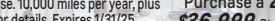


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VOL. 86, NO. 5, 30 PAGES
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JANUARY 30, 2025
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Resolution sought to ease strain between GPAAS, HW

See GPAAS, page 5A

See TESTS, page 3A



Even the sleds hanging on the gate in the background can't dampen our eagerness for spring to arrive. This sign, in front of Allemon's Landscape Center on Mack, throws a better shadow on a sunny day than the groundhog in February. Hurry up, spring. We have been cold long enough!

See RAISE, page 2A

which established special education programs in Michigan, and be dispersed by Wayne RESA, the county's intermediate school district.

Teachers in mildly cognitively impaired classrooms are not covered by Act 18 and are not eligible for the extra pay.

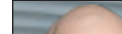
Tuttle said some of the 33 public school districts in Wayne County use the Act 18 money to hire special education teachers at a higher pay grade compared to their experience, while others use it as bonuses.

"It's a concern in every community because this is absolutely a wage war," she

See PAY, page 9A

Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Mike Kozak
 Home: Grosse Pointe Park
 Giffels Webster president
 reflects on first year

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A chill business

Freezing weather did not slow down young entrepreneur, Soloman Scherba. He figured selling hot chocolate in The Village was a good idea the weekend of Jan. 18 and 19.



COURTESY PHOTOS

After raising more than \$100 for those experiencing homelessness due to the California wildfires, Scherba said, “I’m never going to California.”

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No buried secrets on Charlevoix

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Soil borings in preparation for next year’s scheduled rebuild of the Charlevoix commercial streetscape show the district can take whatever comes. “This area has a lot of clay,” said Alex Blehm, project manager and employee of the city’s consulting engineers, OHM Advisors. “Clay is strong.”

The roadway measured nearly 20 inches thick: 10 to 11 inches of asphalt on top of 5 to 8 inches of concrete. “You could drive a tank over that,” said Arthur Mullen, a member of the Tax Increment Finance Authority board and planner for a civil engineering company.

Blehm updated the board this month on a geotechnical investigation of the three-block work area.

“We essentially completed half of the environmental proposal, which is field investigations, property review, environmental review, things of that nature,” he said.

Soil tests also showed no problems, including near 15010 Charlevoix, former location of Whittier Cleaners. An underground storage tank at the site had been known to leak.

“The tank has since been closed and remediated,” Blehm wrote in a summary to the board. “Testing found no contaminants of concern.”

The \$4 million streetscape is a project of TIFA, from which property tax revenue is

retained for improvements and commercial development.

A federal TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program) grant is finding roughly half the cost of the 1,200-foot-long streetscape redo in the Charlevoix business district.

Improvements are intended to benefit the area by:

- ◆ strengthening the business community by making the area a destination,
- ◆ prioritizing pedestrian and bicycle access,
- ◆ improving appearances with decorative lighting, greenery to capture runoff and spots for people to congregate; and
- ◆ transforming the roadway into a curbless thoroughfare, making the entire width functional when closed for special events, such as city-organized street parties and concerts.

“This project entails the full reconstruction and reimagining of Charlevoix from the western city limits at Alter Road to Beaconsfield,” Blehm wrote. “Along with various placemaking features, such as street lighting, a curbless street design, rain gardens and enhanced landscaping, the project includes installation of a new water main and repairs to the storm sewer system within the area.”

“We’re also doing a water main as part of this,” said Patrick Droze, a principal at OHM. “As part of that, we’ll go through each building looking for lead service lines that have to be

replaced. That will help us identify if there are sub-basements under the sidewalks.”

“We will submit (plans) to the state for final review around August,” Blehm said. “If everything’s up to their standards as the grant administrators, the project will be let to contractors for bids in January 2026 and construction in the summer of 2026.”

Terms of the grant require a six- to nine-month review by the State Historic Preservation Office.

“They may have opinions on certain types of materials impacting the historical nature of the area,” Blehm said.

“Things have been going quite nicely,” said Warren Rothe, TIFA director and assistant city manager.

“Now we’re getting into the actual design aspect of it,” Blehm said. “We’re looking for where drainage (and) landscaping needs to go; those types of priorities.”

Community engagement has been crucial to the design.

“We met separately with the public and separately with business owners,” Blehm said. “Businesses were concerned about making sure they could continue deliveries, how construction impacts the day-to-day activities. There’s a feeling there’s not enough parking, especially on weekend nights. The (residential) community also had a concern about parking on weekends.”

Another public engagement session will be held at a date to be determined in March.

RAISE:

Continued from page 1A

tor of Grosse Pointe Shores.

“I’m very appreciative of this community,” Sizeland said. “I’ve invested my time here. I intend to be here for a long time. We haven’t even scratched the surface of our opportunities here in Grosse Pointe Park.”

Councilman Max Wiener announced during the Jan. 13 council meeting that Sizeland earned a \$12,000 annual raise in salary and 5 to 10 percent increase in retirement benefits.

Sizeland’s base annual

pay is now \$132,000.

“This increase ... is for performance and making a deep dive into market rates and making adjustments accordingly,” Wiener said.

All council members present except Christine Gallagher voted in support of both increases. Councilman Tom Caulfield’s absence was excused due to a business obligation.

“You frequently hear me talk about the professionalization of our community,” Mayor Michele Hodges said. “Mr. Sizeland’s been stewarding that for us. He had significant accomplishments. We’re rewarding that and are making sure

we can retain that talent by doing so.”

Sizeland’s goals for this year have been discussed during closed sessions of the council, Hodges said, and will be announced soon during an open session.

“That process is in process,” she said.

Among Sizeland’s objectives for 2024 were:

- ◆ settling a public safety labor contract,
- ◆ bringing online the flood-fighting extreme emergency relief valve,
- ◆ completing a six-year capital improvement plan,
- ◆ adopting a new zoning code,
- ◆ fulfilling state environmental water and sewer testing standards,
- ◆ seeking grants for the Downtown Development Authority and Tax Increment Finance Authority,
- ◆ updating the municipal water reliability study for better water mains and related infrastructure,
- ◆ seeking ways to reduce retiree legacy costs,

◆ working with the new public schools superintendent about the future of vacant Trombly Elementary School,

◆ pursuing cost savings through sharing or cooperation with the Grosse Pointes, excluding consolidation of public safety forces and

◆ overseeing options to renovate the municipal marina.

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Dental pros inducted

Four Grosse Pointe dentists and specialists were nominated for the American College of Dentists Fellowship inductions, which took place Oct. 16 and 17, in New Orleans. The 2024 ACD inductions included, from left, Dr. Robert Stewart, prosthodontist; Dr. John Hackenberger, oral surgeon; Dr. Lois Kovalchick, general dentist; Dr. George Goodis, endodontist and ACD Michigan nominator; and Dr. Brian Hunt, general dentist.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DR. GEORGE GOODIS



Clothing collection held for displaced elderly couple

The Alteration Shoppe at 377 Fisher is collecting clothing items for an elderly couple whose home is a total loss following a Bree Manor Apartments fire that started around midnight Sunday, Jan. 26, and displaced dozens of residents in St. Clair County. Alteration Shoppe seamstress Kim Abraham is good friends with the couple's son. "The fire started in the middle of the night and they woke up and she grabbed her purse and the cat and whatever he had on him and they left," Abraham said. "They went out in their pajamas. The whole apartment building is a total loss." Donations requested are women's large clothing; women's shoes size 7.5; men's large clothing; and men's shoes size 10.5. "It just really spoke to my heart that they left with just the clothes on their back," Alteration Shoppe owner Jennifer Bojarczyk said. "... If they get things they don't need, they can then give it to other people in the apartment complex."

— Laurel Kraus

New officers, appointees

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Members of municipal boards and commissions can be shy to nominate colleagues for leadership positions. Chairmanships come with duties and responsibilities beyond those required of regular members. Leaders of boards preside over meetings, shepherd their group's progress and are expected to have a greater understanding of what is going on. They inherently take on the role of municipal spokesperson and, as higher-visibility representatives of the city, must be mindful that their comments can be valued or misconstrued, sometimes intentionally, in support or against overall policy. It was within this standard that Curt Ralstrom was nominated Jan. 15 to remain head of the Tax Increment Finance Authority and, on Jan. 23,

Patrick Coletta was nominated for another term as chairman of the Grosse Pointe Park Planning Commission. Bylaws require the selection of officers during each group's first meeting of the year. **TIFA** "Would our current chair consider staying on?" TIFA board member Arthur Mullen asked Ralstrom. "Yes." "How about I make a motion that you are our chairman for the next year?" Mullen said. The affirmative vote was unanimous, as was the election of Christian Anton as vice chair. "I would be honored," she said. TIFA next meets 7 p.m. Thursday, March 6, at city hall. "That will be the meeting where we're discussing our budget," said Warren Rothe, TIFA director and assistant city manager. "It is definitely

an important meeting." **Planning** Coletta, a prosecuting attorney, was appointed to the planning commission in January 2021 by Mayor Michele Hodges. Chief among the commission's accomplishments during the last couple years was a front-to-back update of the municipal zoning ordinance and drafting rules governing short-term rentals. During the commissioners' first meeting of 2025, they wanted to maintain momentum by having Coletta remain chairman. But, they didn't want to press the matter. "Can I nominate you?" Commissioner and Vice Chairman Michael Vethacke asked Coletta. "You can nominate whoever you want," he answered. "I would like to nominate Patrick Coletta as chair since he's proven to be such a good chair," Vethacke said.

The vote was unanimous. "I appreciate your confidence," Coletta said. Commissioner Devan Stachecki nominated Vethacke for another term as vice chair. The choice was affirmed across the board. The commission's next meeting is 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 6, at city hall. **New appointees** Attending his first meeting as a member of the planning commission Jan. 15 was Denzel Faulken. Hodges appointed Faulken to fill a vacancy. His term runs through Sept. 30. Faulken, a five-year resident of the Park, is a senior property acquisition agent for the Michigan Department of Transportation. "I want to be an active part of shaping a future where the city grows in a sustainable way — benefiting both its residents and businesses," Faulken wrote in his application for the commission. "My

See NEW, page 5A

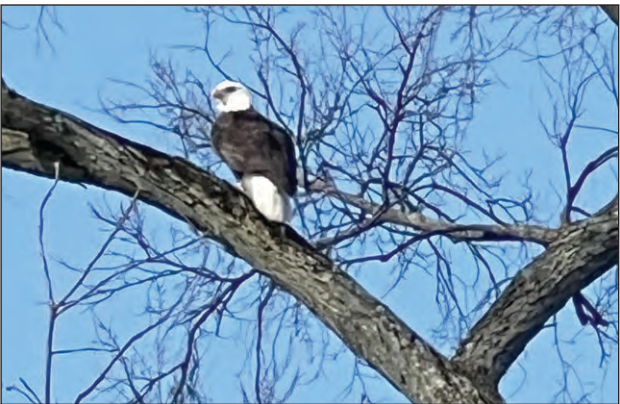


PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY CARD

Eyes in the sky

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Mary Card captured this photo while running errands Saturday, Jan. 25. "I spotted this girl landing in a tree, her mate circling high above, looking for their next meal," she wrote in an email. "So beautiful! Made my day to see this pair enjoying the clear blue skies!"

The Week Ahead

- MONDAY, FEB. 3**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
 - ◆ Grosse Pointe Park City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods rescheduled Community Tree Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- THURSDAY, FEB. 6**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Pension Board meeting, 6 p.m.
 - ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Retiree Health Care Trust Fund Board meeting, 7 p.m.

TESTS:

Continued from page 1A

contributes rather than detracts from the community." "I have attended two board of education meetings since that time to make certain this remains a priority for them," Hodges said. Assistant City Manager Warren Rothe said neither he nor the city manager have received a direct response or engagement related to the resolution. "It's good to remind the school system that (resurrecting Trombly) is in our (municipal) master plan," Rothe said. "This is one of the things our community wants to see." "To the extent there hasn't been movement on that property, it's not for lack of trying from us and the city council," said Michael Vethacke, vice chairman of the planning commission, which updates the master plan every five years. "It's good that that's been documented." "With that said, however," Hodges said, "at this next council meeting (7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 3, at city hall), we're contemplating providing an update and, either at that

meeting or the next, inviting the district in to provide a report to the council." She characterized the invitation as "another accountability" measure. "The more you require those sorts of check-ins, the more likely you are to continue your momentum," Hodges said. The district's update is expected to include at least partial clarification of a population forecast, attributed to updated Census data, showing an increase of 782 children younger than 5 years old in the Pointes. "They (school officials) are actively enter-

taining the survey process, which would reach out to those stakeholders impacted in the Trombly casement area to determine if the anecdotal data lines up with empirical data," Hodges said. "Our community engagement committee has met as well to determine how it can play a role in ensuring a good response to that survey process." Trombly, its lawn, playground and parking lot occupy 5.2-acres of Grosse Pointe Public School System property below Jefferson Avenue. Residential neighborhoods border all sides.

"The facility is critical to the economic health and vitality of the surrounding neighborhood," according to the resolution. Students in the area now cross Jefferson, a four-lane county road, to attend Defer Elementary School, nearly one mile away. The resolution gave school officials an alternative, should population figures not warrant Trombly's reopening, to "effectuate the long-term sustainability of Trombly as a vibrant community asset, preferably as a public elementary school."

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GPAAS:

Continued from page 1A

aside from boarding fees when an animal was brought in.

The five Pointes each have approved their annual usage fees with GPAAS, with the amounts calculated based on history of usage.

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.

Harper Woods, at 61 percent, sends more animals than all the Pointes put together — though some residents argued not all are products of the city, as many wander in from Detroit.

“None of the cities wanted to pay,” Martin said. “I don’t blame them. Nobody wants to pay when you haven’t been paying. It’s human nature. But we weren’t going to survive without finding a way to help sustain ourselves.”

Harper Woods city officials alluded to feeling blindsided and disrespected when the proposal was placed before them.

Though Harper Woods uploads video recordings of its council meetings to a YouTube page, the Jan. 6 meeting in question was uploaded without audio.

“The way it was, I want to say, presented to us, there was this contract, there was no negotiation on the contract,” Szymanski said. “There was a determination that was made by their board with no flexibility. I want to say it was presented to us with a ‘take it or leave it’ type attitude.

“... At the same time we want to see how their budget is set up and those documents were not presented to the city,” he added. “... We’ve asked for some time to study this and we would have paid a monthly allotment. That was not allowed.”

Martin said it was out of her hands to accept money from the city on a monthly basis, being that the legal agreement between the two entities expired Dec. 31. A new agreement would have needed to be drafted, which neither party put any further effort toward pursuing.

She also told the council GPAAS couldn’t go back and renegotiate with the other cities as those contracts already have been signed and approved.

“I think that with their

not being prepared, with my seemingly unwillingness to bend, I think things didn’t go well,” Martin acknowledged.

She reported reaching out to the city manager the weekend before the most recent council meeting to offer an interest in resolution and openness to scheduling a meeting with city officials to flush out the situation.

“He never even responded to me,” she said.

The city’s official statement is that it is not outright done with GPAAS, but is taking time — possibly through February — to explore other options.

“We did not take it off the table, because we are still in the process of talking to other agencies and trying to get everything together to do our due diligence,” Mayor Valerie Kindle said. “It was two weeks ago that everything fell out from the dealings with GPAAS. We met with different agencies and we’re still working with a couple more agencies. And when we have all the answers and can have everything together, then that’s when we’ll make a decision and we’ll bring it back forward.”

Martin echoed the thoughts many residents shared during public comment.

“I know, unfortunately, there are no options,” she said, having noted Detroit shelters already are far past capacity. “We explored that before we ever invested the million dollars in the building. Why would we have done that if there were other options for cities? We were it. We knew we had to step up and solve the problem.”

She has offered to the city one alternative means of handling the stray population.

“My suggestion is that they hire an animal control officer, get an animal control vehicle, establish a relationship with a veterinary hospital and have a means for housing animals until they’re dispersed,” she said, “such as the models that Eastpointe has or Sterling Heights.”

Residents questioned what they should do in the meantime when coming across stray, escaped or vicious dogs.

“You should probably contact the police department just for advice on who to contact, because we’re actually operating without a net right now,” Szymanski said. “We will pick up dead animals. Our police will contend with vicious dogs, but we don’t have anything in place right now and we’re searching for an alterna-

tive.”

Reference to a recent \$1.5 million lawsuit settlement — regarding a GPAAS employee who was attacked by a dog at the shelter in 2020, and which is subject to a non-disclosure agreement — further convoluted matters when Szymanski mentioned it as an additional player in the strained relationship.

“(GPAAS) tried to get us involved in this award and we fought it off successfully,” he said during the most recent council meeting. “We paid a \$5,000 settlement, or the insurance company paid, but we were summoned, subpoenaed and everything else as part of the lawsuit.”

Martin cited the confidentiality agreement in being largely unable to respond.

“I can say, because it’s not a lack of confidentiality, that GPAAS never involved the city of Harper Woods in a lawsuit,” she said. “It would have been the plaintiff’s attorney that sued the city of Harper Woods, not GPAAS.”

City officials have yet to address how they plan to continue the city’s K-9 program if the relationship with GPAAS is not repaired.

The nonprofit was responsible for establishing the program in 2016, and has since continued to raise funds to keep the program running 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 previously noted.

NEW:

Continued from page 3A

interest in real estate has provided me with valuable insights into the community’s potential, along with my own personal experiences living in the community.”

Hodges maintained continuity on the Board of Review by reappointing Andrew Harr and Marissa

Cavaliere to three-year terms.

“The board meets each March to review the annual assessment roll and to hear real and personal property assessment appeals,” according to part of the city’s definition. “The board also meets in July and December for the purpose of correcting ‘clerical errors and mutual mistakes of fact.’”

Grosse Pointe Shores

Nothing to report per dispatch.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Uncrustworthy

An employee of a fast food restaurant in the 24000 block of Mack told officers that when two black females entered the store to pick up a pizza order around 11:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26, they asked for extra sauce.

As the employee was retrieving the sauce, one of the women grabbed the pizza and they left without paying \$18.

Mortgage mayhem

A resident in the 1300 block of Brys told officers he contacted his mortgage company Friday, Jan. 17, and was told to go to Walmart and pay an escrow shortage of

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

\$1,989 via Cash App.

He then received a late notice for the same amount and was told by his mortgage company the first transaction was fraudulent.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Cash App fraud

A 44-year-old Farms woman discovered last week her Social Security number was used to create a fraudulent Cash App account that had 337 transactions totaling \$7,749.71.

She was alerted to the crime when she received a 1099 tax statement from Cash App.

A second resident — a 47-year-old woman — later in the week also reported receiving a 1099

tax form from Cash App alleging she made 411 transactions totaling \$6,739.19. She has never used Cash App and believes her identity was stolen.

Trespassing

A 53-year-old Detroit man, with whom officers have had numerous contacts, again was cited for trespassing at 7:04 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24, when he returned to a business in the 18000 block of Mack where he is not welcome.

The man told officers he only entered the building to get warm, but refused offers of a ride to somewhere warm.

Win some, lose some

Employees managed to stop half of a theft when a man attempted to steal two bottles of tequila, each worth

\$199.99, from a business in the 18000 block of Mack at 3:44 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24.

An employee grabbed one of the two bottles back, but the man took the other and escaped in a black Cadillac CTS driven by another suspect.

The suspect is described as an approximately 6-foot, 35-year-old, 190-pound black man.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Warrant arrest

During a traffic stop for speeding near the intersection of Charlevoix and Beaconsfield at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, Park police arrested a

24-year-old Detroit man wanted on a traffic warrant in the City of Grosse Pointe.

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

City of Grosse Pointe

No license, no lights

A 31-year-old Detroit man was arrested for not having a valid driver’s

license after being pulled over at Mack and Rivard for defective headlights at 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 20.

Running a red

After disregarding a red light at Mack and Washington at 4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24, a 37-year-old Livonia man was cited for not having a driver’s license with him.

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



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Grosse Pointe News

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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

Take a break

With Christmas break not even a month behind us — plus a holiday and two days of school canceled last week due to extreme cold — it is time for parents of local school-aged children to start making plans for more time off.

Mid-winter break is a scant two weeks and a couple days away, running Feb. 17 to Feb. 21. But wait, there's more!

Barely a month later comes spring break, which runs March 24 to March 28. That is followed by a four-day weekend in April, with no school on Good Friday, April 18, or Monday, April 21, which is a professional development day for teachers.

On top of all that, families with both K-12 and college students have to juggle an entirely separate calendar of breaks.

Under Michigan law, school districts within the same intermediate school district must set a common calendar for mid-winter and spring breaks, although they are not required to take a mid-winter break.

That makes sense for a couple of reasons. There are plenty of Grosse Pointe Public School System teachers who live in neighboring communities whose children go to those schools. At the same time, there are Pointers with students in GPPSS who teach in neighboring districts. Being on break at the same time makes things much easier all the way around in terms of not having to worry about daycare for little ones or having to take time off, whether to just stay home or travel.

From a policy perspective, however, school calendars really should be a matter of complete local control, much like when the state mandated that classes could not start before Labor Day in an effort to boost tourism. That idea was scrapped after it was determined people were not spending more money on late summer vacations — they simply shifted vacation schedules.

