

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2023

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GROSSE POINTE MAGAZINE

The Helm

New executive director settles in
as community gathers to 'Take the Helm'

Halloween

Frightfully fun events at the
Haunted Garage, Ford House and beyond

INSIDE



LIVE INSPIRED MAGAZINE
A PUBLICATION OF THE WAR MEMORIAL
SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2023



FALL 2023 | ISSUE 11

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On the Cover
An October walk on Bird Island at Ford House. Ford House will host several fall and Halloween events.

Photo by Lauren McGregor

Where in the Pointes?



Where in the Pointes is this? On Monday, Sept. 25, we will ask this question on our Facebook wall. The first person to comment with the correct answer will win a gift card to a local restaurant. Participants MUST wait for the question to be posted by Pointe Magazine. Good luck! (Last issue: Grosse Pointe Public Library, Woods Branch)

To find us on Facebook, search “Grosse Pointe Magazine”

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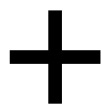


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John Minnis
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POINTE MAGAZINE



Lauren McGregor
Editor

Fall means back to business

We have launched a daunting, ambitious project that will be of great service to our readers. The magazine is currently delivered by a private carrier company door to door to every home in the Pointes. While that service has been 90% reliable, we would like to improve on that.

We would much prefer delivering *Pointe Magazine* via U.S. mail; however, due to the success of the magazine and its page count, mail delivery has been cost prohibitive. But there is a way we can mail more economically: under a Periodical permit.

To qualify for a permit, we need to get half the households in the Pointes to sign up to receive the magazine at their homes. It would still be free — no cost to those residing in the 48230 and 48236 ZIP codes. Rather than subscribers, *Pointe* recipients of the magazine would be “Requestors.”

Figuring there are some 18,000 homes in the Pointes, that means we need 9,000 Requestors. As I said, quite a daunting task. But we have time to accomplish that task since mail requests are good for three years.

To request the magazine when it is available via U.S. mail, go to our website, grossepointemagazine.com, and click the Subscribe tab and follow the prompts. Below is the QR code for smart phone users.

If you have an questions, feel free to call us at (313) 640-8955. Thanks for your support! Those outside the Pointes and businesses can subscribe to the magazine for only \$25/year by going to the same link above.

As always, be sure to patronize our many loyal advertisers and businesses this summer and tell them you saw them — or not! — in *Pointe Magazine*.

See you around the Pointe! ☺



John

I guess it’s fitting that for our back-to-school issue I have all things literary on the mind.

First, I am honored to join the Grosse Pointe Library Foundation Board of Directors. I have long had the joy of writing stories about our stellar library system and we are proud to publish *Book Buzz*, a regular series featuring Grosse Pointe Public Library librarians’ latest book recommendations.

What I’m especially excited about this year is the upcoming Foundation fundraiser, Books & Bubbles, on Oct. 26 at Ford House. Many of you are familiar with the annual Masquerade. This year, the Foundation is switching it up. We will be hosting a sparkling celebration of books with a more laid-back atmosphere and some bubbly activities and drinks to match. The price will also be dropped to \$100 a ticket. Bring a date, bring a friend, bring your neighbor. I so hope to see you there!

Second, I am newly returned from the Stratford Festival in Stratford, Ontario. This year the Festival is celebrating its 70th anniversary of producing some of the best theater in the world. Of the three we saw, *Much Ado About Nothing* was my favorite. I haven’t laughed that loudly or continuously in a long time. My aunt and uncle will tell you — there were folks howling behind us. I imagined it was a bit like being at The Globe during Shakespeare’s time.

In my chat with the Festival’s Publicity Director, Ann Swerdfager, I was happy to hear that the season is back to normal after a few devastatingly low years. The season runs through mid-October and I can’t recommend it highly enough. Since I regret not snagging tickets to *Rent* or *A Wrinkle in Time* and Stratford is just two and a half hours away, I am considering a quick return.

Finally, I had the joy of attending a soft opening of Flyleaf. By the time this goes to print, the bookshop, bistro and bar will have been open for weeks, but I am still in awe.

As we gear up to go back to school, I am grateful to live in a community with three library branches, Flyleaf, Coreander’s Children’s Bookshoppe and Shaw’s Books. Here’s to a wonderful fall chapter! ☺

Lauren



September & October at Ford House

Autumn Landscape Tour

Begins September 1

**Story Festival:
Let's Go on an Adventure**

September 16

Talk: No Equal Justice

September 21

Harvest Day

October 7

Big Goblins

October 13

Little Goblins

October 28

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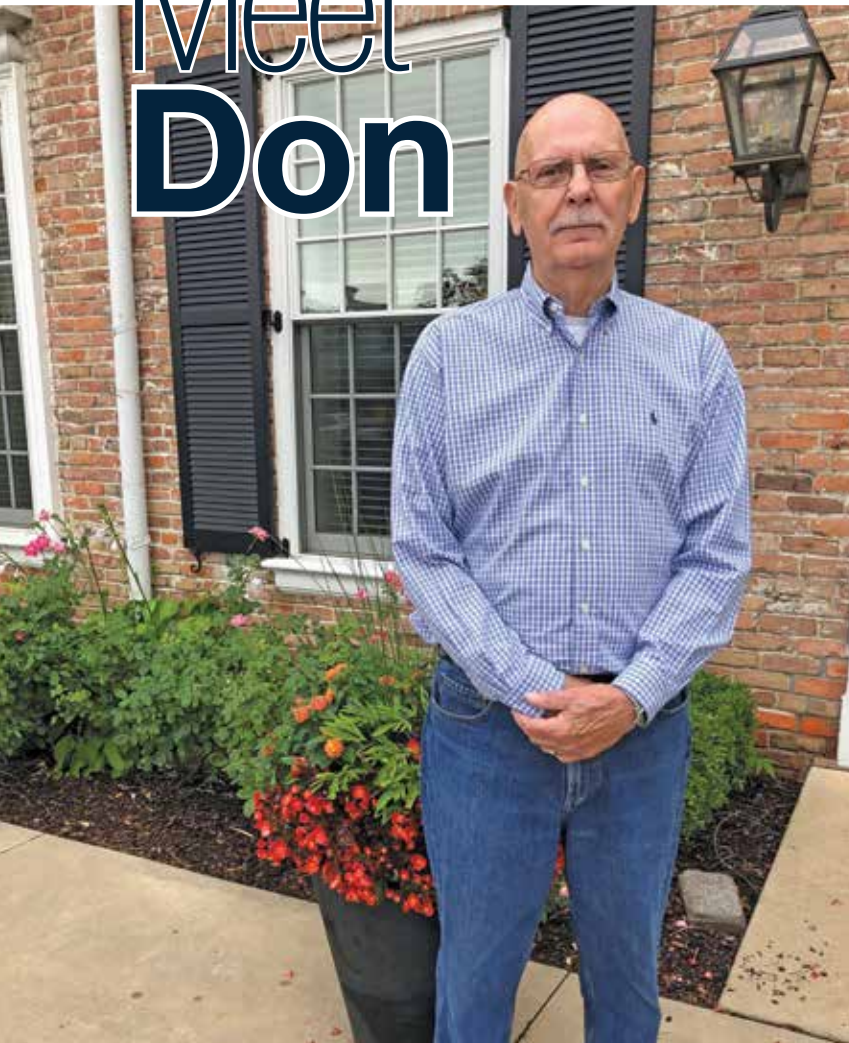
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Meet Don



Name	Don Ludlow
Age	79
City	Grosse Pointe Shores
Occupation	Retired from Detroit Police Department after 25 years

Don's Favorites

- Season**
Summer
- Book**
Lonesome Dove
- Spot in Grosse Pointe**
Grosse Pointe Shores Osius Park
- Movie**
Lonesome Dove
- Vacation**
Phoenix, Ariz. (Sedona)
- Restaurant**
Mack Avenue Grille
- Musical Artist**
Elvis Presley
- Outdoor Activity**
Golfing
- Hobby**
Playing cards

What was your first job?
Paper route at 13

What is one thing most people don't know about you?
I rode motorcycles and flew helicopters for the Detroit Police Department.

What is the best trip you've ever taken?
Clearwater, Fla.

What is the most historical day in your lifetime?
Marrying my wife 61 years ago

What accomplishment makes you proudest?
Being on the Honor Guard in the Coast Guard and Detroit Police Department, and Drill Team in the police department. It was an honor to be on both.

Words to live by?
God Bless America

About Don

Don entered the Coast Guard at 17, earning a GED and attending college after service. He married at 18 and started with the Detroit Police Department in 1967.

Don and his wife, Sarah, are parents to Don Jr., David and Matthew. Today, the couple enjoy spending time together at The Helm.

"I have been going to The Helm since we moved here and have enjoyed many activities such as our Poker Club, exercise and Bingo. My wife and I started out at the Neighborhood Club, continued through many transitions at Cottage Hospital, then Assumption Cultural Center, and our final destination here at The Helm. It has been our home away from home."

VA benefits offer real value

By Jonathan Boos

About one-third of people age 65 and older are either wartime veterans or married to a veteran. This allows them to qualify for Veteran Aid that can help pay for home care. Despite this fact, very few know the benefit exists; let alone take advantage of it.



Veterans and surviving spouses who have a medical or psychological condition (that makes them dependent on the aid or assistance of another) may qualify for monthly benefits beyond the basic pension. People who are confined to their homes because of permanent disability, those who need daily medication reminders, help with personal care or transportation to and from doctors appointments are just several ways to meet the requirements.

Aside from that, veterans need to have at least 90 days of active duty (serve at least one day during war time) and receive an honorable discharge.

If you meet the above criteria, you'll want to start the application process right away. Things can take several months, but payments will be paid retroactivity once approved.

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Article provided by Jonathan Boos, Director of Business Development for Nursing Unlimited, Inc.

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Suzy Berschback

building a joyful, artistic life

By Lauren McGregor

At work and play, Suzy Berschback has made a lifestyle of choosing joy. Through her career as Community Health Manager for one of the largest hospital systems in the region, Berschback equips people with the tools to manage stress and incorporate more joy in their lives. “It deals with

the everyday challenges I feel everyone has. I give tips that help people manage life in a more joyful way.”

Outside of work, she is a true joy spreader in more ways than one. Following the sudden passing of their mother, Berschback and her sister, Nancy, founded the Society of Joy Spreaders, SocietyofJoySpreaders.com.

“The mission of SOJS started as a way to help deal with my grieving process,” writes Berschback. “Over the years, my vocation and avocation have become beautifully intertwined.”

The website’s name was originally ‘Happy Go Lucky Girl,’ inspired by her mother’s words in the hospital. “She said, ‘I’m not a hospital girl ... I’m a

happy-go-lucky girl.’ Our mother was always a joy spreader. My sister and I started the website to help people feel joy again,” says Berschback.

The website is home to a treasure trove of resources and tips on joy — the best part being the thoughtful, deeply inspiring blog.

For example, Berschback writes, “What dreams, desires, feelings or needs have you pushed aside because you thought they may be deemed frivolous and unimportant? What if you followed your own dreams? How would your life change for the better? If you could do anything, what would you do? And what would bring you one step closer to that?”



Above, Suzy Berschback with a tote featuring August Sunflowers from her art shop; Clockwise from top, far left, The Moorings; The Gathering; The Maypole Dance; August Sunflowers; Peace Garden

“What dreams, desires, feelings or needs have you pushed aside because you thought they may be deemed frivolous and unimportant? What if you followed your own dreams? How would your life change for the better?”

In June, Berschback turned 60. With that milestone, she struck out on a new endeavor.

“I am a big encourager of doing your own thing. After a discouraging middle school art teacher told me I was ‘doing it wrong,’” says Berschback. “Eventually, you become okay with that. I’m enjoying it. I’m having fun. I

am engaging with the community in a new way.

“I understand you need to be connected to your community and always giving yourself a new challenge to learn as part of being healthy.”

She says she is still exploring, but considers her style Impressionist. “In the spring, I was inspired by a visit to Monet’s house and garden in France,” says Berschback.

Her first sale was a painting titled ‘The Moorings.’ “That’s when I thought, this is what I want to do. How can I help preserve local history by painting it? I want to paint the town so we can celebrate and preserve it.”


Berschback’s passion for preserving history extends well beyond art into books. She has written and published four Arcadia Publishing history books about the Grosse Pointes, available at Grosse Pointe booksellers and on Amazon.

“I think each decade of my life I’ve tried to focus on something. In my

20s, it was having a family. In my 30s, it was raising a family and having a career. In my 40s, it was continuing to raise my family and writing books. In my 50s, my mother passed away and I started the website to spread joy. Now, in my 60s, it is art.”

To share her art, Berschback has launched a new website where you can view her work and purchase pieces in countless forms — “prints, bags, yoga mats, jigsaw puzzles, cards and stationery.” The link can be found at SocietyofJoySpreaders.com.

Her artistic ethos weaves together the concepts of artistic expression, joy and reverence.

“Take some time to celebrate the local, the small-scale, the ordinary. Pause and find the beauty in local history, a flowerpot, or garden, while it still stands,” she writes. “My goal is to inspire those who see my work to look more carefully at the world around them, to discover beauty in unusual places.” 



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By Susan Bollinger

The Helm at the Boll Life Center is a special place for many Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods seniors. According to Executive Director Krista Siddall, “It’s not just essential services like Meals on Wheels, transportation and support groups that make The Helm so special, it’s also the opportunities for fun and friendship, to learn something new and become healthier and more active.”


She remembers a man who recently experienced the death of his wife. He was isolated and lonely. “He told us The Helm made it possible for him to get out of bed,” says Siddall. “For him and so many other people, we are able to

change their lives. They tell us coming to The Helm is the best part of their day.”

The reason The Helm is able to offer so much to area seniors is the support it receives from events and fundraisers. More than half of The Helm’s budget comes from a single event: Take The Helm. This year’s gala is Thursday, Oct. 12, from 5:30 to 10 p.m. at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. The Helm Spirit Award will be presented to Dr. Kevin Grady, President and CEO, Ascension Metro East Region and board member of The Helm.

Guests start the evening with cocktails, hors d’oeuvres and a silent auction followed by dinner, the raffle

and a spectacular live auction of items available only at the gala. “This year we have a fabulous four-carat diamond tennis bracelet from AHEE jewelers and VIP tickets to the Jacques Pepin Foundation celebration in Chelsea Piers, New York City, with a star-studded cocktail reception, four-course meal and desserts prepared by renowned chefs and mixologists, and a two-night stay at Dream Downtown,” says Siddall.

Gala tickets are \$275 each with many sponsorships available. To buy yours and support The Helm, contact Liz Johnson, mejohanson@helmlife.org, or (313) 649-2104. 

