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Grosse Pointe News is Newspaper of the Year

The Grosse Pointe News has been named Newspaper of the Year in its circulation class for the third consecutive year, in the Michigan Press Association's Better Newspaper contest.

Among its 60 total awards this year, the newspaper also earned the top spot in the MPA's Excellence in Advertising contest.

"Every single person at the Grosse Pointe News puts in 110 percent every single day," Publisher Anne Gryzenia said. "To be recognized for our hard work overall and in almost every individual category is extremely rewarding and I could not be more proud of our

entire team."

In an open-class competition — open to daily and non-daily newspapers of all circulation classes — Staff Writer Brad Lindberg placed third for his article, "Fire destroys business; pub saved."

The Grosse Pointe News staff also earned honorable mention in the open-class category, Most Innovative Story Telling, for "The Big Game."

Additional editorial awards included:

♦ Best Columnist — Gryzenia and Strategy and Development Director Olivia Monette, second place; Staff Writer

See MPA, page 14A



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Above, Councilwoman Sierra Donaven congratulates Officer Charity Vanover. Right, Vanover is the Farms' first Public Safety Employee of the Year.

Farms names first Public Safety Employee of the Year



By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

Farms department has issued an employee of the year award.

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — It's the comeback story of last year.

A five-year veteran of the Detroit Police Department when she was injured in an on-duty car accident in 2013, Officer Charity Vanover a decade later has been named the Farms 2023 Public Safety Employee of the Year for her first full year on the force since returning to duty mid-2022.

The recognition was as much news to Vanover as it was to anyone, since it's the first time the

"I know that throughout the year there were a couple of non-nominal comments made by Director (John) Hutchins and Deputy Director (Andy) Rogers that if we had an officer of the year award, (I) would be getting it," she said. "But I did not think it would be spoken into existence."

The comments likely were spurred by Vanover's affinity for carrying the job with her after clocking out, which earned her additional community service

and lifesaving awards for off-duty heroic efforts last year.

After officers three times over the summer were tasked with locating an elderly resident with dementia, who wandered away from home desiring to continue the daily walks she loved, Vanover took it upon herself to purchase an air tag and audible door alarms with her own funds and while off-duty.

Upon installing the alarms and fashioning an air tag necklace

See VANOVER, page 2A

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Dan Curis

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Business owner and
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Feats of heroism

Farms officers honored for 2023 acts

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — A Farms officer and dispatcher are credited with saving a child's life last April at The Grosse Pointe Academy, after he choked on a large piece of candy and the father had no success with the Heimlich Maneuver.

Civilian Inmate Dispatcher, or CID, Chris Rich gave instructions to turn the child over and administer back blows while keeping the caller on the line until Officer Paul Reygaert arrived in less than two minutes. Reygaert delivered several back blows, dislodging the candy from the child's airway, and MedStar found no need to transport him to the hospital.

The two were among 14 Farms public safety personnel honored with 2023 public safety merit awards during a ceremony before city council

Monday, March 11.

Awarded with a departmental commendation for similar lifesaving efforts, CID Theresa Payne was on the receiving end of a call to the station from the 988-suicide hotline Feb. 3, 2023, which reported an unknown 13-year-old boy was making suicidal threats.

The only information available was the boy's first name and a possible address in Clinton Township or an unknown location in Grosse Pointe Farms.

By contacting AT&T for a cell phone ping, Payne gathered information on the user's location and phone ownership, which was registered to a Farms address.

Officers then found it was the prior address of the family in question, learning they moved to another home with an unknown address on the same street. A search through Pier Park resi-

dent passes afforded the updated address.

Officers arrived and the boy said he planned to wait until his parents fell asleep to sneak out and commit suicide. Instead, his family was able to take him to a hospital for treatment and care.

"Dispatcher Payne, who was still in training at the time, took immediate action in locating a young, vulnerable resident in despair," Public Safety Director John Hutchins said. "Her quick thinking, ability to multitask and exceptional organizational skills are commended and played a central role in saving a young life."

Forcing entry into a locked bathroom on Roland Court last April and administering three doses of Narcan to an unresponsive resident suffering a heroin overdose — who within moments was conscious and speaking with officers — also earned offi-



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Civilian Inmate Dispatcher Theresa Payne is recognized by City Manager Shane Reeside for a departmental commendation she earned preventing a young person's suicide last year, while still in training.

cers Veronica Cashion, Jim LaBeau and Jason Newberg a citation.

Six officers — Cashion, Lt. Thom Dionne, Sgt. Tim Harris, LaBeau, Newberg and Officer Colin Roden — earned a director's unit award for administering CPR and four doses of Narcan to a woman found without a pulse at the Mack and Moross bus stop in late July.

Detective Lt. Antonino Trupiano, Lt. Vincent Finn and Detective Derek Lazarski earned a departmental commendation for locating and arresting a suspect responsible for

the March 3, 2023, robbery of Fifth Third Bank in the Woods.

On the suspect's per-

son was a loaded gun and three spare magazines.

The man was found to be a convicted felon and suspect in two additional bank robberies in Eastpointe and Harper Woods.

The identification of five Chilean nationals responsible for a Feb. 5, 2023, Provencal home invasion and corresponding \$100,000 loss to the resident, earned Detective Roger

Woods.

The woman was more

than a mile away from

her cottage, between a

lake and wooded area,

but returned unharmed

because of the officer's

foresight.

It was more a right

place, right time situa-

tion when on Aug. 19,

2023, Vanover was off-

duty at a family function

at Veteran's Memorial

Park in St. Clair Shores

and found an elderly

man unresponsive and

not breathing on the

ground near the bath-

rooms.

Immediately begin-

ning CPR, Vanover and

her husband, David, a

Shelby Township police

officer, rendered aid

until the man began to

cough, after which

emergency services

arrived.

"PSO Vanover is a

credit to the depart-

ment, her community

and those who wear the

uniform," Hutchins

said.

It may come as no sur-

prise that Vanover pre-

viously earned a 2021

merit award for pre-

venting a car theft in

progress while serving

as a part-time Farms

parking enforcement

specialist, or that she

was saddled with the

moniker, "Mom," dur-

ing her time in the

Macomb Fire Academy,

where she was the oldest

cadet among a majority

of young adults just

beginning their careers.

While the cadets were

allowed to bring liquid

and snacks to the fire

ground on drill days,

many weren't in a finan-

cial position to afford to

do so. Vanover spent her

weekends at Costco,

stocking up on cases of

water and snacks.

"During the past 18

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tently gone over and

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Hutchins said. "She is

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both on and off duty —

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"Charity is a shining

example of positivity,

hard work and persever-

ance, and has earned the

title of 'Public Safety

Employee of the Year.'"

VANOVER:

Continued from page 1A

for the resident, Vanover synced the location technology to her personal phone, as the woman's husband did not have a compatible smartphone.

"I was battling a five-year battle with my own mother at home suffering from dementia," she said. "... Having conversations with (the resident's) husband, it just struck a chord with me, because I felt the loss in him, the defeat that he just didn't know what to do. ... He was struggling and it just was one of those (situations) where it really hit home with me."

Several months later, Vanover received a call from the husband, frantic because his wife had been missing for more than an hour from their cottage in Leelanau and the local sheriff's department had yet to find her.

From three hours away, Vanover was able to ping the woman's exact location and convey it to deputies within minutes.

The woman was more than a mile away from her cottage, between a lake and wooded area, but returned unharmed because of the officer's forethought.

It was more a right place, right time situation when on Aug. 19, 2023, Vanover was off-duty at a family function at Veteran's Memorial Park in St. Clair Shores and found an elderly man unresponsive and not breathing on the ground near the bathrooms.

Immediately beginning CPR, Vanover and her husband, David, a Shelby Township police officer, rendered aid until the man began to cough, after which emergency services arrived.

"PSO Vanover is a credit to the department, her community and those who wear the uniform," Hutchins said.

It may come as no surprise that Vanover previously earned a 2021 merit award for preventing a car theft in progress while serving as a part-time Farms parking enforcement specialist, or that she was saddled with the moniker, "Mom," during her time in the Macomb Fire Academy, where she was the oldest cadet among a majority of young adults just beginning their careers.

While the cadets were allowed to bring liquid and snacks to the fire ground on drill days, many weren't in a financial position to afford to do so. Vanover spent her weekends at Costco, stocking up on cases of water and snacks.

"During the past 18 months, she has consistently gone over and above in the performance of her duties," Hutchins said. "She is always helpful to her fellow officers, professional and courteous to everyone she meets, never complains and time and time again has gone the extra mile — both on and off duty — to help those in need."

"Charity is a shining example of positivity, hard work and perseverance, and has earned the title of 'Public Safety Employee of the Year.'"



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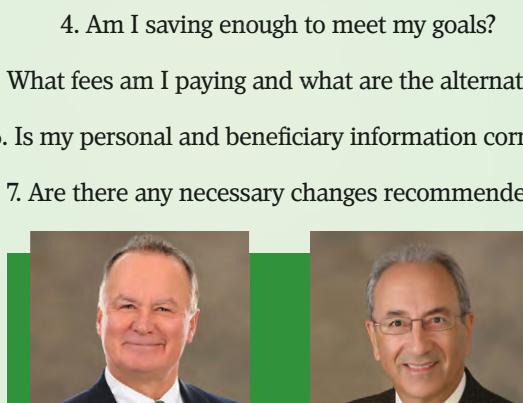
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From left, Officer Paul Reygaert, Deputy Director Andy Rogers, Officer Charity Vanover, Detective Lt. Antonino Trupiano, Detective Roger Wierszewski, civilian inmate dispatchers Chris Rich and Theresa Payne, Detective Derek Lazzarski, Director John Hutchins, Officer Jason Newberg, Lt. Vincent Finn, Sgt. Tim Harris, K-9 Officer Rocco, and officers Veronica Cashion and Jim LaBeau. Not pictured are Lt. Thom Dionne and Officer Colin Roden.



FEATS:

Continued from page 2A

Wierszewski the director's merit award.

The group subsequently was arrested in Indiana after committing home invasions there and the adult suspects since have pleaded guilty.

"Cases in Oakland Township, Rochester and Bloomfield Hills were solved due to Detective Wierszewski's ability and actions," Hutchins said. "... Detective Wierszewski is commended for his assertiveness, eye for detail and willingness to go above and beyond in the performance of his duties."

Officer Charity Vanover also earned lifesaving and community service awards, along with being named the Farms Public Safety Employee of the Year. Find a story on Vanover on page 1A.



Director John Hutchins presents Detective Roger Wierszewski with the director's merit award for his role in identifying five Chilean nationals responsible for a Provencal home invasion.

EERV:

Continued from page 1A

Three Mile Drive with an existing underground holding tank a few hundred yards within the park.

"The budgeted EERV money is for landscaping restoration," Wiener said.

"The first tree to replace is a commemorative tree, which, unfortunately, was right smack in the middle of the line," said Brian Colter, city forester. "It was planted for Helen Graves in 2006."

Graves, according to her obituary in the Ann Arbor News three years after the planting of a Ginko in her honor, was a professor at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. She "fought for the preservation of Three Mile Park."

"Her tree was in very poor condition," Colter said. "I was going to replace it anyway. Weed-whack damage (by landscaping crews) was so severe, the tree was going to die."

He intends to replace nearly every tree species-for-species, using as a guide an inventory he compiled of those cut down.

"A couple of beautiful trees had to come down," Colter said. "Two were specimen trees, a hornbeam which was in excellent condition. That was (former City Manager) Dale Krajniak's favorite tree."

A swamp white oak was the largest lost. It had a 38-inch diameter trunk.

Slated for replanting

are 31 trees. The most numerous are six varieties of oak, six types of maple, four London planetrees, two white pines and two river birch.

Included also are four memorial trees, a sugar maple planted for Helen Gable in 1995; a river birch for Beth Hutton, planted in 1998; a crabapple planted in 2003 for John Kosinski; and a locust planted in 2007 and registered only to the name of Devereaux.

Not being replaced are a pear tree and mulberry. Both are invasive.

Under house arrest, on tether

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK

— A man being prosecuted for weird sexual behavior in public is under house arrest, where he can keep it to himself.

"Being confined to his residence is his best medicine or treatment for what he's currently going through," Detective Paul Pionk said during the suspect's second felony arraignment in two months.

Park resident Lance Junior Taro, 30, was free on bond less than a week for aggravated indecent exposure and unwanted entry when, on March 4, police arrested him for two more sex violations.

"It's alarming that there's a similar charge out there," said David Worden, Taro's court-appointed attorney during the latest arraignment, Friday, March 15, in Park Municipal Court. "He's unemployed right now, so house arrest would not keep him from employment until this matter proceeds further."

During the arraignment, Judge Carl Jarboe added to the terms of Taro's \$300 bond on the prior charges. Jarboe gave him the option of posting \$20,000 cash-only or agreeing to wear a global positioning tether and remain inside his residence — not just

stay within the lot's parameters — until conditions warrant otherwise.

"The only reasons he can leave are for church and for court until we wrap up the other charge," Jarboe said.

"Your honor, his therapy he should be able to attend, too," Pionk said.

"His doctor and therapist he can go to as well," Jarboe said.

The hearing lasted 7 minutes, 15 seconds, minuscule compared with the hours alleged victims and witnesses, investigators and prosecutors have spent in reaction to Taro's reported aberrations.

"We want him gone just as bad as anyone else," Park Detective Sgt. Jeremy Pittman said.

To summarize Taro's recent activities, in early February a woman living less than a half mile from his residence reported him entering her house.

Regarding that complaint, Jarboe on Feb. 28, accepted Taro's waiver of a probable cause conference. Jarboe scheduled him for arraignment in Wayne County Circuit Court on charges of aggravated indecent exposure and breaking and entering without the homeowner's personal consent.

Round two came March 4.

See OFFEND, page 10A

The Week Ahead

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Planning Commission meeting, 9 a.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Family Trivia Night, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

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- ◆ Municipal offices closed

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There's no quit in Dan Curis

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

At 65, Dan Curis has a goal.

"I'd love to own another restaurant on Mack," said the owner of the Big Boy near Vernier and Champs Rotisserie & Seafood a few blocks away. "Someone has to retire and it's not going to be me!"

Curis, who also owns Detroit Wing Co. franchises in Allen Park and Howell, has been in the restaurant business ever since he can remember.

"My dad was one of the original Big Boy franchise owners back in the late 1950s," he said over coffee at his franchise recently. "The Elias brothers who started it, Fred, John and Louie, we called them 'uncle.'

"It was at Plymouth and Telegraph in Redford," Curis continued. "Right after he opened, they closed Telegraph to widen it to four lanes. He just about went bankrupt, but he got through it."

His parents, George and Amelia, eventually expanded to 12 franchises, which Curis and his brothers helped run.

"They were tremendous role models," he said. "Dad didn't have a middle name and used to tell us his family was so poor they couldn't afford one. Everyone called mom Millie."

Growing up in East Detroit — now Eastpointe — the family lived east of Kelly, which is in the South Lake



COURTESY PHOTO

Dan and Ann Curis as they give the Big Boy permanent residence at Grosse Pointe North High School.

Schools district. After graduating he earned three degrees from Macomb Community College in business management, business law and law enforcement.

"My dad told me if I wanted to be a cop he'd stand behind me," Curis

recalled. "Then he made me an offer I couldn't refuse."

The younger Curis took over his father's Big Boy franchise in 1978, and married his wife, Ann, in 1984. They moved to the Woods shortly after and have

four children, all of whom graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School.

"Ann, God bless her,

she raised the kids and I ran the business," he said. "I had the much easier job. She is so supportive."

First came Katie, a stay-at-home mom who lives in the Farms and worked at one time for Meridian Health.

"She has three kids and I used to think grandkids were just kids," Curis laughed.

"But there's nothing like

having your own."

Dan Jr. was next, who oversees the Curis Restaurant Management Group.

"He could run all four restaurants, but I'm not ready to retire yet," Curis said.

Then came twins, Robert and Richard.

"Robert worked eight years in Washington, D.C., for Sen. Debbie Stabenow and now manages Lowe's government affairs office," Curis said. "Richard helps me run this place."

Curis said he didn't appreciate how much his dad enjoyed working with his sons until he had children of his own.

"Dad had a unique way of teaching us lessons," he said. "But he always told us customers will know if the food isn't fresh. If you're not willing to eat it, don't serve it."

Curis recounts a story when his dad came to the restaurant and ordered a bowl of chili.

"He took one bite and got up to leave," he laughed. "I asked him where he was going and he said he was going to find somewhere that served a hot bowl of chili! Ours was only warm."

Aside from his business ventures, Curis has served on the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce board and recently was honored for serving 25 years on the Woods Local Officers Commission.

"We review the compensation for the judge, mayor and city council every two years to make sure it stays fair," he explained. "Keeping them on board is good for the residents and keeps the city on an even keel."

Curis said he appreciates all the local sup-

port.

"We've had customers who came here as kids and then brought their kids and now grandkids," he said. "We've had people come in for breakfast and say they'll see us at Champs for dinner."

One incident sticks out in his mind from fall 2018, when roofers started a fire that caused more than \$1 million in damage.

"We're telling people to leave and they're going up to the cash register to pay their bill," he said. "I told everyone just to get out. Within a week, every one of them came back and paid their bill. I was floored."

After more than a year fighting with the insurance company, Curis decided to reopen. By then, however, he had already gifted the Big Boy statue to North, whose students had been "stealing" it for spirit week for years.

Curis acquired Champs in 2007.

"I talked to the owner in 2005, and we had the papers drawn up, but then he got seller's remorse," he said. "He called me a couple of years later and said let's talk. So, real smart buying a restaurant with no parking right before the housing bubble burst!"

Curis spends part of the day at Big Boy, then usually heads to Champs when it opens at 3 p.m.

"I'm blessed to have such a great staff at both places," he said. "They're like family and family is everything."

Despite the long hours, he and Ann are able to escape to Scottsdale, Ariz., for a week each winter.

"It's OK the first few days, then I get a little antsy," he said. "We'll go out for dinner and I eventually make my way to the kitchen, asking to talk to the owner. It drives Ann crazy but I've picked up some good ideas over the years."

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After just a touch over 50 years of providing service to the pet owning public, Sandy and I have decided it's time to kick back and start the next phase of our lives, RETIREMENT! A little scary to say the least, but life goes on.

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Art and Courtney

several times at the Westminster dog show in New York. After 20+ years in the sport, Courtney remains dedicated to honing her craft and enjoys learning about new breeds and techniques.

Before meeting Courtney, Art had never owned a dog. After watching sporting dogs perform, using both their natural and trained talents, Art quickly fell in love with dog training. Through his relationship with Courtney, a fun hobby turned into his own serious interest. Art pursued working for and with multiple hunting dog trainers over the years. Training with a variety of breeds, Arthur built his repertoire of training techniques to create his own unique style. Together, Courtney and Art have a small breeding program for Golden Retrievers.

Sandy and I will still be living on the property for a while, so please feel free to stop in and say hello. Thanks again for all the wonderful years we've had. Please welcome Art and Courtney!

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SEWER:

Continued from page 1A

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

"Let's also remember why we're doing this in a time just a few years after we saw terrible flooding that impacted

too many of our neighbors," Councilman Chris Moyer said. "This is an opportunity for us to proactively mitigate future climate events, future rain events.

"This isn't something that will solve every problem, but through the forethought of using a millage combined with federal dollars, we have the opportunity to truly make an impact and help people out. And that's the kind of thing that we all need to do. That's the fiscally responsible thing to do. That's the neighborly thing to do."

Pro Musica of Detroit presents

MUSIC WITH LOVE

WEI YU & KEUN-A LEE

THURSDAY

March 28

Detroit
Institute
of Arts

Music 7p
PreGlow 6p



Wei Yu and Keun-A Lee perform virtuosic works for cello and piano. He is Principal Cello of the DSO. She is an internationally acclaimed keyboardist. Together they move minds and fill hearts.

TICKETS &
DETAILS: ProMusicaDetroit.com

Mini golf in The Village in April

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — There are just two days left to get early-bird pricing for the first ever Main Street Mini Masters, set to shut down Kercheval in The Village for 18 holes of miniature golf Saturday, April 6.

The format will be similar to a regular golf outing, with a morning flight for family foursomes and an afternoon flight for adult foursomes.

Alongside swag bags, a hotdog lunch, selfie station and the chance to enter to win raffle prizes, a Posterity Art Gallery Junior Duffers Tent will feature golf-themed art activities for kids, DJ La Dynasty will spin tunes in the Ridge Crest Outfitters Clubhouse Tent and a 19th hole will offer surprise fun.

"Spring in the Pointes is the best time of the year," said Anne Murphy, owner of Apple Blossom Baby and Mini Masters co-chair, in a release. "As a small business owner, I look forward to the increased foot traffic and exposure events like this bring to The Village and our businesses."



A ticket for a family of four currently is \$40 — \$50 after Saturday, March 23 — and covers golf for four players, four lunch tickets, chips and pop courtesy of SideStreet Diner, a family swag bag and raffle tickets.

Up to two additional golfers can join the family foursome for \$10 each.

A ticket for an adult group of four currently is \$80 — \$100 after March 23 — and covers golf for four adults, four lunch tickets, four Loop Social District drink tickets redeemable at SideStreet Diner, The Whiskey Six and Sidecar Slider Bar, individual

swag bags and raffle tickets.

Tickets may be purchased online at tinyurl.com/3yez564h or in The Village at Skye Salon, Apple Blossom Baby and Ridge Crest Outfitters. As space is limited, advanced registration is recommended.

"Special events are a great way to welcome visitors into your downtown shopping district," said Cindy Willcock, Main Street Grosse Pointe executive director, "But we wanted to do something that hasn't been done in this area before. Something that would appeal to families with young children, as well as adults who were looking for something fun to do on a Saturday afternoon. And most importantly, something that would get people walking around and discovering all that's happening in The Village."

Additional event sponsors include Brieden Consulting Group, El's Boutique/JoliBump Maternity, Glitter & Scotch, Hampton Wealth Management, J. McLaughlin, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Savvy Chic Boutique, Small Favors, Susie at Home, Mark Thomas, Versa Real Estate and Village Dental Associates.

Defer getting its own water main

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Word is getting out among civil construction companies that the Park is serious about improving infrastructure.

A recent addition to the project is securing a fresh water supply to Defer Elementary School.

"We need to update the Defer loop," City Manager Nick Sizeland said. "There was a water main break on Somerset a couple months ago."

"To repair that, they had to shut off the water (to the school)," Wiener said. "Defer lost water. So we don't have that issue again, engineers determined to create a loop. In the bid documents, it's about \$60,000, a smaller project. So, when they're doing other water main work, they're going to put in a dedicated line to Defer."

— Brad Lindberg

City of Grosse Pointe

Fur coats

A resident in the 600 block of Neff reported someone stole two fur coats from her home between Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023, and Friday, Jan. 26.

Revenge

Following an argument inside a restaurant in the 17000 block of Kercheval, a 30-year-old St. Clair Shores man is suspected of breaking the driver's side mirror off the victim's vehicle at 4 a.m. Monday, March 11.

Suspended license

When a random license plate check showed no insurance on a vehicle at 10 p.m. Monday, March 11, a 43-year-old Eastpointe man was pulled over at Mack and Rivard and cited for driving on a suspended license.

Armed speeder

A 43-year-old Detroit man was found to be intoxicated, carrying an illegal weapon and to have a suspended license, when pulled over for speeding at Jefferson and Washington at 4 a.m. Monday, March 18.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Threats

Upon arriving to pick up his young son from his mother's Farms home at 8:45 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, a 34-year-old St. Clair Shores man was made aware police had just been called to the house for a barking dog.

As the man pulled out of the driveway, a 52-year-old Farms man — who previously made threats against the family — approached the vehicle with a baseball bat behind his back.

The 34-year-old, a registered gun owner with a concealed carry permit, drew his firearm and told the man to get away, before reporting the incident to police.

— Laurel Kraus
Report information about this and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety,

(313) 885-2100.

Grosse Pointe Shores

Nothing to report per dispatch.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Shopping spree

A credit card stolen from a vehicle in the 1600 block of Hampton was used to make three fraudulent purchases worth

more than \$600. The theft occurred between 5 p.m. Monday, March 11, and 7:30 a.m. the following morning.

The victim told officers he doesn't remember if he locked the vehicle, but the report indicates there was no sign of forced entry.

Not so sunny

A resident in the 19000 block of Holiday is facing foreclosure on his Florida vacation home after a Massachusetts attorney he hired to handle homeowners association payments kept the money instead.

The man reported

around 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, he also is out \$23,000.

Clean getaway

A resident in the 700 block of North Renaud noticed two charges totaling more than \$520 on his credit card for a car wash in Southfield.

The man told officers around 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, he did not know the names of the people who set up accounts at the car wash and didn't recognize the vehicles. He canceled the credit card.

— Ted O'Neil
Report information

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Stolen vehicle

A gray 2023 Ford F-150 pickup truck with its ignition key fob inside the vehicle was stolen while parked overnight Thursday, March 14, in the 100 block of Bedford.

— Brad Lindberg

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



6th Annual MARCH FOR MEALS FOR Meals on Wheels

For more information and to donate, visit helmlife.org/march-for-meals

Through March 31

In 2023, we served nearly 26,000 meal

- 26% more than 2022 - to homebound Harper Woods and Grosse Pointe residents unable to safely prepare meals for themselves. As our population ages, the need grows.

Every \$5 donated provides one meal.



Scan to donate



The Helm 2024 March for Meals is in partnership with Grosse Pointe Memorial Church.

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with purchase of security alarm and monitoring services.
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SEE ALL THE PARK HAS TO EXPLORE...

POINTES OF VIEW

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

GP News scores natural hat trick with 3rd straight Mich. Press win

Our constant readers know how much we love a good sports analogy around here, so it's no surprise our staff was quick to note how we scored a natural hat trick by winning our third consecutive Newspaper of the Year award from the Michigan Press Association March 14.

We are very proud of this award, giving us 60 — that's right, count 'em — 60 honors we won in 2023. We believe it reflects equal parts hard work from our talented team, as well as the depth of interesting people and places we cover in the Pointes and surrounding areas.

We don't write about subjects to pander toward popular trends or embrace hot takes to win awards. Instead our bar is to write well-reported, award-worthy stories that matter most to our community.

The MPA awards are judged by a panel of journalists from another state (Pennsylvania), which is extra meaningful to us that colleagues who understand the challenges journalists face in producing quality stories found ours to be among the best not just in Grosse Pointe, but throughout the state of Michigan.

Speaking of the best, the MPA said we not only produced the best newspaper in its class, but also tapped us as its winner of its Excellence in Advertising Award. We were selected over every weekly publication in the state, no matter what size. To us, this is like winning the Super Bowl and the Stanley Cup in the same season.

Where else are we best? Well, we also took home the No. 1 spot for best feature, best sports story, best newspaper design, best page design, best website, best social media and best video presentation in 2023.

We also placed in the top three in nine additional categories, often with nods to multiple GP News staffers or stories within a single category. Those include best columnist, best editorial, best sports column, best news photo, best feature photo, best photo story, best special section, best sports feature and best writing — that last of which is an open class category that includes every daily and weekly paper in the state, irrespective of class.

We also earned an honorable mention in most innovative storytelling for our 2023 Super Bowl coverage.

And our advertisers can take heart that their money is best maximized at the Grosse Pointe News. As a non-daily, we won for best digital ad, best in-house circulation ad, best health and fitness ad, best in-house content promotion, best community business promotions, best real estate ad, best restaurants, best use of color in advertising, best general retail ad and best small ads work. Again, we produced several winners within many of these categories.

If you are on the fence about advertising with us, what are you waiting for? We are the best in the business, eager and equipped to help out yours.

Clearly, 2023 was a great year for our newspaper, subscribers and those who support local journalism. We couldn't do any of this without our owners, Sean and Nancy Cotton. Close to four

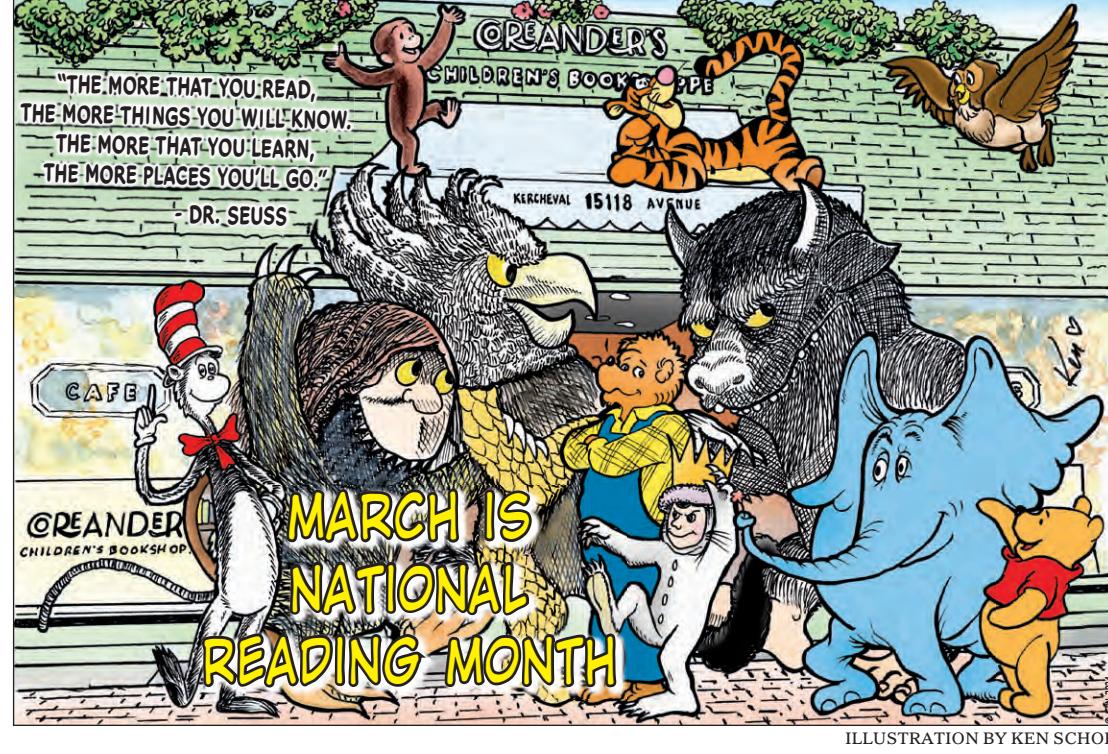


ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

GUEST VIEWS

State of our schools and cities

The Grosse Pointe News provided editorial space this week to our Grosse Pointe Public School superintendent and local mayors to offer our readers updates on recent successes and improvements within their schools and cities, as well as to address any issues they may be facing.

