



# Grosse Pointe News

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

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Your community newspaper since 1940

FEBRUARY 6, 2025 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

### Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

# **Crime** down

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK - Crime dropped 10 percent last year.

The figure is an aggregate. Decreases in a majority of criminal categories outdid increases in a minority of others.

In many groupings, crime was so low to begin with that the addition or reduction of one or two cases generated out-ofbalance percentage changes.

Aggravated assault is an example. Police registered two cases during

See CRIME, page 2A | GROSSE

A break in a 12-inch water main went undetected beneath the road's surface at Kerby and Kercheval, creating a sinkhole Friday, Jan. 31.

# Sinkhole swallows Kerby crosswalk

By Laurel Kraus Staff Writer

large sinkhole opened in the roadway," City the southeast corner of Manager Shane Reeside the Kerby and Kercheval said. "That's when we intersection around 9 blocked off the road and a.m. Friday, Jan. 31, tak- the asphalt ultimately ing part of the crosswalk caved into the hole, with it.

A passerby first alerted nificant." the city upon noticing way had sunken at the water main, which had have noticed in the plant.

corner and a small hole been running undetected in the asphalt.

"You could see in the POINTE hole through the open-FARMS — Less than 0.1 ing that there was a sigmiles from city hall, a nificant void underneath which obviously was sig-

beneath the road for an running probably for unknown length of time. several hours — maybe

water main break, couple of days - which really," Reeside said. "It caused the soil underwasn't like a blowout of neath to wash away and the main or anything like find its way into the that. Because when you sewer system and create have a major break like that void." that, usually you'll be the surface of the road- a break in a 12-inch ordinary that we would

"But clearly, it was "It wasn't a terrible even could have been a

Once the main break able to see elevated was repaired Friday, fillpumpage in our water ing the hole required plant. So it wasn't any- three truckloads of The sinkhole revealed thing really out of the crushed aggregate stone.

# forming Trombly committee

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

### GROSSE POINTE PARK

- Schmucks aren't allowed on a special committee the mayor is drafting to influence the return of Trombly School as a hub of elementary educa-

"To be effective, we're going to need representation from the city council, city staff, board of education, its staff and community members," Mayor Michele Hodges said.

She wants doers; work horses, not show horses.

Establishing a standalone ad hoc committee gives it more verve compared with a subcommittee buried within an established board, commission or committee.

"It sends a strong message and allows us to summon talent," Hodges said. "An ad hoc committee is a specialized body intended to focus on a specific issue."

Although the committee is intended to function more as a dance partner than a grappler, Hodges realizes the city's need to maneuver deftly in the role of underdog.

See KERBY, page 5A | See TROMBLY, page 3A

# More EV chargers possible | Trombly survey

By Ted O'Neil Associate Editor

GROSSE grant from the Michigan Department Transportation could charging stations located in the Woods.

Discussion at city TODD MCCONAGHY, Monday, Jan. 27, revolved around where to put them, how many and six at Bank of people, we can put them and what type to install America, 197000 Mack. at city hall so they can and how to operate them.

more!

Valentine

ideas

Make the day special

for all your loves...

See Section C

"We applied for this city. back in 2023," said Ross Wilberding of AEW, this will be for residents Peter Basso Associates, which advises the city on engineering projects.

installed in the city.'

been other chargers Todd McConaghy said. "If it's only for residents, That includes two at we could put them at POINTE Beyond Juicery + Lake Front Park. If WOODS — A \$500,000 Eatery, 21110 Mack, we're trying to attract

We need to decide if this will be for see more electric vehicle residents only or if it's something that will promote our businesses.'

council's meeting Grosse Pointe Woods City Councilman

"We need to decide if

only or if it's something a consulting firm that that will promote our "Since then, there have businesses," Councilman

The grant requires a come charge their vehi-\$125,000 match by the cle and eat at one of our local restaurants."

Eric Graettinger of

# forthcoming

By Ted O'Neil Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE PARK - The Grosse Pointe Public School System is planning to survey families in the catchment area

of the closed Trombly Elementary School as sibly reopening the build-

Chris Stanley, assistant superintendent of learning technology and preK-12 operations, told the GPPSS Board Education Tuesday, Jan. 21, he is working with in elementary school by Epic/MRA, a Lansing-

develop the survey.

"Each one will have a unique code so it can only be taken one time per household," he said. "We'll also develop a way people can still take it if, say, it gets lost in the mail or they just had a baby."

The district is aiming to talks continue about pos- target families south of Jefferson with children from birth through age 9. There had been some discussion about extending that to age 12.

"It takes time to open a building, so students who are 11 or 12 would not be

See EV, page 4A | based polling firm, to

See SURVEY, page 10A

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See story, page 4A



Brad Gregory Home: Grosse Pointe Shores

From recklessness to redemption



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





# The Helm, PAATS get block grants

**Brad Lindberg** Staff Writer

### GROSSE POINTE PARK

 Every cent of an annual federal grant issued to the city is being disbursed to two local organizations primarily serving senior citizens.

As members of the city council have done the last three years, they agreed this month to divide

Services.

The Helm, known formerly as Services for Older Citizens, received \$14,000. The Helm is located at the Boll Life Grosse Pointe Farms.

PAATS received \$6,000. The organiza-Community Development Boll Life Center, pro- the Park during 2024:

Block Grants between vides transportation ser-The Helm at the Boll Life vices for residents of all Wheels deliveries to Meals on Wheels were Center and Pointe Area the Pointes and Harper Assisted Transportation Woods aged at least 60 years or disabled of any 2,045 trips through

"These two entities provide valuable services for seniors in your community," Krista Center, 158 Ridge in Siddall, The Helm executive director, wrote to the council.

Her appeal included a \$20,000 worth of tion, also based at the tally of Helm activities in

♦ 3,177 Meals on Park seniors,

PAATS for medical appointments, groceries, pharmacies, banking and other essentials;

♦ 2,481 programs and presentations to enhance seniors' quality of life.

Pointe and Harper Woods-wide:

 more than 29,000 counseling; and served, a 39 percent ◆ residents arranged increase from 2022, according to Helm data;

◆ PAATS gave 16,029

♦ 2,024 pieces of medical equipment, hygiene products and nutritional supplements were supplied to 545 people, a 24 percent increase from the year before;

♦ 678 seniors received one-on-one Medicare

◆ 185 seniors received help preparing taxes.

Council members also maintained course this year by directing block grants in league with elected counterparts in most of the sister cities.

"Once again, it is the intent of the Shores, Farms, City of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods to allocate \$6,000

See GRANTS, page 3A

### CRIME:

Continued from page 1A

2024 compared with three the year before, a drop of 33 percent.

Conversely, disorderly conduct and vagrancy shot up a seemingly shocking 100 percent during the same period, from a paltry three cases in 2023 to six in 2024, a frequency of one arrest every 81/2 weeks.

Figures appear in the Public Safety Department annual report for 2024.

Chief Jim Bostock said until a magic formula is devised to thwart criminal behavior, he must settle for the tried-andtrue way.

"It's a combination of things," he said, "No. 1, it goes to the hard work and dedication of patrol officers and detectives. They come every day to

He also credited proactive residents for trimming auto thefts by 8 percent and larceny by 5 percent.

"I think some of it has to do with keeping valuables out of sight, locking there, the more people car doors, keeping vehicle fobs and keys out of that we're out there," (parked) cars," Bostock

Some 47 autos, many parked overnight unattended and unlocked, were reported stolen in the city last year. The figure is slightly less than 51 cases during 2023, but more than the average of the department's 28 offi-32 thefts per year from 2020 through 2023.

Larceny, including larceny from autos, reached 107 cases last year, down seven from 2023, but greater than the prior four-year average of 102.

"Those numbers are still a little high, but the

to be proactive on their ance rate was 77 percent services." own," Bostock said.

The department also deployed special patrols at night to watch out for prowlers.

"The more we're out see us and word travels Bostock said. "If you commit a crime, chances are, we're going to catch you. Our detective bureau is very tenacious and committed to tracking down people who are committing crimes."

All-in-all during 2024, cers, including three detectives, logged 242 crimes. The total is almost as few as 236 crimes reported during 2022, but fewer than any other year in the 10-year period starting in 2014.

Some 48 percent of reported crimes were

greater than the national average of 27 percent, he added.

This is a really good report," Bostock said. aren't so good, but this is a decent year."

"This is an outstanding trend," Mayor Michele Hodges said. "These statistics are impressive."

intends during annual cleared by an arrest." budget discussions in April to determine how the department can be provided additional resources, including more patrol officers.

"We want to see both to make sure we're aspirational and continuing to move in the right direction," Hodges said. "This body is preparing itself through fiscal responsibility and growing our bell is being rung and cleared, or solved, tax base to be able to

### Increases

One category that increased was burglaryhome invasion. There "You're going to have were 11 cases during good years and those that 2024 compared with eight the year prior.

The majority of those were breaking into a subbuilding, like a garage or a business," Bostock said. "We had three home She told Bostock she invasions. Two were

### Traffic related

Last year there was a decline in auto crashes. Some 66 were reported, the fewest since 2021.

