charles SCHWAB
Grosse Pointe Branch
20879 Mack Avenue
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236
313-743-0433
schwab.com/GrossePointe

ED RINKE CHEVROLET BUICK GMC
2025 Chevy Equinox EV LT
26125 Van Dyke • Center Line
(Just south of 696 on Van Dyke)
(586) 754-7000 • www.edrinke.com
Like us on Facebook
No Appointments Necessary for Oil Changes
$99* per mo. 24 Months
$995* Down
CHEVROLET Together let's drive
*Pricing is priced on 24 month lease. 10,000 miles per year, plus tax, title, plate. See Salesperson for details. Expires 1/31/25.
Purchase a 2025 for $36,999 Stock #551884

Grosse Pointe News

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

VOL. 86, NO. 3, 30 PAGES
ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 95¢)

Your community newspaper since 1940

JANUARY 16, 2025
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

BoE elects new officers, changes meeting dates

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — A new slate of officers was elected and the meeting schedule was changed at the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education's organizational meeting Tuesday, Jan. 7.

Colleen Worden, who was elected to a second four-year term last November, will serve as president for 2025. In addition to herself, trustees Valarie St. John, Laura Hull, Tim Klepp and Clint Derringer voted for her.

Trustees Sean Cotton and Ginny Jeup voted no.

"You've been very combative over the last two years and you are not the candidate who will pull us together," Jeup said. "You don't bring any peace to this board or anything of sustained value."

The board voted 7-0 to appoint Hull, a teacher in Lakeview Public Schools, vice president.

"I love that she brings the experience of being a teacher to the board," Worden said in nominating Hull. "She's organized, smart and measured."

Klepp also received a unanimous vote in being named treasurer.

"He asks the right questions at the right time and with the right demeanor," Derringer said in nominating him.

St. John was appointed secretary on a 6-1 vote with Cotton, owner of the

See ELECTS, page 9A

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Towering team spirit

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Sarah Yelencich is a lifelong, diehard Detroit Lions fan. She inherited her love of the Lions from her mother, Christine Lorenc, also a lifelong fan. Lorenc's uncle, Frank Szymanski, was a Wayne County probate judge, but before that played in the NFL for the Chicago Bears, Detroit Lions and Philadelphia Eagles, with whom he won the NFL Championship in 1948.

"I grew up in Detroit and have been a fan since I was a little kid," Yelenich said. "I made it through the paper bag era with the Lions when they went 0-16 in 2008, and if we ever had another I would be there, too. But look where we are now. This year is a joyous occasion."

She and her mother are going to New Orleans for the Super Bowl next month. Yelencich booked their flights, rental car and place to stay last fall. They don't have tickets to the game, but are OK with that.

"I wanted to be in the Super Bowl city so when they win, I'll be there," she said. "I will celebrate with other Lions fan and it'll be great."

It took a few attempts for Yelencich to convince her husband, Tim, they needed a 13-foot lion for their front lawn, in the 1200 block of Fairholme. Dressed in their Lions gear, Tim Yelencich, Sarah Yelencich (wearing a Dan Campbell T-shirt under her coat) and their 3-year-old son, Hudson, stand with the giant lion on their front lawn. She said passersby often slow down for a look or ask if they can take photos with the lion, to which the Yelenciches happily say yes.

Harper Woods cuts ties with GPAAS

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

HARPER WOODS — In an unexpected move, Harper Woods reportedly will not be moving forward with its partnership with the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society — the very city in which the nonprofit is headquartered.

The fallout comes as a result of GPAAS establishing its Barbara N. Weiss Animal Protection Facility late last year, intending to continue its service to the five Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods. It at the same time requested of the cities an annual usage fee — based upon each city's history of use — to sustain its services as its projected overhead budget for the year is $130,000, not including food, supplies, veterinary care and medications.

Each of the Pointes have approved the usage

See GPAAS, page 5A

License plate readers a go for the Pointes

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — As the final Pointe to do so, the City officially entered into an agreement with the Grosse Pointe Public Safety Foundation Monday night, allowing it to accept the donation of five license plate readers to be placed at strategic intersections.

The technology — in combination with the additional five LPRs being supplied to each of the other Pointes and Harper Woods — will aid law enforcement in locating suspects, as well as missing persons.

"The system is a nationwide system and we're buying into that system with this agreement," City Manager Joe Valentine said. "So if someone committed a crime in Grosse Pointe and they were in the system and they were caught in Ohio and it triggered there, then it would report that back."

The initial cost of the cameras and first year of service by supplier Motorola — $56,590 — will be covered by the foundation.

Moving forward, the City will bear approximately $8,000 of annual service and maintenance costs for the equipment.

"I think this is awesome," Councilman Chris Walsh said, before making the motion to approve the agreement, which passed unanimously.

The foundation's total donation to the six cities for implementation of the LPR system totals approximately $450,000.

Grosse Pointe News owner Sean Cotton is a member of the foundation.

— Laurel Kraus

Gazebo worse than thought

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Trimming a thick mat of vigorous vines covering the gazebo at Patterson Park revealed the structure to be in worse shape than initially thought.

The discovery expanded the trimming project into cutting down the vines, a type of wisteria, to stumps.

"The vine retained moisture that accelerated deterioration of the wood roof," said Brian Colter, city forester for the Park, City and Farms. "Major action had to be taken. That was going to collapse."

Wisteria is a fast

See GAZEBO, page 2A

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!
CALL (313) 343-5578
GROSSEPOINTENEWS.COM

DEVICE-FREE FUN!
Encourage the next generation of engaged readers with
Kid Scoop

See our LIFE section

Week Ahead 3A
Opinion 6A
Schools 9A
Features. 1B
Obituaries 4B
Sports 1D
Classified ads 4D

Pointer of INTEREST

Jana Kirlin Brownell
Home: Grosse Pointe Farms
Chairman of Kirlin Lighting and 2024 inductee into the Michigan Lighting Hall of Fame.

See story, page 4A

6 56525 10011 6

PHONE: (313) 882-6900 ◆ **FAX:** (313) 882-1585 ◆ **MAIL:** 16980 Kercheval Ave., 48230 ◆ **ON THE WEB:** grossepointenews.com ◆ **E-MAIL:** editor@grossepointenews.com

ED RINKE CHEVROLET BUICK GMC
2025 Buick Encore GX Preferred
26125 Van Dyke • Center Line
(Just south of 696 on Van Dyke)
(586) 754-7000 • www.edrinke.com
No Appointments Necessary for Oil Changes
$179* per month, 24 months
$995* Down
Like us on Facebook
*24month lease. 10,000 miles per year, plus tax, title, plate. See Salesperson for details. Expires 1/31/25.
Purchase a 2025 for $25,869 Stock #B551717

ED RINKE GMC
2024 Terrain SLE
26125 Van Dyke • Center Line
(Just south of 696 on Van Dyke)
(586) 754-7000 • www.edrinke.com
No Appointments Necessary for Oil Changes
$129* per month, 24 months
$995 Down
Like us on Facebook
*Pricing is based on 24 month lease. 10,000 miles per year, plus tax, title, plate. See Salesperson for details. Expires 1/31/25
Purchase for $26,239 Stock #G545230

Woods approves field upgrades ahead of LL state tournament

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — City council at its meeting Monday, Jan. 6, approved spending almost $200,000 on upgrades to the baseball diamonds at Ghesquiere Park as the Grosse Pointe Woods-Shores Little League will host the state tournament there in July.

Representatives from the group approached council last year about making the improvements, but the city decided to fast-track the project after the Woods-Shores Little League was named host in November.

"We originally had planned on phasing this in over two years, but felt it was necessary to push it up," said Jim Kowalski, director of public works. "Our goal is to have everything done by the beginning of May."

Little League typically kicks off each season with a parade and first games in late April or early May.

Derek Augustyn, president of GPWS Little League, said the group is appreciative of the city's efforts.

"They're doing a lot more than what we thought was possible," he said. "We're excited about hosting. It's been 18 years since we last hosted the state tournament."

The bulk of the money, just over $99,000, will be spent on new fencing. All four diamonds will receive between 200 and 250 feet of black, vinyl-coated chainlink fencing at 4 feet high along the first and third base lines. Diamond Nos. 1, 3 and 4 also will get between 300 and 360 feet of the same type of fencing at 6 feet high around the outfield.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Bleachers, dugouts and fencing will be replaced at Ghesquiere Park as the Grosse Pointe Woods-Shores Little League prepares to host the 2025 state tournament in July.

Diamond Nos. 2 and 3 will get fencing at 8 feet high in front of the dugouts.

"We're going to start on some of this during the winter, weather permitting," Kowalski said. "We can't interfere with their regular season."

Other upgrades include:

◆ $34,632 for six new bleachers,

◆ $30,618 for concrete pads for bleachers and dugouts,

◆ $21,450 for material for new bleachers and dugouts,

◆ $8,750 for paint for backstops and

◆ $5,000 for netting to protect spectators from foul balls.

Another $13,450 will be spent on upgrades to the senior diamond, which used to be called the Babe Ruth diamond, that Kowalski said the Grosse Pointe North High School freshman baseball team uses.

"We'll tear out the old fencing and build the bleachers and dugouts, so there's some savings there," Kowalski said. "Companies will install the new fencing and concrete pads."

Kowalski said the new equipment should last at least 25 years.

The Woods-Shores Little League recently spent about $150,000 to improve drainage on the diamonds and new sod for the infields.

Woods embezzlement case nearly settled

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Most charges against a Grosse Pointe Woods man regarding embezzlement could be dropped if the Wayne County Circuit Court accepts his plea deal.

Ishpinder Sahni, 31, was charged with three counts of embezzlement over $100,000; three counts of using a computer to commit a crime; and three counts of failure to file taxes. The first six charges are all punishable by up to 20 years in prison, with the last three punishable by up to five years in prison.

Sahni worked as chief operating officer at Woods Wholesale Wine from 2021 to 2023, and allegedly embezzled more than $350,000.

During what was to be a probable cause hearing before Municipal Judge Theodore Metry Wednesday, Jan. 8, Assistant Attorney General Dan Grano said the state is willing to grant Sahni a conditional waiver if he agrees to plead guilty to one count of embezzlement over $100,000.

In exchange, sentencing will be delayed 12 months. During that time, Sahni must make restitution of $300,000 to Woods Wholesale Wine.

See CASE, page 3A

GAZEBO:

Continued from page 1A

grower, up to 10 feet per year, to the extent of being invasive, according to almost every thorough source on the subject.

"It should be trimmed at least every two years," Colter said.

"While the trimming was taking place, the contractors noticed that a significant amount of the wood in the roof needed to be replaced," said Chad Craig, director of parks and recreation, in an email Monday, Jan. 13. "The wisteria had to be removed from the roof as you wouldn't be able to make any repairs or replace any lumber if it was still covering the structure."

He's seeking cost estimates for repairs.

"The base of the wisteria was left and will grow back over time," Craig said.

"But, it had to be removed to make major repairs because it retains moisture and fibrous roots from the vine deteriorated the wood," Colter said.

Removal of the vine added to a bucket list of gazebo fix-its for which members of the recreation commission have been pining.

Commissioners continue to find themselves administering the municipal department for which they are supposed to act as advisors.

Among their top concerns is moving forward with repairs to the gazebo.

The gazebo was on a list of projects to be considered or completed during 2025 that Craig prepared at commissioners' request for discussion during their Dec. 12 meeting, the final one of 2024.

"This is intended to be a big-picture list of projects you and your team are working on," Chairman Mike Hindelang told Craig, recapping the assignment. "This isn't a specific punch list of 2025 items, but rather a list of things to be in your sights."

Items ranged from ongoing concerns about the heating and cooling units atop the Lavins Activity Center at Windmill Pointe Park, plus ongoing discussions about installing gutters at the center.

Matters consisted of continued consideration to remodel the Windmill concession stand, upgrade restrooms and replace the children's pool fountain with some other type of water feature.

Many of the items have been discussed during commission meetings for at least a year, such as the public's desire for more pickleball courts.

Commissioner Mike Bannon was concerned about a seeming lack of progress on the gazebo. Pewabic tiles have fallen off parts of the structure. Concrete steps are chipped and cracked. The roof was overgrown with wisteria.

"There might be an opportunity to do volunteer work to keep the cost down," Bannon told Craig during the meeting.

"It's a matter of just pulling off old tiles and saving labor," Commissioner Howard Bouton said.

"I've started gazebo conversations," Craig said.

He talked about receiving leads on three tile installation companies recommended by Pewabic Pottery, maker of the tiles.

"Chad, is this a plan you hope to have for us (at our next meeting) in February?" Hindelang said.

"I would like to have that to you," Craig said. "I've reached out to two or three of the companies that I'm hoping will be interested in doing that work."

Although the cost of replacement tiles is around $1,500, he said one of the installation contractors is busy the next two to three months; the other two haven't responded.

He had no cost estimates for labor.

"I encourage Chad to put some energy behind this," said Councilman Tom Caulfield, liaison to the commission. "The funds are there. The vision is there. If we got our ducks in a row and pushed a little harder, it could be done quickly. Let's get it done."

Bouton suggested Craig shift some of the work to one of the commission's subcommittees.

"We're happy to help," Bouton said.

Caulfield also asked Craig to reformat the projects list into a spreadsheet. Doing so will allow easier monitoring of progress and associated costs.

"I am scheduled to meet with a concrete company today regarding the steps around the perimeter of the structure today," Craig wrote in his email this week.

Attorney bestowed with knighthood

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — "I remember when my dad was awarded the same medal when I was a kid," said James Bellanca III, after he was bestowed with knighthood by the Consulate of Italy in Detroit in November.

The family legacy started three generations back when, in 1947, the Bellancas began representing the Detroit arm of the Italian consulate from Grosse Pointe.

In the decades since, Bellanca's grandfather, father and two uncles each were knighted for their roles serving as trusted advisors and providing essential legal services to the consulate.

"I arrived in September of 2021, and (Bellanca and his father) were the second and third person I met in Michigan after the first person being my staff member who came to pick me up," said Allegra Baistrocchi, consul of Italy in Detroit — though she covers Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee.

She presented Bellanca the title of Cavaliere dell'Ordine della Stella d'Italia (Knight of the Order of the Star of Italy), which is awarded and personally signed by President of the Italian Republic Sergio Mattarella — "One of the highest recognitions that the president of the Republic of Italy can grant to not only Italian citizens," Baistrocchi said, "but also people that have done great services to the nation," — in a surprise ceremony during a holiday dinner party filled with close friends and family.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Allegra Baistrocchi, consul of Italy in Detroit, presents James Bellanca III with pins representing the Knight of the Order of the Star of Italy.

James Bellanca III, his father, James Bellanca Jr., and Consul of Italy Allegra Baistrocchi with the certificate of knighthood personally signed by President of the Italian Republic Sergio Mattarella.

"It was really one of the greatest honors I've ever had and it made it more special that I followed in the footsteps of the people who I admired most," Bellanca said. "We've always been very proud of our Italian heritage. My grandparents came here from Italy ... and when they came here, really they had nothing and they worked hard and surrounded themselves with their family and their friends and became involved in the community here to embrace the American dream and worked hard to get an education.

"So to be able to be a lawyer and work for the consulate now gives me that great balance where I'm able to continue the American dream, but also recognize our love for where we come from."

Though Bellanca — a local attorney specializing in corporate and real estate law and the father of five girls — stepped into the role as Lawyer of Reference for the consulate just a few years back, he's served as an advocate for the Italian community more than two decades.

In addition to countless hours of pro bono legal assistance to Italian citizens and Italian-American organizations, he has served on the board of directors for the N.O.I. Foundation, the educational nonprofit of the consulate, and the Italian American Cultural Society (IACS), which promotes Italian language, culture and heritage.

"He's done so much for our community," Baistrocchi said. "I can't even express the value that he has and that he transmits and the things that he's done for the community. ... He's helped thousands of Italians that had legal questions and is just a wonderful, wonderful man. I was so happy that we were able to bestow this to him."

Brainstorming Charlevoix

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The first of three community engagement sessions about renovating the Charlevoix commercial streetscape concluded last week with consensus the district is ripe for renewal.

"A lot of folks were excited to see the city focus on Charlevoix," City Manager Nick Sizeland said. "They felt that for years everyone only cared about Kercheval and Mack Avenue and it was nice to see effort put into Charlevoix."

The Tax Increment Finance Authority is spearheading Charlevoix renovation. Construction is expected to start during summer 2026.

Public brainstorming sessions and design concepts date to at least August 2023.

Residents at that time endorsed a curbless, festive streetscape design, increased space for sidewalk dining, trees and landscaping, safer crosswalks, pocket parks, public art, bicycle lanes and street furnishings.

Not much has changed in terms of overall ideas.

The idea of prioritizing the district "for people" mirrors in many ways what was done successfully 10 years ago in The Village downtown of the City of Grosse Pointe.

Wider sidewalks encourage increased pedestrian activity. Narrowing the roadway calms vehicular traffic. Benches, shaded areas, environmentally friendly runoff-capturing bioswales and water features provide a forward-thinking environment many residents and business owners value as conducive to modern lifestyles and community standards.

Around two dozen people attended the engagement session Wednesday evening, Jan. 8, at city hall.

Follow-up meetings are scheduled with dates to be determined in March and June. Then there are meetings of the TIFA board six times per year starting this year Jan. 15, after this week's Grosse Pointe News deadline. Also scheduled are regular meetings in March, June, September and November.

Charlevoix's $4 million streetscape re-do is taking precedence over TIFA's similar plan for the Kercheval business district, which already has received a lot of attention.

Both zones are in the TIFA district — bordered by the city limits to the north and west, the northern boundary of the Grosse Pointe Park Downtown Development Authority near East Jefferson to the south and, to the east, the alley between Beaconsfield and Nottingham — from which property tax revenue is retained for improvements and commercial development.

Grants are funding about half the cost of the Charlevoix portion.

Board members put Charlevoix ahead of Kercheval due to the former being most in need of improvement.

"It's going to be a shot in the arm for Charlevoix walkability and the entire neighborhood," said Jim Robson, a TIFA board member, last November.

"The overall consensus of people at the meeting (Jan. 9) was that they were appreciative and very happy to see something being done," Sizeland said. "They are looking forward to the next steps."

Representatives of the city's engineering consultants, OHM Advisors, highlighted the overall idea of what a new Charlevoix streetscape could look like.

Wider sidewalks and a narrower, curbless roadway are intended to make the district attractive to and safer for pedestrians.

"There is truth that narrowing the road gives drivers a sense of presence that slows them down," Sizeland said. "People appreciated knowing that, from a traffic safety standpoint."

So-called road diets can produce the following safety benefits, according to "Traffic calming to slow vehicle speeds," at the U.S. Department of

See PLANS, page 4A

The Week Ahead

TUESDAY, JAN. 21

- Grosse Pointe Woods Senior Citizens' Commission meeting, 4 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Shores City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 22

- Grosse Pointe Woods Local Officers' Compensation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, JAN. 23

- Grosse Pointe Library Board of Trustees meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Park Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m

SATURDAY, JAN. 25

- 20th annual Winterfest, 1 p.m. at Neff Park. For City residents.

CASE:

Continued from page 2A

Grano said if that occurs, Sahni would be charged with attempted embezzlement of between $20,000 and $50,000. That is a felony punishable by up to 10 years in prison and/or a fine of up to $15,000.

As part of his plea, Sahni also agreed to drop a civil suit he filed last March against Woods Wholesale Wine and its owner, William Matouk.

— Ted O'Neil

AWARD-WINNING ARTISTRY
SUPERIOR SELECTION
EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ahee

AHEE.COM | 313.886.4600

Pointer continues family legacy of invention and innovation

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

While living in Los Angeles as a newlywed in 1986, Jana Kirlin Brownell got a harrowing call from her mother. Her father, third-generation CEO of Kirlin Lighting, was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor and they didn't know how long he had left.

"I said to my husband, 'I have to go back. I cannot let this company die on the vine out of respect for my dad,'" Brownell recalled. "I said, 'You know, it's risky. It's a small family business, but I'd like to give it a go."

She resigned from her job and aspirations to create a global women's healthcare delivery system, made plans to return to Grosse Pointe Farms and, three weeks later, received word of an inaccurate diagnosis — her father, in fact, had non-life-threatening Bell's Palsy, causing temporary paralysis of the face.

Still, a new path in life already had been set in motion and raising a family in Grosse Pointe was a far more appealing prospect than in LA with Hollywood's influence.

Brownell returned to work alongside her father for seven years and, in 1997, was named president and CEO of the family business headquartered on Jefferson Avenue, which this year turns 130 years old.

Kirlin Lighting, a designer and manufacturer of sophisticated lighting, was founded in St. Paul, Minn., by Brownell's great-grandfather, Otis Kirlin, in 1895 — a time when there were no utilities, power distribution didn't exist and the average American was still quite wary of the Thomas Edison lightbulb.

"The incandescent lightbulb was clear and the filament glowed like an ember glows," Brownell explained. "And it scared them because it was glowing the color of fire. Look at what's happening in LA now, but the biggest threat to anyone's livelihood back in the late 1800s was fire. It would wipe out your farm, wipe out your business, etc."

Otis Kirlin and his business partner, known to history as Mr. Gray, initially were in the business of building power plants via hammers, nails and wood — trying to create distribution of electricity — when the Kirlin patriarch had the idea to beautify the lightbulb socket to create demand for electricity.

He started Kirlin Lighting and imported from France porcelain sockets, which weren't combustible like wood, were pastel-colored for aesthetics and were shaped like flower petals to help obscure the filament.

Throughout the rest of Otis Kirlin's stewardship, he conceptually moved the company into handcrafted artistic chandelier design and physically moved it to Detroit — the Silicon Valley of the era — in 1919, before his son, Ivan Kirlin took the reins.

Taking a page out of his friend Henry Ford's book, Brownell's grandfather revolutionized the company to highly-tooled, high-volume lighting fixture production — specifically, recessed lighting, which Ivan Kirlin invented and patented in 1941.

By moving the company from chandeliers to tucked-away lighting, "it illuminated what he said the focus should be," Brownell said, "and that would be your art, your furniture, your conversation. The focus shouldn't be looking up at a light."

During World War II, Kirlin Lighting was redirected by the U.S. government to pause lighting production and instead support the war effort by producing gears for the Rolls-Royce engine used in the P-51 Mustang fighter planes.

Among John Kirlin's innovations upon assuming leadership in the '60s, Brownell's father steered the business toward specialty areas such as healthcare — designing the first motorized, recessed patient exam light — and maximum security prisons.

Because inmates were known to hide shivs in the flange of light fixtures, he designed a fixture that appeared as though the flange was wide, but once an item was slid in, it would fall into a shiv trap.

"That was my dad," Brownell said, "It's like, how could he think like a criminal? Well, you do say put yourself in the customer's shoes, right?"

Hitting the ground running by graduating Harvard Business School in '83 at a time when only 17 percent of the class were women, Brownell's tenure of the family business — of which she was named chairman in 2023 — has been no less impressive than the legacy that came before her.

In November, she was named the 2024 inductee into the Michigan Lighting Hall of Fame.

"My grandfather, who patented recessed lighting, was inducted posthumously a few years back and I accepted the award on his behalf," she noted. "It was very, very moving."

Keen on developing the medical aspect of Kirlin Lighting, Brownell made it a personal goal to find what seemed like an impossible solution for birthing suites needing a greater angle of illumination to illuminate the birth canal.

Because recessed lighting is the industry standard in healthcare — keeping light fixtures out of the patient space is important for safety and cleanliness with dust collection, etc. — geometry and the ceiling tile prevents the angle of lighting from being anything more than 35 or 45 degrees. Doctors desired a 60-degree angle to best see within the body via the birth canal.

"I happened to be in Las Vegas at the OBGYN National Conference and I took some doctors out for a show," Brownell said. "I'm watching the show and I'm noticing the lighting and I'm thinking, how are they getting the light that's illuminating so low over there, up high over here? So I look around and I'm looking up at the lights and I see mirrors."

The figurative lightbulb went off and Brownell realized the light could be reflected off a mirror built into the recessed fixture to get a 60-degree angle.

Thus was invented the INFRALED PRO 60 — part of the INFRALED PRO series, which in 2023 was recognized as "The Coolest Thing Made in Michigan."

"Having almost that childlike curiosity about things helps you to always find ways to improve," Brownell said.

Her son, Chris, was named CEO of Kirlin Lighting last year, as the family business continues into its fifth generation. Her daughter, Lindsay, is a science writer with Wyss Institute at Harvard University.

"Christopher and his wife, Gloria, just had a second son they welcomed into the world on New Year's Eve," Brownell proudly added.

When Brownell isn't busy inventing, she's served on the boards of the Rivertown Business Association and Downtown Detroit Partnership; currently is on the board at The Helm at Boll Life Center in Grosse Pointe Farms; and, most recently, joined the Belle Isle Conservancy board.

Passionate about the earth and its environment, she's also co-chair of horticulture in the Garden Club of Michigan and enjoys beekeeping with hives in her sideyard.

"You never know exactly what your path will become," Brownell said. "I certainly had no idea what would happen, but I knew that I wanted to come back and try.

"That was the start and then it's an evolution. Everybody's path in life — just like every human being is unique — is a unique path and there's no bad route. So I just feel extremely fortunate that I've had the experiences that I've had and worked with the most amazing people and met the most amazing new friends."

COURTESY PHOTOS

Jana Kirlin Brownell, center, with current and former members of the Kirlin Lighting team at the November gala, where she was named the 2024 inductee into the Michigan Lighting Hall of Fame.

Brownell with the beehives she fosters in her sideyard. She leaves most honey for the bees, as it's their winter food source.

Grosse Pointe News

USPS 230-400

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY WEEKLY BUGLE, LLC

16980 KERCHEVAL AVE.
GROSSE POINTE, MI 48230
PHONE: (313) 882-6900

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID at Detroit, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: $49.50 per year via mail in the Metro area, $70 outside.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Grosse Pointe News, 16980 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

The deadline for news copy is 3 p.m. Monday.

Advertising proof deadline is 5:00 p.m. Friday.

CORRECTIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS: Responsibility for display and classified advertising errors is limited to either cancellation of the charge for or a rerun of the portion in error. Notification must be given in time for correction in the following issue. We assume no responsibility of the same after the first insertion.

THE GROSSE POINTE NEWS reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Grosse Pointe News advertising representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper. Only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order.

More water mains on tap in Park

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Expansion of a water main on upper Beaconsfield last year boosted water pressure beyond the work zone's boundaries, inspiring optimism for more of the same when larger pipes are installed this year in other parts of town.

Projects lined up this year include replacing a water main on a section of lower Beaconsfield, the middle section of Mack Avenue and the area of Patterson Park.

Citywide water and sewer system work is becoming routine due to residents' passage of a 10-year infrastructure millage in 2023.

Work on Beaconsfield last year took place on a two-block stretch between Vernor and Mack. Improvements consisted of replacing a corroded, 6-inch cast iron pipe with

See MAINS, page 8A

PLANS:

Continued from page 3A

Transportation website, transportation.gov:

◆ decreased number of vehicle lanes pedestrians must cross,

◆ greater compliance with speed limits and

◆ reduced rear-end and sideswipe car crashes.

"Road diets are a useful tool in the traffic engineer's arsenal of making streets a more integral part of the community," according to a 2012 study by the Michigan State University Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering titled, "Safety and Operational Analysis of 4-lane to 3-lane Conversions in Michigan." "They open traditional roads to greater use by pedestrians and, especially, bicyclists. In general, safety benefits can be expected but vary from site to site."

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

City of Grosse Pointe

Stovetop fire

There were no injuries to the sole occupant or her dog following a kitchen fire that started on a stovetop in the 800 block of Grosse Pointe Court at 10:45 p.m. Monday, Jan. 6.

Lululemon

Eight Wunder Puff jackets worth $2,100 were stolen from Lululemon at 5:40 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9.

The suspect is described as a thin, 6-foot black man, who fled in an older white conversion van with a maroon bottom.

An investigation is ongoing.

Pointed assault

A 48-year-old Harrison Township man entered a local emergency room at 7:50 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9, with a needle stuck in his arm and requested it be removed immediately.

When advised by a nurse she would get to him after she finished with another patient, he got upset, ripped the needle from his arm and threw it at her.

Dispute

After discovering his girlfriend had been out all night, a 45-year-old St. Clair Shores man broke the window to the front door of her home in the 700 block of Grosse Pointe Court at 8 a.m. Friday, Jan. 10.

Trespassing

A 53-year-old Detroit man was arrested for trespassing at a business in the 17000 block of Mack at 11:50 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 12, after multiple warnings over several weeks not to be on the property.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Beyond pirating

A FedEx driver was led to fear for his life while delivering a package in the 200 block of McKinley at 12:12 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7.

While walking up to the house, the driver was approached by a young man, who said he was the homeowner. When asked for his license to prove who he was, the suspect could not provide it.

Not wanting to leave the package on the porch for fear of it being stolen, the driver attempted to return to his truck, when the suspect began wrestling him for the package. The driver held onto it until a second suspect wearing a mask exited a nearby vehicle, began digging around for something in the trunk and yelled, "Is that package worth your life?"

Look the other way

A suspect told the homeowner it was none of her business while walking away from a residence in the 200 block of McKinley with a stolen package at 2:46 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7.

Unlocked

Ray-Ban sunglasses worth $500 and loose change were stolen from an unlocked vehicle on Beverly between 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8, and 9 a.m. the next morning.

Larceny

Miscellaneous coins were stolen from a vehicle in the 400 block of Chalfonte between the evening of Tuesday, Jan. 7, and morning of Thursday, Jan. 9.

Stun gun

A stun gun — illegal to carry in Michigan without a concealed carry permit — was confiscated from a 19-year-old Detroit woman during a traffic stop at Mack and East Warren at 6:08 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9.

Prevention

Nothing was taken from an unlocked vehicle on Edgemere that was rummaged through overnight into Thursday, Jan. 9.

A neighbor's security camera captured a man riding up to his property on a bike at 4 a.m. and checking his vehicle's door handle, which was locked, before leaving.

Theft

A 34-year-old Farms man admitted to stealing alcohol from a business in the 18000 block of Mack at 8:21 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, after being tracked down by officers.