It is our hope these updates are helpful to all residents of the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods and provide valuable information to our active and engaged citizenry.

Dr. Andrea Tuttle
Grosse Pointe Public School System Superintendent

For the past six weeks, I've been incredibly fortunate to serve as the superintendent for the Grosse Pointe Public School System. This brief time has been nothing short of a revelation, witnessing firsthand the extraordinary accomplishments of our students, both academically and in their extracurricular endeavors. It's their vibrant presence that truly animates our buildings and infuses our spaces with life and brings me the greatest joy.

As someone deeply passionate about education and a steadfast believer in the invaluable opportunities public school education provides to our students and community, I am eager to collaborate with the talented individuals within Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods to guide our district boldly into the future.

GPPSS embodies a place where we cherish and honor our traditions while embracing the future and the opportunities to continue to learn and grow. Miranda Lambert's touching song, "The House That Built Me," speaks to the power of place in shaping our identities, reminding us of the importance of our childhood and young adult experiences. Through vivid storytelling, the song conveys themes of nostalgia, longing and personal growth. It touches on the universal desire to revisit and reclaim parts of one's life that have been lost to time.

"The House That Built Me" resonates deeply with many listeners because it captures the emotional essence of home and the powerful connections people form with the places that shape

them. Our Grosse Pointe Public Schools are more than buildings; they transform into second homes where young minds are gently molded, where talents are discovered and honed and where the foundation of character is laid down with care and affection. To be an alumnus of the Grosse Pointe Public School System is to carry with you a mark of distinction, a testament to the exceptional upbringing and education that "built" you into the individual of merit you are today.

Just as Lambert's song poignantly navigates through the corridors of nostalgia, longing and the quest for personal growth, it mirrors the journey our students embark upon within the walls of Grosse Pointe public schools. As time passes, we remember our adolescent years including the friendships we built, the times we laughed, the times we cried, the times we were pushed to our limits and the times we overcame obstacles — we learned way more in school than math and science, we learned about life. Our community's beloved public schools provide a unique educational environment. There's an undeniable magic about being educated in this prestigious school system.

Whether our students are navigating the path toward their future careers or higher education, GPPSS stands out with its remarkable offerings designed to sculpt well-rounded, vibrant individuals. From our acclaimed Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs and advanced placement courses to our Grammy-winning music programs, robust sports achievements and a faculty of highly qualified educators, the opportunities we provide are truly unparalleled. Our students excel, not just academically, but in every endeavor they pursue, supported by state-of-the-art resources and a community that believes in their potential.

Here is an unmatched Top 10 sampling of what GPPSS offers:

1. 27 Advanced Placement courses
2. Grammy-winning music programs
3. 30 varsity sports, 120 teams earning multiple individual and team district, regional and state championships each year. (33 student-athletes

See GUEST, page 8A



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See GUEST, page 8A

GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

March 21 – 27

LOCAL 4
Expect More.

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7:33 am 7:31 am 7:29 am 7:27 am 7:26 am 7:24 am 7:22 am

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7:46 pm 7:47 pm 7:48 pm 7:49 pm 7:51 pm 7:52 pm 7:53 pm

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

LETTERS

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

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Renee Landuyt:
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Special Writer

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Manager

CLASSIFIED

(313) 882-6900 ext 567

CIRCULATION
(313) 343-5578
Ellie Carter

GUEST:*Continued from page 6A*

from the class of 2024 committed to play college-level athletics)

4. 8 Career and Technical Education offerings with 15 grads attending trade school

5. 70 2023 grads headed to a top 50 college/university

6. 88 percent of our teachers have a master's degree or higher, delivering the best in education

7. Numerous National Merit semifinalists each year

8. Our average SAT score is 200 points above state average

9. State-of-the-art technology

10. An engaging, rigorous, relevant and enjoyable culture of learning

The accolades our schools and students have garnered speak volumes of the unparalleled educational standards we uphold. This success is a collaborative effort, a testament to the dedication of our educators, the engagement of our families and the spirited endeavors of our students. Together, we have created an environment where the Grosse Pointe Public School System shines as a luminary of learning, growth and fulfillment. With heartfelt appreciation, I extend my gratitude to each member of our community, to our educators who guide and inspire, to our students who dare to dream and strive and to every individual who contributes to making the Grosse Pointe Public School System a cornerstone of Wayne County. Thank you. Grosse Pointe Public Schools are where leaders are cultivated, life-

long friendships are forged and communities thrive in unison. This is where dreams are not just envisioned but are "built" into reality.

Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak
City of Grosse Pointe

Infrastructure issues are a priority for the City of Grosse Pointe and two recent developments are giving residents the opportunity to be heard.

First, following the flooding in 2021, we promised residents we would make our infrastructure as resilient as possible. City engineers evaluated our

century-old system to see what improvements were needed to better handle today's more intense storms. The primary recommendation was to reconfigure the storm sewers so our stormwater drains to the lake. Currently, stormwater north of Waterloo goes to the Neff Road Pump Station, where it is combined with sewage from throughout the City and pumped to Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA).

Heavy rains can severely strain the system and cause sewer backups throughout the City. Our engineers developed a plan to reconfigure the system at an estimated cost of \$28.6 million. To help finance the project, the City applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding and was awarded a grant for \$21.6 million, or 76 percent. That's very good news. But the grant requires a 24 percent local match and stipulates that if the total cost exceeds the estimate, the City will be responsible for the overage. To cover the match, potential cost overruns and other critical capital

needs, we need \$15 million.

The City does not have that much in cash reserves, so we will be asking voters to approve a bond during the scheduled state election in August. If the bond does not pass, we will have to walk away from the \$21.6 million from FEMA. Meanwhile, we are pursuing every possible option to offset the City's portion of the funding so we won't have to use the full bond amount. Watch for more information on the City's website, grossepointecity.org.

On another infrastructure issue, we recently learned that GLWA has changed how the City's rates are calculated, resulting in a fee increase on the sewage portion of residents' bills. When GLWA first notified us, the proposed increase was 62 percent. We challenged that, resulting in a reduction to 33 percent. City and engineering staff are working to ensure the data GLWA is using to set our rates is accurate, hoping to further lower the rate hike. At our April 15 city council meeting, residents will have an opportunity to hear from GLWA representatives, who will explain the change and answer questions. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mayor Louis Theros
Grosse Pointe Farms

Spring has sprung! As we all look downward to see what plants are leaving their slumber to pierce the dirt and reach to the sky, the city of Grosse Pointe Farms is looking upward to a colorful start. Thank you to the Grosse Pointe News for allowing me to let you know what is

happening in the Farms in the next few months.

Our always exceptional public works employees are preparing to begin their annual spruce up of all our roads, islands and flower beds (as I know many of our residents are doing as well). The Pier Park crew is prepping the best park in the state for another year of fun in the sun and the gathering of friends and family. In addition to seasonal items like preparing the pool, beach and other amenities for a Memorial Day weekend opening, residents will notice a new roof on the pavilion and construction of long-awaited pickleball courts.

With warm weather, we also face the coming of all too familiar orange barrels. We are proposing the repaving of Newberry, Chalfonte (Madison to Kerby), Calvin (Chalfonte to Webster) and Muir (McMillan to Kercheval). We also are working on several alleys along Mack Avenue, including the shoring of fences.

Around the city, we are accelerating our sidewalk program by replacing approximately 200 slabs around the city. We are continuing to trim city trees as trees are a mainstay in our community. If you know of any troublesome sidewalks or trees, please call our city offices to report them. You will also see further repairs to the seawall along Lakeshore.

This past month, we honored many of our public safety officers for going above and beyond the call of duty during 2023. We have put a direct link to the ceremony on the front page of our website. I urge all residents to view the ceremony to get a much better understanding about the great service our officers provide our residents.

Thank you and have a safe and wonderful spring.

Mayor Valerie J. Kindle
Harper Woods

As mayor of the city Harper Woods, I am grateful for this opportunity to share our good news. Many of you have wondered about the Eastland Center development. We recently have been working on a ribbon-cutting ceremony with the owner of the center, NorthPoint Development. It has been set for early June.

They have successfully leased out more than half of the center and we are looking forward to seeing more than 300 new jobs coming to the center.

We are so excited to be a part of this new development for our community.

We have not seen a project like this since the building of Eastland Mall.

Although I, like a lot of you, will miss the mall, I am excited for this new development. We are looking forward to this infusion of new taxes and jobs.

Thanks to all who supported, encouraged and helped to bring this development to our community.

Mayor Michele Hodges
Grosse Pointe Park

Prosperity has been a grounding notion as we map the path forward for the city of Grosse Pointe Park, thereby cementing our standing as a community of choice. Fortunately, the state of our city is solid, so we are able to advance from a strong foundation.

As evidence of this foundation, our tax base is growing, the business and entertainment district is thriving, our neighborhoods and sense of com-

munity are both vibrant, services are excellent, our parks and movie theaters are top notch, we are tackling our infrastructure issues and the leadership team is staunchly committed to continuously professionalizing city operations.

Just as any city worth its weight, it is given that we continue to build stamina in each of these areas, but we want more. In fact, we want to punch well above our weight so there is no question about where we choose to live.

As a bedroom community with little development opportunity, this task may seem daunting, especially in comparison to cities flush with tax-paying assets, but not for a city like ours that is all about GSD — Getting Stuff Done.

One

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1) Regional solutions to our infrastructure challenges.

2) Collaborative public safety initiatives that tackle crimes that include the recent loss of a 17-year-old.

3) More plentiful county, state and federal resources.

4) Improved prospects for city-owned properties along our shared boundaries and projects that straddle them.

5) Coordinated zoning and planning initiatives that accelerate development and place making efforts.

6) A healthy relationship with our neighbors that is productive and solution oriented.

I'd like to further note

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DPW continues to beautifully maintain Osiris Park, Lakeshore medians and green space along the sea wall. Additionally, a much-needed maintenance garage was erected at the southeast end of the park and new drainage was installed. The concrete floor of the covered pavilion was replaced.

The men, and now women, in blue continue to protect and serve Grosse Pointe Shores with integrity and professionalism while earning additional certifications, training and merit awards. While we have had some retirements, our staffing levels are stable and dependable. The department also purchased a new fire pumper and patrol SUV.

In the summer of 2023, the city produced a public relations video titled "A Shore Like No Other," which highlighted the beauty of the community. During that season, the park buzzed with activities. As the smallest swim team in the Grosse Pointes, the Sharks took second place in the Lakeshore swim finals. The pickleball courts, tennis courts and marina bustled with activity. Beach tennis was a new addition to the park. The summer premier event was once again the Fourth of July concert and celebration.

GROSSE POINTE NEWS – 3-TIME WINNER OF THE MPA NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR AWARD - BEST IN CLASS



The Grosse Pointe News is the proud and grateful recipient of the Michigan Press Association's Newspaper of the Year, once again — **for the third year running!** Along with our big dreams we add our dedication to you — the community, our insistence on truth in journalism and lots of passion and time from a talented, hardworking staff.

We celebrate this honor with you.

**60 total awards
2023 NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR**

AND CATEGORY AWARDS FOR:

- Best Editorial**
- Best Columnists**
- Best Feature Story (First Place)**
- Best Newspaper Design (First Place)**
- Best Page Design (First Place)**
- Best Sports Writing (First Place)**
- OPEN CLASS: Best Writing**
- OPEN CLASS: Most Innovative Storytelling**
- Best Sports Columns**
- Best Feature Photo**
- Best News Photos**
- Best Photo Stories**
- Best Special Section**
- Best Non-Daily Special Section**
- Best Digital Presentation (First Place)**
- Best Video Presentation (First Place)**
- Best Ad Groupings (First Place)**
- Best Community-Cause Marketing**
- Best Digital Ad (First Place)**
- Best Health/Fitness Ads (First Place)**
- Best Circulation Ads (First Place)**
- Best In-House Content Promos (First Place)**
- Best Community Business Promo (First Place)**
- Best Use of Color**
- Best General Retail Ads**
- Best Home Furnishings Ad**
- Best Auto Ad**
- Best Real Estate Ad (First Place)**
- Best Restaurant Ads (First Place)**
- Best Small Advertisement**



Grosse Pointe News

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There's always room for capital improvement

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK
— The planning commission's six-year capital improvement plan walks a line between what if and what will be.

It's an aspirational document — an outline of goals, not hard-and-fast

objectives; a road map, not an itinerary.

"The capital improvement plan is for planning and funding public facilities and infrastructure," said Warren Rothe, planning commission secretary and assistant city manager.

Commission members unanimously approved a

second draft of their CIP March 18, and forwarded it to council.

They'd already agreed upon a version in January, which the city council thereafter reviewed and returned to the commission this week for its second OK.

"The proper order of things is that a capital

improvement plan is presented to the planning commission," Councilman Max Wiener said. "The planning commission votes on it and approves it and passes it on to the city council. The expectation is this should be forwarded to city council's April meeting to get this thing in place."

Shared oversight aligns with the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, which obligates planning commissions to prepare capital improvement plans annually.

"In many communities, the planning commission and city council work collaboratively on adopting and implementing the CIP," Rothe said. "Approval and recommendation by the planning commission does not equal endorsement of spending allocations."

Neither does council endorsement represent approval to fund everything to the degree indicated in the plan.

"It's not an appropriation," Rothe said. "Rather, by adopting the CIP, the city council

acknowledges that these projects represent a reasonable interpretation of pending capital needs for the community and can be prioritized and included in the upcoming budget process."

The revised total of combined projects over six years is \$41,755,100, or \$575,100 more than initially.

"We have every department represented here, not just infrastructure," Rothe said. "Naturally, infrastructure is going to be the biggest piece, but we (also) have public safety projects, parks and recreation in here, too."

"I want to make sure we're fulfilling our primary purpose, which is to protect the health, safety and welfare of our residents," Mayor Michele Hodges said.

"It's a living document," Rothe said. "Projects will probably drop off without ever getting done; others will be added on. We need to start somewhere. That's what this is."

Bigger-ticket additions consist of:

- ◆ \$400,000 to separate sewers on East Jefferson from the city limits to Lakeview, allowing "adjacent properties to disconnect from the combined sanitary sewer system";

- ◆ an extra \$250,000 to upgrade the water pump station's supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) monitoring system and

- ◆ a new, easier-to-use city website design and recreation department software totaling \$24,600.

Several additions are for the public safety department:

- ◆ replacing officer breathing apparatus and related protective equipment, \$160,000,

- ◆ body and car camera replacement, \$104,000,

- ◆ fire turnout gear, \$84,000,

- ◆ \$70,000 to acquire license plate readers,

- ◆ police and fire department radio replacement, \$12,500 and

- ◆ fire hose replacement, \$15,000.

See IMPROVE, page 11A

GUEST:

Continued from page 8A

Our business district is booming with a variety of new retail services not limited to Bucharest Grill, Crispelli's Bakery & Pizzeria, Qamaria Yemeni Coffee, Pendy's, Hush Massage and Essential Therapeutic Wellness. Existing businesses — like Hansons Running Shop, AAA, Crosspointe Christian Church and the award-winning Edmundt AHEE jewelers — are planning expansions.

Water devotees can refresh in an all-new immersive, zero-depth splash pad, due to open when our aquatic facility at Lake Front Park opens on Memorial Day. This game-changing splash pad delivers safe play experiences for all ages with an Aqua Dome, Spinning Flower and featuring a state-of-the-art water management system for sustainability. Elsewhere at the aquatic facility (with new Wi-Fi on the pool deck), the dual giant slides will be refurbished and

later, when the pool closes for the season, we will install a brand-new pool liner.

Last fall, in partnership with the Grosse Pointe Woods Foundation and their donors, we soft-launched an all-new dog park near city hall. This spring, we installed agility toys like the Rover Jump Over, Doggie Crawl, Paws Table and Hoop Jump to ensure our four-legged friends get their healthy dose of outdoor exercise. Drinking fountains for dogs and people will also be installed.

Visitors to Ghesquiere Park — home to four-season recreation like pickleball, baseball, ice hockey and more — will benefit from two all-new family bathrooms to feel at ease in an outdoor space while away from home with young children.

From people to pets, road redesign to park improvements, new businesses to retail expansions, the city of Grosse Pointe Woods is reinvigorating the recreational mind, body and spirit of all our residents and visitors.

OFFEND:

Continued from page 3A

"Our department received a few calls about a person in the 900 block of Harcourt," Pittman said. "The calls initially came in about him looking into people's windows. Detective Pionk was able to locate a witness who had seen the defendant in March

standing in his driveway

committing lewd and lascivious acts in full view of the public. She'd seen him in the area before. She knew where he lived."

Resulting new charges are:

- ◆ aggravated indecent exposure, a high misdemeanor punishable by up to two years in jail and/or a \$2,000 fine, and

- ◆ being a sexually

deviant person.

"That law has been on the books a long time, so long that it has a unique parameter of sentencing from one day up to life in prison," Pittman said.

As the court cleared, Pionk secured Taro's wrists behind his back and prepared to take him to the Wayne County Jail to be fitted for a tether.

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Shores
Municipal
Judge Chip
Berschback,
Grosse Pointe
Woods
Municipal
Judge Ted
Metry and
City of Grosse
Pointe
Municipal
Judge David
Draper stand
with the swag
bags before
talking with
residents.

PHOTO BY
RENEE LANDUYT



Judges host meet-and-greet

Three of the four Grosse Pointe municipal judges — Judge Ted Metry of Grosse Pointe Woods, Judge David Draper of the City of Grosse Pointe and Judge Chip Berschback of Grosse Pointe Farms and Shores — for the first time hosted a meet-and-greet event at the Grosse Pointe Public Library Central Branch Wednesday, March 6. Grosse Pointe Park Judge Carl Jarboe was unable to attend due to a scheduling conflict.

The four Grosse Pointe judges

are the only municipal judges in Michigan. They work on a part-time basis and are lawyers as well.

The event was held in recognition of National Judicial Outreach Week to provide residents an opportunity to ask the judges questions about the role municipal courts have in the community.

Residents who attended asked about the types of cases they saw, which ranged from suspended licenses and expired plates to traffic fines, crimes of opportunity and even murder. The judges

stressed the importance of people locking their car doors; not leaving items of value in the car, especially in plain sight; and locking house doors, especially in the summer when usually only the screen door is open.

Turnout was good and residents said they enjoyed talking to the judges in a casual atmosphere. Those who attended received swag bags with items such as pens, tissues and sweet treats.

— Renee Landuyt

IMPROVE:

Continued from page 10A

Yet the bulk of capital improvements relate to the water and sewer system, much of which are already funded by a voter-approved 10-year millage.

"There are several guidelines the administration utilized in deter-

mining the city's fiscal capacity to complete capital projects over the next six years," Rothe said.

He summarized them as:

- ◆ coordinating physical and fiscal planning,
- ◆ prioritizing improvements,
- ◆ stabilizing tax and utility rates,
- ◆ keeping costs low by

"paying as you go" rather than borrowing and incurring financing costs,

◆ providing adequate lead time for planning and engineering studies and

◆ coordinating projects with others in the community.

There's always room for capital improvement.

"Capital needs are

many and will certainly surpass available resources," Rothe said.

"Capital improvement planning and budgeting encourages the early identification of individual and related projects to reflect the goals and objectives established in the city's master plan and other planning documents."

Annual hazardous waste drop-off event coming up

GROSSE POINTE CITY, FARMS, PARK & SHORES — This year's Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day will be hosted by the City of Grosse Pointe from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 6, at Neff Park, 17350 E. Jefferson.

As GFL Environmental member communities, the drop-off is open to residents of the City of Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park and Grosse Pointe Shores. Valid driver's licenses are required to verify residency.

Residents are welcome to bring for proper disposal:

- ◆ oil-based paint and solvents,
- ◆ aerosols,
- ◆ corrosives, such as acids and bases,
- ◆ pesticides and herbicides,
- ◆ reactivities and oxidizers,
- ◆ non-regulated waste,
- ◆ automotive fluids, such as oil and antifreeze,
- ◆ non-DEA pharmaceuticals, such as over-the-counter medications,
- ◆ mercury,
- ◆ propane cylinders only, up to 30 pounds each,
- ◆ batteries, mixed household and auto,
- ◆ fluorescent lamps and light ballasts containing PCB,
- ◆ fire extinguishers and smoke detectors,
- ◆ and biomedical sharps in rigid containers.

Items which will not be accepted are all electronics; latex paint; explosives, flares and

See WASTE, page 12A

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Main Street elects new leadership for The Village

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Behind the curtain of all recent and upcoming upgrades to The Village sits the Main Street Grosse Pointe Executive Board of Directors, which last week elected new officers to lead for the next year.

New board officers are:

◆ Chairman Hans Brieden, president and CEO of Brieden Consulting Group, which is based in The Village,

◆ Vice Chairwoman Anne Murphy, owner of Apple Blossom Baby,

◆ Secretary Lanna Young, owner of Savvy Chic Boutique,

◆ and Treasurer Christopher Moyer, city council representative.

"It has been my great pleasure to sit in this chair," said Kasey Malley, co-owner of Small Favors, who served as chairwoman the last three years and will remain on the board. "I think Hans is going to be a great leader and I think you all are going to fill my shoes and then some."

This is the first time in the three years since its inception new officers have been elected.

"These board positions will be revolving at a year now," Malley clarified. "You can get voted back in your same position for up to two years, but we're hoping to have

the turnover happen at a year, so that the board can sustain itself and we can bring in new people and make sure people are ready to take those positions."

To serve as a board officer, a member must have been seated on the board for at least a year, according to MSGP's bylaws.

The MSGP executive board also includes Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak; June Lee, Wayne County representative; Michelle Bogges-Nunley, owner of Posterity Gallery; Susan Stefani-Bohrer, owner of Susie at Home; and Didi Deboer, a City resident.

— Laurel Kraus

Easy-peasy water meter reading

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK

— The fast pace of technological change gives the city a chance to simplify monitoring water meters without an employee leaving city hall.

Assistant City Manager Warren Rothe described the new procedure, which the city administration advocates, this way: "The billing clerk at city hall hits a button and a radio tower on top of, probably, city hall, gets all the data."

The system costs \$200,000 more than a roughly \$1.5 million, mobile, remotely-read water meter upgrade on which administrators seemed sold on last December. The estimate included new meters.

"The proposal last time was (having) a truck drive around and all the (meter) data is sent to the truck," Rothe said. "Instead of four large bills every year, we would smooth it out," he said. "If we're billing monthly, we can detect leaks and other issues much quicker."

Rothe wants Rothe to prepare a report of projected savings, which the city council can review before choosing what to do.

said.

"We've had a development since then," said Councilman Max Wiener during a meeting of the infrastructure committee Friday, March 15.

"Since then, we learned of technology," Rothe said. "Instead of having to drive around in a truck, we don't even have to go out and do the driving around type of data gathering."

He foresees long-run operating savings, plus the ability to bill water customers monthly instead of quarterly, improving the city's cash flow.

"Instead of four large bills every year, we would smooth it out," he said. "If we're billing monthly, we can detect leaks and other issues much quicker."

Wiener wants Rothe to prepare a report of projected savings, which the city council can review before choosing what to do.

The same company that proposed the mobile system also can install the central reading technology.

"We were under the assumption this might be \$1 million or more," said Nick Sizeland, city manager.

During a December 2023 meeting of the infrastructure committee, administrators said citywide replacement of worn-out water meters could pay for itself within a few years if a rough cost-benefit projection proves accurate. New meters are needed because the present ones no longer accurately register the full amount of water consumption.

"Best perspective, we're paying 20 percent of every (customer's) water bill," Josh Chafin, director of the Park water department, said at the time. "I've been in houses where the meter doesn't even spin when they turn on the water."

Wood chipper doesn't chip much

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK

— While working at home on weekdays, Brent Dreaver needn't look out a window to know when the public works wood chipper is making its rounds.

"It's about the only thing that can pipe through my noise-cancelling headphones," he said.

The thing is, 99.5 percent of the time he hears the chipper engine idling, not chipping.

"I hear it chipping wood less than 1 percent of the time," Dreaver said. "That tells me it's going around and it's running. It doesn't chip a lot of stuff."

Dreaver, a member of the Park city council and its infrastructure committee, volunteered his observations are anecdotal. But, they were confirmed during the March 15 infrastructure committee meeting when Public Works Director Tom Jenny proposed limiting chipper operations.

Jenny proposed rescheduling chipper rounds from the current five days per week to one week per month.

Committee members agreed to forward the recommendation to the city council, citing cost and labor savings, plus less wear and tear on equipment.

"It definitely makes sense," Dreaver said. "This frees up a lot of money."

"If we change it, we can always change it

See WOOD, page 14A

WASTE:

Continued from page 11A

fireworks; ammunition and weapons; radioactive waste and shock-sensitive waste; 55 gallon drums of waste; DEA-controlled narcotics; industrial and commercial waste; compressed gas cylinders, non-propane; tires; yard waste; appliances; and microwaves and air conditioners.

The next hazardous waste day — specifically, an e-waste drop-off day — will be hosted by Grosse Pointe Shores 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, at Osius Park, 800 Lakeshore.

— Laurel Kraus

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Going for grants

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK

Prospects are marginally better for the city to obtain low-interest loans for water and sewer system improvements.

"We will be reapplying for the Drinking Water and Clean Water Revolving Funds," said Nick Sizeland, city manager. "That's a loan program."

Application at this stage is more of a formality than a realistic expectation to be selected.

"That's to keep our name in the hopper," Sizeland said.

Winners are chosen, in part, on financial need.

"Hopefully we keep going up the list," Sizeland said. "The last time, we were No. 50."

"Expect the worst and hope for the best," Councilman Max Wiener said. "I won't hold my

breath. Unless you apply, you never know."

According to the state Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy website, michigan.gov/eble:

◆ "The Clean Water State Revolving Fund is a low-interest loan financing program that assists qualified local municipalities with the construction of needed water pollution control facilities."

◆ Michigan's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program is designed to assist water suppliers in satisfying the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act by offering low-interest loans (for 20-, 30- or 40-year loans) to eligible water suppliers."

Sizeland also is surprised about the progress of his application for a \$600,000 Community Technical Managerial and Financial Support for Lead Line Replacements grant.

"Eligible activities include physical verification of service lines and properties where lead is suspected but not confirmed or where service line material is unknown but likely contains lead," according to the program website.

The city, upon initial review, has made the first wave," Sizeland said. "We did not get cut in the first round. That's good news. We're trending in the right direction. We should find out in summer or fall whether we're funded for that."

Everyone at city hall also hopes for the best regarding Congressman Shri Thanedar's efforts to obtain a \$1,050,000 federal grant for flood control.

"Our understanding is the money comes from the Department of Housing and Urban Development," Sizeland said. "I've asked their office how the money can be spent, what are the requirements. I've been advised that somebody from HUD will be in touch

with us, but that's why I asked the congressman's office because they can probably get an answer faster from HUD."

Government grants typically come with stipulations.

"Most likely, there will be federal bid requirements, minimum wage and other things," Sizeland said.

The grant won't be counted among municipal funds until received.

"There are a bunch of ways this can come down," Wiener said. "We're trying to make sure we have options. I'm very grateful for it. Fingers crossed that it plays out."

Sizeland said he also contacted federal authorities about grants to help fund reconstruction of the Charlevoix business district streetscape.

"We put in a congressional directed spending application to Sen. Gary Peters' office for the Charlevoix streetscape," he said. "We put a similar request into Congressman Thanedar's office."

WOOD:

Continued from page 12A

back," said Councilman Max Wiener, chairman of the infrastructure committee.

"I'm proposing we do it the first full week of every month on (residents') regular garbage day that week — that's it," Jenny said. "You'll get your brush picked up on your garbage day

that week, Monday through Friday. After that, the chipper is put away unless there's a storm or the kind of thing for which we always go out."

Chipper crews grind sticks and limbs greater than half-inch diameter.

If the change is made, residents will continue bundling sticks less than a half inch in diameter for weekly collection application by a municipal contractor, GFL (Green For Life) Environmental.

"If people tie sticks in piles, GFL is supposed to take those," Jenny said.

said.

He said it costs nearly \$460 per day, or nearly \$3,000 per week, for two employees to man the chipper. Attendant costs, such as \$1,600 per week for a truck and \$1,100 per week for the chipper itself, boost the weekly total to about \$5,000.

"It's a big savings and it frees people up to do potentially critical work," Wiener said.

"That's two employees every day that could otherwise be street sweeping," said Nick Sizeland, city manager.

"Or any maintenance or project," Jenny said.

"It's money-saving, yes, equipment-saving, yes, but manpower savings is the big one for getting people out there doing other jobs."

"We'll start making the case at the next council meeting," Wiener said.

"When a storm hits, the chipper will go out like it normally does," Jenny said.

MPA:

Continued from page 1A

Ted O'Neil, third place; Gryzenia, honorable mention.

◆ Best Editorial — Senior Editor Meg Leonard, second place for "What's the rush? Residents deserved sufficient say and time on \$700k health clinic" and third place for "GP mourns unspeakable loss after MSU tragedy."

◆ Best Sports Column — Leonard, Sports Writer Mike Adzima and Gryzenia, second place for Athlete of the Week; and Gryzenia, honorable mention for "We Tried It, Sports Edition."

◆ Business/Agriculture

News — Staff Writer Laurel Kraus, honorable mention for "Jos. A. Bank and Brooks Brothers locations to close this month."

◆ Feature Photo — Photographer Renee Landuyt, second place for "Mirror Image."

◆ Feature Story — Editor-in-Chief Jody McVeigh, first place for "Calling it a career after 45 years"; McVeigh, second place for "A purr-fect turn of events" and Kraus, third place for "Les Braves II arrives in GP."

◆ News Photo — Lindberg, third place for "Freighter grounded" and Landuyt, honorable mention for "Ice storm pulls power move on the Pointes."

◆ Photo Story —

Leonard, IT Manager John Pigott and Adzima, second place for "Hits & Highlights May 18" and Landuyt, third place for "Deck the Halls."

◆ Sports Feature — Gryzenia, third place for "Sailor's delight: Diablo newbies nab second place in the 99th Bayview Mackinac race."

◆ Sports Writing — Leonard, first place for "Title Town: Farms-City 10U, 11U teams capture Little Leagues' state crowns."