Drunken driving arrests totaled 22, a 57 percent increase from 14 arrests during 2023.

"That goes to enforcement," Bostock said. "Most statistics show you are much more likely to get into a traffic accident if you're impaired. We're aware of that and focus on that type of behavior."

percent increase in traffic citations (3,205).

effect on reducing motor vehicle accidents," brings people's attention guys through."

to traffic signs and signals. All those play a factor in motor vehicle accidents and distracted driving. We took a look at being proactive and trying to enforce traffic."

### Busy bees

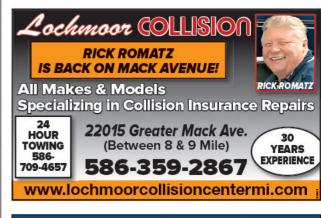
Officers responded to 7,838 calls for service last year, an increase of 438 from 2023. Bostock attributed increased calls, which include calls made by officers when reporting into headquarters, to additional traffic citations.

They answered six reports of dwelling fires. Medics made 376 ambulance runs.

Training hours totaled 3,309 for such things as operating drones obtained by a donation from the Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Foundation (77 hours), firefighting (653 hours), active shooter (216 hours) and ice rescue (24 hours).

"This report is a testa-There also was a 26 ment to your department's hard work," said Councilman Marty "If you enforce traffic McMillan, chairman of laws, there's a direct the Public Safety Committee. "I'm particularly impressed with the Bostock said. "That also training you put your







HOME SHOW • FEBRUARY 15 & 16 • FREE ADMISSIONS • FREE PARKING • HOME SHOW • FEBRUARY 15 & 16 • FREE ADMISSIONS • FREE PARKING









### TROMBLY:

Continued from page 1A

ing Trombly, closed since the summer of 2020 due to enrollment declines, from a position of strength. Although Trombly is surrounded by a residential neighborhood, the school building of land it occupies are owned by the district.

"We are not without influence," Hodges said. "We intend to summon every bit of influence that we can. I believe the school district is similarly disposed and we'll get what we need."

"I wish (the committee) had been formed a couple years ago because the building has been sitting," said resident Renee Jakubowski, a member of a group of volunteer advocates called Trombly United. "But, I am very happy to see movement and support from the city for what we're trying to do, to reopen the school as an elementary."

The group's website is tromblyunited.org.

Member Matt Kahl foresees the city and district working toward the same goal.

"We know the district wants to move on this," Kahl said. "School board members have said so. We want to empower (the council and board) to get the information they need. Obviously, we elementary school,"

Results of a school-age population survey in the

critical to what happens purpose of furthering the mendations for this coun-

mined the committee's charged with developing that we work together," size or composition proposals and recom- Caulfield said. except for the likely appointment o f Councilman Brent and more than five acres Dreaver due to his role spreading the word as chairman of the city's Community Engagement Committee.

> A united council on Feb. 3 approved the idea of an ad hoc committee, which Mayor Pro Tem Tom Caulfield proposed formally.

> "It would give a more straight-line approach for residents to engage," Caulfield said. "The decision in front of the school board is not going to be easy. It needs to be based on factual data and factual open communication."

> Members could efficiently interact directly with a district counterpart as opposed to the current practice of advocates appearing almost randomly before the council and school board as schedules permit, according to Caulfield.

> Councilman Max Wiener introduced a motion to establish the committee, seconded by Dreaver, which won unanimous support of the council.

The mayor's handwritwant it to reopen as an ten draft of the motion

"Approve the formation of an ad hoc commit-Trombly district will be tee of this council for the

advocacy efforts aimed at cil to consider further, "We are here to help restoring Trombly and to report regularly the school district get Elementary School to a back as to its progress." come up with," Kahl said. district and community this," Hodges said. Hodges hasn't deter- representatives and to be

The city isn't address- that done and help the vibrant part of the com- "It sends a strong mescity understand what we munity and to be com- sage that this is a priority think the committee is to prised of city, council, and we're serious about

"It's going to be vital

# **Eagle Scouts** honored

Three members of Troop 96, chartered through Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, were honored with proclamations for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout in the last two years by the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council Monday, Jan. 27. They were Parker Josephs, top; Isaac Warner, mid-

Lackner's parents, Adam and Danielle, accepted his proclamation on his behalf as he currently is a freshman at Michigan State University.

dle; and Jonathan Lackner, bottom.

Josephs attends De La Salle Collegiate High School and Warner attends Grosse Pointe North High

Only about 6 percent of youths who join Boy Scouts achieve the rank of Eagle.

COURTESY PHOTOS

### **GRANTS:**

Continued from page 2A

of the \$20,000 to PAATS and the remaining \$14,000 to The Helm," said Warren Rothe, Park assistant city manager.

### PAATS

A 48-hour advance registration is required to get a ride from PAATS. about Meals on Wheels, Transportation is available Monday through visit The Helm online at Friday, not weekends.

Costs are \$1 to \$3 each services.

Call (313) 394-9712 for reservations and details or visit myride2.com.

Block grants are issued by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development through Wayne County. This year the county allocated \$20,000 in block grants to 34 communities.

For more information call (313) 649-2105 or helmlife/support-

### The Week Ahead

### MONDAY, FEB. 10

- Grosse Pointe Public School System Communities United in Diversity meeting, 6 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education closed meeting, 6 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of
- Education regular meeting, 7 p.m. Grosse Pointe Farms City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- City of Grosse Pointe City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

### TUESDAY, FEB. 11

- Grosse Pointe Shores Finance Committee meeting,
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens' Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12

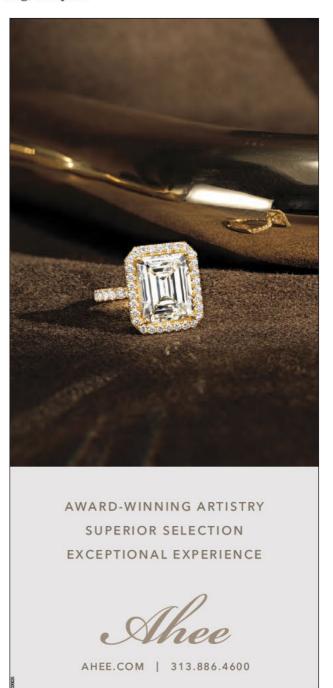
Grosse Pointe Woods Beautification Advisory

Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

### THURSDAY, FEB. 13

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Historical Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m.





# The comeback kid

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

When you're born with a burr under your saddle, restlessness breeds risk taking.

For Brad Gregory, it almost cost him his life, yet saved it by swinging him from the edge of nowhere back to where he could make something of his life.

it. He knows he wouldn't be what he is today without being what he was.

"I'm an open book," Gregory said. "Anybody who knows me, knows anyway."

He's in his mid-40s, seasoned enough to know that everyone screws up sometimes. Some people screw up a and an underpinning of good sense, anyone can cite the last time as the final time.

what people react to in tertime adrenalin fix. the end," he said.

Pointes as a member of a noted family.

Marina," he said. "My work there. My uncle did. That was in our family for four generations."

The lineage includes late grandfather, Ed Gregory. Grampa coowned "My Sweetie," an Allison aircraft enginepowered hydroplane in which driver Bill Cantrell on runs where you'd outdid 33 competitors to have to have transmitwin the 1949 Gold Cup ters, shovels and sign out before 200,000 fans on with the ski patrol," the Detroit River between Greogry said. "It's with recovery," Gregory the marina and Belle Isle. unnerving. I remember said. "I learned more dur-

Cantrell has a place in being on hills doubting I ing the time between the

one "who'd rather risk committed." his neck driving fast boats and fast autos than skydiving were natural eat," according to postings at lesliefield.com and hydroplanehistory.

"They called him 'Wild Bill," Gregory said. "That was well before my time, but we have a lot of fond memories."

enough to go out in the world and ruffle feathers.

Cup from the gas dock, which was on the same canal as the finish line for hydroplanes," Gregroy said.

Racers passed so close he got sprayed by their roostertails.

"Sometimes one would lot more times than that conk out and pull up to but, with determination the gas dock," Gregory said. "The driver would get out of the cockpit and talk to us."

Downhill skiing was "A comeback story is the family's favorite win-

"My dad was very ath-Gregory grew up in the letic and a good skier," Greogry said. "He taught us. That's one of the "We had Gregory Boat things I always enjoyed."

Exhilaration crossed dad, a banker, didn't into daredevil territory on 50-degree slopes at Big Sky and Jackson Hole resorts in Montana and Wyoming. Some hills were so dangerous skiers were required to wear extraction and recovery gear.

"My brother and I went redemption.

hydroplane lore as some- could do it. But you're

Fast motorcycles and attractions.

"I went to the outer edges," Gregory said. "I pushed the envelope on things. I've honed that back a little, probably not as much as most 44-yearolds. I was always a risktaker. I'm certain that Gregory worked at the had a lot to do with my He's not shy admitting marina before getting old drug use and everything.'