Wrong place & time

As an officer approached the Mack and Moross intersection at 9:58 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12, a 40-year-old Detroit man ran the red light in front of him.

The man was cited for disobeying a traffic signal and driving on a suspended license, for which he had four priors.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Several suspects

A resident of the 1000 block of Grayton told police last week there were multiple opportunities recently for someone to steal prescription medication from a bedroom.

"Several people have been in the home during the timeframe the theft could have occurred," an investigator said.

Wallet taken

A wallet containing $150 cash and credit cards was stolen from a vehicle parked unlocked in the 900 block of Nottingham during a two-day period starting 5 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8.

Admitted thieves

Police arrested two 22-year-old Detroit men at 5 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 12, for breaking into parked cars.

"(They matched) descriptions of those seen on several residents' Ring cameras going into vehicles and stealing items," police said. "(They were) taken into custody and admitted going into an unknown number of vehicles. Stolen property was recovered from the suspects."

Thefts occurred on Pemberton, Beaconsfield, Balfour and Berkshire.

— Brad Lindberg

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Close call

Firefighters responded to a call on Briarcliff around 1:45 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12, after workers hit an electrical wire that caused sparks. Damage was contained to some charred insulation.

Drugged driving

A 50-year-old Harrison Township man was arrested for operating under the influence of drugs after being pulled over for swerving on northbound Lakeshore near Woodland Shore about 10:45 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7.

A prescription bottle not in his name was found in the console of his 2010 Ford F-150, as well as 10 pills in a plastic baggie in his shirt pocket for which he did not have a prescription.

—Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Stolen vehicle

A 2021 Honda was stolen from the driveway of a home in the 1100 block of Fairholme sometime between 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, and 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8.

The owner said he was unsure if the vehicle was locked or if the key fob was inside it.

Cutting edge

A scissor kit valued at $4,000 was stolen from a vehicle parked in the 1900 block of Prestwick sometime overnight into Saturday, Jan. 11.

—Ted O'Neil

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

PointeAlarm
FREE!
Monitored Smoke Detector
with purchase of security alarm and monitoring services.
www.PointeAlarm.com
313-882-SAFE (7233)
19261 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods 48236
01 9625

GPAAS:

Continued from page 1A

fee contract, but Harper Woods City Council was less than enthused when presented last Monday with an annual cost of $79,300, being that its usage makes up 61 percent of the animals brought to the organization.

Council officially tabled the matter for its next meeting; however, GPAAS Executive Director Corinne Martin reported she received correspondence from Harper Woods interim City Manager John Szymanski Tuesday, Jan. 7, stating the city had decided not to pursue the contract.

"We calculated the amounts that we asked each municipality to pay based on the usage and Harper Woods — who is our biggest user and uses as much as all the Pointes put together — they felt it was unfair," Martin said. "They felt that our methodology for calculating the cost was unfair to the city of Harper Woods, that it was done to make them pay more."

Grosse Pointe Park, the second highest GPAAS user at 13 percent, agreed in December to a $16,900 annual fee. The Woods, at 12 percent, will pay $15,600; the Farms, at 10 percent, $13,000; the City, at 4 percent, $5,200; and the Shores, at 1 percent, $1,300.

In the first 10 months of 2024, GPAAS took in four animals from the Shores, 12 from the City, 25 from the Farms, 32 from the Woods, 34 from the Park and 165 from Harper Woods.

Unexpectedly losing the partnership with Harper Woods, Martin said, "really doesn't mean anything for us, because we will continue to do what we arranged this facility for. We will continue to care for all of the strays and animals that come in from the Grosse Pointes. It's just we won't be serving the city of Harper Woods."

There also is no concern regarding funding the new building despite losing the anticipated income from Harper Woods, she added.

"Although we're going to have less money coming in from the municipalities, we also are cutting our number of animals that will come in," she said.

Since 2012, GPAAS has served as the animal shelter for Harper Woods at no charge except for minimal boarding costs.

The memorandum to city council regarding the proposed contract noted there are no similar services available in the area and painted a bleak picture for animal control in the city moving forward.

"Without this service (through GPAAS)," the memorandum reads, "our police officers would be forced to expire the stray animals by gunfire when responding to a call for vicious animals.

"As some on the city council can remember, back in the 1990s, our police officers were forced to expire a vicious dog on Beaconsfield that was biting kids who were walking home from school. The scene was horrific and caused quite a trauma for the school children walking home at 4 p.m. in the afternoon."

An additional consequence of the broken partnership may be Harper Wood's K-9 program, which GPAAS was responsible for establishing in 2016. The nonprofit since has raised funds to continue the program at no cost to the city.

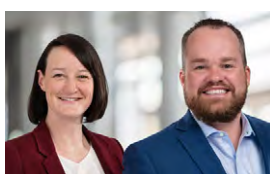
"By terminating our agreement, that also puts them in a position of no longer having GPAAS raising funds for their K-9 program," Martin noted, "which is, again, shocking."

Szymanski did not respond to multiple interview requests.

Full service.
Low costs.
No trade-offs.

When you work closely with Schwab along your financial journey, you can leave trade-offs behind. Our Financial Consultants don't just deliver an elevated level of guidance and service—they do it at no additional cost to you. Give up nothing, but still get everything.

Give us a call.



charles SCHWAB

Grosse Pointe Branch
20879 Mack Ave
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236
313-743-0433
schwab.com/GrossePointe

While consultations are complimentary, the implementation of any recommendations made in the course of these services may result in trade commissions or other fees, charges, or expenses. There are certain eligibility requirements for working with a dedicated representative. Go to schwab.com/representative-compensation for compensation information.

©2024 Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. All rights reserved. Member SIPC.
CC8573607 (0624-7YXM) ADP124423B-00 SCH13324 (12/24)

01 9625

POINTES OF VIEW

GROSSE POINTE FARMS I GROSSE POINTE PARK I GROSSE POINTE SHORES I GROSSE POINTE WOODS

Grosse Pointe News
PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY WEEKLY BUGLE, LLC
16980 KERCHEVAL AVE., GROSSE POINTE, MI 48230
PHONE: (313) 882-6900 FAX: (313) 882-1585
E-MAIL: EDITOR@GROSSEPOINTENEWS.COM

SEAN COTTON: Owner

ANNE GRYZENIA: Publisher

JODY McVEIGH: Editor in Chief

OUR VIEW

Can't they all just get along?

If last week's organizational meeting for the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education is any indication, trustees, administrators, observers and others are in for a long, arduous year.

For starters, the meeting lasted three and a half hours. The previous two organizational meetings, in 2023 and 2024, lasted one hour, 40 minutes and one hour, seven minutes, respectively.

Granted, there was a budget update at the meeting Tuesday, Jan. 7, but there were lengthy, needless discussions on other topics.

The meeting started off calmly, as Trustees Colleen Worden, Laura Hull, Tim Klepp and Clint Derringer took their oaths of office, followed by a short reception.

Problems arose after the reception, when Trustee Valarie St. John wanted to change the meeting agenda so the election of officers came before Superintendent Andrea Tuttle's regular report.

Ms. St. John even went so far as to pass out a new agenda she had typed up. It was a surprising move because over the past two years Ms. St. John and Ms. Worden objected to agenda changes if they occurred at the start of a meeting, saying it was unfair to the public, showed a lack of transparency and even, perhaps, constituted a violation of the Open Meetings Act.

According to one board member, the change was precipitated by an email sent to the board by a member of the community. It is troubling to think that residents of the district, who did not run for office and were not elected to the board, could have sway over the actions of said board.

Things went from bad to worse when the election of officers did start. Dr. Tuttle read a process she used during her 14 years as superintendent of Owosso Public Schools and one that adheres to Robert's Rules of Order and is recommended by the Michigan Association of School Boards.

It entails opening up nominations for president, then asking three times if there are any other nominations, followed by a motion and vote to close nominations. Such a process ensures fairness in case there is more than one nomination for president, in which case a person would need four votes to be elected. The president would then take over, using the same process for selection of vice president, treasurer and secretary.

Each board member was made aware of the process well in advance via their meeting packet, but Ms. St. John and Ms. Worden strenuously objected, saying the process the board previously used was sufficient. As any management guru will tell you, doing things a certain way "because that is how we have always done it," is not a good practice.

We believe raising this issue at the eleventh hour at the board table created unnecessary confusion and tension and it disrupted a process that should have been straightforward and professional.

As our story on page 1A indicates, Ms. Worden was elected president, with Ms. Hull as vice president, Mr. Klepp as treasurer and Ms. St. John as secretary.

Perhaps the new "board majority" did not think the thorough process suggested by Dr. Tuttle was necessary because they already knew there would not be multiple nominations for any of the four offices. The four officers, along with Mr. Derringer, were spotted having coffee together the Sunday before Thanksgiving at a coffee shop just outside of the Pointes.

While we reject speculation that such a meeting was a violation of the Open Meetings Act — only two were sitting board members at the time — it did call into question the appearance of such a meeting and the commitment to transparency by those five.

Ms. Worden in May 2023 pointed out at a meeting that she had been told then-President Ahmed Ismail, then-Vice President Lisa Papas and then-Treasurer Sean Cotton had been seen having breakfast together at a Grosse Pointe Woods restaurant and were overheard discussing board business. She called it a "shadow board."

Mr. Ismail quickly interjected, noting then-Superintendent Jon Dean also was there. Ms. Papas explained it is not uncommon for the executive board — president, vice president and treasurer — to meet with the superintendent and since three board members do not constitute a quorum, such meetings are not a violation of the Open Meetings Act.

It is equally troubling that the board majority insisted on changing its meeting schedule in what appeared to be nothing more than a case of biting off your nose to spite your face.

The proposed calendar, which would have maintained the previous schedule of holding meetings the first and third Tuesday of each month, had been fully vetted by the administration. It was clear, consistent and aligned to the district's calendar.

The board will now meet at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of the month, with a few exceptions due to holidays, breaks and other events. At the very least, any changes to the calendar should have waited until the end of the academic year. That is what the previous board did in 2023, when it switched meetings to Tuesdays, partly at the request of the administration.

The reasons for the change to Tuesdays was practical and efficient, as board members often make requests for more information about what is in the board packet over the weekend immediately preceding the meeting. Those requests can be substantial and involve follow-up questions.

By insisting on Monday meetings, the board majority will be taking away significant and important down time from administrators over the weekend, time that should be spent with family and not working. This is an unnecessary stress on the administration and could compromise the depth and accuracy of the information they are asked to provide.

The change also does a disservice to the community. Another reason for the switch to Tuesdays was to allow residents who wished the ability to attend their local city council meetings Monday nights, then attend or watch the board of education meetings the following night.

Four of the five Pointes — with the exception of the Shores — and Harper Woods hold their city council meetings Monday nights.

It also is unfortunate the new board will be changing the committee structure. For the previous two years, standing committees dealing with finance and facilities, policy and contracts, curriculum and community engagement each have included three board members and several members of the public who brought professional, real-world experience in their respective areas of expertise.

The board will now have three committees — facilities, policy and Freedom of Information Act appeals — consisting of just three board members each. We find it unfortunate that the voices of community members willing to volunteer their time and effort will be ignored.

There were some bright spots during the meeting we would be remiss in not

See GPPSS, page 7A

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Pure Grosse Pointe

At first look this seems like an illusion, the kind you might see in the desert, minus the water. Last Thursday, Jan. 9, ice had gathered in the corner where Crescent Sail Yacht Club meets Lake St. Clair on a day that hasn't been the norm lately. The sun was out, the wind was minimal, the lake was flat and in the distance, halfway to Canada, a freighter was moving along toward downtown Detroit. Because the lake was flat, the reflection of the freighter under itself makes it look like the wheelhouse, the front white section, is propping up the entire freighter and it is hovering above the water.

WEEKLY BUGLE, LLC

Member Michigan Press Association, National Newspaper Association and Society of Professional Journalists

EDITORIAL
(313) 882-6900

Jody McVeigh: Editor in Chief

Ted O'Neil: Associate Editor

Mike Adzima: Sports Reporter

Kyla Bazzy: Obituary Writer

Laurel Kraus: Staff Writer

Renee Landuyt: Staff Photographer

Brad Lindberg: Special Writer

PRODUCTION
(313) 343-5573

Ken Schop: Production Manager

John Pigott: IT Manager

David Hughes: Graphic Artist

Mary Schlager: Graphic Artist

Donna Zetterlund: Graphic Artist

ADVERTISING
(313) 882-3500

Shelley Owens: Advertising Manager

Ken Ong: Account Executive

Julie R. Sutton: Account Executive

Melanie Mahoney: Administrative Assistant

MARKETING

Olivia Monette: Marketing Specialist & Audience Development Manager

CLASSIFIED
(313) 882-6900 ext 567

CIRCULATION
(313) 343-5578

Ellie Carter

GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST January 16 – 22 (LOCAL 4 Expect More.)

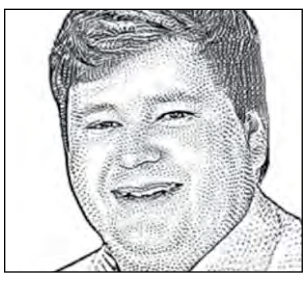
THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
32° / 12°	36° / 24°	34° / 29°	20° / 17°	12° / 4°	8° / -1°	17° / 3°
Snow Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Rain/Snow Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy
60%	0%	60%	0%	0%	0%	0%
SUNRISE 7:58 am SUNSET 5:25 pm	SUNRISE 7:57 am SUNSET 5:26 pm	SUNRISE 7:57 am SUNSET 5:27 pm	SUNRISE 7:56 am SUNSET 5:29 pm	SUNRISE 7:56 am SUNSET 5:30 pm	SUNRISE 7:55 am SUNSET 5:31 pm	SUNRISE 7:54 am SUNSET 5:32 pm

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

LETTERS

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

I SAY By Mike Adzima



The Detroit Lions and the path to the Super Bowl

It seems like over the years I have used some of these I Say columns to try and rally the troops around the bright future of Detroit sports and how things are going to get better, especially when it comes to the Detroit Lions. Well, here we are. The Lions are the No. 1 seed in the NFC for the NFL playoffs and the path to the Super Bowl is becoming clear.

How good did it feel to sit at home this past weekend during the Wild Card round of the playoffs and not have to worry about watching a Lions playoff game? Sure, most of us have plenty of years under our belts of not having to worry about watching the Lions in the playoffs, but this time it was different. All we had to do was sit back and watch the chaos unfold and wait to see who Detroit would play in the NFC Divisional Round as our team got nice and well-rested during the much-needed bye week.

On Sunday, we learned the Lions' next opponent will be the Washington Commanders. Without sounding overly confident, this was the matchup I was hoping for. Washington's rookie quarterback, Jayden Daniels, is very good and does have me a bit worried given how the Lions' defense has played against mobile QBs.

Despite that, Daniels is still a rookie. He helped lead the Commanders to an impressive win over Tampa Bay in the Wild Card round, but I think the playoff environment in Detroit is going to be entirely different. Watching the game between Washington and Tampa Bay Sunday night, you could hear Commanders fans in Tampa's stadium chanting "MVP" for Daniels. I highly doubt anyone will hear any pro-Washington cheers in Ford Field on Saturday.

While Daniels and the Commanders' offense could give Detroit's defense some fits, the matchup of the Lions' offense against Washington's defense is what should make us confident. Washington's defense ranks among the worst in the league against the run, allowing 4.8 yards per carry (YPC) this season. The Buccaneers' Bucky Irving averaged 4.5 YPC in Sunday's game.

It feels safe to say the Lions' strong rushing attack could have a field day against Washington, especially with how Jahmyr Gibbs has looked recently. If David Montgomery returns from injury for Saturday's game, it could be a scary day for the Commanders.

I don't want to get too ahead of myself, but the only thing standing between the Lions and another appearance in the NFC Championship Game is a rookie QB and a defense whose weakness plays right into the Lions' biggest strength. If they can take care of business against Washington, then they get another home game for the NFC Championship against either Philadelphia, Los Angeles or Minnesota.

The path to the Super Bowl has been laid. It is beginning to feel real. We still need to take everything week to week, but what seemed to be a fantasy for so long is becoming a reality — and our first championship parade in Detroit since the Red Wings in 2008 might not be too far away.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1950

75 years ago this week

SCHOOL BOARD ASKS $3,185,000 TO BUILD NEW SCHOOL ROOMS: The Grosse Pointe Board of Education approved a project for the extension of the Grosse Pointe School plant and called for an election Feb. 24, at which the electors will be asked to approve a bond issue of $3,185,000 to pay the major part of the cost. The plan as finally adopted calls only for the completion of Parcells and Kerby Schools and the erection of elementary schools in Cook Road and in the Gratiot Township section of the school district.

POINTE'S NEWEST CHURCH TO BE DEDICATED: The Grosse Pointe Congregational Church will celebrate its 10th anniversary Jan. 15, with the official dedication of its new building at Chalfonte and Lothrop roads in Grosse Pointe Farms. The church has met since its inception in the Gabriel Richard Elementary School in McKinley Road.

1975

50 years ago this week

HOLDEN FUND GIVES BOOST TO INSTITUTE: The Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology, located at Nottingham and East Jefferson in the Park, has received a grant of over $35,000 from the James and Lynelle Holden Fund. The money will help provide the center with equipment necessary to begin a retinal diagnosis and treatment center.

FANTASTIC SAFETY RECORD SET IN WOODS: There were no pedestrian injuries in the Woods last year. And not only that — 1974 was the 16th straight year in which there has been no pedestrian fatality in the community. In fact, pedestrian injuries were down by minus-300 percent last year in comparison to 1973 when three persons were injured.

FINAL EXAMS FOR SENIORS AIRED AGAIN: The issue of final examinations for high school seniors was batted around once again. Michelle Chave, a South High senior, introduced herself as the chairperson for the finals committee and asked the board what channels students should go though to see about the removal of final exams.

2000

25 years ago this week

1ST 2000 BABY BORN AT BON SECOURS: The Litteral family of St. Clair Shores marked millennium celebrations with their own brand of fireworks. Mary Litteral was scheduled to give birth by C-section Jan. 4. Nature had other plans. As the family stayed home Dec. 31 to mark the new millennium quietly, Litteral entered labor, giving birth to Tyler Jacob at 1:19 a.m. Jan. 1.

GARDEN CENTER IS STILL BLOOMING AFTER 50 YEARS: It may be the middle of January, but avid gardeners are already poring over the new seed and plant catalogs. And in the Pointes, gardeners are getting ready to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Grosse Pointe Garden Center.

NORTH WRESTLERS HAVE RECORD WEEKEND AT FORDSON TOURNEY: It was a record weekend for Grosse Pointe North's wrestling team. "We set school records for most champions in a tournament (nine) and most team points in a tournament (258)," said coach Joe Pantaleo after the Norsemen dominated the Dearborn Fordson Invitational. It was the fourth straight season North has won the tournament, but it was the most lopsided victory by the Norsemen.

2015

10 years ago this week

TOURS COMPLEMENT DETROIT'S AUTO SHOW: There are many great things about Detroit a Grosse Pointe Woods resident is proud to show off, especially this time of year. Kim Rusinow of Grosse Pointe Woods, and her business partner, Pat Haller, own the Grosse Pointe-based Show Me Detroit Tours. A special tour is planned Saturday, Jan. 17, and again Saturday, Jan. 24, for the North American International Auto Show in Detroit.

BOARD POSTS HELP WANTED SIGN: With an eye on the calendar, the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education has begun the process of selecting a new superintendent. First up is selecting a search firm to identify possible candidates. A formal request for proposal was issued by the district in December, and according to Chris Fenton, deputy superintendent for business and operations, eight search firms responded.

NEW YEAR, NEW BOARD MEMBERS: Three members of the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education were sworn in Jan. 12. Incumbent Brian Summerfield was reelected to the board in November, along with two new members, Margaret Weertz and Ahmed Ismail.

Pointer-produced movie up for awards

THE GROSSE POINTES — A film produced by Sean Cotton, who owns the Grosse Pointe News, has been nominated for six NAACP Image Awards.

"Exhibiting Forgiveness" stars André Holland as Tarrell Rodin, an accomplished painter haunted by childhood trauma, whose life is upended by an unexpected reunion with his estranged father, a recovering addict seeking redemption.

The movie is a semi-autobiographical look at the life of Titus Kaphar, a renowned artist born in 1976 in Kalamazoo who wrote and directed. It also includes Kaphar's artwork, which has been featured on the cover of TIME magazine and has appeared at the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Holland has been nominated for Outstanding Actor in a Motion Picture. Other nominations include:

◆ Aunjanue Ellis-Taylor, Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Motion Picture,

◆ Outstanding Independent Motion Picture,

◆ Kaphar, Outstanding Breakthrough Creative in a Motion Picture,

◆ Lachlan Milne, Outstanding Cinematography in a Motion Picture and

◆ Kaphar, Outstanding Writing in a Motion Picture.

The movie has a 95 percent rating among film critics on Rotten Tomatoes. Kaphar won the Directors to Watch category at both the Nashville and Palm Springs film festivals and the movie was named among the top 10 in the Best Picture category by the African-American Film Critics Association.

"The nominations are a testament to the profound message of the movie and the extraordinary vision of Titus Kaphar," Cotton said. "His ability to intertwine the complexities of art, humanity and the journey toward forgiveness has created something truly transformative. I am honored to have played a part in bringing this deeply moving and essential story to life."

In a post on Instagram, Kaphar said he was excited by the nominations.

"I just want to say thank you to the NAACP and everyone who voted on this," he said. "We appreciate you so much."

Readers may recognize Kaphar's name from last spring when one of his paintings — owned by Cotton — was showcased at Grosse Pointe North High School. It was removed after several complaints were lodged, but Kaphar came from his home in Connecticut to speak with students at North.

"Teachers told me it was one of the best presentations they'd ever heard," Cotton said. "The students just kept asking him question after question."

Cotton and Kaphar got to know each other after being introduced by a mutual friend. Cotton eventually visited the incubator Kaphar runs, called NXTHVN, in New Haven, Conn.

See MOVIE, page 8A

GPPSS:

Continued from page 6A

recognizing.

Two of them came from Mr. Derringer. The first was when he inquired about the $1 million surplus the district realized at the end of the 2023-24 fiscal year. He recognized the board's effort in putting that budget together and asked to receive specific information about the process.

He also made it very clear he would recuse himself from any discussion or votes regarding additional pay for special education teachers, as it would impact his wife's salary.

Another bright spot was comments by Deputy Superintendent Roy Bishop, who noted the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr. Day and the civil rights leader's visit to the Pointes just weeks before his assassination in 1968. Dr. Bishop said the day is "an opportunity to reflect on how to be more like Dr. King" and "what we can do as individuals to be more human."

Overall, the meeting was concerning, but we hope the new board can focus on transparency, value the expertise of its administrators and do what is best for students.

Roadwork plans line up in the Park

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A road resurfacing project scheduled this year is so big it's being chopped into bite-sized pieces.

When the dust settles and blacktop dries, Charlevoix from Beaconsfield to Bedford will be the smoothest cruise in town.

Although the work zone is just over a half-mile long, it includes seven cross-street intersections.

"We have to break it into three sections because it's just too long, but we need to get Charlevoix done," said Tom Jenny, head of public works.

Work on Charlevoix stops at the border of the area's commercial district, which is due for $4 million worth of comprehensive streetscape improvements starting 2026.

Other roadwork planned tentatively for 2025 consists of spot-resurfacing locations torn up to repair broken water mains.

"One is on Trombley," Jenny said.

Another is on the upper part of Bedford.

"It's really bad," Jenny said. "Someone always calls about it."

Two parking lots are due to resurfacing:

◆ in the business district south of Kercheval between Lakepointe and Beaconsfield, the location of the summertime farmers' market; and

◆ the overflow lot at Windmill Pointe Park, used currently to store heavy-duty city vehicles and public works supplies and debris, such as topsoil and tree trimmings.

Using the lot for industrial vehicles and related operations increased wear and tear.

"It's in horrible shape," Jenny said.

— Brad Lindberg

COURTESY PHOTO

"Exhibiting Forgiveness" opened nationwide in October.

MOVIE:

Continued from page 7A

"He brings in recent art school grads for a year and pays them while they work on their craft," he said. "But he also teaches them the business side of art, which colleges don't teach, how to deal with contracts and agents and such. I went out there to meet him and we became good friends."

Cotton offered to produce the movie after Kaphar expressed frustration over the project in fall 2022.

"The problem, especially with first-time movie-makers, is that in order to get financing they want you to change the script or only cast certain actors," he said. "We were able to push away all that pressure and completely preserve his vision."

Filming was completed by July 2023 and it premiered at the Sundance Film Festival last February, where it received a standing ovation and was nominated for a grand jury prize.

Visit exhibitingforgivenessfilm.com/home/ to watch the trailer and learn more about Kaphar.

New City ordinance will uniformly govern commissions

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — As it continues shoring up its code of ordinances, in December, administrators in the City of Grosse Pointe presented council with the creation of a new ordinance to uniformly govern its commissions.

The Commissions Ordinance, which passed unanimously and without much discussion, states each commission now will have seven members, who will serve three-year terms and can be reappointed indefinitely by council, if desired. A staff liaison also will be assigned to the commissions to aid in their efforts and each will be required to make an annual report to city council on its activities.

"The attempt is to provide an ordinance that would standardize and uniform those commissions, so that it's clear what their scope is, their membership is, outlining how they function in one simple area," City Manager Joe Valentine said.

The city currently has three commissions in operation — the parks and harbor commission; the beautification commission, which was created by resolution in 1990 and later reestablished in 2003; and the urban forestry commission, which was established by resolution in 2016.

Prior to the new ordinance, the beautification commission could have a maximum of 12 citizen members — in addition to city council members and administrative staff — for two-year terms and the urban forestry commission was resolved to have five members serving indefinite terms.

— Laurel Kraus

Lawn extension, special events ordinances amended

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — In the interest of collaborating with its residents on beautification efforts and ease of infrastructure maintenance, city council amended the City's lawn extension ordinance, which governs use of the city-owned property in front yards between the sidewalk and street.

"Effectively, we've had ... some standing practices that weren't codified in there and need to be codified," City Manager Joe Valentine said. "So we've basically taken our practices and put them in ordinance form, so we have something in writing to justify the practices we've been doing.

"The attempt is trying to clarify these practices and trying to balance the intention of having members in the community enhance this public space that's in front of their homes that obviously makes their property look better, while managing the city's right to maintain that property, which is where a lot of our infrastructure is located."

To date, the lawn extension ordinance touched only upon the allowance and protection for homeowners to plant flowers, trees and shrubbery on the public easement.

Several subsections added address the city's responsibility and intent to replace landscaping should it be removed as part of a public improvement or repair; allow for installation of a concrete, brick or otherwise solid material walkway from the sidewalk to the street, after obtaining a right-of-way permit from the building department; and replace said walkways, in concrete only, should they be removed as part of road reconstruction or other public improvements.

In cases where homeowners have and wish to keep an enhanced walkway with materials more involved than concrete — such as bluestone, exposed aggregate or brick — the City will pay the homeowner the cost of what it would have spent on concrete replacement, to invest toward hiring a contractor for the specialty work of the decorative enhancement.

"I think this is a fair compromise," Valentine said. "The cost that we would have already spent to do concrete, we provide as a credit for that further enhancement, which is going to be more than what we would have done."

An additional amendment will require property owners to obtain a right-of-way permit from the building department before installing underground irrigation systems in the public easement.

"We don't really know who has those until you go out to the site," Valentine said, "so having records on these properties of what's in the public right-of-way is certainly advantageous for us, as well as other utilities that might come in that space and may cause damage that we could help avoid if we know that there's amenities already in there."

Though existing amenities will be grandfathered in, the ordinance amendments also are intended to address recently surfaced issues.

"I know one of the things that this will eliminate is situations where people have been putting things tall and high on the (public right-of-way) areas, so that people can't open their car doors when they're parked in front," Mayor Shelia Tomkowiak noted. "I think it's been happening in a couple of spots."

Council passed the lawn extension ordinance amendments 6-0, with Councilman Seth Krupp absent, Monday, Nov. 18.

Special events

City administration also found it a fitting time to clarify expectations for event planning on public property and enhance the process for applications via amendments to its special events ordinance.

Though a provision already is in place requiring applications be submitted to the city manager's office no later than 75 days prior to the date of the event, Valentine said there has been a lack of enforcement and last-minute applications come up "quite frequently."

Administration still may waive the 75-day rule at its discretion, but looks to begin requiring it in most cases to allow sufficient time for review by the special event review committee.

"The 75-day rule is what's on the books," Valentine told council. "We just haven't utilized it.

"... For events that are coming in new or seeing modifications to those events, it would be nice to have the additional time to actually review them," he added, "because there may be a back and forth for sharing information and questions and having adequate time to do that before we have to present it to council allows us to do our due diligence."

Newly added to the ordinance are clarifications that applications are for events on public property and must be complete to be accepted, as well as a provision giving city administration the ability to make any modifications the day of the event in the interest of public health, safety and welfare.

"Sometimes you see it on paper and it doesn't register the same way when you see it in person," Valentine said, "and we just want that ability to make those modifications as deemed appropriate."

Also new is a provision

See AMEND, page 10A

MAINS:

Continued from page 4A

a smooth, 8-inch pipe made of plastic composite. Plastic doesn't corrode.

The larger pipe handles up to 1,600 gallons per minute compared with 1,200 gallons per minute in the old pipe.

Water flowing through the old pipe was restricted due to decades of corrosion, called tuberculation, evidenced by buildup inside the pipe of small mounds of iron oxide. It is common for tuberculation in decades-old pipe to hinder flow by half to customers and fire hydrants.

"Just by adding Beaconsfield, it improved the system, which was great to see," said Nick Sizeland, city manager.

"For this year, we're looking for water mains on Beaconsfield from Jefferson to Essex," said Tom Jenny, head of public works. "We're also looking at doing Mack Avenue from Berkshire to Buckingham and Three Mile Drive to Audubon to give us more loops on Mack."

Looped mains eliminate dead ends, which are prone to lower pressure and relative stagnation.

"A water main that goes through Patterson Park is not in good shape," Jenny said. "We want to deal with that while we have the opportunity to go from Bedford to Grand Marais and make that a loop so Grand Marais is not a dead end. There's nothing wrong with water quality. It just helps the flow."

