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Grosse Pointe News

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Tuttle receives evaluation, contract extension

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — Grosse Pointe Public School System Superintendent Andrea Tuttle received the highest rating possible during her recent evaluation and a contract extension.

Per state law, superintendents can be rated effective, developing or needing support. The board voted 6-0 to give Tuttle an effective rating following a closed session Monday, Nov. 18. Performance evaluations can be closed at the employee's request, per the Michigan Open Meetings Act.

"This unanimous vote highlights Dr. Tuttle's exceptional accomplish-



Andrea Tuttle

ments and the expertise she has brought to the district," board President Sean Cotton, who also owns the Grosse Pointe News, said.

State law also requires board members to attend a training session on

See TUTTLE, page 9A

Small Business Saturday in The Village launches bingo incentive

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Sandwiched between Black Friday and Cyber Monday, independently owned local boutiques are hoping to get in on some of the hol-

iday shopping love with Small Business Saturday, Nov. 30.

"If Small Business Saturday starts on Black Friday, we're good with that too," Main Street Grosse Pointe Executive Director Cindy Willcock said, as the Grosse

Pointe Chamber of Commerce Santa Claus Parade is expected to draw crowds of Pointers to The Village on the biggest sales day of the year.

This year, The Village is launching a bingo contest Friday, Nov. 29,

through Monday, Dec. 2, inviting participants to fill squares by making specific purchases or completing small challenges. For each bingo row turned in, the shopper will be entered into a

See BINGO, page 3A

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Cost to reopen Trombly discussed

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — The cost to reopen Trombly Elementary School could be between \$5.8 million and \$13.7 million, according to information presented at the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting Tuesday, Nov. 19.

"It's been sitting vacant for more than three years and I don't think that's healthy for the community, so we have to make some tough decisions," Superintendent Andrea Tuttle told the board. "I'm not making a recommendation either way. I'm just presenting data to start the discussion."

The board in September directed

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PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

In town Friday!

Don't miss Santa and Mrs. Claus during the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce Santa Claus Parade, which kicks off at 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 29, along Kercheval from Lewiston to Cadieux.

STR rules near adoption

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — One of many meetings down, two to go at least.

The antepenultimate public meeting at city hall about updating the zoning ordinance concluded this week with members of the Grosse Pointe Park Planning Commission preparing for next week's penultimate session and the city council ready for what is trending to be the ultimate one seven days thereafter.

But that's not the end of it. Municipal officials plan to review and possibly revise the ordinance six months following its enactment, which may occur at next month's council meeting.

In the meantime, planning com-

missioners and council members held a joint meeting Wednesday, Nov. 20, to discuss the ordinance's regulation of short-term rental units, defined as property rented or sublet for 28 days or less.

The planning commission has another public hearing at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 2, during which they will review the entire zoning ordinance.

If the document passes commission review, it will be forwarded to council for possible passage 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9.

Assistant City Attorney Morgan McAtamney Martin told commissioners this week the latest draft of the zoning ordinance, and its first-ever regulation of STRs, is unassailable.

"The city's current zoning ordinance does not contain any regu-

lations regarding short-term rentals," Martin said. "The proposal we are bringing you today ... is solid. It has both a licensing requirement and a zoning requirement."

Proposed penalties for non-compliance with short-term rental regulations culminate with an administrative death sentence.

Three violations and the owner is out. Licenses are revoked forever. Disgraced operators are forbidden in perpetuum to apply for another one.

"Case law supports our position," Martin said.

Given the city's lack of existing regulations, proposed rules allow STRs operating currently in residential districts to continue doing so if operators obtain a landlord business license and certificate of occupancy.

See STR, page 2A

...It's here!

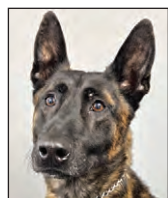
IN THIS ISSUE



Great gift ideas and holiday inspiration. **ONLY** in today's paper!

Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Rocco

Home: Grosse Pointe Farms
K-9 officer gives it his all in work and play



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Local immigration system jammed

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Unheeled aliens keep sneaking across the city's open border.

They're running wild through a humanitarian net designed to accommodate manageable numbers of strays seeking better futures in the land of plenty.

Incursions worry police.

One border-jumper recently attacked a patrolman.

"It took a chunk out of one of my officers," Chief Jim Bostock said.

Another's face-off with the mayor made her fearful of becoming an entree on a chow line.

"It was scary," Mayor Michele Hodges said. "I'm not a skittish person, but I did feel I could have been ... those dogs can kill you."

Park officials have little with which to bar what is amounting to an invasion of homeless dogs from Detroit.

"We've seen an increase of people dropping them off at the border," said Nick Sizeland, city manager. "One was tied to a streetlight."

"We still have a dog problem and it's going to cost us a lot," said Dick Schroeder, owner of adopted dogs that bark and bark at visitors to their Park home. "Wayne County is the only county in the area that does not have animal control."

"I don't think the problem is in our community," Detective Sgt. Jeremy Pittman said. "Most people in this com-

munity take great care of their pets. Dogs we're having problems with are coming from outside our community."

Rounded-up strays are delivered to the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society and given shelter, feeding, veterinary care and, with hope, fresh starts with loving families.

"We take in about 500 animals a year," said Corinne Martin, the society's founder and executive director.

Her group has agreements with all five Pointes and Harper Woods to shelter strays in her state-licensed facility.

"Grosse Pointe Park and Harper Woods are the biggest users," Martin said.

"They are basically a no-kill organization," Schroeder said. His wife is president of the society.

"They don't believe in killing animals unless they have to be put down because of age or health," he said. "They try to save animals, but it costs money. It's going to cost a lot of money."

"There are so many strays coming in that the numbers are rising," Martin said.

"Yes, it has become a problem," Pittman said. "We're getting a lot more recently. I don't know why."

"We're in this position because Wayne County does not have a county animal shelter," Martin said. "Three shelters in Detroit serve the residents of Detroit, but there is no county shelter that would accommodate

Grosse Pointe-Harper Woods. That's how we got in this mess."

Of 254 dogs the society took in last year, it had to euthanize 20, according to its annual report posted on the Michigan Department of Agriculture website, michigan.gov/mdard.

During the same period:

◆ Detroit Animal Care and Control took in 5,890 dogs and euthanized 2,177,

◆ Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society in Detroit took in 613 dogs and euthanized 562 and

◆ the Berman Center for Animal Care in Westland and the Mackey Center for Animal Care in Detroit, both operated in Detroit by the Michigan Humane Society, took in a combined 3,562 dogs and euthanized 1,322.

Martin said her animal intakes have increased during 2024.

Stray dogs aren't the only ones causing trouble for people in the Park. Some family pets from just beyond the border are allowed to roam without oversight.

"It's frustrating," Bostock said. "The dog gets out. A lot of times, we don't get any cooperation from the owner. It takes intervention from Detroit authorities to get their attention. Our hands are tied. We really can't do anything."

"Dog runs are only part of our ordinance officer's job," Pittman said. "The main part of his job is to enforce all city ordinances, (including) parking in business districts. He ends up chasing dogs

around. It eats up a lot of his day. Sometimes, we don't have room to place them for a while, so they end up here (at headquarters). We placed one yesterday with a family member of one of our dispatchers."

Martin said the society has a tight budget due to increased animal intake and, correspondingly, state-required staffing levels for a 3,500-square-foot building purchased recently with donated funds.

"The intention of buying that building was to be able to provide enough capacity to take in stray animals from all those municipalities," Martin said. "(A state inspector) said (two weeks ago) that we cannot manage the building with the number of animals we're going to have. She said we need to hire more staff."

Operations cost more than the \$20 per-animal daily fee cities such as the Park pay to shelter drop-offs.

Martin said she's been meeting recently with representatives of the Pointes and Harper Woods to work out a new funding model.

"I learned during our state inspection that all shelters charge the cities they serve an access fee," Martin said. "That's how they support themselves."

She's not seeking millage funding.

"I'm asking the cities for the first time in 14 years to pay us a fee to have access to our building," Martin said.

"We've determined the

See DOGS, page 3A



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, Oakland County Veteran Navigator Chaka McDonald, Macomb County Veteran Navigator Diana Laskey and Wayne County Veteran Navigator Chris Brown.

The War Memorial presents final Veteran Connect Seminar of 2024

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — The fifth Veteran Connect Seminar Tuesday, Dec. 3, wraps up the first year of a veteran-focused educational initiative at The War Memorial, which sought to return the institution to its roots as a veteran organization.

"In the first full year of veteran programming of this nature, I'm very pleased with the variety of speakers and topics that have been addressed," said Alex Szwarc, veterans committee chair. "... There's

been a good variety here from different veteran agencies and organizations that work directly with veterans and it's been nice to gather them at The War Memorial to be that central location where veterans can come and hear about all the work that's being done on their behalf, so that veterans can be better informed on all that's available to them."

Doors open at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3, for a free Tri-County Veteran Navigators seminar in the Patriot Gallery on the lower level of The War Memorial. See CONNECT, page 3A

STR:

Continued from page 1A

The same with STRs operating in mixed-use districts, which combine residential and commercial property, as in the Jefferson, Kercheval,

Charlevoix and Mack Avenue business districts.

Of importance is a provision limiting all new short-term rentals to mixed-use areas. Also, STRs operating currently in residential neighborhoods will be allowed to

continue, given that there were no rules forbidding them to do so.

Yet, no new STRs are allowed in residential neighborhoods.

"I don't want to live next to one," Planning Chairman Patrick Coletta said of short-term rentals. "Short of an outright ban, which I don't think is practicable, this is as close as we're going to get to keeping them out of residential neighborhoods. I'm willing to advance it to the city council, along with the entire zoning ordinance."

City Manager Nick Sizeland prompted STR regulation in August 2023.

His idea was the foundation for a series of discussions and workshops

by the council, planning commission, administrators, ad hoc residents groups and more to draft regulations about short-term rentals and, along with it, a front-to-back update of the zoning ordinance.

Planning Commissioner Jimmy Saros initially opposed letting STRs operate in the Park.

A state law undercutting municipalities from enacting bans, plus learning more about SRTs from operators, users and residents at large, changed Saros' mind.

"Through community engagement, workshops and meeting with a lot of operators, we saw that these had been operating in our community for about a decade," he said.

"So, clearly, it's not that huge of a nuisance if this didn't rear its head sooner."

He also learned that most STR operators don't cause problems and most renters are people visiting relatives, attending funerals and graduation get-togethers.

"We saw a need for these here," Saros said. "We don't have a hotel around here. What we've come up with is to build that community need that is here, but also make sure we don't run into a supply problem that could change the fabric of the community."

The ordinance requires the businesses to be licensed and inspected annually.

"Licensees must be reachable 24/7 to respond

to complaints," according to a provision. "One off-street parking space is required for every four occupants."

Rented spaces must be used as temporary dwellings. Renters can't host commercial events, such as weddings or reunions.

"They are not to be a party house," said Warren Rothe, assistant city manager and planning commission secretary.

Maximum occupancy is two people per bedroom.

"When notified by the city of a violation, the licensee or agent must resolve the issue within two hours," according to rules. "Failure to address the violation promptly, without good cause, is considered a serious offense."

Forthcoming commission and council actions aren't done deals.

"I see concerns that have to be fixed before this goes through," Councilman Brent Dreaver said at the Nov. 20 joint meeting.

He wants to make sure good-faith operators aren't burdened by over regulation.

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Books & Bubbles

The Grosse Pointe Library Foundation hosted its annual Books and Bubbles gala Oct. 24, at Ford House. The evening included cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and entertainment.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROD ARROYO PHOTOGRAPHY



From left, Devin Scillian, and Laurie and Shail Arora.



Sheri Totte, left, and Paige Domzalski.



From left, Richard Klimisch and Prudence Cole-Klimisch with Ron Remington and Abby Ward.



Grosse Pointe Library Board of Directors, from left, Bob Allen, Jeni Nazarko, Nancy Gandelot Spearman, Andy Spearman, Annette Cataldi, Paige Domzalski, Norah Lapolla, Lauren McGregor, Sandy MacMechan and Abby Ward. Not pictured are Mindy Barry, Susan Larsen and Carly Russell.

CONNECT:

Continued from page 2A

Memorial.

From 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Wayne County Veteran Navigator Chris Brown, Oakland County Veteran Navigator Chaka McDonald and Macomb County Veteran Navigator Diana Laskey will present on the state grant-funded Veteran Navigation Program.

"When I got out, I didn't know there was any help anywhere," said Brown, a former social worker who has served as a veteran navigator the last seven years. "I just got out and started to try to live my life and didn't know about the VA or anything like that."

Veteran navigators serve as a go-between connecting veterans with the resources and opportunities available to them, addressing a plethora of issues such as mental or physical health, housing, employment and education.

They also train family members on signs of and how to handle post-traumatic stress, as well as advocate on behalf of veterans in Lansing.

"It's all about individual support, education, advocacy," Brown said.

The Veteran Navigation Program is free to veterans — regardless of discharge status or time in service — their family members and anyone who has served in the national guard or reserves.

For veterans and their families in Wayne County, Brown can be reached at (313) 344-9099, Ext. 3509 and cbrown@dwihn.org.

Looking toward the new year, The War Memorial plans to bring back the Veteran Connect Seminar Series, continuing on a bi-monthly schedule with the first seminar in February.

"2025 will be the last year of the official Vietnam War 50th Year Commemoration," Szwarc said. "... We are looking to bring in different programs that would tie in with the end of the Vietnam War commemoration, so if there are speakers out there that we could have lead a seminar that can also tie in with the 50th year commemoration of Vietnam, that would be great."

"As of now, nothing is set in stone for our February seminar, but yes, we fully intend on bringing the Veteran Connect Seminar back in 2025."

The series this year featured seminars with the Disability Law Group presenting on veteran benefits; Volunteers of America Michigan and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs presenting on suicide prevention and substance abuse; retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Doug "Odie" Slocum on his new book,

"Violent Positivity: A Fighter Pilot's Journey: Leadership Lessons on Caring for People"; and Michigan Veteran Affairs Agency Director Brian Love on access to healthcare and education.

"In my role as veteran committee chair, it's been nice to see the familiar faces of people who come to multiple veteran events throughout the year," Szwarc said, "but also to see those new faces, people who may be coming to a seminar or event for the first time."

DOGS:

Continued from page 2A

cost to meet just our overhead, our utilities, liability insurance and our staff — not including supplies for the animals, veterinary care or anything — to be \$130,000 the first year," Martin said.

Divided six ways, that comes to just under \$22,000 per participating community.

"The word 'fairness' comes up in my meetings because Grosse Pointe Park and Harper Woods

are the biggest users, but the City of Grosse Pointe and Grosse Pointe Shores hardly use us at all," Martin said. "So, how do you slice it? By the size of the city? By how many animals they're going to bring in? By ability to pay? Our board's going to meet and we have to make a decision."

She has one bargaining chip.

"Unfortunately, Wayne County does not have a facility," Sizeland said. "The only place we have is the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society."

BINGO:

Continued from page 1A

drawing to win gift cards from Village businesses.

"If you fill your whole card, you get 10 (chances)," Willcock said.

A sneak preview from some of the more than 15 participating businesses includes squares to:

- ◆ spend \$50 or more at Savvy Chic;
- ◆ make a purchase of \$25 or more at The Spice and Tea Exchange;
- ◆ schedule an appointment for 2025 at Village Dental Associates;
- ◆ purchase any sweater from LOFT;
- ◆ and order an appetizer at The Whiskey Six.

Challenges may include liking The Village on Facebook, posting a picture of a favorite downtown window display, paying a stranger a compliment or signing up to volunteer with Main Street Grosse Pointe.

Bingo cards will be passed out during the parade and also may be picked up at participating businesses and The Small Business Saturday welcome station — featuring shopping bags and swag from American Express, which created the Small Business Workshop inside The

Spice and Tea Exchange at 17037 Kercheval.

"There's so many more benefits to shopping locally than ordering online," Willcock said. "You know exactly what you're getting. You know the quality. You're walking away with it that day. You're not waiting for it to come or finding out that then it doesn't get delivered or worrying about it maybe disappearing off your porch."

For every dollar spent at a small business, almost 70 cents is reinvested into the community via wages, taxes, sponsorships with local organizations and the hiring of local accountants, graphic designers, printers, etc.

"Keeping those dollars local and supporting your friends and neighbors is so important, especially at this time of year," Willcock said, "because we want to be able to keep them here, keep them successful (and) keep them growing. They're part of what makes The Village unique and what makes The Village so special."

"We say we want (The Village to thrive) and we need to commit to that. ... If everybody just shifted one purchase from a big box or online (retailer to) locally, it's a crazy amount of money that it puts back into the local economy."

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, DEC. 1

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores tree-lighting ceremony, 6 p.m.

MONDAY, DEC. 2

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Committee-of-the-Whole meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7:15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Community Tree Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 6

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Senior Holiday Social, 1 p.m.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Training at the heart of life with Rocco

By Renee Landuyt
Special Writer

Meet Rocco, a 3-year-old, 45-pound Dutch Shepherd, born in the Netherlands, who is the current K-9 officer for Grosse Pointe Farms.

The obligation of being a K-9 handler is a huge commitment. Rocco's handler, Sgt. Tim Harris, loves it, especially being able to bring his dog to work with him to play and train 24/7.

Rocco and Harris train constantly because, Harris said, repetitiveness and consistency are key. You can't train a dog for a month and move forward, he added; that doesn't work.

The transition from the original handler worked out well since Rocco already knew Harris as they worked together on obedience training and attended a few seminars toward the beginning of Rocco's career.

"He is like a rocket dog — very high drive," Harris said. "I knew if I channeled that energy in the right outlet I would have a really productive dog."

Rocco has greatly improved since he came to the department, because Harris has put a lot of time into training him.

"He will improve every day," Harris said. "We are always training; every day is a training day. If there is anything Rocco is not comfortable with, I will work with him until he is comfortable with it, because I would rather fix it than avoid it."



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Rocco and Sgt. Tim Harris at the Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety Open House in October 2024.

Harris also is training Rocco to work within the Eastern Wayne County Special Response Team.

"Rocco is a dual-purpose patrol dog with tracking, evidence search, building search and apprehension," Harris said. "The dual purpose is a patrol dog with detection training and you can choose whatever you want your dog to do with detection. Rocco is trained in anything human odor-related and also explosive odors. You can train a dog to do anything with odor because everything has an odor and they can separate the specific odor or odors they are trained for. It's called a scent picture."

Detection work is Rocco's strong suit, Harris said, and the more

he trains the better he will be at everything he does.

"Training, for a dog, is a high-rewards game," he added. "The reward is toys and sometimes a treat. To dogs, it's fun."

Rocco's favorite toy is any toy Harris gives him, but he most loves lacrosse balls. The reward is playing with "his dad," as Harris describes himself.

Harris has a lacrosse ball in each side door pocket, one in his uniform pocket and a drawer full of them in the back of the squad car. He said that amount of toys should last about a week or two, because Rocco chews them up within minutes after he gets them.

Rocco is good with people and kids, and

is training him not to eat — but he loves Vital Essentials Raw food because that is his reward for tracking.

"Rocco has changed a lot since I became his handler in January of 2024," Harris said.

"People always ask how long it took me to train my dog. The answer is always the same: We never stop training. As long as I've had him, whether it's been nine months or nine years, we train every day and my goal is to make him better every day. Rocco has improved in everything we do and will continue to improve as long as I have him."

One of the more notable arrests Rocco assisted on was the apprehension of three suspected car thieves, stealing cars from the Country Club of Detroit.

Rocco has many special talents, Harris said. Aside from the ability to



Rocco joined the Grosse Pointe Farms K-9 unit in 2022.

find Harris's keys in a field where he dropped them, Rocco is quite athletic. He loves to climb the tree in the Harris's back yard and jump into the neighbor's yard.

"Someone once asked what his favorite movie was and I told them Rocco doesn't watch TV, but if he did, it would probably be "COPS," Harris said.

In addition to training, socializing Rocco is equally important. Police dogs are not just a force multiplier, but a bridge between police and residents. When criminal suspects do not want to surrender, it usually only takes one warning that a K-9 is being sent to change their mind, thus enhancing officer and community safety. When a child or a person with diminished mental capacity is lost, a K-9 can help find them.

When stopping for coffee or gas and residents show interest in the K-9 vehicle, Harris always asks if they would like to pet the dog. He also hands out K-9 baseball-type trading cards and ask if they have any questions about the K-9 unit.

"Performing public demonstrations and educating the public on our training and capabilities is one of the highlights of our career," Harris said.

Those interested in learning more about Rocco can find him on Instagram, @K9_rocco61

loves attention and being petted.