> By "and everything," "We watched the Gold Gregory meant waking from a coma in Hawaii with a broken foot, broken hand, two broken ribs, collapsed lung, dislocated hip and fractured skull.

"We don't know what happened," Gregory said. It wasn't a motorcycle

"I didn't have a motorcycle out there," he said. "Nobody knows what happened, the paramedics, nobody. To be almost dead and nobody knows it's a question I'll always have. But, it got me to where I am."

Hence began a turnaround from an aimless 20-year haze of addic-

"I had a 'come to God' moment," Gregory said. "I'd been estranged from my family for a decade, the whole time basically on death's door."

Bottoming switched the narrative from recklessness to

Michigan for a series of surgeries.

"I really got involved



Newlyweds Brad and Jessica Gregory with son, Sterling, 5, and daughter, Aria, 6, at St. James Church in Grosse Pointe Farms.

the beginning of my outs, power washing recovery than I learned anytime else. I learned empathy, compassion, humility and patience; all those things out of necessity. I had no friends left. Coming here, I didn't have a driver's license. school and took classes Support Coalition. with what seemed like

children." He's not embarrassed. that way," he said. "I

thing.' patient became a friend ing members of society. and mentor. Today, they

I went through some-

called Sale Ready.

tail-end of my usage and "We do painting, clean- tenacious people. If you show better and pass inspection."

Gregory and his recovery partner also operate three sober living houses No car. I had to ride my in St. Clair Shores as He returned to bike to work as a dish- part of a nonprofit they washer. I went back to founded, the Sober

> Coalition houses provide stable and supportive living environments. "It would only be Job skills are taught employment. Transition life these days." think people respect that coordinators and social - called participants — A fellow recovery into becoming contribut-

"We walk them payback. each own local busi- through problems they drugs and alcohol --pro-"We work mainly with no prospects," Gregory Realtors to prepare said. "Drug addicts and never pay for what she's houses for sale," he said. alcoholics tend to be very done for me."

can get them to chase whatever is needed to something positive add quick, inexpensive rather than negative, value to a house, help it people can turn around and do remarkable things."

> Six months ago, Greogry married a woman he'd dated for three years. Maturity, experience, commitment and responsibility have trimmed his wild hairs.

"Between the nonprofit, the houses, my company and my family, I'm very family oriented embarrassing if I stayed through real-world now," he said. "That's my

> When his mother workers guide residents started having a hard time living on her own, Gregory knew it was time to make another

"We moved her in," nesses, are married and came in with due to Gregory said. "I, my wife and kids live upstairs. Gregory's business is bation, bad credit, no My mom's the first-floor driver's license, no job, master of the house. I owe her a debt I could

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### EV:

Continued from page 1A

specializes in electrical charge a fee and engineering and energy management, told council there are challenges and benefits to installing charging stations.

### Grosse Pointe News

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Challenges include:

♦ total cost, ◆ placement,

whether or not to

◆ competition with private businesses. Benefits include:

• other government

grants, leasing the units for

a fee and

 converting city vehicles to electric.

"I could see converting your fleet as you replace vehicles for things like code enforcement, DPW and parks and rec," Graettinger said. "You'd have decreased routine maintenance and lower fuel want it, though, for police cars or fire engines."

Graettinger advised against installing Level I take 20 to 30 hours to charge a vehicle. Level II units, which can be used by both fully electric and hybrid vehicles, cost about \$10,000 to install and take six to available for individual seven hours to fully municipalities, there are charge a vehicle.

"That's the kind people with EVs mainly have at home," he added.

DC fast chargers can in the state.

provide 100 miles of driving in 20 to 30 minutes, but cost \$100,000

to install. "Those are really only found along interstate corridors," Graettinger

said. If the city were to operate the stations, it would be responsible for upkeep, as well as credit card fees if it were to charge for usage. Leasing the units for a

fee is another option. Councilwoman Vicki Granger likened that to fees the city charges cell phone companies for installing equipment at city hall.

City Administrator costs. You wouldn't Frank Schulte said he preferred that option.

"Just like we're not in the gas business running gas stations, it would be better to partunits, which he said can ner with someone and get a fee," he said.

> Councilwoman Angela Coletti Brown said she would like to know the need before proceeding.

> While there is no data about 50,000 registered electric vehicles in Michigan. That's 0.6 percent of the 8 million total registered vehicles

### City of Grosse Pointe

### Speeding

A 28-year-old Detroit woman was stopped for speeding at Charlevoix and Rivard at 2:50 p.m. crimes to the City of CCD targeted Monday, Jan. 27, and cited for not having a valid driver's license.

### Out of the woodwork

A former employee from numerous years ago made threatening calls last week to a Grosse Pointe resident who hadn't seen or heard from the suspect in approximately eight vears.

### Stolen vodka

Thirteen bottles of vodka, worth \$380, were stolen from a business in the 17000 block of Kercheval at 7:25 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 29.

The suspect described as a white woman in her mid-30s with blonde hair.

### Causing a scene

A highly intoxicated 55-year-old Eastpointe man was arrested for causing an ongoing disturbance inside an area hospital at 7:50 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, after being given multiple chances to leave. His blood alcohol content was 0.174 percent.

### Intoxicated

For driving without headlights and swerving along the road, a 29-year-old Clinton Township man was pulled over at Mack and Rivard at 2:45 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 1.

His blood alcohol content was 0.250 percent, for which he was arrested.

 Laurel Kraus Report information about these and other

Continued from page 1A

"The irony is, (the sinkhole) made the repair very easy, because there was no excavating needed — (or) very little excavating just to get the asphalt that collapsed out of the hole," Reeside said. "And then, the main was exposed, so it was just a matter of putting the sleeve on the break and making that repair and then backfilling it."

Though winter temperatures — the combination of freezing and thawing is the culprit for breaks this time of year will prevent asphalt from being laid until the spring, Reeside said the road is fully open and safe to drive on.

The Farms thus far this winter has seen about a half dozen water main breaks.

The day prior to the sinkhole, the city's repair crew worked a 15-hour day repairing a main on Edgemere. On Monday, they were on Ridgemont.

"A lot of credit goes to Kevin and Jacob, who are on our distribution crew, and then to our contractor, Larry Tucker Tucker from Excavating," Reeside said. "They were very responsive and were able to get water back on in a fairly short period of time.'

# PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Grosse Pointe Public Safety, (313) 886-3200.

### **Grosse Pointe Farms**

### Fraud

An 81-year-old Farms woman's Capital One account fraudulently was used to make \$521 in purchases in late January.

### Running red

A 45-year-old Farms man showed clear signs of intoxication upon being pulled over at 9:10 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 28, for running a red light at Mack and Moross.

A preliminary breath test found his blood alcohol content to be 0.15 percent, for which he was arrested.

### Drunken

A 34-year-old Detroit man did not know what city he was in when pulled over for speeding on Kerby at 5:11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 31.

The man admitted to drinking four hours prior and a preliminary breath Steals firewood test found his blood alcohol content to be 0.19 percent. He was arrested for operating while intoxicated.

Members reported a man trying car door handles in the Country Club of Detroit parking lot at 11:35 a.m. Saturday, Feb. Other members reported another suspect trying door handles in the lot at 3:55 p.m. that day.

Both suspects were spooked by the members and gone before police arrived.

### Walking red

For crossing a crosswalk at Mack and Moross during a red signal at 10:24 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2, a 43-year-old Warren man was stopped by officers and found to have a felony warrant for malicious destruction of property out of Macomb County, for which he was arrested.

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

### **Grosse Pointe Park**

showed an unknown man park a blue Dodge

Fairfax Market in the 800 block of Beaconsfield, steal eight bundles of firewood displayed on the sidewalk and drive away.

The loss totaled \$400, according to police.

The suspect is white and wore a blue hat, flannel shirt and pajama

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

### **Grosse Pointe Shores**

### Fleeing x 2

A suspect fled from Stolen vehicle public safety officers not once, but twice around 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan.

Shores officer attempted to pull over a vehicle on southbound Lakeshore near Vernier after spotting the driver talking on a cell phone. As the officer was running the vehicle's plate, the driver fled westbound on Vernier at speeds estimated to be 90 mph.

The Shores officer Surveillance video stopped the pursuit due to road conditions, but the driver fled again after minivan at 5:38 p.m. being stopped by a

Thursday, Jan. 30, beside Woods officer at a gas ing to security footage. station on the corner of Vernier and Mack.

> -Ted O'Neil Report information about this and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety, (313) 881-5500.

### **Grosse Pointe Woods**

### Cashing out

Around \$100 in cash was stolen from the console of a vehicle parked in the 1600 block of Severn between 8 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26, and 7 a.m. Monday, Jan. 27.

The thief broke a window on the vehicle to gain access.

A 2024 Dodge Durango was stolen around 5 a.m. Friday, Jan. 31, from a driveway in the 19000 block of Linville, accord-

It is unclear whether the vehicle was locked or

### Double drunk

54-year-old Rochester woman was arrested for her second offense of drunken driving around 11 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2. An officer noticed her vehicle did not move when the traffic light on Mack in front of city hall turned green.