If circumstances change, the Mack Avenue portions of the project will be cut.

"That's still in good shape," Jenny said.

Eight-inch water pipes were installed on Mack between Kensington and Cadieux in 2023, the first major main replacement project in a couple of decades.

Results of a water reliability study, begun last fall and due for completion by spring, will compare the city's current water capacity with anticipated future demand.

"That should be presented to city council in February or March," Sizeland said. "The initial draft we received had welcome news."

Another component of the study is cause and effect, such as a mathematical model showing the anticipated impact on neighborhood water pressure if a certain section of pipe were replaced.

"You can take a map of Grosse Pointe Park and look at all the water mains and pressure changes," Sizeland said.

"It's going to be a good tool that informs our decision making as well," said Councilman Max Wiener, chairman of the infrastructure committee.

Westrick sisters band together at U-M

Grosse Pointe North High School graduates Stephanie and Sarah Westrick are together once again as students at the University of Michigan and members of the Michigan Marching Band, or MMB.

Stephanie Westrick, who has played clarinet with the MMB for two years, is a junior at U-M and working on a double major in film and psychology. Sarah Westrick, a freshman studying art and design, is in her first year playing piccolo with the MMB.

Both sisters were in the marching band at North, where they held leadership positions as section leaders and later as drum majors. Stephanie Westrick was a drum major in 2021, while Sarah Westrick was in 2022 and 2023.

A fun fact Stephanie Westrick likes to share is that since the resurgence of the marching band at North in 2019, a drum major from each year has gone on to march with the MMB — she and her sister among them.

The sisters said it is no joke auditioning for the MMB.

"To get into the band, you have to submit a one-take video recording of yourself playing three to five minutes of solo music that showcases not only technique like rhythm, but also musicianship through dynamics and phrasing, in addition to a chromatic scale that showcases your full range," Stephanie Westrick said. "It's a challenge to find that piece of music that is difficult enough to showcase your full talent, but not so difficult that it becomes detrimental."

"There are always more people auditioning in each section than there are spots for, so it can be difficult to get in to the band," Sarah Westrick added. "It's exciting when you get that email saying you made it and are a part of the MMB."

However, they said, the email is just the beginning. Once selected to be a member of the MMB, students must endure another audition during Band Week, using their musical selections to determine their musical rank/chair within their section.

The sister agreed being a part of the MMB involves intense work. Two weeks prior to the start of school, the band has extensive daily practices that last most of the day. Once school begins, practice is Monday through Friday for up to two hours.

The Friday night before a home game, the band practices three to four hours. Their call time is five hours before game time, so oftentimes, the band is back on the field at 7 a.m. Saturday, which can be awfully dark and cold in late October into November.

The MMB performs a new show every game, so each week its members memorize new music and a new show. The band plays at every home football game and travels to bigger rivalry games, for example The Ohio State University or Michigan State University, as well as any postseason games.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Sarah Westrick, left, with her piccolo and Stephanie Westrick with her clarinet pose in their Michigan Marching Band uniforms.

For every game, band members challenge for a spot on the field. Members who are granted spots in the travel block are provided transportation with the band either through a charter bus or airplane, depending on the distance. If it is an overnight trip instead of a day trip, the band also provides hotel accommodations.

There are certain standards set for members of the MMB.

"In the band, we're not allowed to participate in any student section's cheers that may involve profanity or are otherwise unsportsmanlike," Stephanie Westrick said. "Additionally, we are not allowed to rush the field with the students and fans after big wins, such as those against OSU that have taken place the last four years."

Added Sarah Westrick, "One of the things you cannot do is eat while in uniform, other than the post-halftime apples given to the whole band. … It is very important for everyone to look uniform. Hair or hair ribbons cannot touch the block 'M' on the uniforms so anyone with long hair has to put their hair up in single or double buns."

All the hard work and rules are worth the effort, the sisters said.

"The most fun part are the people and community you gain from being a part of the band," Sarah Westrick said.

Added Stephanie Westrick, "The most fun thing about being in the band are the friendships I've made through it. It provides you with a way to become incredibly close-knit with a wide variety of people and I'm almost always spending time with the friends I've made in band, even after the season ends."

— Renee Landuyt and Jody McVeigh

COURTESY PHOTO

From left, Laura Hull, Clint Derringer, Colleen Worden and Tim Klepp after being sworn in at the Grosse Pointe Pubic Schools Board of Education organizational meeting Tuesday, Jan. 7.

ELECTS:

Continued from page 1A

Grosse Pointe News, the only no vote.

"She knows the procedures we need to follow and corrects mistakes in the (meeting) minutes," Worden said.

The board also voted 5-2, with Jeup and Cotton opposed, to move meetings to 7 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays of each month, with a few exceptions due to scheduling matters. Meetings historically were on Mondays until June 2023, when they were switched to Tuesdays. The reason given at the time was because four of the five Pointes — with the exception of the Shores — hold their city council meetings on Mondays.

Worden said the switch back to Mondays is because it is the least busy night districtwide for extracurricular activities. Jeup said administrators preferred Tuesdays as they did not have to take time away from family Sunday evenings preparing for a Monday night meeting.

Trustees also voted on what to do with their pay. Board members make such a declaration at the annual organizational meeting and can choose to receive the money, refuse it, direct it to a particular program in the district or donate it to the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education. They receive $30 for each regular and committee meeting, up to 52 meetings.

Klepp and Worden chose to give the money to the Parcells Middle School PTO; Hull chose the Pierce Middle School band; Derringer directed his to the foundation and St. John chose the closed captioning efforts that accompany each televised board meeting. Cotton chose to forgo the money and Jeup said she would receive hers.

The board voted 6-1, with Jeup opposed, to create standing committees for facilities, policy and Freedom of Information Act appeals. Worden said she planned to only appoint board members to the committees. Previously, committees for finance and facilities, policy and contracts, curriculum and community engagement included community members who brought specific expertise in each of those areas.

PRIDE OF THE POINTES

Kettering University student **Noah Spriet** of Grosse Pointe Woods was named a Michigander Scholar by Kettering and the Michigan Economic Development Corp. The computer engineering major received the BorgWarner Co-op Award.

◆◆◆

Sisi Costa of Grosse Pointe Park and **Joss Harvey** of the City of Grosse Pointe were named to the Dean's List at Belmont University for the fall 2024 semester.

◆◆◆

City of Grosse Pointe residents **Bridget Doyle**, **Caroline Miller** and **Evelyn Young**; Grosse Pointe Farms resident **Maria Wortman**; and Grosse Pointe Park resident **Anamaria Garberding** were named to the Dean's List at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for the fall 2024 semester.

◆◆◆

Evelyn Stahl of Grosse Pointe Woods was named to the York College of Pennsylvania Dean's List. Stahl is a junior sport management major.

◆◆◆

Kaiden DePascale of Grosse Pointe Woods was named to Buena Vista University's fall 2024 Dean's List.

◆◆◆

Sydney Kummer of Grosse Pointe Shores earned a Master of Physician Assistant Studies degree from Trine University at the end of the fall 2024 term.

◆◆◆

William Shall of the City of Grosse Pointe, **Aidan Briggs** and **Nicholas Muccioli** of Grosse Pointe Woods and **Aias Danier** of Grosse Pointe Shores were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2024 semester at Lawrence Technological University.

◆◆◆

Dylan Miller of Grosse Pointe Farms was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2024 semester at Lebanon Valley College. The Grosse Pointe South High School graduate is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in digital communications.

Bridget Doyle

Nicholas Muccioli

Lielyn Mercer

◆◆◆

Lielyn Mercer and **Audrey Calcaterra** of the City of Grosse Pointe and **Addison O'Keefe** and **Lainey Rahm** of Grosse Pointe Farms were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2024 semester at Miami University.

◆◆◆

Benjamin Paolucci of Grosse Pointe Farms was named to the Dean's List at Vanderbilt University for his fifth consecutive semester this past fall.

Your Comfort Is Our Goal
Heating • Cooling • Humidifiers
Air Cleaners • Rheem Air Conditioners
Offering Generators
CALL TODAY FOR FREE QUOTE
586-293-6883
PriebeMechanical.com
Wm. PRIEBE mechanical
since 1989 Heating & Cooling

Grosse Pointe News
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
Do you know an outstanding high school athlete? Nominate them for Athlete of the Week and put them in the running for Athlete of the Year.
All weekly winners will be invited to the end of year Athlete of the Year Awards Gala – with top athletes winning scholarships!
Submit online at:
grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week
Grosse Pointe News

Spice & Tea Exchange hosts month-long grand-opening celebration

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Tea is said to have gotten its start in 2737 BC, when leaves blew into a cup of water being boiled for Chinese emperor and herbalist Shen Nung.

In The Village, it got its start in early October, when The Spice & Tea Exchange opened and added to the local market a plethora of traditional herbs, spices, aromatics and signature blends hand-mixed in-store.

Coinciding with National Tea Month, the shop — owned by Park resident Sara Biery — is celebrating its grand opening with events and specials throughout the month of January, culminating with a ribbon-cutting and grand-opening party at 4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

A highlight of the shop for owner Sara Biery is the tea bar, where customers can choose from 70 different tea blends to have made hot or iced.

In the meantime, patrons are invited to get 10 percent off all teas now through Saturday, Jan. 18; spend $35 to get a free 16-ounce tea between Sunday, Jan. 19, and Saturday, Jan. 25; and buy any tea to get a coupon for a free tea at the tea bar on the next visit between Sunday, Jan. 26, and Saturday, Feb. 1.

The events kick off with a free Nutritional Psychology and Mental Health seminar at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16.

Licensed functional psychologist Dr. Andrea Andrzejczak will lead attendees through her research on how the gut microbiome correlates to mental health, including the benefits of tea on mood, stress levels and overall mental well-being.

"Then we'll stay open afterwards for them to shop if they want to as well," Biery said, "and they'll receive a 10 percent discount on anything they buy just for attending."

Next up will be a ticketed Mindfulness and Tea Meditation class from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22.

Jill Tamminen with Meditate Sisu will lead a 30-minute breathwork meditation with an emphasis on senses and exercises that can be done practically in the real world.

"A lot of her client base are people who aren't necessarily yoga masters or do daily yoga or anything like that," Biery said. "They're people who every day are just looking for a way to calm their minds down or refocus, so she makes sure that she covers a lot of those practical applications. She'll go through how to center your breath, the right posture and that type of thing. We'll do some breathwork exercises focusing on the senses."

The meditation will be followed by three rounds of tea tastings, incorporating meditation exercises and themed around calming teas, energizing teas and mood-enhancing teas.

"Guests who participate in that event are going to leave with a one-hour, one-on-one virtual meditation session with Jill," Biery said, adding there is 10 percent off anything purchased during the event. "They'll also leave with three teas — one from each of the different tastings that we did — and they'll leave with a nice glass infuser, so they can steep it at home and put into practice (mindfulness exercises) like seeing the colors change, seeing the tea leaves unfurl. It's a nice glass infuser that enables that sensory experience."

The Mindfulness and Tea Meditation class is $89 per person and tickets may be purchased at tinyurl.com/4ty2uhrr.

In partnership with Fairfax Market and Village Wine, a ticketed cooking class on when to season meat will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30.

"It will be talking about when to season, which seasonings to use based on the meat," Biery said. "And then in terms of when to season, it would be if you're grilling, letting something marinate versus applying a finishing salt versus rubbing on right before cooking. So it's more of what seasonings to use and when to apply them based on your cooking method."

Tastings with wine pairings will be served as part of the class.

Tickets are $35 and may be purchased at tinyurl.com/2f76jpsy.

The grand opening festivities wrap up the last day of the month with mocktails, tastings and 15 percent off anything bought during the grand-opening party.

The Spice & Tea Exchange is located at 17037 Kercheval. Its hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Pearl

Winter Sale

30% Off*

Starting January 14, 2025

74 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
shoppearl.com
@shoppearl.gp
313.458.8719

*Exclusions Apply

Ice fisherman seeks city endorsement

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Tim Kramer picked a good time last month to ask about ice fishing in the municipal marina.

The temperature was about 20 degrees, prime for a safe foundation of ice to form in the marina at Windmill Pointe Park.

"(Lake St. Clair) is a phenomenal fishing lake," Kramer said, appealing to the Grosse Pointe Park Recreation Commission to officially sanction ice fishing in the marina, which has been a freelance activity. "All over the country it's known as one of the best bass-fishing lakes."

Commissioners and city administrators were receptive.

"I've been in talks with the city manager," said Chad Craig, director of parks and recreation. "We're going to talk with the (city attorney) as well. If there's any possibility we can provide something like that, we'll see what we can do."

Ice fishing comes with obvious hazards. Someone falling through the ice at a municipal facility could put taxpayer dollars at risk of liability.

"You're doing it at your own risk, but there are always plaintiffs' attorneys interested in making money," Kramer said.

Ice formation in the marina varies due to built-in flow throughs intended to cut down on stagnant water.

"We have a current that comes through," Kramer said. "That's the last to freeze and first to thaw. People don't know that."

"We're talking about signing a waiver holding us harmless," said Tom Fraiser, Windmill's harbor master. "You'd have to have a buddy system. You can't come down by yourself. You'd have to have a friend with you. You have to have life jackets."

Kramer said it would be a disappointment and a loss to the Park's lakeside way of life if ice fishing at the city park were banned.

"I've enjoyed it for years," he said. "There's never been any trouble, as far as I know. It's nice to put up a tent. A heater makes it a lot more comfortable."

He also knows from experience how fleeting the ice fishing season can be.

"There were only two times with people out last year, two weeks where we had 13, 14 inches (of ice)," he told commissions. "In 10 minutes, it was gone. Whereas three to four years ago, I was out on the ice at the end of February and there was still 14 inches out there."

It's routine for residents to propose ideas to the recreation commission.

Ongoing restoration of the Patterson Park playscape, begun last year, began with the help and oversight of commissioners.

On the other hand, a request by residents last year to allow non-swimming toddlers access the municipal pool if wearing life jackets went nowhere.

The same with a couple of dog owners. They sought commission endorsement to walk their pets in the only part of the city where such activity is disallowed: the general grounds of Patterson Park, where there is a fenced-in dog park.

AMEND:

Continued from page 8A

that sponsors of special events may be required to notice adjoining or affected properties, if needed.

"If an event is happening in a certain area and it's going to have a rather significant impact, then we feel it's probably adequate to notice adjoining properties and let them know that that event is going on so that they're aware," Valentine said.

Council approved the special events ordinance amendments 6-0, with Councilman Seth Krupp absent, Monday, Nov. 18.

FEATURES

Integrity. Heritage. Lifestyle.
2024 Top Producer at Higbie Maxon Agney.
Caitlin Kashef
caitlin@higbiemaxon.com
313-886-3400
586-212-9694
higbiemaxon.com
HIGBIE MAXON AGNEY REALTORS

2-3B AREA ACTIVITIES | 4B OBITUARIES | 5B CHURCHES

True grit

Abandoned puppy earns Detroit Lions-inspired moniker

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

PHOTOS COURTESY OF GPAAS

One week after being found abandoned on the doorstep of the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society, Gritty can stand on her own, left — and does so near a Detroit Lions banner, above. The team's unofficial slogan, "Grit," inspired her name.

The chilly morning of Jan. 6, GPAAS Executive Director Corinne Martin found this abandoned puppy in the alcove of the nonprofit's intake facility.

At first glance, Corinne Martin thought the puppy left on the doorstep of the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society's Barbara N. Weiss Animal Protection Facility last week was dead.

"I came in on Jan. 6, and one of our volunteers said there's a blanket in the alcove at our intake building, which is not marked; it doesn't say it's ours," said Martin, founder and executive director of GPAAS. "I ran over there and, curled up in a blanket, was this puppy. I thought it was dead; it was not moving."

The intake center is located on Harper, near the I-94 service drive, the noise of which likely would frighten away any dog, but not this one.

"I touched the top of its head and it opened its eyes," Martin said.

She immediately pulled the blanket and puppy indoors.

"What I saw was this young dog, maybe 6 months old, covered in blood," she said. "It had three sweaters on and was wearing a harness and was wrapped in a blanket. I got it inside and it wagged its little tail."

Martin rushed the puppy to the Harper Woods Veterinary Hospital, which diagnosed it with a severe case of generalized demodectic mange.

"It had it so long that its skin had broken down," she said. "The skin was decomposed. If you touch it, it bleeds. To make matters worse, it was severely infected. Its legs were so swollen and painful, it couldn't get up and move."

The veterinary staff immediately treated the puppy with antibiotics — the only way to initially treat such a severe case, Martin noted. By Friday, Jan. 10, they were able to give the puppy her first medicated bath.

"She must sense she has to keep her activity low," Martin said. "The whole week at the vet, she just laid there and chewed on bones or toys.

"Now she's in a foster home that can handle her, not because of her personality, but because of the physical care involved," she added. "… She's in good hands; the foster home is good with these types of cases."

But the puppy's story doesn't stop there.

With a strong social media presence, GPAAS posted about her and received overwhelming feedback from the community. The reaction was so strong, the nonprofit decided to host a naming contest for the dog.

"People from all over the Grosse Pointes, Harper Woods, St. Clair Shores, Eastpointe and Detroit inundated us with thoughts of love and prayers for the well-being of this dog," stated a press release issued by GPAAS. "We made a decision to ask our loyal followers to help us with naming this puppy. … We received about 1,000 suggestions for the new name for this pup."

One name quickly rose to the top: Gritty.

As Detroit Lions fever sweeps metro Detroit, "Grit" has become the unofficial slogan for the team. The supporter who suggested the name on Facebook admitted it's "not a very feminine name, but she certainly embodies the spirit of our Detroit Lions. … Never give up!"

When asked by Sports Illustrated's Albert Breer what the term means to him, Lions head coach Dan Campbell said, "Grit is, I think it's when you have the ability to overcome adversity in any situation. The ability to push through it, mentally, physically, to overcome. I think that's what grit is in a nutshell."

With a definition like that, and as the Lions head into the NFC Divisional Round against the Washington Commanders this Saturday night, "Gritty made the most sense," Martin said. "We loved it and went with it."

As for Gritty's prognosis, after just a week of treatments, she's able to stand up and walk.

"She's still very calm and laid back," Martin said, noting it's too soon to tell if that's her personality or if she's still hurting. "Every day is a little step forward.

"… She is a sweet girl," she added. "I'm sure she's going to find a wonderful home once she's able. Hopefully we'll know in a few weeks more about her, like if she gets along with other dogs."

While Gritty receives care from her foster family, Martin said she is hunting down a Detroit Lions shirt for the pup to wear, as she no doubt will live up to her name.

"It's a very severe case," Martin added. "Sadly, this was completely treatable had the person just taken the dog to the veterinary hospital. As bad as her skin is, it will probably be a month before she stops bleeding at the touch.

"I've seen cases like this take a year before they're completely back to normal," she added. "I don't think it will take that long with her, but it will be several weeks before she can run and play."

Martin said she is concerned about GPAAS getting more cases like Gritty, since the city of Harper Woods terminated its service agreement with the rescue (see story, page 1A).

Left, Gritty was wearing three sweaters and was covered in blood when she was brought indoors. Center, the infection was so severe, Gritty had trouble getting to her feet. Right, Gritty was diagnosed with a severe case of generalized demodectic mange, which may take months to heal.

Serving Our Community Since 1917

Tim Harris
GENERAL MANAGER

John Campbell
MANAGER

We've been your neighborhood Grosse Pointe funeral home for over a century. Our experienced and compassionate team will walk you through the process and handle every detail.

20705 Mack Avenue | Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236 | (313) 884-5500

A.H. PETERS
FUNERAL HOME
Trusted care. Personal touch.

Kevin's Song presents 9th annual Conference on Suicide Jan. 23-25

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The ninth annual Conference on Suicide: Creating & Supporting Lives Worth Living takes place Jan. 23 to 25, at St. John's Resort in Plymouth. Presented by Kevin's Song, the three-day, statewide conference was designed to raise awareness about suicide and its impact, as well as highlight the importance of preventive measures.

"It's a focus on the positive, what to provide people as far as suicide prevention and risk mitigation goes," Kevin's Song Executive Director Jennifer Fair Margraf said. "Prevention is the focus this year."

Kevin's Song Executive Director Jennifer Fair Margraf encourages the public to register for Kevin's Song's Conference on Suicide.

Educators, mental health professionals, students, business and community leaders, as well as members of the public, survivors of suicide and attempt survivors are invited to attend the event, which will ask:

◆ Are we purposely creating cultures that promote living?

◆ Are we actively trying to create lives filled with hope, connection, purpose and possibility?

◆ In essence, are we helping all of our community members to have lives worth living?

"Each day (of the conference) is different," Margraf said. "The first day is the School Summit where we'll be talking about dealing with youth. We're seeing a need for it in elementary schools and are working with administrators in Grosse Pointe schools because of an issue that already happened this year. It's important we're providing information to help build resilience in kids. …

"It's all about resilience and providing youth with strategies and resources," she added. "It's hard to get through youth typically, but then you add all the layers of what they're going through now."

Thursday's School Summit includes presentations that will appeal to educators, mental health professionals and suicide prevention advocates who work with youth to build awareness and share prevention strategies tailored to a diverse young population.

Keynote speakers include Charisse Nixon, Ph.D., who will address "Building Resilience — Changing our Culture One Person at a Time," and Nicole Runyon, LMSW, who will present "Free to Fly: The Secret to Fostering Independence in the Next Generation," among others. Eight breakout sessions are planned the first day, featuring 12 presenters. Among them is Sarah Emmerson, MA, LLP, who has presented at the Conference on Suicide the last few years.

"Typically, I do a breakout session during the School Summit that focuses on youth mental health, trauma, traumatic events and the impact they have on mental health," she said. "This year the focus is more proactive — things to do early on to build resilience to adversity and challenges in life."

Emmerson is sharing the dais with Runyon, also a Grosse Pointer, to present "Building Confident and Resilient Kids with Bright Futures."

"She and I are great colleagues, but we have different backgrounds," Emmerson said. "We'll be speaking together on the topic. I think it's something not only parents will be interested in, but also educators. It's geared to parents because we get a lot of questions from parents."

Parenting styles, helping parents understand the developmental milestones of children, improving frustration and distress tolerance and helping kids manage challenges early on are all topics Emmerson plans to broach.

"Mental health for young people has become a focus of attention," Emmerson said. "Young people suffer from depression more than ever before. … As kids get older, we're helping them to develop skills for their independence — what we can do during elementary and middle school to help them feel more confident."

Also presenting during the School Summit is Grosse Pointe North High School psychologist Christine Kuhl, LLP. Though she's been on the School Summit planning committee before, this will be her first time speaking. She'll be part of a panel discussion titled, "Peer-to-Peer Mental Health Programs."

"This will allow an opportunity for school staff to come and hear about peer-to-peer support models at high schools and secondary schools," she said.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Sarah Emmerson, left, and Christine Kuhl are among the speakers at the conference, which takes place Jan. 23-25 at St. John's Resort in Plymouth.

Kuhl leads North's Peer-to-Peer program, which is based on the University of Michigan Depression Center's program. In its fifth year at North, Kuhl said she's proud of the effort students put into it.

"It's focused on training students to be mental health advocates at North," she said. "They learn to connect to fellow classmates to help when needed. They create mental health awareness campaigns every year and if they see someone struggling, they can get them connected with help. … It's not staff members telling students what they want them to hear; it's students creating what their peers need to hear.

"It's been an amazing addition to North and a bright spot for me, personally and professionally."

The second day of the conference will explore the latest in research about suicide and risk assessment, as well as evidenced-based treatments and prevention strategies to better serve individuals and communities at risk.

Among the keynote speakers are Bart Andrews, Ph.D., who will present "Lives Worth Living: A New Approach to Suicide Prevention," as well as Joyce Chu, Ph.D., who will present, "Changing the Culture of Suicide Prevention to Support Our Diverse Communities." Another eight breakout sessions take place Friday as well.

Though a first-day presenter, Emmerson plans to be an attendee the second day.

"It's always interesting topics," she said. "There's a variety of different speakers. As a professional, this is one of my

See SUICIDE, page 6B

The Helm hosts health lectures

The Helm presents two important health lectures in the coming weeks.

Vein specialist Dr. Jeffery H. Miller will be at The Helm noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, for an informational session about various vein health issues. He'll discuss causes of and treatment for varicose veins, restless legs, ulcers, spider veins, swelling, itching and leg pain. Attendees may take advantage of a free leg ultrasound at the end of the presentation. A light lunch will be served. Cost is $5 for members and $10 for guests.

The following week, delve into heart health for women in the Health for Her at The Helm series. From 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6, local doctors and other medical professionals will offer guidance on nutrition, exercise and lifestyle changes to reduce the risk of heart disease in women and help them take control of their cardiovascular well-being. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions of the panel of experts.

Health for Her at The Helm is geared toward women 40 and older and each workshop focuses on female-oriented health issues, specifically as they relate to aging. Health for Her at The Helm is presented in partnership with The Family Center. Corewell Health is sponsor of this February event.

Registration is required for both events. Register at helmlife.org or by calling (313) 882-9600.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Library

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

◆ Nonfiction Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Reader Dog, 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 18, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Dream Lab, Adults Only, 4:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 21, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Shelf Indulgence, 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 21, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Baby Time, 9:30 to 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Teddy Bear Sleepover, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ DigiLit Series, 2 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ 1,000 Hours Winter Celebration, 4 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Magnificent Designs by Louis Kamper, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, at Central,

◆ Baby Time, 9:30 to 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 23, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 23, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ GPPL Friends $5 Bag Sale, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Grosse Pointe Community Game Meet-Up, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Michigan Author Chat, 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Ford House

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

◆ All About Eleanor Guided Tour, 1 p.m. Tuesdays through Sundays in January. Admission costs vary.

◆ Nooks & Crannies Behind the Scenes Guided Tour, Tuesdays through Sundays, January through May. Times vary.

◆ Main Residence Guided Tour, Tuesdays through Sundays, January through May. Times vary.

◆ Storytime: "The Snow Thief," 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays in January.

◆ Trivia Night, 6 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 16, Feb. 20 and March 13.

◆ Lecture: Rhythms of Resilience and Change with Rod Arroyo, 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23. Tickets are $10 for members, $12 for nonmembers.

◆ Head Over Heels Guided Tour, 1 p.m. Tuesdays through Sundays in February. Admission costs vary.

◆ Storytime: "Crocodiles Need Kisses Too," 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays in February.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

The Helm

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

◆ Restorative Evening Yoga, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. the first and third Thursdays, through

See EVENTS, page 3B

WCCCD favorites return, new classes join the ranks at The Helm

Lifelong learning continues at The Helm this winter with eight classes from Wayne County Community College District. Joining three ongoing classes are five new ones. All classes are free; however, participants must be 60 or older and a resident of Wayne County.

Classes at The Helm begin the week of Jan. 20 or Jan. 27. Returning favorites, times and dates are:

◆ Awesome Abs — 2:30 to 4 p.m. Jan. 27 to May 5

◆ Beginning and Intermediate French — 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. or Noon to 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 21 to May 6, or 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 1:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 24 to May 9

◆ Body Alignment — 1 to 2 p.m. Jan. 27 to May 5

New classes, times and dates are:

◆ Belly Fitness Workout — 6 to 7 p.m. Jan. 21 to May 6

◆ Tai Chi for Beginners — 6 to 7 p.m. Jan. 21 to May 6

◆ Beginner Digital Photography — 6 to 7 p.m. Jan. 21 to May 6

◆ Social Media for Mature Learners — 4 to 5 p.m. Jan. 24 to May 9

◆ Upscale Jewelry Design for Beginners — 10 a.m. to noon Jan. 27 to March 3

Registration is required. For more information and to register, visit helmlife.org or call (313) 882-9600.

‘Every day’s a win’

Heroes’ Movement hosts inaugural gala

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Making the transition to civilian life is a challenge for many who’ve served in the military. After enduring circumstances most civilians cannot comprehend, service men and women return home changed, some with physical injuries and others with invisible scars.

To combat the struggles faced by veterans returning to civilian life, Heroes’ Movement steps in to offer support. The 501(c)3 nonprofit formed nearly 10 years ago to help strengthen veterans’ physical and mental health through workouts and athletics.

“Veterans that want to take back control of their lives have the opportunity to do that,” Heroes’ Movement founder Mike McKay said.

The goals of Heroes’ Movement include bridging the gap between physical therapy and feeling strong again; creating a continued sense of community for veterans so they can reinforce their strengths together; reducing dependence on prescription drugs; and reducing suicide risk.

“There are a lot of medicated veterans out there, because it’s easier to take that route,” said McKay, a Wyandotte native, U.S. Navy veteran and strength coach with 20 years of experience. “I’ve heard multiple stories of veterans taking their lives back through physical fitness. They create a routine, create better life habits.”

Heroes’ Movement accomplishes its goals by partnering with gyms nationwide to provide training free of charge to veterans. Gyms promote free training for veterans and, in return, the organization reimburses the gyms for the sessions.

One such gym is SBG Training, located at 15318 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park. Owner Samantha Bagnasco was quick to partner with McKay to offer the program.

“Mike and I used to work together at another gym,” Bagnasco said. “I’ve been doing my own thing for a while and have been at this location for two years. We’re a private strength-training gym; we do group and private sessions.

“When I opened my own gym, Mike was a natural partner,” she continued. “We have the same high standards. He’s picky about the gyms he partners with.”

Every partner gym follows post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury training guidelines to ensure veterans are taken care of.

“With veterans in gyms, it’s got to be structured,” McKay said. “That’s why there are post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury guidelines. Every day in the gym has to be a win. It’s a noncompetitive environment; they’re training against themselves.”

Each hour-long session includes ground-based stretching and a dynamic warmup, as well as power work, explosive work, strength blocks and post-workout breathwork.

“A lot of people have preexisting injuries,” Bagnasco noted. “We take that seriously. Avoiding injury is our No. 1 priority.”

The program has proven to help veterans feel better and reduce pain.

“That alone is freeing,” McKay said. “It feels better not being in as much pain.”

In addition to physical activity, Heroes’ Movement also helps reintegrate veterans with civilians, noted Bagnasco, whose husband is a veteran.

“Still, years later, things are challenging for him,” she said. “He’s still a work in progress, but being in a group with civilians can be a good thing.”

