.

But a lot of the wine education that has been so important to the industry has shifted. Books published 30 years ago about wine, regardless of where, may have referred only to what occurred when they were written.

This includes changes in the style of many different wines. California’s Cabernets of the 1970s and 1980s mostly had alcohol levels of about 13 percent and were designed to go with food or be aged for years in a wine cellar. Starting about 25 years ago, California’s best cabernets began to offer a minimum of 14.5 percent alcohol with many well above 15 percent. Moreover, these wines were made to be consumed sort of like cocktails. They didn’t work with food very amenably.

Recently, I read an article in a major magazine that described cabernet as a wine to go with beef. That vague reference ignored that beef may well be found in Mexican, Thai and Indian dishes whose seasonings are better paired with either beer or a white wine.

The changes we have seen in wine in just the last few years cannot be ignored, but wine education has, for the most part, relied on cliches that aren’t educational. Mainly, they are myth-making.

Maybe you bought that car because it goes

from 0 to 60 in 3.3 seconds — or because it was powder blue.

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

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF FIFTH SEASON, BONNIEDALE AND MUCHO MAS MEDIA
Left, Jay Hernandez as JB Pena and Dennis Quaid as Frank Mitchell, playing a round in the 2023 movie “The Long Game,” written by Jennifer C. Stetson, Paco Farias and Julio Quintana and directed by Julio Quintana.

MOVIE REVIEW
“The Long Game”
2023 - Rated PG
1 hr 52 min
★★★★☆

What’s more exciting than a tale of an underdog sports team that makes good? One that’s based on a true story, naturally. That’s what we have with “The Long Game,” a film about a group of Mexican American high school kids who rise to the occasion and beat the odds. The film is from director Julio Quintana and is based on Humberto G. Garcia’s book “Mustang Miracle.” Quintana, Jennifer C. Stetson and Paco Farias wrote the screenplay and the result is a thoroughly engaging and uplifting movie that’ll tug at your heart-strings and put a smile on your face. The story is set in the mid-1950s in the tiny town of Del Rio, Texas. JB Pena (Jay Hernandez), a WWII veteran, has just moved there with his wife Lucy (Jaina Lee Ortiz). He’s recently taken a job as school superintendent at San Felipe High School. One of the reasons he chose Del Rio is because of the opportunity to join the prestigious Del Rio Golf Club, one of the finest in the state. Is he ever in for a surprise. Frank Mitchell (Dennis Quaid), a former Marine who served with JB arranges a meeting with the club presi-

dent Don Glen (Richard Robichaux) and Pena. There he encounters the anti-Latino prejudice so prevalent in the time and place in American history. At the time, the only non-whites to be found at the golf course are the caddies, cleaning help and various other workers with menial jobs. To JB’s, surprise he’s told in no uncertain terms that he’s not welcome to become a member. Apparently he’s American enough to fight for the country, just not American enough to join one of its country clubs. On the way to his interview he has an unusual encounter. A group of young Mexican American teens are playing golf on a course they fashioned on a hilly patch of land outside of town. While driving by the makeshift course, a golf ball breaks his window and his face is cut in the process. He later dis-

covers at school that the ball was hit by Joe Trevino (Julian Works). He makes an offer to the five boys to atone for his damaged car. Either they can cut his lawn or join a school golf team he’s putting together. Four of the boys decide to join his team, while the most talented of the bunch, Joe, opts to cut his lawn. He doesn’t want to be a sellout and there’s significant pressure from his father who thinks he shouldn’t make waves. He feels it’s better to just do what he does



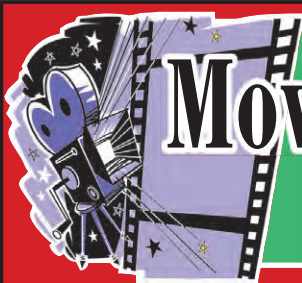
Dennis Quaid as Coach Frank Mitchell.



Joe (Works) at the makeshift golf course.



The Mustangs golf team.



Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin



and take a job doing manual labor. Eventually, he buckles under pressure from his pals and a convincing chat with JB, and decides to play on the newly fashioned team. He has to do this on the sly, keeping his participation secret from his father. JB engages his buddy Frank, who’s a golf pro at the club to be the head coach and he becomes his assistant. Frank does a fantastic job mentoring the kids. He’s a rock-solid presence and gently helps them with every aspect of the game. He also has an understated sense of humor, which surfaces from time to time with a funny remark or observation. But he’s always a gentleman the boys look up to. The second half of the movie follows the team on their path to success and the state championship. We witness the usual racial comments and underhanded maneuvers from their all-white rivals. Both coaches work extra hard to keep the boys in check. There are all the predictable encounters and road-blocks, but I found it refreshing that a clichéd element wasn’t included. So often in these types of movies, one kid has a huge ego and throws a tantrum, which disrupts the team dynamic. Here, everyone was an equal and worked cohesively as a team. There were no coach’s favorites who got special treatment. I especially enjoyed seeing Cheech Marin (yes, that Cheech Marin) in the movie. He plays Pollo, the head groundskeeper and for most of the movie dons a golf ball-proof cage protecting his head and upper body. Not only was he goofy looking, he added a bit of humor and warmth to the film. He was a WWI veteran and was just grateful for what life gave to him. Pollo, along with Frank and JB, become mentors as well as father figures to the boys. In closing I feel a need to mention that you don’t have to be a fan of the game of golf to appreciate this inspiring movie. I personally can’t stand the game but still got caught up in the action — rooting for the underdogs right up to the tear-inducing ending. I thought it was a nice touch to end the film

Cheech Marin as Pollo.



Jay Hernandez as Assistant Coach JB Pena.



Frank (Quaid) & JB (Hernandez) with the boys.



The real Mustangs golf team.

with a follow-up on all the principal characters and what they made of their lives. Currently streaming on Netflix. Also available to rent on YouTube Movies and Prime Video.

- My rating system:
- ★ A real stinker. A movie that is so bad, you’re embarrassed to admit you’ve seen it, but you have to rate it nonetheless.
 - ★★ So-so. Not a total waste of time, but you would have been better off reading a good book.
 - ★★★ Pretty good. In fact, if there weren’t any other movies in your queue, you might watch it again.
 - ★★★★ One you’d recommend to friends.
 - ★★★★★ So good you’d actually go out and buy it!

About this column:

My main focus is on films that I feel have gone under the radar and deserve more recognition. They include both mainstream and indie films streaming on services like Netflix, Hoopla, and Kanopy. I’ll also review noteworthy new theatrical releases as well. For movie trailers, visit [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com). If you have any suggestions, feel free to email me at: dominmark@yahoo.com.

Also, if you’re looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: [moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com](https://www.moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com).

Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

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

Happy Birthday for Thursday, August 1, 2024: You are independent, self-reliant and passionate about your beliefs. You're quick to grasp opportunities when you see them. This is an excellent year for you. You will reap the benefits of your hard work. Expect increased power and leadership. A promotion, kudos, awards and acknowledgement are yours.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)
Home, family and your private life are your primary focus today. Many of you will be dealing with a parent more than usual. Regardless of what happens, you will welcome a chance to relax at home among familiar surroundings. (Nevertheless, it's a fun-loving time, and you might entertain.) Tonight: Socialize!

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)
Seek out someone to talk to today, because you have the need to express your ideas to someone. Find someone who is willing to listen to you with interest and sympathy. This will make you feel better. Don't waste time talking to anyone if their eyes are glazing over. Tonight: Entertain.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)
You probably have money or finances on your mind today. Perhaps you're thinking of buying something. This could be the case, because it's easy to identify with your possessions today. In fact, you might have a strong attachment to something. Or you might have to defend your ideas with someone. Tonight: Conversations.