The woman was found sleeping at the wheel with her vehicle on and in gear. She failed several field sobriety tests and a preliminary breath test registered 0.103 percent blood-alcohol content.

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



313-882-SAFE (7233)

19261 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods 48236

AT THE BOLL LIFE CENTER

# OUR IMPACT IN 2024

158 Ridge Road, Grosse Pointe Farms helmlife.org 313.882.9600

The Helm is the senior community, resource and wellness center for the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods. Our senior population will continue to grow, as will the need for our services. In 2024, 3,280 individuals received essential services or attended classes, workshops and programs at The Helm — the most in our 47-year history.

unique sessions of exercise and educational classes, presentations, workshops, health screenings, gatherings, movies, games, crafts and so much more, attended by nearly 1,300 individuals. (\$\dagger\* 6\% from 2023)

requests responded to about various aging-related topics including assistance with caregiving, transportation, elder law information, resources related to dementia, meal delivery services and friendly reassurance calls. (10%)

pieces of medical equipment, hygiene products and liquid nutritional supplements supplied to more than 545 people. (124%)

### 29,065

meals delivered to homebound seniors through Meals on Wheels. (12%; 139% since 2022)

### 10,897

hours provided by 350 active volunteers for a value to the community of \$380,000.

### 185

received tax preparation assistance.

SCAN TO

**LEARN MORE** 

### 16,029

rides on Pointe Area Assisted Transportation Services buses to medical appointments and grocery shopping.

seniors received one-on-one Medicare counseling resulting in direct savings of \$165,802 on medical and drug plans.





# POINTES OF VIEW

### Grosse Pointe News

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

> SEAN COTTON: Owner ANNE GRYZENIA: Publisher JODY MCVEIGH: Editor in Chief

**OUR VIEW** 

# Averyhappy Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is one week from to-T-minus eight days, so here is your reminder that you do not need to wait until the last minute to buy something for your sweetheart. And if you actually forget, well, that is on you. We tried to warn you.

K fellas, time to up your game.

Yes, we realize gift giving is supposed to be a two- just in the Midwest. Some claim it dates back be paired for the following year and many way street, but for this holiday in particular it has more than a century, when Herbert Birch ended up getting married. And here we traditionally been the guy who does the buying. The Kingston, a candy company employee in thought dating apps were a relatively new wining and dining, the flowers, the candy. All the Cleveland, began giving candy to orphans and invention. commercials on TV this time of year back us up here. shut-ins.

Even if you do forget until, say, 3 p.m. the day of, Valentine's Day falls on a Friday this year, so the up by Hallmark. Case in point? A Google search was thought that Feb. 14 was the start of matperfect save can be as simple as a date night at your for how much money people spend on Sweetest ing season for birds. Geoffery Chaucer was favorite restaurant. If you can get a reservation at the Day only serves up results related to spending the first to write about the day in such terms last minute.

According to a survey by the National Retail Federation — one it has done every year since 2004 Valentine and the day? According to history. — the average American plans to spend almost \$190 com, the Catholic Church recognizes three ther (sic) to choose his mate." on Valentine's Day this year. The sum total is \$27.5 saints who went by the name Valentine or billion. That is up from last year, when the average spending was \$25.8 billion, and slightly above the Like we said guys, DO NOT forget. previous record of \$27.4 billion, which was set in 2020.

The most popular item, at 56 percent, is candy. should be soldiers instead of getting married we have come to know and love (pun Flowers and greeting cards are tied for second at 40 and raising a family. Valentine continued to intended). percent each, followed by an evening out at 35 per- perform marriages in secret and was killed cent and jewelry at 22 percent.

Our reader poll (below right), however, shows you favor date night. Almost a third of you, 32 percent, in Italy, who was beheaded for helping will be heading out on the town, which makes sense Christians escape Roman jails. Legend has it given how many great restaurants we have here. he probably sent the very first "valentine" card, Another 27 percent will go the candy route, while 23 a letter to the jailer's daughter who visited him percent buy flowers and 18 percent will opt for jew-during his imprisonment that was signed, elry.

Although it had the lowest response, jewelry comes in at the highest dollar amount, \$6.5 billion. the feast day of St. Valentine in mid-February Those commercials must really work. Some \$5.4 bil- to coincide with the pagan festival of Lupercalia. lion will be spent on date nights, \$2.9 billion on flow- Celebrated Feb. 15, it was a fertility festival

Interestingly, Valentine's Day spending fell below ture. \$22 billion in 2021, and was still below \$25 billion in 2022. Maybe there was a little too much togetherness they believed the founders of Rome, Romulus during the pandemic lockdown for people to feel like and Reemus, were cared for by a she-wolf as celebrating, not to mention mounting inflation.

One reason for the high spending — Americans fertility and a dog for purification. Then, they spend more than twice as much on Valentine's Day would cut the goat's hide into strips, dip them as on Halloween — is the high number of people in the blood and walk around slapping women involved. Not only are couples buying for each other, and crops with the strips. but basically every school kid in the country, particularly in elementary school, has to take candy and place their names in an urn and the bachelors or cards to school for every other student in their classroom.

The NRF survey also found people intend to spend money on gifts beyond their significant others, including family, co-workers and friends. A third of Americans also plan to buy something for their pet. Yes, you read that correctly.

Retailers have gotten in on the act as well to make money by playing off of the theme. Downtown St. Clair Shores (we chuckle at that as well) at Nine Mile and Greater Mack is hosting Galentine's Day from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13. Hosted by the Nine-Mack Merchants Association, businesses in the area will have giveaways and promotions aimed at attracting female clientele.

The concept actually grew out of an episode of the TV show "Parks and Rec," originated by its main character, Leslie Knope (played by Amy Poehler).

Speaking of made-up holidays to get you to spend more money, what is with Sweetest Day? It is basically Valentine's Day 2.0 involving candy, flowers,

David Hughes:

Graphic Artist

Mary Schlager:



ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

cards and date nights. It is primarily celebrated of the town would pick one. The two would

on Valentine's Day.

Valentinus. All three ended up being martyred. is based on the Greek god Eros, who was

Emperor Claudius II decreed that single men eventually morphed into the chubby cherub when it was found out.

There also was a Valentine, bishop of Tenri "From your Valentine."

Others believe the Church may have placed ers, \$2.5 billion on candy and \$1.4 billion on cards. honoring Faunus, the Roman god of agricul-

> Roman priests would gather at a cave where infants. There, they would sacrifice a goat for

At the end of the day, young women would

The idea of Valentine's Day as a romantic We are more inclined to believe it was made notion started in the Middle Ages, when it in his 1375 poem "Parliament of Fowls," with But what about the actual history behind St. the line "For this was sent on Seynt Valentyne's Day/When every fowl cometh

And then we have Cupid. The Roman god believed to use golden arrows and promote One of them was a priest in Rome when love and lead ones to create aversion. He

> So Happy Valentine's Day to all of our subscribers and readers. We love you.

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.

### Recognizing value

To the Editor:

There has been a lot of talk about FEMA in the news lately — North Carolina floods, Southern California wildfires and other areas across the country facing natural disasters. Many of these regions need federal grants to fund large-scale infrastructure projects and recovery efforts.

However, it's not just these hard-hit areas that benefit from FEMA assistance. Residents of Grosse Pointe Farms should be reminded of our own experience with FEMA grants over the past five years:

- ◆ \$630,421.52 received in 2023 to reimburse costs related to the June 2021 rain event
- ◆ \$45,598.09 received in June 2024 through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant for the purchase of extrication equipment
- ◆ \$3,539,299 awarded through the Hazard Mitigation Grant for engineering costs to design a sewer separation project
- ◆ \$71,114.28 received in December 2024 through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant for fire hoses and nozzles

Without these federal grants, the city of Grosse Pointe Farms would have dip into our rainy-day fund or raise taxes to finance the debt.

I support conservative budgeting, but I am also concerned about asking our residents to foot the bill for large-scale clean-ups after natural disasters and critical infrastructure improvements.

Residents of Grosse Pointe Farms have directly benefited from FEMA grants and we should recognize their value in maintaining our community's safety and infrastructure.

LEV WOOD

Chairman, Budget and Audit Committee Grosse Pointe Farms City Council



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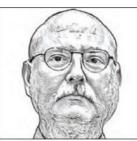
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Ellie Carter

### GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST February 6 - 12 SAT SUN MON TUE WED 31º 210 Freezing Mostly Rain & snow Snow Rain Cloudy Snow Showers Showers ♦ 70% ♦ 0% ♦ 70% ♦ 50% ♦ 50% ♦ 10% ♦ 20% SUNRISE SUNRISE SUNRISE SUNRISE SUNRISE SUNRISE SUNSET SUNSET SUNSET SUNSET SUNSET SUNSET 5:55 pm 5:56 pm 5:57 pm 5:58 pm 5:59 pm 5:53 pm 5:54 pm Weather data courtesy of Channel 4, WDIV Detroit . ClickOnDetroit.com

See LETTERS, page 7A

### I SAY By Ted O'Neil



ince I celebrated my birthday earlier this month, I figured why not take a look at other major events that have occurred during the month of February throughout history.