Added McKay, “They feel like they belong again.”

Veterans are welcome to train at participating gyms up to three times a week, “indefinitely, until they’re good,” McKay added. “They don’t have to be injured to be in the program. They can be any era, any branch, any age, injured or uninjured — we make sure every day’s a win.”

Participating gyms are listed on the Heroes’ Movement website. Veterans simply search for a program near them that provides training, Bagnasco said.

“All group training is provided at no cost to them,” she added. “And they build a good sense of community.”

That sense of community is partially what led McKay to found the organization. He wanted to provide veterans opportunities to network and learn from each other, as well as foster camaraderie while educating the community about the issues facing veterans.

“Once they’re locked in with us as a community, they’re held accountable,” McKay added. “This is where the magic is. They move more, feel good. And on the community side, it keeps them engaged so their mental health is better.”

There currently are 50 gyms in the Heroes’ Movement network, including two in Alaska.

“We’re up and down both coasts — Southern California, Central New York and St. Paul are the biggest gyms,” McKay said. “There are 350 veterans who are active in the program and we just surpassed over 120,000 sessions that we’ve sponsored.

“But my favorite number is zero,” he continued. “Zero veterans have taken their lives in this program.”

McKay looks for gyms with a certified functional strength coach, or CFSC, or people “who are following this formula or are close to it,” he said.

“I’ve gotten a lot of help from Sam and we have a great team,” he noted. “We have a great board all over the country and great gym owners.”

Gym owners interested in learning more may contact McKay at mike@heroesmovementusa.org.

Making the magic happen

With no government assistance, Heroes’ Movement relies entirely on donations to provide free training to veterans. Its first local gala takes place 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

“The War Memorial is a fitting location because it’s patriotic,” McKay said, noting cocktails and hors d’oeuvres will be available. “Come fed and come thirsty — there’s an open bar.”

The event also includes 50/50 raffles and AFC/NFC championship squares. A live auction and live music from Category 5 round out the event, for which cocktail attire is required.

Live auction items include a roundtrip for two to Chicago for a Cubs game with two nights at the Waldorf Astoria, as well as a Barry Sanders-signed Oklahoma State University jersey. A charity hockey game featuring members of the L.A. Kings — “We hope to be raffling spots to play in that game, so (the highest bidder) will be on the line or on defense with the pros,” McKay said — is in the works as well.

Lt. Col. Josh Wege, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran who lost both legs at age 19, just two weeks after arriving in Afghanistan, will give the keynote address.

“He’s been working out with us in Wisconsin,” McKay said. “He’ll talk about his experience, his life changes and how Heroes’ Movement has helped him out.”

All proceeds directly support veterans’ strength and conditioning programs.

Tickets for the gala are available on the Heroes’ Movement website and social media.

“To quote Joe Namath, we guarantee a good time at every party we have,” McKay said. “Every dollar raised at the gala goes to training sessions. We’re trying to get a good fundraising base in Michigan; that would be a dream come true.”

Since 2015, 92 percent or more of donations go directly into training sessions for veterans. Heroes’ Movement spent $300,000 last year on training sessions, every penny of which was raised through donations.

“This is our lifeblood,” McKay said of the gala.

Added Bagnasco, “I’ve known Mike a long time. If anyone can do this, it’s him. He has the drive.”

Tickets are $125 per person. Sponsorship opportunities also are available. Visit heroesmovementusa.org for more information.

EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

March 20, with instructor Allie Short. Cost is $7 for members, $10 for guests.

◆ Belly Fitness Workout, 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 21 to May 6, with instructor Stephanie Carr.

◆ Tai Chi for Beginners, 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 21 to May 6, with instructor Elaine Frost.

◆ Beginner Digital Photography, 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 21 to May 6, with instructor Andreas Brown.

◆ Social Media for Mature Learners, 4 to 5 p.m. Fridays, Jan. 24 to May 9, with instructor Janisse Green.

◆ Upscale Jewelry Design for Beginners, 10 a.m. to noon Mondays, Jan. 27 to March 3, with instructor Kathleen Robinson Young.

◆ The Helm Cultural Exploration Series: China — the Lunar New Year, all day Wednesday, Jan. 29. Wear red to The Helm and enjoy fruit and candy treats.

◆ Lunch and Learn: Vein Health, noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, with presenter Jeffery H. Miller, M.D. Cost is $5 for members, $10 for guests.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Lisa Corey and Amy Hochkammer, with Schools Offer Support, speak. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23, Cornerstone Baptist Church, 17017 12 Mile, Roseville

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26, St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 21620 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2, St. Lucy Catholic Church, 23401 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, Holy Innocents-St. Barnabus Catholic Church, 24800 Phlox, Eastpointe.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13, The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13, University Liggett School’s Boll Center Library, 1045 Cook, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, Ardmore Elementary School, 27001 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

Chamber

The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce hosts After Hours Networking, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, at Closet Connections, 20427 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

The War Memorial

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

◆ Dave Bennett Winter Brunch Series: Olivia Van Goor featuring Randy Napoleon, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19. Ticket options vary.

◆ Historic Book Talk: “Warriors for Liberty: William Dollarson & Michigan’s Civil War African Americans,” 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23.

◆ Mastering Mocktails, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24.

◆ Tea and Treasures: Arias over Afternoon Tea with Detroit Opera, 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26. Ticket prices vary.

Family Center

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods offers its Community Book Discussion at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 29, at Central Library, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. The group will discuss “The Body Keeps the Score” by Bessel van Der Kolk. A panel of experts will discuss how traumatic experiences can affect a person’s mind and body, rearranging the brain’s wiring and leading to symptoms like anxiety, hypervigilance and difficulty forming relationships, as well as how to undo the effects of trauma. Learn more at familycenterhelps.org or RSVP to maryjo@familycenterhelps.org.

Detroit Boat Club Crew

The Detroit Boat Club Crew hosts its Oarsmen’s Ball from 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, located on Belle Isle. The black-tie-optional event includes hors d’oeuvres, music, a silent auction, cash bar and more. Funds benefit the Friends of Detroit Rowing’s Share an Oar, Share the Shore campaign to build a new shellhouse. For tickets, visit detroitboatclubcrew.org.

GPAA

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

◆ The Possibilities of Oil Pastels with Saveria Giovinazzo, 10 a.m. to noon Fridays, Jan. 17 to Feb. 7.

◆ Incising Marks in Encaustic with Candace Law, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15.

◆ 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.

◆ Dyeing with Indigo and Other Natural Dyes with Ann Jacob, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22.

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 fulllotusyoga.net.

Toastmasters

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

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.

Joseph Boyer Candler Jr.

Joseph "Joe" Boyer Candler Jr., 86, of Vero Beach, Fla., passed away peacefully and surrounded by family Monday, Dec. 16, 2024.

Joe was born March 4, 1938, in Grosse Pointe. He attended Detroit University School (now University Liggett School) and The Taft School and graduated in 1957. He then went to Babson College and earned a degree in business in 1960.

Joe moved to Vero Beach in 1961, to work at Piper Aircraft and then opened a car dealership selling British automobiles in Eau Gallie, now Melbourne, Fla.

When not in Vero Beach, he enjoyed spending summers in the mountains of Wolf Laurel, N.C., to escape the Florida summer heat. He served on the Saint Edward's School Board of Trustees and was a member of Wolf Laurel Country Club, Riomar Bay Yacht Club, John's Island Club and Quail Valley River Club. He loved sharing his many interesting and humorous stories with staff and members, sometimes more than once.

Joe was an avid automobile and aviation enthusiast. He was the proud owner of a Ford GT40 MK III, one of only three left-hand-drive cars built. He was a lover of dogs and took any opportunity to give a good chest scratch or belly rub.

Joe is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Barby; children, Richard B. Candler (Meghan), Joanne C. Linehan (Tim) and Lindsay G. Candler (Ray Comparetta); sisters, Greer Candler (Thom Coder) and Libby Candler (Dan Hughes); and many nieces and nephews.

Joe was predeceased by his father and mother, Joseph Boyer Candler and Betty Claire Candler; sister, Patricia Boyer Candler Cushman; and brothers, Henry E. Candler II and David G. Newbro.

A private family celebration of life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in Joe's memory to Saint Edward's School, 1895 Saint Edward's Drive, Vero Beach, FL 32963, bit.ly/4jcK36j; or Visiting Nurse Association Hospice of Indian River County, 445 24th Street, Ste. 300, Vero Beach, FL 32960, foundation.vnatc.com/donate-now/.

—

James M. Bond

James "Jim" McArdle Bond, 80, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away peacefully Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2024, in Grosse Pointe, surrounded by his children.

Born April 3, 1944, in Detroit, Jim was the only child of Katherine "Kitty" McArdle Bond and James Thorpe Bond. He grew up in Clyde, Ohio, until his father passed away when Jim was 11 years old. He then moved back to the Detroit area with his mother.

Jim attended Austin High School (AHS) on Detroit's east side and graduated in 1962. The friendships he forged at AHS remained impressively tight-knit throughout his entire life. Jim earned a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University in 1966, and later also received an MBA from MSU. He settled in Grosse Pointe Woods and worked for more than 50 years as a stockbroker, including a long stint with brokerage firm EF Hutton, before retiring in late 2022 from Wells Fargo Advisors at age 78. Many of his long-standing clients and colleagues remained his close friends until the end.

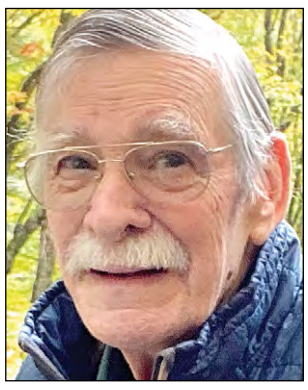
Known colloquially by many as "JB," Jim enjoyed his "original James Bond" lineage — along with his father and grandfather — having predated Ian Fleming's novel "Casino Royale" by nine years. He even dubbed his sailboat "007." Jim made friends easily and had a lasting impact on people both inside and outside his circles. He loved music, poetry, sailing, photography, the Red Wings and Mackinac Island. A hopeless romantic, Jim believed in true love and the good in others. He always lived his life with a young-at-heart attitude, even as his physical heart began to age. His warm sense of humor was alive and present even at the very end.

Jim cherished his three children, Susan Bond Venditto, Patrick Bond (Stephanie) and Andrew Bond (Ann); and his five grandchildren, Noah and Joshua Venditto and Brady, Charlotte and Colette Bond. He was a loving and supportive father and grandfather — the kind who rarely missed a game and who'd speak proudly of his kids' and grandkids' accomplishments to anyone who would listen. Jim made it a priority to be physically present in his children's lives, traveling regularly to Seattle and New York City after Susan and Andrew moved away as adults. At the end of each year, Jim penned a thoughtful letter to his children that aimed to summarize the year's accomplishments and share important words of wisdom.

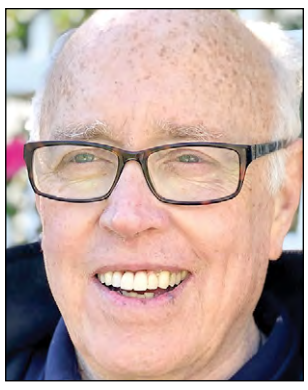
Beyond his family, Jim's greatest love and passion was Cloghaun Bed & Breakfast on Mackinac Island, a beautiful 11-room inn built by his Irish great-grandparents in 1884. Upon Kitty's passing in 1991, Jim became the fourth-generation steward of this unique family heirloom and invested his heart and soul to preserve and elevate this property as Mackinac's premiere B&B and his most precious legacy. He considered Cloghaun to be a place of healing, a safe haven from the storms of life and, proudly, the "Jewel of the Island." Cloghaun was his masterpiece.

A celebration of Jim's life will be held Saturday, Feb. 8, at Lochmoor Club, 1018 Sunningdale, Grosse Pointe Woods. Visitation will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a remembrance service at 11:30 a.m. and a luncheon at noon.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Mackinac Island Medical Center, 7474 Market St., Mackinac Island, MI 49757, or the Mackinac Arts Council, 6633 Main St., Mackinac Island, MI 49757, mackinacartscouncil.org/donate.



Joseph B. Candler Jr.



James M. Bond

Jayne Louise Warner

Joyce Ann Hogan

Scott Andrew Wilson

Jayne Louise Warner

Jayne Louise (nee Milliman) Warner, 89, formerly of Grosse Pointe, passed away peacefully Friday, Dec. 27, 2024, in Atlanta, where she had been living the past three years near her daughter and family. She was predeceased by her husband, Robert "Bob" D. Warner.

Jayne was born July 16, 1935, in Battle Creek, where she grew up. She attended Western Michigan University and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in teaching, typing and shorthand. While at WMU, she was a member of Delta Zeta sorority and met her husband, Bob. She worked during her college summers as a tour guide at Kellogg's. Jayne and Bob married Aug. 24, 1957, shortly after graduation.

They moved to Grosse Pointe and then Bob's job took them to Traverse City, where they developed a love for northern Michigan. Jayne worked as a high school teacher while they were there. Four years later, they moved back to Grosse Pointe, where she raised their family.

Jayne worked many teaching jobs, along with working in job placement with the Grosse Pointe high schools and, later, job placement at the corporate level. She was an avid volunteer, played tennis and was a member of several bridge groups, stock clubs, the Questers and a garden club, to name a few. She loved gardening and working in the yard and took considerable pride in having a beautiful garden.

She traveled extensively with Bob on business trips and for pleasure. They had a wonderful opportunity with Bob's job to live for three years in London, England, which she loved and where she developed a passion for antiques. She and Bob were members of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church for more than 60 years.

Jayne enjoyed spending time at their second home in northern Michigan with family and friends. She and Bob spent their retirement winters in Florida, where she became a seashell collector and attended many social activities in their Florida community.

Jayne loved spending time with her two granddaughters, Katie and Caroline, and always looked forward to their time together. She also was fortunate enough to see them both get married, which was incredibly special for her.

She is survived by her daughter, Cindy Durham (Lee); son, Robert C. Warner; and granddaughters, Katherine Schulte (Mark) and Caroline Seiler (Campbell).

A memorial service will be planned at a later date.

Memorial donations may be made to the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, bit.ly/3Mf6j0o.

—

Joyce Ann "Mimi" Hogan

Joyce Ann "Mimi" (nee Gardiner) Hogan, 90, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2024.

Joyce was born July 15, 1934. She was the beloved wife of the late Maurice; loving mother of David Hogan (Toni), Maureen Starrs (Bill), Kathleen Lounsbury (Craig), Joyce Budai (David), John Hogan (Cindy), the late Terrance Hogan and the late George Hogan (Michele); dear sister of Bill Gardiner (the late Jeanne); and the proud and loving "Mimi" of 27 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren.

Joyce loved her family and spent time with them whenever possible, especially when she had the chance to hold a new baby in the family. She enjoyed playing cards with her family and friends and often was referred to as a card shark because of how often she won. She also liked completing crossword puzzles, was an avid bowler and, in her younger years, liked to golf with her husband.

Joyce was a longtime member at the Lochmoor Club in Grosse Pointe Woods and frequently wrote for the club newsletter.

Services were held at Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons Inc.

Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave., Floor 17, Chicago, IL 60601, bit.ly/3ZGAELq.

Share memories with Joyce's family in the online guestbook at wujekcalcaterra.com.

—

Scott Andrew Wilson

Scott Andrew Wilson, 74, died Saturday, Jan. 11, 2025.

Scott was the beloved husband of the late Lynn (nee Onofrey); dearest father of Nathan and the late Benjamin; and loving brother of Doug, Danny, Vicki Covins and Linda Gervasi.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Michigan Parkinson Foundation, 30400 Telegraph #150, Bingham Farms, MI 48025, bit.ly/40dbN27.

A funeral will be held Monday, Jan. 27, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. A gathering will start at 9:30 a.m. followed by a 10 a.m. Mass.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Expert to address energy's fundamental role in civilization

Dr. Chris J. Kobus, Oakland University's director of engineering and energy education, will speak at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 21, to the Eastside Republican Club at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Tuesday's presentation will address what Kobus calls "energy's fundamental role in civilization."

"The Oakland University professor has been a favorite of ERC audiences since his first presentation to the club in 2016," club chairman Mike Vethacke said in advance of the meeting. "Dr. Kobus offers a sensible, scientific outlook on conservation and clean energy."

Dr. Chris J. Kobus, director of engineering, Oakland University.

In addition, the ERC will elect club officers for 2025.

Forum doors open at 7 p.m. for coffee and networking prior to the 7:30 p.m. meeting. The public is invited and there is no charge for the forum, which will conclude with a Q&A session.

The Rochester Hills professor earned a Ph.D. from Oakland University in 1988, and was hired by the university's School of Engineering and Computer Science. In 2000, he was promoted to a tenure-track position and became associate professor with tenure in 2006.

His specialties include clean energy and STEM education. Kobus started teaching in the clean energy field in 2005. That curriculum has expanded and now offers engineering students a concentration in alternative energy systems. In addition, the professor directs an energy management program for business and engineering professionals.

Kobus was instrumental in establishing the university's Clean Energy Research Center, which includes academics, research, campus facilities, local business incubation and K-12 outreach.

In addition to research, Kobus has taught 17 subjects, ranging from thermal and fluid sciences, solid mechanics and dynamics, alternative energy and nuclear systems.

As part of his research of the electrification value, he has personally owned an EV and used his own Rochester home as a test project to teach students the value of solar power.

Kobus also is a movie buff.

"Since a teenager I have been ripping on Hollywood movies for scientific inaccuracies and now use motion pictures in my courses to teach fundamental scientific principles and their applications," he said.

The scholar is a husband and father of seven. His hobbies include writing, energy-efficient home projects and physical fitness.

The Eastside Republican Club Forum meets the third Tuesday of each month, September through May, at The War Memorial. Admission is free and the public is welcome. Stay up to date at EastsideRepublican.Club or follow the ERC on social media.

Day of Hope and Advocacy planned Jan. 20

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

A casual conversation after Grosse Pointe Congregational Church's Interfaith Thanksgiving service led to the development of "A Day of Hope and Advocacy: Fulfilling Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's Dream," which takes place noon to 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 20, in partnership with WE GP.

The Rev. Richard Yeagher-Stiver said he and some members were discussing what they could do to honor King. The answer is in the church's DNA, he added.

"As part of our Grosse Pointe Congregational Church (United Church of Christ) identity with a heart for social justice matters, we wanted a way to live our Christian identity while including all persons into a faithful and creative way to see each other," he said. "Our historical roots come from our Congregational ancestors and forbearers, who forged the way for justice matters dating all the way back to the 1839 slave ship, La Amistad."

Citing the Steven Spielberg movie, "Amistad," Yeagher-Stiver said there were details the famed director missed.

"The men from Africa did not speak English, nor did they speak a shared language," he explained. "When members of the Congregational Church in New Haven (Conn.) paid to see the prisoners, the church members did not see 'carnival creatures.' Instead they saw human beings. The members raised their concerns with their pastor, who carried lots of weight back then, and ended the carnival-like situation. At the same time, the men sat in prison because back then, one had to speak the common language to provide a defense, so women from the church entered the prison and taught the men how to speak and read English."

Yeagher-Stiver called the sequence of events the official birth of UCC Wider Church Missions, "and provided the denomination a taste for social justice," he said. "And we the UCC have not stopped in our ministerial efforts to champion for human rights and justice."

He and church members decided Martin Luther King Day was the appropriate time to focus on hope and advocacy "to advance human rights and social justice through sacred conversations and creative art/music opportunities," he added.

The church and WE GP welcome the community to a day meant to honor King's memory and message with a potluck lunch and gathering. Free art-creating materials will be available from noon to 5 p.m. Yoga and meditation will be offered at 2 p.m. A free dance party takes place at 3 p.m. Food and snacks will be offered all day as well.

"During the event, we will have an open microphone for poetry, singing, music, personal accounts and readings that focus on our ability to 'see each other' as the God-blessed individuals every person has received," Yeagher-Stiver said. "Our hope is that persons will see the value every person holds as we are all created in the image of God and to share in God's creativity with our creativity."

Interested individuals may come and go as they please.

"In other words, they don't have to be present all five hours. Other than yoga, everything is free-form and offered throughout the day," Yeagher-Stiver said.

All ages are welcome and there is no fee. For more information, call (313) 884-3075.

"It is a day of networking with persons who share a heart for social justice and believing that the dream Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King had for America's future is still achievable and through our creativity we can fulfill his dream," he added.

DSO's William Davidson Neighborhood Concert Series coming to Star

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra launches its 2025 William Davidson Neighborhood Concert Series with Bach's Coffeehouse, a program paying homage to Johann Sebastian Bach's time performing at Zimmermann's Coffeehouse in Leipzig. The program will be led by conductor Jeannette Sorrell and feature DSO flutists Hannah Hammel Maser and Amanda Blaike and violinists Kimberly Kaloyanides Kennedy and Hai-Xin Wu.

Highlighting works by three of the most notable composers of the Baroque era, the concert opens with selections from Georg Philipp Telemann's Don Quixote Suite. The program continues with works by J.S. Bach (Orchestral Suite No. 1 and Brandenburg Concerto No. 4, BWV 1049) and Telemann (Grillen-Symphonie), and concludes with Antonio Vivaldi's La Folia, arranged by Sorrell.

Locally, the concert takes place at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Tickets start at $20 and may be purchased at dso.org or by calling (313) 576-5111 during business hours, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Author visit

Sunday, Nov. 17, local author Carol Bueno O'Donnell gave a reading from her new book, "My Father the Priest," at Artee Day Spa, 20559 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. The book is a novella about O'Donnell's father's life in war torn Colombia. The book is available through Amazon.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PAT TAPPER

Pro Musica of Detroit presents Detroit Opera Resident Artists

Pro Musica of Detroit presents the Detroit Opera Resident Artists in concert Sunday, Feb. 2. The matinee event stars five talented voices from the Detroit Opera and features arias from history's greatest operas.

The concert begins at 2 p.m. at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. The program features arias and ensembles from iconic composers such as Verdi, Puccini, Mozart, Cilea, Handel and more. All members of the audience also are invited to enjoy an afterglow with the artists following the concert.

COURTESY PHOTO

Five members of Detroit Opera will perform at The War Memorial Sunday, Feb. 2.

The Detroit Opera Resident Artists ensemble includes soprano Brianna J. Robinson, mezzo-soprano Kendra Faith Beasley, tenor River Guard, baritone Cole Bellamy and bass-baritone Cameron Rolling.

Tickets are $40 for regular admission, $5 for students. For reservations and complete details, visit promusicadetroit.com.

Additional Pro Musica of Detroit concerts this season include internationally acclaimed pianist Charlie Albright, who will perform Sunday, March 23, at The War Memorial. Guitarist Adam Levin and mandolinist Jacob Reuvent will perform Sunday, June 8, at Most Holy Trinity Church in Detroit's historic Corktown neighborhood.

CHURCH EVENT

St. Paul on the Lake

All are welcome to take a historical tour of St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lake Shore Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, followed by a light reception Sunday, Jan. 19, following the noon Mass.

St. Michael's

St. Michael's Episcopal Church has canceled its Jan. 16 Lunch, Laugh and Learn event. The church is planning to host its next session Feb. 20.

Worship Service

Saint Ambrose Catholic Church
15020 Hampton
Grosse Pointe Park,
Michigan 48230-1302
Masses
Saturday Vigil — 4:00 p.m.
Sunday — 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.
Tuesday — 8:30 a.m.
Thursday — 7:00 p.m.
Friday — Noon
(313) 822-2814 • stambrosechurch.net • facebook.com/stambroseparish
Saturday Vigil is streamed online at 8:00 a.m. Sunday on our facebook page
011625

Christ the King Lutheran Church and Preschool
Mack at Lochmoor • 884-5090
www.christthekinggp.org
SUNDAY
8:30 a.m. - Bible Study
9:30 a.m. - Worship Service
Sunday School - During Service
WEDNESDAY
10 a.m. - Bible Study
6:30 p.m. - Worship Service
Solomon Spangler, Pastor
Making New Disciples-Building Stronger Ones

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church
(United Church of Christ)
Worship Sunday at 10:00 am
Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver
An Open & Affirming Church
240 Chalfonte G.P. Farms
313-884-3075 • www.gpcong.org
WE HAVE AN ARTS MINISTRY

New members welcomed

Wednesday, Jan. 8, the Grosse Pointe Rotary Cub heard new member presentations from Jaylen Bradley and Tim Klepp, who gave six- to 10-minute presentations introducing themselves to the club. Both of these members joined the club during the last year.

Jaylen Bradley is the current community violence intervention policy program advisor for the Mayor of Detroit's Office. In his role, he aims to reduce gun violence and promote safety throughout the city by working with law enforcement and community organizations. Under Bradley, Detroit's CVI groups saw a 37 to 83 percent drop in homicides and nonfatal shootings in the city of Detroit. Pictured, from left, are Jackie Dale, Jaylen Bradley and Eva Habib.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Tim Klepp is a partner at IMB, a consulting firm. He has three children, the youngest a senior at Grosse Pointe South High School. Klepp recently was elected to the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education. He is an avid Detroit sports fan and enjoys hiking. Pictured are Jackie Dale and Klepp.

COURTESY PHOTOS

An overhead look at Ford House and Ford Cove.

Ford House unveils 'Cabaret Over the Cove'

The series will be hosted in the Lake Shore Room at Ford House.

Ford House invites patrons to experience an evening of music, dining and romance with the debut of "Cabaret Over the Cove," a new intimate music series in the Lake Shore Room overlooking Ford Cove.

The inaugural event, a Valentine's Day special, is set for 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14, and offers guests an elegant evening featuring a gourmet multi-course dinner paired with a live performance by the acclaimed White Pines String Quartet, five-time Couples Choice Award winners from Wedding Wire.

"Cabaret Over the Cove is about more than music and dining; it's a celebration of connection, inclusion and the shared joy of being part of a community," said Mark J. Heppner, president and CEO of Ford House. "We hope every guest leaves with not just fun memories of an extraordinary evening, but also a deeper appreciation of love, art and the timeless spirit of coming together."

Tickets for Cabaret Over the Cove: Valentine's Dinner & Live Performance are sold by table. A table for two is $250 (Friends of Ford House pay $200) and a table for four is $500 (Friends of Ford House pay $400).

To learn more about Friends of Ford House or to join, visit fordhouse.org/friends.

More to come

The Valentine's Day edition is the only event in the series that includes a full dinner; however remaining experiences in the Cabaret Over the Cove series focus on live performances in the Lake Shore Room, offering a relaxing and inspiring way to enjoy live music.

In lieu of a full diner, the remaining Cabaret Over the Cove events include two drink tickets per guest, access to a cash bar and a complimentary dessert bar.

Upcoming cabarets are:

◆ Friday, May 9, featuring Ben Sharkey, known for his charismatic stage presence and sultry fire. Tickets go on sale to the public 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 1.

◆ Friday, Nov. 7, featuring Julie Dilworth, the owner of Fusion Entertainment and a singer with The Persuasion Band and JD Acoustic. Tickets go on sale to the public at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 30.

◆ Friday, Dec. 19, featuring a Christmas Cabaret Over the Cove: Yule Be Singing! with Vanessa Carr, a world-class entertainer noted for her dynamic musical performances. Her influences include Liza Minnelli, Barbra Streisand, Tina Turner, Lady Gaga, Frank Sinatra and Shirley Bassey. Tickets go on sale to the public at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18.

Tickets for Cabaret Over the Cove are $90 per person (Friends of Ford House pay $75). Tickets are limited. Purchase tickets at fordhouse.org/visit/annual-events/concerts/cabaret-over-the-cove-series/.

SUICIDE:

Continued from page 2B

favorite conferences. It's put on by loss survivors, so there's a very personal feel to it."

The final day of the conference focuses on survivors of suicide. The day includes stories from loss and attempt survivors, as well as addresses how to manage grief and loss following a death by suicide. Four keynote addresses are planned, including by Dennis Liegghio, founder and executive director of Know Resolve, who will present "Coping with Grief Through Expressive Art." Facilitated breakout sessions include loss survivor and attempt survivor support groups, as well as a grief workshop.

In addition to three days of keynote speakers and breakout sessions, a pre-conference day of training is offered Wednesday, Jan. 22, for anyone interested, "from the layperson through those who are working clinically with youth and adults," Margraf said. "It includes QPR training for laypeople to give them a better understanding of how to deal with a family member, friend or coworker (who may be suicidal) and how to pick up on clues. There's also mental health first-aid training focused on youth."

Five training sessions are offered, each priced additionally to the conference.

Running concurrently to the conferences is a session for faith leaders, which takes place Friday.

"It's a day-long training for faith leaders, so they're able to deal with those who are seeking counsel for this, because they're not trained to deal with suicidal ideology," Margraf said.

Kuhl, who has experienced a student's suicide and has "seen firsthand the impact it has on the community," said the Kevin's Song conference is one of the best she's attended in her career.

"Suicide is a difficult topic to deal with, but when you take the cover off and look at it and study it, you feel more confident to deal with it," she said. "I hope many in our community feel welcome and want to come out to the Kevin's Song conference and see the amazing job this organization puts on. It doesn't sound like something that would be a feel-good event, but it really is."

For professionals who return to the Conference on Suicide year after year, it becomes a networking opportunity as well.

"It's good to speak with others who have a passion for suicide prevention," Emmerson said. "… And it's great to support a local organization of families and professionals that has a unique approach to learning in terms of conferences."

Margraf stressed that all are welcome to attend the conference.

"Unfortunately suicide doesn't have any boundaries with race, creed or socioeconomic group," she said, adding that a suicide prevention task force was formed in Michigan two years ago and recently completed its work. "Their takeaway was that the best way to combat this is to train every Michigander in QPR, so they learn to simply ask, 'Are you thinking about suicide?' It's about breaking down the barrier, the stigma."

Registration for the Kevin's Song Conference on Suicide is available at kevinssong.org. Single-day, two-day and three-day tickets are available.

"There really is something for everyone, not just school administrators and teachers, not just doctors and nurses and social workers," Margraf said. "We want to make sure everyone has at least one skill in their backpack to stop and prevent suicide."

LIFE & LEISURE

Beline Obeid
Broker/Owner
(313) 343-0100
Beline@Beline.com
www.Beline.com
19846 MACK AVENUE
GROSSE POINTE WOODS MI 48236

It takes a neighbor to know the neighborhood!