His favorite food is usually whatever falls on the floor — which Harris



COURTESY PHOTO

K-9 Rocco and his handler, Sgt. Tim Harris, at a K-9 SWAT Integration course in Hillsdale, taught by Canadian Special Forces. Training on the fast-rope simulator allows K-9s to overcome environmental obstacles and builds trust between K-9s and their handlers.

Switching messaging systems

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Nixle is going the way of the dodo. At least in the Park.

Starting in a few weeks, the city will broadcast as many online public safety

and other municipal alerts via Nixle as there are extinct large, flightless birds on the island of Mauritius, or as many snakes there are in Von Troil's Iceland.

For clarification, there are no snakes in Iceland, according to Von Troil's entire chapter on the subject.

"We are transitioning away from Nixle," Chief Jim Bostock said. "We are going to CivicPlus."

The Park and other cities in its mutual-aid pact began issuing alerts through Nixle's website, nixle.com, and email system about 10 years ago. Alerts ranged from warnings about criminal activity, notices of road closures due to construction or special events, water main breaks, even impending storms.

Examples from within the last few months are a Sept. 12 notice about an unconfirmed report of an unknown person running through the hallways of Pierce Middle School. Another, Oct. 31, was about impending high winds.

"Currently, everybody uses Nixle to get alerts," Bostock said.

The Park is changing services to a newly

retained company, CivicPlus, that handles the city's webpage, including registration for recreation programs.

"(CivicPlus) is a one-stop shop for us," Bostock said. "We will put out a message over Nixle to let everybody know the date we are going to be transitioning to CivicPlus. You'll get a notice and instructions on how to switch over."

Anyone, whether a Park resident or not, may sign up for CivicPlus alerts the same way they did for Nixle.

"It will replace Nixle, I believe, sometime within the next few weeks," said Detective Sgt. Jeremy Pittman, head of the investigative unit. "Our guys are getting logged in and setting up accounts. Our command staff has access to the platform so we can keep the public informed."

The services operate similarly, except in one respect. Messages via Nixle are community-wide. A notice about a water main break at one end of town is broadcast to the other.

Messages through CivicPlus can be targeted

See SYSTEM, page 5A

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Grosse Pointe News

USPS 230-400

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City of Grosse Pointe

Interception

A check was stolen from the mail, forged and cashed for \$334, reported a Grosse Pointe woman Tuesday, Nov. 19.

Temper tantrum

After arguing with other customers and being told to leave a business in the 16000 block of Kercheval at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 19, three men are being sought for disorderly conduct for knocking over several displays on their way out.

The men left in a gray Chevrolet Impala.

Double trouble

A Grosse Pointe woman discovered Wednesday, Nov. 20, two online bank accounts at Chime and Marcus were fraudulently opened in her name.

Reverse Santa

Two packages containing an Apple iPad and

two dresses were stolen from a front porch in the 800 block of Loraine at 1:15 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21.

The thief fled in a small silver SUV.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Triple play

Three vehicles, including two Dodge Durangos on the same block, were stolen Friday, Nov. 22.

The two Durangos, both locked, were taken sometime overnight in the 700 block of Fairford. A Kia, also locked, was taken from the 19200 block of Mack between 2:30 and 5:30 p.m. the same day.

— Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Ransacking

At 4 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 21, a resident of the 800 block of Westchester reported two unknown suspects wearing masks and black clothing entering unlocked parked vehicles.

"Several vehicles were rummaged through and some personal items taken," police said. "(The) suspects were gone upon officer's arrival."

Stolen and recovered

Detroit police recovered a 2022 Jeep Grand

Cherokee that was stolen while parked at a house in the 1400 block of Three Mile between the hours of 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 24, and 6:30 a.m. the next morning.

Officers found it unoccupied at an abandoned house.

Curbed

Three speeding motorists undergoing roadside investigations were arrested for violating a suspended operator's license. A fourth was arrested for being wanted on a misdemeanor warrant from another jurisdiction.

All perpetrators were Detroit residents, one male and three female.

All investigations occurred on Mack.

— Brad Lindberg

Report information about these and other crimes to the Grosse

Pointe Park Public Safety Department, (313) 822-7400.

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 Farms

Luck of the draw

Although rummaged through, nothing was stolen from an unlocked vehicle parked in the 100 block of Stephens between 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 18, and 9 a.m. the next morning.

Mack and Moross

A 58-year-old Clinton

Township woman was pulled over and cited for an improper turn and driving while license suspended at 11:34 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21, after officers watched her vehicle make an illegal turn in the Mack and Moross intersection.

Light's out

After being pulled over at Mack and Bournemouth for a broken tail light at 7:37 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21, a 41-year-old Detroit woman was cited for the brake light, not having vehicle insurance and driving while license suspended.

A LEIN searched showed five prior suspensions.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Crime down from last year

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK

— The public safety department is expected to end the year on an upbeat down note, which is good.

"Crime is down for the year so far," Chief Jim Bostock said.

"Pretty much every category is down, including auto thefts," Detective Sgt. Jeremy Pittman said.

"We're seeing a significant decrease in auto theft and larceny from autos," Bostock said. "I think we can attribute that to a couple things. People are locking their vehicles and taking their (key) fobs with them, not leaving valuables in plain sight."

"More of our auto thefts are coming from programmed key fobs rather than due to fobs being left in cars," Pittman said. "I think our message has gotten out and citizens are doing a better job."

"Occasionally, we hit an LFA from an unlocked car, so I'd still like to push the message to lock vehicles," Pittman said.

Many stolen cars and auto break-ins are crimes of opportunity. Thieves take what they can when the opportunity is offered.

"Ninety percent of these guys won't break into a car if it takes any effort," Pittman said. "The standard method of operation is for them to come through at night

and try to open every handle."

"If the car's open, they take it," Bostock said.

"If it's locked, they go to the next one," Pittman said.

Not only is crime down, officers report several successful investigations.

"We've made a number of arrests on stolen cars and landscaping (tool) thefts," Bostock said.

He based the year-end projection on trends this year. Specific figures will be ready at year's end.

Car thefts last year totaled 51, up 60 percent from 2022. Police attributed a significant portion of the rise to gang members targeting Kia and Hyundai products.

Many of the brands lack immobilizers, which prevent a vehicle from starting when someone attempts to use a key or key fob that doesn't match the car.

Also last year, 20 stolen cars had been parked overnight with ignition keys or key fobs inside, a recipe for a crime of opportunity.

Last year's 14 percent overall increase in crime also was due to a trio of non-resident teenagers driving through town with BB pistols shooting out the windows of more than 40 vehicles parked curbside and in driveways.

A public information campaign this summer urged residents to lock parked cars and remove the keys or fob. During a four-week period starting mid-July, 10 of 11 cars stolen in the city had keys within.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE REV. MICHAEL BRADLEY

Helping the hungry

Members of St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Grosse Pointe Woods recently purchased and bagged food for 40 Thanksgiving dinners, which will be distributed from the Harper Woods Food Pantry. Here, the group is all smiles after finishing their work.



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SYSTEM:

Continued from page 4A

to specific areas of the city.

"If there is a water main break south of Jefferson and only a few blocks are affected, does it make sense to blast an email to

everybody in the city?" Bostock asked.

"If a portion of Wayburn is closed, people on Audubon aren't affected that much," Pittman said.

Targeted alerts mean residents may receive fewer messages, which Bostock said may have greater impact.

"After a while, you get so many texts you don't even look at them," he said. "So, we can kind of pinpoint stuff. If you just want public safety news, you can subscribe to public safety. If you want city news or movie schedules, you can pick and choose what you want."

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POINTES OF VIEW

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Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

Happy Thanksgiving

Transcript for President Abraham Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation from Oct. 3, 1863.

The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and even soften the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God.

In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign states to invite and provoke their aggressions, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed and harmony has prevailed everywhere, except in the theater of military conflict; while that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union.

Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle or the ship; the ax has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battlefield, and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people. I do, therefore, invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a Day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens. And I recommend to them that, while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation, and to restore it, as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union. In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington, this third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-eighth.

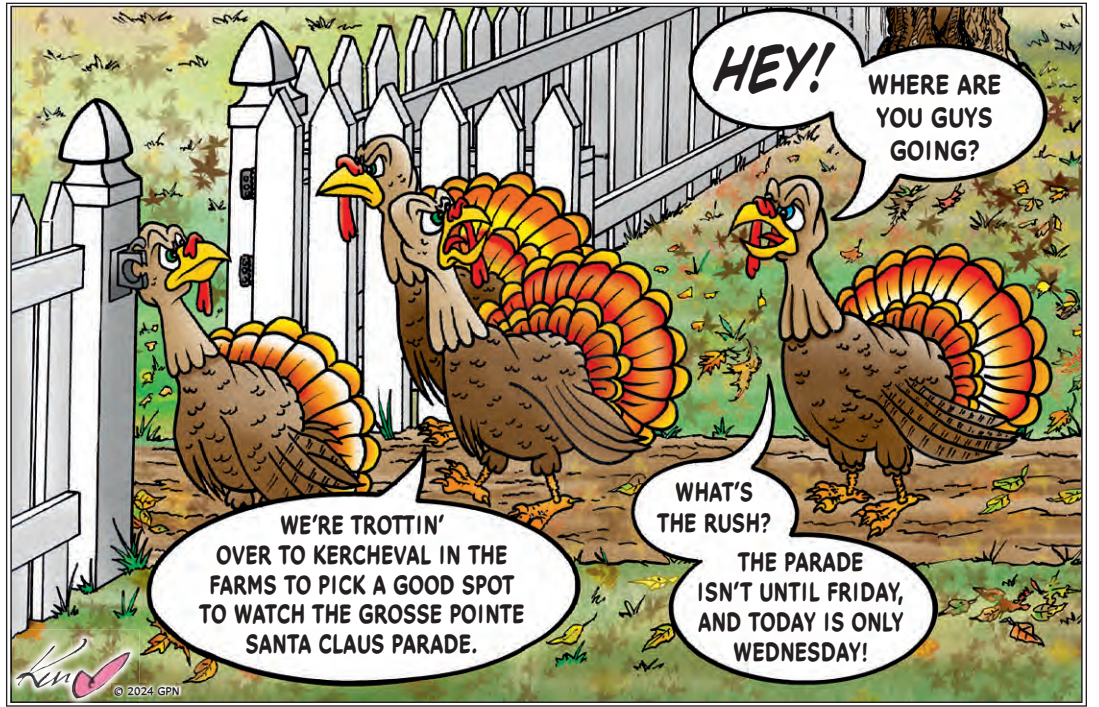


ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

GUEST OPINION By Lawrence W. Reed

There'd be no Thanksgiving without the profit motive

“The worst crime against working people,” so said Samuel Gompers, “is a company which fails to operate at a profit.”

Gompers, of course, is known by the history books as the father of the labor union movement in America. He was founder of the American Federation of Labor. It may seem incongruous for such an important labor figure to say such a thing about profit, but Gompers appreciated something back then that perhaps a few of today's labor leaders don't. An economy without profit is an economy in deep, deep depression.

Profit and the self-interest motive behind it were under relentless attack not so long ago. The radicalism of the 1960s was dead set against them, laying most of society's ills at the feet of greedy, profit-hungry and selfish

capitalists. Anti-profit sentiment was even more popular in Europe and Africa, where it helped boost the socialist agenda and a wave of nationalizations.

In more recent years, however, a better understanding of profit has taken hold in surprising places. Communist China started implementing it in the late 1970s as an incentive for moribund state industries and previously prohibited private enterprise. And in my files is an English translation of an article that appeared in a most unlikely place. Here's a key excerpt:

“The economic situation of enterprises will have to depend directly on profit, and profit cannot fulfill its function until prices are liberated from subsidies. Over the centuries, humankind has found no more effective mea-

See MOTIVE, page 8A

GUEST OPINION By John T. Elchert

Transparency still needed for gov., legislature

In 2016, when she was a candidate, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer issued “Get it Done: A Michigan Sunshine Plan.”

The first item under the headline “Making State Government More Transparent & Responsive to Taxpayers” was this bullet point:

“Expanding Freedom of Information Act to include the governor's office and legislature. We are just one of two states that does not already do this. If the legislature won't act, I will use the governor's authority under the Michigan State Constitution to extend FOIA to the Lieutenant Governor and Governor's Offices. Michiganders should know when and what their governor is working on.”

It's been eight years since this report was released and still Michigan remains in the basement when it comes to transparency. This is despite the efforts of two state senators who have been pushing legislation for years to remove exemptions from the Freedom of Information Act for the governor and legisla-

Also in 2016, shortly after a scandal involving two state representatives resulted in their

expulsion and the residents of Michigan were still trying to sort out what had happened in

Flint causing a water crisis that put the Mitten on the national news daily, then-Reps. Jeremy Moss, D-Southfield, and Ed McBroom, R-Vulcan, introduced legislation that would shine a light on the governor and the legislature by removing exemptions in the law that protected them from having to release information.

This legislation passed the House with an overwhelming majority. And then died in the

See GUEST, page 7A

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Ellie Carter

GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

November 28 - December 4

THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
40° 27°	35° 25°	33° 21°	30° 20°	35° 22°	36° 24°	46° 27°
Snow	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Cloudy
30%	30%	0%	20%	0%	0%	0%
SUNRISE 7:42 am	SUNRISE 7:43 am	SUNRISE 7:44 am	SUNRISE 7:45 am	SUNRISE 7:46 am	SUNRISE 7:47 am	SUNRISE 7:48 am
SUNSET 5:00 pm	SUNSET 4:59 pm	SUNSET 4:59 pm	SUNSET 4:59 pm	SUNSET 4:59 pm	SUNSET 4:59 pm	SUNSET 4:59 pm

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

LETTERS

The Grosse Pointe News welcomes letters to the editor. All letters should be typed and signed with the writer's full name and local address, as well as a daytime telephone number for verification or questions. Letters longer than 300 words may be edited for length. All letters may be edited for content. We reserve the right to refuse any letter. The deadline for letters is 3 p.m. Monday. Letters may be submitted via email to editor@grossepointenews.com or by filling out the letters form on our website, grossepointenews.com.

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See LETTER, page 7A

I SAY By Brad Lindberg

Tete-a-tete



There are people in the news business (none of whom I knowingly work with currently) opposed to printing critical letters to the editor. I disagree. If readers and customers are willing to expose what they consider to be a fault, let them do so.

I say, Be big!, as Laurel and Hardy attempted in their 1931 short film about all the things that went wrong while trying to ditch their wives and sneak to a stag party with fellow lodge members.

Here's an email a reader sent to me critical of my reporting an illegal alien being charged for committing multiple felonies. I think my response was appropriate, but maybe not. The writer never accepted my offer to follow through with a letter to the editor subject to review by the public. The writer signed the message, but isn't being named.

◆ (Email to me): Border Crime Migrates to Pointes

Wow, where to start? 6 columns devoted to an article about a petty criminal, whose (2) crimes [daytime home

invasion, and theft from a vehicle] are no worse than the typical crime blotter activity reported in the Grosse Pointe News. Why does this guy get 6 columns? This alleged "border jumping", "knife-carrying" "illegal" immigrant from Venezuela? About whom it is reported in the final paragraph that ICE has "placed a hold on him to assess his immigration status", meaning, one assumes, that his immigration status is not known, not "illegal".

And my my, directly amidst seven (count em') campaign signs supporting "open-border" candidates (there are no "open-border" candidates of which I am aware). And why no mention of how many campaign signs displayed for felony criminals? And how do the campaign signs relate to this petty criminal? They do not. They merely represent the bias of the reporter, as does the sensationalism of 2 rather run-of-the-mill crimes.

What purpose do you have, Mr. Lindberg, for trying to manufacture "border crime" hysteria in Grosse Pointe? As I understand it, "border crime" means criminal activity at our nations (sic) borders, not home invasion or vehicle theft in Grosse Pointe. It is disappointing to read biased journalism, not only because it is completely unprofessional, but because it also means

that the editor has allowed it to stand. And why are we reading this in the Grosse Pointe News?

◆ (My response) Few people have the guts to go on record with a complaint. Please follow through and submit your message as a letter to the editor for publication with attribution in the GP News. I can't think of better endorsement of my factual and contextual reporting than you defending an armed man arrested for auto theft, larceny, stealing a credit card, breaking (sic) a parked car, stealing a computer, breaking into a house and stealing jewelry as a petty criminal. If you go beyond words and petition to be responsible for his conduct and financial obligations, I'll report that, too. Brad

◆ (To me) I'm surprised that you so completely misunderstood my intention, whether intentionally or not.

There is no defense of a criminal in my criticism of your article. I am simply pointing out your singular effort to frame this in the lens of republican border hysteria. As I noted, there are no "open borders" candidates, and the vast majority of immigrants to this country are just trying to get ahead.

◆ (My response) See your second sentence, "an article about a petty criminal." Got what it takes to submit it for publication with your name attached? Brad
◆ No response.

GUEST:

Continued from page 6A

Senate. The same thing happened again in the 2017-2018, 2019-2020 and 2021-2022 legislative sessions.

As 2023 began there was hope that the tide would turn. The Democrats had a majority in the Senate and the House and McBroom and Moss were now state senators. Newly elected Speaker Joe Tate, D-Detroit, expressed support for removing the exemptions and advocates for transparency felt there was a good chance sunshine in Michigan was imminent. Several additional scandals had impacted the legislature including the incarceration of a former speaker of the house and the indictment of another.

Sadly, the bills still languish in the House Government Operations

Committee after passing the Senate earlier this year 36-2.

As the last month of this legislative session approaches, the Michigan Press Association urges residents to let their representative know it's time to pass these bills and get Michigan out of the bottom rankings for accountability for government officials in our country.

Trust in government is dangerously low and the inability to have access to the records and activities of elected officials is not going to improve that trust. It's time for the state House to take up these bills and pass them to the governor's desk before the end of session. Then she can fulfill the promise of her Sunshine Plan.

John T. Elchert is president of the Michigan Press Association board of directors.

LETTER:

Continued from page 6A

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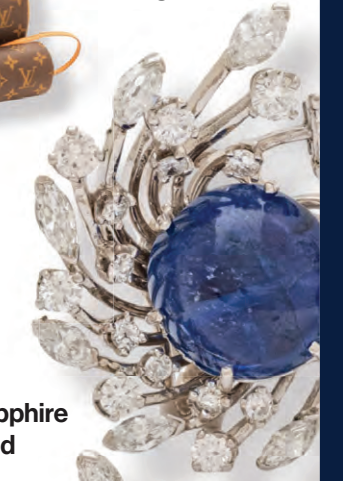


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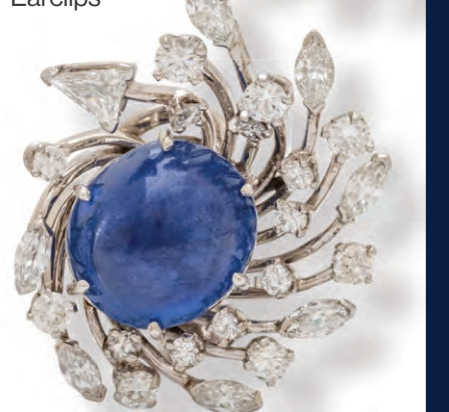
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Woods resolves liquor license dilemma

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Two restaurants seeking the last available liquor license in the city can move forward thanks to a compromise council approved 7-0 at its meeting Monday, Nov. 18. Under the deal, the license will go to Daily Jam, which will occupy the current Big Boy location at 20710 Mack. In return, Daily Jam will partner with Lola's Taco Bar to obtain a license from somewhere else in Wayne County.

“There are about 200 liquor licenses that are available in the county that aren't being used,” City Administrator Frank Schulte said. “They cost anywhere from \$40,000 to \$60,000.” The agreement includes a clause that if Daily Jam were to stop using the license, it would be returned to the city, meaning it could not be put in escrow and transferred to another location outside the Woods. “It satisfied two people with different backgrounds in the city,” said Dan Curis, owner of the Big Boy. “Everyone is happy

with the outcome,” said Branden McRill, owner of Lola's Taco bar, which will be at 20195 Mack in the former Boston Market. Council also gave final approval to final site plans for both locations. “It's bittersweet,” Curis said of closing Big Boy. “I've been here since 1976. It was a good run for me.” In paperwork submitted to the city, Curis said his franchise agreement with Big Boy expires next April and “the location will not continue as a Big Boy under any circumstances.”