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)
The Moon is in your sign today, which makes you more subjective. It also heightens your feelings, which makes you want to seek out others to interact with them. The good news is, when the Moon is in your sign (for two days every month), your luck will slightly improve! Yes! Tonight: Check your belongings.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)
You might be interested in mystical or spiritual ideas today. You also might want to hide from others and seek seclusion (with good food and drink). You're not being antisocial. You need to take a breather today. Life has been busy. Tonight: You're powerful.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Your emotional contact with friends or groups is important today; you need to feel you're making a connection with someone. Some of you might feel protective or unusually supportive of a friend. (You also might feel jealous if this friend pays attention to someone else.) Tonight: Seek privacy.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
For some reason, some of the personal details of your private life might be on public display today. (You know who you are.) Be aware of this in case you have to do some damage control. Others might give more thought to their life direction today. Are you headed where you want to go? Tonight: Friendships.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Today you want a change of scenery. You certainly want to break free from your daily routine and go off somewhere or do something different so you have

a sense of stimulation or mild adventure. Explore your neighborhood or your city. Travel if you can! Tonight: You're admired.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Despite your fascination with travel at this time, today you can't avoid dealing with shared property, taxes, debt, inheritances or anything that is jointly held. You might feel particularly possessive about something. You might even envy something that someone else has. Tonight: Explore!

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Today your attention is on your most personal relationships. This might be a confrontation, or it could be a heart-to-heart discussion. Guard against knee-jerk reactions. They won't help anything. Ideally, you should be accommodating and cooperative today. Tonight: Check your finances.

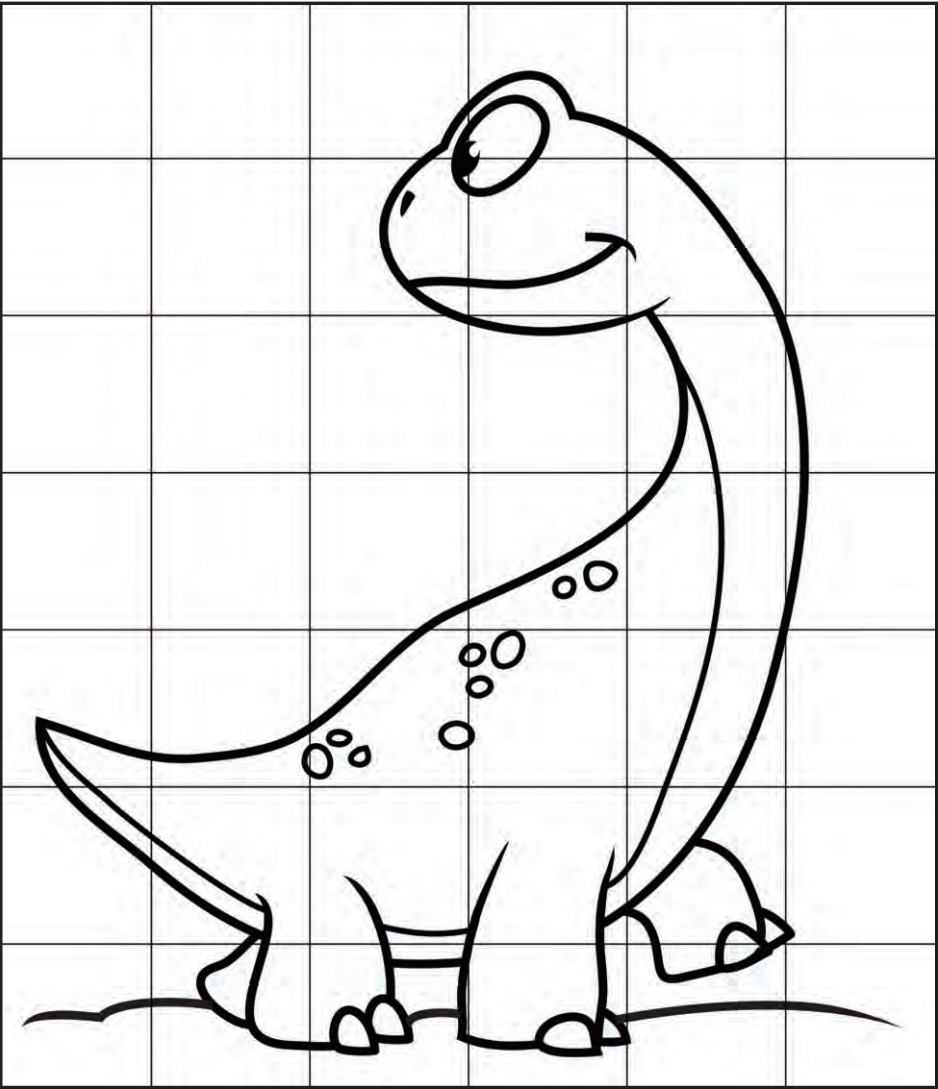
AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You might have to work on behalf of someone else's benefit today instead of your own. This does not mean you're being a martyr. Au contraire. You're simply fulfilling a duty or a favor that needs to be done. It is what it is. Be a good sport. Tonight: Listen.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)
Lucky you! This is a playful, fun-loving day! You need to be yourself now and do what you want to do. Romance is blessed. Enjoy socializing with others. Fun activities with children, the arts and sports events will all be excellent choices for you! Tonight: Work.

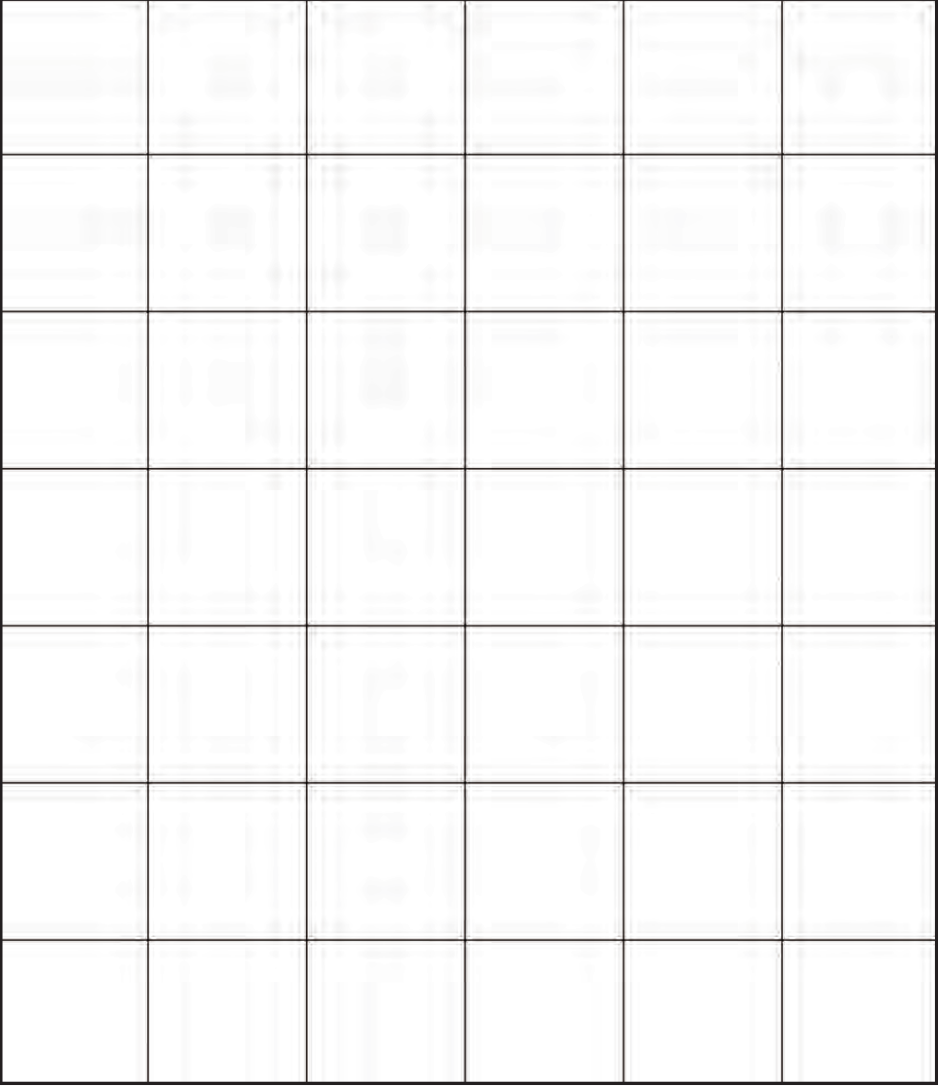
BORN TODAY
Actor Jason Momoa (1979), actress Oona Laurence (2002), actor Jack O'Connell (1990).