All kidding aside, let's first commend the good people Punxsutawney, Pa., for

# A short month that's long on history

Maybe more.

their little borough once a year. Estimates say Groundhog Day pumps more than \$1 million annually.

o f rest of the month.

Feb. 1, 1865:

know that regardless of date in 1960, black stuteed to have at least six lasted several days after come. more weeks of winter. being refused service at But the guys in the top counter, and in 2003, invented.

hats and tails invented a the space shuttle way to draw attention to Columbia exploded minutes before landing, killing all seven crew members.

into the local economy Treaty of Guadalupe the makers have ever was elected president in Columbia. Copious Let's take a look at the Mexican-American trust lawsuit. War.

keting scam. Er, I mean Amendment to the in a plane crash in Iowa. highly recommend it.

idea. We Michiganders Constitution, abolishing You will now spend the get "Miss American Pie" shadow or no shadow dents in Greensboro, by Don McLean out of Eagle Scout and even on Feb. 2, we're guaran- N.C., began a sit-in that your head. You're wel-

Feb. 4, 1949: The fellow Scouters. a Woolworth's lunch Barbie Doll was

Reagan — Ronaldus Magnus — was born. On the same date in 1935, the game Monopoly Feb. 2, 1848: The went on sale. I wonder if jail after 27 years. He Hidalgo ended the been hit with an anti- 1994 in the country's

Feb. 7, 1478: St. Feb. 3, 1959: Buddy Thomas More was born. Valentine's Day massacoming up with an President Abraham Holly, Richie Valens If you haven't seen "A cre occurred in Chicago incredibly genius mar- Lincoln signed the 13th and the Big Bopper died Man for all Seasons," I as seven members of

founded. As a proud prouder dad of one, happy birthday to all my

Beatles first appeared Feb. 6, 1911: Ronald on "The Ed Sullivan Show."

> Mandela was released from a South African first all-race election.

Feb. 14, 1929: The St. the Bugs Moran gang

Feb. 8, 1910: The Boy were gunned down by are smart enough to slavery. On the same rest of the day trying to Scouts of America was five of Al Capone's guys posing as police. Maybe people sent sympathy cards from Hallmark.

Feb. 19, 1979: Snow falls in the Sahara Feb. 9, 1964: The Desert. Darnthat global warming!

Feb. 20, 1962: John Glenn was the first Feb. 11, 1990: Nelson American to orbit Earth. On the same date in 1869, Congress banned dueling in the District of amounts of other crimes in D.C. have continued to this day under the direction of Congress.

Feb. 21, 1931: Alka-

See I SAY, page 8A

### LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

### Please reconsider

To the Editor:

After reading "BoE committees to meet" by Ted O'Neil, I am left feeling a bit confused, frustrated and finally outraged.

My confusion stems from the seemingly arbitrary decision to reconfigure/rename the standing committees of the BoE. Why? Having only the vaguely named "facilities" and "policy" committees leaves out the importance of finance, contracts, curriculum and community engagement, which were significant parts of previous board committees. Highlighting these responsibilities in committee titles demon-

importance to our com- sider these decisions. munity as we deal with KATHERINE LETSCHER the issues facing us.

Next. I am frustrated that these newly named Overwhelmed committees do not include ANY members of the public. We are To the Editor: blessed with people of tremendous talent and knowledge in our community and the input of these professionals is invaluable. It is arrogant to exclude members of the public on these com-

that Secretary Valarie St. John is quoted as saying she does not want the input of unelected members of the public on ing over 11.9 million committees because they "shouldn't be making decisions for the school board." This type of brought joy and hope to appalling lack of under- world through fun, full, standing of the role of personalized gifts. For strated awareness that committees as opposed many children, this is the these are vital responsition those of the entire first gift they have

areas are also of primary as a whole will recon-

Grosse Pointe Farms

### with thanks

The overwhelming generosity of the people of Grosse Pointe helped provide joy to children in need through Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts this season. Across the U.S., the Samaritan's Purse project collected Finally, I am outraged 10.5 million shoebox gifts in 2024. Combined with those collected from partnering countries in 2024, the ministry is now sendshoebox gifts to children Pointe drop-off locations worldwide.

Shoebox packers

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bilities of the BoE. These board. I hope the board ever received. Each shoe-ing project by convebox gift is a tangible niently packing a shoebox expression of God's love, given to children in need around the world. Since tanspurse.org/build 1993, Operation online. Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 232 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in world that they are loved more than 170 countries and not forgotten. and territories.

Across the region, shoebox packers often shop for deals on shoebox items throughout the year and many serve at a To the Editor: deeper level by becoming a year-round volunteer. Information about ways area participants can get involved year-round can also be found at samari tanspurse.org/occ.

for shoebox gifts are closed until Nov. 17 to 24,

gift online in just a few simple clicks at samari

These simple gifts, packed with love, remind tomer service. children around the

Samaritan's Purse

### A positive note

There have been a few complaints regarding Priority Waste in their transition, but I wanted to share a positive story.

Last week I mistakenly included my cell phone in Although local Grosse some recycled paper I put in the waste bin. The Priority employee found it as he was emptying the 2025, anyone can still be bin and took the time to thinking reflects an children around the apart of this life-chang- bring it to the door to

return it. He went out of his way and I am very grateful.

It seems Priority is doing a good job of selecting and training their employees for cus-

> PRUDENCE COLE Grosse Pointe Shores

### MOLLYMILLER New trees

To the Editor:

New trees! What a welcome, exciting site here in our Grosse Pointe Park neighborhood after months of trucks, backhoes, shovels and piles of soil, as our water lines and mains were replaced and updated.

We are grateful for the infrastructure updates. Now, looking forward to spring and watching the growth of our new trees.

KAREN BIOLCHINO Grosse Pointe Park

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# My Legs Hurt When I Walk



By Steven Rimar, M.D.

Tf you experience leg pain when walking, you're Inot alone. Many individuals face this challenge, and as a vascular specialist, I often help patients determine whether their discomfort is caused by arterial blockages or other issues such as arthritis or back problems, which can present with similar symptoms.

The symptom associated with arterial disease and blockage is called "claudication." Blocked arteries limit the increased blood flow needed for walking. Patients with claudication often report calf pain that starts after walking a certain distance and subsides with rest. This pattern is predictable; walking a set distance triggers pain which disappears with a short break. In contrast, leg pain from arthritis or back issues can occur at varying distances and often continues after resting.

Diagnosing arterial blockage is straightforward and involves seeing a physician who specializes in the area and can determine a diagnosis and treatment. A thorough history and physical examination are conducted, followed by non-invasive tests to measure arterial pressure and blood flow.

Depending on the severity of the blockage and symptoms, treatment options are available. The most common approach for patients with claudication includes an exercise program, lifestyle changes, smoking cessation and medication to alleviate symptoms. In more severe cases, minimally invasive procedures or surgical interventions may be considered, but non-surgical treatments are prioritized whenever possible.

Most patients with claudication can be treated conservatively and see improvements with lifestyle changes. However, it can be a warning sign of broader vascular disease affecting the heart and other organs. Early diagnosis and intervention are crucial for overall health. While uncomfortable, claudication does not typically lead to limb loss if managed

If you are experiencing leg pain while walking, don't ignore it. A vascular evaluation can provide clarity and help you regain your mobility. Schedule an appointment today to explore your options.

Dr. Steven Rimar is a Board-Certified Vascular Surgeon with over 30 years of experience treating vascular disease. His clinic is located at 16815 East Jefferson Avenue in Grosse Pointe, on the Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital campus. For appointments, call (313) 473-4690.



### **NEWS**

### I SAY:

Continued from page 7A

Seltzer was first sold. They must have been tipped off that Prohibition was close to ending.

Feb. 22, 1980: The Miracle on Ice. Now deceased, Mark Wells from just up the road in St. Clair Shores, was on that team. If anyone tells you they watched the game live, they're lying.

Feb. 23, 1836: The Battle of The Alamo began. If you visit, ask about the basement. Feb. 24, 1582: Pope

Gregory XIII institutes the Gregorian calendar. Feb. 26, 1848: Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels publish "The Communist Manifesto."

Devotees of this version of bizzaro world can still be found in abundance today on faculty at public universities across America.

Feb. 28, 1953: Watson and Crick discover the structure of DNA. The following year on the same date, the first color TV sets went on sale. Generations, including mine, were raised on TV. As the saying goes, it's in our DNA. The final episode of "M\*A\*S\*H\*" aired on the same date in 1983. The show, set during the Korean War, ran almost four times as long as the war.

Let's not forget about Leap Day.

Feb. 29, 1692: The Salem Witch Trials began. They must have weighed the same as a

Pop quiz: How many months have 28 days? All of them.

### YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

75 years ago this week

SCHOOL **ENROLLMENT HITS PEAK:** New evidence of the need for more Sigurd R. Wendin, president of the Grosse Board Pointe Education. Mr. Wendin flames. pointed out that in the month of January alone, 23 new pupils were registered in the Mason School and eight in the Parcells School as compared with one and four for the same period in 1949.