BELINE Obeid REALTY

2C GP GABBY | 3C MOMBEAU'S TABLE | 4C MOVIE JUNKIE MARK | 6C - 7C COMICS

GPT's Purdon Studio Theatre presents 'Failure: A Love Story'

Grosse Pointe Theatre recently announced its Purdon Studio Theatre production of "Failure: A Love Story," by Philip Dawkins, which runs Jan. 17 to 26. A whimsical and thought-provoking play, directed by Meg Berger in her GPT directorial debut, "Failure" invites audiences to experience a magical tale of life, love and the inevitability of loss.

Set in 1928 Chicago, "Failure" follows the three charming Fail sisters — Nelly, Jenny June and Gerty — each destined to meet an untimely end before the year is out. Through humor and heartache, the play explores the fleeting nature of time and enduring power of love. Dawkins' lyrical storytelling is brought to life by an ensemble cast, blending music, fantasy and narrative poetry in a style that captivates and enchants.

With a passion for storytelling and fresh vision for this intimate theatrical experience, Berger said she looks forward to bringing a deeply human connection to the Purdon Studio Theatre's stage.

"I wanted to direct this show after I saw it at a local black-box theater a few years ago and it truly touched me," Berger said. "I saw the potential in the script and the different ways a director could interpret the use of the chorus. The script also features a few songs.

"The part of the story that spoke to me is the strong theme of family," she added, "both the ones we're born into and the ones we find on our own. I am the oldest sister in a family of six siblings and I immediately connected with Gertrude Fail, the oldest sister in the play. I also love the touches of magic and whimsy. This is a story of love and loss, but it doesn't batter you over the head with it. Most importantly to me, it was a show with the opportunity to cast a diverse group of actors."

COURTESY PHOTOS

"Failire: A Love Story" stars, from left, Hayley Boggs, Grace Gillanders and Virginia Lee.

From left, Grace Gillanders as Nelly Fail, Virginia Lee as Gertrude Fail and Hayley Boggs as Jenny June Fail.

The cast includes Hayley Boggs as Jenny June Fail; Grace Gillanders as Nelly Fail; Virginia Lee as Gertrude Fail; Michael Kieliszewski as John N. Fail; Josh Kozakowski as Mortimer Mortimer; and chorus members McKenna Forster, Lynnie Heinemann, Anye Irving, Chris Martin and Stephanie Stoiko.

In addition to Berger, the crew includes Robby Mullinger, apprentice director; Colleen Hughes, producer; Adam Kosznicki, apprentice stage manager; Jeff Berger, set design and technical director; Stella Woitulewicz, sound design; Alexa Baxt, costume design; Kimberly Elliott, properties; Rachel Settlage, makeup and hair design; Kristina Kamm Mardlin, lighting design; Chelsea Thomas, apprentice lighting design; and Chris Martin, music director.

"This has been a very collaborative process," Berger said. "The day after our read through, I was getting emails from the cast with ideas for the show. As we rehearsed, they would suggest something their character could do in a particular scene. We would try it out and it would be brilliant. If they were not willing to embrace the whimsical aspects of the show, it would not work the way it does. But they are all fully committed. In addition, at least half the cast plays multiple characters, which is not easy."

Grosse Pointe Theatre's Purdon Studio Theatre offers an up-close and personal performance experience, ideal for this unique production.

"The most important message I hope the audience leaves with is the importance of love, family and community," Berger said. "There is joy and sadness in living. Ultimately, getting to love and be loved is what it's all about. In today's times, as we worry about the world and money and stress, it is a welcome reminder to focus on what really matters."

"Failure: A Love Story" will be performed Jan. 17 to 19, and Jan. 24 to 26, at Grosse Pointe Congregational church, 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms. Tickets are available online at gpt.org/pst or by calling (313) 881-4004.

ASK THE EXPERTS By Nick Symonette, M.Ed., Ed.S.

Help your child have their best year yet

The Family Center 25 YEARS
25 YEARS OF EMPOWERING FAMILIES & ENRICHING LIVES

As the academic behavioral coordinator at Parcells Middle School and a certified adolescent life coach, I see the incredible potential in every child. But their success isn't just about talent — it's about the support and guidance they get at home. So, here's my challenge to you for 2025:

◆ Commit to helping your child be their best this year by focusing on effort, attitude and academic growth.

◆ Encourage effort over perfection.

◆ Let your child know that trying their best — even when things are hard — is what truly matters.

◆ Praise the process, not just the results, and help them see that mistakes are part of learning.

◆ Model a positive attitude. Being a student in school can be tough socially and academically. Your child is watching how you handle challenges. Teach them resilience by talking about how you overcome setbacks and show them that a good attitude can turn any obstacle into an opportunity.

◆ Finally, make academics a shared priority. Be curious about what they're learning and show them that education is more than grades — it's the foundation for their future.

In 2025, let's partner together to create an environment where your child can thrive, grow and shine. They have the potential and, with your support, this can be their best year yet.

Nick Symonette is an adolescent life coach with Minor Mindset, which partners with children, adolescents and young adults to develop the skills, confidence and abilities to thrive in their respective lives. For more information, visit minormindset.com.

The Family Center provides free programs and resources that help build happier, healthier families. Learn more at familycenterhelps.org.

GROSSE POINTE Gabby

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

Snowed in and making the best of it!

Dear Gabby: I am so bored I could scream. I hate winter and all I want to do is stay home and watch TV or drink beer. How can I make it through winter without losing my mind? — Snowed in in the Shores

Dear Bored: Winter can feel like a never-ending uphill battle, but it's really a chance to get creative — and make time for things you always say you will do but never do. Here are a few ideas for you:

Embrace the Winter

Stop fighting the cold and get out there. Whether it's a quick walk, going sledding, shoveling snow or ice skating at the park, make it a point to get some fresh air every single day. You might be surprised by the energy it can create.

Explore Local Gems

How many times have you vowed to visit new restaurants you wanted to try? Or shops around town you meant to patronize? Now is your chance!

Make a list of everywhere in town you have been meaning to go and go there one or two times a week, either alone or with a friend. This way, you can keep up your friendships, try new things and get out of the house.

Find a New Sport or Activity

The War Memorial, Neighborhood Club, Ford House and others have so many interesting things to do. Check out an art class, fitness program or hobby you can work on over the cold months.

Just think, you could get pretty good at something over a winter and inspire a new passion.

Good luck. Stay warm and try something new!.

— Gabby

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

Thoughts for Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Election Day

Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

DEAR READERS: Wishing you all a very happy Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Inauguration Day!

I thought it would be a good time to find some impactful quotes from presidential inaugural speeches and from King's "I Have a Dream" speech. I found quotes that inspire, unify and motivate audiences toward a shared vision for the nation. Comparing King's speech with specific inaugural addresses reveals common themes of leadership, resilience and building an even better future for all of us.

"I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight; and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together. This is our hope. This is the faith that I go back to the South with. With this faith, we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith, we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith, we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to climb up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day." — **Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech.**

"Let us, then, fellow citizens, unite with one heart and one mind. Let us restore to social intercourse that harmony and affection without which liberty and even life itself are but dreary things. And let us reflect that, having banished from our land that religious intolerance under which mankind so long bled and suffered, we have yet gained little if we countenance a political intolerance as despotic, as wicked, and capable of as bitter and bloody persecutions." — **Thomas Jefferson, March 4, 1801**.

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds." — **Abraham Lincoln, March 4, 1865**.

"Much has been given us, and much will rightfully be expected from us. We have duties to others and duties to ourselves; and we can shirk neither." — **Theodore Roosevelt, March 4, 1905**.

"We have reached a higher degree of comfort and security than ever existed before in the history of the world." — **Herbert Hoover, March 4, 1929**.

"This great nation will endure as it has endured, will revive and will prosper. So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself." — **Franklin D. Roosevelt, March 4, 1933**.

"My fellow Americans: Ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country. My fellow citizens of the world: Ask not what America will do for you, but what together we can do for the freedom of man." — **John F. Kennedy, Jan. 20, 1961**.

"We shall reflect the compassion that is so much a part of your makeup. How can we love our country and not love our countrymen; and loving them, reach out a hand when they fall, heal them when they're sick, and provide opportunity to make them self-sufficient so they will be equal in fact and not just in theory?" — **Ronald Reagan, Jan. 20, 1981.**

"There is nothing wrong with America that cannot be cured by what is right with America." — Bill Clinton, Jan. 20, 1993..

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

COPYRIGHT 2024 CREATORS.COM

Authenticity

When we buy a bottle of a famed wine, we take it on faith that it's genuine and not a fake.

In fact, fake wine is precisely why corks began to be branded with the name of a winery as well as the vintage date.

It is also why most reputable wineries still use branded corks. When you order a bottle of wine in a restaurant and the waiter hands you the cork, the main reason is so you can inspect it and see if the brand is the same as the one on the label.

If you order a bottle of Chateau Palmer and the cork is blank, for example, that alone is sufficient grounds for rejecting the wine.

(Very inexpensive wines often are sold with blank corks that have no brands.)

Is wine fraud rampant here? No, it's almost nonexistent. But it happens elsewhere, and often enough that it has spawned lots of discussion and several books. It often takes the form of poor-quality wine with a falsified label that indicates it's a great wine.

And fraudulent wine practices have led to scandals (and, rarely, even deaths). Decades ago, antifreeze was used in some Austrian wine. Another time, some wine in Italy was found to have been adulterated. In both cases, the wines were sold only locally and never made it to the United States.

One famed scandal in Burgundy involved a producer bottling wines of two different quality levels in identically labeled bottles. He was caught.

Wine scandals take many forms and have existed for hundreds of years. The assumption by most fraudsters is that only experts can tell a great wine from an impostor. And wine fraud flourishes to this day. There have been numerous books on the subject.

The first major book explaining wine fraud was "The Winemasters" by Nicholas Faith (1978), a terrific history of the French wine trade. That was followed by "Wine Scandal" by Fritz Hallgarten (1986), "Wine Snobbery" by Andrew Barr (1988), and "Is This the Wine You Ordered, Sir?" by Christopher Fielden (1989).

What's interesting is that all the writers above are European. There are few books on American wine fraud because so little of it exists — or has been uncovered.

An almost identical blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, rounded off with a touch of Petit Verdot, forge the Palmer style.

Over the decades, there have been only a handful of trivial "wine scandals" in this country.

Even author Ellen Hawkes, who wrote an unauthorized biography of Ernest and Julio Gallo ("Blood and Wine," 1993) never hinted at winemaking chicanery, even though her book did a lot of veneer-stripping.

There are many reasons the California wine industry is so free of taint. One that's not well known is the cooperative relationship between wineries and the government agency that regulates them, the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB).

TTB gets a lot of barbs from winemakers, but most say they work closely with TTB inspectors and follow the rules. To do otherwise threatens their livelihoods. Licenses to operate are at stake.

Moreover, inspectors generally are fair-minded, not the ogres some make them out to be.

In Europe, most wine scandals are technical violations of complex regulations that mandate, among other things, how much fruit may grow in a plot of land or how long a bottle of wine must remain in the cellar before it can be sold.

Indeed, for the last several years many European wine regions have been rewriting their wine regulations to address grievances that producers or trade groups say are hamstringing them. Some of the violations are simply because producers misread the new regulations.

Dan Berger lives in Sonoma County, California, where he publishes "Vintage Experiences," a weekly wine newsletter. Write to him at winenut@gmail.com.

COPYRIGHT 2025 CREATORS.COM

A classic Italian soup

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

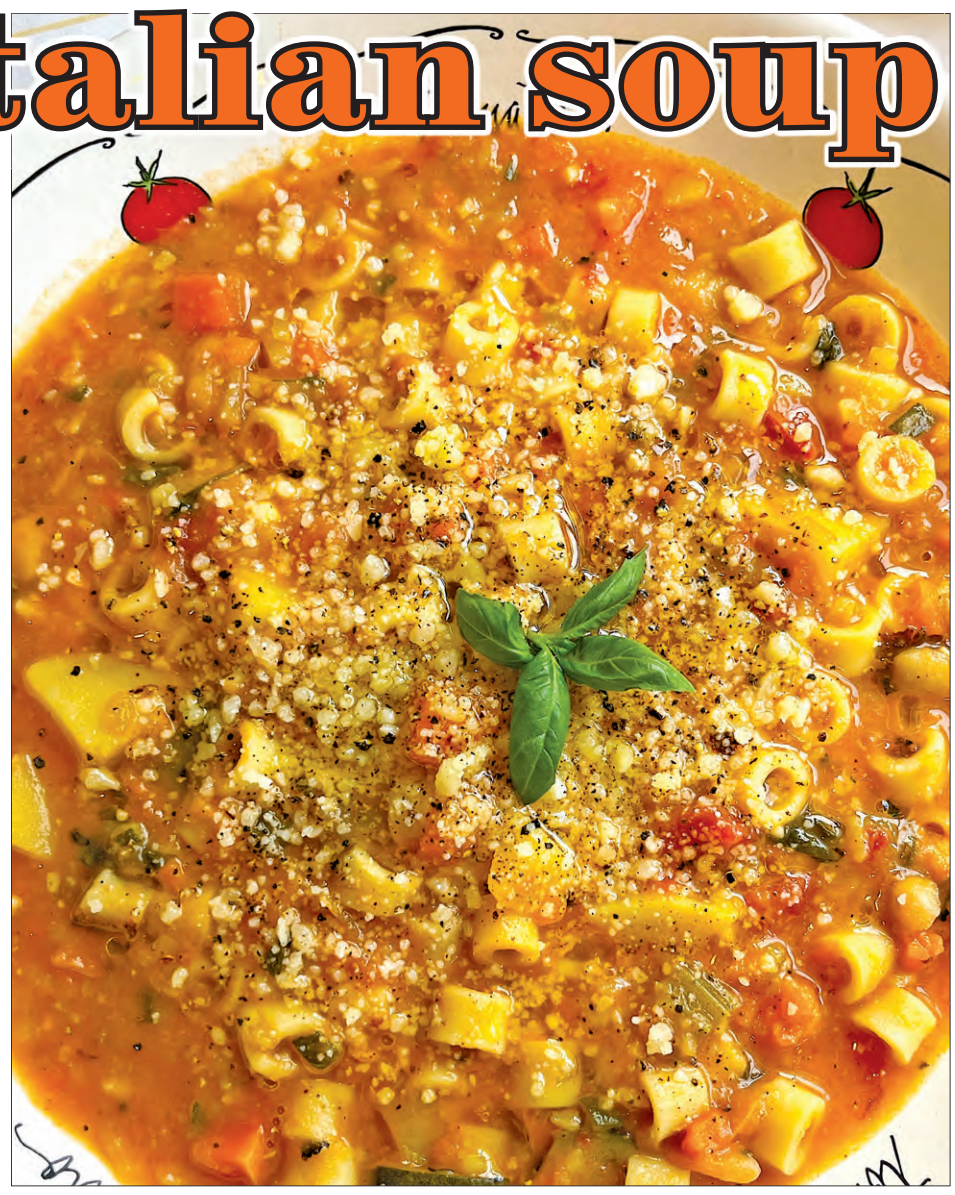


PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

Minestrone is a thick vegetable soup that originated in ancient Rome. It's traditionally filled with loads of vegetables, some kind of legume and sometimes pasta. It's hearty, packed with nutrition and can satisfy the appetite of the hungriest of customers lurking about your kitchen.

As I write this, it's snowing and I'm imagining myself sitting at a quiet corner of the Roma Cafe, now Amore da Roma in Detroit, enjoying a bowl of their minestrone soup and a glass of Chianti. If I can't make it to the Roma today, I will try to recreate it at home.

I love making this soup because it's a great way to use up any vegetables that are in the fridge. Plus, there is always a can of beans and diced tomatoes in the pantry.

You could also add spinach or any green at the end. I've even seen this soup made with orzo instead of the traditional ditalini. I chose zucchini and ditalini because that's what I had.

The addition of a rind of parmesan is key here. Save them and put them in the freezer for later use in any soup or even stew. It slowly and gently melts in and adds richness and depth of flavor.

I blend part of the soup to thicken it. The blended beans make it creamy without adding dairy. Either using an immersion blender or blending just about half of the soup gets the job done.

My absolute favorite way to finish the soup is spooning grated parmesan over top with extra fresh cracked pepper and a drizzle of good olive oil over top. It is just the way I would eat it at a quiet corner at Amore da Roma.

Cheers, Mombeau

Minestrone Soup

2 tbsp olive oil

1 large onion, diced

2 large carrots, diced

3 celery stalks, diced

1 medium zucchini, diced

2 cups yellow potatoes, diced into 1-inch cubes

3 minced garlic cloves

2 tbsp tomato paste

1 14.5 oz can fire roasted, diced tomatoes

1 14.5 oz Great Northern or cannellini white beans

6 cups chicken broth

1 parmesan rind

1 cup dried ditalini pasta

2 tsp salt

1 tsp pepper

1 cup fresh basil leaves

In a large stock pot over medium heat, add in the olive oil. Once hot, add in the chopped onion, carrot, celery, zucchini, tomato paste, salt and pepper. Stir everything together and cook until the vegetables are soft, about five to seven minutes. Add in the garlic during the last minute of the vegetables cooking so it doesn't burn.

Next, add in the potatoes, diced tomatoes and white beans. (Note: drain and rinse the beans, if you are looking to reduce the salt in your soup.) Stir to combine. Then add the broth, basil and parmesan rind. Cover, bring to a boil, reduce to a simmer and let the soup cook until the potatoes are soft, about 15 minutes.

Turn the heat off and remove the lid. Use an immersion blender to blend the soup until thick and chunky, not smooth. You'll want to still see some of the vegetables.

If you don't have an immersion blender, ladle into a blender, filling about one third to one half of the blender at a time. Be careful not to blend the parmesan rind. Do this two to three times so you still have a chunky soup.

At this point, add in the pasta. Bring the soup back to a simmer and cook until the pasta is done. Remove the rind and serve piping hot. Garnish with a drizzle of olive oil and grated parmesan sprinkled on top.

Love of fire cookouts ignites Full Rack Barbeque

Wow, 2025 is here!

It's crazy to look back and realize five years ago was such a huge turning point for so many businesses, for so many reasons. Some thrived, some survived and some unfortunately dived. People found themselves in positions of starting over, searching for a new beginning. Such was the situation for St. Clair Shores residents and Full Rack Barbecue owners, Bryon and Toni Mowrey.

"Hosting cookouts with friends is how the love for live fire food fare was ignited," Bryon Mowrey said.

The Mowreys met in Cookeville, Tenn., where Bryon moved in 2010, for a fresh start and change of scenery. As both had some experience in the restaurant industry, entertaining friends came easy. But their background wasn't the reason that led to where they are today. Falling in love with barbecue and each other in 2012 was.

"Over the years, what was just a hobby evolved into a passion and eventually a career," Byron said. "Grilling because it's game day turned into catering for friends' special events and from there, doing pop-up events."

Fast-forward to 2020, the Mowreys have married, moved back to Michigan and started a business. Full Rack Barbecue officially launched in 2020 as a byproduct of COVID. Bryon was laid off from a position in marketing, boredom set in and the wheels started spinning. He knew what he was capable of and what he truly enjoyed doing. With the support of Toni, who Bryon said "has been a hairdresser the entire time, as well as an amazing mom and a supportive, encouraging wife," together they decided it was time to feed the people — and this new "pit master" was fired up!

COURTESY PHOTOS

Full Rack Barbecue food truck.

Food trucks really took off during COVID. While they were a thing before, they really became popular during the pandemic. Full Rack Barbecue officially launched in August 2020 as its own food truck, debuting at Baffin Brewery on the Nautical Mile in St. Clair Shores.

This barbecue beauty on wheels started serving up all the favorites: barbecue sandwiches, loaded mac and cheese, sides and other rotating items. They quickly jumped into the food truck rotations of the local breweries and social events around town, where food trucks are a part of farmers markets, food truck rallies and social districts. You can even reserve it for private parties and gatherings. It's an excellent and easy idea for grad parties too.

The Mowreys watched their business and their following grow. Two years later, after major renovations in the space that was previously Moy's Chinese at 21425 Greater Mack, Full Rack Barbece's brick-and-mortar restaurant opened in July 2022. When asked why he chose this location, Bryon said, "The strong sense of community. We live in St. Clair Shores and operated the food truck in St. Clair Shores and knew how awesome and loyal it is here. We're very pleased to learn how awesome Grosse Pointe is as well."

With meat as the star of the show and supplied from Grosse Pointe's own Fairway Packing Co., the restaurant offers top-of-the-line pulled pork, pulled chicken, brisket, pork spare ribs, sausage, wings and multiple mouth-watering barbecue options.

Quesadillas w/ mac & cheese.

Full Rack Barbecue.

"All our meat is dry rubbed with seasoning blends made in house," Bryon said, adding that their smoked options are "oakwood smoked until tender."

I can attest to these unbelievably tender and flavorful meats. If you follow along on Grosse Pointe Eats & Treats on Facebook, you will see that often we do "Meat Mondays" at work. I never thought I would be someone that eats a half pound of pulled pork or brisket for lunch, but here I am!

When I asked what the most popular items were, Bryon said their ribs and brisket. Just last week they ran a special that was heavily requested: American Wagyu beef ribs. They sold 112 orders in one day.

I can't really end the meat portion of their story without mentioning burgers. Yep, they're flipping and smashing those, too. Their smash burgers are delicious and filling and come in different options as well. Aside from the classic — grilled onions, Alabama white sauce, pickles, ketchup, mustard and American cheese — they kicked up the "J" in PB&J with peanut butter, bacon, jalapeño jam and Swiss cheese. There's also the big guy, the xPitbeefx, featuring sliced brisket, cheddar, onion straws and barbecue sauce. It's a mouthful!

"Our burgers are a brisket and chuck blend, ground in house fresh daily," Byron said.

And there are four different "smashers" from which to choose, along with classic fried chicken sandwiches, quesadillas and handheld sandwiches, fully loaded mac and cheese and brisket fries, as well as all the sauces, what's not to love about this place?

Food Gossip

by Nina Taormina

PB&J smashburgers.

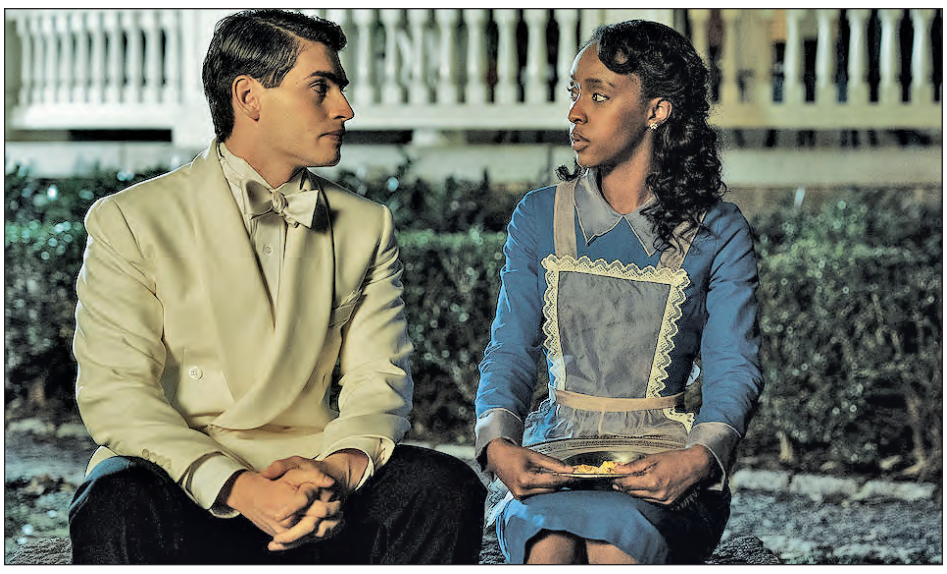
Let's not forget the sides. All made in-house, you have the choice of seven different options, including coleslaw, mac and cheese, cornbread, baked beans, green beans, just to name a few favorites. My personal go-to is coleslaw. If I'm really hungry, it's mac and cheese. Heck, there are times I've only ordered sides! Don't sleep on that potato salad either.

See FOOD , *page 5C*

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

"Life is too short to watch mediocre movies"



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TYLER PERRY STUDIOS AND MANDALAY PICTURES

Left, Gregg Sulkin as Abram David and Ebony Obsidian as Lena Derriecott King in the 2024 movie "The Six Triple Eight," directed by Tyler Perry.

MOVIE REVIEW
"The Six Triple Eight"
2024 - Rated PG-13
2 hr 7 min
★★★½☆

"The Six Triple Eight" is the latest offering from the talented writer/director Tyler Perry ("Diary of a Mad Black Woman," "Gone Girl). It's an epic tale of heroism that took place during the later part of World War II. The events depicted in the movie transpired over 80 years ago, so why did it take so long for the story to get told? Sure, it's a bit cheesy at times. Somewhat overly dramatic. The acting is a little weak in some spots, and there's some corny romance thrown in. But ultimately, it's a rousing, inspiring movie that simply needed to be made.

When we're introduced to the lead character Lena Derriecott King (Ebony Obsidian), she's being courted by Abram David (Gregg Sulkin). She's a black girl from a working class household and he's a white Jewish boy from a very wealthy family. It's set in the 1940s, so it's not surprising their families don't exactly encourage their budding relationship.

Abram, like so many young men at the time, decides to do his duty for the country and enlists in the Army Air Corps. It's not long after signing up that he's shot down and killed. Needless to say, Lena is absolutely devastated. She decides she has nothing else to lose and enlists as well. Lena's assigned to the 6888th Battalion of the Women's Army Corps, which is under the lead of Maj. Charity Adams (Kerry Washington), a strict disciplinarian who will accept nothing less than the best from her troops. Ms. Washington really shines here and turns in one of her finest performances to date. She's strong, resilient, and has no problem standing up to her racist, sexist superiors.

We then meet the mother of two soldiers who's distraught that she hasn't heard from them in ages. She decides to take action and waits at the gate of the White House, hoping to meet with President Roosevelt. After two days, her vigil is brought to the attention of Eleanor (Susan Sarandon) and she's brought in to meet with her and the president, played by Sam Waterston. They appoint Mary McLeod Bethune (Oprah Winfrey) to look into the matter. When it's revealed that there are over 17 million undelivered letters in storage, and that they've been given low priority, it's time to take action. The lack of communication between soldiers and their families is causing low moral for the country and it's imperative to do something about it to help win the war.

The assignment to tackling the backlog is given to the 6888th. They become the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion and are transferred to Glasgow, Scotland. Here they face numerous obstacles. They're housed in a dilapidated school, which they're responsible for repairing to make it habitable. Then there's the daunting, no, impossible task of sorting out and redirecting the massive backlog of letters. The sheer volume alone is incredible but it also involves differentiating the countless soldiers with the same names. Plus the fact that the location of said soldiers is top secret, in case the information got into enemy hands.

Reporting for duty.

But the women prove to be more than up to the job. They use some ingenious and creative thinking to leap over the roadblocks. What's more, Maj. Adams has to deal with Gen. Holt (Dean Norris). He's sexist and a detestable bigot — you can't help but despise him. His actions almost make you wonder just whose side he's on. Adams confronts him time and again and even welcomes him to court martial her, she's so convinced in her innovative methods to get the mail flowing. He's just one of her superiors who make her job difficult.

The troops were given a deadline of six months to sort out all the mail. Amazingly they accomplished the job in only 90 days! "The Six Triple Eight" will have you practically jumping out of your seat more than once, as you root for the women to succeed. It's aided by a rousing, uplifting score by Aaron Zigman. And it was written by Tyler Perry. So, while it was a bit clichéd at times, it definitely shows he's evolving as a filmmaker. If you're looking for an inspiring WWII film, I think you'll enjoy this one.

Note to parents: There is some mild swearing and racial slurs in the movie.

Currently streaming on Netflix.

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.

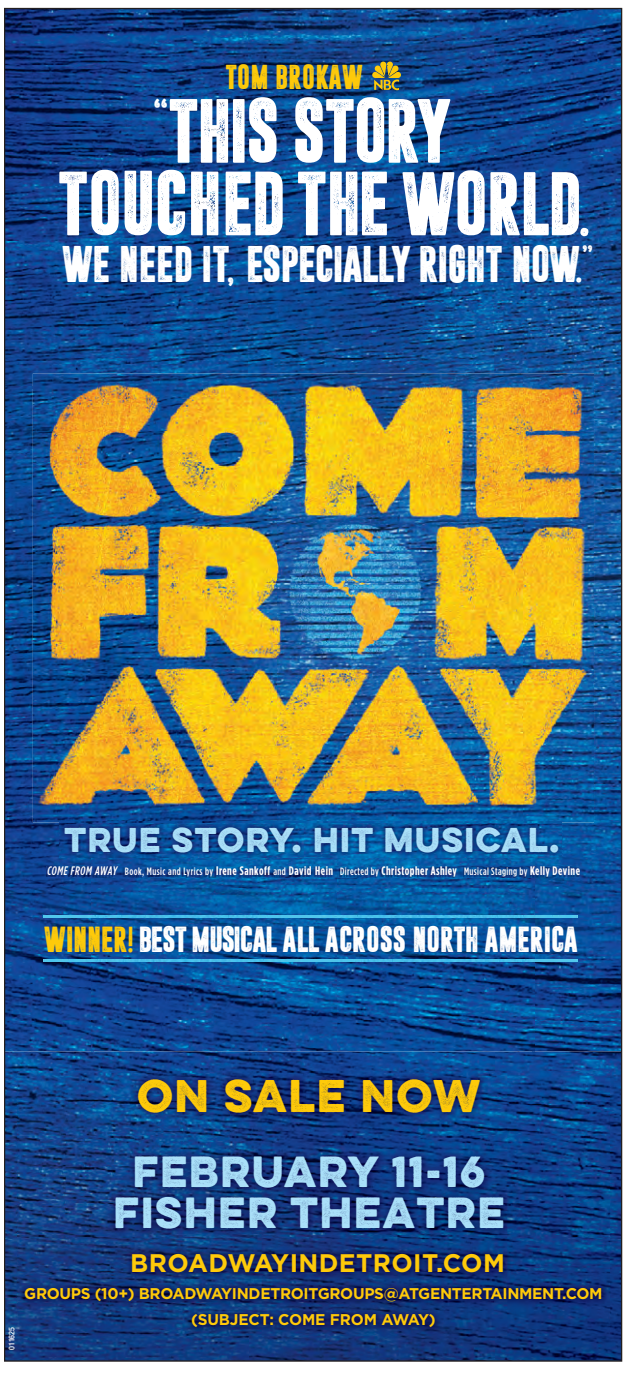
Also, if you're looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com.