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NORTH
♠ A 7 6 3
♥ Q 6 2
♦ A J 9 5
♣ K 4

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

EAST
♠ K Q 10 8
♥ A 10 9 4
♦ 8 7 6 2
♣ 9

SOUTH
♠ 9 5 4 2
♥ K 8 3
♦ K Q 4
♣ A J 8

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT			

Opening lead — five of hearts.

Desperate situations call for desperate measures. And although a measure born of desperation is not very likely to succeed, it might offer the only chance for survival.

Today's deal provides a case in point. There would have been no story if West had led a club against three notrump. South would have won with the jack and conceded a heart to secure nine tricks.

But West decided to lead a heart, explaining afterward that he had no side entry to his clubs even if they

became established. Declarer played low from dummy and won East's nine with the king.

At this stage, South placed West with heart length, most likely including the ace. In that case, a ninth trick could be developed later by leading a heart toward the queen.

In the meantime, South reasoned, little harm could come from trying to score a trick with the jack of clubs. So at trick two, he led a club to the king and returned a club toward the A-J, planning to finesse. One can only imagine his shock when East showed out, discarding a diamond.

Since there was no point in playing the jack now — West would win and return a club to establish his suit — declarer put up the ace and mulled things over. If West had the ace of hearts, the contract could no longer be made, so South now had to assume that East held that card and could be endplayed. This would happen only if East could be forced into the lead with a spade without West winning a spade trick.

So after taking the ace of clubs, South cashed the ace of spades and four diamond tricks, East discarding a heart on the last diamond. Declarer then led a spade. East scored the K-Q-10 but had to lead a heart from the A-10 to dummy's queen at the end, and the contract was home.

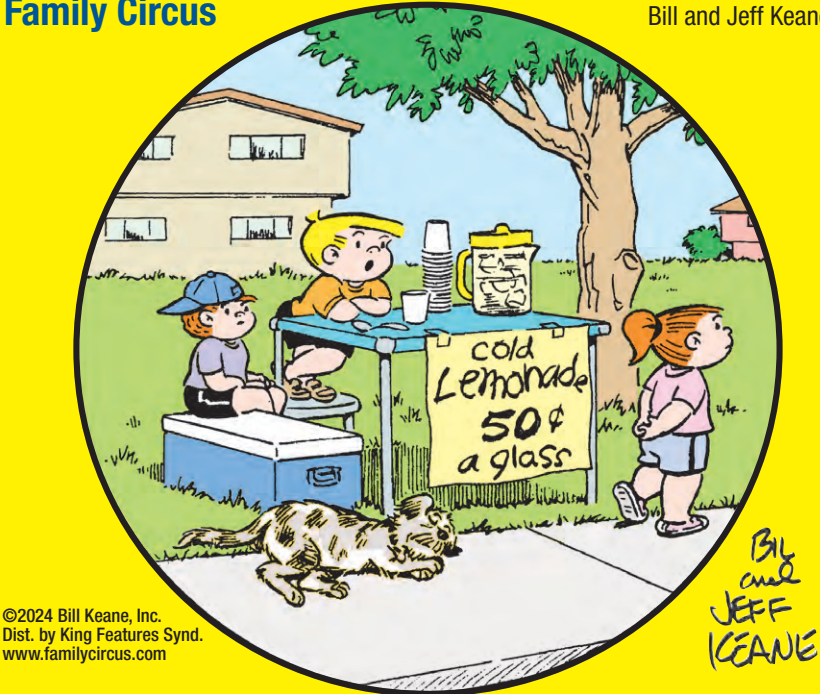
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by Steve Becker

Puzzles and

Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



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www.familycircus.com

Bill
and
JEFF
KEANE

"I wonder how much a TV commercial would cost?"

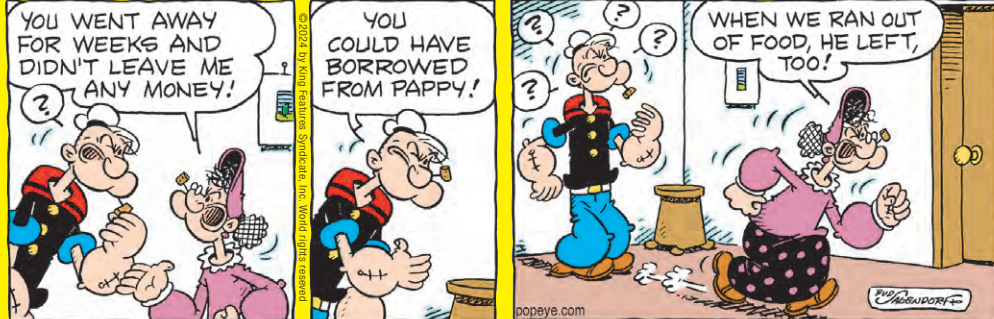
Garfield

Jim Davis



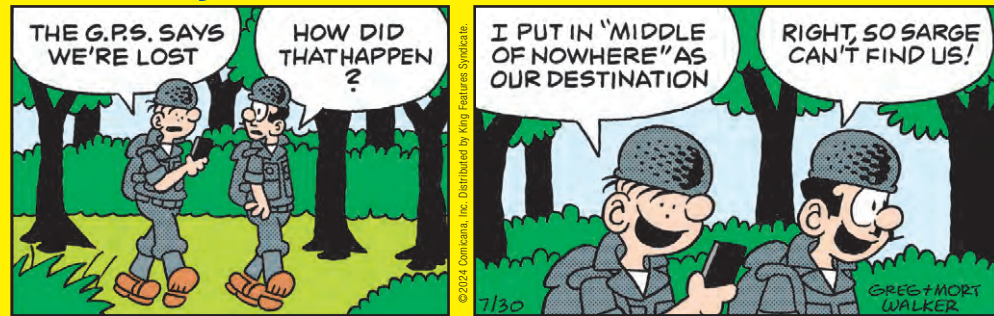
Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



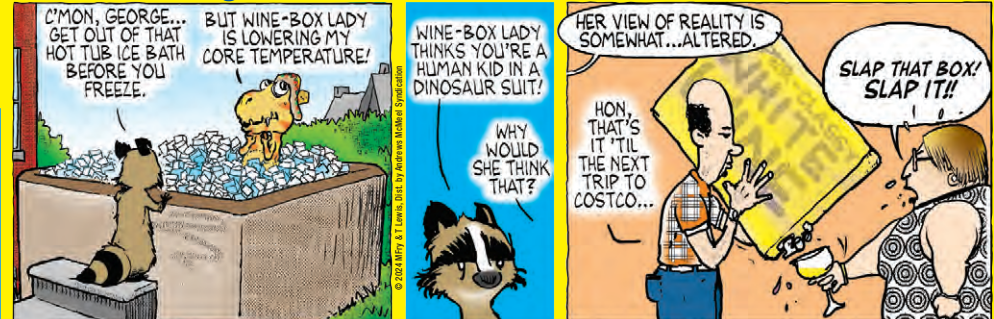
Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