Photos courtesy of The Helm at the Boll Life Center



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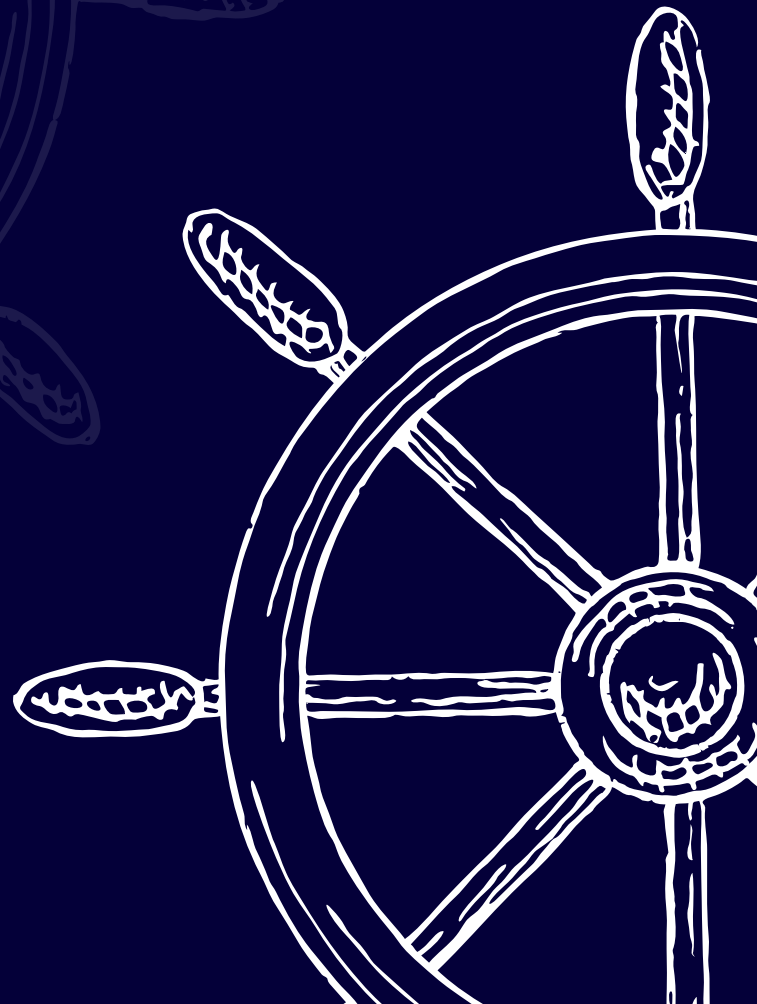
Join us at the Take The Helm Annual Gala. For 45 years, The Helm has been helping older adults in our community make the most of every day. You're invited to Take The Helm for an evening of fun, friendship and philanthropy to help others make every day as fulfilling as possible.

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Krista Siddall takes The Helm

By Margaret Carroll



Top left, Krista Siddall; far left, Siddall socializing at a cookout at The Helm; left, Jean Gilbert and Siddall

Photos courtesy of The Helm

What's in a name? Everything, when it comes to steering your course through life.

It's been five years since SOC, or Services for Older Citizens, changed its name to The Helm at The Boll Life Center to better reflect its mission of inspiring and enabling residents of the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods to enjoy the gift of longevity, living healthy and meaningful lives as they age.

"Our world is changing. People are living longer and better, thanks to a focus on their health and well-being. We want to help older adults in our community succeed in achieving their goals for health and vitality at every age," says Executive Director Krista Siddall.

The Helm provides essential services such as Meals on Wheels, a medical loan closet, and information and assistance, but also activities to boost mental and physical health.

"We offer 200 sessions of activities and programs each month," says Siddall. "We have everything from technology classes, yoga and chair yoga, day trips to Cranbrook and Frankenmuth, dance

classes, French language instruction. We've added a fitness center with PhysioStep machines, an elliptical, rowing machine and treadmill, weights and bands. We're all about keeping the mind and body healthy as we age."


Serving communities is Siddall's passion. Prior to becoming Executive Director at The Helm, she served 12 years as Director of Operations and Programming at Kids' Health Connections in Detroit. For Siddall, a past recipient of The Spirit of Detroit Award, the transition from serving children through public health to older adults was a natural one which brought her to The Helm in April of 2023.

"I did a lot of health and wellness work in Detroit, and I love building on that experience to help older adults," says Siddall, who moved to Grosse Pointe a year ago and felt right at home. "How we treat our children and how we treat our seniors are both good measures of the strength of a community."

"I love the role. I love the work I'm doing. I have had a great experience since joining The Helm team," adds

Siddall, who is impressed with the support she has received from staff, the board of directors and the community as a whole. She is repaying it in kind. "My door is always open."

Siddall's short-term plans for The Helm include expanding hours of operation. "In 2019, we began offering evening classes to reach out to older adults who still work full time. The pandemic hurt that effort. We are hoping to reintroduce evening programming in the near future," she says. "Long-term, we need to find sustainable funding streams to support our operations as we grow, not just in terms of our hours of operation, but also the population we serve."

"Eighteen percent of the population in the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods is 65 or older. That number is expected to be more than 25% by 2035," Siddall continues. "The need for our services is only expected to continue to increase." 

The Helm is located at 158 Ridge Road, Grosse Pointe Farms. For more information, visit www.helmlife.org.

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BOOKS & BUBBLES

A SPARKLING CELEBRATION FOR THE GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC LIBRARY



By Lauren McGregor

The Grosse Pointe Library Foundation is shifting gears for this year’s annual fundraiser. What was once Masquerade for the Stacks is getting a sparkling makeover. Books & Bubbles, the Foundation’s fifth annual fundraising event, will take place at Ford House on Thursday, Oct. 26.

“The masquerade was a fun era of our fundraiser,” says co-chair Carly Russell. “With Books and Bubbles, we want to

throw something different. It’s fun, it’s bubbly. The idea evokes a sparkling celebration. It will encourage more of the community to attend.”

At \$100 a ticket, Books & Bubbles instantly became one of the most affordable fundraisers of the year. “We wanted something more accessible,” says co-chair Nancy Gandelot Spearman, “to attract more people.”

Though there will still be a silent auction, “Instead of a live auction, we

want the evening to be more laid back,” says Gandelot Spearman.

The new atmosphere will include a variety of fun activities. For example, attendees will get to purchase a balloon, all marked at different donation prices, pop the balloon and take home whatever is inside. Of course, many of the prizes will be book-themed.

The Foundation is looking forward to shaking up the previously sit-down event. “You can grab a drink and hang out on the balcony for the evening,” says Russell. There will still be a couple of tables of eight and some high tops. “It could even be a ladies’ night out. Come out and have some champagne at the Ford House.”

Other features of the evening include live entertainment and a strolling dinner.

“The library is our community’s treasure,” says Russell. “You can get books, movies, rent tools, use its digital resources.”

“This event invites those who use the library to contribute to it,” says Gandelot Spearman.

For tickets, visit www.gplf.org/books-bubbles/.

The Lake Shore Room at Ford House, where Books & Bubbles will take place

Photo courtesy of Ford House



Book Buzz

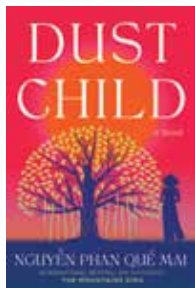


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By **Stephanie Fazekas**
Ewald Branch Librarian

Add one of these memorable books, recommended by librarian Stephanie Fazekas, to your fall reading list.



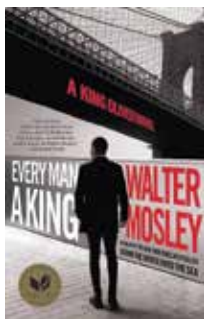
Dust Child
By *Nguyen Phan Que Mai*

In this historical fiction, Que Mai weaves three tales, highlighting the shattering impact of the Vietnam War on humanity.

Phong, an Amerasian orphan, was abandoned at birth and teased and tormented by full-blooded Vietnamese. He attempts to redeem himself and his family by moving to America. Phong is devastated to learn his multi-racial heritage is not enough to grant him entry.

Dan, desperate to save himself and his marriage, agrees to face the death and devastation he experienced as an army pilot in the Vietnam War. With his wife by his side, he returns to the soil that holds his soul captive along with secrets he's not ready to share.

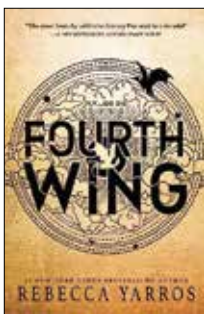
Teenage sisters Trang and Quynh painfully toil the family's land with the hopes of saving it from repossession. When this isn't enough, they consider traveling to Saigon to entertain American GIs. Will they choose their virtue over possessions?



Every Man a King
By *Walter Mosley*

Private detective Joe Oliver hesitantly takes on a case to absolve a supposed white nationalist of murder and treason, endangering himself and everyone he loves.

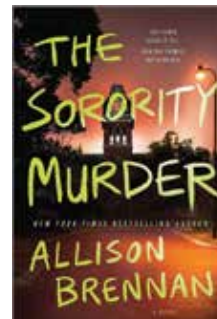
It doesn't take long for Oliver, A.K.A. King, to discover everything is much different than what it seems in the *Down the River unto the Sea* suspense sequel.



Fourth Wing
By *Rebecca Yarros*

Violet Sorrengail has spent much of her life in the library, alongside her father, preparing for her future as scribe.

But her plans take a potentially deadly turn. Despite being sick, weak and ill-equipped, she is forced to attend war college by her mother where, "A dragon without its rider is a tragedy. A rider without their dragon is dead." Violet contends with the fact that she stands a better chance surviving the dragon than some of the cadets who would rather see her dead.



The Sorority Murder

By *Allison Brennan*

Candace Swaine, a college senior at Northern Arizona University, vanishes after a sorority party. A week later, her body is discovered

with no substantial leads. Once the case turns cold and everyone else has turned their backs, Lucas Vega puts everything on the line to find out what exactly happened to his former tutor and why.



The Wishing Pool
By *Tananarive Due*

If you're wishing to squeeze a little reading into your busy schedule and you like gripping suspense, Tananarive

Due's anthology is sure to have you teetering on the edge of your seat. The masterfully created short stories are divided into two themes: horror and science fiction, each equally filled with thrilling intrigue. Don't know where to start? — "Incident at Bear Creek Lodge" and "The Biographer" are compelling stories to get cozy with. ☺

Top photo by The Portrait Place

The Addams Family kicks off Grosse Pointe Theatre's 76th season

By Anne Erickson

Grosse Pointe Theatre will kick off its 76th season with a bang with the blockbuster musical *The Addams Family*.

The show takes place Sept. 8-17 at the Christian A. Fenton Performing Arts Center at Grosse Pointe North High School.

Michael A. Gravame is making his Grosse Pointe Theatre directorial debut with *The Addams Family*. But, he's hardly a rookie director. Gravame holds a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts and a minor in Arts and Entertainment Management from Eastern Michigan University. He also has a wealth of theater experience, including running his own theater company, The Actors' Company, in northern Michigan and working as an actor in Chicago for three years.

Gravame says the timing for Grosse Pointe Theatre to do *The Addams Family* is perfect. The show is hot thanks to the recent Netflix series, *Wednesday*, based on The Addams Family daughter.

"Grosse Pointe Theatre wanted me to direct this show for years, but I didn't think it was my type of show, because I like to take shows and put my own spin on them. I thought that since it was such an iconic musical, I couldn't put my own spin on it," he explains. "But, when I thought about it this year, it got my creative juices flowing, and I thought



it was something where I could really think outside the box. They needed a box office draw to open the 76th season, and I thought I could do some really fun things with it. We're doing some different things that you haven't seen before, and some of the blocking and staging ideas are original to our production."

Those familiar with the television series will recognize a lot in *The Addams Family*. But, *Wednesday* is of college age, not a little girl.

"She's in love with this normal guy from Ohio," Gravame explains. "She wants to marry him, but she doesn't think her family will approve, because they are so kooky and wacky. So, his family comes to visit them, and, of course, it's anything but normal. It's a fast-paced show with a lot of one-line

jokes and it's fun."

So far, Gravame's favorite aspect of directing *The Addams Family* is "the process," he says. "In casting, we were really blessed. This cast is so good, and many of them are new to Grosse Pointe Theatre. They are all so dynamic and talented. I love blocking and getting the story from the script to the stage. But, I'm excited to see how the jokes land and how the overall process turns out. I love working hard and seeing it work."


The Addams Family opens the 76th Grosse Pointe Theatre season. Upcoming shows include: *Anything Goes*, *9 to 5 The Musical*, *The Play That Goes Wrong*, and Disney's *Newsies*. Tickets for *The Addams Family* and the entire season go on sale Aug. 4 online at <https://gpt.org/tickets>. 

Photo by Dale Pegg

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Gym etiquette

By Ken Welch

Our weather is going to be changing soon so a lot of people will be getting back to the gym. In the pursuit of fitness, one of the things that isn't talked about enough is the practice of gym etiquette — or, how to behave properly and get along with your fellow gym members.

Here are some key dos and don'ts that apply in just about every gym setting:

1) Simply be considerate and courteous of others. It's not hard. Give respect, you'll get respect.

It's also common to share equipment if your gym is crowded at a certain time. "How many more sets do you have?" "Do you mind if I work-in while you're resting?" are reasonable questions. "No! I'm using it" is not a reasonable response.

2) Stay off your phone when working out at any workout station. Checking your phone between sets turns into monopolizing equipment. It's rude, don't do it.

3) Put equipment, weights, dumbbells, back where they belong. Help keep "your" gym safe and orderly.

4) Wash your workout clothes and keep your footwear clean. Bring other shoes to wear in the gym, especially in winter. Don't track snow and salt into your gym and on to equipment.

5) If you're unfamiliar with an exercise or piece of equipment, ask a staff person for help. Don't make up stuff or try things you saw online. It can be dangerous.

Follow these guidelines and you can prevent being "that person" in your gym.

Ken Welch is owner and trainer at Pointe Fitness on Harper south of Allard. Online: pointefitness.com.



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Unwanted tricks on your teeth

By Dr. Horatio Falcón

*H*alloween is around the corner and sugar loves to play tricks on your teeth. Kids and adults will be consuming some delicious treats, but some can be worse than others. Sugar can cause cavities because bacteria in the mouth love to feed on it, producing an acid that weakens and eats away at the tooth surface.



The worse type of treats are the sticky candies such as gummies and taffy. They tend to stick to your teeth and take longer for your saliva to wash away, increasing the risk of cavities and dislodging dental restorations like fillings and crowns.

Hard candies dissolve slowly allowing the sugar to stay in contact with the teeth for a longer period. Once again increasing the risk of cavities. They are also common culprits for breaking teeth.

My favorite candy is dark chocolate. It has less sugar, melts faster in your mouth and is packed with some beneficial antioxidants.

It's okay to enjoy the Halloween treats, just make sure to drink plenty of water to rinse out the sugars in the mouth. The more frequently the teeth are exposed to sugar, the higher the risk for cavity formation. Enjoy, but remember moderation is key when it comes to eating sugary treats.

Dr. Horacio E. Falcón, DDS, of the Falcon Dental Group, 20690 Vernier Road (at the I-94 service drive) may be reached at (313) 884-3050.

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Avoid mistakes in retirement

By Lina Bowman

Whether you're retired or still on the path there, planning is key to avoiding significant in-retirement financial errors.

There are five key mistakes: overspending, avoiding money discussions with family, Social Security missteps, unsuitable withdrawal strategies, and making investing your new hobby.



While working, most of us don't create budgets. But to avoid overspending during retirement, it's important to review your cash flow to understand your wants and needs. Discussing money with family is sometimes considered taboo, but it's critically important to avoid destroying family wealth and relationships once assets transfer. Work with family and an experienced financial professional to have these critical discussions and create an estate plan.

Social Security is an essential component of retirement income, so you'll want to plan for the optimal time to start it. Your strategy should be individualized to factor in your health and life expectancy.

Your withdrawal strategy — which accounts to access and at what age — is paramount in optimizing your overall retirement income. Don't just assume generic income strategies, such as the 4% rule, will work for you.