BACKS GROUP CONVERSION PLAN endorsed the plan for will come before the voters in the March election. This was Tappan, president of the association.

College which killed nine on Feb. 27, 1949, was awarded a Carnegie schools in the Grosse Hero Medal on Jan. 25. Pointe School District Young Collins, son of Collins of Vernier Circle, rescued Will Pilcher and

50 years ago this week

CENTER SEEKS

LIQUOR PERMIT: Members of the Board of Directors of the Grosse IN PARK: Directors of Pointe War Memorial the Citizens' Association Association appeared of Grosse Pointe Park before the Farms have unanimously Council asking permission to obtain a Class C "home rule," that would liquor license, but the convert the present vil- matter was tabled until lage to a city form of March to allow the assogovernment, and that ciation to research the requirements for such a license more thoroughly.

> GROUP NEW in the Woods as the ment.

HERO'S MEDAL council unanimously PRESENTED TO E. T. concurred in the DISTANCE LEARNING COLLINS: Edwin T. Committee of the Whole AT Collins, aged 21, Pointe recommendation to SOUTH: The Grosse hero who saved the lives form a Beautification Pointe Public School of two fellow students Commission at the regu- System has booted up during the fire at Kenyon lar meeting Feb. 3. At two distance learning this point in time, the projects only weeks entire concept is in its after having teleconferearly stages. All that is encing equipment definite is (1) Mayor installed at North and Benjamin W. Pinkos will South high schools. The has been released by Mr. and Mrs. Tappan appoint commission DANCE (Distance and members with council Near Conferencing for approval and (2) specific Education) project will of Leon A. Peris from the methods of funding allow students at both must be okayed by the schools to sit in on a solons.

25 years ago this week

DRINKING WATER SAFE FROM MTBE: Local water supplies are cal) at any of our plants," said Pamela Turner, a included

DISTRICT PILOTS NORTH AND class taught at one facility. Last week the disbegan trict enrichment class in American Sign Language.

U DEPARTMENTS FIGHT **BLAZE:** Grosse Pointe's latest piece of firefighting equipment passed its free from contamination first test last week with a city-run dog park by a well-publicized honors. Only days after chemical that has made being put into operation, water undrinkable in officers used a camera ATTEND GATHERING: other parts of the count hat can see flames try. Tests by the Detroit through walls to tame Water and Sewerage what could have been Department "show no one of the biggest local detection of (the chemi- fires in recent years. Still, the incident multiple manager in the water alarms, dense smoke, announced by Bruce FORMED IN WOODS: quality division of the hidden fire, hook and event was important for "Everything is beautiful" Detroit water depart- ladder trucks, holes in the residents of the roofs and burning floors. Pointes and Detroit.

10 years ago this week

WOODS HAILS NEW CHIEF: The search is finally over. After months of looking for the right person to head the public safety department in the Woods, administrators and city leaders got their man, Bruce Smith. Smith was officially sworn into office as director of public safety Monday, Feb. 2, in front of friends, family, city staff and city council.

PARK CONTINUES REVIEW FOR ADDING DOG PARK: There's certainly a desire for one in the Park. And before long, the desire will be reality, as city officials explore the possibility of within its borders.

MORE THAN 200 More than 200 area residents and officials gathered in The Village to observe what would have been Paige Stalker's 17th birthday Jan. 28. City of Grosse Pointe Mayor Dale Scrace said the

### Sidewalk repair, supervisory positions among priorities

By Laurel Kraus Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE **POINTE** — As they continue to take a hard look strongest support was at the city's operational costs, members of city

week to workshop budget 11 — Windows 10 no lon- City Manager Joe priorities going into the upcoming 2025-26 fiscal

Among the headliners, expressed for a \$42,500 expense to upgrade the council gathered last city's system to Windows

ger will be supported as Valentine said. of October of this year deck and increasing the annual funding alloca- full time, which comes repairs.

adequate, to be frank," tions within the city.

of the Neff Park pool increase the part-time court administrator to tion toward sidewalk with a \$29,000 price tag, while Valentine is cham-'Currently we allocate pioning the creation of \$10,000, which is not new supervisory posi-

"This is not adding staff," he clarified. "This From a staffing per- is promoting existing and for maintenance spective, administration staff to give them more needs, including \$60,000 will entertain a request responsibility to be able for concrete replacement from court personnel to to take on more leadership within the operation. We do have limited staff. I think it serves well as a retention opportunity to give people the opportunity to grow in

See PRIORITIES, page 9A



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# GPPPSF donates life-saving tools

By Brad Lindberg Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK The Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Foundation continues matching words with action by helping outfit the department with tools to

do the job. has a particular need, the Grosse Pointe Park **Public Safety Foundation** keeps giving and giving and giving," said Councilman Marty McMillan, chairman of the Park Public Safety Committee. "They're instrumental in the success of our department."

dation's mission, which is providing training and LifeVac) are outstanding resources that officers need," said founder and President John Wolski.

The foundation's latest donations are two trauma kits and 10 LifeVac antichoking aids.

"The trauma kits will "Every time our chief be placed in scout cars," Chief Jim Bostock said. "Each kit has supplies to treat multiple injuries in the event of a multiplecasualty scene."

> LifeVacs are comparable to a plunger placed over a victim's nose and mouth. The hand-held device is pumped up and down to suck obstruc- and visitors safe."

"We stick to the foun- tions from the airway.

and they are easy to use,' Bostock said.

"I think every scout car is now equipped with a LifeVac," Wolski said. "When you think about all the people in the Park - not residents of the community, but also people who visit daily to dine, drink and take part in all the activities, such as Chilly Fest — to have officers equipped with a tool like that is the point of the foundation, to make sure officers have the equipment and training they need to keep all residents

Trauma kits are the size "The reviews (of of duffle bags. They're rience," he said. "When I mannequin a couple of aid and related items.

a number of situations, but are portable and contain components to control bleeding, keep airways clear and provide hypothermia protection in case there is an incident with multiple injuries," Bostock said. "We're glad to have them and hope we never have learned about LifeVacs to use them."

Bostock said community support shown by such actions as the foundation make the department more attractive to high-level talent.

selling points was that "They could be used for the community really values public safety. It's refreshing to get that feeling and know we're part of a community that appreciates public safety."

We're very grateful to the foundations," Mayor Michele Hodges said.

while attending a 10-week course last spring at the FBI National Academy in Quantico,

"They have vendors with products," Bostock it," Bostock said.

"I can speak from expe-said. "I used one on a filled with dozens of first- came here, one of the times. I thought, 'We need this."

He tested it again a few months later at the International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference in Boston, for which the city incurred no cost due to a \$6,500 donation by resident Paul

"This is something we Bostock said he first have to have," Bostock remembered thinking. "I took both items to our foundation."

"He said we have to move them to the top of the list," Wolski said.

"They said, 'Let's do

### New Shores officer sworn in

SHORES — Devon Dentai said he wasn't sure how the public would perceive him when he first started patrolling as the city's newest public safety officer.

"I did some (ambulance) runs in Detroit and down there, the police are viewed as the enemy," he said. "But here, everyone is extremely welcoming."

POINTE Ken Werenski told city council after Dentai was sworn in Tuesday, Jan. 21, about the latter's reaction to his new job.

"I saw him not long after he started and asked him how things were going," Werenski said. "He told me everyone was super nice, but that was during the holidays when meals were showing up non-Public Safety Director stop.'

Werenski called Dentai a "grand slam," for the department.

"He has a real passion for public service," he said. "We liked him right away."

Dentai, a 2017 graduate of Richmond High School, was working at an oil change business when he said his mom saw an ad for EMTs.

"I went to school and fell in love with it," he said.

paramedic and instructor for MedStar EMS.

calls in the Shores and got to know some of the guys, he said. "They asked if I'd ever thought of being a you needed a degree for

"They told me no, they'd send me to the academy,' he continued. "I just said, Where do I sign?"

Dentai graduated from the police academy at

Dentai worked as a Macomb Community College in December and will return there for the "I had a few random fire academy later this month.

"Being able to do all three is what drew me here," he said. "It's great police officer, but I thought knowing that anyone at any time can call 911 for any reason and I'll be able to help them."

Mayor Ted Kedzierski said the attitude of Dentai department helps make more action." the Shores special.

"We don't just have police officers or public safety officers," he said. 'We have ambassadors."

Werenski said his department is now fully staffed, although he knows he'll be down two officers by the end of the year.

"We have one retirement coming up and one young officer who wants to test the waters," he said. "He's looking to go to a and everyone in the larger department with

– Ted O'Neil

### PRIORITIES:

Continued from page 8A

the organization from a succession planning standpoint."

Specifically, he hopes to promote an existing DPW supervisor to a new position of assistant director of public service, as well as promote one existing staff member to a new parks and harbor supervisor position to address "neglect" of the

'We (need) someone that's dedicated to overseeing that on a daily basis to ensure that it's being managed appropriately," Valentine said. "... I get comments on the of maintenance sometimes there. There's a resource issue, but there's also a leadership issue in terms of not having people focused on that operation entirely. And I think by doing that, we can eliminate some of that concern."