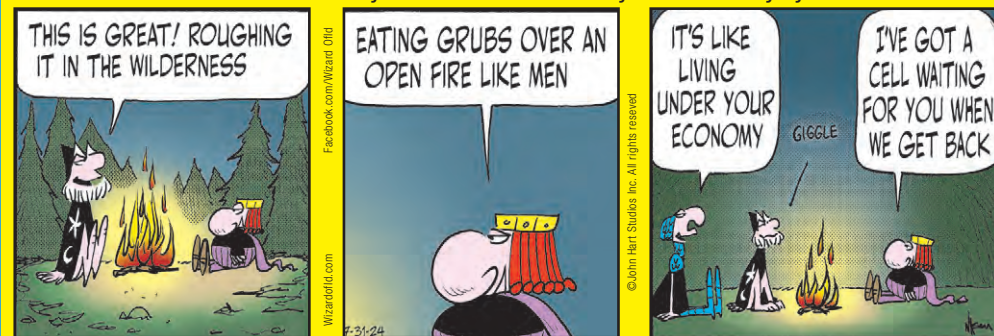
Andy Capp

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

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

8/1

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

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

7/25 Solution

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg August 1, 2024

ACROSS

- Bay
- Buccaneers
- Musical group
- Worn-down pencil
- Animal that doesn't direct a herd, despite its name
- Fencing implement
- Broadway award
- Adjust to fit
- Three twos and two threes, or better
- Peruvian capital
- Baby big cat
- Spectacular meteor
- Counter-culture icon
- Timothy
- Expert
- On the lam
- Once known as
- Rhythm
- Landscaping bush
- The Obamas, for one ... or what fits between the two parts of each starred clue's answer?
- New Guinea
- Like many basketball centers
- Core workout targets
- Meaty bar snacks

- Grande
- Bloodsucker
- American and Alaska
- Dwayne Johnson's nickname
- Like a nil-nil score
- Have a meal at noon, perhaps
- Gobbled up
- St. crossers
- What a model strikes
- Snapshot
- Ernie's pal
- Stew recipe
- Depth detection device
- Wanders around
- 2-Down?
- Hartsfield-Jackson airport's code
- Encountered
- Nope
- director Jordan
- Exuberant cry in Ensenada
- Happen to
- Father of eight on "The Simpsons"
- 1994 film that garnered Jodie Foster an Oscar nomination
- Place to get pastrami
- One may be precious
- Bird with a big bill

- Lacking confidence
- "See ya!"
- Go into hiding
- Judo surface
- Tide rival
- Word before "cream" or "water"
- Harvest
- Milan opera house
- Pi follower
- The "me" of "Despicable Me"
- Exceed
- Sandwich with red and green ingredients
- Pop art icon
- Pen
- Seasoning mix applied to meat before smoking
- Take home

- Whopper
- Alamos
- Task-switching keyboard shortcut introduced in Windows 2.0
- Act properly
- Person on a quest
- One or the other
- Cycle starter?
- Gets some shut-eye
- Big name in toothpaste
- Boise State's state
- Tarot suit
- Tangle
- CBS forensic franchise
- Great deal
- 2-Down posting
- Negative conjunction

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

7/25 Solution

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www.upuzzles.com

Dynamic Duo by Alan Levin

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	
													43	44
46	47	48				49				50	51	52		53
54						55				56			57	
58								59	60		61			
62										63			64	65
68								69					70	
71													73	

8/1

Comics

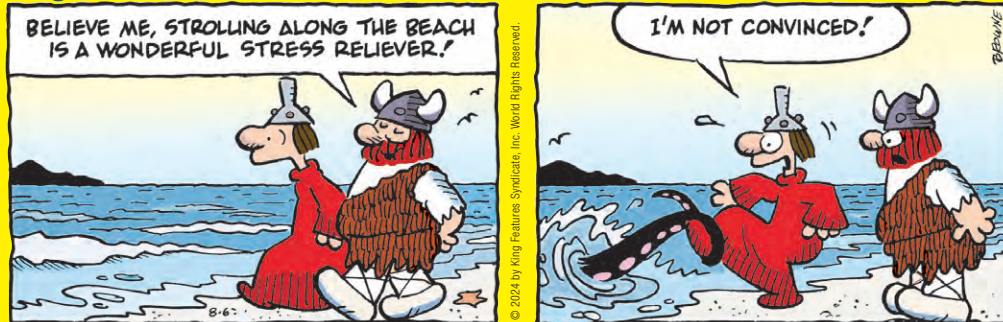
Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



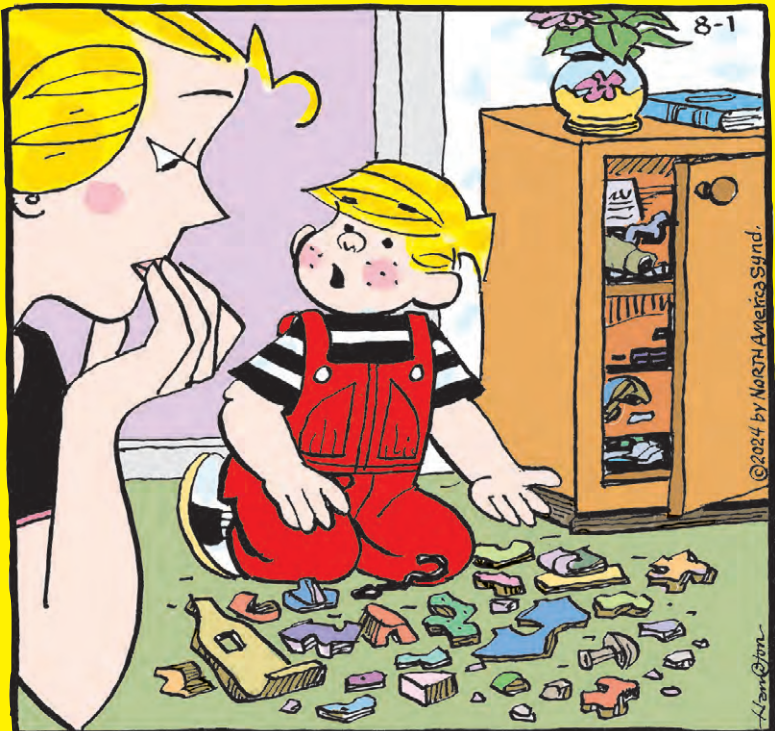
Hagar The Horrible

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 Rechlin and Brant Parker



Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



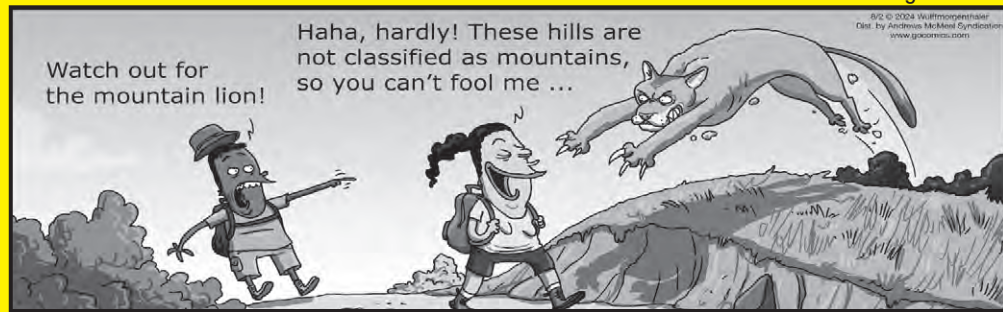
B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Reality Check

Dave Whamond



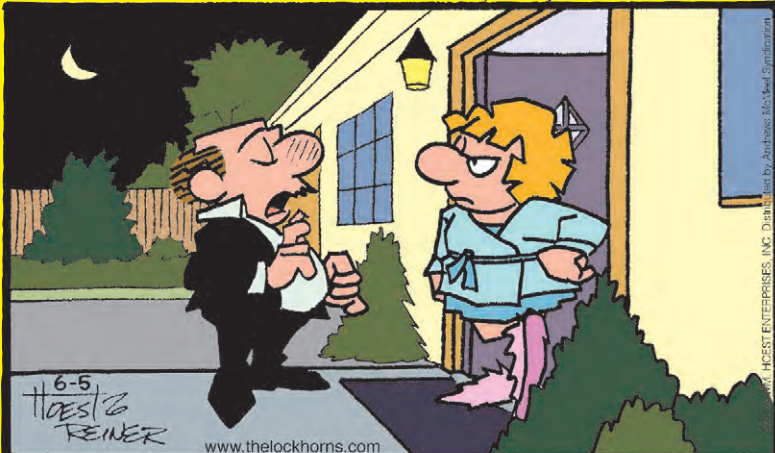
Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayne



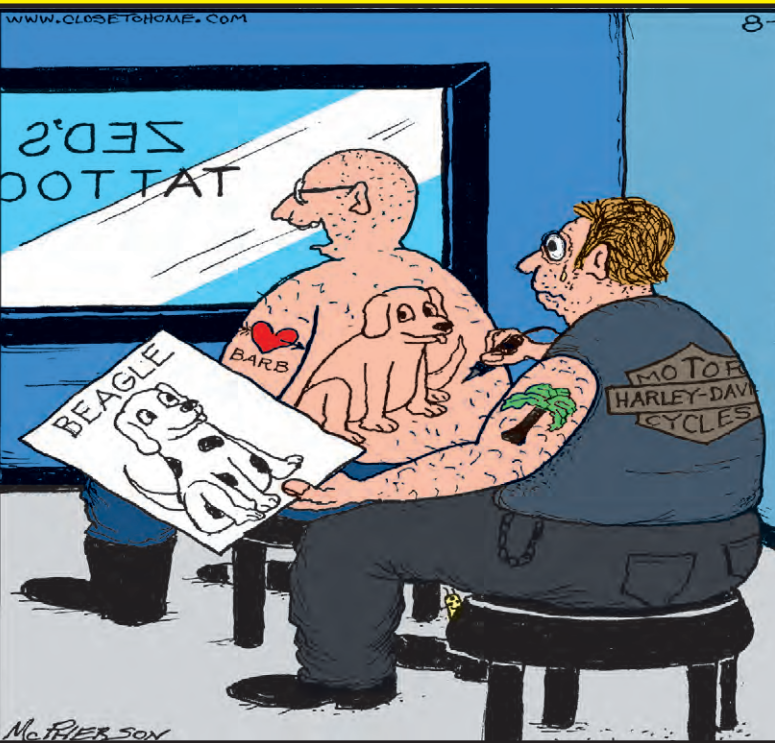
The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



Close To Home

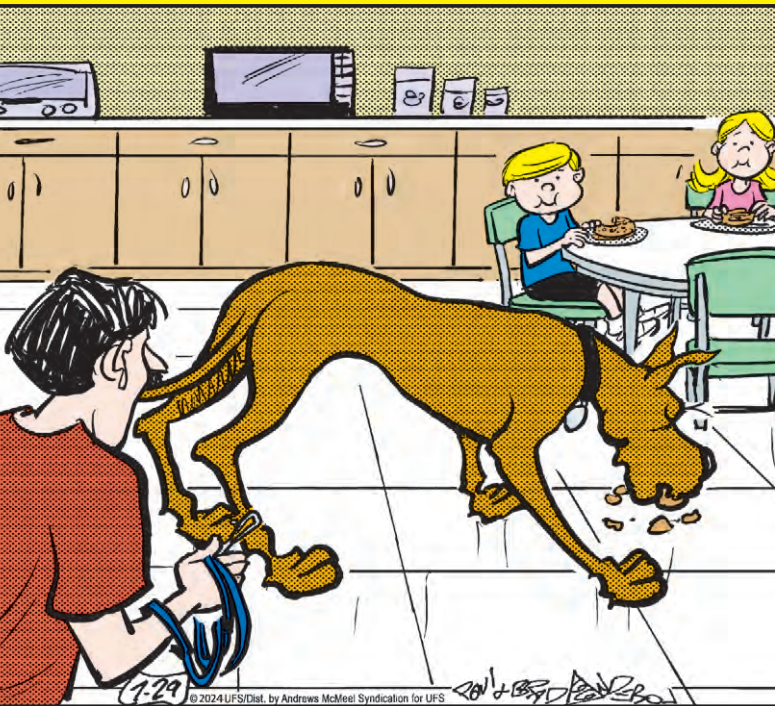
John McPherson



"Well, how's my big eagle looking?"

Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



"We were all ready to leave for a walk when Marmaduke heard the microwave ding."



Kid Scoop

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**Kid Scoop Together:**

Olympic Quiz

Read these questions to a family member. How many did they get right?

The Summer Olympic Games Are Back!

This summer, the world turns its eyes to Paris, France. Why? That's where the Summer Olympics will be held starting on Friday, July 26 through Sunday, August 11, 2024.



Who's there?

Take a look at the logo for the Paris Summer Olympic Games. At first, you'll see the Olympic flame and the Olympic rings. But take a closer look.

Do you see a face and hair? This is the face of a goddess that is seen as the symbol for liberty and wisdom in France.

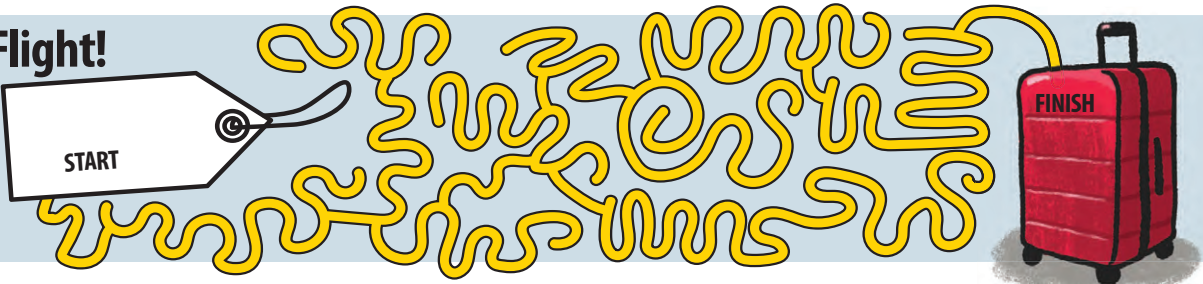
Use this code to reveal her name.

	= A		= I		= N
	= E		= M		= R



Don't Miss Your Flight!

Imagine you're flying to Paris, but you forgot to attach your nametag to your suitcase. Write your name on the tag, then follow the maze to find your suitcase.



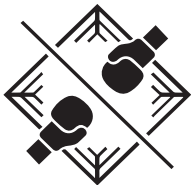
Pictograms

It is said that a picture is worth a thousand words. At the Olympic Games, a picture is worth a thousand words in hundreds of languages.

Pictograms are simplified pictures or symbols. There is one for each sport to help people from all over the world understand what is happening. For example, this pictogram represents the Olympic sport of judo.



Do the math to match each pictogram to the name of the Summer Olympic event that it represents.



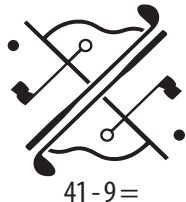
18 - 3 =
BOXING



11 + 11 + 11 =



24 + 6 =



41 - 9 =



14 + 14 =



3 + 6 + 2 =



9 + 9 + 9 =



5 + 2 =

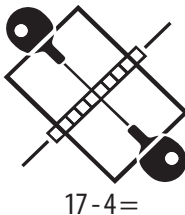
- 12 = Rowing
- 11 = Football (Soccer)
- 13 = Table Tennis
- 18 = Breaking
- 7 = Artistic Swimming
- 33 = Badminton
- 28 = Marathon Swimming
- 30 = Archery
- 27 = Basketball
- 10 = Weightlifting
- 32 = Golf
- 15 = Boxing



8 + 9 + 1 =



3 + 3 + 6 =



17 - 4 =



22 - 12 =

Extra! Extra!

The Great Symbol Search

Look for five symbols in today's newspaper. Show them to a friend to see if they can tell what the symbol represents.

Standards Link: Connect artistic representations to meaning.