The entire GPN staff placed first for Best Newspaper Design for its July 20, 2023 issue, while graphic artist Donna Zetterland, with Gryzenia and Monette, swept the Best Page Design cate-

gory for "Grosse Pointe Ski Fun," first place; "Summer Entertaining," second place; "Fishing Contest," third place; and "Cap. Gown. It's Going Down," honorable mention.

The entire staff, with acknowledgement to Lani Martin, also earned second-place honors in the Special Section category for its Fall Style Guide.

In addition to its print newspaper, the Grosse Pointe News earned honors for its website, social media sites and other digital marketing. Gyzenia, Monette and Pigott placed first for Best Digital Presentation. The team also swept the Best Video Presentation category with first place for "GP News Christmas Giveaway," second place for "Mombeau's Table Hamburger Helper," third place for "Subscription Video" and honorable mention for "Fall Style Guide promo video."

On the advertising side, the sales team — led by Advertising Manager Shelley Owens and including account executives Julie Sutton and Paul Biondi — along with Gryzenia, Monette, McVeigh and the GPN Production Department of Ken Schop, David Hughes, Mary Schlager, Pigott and Zetterland,

earned honors for:

◆ Best Ad Grouping — first place for "Adopt A Pet" and third place for "Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic."

◆ Best Community Cause Marketing — second place for "Proud to be Purple."

◆ Best Digital Ad — first place for "Grosse Pointe News content promotion" and third place for "Fall Style Guide."

◆ Best Health/Fitness Ad — first place for "Growing Smiles" and second place for "Healthspan Cooking Demo."

◆ Best In-House Circulation Ad — first place for "This Mug's For You" and honorable mention for "Your Neighborhood."

◆ Best In-House Contest Promotion — first place for "Fresh Takes Art Contest 2023," third place for "Best of the Best" and honorable mention for "Father's Day Memories."

◆ Best Special Section — second place for "Holiday Gift Guide."

◆ Best Use of Color — third place for "Hotel Iroquois" and honorable mention for "Fox Creek."

◆ Community Business Promotions — first place for "Kercheval After 6," second place for "GP Animal Adoption Society Community Promo" and

honorable mention for "Pumpkins in the Park."

◆ General Retail — second place for "Iris" and third place for "Pink Elephant Cupcakes."

◆ Home Furnishings — second place for "Big games belong here Sargent Appliance."

◆ New and Used Autos/Recreational Vehicles and Boats — third place for "Golling Chrysler."

◆ Real Estate — first place for "Your Home — Finer Pointes."

◆ Restaurants — first place for "Morning Glory," third place for "Pendy's Restaurant" and honorable mention for "Brine — Tide to Table."

◆ Small Ads Work — honorable mention for "Red Crown, Life is Good!"

"Working in newspapers in 2024 is no easy feat," Gryzenia noted.

"Though contests and winning awards are not the most important part of what we do, they keep us on our toes, allow us to showcase the incredible talent we have here at our local newspaper and, maybe most importantly, they show our community and readers that we are second to none. We love providing value to our loyal subscribers and advertisers and we could not do any of this without their support. Thank you!"

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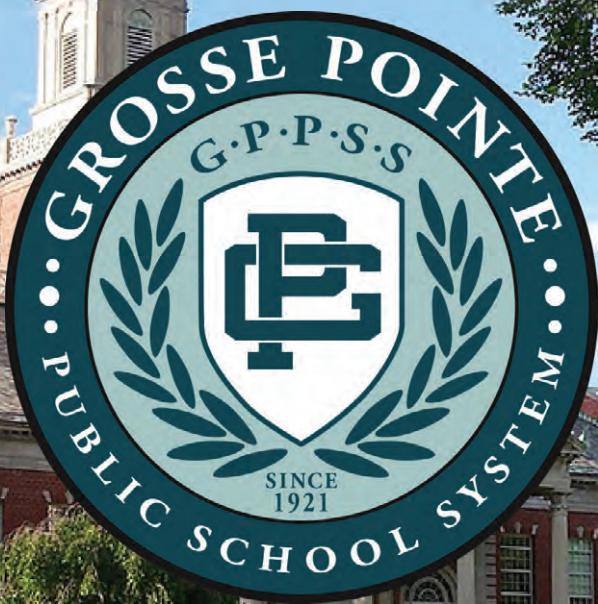


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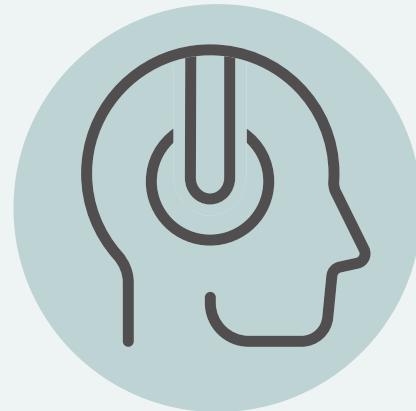


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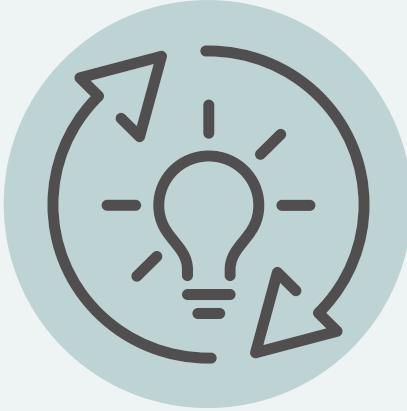
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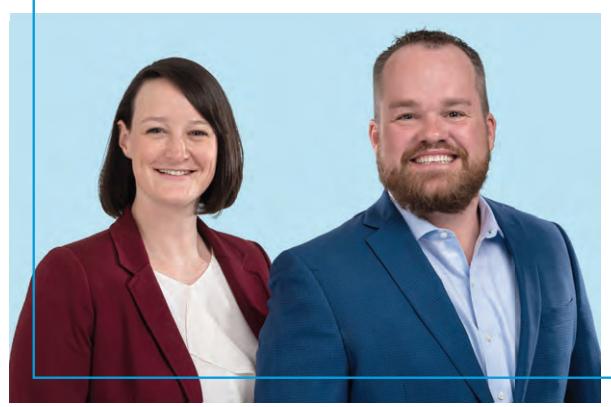


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SCHOOLS

20-23A CAMPS FOR KIDS

GPPSS rejects FOIA request

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES

The Grosse Pointe Public School System has turned down a Freedom of Information Act request filed by the Grosse Pointe News for the full report of an investigation into human resources complaints last year against Ahmed Ismail, who was then president of the Board of Education.

Roy Bishop, deputy superintendent for educational services and the district's FOIA coordinator, said the request was turned down due to attorney-client privilege.

Chris Fenton, then interim superintendent, said in January he was maintaining attorney-client privilege for the 27-page report, but was

relinquishing that privilege for a two-page executive summary of the report issued by the law firm Miller Johnson.

The complaints were filed last August by Kathryn Murray and Michelle Davis, the principal and assistant principal/athletic director, respectively, at Grosse Pointe North High School.

School board President Sean Cotton, owner of the Grosse Pointe News, said at the board's meeting Feb. 27, the district would not be releasing the full report on the advice of counsel.

"It contains the names of the interviewees, which could chill future investigations," he said. "That could breach expectations of confidentiality in such important matters."

In its summary, Miller Johnson determined Ismail had made comments about wanting to "push out" Murray and Davis and had taken retaliatory measures against them after the complaints were filed.

Miller Johnson also said the board had taken no action regarding the employment of Murray and Davis and Ismail had not engaged in gender bias/harassment. The summary made no comment regarding racist remarks, although Trustee Valarie St. John at the board meeting Feb. 6, said Ismail made "racist and sexist comments."

St. John later responded via email to questions from the Grosse Pointe News, saying, "You are correct that the executive summary does not mention the

allegations of racism. The complainants did not have grounds to bring that particular matter to HR, even though it was one of their concerns."

In a three-page determination letter the district made public, Fenton said he disagreed with the finding Ismail took retaliatory measures against Murray and Davis, writing, "In support, he (the Miller Johnson investigator) cited two instances — one with respect to each complainant — that could be explained as retaliatory conduct, but could also be explained as simple communications failure. (The investigator's) explanation for his conclusion is not well-documented or persuasive."

Miller Johnson said Ismail, now board vice



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named in honor of Sumbera. He coached baseball and football at North for 49 years and is in the coaching hall of fame for both sports.

It was co-signed by Gary Bennett, North girls basketball coach; Tim Brandon, former South football coach; Russ Hepner, former South football coach; Chad Hepner, South football coach; Steve Zaraneck, South cross country/track coach; Gary Spicer, attorney; and Bill Babcock, former North baseball player. Ismail has said he favors the move.

The complaints were filed Aug. 27 and 28.

Cotton said both indicated they felt their jobs were being threatened by members of the board and referenced both the cancellation of the proposed health clinic at North and articles in the Grosse Pointe News about Sumbera over the past six years.

GPPSS survey coming soon

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES

The Grosse Pointe Public School System is planning to release a survey soon that will reach a wider audience than in years past and possibly shed light on the district's declining enrollment.

The survey is being developed by Hanover Research, a Virginia-based company that specializes in collecting data for school districts across the country.

The Board of Education's Community Engagement Committee began discussing the survey last month.

"We had everyone go through the old survey and break it down as to what they liked and didn't like," said Chris Stanley, the district's executive director of learning technology and strategic relations. "A majority of the committee liked the same questions, but there were also a variety of different ideas on how to format the survey."

The survey will be formatted into trees based on how a respondent answers the first few questions. A list of different questions will be available for students, staff, parents of students in the district and community members.

District employees, for example, will be able to identify themselves — though not by name — as staff, teacher, administrator or central office.

Teachers can indicate what grade or grades they teach and how long they've been with the district.

Students, limited to sixth grade and above, will indicate which school they attend and parents can indicate what school their child attends.

Questions will include topics such as academic rigor, safety, cleanliness and bullying.

"Student perceptions

are generally more negative," said James Kornegay, content director for Hanover. "You might think the kids enjoy what you're doing and they might not be as much."

Kornegay added that if parents have more than one student in the district, they'll only be able to complete the survey for one of them.

"You don't want respondents to give two sets of data," he noted. "Limiting them to one will make answers more randomized."

Community members will be asked about their overall perception of the district and how they rate GPPSS leadership.

Parents with students not attending the district also can take the survey.

"I'd love to see some narrative questions as to why they didn't choose GPPSS or, if their children are too young, if they intend on enrolling them here," Superintendent Andrea Tuttle said. "I'd also like to see, if they left the district, why? If they never enrolled here, why?"

Kornegay said invalid surveys won't be counted. "You might get some ninth grader who answers 'strongly disagree' on every question," he said. "That wouldn't be included."

Once the survey closes, Hanover will compile the data, put together an executive summary and present its findings.

"We'll have charts and graphs that will be easy to understand," Kornegay said. "We'll also create a dashboard so you can see how each group responded."

Stanley said the goal is to have the survey ready in April. The district is considering promoting a QR code so people not on its mailing list can access the survey and asking each municipality to include a link to it in their resident email newsletters.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Three members of the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education received suspicious envelopes containing a glitter-like substance.

BoE members targeted with suspicious envelopes

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES

Three members of the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education received anonymous envelopes Thursday, March 14, filled with greenish glitter.

Trustee Ginny Jeup, Secretary Lisa Papas and Treasurer Terry Collins have all filed police reports. The envelopes were post marked March 9, and mailed from Grand Rapids. All had white, typed names and mailing addresses over black blocks with no return address.

"It looked weird, like paper folded into an envelope," Papas said. "I had to tear the end off to open it and there seemed to be some kind of pow-

der inside also that got on my hands. It was too heavy to be just glitter. It left green marks on my hands that I had to wash off."

The interior of Papas's envelope had a typed message that said, "You've been visited by the glitter fairy, sending you a little sparkle to brighten up your day."

Collins did not open his before contacting the Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Department. He also filed reports with the FBI and postal inspector.

"It's just another example of projection," Collins said. "People keep accusing us of being uncivil and being bullies and then this happens. Was it dangerous? Probably not, but you never know what people are capable of."

Park Detective Ryan Willmer said he doesn't think a crime has been committed, but will keep Collins's letter in the department's evidence room.

Jeup and Papas both filed reports with the City of Grosse Pointe Public Safety Department.

"As an elected official, I understand the responsibility that comes with serving our community, but the continued harassment is concerning," Jeup said. "The seriousness of these attacks cannot be overstated."

School board President Sean Cotton, who owns the Grosse Pointe News, said he thinks the letters were sent to terrorize the board.

"It is unfortunate that we have people in our community stooping to

such fear tactics," he said. "The only thing I can think of when a letter is filled with some kind of substance is the letters sent after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, filled with anthrax. Those letters killed people and injured many. This is absolutely a criminal act whether the sender thought it was merely a prank or knew exactly how far they were going."

City Chief of Police John Alcorn said he thinks the envelopes were sent as an annoyance.

"We'll hold on to them in case anything happens that would justify sending them to a crime lab," he said.

Papas and Jeup also filed police reports in January 2023, after

See TARGET, page 18A

BoE hears branding pitches

By Ted O'Neil
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — Three firms wanting to lay the groundwork of a branding campaign for the Grosse Pointe Public School System gave short presentations at the Board of Education meeting Tuesday, March 12.

Superintendent Andrea Tuttle said the order of the presentations was random as she picked numbers out of a hat to determine it.

They included Roundtable6 of Troy, which

Redhead Creative of Lansing and Joy Riot of Alexandria, Va.

The district's Branding Ad Hoc Committee drew up an RFP last fall and received six responses.

"We're looking for measurables like increasing visibility and awareness, increasing enrollment and retention and getting more alumni participation,"

Ted Coutilish, a marketing executive at the University of Michigan and co-chair of the committee, said at the time. "This isn't an enrollment campaign, but that

part will come if we do

this right."

Deborah Davis-Lenane, a market researcher with Roundtable6, told the board the district is limited due to its location.

"There's a housing scarcity and no room to build, but you can improve communication and your brand promise," she said. "You have to figure out who you are and where you excel. It's a matter of what you are great at and who needs to hear it. A brand is what people say about you when you're not in the room."

Davis-Lenane is a Pointer and serves on the board of The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods.

Jen Estill, owner of Redhead Creative, told the board it needs to realize not everyone is their client.

"You have to be OK with that because people make educational choices," she said. "But you need to figure out who you are and where you excel. It's a matter of what you are great at and who needs to hear it. A brand is what people say about you when you're not in the room."

Jessica McCarthy, co-founder of Joy Riot, said her firm has experience working with school districts and municipalities

that have a finite audience.

"We look at problems through various lenses to help you create an emotional connection,"

she said. "We're working with a district in New York that's similar to Grosse Pointe. Generations move back to raise their families."

That district, however, hasn't had a mascot in years since it got rid of its last one for cultural reasons.

"Everyone wants it back," she added. "Our job is to help deal with the loud voices and debunk things people

say that are just flat-out wrong."

When asked if distance would be an issue, Joy Riot co-founder John Armstrong said they work with clients all over the country.

"Plus my in-laws live in Grosse Pointe, so I have a place to stay," he laughed.

Coutilish previously said the district is not looking for a proposal to run a branding campaign at this point but recommendations for what one should look like. Cost for the initial phase is expected to be about \$50,000.

The board was expected to pick a firm at its meeting Tuesday, March 19, after press time.

DAR honors Liggett students

The Louisa St. Clair Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution honored several University Liggett School students for their academic excellence and citizenship at the 2024 School Awards Luncheon Saturday, March 2.

University Liggett School eighth graders dominated the middle school essay contest, with Madeline Unkel earning first place, Teresa Romanelli earning second place and Lucy Wujek earning third place. Madeline Unkel's essay earned first-place honors in the state competition. Her essay will now move to the national competition, where she will compete against winners from the other 49 states. Ella Henness received the Good Citizen Award, also advancing her essay to the state level.

Middle schoolers Mary Shanle, Chase Havlik and Gisele El Etreby also received the 2024 DAR Youth Citizenship Award

for embodying honor, service, courage, kindness, leadership and patriotism.

University Liggett School 10th graders dominated the high school essay contest, with Madeline Unkel earning first place, Teresa Romanelli earning second place and Lucy Wujek earning third place. Madeline Unkel's essay earned first-place honors in the state competition. Her essay will now move to the national competition, where she will compete against winners from the other 49 states. Ella Henness received the Good Citizen Award, also advancing her essay to the state level.

Left ULS students Sophia Carson and Amelie Duhaime with Louisa St. Clair DAR representatives. Carson earned first place and Duhaime earned second place in the middle school essay contest.



ULS sophomore Ella Henness with her parents, Chris and Amber, at the Louisa St. Clair Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution luncheon. Henness received the Good Citizen Award.



Mary Shanle, Chase Havlik and Gisele El Etreby were honored at the Louisa St. Clair Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution luncheon with the 2024 DAR Youth Citizenship Award.

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TARGET:

Continued from page 17A

receiving anonymous letters calling their morals and character into ques-

tion. That was shortly after the board voted to end a planned health clinic at Grosse Pointe North High School that would have cost taxpayers \$1 million.

Detective Sgt. Joe Adams from the City said at the time no crime was committed because the letters did not contain threats, but if the issue continued it could

become a case of criminal harassment.

Further, Jeup and Papas said they have had multiple instances of finding screws in their vehicle tires.

"I've had to replace two tires and patch one and my husband has had to replace two tires," Papas said. "I understand picking something up driving

around, but this always happens overnight when we're parked in the driveway."

Papas added she plans to install security cameras on the exterior of her house.

Jeup said she's had seven flats from screws while parked at her house, most of the screws looking similar, and one slashed tire.

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Sophomore Madeline Unkel earned first place in the state DAR Patriots of the American Revolution essay contest.



COURTESY PHOTO

University Liggett School student earns state essay-contest honors

For the second time in three years a University Liggett School student has earned state honors in the Daughters of the American Revolution Patriots of the American Revolution essay contest.

Sophomore Madeline Unkel, of Grosse Pointe Farms, earned first place in the state DAR Patriots of the American Revolution essay contest. Unkel's essay

now moves to the national competition, where she will compete against winners from the other 49 states.

Unkel is the second ULS student to win the state competition in the last three years. Senior Ella Henness received first-place honors in 2022.

ULS has long fostered a tradition of encouraging and supporting award-winning writing among its stu-

dents, thanks to the dedication of its faculty and a robust curriculum that emphasizes critical thinking and scholarly pursuits.

"Once you know your students as well as we do, you can give very targeted feedback that is specifically tailored for each student and their learning style," said Chris Hemler, Cynthia N. Ford chair of history and the social studies.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above, students are all smiles after winning the competition. Left, students took the competition seriously and put their best efforts into it.

South for the culinary win

Five students from Nick Lopez's culinary arts class at Grosse Pointe South High School recently competed in a statewide competition, the Michigan Restaurant and Lodging Association (MRLA) ProStart State Culinary Competition, in Kalamazoo.

They aced the competition and placed first, earning scholarship money and a trip to Baltimore for the National ProStart

Invitational Competition, which takes place April 26 to 28. There, the students will have another opportunity to receive additional scholarship awards toward culinary/hospitality management careers.

Several of Lopez's students practiced for the competition last fall at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi. Sessions included plating, recipe and costing and cooler packing.

Lopez teaches around 190 students across six classes each day in the culinary arts program at South.

"The March event will be fun," Lopez said in November. "Each team gets a square 10 feet by 10 feet and it involves a pasta dish, cake decorating and a three-course meal. No electricity, no running water and just two butane burners and they have to make a turned-out meal."

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20A | SUMMER CAMPS

Camps for Kids



LET'S GO CAMPING!

By Olivia Monette and Donna Zetterlund
Special Writers

As the sun starts to shine brighter and the days grow longer, the excitement of summer camp beckons to children everywhere. Whether it's their first time venturing into the great outdoors or a cherished annual tradition, preparation is key to ensuring kids have the best experience possible.

In this kids' summer camping guide, we'll explore some fabulous day and overnight camping destinations, tips for a great experience and the must-have essentials for kids to pack as they embark on their summer camp journey. From exploration to relaxation, planning helps you select the ideal camp for your child — as well as the essential items that can make the most of their time amidst nature's beauty.

Wherever kids go this summer, they'll be creating lasting memories and fostering a sense of adventure and camaraderie that will last a lifetime. Happy camping!

313 LACROSSE

Give your kids an edge by having them learn from Michigan's longest enduring and most comprehensive lacrosse organization.

313 Lacrosse fosters a culture of excellence, sportsmanship and personal growth through the game of lacrosse. Their mission is to provide a dynamic and supportive environment where athletes can develop their skills, build lasting friendships, and cultivate a passion for the sport.

"We've carefully put together a team of experienced lacrosse experts who do more than just teach — they're like mentors, passionate about helping young people grow," said Ken Brubaker, also known by the kids as "Coach B."

"For over 20 years, we've been turning dreams into reality. We don't just set high standards; we create them...Our top-notch coaching and caring guidance lead to success that goes beyond just the game," the coach said.

For your child's lacrosse opportunities this summer, contact 313lax.com.

ASSUMPTION CAMP IMAGINATION

Assumption Nursery School and Toddler Center presents, Camp Imagination!

They offer a youth camp (ages 7-10) and an early childhood camp (ages 1-6). Kids can sign up for all ten weeks or choose from two sessions, running from June 10 - July 12 or July 15- August 16. Kids will enjoy an array of activity themes such as Artistic Expression, Awesome Inventions, Lost in Space, Let's Get Physical, The Great Outdoors and more.

To enrich and inspire participating youngsters, there are sports clinics, STEM experiences, pottery and photography workshops, music, live animal visits and interesting guest speakers, just to name a few of the exciting highlights. Whatever the kids participate in during Camp Imagination will be sure to spark creative inspiration and fun. Perhaps the next Edison or Picasso will get their ideas from this engaging camp.

Register your children now by calling (586) 772-4477 or visit assumptionnursery.org for more information.

GROSSE POINTE ACADEMY

The Academy will be alive with adventure and activity this summer! From science to languages, athletics to the arts, young minds and bodies will get a workout that will bring enthusiasm and motivation to summertime.

For kids over the age of 3 all the way up to grade 9, the thrill of playing and learning will come alive during full and half-day sessions ranging from June 19-August 16.

How does Creepy Crawlers Camp sound? Or are your kids more the Hollywood Movie Stars Camp types? Wacky Weather or Western Rodeo? Dinosaur Expedition or Circus Camp? Well, how about ALL of them?

Just sign up quickly so you don't miss out on the fun at (313) 886-1221 or visit gpacademy.com.

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The 2024 GPPSS summer program calendar is full of amazing top-rate fun and activities to educate, inspire and invoke happiness.

With an impressive range of creative and active offerings, from STEM to performing arts choices like Camp O'Fun, Camp Invention, Summer Theatre Camp, Summer Music Festival and more, there is something for every child to discover to make it the best summer ever!

To learn more about the individual camp options and availability, visit the GPPSS website at gppschools.org/summer. There you will find descriptions of the various camps, scheduled summer dates and the costs for each camp offering.

Don't hesitate, as programs fill up fast! To register, click on "Programs" and secure your coveted spot at one of the most exciting camp programs that the Grosse Pointe schools have to offer.

Make this the "summer of fun" your kiddos will remember all their lives!

KIDS ON THE GO

This pediatric nonprofit program is designed to provide children with special needs (ages 3-17) with physical, occupational, speech and recreational therapies over the summer months and during the academic year. Kids On The Go offers amazing opportunities for kids to learn and grow skills for a bright future while they bond with other kids and build happy summer memories.

Campers can choose from programs like Multidisciplinary Camp, Robotics, Adaptive Dance or Theater, Boxing, All Star Hoops, Flag Football, Better Readers and Better Letters, Teens to Work, and Cooking Adventures. Kids on the Go has positively impacted the lives of nearly 5,000 children in Southeastern Michigan since 1999. For more information, visit their website at kidsonthegocamp.com.

NORTHFORK OUTBACK SUMMER HORSE CAMPS

Designed for the young horse lover, Northfork Outback Summer Horse Camps are an equestrian dream. Located in Webberville, MI, there are still several camping options available. Campers of all horsemanship skill levels are welcome at any of the sessions.

The five-day overnight camp is for girls ages 8-16 and includes four hours of daily horse interaction, 12 hours of riding, swimming, special events, educational horse classes, games on horseback, movie night, obstacle course, and various horse contests.

There is also trail riding, a cabin competition, a horse show on Friday for family members to attend and a Thursday evening banquet for campers that includes a picture with their favorite horse. All campers get a welcome t-shirt.

The 3-day girls overnight camp is still available. Several of the camps are already full for 2024 —

so call soon to reserve your spot at (517) 881-9142 or visit northforkoutback.com.

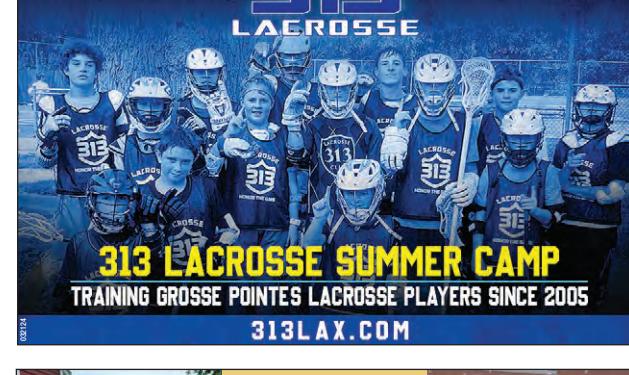
YMCA CAMP NISSOKONE

YMCA Camp Nissokone is northern Michigan's premier overnight camping destination for kids and teens. Located near Lake Huron in Oscoda, Michigan, Camp Nissokone is in its 110th year, offering day and overnight camp for children ages 5-18 from Michigan and beyond.

Summer Camp is a great introduction to the outdoors, as it helps kids make new friends, develop confidence, independence, as well as build lifelong skills focused around the camp's core values of honesty, caring, respect, responsibility and inclusion.

For boys and girls grades K-10 there is no better way to spend a safe and fun week enjoying a quality camp program. The fun, interactive, age-specific activities change daily.

To find out more about Camp Nissokone summer camps, visit ymcadetroit.org/nissokone or call (248) 887-4533.



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Wrap up/dry off in a camp cuddler



Betcha don't have a **Blankel**...yet — but you will! Made by GP's own **Kym Kinsley**, a Blankel is half terry beach towel and half cozy fleece. The soft handmade Blankels, right, are bonfire-ready and the perfect double-duty staple for long camp days at the lake. While you're drying off with the absorbent terry side — the blanket side insulates to cure chattering teeth. It's like a warm hug from home — but you'll use it for a lot more than comfort at camp. Contact Kym Kinsley on Facebook messenger to get your very own. The whole family is going to want one of these beauties, and why not? It's a great way to tell whose towel is whose!

Totes McG.O.A.T.s!



The G.O.A.T. of all totes, **the Scout Weekender travel bag**, is designed to be roomy and versatile, ready for that inevitable "just one more thing" we all add before we bounce! Ideal for kids' outdoor adventures, a weekend getaway or business trip, it's both practical and adaptable.

The Weekender comes in various colors and patterns so everyone can express their own unique sense of style. Scout is known for high-quality, functional bags that are easy to maintain and look cool on-the-go. With this great bag, everyone will be a happy camper! Find it at **Small Favors**. The store is located at 17112 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe. Call them at (313) 887-1774 or visit shopsmallfavors.com.

Scents-ible hydration that's yummy too



The Air Up Bottle utilizes scent to enhance the taste of water without adding any artificial flavors or sweeteners. Kids may enjoy the novelty of experiencing different flavors through scent alone, making hydration more enjoyable. The Air Up Bottle offers a wide range of flavor options, from fruity to refreshing, allowing kids to experiment and find their favorite flavors. The process of adding scent pods to the Air Up Bottle and experiencing the flavor transformation can be interactive and entertaining for kids. It adds an element of fun to drinking water, encouraging them to stay hydrated throughout the day. Overall, the Air Up Bottle combines innovative technology, flavor variety, and a fun user experience, making it an appealing choice for kids looking to stay hydrated in a more enjoyable way. Found on amazon.com.



Crocs, above and left, are known for their comfortable fit — AND for being on-trend! What's more fun (and useful) than Croc headlights for your feet as you walk in the woods at night? Moms love that the soft, cushioned material and roomy design make them easy on kids' feet and so simple to clean. Camp-worthy Crocs are ideal for kids who are constantly on the move exploring all the nooks and crannies of their summer adventures. Visit crocs.com for your next pair.



Don't bug me this summer

Leave the mosquitos and ticks behind with **Avon Skin So Soft Bug Guard Plus**. One of the nicest features of this favorite of moms everywhere is its pleasant mild floral fragrance. And it's formulated with ingredients that are gentle on the skin — instead of all those harsh chemicals. It contains moisturizing oils, such as jojoba oil and vitamin E. Bye-bye bugs, hello smooth skin! Get it at avon.com.



22A | SUMMER CAMPS



Spot 10 differences



Hey, kids! Here are some fun puzzles to get you thinking about summer — and all the great times you'll have at summer camp this year. Look at the two campsite pictures above. Look real hard at both of them. Can you spot 10 different things when you compare the first picture to the second picture? Build your skills about seeing details that will help you when you are camping for real.



Gear up for a great summer and some fun times at summer camp with this crazy maze. Get a pen or pencil and follow each camper's trail to see where they end up on their hiking expedition. Where would YOU like to go this summer? Part of the fun is dreaming about all the exciting things you want to do during the summertime.



Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Grease two standard baking sheets.

In a large bowl using a whisk, beat together the butter and both sugars.

Whisk in the eggs and until well-combined, then whisk in the vanilla.

In a separate large bowl, fold together the flour, baking soda, salt, oats, coconut, pecans, and chocolate chips, then gently fold all the dry ingredients into the mixed wet ingredients.

Form 2-inch balls of cookie dough and place onto the greased baking sheets. Leave enough space in between cookie dough ball so that cookie can spread without touching.

Bake in preheated oven 12 minutes until golden brown. Cookies should be soft in the center so do not overbake.

Optional: Press whole pecans on top of cookies for decoration. Add a sprinkle of additional chocolate chips on top if you desire.