But we digress. So, what are your plans for these upcoming respites? As our reader poll shows (right), the most popular approach is to stay local for one and go away for the other. Almost half of you, 43 percent, will do just that.

A quarter of you, 26 percent, will make like a tree and leave for both. Another 18 percent will do just the opposite and have a staycation times two, while 13 percent of you cannot leave due to work and/or extracurricular activities for the kiddos, primarily sports.

Even if you do plan to stick around for one or both breaks, that does not mean you also have to be bored. Here are some ideas to keep in mind:

- ◆ Skiing, downhill or cross country
- ◆ Bowling
- ◆ Sledding
- ◆ See a movie (especially easy if you live in Grosse Pointe Park)
- ◆ Skating, either at a rink or outdoors
- ◆ The Detroit Zoo
- ◆ Detroit Institute of Arts
- ◆ Michigan Science Center

If you are planning to travel, there is plenty to consider, especially for those of you who plan to hit the road during both breaks. We have heard it is popular to do a cold-weather trip for mid-winter break — perhaps skiing Up North or hitting the big powder out West — and a warm-weather trip for spring break, such as a cruise, somewhere beachy or Florida's theme parks.

And then there is the cost. Believe it or not, nerdwallet.com suggests booking such trips almost a year in advance. Most major airlines allow you to buy tickets 11 months ahead of time, while budget carriers usually allow bookings six to nine months out.



Pure Grosse Pointe

A few courageous souls braved the cold conditions and took to the ice last week to fly kites, adding pops of color to the day's bright blue skies.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KATE WEBBER

Their reasoning is two-fold. First, airlines have, for the most part, done away with change fees. That means you can adjust your destination or dates of travel without paying extra.

The lead time also allows you to maximize your credit card spending to rack up points that can be cashed in when your actual trip rolls around.

Not that such advice does you any good at this late date, but that is certainly something to keep in mind for future years.

The biggest decision, of course, is deciding where to go and the price tag involved.

Also according to nerdwallet.com, rooms in the Dominican Republic can be had for as low as \$21 a night. More expensive lodging can be paid for with credit card points.

If you are willing to get yourself to Florida, Royal Caribbean has four-night cruises for two departing from Miami for as low as \$340 per person, which includes taxes and fees.

Do not forget to take crowds into consideration. Unless you are a glutton for punishment, it might be wise to avoid, for example, Orlando's theme parks. It will be much hotter in Florida during the summer months, but the parks also will be less crowded, comparatively.

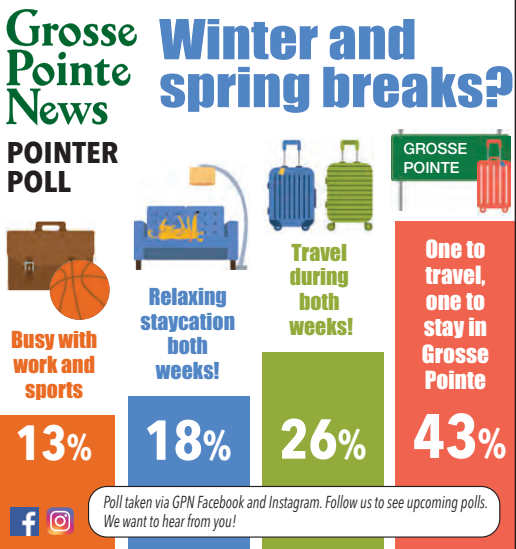
If crowds are not your gig, travel experts suggest picking a location off the beaten path but still in your desired location.

Thinking about going to Germany? Rather than battling the Griswold family to the Nth degree in Frankfurt, maybe check out Dresden. It is a mix of shiny and modern, plus history and culture and is close enough — under two hours — to take a day trip to Prague.

Puerto Rico offers another example. Instead of the crowded capital of San Juan, consider Rincon, on the far western edge of the island. It is quieter and more picturesque, yet still offers beautiful beaches.

It probably also is a good idea to consider travel insurance, especially since you never know what life may throw at you. Such insurance can be beneficial if your trip is non-refundable or if rebooking options are expensive.

If you are traveling for one or both breaks, have fun and be careful — and do the same even if you are staying home. Take a copy of the Grosse Pointe News with you and snap a picture of you and your family holding it in front of a landmark, on the slopes or on the beach. Send them to media@grossepointenews.com and we'll run them at a later date.



LETTERS

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

Misleading the public

To the Editor:

I had held out hope that the new leadership of our school board would prioritize collaboration, transparency and a focus on our students and community. After all it was one of the main themes of the slate of candidates who won the four open seats in November 2024. Unfortunately, the actions at the Jan. 21 board meeting revealed the opposite.

President Colleen Worden and several new trustees demonstrated a troubling lack of openness and respect for all board members. Trustee Ginny Jeup sought to ask questions about a decision made by President Worden and Trustee Valarie St. John regarding which attorney would provide advice to the board. Instead of fostering dialogue, President Worden silenced Trustee Jeup, calling her to order and demanding she stop speaking. This alarming behavior was supported by Trustees Clint Derringer, Tim Klepp, Laura Hull and Valarie St. John, who upheld the decision to prevent meaningful discussion. Later, when Trustee Sean Cotton questioned the same decision, President Worden falsely claimed, four times in total, that the board had voted to bring in the attorney in question — an outright lie to the board and the community.

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EDITORIAL
(313) 882-6900

Jody McVeigh:
Editor in Chief

Ted O'Neil:
Associate Editor

Mike Adzima:
Sports Reporter

Kyla Bazy:
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

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MARKETING
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Ellie Carter

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I SAY By Laurel Kraus

Are we going to Mars?



Among the many statements made during President Donald Trump's inaugural address last week, perhaps one of the least controversial was a declaration that humans are going to Mars.

"We will pursue our Manifest Destiny into the stars, launching American astronauts to plant the stars and stripes on Mars," he said, immediately after which cameras panned to SpaceX founder Elon Musk exuding child-like excitement.

I had the great pleasure of visiting NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston in January 2020 — essentially just milliseconds before the world shut down for a year and a half — via a guided tour that included former shuttles and humanoid robots NASA has deployed for rescue operations in natural disasters.

Most strikingly, the

tour led us into a space that overlooked NASA's former Mission Control Room, from which the first lunar landing was launched and through which the whole world heard Neil Armstrong say, "One small step for man. One giant leap for mankind."

At that time, a representative for NASA told us the first person to step foot on Mars likely was sitting in a kindergarten classroom at that very moment.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration now says it could be prepared to send astronauts to the fourth planet from the sun as early as the 2030s.

Though its claim to fame is being the only other planet in our solar system on which life potentially could exist, it cannot escape association with its most identifiable feature — the color red. Romans named it for the god of war, because red also is the color of blood. Egyptians called it "Her Desher," translating to "the red one." Modern humans have gotten a tad more scientific with the association, anecdotally calling it "the red planet," because the expanse of iron minerals color it as such.

Here are some other fun facts about Mars, reported by NASA:

◆ One day on Mars lasts about 37 minutes longer than a day on Earth, while a year on Mars is almost twice as long as a year on Earth.

◆ The distance between Mars and Earth is always changing, but ranges between 33 million to 249 million miles.

◆ Temperatures on Mars range from -284 degrees Fahrenheit to a far more palatable 86 degrees Fahrenheit.

◆ Mars' atmosphere is 96 percent carbon dioxide — you'll notice there are no trees in the satellite images.

◆ Mars boasts the largest volcano in the solar system, Olympus Mons, which is three times taller than Mt. Everest with a base the size of New Mexico.

◆ Mars is the only planet we know of inhabited entirely by robots (and, yes, this is actually a fun fact promoted on NASA's website).

Also, a trip to Mars could be the new Ozempic.

"Gravity on Mars is about one-third of the gravity on Earth," NASA reports. "If you weigh 100 pounds on earth, you would weigh 38 pounds on Mars."

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1950

75 years ago this week

MANY THANKS TO OUR FELLOW PUBLISHERS: The entire staff of the Grosse Pointe News is deeply appreciative of the honor bestowed on it by more than 300 editors and publishers of the Michigan Press Association holding their annual meeting in East Lansing during the weekend. Basing their selections on General Excellence the newspapermen named the News as one of the three best papers in the Metropolitan-Urban classification.

of which haven't been moved for days or even weeks.

HOSPITAL INTERCOM PAGES FAMILY IN STEREO: Incredible is how Mary Bruce of Maumee Avenue described the strange interference being picked up on the family's stereo receiver. The interruptions weren't typical crackling noises or static. They were of a much more entertaining sort. The Bruce family was picking up a portion of the intercom system at neighboring Bon Secours Hospital and listened to emergency calls and calls to surgery in the middle of rock music, dinner music, any kind of music.

of-way. These boxes are small and easily and unobtrusively fit onto a utility pole. They would then form a communications web similar to the kind used for cellular telephones.

2015

10 years ago this week

DECK BAR EYESORE LEVELED: For years the building that once housed the storied Deck Bar sat vacant on the corner of Alter and E. Jefferson in Detroit. Now, that structure, which is owned by Grosse Pointe Park, is nothing more than a memory, likely making way for a pocket park. Demolition of the structure began Tuesday morning, despite several members of the audience at Monday night's Grosse Pointe Park City Council meeting voicing their displeasure with the decision.

NEW NICU OPENS: St. John Hospital and Medical Center opened the newly renovated and expanded Mary Ann Van Elslander Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and Special Care Nursery last week. The \$12 million upgrade to the 35-bed NICU creates an enhanced care environment for the hospital's critically ill newborns.

1975

50 years ago this week

NIGHT PARKING BAN STUDY ORDERED BY PARK SOLONS: The Park Council put off until one month, pending further study, a decision on whether or not to ban all night vehicle parking on city streets. Requesting the ban was Jerry H. Nissen, of Trombley Road, who wanted to see all night parking abolished, especially on his street, in an effort to discourage the parking of junk cars, some

2000

25 years ago this week

WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS COMING TO THE POINTES: If all goes right, in the next few months, Grosse Pointe could have a new way to access the internet. Attorney Dennis Schermerhorn, along with Metricom engineer Mike Donelon, spoke to the Grosse Pointe Shores Board of Trustees about obtaining permission to place radio transmitter units in the village's right-

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

Silencing trustees and misleading the public are far from the transparent and collaborative leadership these trustees promised during their campaigns. Our community deserves better from its elected leaders, who should be focused on fostering trust, accountability and putting students first.

TERENCE COLLINS
Grosse Pointe Park

The very best care

To the Editor:

Thank you Grosse Pointe Woods. Across the street, down two houses, was a very big water main break. Lots of workers came immediately. All the big trucks. Crew worked well over 24 hours. Then the very best big cleanup. The city kept residents informed.

Thank you, Grosse Pointe Woods, who worked so very hard and so very quickly to keep me comfortable.

AUDREY F. LAWRIE
Grosse Pointe Woods

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Kempf Hogan



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Ca. 1960



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5 Brilliant Cut Diamonds
Ca. 1980



American Trade Sign
Painted Fiber Composite
Ice Cream Cone 42" x 22"



Pablo Picasso (Spanish, 1881-1973)
Lithograph on Wove Paper 1950,
'Paloma Et Claude'



Max Pechstein (German, 1881-1955)
Watercolor on Thick Wove Paper 1947,
'Sailboats in a Safe Harbor'



Peter Max (American, 1937-2019)
Acrylic on Canvas 'Line Profile'

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Woods pop-up goes permanent

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — After planning to open as a holiday pop-up last fall for a few months, Taylor Pettit’s Bird Bee is now open full time at 20315 Mack. The women’s boutique offers what Pettit describes as “trend-driven, neutral” fashion that include tops, bottoms, dresses and outerwear. The store also offers accessories, including jewelry, hats and sunglasses. The Macomb County native started Bird Bee online 10 years ago after graduating from Grand Valley State University with a degree in advertising. “It was more of a hobby at the time,” she said. “Fashion wasn’t even really on my radar.” After selling online and at pop-ups around metro Detroit and across Michigan, Pettit opened a storefront in Detroit in 2017. She transitioned



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Taylor Pettit, owner of Bird Bee, decided to switch her pop-up women’s boutique on Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods to a full-time operation.

back to online after six years, got married and moved to the Woods. “People kept asking me when I was going to open another storefront, then I saw this space from my house, so it’s perfect.” A month into the holi-

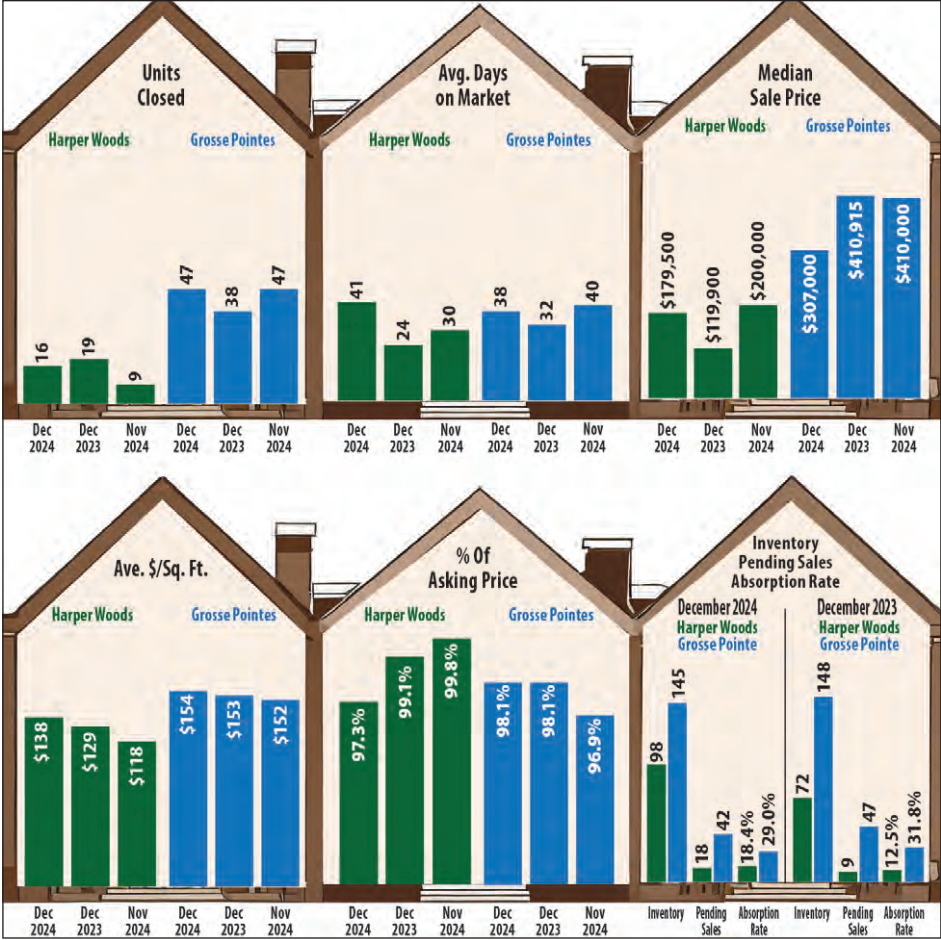
day pop-up, Pettit made the decision to stay long-term. “Someone else was interested in the space, but my customers kept begging me to stay,” she said. “It was kind of overwhelming.” Her decision was final by last November. “I love this area and this is kind of a unique store to have in my own community,” Pettit said. “It’s been great getting to know the people and be able to cater to them.” Now 33, Pettit said her offerings have changed as her own style has evolved over the last 10 years. “We’re a little dressy, but for the most part casual,” she said. “I get a lot of compliments on our selection.” The name also is representative of that selection. “I chose the name because I wanted it to be one part Bohemian, so that’s the bird, and one part edgy, the bee,” Pettit said. The shop is open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. See shopbirdbee.com for more details.

Markets continue to normalize

December 2024 housing data recently was released by the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors. Here are some notes regarding the December data. As markets continue to normalize, seasonality starts to reemerge. Generally, real estate sales are dependent on time of year. In some markets, for example, sales are most brisk between Memorial Day and Labor Day. In other markets, the opposite is true because of vacations. The holiday season is similar and lasts through January. However, despite limited amounts of data, the value per square foot indicator, which operates outside many variables, is strong in all the communities. In Harper Woods, where there were only nine closed transactions, data can be seriously skewed. For example, in Harper Woods, 67 percent of the closed transactions closed at 100 percent of asking price or greater and the average days on the market was 14 days. ♦ Harper Woods: The absorption rate has

increased to just above a balanced market, which still requires smart pricing by sellers and wise action by buyers. It also should be noted that the increase in inventory makes January a great time to be in the market, as competition for homes will be less than it has been in the past. Buyers whose affordability is impacted by interest rates should consider adjustable-rate mortgages and then refinancing should rates decline. ♦ The Grosse Pointes: The Grosse Pointe market appears to be stable with fluctuations in some key indicators, such as median price, impacted more by the price of the homes for sale than real changes in value. What is seen in the February 2025 data likely could be the first time any substantive changes in market conditions might be evidenced, as January remains constrained by seasonality. Conclusions: The Harper Woods and Grosse Pointe markets, which are attractive to a broad spectrum of buyers, is healthy and strong. However, when considering a sale or purchase with many indicators available, focusing on one vs. all data points can lead to poor decision making. This is best done in consultation with an area industry expert, which can be provided by those who belong to the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors. — Information provided by the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors

Notes: ♦ Inventory: The number of homes for sale at the beginning of each month plus the number of homes listed during the month. ♦ Pending sales: The number of accepted offers reported for the month. ♦ Absorption Rate: The division of the number of pending sales in a month by inventory. An absorption rate higher than 18.3 percent is considered a seller’s market. An absorption Rate under 15.3 percent is considered a buyer’s market.



The Whitney Restaurant earns national, international acclaim

“Top Pick” and “Best Classic Restaurant” are the two most recent recognitions by national and international publications for The Whitney. The first ever Michelin Green Guide for Detroit, the 10th U.S. city to be covered by Michelin, named The Whitney a “Top Pick” of places worth visiting in the city. Other top picks included the Detroit Riverwalk, the Fox and Fisher theaters, Eastern Market and the city’s growing collection of artistic wall murals. The Michelin guide referred to Detroit as “a hidden gem booming with culture, art and atmosphere.” Meanwhile, in its recently released 2024 survey of “the best classic restaurants in every state,” Food & Wine Magazine named The Whitney one of Michigan’s “most extravagant special occasion spots ... with fantastic Beef Wellington” and “one of Detroit’s deepest wine lists.” Now celebrating its 39th year as an elegant fine dining restaurant in a historic Woodward Avenue mansion, The Whitney offers dinner service each evening, afternoon tea service Friday and Saturday and

a buffet brunch Sunday, all accompanied by live piano music. The Whitney also offers champagne tours of the mansion, monthly paranormal dinners, unique craft cocktails and assorted beverages in the GhostBar, summertime garden parties with live music and more. “We treasure this beautiful place and are proud to keep it open to the public,” said Bud Liebler, owner of the restaurant. “We love to see out-of-towners, but our primary goal has always been to keep the mansion open for metro Detroiters, kind of as a way to add to their civic pride. A hundred years ago Woodward Avenue was lined with homes like The Whitney, but we’re one of the very few left and the only one really open to the public. We’re proud to be part of Detroit’s heritage and we’re especially proud to be recognized by these major publications.” For more information on The Whitney and to make reservations, visit thewhitney.com/

Grosse Pointe News

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BoE committees to meet

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — Standing committees of the newly seated Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education will hold their first meetings next week.

The Facilities Committee will meet at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 3, in what is known as the Morningside Board Room at Grosse Pointe North High School. The Policy Committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. the same day in the same location.

Board President Colleen Worden said Trustee Clint Derringer will chair the Facilities Committee, with Trustee Sean Cotton and Treasurer Tim Klepp joining him. Cotton owns the Grosse Pointe News.

Secretary Valarie St. John will chair the Policy Committee, with Vice President Laura Hull and Trustee Ginny Jeup joining her.

A third committee, to review appeals for Freedom of Information Act requests that are denied, will meet as needed, but no trustees

have been appointed to it yet.

The committees plan to meet back to back the first Monday of each month. Worden, however, noted the Facilities Committee probably will need to meet more frequently to discuss projects that will be paid through the recently approved sinking fund millage.

For the past two years, the board's committees have covered finance and facilities, policy and contracts, curriculum and community engagement. Each committee included members of

the public who brought specific areas of expertise from their professional backgrounds.

St. John, who made the motion to create the committees at the board's organizational meeting earlier this month, said she didn't include members of the public because people who are not elected "shouldn't be making decisions for the school board."

The committees the last two years voted on some issues to make recommendations to the full board, where final decisions were made.



COURTESY PHOTO

Mason Cub Scouts mark MLK Day

Mason Elementary School Cub Scout Pack 290, led by Cub Master Nick Symonette Jr., gathered Monday, Jan. 20, at The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in downtown Detroit to honor and celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Nick shared, "Once upon a time, the Boy Scouts of America was formally segregated like most other entities. Dr. King's work and contributions made it possible for our sons and daughters to safely attend school together and participate in enriching activities like the Cub Scouts. We are proud to have had so many community members join Pack 290 in honoring his legacy."