Explore more at olympics.com

- What do the five rings of the Olympics mean?
 - ☐ Five Cities
 - ☐ Five Countries
 - ☐ Five Continents
- What does the Olympic Motto "Citius, Altius, Fortius" mean?
 - ☐ Smarter, Stronger, Faster
 - ☐ Swifter, Higher, Stronger
 - ☐ Better, Bigger, Bolder
- According to the Olympic Creed, the most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but ...
 - ☐ to play fair.
 - ☐ to win big.
 - ☐ to take part.
- Where is the Olympic torch first lit?
 - ☐ Athens
 - ☐ Greece
 - ☐ Olympia
- Women were first allowed to compete in the Olympics in what year?
 - ☐ 1800
 - ☐ 1900
 - ☐ 2000
- The 2026 Winter Olympic Games will be held in:
 - ☐ Italy
 - ☐ Germany
 - ☐ Norway
- Which of the following is NOT a color of one of the Olympic rings?
 - ☐ Blue
 - ☐ Purple
 - ☐ Black
- All the participating countries sent female athletes for the first time in which Olympics?
 - ☐ 1976 Montreal
 - ☐ 1984 Los Angeles
 - ☐ 2012 London

- 1. Five continents
- 2. Swifter, Higher, Stronger
- 3. To take part
- 4. Olympia
- 5. 1900
- 6. Italy
- 7. Purple
- 8. 2012 London

Kid Scoop Puzzler

The 2024 Paralympic Games

This is the logo of the 2024 Paralympic Games.

Athletes with physical disabilities from around the world compete in the Paralympic Games every four years alongside the Olympics. In fact, Paralympics means "alongside the Olympics."

The Paralympics began 64 years ago. What year was that?

1 9 _ _ _

Standards Link: Math: Calculate sums and differences to 100.



ATHLETIC WORD SEARCH

GYMNASTICS
WATER POLO

BASEBALL
SWIMMING
SURFING
SAILING
KARATE
TENNIS
SOCCER
TRACK
CANOE
GOLF
JUDO

Find the words in the puzzle by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

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

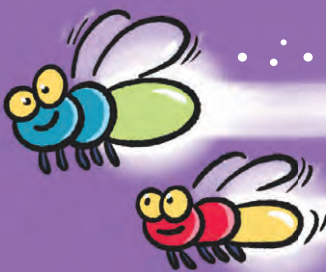
Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Sports Team Mascots

Sports team mascots (often an animal or object) give personality to their teams. Look through today's sports section. Select one team and make a list of characteristics you think that team wants to convey. Create a new mascot for that team.

Standards Link: Display meaning through a variety of artistic representations.



How do fireflies begin a race?

ANSWER: "On your mark, Get set, GLOW!"

Write On!

Sports Story

Write a sports story about something that happened in a game you played or watched.







"WHEN I SAY TO A PARENT, 'READ TO A CHILD,' I DON'T WANT IT TO SOUND LIKE MEDICINE. I WANT IT TO SOUND LIKE CHOCOLATE."
-MEM FOX





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Benard looks to build on strong freshman college hoops season after transfer

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

It is almost impossible to be a sports fan these days and not hear about the transfer portal in college athletics. The use, and sometimes abuse, of the transfer portal has been a large topic of discussion among college sports fans and insiders, but now the portal is helping start a former Grosse Pointe South standout on a new path in his college basketball career.

After graduating from South in 2023, Anthony Benard went down south to begin his Division I college basketball career with Mercer University in Macon, Ga. After a promising freshman season with the Bears, Benard decided to enter the transfer portal to continue his career elsewhere. While the process of being in the portal was hectic, Benard ultimately landed at Canisius University in Buffalo, N.Y.

“You enter and there’s a lot of schools who contact you, but then you kind of have to wait it out and see who’s for



COURTESY PHOTO

Former Grosse Pointe South Blue Devil Anthony Benard brings the ball up the court for the Mercer University Bears in a game against Alabama. Benard announced his transfer from Mercer to Canisius University after the end of his freshman season.

real about trying to get you to their school,” Benard said. “After a Canisius and it was the coaching staff they brought in.”

The main reason Benard decided to leave Mercer was because the university did not renew the contract of former men’s basketball head coach Greg Gary, who recruited Benard to the Bears. After meeting with the new coaching staff the university brought in, Benard decided it was not the best fit for him and ultimately chose the transfer portal.

While he is excited for his next chapter to begin with Canisius, Benard leaves Mercer feeling grateful for the experience he had his freshman season. He averaged 16.3 minutes played as a freshman with two assists and 2.3 points per game. With summer workouts and practices underway with his new team at Canisius, Benard is confident he can continue to succeed thanks to the foundation he built at Mercer last season.

“I went in thinking that I could start even though a lot of people thought it was a long-shot,” he said. “I ended up starting 20 games and

See BENARD, page 6D

ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Hill prepares for next chapter after decorated high school baseball career

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

With his time as a Norseman now at an end, Brennan Hill is leaving Grosse Pointe North as perhaps one of the most decorated pitchers the school’s baseball program has ever produced. Hill received multiple All-State and All-MAC honors in his career, including this spring to cap off his senior season. Now, the standout pitcher has one more accolade to add to the list before he leaves Grosse Pointe for Ann Arbor: the title of Grosse Pointe News Athlete of the Year.

“My family has always been helping me work toward what I’ve accomplished,” Hill said. “Coach Shubnell always puts me in a place to succeed and doesn’t just throw me out there in random spots. My catcher, Charlie Rocho, and I had a great year together. My entire team, everyone really supports each other and it’s a supportive atmosphere, so everyone helped contribute to this.”

Hill was named the editors’ choice by the Grosse Pointe News staff for male Athlete of the Year. His resume speaks for itself. During his sophomore year in 2022, Hill was named All-State as he helped the

Norsemen to a Division 1 state runner-up finish when he pitched a gem in the state title game against Orchard Lake St. Mary’s.

This spring, Hill once again helped North make it to East Lansing to end the season. He received another first-team All-State nod after starting in the Division 1 state semifinal against Brother Rice. The deep playoff run this year for North was a bit unexpected by many after the Norsemen ended the regular season fourth in the MAC White Division. Hill even admits he and his teammates might have surpassed their expectations, but it all made for a senior season he will always look back on with a smile.

“Throughout the year, everyone on the team got better and grew,” Hill said. “... Our expectations were high for ourselves and we knew we were going to have some tough games in the playoffs. Somehow, we made it through and everyone grew as a person and a player this year, so I think it was successful.”

With the book now closed on his high school career, Hill is ready to start working on the next chapter of his baseball journey. Hill will start his college career at the University of Michigan this fall and take the field



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Grosse Pointe North’s Brennan Hill pitches in the 2024 Division 1 baseball state semifinal against Brother Rice, his final game as a Norseman.

with the Wolverines’ baseball team for his first college season next spring.

There is plenty Hill still feels he can improve upon before he takes the mound for a major college baseball program. Throughout the spring with the Norsemen, he already was working on different things to tune up his game to make sure he is ready for the college level, because he knows the competition is going to be a major step up.

“College is a different level because they’re grown men,” he said. “I’m trying to throw my slider harder and trying to locate better with everything. I’m trying to keep the same mentality I had all through high school and keep my confidence up.”

Luckily, Hill will be surrounded by some familiar faces when he gets to Ann Arbor and dons the block M. Former University Liggett School pitcher Kurt Barr has spent the last two seasons as part of Michigan’s pitching staff and even earned third-team All-Big Ten this past season. Hill has plenty of playing experience both alongside and against Barr in the past, and also will be joined by Preston Barr, who also joins the Wolverines as a freshman this coming

See HILL, page 6D

2D | SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Belanger reflects on days as Blue Devil before college football journey

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Perhaps no one at Grosse Pointe South has embodied grit and toughness quite like Hunter Belanger over the past four years. A force on the gridiron and on the baseball diamond for much of his high school career, Belanger's time as a Blue Devil comes to a close with the honor of being named a Grosse Pointe News Athlete of the Year.