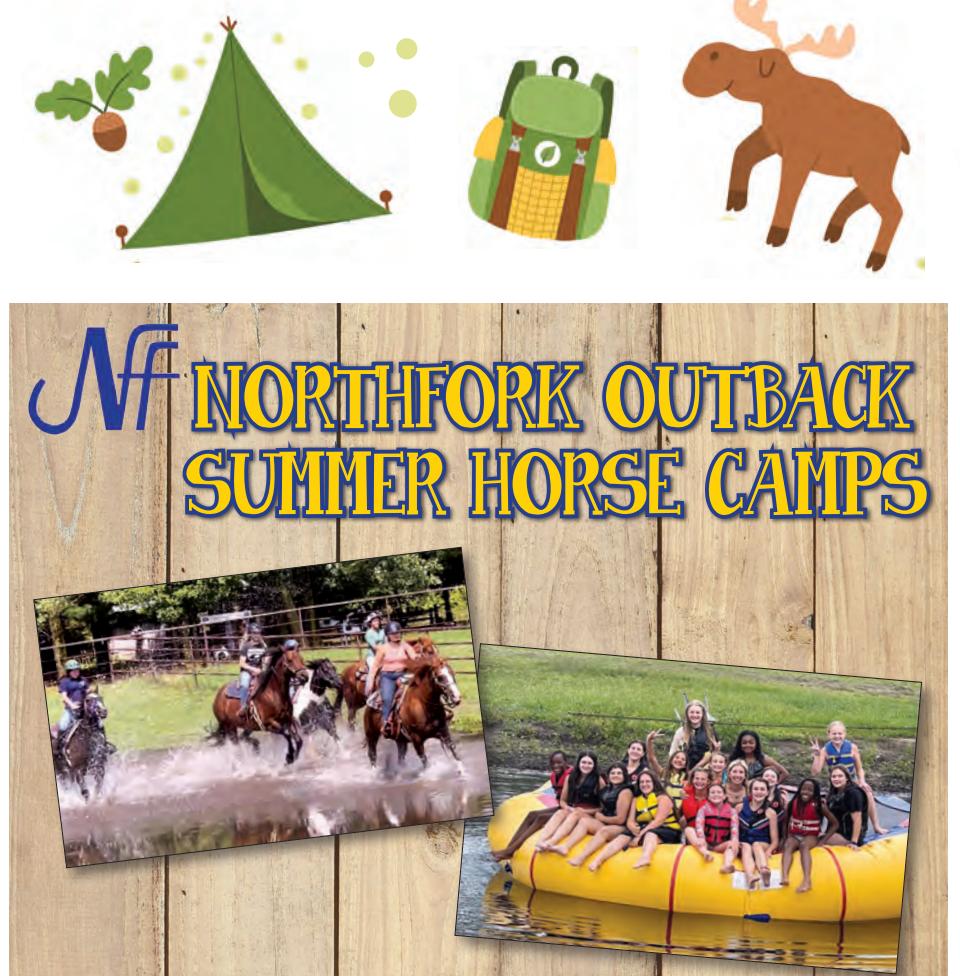
Cool cookies on the baking sheet for 10 minutes, then transfer to rack or plate to finish cooling.

Once fully cooled gently pack for campfire time!

Ingredients

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 2 cups rolled oats
- 3/4 cup sweetened flaked coconut
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips (more for tops)
- 1 tsp water

Optional decorating ingredients: Use additional chocolate chips and whole salted pecans to decorate the cookie tops.



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Make kids' camp memorable

During spring break, thoughts may turn to summer vacation. For many children, summer vacation wouldn't be the same without camp.

Adults may have their own fond memories of going to summer camp when they were children because of the opportunities it presented to be independent and meet new people.

Campers often bond over shared experiences, whether they are planned activities or unexpected "disasters" like a rainstorm washing out a canoe trip. That is why so many parents choose to carry on the summer camp tradition when they have their own children.

However, some kids may not be ready to jump right into the summer camp lifestyle. Such youngsters may need extra reassurance and support to make the most of their time at camp. The following are some tips for making summer camp an enjoyable experience.

Plan ahead

Families can visit the camp in advance and get a lay of the land. Knowing what to expect in terms of facilities and activities can assuage some anxiety. It also will help campers hone in on what to pack and what to expect over the summer.

Encourage new activities

Summer camp is a good way to learn how to expand boundaries and interests. Encourage kids to sign up for many different activities, including those that normally might be out of their wheelhouse. Youngsters may be pleased to learn that a new craft activity or a sports game piques his or her interest beyond the camping experience.

Pre-connect with fellow campers

If the camp has a social media presence, follow the camp's posts and connect with other like-minded campers even before they arrive. Talking with others who share similar interests can help campers feel more comfortable about meeting up once they arrive at camp and friendships are already underway.

Develop a rapport with camp counselors

The saying "you only get one chance to make a first impression" extends to campers meeting camp counselors. When campers inter-

act with counselors for the first time, they should be outgoing, polite and open to new ideas. Counselors will appreciate easy-going campers and could be good resources of useful information on how to get the most out of camp. They are also good future references for a child's entry into academic clubs or organizations.

Follow the safety rules

While campers may spread their wings a bit at summer camp when not under the watchful eyes of parents, any mischief should not come at the expense of safety. Campers should stick to the safety rules

so camp is fun and safe for all.

Make another camper's experience better

Coach your kids to recognize if a fellow camper is shy or being picked on by others — so they can invite that person to come sit with them and their friends for meals or be included to participate in an activity together. This can help build a lasting friendship and make camp that much more enjoyable for someone in need.

A few good conversations and some advance planning go a long way to fostering excellent camp experiences that shape lives and provide good memories for life.

Did you know?

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- American Camp Association

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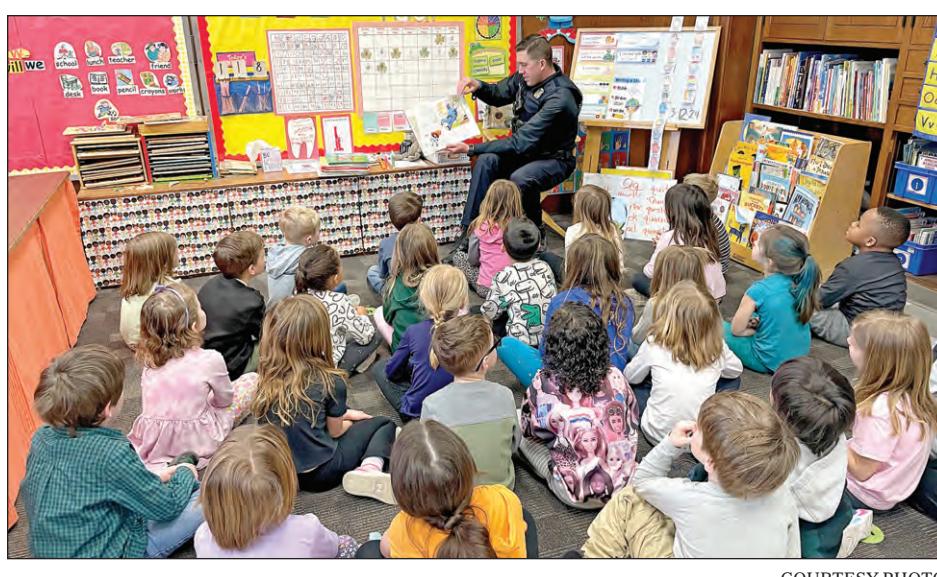
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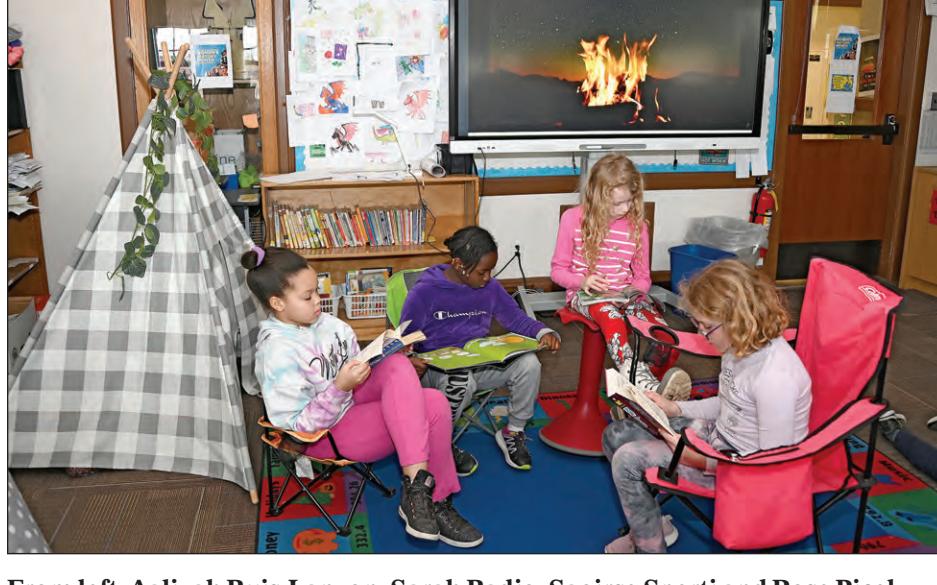


COURTESY PHOTO

City of Grosse Pointe Public Safety Officer Drew Prueter reads the book, "Officer Buckle and Gloria" to two kindergarten classes at Maire.

Author Michelle Wang reads her book, "It Must Be Winter," her first published book and part of a series, to first graders at Monteith. Wang uses squirrel finger puppets to assist her when reading the book.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



From left, Aaliyah Buis-Lanzon, Sarah Badjo, Saoirse Sperti and Rose Picek read around the "campfire" at Defer.



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Third grader Jayce Wimberly reads, "I Promise," by LeBron James, at Defer Elementary School, which turned its library into a campground for reading.

Celebrate reading

March is National Reading Month in honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday, because reading is a key building block to education. Several Grosse Pointe elementary schools participated in March is Reading Month. Among them, Defer Elementary School turned its library into a campground, while Monteith and Maire elementary schools invited guest readers to read to the students.



Defer students, from left, Katherine Dinverino, Claire Doherty and Penny Kuczynski decided to grab a pillow and mirror each other's reading style.



COURTESY PHOTO

Students from every grade at St. Paul Catholic School will perform in Disney's "High School Musical, Jr.," on March 22-23.

St. Paul Catholic School presents Disney's 'High School Musical, Jr.'

The community is invited to experience the magic of Disney's "High School Musical, Jr." as St. Paul Catholic School presents the all-school production, featuring more than 140 students from every grade.

Under the direction of Katie Bellanca, who has worked for Detroit Actors Guild Productions and TNT Detroit/Tony & Tina's Wedding since 1998, the cast and crew have been hard at work perfecting their performances and choreography to bring this story to life.

Filled with high energy and memorable songs, Disney's "High School Musical, Jr." transports audiences to the world of East High, where friendships are forged, dreams are pursued and barriers are broken down on a journey of self-discovery and acceptance, reminding everyone that "We're

All in This Together."

"I hope the audience can feel the sentiment of unity and togetherness through the performance," Bellanca said. "My favorite aspect is watching these incredible kids break down the walls of judgment and celebrate their authenticity."

With choreography led by Sam Rinaldi and the participation of the entire St. Paul Catholic School community, the production is suitable for all ages.

Performances take place at 7 p.m. Friday, March 22, and Saturday, March 23, in the St. Paul gymnasium.

Tickets may be purchased online at showtix4u.com.

For more information, contact Sharon Kuchta at (313) 347-3384 or sgkuchta@comcast.net.

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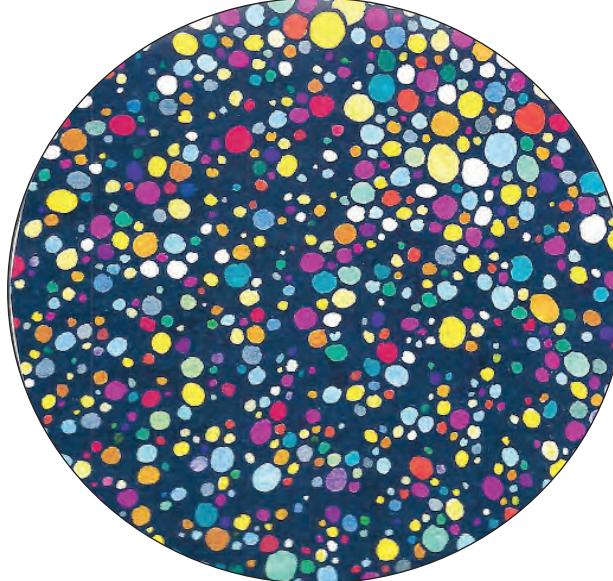


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RENDERINGS COURTESY OF THE GPCC

From left, Ryan Steiner's "Lake St. Clair Sunset Sail"; Karen Lynn Berg's "Endless Hues" and Jennifer Coleman's "Teardrop Rainbow."

'Have a Ball in Grosse Pointe' Chamber unveils newest street art project

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce is making good on its promise to captivate the community with another street art project.

More than 150 renderings have been submitted by various artists for "Have a Ball in Grosse Pointe," a project that will bring a colorful conglomeration of two-foot spheres to the Pointes.

Since launching the program in 2012, the chamber has introduced a variety of street art to the community, from fish and dogs to butterfly benches and giant hearts (the frogs were someone else's idea).

"We started doing it every three years," said Jennifer Boettcher, chamber president and executive director. "It's been widely successful. After a project has been gone for a year, people start asking when the next one is coming. So we're excited to 'Have a Ball in Grosse Pointe.'"

Boettcher was bouncing around a few ideas for this year's project when she spotted a beautifully decorated sphere during her travels. The concept stuck.

The chamber put out a call for artists late 2023, which was met with a variety of responses. Artists who've participated before were quick to sign up; new artists who participated in The Pointe's Art Festival last summer also submitted proposals.

"The artists have really embraced this idea," Boettcher said. "There's such creativity. Every time we do this, they get better and better with the creativity and talent."



Lena Duffy's "Rocket Ship Ball"

"... The artists range from children and high school students to people of all ages," she noted. "It's not limited to professional artists."

Added Chamber Membership & Events Coordinator Abigail Turnbull, "When you have the dog, you make it look like a dog, but a sphere can be anything."

With binders full of renderings at their fingertips, Boettcher and Turnbull now are soliciting sponsorships, which cost \$1,600 or \$3,000 and come with various perks.

World of a Sponsor, the top sponsorship level, allows the sponsor to keep the sphere at the end of the proj-

dine and spend money in Grosse Pointe."

Once sponsors are lined up — the deadline is Monday, April 8 — artists can get their balls rolling. A kickoff party, during which sponsors have the chance to meet their chosen artists, takes place in May.

Completed spheres will dot the Grosse Pointe landscape beginning in June and stay on display throughout the summer.

The chamber will provide maps featuring every sphere location and sponsor so those interested can scope them out.

"We want to encourage people to get out and enjoy the summer months, the summer weather, and see the

spheres," Turnbull said.

Past street art projects have prompted residents to record their visits, which the chamber also encourages. For example, Boettcher said, one resident and his dog visited every dog and heart sculpture and took videos at each stop.

Another resident took photos of her niece and nephew at 40 butterfly benches and compiled the photos into a book for her sister's 40th birthday.

"Take photos, take videos," Boettcher said. "We'll share them with everyone."

Once the street art project concludes, the spheres not outright purchased by sponsors will be collected and put up for auction in September, bringing this year's street art project full circle.

For more information or to become a sponsor, email info@grossepoinchamber.com or call (313) 881-4722.



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COURTESY PHOTO

Nineteen reputed designers will share their creativity with guests to this house, an 8,500-square-foot Tutor located at 315 Lakeland in the City of Grosse Pointe.

Designers lined up for final Junior League Show House

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

A location was selected months ago and now, the Junior League of Detroit has selected its slate of interior designers for its 25th Designers' Show House.

Nineteen reputed designers from Grosse Pointe, the state of Michigan and across the country will share their creativity with show house guests.

They'll have plenty of space in which to work, as this year's featured house is an 8,500-square-foot Tutor located at 315 Lakeland in the City of Grosse Pointe. The home was designed by architect George D. Mason and built in 1929 for Dr. J. Milton Robb.

Among those hand-picked to share their talents in this year's project is Michelle Boggess-Nunley, owner of Posterity Gallery in the City of Grosse Pointe. While she has

participated as an artist for prior show houses, this is her first year participating as a gallery.

"It's a great opportunity to showcase the talent of our local artists and display some of our beautifully crafted custom frames," she said.

"We're thrilled to be participating and have been selected to design the upper-level hallway," she continued. "Erin Wilde and I will be teaming up to curate a gallery-inspired, salon-style installation. The space will feature the works of local artists and showcase trending custom framing designs."

Hundreds of visitors will make their way through the house when it opens May 4 to 19, providing a unique opportunity for artists, Boggess-Nunley said.

"We currently have a juried open call for art on our website," she added, "in which interested artists can submit artwork up to 18-by-24

for consideration."

Work may be submitted online at posterity-artgallery.com.

Also new to the design team this year is Kelly Osten, with Closet Connections, who said she is making a conscious effort to source locally for the project.

"Not only is our manufacturer based in Michigan, we plan to use various local vendors such as Sherwin Williams, Mack Ave. Drapery and RepcoLite Paints," said Osten, who already has well-thought-out plans for the primary closet. "Our goal in designing this space is to create the perfect aesthetic for the modern woman, by combining function with style. The wallpapered ceiling in palm fronds is a nod for her love of travel. The serenity of those colors continue with slim shaker cabinetry in arctic white and warm sand. The honey bronze handles are an elegant finish, while the sconces highlight femininity. The glass accessory cabinet will have integrated lighting to display all of her favorite handbags and worldly finds."

This is the third year Wanda Brown, of Wanda Brown Interior Designs, has participated in the Designers' Show House. Her talent

will be expressed in the primary bedroom.

"I love being a part of the Designers' Show House because it's history," she said. "As long as I can remember, the Junior League has done a show house. It has been a staple in our community and a real source of joy and pleasure for 50 years. That to me speaks volumes about what the Junior League represents to this area."

For decades, the show house has been a favorite feature of the metro Detroit community. The 2024 Designers' Show House, however, will be the Junior League's final show house as it turns its focus to other impactful community projects.

"As our most significant fundraiser since its inception in 1976, the Designers' Show House has provided funding for critical JLD projects and partnerships throughout the city of Detroit, including addressing literacy, food accessibility, health and wellness and more," Junior League of Detroit President Mary Hollens said.

Proceeds from this year's project will support the JLD's partnership with Brilliant Detroit, a nonprofit organization that addresses early childhood development and kindergarten readiness

Designers

- ◆ John Kline, JK Color Design — First & Second Floor Foyer
- ◆ Loretta Crenshaw, Crenshaw & Associates — Living Room
- ◆ Claudette Wellens, LaShee Floral & Events — Conservatory
- ◆ Anne Kordas, Anne Kordas Interiors — Library
- ◆ Colleen Gahry Robb, Ethan Allen — Family Room
- ◆ Anne Strickland, Anne Strickland Interiors — Powder Room
- ◆ Julie Albanese, Albanese Decorative Artist — First Floor Hall
- ◆ Wanda Brown, Wanda Brown Interior Designs — Primary Bedroom
- ◆ Kelly Osten, Closet Connections — Primary Closet
- ◆ Laura Zender, Laura Zender Designs — Child's Bedroom
- ◆ Joel Baird, Baird Design Group — Playroom
- ◆ Kassie Paige Aldred, Kassie Paige Interiors — Girl's Bedroom
- ◆ Tiffany Cobb, Tiffany Rene Interior Design — Sitting Room
- ◆ Michelle Boggess, Posterity Gallery — Second Floor Gallery
- ◆ April Karn, Neat Method, Detroit South — Linen Room
- ◆ Alexandra Decker, A. Decker Design — Office
- ◆ David Michael Johns, DMJ Interiors — Gentleman's Office
- ◆ Amy TerMarsch, Amy Elizabeth Designs — Speakeasy Pub
- ◆ Michael Kennedy, Crenshaw & Associates — Gentleman's Lounge

through the establishment of family centers in underutilized housing stock, developed and designed by the neighbors themselves. The homes provide a place for fellowship, activities, learning and support for families and neighbors.

The 2024 Designers' Show House will be open to the public 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday; 6 to 8 p.m. Thursdays and

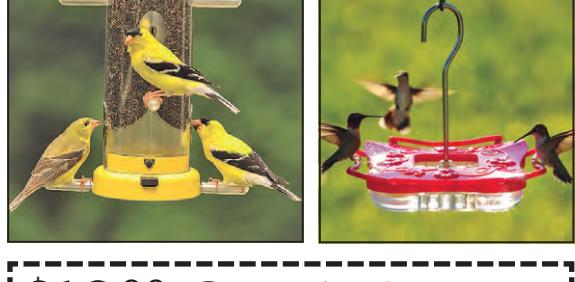
Fridays; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays; and noon to 5 p.m. Sundays, from Saturday, May 4, to Sunday, May 19.

Individual or group tickets may be purchased online at JLDetroit.org or at Village Palm, 17131 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe.

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Full schedule on tap for Artists Association

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association has spent years providing classes on various topics and techniques to interested artists. Little by little the offerings have grown and this year, the group's schedule is bursting at the seams.

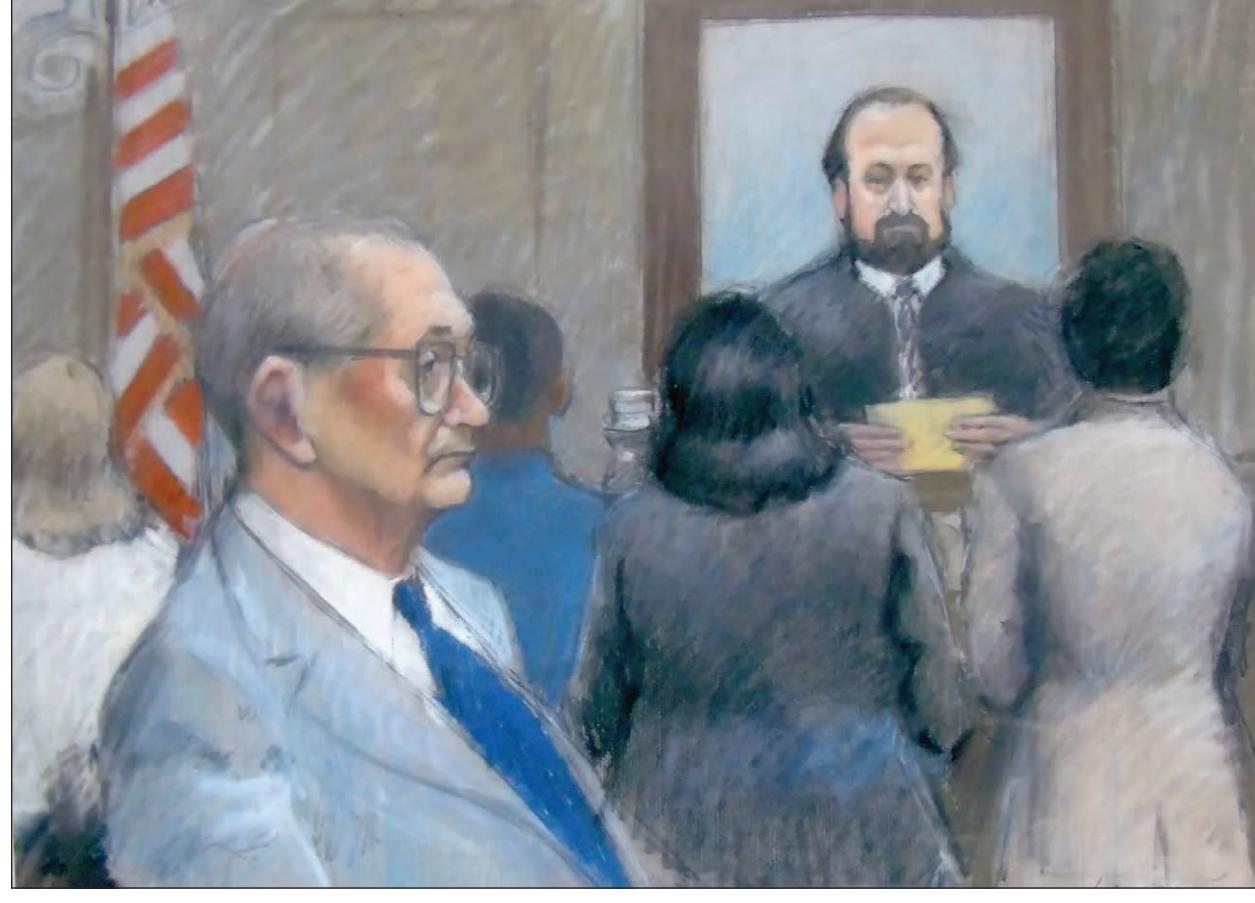
With its spring lineup already underway, curious creators can learn the latest about collage, woodblocking, landscape painting and everything in between from esteemed instructors with familiar names such as Nobuko, Philo and Cronkhite.

Adding his name to this spring's GPAA teacher list is Jerry Lemenu, who was invited to instruct a class about pastel portraiture, scheduled for Wednesdays, April 10, 17 and 24.

Now retired, Lemenu made a career and a name for himself through courtroom art.

"In the 1970s, at the Attic Theatre by Greektown, I would sketch plays there while the actors were in rehearsal," he explained. "I did it for the fun of it."

Featherbowling Grand Champion
Steve Gosskie, Lemenu said, "was the most unlikely champion. It meant the world to him as he was dying from cancer. The portrait was stolen and was missing for two years. It was recovered and is now back on the wall."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JERRY LEMENU

"(This) sketch is of Byron de la Beckwith," Lemenu said, "the man who murdered Medgar Evers. The jury is being polled after his guilty verdict. He was stunned. He never thought a white man could be convicted of killing a black man in Mississippi."

The director said my WDIV Channel 4 came sketches were visual calling.

notes for the cast. And then for the run of the play, my sketches would be on display."

His work certainly was noticed. In 1981,

"WDIV needed artists for two projects—courtroom art and to simulate the boxing match between Thomas Hearns and Sugar Ray Leonard, before it happened," Lemenu recalled, noting his boxing sketch was well received, even though he made the wrong prediction.

"I was on trial as a courtroom artist," he added, "but that worked out pretty quick. I always thought it was something I could do."

The 1980s were busy times in the courtroom, he said, as cameras were not allowed and sometimes there were several cases in one day.

"It was always a privilege to be in the

courtroom," he said. "It's exciting, newsworthy. Somebody's got to record what's going on. But I wonder, I'm drawing people at their most vulnerable moment—and they didn't ask for it. With portraiture, it's a privilege and an honor to draw somebody, to be that vulnerable."

"The first person I ever drew, I don't remember her name, but she sat there, her head down, black hair hanging, her eyes shut, her hands folded in prayer. She was wearing a T-shirt that said, 'journey.' What a profound first sketch; it has been a

journey for me. But what I felt for that woman was real compassion. When I think back to that moment ... my job is not to editorialize, but to recognize the humanity in everybody."

Work began to slow in the 1990s, when cameras were introduced to the courtroom. Next, however, he began getting network jobs that would fly him to different trials around the country. He spent time outside the Branch Davidian Compound in Waco, Texas, as well as at the trial of Byron de la Beckwith, the man who murdered Medgar Evers.

"There were big trials here as well," he said, noting Vincent Chin, Kwame Kilpatrick and the unfortunately nicknamed Underwear Bomber. "I never knew what was going to happen when I was in a courtroom."

"It's been a really interesting job," he said, "being paid to draw these people and study these people and learn. It's been a growing experience. The great thing about being an artist is that the growing and learning never ends."

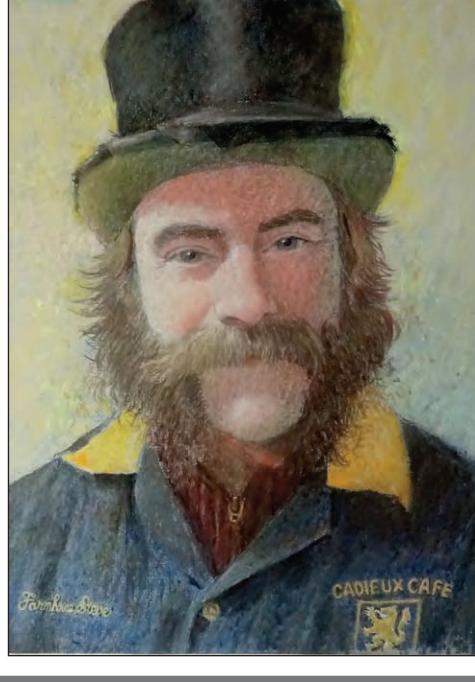
Lemenu's courtroom work translated easily into portraiture, which he'll teach during his GPAA class. Those interested in seeing some of his portraits need merely visit Cadieux Cafe's feather bowling area, where more than 30 of Lemenu's pastel portraits and some pencil drawings hang.

"I just wanted to remember everybody," said Lemenu, a longtime member of the feather bowling league. "I can point to a face and tell a story. These people were like mentors to me. I don't want to let them go."

Though Lemenu's courtroom career meant working fast, he encourages students in his upcoming class to take their time—even though two hours likely will fly by.

During the first of three classes, he'll demonstrate his craft. Students are welcome to draw along with him if

See FULL, page 6B



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Workcamp crews need love too

First English seeks business partnerships for summer program

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The week of July 7, up to 400 volunteers from around the country will settle into Grosse Pointe to work on home repair projects as part of Group Mission Trips' Workcamp program, hosted by First English Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Group Mission Trips was responsible for recruiting volunteers and First English already has accomplished most of its responsibilities.

So far, funds have been raised to alleviate labor and material costs — every home repair is free to those in need — lodging has been secured thanks to a partnership with Grosse Pointe North High School; and residents seeking help have applied for the program.

There's only one thing left to do, said Renata Conger, parish education and youth ministry coordinator at First English. "The final piece is motivating the community to welcome up to 400 out-of-state volunteers who are coming in July," she said. "... We have no idea how many people are coming, but we really want to completely embrace them with appreciation and gratitude. We want them to have a good impression of metro Detroit and leave feeling that we're a warm, welcoming community."

While First English hopes to make Workcamp visits a repeated partnership, making a good first impression is paramount. Since its inception nearly

35 years ago, Group Mission Trips has visited southeast Michigan one other time; this will be its first stop in the Grosse Pointe area.

Conger and First English pastor, the Rev. Sean Motley, hope to secure business partnerships and sponsorships to make everyone feel welcome.

"As we look at our community, we hope some local businesses want to partner with this," Motley said, suggesting restaurant discounts, water bottles, commemorative T-shirts or other donations, "so we leave lasting memories with these kids."