There are many ways to potentially jeopardize your financial health in retirement, and there may be less time and fewer ways to recover from big financial mistakes once you're out of the workforce. That's why it's so important to take steps aimed at helping you make informed decisions about your wealth, to help you enjoy your life to the fullest. A seasoned financial advisor can help.

Lina Bowman is a financial adviser in Grosse Pointe. She can be reached at (313) 343-0800 or Lina@BowmanAsset.com.

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Loyalty in 2023

By Anna Bartolotta

Recently, a friend mentioned to me about how she really enjoyed bouncing back and forth from the different fresh food delivery services that are offered in her area. She said there are just so many to choose from and with new subscriber specials and different delicious meals, it is easy to try them all.



I could not understand this concept of jumping around from service to service to save a dollar. I have always been a champion of trying to save a dime, but the concept of loyalty is and will continue to be most important to me.

I am constantly on the receiving end of new property owners who are looking for new management companies to service their investments. I am generally contacted due to a previous ineffective property manager. Blind loyalty in a company does neither side any good.

There have been times when an owner has left us looking for discounted rates, not because of anything we have done, simply for their bottom line. A property owner that says to me, "Another company is offering us an insane discounted rate," my response will always be, "Best of luck, we hope to see you back with us some day." I am absolutely sure that an insanely discounted management company will not allow a 1 a.m. text message, followed with a response that includes a smile emoji.

When people are set on saving money, sometimes the value of the product or service is overlooked. Loyalty to a company that has grown with you and has always provided great service is far more important in the long run. If you take care of your tenants and you take care of your clients, they in return will take care of you.

Anna Bartolotta is owner of Grosse Pointe Apartments and Property Management. This area's original dedicated, full service, full time rental agency staffed with licensed agents.

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Meet Rachel



Name	Rachel Elizabeth Lucas
Age	44
City	Grosse Pointe Woods
Occupation	Grades 5-8 Band Instructor for Bloomfield Hills Schools

Rachel's Favorites

Season

Summer

Book

The Joy Luck Club

Musical Artist

I don't have a specific favorite artist. I listen and enjoy many genres of music such as classical, pop, Latin, tango, Motown, funk and soul.

Spot in Grosse Pointe

Lake Front Park

Outdoor Activity

Relaxing on the beach

Restaurant

Luxe

Hobbies

Figure skating, karaoke and salsa dancing

What is your favorite thing about living here?

I like that it is a family-friendly city with many parks, family functions and restaurants.

What is the best trip you've ever taken?

A three-week trip where I visited Scotland, England and France

What are two of your best personality traits?

Friendly and resilient

What is at the top of your bucket list?

To take my son to Scotland and ride the Jacobite train that is featured in Harry Potter

What is one thing not many people know about you?

I'm adopted from Korea and my Scottish father inspired my love of Celtic music.

What accomplishment are you most proud of?

I am most proud of the fact that I put myself through my bachelor's degree, master's degree and teaching certificate.

Favorite quotation?

"Nothing is Impossible. The word itself says I'M POSSIBLE."

About Rachel

"I have lived in Grosse Pointe Woods since 2014. My husband and I bought our house when we got married and settled on this area because of the schools and family-oriented community. Our son will be starting first grade at Monteith this fall.

I am a grade 5-8 band teacher and Principal Flute with the Macomb Symphony Orchestra. My husband is a full time musician and we met back in college while attending the same music school. We are blessed to make a living doing what we truly love.

In my spare time, I enjoy figure skating. This is a rather new hobby that I picked up during the pandemic when I was 42. I needed an outdoor activity for my son and I to do together so I signed us up for learn to skate lessons. I loved it so much that I decided to keep going with private lessons and find it to be really great exercise while having a lot of fun. The best part is meeting fellow adult skaters who have now become really great friends.

As a family, we enjoy spending time together up at our cabin in Oscoda, Mich. We love swimming in Lake Huron at Oscoda Beach Park and fishing on the Au Sable River. We also enjoy hiking and checking out Iargo Springs and Lumberman's Monument sand dunes and cross country skiing at Silver Valley Trailhead."



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By Lauren McGregor

“I grew up with design all around me because of homes we’ve lived in — all Hilary Micou, and two of them designed by Dan Clancy.”

There’s something in the air at Bill and Cyndy Doherty’s Grosse Pointe Farms home. It has almost exclusively housed designers, starting with its architect, Hilary H. Micou, later DJ Kennedy, and, finally, the Dohertys, whose daughter, Alex Decker, would go on to found A Decker Design.

For over 30 years, the Dohertys have lived in the house, raised two children there and acted as stewards of this shining example of Micou architecture.

“I’ve only ever lived in a Micou house,” says Decker. Prior to the Dohertys purchasing this home, they lived in another Micou in Grosse Pointe. And today, Decker lives in a nearby Micou



Left, reupholstered bench in the dining room in Missoni Home Fabric; left, middle, The Garden Room, designed by Dan Clancy; below, clockwise from top right, Dining Room; Foyer; 1945 Pichwai art

Photos by Maurice Hogan, 31 and Up Media



original architecture. It makes a statement, with French doors and large windows crowned by arched brickwork.

The family’s impressive art collection includes pieces by Richard Jerzy and Boyko Asparuhov and a stunning Pichwai piece from 1945. “It’s a traditional home, but with such contemporary art,” says Decker. “I love that juxtaposition. It’s something I carry through into my designs today.”

Decker’s eye for art and design was apparent at a young age. “I wanted a Secret Garden themed room. I asked if we could wallpaper the ceiling. My mom said let’s just keep it on the walls,” she laughs. “I even put a key in the door, just like in the story.”

“I grew up with design all around me because of homes we’ve lived in — all Hilary Micou, and two of them designed by Dan Clancy,” says Decker. “He had a real talent for mixing patterns, which I love to do.”

Decker has employed her design skills in her parents’ house, including a refresh in the dining room, redesigns in her childhood bedroom and its bathroom (featured in the July-August issue) and a redesign of the first floor two-room powder room.

“We were so lucky in the powder room to uncover the original honed marble beneath purple carpet.” It’s the same marble that covers the foyer and hallway floors and it was in near-perfect condition after professional restoration. Decker also replaced the floral wallpaper with a wall covering, Schumacher Marcel in Stone, reminiscent of Micou’s style and a nod to the architectural history of the home.

with her husband and son.

What’s particularly special about this 1938 Grosse Pointe Farms house is that Micou built it for himself and his family.

The foyer, an octagon, is especially unique. “I love Micou’s dramatic entrances,” says Cyndy Doherty. “They are very pleasing to the eye.” In particular, she says, because of the continuation of the honed black marble floors and white marble inset from foyer into the central hallway.

“The entrance amplifies the interior architecture,” says Decker.

“The attention to detail is everywhere,” says Doherty. “From the trim and crown moldings to the baseboards.”

Both Decker and Doherty’s favorite room is the Garden Room, a later addition to the



“In my old bedroom, now the guestroom, I selected a blue paint because it’s the only bedroom in the house with lake views,” says Decker. “The room is inspired by the East Coast, a Nantucket vibe. The carpet has neutral tones and texture and we added shutters.”

“It’s calm, yet vibrant,” says Doherty. “The carpet reminds me of sand, and the walls of water and sky.”

Decker is also responsible for a refresh of the dining room, including repainting the walls and millwork in high gloss green and the ceiling in metallic silver. A quirky addition was the reupholstering of a bench in Missoni Home Fabric. She looks forward to holiday dinners in the room and muses on her dream dinner guests.

“Hilary Micou, DJ Kennedy and Dan Clancy,” she says immediately. “They have all passed and they were all designers and architects who influenced this home.

“I would have loved to have met Hilary Micou. We were fortunate to meet his wife who lived in this home with him. She stopped by one day to introduce herself and share some memories from when she lived here.”

Decker reflects on how fortunate she was to



grow up in the home. “I remember having so much pride in this home. The house had its own presence. When a new person came over, we loved showing them around, as though introducing them to a member of the family.”

Left, the two-room powder room featuring the restored original floor and new wall covering; below, the guestroom featuring a chair recovered in Osborne & Little fabric and a Serena & Lily bed with tassel detail



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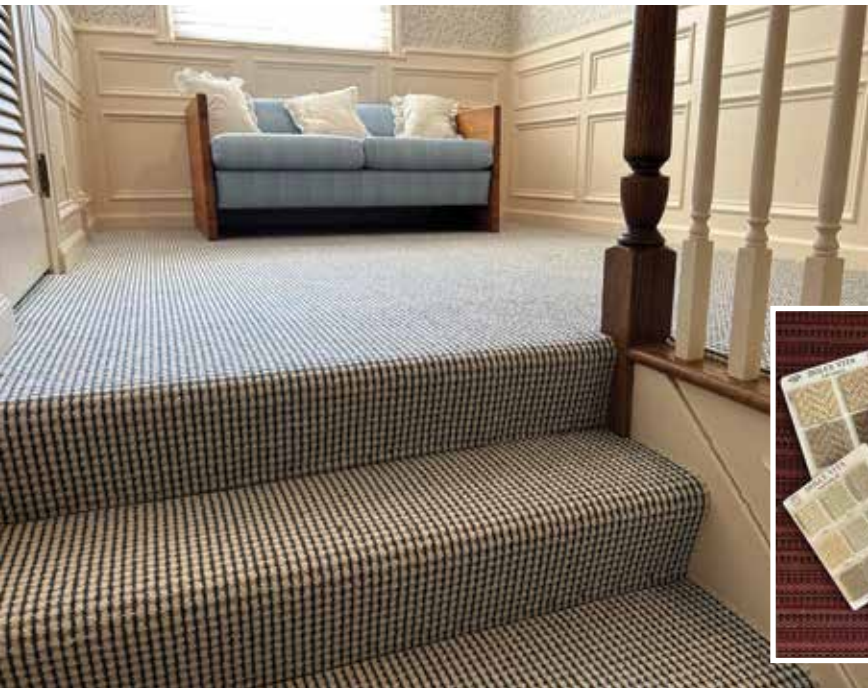


1 **Runners** are a very popular choice to add to a beautiful staircase, especially with a pop of color. All of our carpets can be made into a runner and this chevron pattern has been a great choice for many.



3 **Hardwood** is very prevalent in the Grosse Pointe area. We have been busy installing new and refinishing original wood. The lighter and natural shades have been the most popular lately.

4 **Wool carpet** is a natural product that is extremely durable and can last a long time. Our wool carpets add a bit of sophistication to your home with so many beautiful and unique textures, colors and patterns to choose from.



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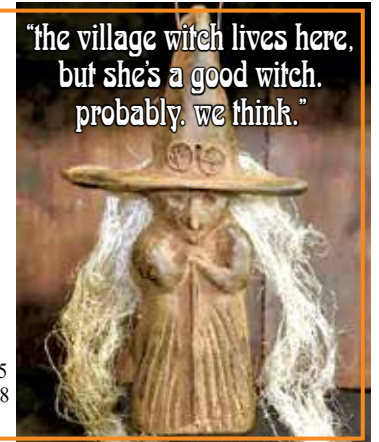
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15201 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park • (313) 925-3430

The Bricks is a wood fired pizzeria specializing in house-milled, ancient grains, grown on our private farm in Metamora. We specialize in Neapolitan style pizzas, and house-made, fresh pastas. Top it all off with an impressive beverage program including house cocktails, an extensive wine list, and a curated selection of beers. We've got a spacious dining room, covered patio, and a legendary arcade for game time, right in the heart of the Park on Kercheval. We're the perfect place for dinner with friends, family, coworkers, or private events, and we can cater! It's always lit at The Bricks!



JOIN US WEDNESDAYS FOR #WINEWEDNESDAY AND ENJOY 30% OFF ALL BOTTLES ENJOYED IN HOUSE!

Hours: Tue-Sat 5-9pm; closed Sun & Mon
Web: thebrickspizzeria.com



Champs Rotisserie & Seafood

20515 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods (3 blks. S. of Vernier) • (313) 886-7755

Champs is located on Mack just three streets south of Vernier. Our soups, sauces and dressings are housemade daily using only the freshest ingredients from Michigan companies when possible. Champs is known for its Rotisserie Ribs and Chicken, served with our homemade BBQ sauce for which Champs has been known for the past 55 years since it was the BBQ House of Grosse Pointe. We also offer an exquisite variety of seafood, salad entrees, sandwiches, appetizers and a full children's menu. We also offer daily specials that we have become known for. For those warm nights, enjoy our patio with a big screen TV or you may choose to stay inside and snuggle by our beautiful fireplace. With this unique atmosphere, comes a full-service bar to make your dining experience complete. Call ahead on those busy days for a carry-out. Our specially designed carry-out boxes will ensure your food gets home fresh and hot. We will cater your next event. Call and speak to one of our catering specialists. Order off our catering menu or create your own.



BOOKING PRIVATE PARTIES ON THE PATIO.
FROM OUR KITCHEN TO YOURS, WE CAN HANDLE ANY OF YOUR CATERING NEEDS!

Hours: Mon-Sun 3-10pm
Web: www.ChampsRotisserie.com



Da Edoardo - Grosse Pointe

19767 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods • (313) 881-8540

Da Edoardo Grosse Pointe has been a place for families to gather since 1978. Enjoy traditional Northern Italian Cuisine and quickly become family at Da Edoardo. For over forty years the Barbieri family has taken great pride in the fact that they have cared for generations of families. Children that once came in are now bringing their children to dine at Da Edoardo. Customers quickly become family here and they are treated as such. Nestled in Grosse Pointe Woods, the décor truly makes guests feel that they are dining at a true Italian restaurant. The booths are wrapped in deep mahogany, leather and the wooden beamed ceilings make the space cozy and comfortable. Eclectic Italian art adorns the rustic brick walls while fireside booths provide a romantic and intimate setting. During the warmer months the restaurant's patio is perfect for enjoying a meal al fresco.



Dinner for Two with Bottle of Wine \$65.95*

*Mon-Thu see menu for details

Hours: Mon closed; Tue-Thu 4-10pm; Fri-Sat 4-11pm; Sun 4-9pm
Website: daedoardo.com



Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe!

97 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms • (313) 882-5299

Upscale Dining and Jazz Favorites at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe! The dining room is open, and we have live entertainment Friday and Saturday. The Dirty Dog also offers private dining in their beautiful boardroom that is sure to make your event memorable. They also offer a catering menu for offsite events, go to www.DirtyDogJazz.com and click on the "Cuisine" tab to see the full catering menu.  

Happy Hour Tuesday-Friday 3-5pm

Lunch Tuesday-Friday 11:30am-3pm

Reservations Highly Recommended ... please call for show times!

For Live Entertainment schedule and seatings, see our advertisement on page 3.

Web: www.dirtydogjazz.com



Irish Coffee Bar and Grill HOME OF THE ORIGINAL BAR BURGER!

18666 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Farms • (313) 881-5675

Irish Coffee Bar and Grill has been a staple on Mack Avenue in Grosse Pointe Farms for **43 YEARS**, notable for their fantastic bar burgers (1/3 lb ground rounds) and numerous coffee cocktails. Three high-definition TVs make this neighborhood bar a great place to watch the game. Swing by after the game or any entertainment event in the area, bring your ticket stub and your burger is only \$4.95 with purchase of a beverage! This family-owned restaurant is a great spot for young and old, and there is something on the menu for everyone. The homemade onion rings are a local favorite, and the fresh and hand-battered yellow-belly perch is particularly popular among seafood lovers. Corned-beef sandwiches top off the menu with a true, Irish flare, not to mention our crispy chicken and Philly sandwiches. **All our menu items are available for carry-out!**



Grosse Pointe News



**Best Burger ...
2 years in a row!**



Hours: Sun-Mon 5-11pm

Grill open until midnight Fri&Sat

CHECK OUT OUR NEW PATIO!