"I really have to thank everyone at Grosse Pointe South for the

opportunities that they gave me and my family for always supporting me," Belanger said.

Belanger was the winner of the readers' choice vote for male Athlete of the Year. In his senior football season with South last fall, Belanger caught two touchdown passes and had 261 yards receiving at tight end, while also taking snaps on the other side of the ball as a defensive lineman.

The fall ended with the Blue Devils being MAC White Division champions before an early exit in the play-

offs. When all was said and done, it was a nearly perfect way to cap off his high school football career just because of the people who were along with him for the ride.

"It was really fun and the team was built together," he said. "Everyone knew their job and their place. We all did the things we needed to do and nobody complained. The underclassmen and juniors who played really knew their roles and the seniors knew their roles. It was a really good season and I couldn't have

asked for a better team my senior year."

The team, just like Belanger, was all about toughness and dedication. Even after an ankle injury at the end of football season slowed down his senior year a bit, Belanger focused on getting better and continuing to improve. Really, he was just following one of the mantras his coaches had preached to him in his final season.

"Coach (Chad) Hepner always has a motto and our motto last year was 'All in,'" Belanger said. "I think you just have to be all in on everything in life. Coach really did make that hit home for us and I thought it was really good."

Belanger is going all in on his future with the next step in his career, as he will join the football team at Northern Michigan University this fall. To him, recruiting felt like a long process, but ultimately Belanger knew Northern Michigan was the right fit.

"Northern gives me the best opportunity, both with academics and where I can play football and do everything I want to do. It felt like the best fit for me that was there," he said.

As he gets ready for the next step in his career, Belanger is back to full strength after having ankle surgery in February. Part of his off-season regimen also included working with the landscaping business, J N H B



Belanger's football career continues this fall as he joins the Northern Michigan University Wildcats.



Belanger (No. 88) celebrates a touchdown with teammate Vince Vachon in the end zone during Grosse Pointe South's 2023 homecoming game against Ford II.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDREA VANBECLAERE

Woods Warriors go back-to-back as Lakefront swim champs

Swimmers from the Grosse Pointe Woods Warriors team celebrate by jumping in the pool after winning the Lakefront Swimming Association championship for a second consecutive year last Thursday, July 25.

Barr brothers gearing up for baseball reunion in Ann Arbor

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Barr brothers are no strangers to sharing the baseball diamond together. Kurt and Preston are practically inseparable, but the past couple of seasons have seen the brothers separated for the longest time yet. However, the two will be teammates once again in the coming year when they are reunited at the University of Michigan.

Older brother Kurt finished his sophomore year at Michigan this spring and has established himself as a mainstay in the Wolverines' pitching staff. While the first two years of his college baseball career have been stellar, he knows the next one will be the best since he will finally be able to share it with his younger brother.

"We played baseball with each other our whole lives, from Little League and obviously Liggett and have shared a lot of memories," Kurt Barr said. "At Michigan, hopefully, we can just keep making more. Our family is super stoked too. It came

so like they can kill two birds with one stone."

Kurt Barr led Michigan with a 3.41 ERA his sophomore season this spring while appearing in 21 games, including 11 starts. He also recorded 60 strikeouts on his way to earning a

third-team All-Big Ten selection.

"I was throwing more strikes and I improved my curveball a ton," Kurt Barr said about his development his sophomore year. "I was able to throw that first strike consistently, which I didn't really do my freshman year. ... I was also stacking good performances on good performances. When you do that, your role increases over the course of the season and that's what happened."

Kurt Barr

Both Barr brothers are alumni of the University Liggett School baseball program, where they played two seasons together and won a Division 3 state championship in 2021. While Kurt was lighting up the mound in the Big Ten this spring, Preston was having a strong season of his own as a senior for the Knights.

Preston Barr's senior season at Liggett required him to step up

and be a leader as one of only four seniors on the team. With a coaching change before the season as well, it was especially important for him and the rest of the seniors to do their jobs as leaders to help the new coaching staff. That was an experience he thinks will be a huge help when making the transition from high school to college baseball.

"I really enjoyed having the leadership role because the underclassmen are always looking up to you," Preston Barr said. "... Every time you step on that field, you know you have to perform because everyone is looking at you. ... Being that guy coming to practice every day and making sure everyone was ready to go was really fun. All four of us seniors all did a great job."

Now Preston Barr is ready to join his brother on Michigan's campus in Ann Arbor and in the baseball clubhouse. The two already have been working together this summer to prepare for next season, but sharing the field again will be a welcome reunion for both of them.

The two eat, sleep and breathe baseball while also counting on each other to stay accountable.

"We basically do everything together," Preston Barr said. "We train together. We eat meals together. We hang out all day long and push each other in the gym."

Growing up, he's always kind of been the pitcher and I was the hitter, but recently I've developed more as a pitcher so he's taken me under his wing."

Preston Barr plans to play as a two-way player for the Wolverines, both



COURTESY PHOTOS

Brothers Kurt and Preston Barr playing together as part of the University Liggett School varsity baseball team. The two will be teammates once again this coming season at the University of Michigan.

pitching and hitting. While he and his brother have been at home training for the coming season together, they have also spent some time in Ann Arbor together as well.

After all, the transition goes beyond just baseball, and Kurt Barr wants to make sure his younger brother is prepared for everything that comes with life on campus.

"Kurt has made the transition a lot easier for me by showing me around and introducing me to all the guys and showing me around campus," Preston Barr said. "... He's given me tips about dorm life and being outgoing to meet new people. He tells me I have to stay on top of

my schoolwork too."

The 2025 season will be big for both brothers. For Preston, it will be his introduction to major Division I college baseball. For Kurt, it will be another chance to continue proving himself and earn a chance to play at the next level.

"I want to continue to be the Friday night starter like I was for a lot of this year," Kurt Barr said. "I want to keep being the go-to guy because I take a lot of pride in that. My dream since I was 4 or 5 years old was to play professional baseball. I'll be draft-eligible after this year, so hopefully I can have another good season, then throw my hat in the ring for the draft

and see what happens."

Kurt Barr has enjoyed being able to help his brother make the transition to life as a Wolverine. He knows even if he was not there, Preston Barr would do fine, but perhaps that comes from what he already was able to teach him over the years.

"I think a lot of kids come in their freshman year, myself included, and try to do too much because it's the college game," Kurt Barr said. "... He's a confident and level-headed kid, so I know he'll be fine in that department. I just tell him to stay within himself and keep doing what he did to get him here because he has a ton of talent."

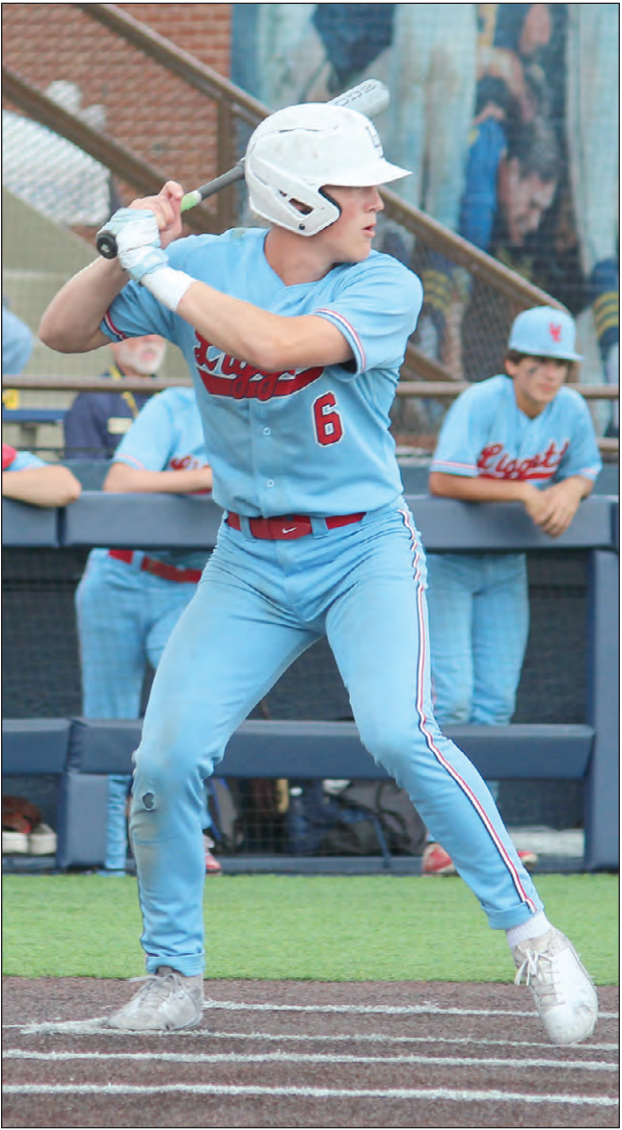


PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Preston Barr at bat in his final high school game at University Liggett in the 2024 Division 2 state quarterfinal. The game was played on his future home field at the University of Michigan's Ray Fisher Stadium.