Of budget priorities for The Village presented by Main Street Grosse Pointe, council members showed greatest support for 40 new garbage cans, estimated at \$50,000, and a speaker system for the downtown strip, estimated at \$40,000.

"People have been complaining about those garbage cans as long as I've been on council," noted Mayor Shelia Tomkowiak, who also sits on the MSGP board.

Main Street additionally is exploring the installation of bollards in the area of St. Clair and Kercheval as a pilot program for use throughout The Village as security during local events - at \$45,000 — and intends to provide maintenance and repairs to the clock tower for between \$8,000 and \$20,000.

MSGP would cover the cost of the improvements, by way of seed funding provided by the city the past three years.

Though less glamorous, the city also is keeping an eye on a number of vehicles and equipment due for replace-

- \$250,000;
- Bobcat utility vehicle, \$65,000;
- two riding lawn mowers, \$40,000; mini pumper fire
- truck, \$400,000; • two police cars,
- \$145,000; ◆ and firefighting gear,

The stormwater separation millage passed in ferent and trying to look November allocated around \$1.4 million of the incoming funds for we operate as one departcapital needs, which ment throughout the could include the frontfire truck and others.

vehicles by talking to the other Grosse Pointe com-♦ front-end loader, munities and trying to strategically align our purchases, so that we don't have unnecessary redundancy of our vehicles," Valentine noted. "If we're buying a mini pumper and someone else is buying a mini pumper, does it make sense to buy two or should somebody be looking at something difat that big picture?

"Because effectively Grosse Pointes, and it upcoming

more effective."

Additional funding requests to be considered for the new budget year, broached by council members, were for sidewalk snow removal, pool liner maintenance, playground maintenance, Elworthy Field master planning and enhanced parks and recreation programming.

The budget priorities to fiscal responsibility.

multiple redundant units tion of a three-year "At the same time showing up on scene rather than one-year

our needs with our fire cally align our units to be services to cover costs; ited." development of an asset management plan regarding liabilities going forward; exploration of opportunities for service and equipment sharing with other communities; and bidding construction projects earlier in the year, along with starting projects in the spring rather than summer and fall.

"The challenges we emphasis on strategic have and that's limitaplanning when it comes tions on revenue," measures the opportunity to generend loader, mini pumper makes no sense having include the implementa- ate revenue is rather lim- chases.

Thus far, city officials already have taken action via the staffing reduction of 21 positions in 17 years; eliminating cost of living adjustments and retiree healthcare for active employees; eliminating pensions for new hires; eliminating employee raises in some years; lowering health savings account contributions from 75 percent workshop served as one have obviously are the to 50 percent; switching part of the city's new same all communities to a high deductible health care plan; contracting out public safety Valentine said. "We need dispatching services to Additional recent or to be strategic, because the Park; and deferring



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10A | SCHOOLS

# Rediscovering the joy of reading

eading has always been cornerstone of personal growth, intellectual engagement and cultural understanding. But in recent years, something unsettling has been happening: Reading is no longer central to many of our lives, especially for younger generations.

My own reading habits have changed to where most of the text I'm reading in a day is from scrolling through my phone. In his recent series of articles on his Teacher to Parent Substack, Jody Stallings — a veteran educator and gifted writer - explores this troubling trend with insight and wisdom.

Stallings is a longtime teacher and columnist whose work often cuts straight to the heart of the challenges facing modern education. With over 25 years of experience in the classroom, his writings, which include a recurring column for the Moultrie News in South Carolina, are a voice of clarity in a field often mired in jargon and conflicting theories. His seven-part series, "What happened to reading?" delves into the decline of reading skills and enjoyment among America's youth.



### Academic **Pointers**

by Glen Hipple

As Stallings outlines, this decline is not just an educational issue; it's a cultural and societal one and its implications are profound. Let's explore three of the most pressing themes from his series and why they should matter to everyone in Grosse Pointe and beyond.

### A decline in reading skill and enjoyment

Stallings' articles open with an undeniable truth: Kids today are reading less and they're reading worse. National test scores have shown a marked erosion in reading ability over the past decade. Even more concerning is the precipitous drop in reading for pleasure. The days of curling up with a book after school seem to be fading

into the past. What's at stake here isn't just literacy rates; it's the very foundation of democratic participation researchers call a "novand critical thinking. Reading expands our ability to understand stimulation rather than complex ideas, empathize with others and shift has profound impli-

engage meaningfully with the world around us. Without strong reading skills, Stallings argues, we risk creating a society divided into those who can engage with nuanced issues and those who cannot — a gap that could exacerbate existing socio-economic divides.

For families in Grosse Pointe, this should hit close to home. Strong reading skills have long been associated with academic and professional success, but they're also about something more profound: the ability to think critically and act thoughtfully in our communities.

### **Digital distractions**

Another crucial theme Stallings explores is the impact of the digital age describes how smartphones, social media and algorithm-driven content have created what some elty reflex," training our brains to seek constant sustained focus. This

cations for literacy.

Stallings writes that quences. today's digital devices are designed to captivate whether it's "The and distract, making the Odyssey," Shakespeare quiet concentration required for reading feel like a chore. Kids — and adults — are drawn to the instant gratification of endless scrolling rather These are stories that than the slow burn of a great novel. Over time, this rewires our brains, making it harder to engage deeply with in favor of simpler, more books or any other intellectually demanding material.

Granted, technology is not the enemy and reading literature on a screen is more than valid. Stallings emphasizes the need for balance: regulating screen time and carving out space for books in our lives. Families can embrace this by setting aside time for shared reading, setting devices to "do not consistent habits.

### The shift to relatable texts

on reading habits. He a shift in educational priorities that has sidelined classic literature in favor of more "relatable" texts. The argument behind this trend is that students are more likely to engage with stories that mirror their own experiences. But as Stallings points

have unintended conse-

Classic literature or works by Dickens challenges readers to grapple with complex language, big ideas and diverse perspectives. shape our cultural heritage and push us beyond our immediate experiences. By sidelining them "accessible" texts, Stallings argues, we're depriving students of the chance to grow intellectually and emotionally.

Since students should see themselves reflected in what they read, we must balance representation with rigor when recommending texts to learners. Stallings concurs: Combining relatstories with able challenging, canonical works that broaden studisturb" and modeling dents' horizons is an effective approach to increasing reading proficiency. Education isn't just about holding up a Stallings also examines mirror to ourselves; it's about opening windows to the world.

Stallings' work is both a wake-up call and a source of hope. The issues he highlights are serious, but they are not insurmountable. Parents, teachers and communities all have a role to play out, this approach can in restoring reading to a

more prominent place in our lives.

Locally, we are fortunate the Grosse Pointe Public School System maintains high standards for reading instruction and text selection. As parents, we can start by asking ourselves some simple questions: How often do our kids see us reading for pleasure? Do we encourage them to pick up books, not just for school but for fun?

For those who want to dive deeper into these issues, I can't recommend Stallings' writing enough. His Substack, Teacher to Parent, is a treasure trove of thoughtful commentary on education, parenting and the challenges facing today's students. You can find it at jodystallings.substack. com/.

As Stallings reminds us, reading is not just a skill - it's a doorway to empathy, creativity and understanding. By rediscovering the joy of reading and advocating for it in our schools and homes, we can help ensure that future generations don't lose this vital part of their humanity.

Glen Hipple is a former GPPSS teacher. He currently is the academic director for Pointers for Academic Excellence, a community resource dedicated to supporting and endowing academic excellence in the Grosse Pointe Public School System. Contact him at glen@pf-ae.org.

### SURVEY:

Continued from page 1A

the time it were to

seat in that building."

Stanley said it will take take another two weeks

students who would be a then would be open for two weeks and it will

reopen," Stanley said. six to eight weeks to for Epic/MRA to process know that in some situa-"We're looking for the develop the survey. It the data. An exact start date has not been determined.

> ken down into three subsets: • children birth to 4

The survey will be bro-

- not enrolled in GPPSS preschool,
- ♦ children 5 to 9 not enrolled in GPPSS and
- ♦ children 5 to 9 attending Defer Elementary Trombly if it reopened. School.

tions, you might have one child enrolled in private school and another in public school.'

The survey also will ask if parents of students in private preschools plan to enroll their child in GPPSS for kindergarten and if parents of students would send their child to Janine Eckert, who

"We're asking parents Tuttle previously told the to fill out the survey for board there are 461 stueach child in the house- dents at Defer, including hold," Stanley said. "We 174 who would be attend-

ing Trombly had it not closed.

Estimates to reopen Trombly are pegged at around \$5.8 million.

About a dozen people spoke under public comment at the board's November meeting in favor of reopening the school. That included in elementary school Renee Jakubowski and helped coordinate the Superintendent Andrea state historical marker placed at the school last June.

> They said in canvassing the area they found more than 160 children from birth to age 6 and had only covered half of the homes as of that time.