St. Clare hosting sports Mass

GROSSE POINTE PARK — St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church will hold its 11th annual Sports Mass during the 9 a.m. Mass Sunday, Feb. 2. All student-athletes in the community are invited.

"Sports has been described as a religion and it seems that more kids and parents are more committed to it versus their faith," Rev. Andrew Kowalczyk said. "St. Clare's Sports Mass is a way of gathering young student-athletes and their parents

together in a place other than the ice rink, football field or gym."

Guest lectors will be former Detroit Lions Tim Walton and Maurice Harvey.

Walton, a Detroit native, was a member of the Lions, Cincinnati Bengals and Philadelphia Eagles during his NFL career and also played in the CFL.

Harvey played for the Denver Broncos, Green Bay Packers and Tampa Bay Buccaneers in addition to the Lions.



Former Detroit Lions Maurice Harvey, left, and Tim Walton will speak during St. Clare of Montefalco's 11th annual Sports Mass.

PAY:

Continued from page 1A

added. "It's all about supply and demand because there just aren't enough special education teachers in the state, or nationally, to meet the demand."

The district currently has four special education teaching spots open, three of which qualify for the additional money.

Further, GPEA members who provide support services in ASD

and MOCI classrooms, such as occupational therapists and speech therapists, will receive an additional \$4,000 this year and next year.

The district continues to work on a similar agreement with the bargaining unit for para-professionals.

Moussa Hamka, assistant superintendent for human resources, told the board there are 17 vacant paraprofessional spots and he had 22 interviews lined up last week in hopes of filling them.

PRIDE OF THE POINTES

◆◆◆
Rory MacMaster of Grosse Pointe Woods was named to the University of Evansville Dean's List for the fall 2024 semester.

◆◆◆
Bridget Clark and **Sarah Rogers** of Grosse Pointe Park were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2024 semester at Marquette University.

◆◆◆
Emily Colen of Grosse Pointe Farms, **Mae Baliatico** of Grosse Pointe Park and **Fiona O'Byrne** of Grosse Pointe Woods were named to the Dean's List at Saint Mary's College for the fall 2024 semester.

◆◆◆
Emily Ann Shea of Grosse Pointe Farms, the daughter of John Shea and Sarah Shea and a graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School, graduated from Wayne State University Dec. 14, 2024, with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. She also has a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and minored in philosophy.

◆◆◆
The following students were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2024 semester at Albion College:

◆ **Allie McIntyre** of Grosse Pointe Woods. McIntyre is a sophomore and member of the Prentiss M. Brown Honors Program.

◆ **Christopher Marshall** of Grosse Pointe Woods. Marshall is majoring in kinesiology-exercise science with a minor in biochemistry.

◆ **Dylan Cardinale** of Grosse Pointe Woods. Cardinale is majoring in biology with a minor in



Emily Ann Shea



Nicholas Miller

communication studies.

◆ **Julia Kado** of Grosse Pointe Park. Kado is majoring in English with a minor in English as a second language education. She is a member of

the Prentiss M. Brown Honors Program.

◆ **Nicholas Miller** of the City of Grosse Pointe. Miller is majoring in mathematics and biochemistry and is a member of the Prentiss M. Brown Honors Program.

◆ **Ryker Mazey** of Grosse Pointe Farms. Mazey is majoring in kinesiology-exercise science with a minor in sports communication.

◆ **Sevi Vogt** of Grosse Pointe Park. Vogt is majoring in biology and Spanish with a minor in history.

◆◆◆
Elizabeth M. Becker of Grosse Pointe Farms received highest honors on the Chancellor's Honor Roll for the fall 2024 semester at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

◆◆◆
Fletcher Klaasen of Grosse Pointe Farms was named to the fall 2024 College of Arts and Sciences Dean's List at the University of Kentucky.

◆◆◆
Manny Caballero of
See PRIDES, page 10A

Grosse Pointe News

THE NOSH

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10A | SCHOOLS

PRIDES:

Continued from page 9A

Grosse Pointe Farms and **Bryan Carney** of Grosse Pointe Woods were named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at The University of Olivet.

◆◆◆
Griffin Klautky of Grosse Pointe Farms was named to the fall 2024 Dean's List in the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Arkansas.



Cassidy Kline

◆◆◆
Harper Wallace of the City of Grosse Pointe was named to the

University of Mississippi's fall 2024 Dean's Honor Roll. Wallace is in the school's psychology program.

◆◆◆
Isabella Kuras of the City Grosse Pointe and **Lauren Lemmen** and **Jackson Rybicki** of Grosse Pointe Park were named to the fall 2024 Chancellor's Honor Roll at the University of Mississippi. Kuras is studying criminal justice, Lemmen is studying psychology and Rybicki is studying banking and

finance.
◆◆◆
Emma Hall of the City of Grosse Pointe, **Rebecca Moin** of Grosse Pointe Woods and **Allie Lowenthal** of Grosse Pointe Park were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2024 semester at the University of Alabama.

◆◆◆
Cassidy Kline and **Rachel Rybicki** of Grosse Pointe Park were named to the President's List for the fall 2024 semester at the University of Alabama.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SUSAN BORNINSKI

Who?

A "very dedicated" crossing guard at Richard Elementary School showed her Christmas spirit by showing up for duty dressed as Cindy-Lou Who, a character from Dr. Seuss' "How the Grinch Stole Christmas." Crossing guard Janice McMillan had fun during the holidays, which isn't unusual, according to Grosse Pointe Farms resident Susan Borninski, who said McMillan "goes above and beyond to give the kids (and the parents, too!) a chuckle every holiday!" One student, Arthur, above, didn't miss the chance to have his photo taken with the Whoville character, especially on the day he dressed as The Grinch.



On-ice action

Above, a group of young skaters enjoyed some ice time on Lake St. Clair, thanks to freezing temperatures last week. Right, from left are Connor Steiner, Jonny Gellasch, Tommy Degemmis, Blake Steiner, Zander Steiner and Wesley Marchal.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NATHAN STEINER



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PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

School Resource Officer Jim LaBeau and Grosse Pointe South High School senior Nate Michaud stand by the vehicle that sports the decals Michaud designed.

Making a statement

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

Unless they are unmarked, police vehicles are supposed to be easily recognizable. That certainly is the case with the SUV driven by Farms Public Safety Officer Jim LaBeau, the school resource officer at Grosse Pointe South High School. “It’s a good way to show school pride and something for the students to rally behind,” LaBeau said. The four-door Ford Interceptor features decals on both sides in school colors with the school name, along with the Blue Devil mascot and the building’s iconic tower. The phrase “Go Blue Devils” appears above both front wheel wells and an intertwined “GP” is on the hood. It was designed by Nate Michaud, a senior, who is credited on the



vehicle’s reach hatch. Aside from playing lacrosse and rowing, Michaud is in Advanced Placement studio art. “I definitely wanted to incorporate the school colors and logo,” he



Above, Michaud’s work is recognized on the back of LaBeau’s Ford Interceptor. Left, a decal for the hood also was created.

said. “I wanted to make it look as cool as possible.” When LaBeau approached Alex Finney, who teaches visual art and design at South, Finney knew Michaud was up for it. “The project turned out well and it was cool to see Nate design something to be utilized in the real world,” Finney said. “Nate has always had a good eye for design and I often work closely with him on various design jobs wanted within the school or community.” LaBeau said Michaud had the final design ready in about two days. “I used photoshop to come up with a few renditions and where to place the different elements,” he said. Michaud said he wants to study graphic design in college, but also is taking an EMT class and has an interest in becoming a firefighter. “It’s great he was able to combine his graphic arts talents and his interest in public service,” Finney said.

Award winners continue to achieve with help from Soroptimist mentoring program

Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe annually gives financial awards to women starting or continuing their education beyond high school. SIGP created Mentoring for Success in 2020 to stay connected to its awardees. The aim of MFS is to pair award recipients with members to work together to meet the challenges mentees face on their educational journey. SIGP recently announced how the following awardees are achieving their educational dreams. ♦ Tonesia Nesbitt, a 2021 Live Your Dream awardee, earned an associate degree in nursing from Wayne County Community College

District last December. She graduated with honors and now is studying for the exam to become a board-certified registered nurse. Soroptimist member Mary Bryk is her mentor. ♦ Jennifer Maschke, a 2024 Live Your Dream awardee from Windsor, Ontario, Canada, is a mother of four, ages 25, 23, 21 and 13. She earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology from the University of Windsor and also graduated with honors in December 2024. This year, she will enroll online to work on a master’s degree in psychology and counseling at Yorkville University in New Brunswick, Canada. Soroptimist Katherine Baetz is her mentor.

♦ Denise Alford, a 2022 Live Your Dream awardee, gave birth to a son last year and will be back in school this fall. Her mentor, Diana Langlois, reported that Alford currently is involved in student support with her local school board in Windsor, Ontario, Canada, and also is a teaching assistant at the university. Langlois and Soroptimist Gwen Shannon, co-chairs of the MFS program, said SIGP continues to reach out to mentees via text, phone, Zoom and personal contact. Previous mentees have graduated and work in the emergency room at Corewell Hospital, assist doctors in cardiac surgeries at Henry Ford



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, Grosse Pointe Soroptimists Diana Langlois, Karrie Blankenship and Mary Bryk attend Tonesia Nesbitt’s pinning ceremony Dec. 19, 2024. Nesbitt earned an associate degree in nursing.

Hospital, work in the mental health field as

nursing field, have given assistance to others with food and housing and have applied to other nonprofit agencies to help them purchase transportation. SIGP mentors continue to not only serve as educational support but also provide emotional support for their hard-working mentees and are pleased to help mentees improve their lives and succeed in their careers. Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment. For more information, visit grossepointesoroptimist.org/.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CATHERINE COLLISON

Celebrating sisterhood

Three Grosse Pointe chapters of the women’s educational philanthropy organization, the P.E.O. Sisterhood, recently celebrated the group’s 1869 founding with a brunch and program hosted by Chapter AO and AO President Gretchen White. The chapters — DB, CV and AO — shared history and the mission of the historic international group to support women’s education then and now, growing opportunities for women with scholarships and grants. Women seeking support in educational endeavors or membership may learn more at the P.E.O. Sisterhood’s website, peointernational.org.

Garden Club of Michigan hosts virtual Great Lakes preservation presentation

The Garden Club of Michigan hosts the presentation, “Conserving the Largest Freshwater System in the World,” with Scott Sowa of The Nature Conservancy in Michigan, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, via Zoom.

Sowa, who has a Ph.D. in fisheries and wildlife, will speak to how the health of the water system intimately affects people’s lives and livelihoods. He also will offer immediate and longterm action items people can all take to protect and improve the Great Lakes. On staff at The Nature Conservancy since 2008, Sowa currently serves

as the organization’s Great Lakes program director, coordinating and implementing strategies focusing on Great Lakes fisheries, coastal systems and aquatic invasive species.

“The conservation of the Great Lakes, the world’s largest freshwater system, is a priority for the Garden Club of Michigan, as it should be for all of us,” GCM President Hadley French said. “We are pleased to be able to make this lecture free and available to the public and we hope everyone who attends will walk away feeling empowered to take action to pro-

tect this great natural resource.”

The lecture is free and open to the public. Those interested should email info@gardenclubofmichigan.org to register. Space is limited so interested viewers are encouraged to register early.

Founded in 1911, the Garden Club of Michigan is a private club dedicated to promoting the importance of gardening, horticulture and conservation in the Detroit area and beyond. The Garden Club of Michigan is a member of the Michigan Garden Clubs and the Garden Club of America.

Artists invited to enter work

An open art call for the exhibition, “Portrait Parlor,” is underway.

The submission deadline is Wednesday, Feb. 5, and the show will be displayed throughout the month of March.

Artists are invited to showcase their creativity through an open call for portrait artwork, whether the artist prefers the elegance of traditional two-dimensional mediums, the depth of contemporary digital illustrations or the captivating dimensions of three-dimensional sculptures. This is



an all-media exhibition installation.

Posterity Gallery welcome all styles — realistic, abstract, modern or

whimsical. This is an opportunity to explore the human experience, capturing emotions, personalities and stories through a unique artistic lens. The guest juror is Roselyn Rhodes.

Artists are invited to submit up to six images using the form found at

posterityartgallery.com. Art must measure 18 by 24 inches or less. Artists should provide details with each submission, including medium, size, titles of work and price.

The submission fee is \$35. For more details, visit posterityartgallery.com.

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AREA ACTIVITIES

- ### Ecumenical Breakfast

The Grosse Pointe Men’s Ecumenical Breakfast group meets at 7:45 a.m. Friday, Jan. 31, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Cost for breakfast is \$7. Registration is not required and first-time guests eat free.
- ### Art opening

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, 240 Chalfone, Grosse Pointe Farms, hosts the exhibition “Subterranean Homesick Blues,” in its Arts Ministry Gallery, through April 6. The opening reception takes place 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31. The exhibition — open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sundays or by appointment — features the work of Grosse Pointe artists Jackie Brooks, Nina Goebel, Kathleen McNamee, Kari Rasmussen and Jackie Rybinski.
- ### 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.
- ### Library

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

 - ◆ Reader Dog, 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
 - ◆ Saturday Drop-in Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
 - ◆ Reader Dog, 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
 - ◆ Meet Up & Make: Affirmation Jars, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 3, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
 - ◆ First Tuesday Book Discussion, 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 4, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
 - ◆ Baby Time, 9:30 to 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
 - ◆ Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
 - ◆ Make Comics Club, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
 - ◆ Teen Leadership Council, 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
 - ◆ Baby Time, 9:30 to 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 6, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
 - ◆ Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 6,
- at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

 - ◆ Capturing Photography with Monica Morgan, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
 - ◆ Getting to the Art of Things with Ashley Menth, 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
 - ◆ Sensory Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 7, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
 - ◆ Hustle for Health Dance Class, noon to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
- ### Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

 - ◆ 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.
- ### Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. John and Dawn Drozd, new Grosse Pointe Rotary Club members, speak. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.
- ### 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 March 20, with instructor Allie Short. Cost is \$7 for members, \$10 for guests.
 - ◆ Social Media for Mature Learners, 4 to 5 p.m. Fridays, through May 9, with instructor Janisse Green.
 - ◆ Upscale Jewelry Design for Beginners, 10 a.m. to noon Mondays, through March 3, with instructor Kathleen Robinson Young.
 - ◆ The movie “Martha” is shown at noon Friday, Feb. 7. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for guests, and includes snacks.
 - ◆ Health for Her at The Helm: Her Heart, 6
- See EVENTS, page 6B

Lt. retires after quarter century on the job

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

It's not for nothing that Lt. Frank Zielinski's wife, Rita, began referring to him as a magnet for trouble when he first took up the mantle to protect and serve residents of the Farms in 2000.

"There was a good six months when I first started here (where) stuff would just happen and I would be there," the retiring officer recalled — perhaps because new recruits get the midnight shift and criminals prefer to operate in the dark.

It was within Zielinski's first year on the job that he stumbled upon a crew breaking and entering into the old Kroger at Mack and Moross in the middle of the night — arresting them in the act — and happened across an attempted murderer trying to make his getaway at 3:30 a.m. on The Hill.

"I'm coming up The Hill and it's 3:30 in the morning and there's nothing going on," he said, aside from a single car on the road — an older model Mercury Capri, which appeared to be driving aimlessly and had its back window covered with cardboard. "I put a traffic stop on him, walk up to the car and the guy's covered in blood."

The suspect attempted to sell a story about his friend getting beat up, but couldn't explain why he left him or what the friend's pants were doing in the passenger seat. A driver's license in the pants had an address to a suite in an office building that existed prior to Jumps Restaurant on the same property.

Officers broke a window to get in and found another man rolled up in carpet with his throat slit by a box cutter.

The victim was found early enough to recover and Zielinski was named Police Officer of the Year by the Police Officers Association of Michigan — though the tale later soured when the survivor was arrested in Eastpointe for his own unseemly crimes a few years later.

Zielinski's work ethic and affinity for stumbling upon major crimes in progress led to his acceptance onto the Eastern Wayne County Special Response Team after a little more than a year on the job.

He remained on the team two decades — anecdotally known for a time as "the ram man" for serving as a breacher with the battering ram — until he stepped down as team leader in 2023.

"Since becoming the team leader, no gunshots were fired by team members during countless contacts with armed offenders," Public Safety Director John Hutchins noted, when Zielinski was promoted to lieutenant in April 2024.

His 30 years in law enforcement — he served at the Wayne County Jail and in Hamtramck prior to the Farms — are sprinkled with narratives that remind a public servant why he does the job.

Zielinski recalled once finding a 4-year-old boy wandering down the middle of Moross. His home situation was as one might imagine and led to Child Protective Services

getting involved, after which he was sent to live with his grandmother in Pennsylvania.

It was going on a decade later when the grandmother showed up at the station with a pre-teen in tow, offering their gratitude.

In another instance, officers had repeated contact with a troubled youth on Radnor Circle.

"The last interaction we had, I had some 'come to Jesus' talk with him," Zielinski said. "And it was probably five or six years later, the father reached out to me and he wanted to thank me, because he said from that day on, his son had turned it around."

Keeping himself busy, Zielinski over the years also led the reserve officers program and the department's special events, served as the field training officer coordinator in charge of training new hires and handled vehicle maintenance



Zielinski sits, for the last time, in his patrol car outside the station listening to his final call over dispatch, read by his wife, Rita, and daughter, Fiona. The women kept the content of the speech a secret, so he was hearing it for the first time. When the final call ended, Zielinski responded saying he was proud to serve the city of Grosse Pointe Farms and happy to have protected, served and laughed along with the other officers.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

responsibilities.

"I can't complain about anything about my career here," Zielinski said, going so far as to add he thinks he was made for the job. "I had a lot of opportunities. It was awesome."

The lieutenant retired Friday, Jan. 10, after 25 years of service.

He was hired at a time when it was common for 400 people to test for two or three openings. Today, it's difficult to get five people to interview for three spots.

"Police work kind of

goes up and down," he said. "People like us. People don't like us. Silly laws, silly this, silly that. Changes (and more) changes. I'm OK with that. I'll really miss the guys — that'll be the most of it. Talking to the guys."

He's holstering his gun

in favor of the ranch life, having already purchased a 28-acre horse farm up north.

"I don't ride at all," he said, but his daughter, Fiona, does.

Thanks to her, the fam-

See RETIRE, page 6B

ENGAGEMENTS



Will Poplawski and Mary Grace Shine

Poplawski—Shine

Jay and Laura Poplawski of the City of Grosse Pointe announce the engagement of their son, Will Poplawski, to Mary Grace Shine, the daughter of Tim and Molly Shine of Fairport, N.Y.

Mr. Poplawski graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School and earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the College of the Holy Cross. He is pursuing a master's degree in defense and strategic studies at the U.S. Naval War College. He is a senior advisor at the U.S. State Department in Washington, D.C.

Miss Shine earned a bachelor's degree in biology from St. John Fisher University and a master's degree in biological sciences from the University of Buffalo. She works in clinical research in Buffalo, N.Y., and currently is pursuing medical school. She also is an emergency medical technician, a job she's held since high school.

An April 2025 wedding is planned.



Claire Rundquist and Austin Clenney

Rundquist—Clenney

Matthew and Julie Kornmeier of Grosse Pointe Farms and James Rundquist of Okemos announce the engagement of their daughter, Claire Rundquist, to Austin Clenney, the son of Scott and Lynda Clenney of Pinckney.

Ms. Rundquist is a graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School and Loyola University Chicago. She is an event planner.

Mr. Clenney is a graduate of John Glenn High School and Michigan State University. He is a golf course assistant superintendent.

A September 2025 wedding is planned.

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OBITUARIES

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

Patricia Ann Hanna

Patricia Ann Hanna, 67, passed away Monday, Jan. 20, 2025.

Patty was born April 27, 1957, the 11th of 12 children of Cameell Hanna and Florence Cavataio Hanna of Grosse Pointe Woods. Patricia attended Our Lady Star of the Sea Elementary and High School. She was an active and talented child who loved classical music. She played clarinet in the school orchestra. She was an active Girl Scout and engaged in community activities at Lake Front Park in Grosse Pointe Woods, where she excelled on the swim team, especially the breaststroke, and eventually became a lifeguard as a teenager at Lake Front. Patty played platform tennis, enjoyed ice skating and worked ice patrol, checking in the children at McCann Ice Arena in Grosse Pointe Woods. During a Girl Scout outing as a child, while horseback riding, Patricia was bounced off of a runaway horse and cracked two of her ribs, which irrevocably sliced into her kidney. Patty lost her kidney, knowing one day its loss might take her life.

Patricia was a brilliant student who was left-handed, sometimes ambidextrous, and

earned a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Michigan with a specialization from the School of Dentistry. Patty was proud to be a Wolverine; she loved U-M. Later, she entered Creighton University in Nebraska and completed a degree as a registered nurse. Patty loved science and medicine; she really knew her stuff. In another era, she would have chosen to be a doctor.

Patricia moved to the Mercer Island area near Seattle and lived there more than 12 years. It was a popular destination with her age group. She loved the beauty of the Pacific Northwest and the outdoors. Later, she moved to Virginia with family and took a government position as a nurse with NASA. Patty also worked at a law firm as a legal medical consultant, reviewing the efficacy of its documents.