Arriving in Glasgow.

Historic photo and the movie reenactment.

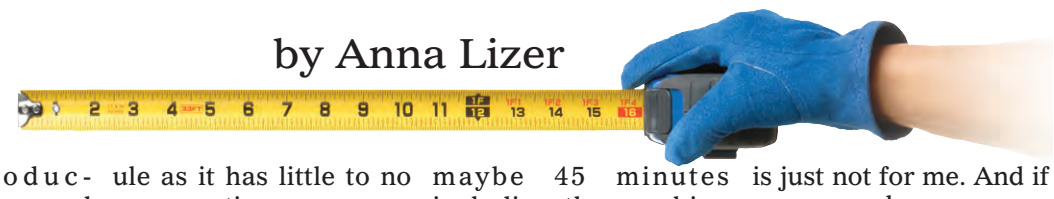
Maj. Adams inspects her battalion.

Maj. Adams confronts Gen. Halt.



We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



When Katie Taylor started telling me about the new laser at her shop and beauty bar, Taylor Reese, the passion and excitement was undeniable. I had to try it!

As a (gulp!) middle-aged woman, sometimes looking in the mirror can be a scary endeavor. You never know what kind of new wrinkles or spots may have popped up overnight. The game to stay younger-ish looking can be like playing Whack-a-Mole.

After hearing about different options, I booked an appointment for a BBL Hero and Moxi combo. Go big or go home, amiright?!

About the equipment:

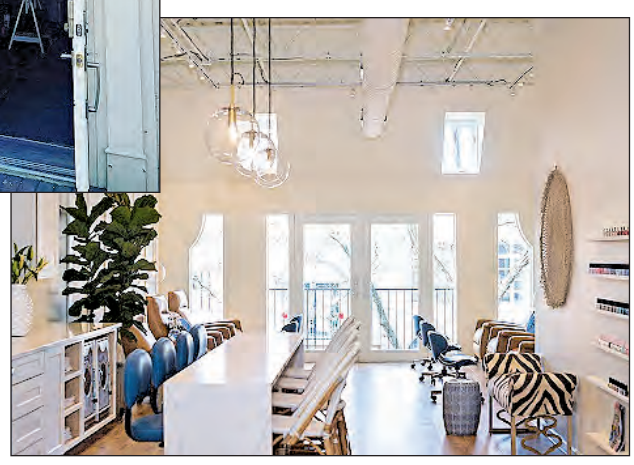
The BBL Hero laser is extremely advanced and can target and address a number of skin concerns.

It is a broadband light that uses pulses to combat pigmentation issues, sun damage, age spots and uneven skin. To be honest, this didn't sound that exciting to me, as my skin is mostly free of these issues. However, Katie assured me I would be happy with the results, so I was all in.

Taylor Reese storefront.

Because she has the latest and greatest in technology, this laser is able to cover more ground in less time, making it less uncomfortable for the recipient.

The Moxi laser, another revolutionary treatment, is a more gentle, non-ablative laser that stimulates collagen production and improves overall skin texture and tone. If one were to get this laser alone, it would be great for anyone looking to erase fine lines and uneven skin texture. The results will have you looking refreshed, glowing and it won't knock you off your social schedule as it has little to no recovery time.



Taylor Reese shop and beauty bar.

When I walked up to the Beauty Bar at Taylor Reese, it was so beautiful and pleasant — extremely clean, but also more of a spa feel than a medical office. Katie told me step by step what the laser does, which settings she used and why, and all of the benefits in doing so. She clearly knows her stuff.

I don't remember which laser was which, but they were both mildly uncomfortable. Girls, it's nothing you can't handle. The entire process lasted maybe 45 minutes including the numbing cream. Afterward, my face looked and felt like I had a decent sunburn.

A few days went by and the "mends" started — pretty much like freckles coming through and out of your skin. It was not uncomfortable; it just looked not-that-great. This went on for a few days until the new skin was emerging. After maybe six days I was extremely enthused about my face and neck. It was most certainly tighter and just something about it looked vastly improved without being able to say why exactly.

Three months later and I'm still thrilled with my results and have planned another follow-up laser in three months. I'm hooked.

To me, it's a great way to shed a few years of wear and tear on the face and neck without shooting my face up with filler, which is just not for me. And if you are a busy person, there's nothing bad about lying down for an hour or so in a tranquil environment.

Because I got both treatments, I cannot review each individual laser. What I can tell you is it was well worth any discomfort and the five or six days I wore a hat and sunglasses around town. It's the refresher and age-softener you didn't know you needed.

Taylor Reese is located at 84 Kercheval on The Hill. Check out new news on their Instagram page: @taylorreeseshop.

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

Royal Stars
Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or important decisions until 12 noon EST today (9 a.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from Leo into Virgo.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, January 16, 2025: You have a razor-sharp mind. You are also analytical and sensitive. You have excellent communication skills. This year you will receive recognition for your past efforts. You might attain power and leadership. Expect kudos, awards, promotions and acknowledgement. Bravo!

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

Today you might have to put your own personal considerations second to those of someone else. You might have to do a favor or perform a service for someone. Meanwhile, you'll be happy to take care of small hygiene factors and tidy up loose ends at home and at work. Tonight: Get organized.

TAURUS

This is a playful day! You project yourself with more energy than usual because you feel a need to be yourself and do your own thing. However, you might feel protective or nurturing to someone, especially children. (Taurus people are generally good parents.) Tonight: Socialize.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

It will please you to be low-key today. You might want to "hide" at home and enjoy the comfort of familiar surroundings. Use this opportunity to escape from the demands of the outside world. Nevertheless, you might be more involved with a female family member today. Tonight: Relax.

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

Today you have a strong need to talk to someone about something. You need to find someone who is willing to really listen. (You don't want to spend time in idle chitchat about the weather.) You have something to say, and you need to be heard. Tonight: Discussions

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

You might feel possessive about something you own today. This is why you might not want to lend something to someone. You also might find yourself having to defend yourself about something that is really not that important. Go figure. Tonight: Check your belongings.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

LToday the Moon is in your sign, which will make you more emotional than usual. However, the good news is that when the Moon is in your sign, which occurs for two and a half days every month, it slightly boosts your good luck! Why not ask the universe for a favor? Tonight: You win!

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Home and family are important to you right now, which is why today you will seek out opportunities to have privacy and peace and quiet. You want a chance to contemplate your navel. Don't be too ambitious today. Pamper yourself and be comfortable. Tonight: Enjoy solitude.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Today your emotional contact with others will be more important to you. You feel the need to connect with a friend or a member of a group. You also might feel more protective or supportive with a friend and ready to offer them your help if they need it. Tonight: Schmooze.!

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Today the Moon moves to the top of your chart to stay for the next two days. This happens once every month. When this occurs, it means that you are more high-viz. People notice you more than usual. In fact, some people will know personal details about your private life. Tonight: Show respect.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Today you want to do something different; you want to get away from your daily routine. You might want to go off somewhere and see new places or talk to new people. Obviously, if you can travel, this would be ideal. Studying and learning something new will also be rewarding. Tonight: Explore!

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Today your emotional experiences might be more intense than usual. This includes your encounters with others. You might find that you're caught in a situation where your values don't agree with the values of someone else. You might even have disputes about shared property. Tonight: Check your finances.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

Today you will have to go more than halfway when dealing with others to keep the peace. This happens once for a few days every month, and it's not a big deal. Stay positive, cooperative and willing to listen to others with courtesy. Tonight: Listen attentively.

BORN TODAY

Singer Sade (1959), model Kate Moss (1974), TV presenter James May (1963).

FOOD:

Continued from page 3C

Make it a 2x2 combo — two meats with two sides.

If you really wanna live on the edge, get yourself a Texas Twinkie. How does a jalapeno stuffed with brisket and cream cheese, then wrapped in bacon sound? Try one and report back!

Texas Twinkies.

Also, don't forget about Full Rack for your catering needs. After all, that's kind of how this all started. All catering information can be found online at fullrackbarbecue.com. At a quick glance, I saw the words "carving stations" and "mac and cheese bars." If only I had a party to plan!

I cannot wrap this up without giving a shout out to the most welcoming face behind the counter: Hayden. His energy always puts a smile on my face with every carryout I pick up. And to Olivia, the sweetheart responsible for their amazing desserts, which you cannot turn your face from while paying for your meal. Get a slice of cake, especially if it's German chocolate. The entire Full Rack team have really made their mark in our community.

Wings

Stay up-to-date with all of their specials, food truck locations and new features on their social media platforms: Full Rack Barbecue on Facebook and on Instagram @fullrackbbq.

They're open 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, dine in or carry out. I suggest you call first, as they do sell out at times — because they're THAT good.

Fun fact: How did this mouthwatering business get its name?

"Full Rack, to me, is when the racks on the smoker are loaded up and cooking, signifying it's going to be a good day," Byron said.

Clearly they must have a lot of good days.

As the "pit master" himself says: Stay smoked.

As Food Gossip says: Stay tuned. Stay hungry.

Pulled pork sandwich.

Contract Bridge

TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE

East dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 10 3
♥ Q J 8 5
♦ K 6 4 2
♣ Q 10 7

WEST
♠ Q 9 8 6 5
♥ 9 6 4 2
♦ 3
♣ 8 5 3

EAST
♠ K 4 2
♥ A 7
♦ Q 10 9 8 5
♣ A 6 4

SOUTH
♠ A J 7
♥ K 10 3
♦ A J 7
♣ K J 9 2

The bidding:

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

Opening lead — six of spades.

A gambit, in chess, consists of deliberately sacrificing a piece in order to gain a long-term advantage. Bridge has its gambits also. Declarer sometimes deliberately sacrifices a trick in order to increase his chance of making the contract.

South neglected to meet that challenge in this deal. West led a spade against three notrump. Declarer played low from dummy and won East's king with the ace, assuring a second spade trick for his side. When South next led a club, East took his ace and returned a spade. West very properly allowed dummy's ten of spades to win, after which declarer had to go down one. West scored three spade tricks, and East scored his two aces.

Declarer would have made the contract had he ducked East's king of spades at trick one and then played his jack, losing to the queen, on the spade continuation at trick two. This would have cost him a spade trick, but the trick he lost would have come back with interest since he would have lost only two spades and two aces, but no more.

Given the bidding and opening lead, declarer should conclude that East, for his opening bid, has the two missing aces, and also that West's spade lead is likely to have come from a five-card suit.

Once declarer reaches this conclusion, it follows that the opportunity to make two spade tricks ranks second in importance to the opportunity to make the contract. Refusing to take East's king of spades with the ace might seem self-injurious, but it is clearly the right play to make under the circumstances.

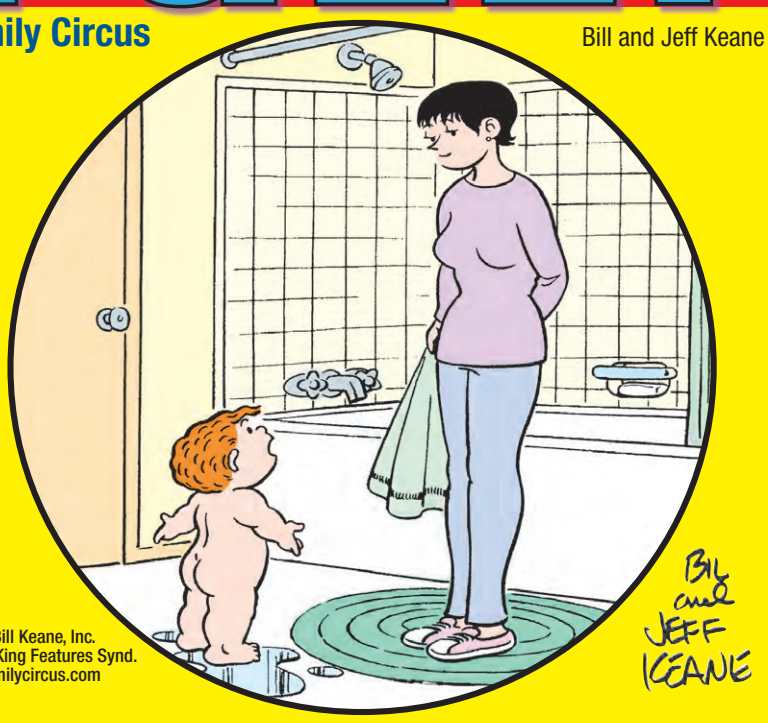
©2025 King Features Syndicate Inc.

by Steve Becker

Puzzles and

Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane

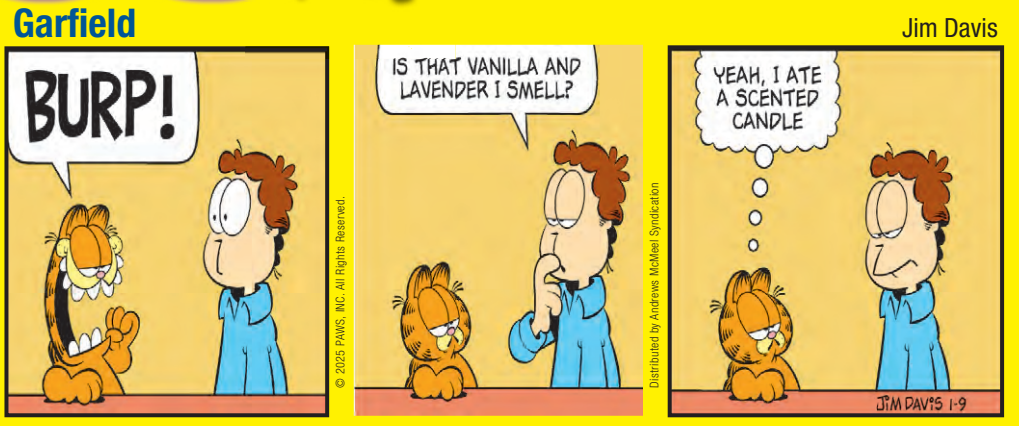


©2025 Bill Keane, Inc.
Dist. by King Features Synd.
www.familycircus.com

"Why do they call this my birthday suit? I wear it every day."

Garfield

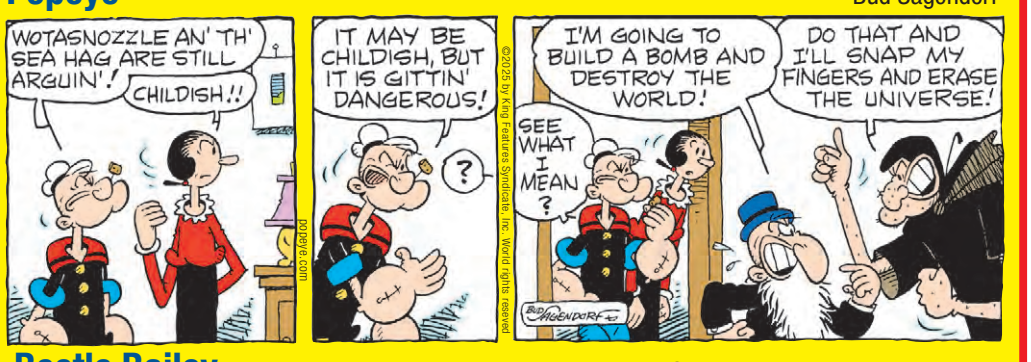
Jim Davis



© 2025 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication

Popeye

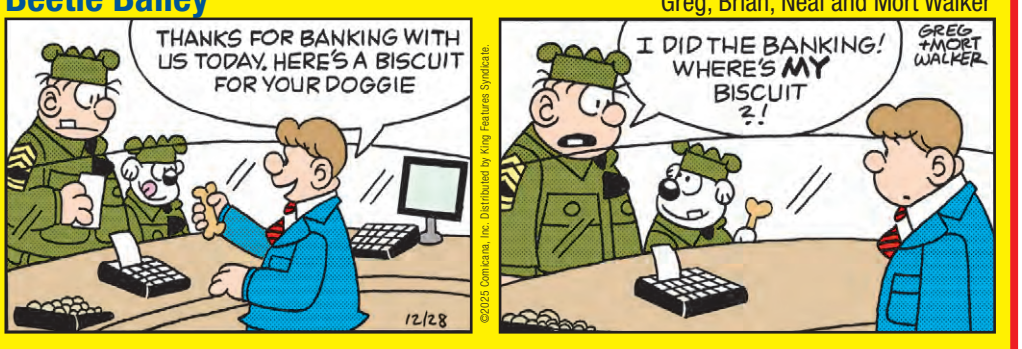
Bud Sagendorf



©2025 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved
uncle popeye.com

Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



©2025 Comicana, Inc. Distributed by King Features Syndicate.

Blondie

Chris and Dean Young

©2025 by King Feaqures Syndicate, Inc. World rights reseved
www.Blondie.com

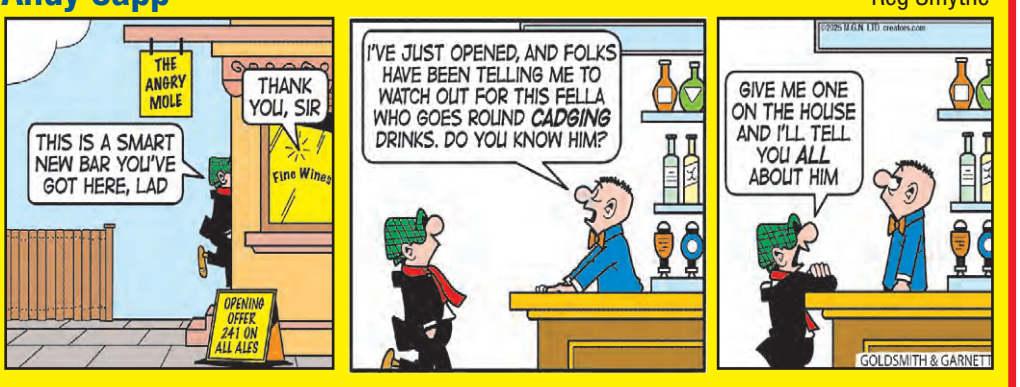
Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis

© 2025 Mfry & T Lewis, Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication

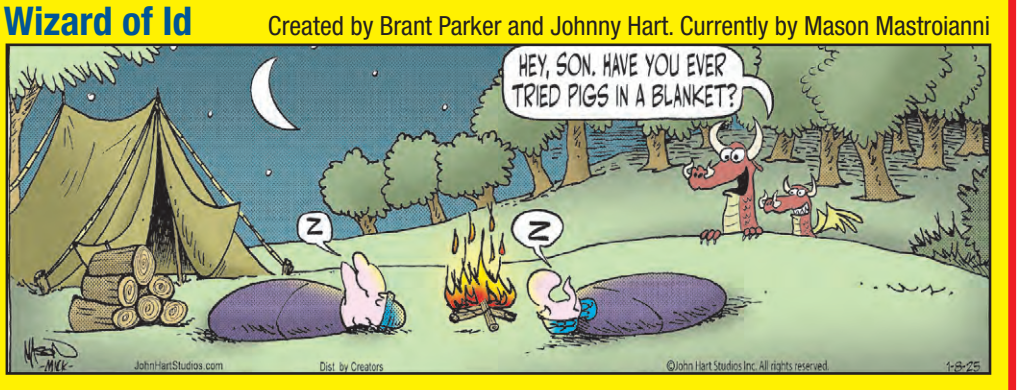
Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



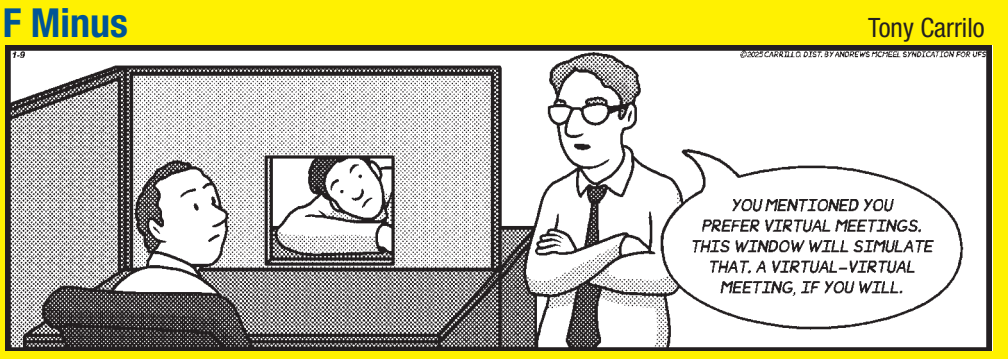
Wizard of Id

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



F Minus

Tony Carrillo

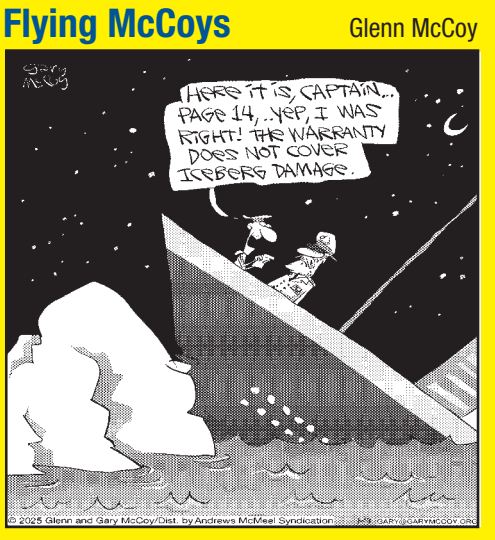


Ziggy

Tom Wilson

Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

1/16 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

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

© 2025 by Andrews McMeel Syndication

Previous puzzle solution

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

1/9 Solution

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg January 16, 2025

ACROSS
1 Orzo or farfalle
6 Ship's front
10 Tree secretion
13 Up and about
14 Scottish isle where Macbeth is buried
15 "Night" author Wiesel
17 *Quizlike road trip contest
20 Spray ___
21 There are two in a double play
22 Ancient Mexican
23 Strong
26 Upper hand
28 "Well, ___-di-dah!"
29 Longtime NBC Olympics host Bob
32 *Watch it!
37 Hippy dance
39 Like some wings on "Hot Ones"
40 Wok or skillet
41 Danger
42 Tartan garment
43 *Result of some swiping
45 Chicken ___ bleu
47 Narrow coastal inlet
48 Speck
49 Marching insect
53 Vote into office
56 One might be long for a roller coaster
58 Tall tale
59 Declaration heard at Wimbledon ... or a collective description of the starred clues' answers
63 "I'll pay"
64 Give five stars, say
65 No longer sleeping
66 ___ pal
67 Highest point
68 Far from verbose

DOWN
1 R&B singer LaBelle
2 City on the Nile
3 Artery insertion
4 Cookie container
5 Museum pieces
6 Arouse, as curiosity
7 Blowout victory
8 "Just hang on"
9 Used to be
10 YOLO philosophy
11 Tons
12 Most common wood used in IKEA furniture
16 Key for closing a window?
18 Mario's dinosaur pal
19 Graffiti signatures
24 Stunning sea creature
25 Classic peacoat color
27 Mafia boss
30 Vibe
31 Feature of some skirts
32 "For shame!"
33 Totally awesome
34 Stitch's pal in a Disney movie
35 Fictional band in a 1984 mock-umentary
36 Actor McKellen
38 Hazy pale ___
41 Overly proper
43 Little human
44 Screwed up
46 An ellipsis has three
49 Building add-on
50 "I do" locale for some
51 Short cuts?
52 Little laugh
53 Sense of self
54 Singer k.d. ___
55 Jane Austen matchmaker
57 "Already had a bite"
60 It may be associated with a president or monarch
61 Welcome ___
62 Amazement

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

1/9 Solution

© 2025 by Andrews McMeel Universal
www.upuzzles.com

1/16

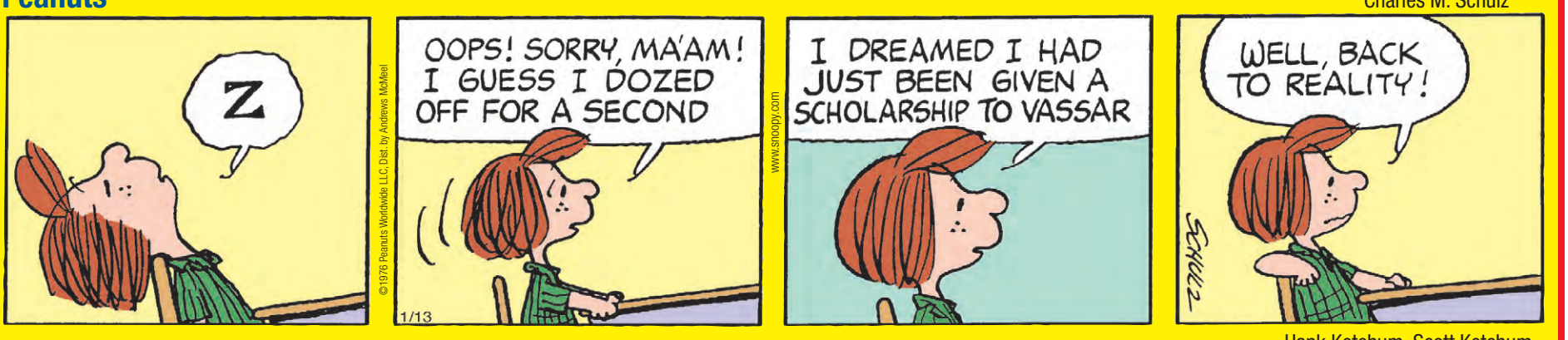
Tennis, Anyone? *by Michele Govier*

1	2	3	4	5	■	6	7	8	9	■	10	11	12	■
13					■	14				■	15			16
17					18					19				
20			■	■	21				■	22				
23			24	25			■	26	27			■	■	■
■	■	■	28			■	■	29				30	31	■
32	33	34				35	36			■	37			38
39					■	40			■	41				
42				■	43				44					
■	45			46			■	■	47			■	■	■
■	■	■	48				■	49				50	51	52
53	54	55			■	56	57			■	■	58		
59					60					61	62			
63				■	64				■	65				
■	66			■	67				■	68				

Comics

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz

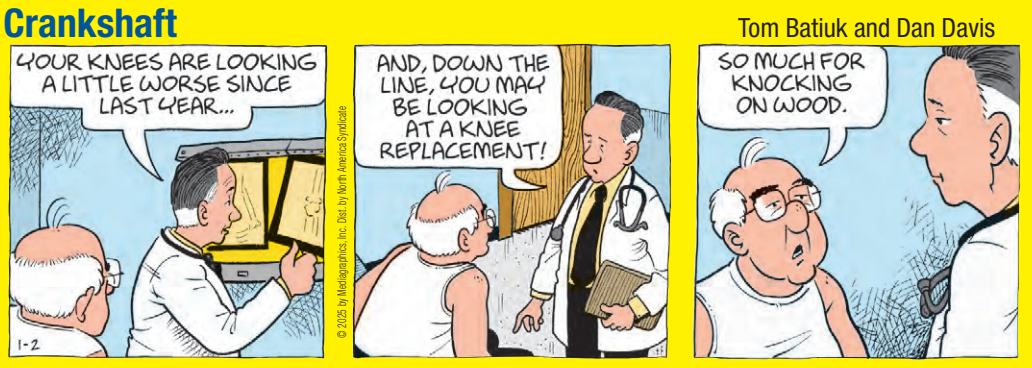


Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne

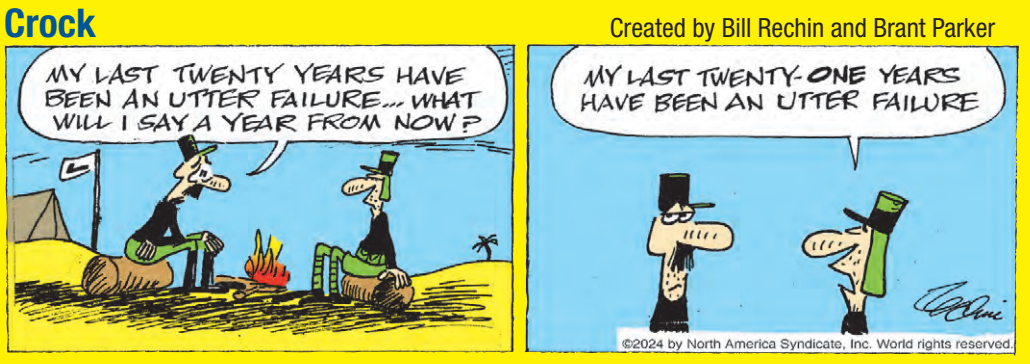
Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



Mother Goose and Grim

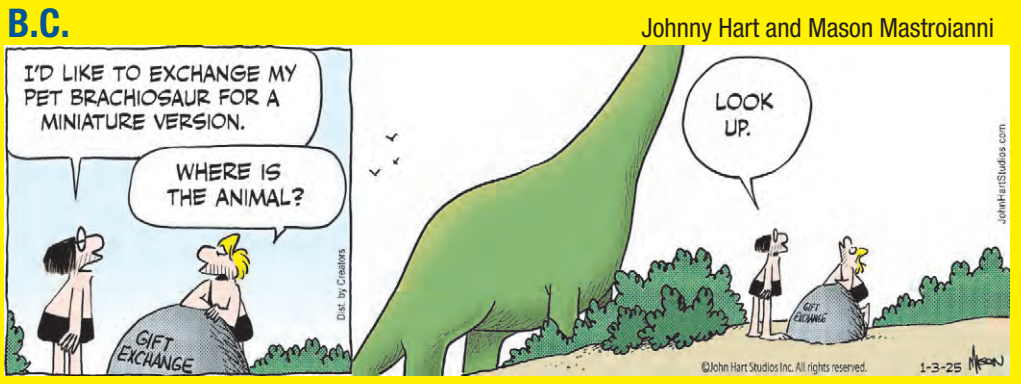
Mike Peters

Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson

B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni

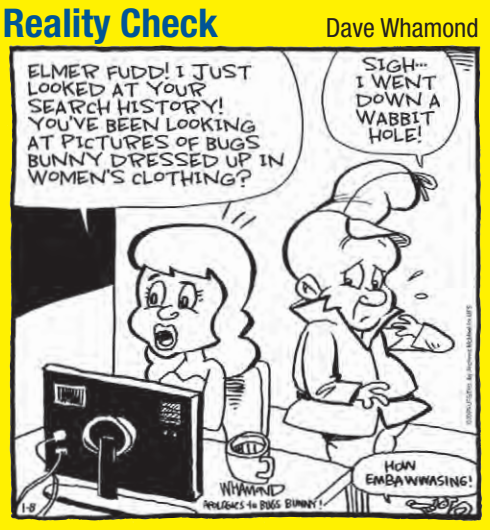


Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler

Reality Check

Dave Whamond



Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno

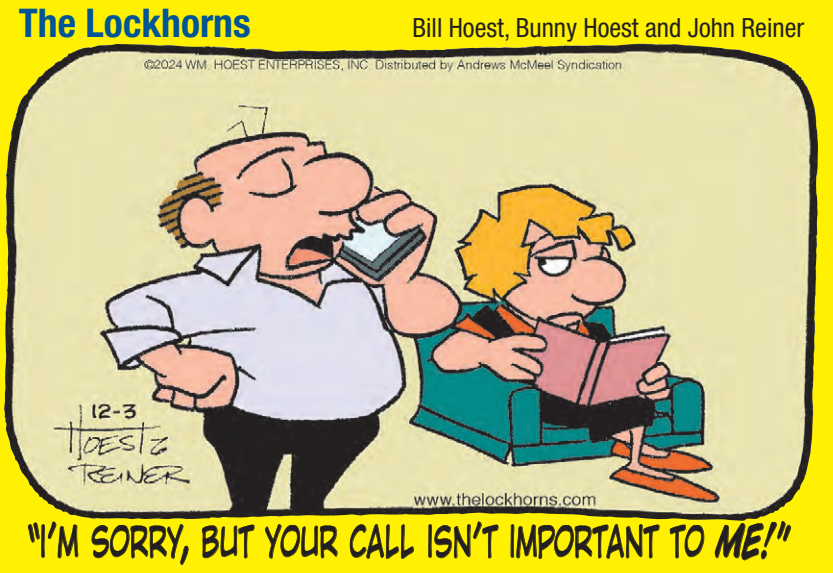
Dennis the Menace

Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton

"NO, DON'T TELL ME. I KNOW THE NAME. IT'S CALLED 'NOISE POLLUTION', RIGHT?"