COURTESY PHOTO

Preston, left, and Kurt Barr as Little League baseball teammates.

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August 13, 1:00 pm- 4:30 pm
Sponsored by the EEV Garden Club & the EEV Neighborhood Association.
The 15th annual East English Village Garden Tour will feature eight gardens, four of which are new this year! Many of our gardeners have incorporated more Michigan native plants into their landscapes, acknowledging the importance of pollinator plants in our ecosystem. Additionally, some participants have experimented with plants given by neighbors or purchased on sale. Whether evolving over decades or recently established, all the gardens are beautiful and diverse, ranging from traditional landscapes to non- traditional wildflowers and native plant gardens.
For more information and to purchase tickets, visit the East English Village website and click on Events.
All proceeds will go to the EEV Neighborhood Association.

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HELP WANTED CLERICAL / OFFICE

202 HELP WANTED CLERICAL / OFFICE

PART TIME RECEPTIONIST/ Personal Assistant wanted for small accounting office in Grosse Pointe Woods. Duties include acting as a point of contact for clients and staff, answering phones, working in excel. Please send resume to ADMIN@FRANCISTAX.ORG

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This house is full! We have a large selection of traditional furniture in perfect condition, including sofa, chairs, corner cabinet, china cabinet, Chippendale style loveseat, nice bedroom set including four poster bed and highboy, leather loveseat and chair with ottoman, two nice five section barrister bookcases, oriental carpet, every piece of Spode Christmas china that was ever made, books, decoys, nice selection of women's clothes size 14 to 3X, wonderful selection of men's hats, wicker furniture, outdoor furniture, oil paintings, artwork, sewing, refrigerator, freezer, outboard motor, gas edger, snowblower, vintage tricycles, clay targets, fishing items, lots and lots more!
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409 GARAGE / YARD / RUMMAGE SALE

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THE EAST ENGLISH VILLAGE'S ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE is scheduled to take place on August 3rd and 4th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Numerous homes have already signed up to sell a variety of items, including antiques, vintage and new furniture, books, appliances, tools, paintings, clothing, and more throughout the neighborhood. For additional information, please visit EastEnglishVillage.org

**SHOP THE CLASSIFIEDS!**
Grosse Pointe News (313)882-6900 ext. 1

GARAGE / YARD / RUMMAGE SALE

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See Classifieds for more details

6D | SPORTS

BENARD:
Continued from page 1D

playing in 27. Of course, as a competitor, you always think you can do better. ... In terms of my whole freshman year, I couldn't think of anything better than just getting the experience of playing. That really was priceless and not a lot of freshmen always get to do that."

Starting 20 games as a freshman at the Division I level is no easy task. That experience gave Benard confidence that he could compete at a high level and helped him realize how confidence is key to succeeding in the Division I basketball world.

"You really have to believe that you're meant to be out there," Benard said. "... Of course, you get a little nervous, but once you get out there, you realize that everyone is just playing basketball. The main thing is being confident in yourself and staying confident when things maybe aren't going well."

The start of Benard's sophomore season is still a few months away, but the point guard is already putting in work to continue building his confidence and his skills. That included a trip back to Grosse Pointe to have his friends and family



COURTESY PHOTO

Anthony Benard in uniform for Canisius.

help him on the way to improving for the next part of his basketball journey. "I've been working out with my dad, of course, and my trainer coach Canada, who is in Grosse Pointe sometimes," Benard said. "I didn't shoot very well from three last year, so I've been with Tory James from Grosse Pointe South. He shoots it really well and is going to be a Division I player, so I was in the gym with him a lot when I was home before coming to Canisius."

The work he has done with his family, trainers and fellow Blue Devils has continued to build Benard's confidence as the season approaches. He hopes the decision he made to enter the portal and join Canisius with new head coach Jim Christian pays off. It is his new coach with the Golden Griffins who has him feeling like this is just the beginning of their success together. "The coaching staff is really into confidence and making you the best player you can be within your skill set and building you up as a player," he said. "... We play Arizona in the first game of the year and they genuinely think we can beat Arizona. The confidence they have and their drive to win games really helps a lot. It runs through the team."

Benard will play his first game for Canisius men's basketball on Monday, Nov. 4, when the team travels on the road to face the University of Arizona.

HILL:
Continued from page 1D

season. "I've known the Barrs for 10 years or so, so it's nice to have the familiarity," Hill said. "I know probably double-digit guys on the team already from different travel baseball teams. It's nice to know guys going in. I won't be overwhelmed

going in and not knowing anyone, so I know I won't be afraid to ask people questions and have their support." Already being familiar with his teammates and coaches gives Hill a leg up as he enters the college ranks. What he will take with him into the next phase of his career, however, is what he learned from his high school coaches at North, who he knows taught him valuable lessons that will serve him well both in baseball and beyond. "(Coach) Shubnell is one of the best mental coaches I've ever had," he said. "He's always calm and preaching about keeping your head in it and having a good mentality all game. ... He helps us stay cool but also know when we have to win."



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Hill, joined by parents Lindsay and Jason, signs his letter of intent last November at Grosse Pointe North to officially join the University of Michigan baseball program.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TIM LINDOW

12U Little League Softball earns runner-up finish at states

The Grosse Pointe Little League Softball 12U team finished as runner-up in the Little League Softball state tournament last month. The team went undefeated through pool play and earned wins in the quarterfinals and semifinals to earn a trip to the state championship game. Grosse Pointe finished as runner-up after a 4-0 loss to Bullock Creek in the title game on July 10. The 12-player roster includes: Cala Coyo, Luna Coyo, Sophia Dragovic, Anna Drouillard, Ava Gerardi, Maddie Iverson, Phoebe Julien, Vivian Lindow, Norah Moses, Roxi Pannucci, Emily Roth and Syrai Winbush. Coaches are Mark Julien, Jason Roth, Andrew Taylor and Tim Lindow.

Correction

In the July 25 edition of the Grosse Pointe News, in the article "Racers cross finish line in 100th Bayview Mackinac Race," results

for certain race divisions were published incorrectly. The Grosse Pointe News published these results before corrected times accounting for penalties were posted by the Bayview Mackinac Race. Updated

race results can be found below.

Division II — 1925 Course
Class M
1. Zubenelgenubi — Eric and Conrad Keydel, Brighton

2. Jamjam — James Morphew, Milford
3. Tenacity — Lary Petersen and Dan Klaasen, Grosse Pointe Park

Class N
1. American Flyer — Chris Cyrul, East

Lansing
2. Blue Moves — Patrick McKeever Jr., Grosse Pointe Park
3. Riptide — John Walton, City of Grosse Pointe

Class Q

1. Trav'ler — Jeremy Thompson, Fort Gratiot
2. Glory — Robert Wood, Grosse Pointe Farms
3. Saminna — Jody Smith & Joe Ronan, Port Huron