The foundation of Workcamp mission trips is teaching and training young people skills they'll need as they approach adulthood. Students, under adult supervision, will carry out projects such as interior and exterior painting, weatherization, porch repairs and other tasks, but the main goal of the program is for them to gain spiritual growth, confidence, understanding, leadership and problem-solving skills while working as a team.

"We've already raised money for the work," Conger said. "Now we're looking for cherries on top."

Discounts on ice cream or even sponsored food trucks would be excellent contributions, she added.

"Or groups who want to sponsor a crew and, say, bring them Slurpees on Thursday afternoon," she continued.

"The church will have members who make cookies and bring them to a crew one day in the week," Motley added. "Community groups might make a big difference for somebody."

"... The goal is serving and caring for people in need, as well as serving and caring for the people who come here," he added. "We want them to see who we truly are. We want these young people and adults who come here to say, 'Detroit is not as scary as I thought it would be.'"

Businesses interested in offering reduced rates, discounts or freebies will be able to easily identify Workcamp participants, as each will be wearing a wristband during their stay in town.

The week won't be all work and no play. Workcamp guests will have some opportunity to hit the town while they're here. For example, on Wednesday they'll stop work at noon and have a chance to explore the Pointes and neighboring communities.

"It brings money into the community and it doesn't cost the community anything," Motley said of the week-long visit. "The estimated amount of money to the community is \$300,000. They drive in, buy their gas here, buy snacks here, buy lunches."

"And when you travel with 10 teens, every day there's someone who forgot something," Conger added.

They'll also have time for outings downtown or to local establishments. Students often spend money on souvenirs to take home, too.

Additionally, it's tradition for students to bring a community gift. The group coming this summer has partnered with the NOAH Project and will gift hygiene products for the area's homeless. Due to space restrictions during travel, usually students buy their community gifts locally.

"They have to bring their own ladders, saws, air mattresses, pillows, clothes for a week," Conger said, noting



Renata Conger got to work adding a fresh coat to a house in need of a paint job.

there's not much room from it."

Which brings up an additional community ask: Though crews will pack as many tools as they can fit in their vehicles for the cross-country road trip, additional supplies still may be needed.

"They'll only have so much," Motley said. "Say you've got 200 to 300 people working and only 10 saws. We need to gather up ladders on our end, too. It all depends on the work site, what the needs are."

"Whatever people are willing to give or offer is appreciated," Conger said.

Motley has been a part of more than a dozen Workcamp missions since 1998, traveling to sites in Colorado and Maine, among others.

Conger has gone on six such trips.

"The young people we've taken from our church have bonded with the residents and are still in contact with them," Conger said, noting some youth have told her the experiences deeply influenced what they want to do with their lives.

"You can see it; it's palpable. There's this awesome mutual benefit that comes

from it."

The benefit extends to businesses who get involved.

"Everybody wins," Motley said. "Any business that partners with us, they can drive by a site and say, 'I helped support the group that fixed these homes.'

"I've never been at a Workcamp close enough to where I live, but now I'll be able to drive by with my family and say, 'I helped build that wheelchair ramp.'"

Motley has an arsenal of stories about past Workcamp experiences, including working at the home of a woman who used a wheelchair, but had no ramp.

"This woman couldn't leave her house without calling the fire department to come and carry her out," he said, "until we built a ramp. She said that was the first time she'd been able to leave her house on her own in years. That's what people in the community can support and what people from around the country are coming here to do."

"This isn't happening until July," Conger noted.

"At the very least, we want to let everyone know they're coming. We'd love to see lawn signs welcoming them,

flyers at businesses on Mack — extra things they're not expecting."

Added Motley, "Let's show the country how great this place is."

Businesses interested in partnering, sponsoring or donating goods should call (313) 884-5040 or visit feelc.org.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Lions

The Grosse Pointe Lions Club hosts its next meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 21, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Guests are welcome.

Library

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

◆ Nonfiction Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 21, via Zoom.

◆ Spring Into Writing with a Short Story, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 23, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Readers' Choice Book Discussion Group, 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 23, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Mario Madness, 2 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Reader Dog, 11 a.m. to noon Monday, March 25, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 4th Monday Book Discussion, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Monday, March 25, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Fantasy Illustration, 2 to 3 p.m. Monday, March 25, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Spring into Drawing: A Tribute to Women in History, 4 to 5 p.m. Monday, March 25, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ In Cold Mug Book Discussion, 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, March 26, at Whiskey Six, 646 St. Clair, City of Grosse Pointe.

◆ Mystery Book Discussion, 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 26, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Spring Break Family Movie, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Afternoon Drop-In Kids Craft, 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Spring into Fashion, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Diary of a Pug Party, 11 a.m. to noon Thursday, March 28, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Teen Game Club, 3 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday,

See EVENTS, page 10B



COURTESY PHOTOS

Camden Baker, currently a ninth grader at Grosse Pointe North High School, helped stain a new porch railing for a resident in East Bank, W.V.

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Purple in the Pointes returns for second year

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

For some things, it's impossible to wait.

That may be why Henry Ford Medical Center—Grosse Pointe in the Farms and the Ford House in the Shores already have lit their purple lights in advance of Purple in the Pointes.

The community initiative, sponsored by the Full Circle Foundation, takes place the entire month of April.

"It's bringing people together for a common cause of acknowledging and honoring those who live in our community who have special needs challenges," said Patty Sunisloe, who sits on the Full Circle board and is an organizer of Purple in the Pointes. "It's to acknowledge there are people who have unique challenges, to say, 'We see you. We're here for you.'"

Already committed to participate in this year's initiative are each of the Grosse Pointe Public School System buildings, as well as all five Pointe municipal buildings.

"We're soliciting community businesses to participate in any way they want," said Stephanie DiVirgil, Full Circle program/operations coordinator. "We have purple pins we can provide to businesses who want their employees to wear them or for customers to



PHOTOS COURTESY OF STEPHANIE DIVIRGIL

Henry Ford Medical Center—Grosse Pointe in Grosse Pointe Farms already lit its tree purple, in advance of April's Purple in the Pointes initiative.

take. We're working with the chamber to see who wants to borrow purple string lights to hang in their windows for the month of April. Businesses can get creative, too, with purple baked goods, purple

smoothies, purple ice cream."

Community members also are welcome to put a purple ribbon around a tree or a purple bulb in their porch light.

"Anything goes," Sunisloe said. "Anything

anyone wants to do is welcome."

Full Circle purchased 50 lawn signs to help explain to passersby why trees, bushes, signs and storefronts are glowing purple. The more people know, the broader the reach of the message.

"We'll be putting them strategically where the community walks a lot," DiVirgil noted. "We'll put them by schools with

those things."

"They also will be singing at our Soup & Art event on April 17," Sunisloe said, noting Full



Students at Barnes School created a craft in honor of Purple in the Pointes last year.

lights, so when they walk by they'll know what the lights mean. We'll put them at the municipal buildings, too."

The community will have the chance to come together with a few scheduled Purple in the Pointes events, including a performance by the Full Circle choir — decked out in their new purple choir robes — Sunday, April 14, at Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church.

The choir also plans to sing at Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church in April, though a date has yet to be set.

"They also will be singing at our Soup & Art event on April 17," Sunisloe said, noting Full

Circle's Soup & Art event has merged with the Purple in the Pointes initiative. "I'll be making purple cauliflower soup."

Whatever the purple-hued gesture, Full Circle fully welcomes it, they added. The inaugural event last year went well, but the hope is for even more involvement in 2024.

"I thought participation last year was above and beyond what I was ever expecting for the first-time launch of a project," Sunisloe said. "People we didn't even reach out to participated. ... I thought the community did a wonderful job last year supporting this endeavor."

See PURPLE, page 6B



The Full Circle Choir received purple choir robes for its performances, a few of which are scheduled during Purple in the Pointes events.

Grosse Pointe News

THE NOSH

NEW MONTHLY FEATURE SHOWCASING WHAT'S NEW AT LOCAL EATERIES

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GROSSE POINTE NEWS

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The Good News

Join us as we walk through Holy Week together at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church!

Sunday, March 24 – Palm Sunday

9* and 11 am: Worship Service (childcare available)

5 pm: Worship Service

Thursday, March 28 – Maundy Thursday

7:30* pm: "Journey to Jerusalem" Musical Drama

Friday, March 29 – Good Friday

12 and 7:30* pm: Tenebrae Service

Sunday, March 31 – Easter Sunday

6:45 am: Sunrise Service outside on Trinity Terrace

9* and 11 am: Worship Service (childcare available)

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Visit our YouTube channel at bit.ly/GPMCLivestream

6B | FEATURES

Grosse Pointe South High School was among several Grosse Pointe Public School System buildings that got in the spirit last year by shining a purple spotlight on its school sign.

COURTESY PHOTO

**GPA class schedule**

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

To register for the following, visit grossepointrt.org.

- ◆ Pastel Landscapes with Clouds with Fran Seikaly, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 22 and 23.

- ◆ Independent Study with Tracey Ladd, 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays, April 9, 16 and 23.

- ◆ Portraits in Pastel with Jerry Lemenu, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays, April 10, 17 and 24.

- ◆ Portraits in the Style of American Painter John Sloan, with Donald Cronkhite, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, April 11, 18 and 25.

- ◆ Deconstructed and Collaged Watercolor Workshop with Nancy Philo, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 13.

- ◆ Watercolor with Marilynn Thomas, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and

Sunday, April 20 and 21.

- ◆ Experienced wood-block artists are invited to reuse their boards to make new art with Nobuko Yamasaki, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sundays, April 28 and May 5.

- ◆ Intermediate Watercolor with Paula Fiebich, 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, May 1 to 29.

- ◆ Life Drawing with Anne Garavaglia, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays, May 1 to 29.

- ◆ Color Theory with Tracey Ladd, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, May 6.

- ◆ White Line Prints: A Workshop with Nobuko Yamasaki, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, May 9. Registration deadline is April 24.

- ◆ Two-day Mixed Media Print-A-Thon with Valerie Allen, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, May 18 and 19.

- ◆ Multicolor Japanese Woodblock Prints with Nobuko Yamasaki, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, June 1, 8 and 15. Registration deadline is May 16.

- ◆ Landscapes in the style of Camille Pissarro with Donald Cronkhite, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, June 6, 13 and 20.

Meals, mayors and social media Chamber events on tap in coming weeks

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Hot on the heels of the announcement of its latest street art project (see story page 1B), the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce is buzzing with activity this spring.

First up is the next program in its Building Your Business Bootcamp series.

"Creating Visually Engaging Content," slated Wednesday, April 24, is a follow-up to this week's "Social Media 101," both presented by 31 & Up Media. Participants will learn to make and post Instagram reels, use creator applications and collaborate with other creators in posts.

"It's a focus on advanced social media

skills," said Abigail Turnbull, membership and events coordinator with the chamber. "You'll learn about creating video content, posting it, boosting posts, boosting content. It's great for someone in the business community to get some insight and network with other community members."

The program takes place 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Neighborhood Club, 17150 Waterloo, City of Grosse Pointe. Lunch is provided by Sugar Bar.

Tickets are \$24 for chamber members, \$35 for nonmembers.

Next up is the 38th annual Mayors' Prayer Breakfast, which takes place at 7:30 a.m.

Thursday, May 2, at the

Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores. Mayors from the five Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods will be in attendance, to meet and eat with community leaders and take in the inspirational words of keynote speaker, Connie Ahee.

"We're excited to have her," said Jennifer Boettcher, president and executive director of the chamber. "We try to find people in the community who are inspirational. She has a great story to tell about life's challenges and obstacles. The community really came together for her, too, and helped support her and lift her up."

Though the chamber took over hosting the

Mayors' Prayer Breakfast in 2019, this is just the third time the event has come to fruition, as the pandemic shut it down the first two years under the chamber's watch.

"We moved it from the country club to the yacht club, because it's very well attended," Boettcher added. "We want to be where anybody who wants to come can come."

Tickets for the breakfast are \$50 each and may be purchased at the chamber office or online.

Another popular chamber event taking place this spring is Restaurant Week, which is scheduled Monday, May 13, to Sunday, May 19. During the week,

participating restaurants

choose their own promotions, from BOGO deals to half-off discounts or other concessions.

"We moved it to May because the Junior League of Detroit's final Designers' Show House is that week," Boettcher said. "We met with them and felt it was a great opportunity for people who want to attend the show house to make a day of it and go to some of our fabulous restaurants."

The lineup of participants is still forming, but confirmed so far are The Whiskey Six in the City of Grosse Pointe and Watermark Bar & Grille on the Nautical Mile.

New Grosse Pointe Woods business Someday Brewing — which does not serve

food — also figured out a way to participate.

"They'll offer deals for diners, because they wanted to be part of it," Turnbull said, noting proof of purchase at a participating restaurant is required.

Proof shouldn't be too difficult, as the chamber will supply Restaurant Week diners with its Passport to the Pointes.

"It's a postcard that participants can get stamped at each restaurant," Turnbull said. "Then they turn it in for a raffle. We're giving away restaurant gift cards, retail gift cards, swag and everything in between. It's going to be bigger and better than last year."

"Last year, there were 24 restaurants," Boettcher added. "Our goal is to have more."

Restaurants interested in being a part of Restaurant Week should contact the chamber at info@grossepoinchamber.com or call (313) 881-4722.

Open auditions April 6 for GPT's Ten-Minute Play Festival

Grosse Pointe Theatre hosts open auditions from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 6, at 315 Fisher, City of Grosse Pointe, for its 11th annual Take Ten: Ten-Minute Play Festival.

A variety of 10-minute plays were submitted from around the globe and the top 10 adjudicated plays will be performed at this year's festival, June 13 to 15. The group is looking for diverse actors to fill several adult roles.

Participants do not need to be experienced actors; they just need to have a desire to learn, be convincing in their portrayal and be willing to work creatively as a team to produce a believable story — all in 10 minutes.

Those cast will need to become members of Grosse Pointe Theatre.

This is an opportunity

to be part of the magic of live theater in an intimate setting with a team of dedicated people working together to present an authentic theater experience for participants and patrons alike.

Rehearsals begin in April and continue through the opening of the festival. Specific rehearsal schedules will be determined by each play's director. Performance dates are 7 p.m. Thursday, June 13; 7 p.m. Friday, June 14; and 2 p.m. Saturday, June 15. Actors must be available for all performances, which take place at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

Visit gpt.org/auditions to fill out and submit an audition form. Forms also will be available onsite April 6.



Vanessa Ferriole reads a script with Sal Rubino during auditions for Grosse Pointe Theatre's 2023 Ten-Minute Play Festival, as Mary Lou Britton looks on.



From left, Arlene Pollock, Taylor Horn, Moni Valentini and Alexa Baxt read a script together during last year's audition.

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OBITUARIES

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

Charles Bennett Hanneman Jr.

Charles Bennett Hanneman Jr., 83, of Grosse Pointe Farms, passed away Saturday, March 16, 2024.

He was a 1959 graduate of Grosse Pointe High School, where he played several sports, including football and track. He was the son of Charles Bennett Sr. and Mary (nee Dispennette) Hanneman, also graduates of Grosse Pointe High School, class of 1932.

Charles played football briefly at Ferris State University and attended Wayne State University as an undergraduate and master's degree candidate. He worked with Summer Institute of Linguistics/Wycliffe Bible Translators in Mexico and Nepal.

He also was one of several ministers on staff at Bethesda Missionary Temple in Detroit, where he developed and taught

its Sunday School curriculum. Charles also worked as a therapist for many years and developed and implemented a curriculum instrumental in assisting those with substance abuse issues.

Charles was predeceased by his parents; wife, Judith (nee Poppen); and brother, David Hanneman. He is survived by his sister, Mary Sue Struthers (Jon); sister-in-law, Martha (nee May); four children, Ben Hanneman (Carolyn), Deborah (Fred), La Mar Tannheimer (Daniel) and Barry (Nancy); dearest grandmother of 11 and great-grandmother of 20. She also is survived by her sister-in-law, Sandra Nelson. She was predeceased by her sister, Karen Raber.

Marlene and Vern moved to Detroit in 1958,

survived by many loving nieces, nephews and cousins.

Marlene Idella Johnson

Marlene Idella Johnson, 90, passed away peacefully Tuesday, March 12, 2024, surrounded by her family.

She was the beloved wife of the late LaVerne; loving mother of Dale (Robin), Rhondi Kreger (Fred), La Mar Tannheimer (Daniel) and Barry (Nancy); dearest grandmother of 11 and great-grandmother of 20. She also is survived by her sister-in-law, Sandra Nelson. She was predeceased by her sister, Karen Raber.

Marlene and Vern moved to Detroit in 1958, and started their first business, Vern Dale Products Inc., which continues today. They lived in Grosse Pointe until 1971, when they



Charles B. Hanneman Jr.



Marlene Idella Johnson



Theodore M. Barthel Jr.

moved to Fowlerville, where they lived 20 years on a hog farm they started. Vern and Marlene moved back to Grosse Pointe in 1991.

Vern and Marlene loved classic cars and were active in the classic car community, showing cars locally at EyesOn Design and Concours d'Elegance, as well as at the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. After Vern's passing in 2012, Marlene continued working in the family business and was a volunteer at Beaumont Hospital Grosse Pointe for many years.

Marlene continued working at home in her office into her 90s and loved her work.

Funeral services were held Friday, March 15, at Chas. Verheyden Inc., Grosse Pointe Park. Private interment took

place at Glen Eden Cemetery in Livonia.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Theodore M. Barthel Jr.

Theodore M. Barthel Jr., 83, passed away Monday, March 18, 2024. He was a longtime Verheyden Funeral Home director.

Theodore was born April 24, 1940, in Redford, to Theodore and Jessie Barthel, both now deceased. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology and a master's degree in mortuary science, both from Wayne State University. He worked at Verheyden

He also enjoyed hunting, boating and fishing.

Theodore was predeceased by his parents; and his wife, Kristine Karp-Barthel. He is survived by his daughters, Darcia A. Callaghan (Brian) and Lisa M. Rybak (Tom); son, Theodore M. Barthel III (Dawn); grandchildren, Patrick Rybak, Scott Rybak and Benjamin Barthel; brother, David G. Barthel (Pamela); and former wife, Cynthia Barthel Hamlin (Curtiss).

A funeral Mass will be held at noon Friday, March 22, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Coast Guard Foundation, coastguardfoundation.org/ways-to-give. Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Car culture in the Motor City

Events planned at the Ford Piquette Plant Museum

Named one of the world's Top 20 car museums in a recent survey by the AutoTrader, Detroit's Ford Piquette Avenue Plant Museum has several events that will tempt car culture enthusiasts, history lovers, hometown tourists and everyone in between.

◆ A "Motor City Origins Tour" at 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 5, explores how the Motor City got its start in the Milwaukee Junction neighborhood, just east of New Center, with turn of the 20th cen-

tury. Tickets are \$30 per person, \$25 for museum members.

◆ "A Celebration of Horsepower" honors the 60th anniversary of the Ford Mustang at 11 a.m. Sunday, April 14. This Speaker Series talk features Grosse Pointer Art Hyde, associate professor of practice and automotive engineering program director at the University of Michigan, nicknamed "Mr. Mustang" by his peers.

Hyde began his career at Ford Motor Co., in

1977, and participated in the launch of the new 1979 Ford Mustang and 1979 Indy 500 Mustang pace car. He later worked on the 1983 SVO Mustang engine, 1989 Mustang convertible and 1994 Mustang body, becoming Mustang chief program engineer in 1997.

Hyde will provide an insider's perspective on designing and developing the Mustang and answer questions from the audience. Coffee, juice and breakfast foods will be served and guests are invited to peruse classic and contemporary Mustangs parked both inside and outside the museum. Tickets are \$30 per person, \$25 for members.

◆ The Ford Piquette Plant Museum offers periodic "T Talks" on Zoom, free for museum members, as an opportunity for people to learn about unique aspects of automotive history. These events are one of many benefits to membership such as free admission, discounts, a quarterly newsletter and more.

Memberships range from \$55 to \$100 and may be purchased online at fordpiquetplant.org.

Members receive invi-



COURTESY PHOTO

Grosse Pointe resident Art Hyde will speak about the 60th anniversary of the Ford Mustang and his own professional history with the model.

tations to "T Talks" via email.

The first "T Talk" of 2024 takes place at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 24, featuring museum Trustee Steve Shotwell, who has conducted extensive research into

a one-of-a-kind, experimental 6-cylinder Model N that Henry Ford built in 1908 and test drove on the streets of Detroit. A marvel of early 20th century mechanics, this privately owned vehicle is currently on display at the museum.

President of the Piquette T's, a Model T chapter based out of the museum, Shotwell will share about this very fast, light-weight car. He also has constructed a plexiglass hood for this car and placed it

adjacent to a standard Model N, so visitors can see up close what an innovative engine Henry Ford introduced.

Shotwell is one of the world's foremost experts on Model T history and serves on the

Board of the Model T Ford Club International.

◆ Ford Piquette Plant Museum Trustee Scott Thams will give a "T Talk" in May, on a date to be announced, about his upcoming participation in The Great Race, a nine-day, 2,400-mile road race against other antique vehicles, June 22 to 30. Thams and his brother, Kirk Thams, will race a 1929 Model A from Owensboro, Ky., to Gardiner, Maine, on single-lane roads. A

President of the Piquette T's, a Model T chapter based out of the museum, Shotwell will share about this very fast, light-weight car. He also has constructed a plexiglass hood for this car and placed it

Garden Fun Day is April 13

Grosse Pointe Garden Center's second annual Family Garden Fun Day takes place from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 13, at Kerby Elementary School, 285 Kerby, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Members of Grosse Pointe Garden Center will provide a fun and interesting morning for children and their parents. Kids will have a chance to do many activities, such as building a fairy garden, learning how to attract butterflies, how to grow green beans and how native flowers help the environment.

For adults, several experts will be on hand to give short table talks on horticulture topics, which range from composting as a family and integrating native plants into the family garden to selecting the best foundation plant and creating garden projects with kids.

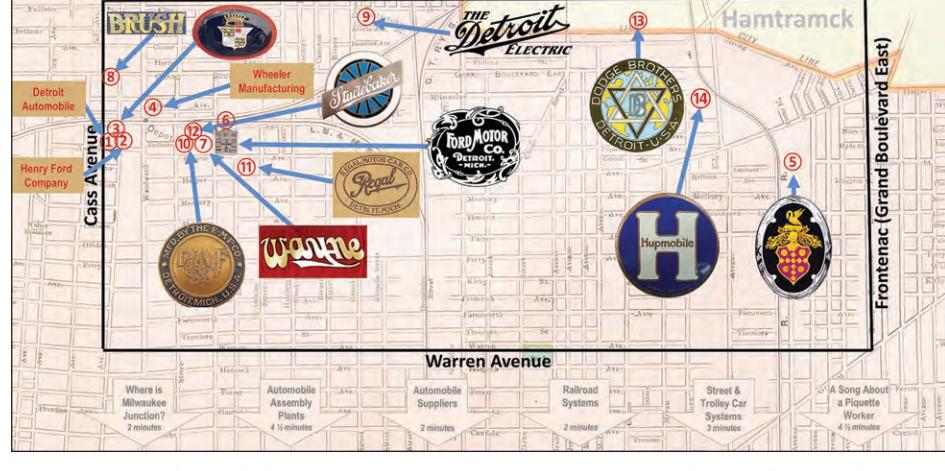
There will be time reserved at each talk for attendees to ask individual gardening questions.

Registration is requested in advance. Admission is \$20 per family.

For more information about Family Garden Fun Day or to register, visit gpgardencenter.org.

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032724



The "Motor City Origins Tour" explores how the Motor City got its start in the Milwaukee Junction neighborhood.



Marianne Shrader, left, embraces her mother, 107-year-old Clara Breicha, in their Grosse Pointe Park home.



Above, Clara and Bela Breicha on their wedding day in 1938. Below, a portrait of Clara Breicha, painted when she was 25 years old, hangs in her living room.

A century, plus seven

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Clara Breicha's birthday this year happens to fall on Good Friday.

And what a good Friday it will be when the Grosse Pointe Park resident celebrates her 107th birthday.

Born March 29, 1917, in Hungary, Breicha already was a wife and mother when she immigrated to the United States in 1951.

She and her family — husband, Bela; and daughters, Dr. Eva Ettedgui, Marianne Shrader and Lya Grote — made their way to Grosse Pointe in 1977.

"My husband was working as a doctor in a hospital in Illinois," Breicha said. "When he retired, we came here."

She was quick to immerse herself in the community, which immediately embraced her, her daughter said.

"In Grosse Pointe, she joined the AAUW (American Association of University

Women) and was member of Tuesday Musicales," Shrader said. "And the old ladies in

the neighborhood embraced her right away. They're all gone now though. She's had a wonderful time in Grosse Pointe."

Memberships aside, Breicha also devoted time to leisurely pursuits, including reading, sewing and listening to classical music. As a child she learned to play piano, a love she carried throughout her life.

"They had a grand piano at home in Hungary," Shrader said. "When they had company her father would make her play."

Though Breicha has no plans to celebrate her upcoming birthday, she relishes the memory of the big party her loved ones threw for her 90th, when friends flew in from Chicago and New York and family came to honor her.

Her proudest accomplishment, however, has a more academic lean to it.

"I started at university in

my hometown," she said. "I didn't finish because of the war."

But when her children were "grown and gone," Shrader said, "she went back to college and got a degree in world history and archeology from Barat College in Lake Forest, Illinois."

"I got my diploma in 1973," Breicha proudly proclaimed.

The lifelong learner still enjoys "polishing her brain," her daughter added.

"She watches historical things on her iPad," Shrader said. "She's still very interested in history and current affairs."

As for her impressive lifespan, Breicha said she has no idea why she's lived so long. It's certainly not due to healthy eating habits, her family joked.

"She used to tell people water is for fish and frogs," Shrader laughed, "and vegetables are for rabbits. She

used to really like sweets, too, but not as much anymore."



The meat-and-potato Shrader said. lover, whose drink of choice And about her longevity, is a cup of tea, "puts all the your guess is as good as medical books to shame," hers: "Destiny?"

Hollywood Feed presents 'The Healing Journey' course

Hollywood Feed of Grosse Pointe Woods presents the free online course, "The Healing Journey: Helping Children Understand and Process Pet Loss," Thursday, March 21. Sessions take place 9 a.m., 1

p.m. and 6 p.m. at tinyurl.com/2p535at7.

All ages are invited to attend this free three-part event, led by certified pet loss professional Coleen Ellis. This webinar discusses the challenging

landscape of children experiencing pet loss and how to help

guide them through their grief. Whether you're currently grieving the loss of a beloved pet or seeking to support others through their grief, this

webinar is designed to provide a safe and nurturing environment for exploration and healing and will provide a deeper insight into the complexities of pets. Attendees also will have

an opportunity to ask questions and get personalized advice during a live Q&A at the end of the presentation.

Those who can't attend the class can register to receive a recording of it.

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

Holy Week at St. Michael's Church

March 24, Palm Sunday at 10 am
Procession and Holy Communion

March 28, Maundy Thursday at 7.30 pm
Liturgy of the Last Supper

Good Friday, March 29 at noon
Meditations ~ Hymns on the Stations of the Cross

at 7.30 pm: The Passion According to John
and Communion from the Reserved Sacrament

Easter Day
Sunrise Service at 6.00 am
Holy Baptism and Easter Communion
Breakfast follows the Sunrise Service
Festival Holy Communion: 10 am

Details on our website: stmichaelsgpw.org

20475 Sunningdale Park
Grosse Pointe Woods

313.884.4820
stmichaelsgpw.org

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

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

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

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church
(United Church of Christ)
Worship Sunday at 10:00 am
Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver
An Open & Affirming Church
240 Chalfonte G.P. Farms
313-884-3075 • www.gpcong.org
WE HAVE AN ARTS MINISTRY

St. Matthew Catholic Church
Harper at Whittier
Holy Week Liturgies

Palm Sunday Masses, Saturday, March 23, 4:30 pm and Sunday, March 24, 10:00 am

Monday, March 25, 7:00 pm ~ Lenten Penance Service

Holy Thursday, March 28, 7:30 pm ~ Mass 9:00 to 10:30 pm ~ Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Good Friday, March 29, noon ~ Stations of the Cross 1:30 pm ~ Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday, March 30, 9:00 pm ~ Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday, March 31, 10:00 am ~ Mass of the Resurrection

Worship Service

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

Masses

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

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

10B | FEATURES

MOTOR:

Continued from page 8B

passionate collector of cars ranging from Model Ts to muscle cars, Thams will talk about the brothers' prior race attempt in 2018, as well as their race strategy and preparations for the 2024 contest, including a chase crew for repairs. Members receive advance invitations to "T Talks" via email.

The Ford Piquette Avenue Plant Museum is a U.S. National Historic Landmark and one of the oldest surviving automotive plants in the world. The museum is open year-round to the public 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays to Sundays. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$10 for students and youth. Optional guided tours take place daily at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. Private group tours and school field trips are available by appointment.

For a complete event schedule or to purchase tickets, visit fordpiquetteplant.org.

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



COURTESY PHOTO

Chamber visit

Jenny Boettcher, president and executive director of the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce, was the guest speaker at the Feb. 28 meeting of the Lakeshore Optimist Club of Grosse Pointe. Boettcher updated members of the mission, activities and opportunities provided by the chamber to local businesses and organizations. Her presentation was well-received by Optimist Club members, who focus their efforts to support local youth-related programs and organizations. For more information, visit lakeshoreoptimist.com

Pictured are Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce President and Executive Director Jenny Boettcher, left, and Lakeshore Optimist Club President Julie Baumer.

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Dog Trainer*

EVENTS:

Continued from page 4B

March 28, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Teen Dream Lab Takeover, 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 29, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

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

◆ Grosse Pointe Community Game Meet-Up, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 30, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Reunion

Grosse Pointe North High School's Class of 1984 seeks classmates for its 40th reunion, which takes place at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24, at Fishbones Rhythm Kitchen Cafe, 23722 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores. The reunion includes a cash bar, light appetizers and live '80s music by Lunar Sessions. For those in town early, a casual gathering at Rustic Cabins in Grosse Pointe Park takes place Friday, Aug. 23. Cost for the reunion is \$40; Venmo @amytreder-holland. For information, contact Amy Treder Holland at amytholland@live.com or call (313) 790-9667, or Marla Ruhana at (586) 801-4701.

The Helm

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

◆ The movie "Murder Mystery 2" will be shown at 12:30 p.m. Friday, March 22. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for non-members, and includes snacks.