The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



"I'M SORRY, BUT YOUR CALL ISN'T IMPORTANT TO *ME!*"

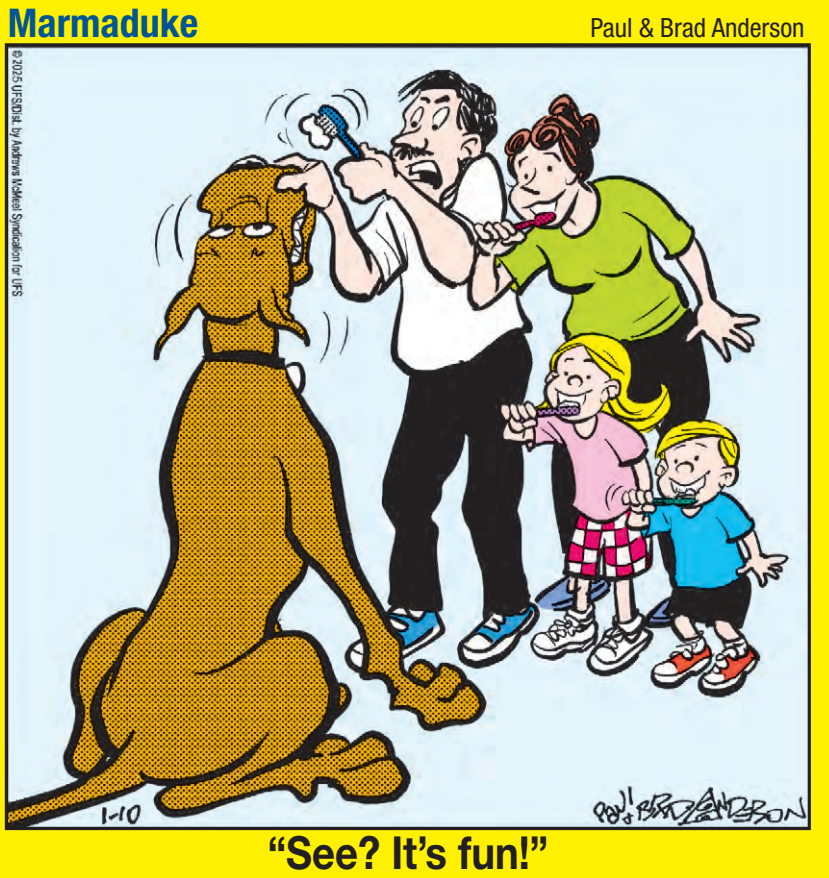
Close To Home

John McPherson

"Glenda realized that she had mistakenly hired a goober driver"

Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson

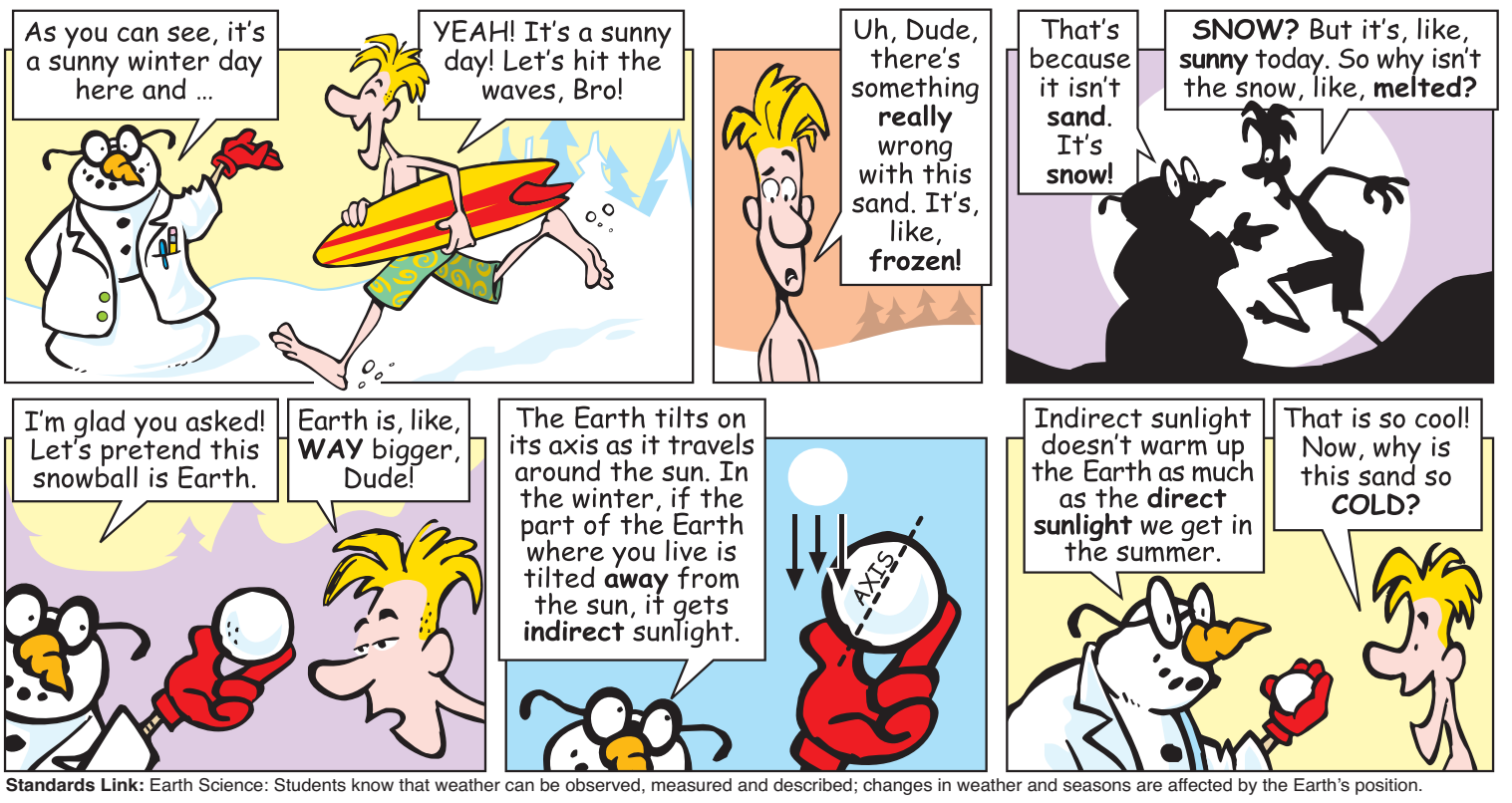


"See? It's fun!"

Kid Scoop®.com
THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE
Get puzzle answers, recipes and more at www.kidscoop.com
© 2025 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 41, No. 7

Sunny Question

Why are sunny winter days COLD, while sunny summer days are HOT? *Kid Scoop's* winter expert Dr. I. Cicle explains it all!



Standards Link: Earth Science: Students know that weather can be observed, measured and described; changes in weather and seasons are affected by the Earth's position.

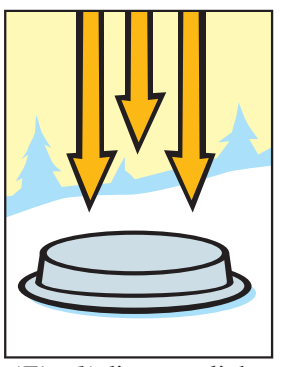
Experiment Tells All

Try this experiment to understand the difference between indirect and direct sunlight.

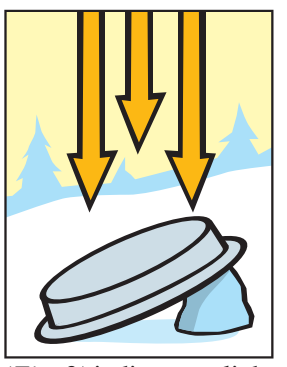
Keep track of your work on a separate sheet of paper like the Scientist's Notebook.

Stuff you need:

- 2 metal pie tins or flat pans
- a sunny winter day
- watch or clock
- a rock



(Fig. 1) direct sunlight



(Fig. 2) indirect sunlight

What to do:

1. Lay one pan flat on the ground in the direct sunlight. *(Fig. 1)*
2. Tilt the other pan on its side. Lean it against a rock or a shoe. This pan is being hit with indirect sunlight. *(Fig. 2)*
3. Wait three minutes.
4. Which pan is warmer?

Standards Link: Investigation: Students will make predictions based on observation; answer meaningful questions and draw conclusions.

SCIENTIST'S NOTEBOOK

Question	Hypothesis	Observation	Conclusion
Which pan do you think will feel warmer after three minutes in the winter sun?	What do you think the answer to the question is? ☐ pan in direct sunlight ☐ pan in indirect sunlight	Which pan was warmer in three minutes? ☐ pan in direct sunlight ☐ pan in indirect sunlight	Was your hypothesis correct? What did you learn from this experiment?

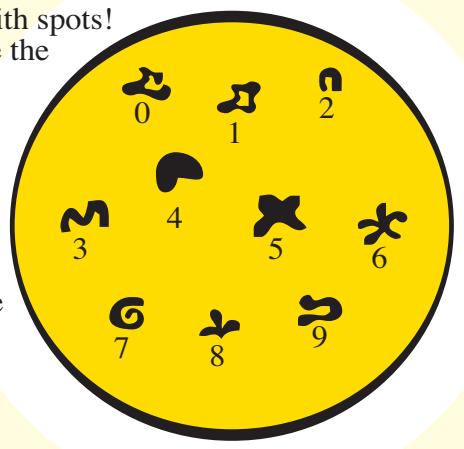
Extra! Extra! Without the Sun ...

Without the sun we wouldn't have newspapers because newsprint is made from trees and trees need the sun to grow. Look through the newspaper for other things that need the sun to exist.

Standards Link: Language Arts/Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Sun Spot Mystery

The sun is covered with spots! Use the spots to solve the mystery questions.



How far is the sun from the Earth?

[illegible] million miles (149.6 million km)

How long does it take the sun to make one complete rotation?

[illegible] Earth days

What is the diameter of the sun?

[illegible], [illegible] miles. (1.4 million km)

WARNING! Never look directly at the sun as this can damage your eyesight!

Standards Link: Earth Science: Students know about the sun, planets and stars.

Double Double Word Search

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

SUNLIGHT
EXPERIMENT
SUMMER
MILES
PAPER
DIAMETER
HYPOTHESIS
METAL
WINTER
SAND
SNOWBALL
PAN
AXIS
SHOE

S	I	S	E	H	T	O	P	Y	H
D	A	L	L	A	B	W	O	N	S
I	W	N	I	R	E	M	M	U	S
A	S	S	D	N	X	T	N	E	R
M	I	M	E	T	A	L	R	S	E
E	X	P	E	R	I	M	E	N	T
T	A	R	S	G	T	L	P	U	N
E	E	O	H	S	I	N	A	S	I
R	H	T	I	M	N	A	P	N	W

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

SMART FUN AT HOME

One important thing to understand when you read is **cause** and **effect**.

For example, in the legend of Groundhog Day, when the groundhog sees his shadow, he goes back in his burrow. In this case, the **effect** is that the groundhog goes back in his burrow. That is what happens. What **causes** him to go back in his burrow? Getting frightened by his shadow.

Try It!

1. With a parent or learning buddy at home, select an article from today's newspaper. Read the headline. Discuss what you think caused the news reported in the headline.

2. The headline usually tells what happened. This is called an **effect**. Read aloud to your learning buddy the first paragraph of the article. Does this tell you the **cause**? Read the rest of the article aloud. After each paragraph, stop and discuss what you have learned about what caused the news reported in the headline.

Complete the following:

HEADLINE (effect):

CAUSE(s):

NAME:

NAME OF LEARNING BUDDY:

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Distinguish between cause and effect in text.

Kid Scoop® VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:
HYPOTHESIS

The noun **hypothesis** means a suggestion or guess not proved but serves as the basis for further study.

The class was asked to test their **hypothesis.**

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop® LESSON LIBRARY

Who cares about the weather?

Why is the weather report important to different people? Why is it important to a farmer, an astronaut or a fireman? Find an article or picture in the newspaper of a person who cares about the weather. Tell why this person cares.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Understand the main idea and supporting details in expository text.

What kind of caps do snowmen wear?

ANSWER: Ice caps.

Write On!

Winter Words

Make a list of words that make you think of winter. Use these words to write a short poem or a descriptive paragraph.

Your Neighborhood
It's what's most important to you, to your kids, to your family. It's easy to stay on top of what is happening around you with the
Grosse Pointe News

$49.50 Annual subscription, delivered weekly with 24/7 online access
venmo PayPal
Subscribing is easy.
Call 313.343.5578
or visit grossepointenews.com

SPORTS

2D LIGGETT BOYS BASKETBALL | **3D** GIRLS HOCKEY | **4D-5D** CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

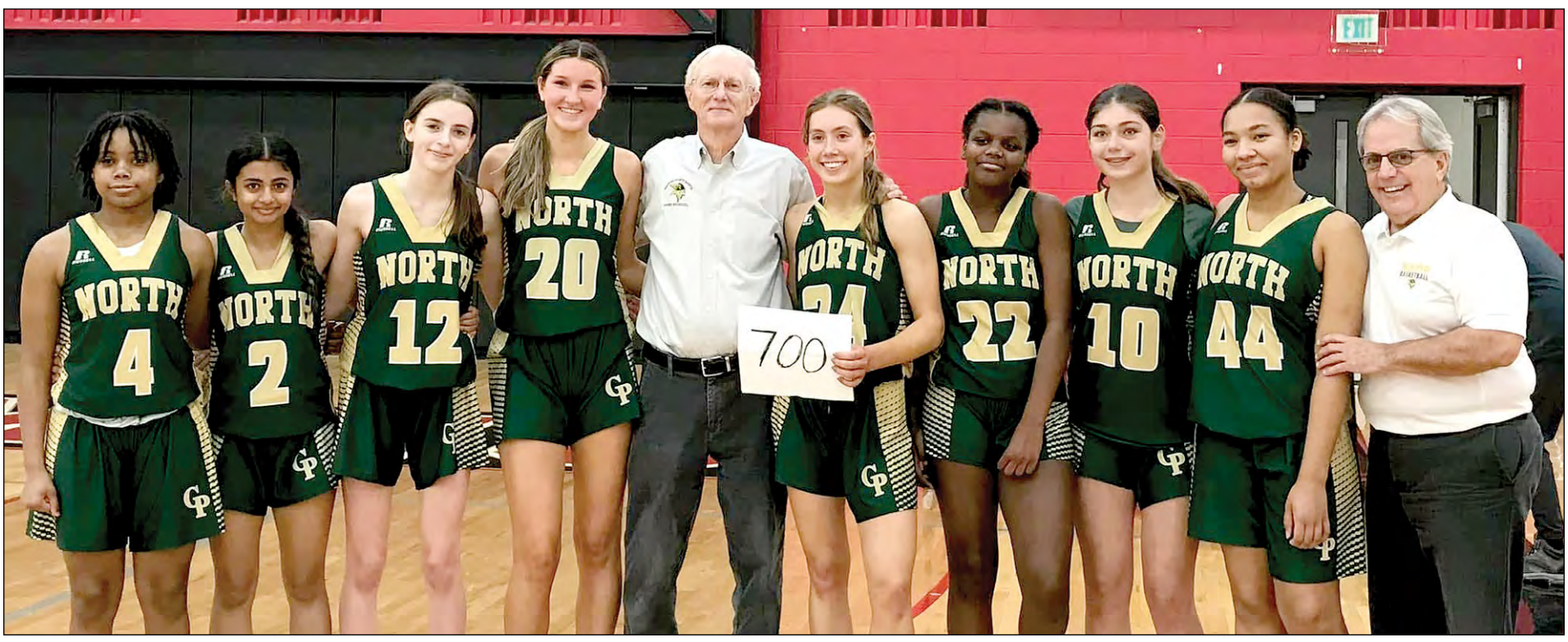


PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE NORTH ATHLETICS

PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH ATHLETICS

North and South celebrate hoops milestones

The varsity girls basketball programs from both Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South were able to celebrate significant milestones last week for their coaches and players. For the Norsemen, longtime varsity girls basketball head coach Gary Bennett (top) celebrated his 700th career win after North defeated Romeo 49-41 on the road last Friday, Jan. 10.

At South, senior Maddy Benard (bottom) was honored last week for being the fourth player in program history to achieve 1,000 career points. Benard was recognized for her achievement on the Blue Devils' home court during the team's game against Anchor Bay on Friday, Jan. 10, after surpassing the 1,000-point mark in South's game against West Bloomfield on Dec. 26.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Stacy takes pride in leading by example

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Grosse Pointe News
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
Gary Stacy
School: University Liggett
Sport: Football, hockey
Sponsored by Pointe Capital Management

For athletes like Gary Stacy, there is never much time to rest. Now in the middle of his senior hockey season, the University Liggett School senior hit the ice a couple of months ago, right after wrapping up the football season, and when hockey is over he'll be back on the baseball diamond in the spring.

In recent years, Stacy's name has become well-known to Knights fans for his talents in all three sports, as he excels in all three of them. Stacy can fill up the stat sheet in any sport he is playing, but what he is most focused on as he navigates his senior year is enjoying every game and practice he gets to spend with his teammates who share the field and ice with him.

"We get to battle with each other on the field and then it never ends because we go right to football season," Stacy said. "Some of those hockey players even play baseball with me also, so you build a great relationship with each other playing for the whole school year, so it's really fun to battle with each other in different sports."

Anyone who has seen Stacy play any sport knows he is not one to shy away from a battle. He is currently third on the team in points this

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY LIGGETT ATHLETICS

Stacy is making his mark on the ice this winter with ULS varsity boys hockey as one of the team's leaders in points.

See ATHLETE, page 4D

POINTE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LLC
A MODERN APPROACH TO TRADITIONAL INVESTING™
Jeff Huebner • Liz Ottaway • Chuck Huebner • Jim Carroll • Heather Williams • Susan Doughty • Carter Sales
102 Kercheval Avenue, Suite 200 • Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 • (313) 882-7100 • www.pointecapital.com
011025

Boys hockey teams look for wins as second half of season begins

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

After battling through the first couple of months of the season, there is still more hockey to be played for the boys teams from University Liggett, Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South. The start of January has the second half of the regular season kicking into high gear with all three teams in action last week, trying to pick up wins and momentum in the new year.

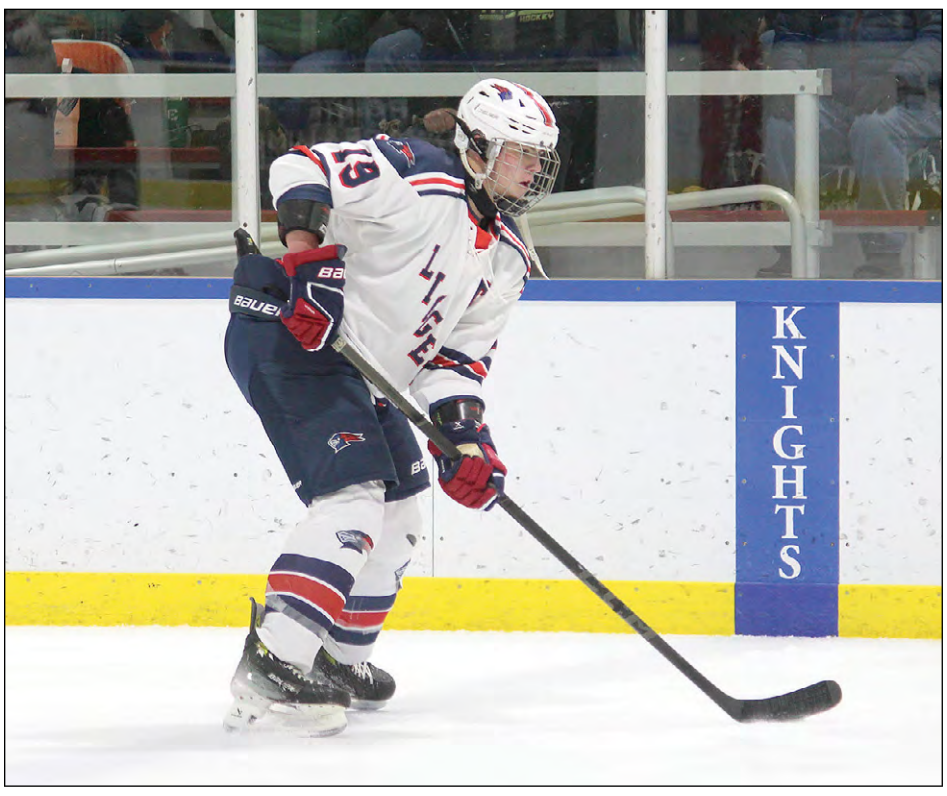
University Liggett

The Knights had a strong week coming off of their holiday break, getting three wins in their return to action. The week started with a showdown on the road against Allen Park Monday, Jan. 6, with Liggett winning 5-0. Nick Gould, Cam Stapleton, Landen Maltby, Andrew Johnson and Gary Stacy all scored to give the Knights their first victory of 2025.

Liggett was back home Wednesday, Jan. 8, hosting Jackson Lumen Christi. The Knights picked up another win, getting the victory 4-1. Gould, Stacy, Griffin Marchal and Drake Griffin all scored for Liggett to secure the win.

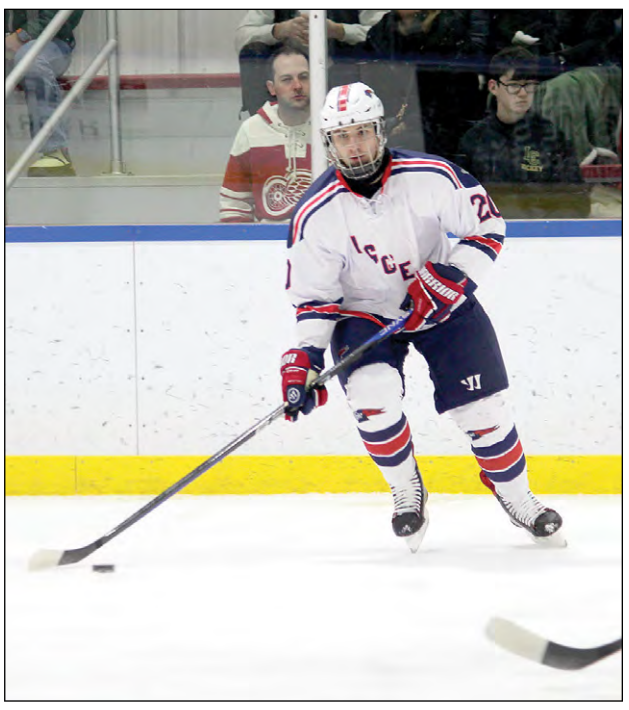
The team finished the week with another road game Friday, Jan. 10, facing off against Detroit Country Day. It was another win for the Knights, this time 6-0, with Maltby, Stapleton, Nick Gould, Alex Gould, Blake Shock and Ryan Cordaro all finding the back of the net.

The Knights took on Jackson Lumen Christi again Tuesday, Jan. 14, after press time in the semifinals of the Catholic High School League Cardinal Division championship tournament. Liggett hosts L'Anse Creuse Unified at McCann Ice Arena Thursday, Jan. 16, with puck drop at 5:30 p.m.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

Senior defenseman Andrew Johnson handles the puck on the blue line for the Knights in a game against Jackson Lumen Christi on Wednesday, Jan. 8.



Alex Gould looks to make a pass for the Knights against Jackson Lumen Christi.

Grosse Pointe North

The Norsemen took the ice in their first game of 2025 on Saturday, Jan. 11, traveling to Mount Pleasant to take on the Mid-Michigan Raptors. North started the new year with a 9-3 win, making the long trip worth it.

Levi Olsey led the team with five goals in the win, while Charlie Mueller also had a hat-trick for the day. Brandon Shock found the back of the net as well.

Up next for the Norsemen is a crosstown rivalry showdown against Grosse Pointe South at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18, at East Side Youth Sports Foundation Arena.

Grosse Pointe South

The Blue Devils were in action twice last week, with both games ending in disappointing losses. South went on the road to face Detroit Catholic Central Wednesday, Jan. 8, losing 8-0 to the Shamrocks. South then returned home Saturday, Jan. 11, to host Orchard Lake St. Mary's in a game that ended in another 8-0 loss for the Blue Devils.

South will look to get back on track when it hosts crosstown rival Grosse Pointe North Saturday, Jan. 18.

Liggett's comeback bid falls short despite late surge against Cardinal Mooney

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The University Liggett School boys varsity basketball team went on the road Friday, Jan. 10, for what ended up being one of its closest games of the season. The Knights visited Cardinal Mooney in a Catholic League showdown and had a second-half surge for what looked like a potential comeback, but the Cardinals held on for a 74-71 dramatic win.

"It's kind of been just like the make-up of our season so far," Liggett boys basketball head coach James Scott said. "We haven't been able to put a full 32-minute game together. Even in the games we've won, we've had some bad stretches or started out slow. We're just trying to build on playing a full 32 minutes and competing all the way because we're right there."

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY LIGGETT ATHLETICS

The University Liggett School varsity boys basketball team saw its record fall to 4-5 so far this season after a close 74-71 loss to Cardinal Mooney on Friday, Jan. 10.

It was a bit of a slow start for the Knights on Friday, with the game seeming largely like a tale of two halves. The Cardinals dominated the first half, leading 22-10 at the end of the first quarter as Liggett was left trying to catch up on offense. The Knights picked things up a bit in the second quarter but were unable to keep up with the pace set by Cardinal Mooney, who took a 41-27 advantage into halftime.

It was not until the fourth quarter, which Liggett entered trailing 55-39, that the Knights really began to flip the script. The Knights' offense came out in the fourth quarter looking explosive and went on an 18-2 run to tie the game at 57-57 with just under four minutes remaining.

The Knights took their first lead of the game on a three-pointer by Nicholas Thanasas to put Liggett up 60-59. The teams continued going back and forth in the final minutes and Liggett ended up with a 70-67 lead in the final minute.

Cardinal Mooney took back a narrow lead, but a free throw

See LIGGETT, page 3D

Grosse Pointe News
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Do you know an outstanding high school athlete?

Nominate them for Athlete of the Week and put them in the running for Athlete of the Year.

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, scan the QR code or visit our website.

grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week

Girls hockey teams return to action after break in search of wins

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

After a lengthy break for the holidays, the varsity girls hockey teams from Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett School returned to the ice last week for their first contests of 2025. The new year brought mostly positive results for all three teams, with a few wins and only one loss during the last week.

Senior captain Josie Cueter scored four goals for the Norsemen in a 9-3 victory against Sacred Heart last Wednesday.

Grosse Pointe North

The Norsemen jumped back into the season's swing with three games last week after being off since Dec. 18. Those three games ended up as victories for the Norsemen as the team looked like it did not miss a beat after its long break.

North hosted Sacred Heart United in its first game of the week Wednesday, Jan. 8. The Norsemen jumped out to an early lead and never looked back on their way to a dominant 9-3 win over the Saints.

"I was very impressed with the way the team came out strong after such a long holiday break," North girls hockey head coach Taylor Shaheen said. "... I'm in awe at how much they have improved. All the girls are having so much fun playing together, which I think has helped grow their connections on the ice. Hopefully, we can keep the momentum going throughout the second half of this season."

North jumped out to a four-goal lead in the first period of last Wednesday's game, with two goals by Josie Cueter and the others scored by Ava Villani and Anne Cleland. Cueter completed her hat-trick in the second period while Paige Martin and Kate Kasuba also found the back of the net to give North a comfortable 7-2 advantage going into the third period. Cueter added another goal and Leanna Phillips also scored in the final period to help the Norsemen close out the win.