Curis added all current employees, some who have been with him 30 years, will be offered jobs with Daily Jam. “They'll get first choice, so no one gets hurt,” he said. He's planning on Big Boy closing its doors Dec. 31. Daily Jam, which originated in Arizona, will offer breakfast, brunch and lunch. It will be open 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Its menu features items such as omelets and salads, along with hot and cold sandwiches. Drink selections include Bloody Marys, mimosas and mar-

tinis. Curis is partnering with Ansara Restaurant Group, which owns a Daily Jam in Farmington Hills and 22 Red Robin locations in Michigan and Ohio. Curis' father and Victor Ansara's father were partners in several Big Boy locations starting in the 1950s. “It's a good feeling,” he said. “Our sons are involved, so it's a third-generation partnership. I think our dads would be proud.” McRill, a native Pointer who recently moved back to the Woods, previously owned Michelin-rated

restaurants in New York City and currently owns three restaurants in Philadelphia. “I've been in the restaurant business 26 years and have wanted to open one here for 10 years,” he previously told council. “It was important to find a piece of property close to home and this would be just blocks away.” Lola's Taco Bar will be open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily and offer tacos, tortas, appetizers and desserts, along with beer and mixed drinks such as margaritas. Neither establishment has a fixed opening date.

MOTIVE:

Continued from page 6A

sure of work than profit. Only profit can measure the quantity and quality of economic activity and permit us to relate production costs to results effectively and unambiguously. ... Our suspicious attitude toward profit is a historical misunderstanding, the result of the economic illiteracy of people ...”

Those words were written by economist Nikolaay Shmelyov in the June 1987 issue of *Novy Mir*, the leading political and literary journal of the then-Soviet Union, no less. The Soviets, after years of anti-profit propaganda and policies that produced a world-class basketcase economy, were showing signs of shedding some of that economic illiteracy. There's truth in one of the jokes that was making the rounds in Moscow just before the collapse of the Soviet system in 1991, namely, that to find a genuine believer in Marxism these days, one has to visit universities in the United States.

Thanksgiving Day is a particularly appropriate time to reflect on the meaning and value of profit. The settlers at Plymouth colony who started the holiday tradition nearly wiped themselves out early on when they set up a communal, socialistic economy. Each person was producing for everybody else and received an equal share of the total production. In the absence of a strong profit motive, the settlers starved until Gov. Bradford altered the arrangement. Thereafter, men and women produced for profit and the result was bountiful harvests with full

Thanksgiving tables.

The people who don't like profit prefer to extol the virtue of selflessness, the charitable motive. Don't get me wrong here, I'm not opposed to charity. A loving, caring concern for others is a beautiful thing, and Americans have always been the most charitable, giving people on the planet. But the fact remains that profit is responsible for more good things — by a long shot — than all the charity in the world.

Consider this as you feast at the table today. The people who raised the turkey didn't do so because they wanted to help you out. The others who grew the cranberries and the yams didn't go to the trouble and expense out of some altruistic, charitable impulse. If you think those folks and the others who made almost everything else you own performed their tasks as sacrificial rituals, then you probably believe McDonalds when they say, “We do it all for you.”

In Marxist North Korea, they have a regime that works night and day to see that nobody makes a profit or owns a private business. There won't be anything like Thanksgiving dinner in North Korea today, and that's no coincidence.

As for me, you can count on me saying a prayerful thanks for more than just good food today. I'm going to say thanks for the profit motive which made it all possible. When God instilled a measure of productive self-interest into the human mind, he knew what he was doing.

Lawrence W. Reed is president emeritus of both the Mackinac Center for Public Policy and the Foundation for Economic Education.

The Academy earns Mich. Montessori Society designation

The Grosse Pointe Academy, home to Michigan's longest-running Montessori program, has been named an affiliate school with the Michigan Montessori Society.

The status is awarded to institutions that demonstrate adherence to rigorous Montessori principles. These include employing credentialed Montessori educators trained through accredited programs, offering uninterrupted work periods and maintaining classrooms enriched with comprehensive Montessori materials. Schools must also meet state licensing require-

ments and foster environments with multi-age groupings that align with Montessori philosophies.

GPA's achievement reflects its dedication to these core standards, ensuring an exceptional and authentic learning experience for its students.

At the heart of GPA's early school program is its Montessori curriculum, designed for children aged 2 1/2 to 6 years. This program integrates hands-on learning, practical life skills, sensorial exploration and a focus on culti-

See GPA, page 9A

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Grosse Pointe News

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Please email your name, city, pet's name and any comments you'd like to share about your pet. Any furry species welcome! Photos must be clear, high-resolution images. Special section will publish DECEMBER 19th.

GPPSS middle school robotics teams enjoying success

For the first time, a middle school robotics team from the Grosse Pointe Public School System has qualified for the state championship. The 360 Robot Lab from Pierce Middle School clinched second place at the regional competition earlier this month.

The state finals will be held Dec. 7 and 8, at Macomb Community College. Only the top 12 percent of the 582 middle school robotics teams in the state qualify for the championships.

"I want to thank the Grosse Pointe community for their support," said 360 Robot Lab head coach Josh Woolls "and also say how proud of the kids we are. Their hard work has truly paid off. We're excited for what comes next."

Pierce's all-girls Botmasterz placed fifth in

the qualifying matches and second for the Think Award, which recognizes teams that overcome engineering challenges through innovative problem-solving and creative strategies.

"It's so important to encourage young women to pursue STEM careers, especially since women make up just 28 percent of the STEM workforce in the country," said Botmasterz head coach Sherry Betcher. "Girls robotics teams like the Botmasterz are helping break down barriers and inspire the next generation of female engineers and innovators. We couldn't do this without the generous financial support of our sponsors: the Michigan Department of Education, AAUW GP, Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education and the Grosse Pointe Foundation for STEAM."

Blown Fuses from Parcels Middle School brought home the Motivate Award, which honors the team that best exemplifies the culture of FIRST Robotics through enthusiasm, collaboration and a commitment to team values.

"This year we made it our focus to help others with the skills kids acquired building robots," said head coach Sean Spence. "We spent our summer modifying toes that had electronic components in such a way that children with learning disabilities were able to use them due to their large buttons. None of this could have been done without the remarkable direction of Gina Boardato or the Grosse Pointe STEAM Foundation and their continued support to renovate the North Robot Garage to make it a place where the robotics community can continue to grow and learn."

GPA:

Continued from page 8A

vating independence and a lifelong love of learning.

"We are honored to be recognized as an affiliate school by the Michigan Montessori Society," said Claudia Leslie, Montessori early school division head. "This achievement reflects our unwavering dedication to Maria Montessori's vision and our mission to nurture, challenge and inspire each child's unique journey."

TROMBLY:

Continued from page 1A

Tuttle to work with Plante Moran to put together a comprehensive list of what would need to be done to reopen the building and associated costs.

Tuttle said she doesn't think the most expensive plan is a feasible option.

"You don't need the Taj Mahal," she said. "That plan includes things that are nice, but not necessary."

In the middle is a cost of \$9.6 million. It would include most of the work in the more expensive option, but not upgrades

to the playground, kitchen, gym and auditorium.

The least expensive option includes what Tuttle termed "the must haves," those being window and door replacements and upgrades to the HVAC, electrical and security systems.

Aside from discussing the cost to simply open the building, there also are considerations for ongoing operational costs. For example, there are 461 students at Defer Elementary School, including 174 who would be attending Trombly had it not closed.

"That's not to say all of them would want to go

back," Tuttle said.

Tuttle added the district must determine if additional staff would need to be added to reopen Trombly or if teachers and paraprofessionals would simply shift from Defer. The move also would take pressure off Defer, which has the most students of the seven elementary schools.

Board President Sean Cotton, owner of the Grosse Pointe News, said he does not want to use money from the new sinking fund millage, but thinks the district could still achieve the \$5.8 million figure. That includes about \$1.5 million from

the sale of Poupard Elementary School and the 389 St. Clair building, remaining money from the 2018 improvement bond and money from the current sinking fund millage, which will net the district \$3.5 million next month as it expires.

Tuttle said she would propose survey language for the board to consider at its next meeting aimed at determining the exact number of eligible students in the Trombly catchment area and how many would attend if it reopened. She also will

ask Plante Moran to conduct a heatmap to help determine the number of students.

Cotton added that preliminary figures show it would cost around \$29.5 million to build a school the size of Trombly, or \$650 per square foot, not including the cost of acquiring land that doesn't exist.

Almost a dozen people spoke under public comment in favor of reopening the school. That included Renee Jakubowski and Janine Eckert, who helped coordinate the state historical

marker placed at the school in June. They said in canvassing the area they have found more than 160 children from birth to age 6 and had only covered half of the homes as of last week.

Matt Kahl told the board he lives in the 800 block of Westchester and there have been 11 babies born on the block in the last four years with another one on the way.

"It's not lost on us that our front yards are filled with preschoolers and our backyards are filled with a beautiful, empty elementary school."

TUTTLE:

Continued from page 1A

superintendent evaluations before being allowed to vote. Trustee Valarie St. John was not able to participate in the training due to family obligations, thus the 6-0 vote, although Cotton said she provided "valuable, constructive feedback" during the process.

Superintendents must be evaluated annually and the Michigan Association of School Boards states a "cycle based on a November or December annual evaluation is recommended."

Topics considered during an evaluation include policy involvement, goal development, delegation of duties and budget management.

After voting on the evaluation in open session, the board went back into closed session under the attorney-client privilege exemption of the OMA to discuss updating Tuttle's contract to put it in compliance with changes to state law that took effect in July.

The board ended up voting 5-2 in open session on the new contract, with St. John and Trustee Colleen Worden

opposed. Cotton, Vice President Ahmed Ismail, Secretary Lisa Papas, Treasurer Terry Collins and Trustee Ginny Jeup voted yes.

The vote extended her three-year contract to five years, the maximum allowable under state law. It also provides a 2 percent raise each year on her \$310,000 annual salary and provides an appeal process on future evaluations.

"We explored ways to align her contract with market terms, including extending its duration to reflect that of top superintendents across the state," Cotton said. "Dr. Tuttle is a remarkable educational leader and executive, and the board remains committed to keeping her as a transformative presence in Grosse Pointe for years to come."

Worden called the vote a "late-night, back-room deal" that didn't offer the public an opportunity to comment.

"We haven't given teachers or other administrators five-year contracts. Why would you do that for a superintendent?" Worden asked. "The board majority are not careful financial stewards of the district."

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Grosse Pointe News

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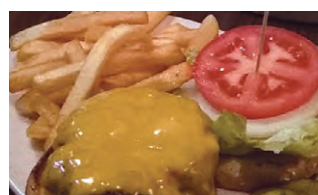
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2&6B AREA ACTIVITIES | 3-5B BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS | 6B OBITUARIES | 7B CHURCHES

Students hit the links for Kids on the Go

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

A pair of Grosse Pointe South High School seniors took the idea of starting a golf club at the school to implementing it, promoting it and hosting their first fundraiser in a few short months.

Two weeks ago, Lucas Bower and Luca Parlangei presented a check from the fundraiser to recipient Kids on the Go.

“Last year was my first year on the team,” Parlangei said. “I’ve played my whole life. I got (Bower) into it two years ago. ... The team at South is exclusive — it’s one of the hardest teams to make — but there are so many kids at school that play golf.”

“As we were talking about playing golf with each other and with other people, we found out more people play golf at South than we realized,” Bower added, “amateurs looking to start but with no one to play with. When I started, golf was a super challenging sport and frustrating, but Luca knew what he was doing. He could help me through the process. So what we wanted to provide was for people to have fun and meet new people while learning golf.”

The club began meeting at the Chandler Park Golf Course.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Lucas Bower, Kathy Smith, Grosse Pointe South physical education and adaptive physical education teacher; Kristy Schena, founder Kids on the Go; Luca Parlangei

“All kinds of people show up; they learn from me, learn from Lucas,” Parlangei said. “We partner with different people every week. With freshmen, we offer them tips. They’re never in a place where they feel like it’s not comfortable.”

Added Bower, “That speaks to how well the club has worked. We have weekly rounds at Chandler Park and we’re paired with different people. ... It’s cool to be able to interact with someone you’d never talk to except for at golf.”

Chandler Park also happens to be where

Kids on the Go hosts its Golf Academy. The young students with special needs learning to golf caught the attention of Bower and Parlangei.

“When we first came up with the idea (for the club), we had two main goals,” Parlangei said. “One was to get the league going and the other was to do a fundraiser. That’s what we really wanted to do — give back to the community.”

“... It was an easy charity to pick,” he continued. “We’re around Kids on the Go. We’ve watched what it does for kids and

we’re close to people who volunteer for the program.”

Parlangei is a member at Gowanie Golf Course in Harrison Township. He and Bower and their parents talked to club representatives and put together an outing, which took place Oct. 12.

Between ticket sales and sponsorships, the fundraiser tallied \$1,016. A check was presented to Kids on the Go Executive Director Kristy Schena at South Nov. 12.

“We felt it was super fun and really important for us to use this as an outlet to give back to the

community,” Bower said. “Golf is a great way to fundraise. For the golfers in the event, it was a great way to play a private course. And we had a lot of support for it. For some people, this was only their first or second time playing and they supported the cause, supported us and what we’re doing.”

“We gained a lot of community support,” Parlangei added. “Every sponsor was ecstatic to help us. It really resonated with them. Everyone who gave us prizes knew about Kids on the Go.”

The pair hope to host an even bigger fundraiser in the spring.

They were praised by Kathy Smith, a physical education and adaptive physical education teacher at South, for “the level of maturity you guys had to create the club, get the club running and host an event in the same quarter,” she said. “Myself, as part of Kids on the Go, I’ve seen how being exposed to golf has such an impact on those kids.”

Kids on the Go offers a variety of camps for students with special needs. What started as a summer program now is offered year round at no cost to campers, thanks to the donations it receives.

In addition to Golf Academy, Smith works

with campers on social skills, exercise programs, Friendship Cheer and bike riding. She has volunteered with the organization since 2014.

“The community connection is amazing,” Smith said. “Kids on the Go started this (golf) program with First Tee about 10 years ago. Back then we ran practices at the East Side Youth Sports Foundation, with a culmination event at Lochmoor or Country Club of Detroit. The last few years, we still partner with First Tee, but now we’re at Chandler Park. We’ve established a home there. We’re offering lifetime skills to students that they can do forever to keep active and healthy — underlying soft skills; core values like safety, courtesy, respect, integrity, among others. ... We’re laying a foundation. Pairing core values with a lesson is fun. It carries over beyond the golf course into everyday life.”

Because of the success of Golf Academy students, the program has expanded to include a Veteran Golf program.

“Students are able to continue going to golf, but now they’re taking it to the next level,” Smith said. “They can golf two or three holes in a cart with a peer. As an instructor, I can sit back and watch it all come to fruition.”

New GPAAS facility in need of funding

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

A building secured, the next step in the ever-evolving journey of the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society is securing funding for the Barbara N. Weiss Animal Protection Facility, which celebrated its grand opening Nov. 13.

The facility, located at 20502 Harper — two doors down from GPAAS’s Thomas A. Mackey Animal Adoption Center — will serve as a drop-off location for law enforcement agencies in the five Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods.

At least that’s the plan of GPAAS founder Corinne Martin.

But first things first, Martin said.

An ongoing story

“The original plan was for the building to be a municipal facility,” Martin said. “It’s owned by GPAAS, but would be utilized by the six municipalities.”

Because GPAAS is solely supported by donations, facilitating two buildings — both are necessary to have enough space to handle the amount of strays and found animals in the area — is too much for the nonprofit to handle.

“We’re going to be asking the municipalities to pay us an access fee, which will be commensurate with what other cities do to have access to



somewhere to take their strays,” she said, noting she hopes to appear before the six city councils in the coming weeks. “This is an ongoing story,” she said. “... We’ve been providing them sheltering services for 14 years without asking anything except a daily boarding fee, so now we’re going to do this.”

Martin noted the convenience of the location, just two doors down from the adoption center. However, there are not enough staff members to split between the locations, so hiring more staff will have to occur.

“We will not stay in business if we have no way to fund ourselves,” Martin said. “If this building is for the municipalities, then they need to step up. All the (public safety) chiefs are on board. Law enforcement is all about solving problems; they get the calls

for service. It’s the city councils now who have to say OK and pay.”

Around a year ago, Martin reflected on the growing problem of stray animals. Years ago, she said, there weren’t many strays. Most wandering animals were lost dogs that got out of people’s yards, but were quickly reunited with their own-

ers.

It’s a different story today. “Just in Harper Woods, we get 200 stray dogs and cats a year,” Martin said. “Now we’re faced with all the Pointes and Harper Woods. We’re in a crisis. It’s become a public safety concern.”

“It’s a necessity, first of all,” Grosse Pointe



PHOTOS BY JODY MCVEIGH

Above, kennels for small dogs and cats have their own room in the new facility. Left, a spacious area awaits kennels that will house large dogs.

Shores Public Safety Director Ken Werenski said. “It’s a great facility. And the idea behind it, gearing it toward law enforcement bringing animals in, she’s got it all figured out for us.”

“Every city has a problem with stray dogs, but has no place to go,” he added. “Now they do. Corinne is on top of it. This has been needed for a long time. If the community doesn’t realize there’s a problem with stray dogs, come here and take a look.”

The facility

The facility currently isn’t open, though GPAAS hosted a grand-opening celebration inviting the public to tour the building, which formerly was an insurance office.

It includes enhanced living conditions for the animals, with new enclosures, improved medical care areas and more spacious living zones



An exam room is part of the new facility, allowing regular veterinarian visits.

See GPAAS, page 2B

Pointe native gets creative with book release

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Journalism always felt right to Grace Reyes, who not only was involved with the Tower Pulse during her years at Grosse Pointe South High School, but served as its editor her last two years there.

In 2018, she applied for an apprenticeship with the Detroit Free Press, where she honed her journalism skills, then applied to the Journalism Institute for Media Diversity at Wayne State University — and was granted a full-ride scholarship.

“With the institute ... you have to have an internship or a job in the field through the whole time, even summers,” Reyes said, “so I graduated with five or six complete internships.”

Those experiences included freelance work for Eater Detroit and The South End, as well as internships with Tostada Detroit, WDET 101.9 FM Detroit’s NPR station and Platinum

Equity.

Her year-and-a-half internship with the latter firm led to a full-time position, which she’s had more than a year.

“I write content for Platinum Equity, (Detroit Pistons owner) Tom Gores and the Pistons, revolving around business development and his charitable and philanthropic efforts,” she said.

Reyes, who has “lived in almost every Pointe except the Shores,” said she loves what she does, though she misses the traditional newsroom. “But I can still amplify what I’m doing with journalistic integrity.”

This summer she received the David D. Henry Award from her alma mater.

“It’s to acknowledge people in the community who are still involved with Wayne State,” she said. “Wayne provided so much for me; I wouldn’t be in this career life without the mentors I had there.”

Now, nearly two years since graduating and comfortable in her

career, Reyes recently took on a new challenge to flex her creative muscles.

“I thought, ‘What can I do that’s out of my comfort zone that’s different than what I’ve been doing for so long?’”

She answered her question by writing and publishing, “Little Lottie’s Halloween Adventure: A Daring Dachshund’s Journey Home.”

The book was inspired by her dog.

“Lottie is the littlest dachshund in all the land who is going on exciting adventures in Grosse Pointe and meeting fascinating friends along the way,” Reyes said.

The book was published in September. Limited copies are available at Coreander’s Children’s Bookshoppe, POST Detroit and Mark’s Market in Detroit.

“I self-published and did all the logistics myself,” Reyes said.

She said she learned a lot about creating children’s books during the

process and is content with how it turned out, though “it was nerve-racking when it got real,” she added.

“I did Halloween and there’s so much more I can do after that — Christmas, Hanukah,” she said. “I do a lot of DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion) work, so I could do Black History Month or Hispanic American Heritage Month. But I need a hiatus first.”

Not only does she have more book ideas planned, she also has an idea of what she’d like her professional future to look like.

“I love my job now,” she said. “But with my family — when I have a family — I aspire to go back to South and teach journalism.”

In the meantime, when she’s not cooking, she’s dreaming about recipes, she said. She also enjoys hot yoga, reading and learning new trades, like crocheting. She also enjoys taking Lottie with her pretty much everywhere she goes.



COURTESY PHOTO

Grace Reyes recently published her first children’s book, “Little Lottie’s Halloween Adventure.”

AREA ACTIVITIES

Matty’s Friendsgiving

The eighth annual Matty’s Friendsgiving takes place at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 29, at Fishbones in St. Clair Shores. The event includes complimentary

hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar. Proceeds from a raffle and silent auction benefit the Jamie Daniel Foundation, whose mission is to provide support programs and resources to address substance use disorder. The foundation

focuses on children and young adults through education, prevention, recovery and stigma reduction. The Peyser family holds this event in remembrance of their son, Matt Peyser.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Friday,

Nov. 29, Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church, 28300 Rockwood, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, Nov. 29, Henry Ford St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 2, Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 2,

Recreation Authority of Roseville/Eastpointe, 18185 Sycamore, Roseville.