Little Tony's Lounge — VOTED #1 CHILI IN DETROIT!

20513 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods • (313) 885-8522

Little Tony's is Grosse Pointe's favorite Bar & Grill. A place where families and friends have gathered for 53 years for great food and good cheer. Cozy, quaint and warm. A real neighborhood bar, where locals meet and everyone really does know your name. Serving only the freshest of Ground Rounds (never frozen), Little Tony's has made a name for itself as "the place" to go on the east side for Great Burgers. Cooked to order and served with an array of extras, you are sure to have your burger craving satisfied here. Our extensive bar is complimented by a great selection of beers, liquor and wines. Dine on our beautiful, open-air patio during the summer months. Tony, Ellen, Tony Jr. and Jack are keeping up the tradition of serving the "Best Burgers on the Eastside." So stop in, they would love to serve you! 

Lunch Specials \$9.95

Tues-Fri Noon - 3pm

Happy Hour Tues-Fri 3-6pm

Hours: Tue-Sat Noon-10pm


Web: www.littletonyslounge.com



OUTDOOR DINING IS OPEN!

Luxe Bar & Grill

115 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms • (313) 924-5459 or (313) 821-4389

Now in our **10th year**, we are so grateful that we were able to be here for our community over this time and, of course, we are incredibly grateful that you were so supportive of us. We couldn't have made it through this time without you all! Now let's get back at it! We believe the character of a bar is its patrons, and we welcome all seeking food, company and friendly conversation to enjoy our charmed local bar. An eclectic menu features fantastic Prime Burgers on homemade brioche buns, as well as scratch soups, salads and entrées, including chicken, salmon, lamb chops and steaks in a variety of different daily preparations. Please be patient with us as we, and our loyal suppliers, continue to return to normal amid labor and supply challenges impacting all of us. 

Carryout and curbside pickup available.

Hours: Daily Mon-Fri 11am-midnight; Sat 9am-midnight; Sun 9am-10pm


Brunch: Sat & Sun 9am-2pm

Web: www.luxebarandgrill.com



Mack Avenue Grille — It's a destination!

19841 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods • (313) 886-0680

As the Mack Avenue Grille enters its 10th year by kicking things up a notch by offering premium beers premium wines by the glass — Caymus and Quilt to name but a couple — along with their full-service bar. And the highlights of their popular **brunches** are their unique **Bloody Marys** and, of course, **fresh squeezed Mimosas** available nowhere else on The Avenue! Mack Avenue Grille also offers a full-service bar, perfect for the holidays! Of course, they are not forgetting what made Mack Avenue Grille more than a diner. They will continue to offer three homemade soups du jour or freshly homemade chili daily, burgers and all manner of diner sandwiches, fresh-squeezed orange juice and three-egg, whipped omelets of all combinations. All ingredients are fresh — no frozen fish here! Mack Avenue Grille: It's so much more than a diner. It's a destination! 

ORDER ONLINE FOR CARRY OUT AND CURBSIDE PICKUP!

Hours: Mon-Sat 9am-8pm, Sun 9am-3pm

Website: mackgrille.com



Mike's on the Water

Located in Michigan Harbor/Colony Marine (enter thru automatic gates)

24600 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores • (586) 872-2630

Our **13th season** promises to be bigger and better than ever! Our fun and cozy atmosphere makes Mike's a fabulous place to unwind. With '70s era music, great food and drink prices and a very friendly staff, Mike's is a great place for people of all ages. We are family oriented and have a great kids menu. Our menu has everything from burgers and sandwiches to fried fish and daily fresh-catch specials, including boatloads of perch, and great salads. Try our "Lobster Roll" — over 90,000 sold! **Watch your favorite sports teams at any of our three bars, including The Lookout with Detroit's only rooftop food truck!** Mike's boasts ample parking, 26 boat wells with docking for up to a 48-foot vessel and a floating dock for personal watercraft.

Your host, Mike LeFevre

**BANQUET ROOM COMING SOON! STARTING BOOKING FOR CHRISTMAS NOW!
NOVEMBER & DECEMBER, UP TO 75 PEOPLE.**



Kitchen Hours: Tues-Thur 11:30am-9pm; Fri-Sat 11:30am-10pm; Sun noon-9pm

Bar Hours: Tues-Sat 11:30am-close; Sun noon-close; Closed Mondays

Web: www.mikesonthewater.com



The Pepperoni Bar and Grille

22411 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores • (586) 774-3998

As its name implies, Pepperoni Grille is a cheerful spot set in a welcome, casual atmosphere. The eatery features a small bar and dining room on one side of the central open kitchen, and a second dining room on the other side. It offers notable pizza along with a number of popular dishes from Calamari and Chicken Picatta to Filet Mignon and New York Strip Steaks. The staff is friendly and courteous. The full bar offers wine, liquor and beer. **Tuesday is half-off pizza all day**, dine in or carry out. **Come see our remodel and have dinner! We are so excited! Make TONIGHT date night!** (Reservations recommended.) 

WEDNESDAY PASTA NIGHT FOR 2 — \$54.99*

Your choice of 2 pasta dishes and a bottle of our house Chardonnay, Cabernet, Merlot or Pinot Grigio. All pasta dishes are cooked to order and served with a houses salad or a cup of soup.

*Subject to change.



Hours: Sun-Mon-Closed; Tue-Thu 4-9pm; Fri-Sat 4-10pm

Web: www.pepperonigrillescs.com



Telly's Place — Celebrating 40+ Years!

20791 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Woods • (313) 881-3985

As a staple of the Grosse Pointe Woods neighborhood since 1982, Telly's isn't your normal bar and grill. Walk in off Mack and you'll instantly notice that with 40+ years of history, a sense of warmth, friendliness and contemporary atmosphere abounds. Everyone is welcome at Telly's. Everyone is family at Telly's. Owners and native Grosse Pointers Ty and Jimmy are committed to bringing you the atmosphere, quality and service that has made Telly's an institution.  

Monday - \$6 Margaritas
Wednesday - \$8 Martinis
Lunch Specials \$9.95


Hours: Mon-Sat 11am-Close; Sun 4pm-Close;
 Kitchen closes at 10 pm

Web: tellysplace.com



The Continental at Ford House

1100 Lake Shore Road, Grosse Pointe Shores • (313) 884-4222

Experience the lakeside restaurant at the historic estate of Edsel and Eleanor Ford, with gorgeous views of Ford Cove on Lake St. Clair. The food is as extraordinary as the setting, featuring a modern twist on classic American fare. The menu features classics like the Maurice Salad and baskets of popovers, as well as fresh seasonal entrees and salads. A full bar is available, and we serve lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunch. Take a meal to go from The Speedster counter and enjoy a picnic on the estate. **Ford House members receive a 20% discount on all food purchases.** 

Reservations recommended.

Hours: Lunch: Tue-Sat: 11am-3pm; Dinner: Thu-Sat: 4-8pm; Brunch: Sun: 10am-4pm
 (Closed Mondays)

Web: www.fordhouse.org



Village Grille

16930 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe • (313) 882-4555

Located in The Village for 25 years. Family friendly restaurant and sports bar offering: daily lunch and dinner specials, 25 draft beers, Keno, Garden and all new Soup Bar featuring 6 house-made soups every day! Planning a party? Ask about our full service catering or check out our private banquet room which will accommodate up to 60 guests and offers a variety of menu packages suitable for any event and budget: Showers, rehearsal dinners, team parties, business meetings and receptions!



VIEW MENU

NOW OPEN FOR INSIDE DINING!

TAKE-OUT, CURBSIDE PICKUP AVAILABLE

Hours: Open daily 11am

Web: www.villagegrillegp.com



Watermark Bar & Grille @ Jefferson Beach Marina

24420 Jefferson Ave., St. Clair Shores • (586) 777-3677

Watermark's extensive menu and hand crafted premium cocktails make it your year-round waterfront destination. Enjoy the signature lobster mac and cheese in our dining room or a shrimp po' boy by the water on the largest patio on the nautical mile! Live entertainment on Thursdays with other nights coming soon. Host your next event at the Watermark! Our banquet room boasts a glass wall allowing for a picturesque waterfront view for your wedding, corporate events, or any other special occasion. Whether you're hosting 50 or 120, we do it all to make your event a success. Located in the heart of the Nautical Mile in St. Clair Shores, Watermark is open 6 days a week for lunch and dinner along with **Breakfast**

Sunday morning.



OPEN YEAR-ROUND FOR INDOOR DINING, BANQUETS AND CARRY OUT!

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for the latest news including updates.

Kitchen Hours: Closed Mondays. Tue-Sat Noon-10pm; Sun Brunch 9am-2pm, Dinner 2-9pm

Web: www.watermarkbarandgrille.com



The Whiskey Six — Under New Ownership!

646 St. Clair Ave., Grosse Pointe • (313) 939-2403

Located in The Village of Grosse Pointe, The Whiskey Six is a family friendly gastropub that serves great food alongside classic cocktails, craft beer and boasts a well provisioned wine cellar. The name and establishment pay homage to a day when Detroit was the nation's rum-running port. Under new owner Dino Ropotos, the emphasis is on not just fine whiskey, wine and craft beers, but also on a friendly, family environment with great menu items — including amazing Salads and Shareables (Butter Board, Caprese Bites, Lettuce Wraps) Burgers and Tacos (including the crowd-pleasing Smokehouse Burger), Pastas, Pizzas and unforgettable Entrees, including Filet Mignon, Atlantic Salmon, Pork Chop Marsala, Fish and Chips, Kabobs, Octopus Char Grilled, Chicken Milanese and Hunan Shrimp. Menu prices range from \$10-\$39.

Keeping with the emphasis on families with a menu for kids as well. Clearly, there is something for everyone at The Whiskey Six, including the atmosphere!



Hours: Closed Mondays. Tue-Sun 4-10pm;


Web: www.thewhiskeysix.com





now open

Cocktail napkins with cheeky literary quotations, the bill delivered in an antique book, wall-to-wall bookshelves with an expertly curated selection for sale. It's a destination unique not only to Grosse Pointe, but to all of metro Detroit. From the interior design and inventory to the food, drinks and service, no detail has been spared at Flyleaf.

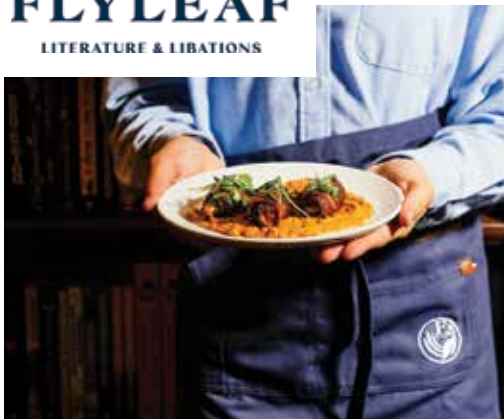
The independent bookshop, bistro and bar is now open for all to enjoy. Stop in for your literary needs, its house blend of ethically sourced coffee, and inspired elevated small plates and a bar boasting wine, spirits and cocktails. 




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Top photo by Justin Maconochie; bottom photos by Emily Berger



GROSSE POINTE FARMS FOUNDATION
2ND ANNUAL FUNDRAISER




COME
PLAY
WITH US

Help us reach our goal to install new pickleball courts and update the tennis courts at Pier Park.

The second annual "Come Play With Us" Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation fundraiser will take place Thursday, Sept. 21, 5:30-8 p.m. at the Pier Park Community Building.

Last year, Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation installed a new playground at Pier Park, donated to the K9 Unit and Kerby Elementary's playground. This year's fundraiser will support the construction of two new pickleball courts and resurfacing the tennis courts at Pier Park, which will be installed in the spring of 2024.

"This project was chosen due to the growing popularity of pickleball, to give our community more outdoor sporting options and to keep our residents engaged and enjoying our wonderful park," says Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation Trustee Nora Ezop. "The total cost of this build will be near \$300,000. A new path between the two courts and landscaping is included in that price. Currently, there are three tennis courts and we use one of the courts as a makeshift pickleball court."

The fundraising event will include an open bar and hors d'oeuvres by Forte Belanger. Tickets are \$100 per person and available at grossepointefarmsfoundation.org/events/2023-cocktail-party-fundraiser. 



Please Join us for our Pickleball Fundraiser Event



LEARN MORE

Event Auction to include: VIP parking spot at the Pier Park for a year, two reserved picnic tables on the 400 of July just for the fireworks show and a spot in the Pickle Board Shack for a great just to name a few items.

Tau Beta Fall Market

It's that time again! Tau Beta Association is hosting its annual Fall Market Oct. 5-7 at the beautiful Grosse Pointe Club. Shop a fabulous array of specialty boutiques featuring unique home accessories, clothing, jewelry and more.



This year's market boasts 20 unique on-site vendors, including 11 new ones.

Chairs are Abigail Wujek and Carrie Calcaterra.

Honorary Chairs are Patsy Gotfredson and Mary Farley. Patron Chairs are Nancy Cotton and Jennifer Kendall Mooney.

Current top sponsors are: Platinum, Shery Cotton; Silver, Mr. Michael F. Shields, Legacy Wealth.

For a list of Bronze sponsors, visit www.taubeta.org.

The Preview Party will be held Thursday, Oct. 5, 6-9 p.m. Tickets are \$75 per person or \$85 at the door. The evening will feature live music, an

Above, From left, Abigail Wujek, Nancy Cotton, Mary Farley, Carrie Calcaterra and Jennifer Kendall Mooney; left, pieces by Chakeris Charleston, a 2023 vendor



Photo by Yellow Door Photography

open bar, signature cocktail and hors d'oeuvres.

Raffle tickets are available the night of the Preview Party, \$25 per ticket or five for \$100. The drawing will take place at 8:30 p.m. that evening.

For more information, visit www.taubeta.org; on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TBSpringMarket/; on Instagram @taubetafallmarket; or by emailing fallmarket@taubeta.org.



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EMPOWERING FAMILIES. ENRICHING LIVES.

By Susan Bollinger

For more than 23 years, The Family Center has connected with Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods families to offer support, programming and resources. Now they have a new logo and a new tagline that encapsulates what they are all about: “Empowering families. Enriching lives.”

“Our mission is to help build happier, healthier families,” says Executive Director Jen Bingaman. “While we serve

Coming This Fall...

September
Community Book Club: *The Good Life* by Robert Waldinger, MD and Marc Schultz, PhD
Parenting Program: How to Connect with Your iGeneration Child
Narcan Rescue Training: Learn to Save a Life

October
Community Baby Shower: For parents and caregivers from pregnancy through three years
Expert Panel Discussion: A Family First Approach to Prevention, Addiction, & Recovery
QPR: Question.Persuade.Refer. Suicide prevention training

November
Men's Night Out: Physical and mental health topics and Q&A led by a panel of local experts


 Scan for details

Follow Us!     32 Lake Shore Drive | Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 | FamilyCenterWeb.org | 313.447.1374



the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods, because we are not a physical center, our reach is far greater. Our resources are available for anyone, anywhere, 24/7.”

Most in-person Family Center programs are hosted at The War Memorial, libraries and schools.

Their team works closely with local school systems and therapists, who give them unique insights into community needs. “We have relationships with principals and counselors who tell us when a trend or issue is developing so we can tackle it before it grows. One school identified a bullying issue, another noticed an increase in disordered eating and we responded with programming for students,


parents and teachers to address all angles,” explains Bingaman. Additional programs focused on mental and physical wellness and healthy coping skills.