◆ Corewell Health Cooking Demonstration, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, with facilitators Nancy Weis, a registered dietitian, and Chef Dan Kellogg.

◆ Geri-Fit, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, April 1 to June 19, with instructor Shallene Moyer.

◆ Drums Alive with Rosa, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Thursdays in April, with Rosa Hunter. Cost is \$7 for members, \$10 for nonmembers.

◆ A Matter of Balance, 1:15 to 3:15 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, April 2 to 25, with Rosa Hunter and Shallene Moyer.

◆ Introduction to Calligraphy, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, April 5, with instructor Beth Johnson. Cost is \$35 for members, \$40 for nonmembers.

◆ Monday Morning Speaker Series, Sen. Kevin Hertel's Coffee Hour, 9 to 10 a.m. Monday, April 8.

Ford House

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

◆ Storytime: Every Night is Pizza Night, 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays, through March 26, for ages 7 and younger.

◆ Easter Bunny Photos, noon to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, March 24. Cost is \$15 per child or members, \$20 for nonmember children.

◆ Easter Brunch, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Sunday, March 31. Admission costs vary.

◆ Coffee with Collections, 10:30 a.m. Thursdays, April 25 and Dec. 5, for members only.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

◆ Storytime: "The Hidden Rainbow," for ages 7 and younger, 10:30 a.m. every Tuesday in April.

◆ Ballroom Dance: Foxtrot, 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, April 3, 10 and 17, and May 1. Cost is \$40 for members, \$48 for nonmembers.

Family Center

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

centerhelps.org.

◆ Free Community Yoga, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, through April 30. Registration is required by emailing maryjo@familycenterhelps.org.

◆ Community Book Discussion, 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 24. A panel of experts will discuss the parenting information featured in "14 Talks By Age 14," by Michelle Icard. RSVP to maryjo@familycenterhelps.org.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, March 25, Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, St. Clair Shores City Hall, 27600 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, March 29, Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Rotarian Roger Hull will speak about the socio-political aspects of his recent trip to southern Africa. Email grossepointrotary@gmail.com.

Air Show

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

The theme is "Innovation Focused: STEAM Driven."

Adaptive yoga

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

This legend Is RETIRING!

Tuesday, March 26th
Open House 3 - 6 pm
at Faircourt Dental

Wear your smile and stop by to wish Dr. Mary Sue Stonisch well!



Join Us For Her SMILE SEND OFF!

HEALTH

It's findable, treatable, and beatable Ascension St. John surgical oncologist explains the importance of getting colon screenings

Getting screened for colon cancer rarely makes it to the top of most people's "to-do list." It is an easy thing to put off, even knowing that you are beyond the recommended age of 45 to begin colon cancer screenings.

Colorectal cancer is one of the most common cancers in adults in the United States. More studies have shown the prevalence of early-onset colorectal cancer found in those under 50 and is projected to be the leading cause of cancer death in those aged 20-49 by 2030. And currently, colorectal cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer-related death among African American men and women.

"It's those statistics that cause concern and amplify the importance of getting regular colon screenings, such as a colonoscopy, which can help find cancer early, when it is most treatable," says Dr. Richard Berri, surgical oncologist at Ascension St. John Hospital.

During a colonoscopy, which is one of several options for colon cancer screening, a flexible tube containing a small camera is inserted into the colon so that your doctor can look for polyps and other signs of colon cancer.

Polyps can take up to five years to become cancerous. Once found during a colonoscopy, they can be removed before they have a chance to develop into an advanced and potentially

life-threatening stage of cancer.

That's why the cancer care teams at Ascension St. John Hospital recommends men and women get their first colonoscopy at age 45. You may need to get a colonoscopy earlier if you have a personal or family history of polyps or colon cancer, or have symptoms such as:

- ◆ Abdominal pain or discomfort
- ◆ Change in bowel habits
- ◆ Rectal bleeding
- ◆ Unexplained weight loss

"As a surgical oncologist, I treat a lot of colon cancer and rectal cancer patients," said Dr. Berri. "It's a privilege to serve my patients and their families in my community in this way."

Many patients delay preventive screenings, including colonoscopies, that can help them get care earlier, if cancer is diagnosed. It's important not to delay the screenings that are recommended based on age, family history, and risk. Have a conversation with your doctor who can help you determine which care plan and screening is right for you.

If you are seeking a second opinion, we are here to help. We help match you with the right specialist to provide more information about your condition and help you feel more confident when deciding on a treatment plan.

Find out more about Ascension Michigan's colorectal cancer care services by visiting ascension.org/ColonCancerMichigan.

The rise in colon and rectal cancer in patients under 50 highlights the importance of getting regular colon cancer screenings.



Dr. Richard Berri, surgical oncologist at Ascension St. John Hospital.

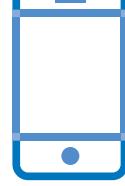


A colonoscopy can help detect cancer early

Don't delay important screenings

As you approach age 45, you should start talking with your doctor about regular colorectal screenings. The doctors at Ascension St. John recommend regular screenings to help find cancer early, when it's most treatable. Colonoscopy allows your doctor to identify and remove polyps before they become cancerous.

Every visit starts with a conversation at Ascension St. John. Your doctor and care team will listen to understand you and we'll discuss the screening options and timing that are right for you, for your health concerns and for your age.



Learn more about colon screenings and cancer care at ascension.org/MichiganCancer

PGS Dentistry, Growing Smiles provide care from ages 1 to 99

As a new arm of Growing Smiles Pediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics, PGS Dentistry now uniquely allows the office to offer a one-stop shop in St. Clair Shores for every family's full range of dental needs.

With pediatric specialists, orthodontic specialists and now a general dentist all in the same location, patients no longer need to form relationships with multiple providers or travel to various destinations.

Unlike many dentist offices in the surrounding area, Growing Smiles and PGS have made it their mission to provide care throughout the whole life of a patient.

Typically pediatric patients graduate to PGS around the age of 12 or when they start showing they have the vast majority of their adult teeth.

"We have the goal to be a seamless transition from children to adults and a one-stop shop for the entire family, so that they don't have to go anywhere else," said Amber Sharpley, DDS, a general dentist with PGS Dentistry. "Being able to provide care from ages 1 to 99 in different aspects of comprehensive care as well drew me to this office."

Sharpley has worked as a dental hygienist since 2012, but upon growing her love for the field, returned to school and graduated with a doctorate in dental surgery in May 2023.

She was drawn to PGS Dentistry because of its



COURTESY PHOTO

Amber Sharpley, D.D.S., works with a patient to make sure their dental needs are met.

uniqueness as an established pediatric office now growing to serve the whole family.

"It's always been important to me to make sure that I'm able to give back to the community," Sharpley said. "So for me, it's special—because I live in this community—to be able to provide for my neighbors and their families."

As part of its commitment to patient care, PGS Dentistry has the latest technology, including a state-of-the-art scanner which offers a smoother and more efficient process for crowns, partials, bite guards and more.

"It eliminates that old-fashioned use of impression material, which makes the patient a little bit uncomfortable," Sharpley explained. "The scanner makes it more comfortable for the patient and is actually a quicker turnaround too."

PGS Dentistry's St. Clair Shores office is located at 22524 Greater Mack Ave.

Current hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday.

To schedule an appointment, call (586) 800-7471, email familydentistryscs@pgsdentistry.com or visit pgsdentistry.com.

DiamondGlow dermabrasion treatment now offered at Ferrara Dermatology

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

Consistently keeping an eye on the latest clinical trials and approved products, the practice's two board-certified dermatologists, Dr. Richard Ferrara and Dr. Katie Caretti, recently added a new dermabrasion treatment called DiamondGlow by Allergan Aesthetics to its offerings.

"We still love HydraFacial and people love getting it particularly before events and to make

**Dr. Richard Ferrara****Dr. Katie Caretti**

their skin have a nice glow to it and to feel good," Ferrara said. "But we added the DiamondGlow, because it's a little more of a medical process and it has a little more stimulation to the skin. And therefore, we wanted to have one level of a little more therapeutic in a medical environment to add to our repertoire."

The DiamondGlow treatment is made up of three steps to guide the individual toward clearer, more radiant skin.

◆ Exfoliation, which can be tailored based on the individual and uses diamond tip technology to get the varying levels of abrasion. This is im-

portant to help with cell turnover and improving the appearance of skin.

◆ Vacuum suction, which helps to extract impurities in the skin, clogged pores and oil.

◆ Infusion of medical-grade serums into the skin, which also is customizable.

"If someone has a dryer

skin type, if someone has some hyperpigmentation in the skin, if someone is suffering from acne, those serums can then be tailored to that individual to help them get the results they're looking for," Caretti explained.

Immediately post-treatment, individuals can expect to see an increased radiance of the skin, improvement of dryness and scaling, tactile roughness improving and a little improvement of the visible fine line.

At the three-month mark, individuals will further find durability of skin tone improvement, cleaning up the unevenness of the skin and working some of the visible fine

lines on the forehead and around the eyes.

"Lastly, it also helps support lymphatic drainage of the face," Caretti said. "That's going to help to improve or decrease the appearance of puffiness of the skin and give an overall improvement to the brightness of the skin as well."

Furthering the customizable experience, the doctors can combine parts of a HydraFacial and DiamondGlow.

"You can dance between these modalities and get the benefit of both," Ferrara said. "And then we complement it with certain topical cosmeceuticals, whether it be the Alastin or the SkinBetter. We can really customize product, infusion, serum-use to really achieve what we're looking for."

Ferrara Dermatology Clinic is located at 20043 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. For more information, call (313) 884-5100 or visit ferraraderm.com.

Exciting news! PGS Dentistry is now shining brighter in St. Clair Shores with the newest addition to our family, Dr. Amber Sharpley! 🦷🌟
Come experience unparalleled dental care in our latest location.
Your smile's future starts here.

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for a consultation or appointment



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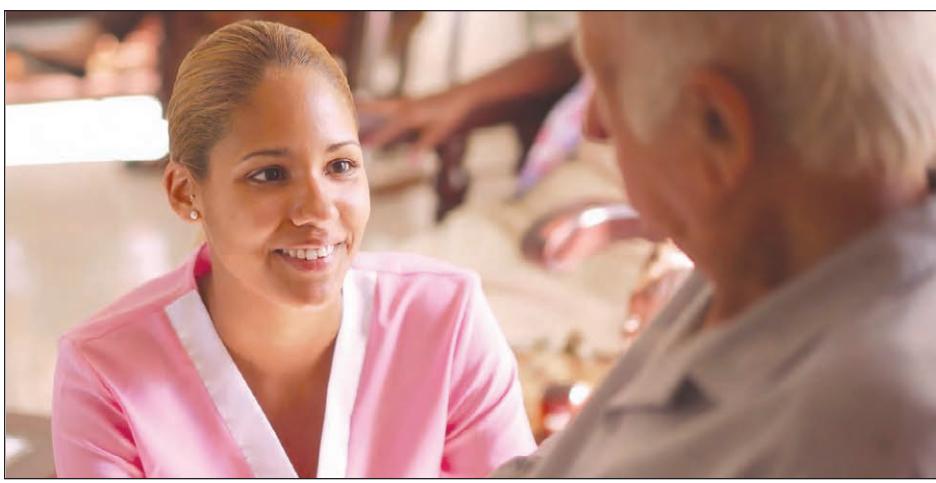
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HOUR DETROIT MAGAZINE'S
TOP DOCS +



Family caring for family

At Hackett Homecare, clients can expect top-of-the-line service, as Hackett has core values of trust, honesty, integrity, experience and compassion. Their slogan, "Our family, caring for yours," demonstrates the personal touch clients will receive.

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

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

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

"If you or a loved one is growing increasingly

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



COURTESY PHOTO

IEP Urgent Care has helped hundreds of Grosse Pointers since opening in 2022.

IEP Urgent Care: Proud to serve the Grosse Pointes

Since opening in June 2022, IEP Urgent Care Grosse Pointe, 19815 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, has helped hundreds of area residents with a higher standard of urgent care from ER-trained providers. We appreciate the 200-plus reviews from patients that helped us earn a 4.9/5 stars rating on Google. Here's what a few of them said:

"The best urgent care on the eastside! Fast, efficient, friendly staff that are more than capable." — Mary M.

"Gorgeous office with super nice, friendly, funny, quick, knowledgeable, diverse and downright amazing team." — Brian F.

"Listened to my concerns and followed through with care accordingly. Even went above and beyond by reaching out to the ER doctor of my choice so that I could be seen in a timely manner." — Arica B.

We have digital X-ray and electrocardiogram (EKG) services onsite for chest pain diagnosis. We treat a variety of illnesses and injuries including cold, flu, sore throat, allergies, sprains and fractures; splinting, wound care, scrapes and rashes; minor burns, cuts and stitches; and urinary tract infections.

We offer flu vaccine and immunizations, Vitamin B supplement injections and STD testing. We can help with DOT physicals, occupational health services and sports physicals.

More information is available at iepurgentcare.com/grossepointe or by calling (313) 880-1220.



Nearly 400 happy patients have given us



"Easy to book the appointment. Easy to check in. The office is super clean and the rooms are large with plenty of room for the parent to join. Definitely our preferred urgent care location."

— Timothy B.

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(just north of Cook Rd.)

Monday-Friday: 8am-8pm
Weekends: 8am-6pm
(313) 880-1220
iepurgentcare.com

IEP
URGENT CARE

313-319-8050
HackettHomecare@gmail.com
Lifelong Grosse Pointe Resident
John Hackett
hacketthomecare.com

EASTSIDE DERMATOLOGY MOHS SURGEON BRYAN SOFEN, M.D.

Eastside Dermatology is excited to announce the addition of Mohs Surgeon Dr. Bryan Sofen. Dr. Sofen is a double board certified Dermatologist and fellowship trained Mohs Surgeon who grew up in Metro Detroit and trained at several of the top programs in the country in New York, Chicago, and California before returning home. He is the head of Dermatology at Corewell Health Beaumont, and assistant professor at Wayne State and Oakland University medical schools where he teaches medical students and dermatology residents. He has authored many publications and textbook chapters and has lectured at numerous national and international conferences, and he is also an Hour Magazine and Castle Connolly Top Doc. He has a particular interest in surgical dermatology and cutaneous oncology.



EDUCATION

B.S., University of Michigan
M.D., Wayne State University School of Medicine
Internship, General Surgery, Cornell, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
Dermatology Residency, Rush University Medical Center

POST-GRADUATE TRAINING

Fellowship in Mohs Micrographic Surgery, UCSF
Fellowship in Dermatopharmacology, NYU

CERTIFICATION

American Board of Dermatology



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Dermatology

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D. Michael Piernick II, M.D.
Lindsay Renkiewicz, PA-C

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Healthspan longevity Balanced Body initiative

Healthspan, a concierge cardiology practice located in Grosse Pointe Farms, aims to improve the quality of its patients' lives and in turn, extend their healthspan.

A term commonly confused with lifespan, healthspan is defined as the part of a person's life in which they are in good health and are thriving.

Through sustainable lifestyle habits, Dr. Ginette Gomez, founder of Healthspan, supports patients to get to the root of their health issues and improve their overall health.

Healthspan's newest initiative, the Balanced Body program, delves into three main focuses of health to improve body composition and provide an individualized approach.

The program is an integrative, lifestyle approach to body

composition and weight management and centers around cardiology, nutrition and fitness.

The team helps patients define their unique program goals based on health history, physical exams, bloodwork, fitness assessments and nutrition testing.

The carefully planned 12-week program helps patients find balance in their daily lifestyle behaviors including nutrition, movement, stress management and more.

Dr. Ginette Gomez, DO, Board-Certified Cardiologist, Meghan Pendleton, MS Human Nutrition, Registered Dietitian, and Jen Cracchiolo, Certified Fitness Instructor, work closely together as a team to make sure clients' needs are comprehensively met.

Metabolic rate testing, three counseling sessions with bloodwork review

and a personalized nutrition plan are included in the nutrition portion of the program.

As far as cardiology is concerned, Dr. Gomez provides a comprehensive physical exam and bloodwork review, and a personalized plan focused on disease risk reduction and longevity.

The fitness part of the program includes a physical assessment and lactate measurement for cardiorespiratory fitness, a personalized exercise plan with a follow up 30 minute exercise session with a personal trainer. This program shows clients how to train to be the best version of themselves and creates a very strong foundation for overall lifestyle changes.

To learn more about this fantastic program, call Healthspan at 313.583.4333 or email info@drginette.co for more information.

Healthspan is located at 18450 Mack, Ste. 101, in Grosse Pointe Farms.



COURTESY PHOTO

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healthspan
WITH DR. GINETTE



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Oli at Home focuses not only on providing clients with privacy, comfort and convenience by offering at-home services, but also with delivering industry-leading results.



Above, some of the equipment used during a home visit from Oli at Home. Left, clients receive Oli at Home services in the comfort of their own homes.

In-home botox business expanding

Oli At Home, a concierge aesthetic injections company that brings the med spa directly to you, has doubled its staff in the eight months since it opened.

Oli, launched in September 2023, was founded by husband-and-wife team, Michael and Lindsey Oliver.

"We are focused on not only providing our clients with privacy, comfort and convenience, but also with delivering industry-leading results," Michael Oliver said. "All our medical providers focus exclusively on injections. This means that you are going to have a board-certified, experienced injector performing your treatments."

Oli's team started off with a physician assistant and a medical director and recently added three new nurse practitioners.

"That will allow us to serve even more customers all around metro Detroit," Lindsey Oliver said.

The Olivers both graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School and live in the Farms.

"We had been talking for years about wanting to do something in business together," Michael Oliver said. "We started developing the idea for Oli in January of 2023, and put together our business plan."

Michael Oliver is an investment banker by training, while Lindsey Oliver is a physician assistant with a background in dermatology and cosmetics.

"The reception has been great," Lindsey Oliver said. "We can be in and out in 30 minutes and give patients their time back. No sitting in a waiting room, no commute."

"Our patient volumes continue to increase and we've experienced high rebooking rates," Michael Oliver added. "We think that's a testament to the tailored approach we take with each patient. We're also very active on social media and post updates about new service offerings and promotions."

Lindsey Oliver also said they are noticing appointments being made by younger people.

"It used to be people waited until they got older and wanted to reverse the effects of aging," she noted. "Now,

people want to prevent the wrinkles and want to get ahead of it. They want young, fresh-looking skin."

The Oli booking process is simple.

Scheduling can be done directly online and takes less than a minute to select your treatment, pick a provider and choose a date and time.

First-time clients can

elect to either have a complimentary Zoom consultation or have a provider come directly to their home for a consultation and treatment session.

Grosse Pointe News readers also can get a discount on their first treatment by using the code GPNewsOli24.

Visit oli-athome.com for more information.

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Weight Loss and Laser Hair Removal plans just in time for Summer

Sisters and practitioners, Carrie Evatz Schipper and Erin Evatz, help clients look and feel their best at renowned local med spa, Pure Beauty & Wellness.

Offering a range of medical aesthetic services including skincare, weight loss assistance, cosmetic injections, microneedling, laser treatments, PRP, laser hair removal and more, Pure Beauty & Wellness is the place to go for minimally invasive non-surgical enhancements.

With summer just around the corner, Pure Beauty & Wellness aims to enhance client confidence with a holistic weight loss program and revamped pay-as-you-go laser hair removal pricing.

Pure Beauty's all-inclusive weight loss solution integrates diet management, vitamin therapy and medication under the expert guidance of Carrie Evatz.

This program ensures personalized care tailored to each individual's unique needs.

Pure Beauty's cutting-edge technology includes the Body Tone machine, which is designed to increase lean mass, helping clients achieve their desired physique before summer.

With one-on-one personal assess-



Carrie Evatz Schipper

ments and individualized care, Pure Beauty empowers patients to embark on a transformative journey toward a healthier lifestyle and sustainable weight loss.

In addition to weight loss, Pure Beauty is offering incredible laser hair removal deals that work with every budget. With prices starting as low as \$100 for small areas, \$200 for medium areas, \$500 for large areas and \$600 for extra large areas, achieving dream summer skin has never been more accessible.

Choose from a variety of treatment options, including lips, chin, sideburns, bikini, underarms, full leg and more.

Don't miss out on the opportunity to indulge in ultimate smoothness this summer.

As always, Pure Beauty & Wellness wants to help you discover what makes you feel and look your best. For more information on services and pricing, visit purebeautymi.com or call (586) 873-8102.

Plans brewing

Entrepreneur Alisha Carlisle provided an update to the Lakeshore Optimist Club, on her vision to create Michael B's Café, a space for those with challenges to enjoy meaningful work and a supportive community. She and her board of advisors have created a nonprofit that will build a café and community gathering space to train and provide employment in the food preparation and service business. Michael B's board includes educators, business leaders, financial and legal professionals, as well as other nonprofit organizations. Plans for the café have been professionally rendered for the café to be located in a commercial space in Grosse Pointe Park. The goal is to build the facility in phases — a first-floor



COURTESY PHOTO
Alisha Carlisle of Michael B's Café, left, and Julie Baumer, president of the Lakeshore Optimist Club.

café to start and a second-floor meeting/event space to follow. Carlisle has held fundraisers to bring the vision to reality and has plans to strengthen those efforts in the coming months. For more information, visit michaelbcafe.com/

Red Cross issues urgent appeal for all blood types

It takes less than an hour to help save three lives, simply by donating a pint of blood.

The American Red Cross hosts blood drives throughout the community, welcoming donors of all blood types to contribute. Appointments are required.

Donors are asked to bring identification, arrive hydrated and following an adequate meal.

Answering this appeal helps keep the flow of blood consistent and allow elective surgeries without delay.

Appointments may be made by visiting redcrossblood.org.

The following blood drives are coming soon to the area:

- ◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, March 25, Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

- ◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, St. Clair Shores City Hall, 27600 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

- ◆ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, March 29, Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores.

- ◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, April 18, St. Basil Church, 22851 Lexington, Eastpointe.



PHOTO BY BRITTANY TRINITY PHOTOGRAPHY

Let Carrie Evatz, ANP-BC, center-left, and the team at Pure Beauty & Wellness.

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One for the Foxes returns to The War Memorial March 22

By Jody McVeigh

Editor

Those not quite ready to cease the celebrations from last Sunday can extend their St. Patrick's Day escapades when One for the Foxes visits The War Memorial.

The Irish trio returns to Grosse Pointe Farms for a 7:30 p.m. performance Friday, March 22.

Dave Curley, Tadhg Ó Meachair and Joanna Hyde will perform a rousing blend of Irish and American folk music — traditional and newly composed — in an energetic and engaging manner.

"We are very excited to be returning to The War Memorial," Curley said. "We have been fortunate to play at The War Memorial on two previous occasions and also one online event during the pandemic. We are excited to be back — in person — and this time in the beautiful setting of the historic ballroom at the campus."

It will be a spectacular place for us to make music. The staff at the



COURTESY PHOTO

One for the Foxes, featuring Dave Curley, Joanna Hyde and Tadhg Ó Meachair, will perform a blend of Irish and American folk music at The War Memorial this Friday night at 7:30 p.m.

campus have been so welcoming and supportive of us and we are so happy to have the opportunity."

One for the Foxes has been making music as a

American folk music," Curley said. "One thing we decided early on as a trio was to be open to every idea. We wanted to explore what the three of us could do creatively and it has pushed us to create a lot of new

trio since 2016. Its members are graduates of the University of

Limerick's Irish music and dance program. Meachair is a native of Dublin and Curley of County Galway, while Hyde hails from Denver, Colo.

"Our music is rooted in Irish traditional, singer-songwriter and

music and also reimagine some older ballads and tunes. Our music is lively and dynamic and we try to bring the listener on a journey, to tell a story with our arrangements. We have lots of interchange

between instruments — fiddle, piano accordion, guitar and piano. ... Our musical culture is very rich and we try to showcase that whilst also presenting a lot of our own new music."

Curley and Hyde sing in harmony, as well as exchange leads throughout their performances.

The trio released their first studio album in January 2020, "not realizing how long it would be before we got our opportunity to play this music out in the world," Curley noted, "so 2024 is an exciting year for us to play this music and give it new life."

One for the Foxes has shows scheduled throughout the United States, including in Indiana, North Carolina and Colorado. Its U.S. tour concludes at the Durango Celtic Festival in Durango, Colo.

VIP admission to the March 22 concert is \$45 and includes the show, a complimentary beverage of choice and the afterglow with the artists.

General admission tickets are \$35 for adults, \$25 for military members and veterans and \$15 for ages 17 and younger.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit warmemorial.org/eventcalendar11/oneforthefoxes.

ASK THE EXPERTS By Colleen Yeloushan

Welcome change through yoga

Yoga invites us to welcome in change.

We can't help notice change as spring starts to arrive in Michigan. We change our clocks,

change snow boots to sneakers and usually change to an allergy remedy for at least someone in the house. Yoga offers a valuable outlook on change. Instead of planning for it or maneuvering around it, yoga invites us to welcome change in, just as it is.

When we welcome change in, we struggle less. When we struggle less, we have a lower stress response and are generally more peaceful. Here are some spring-inspired poses you can use daily to drop into the experience of living in the present moment, no matter what is changing around you.

Root to rise:

Start by planting your feet on the ground. Wake up the feet by spreading the toes and wake up the legs by gently lifting the knees. On an inhale, lift the arms overhead. On your exhale, bring your arms toward the ground. Repeating the inhale, plant the feet, stand tall and lift the arms. As you take a breath out, lower the torso and arms down. Take as many cycles as feels appropriate each day.

Firmly planted:

Lie down on the back, allowing the shoulders, hips and heels to rest. Taking care to lengthen the neck so the back of the skull rests comfortably. When your body is settled, take an inhale that causes the abdomen or belly to rise. This may take a moment

to find. You can always bring your hands to rest on the lower abdomen to give you some feedback. On your exhale, take all the time you need to completely empty the lungs. The inhale is more full than usual and lower than usual. The exhale is more complete. Take as many rounds of abdominal breath as comfortable. Abdominal breath is clinically proven to lower the cortisol or stress response in the body. Take note of how you feel.

Each day, you will notice that your physical body and breath are different. Welcome in that change in too. Finishing any yoga practice with acceptance of how things really are and no judgment or attachment to how they "should" be goes a long way in reducing our struggle. Practice these yoga poses or any other this spring and happily celebrate the changes you find. This wisdom translates off the mat and into our daily life.

Colleen Yeloushan has been practicing and teaching yoga and meditation yoga for the better part of two decades. For more information, visit itsallthepath.com/

The Family Center provides free programs and resources that help build happier, healthier families. Learn more at familycenterhelps.org.



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Grosse Pointe Gabby

The Pulse Of The Pointes

Hate taking selfies in my bathing suit at the beach

Dear Gabby: My kids always want me to swim with them and take selfies on beach vacations and I hate how I look.

People say that I should live in the moment and not care what I look like, but I do.

Am I going to ruin my child's life and set a bad

example if I'm not doing selfies and in the pool?

— Feeling ashamed in the City

Dear Ashamed,

Nobody can tell you how to feel.

If you hate how you look, make sure you start to do something to feel

better about it — whether it's eating healthy or moving your body (always a great way to model good behavior for your children).

In the meantime, go buy yourself a new bathing suit and a fabulous cover up that makes you feel confident.

Whether you decide to swim or take photos is

up to you, but I bet this will help a bit.

We are always our worst critics, so take what you see in the mirror with a big grain of salt (or sand in this case!)

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



Husband's inappropriate ogling

DEAR ANNIE: My husband and I are in our mid-60s and have been married for almost 50 years. We married and started our family very early in life.

My problem, I'm sure, is shared by many women my age. My husband can't stop ogling other women in public.

I have told him many times how that hurts me. He says he's sorry, but then later his behavior rears its ugly head again.

He says he's just being nice. I've gotten so that I don't want to go to public places with him. I love him, but I don't like how he disrespects me as his wife and especially as a woman. I can't compete with what's out there, nor do I want to. — DISRESPECTED WIFE

DEAR DISRESPECTED WIFE: Your husband is acting like a louse. You should keep talking to him about how disrespected you feel he is being to you and to the women who he is ogling.

in public. If he continues to ignore your requests, it is time to seek the help of a professional marriage counselor.

DEAR ANNIE: My parents have had property for many, many years. This property was to be divided among us kids upon their death.

My father passed away, which puts my mother in charge of everything.

Recently, we found out that she gave ALL this property to one of our siblings.

We were always a close-knit family, but this has caused a huge rift among us. I know it's "her money/property and she is entitled to do what she wants," but it really hurt us that she chose one child over her other children.

We ALL have been there for her, and this brother has only been there for her since our dad passed. How do we move past this? — HURTING KIDS IN OHIO

DEAR HURTING KIDS: I am sorry for your loss — both of your father and now your inheritance. It is no surprise that you feel hurt so much.

I'm not sure how close your siblings are to each other, but maybe the brother who inherited everything will try to make things more equitable. I would suggest having a family get-together, mother included, and discuss the situation as calmly as possible.

Remind everyone that family is more important than possessions..

DEAR ANNIE: My daughter is 8 years old and was recently diagnosed with autism. She was just diagnosed at age 7, but I have suspected she is autistic since about age 3 when she used to be severely speech-delayed. Over the years, I had suggested she was autistic to my husband several times, and his responses

were things like, "She's just a little bit behind" and, "She's just stubborn and hot-headed like her daddy."

Even during the evaluations, he seemed confident that she wouldn't be diagnosed with autism, and when she was, he seemed to not take it well. Due to her growing in both age and strength, I have needed additional help with her.

My husband has been working fewer hours lately and has hired a care worker to help me on the days when he is working, for which I'm incredibly grateful. Since he's been around more, he has been witnessing the meltdowns that I have been telling him about for years, and unfortunately he has not been handling them well.

Since her diagnosis, I have attended parent training and have been doing what has been advised to me. I am patient with her and help her regulate her emotions when she is not

able to self-regulate.

He gets easily frustrated, yelling at her to "just stop," or sometimes he tries to distract her with hugs or tickles (something that makes her meltdowns worse, as she doesn't like to be touched in those moments). When I try to explain to him that those things don't work and she can't "just stop," then he turns his frustration toward me. He thinks that I believe he is not a good dad or doesn't know how to handle her, but that's not the case.

My husband is a wonderful father and husband. He loves me and loves our kids and is a great man. How can I help him understand her diagnosis better and help him to be more confident in helping her regulate without the frustration and drama that ensues

anytime I try to help? — OVERSTIMULATED

DEAR O V E R - STIMULATED: Many couples think that having children automatically makes them closer, but raising young children, especially one with additional needs, can be very stressful on both parents.