◆ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4, St. Clair Shores City Hall, 27600 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church, 21201 E. 13 Mile, St. Clair

Shores.

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

Register at redcrossblood.org.

Ford House

The Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, 1100 See EVENTS, page 6B

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This row of kennels will temporarily house medium-sized dogs.

PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

GPAAS:

Continued from page 1B

designed to promote physical and mental well-being.

The construction project began in March and included work by Schena Roofing & Sheet Metal, Goyette Building Services, Walt’s Electrical and Vargo Building Co.

“Police will come in through the back,” said volunteer Mike Corcoran, who led tours through the facility during the open house.

Separate spacious areas will be used to house cats and small dogs, medium dogs and large dogs. Additionally, the new facility includes a wash station, laundry room and exam room.

“The vet comes down once a week, so we have on-site veterinary care,” Corcoran said. “Or if a wounded animal comes in, they’ll be able to tend to its needs right away in the exam room.”

He said he hopes the spacious building is enough to “handle the dogs.”

“The state is saying the loose dog situation is only going to continue to get worse, so more space is going to be needed.”

Corcoran, who volunteers as a dog walker, said when the adoption center

hosts its Saturday adoptions, guests will be sent to the new building as well to see more animals.

“We have well over 40 dogs available and well over 30 cats, too,” he said.

Help needed

Taking care of those animals is top priority and more volunteer help is needed. The biggest demand at present is dog walkers. Every dog is walked three times a day — 8 a.m., noon and 4 p.m. — seven days a week.

“The only time we don’t walk is when it’s icy,” Corcoran said.

“I wish we had more people to come and walk the dogs,” he added. “We are their humans. They’re in a box all day. People complain that they’re always excited, but put a 5-year-old kid in a box then let them out and see what happens. They calm down eventually.”

“Our dogs are super nice,” he continued. “Ginger is 75 pounds and has a big head, big tongue and likes to give kisses. We have five dogs over 70 pounds, but they’re all super nice.”

Monetary donations also are appreciated.

Checks may be sent to GPAAS, 296 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236. Donations also may be made via PayPal online at gpaas.org.

Christmas on Lakeshore concert is Dec. 9

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Hoping to spread warmth, happiness and holiday cheer, as well as put smiles on faces, The Grunyons and Noteworthy kick off the holiday season with an uplifting a cappella con-

cert. Christmas on Lakeshore takes place 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9, at Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms.

The seasoned musical groups are performing their 10th annual

Christmas show together, though they took two years off during the pandemic.

"We will again be at the Methodist church, which is one of our favorite venues," said Bob Montgomery, a member of The Grunyons since 2009.

"It's a great venue for the holidays."

A mix of holiday and non-holiday tunes are in store.

"We have a new Christmas arrangement we're excited to perform and some non-Christmas music that individuals will enjoy," said Pam Montgomery, a Noteworthy member since 2017. "Each group performs 25-minute sets, so seven or eight songs. ... We might have a few surprises in our set, too."

"We like doing it in early December to kick off the holiday season," she added. "Our longtime fans enjoy it; it gets them in the mood for the holidays."

The groups will unite to close out the show.

The Montgomerys, residents of Grosse Pointe Farms, are the only couple whose union spans both groups and as such are the bridge between Noteworthy and The Grunyons.

"Being in an ensemble like this to me is a joyful event," Bob Montgomery said, "even when we're rehearsing. I love music. I love this brotherhood. We often are described as a tribe. We've gotten to know each other, each other's families. They are our dear friends."

"When I was in glee, we would say we're brothers in song," he continued. "There is a visceral pleasure I get from performing, particularly in an ensemble. Singing in an ensemble makes me happiest."

Added Pam Montgomery, "We have to work so hard together to make it blend and sound good, but won-

derful, longtime friendships come out of being members of these groups."

The Grunyons, formed in 1949, reach their 75th anniversary this year.

While still contemplating a way to celebrate the milestone, Bob Montgomery said one

thing the group has done this year is perform more frequently, "just to get out in front of more folks."

"Our group draws from the entire metro region," he added, noting both groups are

See CONCERT, page 6B



COURTESY PHOTOS

The Grunyons



Noteworthy

WEDDING



Dr. and Mrs. Vincent Brennan Jr.

Brennan—Baratta

Jacqueline Leah Baratta and Dr. Vincent John Brennan Jr., were married Aug. 10, 2024, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Woods. The Very Rev. Canon Walter Ptak and the Rev. Matthew Ippel, S.J., officiated the ceremony, which was followed by a reception at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

The bride is the daughter of Marcella and David Baratta of Novi. The groom is the son of Megan and Vincent Brennan of Grosse Pointe Farms.

The bride wore a stunning silk gown with a graceful V-neckline and fitted lace bodice, a long tulle veil trimmed with embroidered white lace vines draped behind her. Jacqueline carried a bouquet of abundant white ranunculus and garden roses and soft blue delphiniums.

Reanna Husaynu, the bride's friend, served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Marijane Brennan Crocker and Margaret Brennan, the groom's sisters; and Alex Mahoney Brennan, the groom's sister-in-law. They wore Wedgwood blue gowns and carried white garden roses sprinkled with blue delphiniums.

Daniel Brennan, the groom's brother, served as best man. Groomsman were Paul Baratta and Connor Baratta, the bride's brothers; and Edward Crocker, the groom's brother-in-law.

The bride and groom also included close cousins and friends in their bridal party.

The bride earned Bachelor of Arts and Master of Business Administration degrees in accounting from Michigan State University. She is a certified public accountant and manager with Deloitte.

The groom earned a Bachelor of Science degree in environmental science from the University of Michigan, a Master of Business Administration degree in finance from Wayne State University and a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Michigan State University. He is a primary care physician with The Cleveland Clinic.

The couple honeymooned in St. Lucia.

ENGAGEMENTS



Griffin Murray and Elizabeth Sullivan

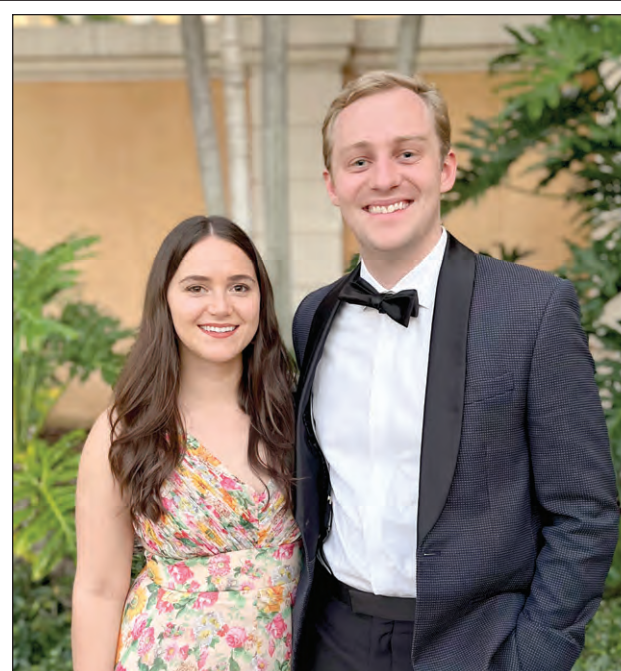
Sullivan—Murray

Laura and James Sullivan of the City of Grosse Pointe announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth Sullivan, to Griffin Murray, the son of Bridgette and the Hon. Christopher Murray of Grosse Pointe Farms.

Miss Sullivan graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan. She will graduate with a medical degree from DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine in May 2025.

Dr. Murray also graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan. He completed his medical degree at Wayne State University School of Medicine in 2024.

A June 2025 wedding is planned.



Madeline Berschback and Brett Hamel

Berschback—Hamel

Suzu and Chip Berschback announce the engagement of their daughter, Madeline Berschback, to Brett Hamel, the son of Deb and Ken Hamel of Bloomfield Hills.

Miss Berschback is an internal medicine doctor and gastroenterology Fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. She graduated from the University of Michigan, attended Wayne State University School of Medicine and completed her residency at Massachusetts General.

Mr. Hamel, originally from Bloomfield, is a director of data analytics. He also is a graduate of the University of Michigan and obtained a master's degree in predictive analytics from DePaul University in Chicago.

The couple met through mutual friends at the University of Michigan their senior year. They are planning a summer wedding in 2025.

The couple is excited to start this new chapter of their lives together and look forward to celebrating with their loved ones.

They will reside in Boston with their Labrador, Zoe.

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OUR
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PHOTOS BY ANNE GRYZENIA

Special tips for a personal touch at your first holiday table

By Donna Zetterlund
 Special Writer

How exciting to be hosting your first Christmas celebration as newlyweds! These are the moments you've dreamed of for a very long time, at least since you selected your china and filled out your wedding registry. So much to choose from and make your own, as you begin your own traditions and start to collect holiday decor that will become part of your new family memories.



Illustration above: Gorgeous examples of using traditional patterned family dinnerware with various options in linens, florals and decor. Mixing and matching your china with different layouts and themes lets you update your look with modern freshness.

Left: A sweet knitted wine bottle cozy makes a great presentation for gifting or decorating. Add to your collection each year with holiday hostess gifts you'll no doubt receive.

These ideas, pulled together by our Grosse Pointe News style team, blend fresh takes on tradition with timeless elegance. Use them as inspiration for your first holiday hosting experience as newlyweds — a celebration filled with joy, love, and the beginnings of your own cherished traditions.

Blending heirloom china with modern pieces creates a fresh yet traditional holiday table. Try pairing patterned family dinnerware with bright whites and a bold red checkered runner for a look that appeals to all generations. Accents like red and white florals, silver chargers, gold candles, red and candy cane favors add elegance and charm.

An alternative table treatment features large, ornate silver chargers layered with traditional china atop a rustic linen runner on bare wood, creating an upscale rustic feel. Ribbons and faux holly tied to candy cane favors lend the table a cheerful, feminine touch, complemented by lovely flowers and greenery in glass vases.

There are countless ways to mix and match your tablescape, incorporating family china, wedding china, or unique pieces you collect over time for special holiday occasions. When designing, there are no wrong answers — the only “rule” is to ensure the look reflects your personality and style as a couple. Your tablescape should symbolize your new life together, especially during the holidays.

As you host future Christmases and celebrate other holidays, you’ll undoubtedly receive beautiful gifts to enhance your collection. Whether you stick to a signature look or try something new each year is entirely up to you — and part of the fun of creating traditions as a couple and future family.

For your holiday dinner party, don’t overlook the importance of ambiance. Thoughtfully chosen music and lighting can set the tone, whether you’re aiming for a festive and upbeat vibe or a sentimental and soothing atmosphere. String lights and candles provide a cozy glow, perfect for fostering warm holiday togetherness.

Displays of your favorite holiday decor, ornaments, and serving ware further support the mood you’re creating. Framed family photos of those attending add a personal touch, evoking warm memories and a sense of connection.

Every choice you make — from linens and flowers to food and music — builds on the overall atmosphere. It’s a unique expression of your love and hospitality for those you’ve chosen to share this special time with. Relax and enjoy a beautiful celebration among cherished people, festive decor, and meaningful touches that only you could design.

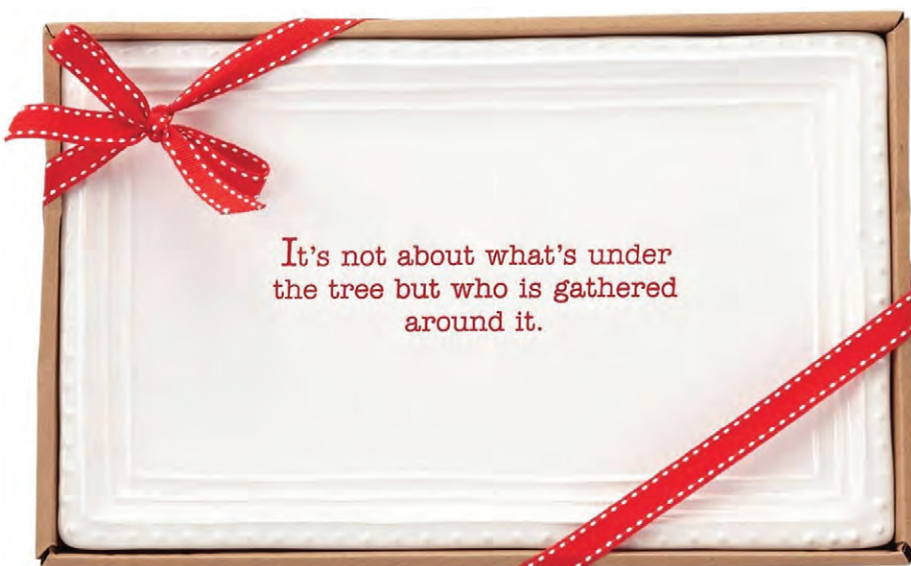
Her favorite flower?

Surprise your hostess or enhance the table decor with her favorite blooms. Red gerbera daisies and roses maintain the Christmas color scheme, while poinsettias paired with tealight votives create a warm and homey glow. Choose flowers that reflect your unique style as a couple for a perfect touch.



Playing your songs

Don’t forget the music! Curate a holiday playlist and include songs that were meaningful during your wedding or courtship. Music is a simple yet powerful way to set the mood and bring everyone together as you kick off a lifetime of holiday traditions. A retro Bluetooth radio and MP3 player adds charm and functionality. Find one on Amazon.



Tree of “we”

Commemorate your first Christmas as newlyweds with a meaningful ornament. A gold “Mr. & Mrs.” bulb, above, or a ceramic date ornament, left, is a keepsake you’ll cherish for years. These thoughtful touches symbolize your shared journey and grow more special with time. Find these items at Small Favors or Amazon.

Serving love

Celebrate with a serving tray perfect for showcasing holiday treats. This functional yet meaningful addition honors your growing family and the memories you’re creating together. Available at Small Favors.



Cheers to us!

Mark this incredible occasion with bubbly! Perrier-Jouet Blason Rosé, right, is a delicious and festive choice, symbolizing holiday love. Visit Woods Wholesale Wine in Grosse Pointe Woods for this and other fine wines or spirits to complete your celebration.

Drink decor and details

Not that you don’t mind sharing everything — but it’s kind of nice to have a glass of your own! This cute set by Mud Pie makes sure both of you are covered. When you are busy with the hosting duties, you’ll never lose your drink. Find the set at Small Favors. Visit shopsmallfavors.com or stop in when you’re in The Village.



Homey touches to treasure

NEST candles, far left, provide a beautiful holiday glow and a cozy ambiance. Splurge on an Olivia Riegel “Ava” frame, left, for your annual Christmas photo — a keepsake you’ll treasure for years to come. Both are available at Taylor Reese in Grosse Pointe or online at taylorreeseshop.com.

COURTESY PHOTOS

6B | OBITUARIES

OBITUARIES

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

Therese McGratty

Therese McGratty, 78, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on Thursday, Nov. 14, 2024.

Therese was the beloved mother of Therese (Michael Schrage), Stephen Jr., Shannon (Kevin Brophy) and Christopher (Stacy Viniello). She and her late husband, Stephen, raised their four children in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Therese was also the grandmother, affectionately known as "Gram" and "Grandma," of Ryann, Mackenzie and Kevin Brophy and Caitlin and Colin McGratty. She was the loving sister of Edward Schulte, Anne Marie Browning, Paul Schulte, Margaret Ashby, John Schulte and the late Mary Marzolf. She was predeceased by her parents, Leo and Loretto Schulte.

Therese was born April 5, 1946, and grew up in Grosse Pointe Farms. She graduated from St. Paul High School in 1964, and Mercy College in 1968. She took great pride in being a nurse, which stemmed from her desire to help people. Her professional career spanned more than four decades and included a passion for education and public

health. Underscoring her unwavering commitment to the care of others, Therese's family includes a strong legacy of nurses, including her mother, Loretto; daughter, Shannon Brophy; and late sister, Mary.

Therese was deeply devoted to her family and regularly stressed the importance of "family first," never missing a game, school activity or important moment in her kids' lives. She was always thinking of others with her famous jam and pickles, a favorite of her family and friends. She loved spending time outdoors and was always up for a walk with a friend.

A memorial Mass to celebrate Therese's life will take place at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 6, at Nativity of our Lord Church, 5900 McClellan, Detroit, with visitation beginning at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Nativity of Our Lord Church, giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/nativity; or Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, simplechurchgiving.net/App/Giving/gros211250.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

John Augustus Wise

Longtime Grosse Pointe Park resident John Augustus Wise, 86, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2024, in Greenwich, Conn., where he spent his last three years near his children and grandchildren.

John was born March 30, 1938. He was the much beloved husband of Helga for 53 years. He was the loving father of Monique of New York, N.Y., and Eric (Kim) of Old Greenwich, Conn. He also was the proud grandfather of John, Isabelle, Ursula, Annika and Henry Wise, and Aidan and Liam McKee. John also is survived by his four siblings, Penny Langlois, Kay Wise, Mark Wise (Pauline) and Rick Wise.

John was a peripatetic scholar, entrepreneur and prominent Detroit attorney. He attended the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass., and the University of Michigan Law School. He also attended school abroad in Vienna and Munich, where he studied law.

In 1963, John met Helga in the mountain getaway of St. Anton,



Therese McGratty



John Augustus Wise

Austria, and there acquired lifelong habits of skiing and spending time with Helga.

In the practice of law, John served as a Washington lobbyist and internal counsel, as well as co-founded a Detroit firm. He was proud of his many sophisticated representations, including key Detroit sports deals of the 1980s, such as the sale of the Red Wings hockey franchise, the lease of Joe Louis Arena and the acquisition of the Tigers baseball franchise. He was known to be uncompromisingly loyal to his clients, who often became dear friends.

John loved to read and maintained a vast library of history and literature in his home. He enjoyed taking in Shakespeare in Stratford, Ontario, Canada, and classical music and opera in Detroit. He also could be found playing chess with his grandchildren or casual games of poker with his brothers and their families.

Most of all, perhaps, he loved a fiery political debate. He never felt

that a disagreement about politics, however heated, was reason for withdrawing from a friendship, a meal, cigars or a glass of wine. His taste for politics he acquired from his mother, Mary Blanche Parent Wise, the first and last Republican woman to sit on the Detroit Common Council (1953-60).

His gregarious and garrulous personality will be missed by his family and many surviving friends.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 3, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Following the Mass, a memorial luncheon will be held at noon at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to University of Detroit Jesuit High School, uofdjhs.org/giving/ways-to-give, or the Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph, thecapuchins.org/donate.

CONCERT:

Continued from page 3B

available for a variety of events. For example, he noted, The Grunyons have sung the national anthem at a Detroit Tigers game and Noteworthy has opened for The Rockettes.

Both groups seek new members.

"If anybody is interested, in booking us or in singing or auditioning for the group, we do have a website," Pam Montgomery said.

For more information about Noteworthy, visit noteworthyings.com.

For more information about the Grunyons, visit thegrunyons.com.

As for their Christmas show, Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church seats around 300, but the popular performance tends to sell out, so the Montgomerys urged those interested in attending to get their tickets soon.

Tickets are \$17 in advance and may be purchased online at christmasonlakeshore.com or by scanning the QR code. A limited number of tickets will be sold at the door for \$25, cash only.



SCAN ME

EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores, offers the following programs:

◆ Holiday Main Residence Guided Tour, 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Sundays, Nov. 29 to Dec. 31. Admission costs vary.

◆ Home for the Holidays at Ford House, entry times every half hour from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Fridays through Sundays, Nov. 30 to Dec. 22. Admission costs vary.

◆ Coffee with Collections, 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 5. Admission is \$25 for members only.

◆ Cookies with Santa, 2 to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Thursdays, Dec. 7 to 21. Tickets are \$20 for members, \$30 for nonmembers.

◆ Mistletoe Mingle, 7 to 10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19. Ages 21 and older welcome. Tickets are \$55 for members, \$70 for nonmembers.

◆ Bruch with Santa, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22. Prices vary per table size.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

Library

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

◆ GPPL Friends \$5 Bag Sale, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 30, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Meet Up & Make: Sparkle Globes, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 2, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ First Tuesday Book Discussion, 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3, at

Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Teen Leadership Council, 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Make Comics Club, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Saturday Drop-in Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Family Center

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods offers QPR training, 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 2, at the Ewald library, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park. Participants learn how to question someone struggling with their mental health, encourage them to get help and where to find resources. Training is free, but registration is appreciated. Email maryjo@familycenterhelps.org.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Doug Kempton of the Eagle Sports Club speaks. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

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

u Vet Connect Seminar Series: Tri-County Veteran Navigators, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3.

u Caricature Night with Andrew Sigman, 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6. Children younger than

14 must be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$30 and includes materials.

u Bedtime Stories with Santa, 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, and Thursday, Dec. 12. A sensory-friendly edition is offered at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8. Cost is \$20 per child, \$1 for accompanying adult.