Eventually, Patty returned to the Grosse Pointe area and settled in St. Clair Shores. She loved her family and felt safe with her siblings caring for her, especially her sister, Joy. Patty loved Joy and they shared many birthdays and feast days together. Patty was kind, loving and very social. She blossomed among friends, listening to music and dining out. She liked the best of everything.

Patty’s favorite dessert, a cannoli from Bommarito’s Bakery, was her Italian communion on every holiday, birthday and feast day. Any time there was a celebration, it was cannoli time, and lots of them.

When Patty was well, she had a great sense of humor. If she had words with someone, she forgot about it as soon as the phone call was over; she couldn’t understand if family was not speaking to her. She loved them all and wanted her family near during her grave illness and decline. Patty always forgot herself if someone was ill or needed her medical or nursing expertise. There was only one Patricia — bold, strong and invincible. She will be missed greatly.

Patricia was predeceased by her parents, Cameell and Florence Hanna; brother, Peter Hanna; and sisters, Sylvia Adams and Grace Arnold. She is survived by her sisters, Diane Edwards of Falls Church, Va., Shirley Nagel of Grosse Pointe Farms and Joy Hanna of St. Clair Shores; brothers, Fred Hanna (Louise) of Bradenton, Fla., Cameell Hanna Jr., of St. Clair Shores, Dr. Donald “Bo” Hanna of Cary, N.C., Dr. William Hanna of St. Clair Shores and Mark Hanna (Hildur) of Whitehall; and 18 nieces and nephews.



Patricia Ann Hanna

Memorial donations may be made to the American Kidney Fund, 11921 Rockville Pike, Ste. 300, Rockville, MD 20852, bit.ly/4aBvDIZ; or the National Kidney Foundation, 30 E. 33rd St., New York, NY 10016, bit.ly/4geH8r5. Her family said those waiting for kidney donations often wait years — donating can save a life.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, with family receiving visitors at 9:30 a.m., at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods. She will be interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Detroit. Her service will be livestreamed at olsos.org.

Share memories with the family at wujekcalcaterra.com.

Katherine “Kit” Buchanan Greening

Katherine “Kit” Greening, 69, of Grosse Pointe Farms, passed away Sunday, Nov. 24, 2024, after a stroke. Her son, Geoffrey, and husband, Bruce, were by her side.

Kit was born Nov. 30, 1954, in Detroit, to Frank and Catherine Buchanan.



Katherine Greening

Kit was raised in northwest Detroit and Lathrup Village. She graduated from Oakland University in Rochester with a bachelor’s degree in Latin American culture and history in 1976. She graduated from Wayne State University in 2006, with a master’s degree in library and information science.

Kit spent much of her career in the research and educational publishing field at Gale Research. The company was founded by Gale Ruffner in 1954, and headquartered in downtown Detroit for many decades. Kit managed both internal and external sales, including a period when she covered the academic institutions in the northeast. She especially enjoyed traveling around the territory, establishing relationships with professors throughout New England.

Upon retirement, Kit began her volunteer work in the community, beginning as an archivist with the Grosse Pointe Historical Society. She loved gardening and obtained a Master Gardener designation from Michigan State University.

Kit used her love of gardening to benefit the Grosse Pointe and the greater Detroit community by becoming an active member of the Grosse Pointe Garden Club, a board member of the Grosse Pointe Garden Center and volunteer with the Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory on Belle Isle, the oldest continually running conservatory in the U.S.

Her love for history was expressed by her leadership in the Questers, an international organization promoting the preservation, restoration and education of history. Kit served as first vice president of the Michigan chapter and was active in the local Fox Creek Questers. She was instrumental in designing and commissioning a bronze plaque recounting the history of the Grosse Pointes, now located on The Hill in Grosse Pointe Farms.

She enjoyed her exercise classes at Pure Barre and was approaching her 2,000th class when she had the stroke. Kit loved staying fit and enjoyed every class.

Kit enjoyed spending time at the family cottage on Stag Island near Sarnia, Ontario, Canada, and loved recreational sailing around the world. She also enjoyed spending time in St. Petersburg, Fla., in the winter months and flying their airplane with Bruce to distant destinations.

Kit is survived by her loving husband of 42 years, Bruce; son, Geoffrey; mother, Catherine Buchanan; and sister, Ann Buchanan.

A celebration of Kit’s life will be held at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 8, at Grosse Pointe Memorial



Dalton Lingar

Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. A livestream will be broadcast on the GPMC website at gpmchurch.org.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that memorial donations be made in her name to the Questers, questers1944.org; the Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory, 4 Inselruhe Ave., Detroit, MI 48207, bit.ly/3Ctm9Dd; or a charity of the giver’s choice.

Dalton Lingar

Dalton Lingar (nee Peacock), 45, passed away Monday, Jan. 20, 2025.

Dalton is survived by her loving parents, Peter Peacock (Emily) and Julie Palms; five devoted siblings, Bryce, Kingsley (Brent), Brennan, McAuley (Derrick) and Rowan; and three beloved children, Taylor, Riley and Miya.

A true force of nature, Dalton took the world by storm when she was born Jan. 5, 1980, interrupting her father’s first day of law school. As a child, she loved to read and adored each of her younger siblings. She attended St. Joan of Arc Catholic School and then Grosse Pointe North High School.

Dalton was a proud Michigan State Spartan and graduated with a degree in psychology. She completed her education at Wayne State University and earned a master’s degree in psychology. She then embarked on a counseling career that brought her great joy.

Dalton’s greatest joy in life was her children, whom she adored with all her heart. Dalton dedicated her life to loving her three children, always cheering them on in their pursuits and celebrating their accomplishments with immense pride. Above all, Dalton wanted her children to always carry in their hearts the unwavering knowledge of how greatly and endlessly she loved them.

Dalton will be deeply missed yet lovingly remembered by her children, parents, siblings and countless friends who were touched by her warmth and friendship. Her legacy of love and strength will continue to inspire all who knew her.

Dalton will remain forever in the hearts of her loved ones. She will be remembered as a loving mother and friend.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22410 Overlake, St. Clair Shores. She will lie in state at 9 a.m.

Memorial donations may be made to the St. Joan of Arc Monsignor Bass Scholarship Fund, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080, osvhub.com/sjascsgiving/funds.

Raymond M. Cracchiolo

November 11, 1924 - January 9, 2025

Raymond Michael Cracchiolo of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan, peacefully passed into eternal life on January 9th, 2025 at the age of 100. Born and raised in Detroit, the son of Italian immigrants, Raymond consciously sought out new horizons and faced challenges, while always guided by his Roman Catholic faith.

Raymond was born on November 11th, 1924 to Giuseppe and Benedetta Cracchiolo of Terrasini, Sicily. He was the eighth of nine children. As a child he worked with his brothers to support his family, selling vegetables and fruit from their truck, often on Lakeshore Drive. During these early years he developed his outstanding work ethic and deep commitment to his family. Raymond was known for his discerning intellect, humility, keen wit and connecting easily with everyone.

Raymond attended Wilbur Wright Trade School and developed an extraordinary talent as an engineer and inventor. His unique skill set and ambitious nature served him well as he joined his brothers Peter, Sam and Tom in building both Burns Automatic Corporation and Burns Cold Forge Company. Garnering numerous patents, they helped revolutionize the development of cold-forged steel products. Eventually merging with Masco Corporation, Raymond and his brothers would assume executive leadership roles within Masco.

In 1958, Raymond met and married the love of his life, a beautiful and intelligent schoolteacher, Jane Forton of Suttons Bay, Michigan. He lovingly referred to her as his “Jane Girl.” Jane was his compass. Together they raised four children: Christi, Heidi, Natali and David. Raymond loved to travel with his family both in the states and abroad sharing with them his love and enthusiasm for art, music, cuisine and culture.

As a young man, Raymond was an avid snow skier. He enjoyed skiing in Northern Michigan, New



Hampshire, Idaho, Banff, and later, Colorado. One of his greatest joys in life was skiing with his children and grandchildren. Raymond and Jane spent many glorious winters at their home in Beaver Creek, Colorado.

Raymond was passionate about his home and gardens in Grosse Pointe and he poured himself into their beautification and preservation. Friends and family enjoyed his beautiful trees, gardens, greenhouse orchid collection and picking vegetables with him in the garden. A great delight was sharing the Christmastime lighting of the Ginkgo tree on his front lawn with the community. Sharing his home and making memories with loved ones always brought him immense joy. Later in life he would quietly state that God’s natural beauty was his heaven on earth.

Raymond was dedicated to his physical fitness. He skied and played tennis well into his 90s and exercised daily through his 100th year of life. Healthy eating was a priority and one of his greatest pleasures was preparing vegetables from his garden. As a lifelong learner, he began weekly piano lessons at the age of 75.

Raymond always found solace in his unwavering faith and commitment to living a generous life

that blessed others. One of Raymond’s greatest gifts of service was showing up without hesitation to support those in need. His compassion and tenderness toward widows, the sick and the bereaved was a constant throughout his life. As a member of the Order of Malta, he took multiple pilgrimages with his children to Lourdes, France, serving those in need of healing. He and Jane shared a devotion to giving to the local community of Detroit and other philanthropic endeavors: The Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, University of Detroit Jesuit High School, St John’s Hospital, the Rose Hill Center and numerous Catholic institutions.

His legacy is one of love, faith and generosity—a life lived fully and shared abundantly. Raymond is survived by his loving wife of 66 years, Jane; his children, Christi Small (Eric), Heidi Bell (John), Natali Ceniza (Bill Royal) and David Cracchiolo (Lucretia); 13 grandchildren, Catherine Mitchell (Ben), John Bell IV, Thomas Bell, Mackenzie Miller (Tyler), Heidi Small, Sophia Ceniza, Mariana Ceniza, Raymond Cracchiolo II, Salvatore Cracchiolo, Vincent Cracchiolo, Angelo Cracchiolo, Louis Cracchiolo and Elaina Cracchiolo; and four great-grandchildren, Benjamin Mitchell, Raymond Mitchell, Lola Bell and George Mitchell.

A funeral Mass will be held Saturday, February 15th with in-state at 11:30 a.m. until the time of Mass at 12 noon at St Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan.

Memorial donations to honor Raymond Cracchiolo may be made to the Rose Hill Center, 5130 Rose Hill Blvd, Holly MI 48442, rosehillcenter.org; Dominican Sisters of Mary Mother of the Eucharist, 4597 Warren Rd, Ann Arbor MI 48105, sistersofmary.org/donate; or Right to Life of Michigan, 27417 Harper Ave, St Clair Shores MI 48081, rtl.org/donate.

OBITS:

Continued from page 4B

Millicent Marcella Giles

Millicent Marcella (nee Mitzi) Giles, 88, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2025.

Millicent, affectionately known as “Dolly,” was a devoted mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and dear friend to many. Dolly’s bright spirit, caring heart and endless love for her family and community will forever be remembered by those who knew her. She leaves behind a lasting legacy of kindness, generosity and an unwavering commitment to those she loved.

Dolly was born Jan. 14, 1937, in Detroit, the dearest daughter of Thomas C. and Jesse Jean (nee Lynch) Marsden, both now deceased.

Dolly was married to her beloved husband, Lyle T. Giles, June 1, 1956, in Colorado Springs, Colo. The couple made their home in Harper Woods in 1958, and were blessed with three beautiful daughters, whom she loved and cherished.

Dolly always kept busy, whether working for the Grosse Pointe Public School System, touring with The Helm at the Boll Life Center, ushering at the Fox Theatre or Fisher Theatre, traveling, shopping or having lunch with friends. She was a lifetime member of Girl Scouts of the USA, the International Order of Rainbow for Girls and Order of Eastern Star and was a valued member of her church. She was very creative and painted storefront windows when she was young, which led to creating works of art on fine china.

Dolly’s greatest joy in life was her family. She cherished her daughters and adored her grandchildren, always going out of her way to make each moment with them special. Whether it was during the holidays when she taught her grandchildren to make cheesecake or sharing her unique recipes for pineapple fluff and green beans, made just the right way, Dolly’s love and wisdom were passed down with every dish she prepared. She also had a special bond with her cat, Ramses, whose quiet companionship was a



Millicent M. Giles

comfort and joy to her.

Dolly was a woman of great style, known for her love of hats, scarves and jewelry that reflected her vibrant personality and eye for beauty — a carryover from her days as a model and beauty pageant contestant. She had an effortless elegance and a way of making even the smallest moments feel special, from the way she dressed to the joy she brought to everything she did.

Her brilliance was evident in many ways. Dolly had an inquisitive mind and infectious curiosity about the world. She loved playing games, whether cards, board games or any other fun competition that brought family and friends together. Her sharp wit and quick thinking made every game she played an enjoyable challenge and she was always up for a good laugh, no matter the outcome.

Dolly’s kindness extended far beyond her family. She was a caring and giving member of her community, always ready to lend a hand to those in need. A true beacon of Harper Woods, she started the beautification committee and contributed countless hours of time volunteering. She enjoyed gardening and cultivating a variety of plants and flowers. She made an impact on countless lives through her generosity and warmth; her legacy will live on in the many hearts she touched.

Dolly’s passing leaves a deep hole in many hearts, but her love, strength and wisdom will remain with her loved ones forever. She will be deeply missed.

Dolly was the devoted wife of the late Lyle T.; dearest mother of Cynthia Russette (the late Brian), Sandra Gordley (the late Kevin) and Nancy Giles (the late David Borsa); cherished grandmother of Andrew Russette, Amy Stonebreaker, the late Jeffrey Russette, David Gordley (Monica), Diana Cusic (Robert), Brian



William Henry Messner

(Soraya), Bridget Plantrich (Craig) and the late Colin Borsa; adored great-grandmother of Brent, Lauren, Aubrey, Claire, Cas, Lyric, Aidan, Ariel, Archer and Aspen; and dear sister of Thomas Samuel Marsden and the late Catherine “Cathy” Williamson. She also will be remembered by many cousins, nieces, nephews and dear friends.

A celebration of Dolly’s life will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, at Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms. The family will begin receiving visitors at 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, gpcong.org/donate/.

Share memories with the family at faulmann walsh.com.

William Henry Messner

William Henry Messner, 87, passed away peacefully Saturday, Jan. 25, 2025, in West Bloomfield.

Born New Year’s Eve 1937, in Rocky River, Ohio, to Wilford Henry Messner and Marian Cochran Messner, the family moved to Grosse Pointe when Bill was very young. He lived there more than 70 years before settling in West Bloomfield. He graduated from Grosse Pointe High School and then matriculated to the Detroit Institute of Technology (to become a “DITiot”) before serving in the U.S. Air Force as an airman first class during the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962.

Bill was affectionately known as “Bugs,” because he had a birthmark on his face. The blemish eventually faded, but the name stuck and throughout his life people would yell across the way, “Hey, Bugsy, get over here!” Bugs loved baseball more than anything and thrived on the base-



Angeline Rooks

ball diamond for many years. While his body wore out a bit as a first baseman, his passion for the game marched on. Whenever his beloved Detroit Tigers were on TV, one could be sure Bugs was there, taking it all in.

Bill would say, though, that coaching his two boys in Little League over the years was the highlight of his baseball career. With his steady stewardship and moderately talented squads, he won a Little League championship and competed each year of his helmsmanship. His experience and focus on fundamentals was legendary and many benefited from his passion for the game.

He was a gifted salesman for many years with household names such as Hallmark cards, Lenox candles and Williamson-Dickie, of the apparel company, Dickies. He was the consummate salesman who owners and buyers looked forward to seeing and working with because he didn’t push his merchandise on people. His soft approach of explaining the benefits of his wares was years ahead of the industry. He never spoke ill of his competitors and always took the high ground when asked his opinion of the competition.

Bill is survived by his wife, Marilyn Fiori Messner, with whom he shared a blissful marriage of more than 60 years. They had two sons, Billy Messner (Michele) and Jay Messner (Shariese), with whom he remained close. He also was a cherished “Papa Bill” to five grandchildren, Bryce, Mackenzie, Lauren, Armani and Peyton, and one great-grandson, Crew. Bill was predeceased by his parents; and his older brother, Terry Messner, of Port Orange, Fla. He also is survived by his older brother, Lynn Messner of Miami, and will be missed by many nieces, nephews, cous-



Frances R. DeClerck

ins and friends.

At Bill’s request, there will be no funeral. Memorial donations may be made to the Grosse Pointe Woods Shores Little League, 902 Woods Lane, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

Angeline Rooks

Angeline (nee Lamerato) Rooks, 92, of Grosse Pointe Farms, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2025, following a brief illness.

Born July 1, 1932, during the depression in Hamtramck, she was the sixth of 10 children born to Italian immigrants Salvatore and Vittoria Lamerato. Being a middle child in that large of a brood could have led to a life of anonymity, but Angeline bucked the trends at every turn. If there was an opportunity to shine, she was up for the challenge. Her greatest passions were family, art, travel, reading, cooking and football.

Following university, she taught kindergarten, first, third and sixth grade at Salina Elementary School and, later, Lowrey Middle School, both in Dearborn. In many cases she became more than just a teacher to her students and often found herself teaching siblings and multiple generations of the same family. Many of her former students remained close friends to her throughout her life, visiting regularly.

In 1961 she married Arthur Rooks, with whom she enjoyed an amazing life full of art, travel, celebrations and love. They became parents to Helen and Rina, and later, she became the grandmother of Christopher and Melissa. Angie was a loving, supportive and positive aunt and great-aunt who developed interests that connected her to her nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and

grand-nephews.

Angeline is survived by her daughters, Helen and Rina; granddaughter, Melissa; sisters, Rose, Victoria and Janet; nieces, Vittoria, Amelia, Kathy, Maria, Anita and Lisa; nephew, Mark; grand-nieces, Alyssa, Maddy and Brianna; and grand-nephews, Frank, Christopher, Nicholas, Joseph, Andrew, Tadej and Cole.

Services took place at Chas. Verheyden, Inc, in Grosse Pointe Park. A funeral Mass took place at St. Lucy Catholic Church in St. Clair Shores. Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Frances R. DeClerck

Frances R. DeClerck, 96, of St. Clair Shores, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2025.

Frances was born Nov. 22, 1928, in Detroit, to Charles and Mary Stuart. As an avid music lover, her distinctive voice encouraged her to pursue voice lessons as a young woman. Frances loved musicals. The world was warmed daily by her beautiful and strong voice. Her musical idols were Julie Andrews and Barbara Streisand. She participated in various community musicals, church services and, memorably, at her children’s school playing the part of Mother Abbess in the school’s rendition of “The Sound of Music,” among other roles.

Frances cared for her six children and gave them all that was gracious and loyal within her. After her husband, Frank, passed away in 1979, her caring nature and love for children led her to work in childcare.

She was predeceased by her husband, Frank Sr; daughter, Patricia Calderone; and grandson, Matthew DeClerck. She is survived by her daughter, Dianne; sons, Gary (Denise), Frank (Mary), Mark (Clay Vandebussche) and David (Julie); seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

A private service was held. Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, bit.ly/47PrHTz, or the American Heart Association, bit.ly/4jr9tNR.

Worship Service





Saint Ambrose Catholic Church

15020 Hampton
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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

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

Christ the King Lutheran Church and Preschool
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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

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Hair today, gone tomorrow

For the second time, Grosse Pointe Park resident Jonathan Clarke, 11, donated his hair to Maggie’s Wigs 4 Kids of Michigan. Both times he trusted Elizabeth Preston at Bloom Salon in Grosse Pointe Woods to do the job.

“I think he was 9 the first time he grew it out to donate,” said his mother, Teresa Kalinka. “This time, he felt ready for a haircut when we got back from (Australia) this summer, but when he went for

the appointment, realized he needed to grow it a bit longer, so he decided to hold out and keep growing it until now.”

The Pierce Middle School student donated his hair in honor of Katy Wereley, the owner of Mini Picassos.

“She’s fighting really aggressive breast cancer right now and it’s been a tough journey for her,” Kalinka said.



Front and back views of Jonathan Clarke’s hair, pre-donation.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TERESA KALINKA

A neatly shorn Jonathan Clarke is all smiles after Elizabeth Preston cut and styled his hair. The pair hold the braids that were cut for donation.

RETIRE:

Continued from page 3B

ily now boards 11 horses and owns three of their own — an off-the-track thoroughbred, a quarter horse and a miniature pony — as well as eight chickens and four barn cats.

“The chickens are my favorite,” Zielinski said. “... We were paying \$600 a month to keep my daughter’s horses at a barn near our house, so for a few dollars more, I can just own the place. I’ve got 28 acres instead of a third of an acre.”

His new community is not unlike the Grosse Pointes.

“It’s a small world up there,” Zielinski said. “It’s like here, but everyone lives further apart from each other.”



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Lt. Frank Zielinski’s daughter, Fiona, watches her mom, Rita, read his final radio call in dispatch. Fiona then read the last couple sentences congratulating her dad on a job well done. The final radio call is a ceremonial way of recognizing an officer’s dedicated service and marking their retirement.



FILE PHOTO BY LAUREL KRAUS

Frank Zielinski’s wife, Rita, and daughter, Fiona, pin his lieutenant badge during the promotion ceremony in April 2024.