The Family Center also responds to crisis situations. “After the shooting at Michigan State, we set up community grief centers staffed by therapists and a hotline through CNS Healthcare to connect callers with therapists immediately,” remembers Bingaman.

And following several suspected fentanyl overdose deaths, The Family Center hosted a town hall on the opioid epidemic and offered Narcan training, attended by 85 people. The Family Center’s Director of Programs and Administration MaryJo Harris is now

coordinating Healthy Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods, the only substance abuse prevention coalition in the community.

“In the past year, we hosted or participated in more than 100 programs and events,” says Bingaman.

Fall programming includes preschool playtime, yoga and meditation, and a book club. “Everyone is part of a family,” says Bingaman. “Our programs and resources are designed to support and inspire families. They are open to everyone – and everything we do is free.” Learn more at familycenterhelps.org. 

Above left, 2023 Book Club; above right, Playtime

Photos courtesy of The Family Center



LIVE INSPIRED MAGAZINE
A PUBLICATION OF THE WAR MEMORIAL
SEPTEMBER | OCTOBER 23

AUTUMN PREVIEW

From mysteries to libations and more

Fred M. Alger Center at
THE WAR MEMORIAL
Your community non-profit

Support TWM

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LIVE INSPIRED MAGAZINE
SEP./OCT. 2023 ISSUE

EDITOR: Jamie Delas

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John Martin Photography

Inner Circle Photography

Your Patriotic, Cultural, and Community Leader

Generations of families have passed through our doors to participate in the arts, celebrate life events, enrich their minds, and learn more about themselves, our history and the world.

The War Memorial is a community nonprofit organization which proudly serves Southeastern Michigan and continues to remain an experiential place for everyone from everywhere through a wide offering of classes, activities, and events. Our growing regional ecosystem with over 65 partners and collaborators augments our offerings encompassing a diverse dialogue of activities, audiences and opportunities. These programs and services are only possible because of your donations. Your support makes a difference.

Embracing our legacy and mission with innovative expansions and events, we are dedicated to being a regional driver of arts, learning, patriotism, hospitality, and connectivity.

How to Support The War Memorial

Gifts by credit card or check

www.warmemorial.org/support

Planned giving

Support for Les Braves II: At Water's Edge

Endowment Fund

Business sponsorships

Employee matching gifts

Gifts-in-kind

Kroger Community Rewards

The War Memorial is a proud partner and friend of The Family Center whose mission for the challenges and to ensure a thriving community.

Founded in 2000 by registered nurse and social worker, Diane Strickler, they aim to make the skilled parents foster capable, healthy, and responsible children. Since being established, The wellness classes, drug and alcohol abuse prevention, child development, mental health and

They will be hosting a book club on September 21 at The War Memorial, discussing The Good



WELCOME TO THE TEAM

Aaron Turk



Viewing The War Memorial and reflecting on his background, Aaron Turk saw an opportunity to support the organization.

"When asked by the board, I expressed that if my experience and skill set in business strategy and execution could be helpful, then I'm in," he noted.

Turk is one of the newest members of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial Association Board of Directors.

As a Grosse Pointe community member the last nine years, Turk has experience with The War Memorial and cultivated a friendship with the former CEO Charles Burke. The Navy veteran has a deep appreciation for the nonprofit's history, mission, and values. In the Navy, following several combat deployments as a Naval Flight Officer, he completed a staff tour at the Pentagon - assigned to the Navy Foreign Liaison Office, part of the Chief of Naval Operations staff. He then pursued an MBA and has worked

in business as a management consultant, startup operator, and industry executive. "The momentum with recent developments is very tangible," he said in response to how the organization can maintain its upward trend following the opening of the Fred M. Alger Center and the dedication of Les Braves II: At Water's Edge. "The War Memorial is an incredible asset for the Grosse Pointe community, the Metro Detroit region, and beyond. The mission is so critical to our country right now and I look forward to extending our reach."

Jessica Taub

When asked to interview to be on the board of directors at The War Memorial, Jessica Taub was shocked and honored.

"I never even imagined I would be asked to participate," she said. "Being from Dearborn and moving to Grosse Pointe, The War Memorial visually is awe inspiring. Then you get to know what it's about."

Taub's grandfather served in World War II as a fighter pilot, flying B-24s in the China Burma India Theater. "There's always that degree of reverence, so to be able to show respect in that way and be involved in staying true to that message at The War Memorial, and bringing community together and learning from each other in a safe space with mutual respect is important," she said.

Taub attended Dartmouth College in New Hampshire and has been

in Grosse Pointe Farms since 2017. Being a lawyer, she is familiar with corporate and board governance, its intricacies and is familiar with nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organizations.

Her past work includes time with the Michigan Attorney General's Office and for the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office. She graduated from the University of Michigan Law School in 2012.



past 20 years has been to deliver educational and community resources that empower families to navigate life's

community more youth and family friendly. The organization was established on the premise that knowledgeable and Family Center has continued to offer a wide range of resources and free programs from local experts ranging from many others all aimed at building strong families and helping parents raise responsible future citizens.

Life: Lessons from the World's Longest Scientific Study of Happiness. Learn more at www.familycenterweb.org

VETERAN SPOTLIGHT

CLIFFORD ALVIRA

Navy World War II Veteran One of Four Honored at Dedication Ceremony

He was proudly acknowledged at a War Memorial ceremony in May for a sculpture dedication that directly represents where he served in World War II.

In May, 98-year-old World War II veteran Clifford Alvira was one of four members of the Greatest Generation who attended the dedication ceremony for Les Braves II: At Water's Edge, joining Robert Haffner, Jean Gilbert and George Gitari.

The Royal Oak resident served in the Navy from 1943-1945. He still remembers the bombs, the bodies and all the men who didn't make it. Alvira arrived on Omaha Beach, the most heavily defended beach by German forces, at 6:30 am on June 6, 1944, forever known as D-Day. Les Braves II is the official world-wide twin of Les Braves in Normandy, France, originally created for the 60th

anniversary of the D-Day invasion and sculpted by French artist Anilore Banon. It is a lasting tribute to the western Allies that landed on Omaha Beach on D-Day.

"We were told there's nothing you can do for the bodies; just go on with your own business," he said. "It's not a nice scene. You see an arm here, a leg here."

It's estimated that more than 9,000 allied soldiers were killed or wounded on D-Day.

Drafted into the Navy, Alvira, the oldest of 10 children to Mexican immigrants, served as a seaman 2nd class. He arrived on D-Day in landing craft tank 542 with 30 other men. His job that day, still a teenager, was to take over for the operator of another landing craft, in the event he was killed.

"Our job was to land the guys on the beach," Alvira said. "Once we hit the beach, then we heard all of the fireworks. Everything was timed. The planes came over first and bombed the beaches, then we arrived."

As he approached the beach, he remembers it being foggy and seeing bullet tracers, bombings and plenty of planes. He notes that what made Omaha Beach so dangerous was that once his unit arrived, the plan was for reimbursements of supplies to arrive, something that never happened.

"We ended up with 100 tons of supplies, not 2,400," he recalled.

With nearly 80 years of perspective since that day, Alvira said the significance of D-Day was that Allied forces were the keys that opened up the passage for others to get to Germany.

"If we would've lost at Normandy, we'd all be speaking German," he noted.

Altogether, Alvira was in Europe from January to June 1944.

Fun Fact About TWM History

On June 23, 1951, a massive carnival was held on The War Memorial grounds to help generate interest among the community. With activities at the fair consisting of skill games, thrill rides, carnival foods, fireworks, prizes, dancing, pony rides and so much more, the carnival was a huge success amongst community members!

For many years, there was also a great desire to build a large wooden dance floor on the back bowling lawn as well as there being talk of building a BBQ pit in the early '50's!



Featured Events



Best Laid Plans, An Old Hollywood Whodunnit: A Murder Mystery Dinner

This killer evening will be full of mystery, intrigue, and murder as guests help gather clues and solve the mystery crime! Search for clues, question the unthinkable, and uncover the guilty party to save the night. Not only is this evening full of intrigue, but guests will enjoy a sinful three-course dinner to complement this night of menace. Join us in your best evening wear for a night you won't forget!

Wednesday, Oct. 25th
Cocktail Hour 6:30 pm
Dinner 7:00 pm



Comedy & Cocktails: The All-Star Showdown

For an evening, The War Memorial becomes the setting of an energetic comedy club where laughter flows and themed craft cocktails tickle your taste buds and your funny bone. Immerse yourself in the world of interactive improvised comedy, where the audience becomes part of the action while two comedic teams compete for your amusement in a high-energy battle of wits and humor. It promises to be a barrel of laughs.

Thursday, Nov. 30th
Cocktail Hour 7:00 pm
Show Begins 7:30 pm



World of Wine & Spirits Series

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
Tequila's (& Mezcal) Temptations

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12
How to Taste Wine Like a Sommelier

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19
Cider Season

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2
Subtleties of Scotch

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7
Super Sparklers

Prices vary for each event

Upcoming Patriot Gallery Installation

Two Views | Two Shores, an exhibition in The War Memorial's Patriot Gallery through November 3, features the work of Alex Gilford, a painter from Michigan, and Patrick Stieber, a photographer from Ontario.

Gilford is a plain air painter, taking his easel and paints on site to capture scenes on the Detroit River. "The main inspiration for painting this scene was to capture a disappearing icon and an in-progress feat of engineering that will become a new icon," Gilford explains. He painted Downstream in June while he was part of an artist-in-residency program with the Friends of the Detroit River.

Photographer Stieber also sees the passage of time. "Lake Erie feels like an old place. A place out of time, stationary amidst the maelstrom of modernity," he describes, and frets that in places along the Lake Erie coast, relentless waves and wind threaten to submerge the old fishing jetties.

Thursday, Sept. 28 at 6:30 pm, Stieber and Gilford will give a presentation on their work in The Patriot Gallery.

Thursday, Oct. 5 at 6:30 pm, Joel Stone will recall some of the artists who preserved the stories of the Detroit River.

Thursday, Oct. 19 at 6:30 pm, An additional event will be held with details coming soon!



Classes and Activities

The War Memorial's classes and activities are open to the public! Everyone is welcome - membership or residency is not necessary. We continue to offer new and engaging programming for all ages throughout the year. Be sure to visit our website for full details and calendar.

SPORTS AND DANCE

FENCING SESSIONS

September 11 - October 9
October 16 - November 13
November 20 - December 18

BEGINNER FENCING

Mondays, 6 - 6:45pm

INTERMEDIATE FENCING

Mondays, 6:50 - 7:35pm

ADULT FENCING

Mondays, 7:40 - 8:25pm

BALLROOM DANCING

October 26 - December 7

BEGINNER BALLROOM

Thursdays, 7 - 7:50pm

INTERMEDIATE BALLROOM

Thursdays, 8 - 8:50

BELLYDANCE

September 12 - October 17
November 7 - December 12
Tuesdays, 7 - 8pm

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

SELF DEFENSE FOR WOMEN

October 26, 6:30 - 8:30pm

SELF DEFENSE FOR KIDS

October 26, 5:30 - 6:30pm



Grosse Pointe Driving School

Classes run year-round - please visit www.warmemorial.org/drivertraining for a full list of sessions and attendance requirements.

ARTS, CRAFTS, & HOBBIES

CORK & CREATE: ACRYLIC PAINTING - Roses & Rose'

Friday, 6:30 - 9pm
September 15

BASIC BIKE MAINTENANCE WITH B3

Thursday, 6:30 - 8:30pm
September 21

LEARN TO PAINT LIKE BOB ROSS

Saturday, September 23 | 1 - 4pm
Friday, October 27 | 6 - 9pm
Saturday, November 25 | 1 - 4pm

FUSED GLASS CHARCUTERIE BOARD WORKSHOP

Thursday, 6 - 8:30pm
October 5

WATERCOLOR PAINTING

Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8pm
September 20 - October 11
November 1 - November 29

COOKIE DECORATING WORKSHOP

Sunday, October 8
Youth: 11am - 1pm
Adults: 2 - 4pm

iPHONE PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Wednesday, 6 - 8pm
October 25

YOUTH AND FAMILY

HUMMINGBIRDS MUSIC TOGETHER

Thursdays, 9:30am and 10:30am
September 7 - November 9

TINKERGARTEN

Thursday, 10:30 - 11:30am
FREE TRIAL DAY
September 14

WELLNESS SERIES

Thursdays, 10:30 - 11:30am
September 21 - November 16

MIXED-MEDIA ART: WIZARDS, WANDS, AND MAGICAL CREATURES

Sundays, 11am - 12:30pm
September 17 - October 22

CERTIFIED BABYSITTER SAFETY WITH OPTIONAL CERTIFIED PET SITTER

Saturday, 9am - 3pm
October 14

FUSED GLASS WORKSHOP FOR KIDS

Saturday, 12 - 2:30pm
October 21



New classes are continually added!

For full details for every class and activity, please visit www.warmemorial.org or call 313.881.7511

Off to college?

By Jon B. Gandelot

An often-over-looked item when children leave for college is having proper legal documentation for them. When young people reach the age of 18, they are legally considered ADULTS. As such, they have certain rights to privacy. If parents want the right to their student's medical information, bank accounts or even course grades, there are legal documents that college-bound youth should have. They are:



A **GENERAL DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY** will

permit the agent (usually a parent) to handle financial matters for the college student. If the parent(s) wish to receive course progress reports from the college, that language can and should be included in the power of attorney.

Two health care related documents should also be signed by your student. A **DIRECTIONS FOR HEALTH CARE** and **APPOINTMENT OF PATIENT ADVOCATE** document sets forth the type of life support he/she wants (or does not want) in the event he/she is incapable of expressing his/her wishes. This document requires a frank discussion with the student on the type of treatment in the event of an accident or serious illness.

A **HIPAA AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE** allows medical personnel to divulge the student's medical information to the persons (usually the parents) named in the HIPAA document. The federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA") prohibits the disclosure of protected health information without the authorization of the adult patient. If the patient is unable to grant permission due to injury/illness, the HIPAA document gives that authority.

Jon B. Gandelot is senior counsel at Trowbridge Law Firm, P.C., with offices in Detroit and Grosse Pointe.

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Team Stahl falls to bum steering

By John Minnis



Team Stahl
2023 photos by John Minnis

Coming off a grand championship last year, Team Stahl was positioned to repeat in the 2023 Great Race in July, but fate interfered.

Seven days into the nine-day race from St. Augustine, Fla. to Colorado Springs, Colo., last year's champs, Trevor Stahl and Josh Hull in their 1932 red, white and blue Ford Speedster, and Dan Stahl and Brad Phillips in their 1916 Hudson, were in second and third place, respectively.

However, on the way to the hotel following the seventh day on the road, the speedster was side-swiped by a motorist, causing damage to the

steering. While a welder was found to repair the steering, the damage was done. Stahl-Hull came in 104th out of 123 cars. Stahl-Phillips led Team Stahl with a 17th-place finish, followed by Mary and Ted Stahl in their 1967 Pontiac GTO at 93rd place.

Brett Stahl and his son Noah suffered from a similar fate as the speedster when the steering box of their 1935 Auburn broke, forcing them to withdraw from the race. Still, they came in 107th in cumulative points. Noah Stahl, who, appropriately enough, is studying automotive restoration in college, said his car's steering may have been weakened while it was being dollied

from Michigan to Florida.