◆ Silent Book Club, 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10.

◆ Make & Take a Charcuterie Board with Monger's Provisions, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12. Cost is \$90 to build a board; \$100 to build a board with wine tasting.

◆ Holiday Ball: 6th-8th Middle School Dance, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13. Tickets are \$22 in advance, \$26 the week of the dance. Grosse Pointe students only.

◆ Second Saturdays at The War Memorial: Holiday Magic, 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. A variety of crafts, games and activities are available. Cost is \$10.

Chamber

The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce hosts the following networking events:

◆ Holiday Happy Hour, 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4, at Rustic Cabins/Original Buscemis 313, 15209 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ After Hours Networking, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, at Closet Connections, 20427 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

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:

u Lunch at The Helm, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 5. Cost is \$14 for members, \$16 for nonmembers.

◆ Premier World Discovery presents "Music Cities — New Orleans, Memphis and Nashville," 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5. Learn about the itineraries for these two trips.

◆ Holiday Church Tours, Lunch and Dessert, 9:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12. Cost is \$112 for members, \$120 for nonmembers. Participants will visit Historic Trinity Lutheran Church and First Congregational Church of Detroit, with a stop at Amore de Roma Cafe for lunch and dessert at Shatila.

◆ The movie "Operation Christmas Drop" is shown at noon Friday, Dec. 13. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers.

◆ Field trip to the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17. Cost is \$15 for members, \$18 for nonmembers, and includes lunch at The Continental and guided tours through the main residence, which is decorated for the holidays.

◆ Holiday Karaoke Party, noon to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18. Cost is \$22 for members, \$26 for nonmembers, and includes lunch catered by Andiamo.

GPAA

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

◆ Design Principles for the Artist with Marcia Hales, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6.

◆ Relax with Poetry and Painting: A Nancy

Philo Experience, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Dec. 12 and 13.

◆ Venturing into Abstract and Nonrepresentational Art with Marcia Hales, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9.

◆ Portraits in the Style of Berthe Morisot, with Donald Cronkhite, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 16, 23 and 30.

◆ The Art and Science of Color: Understanding and Applying Color Interaction with Mihir Sharma, 6 to 8 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 16, 23 and 30.

◆ Landscapes in the Style of Pierre-Auguste Renoir, with Donald Cronkhite, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 20 and 27, and March 6.

GPPSS

The Grosse Pointe Public School System offers a series of informational nights for various grade levels. The schedule is:

◆ Rising Fifth Grade Info Night, all GPPSS middle schools — 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 6.

◆ Rising Freshman Info Night, Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South — 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8.

◆ Kindergarten & Young Fives Info Night, all GPPSS elementary schools — 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9.

Lauren Radke art

Grosse Pointe Woods artist Lauren Radke hosts a Christmas open studio 2 to 6 p.m. Fridays, Dec. 6 and 13; 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 7 and 14; or by appointment. Cards, Christmas cards, frog books, gift tags, notebooks, paintings, stationery and more are available. For information or to make an appointment, call (313) 510-0767.

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

Holiday concert

The Grosse Pointe Community Chorus presents "A Holiday Concert," at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$5 for ages 12 and younger. Tickets are available at the door, at Moehring Woods Florists, 20923 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, or by calling (313) 882-9732.

Adaptive yoga

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

Toastmasters

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

Monument honoring James J. Brady restored

The iconic bronze statue honoring The Old Newsboys' Goodfellow Fund of Detroit founder James J. Brady was successfully reinstalled on Belle Isle late August, after a summer-long refurbishment project conducted by preservation specialists Grunwell-Cashero and Building Arts & Conservation Inc. The figure was carefully hoisted into its place of honor atop a white marble monument base. Overseeing the lift were members of Detroit Goodfellows, Brady family descendants, members of the Belle Isle Conservancy and Detroit Historical Society, as well as representatives from the preservation team.

The monument, located along Central Avenue in the heart of Belle Isle, originally was installed in 1928, by a grateful Detroit community inspired to honor Brady, who established the Detroit Goodfellows in 1914, to provide holiday gift packages to needy children at Christmas time. The organization's motto is "No Kiddie Without a Christmas."

"The restoration of the James J. Brady monument re-affirms our appreciation to our



Detroit Goodfellows gather in front of the James J. Brady statue at its Aug. 23 reinstallation on Belle Isle.

founder and the continued commitment to children in the Detroit community," said Henry F. Guthard, project director, past president and current historical committee chairperson with the Detroit Goodfellows. "With every holiday gift package we provide — beyond the books, toys, dental kits and warm clothes — is our pledge that no child will ever be

forgotten."

The bronze statue, sculpted and cast by Michigan artist Samuel Cashwan, was last refurbished in 2004. The central figure, Brady, is presented holding a newspaper while sheltering a small girl who is clinging to his overcoat for protection.

With the ravages of weather and time slowly taking a toll on the phys-

ical condition of the monument, Detroit Goodfellows took on the responsibility to help restore its appearance. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources permitted Detroit Goodfellows to complete the work.

A private and anonymous donation completely funded the entire project at no cost to the public. The refurbish-



From left, Frank and Cindy Brady of Grosse Pointe, and Pam and F.J. Brady. Frank and F.J. Brady are descendants of James J. Brady.

ment cost \$70,000.

The general contractor was Grunwell-Cashero, who concentrated on the stone monument repairs. The metal bronze statue work was performed off-site by its subcontractor, Building Arts & Conservation Inc., at its Saline studio.

Though Brady passed away in 1923, just nine years after establishing the Detroit Goodfellows, the organization has continued fulfilling his mission for 110 years. While monies traditionally have been raised by members selling special-edition newspapers on city street corners throughout downtown Detroit each year, the fundraising efforts have expanded to include an annual tribute

breakfast.

In addition to holiday gift packages filled with toys, books, warm clothing and dolls hand dressed by volunteers, the Detroit Goodfellows also provide summer camp opportunities, dental and shoe programs and more.

Supporters can make tax-deductible donations online throughout the year via the secure website, detroitgoodfellows.org or by sending a check to: The Old Newsboys' Goodfellow Fund of Detroit, P.O. Box 44444, Detroit, MI 48244-0444.

Funds raised by the Detroit Goodfellows pay for the holiday packages. A \$50 donation typically covers the cost of one holiday gift box.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DETROIT GOODFELLOWS

Fox Creek Questers thanked for window restoration

Under the direction of Lynn Detwiler, president of Fox Creek Questers, the Questers raised another

\$5,000 to restore and preserve the Provençal Weir House. After raising seed money for the grant, they

received the remaining funds from the International Questers organization to begin restoration of the windows.

Using paint colors to match the existing sills, cleaning and restoring the wood and reglazing in the traditional method for broken windows, master painter Roger Murillo of CR Professional Painters spent countless hours restoring many windows to their original condition, despite significant wood rot and several broken windows.

"The Grosse Pointe Historical Society's staff and board of directors profoundly appreciates the Fox Creek Questers' hard work and leadership," Provençal Weir House curator Leslie Wagner, Ph.D., said. "This is not the only work they have done for us. Altogether they have raised just under \$20,000 through their teas, Vintage

Store sales, je ne sais quoi sales and the previous \$5,000 interior restoration grant from their state organization."

The Quester group intends to apply for additional grants to continue the restoration project, both inside and out.

Questers are committed to historic preservation and restoration. Fox Creek Questers have adopted as their full-time goal the preservation of the PW House.

"They raised an additional \$600 to restore a rotted post on the side porch to keep the roof from falling down on that side," Wagner added. "We are so appreciative."

To donate to the Grosse Pointe Historical Society, visit gphistorical.org/support01.html

For more information about working and fundraising with the Fox Creek Questers, call Detwiler at (313) 719-9146.

Wigs 4 Kids CEO visits Lakeshore Optimist Club

The Lakeshore Optimist Club of Grosse Pointe recently welcomed Maggie Varney, founder and CEO of Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids. Varney founded Wigs 4 Kids in 2003. Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids Wellness Center and Salon is a grassroots 501(c)3 that provides wigs and support services at no charge to children and young adults experiencing hair loss due to cancer, alopecia, trichotillomania, burns and other disorders. Wig recipients, also known as ambassadors, range in age from 3 to 18, and are located throughout Michigan. Wigs for kids has helped more than 5,200 youth receive wigs and support services. For more information, visit



COURTESY PHOTO

Maggie Varney, CEO of Wigs 4 Kids, stands with David Franks, vice president of the Lakeshore Optimist Club.

wigs4kids.org

The Lakeshore Optimist Club meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend. Visit gpointoptimists.com for locations, dates, and times each month. Follow the club at facebook.com/lakeshoreoptimists

Whistle Stop, Kids on the Go partner for Giving Tuesday

Visitors to Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy, 21714 Harper, St. Clair Shores, not only will get the pleasure of meeting Santa Claus, but a percentage of all purchases will be donated to Kids on the Go.

This Giving Tuesday, Dec. 3, 20 percent of purchases made at Whistle Stop between 4 and 7 p.m. will benefit the nonprofit, which offers a variety of free

camps throughout the year to children and teens with special needs.

Because Santa will be in the house, shoppers are encouraged to bring their cameras to capture those special moments.

Giving Tuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform communities and the world.

Worship Service



Saint Ambrose Catholic Church
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Masses
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Sunday — 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.
Tuesday — 8:30 a.m. — Morning Mass
Thursday — 7:00 p.m.
Friday — St. Francis Day — Blessing of Pets — Noon Mass

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☩ Saturday Vigil is streamed online at 8:00 a.m. Sunday on our facebook page

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

WEDNESDAY
10 a.m. - Bible Study
6:30 p.m. - Worship Service

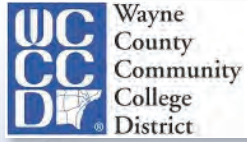
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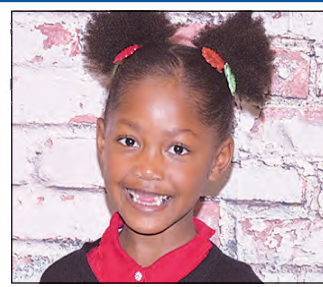
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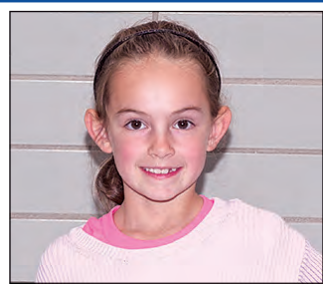
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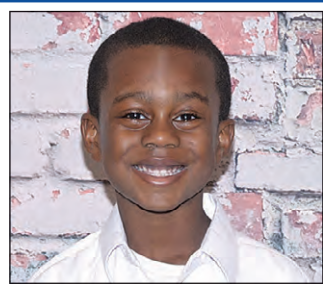
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**Anna Sophia
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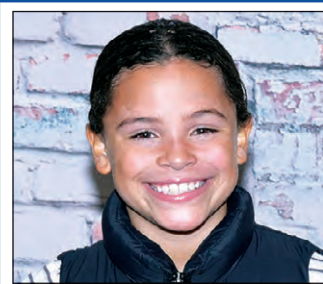
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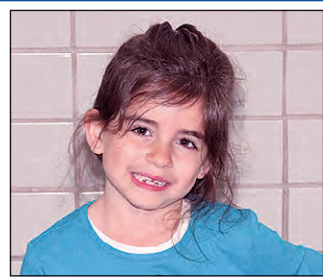
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Wesley Powell *Grade 3*
Amelia Depcinski *Grade 3*
Josephine Insisiengmay *Grade 3*
Mila Veach *Grade 3*
Vivian Hiller *Grade 4*
Lee McCoy *Grade 1*
Amelia Alvarez Gormon *Grade 4*
Maxwel Krease *Grade 3*

MONTEITH ELEMENTARY

Devon Pittman *Grade 2*
Casiel Pittman *Grade 4*
Mai Stephens *Grade 1*
Lula Deeb *Grade 2*
Dominic Koch *Grade 3*
Ember Spina *Grade 4*
Nikolas Olekszyk *Grade 3*

KERBY ELEMENTARY

Avalon Frey *Grade 4*
Luca Young *Grade 4*
Claire Kelly *Grade 3*
Evelyn Hanna *Grade 4*
Savannah Fisher *Grade 3*
Edison Fisher *Grade 5*
Juliette Martinage *Grade 1*

RICHARD ELEMENTARY

Lucy Marshall *Grade 1*
Tinker Marshall *Grade 1*
Eva Broughton *Grade 1*

Wesley Steiner *Grade 1*

Maddie Lambie *Grade 4*
Cecelia Brown *Grade 4*
Harlan Mosher *Grade 4*
Mae Martinico *Grade 4*
Hazel Black *Grade 3*
David Joseph *Grade 4*

DEFER ELEMENTARY

Maddy Mackinnon *Grade 3*
Quinn Bertelsen *Grade 2*
Emilia Young *Grade 2*
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Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church's 2nd annual Christmas tree sale starts Nov. 29

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Following a successful inaugural year, Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church is hosting its second annual Christmas tree sale, on the grounds of the church, 17150 Maumee, City of Grosse Pointe.

"We sold all of our trees last year," parishioner Michael Thompson said. "We had 100, sold those and brought in another 25 and sold those, too. Our neighbors and the community responded really well to it."

Thompson said he's hoping for the same enthusiasm this year, as the church has 150 trees to unload. The Fraser firs — grown on a tree farm in South Boardman, near Cadillac — measure between six and eight feet.

"Nothing shorter than

six feet, but there may be a 10-footer or two in there," Thompson said.

Though the sale doesn't start until Friday, Nov. 29, trees are available for preorder at a reduced rate. Preordered trees cost \$75 each; after Nov. 29, the price tag is \$85. Checks, cash or credit/debit cards are accepted.

There is an additional \$15 fee for local deliveries.

"We're in a situation where we kind of need new streams of revenue," Thompson said, noting funds raised last year went to mechanical repairs at the church.

This year's funds are earmarked for the parking lot.

"It's coming apart on us," he said. "We want to stay up on it so it's cheaper to fix in the short run."

Those interested in buying a tree during the



Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church member Michael Thompson stands by some of the trees sold in last year's sale.

COURTESY PHOTO

sale — which runs until every tree is sold — need only show up at the church. Sale hours are 3 p.m. until dark Fridays and 9 a.m. until dark

Saturdays. In compliance with city ordinance, sales will not take place Sundays.

"We appreciate the business," Thompson noted. "We had gotten a lot of excitement last year — great feedback from the community. We had people bringing a wagon from their house and walking it over. It was really special to them and to us. We want to make sure we're sup-

ported so we can keep growing it."

He said parishioners last year asked if the sale could become more of an experience.

"We'd like to create some sort of tradition for folks," he said. "So just hang on and we'll get there. We'll give them something they want and we'll work for it."

For more informa-

tion or to order a tree, call the church at (313) 881-0420 or scan the QR code.



ASK THE EXPERTS By Rachel Goldberg, WMSW

Being realistic with goals, expectations

"Pressure creates diamonds."

I believe the purpose of the quote is to send a message that even through adversity, we can find strength, perseverance and, as a result, create something beautiful even through the "heat" of it all. I also believe that too much pressure can also cause unmanageable and unhealthy levels of stress, burn out and — to put it bluntly — misery.

Our family, work and social lives constantly demand our energy, attention and presence, so pressure is inevitable. When managed well, pressure can energize and motivate us to perform. The question is, how can we identify our pressures and then manage them better?

One strategy that has proven helpful in increasing awareness around our stress and in helping manage it better is to identify: "Is the pressure I am feeling driven by a self-imposed standard or an external factor? i.e. Am I putting this pressure on myself (internal) or is this something that is expected of me from an outside party (external)?"

Here are some examples of both:

Internal Pressure (IP)

- ◆ Personal expectations that are impossible to meet
 - ◆ Negative internal dialogue/thinking
 - ◆ Inability to cope with a sudden change or accepting when things go wrong
 - ◆ Perfectionism/rigidity
 - ◆ A mindset that if you don't completely succeed, you're a failure
- ### External (EP)
- ◆ Problems at work/school
 - ◆ Difficulties in close relationships, with kids, etc.
 - ◆ Major life changes, grieving a loss, etc.
 - ◆ Financial difficulty
 - ◆ Being overworked/overbooked with no time to yourself
 - ◆ Health issues

To identify what we are experiencing, it's important to remember that IP and EP can impact one another and are interrelated. EPs, like work, can be affected by negative self-talk and IPs, like perfectionism, can make it more difficult to interact with your spouse. Ask yourself these questions in the context of, "Is this coming from an

internal expectation of myself or from an external expectation from someone or something else?"

- ◆ Are your goals/standards achievable and realistic?
- ◆ Are you doing things because you truly enjoy them or because you are trying to be impressive, look good or earn praise?
- ◆ Are you doing things out of old patterns that are not relevant/realistic for your life anymore?
- ◆ Do you think you have to or should show up for everything and everyone?

Once you've identified where the pressure is originating, then you have more information on to how to tackle it. Strategies could include changing your thought patterns, working on better communication or setting boundaries.

Suggested adjustments:

- ◆ Prioritize/organize your days/weeks creating reasonable and realistic timelines
- ◆ Delegate when you can, advocate for yourself/ask for help
- ◆ Talk to your support system for guidance/reassurance
- ◆ Assess your limits, boundaries, stress levels and self-care methods
- ◆ Ask "If I am not perfect or do it all, what does life look like? What will truly change?"
- ◆ Determine what is in your control
- ◆ Seek help from a therapist

By taking time to identify what you're struggling with, what you need, what you can control and by seeking out support, you can better manage pressure and live a happier, healthier life.

Rachel Goldberg, LMSW, uses a collaborative approach to help her clients feel more in control, secure and at ease in their lives. She sees teens, adults and families and specializes in working with medical professionals who are contending with stress/burnout and communication issues. She can be reached at (313) 351-4347 or rachelgoldbergpsychotherapy@gmail.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



POINTING YOU IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION WITH REAL-LIFE ADVICE!

Simple tips to keep holiday weight off your hips

Dear Gabby: I have lost a fair amount of weight over the last few months and now I'm dreading the holidays because I feel like I might just go crazy and gain it all back.

What can I do other than "bring my own snacks" to a party (That seems to be the advice I'm finding online and it sounds tragic and ridiculous)? Help! — Now Skinny in the Shores

Dear Now Skinny,

Congratulations on getting your body in a healthier place! Likely it took weeks and months to take it off — and it won't come

back in a matter of days just because of some holiday fun.

Please do yourself a favor and have fun during the holiday festivities without beating yourself up about a few too many brief appetizers and some desserts. When you think about how many days you might be over-eating, it's a blip.

If you really want to put your best foot forward, a few pieces of advice to try:

1. Make an effort to eat really well before you go out. Think salads and vegetables.

2. Play a game when you are out and try to

focus on eating mostly things that are brightly colored. Avoiding the beige likely will save you a bunch of calories and you might actually fill up on good-for-you options.

3. Do your best to keep a positive attitude and not focus on what NOT to eat. Sometimes when we are so focused on what not to do, it's the only thing we can think about.

Now go have some fun!

— Gabby

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



Giving thanks on Thanksgiving

DEAR READERS: I want to wish you and your families a wonderful Thanksgiving! This holiday gives me the perfect reason to express how grateful I am for all of you. Your thoughtful questions and comments have taught me so much about life and continue to inspire me every day. Thank you for letting me be a part of your journey.

Practicing gratitude offers profound benefits for both our mental and physical health. It's a simple act that can lead to improved mood, reduced stress, better relationships, and even a stronger immune system. Gratitude can be as small as jotting down a few things you're thankful for or as big as expressing heartfelt thanks to someone who's impacted your life.

There's no one "right" way to practice gratitude; it's personal, and what matters is finding what works for you. Whether it's keeping a journal, meditating, writing

thank-you notes or simply pausing to appreciate the moment, every little bit makes a difference.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, I encourage you to take a moment to reflect on what you're grateful for and let it brighten your day.

Please find below some of my favorite gratitude quotes.