You are doing a great job. Your husband just needs to learn more like you did about how best to parent your daughter. Ask your pediatrician for guidance or groups that can help you parent in ways that will set your daughter up for success in life. In addition, try to make time for date nights or time for just the two of you so that you can reconnect.

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

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We Tried It!

In one of the quests to find a fun, interesting and inexpensive gift for a 9-year-old, I came across these "Croc lights." Unless you have been living under a rock, you will likely know that Crocs are once again enjoying their moment in the sun. These ugly, rub-

ber, holey shoes are seemingly here to stay for awhile, so why not lean in and make them even more ridiculous.

Enter the croc light.

These lights are like Jibbitz, which is apparently the official name for the charms that click into your Crocs. I

bag along with some-

thing else.

Little did I know that this contraption would be one of the highlights of the birthday. When you click them in and turn them on (they are battery-operated and can be recharged with a USB cord), they become like the perfect flashlight for

seeing your way around at night. The kids ran around the yard for ages doing I have no idea what, but good fun was

alligators. Why not? Anything that promotes fresh air and good, clean affordable fun is a win for me.

GROSSE POINTE THEATRE PRESENTS

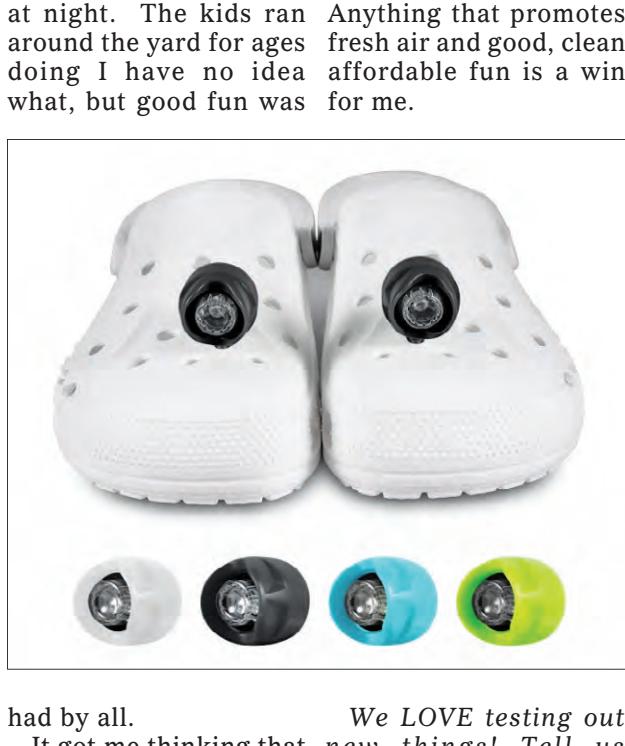
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Parcells Middle School - 20600 Mack Ave. Grosse Pointe Woods

by Anna Lizer



had by all.

It got me thinking that these would be great to bring to the beach after sunset, wearing out on a late-night walk with your dog, etc. The cost of the Croc lights is anywhere from \$10-\$18 on Amazon depending on the type you want to get. They all look very similar — some offer fun colors.

We LOVE testing out new things! Tell us about your favorite item or something you want us to try for you! Drop us a line at media@grossepoincenews.com.

5 Out Of 5



Overall I give this 5

Spring eats

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Aside from the occasional 27 degree snowy morning, the weather has been pretty nice. Spring is here and I'm very excited.

Asparagus, leeks, tarragon, artichokes and peas take center stage. It's always fun to watch the little blue and white flowers make their way through to give some color on a cloudy day.

For Easter I plan to make an easy asparagus tart. It's simple and basic but so flavorful. The base of the tart is puff pastry. It's layered with mascarpone cheese, tarragon and chives. Lemon zest gives the filling a needed freshness to offset the

buttery pastry. It comes together in about 5 minutes and cooks off for only 25 minutes.

Somewhat anything in puff pastry is a winning dish in my house. It's crispy and just down right indulgent. I suggest this to you for a side dish to welcome spring. The snow will stop at some point and then we can all just enjoy some Vitamin D.

Cheers, Mombeau

Asparagus Tart

1 sheet of thawed frozen puff pastry

1 tbsp flour for

rolling the dough

1 cup mascarpone cheese

1 tsp salt

1 large egg, beaten

Zest of 1 lemon

1 tbsp fresh chives, finely chopped

1 tbsp tarragon, finely chopped

1 lb thin asparagus, woody ends trimmed off

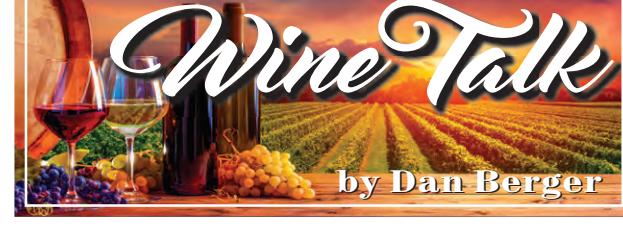
Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Start by mixing the mascarpone, herbs, egg and the zest from the lemon. Season with the salt and pepper.

Roll out the puff pastry into a 9x12 rectangle over



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

the flour. Place on a parchment lined baking sheet. Prick the dough so the center does not rise but don't prick the edges. Spoon out the cheese mixture over top leaving a three-quarter inch border. Layer the asparagus over top evenly. Bake for 25 minutes or until the tart is browned and crisp.



Sweet or dry — or flabby

Decades ago, a German winemaker pulled a label-less bottle of riesling from a fabric bag, pulled the cork, and asked me to taste it.

It was a time when most imported German rieslings were sweet and the winemaker asked me, "How much sugar do you think this wine has?"

The wine was tart, but I knew that dry German wines could have up to

1% residual sugar. And with high acid, some wines could taste like licking a lemon.

I suspected a trick was afoot. So, I guessed it had 2% to 3% sugar, about 20-30 grams per liter. In most cases such a wine would be slightly sweet.

The winemaker chuckled. "It has 80 grams!" he said, 8%. I was stunned. I had never tasted a wine with 8%

sugar that was so dry. He then went into technical details to explain why this wine tasted so dry.

It had, among other things, high acid and low pH. Both conditions left the wine tart.

I never forgot the lesson. It led to further study of German rieslings, which helps me explain all sweet wines. As a result, I soon learned that asking wine store clerks and restaurant personnel whether a wine is dry or sweet often is no help. Few such people have any real understanding of the word "dry."

This subject isn't easy to explain. There are many parameters here and only those who make a study of the issues can truly understand them. The best way to understand this is to taste wine often.

There are two wines in the market today, a well-regarded Napa

Valley chardonnay and a popular pinot noir. Neither is inexpensive. Most average consumers

(those who drink perhaps a glass of wine every two months) would say they are dry. To my palate, both are sweet.

The rules about what's dry and what's not can be daunting, mainly because many wineries do not want to tell consumers what's in their wine.

Ask any winemaker or tasting room pourer: "Does your chardonnay have sugar in it?" Most will say "no" so fast you think you're talking to a politician. Ask the same people if their cabernet has sugar and the answer will probably be the same: "Cabernet with sugar? Of course not!"

And yet a lot of California wine is too sweet for me. Either they have sugar or they have acids that are too low and pH levels that are

too high. It's the dirty little secret that California wineries never want to talk about.

But wines from New York, Michigan, and other cooler climates typically have better acidity. Cooler climate wines start out with better acids.

Some of the driest wines you'll find are European -- Sancerre or Pouilly-Fume (Loire Valley sauvignon blancs), Silvaner (a German or Alsace white wine), Chablis (a French chardonnay), and German rieslings that say "trocken" on the labels.

Many popular pink wines (varietal roses) have traces of residual sugar, which appeals to a broad swath of U.S. consumers. But since few such wines actually state that a rose is dry, many consumers are left without a clue.

As a rule, rose wines

from the south of France are made with just faint traces of residual sugar, perhaps 5 grams (a half-percent), but usually they have sufficient acid and a low pH to make them dry on the tongue.

There are many to choose from, almost all under \$20 a bottle.

Wine of the Week:

(\$17) — NV Gloria Ferrer Blanc de Noirs Rose, Sonoma County (\$20) — The classic strawberry and spice aroma in this gorgeous sparkling wine is enhanced by a slight citrus note in the midpalate and great balance in the finish. A superb value for lovers of perfectly made bubbles. Often seen at \$17. can be.

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



Food Gossip

by Nina Taormina

All about Easter

"Here comes Peter Cottontail, hopping down the bunny trail."

Is he going to brunch? Is he going to a buffet? Is he visiting with family and grazing all day?

Wherever he's headed after the egg stroll at Lake Front Park and other gatherings around town, like Grosse Pointe South's Class of 2025 front lawn hunt, he has a lot of places to choose from. Starting in that neck of the woods, The Bronze Door on The Hill will be serving a plated brunch and dinner with favorites like eggs Benedict and short ribs ala bolognese. Seatings through 2 p.m., reservations are required at (313) 886-8101.

Its neighbors at Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe will be hosting two seatings, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 to 4 p.m. Live music will be enjoyed, as will a delicious Easter menu that includes quiche and creme brûlée. Reservations are required at (313) 882-5299.

Pendy's on Mack Avenue in The Woods will greet guests from noon to 8 p.m. and will offer a special Easter menu. Call ahead for reservations at (313) 886-9933.

Over on the Nautical

erates, the grounds at Blossom Heath Park provide a wonderful backdrop for the perfect family pictures. You may even be able to take a stroll down the pier.

Another "EGG"-cellent buffet option is at Gilbert's Lodge on Harper in St Clair Shores, which offers 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. seatings. Gilbert's has adult and children pricing and children younger than 4 dine for free. Its menu features all the classics, from pancakes and sausage to pastas, chicken, fish and even pizza. Fresh fruits, pastries and tons of delicious desserts are available as well. Year after year, this is a favorite location to enjoy this special holiday with friends and family. Reservations are required

at (586) 772-9720.

Hosting at home? A great go-to Easter meal at home is a nice Dearborn ham and maybe some Fairway steaks or a tenderloin on the grill.

But what are we grazing on? You know: the snacks before the main event. Aside from the obvious, deviled eggs, so I highly suggest a trip to The Cheese Shoppe on Mack to get every item you can possibly think of for a picture-perfect charcuterie board. Shannon and her amazing team will educate you while packaging up all your creamy and crumbly cheese choices and perfectly sliced meats. Pick from a variety of jams, garnishes, crackers and sweets and let your creativity take over. Don't have a board to build on? They have those too. Or

place an order in advance at (313) 332-0646.

Need a one-stop shop grab-and-go/make-it-for-me to bring to your Easter host? Cheese to Please has you covered with a variety of "charcuterie rounds" in all different sizes. It offers a selection of crackers and, the best part, a fantastic variety of wines to go with your round. You'll be the favorite guest when you walk in the door. To risk not missing out, place an order online at cheese-

toplease.com. Pick-up takes place between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday, March 30. It's closed Sundays.

Don't assume reservations will no longer be available, as cancellations are a regular occurrence during holiday gatherings.

Wishing everyone a happy Easter with your friends and family, and looking forward to spring right around the corner!

Stay tuned. Stay hungry.



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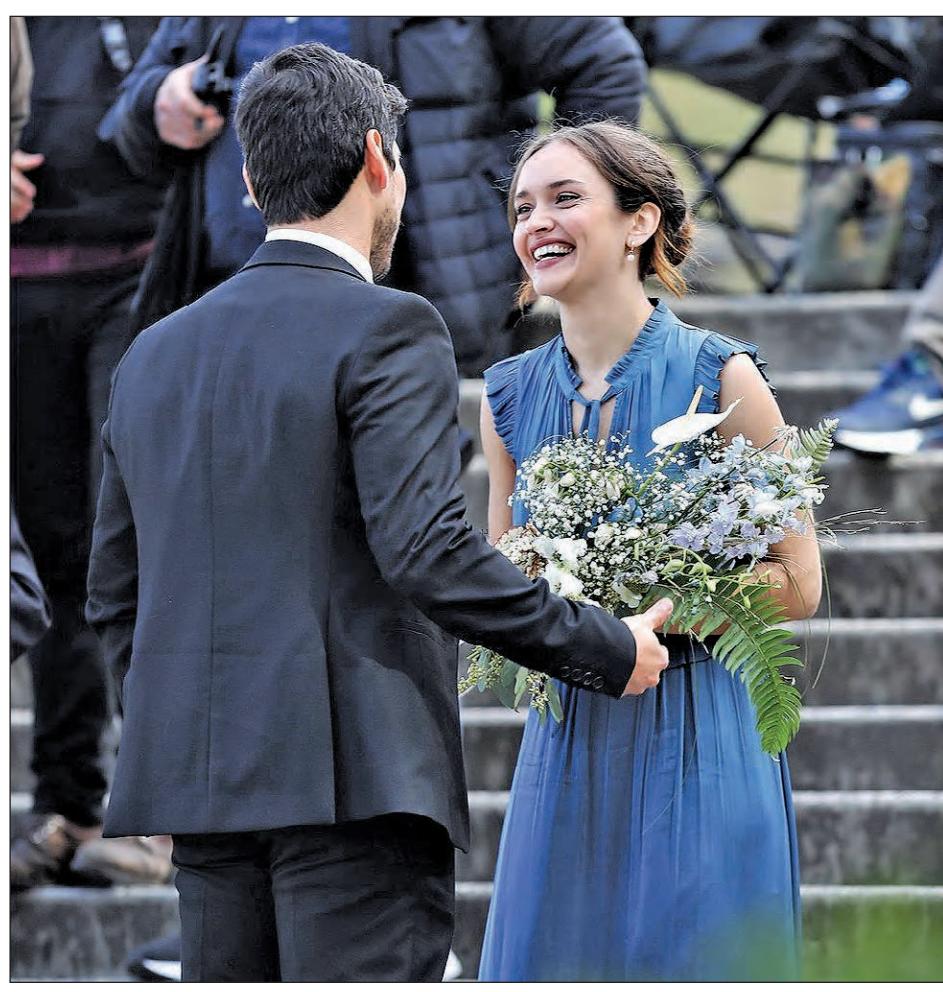
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PHOTOS COURTESY OF BLACK BEAR AND AUTOMATIK ENTERTAINMENT

Left, Jude (Jack O'Connell) & Emma (Olivia Cooke) get married.

MOVIE REVIEW

"Little Fish"
2020 - Unrated
1 hr 41 min

★★★★★

type. The story unfolds against the backdrop of a pandemic, which is sweeping across the globe.

The disease is called Neuro-Inflammatory Affliction (NIA) and it basically erases one's memory. It takes two forms — one is a gradual loss of memory and the other is almost instantaneous. Either way it's a frightening proposition.

Anyone with a family member with dementia knows the toll it can take on loved ones.

This film parallels the recent Covid-19 pandemic, which we're still feeling the effects of. We witness scenes of large-scale protests, riots, and everyday people donning surgical masks waiting in the halls of hospitals for treatment.

There's even a quick vignette of a protester reminding the crowd

that it's just like Reagan ignoring the Aids crisis. That rang a familiar note. Interestingly, the film is based on a short story by Aja Gabel written over a decade ago.

But the film by Director Chad Hartigan ("Morris From America," "This Is Martin Bonner") doesn't dwell on the pandemic and turn it into a horror film. He's actually done the opposite and made a sensitive, quiet film about enduring love and loss.

Emma (Olivia Cooke)

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin



and Jude (Jack O'Connell) meet on a secluded beach in the Pacific Northwest, brought together by a sweet dog named Blue. She's a vet's assistant at an animal shelter and he's a former drug addict, turned professional photographer. They instantly fall for each other and are soon married.

Through the use of montages, bits and pieces of their idyllic life together are revealed.

The Cinematographer Sean McElwee does a phenomenal job displaying just how much in love the couple is. Their life seems pretty good in spite of the raging pandemic. That is until one of their best friends Ben (Raul Castillo), a gifted musician is struck with NIA.

He quickly loses his memory along with all the fine songs he's penned over the years.

Then Jude starts having minor memory losses. Is it just forgetfulness or has he caught the virus as well? A visit to the hospital confirms that he indeed is succumbing to NIA. At first the couple is devastated.

Emma asks Jude to try

to recall various milestones of their relationship. When probed about when they first met, or details about their wedding, we see a series of variations until he answers correctly.

To help preserve some of his more significant memories, Jude plasters a wall with Polaroids and sticky notes. But the couple is resigned to the fact that it's merely a temporary fix.

The film spends a significant amount of time on the young lovers. You can feel the bond the couple shares and through exceptional camerawork, you can sense how close they are.

Both actors deliver career-defining performances here and have significant chemistry together. They help deliver a film that will haunt you for days after seeing it.

If you enjoy "Little Fish," you might also like the fine 2011 Ewan McGregor movie "Perfect Sense." In it, a pandemic strikes which causes people to lose their senses, one at a time. It's another powerful film you won't soon forget.

Note to parents: The movie is unrated but I'd probably give it a PG-13 rating.

Currently streaming for free on Kanopy (with your library card). Also on Hulu and to rent on YouTube and Prime Video.

My rating system:

★ A real stinker. A

movie that is so bad, you're embarrassed to admit you've seen it, but you have to rate it nonetheless.

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

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

★★★★ One you'd recommend to friends.

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

About this column:

My main focus is on films that I feel have gone under the radar and deserve more recognition. They include both mainstream and indie films streaming on services like Netflix, Hoopla, and Kanopy.

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

For movie trailers, visit youtube.com.

If you have any suggestions, feel free to email me at: dominmark@yahoo.com.

Also, if you're looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com.



Emma (Cooke) & Jude (O'Connell) grab a selfie.



A lighter moment while repainting their house.



Ben (Raul Castillo) with his friend Jude (O'Connell).



The couple picking out a pet fish

Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today until 11:15 p.m. PDT. The Moon is in Leo.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, March 21, 2024:

You are honest, forthright and independent. Your views and feelings are obvious to others because you have a powerful, direct quality. This year is full of exciting changes and increased personal freedom. Look for new opportunities. Expect to travel. Trust your intuition and act fast.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

Today you have an urge to improve your body or your health through exercise or through better eating habits. Basically, you want to be the best that you can be. Meanwhile, you might feel alone or cut off from others. Don't worry; this is temporary. Tonight: Be helpful.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)

Today you might make a personal to-do list of self-improvement ideas and how you can improve your life in general, especially through the things that you own. (You have a practical side.) Meanwhile, an older friend or member of a group might be critical of you. Don't worry. Tonight: Listen.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

Today you will wield influence and power in groups or with friends to make improvements, especially if you're involved in an organization. You want better results. You want to make a difference. Stand up for your beliefs, even if others don't support you. Tonight: Daydreams.



CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

You'll be effective introducing changes or getting something done, because people will respect what you say today. Meanwhile, you want to make improvements or introduce reforms. Good luck dealing with rules, regulations and traditions that stand in the way. Tonight: Be thrifty.



LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

You want to explore other disciplines, belief systems and cultures, because you want to make improvements in your own world or society. Meanwhile, you might be disappointed in your share of something or the paltry contribution you get from someone else. Tonight: Be supportive.



VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You might see how to improve your savings, reduce your debt or solidify a financial arrangement with someone else. Whatever ideas you're considering might be an improvement. Meanwhile, accept difficulties when dealing with a friend or partner today. It's temporary. Tonight: Solitude.



LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Partnerships are important to you, and today you might see ways to make improvements to these relationships. You also might attract someone to you who is powerful. Meanwhile, don't worry if relations with co-workers are strained. It's a temporary situation. Tonight: Show support.



SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

This is a great day to introduce better ways of doing your job. Why not be open to these ideas? Admittedly, relations

with kids and romantic partners are disappointing today. Tonight: Be a role model.



SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Parents might see ways to improve how they educate or deal with their children today. You can see better ways of doing things. Don't worry about estranged relations with family members today. It's temporary. Tonight: Learn.



CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Look for ways to make improvements where you live today. This includes home repairs. Ironically, you also might see ways to improve relations with family members, especially a parent. Admittedly, dealings with relatives and neighbors are strained. Don't worry about this. Tonight: Check your finances.



AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You will be powerful and persuasive when dealing with others today, which is why you can convince anyone about anything. Obviously, that makes this a strong day for those in sales, marketing, teaching, acting or writing. Nevertheless, you might feel a financial squeeze play today. Tonight: Check your finances.



PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

You might see new uses for something that you own, because you're in a resourceful frame of mind today. You also might see new ways to earn money. Don't worry if you feel lonely when dealing with others today. It's a temporary dark cloud on your horizon. Tonight: Accept help.

BORN TODAY

Actor Gary Oldman (1958), actor Timothy Dalton (1946), actor Matthew Broderick (1962).

Contract Bridge

The Case Of The Missing Damsel

East dealer.

North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♦ 8 2
♥ K 8 6 3
♦ K J 10 8
♣ J 9 4

WEST

♦ K 9 7 4
♥ 5
♦ Q 5 3
♣ Q 8 6 3 2

EAST

♦ Q J 10 6
♥ A 2
♦ 7 4 2
♣ A K 10 5

SOUTH

♦ A 5 3
♥ Q J 10 9 7 4
♦ A 9 6
♣ 7

The bidding:

East South West North

1 NT 2 ♥ Pass 3 ♥

Pass 4 ♥

Opening lead — four of spades.

If you and your partner agree that certain bids show certain types of hands, you will naturally understand each other better in a great many situations.

But it's also true that your opponents, who are entitled to know as much about your methods as you do, can occasionally put this knowledge to deadly use against you.

Consider today's case where declarer profited greatly from information

acquired during both the bidding and play. East, playing 13-to-15-point opening notrumps, bid one notrump, after which North-South quickly arrived at four hearts.

West led a spade, and East's ten forced the ace. Declarer returned the queen of trump, taken by East with the ace. East then played the king of clubs, queen of spades and ace of clubs in that order. South ruffed, cashed the jack of trump, ruffed a spade in dummy and was then faced with the critical problem of which way to take the two-way diamond finesse.

You might think that declarer would assume that East, who opened one notrump, must have the diamond queen and would finesse accordingly. But South did not fall into this trap.

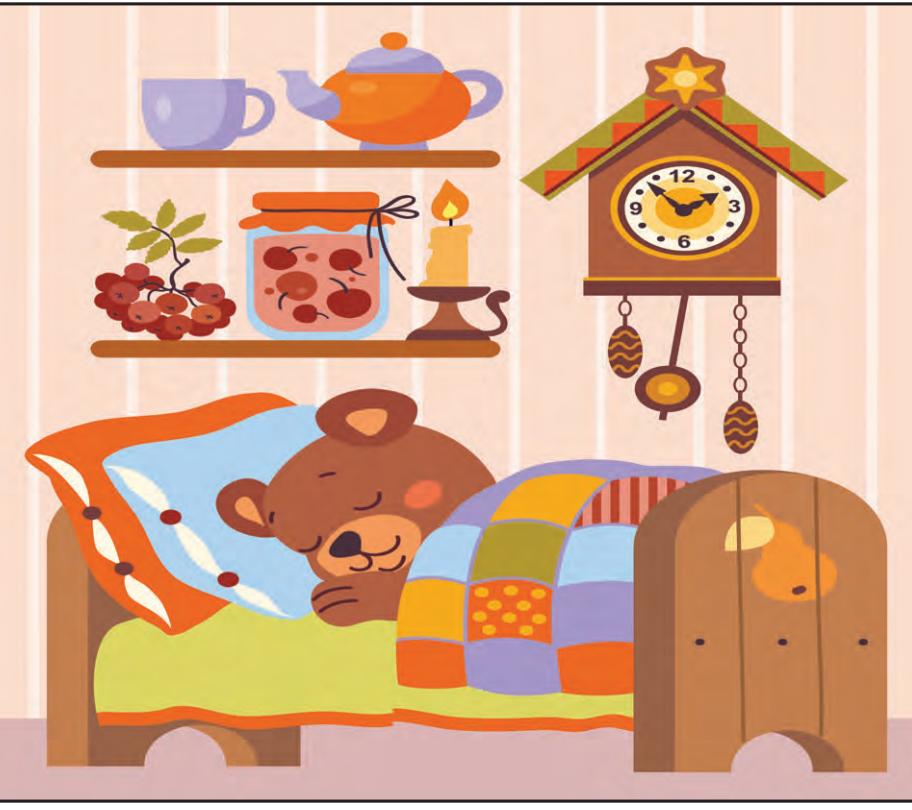
East had already shown up with the Q-J-10 of spades, ace of hearts and A-K of clubs — a total of 14 points. Declarer was thus able to deduce that East could not have the queen of diamonds for his 13-to-15-point notrump opening.

South therefore took the diamond finesse through West, and as a result made four hearts. East had unintentionally let the cat out of the bag by innocently opening with one notrump.

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by Steve Becker

Find 8 Differences



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Life is beautiful, especially in the Pointes. It's not that there aren't challenges these days, but it's good to know when there are, there is a way to get perspective and focus on the good for a while.

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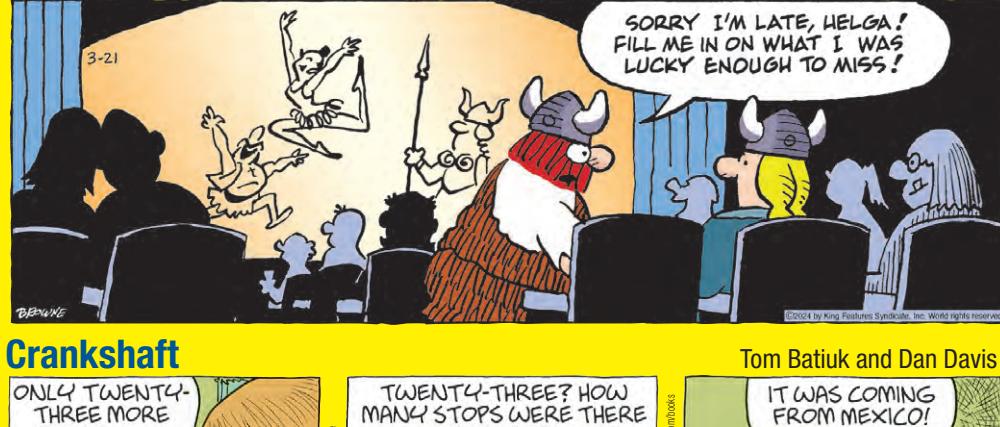
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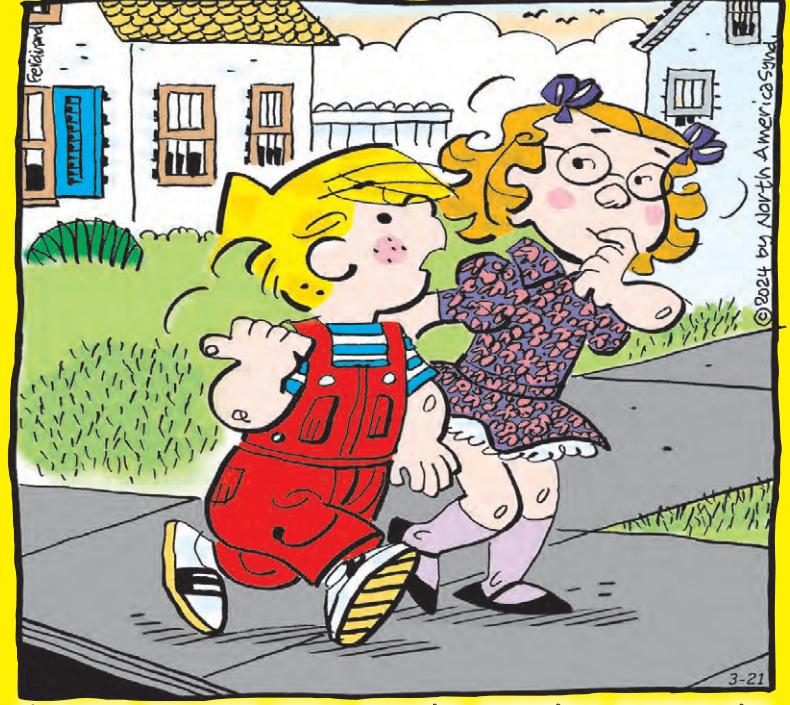
Comics

Peanuts


Charles M. Schulz

Hagar The Horrible


Dik Browne and Chris Browne

Dennis the Menace


Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton

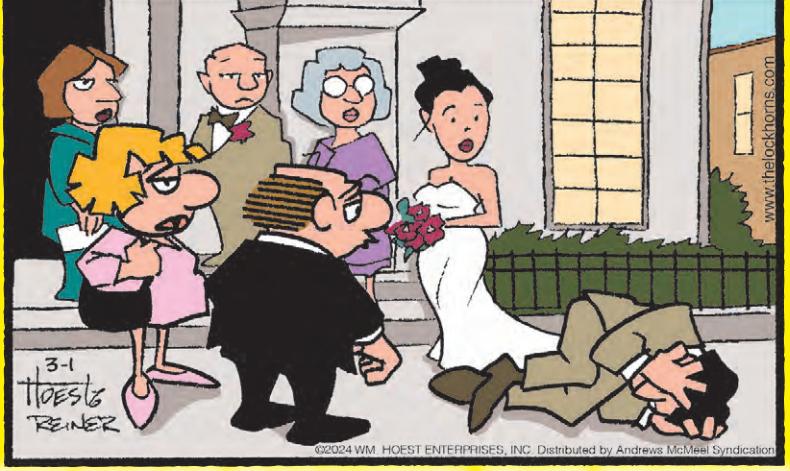
Crankshaft


Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis

Crock


Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker

"JUST CAUSE YOU CAN'T SEE'IM DOESN'T
MAKE 'IM AN IMAGINARY FRIEND!"

The Lockhorns


Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner

Mother Goose and Grim


Mike Peters

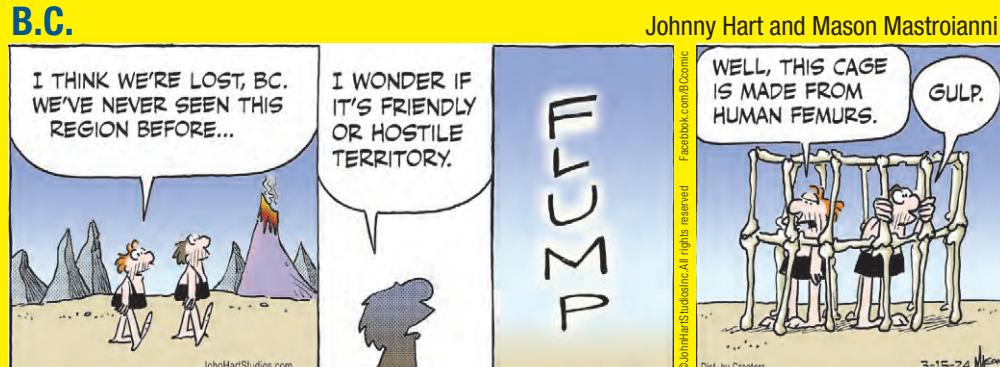
"YOU GAVE THE GROOM MARITAL ADVICE, DIDN'T YOU?"