Stahl family patriarch and Great Race veteran Ted Stahl is used to setbacks. "It's the three 'R's': Race, Repair, Repeat."

The Great Race is a rally for street-legal vintage automobiles at least 45 years old. Vehicles must use original factory parts and modern navigational aids like GPS are prohibited.

The race is a precision pace race, not a high-speed race. Points are awarded on the accuracy of a driver and navigator to match a time and average speed over a predetermined course. Points are also awarded on a handicap system that awards bonus points to older vehicles. Φ



Above, 2022 grand champions Trevor and Josh Hull; center, Mary and Ted Stahl; right, Noah and Brett Stahl



Grosse Pointe Farms artist Sarah Stahl commemorates each Great Race with a poster featuring the grand champion car, top, previous champion, bottom, the route and landmarks along the way. The poster is auctioned off at a Great Race charitable event. So far the posters have raised \$52,000 to support Great Race X-Cup Division for college and high school racers and scholarships.



Brad Phillips and Dan Stahl



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Stratford FESTIVAL

*around the corner
and a world away*

By Lauren McGregor



We started the day with a walk along the Avon River, where the town’s iconic swans floated beside the bank and a paddle boat emerged from beneath one of the many arched bridges. Next, we made our way to York Street as the cafes, boutiques and antique shops opened, their Victorian facades marked by colorful signs and doors. Then it was lunch time at a traditional pub (with Foster’s on tap!) while we anticipated an afternoon performance of Shakespeare’s uproarious *Much Ado About Nothing*.

No, we weren’t in England. We were just two and a half hours’ drive away, in Stratford, Ontario.

Over the course of two days, we took in three shows – *King Lear*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Spamelot* – all superb, and two of the three side-splittingly funny. I wished we’d been able to squeeze in *Rent* and *A Wrinkle in Time* as well. Luckily, most of the shows run through mid-October.

Stratford Festival is North America’s

largest classical repertory theatre company. Each season, the company presents a dozen or more productions in four distinctive venues – Avon Theatre, Festival Theatre, Tom Patterson Theatre and Studio Theatre. For the

2020 and 2021 seasons, that wasn’t the case.

“We are in a multi-year recovery,” says Stratford Festival Publicity Director Ann Swerdfager.

Due to the pandemic, the 2020 season was cancelled. “We had invested \$20 million into the season and then it all shut down just before we opened,” says Swerdfager. “It was really devastating – not just to the theater company. The tourism is essential to community’s well-

being.”

With restrictions still in place, the 2021 season was able to kick off beneath two giant canopies, with just 100 attendees and eight actors. “By the end of the season, we were able to have 200 people beneath a canopy and one indoor show.”

A pre-pandemic season saw 500,000 theatergoers. In 2021, Stratford had just 34,000. “We typically generate \$135 million in local business revenue. That year generated just \$8.9 million.”



Above, Festival Theatre; from far left, Avon Theatre; Tom Patterson Theatre; Studio Theatre

Top photo by Lauren McGregor; from far left, photos by Terry Manzo; Doublespace Photography and Erin Samuell

Clockwise from top right, Paul Gross as King Lear; Spamlot; King Lear; Much Ado About Nothing

Photos by David Hou



The following year, 2022, Stratford Festival was able to produce 10 indoor shows and rocket to 320,000 attendees. “We then saw 10 times the economic impact, with \$89.9 million generated,” she says.

This year, they expect 400,000 theatergoers with 13 shows.

The climb back to pre-pandemic numbers continues, but Swerdfager stresses, “We’re back! The experience today is absolutely normal. We are so thrilled.”

During lockdowns, she says that most businesses survived, but many changed hands. “A new generation has taken over. You don’t see vacant restaurants or

The theater talent is beyond compare and, unlike somewhere like Broadway, visitors exit the performance to a tranquil

environment. “You can walk the river, reflecting on what you’ve just seen,” says Swerdfager. Then pop into a cozy café or an eclectic art gallery. “It’s a huge cultural destination, with the best theater you can see anywhere in the world.”

Not only is the season not over, but Swerdfager says, autumn is the best time to visit. “All the shows are on, unlike the beginning of the season, and the weather is beautiful.

“We miss our friends in Michigan. We are so happy to welcome them back. The atmosphere today is electric. People are buzzing through the stores, theaters are full. It’s been such a huge reward to feel that we’ve made it through the pandemic.”

Book your trip now at stratfordfestival.ca. 



storefronts.

“Stratford is a remarkable destination. It’s around the corner but a world away,” says Swerdfager. “It’s like a paradise with the beautiful Avon River. The Victorian downtown is thriving with unique stores. The culinary scene is incredible.”



Shopping in downtown Stratford and a Shakespeare bust in the Shakespearean Gardens

Photos by Lauren McGregor



playfulness and personality at IRIS

By Lauren McGregor

It's been over a year since Jenny Buda opened the doors to IRIS, an eclectic women's boutique with a playful atmosphere at 19794 Mack Ave. in the Woods.

Buda describes IRIS's inventory as eclectic, including pieces you could wear to a business meeting and others that are perfect for a party. "We have wardrobing essentials, but I buy a lot of accessory pieces. Jackets, scarves, clothing with unique details. The clothing has a lot of personality." Just like the store's namesake, IRIS Apfel, the famous businesswoman and fashion icon.

a wedding. That's good wardrobing."

Buda prides herself on finding offbeat, well-made items that will stand the test of time. "We have these bags that are handmade in Turkey with a Turkish kilim. The fabric is fabulous. The color is so vibrant."



Buda has fostered a fun and funky environment for shoppers. "The thing I love about having this store is that I have full reign over how playful I want it to be. We like to make shopping a fun experience," says Buda. "I love helping women maximize their wardrobes. Finding that perfect dress that you can wear with tennis shoes and a jacket, then to



"I never thought I'd be in retail. It's been a blast," says Buda. "I had a career in advertising at Campbell Ewald, then stayed home with my daughter. I repped Worth New York, where I was formally trained in Fit and Fabrication. Then I worked at Capricious for eight years, leaving as general manager and buyer."

All along, she had a love of fashion. "I get to express myself through these clothes."





Photos by Lauren McGregor

Women's Clothing Boutique and Home Accessories



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She affectionately calls some of the bags “carpet bags,” known for their intricate craftsmanship.

“If you had plain white jeans and a white t-shirt and you were carrying this bag, you’d be all set.”

This fall, Buda says she is seeing “a lot of fringe, hot pink, feathers and boas.”

And she is loving the turn away from fast fashion. “These boutique items will last you forever,” says Buda.

Of course, there have been challenges over the first year in business, “but I feel very pleased with the support I’ve received from the community and even other retailers. It’s gone better than I expected, sales wise.”

Buda is likewise helping local businesses. Once a month, IRIS hosts a pop-up featuring a local business. Up next is Jamcat Candles and after that, Nandanie ties for women.

“We will also be unveiling a VIP program offering rewards and special opportunities for our regular customers,” she says.

Buda reminds shoppers that IRIS sells a wide range of fun home accessories, bright and happy hostess gifts, birthday gifts, “a disco ball ice bucket,” she laughs.


Follow IRIS on Instagram and visit irisgrossepointe.com for updates on a Fall Preview Night and a Holiday Preview Night. 

Photo by Brittany Trinity Photography



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An Evening Under the Stars

By Anne Erickson

The Full Circle Foundation has its fun-filled, annual gala, “An Evening Under the Stars,” on Nov. 2 at the Roostertail in Detroit.

“From the beginning, our whole purpose was centered around helping young adults with special needs stay a big, active part of their community,” says Board President Sue Banner. “First, we set out to get them involved in selling homecoming dresses. One thing led to another, and before we knew it, we opened a store. It was about the young adults and keeping them engaged in the community.” Full Circle Upscale Resale remains a thriving clothing resale shop in Grosse Pointe Park, with the young adults working alongside volunteers.

The Full Circle Foundation works closely with the Grosse Pointe Public School System. The organization has two classrooms run by the school system for students with special needs between the ages of 18 and 26. Once they turn 26, Full Circle also has a program called TEAM 26, which offers opportunities for those young adults to continue to learn and socialize.

“When these students graduate at 26 or younger, in a perfect world, those

young adults would be independent enough to have a job and an active social life, but for most of those young adults, that’s not an option,” says Program and Operation Coordinator Stephanie DiVirgil. “So, before, parents didn’t really have a safe place for their young adults to go once they left the

year, the theme is a bit of a surprise. Last year, they had an Elvis theme. It was a hit.


“We had an Elvis impersonator, and we had four of our young men dressed up as Elvis,” Banner says. “They did an array of Elvis songs, and the crowd went crazy. This year, it will be really hard to top that, but we’re going to try.”

She adds, “When it comes to this year’s theme, we’ve reverted back to our original themes of just having them be the center of attention and do all the performing. It will be great.”

This year, Full Circle is very excited to have Mike LeFevre, owner of Mike’s on the Water in St. Clair Shores, along with his partner Suzie Starnes as gala chairpersons.

The Full Circle Foundation not only enhances the lives of the young adults involved — it also benefits the community.

“It’s a great way to enrich the community and bring us all together and remove some of the stigma of the special needs community,” DiVirgil says. “Grosse Pointe is such a wonderful and accepting community. It’s a win-win for both sides.”

For ticket information, visit <https://www.fullcirclefdn.org/>. 



The Elvi, who performed at the 2022 gala

Photo courtesy of Full Circle

school system. Full Circle is one of the only places that specializes and focuses on that group of young adults. We give them somewhere to go and something to do. We try to teach them skills to become independent, as well as job training. So, for them, it’s so important.”

The Full Circle Gala is the organization’s biggest fundraiser. Every



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Grosse Pointe Historical Society

Legends of the Fall

By Lauren McGregor

To deeply immerse yourself in the legends and lore of Grosse Pointe, spend some time at Grosse Pointe Historical Society (GPHS) this fall.

For the entire month of October, a Legends of the Fall exhibit will take place inside the new GPHS headquarters.

“It is our goal to inspire and empower people to capture and tell their stories, listen to the stories of others and to better appreciate our lives today and what we have in common,” says GPHS volunteer Suzy Berschback.

On Friday, Oct. 6, from 6 to 8 p.m., GPHS will host a Legends of the Fall storytelling event in partnership with Grosse Pointe Theatre at 375 Kercheval.

The free one-day Legends event will feature three to five original plays and songs by Jef Fisk. Guests can tour the new headquarters and visit the Provencal-Weir House, where the new Vintage Store will be open.

“Bring blankets and chairs,” says GPHS President Leslie Wagner, PhD. “We will have cider and donuts, but feel free to bring your own picnic.”

On Saturday, Oct. 28, GPHS will host a costume party for adults 21 and up. Tickets are \$25 per person and include beer and wine.

“We are making it ‘A Night at the Museum,’” says co-host Suzy Berschback. “It’s going to be a lot of fun. Everyone will be in costume and spend the evening at the decorated Provencal-Weir House.”

Co-hosts of the event are Chip and Suzy Berschback, Erin and Bob Dindoffer, and Leslie and Alan Wagner. Sponsorships are still available.

In addition to the exciting Halloween events, and open during the Legends of the Fall storytelling event, GPHS will open its new Vintage Store in the Provencal-Weir House. Every ‘Second



Clockwise from top left, President Leslie Wagner, PhD, holding a plaque of past presidents of GPHS. Wagner will become a past president this September, but continue running the Facebook page, volunteering as a curator of Provencal-Weir House and managing the Vintage Store she started; Costumes for sale in the new Vintage Store; Leslie Wagner and Vice President of Education Kay Burt-Willson in costume for a 2022 historic play; Vintage Store; a band playing at the 2022 Legends of the Fall


Saturday,’ from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., while the house is open for tours, the Vintage Store will sell vintage clothing, costumes, jewelry, home goods, toys and more.

“Most of the contents were donated by me,” says Wagner. “I was an actress and I had gobs of costumes. We also received items from our board members and the Fox Creek Questers, who will be running the store.

“The Questers are doing a great job

of devoting so much time and energy to supporting Grosse Pointe Historical Society. They’ve helped us fund getting the Provencal-Weir porches repainted and interior restoration.”

Wagner says the Vintage Store will also accept donated items from the public on Second Saturdays.

For information on the October events and the new Vintage Store, visit gphistorical.org or visit them on Facebook. 

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Meet Jacob



Name: **Jacob Walker** Age: **2** City: **Grosse Pointe Woods**

Parents: **Jenny & Tyler Walker** Siblings: **William, 3-1/2, and Emelia, 4 months**

First Words

'Muma,' 'Dye' (Daddy), 'Beep Beep'

Cute Fact

Jacob loves helping mama “fold” the laundry by shaking the clothes out and throwing them back in the basket. Jacob is also the master at falling asleep while eating.

Favorite Toy

Ride along tractor. He loves driving it in circles around our yard.

About Jacob

Jacob has a magnetic personality and look. No matter where he goes, people are just drawn to this adorably sweet boy. He is definitely our “Mr. Independent” boy and wants to figure things out for himself. I would also say that he is the definition of a sour patch kid. He may play wild and rough at times but he is the sweetest boy with the biggest heart who is always quick to give hugs and apologies if he gets too rough with anyone. He loves playing with his brother, William, and holding his new sister, “Eme Mae,” as he calls her. We couldn’t ask for a better middle kiddo.

Meet James



Name: **James Bisignani** City: **Washington, D.C.** Birthdate: **April 19, 2023**

Parents: **Rachel & Armond Bisignani** First Words: **No words yet, but lots of babbling and cooing**

Cute Fact
James was rolling over at two months.

Favorite Toy
Reading his Lovevery soft book. James loves touching the crinkle fabric and looking at the black and white images. His favorite image is of a cat.

About James

James is a very happy baby. He loves playing on his play gym, being held by family members, going for walks, bath time and petting the family dog, Rose, a mini goldendoodle. Mom, Rachel, grew up in Grosse Pointe Farms and attended University Liggett School. While staying with family in Grosse Pointe, James enjoys going to Pier Park and watching hockey with his grandma.

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Meet Sloane



Sloane in Ireland this summer

What unique skill do you possess and what skill would you like to learn?

I'm a good singer, but I mostly sing classical so I'd love to learn to yodel or metal scream or something ridiculous like that.

If you could have three wishes granted, what would they be?

1. End world hunger
2. A second season of the *Gilmore Girls* revival
3. For Leathermouth to get back together and make another album

What accomplishment are you most proud of?

Placing in the George Shirley Vocal competition at U of M and my 1,500-day Duolingo streak (and counting!)

What are your favorite qualities about yourself?

My dedication to things that matter to me and my *amazing* sense of humor.

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?

Iceland

Where do you see yourself in five years?

Getting my master's degree in vocal performance and ... waitressing.

Name Sloane O'Neill

Age 17

City Grosse Pointe Woods

School Grosse Pointe North

Parents Angela & Marty

Siblings Parker, 19

Sloane's Favorites

School Subject

Choir and Spanish

Book

Goodnight Moon

Movie

Saw II

Musical Artist

Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds

Food

Chicken nuggets

Vacation

Ireland

Extracurricular Activity

Counterpointe, the Grosse Pointe North women's extracurricular choir

Teacher

Señora Shepard

About Sloane

"I'm a stereotypical teenage girl in most ways. My favorite thing to do is drive around with my friends and listen to Lady Gaga, and most of my paychecks are spent on clothes and Starbucks.

I love my family, friends and music. I love music so much that I plan on studying vocal performance in college. Music is a universal language that can be understood by anyone and it can move people in a profound way without the use of words."