‘Expressions on Canvas’

The work of artist Emad Tammo is on display through Friday, Feb. 7, at Posterity Gallery, 17005 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe.

Each piece in the exhibition, “Expressions on Canvas,” tells a unique story, inviting viewers to explore the emotions and inspirations behind the artist’s brush strokes.

Born in Iraq in 1970, Tammo took interest in art from a young age and grew up up drawing and painting. Throughout his art career, he was featured in various magazines and newspapers for his work, many of which were caricature drawings. While he has spent



most of his life drawing students who continue to and painting, he also follow his work and guidance. While he has spent taught art and had many

Get to know new principal

Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary Club President Sandra Cobb stands with Sara Delgado, principal of Grosse Pointe North High School, during the club’s Jan. 14 meeting at Ford House. Delgado previously served the same role at Kerby Elementary School. A Grosse Pointe Woods resident, she and her husband have three children, each of whom attend Grosse Pointe Public Schools. Delgado shared with attendees highlights of growing up in Pennsylvania and her career in education. She stressed the importance of relationships and connections in her new role. Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary Club members extend an open invitation to residents to join their Tuesday breakfast and presentations at 7 a.m. at Ford House in Grosse Pointe Shores. For more information, email dennis.rotary1591@gmail.com.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBERT GRAMBO

EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6, presented in partnership with The Family Center.

- ◆ Watercolor Painting, 10 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, with instructor Linda Boyle. Cost is \$25 for members, \$30 for guests.
- ◆ Valentine’s Day Lunch, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13. Cost is \$25 for members, \$30 for guests.

Ford House

The Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, March

Grosse Pointe Shores, offers the following programs:

- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Drop-In Studio: Valentine’s Day, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8. All ages are welcome to create a take-home craft.
- ◆ Cabaret Over the Cove: Valentine’s Dinner & Live Performance, 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14. Ticket prices vary.
- ◆ Trivia Night, 6 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 20 and March

13. For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

GPAA

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

- ◆ Incising Marks in Encaustic with Candace Law, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15.
- ◆ Your Old Mansion lecture: New Lessons from Old Masters, 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb.

16.

- ◆ 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 full lotusyoga.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.

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‘American Pickers’ to film in Michigan

The American Pickers are excited to return to Michigan to film episodes of The History Channel hit television series throughout the area this March.

“American Pickers” is a documentary series that explores the world of antique “picking.” The hit show follows skilled pickers in the business, as they hunt for America’s most valuable



“American Pickers” host Mike Wolfe.

antiques. They get excited to find historically significant or rare items, in addition to unforgettable characters and their collections.

As they hit the back roads from coast to coast, the Pickers are on a mission to recycle and rescue forgotten relics. Along the way, they want to meet characters with amazing stories and fun items. They hope to give historically significant objects a new lease on life while learning a thing or two about America’s past along the way.

They’ve seen a lot of rusty gold over the years and always look to discover something they’ve never seen before. They are ready to find extraordinary items and hear fascinating tales about them.

The TV show is looking for



“American Pickers” features, from left, Jon Szalay, Robbie Wolfe, Danielle Colby and Mike Wolfe.

COURTESY PHOTOS

leads and would love to explore hidden treasures. Those who have a unique item, story to tell and are ready to sell are encouraged to reach out; however, the Pickers DO NOT pick stores, flea markets, malls, auction businesses, museums or anything open to the public. If interested, send name, phone number, location and description of the collection, with photos, to: americanpickers@cineflix.com or call (646) 493-2184.



ASK THE EXPERTS By Dr. Arshpreet Saraan

Weight loss injectables

Weight loss injectables have been making headlines in the papers and across social media the past couple of years, but how much do we really know about them?

Ozempic, Wegovy, Mounjaro and Zepbound are the injectables that have recently gained popularity. What’s the difference between them? Are they all the same? Ozempic and Wegovy are different brand names for the same injectable, semaglutide, while Mounjaro and Zepbound are different brand names for the same injectable, tirzepatide. Ozempic and Mounjaro were approved for management of Type 2 diabetes while their counterparts, Wegovy and Zepbound, are approved for weight management for patients with a BMI greater than 30.

These injectables are administered once weekly and work by increasing satiety and slowing the transit of food in your intestines. You will ultimately feel full quicker and stay full for a longer period of time. While the injectables originally were meant to be used for adults, given the rise in pediatric obesity they can be used for pediatric patients age 12 and older with a qualifying BMI. Contraindications for these injectables include a personal history of pancreatitis or personal/family history of medullary thyroid cancer or multiple endocrine neoplasia



2A or 2B. The injectables also are contraindicated during pregnancy.

Weight loss injectables do not come without the risk of side effects. The side effect profile includes, but is not limited to, increased heart rate, nausea, gastroparesis, pancreatitis, acute kidney injury, gallstones, hypoglycemia/low sugar and possible small bowel obstruction. There has not been enough research done yet to know what possible long-term side effects these injectables may have on the body. Additionally, there is not enough research yet to know how long patients should be on these injectables. The current practice in medicine is to titrate the dose every four weeks to the most effective dose for a patient to lose weight and, once the patient’s goal weight is reached, begin working toward discontinuing the injectable. This also is time for patients to work on diet and exercise lifestyle modifications to help prevent weight gain post discontinuation of the injectable.

As these injectables continue to gain popularity, insurance approval has been increasingly difficult for obesity.

Obtaining the actual medication also has been increasingly difficult given many of them are on national backorder. Despite these obstacles, the injectables continue to rise in popularity and we continue to learn more about them as a community. They are making a huge impact on the way we can tackle the disease of obesity and the Type 2 diabetes it can cause.

Dr. Arshpreet Saraan practices family medicine at Corewell Health East-Grosse Pointe. Her interests include community medicine, psychiatry, behavioral medicine and social disparities in healthcare. For more information, visit corewellhealth.org.

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



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Dreading job and ready for a change



Dear Gabby: I hate my job. Every day feels like a grind and I’m starting to dread going to work. I feel stuck because I need the paycheck, but I don’t know what to do next and how to get out of this. What is the best way to move forward? — Trapped in the City

Dear Trapped: First off, what exactly makes you hate your job? Is it the tasks, the industry, the environment or something else? Pinpointing what’s causing the dread will help you figure out if this is fixable.

While you are figuring out what the problem is with your current job, sometimes it is very freeing and helpful for the mind to start planning your next move. Update your resume, refresh your LinkedIn profile and start researching industries and jobs that get you excited. Do you need new or different skills? How about taking an online course or checking out some books from the library? While you are working on clarifying the issues and preparing for a potential change,

be careful not to trash talk your current job at work or on social media. Instead, confide in a trusted friend or family member about how you feel. It’s healthy to get it out, but you don’t want it to bite you professionally. Remember, if you decide to leave, you likely will want a good reference. Finally, try taking a few small risks. If there’s something you always wanted to try, maybe now is a good time to dip your toes. Maybe it’s a freelance gig, starting a side hus-

tle doing something you love or exploring a totally new field. Sometimes doing these things can reignite your passion and give you hope. Hating your job doesn’t have to be permanent. With a little strategy and some patience, you can survive the rough patch and set yourself up for a future you’ll look forward to.

— Gabby

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

Friend feels forgotten after surgery

DEAR ANNIE: I value your advice and would like your opinion. I recently had hip replacement surgery. I now have mobility issues and cannot perform many tasks that I could in the past. I cannot walk now without a walker. I had a friend who I thought was a close friend. We live about half a block from each other. In the past, when she had surgery and was recovering from cancer treatments, I took her to the hospital, prepared meals and supported her. She’s a widow with no

family here in town. After my recent surgery, she didn’t visit or call. We have a mutual friend who had a birthday while I was recovering, and they went to lunch without inviting me. Before my surgery, I offered my friend a ride to church, but she declined, saying she liked to go early to have coffee. She didn’t offer me a ride. I had even taken her some fruit and vegetables shortly before my surgery. She invited me in and mentioned she was about to go eat with

friends. She only invited me then because I happened to be there, but I declined since I had groceries in the car. She knew I was released and home from the hospital but only contacted me once. I would have enjoyed just visiting with her and having coffee. I can’t imagine why I haven’t heard from her. When other friends have asked her how I’ve been doing since my surgery, she’s apparently claimed she didn’t realize I’d already had my procedure. Later, when I was get-

ting out and going places again, a group of our friends went out to eat. She called afterward to ask if she could stop by. I told her I had a conflict because I was hurt she hadn’t asked me to join them in the meal. Was I wrong to feel this way? — Recovering and Forgotten

DEAR RECOVERING: It’s likely your friend doesn’t realize how her exclusions and actions, or in actions, rather, have built up to be so impactful. Either way, intentional or not, your



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

feelings are valid. It’s hurtful when it feels like the balance that friendship requires is uneven, especially when you are in a time of need. The next time you two have some one-on-one time together, share how much you’ve missed her and how her lack of presence during your recovery has felt — especially given the effort you’ve

made to support her in the past. It might feel a little awkward at first, but communication and honesty are two of your best tools for getting your friendship back on track. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2024 CREATORS.COM

Espresso martini, it’s still as popular as ever

Health, wealth and happiness: three things most people strive for in one way or another. We will circle back to these words later.

In 1983, a well-known London bartender by the name of Dick Bradsell was asked by a patron at his place of work, Soho Brasserie, to make her a

drink that would keep her awake and ensure she would have a “fun evening.” Up for the challenge, Bradsell combined vodka, freshly brewed

espresso, coffee liqueur and simple (sugar) syrup, creating a now-iconic cocktail, known then as a vodka espresso and decades later, the espresso martini.

The history behind this cocktail states it became popular in the late 1980s to early 1990s. Bradsell originally served it in a martini glass simply because it was the quickest glass to grab other than a rocks glass, which is notably more masculine. This played a role in its evolving name as well, even though there was no gin or vermouth involved. It had its second resurgence in the mid-2000s when craft cocktails were becoming more popular. In 2024, the No. 1 song on pop charts was “Espresso” by Sabrina Carpenter and the espresso martini was the most-poured cocktail of the year. Maybe a coincidence, but if I’m being honest, my circle of girlfriends and I definitely contributed to those pours, especially over the holidays! One thing I quickly learned was that every bartender makes them slightly different. Around town, we have many locations that offer this beauty on their cocktail menus. Some places, it’s even their signature drink, most commonly enjoyed in its classic form: vodka, Kahlúa (coffee liqueur) and espresso, with a frothy foam top called crema, which is made two different ways. For a creamier version, it’s a process of combining heavy cream and buttermilk. Alternatively, forcing hot water through coffee/



Food Gossip

by Nina Taormina

espresso beans at a high force emulsifies the oils in the beans, creating airy bubbles that create the frothier version. Finally, it’s topped with three coffee bean accents and served as an after-dinner drink.



Zef's Dockside.

Seasonal variations also became popular, from pumpkin and cinnamon espresso martinis in the fall — shoutout to Zef’s Dockside on the Nautical Mile and Old Pony Martini Bar in The Village — to a cannoli-flavored espresso martini over holiday season — I’m looking at you, Pastaio in The Village. On the same block, Shift Kitchen & Cocktails’ version looks as amazing as it tastes. Fly Leaf on The Hill prepares its signature specialty with its very own brewed espresso, while Pendy’s on Mack Avenue has a creamy consistency



COURTESY PHOTO

Pendy's.

that perfectly balances the liquor and bitterness of the espresso. The Brine in Grosse Pointe Park has a different version of its “dessert cocktail” that patrons rave about: rye whiskey, espresso liqueur, Averna, Frangelico and allspice dram. It’s definitely on my list!



COURTESY PHOTO

Cellar 313.

To its neighbors across the street at Cellar 313, I don’t know what your trick is, but yours has always

See FOOD , page 5C

Long May He Reign?

the
Lion in
Winter

By James Goldman

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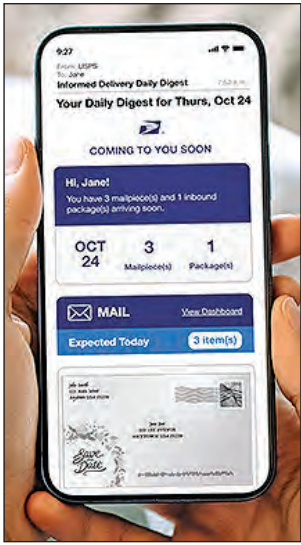
PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE THEATRE

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer

For once, an installment of We Tried It! that doesn't involve using a credit card. It's a miracle! I heard about the Informed Delivery service from the U.S. Postal Service from a coworker; she said she could see what mail she was getting before it even got delivered. I had to try it. Gone are the days of anxiously checking the mailbox at my house when I pull into the driveway after work. Now I can log in and peek online. Part of me thinks

it's a little sad to miss the excitement of a mailbox surprise, but the practical side of me appreciates knowing a check got delivered or a gift I was expecting made it on time. It's also nice taking a look when we are running late or on vacation. To get started all I had to do was go to usps.com/manage/informed-delivery.htm. I created an account, verified my identity and had it set up in about two minutes. Now I can log in, use the app or check my email



for mail and package updates. Another cool perk is you can now register your digital signature online. That means USPS will leave a package at your house even if there's a signature required. If you're like me, you miss the delivery person by two minutes and either have to go 20 miles to pick up your package or they come back two days later when you are gone again and you miss your package a second time. Now this is a feature I

can get behind. And if that wasn't cool enough, you can also track your shipped packages in the same place as well. All of this will save me a lot of time trying to find receipts and typing them into my phone browser to see where they are. The website lists several other perks of this free service, but nothing that stood out to me like the features listed here. Check it out! We are giving this 5

out of 5 alligators. It works and can help make your life a little easier.

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.



Italian sushi

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

This idea for healthy snacking is currently taking over the internet. So naturally, I had to try it out. This is a healthy cross-cultural take on sushi! Prosciutto takes the place of nori and mozzarella, greens and tomatoes take over the filling. Who needs soy sauce when you can use balsamic glaze which can now be found in most grocery stores. This recipe is quick to pull together and easy to make. I used peppery arugula, sun dried tomatoes and creamy fresh mozzarella for the perfect "caprese salad" feel. Whole basil leaves are necessary for a bright, fresh and fragrant Italian bite. There are so many ways you can fill these rolls. You could add roasted peppers, olives and pesto. You could also add leftover risotto on top of the prosciutto for more of a true take on sushi. But I'm keeping it light this week because I ate too many shotgun shells last week.

I recommend these rolls as a healthier companion to the typical Super Bowl fare. The best part is that they keep well on the plate and don't get soggy or wilted.

Cheers, Mombeau

Caprese Stuffed Prosciutto Rolls
(12-14 pieces)

12 slices prosciutto

2-3 big handfuls arugula

8 oz fresh mozzarella, sliced into 1/2 inch strips

10-12 sun dried tomatoes

12 basil leaves

2 tbsp olive oil

Coarse salt and pepper

Balsamic glaze for drizzling

Lay about a foot long piece of saran wrap on your work surface. Gently lay six pieces of prosciutto down lengthwise, overlap-

ping by about 1 inch. Add a large handful of arugula down in the center. Sprinkle with a pinch of coarse salt and a few cracks of black pepper. Drizzle with 1 tablespoon of olive oil. Next, lay half of the mozzarella strips over the arugula and then place half of the tomatoes and basil over top. To finish, gently drizzle with the balsamic glaze from end to end. To roll, lift up the bottom end of the saran wrap and begin to guide the prosciutto over itself, making sure it isn't sticking to the plastic. Keep rolling and squeezing until you have a neat and tight log. Make sure you haven't rolled the plastic up into the center. Cut into about 1 inch pieces while the plastic wrap is still wrapped around. This will ensure it doesn't come apart. You can easily peel the plastic away once cut. Drizzle extra balsamic glaze over top before serving. Repeat instructions for the second roll.



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON



Chenin Blanc

Fifty years ago, the most popular wine in this country was a fresh, flowery white that was never intended to be aged and sold so fast that it was often out of stock long before a year was up. It was made by a Napa Valley winery that eventually couldn't supply the consumer demand and couldn't increase production because Napa had a limited supply of grapes. The wine wasn't a chardonnay, a sauvignon blanc or a pinot gris. It was made by Charles Krug Winery and it had roughly 2 percent residual sugar, so it was a bit sweet. The grape variety used to make this wine was chenin blanc and, despite its success, the grape variety from which it came really never became as popular as I imagined it might.

I suspect one reason for the decline in popularity of chenin blanc here has more to do with the rapid success in the early 1980s of cabernet sauvignon. As that grape became extremely popular, grapes that generated less income soon were torn out. Chenin blanc was one of the first on the chopping block. Chenin is a noble grape, one with a long and storied history in France's Loire Valley, where it produces several different styles of white wines. Among the driest and most complex French versions is Savennieres, which is usually more expensive than others. Vouvray wines, more reasonably priced, typically are slightly sweeter. Vouvray Sec refers to drier-styled wines. There are also excellent sparkling wines made in

Vouvray, also from chenin blanc. Then there are two of the world's most acclaimed Loire dessert wines, Bonnezeaux and Quarts de Chaume. None of the above wines are likely to be found in supermarket wine aisles; even fine wine shops may not carry them. But chenin blanc continues to grow in California — more than 4,000 acres of it, roughly 25 percent of the total acreage of the sauvignon blanc. Also, chenin blanc has long been a staple used for making quality table wines in South Africa. Very few of them are exported here, but the few that we see can be excellent. One reason the grape variety isn't more widely planted is that its clusters of larger berries tend to be tight, without much space between berries. Because wind cannot dry out moisture, the variety is prone to rot. Wineries and growers dislike that. However, one great benefit is that chenin blanc can produce a lot of fruit per acre and, when properly farmed, it can make an absolutely delightful light white wine

that has a great affinity for patio sipping or accompanying spicy Asian food. Two of the very best versions, which are made in similar styles, include wines from Hush in Mendocino County and Dry Creek Vineyard of Sonoma, the latter of which typically uses fruit grown in Clarksburg's sandy soils in the Sacramento delta. Both wines are slightly sweet, fitting the historic California style, and both are reasonably priced and relatively widely available. The basic aroma of a chenin blanc table wine is similar to honeydew melon with hints of freshly mown grass and kiwi fruit. Most are succulent, although some versions can also display a kind of minerally note. Chenin blanc seems to be increasing in popularity in the United States, and part of the reason is that the French versions are slightly more minerally, making them better companions for food.

Wine of the Week:
2023 Joostenberg Chenin Blanc, South Africa (\$16) — A delightful example of how South

Africa can make excellent Chenin Blancs, this melon- and pear-scented wine is creamy and soft in the finish, but it has good structure for pairing with Asian foods. It is best decanted for 30 minutes before serving. Imported by Skurnik Wines.

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

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Bengü the lover.



Deniz the social butterfly.



Duman the gentleman.



Gamsiz the player.



Sari the hustler.



Psikopat the psycho.



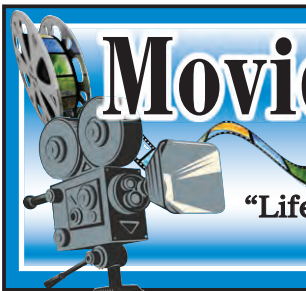
Aslan Parcasi the Hunter gets a rubdown from a friendly neighbor. One of seven cats featured in the 2016 movie “Kedi,” directed by Ceyda Torun.

MOVIE REVIEW
“Kedi”
2016 - Not Rated
1 hr 30 min
★★★★★

To quote that great American wit Mark Twain, “There are cat people, and there’s everyone else.” I happen to share his sentiments — I’m an unabashed cat person, and have been all my life. I know there are just as many dog folks out there, but one of my favorite observations about the difference between cats and dogs goes like this: A dog looks up at his or her caretaker and thinks, “Wow, this person gives me shelter, feeds me, (s)he must be God!” A cat looks up and thinks, “Wow, this person gives me shelter,

feeds me, pets me, I must be God!” With that sentiment in mind, I invite you to check out one of the finest documentaries about cats I’ve ever seen. I was lucky enough to catch it on the big screen when it was released. I noticed it’s now available on a couple of streaming services and I think it’s every bit as enjoyable on a TV or computer screen. The award-winning film is from Turkish born director Cedy Torun and is guaranteed to put a smile on your face. Kedi is the Turkish word for cat and that’s the focus of this highly entertaining film. It tells the story of seven unique and unusual felines, residing in the ancient city of Istanbul. Cats have been a part of the

Turkish metropolis for thousands of years. They were originally brought to the city to help control the rat population and have been an integral part of the culture ever since. One gets the sense that this is their city, humans just happen to live there too. Early in the film we learn that very few cats are actually owned by the residents. Most of them live on the streets and take shelter wherever they can find it. But they become attached to individual humans, adopt them, and let them provide for them. One aspect of the film that makes it so engaging is the unique camerawork by the director’s husband Charlie Wuppermann and Alp Korfali. Most of the footage is from a cat’s eye view as the camera follows



Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

“Life is too short to watch mediocre movies”

them around. Surprisingly, the cats aren’t bothered at all by the camera tailing them. Apparently the great cinematography is the result of a cat-level action cam mounted on a remote-control toy car. Pure genius! The film is divided into chapters, with one devoted to each of the seven furry beasts. As you’d expect, every animal has a unique personality, which is revealed and discussed by the individual, or individuals who look after them. They range from the super friendly, to the aloof, to the psycho. All with the street smarts needed to survive. The intimate camerawork makes you want to reach out and pet these lovable creatures. At least two-thirds of the movie is devoted to footage of our furry friends. We also meet some of the humans who are devoted to the well being of the cats. There’s a woman who admits to cooking over 20 pounds of chicken a day, to feed the cats in the neighborhood. And there’s a gentleman who tells us he had a nervous breakdown in 2002. In spite of therapy and medication, nothing seemed to help

him. That is, until he began taking care of some local cats. He admits to owing his recovery to these wonderful creatures. What a terrific testament to the healing powers of a pet. “Kedi” is just a wonderful film with a very positive message. It might even make a convert out of those dog people out there. The only negative aspect of the movie is near the end where residents discuss the changing nature of the city. Modern high-rise buildings are replacing whole neighborhoods. The concern is that this new construction will drive away the cats that have called the area home for thousands of years. Hopefully, they’ll be accommodated and will continue to be welcome there. The film is in Turkish with English subtitles. Currently streaming on Kanopy (free with your library card) and YouTube Premium. And to rent on Apple TV and Amazon Prime. The film is not rated but I’d give it a PG. Purrfect for the whole family! If you’d like to see more cat films, be sure to check out the three volumes of the “Cat Film Festival” for free on Tubi.