The Norsemen kept the momentum rolling from last Wednesday's win into their game Friday, Jan. 10, when the team visited Cranbrook-Kingswood. North made easy work of the Cranes, going on the road and leaving with a 7-0 win. Cueter scored three goals and Kasuba had two, with Martin and Leah Burney also scoring for North in the victory.

It was right back into action for North the next day Saturday, Jan. 11, with the Norsemen traveling to Fraser to take on Washtenaw United in the 2025 Michigan Girls High School Hockey League College Showcase. North's offense was on display in the showcase as the team ended with its third win of the week in a high-scoring 10-6 showdown.

Cueter scored North's only goal of the first period as the team trailed 2-1 after the opening frame. The Norsemen exploded on offense in the second period with seven goals. Two were scored by Cueter, along with two by Villani, two by Burney and one by Phillips to help North pull in front 8-4. Cueter added another goal in the third period with Martin also finding the back of the net as North captured another win.

North seems to be on a roll in the new year after entering the season with some unsure of how the team would perform given the mix of experience on the roster. However, the Norsemen are seeing things coming together more cohesively as the team enters the second half of the regular season, and they want to see that chemistry continue to build, as it could lead to more wins.

"The biggest adjustment would be getting the new girls onto the ice with the experienced ones and practicing alongside each other so they can practice and learn from one another," Shaheen said. "Every day we see drastic improvements from the players and the more they practice, the more comfortable they become in games. I'm also hoping to continue to see the advanced girls come out to every game with grit and determination to be aggressive and control the game."

North will travel "up north" for its next few games. The team will then head to Traverse City for a weekend tournament beginning Friday, Jan. 17.

Grosse Pointe South

The Blue Devils returned to the ice last week after their holiday break concluded. South played its first game of the new year Thursday, Jan. 9, when the team went on the road to face Orchard Lake St. Mary's. The Blue Devils began the new year with a win 6-3.

Ella Smith, Molly Reynolds and Abby Evans found the back of the net for South in the first period as the team jumped out to a 3-1 lead. Reynolds added another goal in the second period and so did Wells Webber as South extended the lead, with Webber scoring again in the third period to help South finish the win.

South was back on the ice Saturday, Jan. 11, facing off against Traverse City in the 2025 MGHSHL College Showcase. Both teams ultimately battled to a stalemate with the game ending in a scoreless tie.

Next up for South, the team hosts Cranbrook-Kingswood Saturday, Jan. 18, with puck drop at 6 p.m.

University Liggett

The Knights played one game last week in the team's return from the holiday break. That contest was Saturday, Jan. 11, as Liggett faced Mid-Michigan Alliance in the 2025 MGHSHL College Showcase.

The return to the ice for the first game of 2025 did not bring the result the Knights wanted as the team suffered a 3-1 loss. Sophia Secco scored the lone goal for Liggett in the first period.

The Knights hosted Mercy Tuesday, Jan. 14, after press time. The team is not in action again until Friday, Jan. 24, when the Knights travel to take on Traverse City.

PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

Senior Leanna Phillips bursts towards the net with the puck on her way to score in North's win over Sacred Heart on Wednesday, Jan. 8.

LIGGETT:

Continued from page 2D

by Liggett's Justin Gibson tied the game at 71 apiece. However, the Cardinals' Daniel Rice ended up being the hero with a three-pointer at the buzzer to give the game a dramatic finish and give Cardinal Mooney the win.

Gibson finished the game with 30 points to lead the Knights. Deagan Barr had 14 and senior captain Jackson Fetter ended the night with 11 points.

While the loss at the buzzer was heartbreaking, the way the team played in the second half of the game showed plenty of positives. It was the type of high-powered offense Liggett has been trying to build and the team is hoping for more performances like it in the second half of the regular season.

"We've scored a lot more than we did last year and we're starting to play at the pace I want us to play where we're clicking on all cylinders," Scott said. "We're playing faster and scoring more points and that's something we want to build on. We just need more consistency on offense since we have some droughts and we need to continue to get better defensively. ... But our scoring is coming from three or four different guys every night, so that's a positive for us moving forward."

Liggett hosted Bishop Foley Wednesday, Jan. 15, after press time. The Knights take the court again Tuesday, Jan. 21, on the road against Shrine Catholic at 6 p.m.

PHOTO BY AUSTIN ALLAER

Liggett junior Deagan Barr scored 14 points for the Knights in the team's loss to Cardinal Mooney on Friday, Jan. 10.

ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

season for Liggett with five goals and six assists through 12 games. While he can score, Stacy is focused on winning every individual battle he encounters on the ice and describes his approach to the game with a word that seems to be popular around Detroit these days.

"Gritty," Stacy said. "... I'm not scared of anything. As a center, I'm down in the defensive zone getting into the corners and helping out the defense on the penalty kill. I'm never scared to block a shot. In the offensive zone, I always get in on the forecheck."

Stacy's senior season has come with an added dose of responsibility. He was made an assistant captain for the Knights at the beginning of the hockey season and is part of the core of senior leaders on the team.

With that responsibility, Stacy has decided to lead in the way he knows best. He may not be the type of player who is giving the team a pump-up speech in the locker room before every game. For Stacy, it is more about getting his teammates to adopt the same gritty attitude he exemplifies on the ice.

"I'm not a really vocal guy, but definitely lead by example," he said. "I try to come in first in every drill. Doing conditioning drills in hockey is not very fun, but I give my full effort so other players can see how important it is to always try your best."

That type of mentality is what helped earn Stacy the honor of being a captain in the first place. It was his varsity boys hockey coach, Colin Smith, who helped build that attitude within him even before he got to high school. That longtime bond between player and coach has helped Stacy learn lessons that will stick with him well after his high school years are over.

"Coach Colin has been coaching me for most of my life since I was at St. Clair Shores," he said. "I've been under his wing since I was 6 or 7. ... We're hoping we can end on a high note together. He's kind of like an uncle. ... We're pretty close and the most important thing I've learned from him is that he always says, 'No matter how you're feeling, always give 100 percent of whatever you have.' It's important to dig deep and give whatever you have no matter what kind of day you're having."

Stacy's effort and enthusiasm extend far beyond the ice. Having those traits helped him battle through his senior football season despite setbacks due to injury at the beginning of the fall. Stacy still finished his final football season with 800 rushing yards and 11 touchdowns and eclipsed 2,000 total rushing yards in his career of just two seasons of varsity football.

"The biggest thing is having a positive mindset," Stacy said. "I got hurt before the season even started. Getting to physical therapy and having the urge to get on the field and play was tough. I worked on different parts of my game and watched film to help me out."

There is no shortage of positivity for Stacy now during the hockey season. Stacy and the Knights are halfway through the season with a winning record and have eyes on winning a Catholic League championship and more.

"I've been playing hockey with some of these guys since I was really young, so we want to have fun," he said. "Winning a state championship is a goal we talked about before the season started. We've got to focus on cleaning up the little things and I think we should be able to make a pretty good run toward the end of the season."

Go Gary Go

- 12 points (5 goals & 7 assists) through 13 games for ULS boys hockey this season
- 800 rushing yds. and 11 total TDs for ULS football in 2024, surpassed 2,000 career varsity rushing yds.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY LIGGETT ATHLETICS

During his senior football season this fall, Stacy tallied 800 rushing yards and scored 11 touchdowns. He finished his varsity football career with 2,323 total rushing yards and 37 total touchdowns over two seasons, including rushing for over 1,500 yards and scoring 26 touchdowns as a junior in 2023.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

PHONE: 313-882-6900 EXT. 4 | **FAX: 313-882-1585** | **WEB: GROSSEPOINTENEWS.COM**

DEADLINES
Please call for holiday deadline dates and times, subject to change.

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY ADS:
TUESDAYS: 1:00 P.M.
CLASSIFIED WORD ADS:
TUESDAYS: 1:00 P.M.

PRICING
Prepayment is required.
We accept credit cards, cash and check.

FREQUENCY DISCOUNTS
Given for multi-week scheduled advertising, with prepayment or credit approval. Call for rates or for more information. Phone lines can be busy on Monday and Tuesday. Please call early.

WORD ADS:
35 words for $25.00; additional words are 30¢ each. Abbreviations are not accepted.
BORDER ADS STARTING AT:
$26.00 per column inch

CLASSIFYING AND CENSORSHIP
We reserve the right to classify each ad under its appropriate heading. The publisher reserves the right to edit or reject ad copy submitted for publication.

CORRECTIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS
Responsibility for classified advertising errors is limited to either a cancellation of the charge or a re-run of the portion of the error. Notification must be given in time for the correction in the following issue. We assume no responsibility for the same after the first insertion.

Announcements

100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLASSIFIED
• B O G O •
SPECIAL
IS BACK
BUY ONE
Classified Ad
25 words $25.00
Get the same classified ad
FREE
the following week.
(313)882-6900 x4

CONSUMER CELLULAR
the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long- term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just $20/ month. For more information, call 1(866)306-6243

PREPARE for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5 Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1(855)773-8191 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Special Services

111 GP MISCELLANY

FREE HOSPITAL BED
You pick up
(313)515-0692
Leave message

Help Wanted

200 HELP WANTED GENERAL

HELP WANTED WHEN IT SNOWS
$25 per hour, snow blowing and shoveling. this is day work- not overnight. Paid at end of shift. Text (313)920-8008 for more information.

LOOKING
for friendly, healthy living enthusiast for 36 hour kitchen position at Sprout House Market in Grosse Pointe Park. Previous food/ kitchen prep experience required. Send resume and letter of inquiry to sprouthousemarket@gmail.com.

203 HELP WANTED DENTAL / MEDICAL

GROSSE POINTE
Doctor's office is seeking a full- time medical assistant/ nurse. Must be friendly and detail oriented. Previous medical office experience of at least 1 year, EMR knowledge and computer skills helpful. Please email resumes to careers@drshaunadiggs.com

Situations Wanted

300 SITUATIONS WANTED BABYSITTERS

ATTENTION:
by MICHIGAN LAW DAY CARE FACILITIES (In-Home & Centers) Must Show Their Current License To Advertising Representative When Placing Your Ads. THANK YOU. Parents- Please Verify All Child Care Licenses!

302 SITUATION WANTED CONVALESCENT CARE

CITA ANGELS HOME CARE
Caregiver services. 24 hour care. We assist in cooking, cleaning, bathing/ grooming, doctor's appointments, errands, etc. Accepting medicaid payments.
1(866)54-ANGEL

GROSSE POINTE RN
Retired Home Care Nurse available to take you to doctor appointments, surgeries, chemo, radiation, colonoscopies, eye surgeries etc. Will stay with you, interpret instructions, fill medicine boxes in home.
Gini (313)727-0000
Leave Message

302 SITUATION WANTED CONVALESCENT CARE

InnHomeCare
WINTER SPECIALS
for New Clients.
Hourly at $25/ hour and
Live- In 24/ 7 at $20/ hour.
Caregivers available in the privacy of your own home.
(586)215-6777
office@innhomecare.net
www.innhomecare.net
Now Hiring

304 SITUATION WANTED GENERAL

RETIRED PROFESSIONAL
with a finance background seeking position to assist Grosse Pointe or St. Clair Shores resident with bookkeeping- paying bills, scheduling/ taking to appointments, shopping, etc.
Call Terry at
(586)202-5602

305 SITUATION WANTED HOUSE CLEANING

AFFORDABLE
housecleaning by European lady. Honest, dependable, detail oriented. Grosse Pointe references.
(313)729-6939

HUSTLE & GLOW
EMBRACE LIFE, LEAVE THE CLEANING TO US

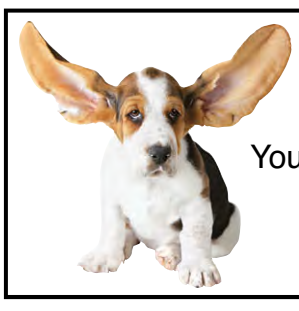
HUSTLE & GLOW CLEANING
Embrace life, leave the cleaning to us. Looking for a reliable and professional home cleaning service? Based in Grosse Pointe, offering a wide range of services to keep your home spotless, including weekly, bi- weekly, or monthly schedules available. Deep cleaning, Spring cleaning, move in/ move out cleaning, or just a thorough refresh. Special offer for new clients. Mention this and and receive 10% off your first cleaning. Contact
(773)414-5277

305 SITUATION WANTED HOUSE CLEANING

SERVING
Grosse Pointe Community for over 20 years, Margaret LLC - Housecleaning and Laundry Service - accepts new clients. For a FREE estimate please call or text Margaret at (313)319-7657 or Kathy at (586)703-0897

312 SITUATION WANTED ORGANIZING

DUCKS IN A ROW
De-cluttering and organizing your home! Closets, basements, whole house. Organize your paper clutter. Home information, notebooks, Medical journals, memory albums.
Becky Schlaff
(313)580-2528
Susan Mason
(313)910-9705
schlaffb@comcast.net
rwmason@comcast.net



Have You Heard?
You can sell it ***FASTER*** here!
Grosse Pointe News
classifieds
313-882-6900

Make more space in your closet or garage... And make some easy cash!

Grosse Pointe News
classifieds
313-882-6900

Merchandise

407 FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
Seasoned Mixed Hardwoods.
Delivered & Stacked
Wood racks built to suit.
Buy partial cord if desired.
Face Cord Delivered $180
or $125 for Pickup
Text only please
(313)417-6034 Eric

408 FURNITURE

TWIN LONG ELECTRIC
based bed for sale in Grosse Pointe Park with mattress and sheet sets. Multiple bed settings for head and legs.
Very Good Condition.
$500 or best offer.
Call Barbara at (313)418-7809.

415 WANTED TO BUY

SELL ME YOUR VINYL RECORDS
We buy LP's, 45's
No collection too large.
We come to you!
RIPE RECORDS
Call (313)469-7479

Automotive

613 WANTED TO BUY

GROSSE POINTERS
Do you have a used car between '60 & '70 to sell? Hemmings Car Magazine has a ratings of 6-5-4-3-2-1 #1 Condition being the best condition. Patrick is interested!
(586)747-9141

Property For Rent

700 APTS/FLATS/DUPLEX POINTES/HARPER WOODS

GROSSE POINTE CITY
Upper Remodeled 1 bedroom flat.
$810 plus security.
Basement with washer/ dryer, garage. Includes heat/ water.
Call Owner Tom
(586)463-2228

706 HOUSES FOR RENT DETROIT/WAYNE COUNTY

HOUSE FOR RENT
BERKSHIRE
3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, clean, ready to move in.
$1,200/month.plus $600 security.
Section 8 available.
(586)636-6301

709 TOWNHOUSES / CONDOS FOR RENT

LARGE 1 BEDROOM
Condo in Saint Clair Shores
Heat and Water included
Carport included
No pets
Quiet Area
$915 Monthly
TM White
(313)629-4223

406 ESTATE SALES

Hartt Estate Sales ebay
www.harttestatesales.com | 313-885-5600

GROSSE POINTE ESTATE SALES CONTENTS, FINE ARTS, COINS & MENS & WOMENS JEWELRY
JAN. 16-19. THUR-SAT 9-5PM & SUN 10-4PM
INVENTORY CONTENTS SOLD AT
17307 MACK AVE. (ACROSS FROM STAPLES)
4 GENERATIONS OF ESTATE SALE CONTENTS: OIL PAINTINGS, PRINTS, WATER COLORS, VICTORIAN, BOOKCASES, JEWELRY CABINETS, 1000 PIECES OF JEWELRY, AMERICAN & FOREIGN COIN COLLECTIONS, FIRE ARMS, MID-CENTURY, DOLLS, TAPESTRIES, BRONZE CLOCKS, BOOKS & TOO MUCH TO LIST.
WWW.ESTATESALES.NET/MI/DETROIT/48224/4347606
CALL MICHAEL FOR QUESTIONS: 313-885-5600

STEFEK'S
Auctions • Appraisals • Estate / Moving Sales • Clean Outs
313-881-1800

BEAUTIFUL MOVING SALE
Friday Jan. 17 and Saturday Jan. 18
9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.
78 VENDOME
Grosse Pointe Farms
This beautiful home is filled with beautiful furniture and decorative items. Check website for photos and details.
STREET NUMBERS HONORED AT 8:30 A.M. FRIDAY ONLY.
Our numbers available 8:30 A.M. ~ 9:00 A.M. Friday only.
Check website for photos and details. stefeksauctions.com
016625

406 ESTATE SALES

MARCIA WILK ESTATE SALES
313 779 0193
www.marciawilkestatesales.com

86 HALL PLACE
GROSSE POINTE FARMS
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
JANUARY 17 AND 18
9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

This is a great sale! There is a nice variety of antiques including a long carved coffee table and nice mahogany pieces, Sherrill sectional, games table, brass tray coffee table, sweet white antique bedroom set with armoire and vanity, oriental carpets, lift chair, large selection of pottery, American Indian pottery, lots of books including art and calligraphy books, albums, Grosse Pointopoly game, women's clothes, sewing, Sun outdoor recumbent bike, McCulloch garden shredder, outdoor furniture, lots and lots more!

Street Numbers honored at 8:30 a.m. Friday
Check out marciawilkestatesales.com to see some featured items Wednesday evening
We accept cash, checks, VISA, MasterCard, AMEX, Discover and Apple Pay
016625

What's Old Is News Again

THIS SPACE FOR WRITING MESSAGES

Sell your Art, Antiques, Furniture, etc. in our new section featuring treasures and vintage items from here in the local area and around the region.

Special Pricing! $20 plus free photo

Call the Classifieds for more details.
313-882-6900 ext. 1

DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

Some classifications are not required by law to be licensed. Please check with the proper state agency to verify license.

907 BASEMENT WATERPROOFING

DeBeers HOME IMPROVEMENT
Basement Waterproofing
313-886-8088

911 BRICK / BLOCK WORK

REDBARON ENTERPRISES
•Chimneys
•Porches
•Concrete
•Steps
•Stonework
•Tuckpointing
•Patios
•Fireplaces
•Brick Work
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

912 BUILDING / REMODELING

FIRST IMPRESSION CONSTRUCTION
30 years experience
All trades remodeling, plumbing, electrical, carpentry etc...
first floor laundry, walk- in showers, A.D.A. upgrades, home offices, assembly projects, Honey Do Lists.
Licensed, Insured, References.
Call/ text
(586)804-3708

912 BUILDING / REMODELING

SAFE STEP
North America's #1 Walk-In Tub.
Comprehensive lifetime warranty.
Top-of-the-line installation and service.
Now featuring our FREE shower package and $1,600 Off for a limited time!
Call today!
Financing available.
Call Safe Step
1(855)861-4501

914 CARPENTRY

REDBARON ENTERPRISES
Wood Rot Repair Specialists
Garage Straightening
Deck Repairs
Crown Molding
Custom Wood Projects
Free Estimates
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

Nick Karoutsos Painting Since 1985
586.778.9619
• CUSTOM CARPENTRY
• WOOD REPAIR & REPLACEMENT
• HANDYMAN SERVICES
~All Work Guaranteed~
FREE ESTIMATES · LICENSED · INSURED

917 CARPET & TILE REMOVAL

CLEAN UP CLEAR OUT
www.cleanupclearout.com
Residential/ Commercial
(313)886-3330
Grosse Pointe
Based Since 2007

927 DEBRIS / CLUTTER REMOVAL

REDBARON ENTERPRISES
Debris Removal
•Clean Outs
•Hauling
Unwanted Items
•Dumpsters Available
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

REDBARON ENTERPRISES
DUMPSTERS AVAILABLE
•Clean Outs
•Basement/ Garage Clean Out
•Debris Removal
(313)408-1166

CLEAN UP CLEAR OUT
www.cleanupclearout.com
•Clutter •Debris
•Hoarding
•Estate Clean Outs
Medium, Large, Extremely Large Projects
5 to 30 Yard Driveway Safe Dumpsters Available
(313)886-3330
Grosse Pointe
Based Since 2007

939 GENERAL SERVICES

GUTTER • WINDOW CLEANING
Insured
Call Tom Micoli
(313)656-9402

943 LANDSCAPERS / TREE SERVICE/GARDENER

DAVE's
TREE & SHRUB SNOW REMOVAL
Tree Removal/ Trimming
Stump Grinding
Gutter Cleaning
FREE ESTIMATES
30% OFF WINTER DISCOUNTS
SENIOR DISCOUNTS
*** FIREWOOD * AVAILABLE**
25 Years
(586)216-0904

944 GUTTERS

REDBARON ENTERPRISES
Gutter Replacement & Repair
5 & 6 inch
Gutter Guards
Gutter Cleaning
Free Estimates
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

HADLEY HOME IMPROVEMENT INCORPORATED
SEAMLESS GUTTERS
Temper Aluminum
Gutter Covers
Insured
Free Estimates
(313)886-0520
Grosse Pointe Woods

945 HANDYMAN

DeBeers HOME IMPROVEMENT
Handyman Service
Electrical - Plumbing
Carpentry
313-886-8088

945 HANDYMAN

GROSSE POINTE HANDYMAN SERVICE
Based in Grosse Pointe
Top Quality Work at Reasonable Cost
Carpentry
Electrical
Plumbing
Windows/ Doors
SetUp and Install…
Furniture TV's
Cabinets
Drapery
Wall Hangings
Digital Based Systems
30+ Years Experience
Joe@GrossePointeHandymanService.com
(313)856-2929

HANDYMAN
specializing in Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning, Electrical and miscellaneous odd jobs.
Lifetime career experience, reference available.
Call Douglas Kehrer at
(586)292-5971

REDBARON ENTERPRISES
We're your **"TO DO"** list handymen!
Let us help you with any plumbing, electrical, carpentry and much more.
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

947 HEATING & COOLING REPAIR

McCarver Mechanical Heating & Cooling
SPECIALIZING IN SERVICE & INSTALLATION:
•Furnace & Boilers
•Air Conditioning
•SDHV Spacepak
•Indoor Air Quality
•Ductless Mini Splits
•Tankless Water Heaters
(586)489-3884
www.mccarvermech.com
FREE ESTIMATES!

948 INSULATION

REDBARON ENTERPRISES
A quiet home is a relaxing home!
Blown in Cellulose Insulation is GREEN, cost and energy efficient.
Red Baron Enterprises, LLC can insulate your home.
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

HADLEY HOME IMPROVEMENT INCORPORATED
Residential
Commercial
INSULATION EXPERTS
Licensed & Insured
Free Estimates
(313)886-0520
Grosse Pointe Woods

954 PAINTING / DECORATING

GROSSE POINTE PAINTERS INC.
FREE ESTIMATES
Interior/Exterior
Commercial & Residential
313.882.9234

954 PAINTING / DECORATING

GROSSE POINTE HISTORICAL RESTORATION
HOLIDAYS ARE OVER
WINTER SPECIAL
30- 40% OFF
•Painting
•Plaster Repair
•Carpentry
•Water Damage/ Emergency
•Maintenance/ Honey Do List
Grosse Pointe South Alumni
3 Generations Serving Grosse Pointe Area Since 1950
(313)880-9961

JOHN'S PAINTING
Interior/Exterior
Repairing:
Damaged plaster, drywall, cracks, windows puttying, caulking.
Fire/Water damage insurance work.
All work guaranteed
G. P. References
License/Insured
Free estimates
Senior Discount
(313)882-5038

REDBARON ENTERPRISES
Painting Services
Interior & Exterior
Floors
Drywall
Plaster
Restoration
Wood Finishing
+ Staining
+ much more!
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

Nick Karoutsos Painting Since 1985
586.778.9619
• INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
• RESTORATION
• CUSTOM PAINTING
~All Work Guaranteed~
FREE ESTIMATES · LICENSED · INSURED

957 PLUMBING & INSTALLATION

REDBARON ENTERPRISES
Plumbing
Diagnosis
Installation
Repair
Hot Water Tanks
Snaking
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

McCarver Mechanical Heating & Cooling
SPECIALIZING IN SERVICE & INSTALLATION
•Standard Water Heaters
•Tankless Water Heaters
•Boiler Repair (Steam & Hot Water)
(586)489-3884
www.mccarvermech.com
FREE ESTIMATES!

960 ROOFING SERVICES

REDBARON ENTERPRISES
NEW INSTALLATION
Roofs, Gutters
Repairs
Siding
Financing Available!
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

HADLEY HOME IMPROVEMENT INCORPORATED
Residential
Commercial
ROOFING EXPERTS
Lifetime Warranty on Shingles
Licensed & Insured
Free Estimates
(313)886-0520
Grosse Pointe Woods

Some classifications are not required by law to be licensed. Please check with the proper state agency to verify license.

Hire! Buy! $ell! Fast!
Grosse Pointe News Classifieds: 313-882-6900 x 4

HITS & HIGHLIGHTS

Whether it's games, meets or matches, high school winter sports in the Pointes are in full swing and the Grosse Pointe News is here to bring you all the varsity action. Some of the week's biggest hits and highlights from include:

PHOTO BY MELISSA SPAIN

NORTH WRESTLING

Grosse Pointe North wrestling hosted the first MAC Gold Division meet of the season last Tuesday, Jan. 7. The Norsemen were victorious over Center Line 42-30 but fell to L'Anse Creuse North 48-30.

North wrestlers will compete in the Clash of Champions at Warren-Woods Tower on Saturday, Jan. 18.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH ATHLETICS

UNIFIED BASKETBALL

The co-ed unified varsity basketball team from Grosse Pointe South began 2025 with a win 61-53 over Warren Woods-Tower last Friday, Jan. 10. The Blue Devils hosted Grosse Pointe North on Tuesday, Jan. 14. Come back to the Grosse Pointe News next week for full coverage of the rivalry game.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH ATHLETICS

GP UNITED GYMNASTICS

The Grosse Pointe United Gymnastics team finished in fifth place on Saturday, Jan. 11, at the Fraser Invitational. Lucy Tull took fourth place in the all-around competition and Jessi Taylor was fifth all-around while also taking first place in Division 1 on the beam.

The gymnasts will be back in action on Thursday, Jan. 16, hosting Bloomfield Hills at Grosse Pointe North.

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

The Grosse Pointe South varsity boys basketball team went on the road last Thursday, Jan. 9, to take on Port Huron. The Blue Devils lost 59-45, suffering their second loss in as many games so far this season in MAC Red Division play. Kooper Richards led the team in scoring with 12 points. South hosted Chippewa Valley on Wednesday, Jan. 15, after press time. The Blue Devils go on the road to face Warren Lincoln on Friday, Jan. 17, at 7 p.m.

Grosse Pointe North varsity boys basketball also suffered a loss on Thursday, Jan. 9, when the team hosted Henry Ford II. The Norsemen fell 49-45, with senior Leo Perettie tallying 16 points in the loss.

North traveled to Fraser on Wednesday, Jan. 15, after press time and is on the road again when the team faces L'Anse Creuse on Friday, Jan. 17, at 7 p.m.

GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Grosse Pointe North varsity girls basketball picked up two wins last week to improve their record to 5-3 so far this season. The first win came over Sterling Heights Stevenson 48-25 on Wednesday, Jan. 8. North then went on the road on Friday, Jan. 10, and earned a victory over Romeo 49-41.

The Norsemen visited Grosse Pointe South on Tuesday, Jan. 14, after press time. North goes on the road to face Eisenhower on Thursday, Jan. 16, at 7 p.m.

South girls basketball hosted Anchor Bay on Friday, Jan. 10, and lost a close game 48-43. The Blue Devils hosted crosstown rival Grosse Pointe North after press time on Tuesday, Jan. 14, and travel to Henry Ford II on Thursday, Jan. 16, at 7 p.m.

University Liggett School varsity girls basketball picked up a win last week on Friday, Jan. 10, when the team went on the road to Riverview Gabriel Richard and won 32-20. The Knights are at home on Thursday, Jan. 16, hosting Cranbrook-Kingswood.

Now is the best time to have alterations or replacement done to your boiler-heating-AC-plumbing and electrical projects that are needed

Here are a few reasons to have it done now.

1. The weather is favorable. Having it done now won't cause the inconvenience of being unable to heat your home if it goes down during these colder weather months.

2. Upgrading your old boiler to a more efficient system will save you money in the long run.

3. Equipment and materials have gone up but who knows if it may go up more.

4. We can handle any other home repairs such as electrical — plumbing — A/C — drain cleaning — drain repairs — waterproofing — flood clean up — restoration — remodeling and insurance claims.

5. We have very skilled and experienced personnel to take care of any home repairs you need. We've been around 44 years.

6. Take advantage of our special offers listed below.

7. We have financing available. 18 months same as cash. **You save money.**

Since 1979 Licensed & Insured

Lakeview

HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING
PLUMBING • ELECTRICAL
BOILER SPECIALIST

lakeviewmechanical.com

CALL 1-800-466-7827

$89 A/C OR FURNACE CHECK & TUNE UP or Combo $159.00
Not valid with any other offer. Not valid holidays, weekends, evenings. With GPN coupon. Must present coupon at time of service.
Expires February 28, 2025

10% OFF ANY A/C, HEATING, PLUMBING OR ELECTRICAL SERVICE
Up to $200. Not valid with any other offer. Not valid holidays, weekends, evenings. Must present coupon at time of quote. With GPN coupon.
Expires February 28, 2025

$145 DRAIN CLEARING WITH CAMERA INSPECTION $275
Not valid with any other offer. Not valid holidays, weekends, evenings. With GPN coupon. Limited time only. Must present coupon at time of quote. Pricing may change depending on blockage.
Expires February 28, 2025

$200 OFF ANY NEW FURNACE OR AIR CONDITIONER
Not valid with any other offer. Not valid holidays, weekends, evenings. Must present coupon at time of quote. With GPN coupon.
Expires February 28, 2025

FREE HUMIDIFIER with purchase of a NEW A/C & FURNACE COMBO
Expires February 28, 2025

011625

HAVE A BOILER?

Make sure it's safe for the season.

It might be a wise idea to have it checked over as the heating season has arrived. Let Lakeview get you ready.

We have been servicing and installing hot water and steam boilers for over 45 years. We have a seasoned trained staff that can take care of whatever boiler needs you have.

We are offering a limited time safety check and tune up for $159.00 for the months of January & February.

Lakeview can also take care of other household needs. Heating-A/C-Electrical-Plumbing-Waterproofing-Flood Clean-Up-Restoration-Remodeling and Insurance claims and much more.

Call for a quote
586-757-2700

5293 LO