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Annual North-South Tailgate brings community together

By Anne Erickson

The annual North-South Tailgate will take place Oct. 20 before the much-anticipated Grosse Pointe North vs. Grosse Pointe South football game, this year at South. The Tailgate begins at 5 p.m. on South's front lawn and ends when the game begins at 7 p.m.

"It's a fun event that is intended to build that community spirit," says Grosse Pointe Public School System Community Relations Specialist and Homeless & Foster Liaison Rebecca Fannon. "It's a time to celebrate. We bring back alumni, current students participate, and together we have fun as neighbors."

"These two teams are rivals on the field but friends in the community," she adds. "Participation in the Tailgate by so many of our community partners demonstrates how they wrap love and

support around our students throughout the year. Different groups fulfill different needs, and that's part of what makes this a great place to live and raise your family."

Several community organizations have booths set up, where people can learn about their missions and upcoming opportunities. Food trucks will be parked along Fisher Road. The event will also feature music, games and more.

The Tailgate is free to the public and participating organizations, but you'll have to purchase any food items you'd like as well as your tickets to the game.

"It's an opportunity for people to build awareness of different groups and community services, and it's a fun way to celebrate the rivalry between North and South each year,"

Fannon says. "People gather on the front lawn and connect with people they




haven't seen in years. Then, they go into the stadium and cheer for the teams."

The Tailgate is being coordinated by Grosse Pointe Alumni and Friends Association in partnership with GPPSS. Organizations interested in participating can email info@gpschools.org.

"This is one of the events that sets us apart," Fannon says. "It has been part of the fabric of the community much like the homecoming parades we hold onto that other areas have discontinued. It's part of that hometown feel, and people love to connect through tradition. It's also a great opportunity for people to come and ask questions who want to learn about the schools or visit with teachers, because so many staff come out. Events like these make this such a special place to live."

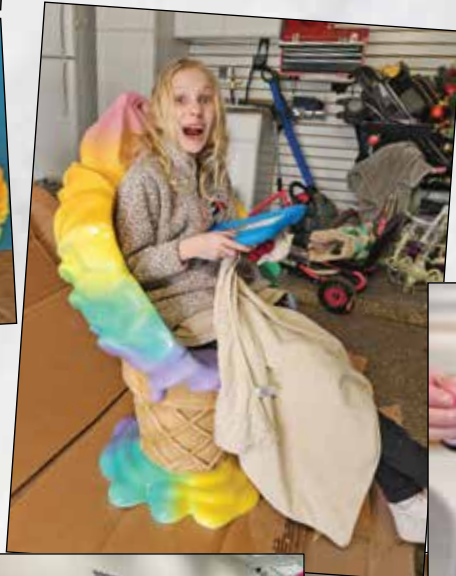
Of course, the game is always fun, too.

"Both teams are competitive, and it's fun because these are kids that have grown up with each other. This is an opportunity for them to face each other on the gridiron, but they're going to be friends later that night and talk about plays for years to come," Fannon says. "It's just good football." 



Photos courtesy of Grosse Pointe Public School System

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From Belgium to Michigan

Camille Tedajio's exchange student experience

By Lauren McGregor

After a short visit to the West Coast of the United States in 2018, Camille Tedajio, 17, of Namur, Belgium, decided to make California her preferred location for a much anticipated exchange student program. Though the request was submitted, Tedajio was placed over 2,000 miles from the Golden State, here in Grosse Pointe for the 2022-23 school year.

Scott and Cindy Hicks, of Grosse Pointe Woods, opened their home to the high school junior. "We are empty nesters," says Cindy. "Our son William just graduated in Chicago, and Connor is at university in New York City. After having two boys, having a girl in the house was exciting."

The exchange student program, Aspect Foundation, is run through the State Department and encourages diplomacy and cultural expansion.

Now having attended Grosse Pointe North for her entire junior year, Tedajio

says she feels she has a much better understanding of daily American life.

"My English is better," says Tedajio. "In the beginning, I didn't know anyone. I developed close friends."

So close, in fact, that one friend, Dodi Forir, a 2023 Grosse Pointe North graduate, visited Tedajio for a European adventure this summer.

"Cami has done a fabulous job making friends," says Cindy.

Tedajio threw herself into North's extracurriculars. "Fashion Club, field hockey, soccer," Tedajio lists.

When asked about the differences between Belgian and American schools, she said, "Everything is really different. In Belgium, we have two-hour courses, not the same ones every day. Here, it's the same courses every day, but shorter. The grading is different. And prom is so big here. There is no Spirit Week in Belgium, no school teams."

Another difference that stuck out to Tedajio was the vocal political discourse. "I noticed flags on all the houses. And signs. The political vote is more secret in Belgium."

Though Tedajio did suffer some homesickness, Cindy says, "She is so positive. It's infectious."

The Hickses credit Tedajio's parents as well. "We text at least once a week," says Cindy. "I feel like we know them. They will be visiting at the end of the school year and



we will show them around Grosse Pointe and Detroit."


"I told my parents I wanted to do Aspects and they said, 'go,'" says Tedajio of her parents' support.

"Cami has no fear," says Cindy. "She will try anything. We've taken her to Miami, New York, Chicago ... had her try new foods. She's game for anything. It's been a really great experience."

And though the boys have flown the nest, "Our sons have a little sister feeling toward Cami," says Scott.

"It will be hard to say goodbye," says Cindy. "It feels like she's been here much longer, in the best way."

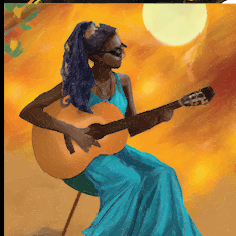
When she returns to Belgium, Tedajio will have one year of school left before going to university. "I plan to go to medical school to become a psychiatrist," she says.

"If you can come at 16 and live with a stranger's family, you can do anything," says Cindy. "Cami is brilliant. We can't wait to see where her adventurous spirit takes her." 

Top, Scott Hicks, Camille Tedajio and Cindy Hicks; left, Dodi Forir and Camille Tedajio in Brussels

Top photo by Lauren McGregor; left photo courtesy of Dodi Forir





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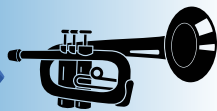
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Haunted Garage Productions enters its 16th year of thrills and chills

By Anne Erickson



Each year, the award-winning Haunted Garage Productions offers a thrilling haunted attraction experience in Grosse Pointe Farms.

It is the brainchild of Glen Williams, a former Grosse Pointe Public School System teacher. Funds raised go to GPPSS PTOs.

“As a physical education teacher, we would constantly ask the PTOs for funds because we didn’t receive money for new materials and equipment. The PTO was always there to back us.”

thought we could go in that direction.”

Now, the Haunted Garage is in its 16th year. It’s way more than a fundraiser. It’s a beloved experience, an absolute ‘must’ on the long list of Halloween events in the Pointes.

“It’s a really cool show. Each year, we focus on, how can we make this year bigger and better than last year?”

Last year, one of the big additions was having a Jurassic Park scene with animatronics. This year, they’re keeping that scene and adding more. Expect, as always, lots of animation. Also new last year was the Christmas House, which Williams says was a “huge hit.” It’s returning, too.


This year will see the addition of a Haunted Forest. Williams picked up the forest during a trip to the National Halloween Show, which takes place every year in St. Louis.

“I made purchases which are still in boxes in my house ready to be built,” says Williams. “The Haunted Forest will contain haunted trees, moving witches, animation and a low ground fogger. I think it will be a show stopper.”

While Haunted Garage Productions is high on fun thrills, it’s low on blood and gore. “I never liked blood or gore,” says Williams. “When I grew up, gore wasn’t part of Halloween. I think this makes it better for families, to have a gore-free event.”

Williams says his favorite thing about putting on the haunted spectacle each year is “creating something new.”

“It’s sort of like a painter with a blank canvas. I can paint whatever I want, and it’s fun.”

The Haunted Garage kicks off on Oct. 6. For the full schedule, visit hauntedgarageproductions.org. The attraction is located at 19520 Mack Ave. Tickets are available at hauntedgarageproductions.org through Ticket Leap. Customers may choose which charity they wish their funds to be distributed to. Tickets may also be purchased at the door. 



Above right, Graham McGregor with a light up wand that indicates to actors that he doesn’t want to be scared by them.

Photos by Lauren McGregor



Williams has always loved Halloween. Years ago, he would host elaborate Halloween parties with over-the-top decorations.

“I came to a point in my life where I was ready to do something more professional, and to do that for just my parties didn’t make sense,” he says. “I always want to help the community, and I saw different fundraisers for the PTO. I



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For 25 years cost is never a barrier at Kids On The Go

By Susan Bollinger



Now in its 25th year, Kids On The Go began in the basement of then Bi-County Hospital as a summer program for preschoolers with special needs. Founder and Executive Director Kristy Schena is a speech pathologist and recognized

that over the summer, parents had few options. “When school starts back, kids with special needs take months to catch up,” she says.

Since then, Kids On The Go (KOTG) has grown into a year-round program for ages three to 17. Home base is

the Nonprofit Center at Pare in St. Clair Shores, and partnerships with community organizations like the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, Chandler Park Golf Course and Lakeshore Lanes enrich programming and connect young people with the community. A summer program is also offered in Traverse City.

Programming is broad and varied. “Our multidisciplinary summer program for children ages three to seven, staffed by speech, occupational and physical therapists, is ongoing,” says Schena. But that’s just the beginning. Art, boxing, cooking, tennis, golf, drumming, basketball, bike riding, reading, handwriting and communication skills classes meet kids where they are and are a chance to try new things. A new program for teens focuses on employment skills, time management, organizational skills and teamwork.

Sports programs offer a launching pad for lifelong passions. Ethan, a student with a diagnosis of autism, was “bouncing off the walls. Now, he has qualified on a national level for archery through his high school team,” reports Schena. Another student started playing golf with KOTG and recently won a junior championship at a local golf club.

Cost is never a barrier, as all programs are free. KOTG is supported by grants and donations, and aims to reach a \$25,000 goal this year. A \$500 donation sponsors a child for the summer program and is paired with a thank you night when sponsors and kids meet. Learn more at kidsonthegocamp.com. 



Top, Caden Wettstein, Kristy Schena, Tommy and Benjamin Skowronski and Louisa Pietrowsky; clockwise from above left, Ellie Smith, Gabby Miller, Michael Banaszewski, Olivia Grabuck and AJ Schena; Tennis program at Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, Michael Schaupter and Kamryn Richards; Cheer Camp, Madison Lucido, Jane Skowronski and Sara Johnson

Photos courtesy of Kids on the Go



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A Ford House Fall

By Lauren
McGregor



Clockwise from top left,
Harvest Day; Little Goblins;
Big Goblins; Harvest Day;
Harvest Day petting zoo

Top right photo by Lauren
McGregor; all other photos
courtesy of Ford House

From a Story Festival and a newly added Movie on the Meadow to Harvest Day and Big and Little Goblins, the Ford House's fall offerings just keep growing!

On Saturday, Sept. 16, bring the littles for a storybook adventure on the Ford House grounds. The theme of the 2023 **Story Festival** is 'Let's Go on an Adventure!'

Listen to children's musical performer

Jim Gill, meet author Kelly DiPucchio, and, of course, listen to stories. The event will take place outside, weather permitting.

The first ever **Movie on the Meadow** will take place Friday, Sept. 22 at 5 p.m. and feature *Dr. No*.

"This is a new program designed for members. For this first pilot year, we are just doing the one movie,"

says Director of Communications Tommy Karr. "We chose *Dr. No* because the



Deanna Hammes and Terry Welch



Elene and Greg Weber



Eric Goosen and Isabelle and Edward Goosen



Larry and Vera Dorr



Lisa Worley and Marjie Kershaw



Standing, Bill and Mary Kalmar; seated, Daniel, Alan, Rachel and MaryJo Harris

family often watched *James Bond*.”

The evening will feature food trucks and the movie projected onto a giant inflatable screen in the meadow.

Saturday, Oct. 7, from 12 to 5 p.m., sees the return of the largest **Harvest Day** yet.

“We are hoping to have 30 vendors this year,” says Engagement & Public Events Manager Mary Ann Bauman. “These are small, local vendors and industry exclusive.”

The festival will include a straw climb, face painting, Chamberlin pony rides and petting zoo, and lots of photo opportunities.

Bauman encourages attendees to pre-purchase their cider and donuts with the \$20 car pass.

“The cider and donuts will sell out, but pre-purchasing them will ensure that you

receive them.”

Next up will be **Big Goblins**. Fittingly on Friday, Oct. 13, adults 21 and up are invited for an evening of haunting festivities.

“We will have a costume contest with prizes, live music in the Lake Shore Room, Halloween themed drinks and food, and a specialized tour of Ford House, emphasizing the spookier pieces of art,” says Bauman. “Last year, we had a wonderful illusionist. This year, we hope to switch it up, maybe with a tarot reader. Folks loved the band, which will return.”

The vast majority of attendees dress in costumes. “Attendees can also go trick-or-treating at our two tables full of candy and wine glasses and pilsner glasses you can only find at this exclusive event,” says Bauman.

The following weekend, on Sunday, Oct. 22, the **Fall Tea & Tour** will be

held in the Lake Shore Room and include a tour of the house. Bauman reminds visitors, “Tickets must be purchased as a table, with groups of two, three and four people.” Seatings will take place at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and include a traditional English tea.

Ford House didn’t forget about its **Little Goblins**. On Saturday, Oct. 28, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., families are invited to trick-or-treat, take a hayride and enjoy cider and donuts.

“This year, we are charging for adults, so we can better plan the amount of cider and donuts for visitors,” says Bauman. The adult ticket will include these goodies as well.

Non-scary Halloween decorations will cover the grounds and families can take advantage of the many photo opps.

For details and tickets for these and more events, visit fordhouse.org.



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pets

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Marnie

Marnie, a 4-year-old standard parti poodle, loves people and playing with other dogs. She also loves walks and car and boat rides.



Sugar Shanley

Sugar Shanley, sister to Rascal and Captain, has little to no tolerance for her brothers. She loves to be brushed and her full time job is to just be pretty at all times.



Rascal & 'The Captain'

These two are partners in crime! Rascal was rescued as a stray kitten and Captain was adopted through a post on Facebook. Rascal is the only Pointer who looks forward to fishly season when his mom will bring them inside for him to play with! Captain loves to play and go for walks with his boy. Their sister, Sugar Shanley, isn't too fond of their antics, but all three are loving life in Grosse Pointe Woods.



Jack & Gus

Jack and Gus, both rescues, found their forever homes in Grosse Pointe Farms. They are the closest little buddies. After a long day of wrestling, they enjoy hanging out in their PJs.



Greg & Barklee

Greg and Barklee met last summer walking at the Ford House. They became fast friends and are an inseparable Dynamic Duo! Greg is the Batman and Barklee is his trusty sidekick Robin.

Cognitive dysfunction

By Dr. Stephanie Dexter

As our pets age, we may notice multiple physical and mental problems developing. These concerns, such as arthritis, metabolic issues, behavior concerns and cognitive decline make regular veterinary care as our pets age extremely important.



Just like people, dogs can be affected by a degenerative brain disease similar to Alzheimer's. This can cause behavioral changes such as confusion, loss of known commands, increased anxiety (which can manifest in panting, pacing, whining, barking or other vocalizations), sleep issues and inappropriate elimination.