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.



They all have personalities, just like people.



Kittens.



Resting quietly.



Kittens, kittens and more kittens.



Squaring off.



Bengü the cat with an old friend.



Bengü the lover gets a combing.

Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: Caution! Avoid shopping or important decisions from 6 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. EST today (3 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from Aquarius into Pisces.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, January 30, 2025: You are a natural leader. Because you're intuitive, persuasive and empathetic, people rely on your guidance. This is a year of work, focus and construction, both externally and internally. Stay grounded and levelheaded. Physical exercise will play an important role for you..

♈ ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

It's easy to feel warm-hearted when dealing with friends and members of groups and organizations today, which will promote your people skills. Therefore, if you need someone to help or you're looking for a volunteer, today is the day to make your pitch. Tonight: Enjoy solitude.

♉ TAURUS

You will make a great impression on others today, especially people in authority — parents, bosses, teachers, VIPs and the police. Therefore, if you want assistance or you want a volunteer, ask for it. Discussions with others will be positive and ambitious. Tonight: Warm friendships.

♊ GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

Big ideas excite you today! These ideas could pertain to an exciting trip that you're planning, or exploring opportunities in publishing and the media, or expanding avenues in medicine and the law. Your enthusiasm will open doors for you today. Trust your good fortune! Tonight: You're noticed!

♋ CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

Relations with others are warm and friendly today. This will include romantic, intimate relationships, which will be affectionate and loving. You can also benefit from the resources of others today. For example, you might want to borrow money or ask for something. Tonight: Explore!

♌ LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

Relations with close friends, partners and spouses are warm and rewarding today. Enjoy outings with others. You might be introduced to someone who is optimistic and enthusiastic. Whatever happens today will favor you! Tonight: Check your finances and bills.

♍ VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

This is a productive day, so do get out of bed. Make an ambitious to-do list. You will get a lot done. Work-related travel is likely for some of you. Be prepared to cooperate and accommodate others. Look for a win-win solution; you will get it. Tonight: Cooperate.

♎ LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

This is another day where you might play hooky. (I cannot tell a lie.) This is a great day to socialize and enjoy sports events, fun activities with kids, entertaining diversions, the arts and a vacation. It will also be rewarding to help someone or be of service to them. Tonight: Get organized.

♏ SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

All your dealings with family members, especially parents, will be positive today. In fact, family discussions might include ambitious plans, because people are optimistic and ready to think big today. It's a good

day to tackle home repairs. Romance will be sweet and rewarding. Tonight: Socialize!

♐ SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Today is a wonderful illustration of how the power of positive thinking can empower you to talk to others, share ideas and make ambitious plans. It's a great day for short trips and visits to siblings, relatives and neighbors. Romance will be affectionate! Tonight: Cocoon!

♑ CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

All aspects of business and finance are favored for your sign today, which is why this is a great day to negotiate with others. Look for ways to boost your income. Ask for a raise. Make money on the side. Make an effort to get a better job or improve your existing job. Tonight: Discussions.

♒ AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

This is a positive day, which is why you're filled with good feelings, peace and harmony when dealing with others. Even though you're enthusiastic and optimistic, you might want to kick back and relax. Tonight: Check your money.

♓ PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

This is a feel-good day, and you're grateful to be you. Later in the day, the Moon is in your sign, which gives you a slight advantage over everyone else. If there's something you want, ask for it. Timing is everything, and this evening the time is right. Tonight: You win!

BORN TODAY
Actress Olivia Colman (1974), actor Christian Bale (1974), actor Gene Hackman (1930).

FOOD:

Continued from page 3C

been one of my faves. Ferlito's on Mack in the Woods serves its "a bit tiramisu like," according to a recent patron's review on GP Eats & Treats: "Frothy, creamy, boozy, cocoa sprinkled on top" and made with Michigan's own Valentine Vodka. You have my attention! And, new to the neighborhood, High Pointe Burger Jointe on Fisher fondly calls its version the Mack Avenue Express, featuring vodka, espresso, Tia Maria and Kahlúa. Keep your eyes open for more on this new hot spot in Food Gossip's future.



COURTESY PHOTO

Gaudino's.

Over in Saint Clair Shores, I've enjoyed a few while socializing with friends at Pepperoni Grille. Gaudino's on Harper wins for presentation all the way, with the addition of a sweetly rimmed glass. It is very tasty as well.

Not to mention, sitting at the Gaudino's bar, watching the magic happen in the kitchen is an experience in itself. Check it out if you haven't already. I definitely will be back soon.

I am well aware there are so many more out there I have not mentioned or tried ... yet. Rest assured, I am coming for you and I'm bringing friends.

Remember the bartender who created this cocktail and served it to a woman who wanted to have a fun night? This drink packs a punch. As they say at

Telly's on Martini Wednesdays, "Because adulting is hard, but coffee and cocktails together makes it easier!" Cheers and remember to always drink responsibly.

Fun fact: The three coffee beans often seen floating atop the crema of this amazing cocktail are said to symbolize health, wealth and happiness. I'm not sure about the health and the wealth, but they definitely make people happy.

Stay tuned. Stay hungry.



COURTESY PHOTO

Shift Kitchen & Cocktails.



COURTESY PHOTO

High Pointe Burger Jointe.



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Contract Bridge

A SURE-TO-WIN POSITION

North dealer.

East-West vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ A J 9 2
♥ 8 5 4 3
♦ A 9
♣ Q 10 9

WEST

♠ 4
♥ K 7 2
♦ 8 5 4 3 2
♣ A K 6 4

EAST

♠ 7
♥ J 10 9
♦ 10 7 6
♣ J 8 7 5 3 2

SOUTH

♠ K Q 10 8 6 5 3
♥ A Q 6
♦ K Q J
♣ —

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
Pass	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	6 ♠	

Opening lead — king of clubs.

The finesse is a play that permits you to win a trick with a card lower than one held by an opponent. Under normal circumstances, a finesse has only an even chance of success. This probability is, of course, not to be sneezed at, but if an alternative play is available that offers better than a 50% chance, that play should be preferred to the finesse.

Consider this deal where West led the king of clubs against six spades.

Superficially, the slam seemed to depend on a successful heart finesse, so declarer, after ruffing the club lead and drawing a round of trump, unwisely led a heart to the queen, losing to the king. He later lost another heart trick to go down one.

Actually, South had the slam in the bag from the word "go." West's king-of-clubs lead marked him with the ace as well, and this should have put declarer on the right track. Instead of pinning his hopes on the location of the king of hearts, South should have considered an entirely different approach that would have obviated the uncertainty associated with a finesse.

With the proper preparatory steps, South could have forced West to solve his problem for him. After ruffing the opening club lead and drawing trump, declarer cashes three diamonds, discarding the ten of clubs from dummy. He then crosses to dummy with a trump, leads the queen of clubs and discards the six of hearts on it.

West wins with the ace but is helpless. He must either lead a heart or yield a ruff-and-discard, so the heart finesse never enters the picture. By seeking an alternative to the finesse, declarer turns a 50% chance into a 100% certainty.

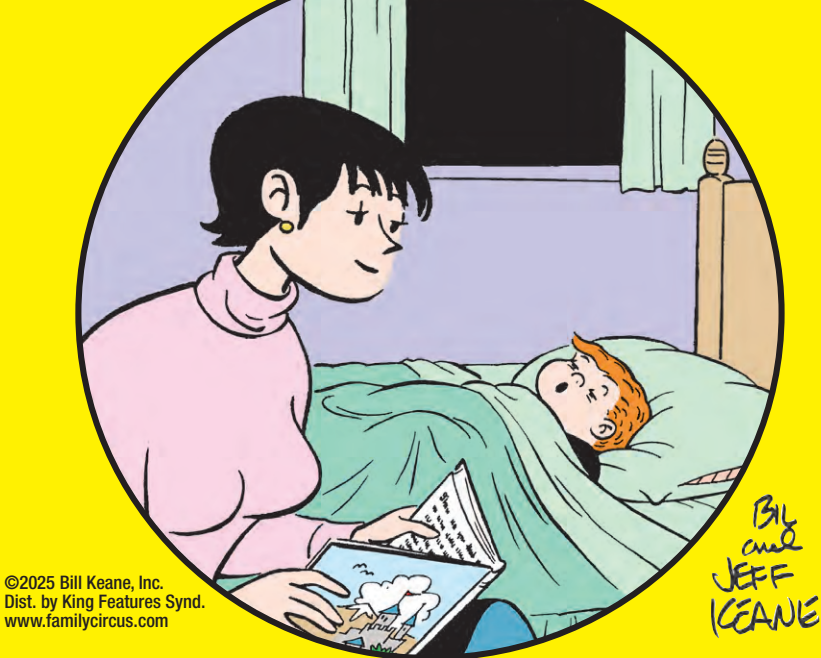
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by Steve Becker

Puzzles and

Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



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"Read faster, Mommy. I can't stay awake much longer."

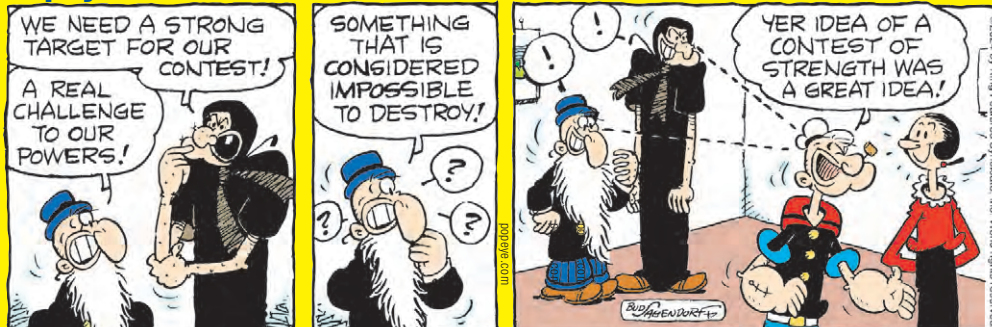
Garfield

Jim Davis



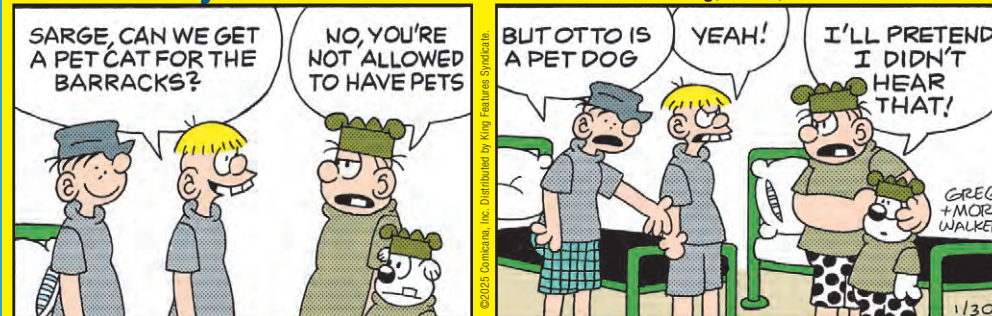
Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



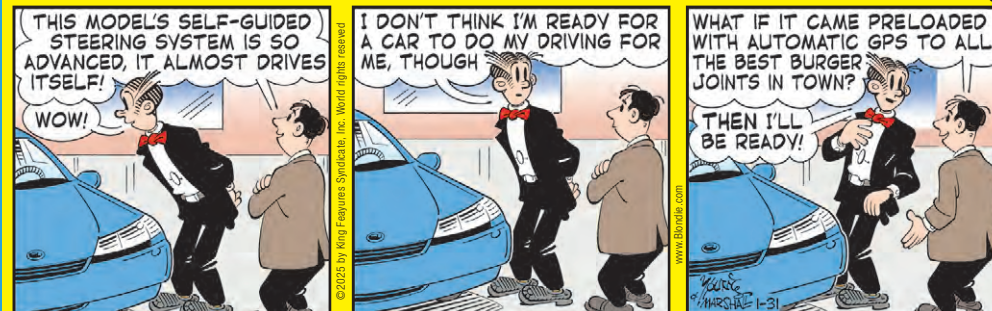
Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



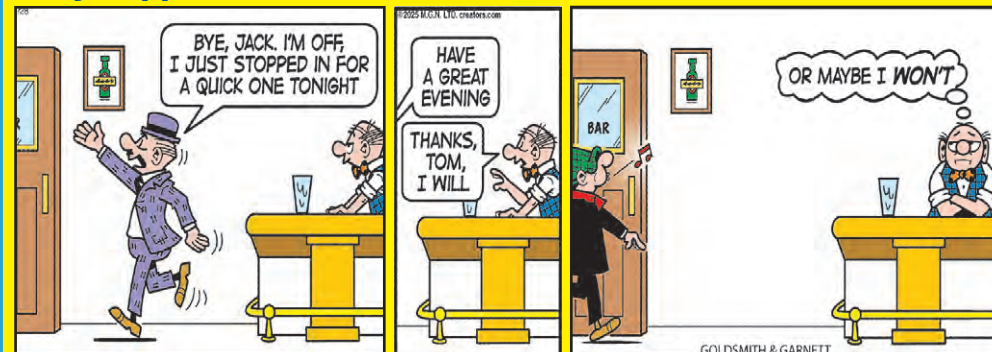
Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



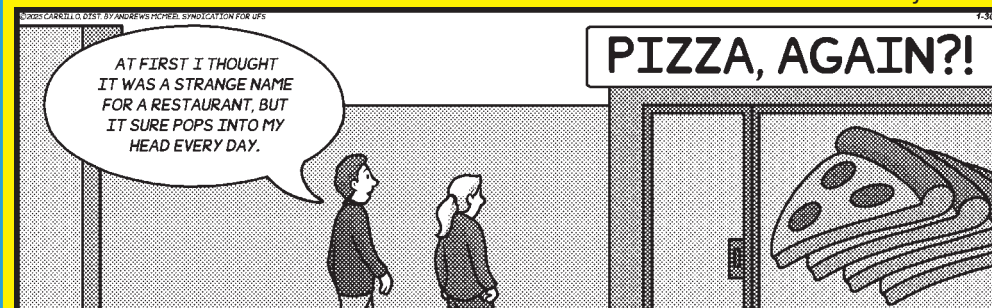
Wizard of Id

Created by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart. Currently by Mason Mastroianni



F Minus

Tony Carrillo

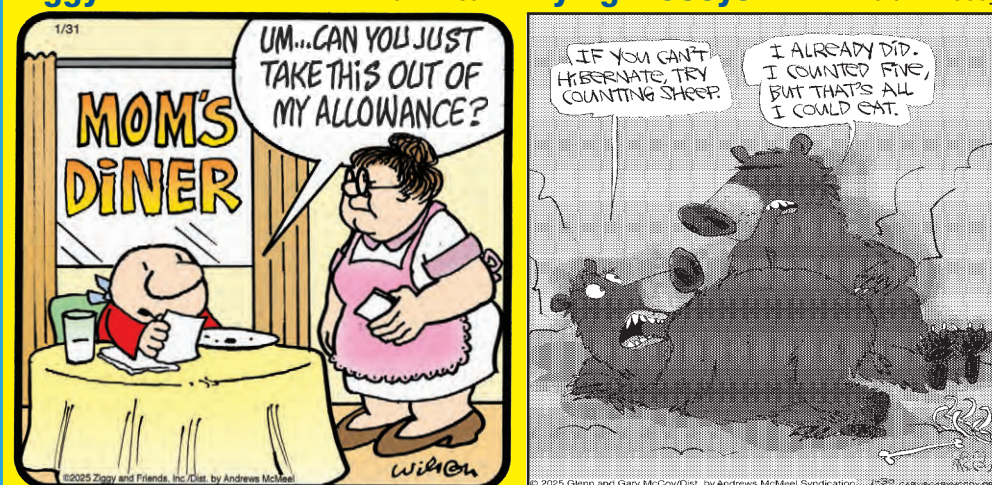


Ziggy

Tom Wilson

Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

1/30

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

© 2025 by Andrews McMeel Syndication

Complete the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Previous puzzle solution

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

1/23 Solution

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg January 30, 2025

ACROSS

- Debit alternative
- Primary impact
- Shot in the dark
- Spitballs or snowballs
- Debate topic
- 2023 US Open champion
- Gauß
- ET?
- NBC sketch show, familiarly
- Electric ukulele hookup
- Sault — Marie, Michigan
- Troupe for troops: Abbr.
- Disney girl who adopted a blue alien named Stitch
- "King of Soul" Redding
- AD?
- Fatty tuna, on a sashimi platter
- Prominent part of an anteater
- Prefix for "dynamic"
- Like a spoken exam
- King, in French
- Manicure target
- Convened
- Song that might only be known by superfans

- "Kenan and " (Nickel-odeon show)
- Spiritual glow
- Door opener
- AL?
- Catches word of
- Aunt, in Spanish
- Reluctant
- Fashion magazine whose name sounds like a letter
- Sausage units
- Cookie used to make dirt cake
- Some beers
- Comedy show host
- "Gotta bounce!"
- With 68-Across, AS?
- Birds in a V formation
- See 66-Across

- Give a whirl
- Poli— major
- Grilled soy-based entree
- Makes a scene?
- chic (fashion style)
- Healthy
- Crumbly cheese
- Highly revered figure
- Country of origin for Persian cats
- Chemistry particle
- Pineapple's center
- As it happens
- Chicken's home
- Off-the-cuff opinions
- Great Lake known for its walleye population

- Toss, as dice
- Union payments
- Segment of history
- Granite State sch.
- Work hard
- Not moving
- Ornamental pin
- Black Friday events
- Starting from
- "Beavis and Butt-Head" spinoff
- Get better
- "Yellowjackets" actress
- Pumell
- Color akin to cyan
- Giraffe's foot
- Segment of a relay race
- "Didn't I tell you?"