"Wear gratitude like a cloak, and it will feed every corner of your life." — Rumi

"I awoke this morning with devout thanksgiving for my friends, the old and the new." — Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude." — A.A. Milne

"Do not spoil what you have by desiring what you have not; remember that what you now have was once among the

things you only hoped for." — Epicurus

"Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good." — Maya Angelou

"Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude." — Ralph Waldo Emerson

"We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives." — John F. Kennedy

"What separates privilege from entitlement is gratitude." — Brene Brown

"O Lord that lends me life, lend me a heart

replete with thankfulness." — William Shakespeare

"Gratitude is the sign of noble souls." — Aesop

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them." — John F. Kennedy

"The power of finding beauty in the humblest things makes home happy and life lovely." — Louisa May Alcott

"When I started counting my blessings, my whole life turned around." — Willie Nelson

"When eating fruit, remember the one who planted the tree." — Vietnamese Proverb

"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it." — William Arthur Ward



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

"Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom." — Marcel Proust

"I don't have to chase extraordinary moments to find happiness — it's right in front of me if I'm paying attention and practicing gratitude." — Brene Brown

"This is a wonderful day. I have never seen this one before." — Maya Angelou

DEAR ANNIE: I I got divorced at 42 many years ago, but not one of my friends abandoned me. Early on, I made it clear to everyone that I would never pursue anyone's husband; I valued my friendships far too much for that. I was

invited to every lunch and party, and I hosted many gatherings myself.

We had such a wonderful time together! I like to think it wasn't because I was considered "too homely" to be a threat; I was fun, lively and attractive. My dating life was quite active, spanning across three nearby counties!

However, I believe the real reason my friendships remained intact was cultural. Many of us were European-born or of European descent, and our shared values and cultural background made a difference. — Friendships First

DEAR FRIENDSHIPS FIRST: I love the fact that you addressed the issue head-on with your friends.

DEAR ANNIE: In my community, we have an organization called Compass Club, which has been a vital resource for women over the years. Originally established as a newcomers club, we evolved our mission during my tenure as president to focus on supporting women in transition — whether they are widowed, divorced, retired or new to the area.

Over my 34 years of membership, the club has been a godsend for dozens of women, offering friendship, support and connection.

I encourage these women to explore whether similar organizations exist in their area; they can be a wonderful way to build community and navigate life's changes. — The Compass Club.

DEAR COMPASS CLUB: Thank you for your wonderful suggestion. I hope it helps people connect with each other.

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

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We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



If there's one thing that can make you feel like an organized, put-together adult, it's a perfectly curated spice cabinet.

When I recently looked at my own, though, I was pretty far from that ideal. Picture 100 bottles, each a different size, with labels fading or falling off, all crammed together like it was some kind of spice nightclub.

So, naturally, I turned to Amazon and found a 48-piece spice jar set — complete with glass jars, pre-printed spice labels, a chalk marker and a handy little funnel. For

\$33, I figured it was worth the gamble.

Step one: I sorted through my existing spices. Turns out I had more duplicates than expected. Who needs three jars of paprika? But with a little determination, I got the duplicates under control and started transferring everything into the sleek new glass jars.

The kit's silicone funnel

deserves an award. It made transferring spices a (mostly) mess-free experience and I didn't



lose any precious ground cumin to the counter. Chalk that up as a win.

Then came the labeling. There's something deeply satisfying about slapping on a uniform label and seeing each jar in clean, crisp rows. The chalk marker gave me the freedom to customize a few names, like "Pizza Seasoning" or "That Extra Hot Cayenne." And with a dozen or so extra labels, I can add any new spices

without breaking the theme.

The whole process took about two hours and my kitchen counter at one point looked like a tornado had hit the bulk spice aisle. But the transformation was worth every minute. Now, when I open that cabinet, I feel like I have my life together (even if only in the spice department). And the best part? I can actually find what I need without knocking over six different bottles.

In the end, this spice organization kit is the real deal. I give this prod-

uct 5 out of 5 alligators for ease of use and great value for the price. If you're ready for a mini glow-up in your kitchen, I can confidently say it's totally worth it.

We LOVE testing out new things! Tell us about your favorite item or something you want us to try for you! Drop us a line at media@grossepointenews.com.



5 Out Of 5

Thinking of leftovers

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Even though it is not quite Thanksgiving leftover time, I want to plant this recipe seed with you. This dish is a huge hit with my family and so easy and fast to make.

Pot pie is the ultimate comfort food in my opinion. It's humble, satisfying and a mouthwatering way to use up leftover turkey or chicken. It's especially a great way to use up any fresh herbs and vegetables. But I struggle with some of my kids not liking the crust.

They will however eat buttery, light, crispy phyllo. Phyllo is a Middle Eastern dough that is as thin as a tissue. Because of this, it dries out fast. When working with phyllo, you will need a damp cloth to cover any dough you aren't currently working with. Once it dries, it becomes brittle and unworkable.

But don't let this dissuade you. There is no fussing with making and then rolling out dough.

You can find phyllo in the freezer aisle near the dessert section of your grocery store. You just need to defrost before cooking using the package directions.

The below ingredients

are just a guideline for you. You could use any herb you have such as dill, thyme or tarragon. I happened to have sage and parsley.

I've put diced zucchini and spinach in the filling before and it turned out great. You could add frozen peas as well. But trust this method and it will turn out great every time.

For extra flavor, I added a bouillon cube. It really drives home the poultry savory taste.

This pot pie is made entirely in a cast iron skillet which means it will stay warm out of the oven for a good amount of time. If you don't have one, any oven safe skillet will work.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving and keep this thought in the back of your mind for when the family gets sick of turkey sandwiches.

Cheers, Mombeau

Phyllo Crusted Turkey Pot Pie

3 tbsp butter

2 tbsp flour

1 cup green beans, trimmed

1 cup carrots, diced

1 small onion, peeled and diced

1 garlic clove, minced

2 tbsp chopped herbs (rosemary, sage or parsley)

1 tsp each, salt and pepper

4 cups shredded turkey meat (dark or white)

2 cups chicken broth

1 chicken bouillon cube

10-12 sheets phyllo dough, defrosted

½ stick (4 tbsp) butter, melted

Preheat your oven to 375 degrees. In a 12-inch skillet, melt the butter. Cut the green beans into one inch pieces. Add them to the pan along with the onions and carrots. Sauté until the onions are soft, about five minutes. The other vegetables will finish cooking in the oven. Add in the garlic and fresh herbs. Stir to combine then sprinkle in the flour. Let the flour cook with

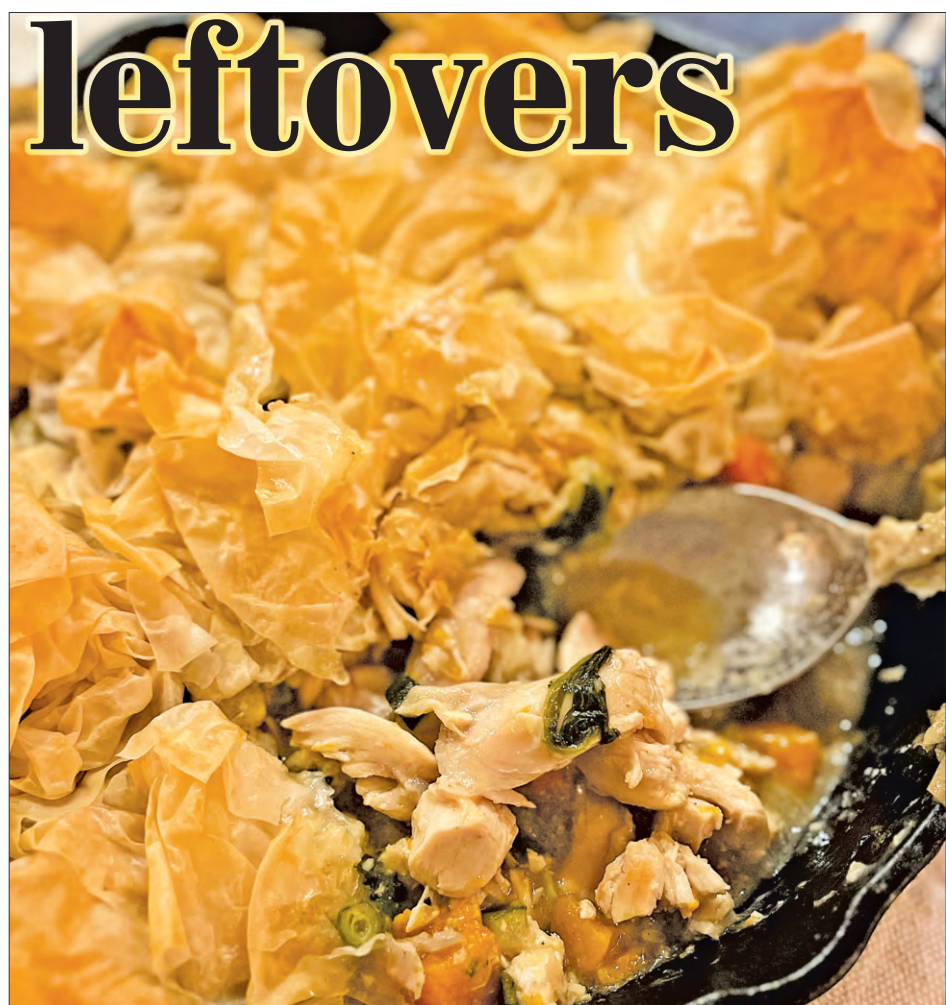


PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

the vegetables for a couple minutes while continuing to stir. Add in the broth and bouillon cube. Use your stirring spoon to smash the bouillon cube so it dissolves in the broth. Bring to a low boil and simmer until the liquid thickens and becomes like a gravy. It should take a few minutes. Fold in the shreds of turkey. Turn the heat off.

On a flat surface, roll out the phyllo dough

sheets. Have a damp cloth on hand to cover the dough so it doesn't dry out as well as the melted butter. Take one sheet of phyllo at a time and place it on the flat surface. Brush a thin, even layer of butter all over the top. Scrunch each buttered sheet into about a 4-inch circle. This works best if you grab it in the center then gently scrunch so it almost resembles a car-

nation flower. Place on top of the skillet. Do this until the entire surface is covered. Brush the top with any remaining butter. Place on a cooking tray in the oven and bake, uncovered for 20 minutes. Take out and let rest for a few minutes. It will be screaming hot and bubbly! Because of the cast iron, it will stay warm for a good amount of time.

Enjoy!



Thanksgiving wine

Almost any wine, red, white, rose or even sparkling, will be fine with all the myriad flavors extant on the traditional Thanksgiving table — but there's one huge proviso: as long as you don't expect the wine to work with the food.

That's because no single wine will.

For decades, I've written columns on "what wine goes with turkey," even though I know no single wine could ever fit that event.

The one huge fallacy in such wine columns: great Thanksgiving dinner tables will have many different flavors and tastes, savories and sweets, that six or eight wines would work well with such panoply.

But for various reasons,

the myth that's perpetuated is that there is one wine, perhaps two, that work best with the traditional Thanksgiving dinners. Such columns usually go on to offer suggestions.

The problem is obvious: what counts most at family gatherings are people. Sure, it's better when the food and wine are delectable, but the traditional family gathering around a dinner table doesn't need a discussion of the quality of vintages in the Pfalz.

In fact, wine may not be appropriate for many diners. Some folks may want a beer, others iced tea or Cherry KJafa and soda water.

Diverse groups may also include people who like wine, but only white zinfandel. And someone

might say he must have a Grand Cru burgundy or another who'll argue that only one wine goes with Thanksgiving dinner — a Nouveau Beaujolais.

If the dinner table at Thanksgiving had only a traditional roasted turkey with sage, a light, elegant, herbal/cherry scented cabernet might be nice. But almost no one makes such a wine these days. Almost all are heavy, rich, dense, weighty monsters, laden with oak.

Moreover, assume that the stuffing has raisins, chestnuts and another sort of dried fruit. Then the cabernet will taste odd. Cabernet works best with savory, not sweet things.

For that, perhaps an off-dry riesling would be best. But then we come to candied yams (marshmallows?), creamed corn, carrots with orange marmalade, cranberry sauce.

So, we need at least three wines — dry, off-dry and sweet. And perhaps the dry wines should include one white, one pink and one red. Now we're up to six.

If we try to focus on dry wines because the

mashed potatoes and gravy, the stuffing and the turkey are the main features, then look seriously at cru beaujolais.

This isn't the frivolous nouveau. Wines from the 2020 vintage that were released in spring are less than \$20. Of the 10 Cru regions, those that make the richest wines are Moulin-a-Vent, Fleurie and Morgon; more elegant are Regnie, Chiroubles and St.-Amour. This is one red wine that may be served slightly chilled.

Other choices for adventuresome diners:

- New Zealand sauvignon blanc, notably for those meals where there is a lot of greenery, such as salads, artichokes, avocados, cilantro and even a vegetarian main dish.
- Grenache, especially one from Australia where the flavors of the wine emulate cranberry and plum.
- Lemberger from Washington state.
- Barbera from Italy.

Whatever you choose, remember that family, happy recollections, and sharing the best in our lives

is far more important than a wine that got 98 points.

Dan Berger lives in Sonoma County, California, where he publishes "Vintage

Experiences," a weekly wine newsletter. Write to him at winenut@gmail.com.

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Left, Peyton List as Bea Jenkins and Michael Cimino as Cole Sanchez in the 2024 movie "Girl Haunts Boy," directed by Emily Ting.



Cole (Cimino) gets spooked.

MOVIE REVIEW
"Girl Haunts Boy"
2024 - Rated PG
1 hr 40 min
★★★★☆

You'd think a movie called "Girl Haunts Boy" would be a bit on the scary side. Well, you'd be wrong. It's actually a family friendly, coming of age film that doesn't have a frightening moment in it. As the title implies, there is a ghost in it. But in reality, she's a charming, witty, teenaged spirit just about any young man would fall for.

The film is directed by Emily Ting and stars Michael Cimino ("Never Have I Ever," "Senior Year") and Peyton List ("School Spirits"). It's set in New York in the 1920s and the present day. I thought the camerawork by Rob Givens was especially good — it really added to the overall fun of the film. The costumes and sets were also worth noting; they helped set

the tone of the picture. I find the special effects in a lot of ghost stories tend to be on the hokey side. But in this case, Roy Savoy's subtle visual effects made the film's ghost scenes almost believable.

It's the 1920s when we first meet Bea Jenkins (List). She's on a field trip with her high school class at the history museum. Just as the class is leaving, she wanders off and explores a closed section of the building. There she finds a beautiful ancient ring. The case housing the ring is unlocked and temptation gets the better of her and she tries it on. When a guard discovers her and ushers her out, she inadvertently pockets the valuable item. Then the unthinkable occurs. After leaving the museum, she's struck by a car and is instantly killed.

Fast forward to the present. It's moving day

for Cole Sanchez (Cimino) and his mother Catarina (Andre Navedo). They've recently purchased a beautiful Victorian-era house and are about to start a new life. Cole still in mourning for the recent loss of his father and Catarina feels new surroundings might help the two of them move on. He's reticent to make friends at school, but he's drawn to Lydia (Phoebe Holden), who as luck would have it, is heavily into the occult and all things supernatural.

One day not long after moving into his new home, Cole senses a



A candlelit stroll.



Bea Jenkins played by Peyton List.



presence in his bedroom. When he puts on a ring he discovers in his room, (yes, that ring), he's stunned to see Bea. It's the first time she's been able to communicate with anyone since she was killed, all those years ago. After the initial shock wears off, the two of them open up to each other. Their personalities couldn't be more different. Bea is dying (sorry about that) to connect with people, while Cole is reluctant to make new friends, for fear of losing someone again. However they really hit it off.

Cimino and List have an undeniable chemistry together. They strike up an easy friendship, which you know simply can't blossom into a real love affair. But they take things in stride. Bea is bubbly and cheerful and is more than eager to discover how much she's missed over the past hundred years. And Cole is more than happy to fill

her in. One of the most charming and memorable segments in the movie is when he catches her up on the history of music. He's an amateur musician and is the perfect musical tour guide.

At school, Cole seems to be floundering a bit. His English teacher Mr. Porter (Brandon Micheal Hall), knows just how smart he is and is determined to help Cole express himself. Interestingly, the class is reading F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby" which also deals with nostalgia, yearning and moving on. While Cole grows close to Bea, he also knows she eventually needs to let go. She's stuck in between two worlds and can't continue to exist in the present.

The ending could have gone in several directions. Selfishly, I was looking for a "and they all lived happily ever after," fairy tale ending. But the intelligent way it was handled made for an even better conclusion. I don't think you'll be disappointed.

Currently streaming on Netflix and to rent on Apple TV and Amazon.

Note to parents: The film is rated PG and I think it's appropriate for kids of all ages. Even adults!

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.

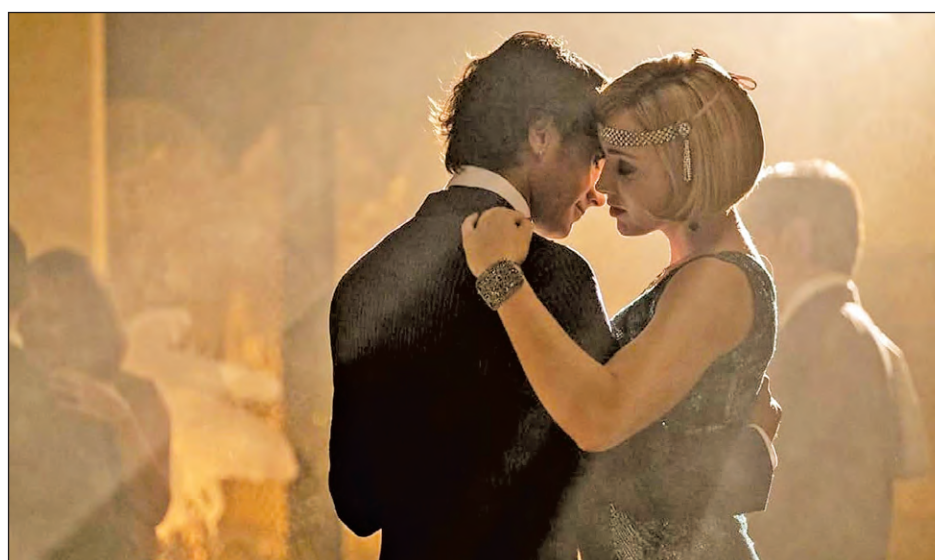
★★★★★ So good you'd actually go out and buy it!

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.



Cole with his English teacher Mr. Porter (Brandon Micheal Hall).



The happy couple at a flapper-themed party.

DEATH WATCH

by Bill Bradley

Part 5: Stand by the Wheel

"Ditch, Cervera, ditch, we got tagged." Todd rattled.

Todd slammed the throttle and joystick up to the gruesome sounds of tangled steel as it strangled the Monarch. Cervera and Todd pulled the pins on their emergency position radio beacons and lunged into the violent swells. The disabled airship jolted up, sideways and then wobbled into the driving white foam. shot through the smoke and debris heading for the sailboat.

He threw Katie a line as she and Starter jumped clear of the sinking ship. honed in on the floundering dog and woman, hauling them toward the Thor.

Captain Lieng snapped a line of beads on the abacus and pointed the wheel to the faint white lights of the distant flares. His eyes then focused on the celestial map of twinkling spiked diamonds as the Red Star assaulted the breakers to the wreckage. He reversed his engines full throttle and slowed the tanker as he spotted the scattered

parts of the fleet. The steel walls of his ship sheltered the floundering orphans for a leeward pick-up as Jaing threw over a cargo net. Billy tendered Thor next to the steel walls of the Red Star and lashed down his bow to the whipping freighter lines and led Katie and Starter into the swinging cargo net.

Jaing hit the wench for the cargo hoist and began to rise up the net as Billy lunged into the huge web as it ricocheted and bounced to the deck.

Leing spotted the flickering strobe lights on the life vests of Todd



and Cervera and slowly headed for the tiny bursts of light as Jaing swung the shipwrecked cargo to the topside of the ship. Todd and Cervera treaded water and struggled in the black swells as the ship neared their location. Leing swung the ship to windward and Jaing lowered the cargo net again for the final pickup of the rescue team. Todd and Cervera coughed and thrashed as they swam to the swinging net and climbed in. The hoist wrench

moaned as it lifted the two seamen to the starboard rails. Leing held the breaching ship and rubbed his eyes trying to focus on a phantom vision drifting outside the pilot house and floating in the sheets of rain, when he heard a whisper, "Stand by the wheel."

"Women, Wind and Fortune, change quickly."

— Sailors Proverb

About the Author: Bill

Bradley graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School. He was a dock boy at Kean's Marina and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1968 and served 13 months in Vietnam. He taught sailing in the Atlantic Ocean and delivered sailboats up the East Coast. A graduate of Burlington College in Burlington Vt. with a B.A in writing & literature. A certified grant writer and animal rights advocate. He is currently working on a novel. E-mail: lakestclair48080@yahoo.com.

Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

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

Happy Birthday for Thursday, November 28, 2024: You are multitalented, modern and cutting-edge. Despite your strong individuality, you value loyalty with family and friends. This is a year of learning and teaching. Take time for reflection. You also might renew your spiritual or religious beliefs. Explore philosophies that give you a better understanding of yourself.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

If you're discussing controversial subjects today, you will put a lot of yourself in what you have to say. (Go easy if you see the hair blowing back over other people's ears.) Remember to use the advantage you have right now when dealing with bosses and authority figures. Yes, use it! Tonight: Friends.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)

You are the financial wizard of the zodiac, and today you will have strong opinions about issues related to taxes, debt, insurance and shared property. This is why you won't hesitate to speak up! Do be aware that people notice you more than usual today. Tonight: Show respect.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

Discussions with partners, spouses and close friends will be lively today. (This could involve an ex-partner or old friend back on the scene.) The intensity of whatever transpires might come from someone else or it might come from you. Meanwhile, do something different today to shake things up! Tonight: Learn!

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

At work today or perhaps with issues related to your health, you will be opinionated! One reason for this is you might feel that you are covering old ground and dealing with things from the past that you have already been clear about. (Will no one listen?) Tonight: Check your finances.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

This is a powerful day for those involved in creative projects. If you act, work in the arts, or you draw or sculpt or dance — whatever the medium — you will express yourself with passion! Meanwhile, be ready to compromise and be agreeable with others today. Tonight: Listen.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Family discussions will be lively today because someone from the past who is back on the scene might have strong opinions. Perhaps parents have strong ideas. Whatever the case, everyone has their two cents to add to the argument. Tonight: Get organized.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Today social diversions appeal to you. Play hooky if you can. Take a long lunch. Enjoy fun outings, sports and playful activities with children. Meanwhile, exchanges with others will be lively and dynamic because everyone has an opinion today! (Oh yeah. That's putting it mildly.) Tonight: Socialize.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You have strong ideas about financial matters today. Or perhaps about something you own. Either way, you won't hesitate to tell it like it is. Fortunately, with Venus in your House of Communications, you'll be diplomatic and charm-

ing. Cocoon if you can. Tonight: Relax.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Today the Sun is lined up with Mercury retrograde in your sign, which makes you talkative and clear about what you want. You might reassess your goals and redefine what really matters to you. You will find it easy to express yourself in an eloquent way. (Not surprising for your sign.) Tonight: Conversations.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Today you might find yourself rethinking something. You also might wonder how others see you and your ideas. Nevertheless, you have increased clarity today about whatever it is that's been holding you back. It's a day of self-awareness. Tonight: Check your money.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Discussions with an old friend or someone you haven't seen for a while might be clarifying and provocative for you today. In fact, somebody might say something that causes you to rethink your goals. In part, this might be due to changing values that you're experiencing. Tonight: You're strong.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

If talking to parents, bosses, teachers, VIPs or the police today, you'll have a lively exchange! This might be about past issues. Or it might be that you want to introduce a new way of looking at things. Certainly, if someone in authority has a strong opinion, you must listen. Tonight: Privacy.

BORN TODAY
Actress, comedian Margaret Cho (1968), Gen. George Armstrong Custer (1839), actor Adan Canto (1981).

Farms public safety hosts open house

Photo story by Renee Landuyt

Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety hosted its biannual open house Saturday, Oct. 5, at its station, 90 Kerby. Sgt. Tim Harris and K-9 Rocco, who is trained in obedience, explosive detection, tracking, area search, building search and apprehension, demonstrated Rocco's abilities. There was a fingerprinting demonstration. Children and family members were able to sit in the fire trucks and learn about the equipment in the truck and patrol cars. Along with drone demonstrations, there were goodies for kids like fire hats, stickers and coloring books. Every division of the public safety department was represented, including special response team, dive team and field training officers.



Hudson and Charlotte Williams showed off their newly acquired junior firefighter badges.



Sgt. Tim Harris and K-9 Rocco demonstrate Rocco's skill at finding a planted device Harris hid on the fire truck. When Rocco finds something during a search, he alerts the officer by sitting down.



Above, Brothers Nate and Alex Laquere sit on the back of the Grosse Pointe Farms ladder truck.



Left, Grosse Pointe Farms firefighter Amber Williams helps Camden Lawrey with his fire hat.

Contract Bridge

A DUPLICATE DISASTER

West dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ A 7
♥ A K J 10 3
♦ A K 8 3 2
♣ K

WEST

♠ J 10 9 8 2
♥ 5 4
♦ J 9 6
♣ 6 4 2

EAST

♠ Q 3
♥ Q 9 8 6
♦ 10 5 4
♣ J 10 9 5

SOUTH

♠ K 6 5 4
♥ 7 2
♦ Q 7
♣ A Q 8 7 3

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	6NT		

Opening lead — jack of spades.

The strong emphasis duplicate bridge places on overtricks can sometimes produce a result that would cause a nonduplicate player to shake his head in disbelief. A spectacular example is provided by today's deal, which occurred in a national pairs event.

South reached six notrump as shown, and West led the jack of spades. In rubber bridge, declarer would have no

problem assuring the slam. He would simply establish dummy's hearts, losing a trick to the queen along the way, and wind up with 12 tricks consisting of two spades, four hearts, three diamonds and three clubs.

But at duplicate, where making six might be a poor result if seven can be made, South cannot afford to settle for a mere 12 tricks. So when dummy came down, declarer immediately noted that if West held two, three or four hearts including the queen, 13 tricks could be made by taking one or two heart finesses.

Accordingly, South won the first trick in his hand with the king of spades and led a heart to the ten, whereupon East, smoothly and in tempo, followed low! This had the desired effect on South, who quite understandably was convinced that the precious overtrick was just around the corner.

So he cashed dummy's king of clubs to unblock the suit, crossed to the queen of diamonds and played the A-Q of clubs before leading a heart to the jack. One can only imagine South's chagrin when East won with the queen and cashed the jack of clubs for down one! Duplicate bridge is not for the faint of heart.

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by Steve Becker

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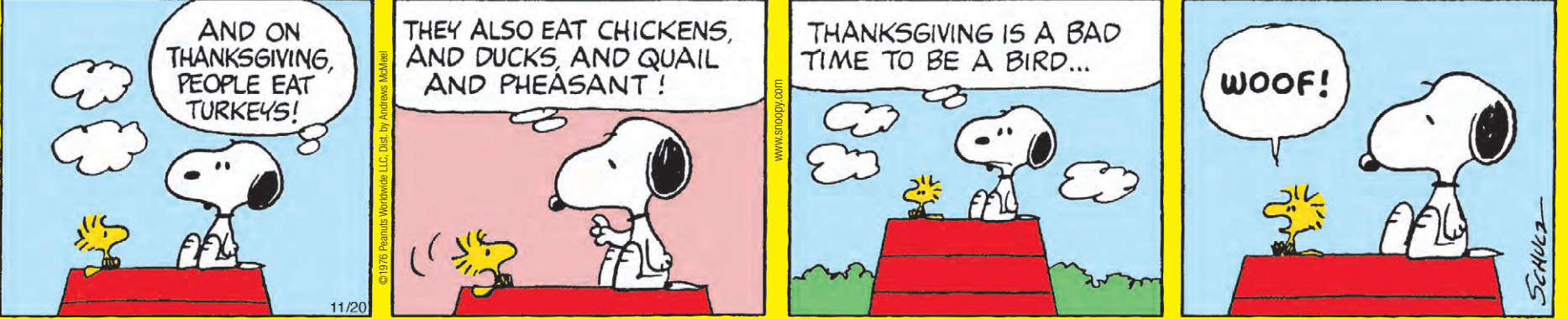


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Comics

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



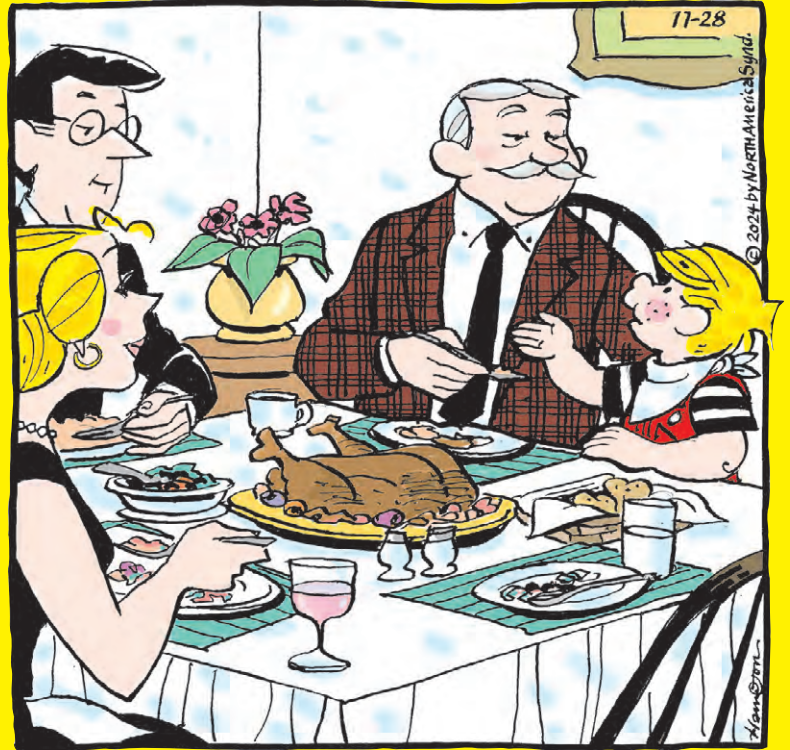
Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



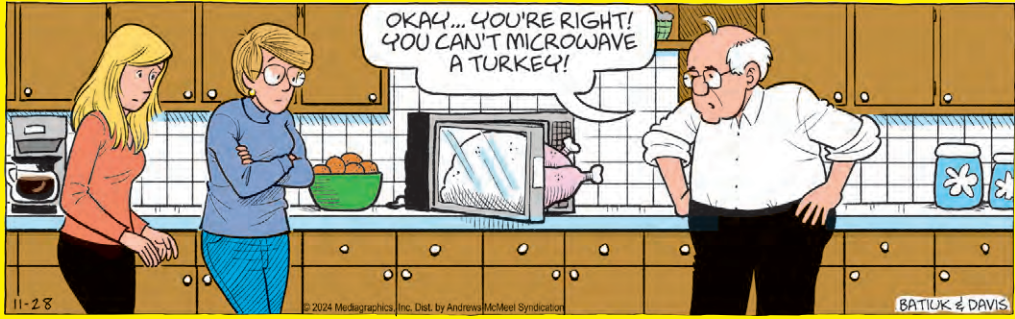
Dennis the Menace

Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



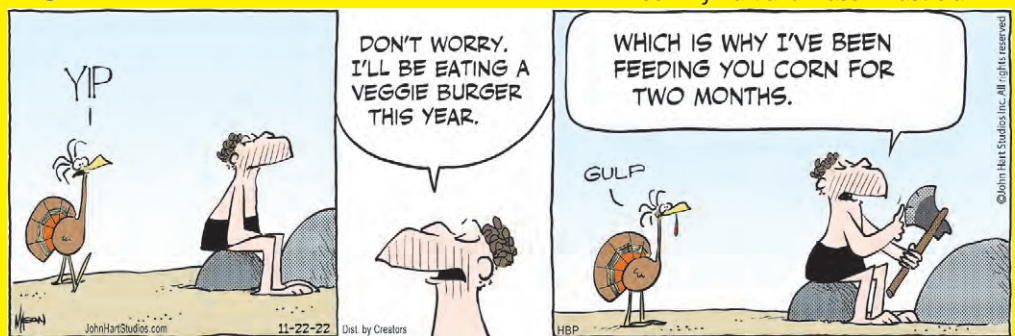
Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



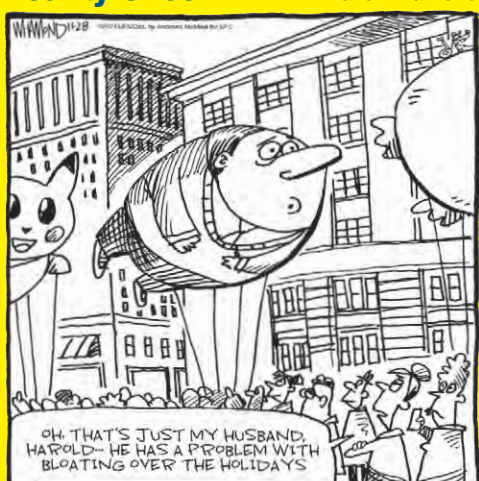
Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Reality Check

Dave Whamond



Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



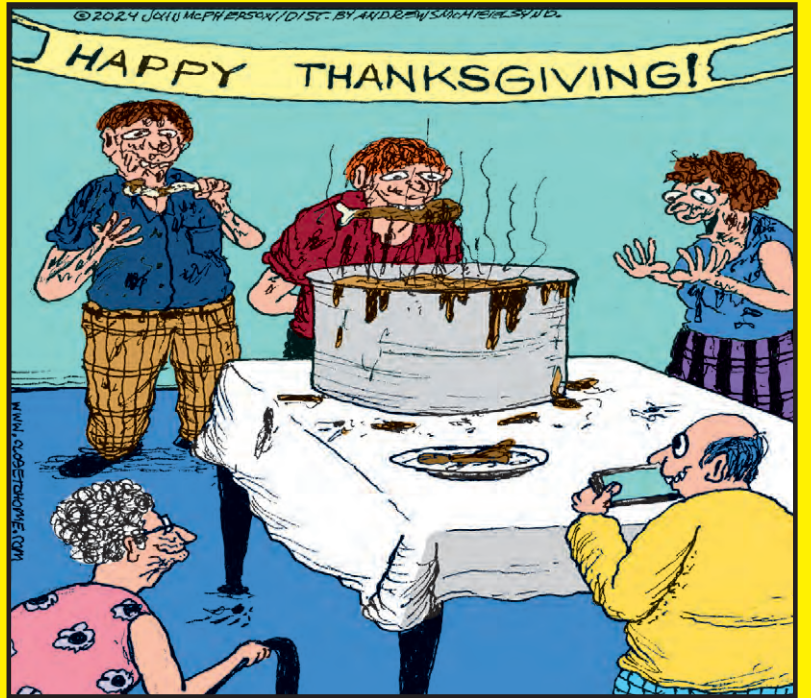
The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



Close To Home

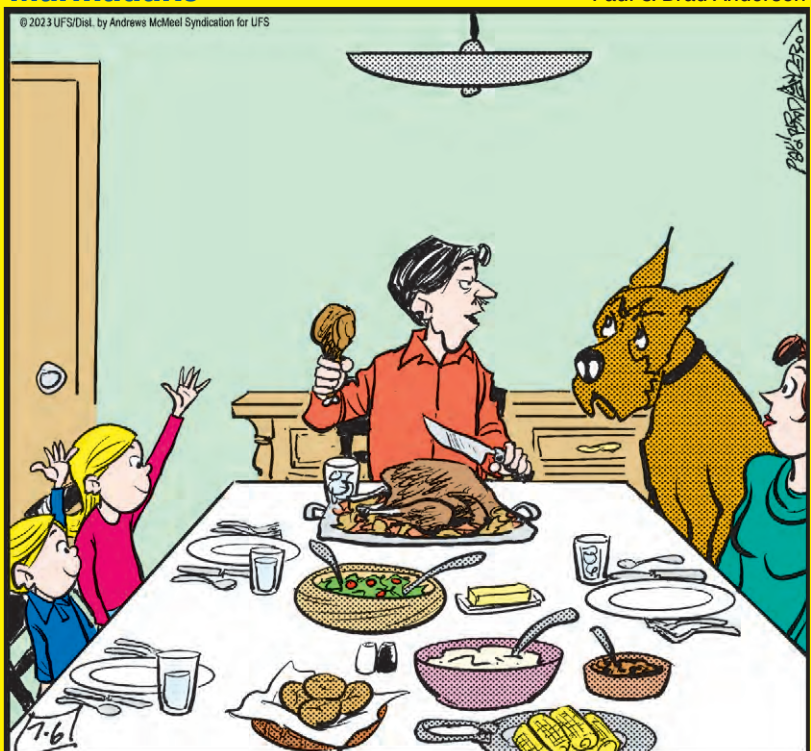
John McPherson



The Norberts partake in their Thanksgiving tradition of bobbing for drumsticks in hot gravy.

Marmaduke

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South girls swim finishes season as state runner-up

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe South girls varsity swim and dive team had its sights set on the state podium before the fall season began. Saturday, Nov. 23, the Blue Devils finished their quest at the MHSAA Division 2 girls swim and dive state finals, where South retained its reputation as one of the top teams in the state by earning a second-place overall team finish.

“They really came together nicely as a team on Saturday when it got really close,” South girls swim and dive head coach John Fodell said. “Every spot moved up was almost more important with everything we were battling for and it was just such a good experience.”

The Blue Devils finished second only to Farmington Hills Mercy, with South tallying 255 points to Mercy’s dominant 375.5. The Blue Devils were able to narrowly finish just 11 points ahead of third-place Birmingham Seaholm.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH ATHLETICS

South’s varsity girls swim and dive team stands atop the podium with the trophy to commemorate a second-place overall finish at the Division 2 girls swim and dive state finals on Saturday, Nov. 22.

South did have some of the most impressive performances of the day with plenty of swimmers earning medals, including some who brought home individual state titles.

One of those champions was junior Whitney Handwork, who swam to first place in the 50 free-

style with a championship time of 23.71. The race was as tight as can be and Handwork was only 0.15 seconds ahead of fourth-place finisher Avery Beal from Grosse Pointe North, who had a time of 23.86.

“(Whitney’s) ability to step up for the team and win the state title in the

50 (freestyle) shows that she’s just a real swimmer able to get the monkey off her back and swim well again, which was huge,” Fodell said.

Another championship performance for the Blue Devils came from freshman Caroline Bryan in the 100 fly. Bryan earned the title with a time of

54.92. Her South teammates Mischa Eng and Hannah DiDio finished in fifth and sixth place, respectively, in the event.

Bryan and Eng both were part of another state championship medal for South. Those two, along with freshmen teammates Nicole McEnroe and Quinn

Ryan, took the state title in the 200 medley relay with a final time of 1:45.99.

Another strong podium finish in a relay race for South was earned by the 200 free relay team. Handwork, DiDio, Ryan and Heidi Bryan combined to finish in second place at 1:37.19 to make their way onto the podium.

“Any state championship is something special because it’s something great that you can put on your resume,” Fodell said. “That medley relay championship was huge because coming out of prelims, Seaholm was only 0.07 behind us, because if we got third and Seaholm wins it somehow then it’s a whole different ballgame. ... That relay really started the meet off right and they got within a second of our school record and everyone’s coming back, so that school record might be in trouble next year.”

The Blue Devils had plenty more podium and medal-earning swims throughout the day to

See SWIM, page 2D

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Reynolds hopes to help Blue Devils reach championship expectations

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Molly Reynolds is a prime example of a Grosse Pointe-born and raised hockey player. The Grosse Pointe South girls varsity hockey senior captain got her start playing in local programs like the Bulldogs Hockey Club and St. Clair Shores Saints before becoming a Blue Devil. Now, she is a state champion and a leader of one of the best girls’ hockey teams in the state — and it all began with a bit of inspiration from her family.

“It all started with my brother and cousin playing for the Bulldogs,” Reynolds said. “I remember watching them practice and thinking, ‘This looks so fun.’ I wanted to try it so I asked my parents. ... I put my brother’s hockey stuff on and once I stepped out there on the ice, I knew I wanted to

Grosse Pointe News

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Molly Reynolds

School: Grosse Pointe South
Sport: Hockey

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play hockey.”

Many of her Blue Devils teammates followed the same route as Reynolds through youth hockey. Some had years of experience on the ice together before getting to high school when Reynolds joined the Blue Devils as a junior.

That includes some of Reynolds’ fellow senior captains, too, which creates chemistry among the team’s core leaders. It sounds like a recipe for

championship success, which worked last season, and the Blue Devils hope it works again this winter.

“Rosie (Smith) I’ve played hockey with since I was like 7 or 8,” Reynolds said. “Same with Abby (Evans) and Bella (Peruski). ... We all work together really well. Rosie is vocal and I think I’m a bit more vocal too. Bella

acts as a really good role model and so does Abby. I think we all mesh together really well to lead the team.”

Reynolds might see herself as a great vocal leader, but she also leads by example. She does that by doing anything and everything to help the Blue Devils win, including playing just about anywhere on the ice.

She started as a defenseman, but was moved to forward in the middle of last season. No matter where she plays, Reynolds can make big contributions. With the Blue Devils at 5-0 through

their first five games of the season, Reynolds is tied for second on the team with six points, including five goals and one assist.

“My style is defensive, but a lot of offense is very important at the same time,” she said. “... My focus is on getting pressure up front and then having pressure coming back. A lot of it is about maintaining that balance between offense and defense and I’m really working hard on that.”