Close To Home


John McPherson

Carpe Diem

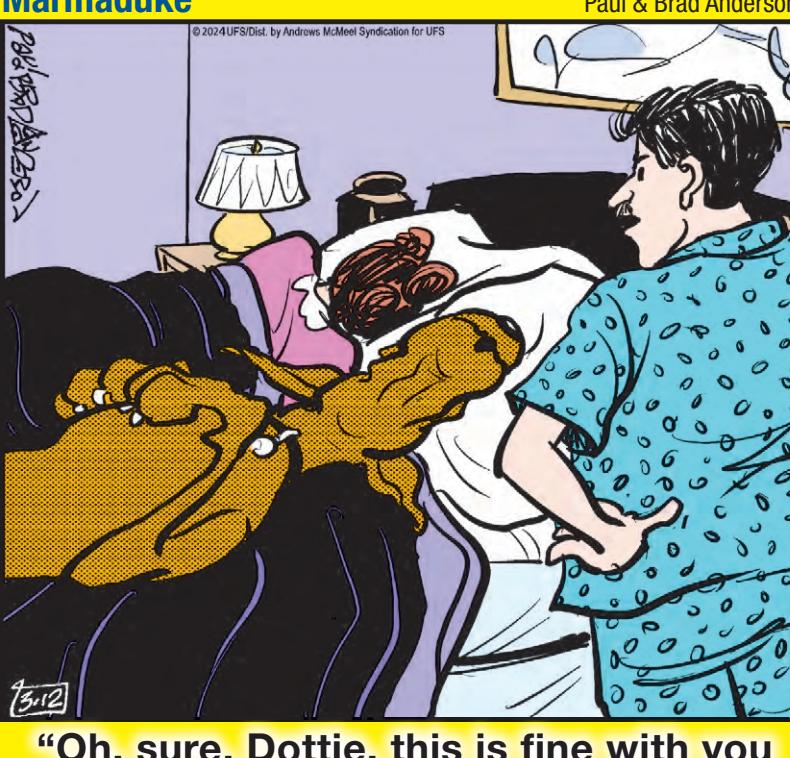

Niklas Eriksson

B.C.


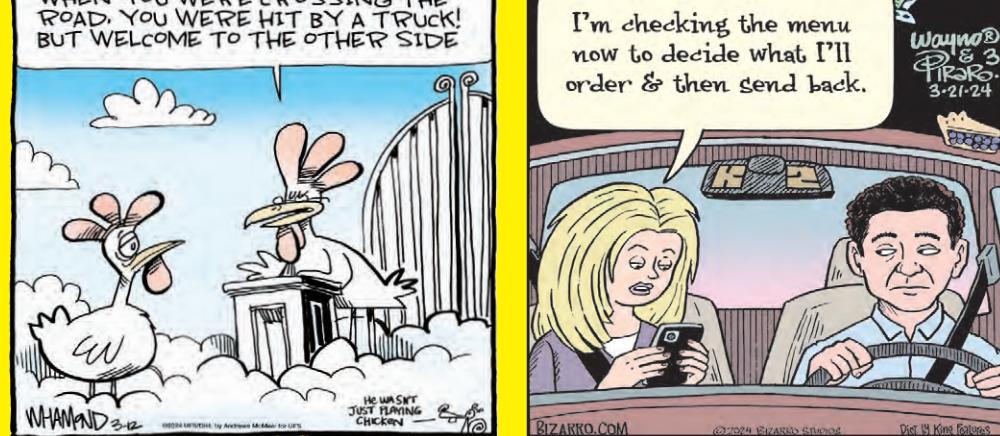
Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni

Wumo


Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler

Marmaduke


Paul & Brad Anderson

Reality Check


Dave Whamond

"Oh, sure, Dottie, this is fine with you
because Marmaduke always hogs
MY side of the bed."

Bizarro


Dan Piraro and Wayno



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What Do You Know About Goats?

Try answering each of these questions. Then read *Kid Scoop* with a family member and find out which ones you got right.

If you got any wrong, you will learn something new!

1. Goats can climb trees.

TRUE FALSE

2. Goats pupils are round.

TRUE FALSE

3. Goats like to eat tin cans.

TRUE FALSE

4. Goat burps are loud.

TRUE FALSE

5. Goats are foragers.

TRUE FALSE

6. Goats are one of the first animals tamed by humans.

TRUE FALSE

7. Goats like to live alone.

TRUE FALSE

8. Goats can learn their names.

TRUE FALSE

9. Goats have one big stomach.

TRUE FALSE

10. Baby goats are called kids.

TRUE FALSE

Standards Link: Life Science: Animals have structures that aid in survival.

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:
PREFER

The verb **prefer** means to choose one thing over another.

I prefer to do my homework right after school before I go out to play with my friends.

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

Write On!

Goats in a Tree

Imagine you see three goats in a tree. What are they doing there? How did they get there? Write a short news article.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write using descriptive details.

GOATS

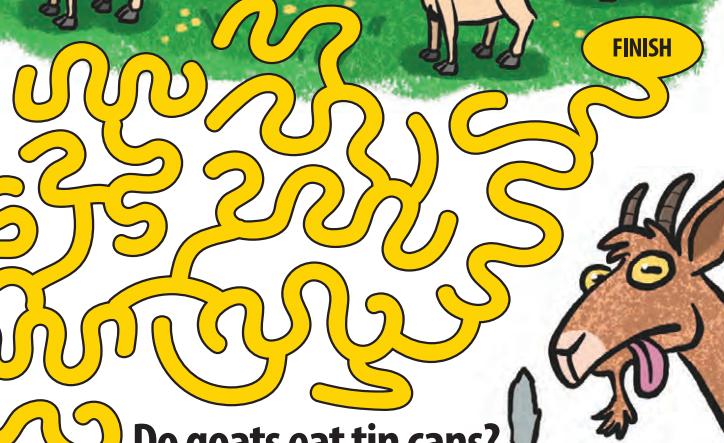
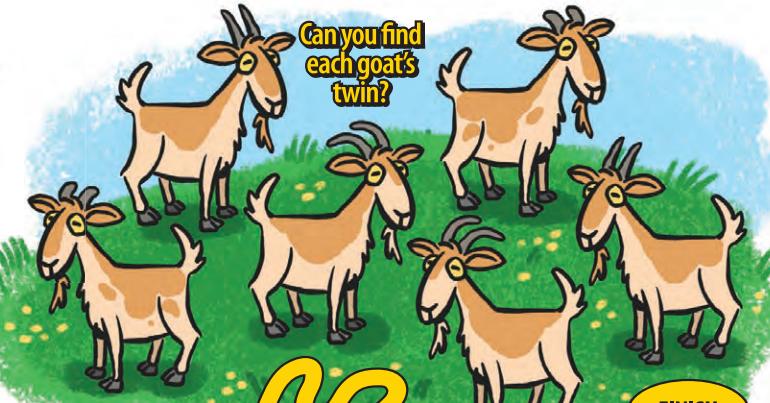
Goats and People

For 10,000 years people have been herding goats. Goats are one of the first animals people used to get

M

Circle every other letter to fill in the missing letters.

OMYIJLBK



Do goats eat tin cans?

There is a myth about what goats eat. It claims goats eat anything and everything. Often, goats are drawn chewing on tin cans.



This is not true. Goats are very picky eaters. They only eat plants. But even then, they will refuse to eat dirty hay. They prefer to eat looking up and enjoy fresh leaves on trees.

Standards Link: Life Science: Animals have structures that aid in survival.

Goats Get Lonely

Goats like to live in groups, or **herds**. In fact, if they live alone, they will become very sad. If you ever want a goat for a pet, you should get more than one.

Can goats climb trees?

Yes! They are mountain animals and have been known to climb to the tops of trees!

Grazers or foragers?

Foragers prefer leaves and the seeds on top of wild grass. They will also eat grass.

In nature, goats roam mountaintops and reach as high as possible to pick out tasty leaves and the grasses they enjoy.

Buuurrrp!!



Goats are burpers! When they digest their food, gas forms, and it escapes as loud, healthy burps.

This goat's big burp knocked some of the words out of these goat facts. Can you fill in the missing words?

Both male and female goats have beards and _____.

~~NANNIES~~ MALE KIDS HORNS FOUR

Baby goats are called _____.

Goats have _____ stomachs.

goats are called **billies**.

Female goats are called **NANNIES**.

Standards Link: Life Science: Animals have structures that aid in survival.

Extra! Extra!

Goat Art

Look through the newspaper for five or more words that describe a goat. Cut out these words and glue them onto a piece of paper. Decorate your paper with pictures of goats.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify adjectives as describing words.

Double Double Word Search

BURPS
CALL
CANS
EAT
HERDS
HORNS
KIDS
LEAVES
MYTH
PICKY
PREFER
ROAM
SCENT
SIGHT
TRUE

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

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

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Look Into My Eyes

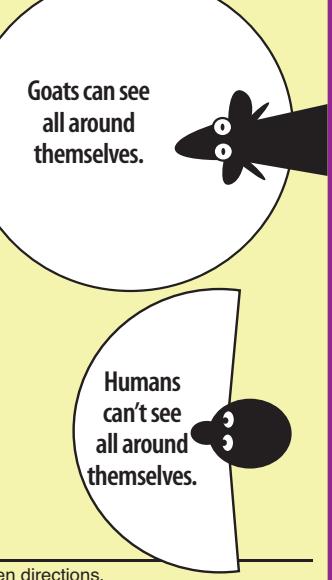
Look into a goat's eyes and you will see that their pupils are rectangular. Because of this, they can see almost 360 degrees, without turning their heads.

People can see about 160 to 210 degrees around them.

Hold this page up to a mirror to see why a goat's wide vision is important.

moisiv si doot s blyw' ri tle' seet si see a predeator in time to escape!

Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow simple written directions.



Double Double Word Search

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



ANSWER: A room-baaaa.

What do you call a goat that enjoys vacuuming the house?

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Greater or Less Than?

Clip 10 numbers from the newspaper and glue them in two columns on a sheet of paper. Between each of the two sets of numbers, draw the correct "greater than" (>), "less than" (<) or "equal to" (=) symbol.

Standards Link: Math: Understand >, < and = symbols.



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SPORTS



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All-State greats!

32 GP athletes earn All-State honors

Meg Leonard
Senior Editor

Excellence in Grosse Pointe's high school athletic scene hit a crescendo this month when 32 student-athletes earned All-State honors for the 2023-24 winter sports season.

Grosse Pointe South had 18 student-athletes make the All-State roster in girls and boys ice hockey, boys wrestling, boys swim and dive and gymnastics; Grosse Pointe North had eight All-Staters in girls ice hockey and boys swim and dive. University Liggett School had six athletes named to All-

State teams in girls ice hockey.

Impressively, a total of 15 players from the Pointes' girls ice hockey teams earned All-State status in a season where South won the Division 1 state championship over Liggett, Liggett's Sofie Ancona was named Miss Hockey as the state's best player and North reached the state semifinal game.

All-State teams for girls basketball are expected to be announced after this weekend's state championships. Announcements for boys basketball, which come from several news and coaching organizations, are expected to come in April.

Head to page 3D for the latest list of Grosse Pointe's winter sports

See HONORS, page 3D



Knights' playoff run halted by Lutheran NW in regional final

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The University Liggett Knights girls varsity basketball team had been rolling through the competition for much of the playoffs leading up to last Wednesday night's Division 3 regional championship game. Through the district round and regional semifinals, Liggett had won three consecutive games by double-digit points. However, the Knights finally met their match on Wednesday, March 13, facing Lutheran Northwest for the regional title, and watching their playoff run end 57-32.

The final score does not quite show how close Wednesday's regional final was, at least in the first half. Liggett came out firing early, knocking down a couple of big shots to jump out to an early lead. The Knights had the lead 13-9 at the end of the first quarter, however, it would be the only quarter the team would end up truly winning.

Lutheran Northwest began to battle back in the second quarter and the game was back and forth. A surge for the Crusaders near the end



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

The Liggett girls varsity basketball team huddles up before taking the court last Wednesday in their regional final.

of the first half began to turn the tide, with the Knights' offense not quite able to keep up while Lutheran Northwest took a 29-22 lead into halftime.

As the second half began, the momentum that Lutheran Northwest had built going into halftime only continued in the third quarter. The Crusaders' offense was firing on all cylinders, while the Knights strug-

gled and only put up five points in the entire quarter. Going into the final frame, Lutheran Northwest was up by 16.

The fourth quarter continued to be all in the Crusaders' favor. Liggett's offensive struggles persisted in the final eight minutes, leaving the team with only 10 total points scored in the entire second half. In the end, Lutheran Northwest's dominant

second half helped it to pull away for a victory by 25.

Senior Halle Marcero led Liggett with nine points in the loss. Fellow senior Olivia Jacque and freshman Natalie Greene both finished with six each.

The loss brings Liggett's final record for the season to 9-14, with three of those nine wins coming in the postsea-

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Smith's heroics in net bring Blue Devils state title win

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

When the clock hit all zeros at the end of the third period during the Michigan Girls High School Hockey League

Division 1 championship on Saturday, March 9, Grosse Pointe South's girls hockey team finally returned to the mountaintop. The Blue Devils sealed a 1-0 state title victory over crosstown

rivals and three-time defending champions University Liggett. Junior goaltender Rosie Smith will always be remembered as a key piece of the championship team.

Smith earned a 40-save shutout in the championship game, a fitting end to a season where she was named first-team All-State, and a testament to her strength and resilience in a moment that she

the biggest game of her life.

"I was so nervous getting on the ice, I was shaking," Smith said about taking the ice for the first time in the championship. "It's a really big game and there was a lot of pressure on me specifically. The Liggett

girls know my spots and the net, where she has been since she was 8 years old. Like many hockey players in the

Grosse Pointes, Smith got her start playing with the Bulldogs hockey club, joining as early as she could at about age 4

about how they ended up between the pipes. For Smith, it came naturally the first time she ever found herself testing out the pads, with a bit of classic sibling rivalry added to the mix.

"My dad was the coach of our team, so he had a lot of the girls try (goalie)," Smith said. "He had my sister try it and she got off the ice, and I thought that if she can't do it then let me show her that I can do it, and I was apparently really good and they just kept me in the net."

"Apparently really good" is Smith selling herself short after the

Super Smith

- Recorded 40 saves and a shutout in the MGHSHL D1 State Championship March 9
- Earned consecutive first team All-State honors in 2022-23 and 2023-24 seasons
- Allowed just 28 goals in 23 games this season



Rosie Smith was named first team All State by the MGHSHL for a second consecutive season this winter.

where they can score on me from the past games. It was really stressful and I don't think I was calm for any minute in the game, but I knew I just had to keep going."

It was pressure, unlike anything Smith had experienced before in

after being inspired by her older sister to get on the ice.

After a few years as a skater, Smith transitioned to goalie. Being a hockey goalie is a very unique position, and practically every goaltender has a unique story

See ATHLETE, page 8D



Rosie Smith

School: Grosse Pointe South

Sport: Hockey

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Liggett's senior star Ancona reflects on Miss Hockey honors

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

When the season concluded on the second weekend of March, University Liggett senior Sofie Ancona received the Michigan Girls High School Hockey League's (MGHSHL) highest honor, being named 2023-24 Miss Hockey. The Knights senior will

go down as the best player in the state for this season, a season that saw incredible performances and toughness by the Liggett captain.

"This was something I had been working toward since the beginning of my junior year right before I got injured," Ancona said. "This year, I came back to that goal and decided

to work toward it. It feels like something that I accomplished because I worked so hard for it and it was a dream of mine, and I think it really spotlights our program and girls hockey as a whole which is great."

This season was Ancona's return to the ice after missing a majority of the 2022-23 season with an ACL injury. In her stellar senior campaign this winter, Ancona notched 73 points in 25 games, including 48 goals, and was named first team All-State as she helped lead the Knights to a state runner-up finish in Division 1 to rival Grosse Pointe South.

According to records provided by the MGHSHL (which excludes the years 2014-2021 due to "oversight," as stated by a league source), Ancona is the first Liggett player to be named Miss Hockey since Paige Counsman in 2009-10. She is also the first from Grosse Pointe since South's Tenly Shield won the honor in 2013-14.

The Grosse Pointes are an area that has become a hotbed of girls hockey success over recent decades.

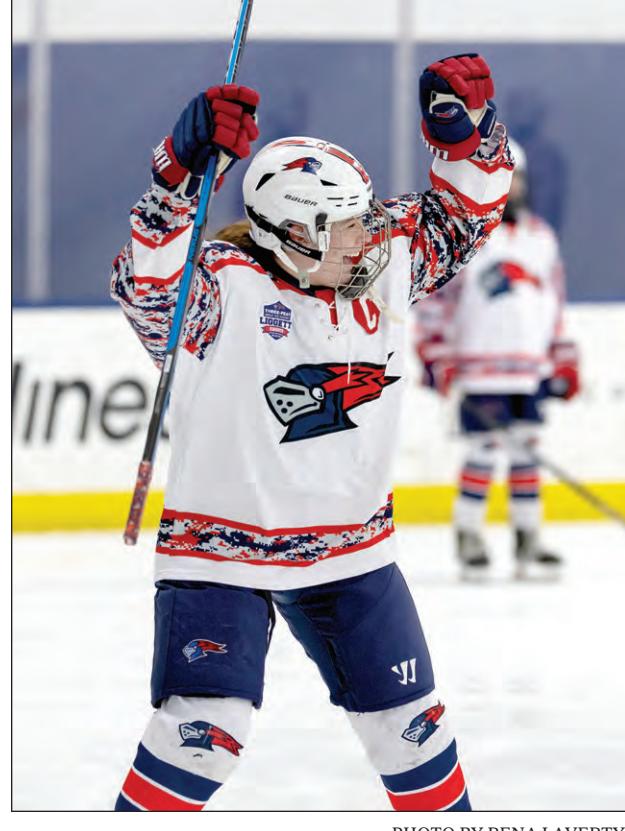


PHOTO BY RENA LAVERTY

Liggett senior Sofie Ancona is 2023-24 Miss Hockey, awarded by the Michigan Girls High School Hockey League.

Five of the last seven players, and being a part of this legacy has been really special to me...I think it has been great and will bring a lot of attention to all three schools because of the Grosse Pointe area."

Ancona is hopeful that her receiving this honor will serve as an inspiration for younger girls who are playing hockey or thinking about picking up the sport. There always needs to be a next generation to carry on the thing."



Ancona recorded 73 points, including 48 goals, in 25 games this season.

I SAY — SPORTS EDITION
BY MIKE ADZIMA

Pure Madness



This Thursday, March 21, is the beginning of what many, including myself, always regard as the best four days of the year in all of sports. Thursday is the first day of the Round of 64 in this year's NCAA men's basketball tournament — the first full day of March Madness.

Sixteen games will tip off on Thursday, beginning just after noon and continuing into the late hours of the night. Then, we do it all again on Friday followed by eight games each on Saturday and Sunday in the Round of 32.

It's a four-day stretch that tests even the toughest of sports fanatics. One has to withstand the heartbreak of a busted bracket and the strain of sitting on the couch for hours on end flipping back and forth between channels to try and catch as much action as possible.

Even though my team, the Syracuse Orange, unfortunately, is not making an appearance in the big dance this year, March never fails to get me excited. It embodies everything great about sports, especially at the collegiate level.

The Cinderella stories. The upsets. The buzzer-beaters. These first four

days, and the weeks after as we get deeper into the tournament, will be sure to not disappoint.

The excitement is not just exclusive to the men's tournament either. Women's college basketball might be more popular than ever right now, and it likely will only keep getting bigger. That is largely due to the superstardom of Iowa's Caitlin Clark, perhaps the most captivating player in all of college basketball, men's or women's, right now.

Clark became the NCAA's all-time leading scorer earlier this season and helped the Iowa Hawkeyes earn a No. 1 seed in the women's

tournament. What many fans, including myself, hope to see is a collision course that pits Iowa against the undefeated South Carolina Gamecocks in the national championship. That is the dream matchup that I and many others would like to see. The unstoppable force vs. the immovable object.

From now through April 7 and 8 when the women's and men's championship games are played, sports fans will be in paradise. This time only comes once a year, so the best thing to do is embrace the madness and just strap in for the ride. And with that, I will leave you with my humble expert predictions.

Mike's Picks

Men's Final Four

- ◆ UConn vs. Arizona
- ◆ Kentucky vs. Creighton

Men's Championship

- ◆ UConn def. Kentucky

Women's Final Four

- ◆ South Carolina vs. Stanford
- ◆ Iowa vs. UConn

Women's Championship

- ◆ South Carolina def. Iowa



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HONORS:

Continued from page 1D

All-State athletes from Grosse Pointe for the 2023-24 winter sports season include:

Grosse Pointe South

GIRLS VARSITY ICE HOCKEY

All-State honors are awarded by the Michigan Girls High School Hockey League

Rosie Smith
Division 1 1st team
All-State

Anne Wayman
Division 1 1st team
All-State

Sophia Reynolds
Division 1 2nd team
All-State

Abby Evans
Division 1 honorable
mention All-State

Bella Peruski
Division 1 honorable
mention All-State

Molly Reynolds
Division 1 honorable
mention All-State

BOYS VARSITY ICE HOCKEY

All-State teams are determined by the Michigan High School Hockey Coaches' Association

Drew Brady
Division 2 honorable
mention All-State

Hayden Crane
Division 2 honorable
mention All-State

BOYS VARSITY WRESTLING

All-State status in wrestling is determined by a top 8 finish at the state championship meet

Wyatt Hepner
Division 1 All-State,
state champion in 138
pound weight class

Paul Wilson
Division 1 All-State, 4th
place in 175 pound
weight class

Josh Lemanski
Division 1 All-State, 8th
place in 165 pound
weight class

BOYS SWIM AND DIVE

All-State honors for boys swim and dive are determined by a top 8 finish in individual and relay events the state final meet

Troy Liu
50 Free (1st place)
100 Free (2nd place)
200 Medley Relay
(6th place)
200 Freestyle Relay
(4th place)

Ben Bryan
200 Medley Relay
(6th place)
200 Freestyle Relay
(4th place)

CJ Schindlbeck
200 Medley Relay
(6th place)

Paul Kaminski
200 Medley Relay
(6th place)

Joey Drawbaugh
200 Freestyle Relay
(4th place)

Vince Maffesoli
200 Freestyle Relay
(4th place)

Grosse Pointe United Gymnastics

All-State status is determined by a top 10 finish in an individual event or in the All Around competition at the state final meet

Lucy Tull
Division 2 All-state, 7th
place on balance beam

Grosse Pointe North

GIRLS ICE HOCKEY

All-State honors are awarded by the Michigan Girls High School Hockey League

James Gusmano
50 Free (8th Place)
200 Free Relay
(7th Place)

Cameron Beers
Division 1 1st team
All-State

Josie Cueter
Division 1 1st team
All-State

Ella Dobbs
Division 1 2nd team
All-State

Alyssa Burney
Division 1 honorable
mention All-State

BOYS VARSITY SWIM AND DIVE

All-State honors for boys swim and dive are determined by a top 8 finish in individual and relay events the state final meet

Tommy Moreland
100 Fly
(6th Place)
200 Free Relay
(7th Place)

Keegan Wettstein
200 Free Relay
(7th Place)

Conor McMahon
200 Free Relay
(7th Place)

Elle Quinlan
Division 1 honorable
mention All-State

Allie Roth
Division 1 honorable
mention All-State

University Liggett

GIRLS ICE HOCKEY

All-State honors are awarded by the Michigan Girls High School Hockey League

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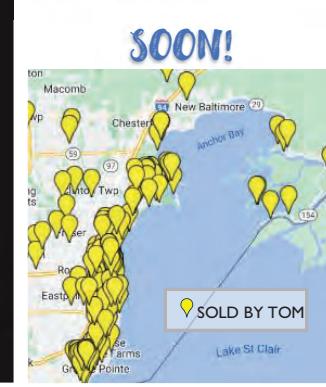


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Spring Sports Calendar

Spring varsity sports season is about to start heating up. Here are all the key dates to know for this spring, including opening days, North vs. South rivalry games and playoffs!

MARCH

WED. MARCH 20TH - OPENING DAY

- ◆ GPS Girls Soccer vs. Port Huron
- ◆ GPN Girls Soccer vs. L'Anse Creuse North
- ◆ GPN Girls Lacrosse @ ND Prep
- ◆ GPS Girls Lacrosse @ Country Day

THURS. MARCH 21ST - OPENING DAY

- ◆ GPS Boys Lacrosse vs. Royal Oak

SAT. MARCH 23RD - OPENING DAY

- ◆ GPS Boys Track & Field @ EMU Huron Relays



APRIL

TUES. APRIL 2ND - OPENING DAY

- ◆ GPS Baseball vs. Fraser
- ◆ GPN Boys Lacrosse @ Stoney Creek

WED. APRIL 3RD - OPENING DAY

- ◆ GPS Softball vs. Detroit Western
- ◆ GPS Girls Soccer @ Eisenhower
- ◆ GPN Girls Tennis vs. Southgate Anderson

THURS. APRIL 4TH - OPENING DAY

- ◆ GPS Girls Track & Field (Quad Meet @ South)
- ◆ ULS Boys + Girls Track & Field (@ GPS)
- ◆ ULS Boys Lacrosse vs. Greenhills
- ◆ ULS Girls Lacrosse vs. Eisenhower
- ◆ ULS Girls Soccer vs. Lakeview
- ◆ GPN Softball vs. St. Clair

FRI. APRIL 5TH - OPENING DAY

- ◆ ULS Baseball vs. North Branch

SAT. APRIL 6TH - OPENING DAY

- ◆ GPS Girls Tennis @ Grosse Ile

MON. APRIL 8TH - OPENING DAY

- ◆ ULS Softball vs. Bishop Foley

TUES. APRIL 9TH

- ◆ Opening Day- ULS Girls Tennis vs. Gabriel Richard
- ◆ Rivalry- GPS @ GPN Girls Lacrosse

WED. APRIL 10TH - OPENING DAY

- ◆ GPN Boys + Girls Track & Field @ GPS
- ◆ GPN Boys Golf vs. Eisenhower

THURS. APRIL 11TH - OPENING DAYS

- ◆ GPS Boys Golf (Tri-Meet @ Cherry Creek)
- ◆ ULS Boys Golf @ Everest

MON. APRIL 15TH - RIVALRY

- ◆ GPS @ GPN Girls Tennis

WED. APRIL 17TH - RIVALRY

- ◆ GPS @ GPN Boys Lacrosse

THURS. APRIL 18TH - RIVALRY

- ◆ GPS @ GPN Boys Golf (Gowaine GC)

FRI. APRIL 26TH - RIVALRY

- ◆ GPS @ GPN Girls Soccer
- ◆ GPN @ GPS Girls Lacrosse

MAY

SAT. MAY 4TH - RIVALRY

- ◆ GPS vs. GPN Baseball (@ Comerica)

MON. MAY 6TH - RIVALRY

- ◆ GPS @ GPN Softball

WED. MAY 15TH - RIVALRY

- ◆ GPS @ GPN Boys Golf (Lochmoor)

THURS. MAY 16TH

- ◆ Boys & Girls Lacrosse playoffs begin
- ◆ Girls Tennis playoffs begin
- ◆ Track & Field playoffs begin

WED. MAY 22ND

- ◆ Girls Soccer playoffs begin

TUES. MAY 28TH

- ◆ Baseball & Softball playoffs begin
- ◆ Boys Golf playoffs begin



ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

championship season she just had. The junior started 23 games in net this season and allowed just 28 goals, with a .891 save percentage.

The numbers show just how athletic Smith is in goal. However, being a goalie is a mental game as well, and Smith, along with the rest of the Blue Devils, has seemingly mastered the mental side of hockey to build the chemistry that led to a state title.

"We put our phones away and put away any outside distractions and only think about hockey," Smith said about the team's pregame ritual. "That was coach Lexi (Bohlinger)'s idea. We get rid of any distractions and just think about hockey. We usually have a volleyball or something and play a few games of 'keep up' just to get moving and keep focused and connect with the team."

Smith has plenty of chemistry with her teammates, but also with the coaching staff. Bohlinger

took over as head coach of the Blue Devils before the 2022-23 season and has been a breath of fresh air for the program while helping to lead it to a championship.

Perhaps the biggest difference for Smith was the hiring of goalies coach Alex Petrovski, who she believes has helped improve her skills as a goaltender more than she could have ever hoped for over the past two seasons.

"We all connect with our coaches on such a good level," Smith said. "We're friendly with them, but they're also our leaders... (South) also hired one of the best goalies coaches... We do this drill where (Alex) puts three pucks out and we don't stop until I save all three of them. No rebounds, I have to cover them all. We focused on more of



A look through the glass after South's state championship win catches Blue Devils goalie Rosie Smith in an interview with the game's broadcast team.

my problems like how to rebounds."

use my stick and using my body to not let out any rebounds and I think that really helped in the championship because I didn't let up a lot of

track the puck. She makes it a key focus of her game to be able to have an eye on the puck at all times while in the net, and she emphasized that in her mind especially during the state final.

"I just try to be ready and be set all the time," she said. "Track the puck all the time no matter where it is. In one game against Liggett this year, they scored with four seconds left because I wasn't ready, so now I take that into account and remember that anything can happen in such little time."

With one more season in a Blue Devil jersey still to come, Smith has already turned her focus to improving for her senior year. She plans on once again playing with the 19U Bulldogs and MHS girls club teams during the high school offseason and will also have her

senior season with South's varsity field hockey team in the fall. While South's girls hockey team will be without this season's seniors going into the 2024-25 season, Smith fully believes that her fellow returning players will continue on the great chemistry that the team has built and be back to defend their title.

"Obviously next year I hope that we win it all again and can bond well as a team," she said. "Bonding is so important to all be friends and know what each other is doing on the ice. We have a pretty good core coming back so I really hope that we can win it again."

Nominate your athlete

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