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

S	L	O	B	S	P	R	O	B	M	B	A	S
A	I	O	L	I	L	I	P	A	A	L	T	O
U	N	Z	I	P	A	C	E	D	C	O	I	L
T	E	E	N	S	T	O	C	K	P	H	O	T
E	N	D	D	A	T	E	A	R	O	D		
			S	L	Y		V	E	R	Y	S	M
T	E	M	P	O		A	L	U	M		S	H
A	T	O	O	T	H		F	O	R	A	T	O
R	O	U	T		A	R	G	O		O	R	T
T	N	T		G	M	O	S		O	W	E	
		H	O	E	S		T	A	N	T	R	U
I	T	W	O	N	T		W	O	R	K		H
S	O	A	P		E	A	V	E		T		U
L	E	S	S		R	Y	E	S		E	M	I
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1/23 Solution

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1/30

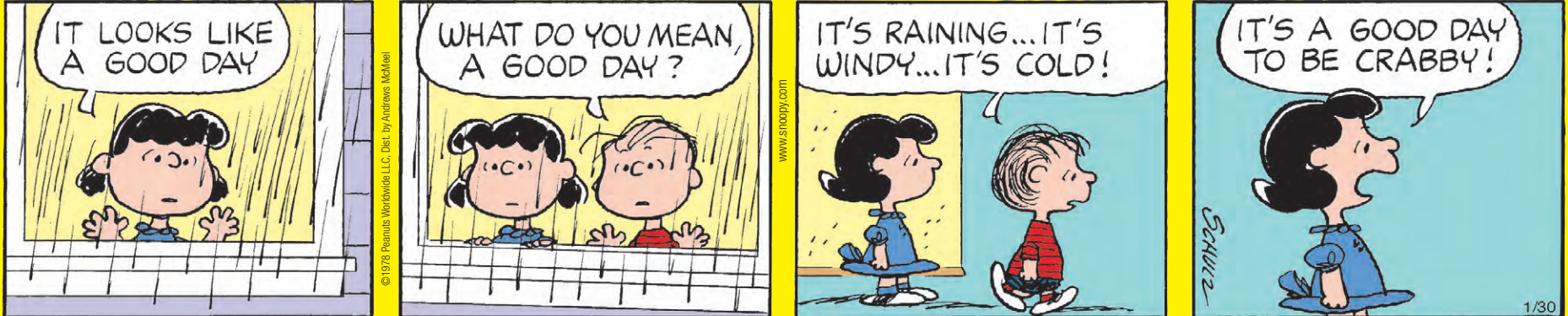
Do Your Part by Zhouqin Burnikel

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
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38							39						40	
41							42	43			44	45		46
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							50				51			52
53	54						55				56		57	58
59							60				61		62	
63							64						65	
66							67						68	

Comics

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



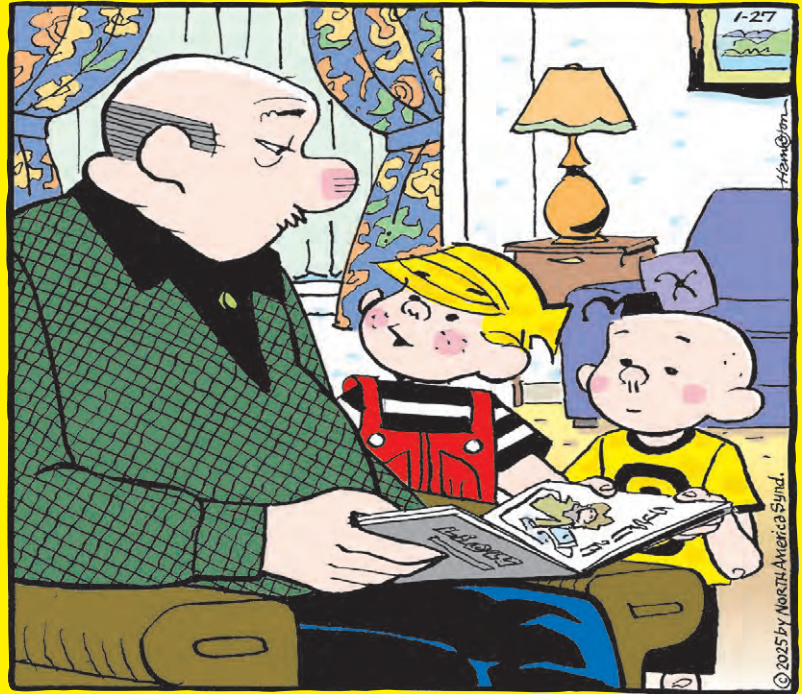
Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



Dennis the Menace

Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



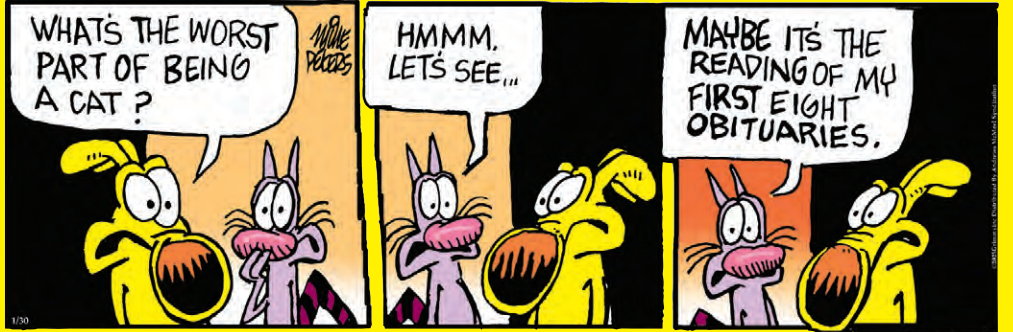
Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



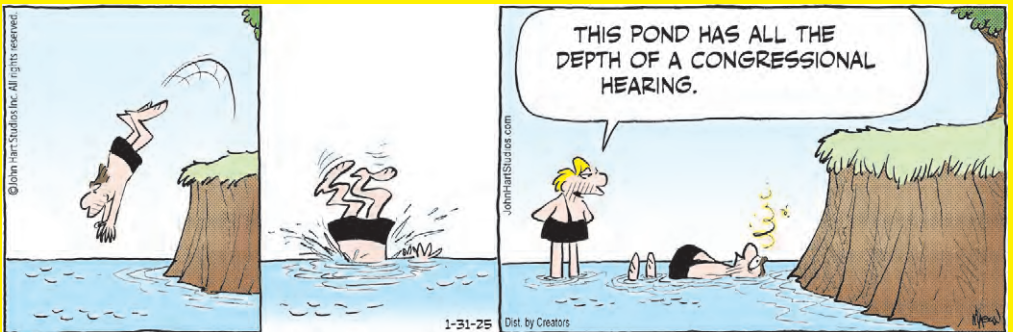
Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Reality Check

Dave Whamond



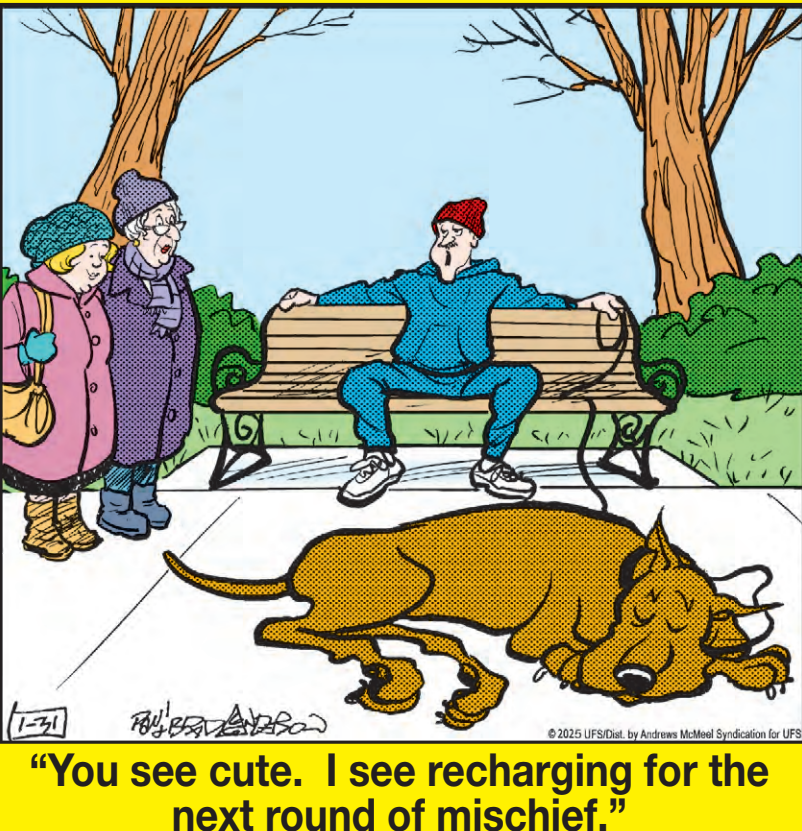
Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson





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The Cold Facts

An overnight snowstorm is big news in Deersprings Valley. Scarlett Squirrel and her team of reporters at *The Treetop Tribune* have to separate **FACT** from **OPINION** to tell the story. And they need some help from **YOU** to do so!

A **FACT** is something that can be proven true. An **OPINION** is how someone feels about something.



Reporter's Notes

Roscoe Rabbit is a new reporter at the Treetop Tribune. He made a list of facts about the big storm in his reporter's notebook, but is he correct? Circle the **FACTS** in green crayon. Underline the **OPINIONS** in red crayon.

The heavy snowfall caused several tree branches to break.

The sound of the howling wind was scary.

Chuck Chipmunk's family had to seek shelter in a different tree when their nook started filling with ice.

The storm brought four feet of snow and temperatures fell to 4 degrees Fahrenheit.

The deep snow looked beautiful in the morning.

There will never be another storm like this in the Valley.

Parts of Critter Creek were frozen solid by 3:30 a.m.



The Treetop Tribune

OVERNIGHT STORM LEAVES VALLEY COVERED IN SNOW

By Roscoe Rabbit, Staff Reporter

DEERSPRINGS VALLEY – An overnight winter storm brought frigid temperatures to the valley last night. A low temperature of 4 degrees Fahrenheit was recorded by Oswald Owl at 3:35 a.m.

Icicles in the entry way of the Chipmunk family caused them to seek shelter in a neighboring tree.

“It was the scariest storm ever,” said Chuck Chipmunk. “The winds sounded like an angry, howling wolf!”

The storm blew in from central Canada and knocked out power in the town of Riversburg for several hours. But by 10:00 a.m., winds had stopped and sunshine was slowly returning to the valley.

Once the storm ended, a team of woodpeckers began to chip away at the icicles covering the Chipmunk family's doorway, and the family was able to move back home in their tree before nightfall.

Just the Facts

Scarlett knows how important it is to include as many facts as possible in a news story. These facts give readers more understanding of what happened and why.

Look at this article about the storm. Does it tell **WHO**, **WHAT**, **WHEN**, **WHERE** and **WHY**?

WHO: _____

WHAT: _____

WHERE: _____

WHEN: _____

WHY: _____

Take a Survey

A **survey** is a way to gather opinions about something.

Ask your friends and family members which of these veggies they like best. Complete the graph by coloring in a square each time someone selects that vegetable. Share your findings with everyone who took the survey.

CARROTS	POTATOES	TOMATOES	CELERY	BROCCOLI	GREEN BEANS



Extra! Extra!

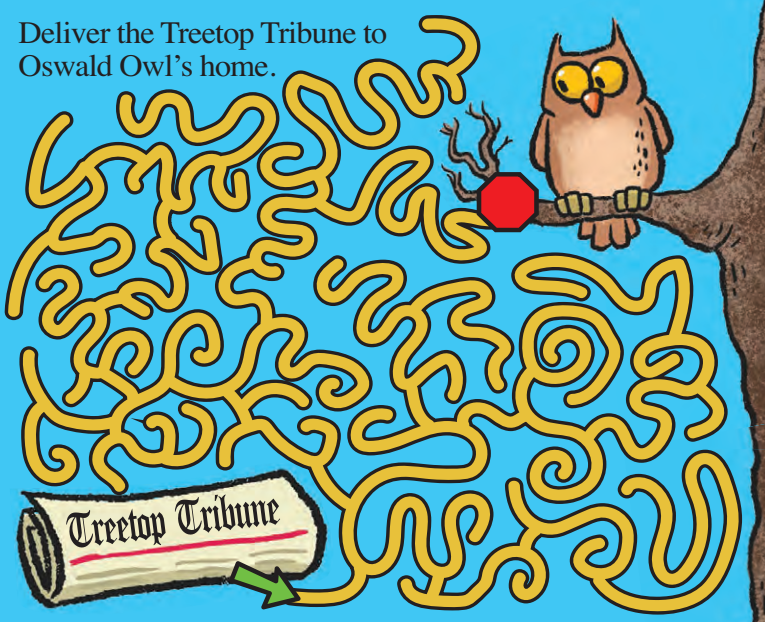
Fact Finder

Find three facts and three opinions in the newspaper. Have three friends take turns deciding which statements are facts and which are opinions. Each correct answer earns 1 point.

Standards Link: Students correctly identify the differences between fact and opinion.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Deliver the Treetop Tribune to Oswald Owl's home.



Double Double Word Search

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

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

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



Kid Scoop Together

Missing Words

Replace the missing words to complete the article below.

UNDERSTAND COVERAGE

MORNING WEATHER BURROW

EVENING CORRECT NAMED

Early in the _____ every February 2, attention turns to Gobbler's Knob, Pennsylvania, and a groundhog _____ Punxsutawney Phil.

Legend states that if Phil sees his shadow when coming out of his _____, it means he predicts six more _____ weeks of wintery _____. But if he doesn't see his shadow, it means Phil predicts an early spring, according to the _____ legend.

It's a big _____ that began in the late 1800s and gets lots of _____ in the news. Phil's predictions are not always _____. But that's okay, because it's all in the spirit of fun.

A group of people called the "Inner Circle" dress up in long black coats and top hats for the big Groundhog Day announcement of Phil's prediction. The president of the Inner Circle is said to speak *groundhogese* and is the only one who can _____ what Phil says.

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: PROVEN

The word **proven** means something that has been shown to be true or correct.

In our courts, people are considered innocent until **proven** guilty.

Try to use the word **proven** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.



FROM THE **Kid Scoop** LESSON LIBRARY

Opinion, Please

Read one article in the newspaper. Write your opinion about the article. Can you use two or more facts to support your opinion? Send your opinion to the newspaper editor.

Standards Link: Language arts: Write to express an opinion.



Why can you never finish an argument with a cloud?

ANSWER: Because the cloud will just storm out on you.

Write On!

What's Your Scoop?

Write a sentence or short paragraph that tells the who, what, where and when about news at your school.



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North boys basketball surging through January on quest for MAC title

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

When the season began nearly two months ago, the Grosse Pointe North varsity boys basketball team had hopes this winter would bring a new level of success for the program. Those hopes were largely centered on the performance of an experienced group of veteran leaders and so far things have been playing out almost exactly like the Norsemen wanted.

North is 10-4 this season and 4-1 in MAC Blue Division play. The Norsemen have been particularly on the rise since the calendar flipped to 2025, winning five of their six games so far through January, including a 56-36 blow-out win over Warren Cousino in their last game Thursday, Jan. 23.

“We’ve been talking all year about being consistent and coming to practice working super hard every single day,” North boys basketball head coach Rob Johnson said.



PHOTOS BY COLIN SMITH

Left, Senior Ben Rickerman scored 11 points for North in a win over Warren Cousino on Thursday, Jan. 23. Right, Guard Devin Headd is one of nine seniors on North’s roster that makes up the experienced core leading the team this season.

“... The message this week and for the rest of the season is to take it up another notch. We’re playing pretty good basketball right now, but I think we can take it to another level.”

Senior Ben Rickerman led the team with 11 points in last Thursday’s win. Fellow senior Dequan Howell and sophomore Lewis Simmons had 10 points each.

Multiple players scoring double-digit points has become a trend for the Norsemen this season. There are guys like Howell, Rickerman, Leo Perettie, R.J. Williams or Devin Headd who are

capable of having big nights on the stat sheet at any given time, but there rarely is just one player carrying the entire team offensively.

“It makes us hard to defend,” Johnson said.

“... We knew we had a lot of guys who could contribute and they had to be willing to sacrifice for each other. ... We never know whose night it’s going to be and it could be several different guys’ night on any given game. ... It’s hard to defend when we’re sharing the ball and you don’t know whose night it’s going to be.”

Sharing the ball is easy for a group that has been together as long as North’s core has. The Norsemen have nine seniors on this year’s roster and the hope entering the winter was that this would be the season where this program took a big leap due to strong veteran leadership.

“They make my job a lot easier,” Johnson said. “They’re all great kids. ... The fact that they’re all good friends and embrace each other and celebrate each other, they truly just want to share the ball and make winning plays.”

See NORTH, page 3D

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

South’s Smith continues to showcase skills as one of state’s best goalies

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

A certain amount of pressure and expectation always comes with entering a season as a defending champion. There can be even more when one comes into a season as a two-time first-team All-State player, just like Grosse Pointe South varsity girls hockey goalie Rosie Smith.

Smith is widely known as one of, if not the best, goalies in the state for girls’ hockey. As a sophomore in 2023 and a junior in 2024, she was named Division 1 first-team All-State by the Michigan Girls High School Hockey League and she likely will earn the honors again at the end of this season.

Grosse Pointe News

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Rosie Smith

School: Grosse Pointe South
Sport: Hockey

Sponsored by Pointe Capital Management

things look a bit different.

“At the beginning, we were kind of off because it was not the team we were returning with,” Smith said. “We had I think about five freshmen, so just getting them to understand us and our ways of working was hard. Halfway through, I think we’ve gotten into a good groove. ... Getting to know the girls on our team has a big impact on us playing well together and we’re all friends and can give constructive criticism to each other without feeling bad because you know it’s all from the heart.”



PHOTO BY LEON HALIP

Smith makes a save for the Blue Devils in the team’s 3-0 win over Mid-Michigan Alliance on Friday, Jan. 24.

how dominant Smith is between the pipes, but she knows there is always room to grow. One aspect of her game in particular was a major focus of her training ahead of the season.

“I was working with my coach mostly on breakaways because last season, earlier in the year, we ended up losing to Liggett in a shootout,”

she said. “... We’ve been working on breakaways and how to track those in case we ever have to go down into a shootout and working on those really hard goals and practicing harder spots.”

Having a stalwart in net is a key to success for any great hockey team and South recognizes how important Smith is. Last year and this sea-

son, she has been named one of the Blue Devils’ captains and is continuing to grow her leadership with every game.

“She’s come in as a senior captain so much more mature than the last two years,” South girls hockey head coach Lexi Bohlinger said. “... It’s such a blessing to

See ATHLETE, page 2D

Sensational Smith

- Named Division 1 First-Team All-State in 2022-23 and 2023-24 seasons
- Recorded 7 shutouts and allowing 1.05 goals per game this season
- Named senior captain for South varsity girls hockey



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2D | SPORTS

Girls hockey teams look for wins as playoffs get closer

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

With the calendar about to turn to February, there are only a few weeks left in the girls varsity hockey regular season before teams turn their focus to the playoffs. The teams from Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett School all were in action last week trying to add more wins and boost their places in the standings as they prepare for the final stretch of the regular season.

Grosse Pointe North
The Norsemen took the ice twice last week and picked up a pair of wins. The first came Wednesday, Jan. 22, when North hosted Walled Lake and earned a 2-1 victory thanks to goals by Josie Cueter and Kate Kasuba.
“It’s a very good experience for the girls to get used to close games prior to playoffs,” North girls hockey coach Taylor Shaheen said. “You have to fight through the last buzzer in the third period. No letting up.”
North went on the road Friday, Jan. 24, to

face Troy United. The Norsemen came up with another victory, with an offensive explosion carrying the team to an 11-3 win.
Kasuba, Leah Burney and Amelia Moreland had two goals each. Caroline Murray, Paige Thomas, Cueter, Ava Villani and Paige Martin also scored for the Norsemen.
Cueter has been one of the biggest contributors to North’s success so far this season and currently leads all players in the state with 64 points in just 18 games. However, some of the most impressive performances have come from North’s other veteran leaders.
Burney’s 34 points currently put her at sixth in the state. Other veterans like Martin and Kasuba also have made their presence felt in what the Norsemen believe is becoming a well-rounded group of top contributors.
“(Cueter) and Leah Burney have been working great together, just as Josie played well with Leah’s older sister, Alyssa, who graduated in 2024,” Shaheen said. “Our line made up of Paige Martin, Kate

Kasuba and Ava Villani are really meshing well and love playing with each other. They are learning how to instinctively know where one another is on the ice and how to cycle. They are a force to be reckoned with.”
North takes the ice again Saturday, Feb. 1, and will celebrate senior night against Livonia United. Puck drop is set for 4:30 p.m. at East Side Foundation Hockey Arena.
Grosse Pointe South
The Blue Devils also earned a pair of wins in their couple of games last week. Wednesday, Jan. 22, South went on the road to face Ann Arbor Skyline-Huron and dominated its way to an 8-0 win.
The scoring was widely spread out for South in the big win. Abby Evans scored twice, while Gianna Bufalino, Sophia Husek, Bella Peruski, Charlie Harr, Ruby Lenhard and Molly Reynolds all found the back of the net as well.
The momentum carried over into South’s next game when the team returned home Friday, Jan. 24, to host



PHOTO BY LEON HALIP

South’s Sophia Husek reaches far for the puck in the Blue Devils’ game against Mid-Michigan Alliance on Friday, Jan. 24.
Mid-Michigan Alliance. It was another shutout for senior goalie Rosie Smith as the Blue Devils won 3-0 to mark a third consecutive victory. Reynolds scored twice and Tinley Gram added the other goal for South.
South faced off against the St. Clair Shores Saints 19U team Wednesday, Jan. 29, after press time. The Blue Devils are at home to host Ann Arbor Pioneer Friday, Jan. 31, starting at 7:30 p.m.
University Liggett
The Knights traveled up north last weekend for a pair of games against Traverse City. Both games were low-scoring affairs as Liggett came away with a loss and a tie.
The first game in Traverse City Friday, Jan. 24, ended up a 1-0 loss for Liggett. The sec-

ond game Saturday, Jan. 25, was another tight and low-scoring affair that finished as a 1-1 tie, with Stella Smiatacz scoring the lone goal for the Knights.
Liggett went on the road to face Ann Arbor Skyline-Huron after press time Tuesday, Jan. 28. The team returns home to McCann Ice Arena Thursday, Jan. 30, hosting Orchard Lake St. Mary’s at 8 p.m.



PHOTO BY LEON HALIP

Smith was named First-Team All-State in Division 1 at the end of both her sophomore and junior seasons for South girls hockey.

ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

have a really skilled goaltender for as long as we’ve been able to have her.”
What makes it unique for Smith being a captain as a goalie is she is always in the same spot for most of the game. This can make communication with her teammates, coaches and fellow captains difficult at times, but Smith has been able to adapt and still make her leadership felt.
“I feel like I see the ice very well and understand some things that they don’t with positioning and everything,” Smith said. “When we go to breaks between periods, I’ll say something that I

notice or pick up to the defense and sometimes relay information through them to bring back to the bench. It’s very different from being a normal captain, sitting on the bench and giving feedback 24/7. ... If I need someone to come up to me, someone will come and I can say something and it works out.”
It has worked out pretty well for South as the team has a 15-2-1 record so far this season. The Blue Devils also have won three straight games with three straight shutouts for Smith, defeating Cranbrook-Kingswood 8-0 Jan. 18, Ann Arbor Skyline-Huron 8-0 Jan. 22, and Mid-Michigan Alliance 3-0 Jan. 24.
There are some games during which Smith does not have to face many

shots to record a shutout or a win. That is why her main goal, especially as the playoffs begin to loom closer, is to remain focused at all times. She knows she can stop anything she faces, but wants to make sure she can always see what is coming her way.
“I want to stay focused always, because we are one of the higher teams, so when we play games against lower-ranked teams, I don’t get as much action but need to stay focused,” she said. “... Every time before a game, everyone says one team goal and one personal goal, and my goal is always to stop all the shots, but it’s deeper than that because it’s about staying mentally focused and ready for anything that comes.”

Boys hockey teams look to end regular season strong

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

With a few weeks remaining in the regular season before playoffs, the boys hockey teams from Grosse Pointe South, Grosse Pointe North and University Liggett School have been gearing up for the final stretch and some of the season’s biggest games. Last week’s action included some of those big games and saw mixed results among the teams, with some finding wins and others ending up on the losing end of the scoreboard.

Grosse Pointe South

Last weekend, the Blue Devils seemed to take a step toward finishing the season strong. Saturday, Jan. 25, South hosted Allen Park and earned a much-needed 6-2 win over the Jaguars.
Jack O’Keefe helped the Blue Devils jump to an early lead with a pair of goals in the first period. Charlie Winkler and Cole Zaccagni also added to the scoreboard for South in the opening frame. Lucas Reynolds and Will Gryzenia both found the back of the net later in the game to help the Blue Devils seal the win.
The win brought South’s record this sea-

son to 5-14 with just six games remaining in the regular season. Next up for the Blue Devils is a pair of games in the 2025 MIHL Showcase.
The first game sees South taking on Detroit Country Day at 3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30. The team retakes the ice at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, against Jackson Lumen Christi. Both games will be hosted at the Kennedy Recreation Center in Trenton.
University Liggett
The Knights took a trip to the Upper Peninsula last weekend for a pair of games against some of Northern Michigan’s

best. While the trip surely created plenty of memories for Liggett’s coaches and players, the Knights left the U.P. with a pair of losses.
The first game Saturday, Jan. 25, saw Liggett taking on Calumet at the historic Calumet Colosseum. Despite a hat trick by Griffin Marchal, Liggett was unable to overcome the Copper Kings in a 6-3 loss.
Liggett then traveled to another historic arena Sunday, Jan. 26, taking on the Houghton Gremlins at Dee Stadium. The Knights once again came up short against a strong



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE NORTH BOYS HOCKEY

North’s Johnny Cueter holds up a puck celebrating his first career hat trick after the Norsemen defeated Bishop Foley United on Friday, Jan. 24.
northern opponent, losing to the Gremlins 5-2.
The team looks to bounce back in a pair of games this week at the 2025 MIHL Showcase. Liggett faces off against Plymouth at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30. The

Knights then take on Riverview Gabriel Richard on Saturday, Feb. 1, with puck drop at 11:50 a.m. Both games will be held at the Kennedy Recreation Center.
See HOCKEY, page 3D

Celebration for Bennett’s 700th win overshadows North girls hoops loss

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Friday, Jan. 24, felt like a family reunion for Grosse Pointe North varsity girls basketball. Despite a 42-34 loss to Port Huron in that night’s game, the real highlight of the night came after the action wrapped up on the court when friends, family and former players gathered to celebrate longtime head coach Gary Bennett surpassing 700 career victories.

Bennett, who achieved his 700th win Jan. 10, on the road against Romeo, was honored with a tribute video including words from coaching colleagues as well as former players, their families and his own family. North also made a commemorative banner for Bennett that will hang inside the school gym.

“Seeing former players and watching what they had to say and talking to the people who were there was a very

meaningful and memorable occasion for me,” Bennett said. “I’ll say it again, they’re not really my wins. It’s a collective effort by the players and the parents and the assistant coaches and myself just trying to make the whole experience for the girls really positive. ... I feel like I’ve been blessed with the people I’ve gotten to work with.”

The ceremony and celebration came after the Norsemen endured their fourth consecutive loss, falling to 5-7 so far this season. North trailed by 10 points at halftime and by 12 points at the end of the third quarter, but were able to get the deficit inside single digits before the end of the game.

The team’s effort in the fourth quarter was encouraging to Bennett, who knows he has to practice some patience with a largely young and inexperienced group of players this season. The late-game effort and



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

North varsity girls basketball coach Gary Bennett, joined by current and former players, receives a commemorative banner to celebrate reaching the milestone of 700 career wins.

‘Seeing former players and watching what they had to say and talking to the people who were there was a very meaningful and memorable occasion for me.’

GARY BENNETT, GP NORTH VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL HEAD COACH

willingness to compete until the final buzzer showed Bennett that his players can practice what he preaches.

“That’s the thing that we can control,” Bennett said. “We can’t control the talent level or whether the ball goes in

or not. We can control how hard we compete and we kind of preach that over and over again. To see that happening is

just awesome.”

Even while the team has lost four games in a row, Bennett and his coaching staff believe there are plenty of positives to look at from the way the Norsemen have steadily improved throughout the season. North is a young team with no seniors and only one junior on the roster, but the youth on the team is starting to grow in Bennett’s eyes.

“I’m seeing them use their fundamentals more and more and it’s going to show up at some time,” he said. “Their shooting fundamentals have improved, the defense has improved and ball handling has improved. We’ve turned the ball over a lot, but that’s more poise and composure and we’re not quite there yet. ... Our competitiveness with the younger kids is what’s improved the most.”

North went on the road to face Dakota Tuesday, Jan. 28, after press time. The Norsemen are at home Thursday, Jan. 30, for a rivalry rematch against Grosse Pointe South starting at 7 p.m.



Left, Bennett watches a tribute video commemorating his 700 career wins joined by players, fellow coaches and family members, including his father Larry and daughter Caitlin. Right, North junior Eva Borowski scored 13 points for the Norsemen in last Friday’s loss to Port Huron.

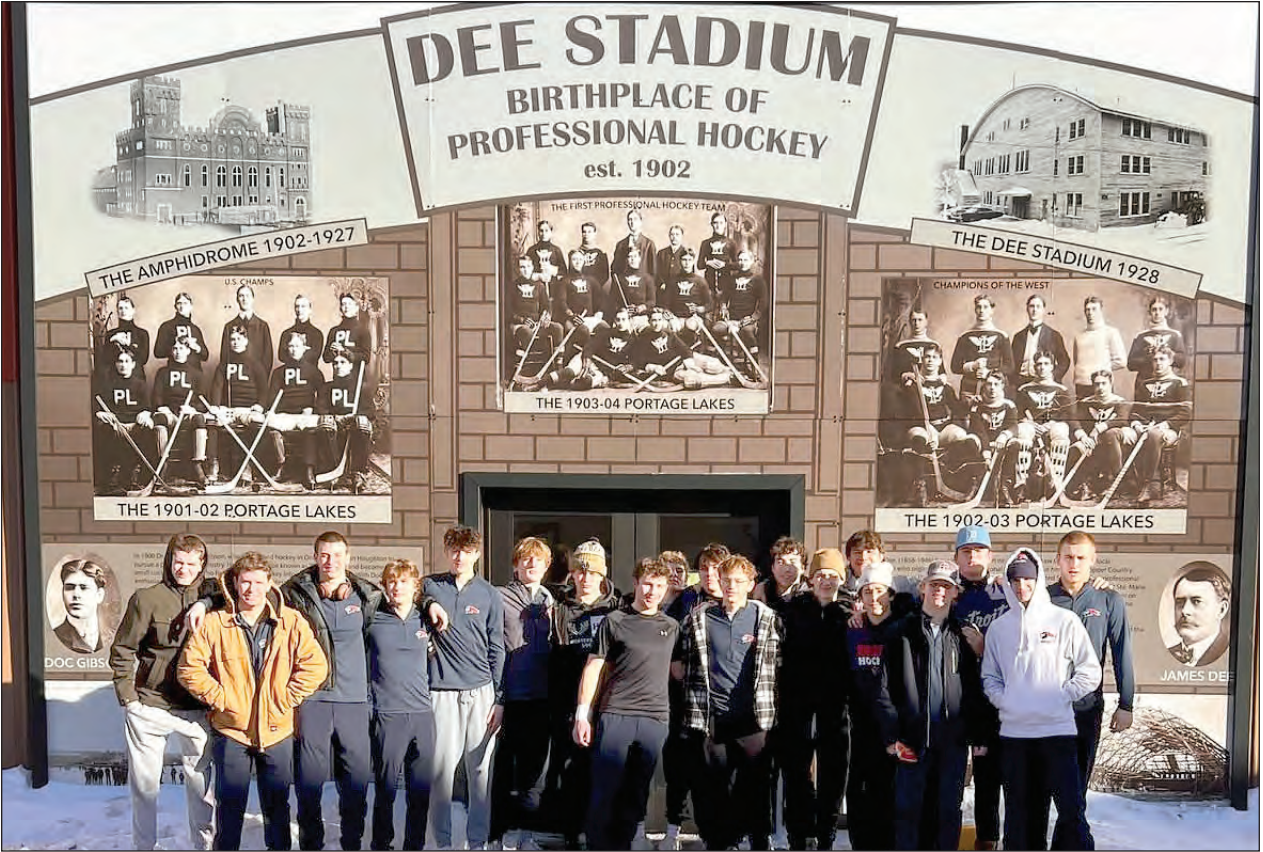


PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY LIGGETT BOYS HOCKEY

The University Liggett varsity boys hockey team stands outside the historic Dee Stadium in Houghton, where the team faced the Houghton Gremlins on Sunday, Jan. 26.

HOCKEY:

Continued from page 2D

Center in Trenton.

Grosse Pointe North
The Norsemen had a busy week with a few games, but were able to add a couple of wins to their resume. Both of North’s wins last week

came over the same opponent in a pair of games against Bishop Foley United on Wednesday, Jan. 22, and Friday, Jan. 24.

North won last Wednesday’s game by a score of 9-4 thanks to a couple of big performances. Charlie Mueller and Brandon Shock carried the offense for the

Norsemen, with Mueller scoring four times and Shock tallying three goals in the win. Aidan Burney and Levi Olsey accounted for North’s other goals.

The rematch between the two teams last Friday was a bit closer, but North remained victorious 5-4. Johnny Cueter’s hat trick and Shock’s two

goals helped propel the Norsemen to their second straight win.

North then hosted Port Huron Monday, Jan. 27, but suffered a 4-1 loss. The Norsemen take on the Mid-Michigan Raptors Saturday, Feb. 1, and celebrate senior day at East Side Foundation Hockey Arena starting at 6:30 p.m.

NORTH:

Continued from page 1D

As North enters the final month of the regular season with a good portion of its league schedule ahead, the team knows there is still work to be done. The Norsemen currently sit in second place in the MAC Blue Division, one game behind Henry Ford II, to whom they lost a close 49-45 game back on Jan. 9.

The two teams met again after press time Wednesday, Jan. 29, in a game that would have large implications at the top of the MAC Blue standings. The Norsemen know the stretch of the season they are about to

endure is what can separate them from the rest of the pack if they can remain tough.

“We don’t want to get comfortable,” Johnson said. “We’ve won our last couple of games by double digits and gotten a lot of guys involved. At the same time, we don’t want to get comfortable and we can always improve our physicality. We’re going to really challenge them moving forward to be more physical and be more intense and continue to communicate and share the ball.”

North visited Henry Ford II Wednesday, Jan. 29, after press time. The Norsemen return home to host Fraser at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31.

City of **Grosse Pointe Woods**, Michigan

NOTICE TO BIDDERS – LAKE FRONT PARK BUILDING RENOVATION – AEW PROJECT NUMBER 0160-0479.

Sealed bids will be received by the City at the office of the City Clerk, 20025 Mack Plaza Dr., Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, until 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at which time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. The project consists of the renovation and addition of the Lake Front Park maintenance building, HMA pavement removal, HMA placement, concrete pavement removal, concrete placement, installation of water and sanitary service along with miscellaneous related items of work. Plans and specifications must be obtained through BidNet Direct at www.bidnetdirect.com. Plans will be available beginning Thursday, January 16, 2025. An electronic, public viewing copy is available on the City of Grosse Pointe Woods website. Bids may be rejected unless made on the forms included with the bidding documents. The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any irregularities in the bidding and to accept any proposals it deems to be in the best interest of the City.

Paul Antolin
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 1/30/2025

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:



BLUE DEVILS TO HOST SOFTBALL CLINIC

The Grosse Pointe South softball program has announced that it will be holding a clinic for young softball players ahead of the spring season. The clinic will be held on Saturday, March 15, beginning at 9 a.m. in the Grosse Pointe South High School main gym and is open to all softball players from kindergarten through 8th grade.

The focus of the clinic will be on basic throwing and fielding techniques as well as the fundamentals of hitting. Cost of the clinic is \$75 per player and can be paid by check or by Venmo. For more information on how to register, contact South varsity softball head coach Bill Fleming at gpsouthsoftball@gmail.com.

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

The Grosse Pointe South varsity boys basketball team suffered a pair of losses last week. The first came on Tuesday, Jan. 21, with the Blue Devils hosting Dakota in a 62-55 loss. Kooper Richards led the team with 16 points while Adam Czarnik had 14.

South lost again on Thursday, Jan. 23, in another home game against Roseville that ended 64-55. Richards once again led the scoring with 18 points. Vince Vachon and Czarnik both reached double digits as well with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

South hosted Port Huron on Wednesday, Jan. 29, after press time. The Blue Devils go on the road Friday, Jan. 31, to take on Chippewa Valley.

University Liggett School boys basketball also lost twice last week. The Knights hosted Lutheran Northwest on Thursday, Jan. 23, and lost a close game 56-52. Liggett was in action again the next day on Friday, Jan. 24, losing to Everest Collegiate 58-46.

The Knights hosted Cardinal Mooney on Tuesday, Jan. 28, after press time. They take the court again on Friday, Jan. 31, going on the road to face Bishop Foley.



GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

University Liggett's varsity girls basketball team earned a 34-16 win over Riverview Gabriel Richard on Monday, Jan. 27. Kerith Short led the team with 11 points and Phalyn Walker scored nine. Liggett's next contest is a road matchup against Everest Collegiate on Thursday, Jan. 30, at 7 p.m.

Grosse Pointe South varsity girls basketball lost twice last week. The first loss was a 55-41 defeat against Dakota on Wednesday, Jan. 22. South then hosted Eisenhower on Friday, Jan. 24, losing 73-36. The Blue Devils visited Port Huron after press time on Tuesday, Jan. 28. They are on the road again on Thursday, Jan. 30, going across town to visit rival Grosse Pointe North.





FOLLOW GROSSE POINTE NEWS SPORTS

The Grosse Pointe News is proud to announce our new social media page completely dedicated to bringing you the best sports news and moments from around the Pointes. @GPNewssports on Instagram is where you will be able to find instant updates from the biggest games and amazing highlights from athletes and teams at every level from youth sports to high school freshman, JV and varsity.

Best of all, we want to highlight all of the moments that YOU share with us. Send your best sports photos and achievements to our DMs on Instagram or to our email, sports@grossepointenews.com, for your chance to be featured on our social media and even in the sports section of the Grosse Pointe News each week!

Scan the QR code below to follow us!



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Grosse Pointe News Yard & Estate Sale Map

THIS WEEK

1. 805 Balfour Grosse Pointe Park	2. 19950 Mack Ave, Grosse Pointe Woods
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● = ESTATE SALE ○ = YARD SALE See Classifieds for more details

Some classifications are not required by law to be licensed. Please check with the proper state agency to verify license.

Some classifications are not required by law to be licensed. Please check with the proper state agency to verify license.

Athletic trainers help athletes strive for success on and off field

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

For fans who have regularly attended sporting events at Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South high schools over the past few years, Brigitte Scarber and Cameron Mills have likely become familiar faces. Mills has spent the past four years as the head athletic trainer at South and Scarber has been North’s head athletic trainer for the past three years.

Both spend almost every night on the sidelines of the court, field or ice watching whatever Blue Devils or Norsemen teams are in action and are ready at a moment’s notice to treat any and all injuries that might occur. It is a job that presents unique opportunities each and every day and is one both Mills and Scarber have grown to love because it presents the perfect mix of interests.

“It was the perfect combination of sports and the medical field which was what I wanted to go into,” Mills said. “... I just happened to be at (Grand Valley State University) and Grand Valley has a very good athletic training program so it was kind of just the perfect marriage.”

It was also in college where Scarber discovered that becoming an athletic trainer might be the right path for her. Scarber is a native of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, and came to Michigan when she decided to play basketball at Adrian College and got to see firsthand what ath-

letic training was all about. “We don’t really have athletic training in the traditional sense up in Ontario,” Scarber said. “When I went to college to play basketball, I was around the gym a lot and got to meet some of the athletic training staff at the university and learned more about the profession. I always wanted to do something with sports, I just didn’t know exactly what. I really liked sciences and learning about the human body, so when I learned about athletic training and learned that it was the perfect amalgamation of sports and medicine, I realized that was kind of a perfect fit for me.”

It is hard to explore the average day in the life of an athletic trainer because there really is no average day, and that is what makes it a special job for Mills and Scarber. There is no telling what might happen during any given moment of any given day when they are at anything from a football game to a volleyball match.

“There really is no average day ... It never gets monotonous or too routine,” Mills said. “It keeps my brain functioning and there’s just never a dull day.”

The one thing that is relatively routine for Mills and Scarber is how each day starts. Both arrive at their respective schools near the end of the school day and take care of any administrative business they might need to attend to.

As athletes end the school day, they can come and see Mills or Scarber for any help

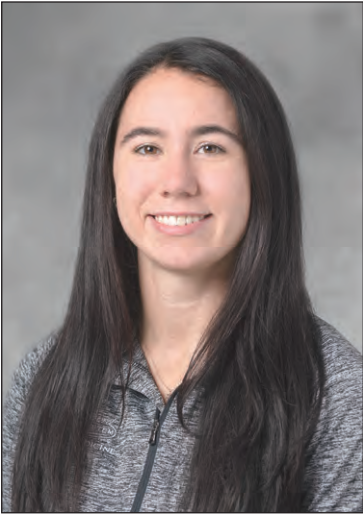
with recovery and rehabilitation to preparation for the night’s upcoming games. Once the games kickoff, that is when the day really begins for the trainers.

“Sometimes I’m running from the pool to the court or if it’s in the fall or spring then I’m going between different athletic fields,” Scarber said. “The rest of my night usually goes with whatever the game dictates, whether it’s a couple of basketball games or swim meets or (if I) have to drive offsite and go to the hockey games. I just kind of go where the flow takes me and I like that aspect of the job where it’s not always the same every night but starts with the same relative pattern and routine.”

The uniqueness of every game and every day keeps Mills and Scarber always on their toes. What makes each day different is the fact that every athlete and every injury is different and needs its own attention and treatment. The fact that they never know what they might be faced with having to treat on a given day has Mills and Scarber constantly learning on the job.

“Every athlete and every injury is so different,” said Scarber. “You have to kind of learn how these kids tick and see what motivates them sometimes to get better. You’re never going to see it all. You’re never going to know it all. It’s such a unique position.”

“One of the main things that my mentors in school taught me was to always be



A former college basketball player, Brigitte Scarber is currently in her third year as the athletic trainer at Grosse Pointe North.



Cameron Mills has served as Grosse Pointe South’s athletic trainer for the past four years.

COURTESY PHOTOS

expanding your toolbox and never stop learning,” Mills added. “I’m learning something new every day here which is not something I would have expected being in the field for nine years now.”

At the end of the day, no matter what they end up facing, life as a high school athletic trainer is still rewarding. Both Mills and Scarber have been at their schools long enough now that the athletes they treated as freshmen are now upperclassmen and are playing some of their final high school seasons.

Mills and Scarber have gotten to see athletes grow both on and off the field, court or ice. Whether it is seeing them achieve a career milestone or simply get back on their feet after an injury, their hard work pays off in the form of seeing the athletes they help

succeed in sports and in life. “Being able to see the entire process for them from the moment of injury, walking them through the rehab and seeing the process to when they get back on the court after an injury, that’s what it’s all about,” Mills said. “Seeing them back on the court of the field just makes it sweeter and is the best part of the job by far.”

“I get to see these athletes every day at practice and watch them in games and work with a group that’s so motivated to get better at their sports and at life in general,” added Scarber. “It’s such a great age group to see the growth and maturity. It’s been super rewarding to see some of the kids I worked with as freshmen and sophomores now being juniors and seniors and see their development as athletes and people.”

Dear Detroit Lions,



From Our Team to Yours
Thank you!



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