In the words of her coaches, Reynolds is just the kind of player who cannot be held back. With how hard she works in games and practices and with her skills on offense and defense, there likely was little



PHOTO BY LEON HALIP

Molly Reynolds

doubt the Blue Devils would pick Reynolds as one of their leaders.

“She’s been a really good offensive threat for us last year and heading into this year,” South girls hockey head coach Lexi Bohlinger said. “... She’s a joy to coach and is hardworking at games and practice. She has a really positive attitude and is always hardworking and pushing her teammates in practice. Everyone on the team always wants to go against her because they

See ATHLETE, page 2D

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GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Girls Varsity Basketball

North girls hoops seeks steady improvement from young lineup

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe North varsity girls basketball team is ready to begin its 42nd season under head coach Gary Bennett and this year's team will look unlike any Bennett has coached before. The Norsemen have the youngest lineup Bennett has ever coached, with no seniors and only one junior on the roster.

That means North primarily is made up of sophomores and freshmen this season. The

team is young, but has some pieces who experienced playing at the varsity level last season, and there is hope that each day will continue to bring more progress toward being a well-rounded team.

"We're not going to be measuring things on wins and losses," Bennett said. "We're going to measure based on how we grow and improve and how we learn to compete at a higher level than we're capable of competing at right at this moment. ... We want to be fun to watch so we

want to work hard and hopefully develop a great work ethic and learn how to play together."

Some of the returning players to the lineup who have valuable varsity experience include Eva Borowski, the team's only junior, and sophomore Ella Richardson. The Norsemen also are expecting big contributions from Aakanksha Nagori, who saw limited playing time last season but should have a much bigger role this winter.

The Norsemen will have to battle through a tough schedule in the

MAC Red Division, with Dakota, Eisenhower, Henry Ford II, Port Huron and rival Grosse Pointe South as its league opponents. With challenging matchups against those teams throughout the season, the Norsemen know there are going to be some growing pains, but are confident the talent this young team possesses will be able to lead to big improvements.

"My expectation is that they grow and improve and remain positive," Bennett said. "There are going to be some tough



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

As a junior, Eva Borowski is the most veteran member of this season's Grosse Pointe North girls varsity basketball roster.

nights because we're so young, but I think all of the kids that we have have potential and they should all be together again next year. ... I think we're going to be a completely different team at

the end of the year than what we are at the beginning of the year."

North opens the season at home Tuesday, Dec. 3, hosting University Liggett School with tipoff scheduled for 7 p.m.

SWIM:

Continued from page 2D

help the team climb to second place in the state. McEnroe earned a podium by finishing third in the 200 IM with a time of 2:09.24. She also took

fifth place in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:07.34.

Caroline Bryan, in addition to her championships in the 200 medley relay and 100 fly, took fourth place in the 100 backstroke at 57.34. Eng, another part of the

200 medley relay team, also had a third-place finish in the 100 backstroke at 56.89.

"A big thing that you get when you're finishing up the season is when the girls are upset to be done, because that's when you know some-

thing is going right," Fodell said. "... Everyone had a super positive experience. ... The message is going to be that if we're going to beat Mercy, we need people in the water working hard and have people move up some spots next year."

Grosse Pointe North's team also finished the day with a top-10 team finish in the state, taking eighth place overall. Senior Avery Beal helped lead the way with some

of the best performances for the Norsemen.

While Beal was fourth in the 50 free, her best finish of the day came in the 100 free, which she finished with a time of 51.76. She also was part of North's 200 free relay team that finished third in the state, along with teammates Cailey Hard, Liliانا Ivanaj and Addie Wakefield. Beal, Wakefield and Hard, along with North's Kennedy Hasting, also

took fifth in the 400 free relay.

Swimmers from University Liggett School also competed in the Division 3 girls swim and dive state finals last weekend. Freshman Paige Moutard and sophomore Liliانا Haladjian represented the Knights in the 200 free, 500 free and 100 fly; however, neither swimmer earned high enough finishes in any preliminary events to qualify for the state final races.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH ATHLETICS

South's Whitney Handwork takes the top spot on the podium after winning the Division 2 state title in the 50-yard freestyle. North's Avery Beal was fourth.

ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

feel like she makes them better."

Being one of South's leaders this season comes with the added responsibility of helping the team now maintain a championship level of success. The Blue Devils were Division 1 state champi-

ons of the Michigan Girls High School Hockey League last season and there are high expectations for the team to return to that stage this winter.

With plenty of pressure to win another state title, Reynolds and her fellow captains are focused on leading South through one game at a time.

"Maintaining the cham-

pionship is a big goal this season and it comes with a little bit of stress," Reynolds said. "I think we're just trying to focus on playing our game and if we lose, we're just going to let it pass and keep moving forward. I feel like we're doing good so far about staying focused on playing our game and not worrying about what happens."

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Grosse Pointe News

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| GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Girls Varsity Basketball

Experienced Blue Devils girls basketball team ready to contend for titles

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

This season, the Grosse Pointe South varsity girls basketball team knows where its strength lies. The Blue Devils have a core group of returning players this season and while not all of them are seniors, they all have valuable varsity experience the team believes is something they can build on for success in the upcoming season.

"We've got five kids that started 10 or more games (last season), so we got a lot of experience back," South girls basketball head coach Kevin Richards said.

One of the biggest pieces returning to the lineup is senior Maddy Benard. The future Wayne State University Warrior has been a leader on and off the court for the Blue Devils since she arrived as a



South is expecting big contributions on offense and defense from senior veteran Morgan Duff.

freshman and has set a high standard for herself with the accolades she already has received.

However, her teammates and coaches believe her best season in a South uniform might be

about to tip off.

"Maddy had her best offseason that I've seen from her in the past four years," Richards said. "She didn't miss a workout. She was at every open gym. I think she's poised to pick up where she left off, which will be tough because she was named All-State by multiple news (outlets)."

Alongside Benard is a group of talented, returning starters the Blue Devils are expecting big contributions from. The group includes senior Catherine Pattie, junior Alex Lupo and sophomore Ciara Pongratz.

Also in that group is junior Morgan Duff, who the coaches believe is the perfect piece to have alongside Benard in their scheme.

"Morgan's a winner," Richards said. "When she's been in the lineup, we've been really good. ... She's fast. Along with

Returning to help lead the Blue Devils' lineup this season is senior guard Maddy Benard.

Maddy, she had her best offseason work. Those two at the top of our press really give people problems with their quickness and length."

The experience South has is going to be key as the team navigates through plenty of tough tests this season. The Blue Devils have set themselves up with a challenging schedule of non-league games and also have to compete in the MAC Red Division with teams including Dakota, Eisenhower, Port Huron, Henry Ford

II and crosstown rival Grosse Pointe North.

"This is our toughest schedule that we've had," Richards said. "... We always try to play tough teams. This year we have Detroit Edison. We have Detroit Country Day. We have West Bloomfield and Flint Powers. Those four and the MAC Red will help us get ready for the very high goals we have this year."

The Blue Devils begin the new season at home Thursday, Dec. 5, hosting Romeo at 7 p.m.

PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

| UNIVERSITY LIGGETT

Girls Varsity Basketball

Knights girls basketball team relying on toughness, defense this winter

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The University Liggett School varsity girls basketball team wants to put opponents on notice this winter. If they want to compete with the Knights, they better be prepared for a battle.

Liggett's lineup this winter will be younger since the team graduated six seniors from last year's squad. The group that is returning, however, along with some freshmen added into the mix, are going to be expected to play a physical style of basketball. While the team's strength might not be on offense, it could stop opponents from having any offense either.

"We're going to be strong," Liggett girls basketball head coach Craig White said. "Hopefully, we're going to pride ourselves on defense and on our running because we don't

have many bigs. I think we're going to be OK in the



what is expected of them when it comes to fitting in with this style of play. Kerith Short comes in with expectations to lead as one of the team's few seniors.

Liggett also is counting on the likes of Natalie Greene, Olivia

Marcero and Morgan Johnson to make big contributions this winter. Liggett will need everyone to do their part in what the team will be a challenging schedule inside and out-

side the Catholic League. The Knights already see the chemistry building within the team, especially among some of the younger players, and they believe everyone being on the same page will make tough games much easier.

"All of them are bas-

ketball players and it's really about putting them together," White said. "Practices are very good. We're so strong in the sense of defense and not being afraid to play. We practice everyone together, JV and varsity. We're like one big family where everyone's on

the same page."

The Knights begin the season on the road with a crosstown game against Grosse Pointe North at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3. Liggett's home opener is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, against Plymouth Christian Academy.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY LIGGETT SCHOOL

Senior Kerith Short returns to the Knights' lineup on the hardwood this winter.

Have a safe & happy holiday season!

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4D | SPORTS



GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Boys Varsity Hockey

Blue Devils boys hockey ready to come together for tough tests on the ice

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe South varsity boys hockey team knows nothing is going to come easy this season. Playing in what is largely believed to be the toughest conference in the state, the Michigan

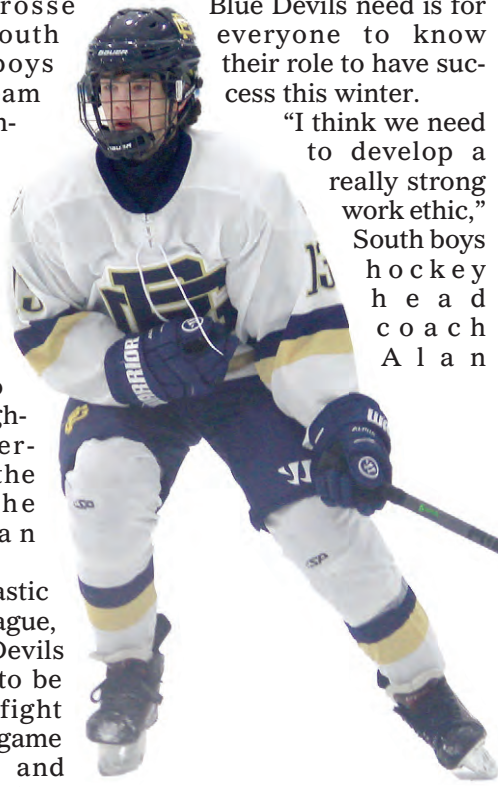


PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Senior forward Oliver Sharpe is one of many key returning veterans to South's lineup for 2024-25.

Interscholastic Hockey League, the Blue Devils are going to be in for a fight with every game they play and need everything to come together in the locker room and on the ice to battle through them.

South's lineup this year has a large amount of young talent with some veteran lead-

ers as well. The team chemistry is still coming together, but what the Blue Devils need is for everyone to know their role to have success this winter.

"I think we need to develop a really strong work ethic," South boys hockey head coach Alan

the top players on their previous teams and now they're going up against some of the best hockey players the state of Michigan has to offer. They need to learn quickly that it's a different game out here and some of the returning players need to learn that we're relying on them more this year than we maybe were last year. It sounds cliché, but the only thing that's going to make us successful this year is a strong work ethic."

The responsibility for building that mentality is going to rest on South's veteran cap-

tains, seniors Evan Bernard and Quinn Cameron and junior Charlie Wade. Senior forwards Jack O'Keefe and Lucas Reynolds also will be looked upon to help lead the Blue Devils' offensive attack.

What South wants to rely on this season is defense. The Blue Devils will be relying on two



PHOTO BY ANNE GRYZENIA

Lucas Reynolds takes a faceoff for South in a game against Divine Child on Nov. 15.

sophomores, Avery Brooks and Cameron Dimmer, to take care of things in between the pipes. The

defensive core in front of them is going to be led by Cameron and Wade, as well as some new talent in the form of freshman Martin Wayman.

"Even though we're young, we have some

very skilled and very smart defensemen," Korolewicz said. "We're counting on them to eliminate some scoring opportunities."

The defense is going to be tested throughout the season as the Blue Devils try to navigate through the notoriously tough MIHL. South plays in the Blue Division this season with Trenton and defending Division 3 state champions Cranbrook-Kingswood, and must face other opponents from throughout the league during the

these kids how good these teams are. I can tell them all day long until I'm blue in the face, but seeing actually is believing."

The Blue Devils opened the season Nov. 14, with a 7-4 win over L'Anse Creuse Unified. South fell 2-1 in overtime to Divine Child on Nov. 15. The team then traveled to Illinois for some early-season showdowns with out-of-state opponents. On Saturday, Nov. 23, South lost 7-4 to Carmel Academy, then fell 7-5 to Lincolnshire

'Even though we're young, we have some very skilled and very smart defensemen.'

ALAN KOROLEWICZ, GP SOUTH BOYS VARSITY HOCKEY HEAD COACH

season as well, including Detroit Catholic Central, Orchard Lake St. Mary's and De La Salle Collegiate.

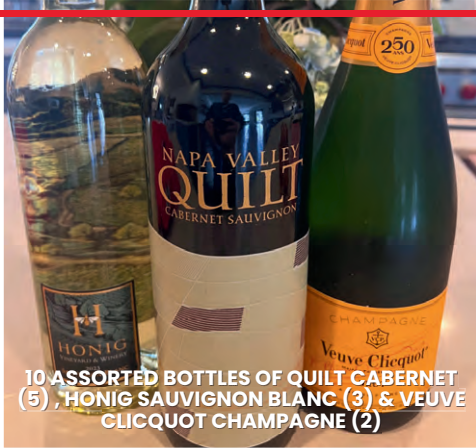
"Every game in the MIHL is a brutal test," Korolewicz said. "Any league game that we play is going to be a measuring stick for our team. ... It's important to show

Stevenson on Sunday, Nov. 24.

South faced crosstown foe University Liggett School Wednesday, Nov. 27, after press time. The league schedule in the MIHL begins for the Blue Devils Wednesday, Dec. 4, when they travel on the road to face Trenton at 7:30 p.m.



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Pursuant to PA 104, an auction will be held on DECEMBER 11, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at Woods Towing, located at 22755 Lexington, Eastpointe, MI. The following impounded/abandoned vehicles will be auctioned:

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The above vehicles can be viewed 1/2 hour prior to the auction, at Woods Towing. Payment by cash or certified check only. Cars listed may be pulled or released prior to the auction by the Harper Woods Police Department.

Lt. Thomas Teatsorth
Traffic Safety Section

POSTED: Nov. 21, 2024
PUBLISHED: Nov. 28, 2024

A copy of this notice can be viewed on www.harperwoodscity.org under Public Notices.



UNIVERSITY LIGGETT

Boys Varsity Hockey

Chemistry and culture keys for veteran-led Liggett boys hockey team

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

There can be a huge advantage in hockey when an entire team is in sync, every skater knowing exactly where their teammates are on the ice and how they play the game. That is what the University Liggett School varsity boys hockey team believes it has this year

and is hoping the chemistry and culture the group of veteran players has established will take them far this winter.

"We only lost three skaters and our goalie from last year," Liggett boys hockey head coach Colin Smith said. "Having that many guys coming back, including 10 seniors, is huge. Having a senior class of guys who

know how things operate pays dividends as you're starting the season. ... There's tons of leaders on this team."

The Knights have 10 seniors on the roster. Many of them have years of experience on the ice together even before they got to high school. Some of the biggest names to watch out for this winter include captains Gary Stacy, Blake Shock and Andrew Johnson.

Also playing a big role this season is going to be senior goalie Ben Wehrmann. Wehrmann spent the last couple of seasons as the backup to longtime keeper Maksim Johns, but now is ready to step up and be the Knights' go-to man in the net.

"He's ready to go and he's ready to lead and our team has a lot of confidence in him," Smith said. "He was also voted one of our team captains, showing his leadership skills on and off the ice. We have the utmost faith in him."

Wehrmann and his fellow captains are just part of the core of veterans that is going to lead this

year's Liggett team. Everyone on the team knows each other and is willing to lead one another by example, which is a strength the Knights think can put them above the rest.

"Everyone holds each other accountable," Smith said. "... We had a team meeting where everyone went over their short-term and long-term goals and had to look each other in the eyes, so when they're on the ice and things aren't going the way they're supposed to they can look at each other and say, 'I thought you were supposed to be doing this or that.' There's an expectation to perform and meet those expectations. ... There's no taking a shift off or taking a practice off. They build each other up and don't break each other down."

The Knights hope that mentality will lead them through some challenging tests this season. The team opened the new campaign Friday, Nov. 15, with an 8-0 win over Allen Park.

While they got an early big win, some of their biggest tests come at the



Forward Drake Griffin is one of 10 seniors on the Knights' roster this season.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY LIGGETT ATHLETICS

Senior Ben Wehrmann steps into an important role this winter as Liggett's starting goaltender.

start of the season. Liggett faced Grosse Pointe South Wednesday, Nov. 27, after press time, then travels to face Flint Powers Catholic Saturday, Dec. 7. After that, they host De La Salle Collegiate Wednesday, Dec. 11, before going on the road against Jackson Lumen Christi Saturday, Dec. 14.

do in those games, I think those are the benchmarks of where our season will head and what we need to work on if we struggle," Smith said. "They're playing with a lot of confidence and I think as long as our practices are the way they are and they absorb things in film, those games are a testament to what kind of team we are."

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Boys Varsity Hockey

North boys hockey building foundation on young talent

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

This season's Grosse Pointe North varsity boys hockey team roster seems like a somewhat fresh start for the program. The Norsemen are young and still trying to figure out how certain pieces fit together in the lineup, but the team led largely by young talent is ready to learn on the go.

"Our top line and a lot of our top guys are either sophomores or freshmen," North boys hockey head coach Rob Blum said. "It's been a little different for them to get used to the schedule of high school hockey. ... It's been a little bit of an adjustment, but the energy is good and they're excited to get on the ice."

The team's only senior is defenseman and captain Timothy Klatt. A majority of the lineup is made up of sophomores, with two of the biggest names to watch being Brandon Shock and Levi Olsey on the blue line.

The Norsemen also are



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE NORTH ATHLETICS

North sophomore Charlie Mueller holds up the puck from his first varsity high school goal, scored in a game against Ann Arbor Huron on Nov. 13.

looking toward freshman Ben Clor to make an impact right away and are hoping to see improvements from sophomore goalie Ben Bugeja. The team may be young and inexperienced when it comes to playing at the varsity level, but hope how they fare this season will be a sign of the program's future.

"This is easily the most young talent we've had at least since I became the

coach," Blum said. "... They have very good hockey sense and know how to play the game. I think skill-wise, we're fine. ... They're maybe not used to playing against kids who are two or maybe even three years older than them, so the biggest challenge the first few games is trying to match their speed and strength."

North's young players will have to form a cul-

'It's been a little bit of an adjustment, but the energy is good and they're excited to get on the ice.'

ROB BLUM, GP NORTH BOYS VARSITY HOCKEY HEAD COACH

ture and chemistry on the ice throughout the season as they battle through the schedule. The team will play league games in the MAC once again and has some tough non-league games on the slate as well, including two show-downs with crosstown rival Grosse Pointe South. The team opened the season Wednesday, Nov. 13, with a 6-1 loss to Ann Arbor Huron. North then fell 5-2 to Ann Arbor Skyline Saturday, Nov. 16.

There might be some growing pains throughout the year, but the Norsemen are hoping in the end it all leads to a new foundation for the years to come.

"The thing I want to see is them get a little more comfortable playing with each other," Blum said.

"Some of them have only been playing together for two or three weeks now. You can tell there's been a few communication

mistakes on the ice. ... We just need them to get used to playing with each other and talking to each other and see who can step up and start taking those leadership roles."

North faced off against Utica Ford United Tuesday, Nov. 26, after press time. The team returns to the ice Thursday, Dec. 5, visiting Port Huron at 8 p.m.

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Grosse Pointe Woods Planning Commission, under the provisions of Public Act 110 of 2006, MCL 125.3101 as amended, and Grosse Pointe Woods City Code of 2022 Chapter 50, Article 7, Section 50-7.15, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall in the Council Chamber/Courtroom (located at 20025 Mack Plaza Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236) for the purpose of considering a rezoning of 20030 Mack Avenue (Parcel ID 40-012040026000) and 1670 Ford Court (Parcel ID 40-012020001000) from RO-1 Restricted Office to C Commercial to create a new surface parking lot at 1670 Ford Court to support the adjacent business, Eastside Dermatology, and its building addition at 20030 Mack Avenue.

All interested persons are invited to attend and will be given opportunity for public comment. The public may appear in person or be represented by counsel. Written comments will be received in the City Clerk's Office, up to close of business preceding the hearing. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services at the meeting should contact the Grosse Pointe Woods Clerk's Office at 313-343-2440 seven days prior to the meeting. The agenda and pertinent documents will be available at www.gpwmi.us.

For additional project information, contact the Building and Planning Department at 313-343-2426 or e-mail building@gpwmi.us.