If you are concerned your pet is suffering from cognitive dysfunction, there are multiple screening tools available online which you can review at home and bring to your veterinary appointment. One example is the DISHAA questionnaire developed by Gary Landsberg.

If your pet is diagnosed with cognitive dysfunction, there are multiple treatment modalities available such as environmental modifications, supplements and/or dietary recommendations and medication. Some simple things which can be done at home in the meantime are to block off any unsafe areas (i.e. stairs), make sure your pet gets exercise (as they can tolerate), use nightlights indoors along with outdoor lights when letting outside at night, and make food, water and comfortable sleeping spots readily accessible.

Should you have any concerns or questions about your pet and the aging process, be sure to contact your pet's veterinarian for assistance.

Dr. Stephanie Dexter is a graduate of Michigan State University is a 2011 graduate of the University of Illinois. She joined Harper Woods Veterinary Hospital in 2019.

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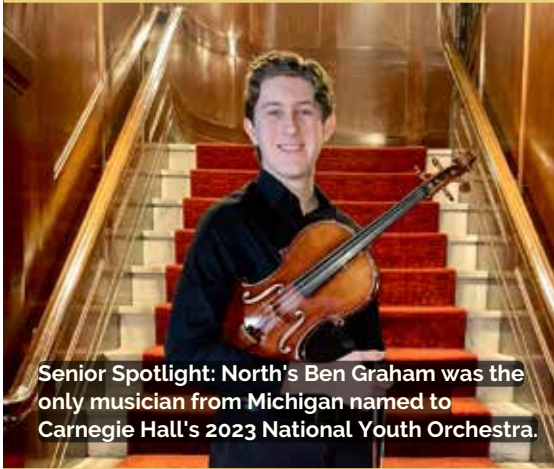
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SCHOOL POINTES

Good news from the Grosse Pointe Public School System



Senior Spotlight: North's Ben Graham was the only musician from Michigan named to Carnegie Hall's 2023 National Youth Orchestra.



Featuring a cast of 81, summer theater camp put on a production of "Alice in Wonderland" on June 30 led by GPPSS teachers Michelle Stackpoole, Heather Albrecht and Sarah Duffield.



Senior Spotlight: South's Carly Brown is a World Rowing Champion with the USA Women's 4. She has committed to Stanford.

A LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

As an educator at heart, I have always loved this time of year. It is a time when we take all the summer reading and professional development we've invested in while school is closed to hone our craft, all the hours of analyzing test scores and data, and we put in place a plan to translate that into meaningful instruction for students. Our staff returns having taken time to renew and reconnect with our "why." And we look forward to connecting again with parents, students and staff.

We hope you will join us at Back to School Nights if you have children in GPPSS, or at the North and South homecoming parades and games, or the North South tailgate being hosted at South on October 20 with the Grosse Pointe Alumni and Friends Association. Take the opportunity to tour any of our schools at our GPPSS Open House November 5, or by personal appointment at your convenience by calling our principals. When we connect, ask us your questions. Share your ideas.

Here is a quick glimpse at our annual report and the types of data we've been analyzing. The official document is available on our website or by calling my office at 313-432-3003. Watch for our customer satisfaction survey this fall and help us continue to identify strengths and areas of opportunity so we may better serve you. As you'll see from this data and our discussions, we remain committed to providing the educational experience each student needs, and we all expect, for our community's children. We are one inclusive community learning together.

- Dr. M. Jon Dean, Superintendent

POINTES OF PRIDE

- 2 Grammy Winning Music Programs
- 2 Spartan Award Student Newspapers
- 27 Advanced Placement Courses
- 7 CTE programs
- A+ Niche grade for teachers, academics, college prep and sports
- 30 Varsity sports, 120 teams
- 18:1 student-to-teacher ratio
- 1123 Average SAT score (122 above state)
- 70 Grads at a top 50 college/university
- 15 Grads attending Trade School
- 33 Grads committed to college team
- 88% teachers with Master's degree or higher

SUMMER ACROSS THE DISTRICT



From sports camps to credit recovery, GPPSS kept students moving and learning. Left: Safety Town equips our youngest learners with the tools they need to remain calm and safe during emergency situations. Students learn how to dial 911, fire safety, traffic and bicycle rules, poison prevention, boating and water play rules, and more.



Left: Camp O'Fun is a summer mainstay in GPPSS offering families a more traditional all day camp. This year, campers had a chance to take multiple field trips, including a visit to Greenfield Village and a trip to Great Skate. Pictured left is Camp O'Fun's annual talent show, which wouldn't be complete without ukeleles.

Right: Summer Music Festival is open to all GPPSS Band and Orchestra students in grades 5-8. This exciting, affordable program provides an opportunity for students to further develop their instrumental music skills. Extension courses include Jazz Band and Fiddling.



Right: This year's Camp Invention, held at Brownell Middle School, hosted 120 campers from Kindergarten-grade 6. This year was the 26th year of Camp Invention at GPPSS – a confidence-boosting STEM summer camp where kids build creative inventions and lasting friendships.



ANNUAL REPORT AT A GLANCE

Each year GPPSS publishes and presents an annual report to the community. Here is a quick snapshot of the data. The full report for the district and each school is available on our website www.gpschools.org or by calling 313-432-3003. The report is also shared at our televised board meeting which can be seen on Channel 20 or through our livestream on the website – click School Board – Watch the Meeting.

- 96% graduation rate (within 4 years), 99% retention rate (1% drop out)
- 94% daily attendance rate
- 93% parent participation in conferences
- 88% of GPPSS teachers have Master's degrees
- 1123 Average SAT Score (Michigan 1001, Nation 1050)
- 25.6 (25.3) Average ACT Score (Michigan 24.6, Nation 19.8)
- 2,267 students took one of our 27 Advanced Placement (AP) classes (40%)
- Of the 1,724 AP tests taken, 60% earned a score high enough for college credit
- K-8 NWEA - students made consistent progress fall to spring and GPPSS continues to outperform the national average in all grade levels
- MSTEP scores were not yet released but will be posted and shared in the official annual report document



SAVE THE DATE

- 9/5 1st day of school
- 9/12 School Board 6:30 p.m.
- 9/22 North HOCO parade/game
- 9/25 Tri-M Concert South
- 9/26 School Board 6:30 p.m.
- 9/28 GPFPE Fall Frolic
- 9/29 South HOCO parade/game
- 10/6 & 7 South Fall Follies
- 10/10 School Board 6:30 p.m.
- 10/14 North Vocal Concert
- 10/20 North South Tailgate and football game at South with GPAFA
- 10/24 School Board 6:30 p.m.
- 10/28 South Pops & Pastries
- 11/5 GPPSS Open House
- 11/7 Election day – no school for students, staff PD

Top 2%

Ranking Among All School Districts in the Country

2023 on Niche.com

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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Residents 60+ and GPPSS retirees may obtain a Gold Card for free/reduced price admission to home games, concerts and plays by calling 313-432-3003 or emailing info@gpschools.org.

THE FEEL GOOD DATE TO SAVE

21st Annual Festival of Tables

MAMMAMIA!

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Saturday, October 28
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Breast Cancer Program & other charities




Hollyfest

The Family Center

SAVE THE DATE

Celebrate 23 years of serving our community and help us continue our mission to empower families to successfully navigate life's social, emotional, and physical challenges.

Thursday, November 16, 2023, The War Memorial
6pm - cocktail reception | 7pm - dinner & program

Enjoy a festive evening of cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and a strolling dinner.
Bid on a variety of exciting gifts and experiences during our live and silent auction.

For more information, please visit FamilyCenterWeb.org





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Senior Expo

at The War Memorial - Nov. 6

The Grosse Pointe Senior Expo, a free annual event held at The War Memorial, connects seniors and caregivers with more than 50 organizations that specialize in assistance and care for seniors in Grosse Pointe and southeast Michigan.

“Admission is free plus, attendees can enjoy free refreshments, health screenings and hourly prize drawings! It’s truly the perfect way to learn about the variety of services and products available for seniors in their community,” says Marketing Director Sydney Sanders.

The Senior Expo will take place Monday, Nov. 6, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, visit www.seniorexposusa.com/2023-grosse-pointe-attendee.html#/



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GROSSE POINTE *Chamber of Commerce*

HAVE A BALL IN GROSSE POINTE!

It has been a whopping 18 years since the frogs hopped, 11 years since the fish swam, eight years since the butterflies migrated, five years since the dogs were unleashed and just two years since Grosse Pointe was pulsating with hearts. In the summer of 2024, Grosse Pointe is about to have a ball like never before, with larger-than-life spheres adorning the business districts!

Led by the visionary Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce, this public art exhibit will showcase awe-inspiring, original structures of spheres, each one meticulously crafted by local artists. These magnificent creations will be scattered throughout the Grosse Pointe community, spreading the joy

of art, culture and camaraderie. By attracting more pedestrians and boosting retail traffic, this project will also benefit the community in a big way.

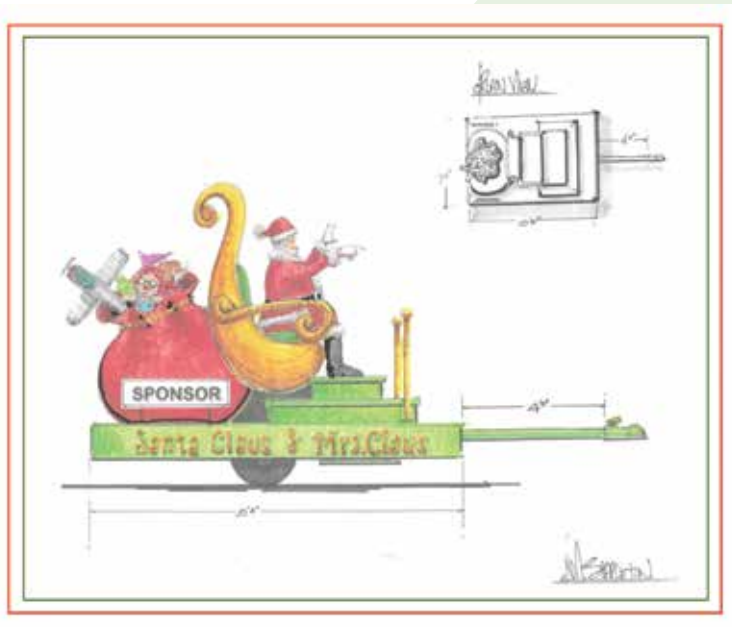
June to September 2024, prepare to witness a rolling invasion of spheres in the business districts of the Pointes. Each sphere will be proudly sponsored by a local business or resident and ingeniously designed by a commissioned artist. Before the cold sets in, select spheres will be auctioned off at the Sphere Auction. The proceeds



will be reinvested back into the community, fueling commerce, education, economic growth and a plethora of events and activities.

The Chamber is bouncing with excitement, inviting sponsors and artists alike to be a part of this interactive community project. Don't miss out on this incredible chance to make your mark and be a part of Grosse Pointe's artistic revolution!

For more information, email info@grossepointechamber.com.



AND LATER THIS YEAR...

“Santa is coming to town, riding on his new sleigh on Friday, November 25 for the Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade!” says Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce President and Executive Director Jennifer Boettcher.

“Santa would not have any transportation to spread his cheer throughout the Pointes if it wasn't for a new sleigh,” says Boettcher. “His new sleigh will belong to Santa and the Grosse Pointe community for years to come.”

Michael Stapleton is the creative mind behind Santa's new sleigh. Prop Art Studio will build it, just like they did the original sleigh.

“We are looking for financial support from the community to build Santa's float,” says Boettcher.

Donations can be sent to the Grosse Pointe Chamber, 106 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe Farms or by visiting www.grossepointechamber.com. [Facebook](#)



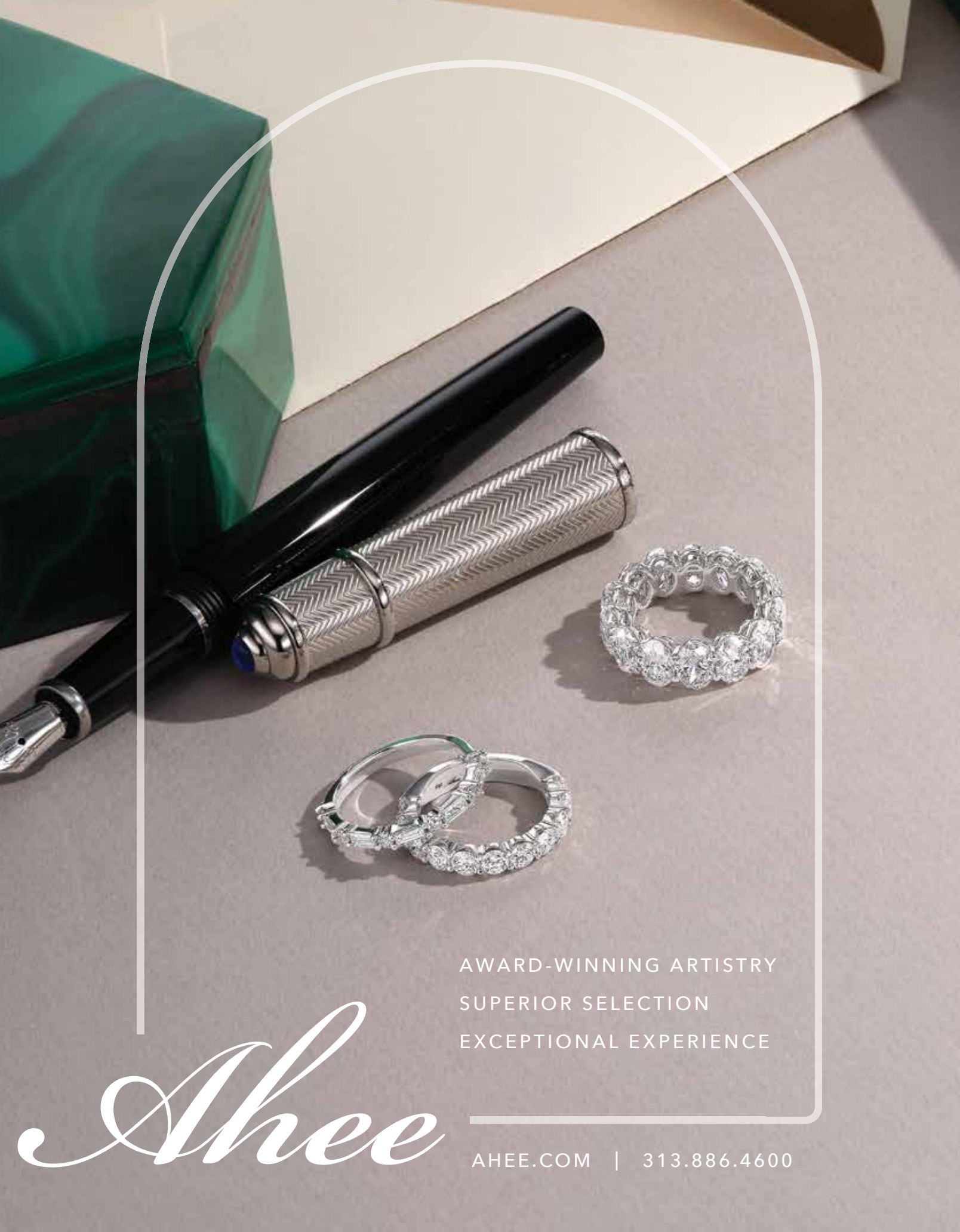
OUR DOORS ARE OPEN

Wednesday morning tours, October through February.

2024-25 Early Decision & Liggett Merit Scholarship Deadline:
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