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

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



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**2&7B** AREA ACTIVITIES **6B** OBITUARIES 3-5B SENIOR LIVING **7B** CHURCHES



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GPT

The cast of "The Lion in Winter," to be performed by Grosse Pointe Theatre Feb. 7 to 16.

# GPT captivates with historical drama, 'Lion in Winter'

### Production takes place Feb. 7-16

By Jody McVeigh Editor

Longtime Grosse Pointe Theatre member Nick Marinello is excited to share his take on a \$p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8 classic with the production of "The Lion in • 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12 Winter," which will be performed Feb. 7 to 16, at Parcells Middle School.

"Often in theater it's what's the hot new thing? Or what's the new interpretation of a brand new something?" said Marinello, who is directing the play. "This show is an extra special know.' He's at the end of Eleanor, who is a great moment because we get his life and wondering woman in history, a Teter as his wife, Eleanor. to do a classic."

"The Lion in Winter" was written and debuted on Broadway in 1966. Three years later it was made into a film starring Katherine Hepburn and Peter O'Toole.

"Theaters, year after year, try to recreate the original show; it's a challenge to recreate," Marinello said. "This is the third time GPT has recreated it. We did it in 1968, in 2002 and now, in 2025. It's a great legacy; previous productions are iconic moments in Grosse Pointe Theatre history."

Written by James Goldman, "The Lion in Winter" explores the complex relationships between King Henry II of England, his powerful wife Eleanor of Aquitaine and their three sons, each vying for the throne.

"It's set in 1183," Marinello said. "... Henry is old. One of the lines he says is, 'My god, I'm 50. I'm the oldest man I

### The details

What: "The Lion in Winter"

- When:
- ♦ 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7
- ◆ 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9
- ◆ 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13
- ♦ 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14
- ◆ 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16

Where: Parcells Middle School, 20600 Mack, Grosse Pointe

Tickets: \$35 weekends, \$25 mid-week, fees included. Visit gpt.org/lion or call (313) 881-4004

flawed in their own ways, him." so he doesn't have a good

who will become king wealthy woman, a powafter him and take on this erful woman, tries to empire he has built. He overthrow her husband has three sons who are and maneuver around

Marinello described



"The Lion in Winter" features Patrick Lane as King Henry II and Samantha

and forbidden love akin ceed him," he said. "It's a to HBO's award-winning classic storyline." "Succession" set in the 12th century.

choice. As he's trying to the production's political father, children who are navigate this, his wife, intrigue, family rivalry not great trying to suc-

Along with the classic storyline are a classic set "There's an aging and costume design, mir-

See LION, page 8B

### The cast

Patrick Lane as Henry II Catherine Pearson as Alais Gavin DeFillippo as John Sterling Orlowski as Geoffrey Christopher Peterson as Richard

Samatha Teter as Eleanor Colin Martin as Philip

### The crew

Director Nick Marinello Apprentice Director Branden Omoregie

Stage Managers Raven Ross and Arlene Schoenherr Technical Director/Set Design/ Set Dress, Justin Hawley Producer Olyvia O'Donnell Apprentice Producer Kyle

O'Donnell Costume Design, Mary

Magyari Lighting Design, Tom Archinal Sound Design, McKenzie Dera Properties, Colleen Hughes Hair and Makeup Design, Haley Sommerstorfer



From left, Gavin DeFillippo, Christopher Peterson and Sterling Orlowski star as the king's sons, John,

Richard and Geoffrey.

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### 2B | FEATURES

# 'My Team' explores the importance of working together

Exhibition runs through March 7

By Jody McVeigh Editor

Before the NFC North Champion Detroit Lions's road to the Super Bowl was cut short by the Washington Commanders, the Grosse Pointe Artists Association was inspired by the grit and determination of its hometown squad - and themed its current exhibition, "My Team," in tribute to the recordbreaking team.

"We did point out that it's so important to be part of a team, that we're better in a team and how much we depend on each other," said Karen Pope, GPAA president. "It's interesting because we chose the hand the number of sports-



"Derby Girls," by Tom Sherry, captures the raw, physical application of teamwork.

Lions, but almost nobody entered sports-themed work.'

She counted on one

theme because of the related artwork, but pointed out the ingenuity of artists' takes on the theme. Some pieces are health-related, like Mary Aro's third-place winner, Macular Degeneration Team, Henry Ford Health,' which saved her eyesight.

> First-place winner Jan Filarski highlighted teamwork by creating a collaborative painting featuring collage work from a late friend in "Ode to Pat."

> "I had permission to use our collaborative pieces



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KAREN POPE

"Ode to Pat," by Jan Filarski, a mixed media piece on canvas, earned first place.

appeared in the center,

with many other heart

vas," Filarski wrote about by me, a huge heart

the piece. "As I worked on this painting, working and ripped some of them from all four sides because

shapes present. It shows how much I loved and miss my dear friend." Artist Jacquelyn Block's 'Polar Harmony" looks at a flock of penguins using teamwork to survive a harsh winter, while Cathy Huntoon's "Women's Friendship," which earned honorable mention,

> bonds of women and girls. Joan Witte's "The Outsider," which placed second, features a graceful swan and its ducklings. In her words, "The ugly duckling is a symbolic

depicts the long-lasting

up to collage on this can- it was so large, unplanned story of having a wild nature and wanting to belong to a tribe or team. It is much harder to find friends as an adult. Teams (sports, dance, whatever) fade away with youth. Plus, our technology advances contribute to a rise in loneliness, which is associated with negative mental and physical health. We all crave a team/tribe.'

> Sailing, firefighting and roller derby teams also grace the walls of the gallery, which also includes a team-created piece offered by the GPAA's Veterans Art Making program.

> > See TEAM, page 8B



"Highland Park Engine 1," by Kate Gowman, is an example of teamwork in the field.



"Danza Azteca" by Jim Klein, depicts a group of dancers he has photographed the past 12 years as part of the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

# AUDIO NEWS

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### AREA ACTIVITIES

### Library

The Grosse Pointe Grosse Pointe Woods. Public Library hosts a

- ♦ Getting to the Art of Ewald, 15175 E. Grosse Pointe Woods. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe
- 10:30 to 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 7, at Central, 10 Farms. Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8, at Woods. Ewald, 15175 E. Park.
- ◆ Girls Reading, 7 to 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 10, at Ewald, 15175 Jefferson, Grosse Pointe will be closed all day Park.
- Teen Creativity

Woods, 20680 Mack.

- ◆ Dream Lab TEENS variety of programs. To ONLY, 4:30 to 8 p.m. register for the following, Tuesday, Feb. 11, at Grosse Pointe Woods.
- Things with Ashley Discussion, 7 to 8 p.m. Menth, 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, at tion on the following, Thursday, Feb. 6, at Woods, 20680 Mack, visit warmemorial.org
  - Book Group, 7 to 8:15 ◆ Sensory Storytime, p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, at Central, Grosse Pointe
- 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. ♦ Hustle for Health 12, at Woods, 20680 Dance Class, noon to 1 Mack, Grosse Pointe
- ♦ Storytime, 10:30 to Jefferson, Grosse Pointe 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
  - ◆ All three branches Thursday, Feb. 13.
- ♦ 1,000 Hours Great Circle: Valentine Cards Backyard Bird Count, 10 and Sugar Cookies, 4 to 6 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, at 15, at Ewald, 15175 E.

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15, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe

### The War Memorial

The War Memorial, 32 visit grossepointelibrary. Woods, 20680 Mack, Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers programs ◆ Tuesday Night Book and activities for the community. For informa-

- Caricature Night ◆ 7th & 8th Grade with artist Andrew Sigman, 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7. Cost is \$30.
- ◆ Second Saturdays at The War Memorial: ◆ Baby Time, 9:30 to Cupid's Corner, 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 8. Cost is \$10 per child, with free adult admission.
  - ♦ Silent Book Club, 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11.
  - Sing to Love with Ramona Collins and Cliff Monear, 6:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14. Dinner and concert tickets are \$85 each, a table for two for \$160 or a table for four for \$320. Concert-only tickets are
  - ◆ Climate Change and Gardening: What Does it all Mean?, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25. Admission is free for Grosse Pointe Garden Center members, \$10 for nonmembers.

### Ford House

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

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

Storytime:

See EVENTS, page 7B

### **SENIOR LIVING**

# VOLUNTERING



# IS A CIRCLE OF LOVE

By Grosse Pointe News Staff

Volunteering is not only great for your community - it's also good for your health. Seniors who stay connected to others are happier, less anxious and take advantage of the sense of well-being that giving to others provides. Being a volunteer gives life meaning and provides opportunities for new friendships and social bonding.

If you find yourself at a place in life where you have the time and energy to volunteer, there are always unique ways to express love for others in a way that you find enjoyable and interesting.

Assessing your own skills, talents and interests is a great place to start. If you're not sure, ask those close to you where they think you shine from baking to people skills, there are volunteer openings for everyone. Think over your past work resume - where did you excel? Were you a leader and organizer or did you prefer to look after the details behind the scenes? These are all clues for you to determine what you have to offer that you will find fun and enriching.

Some may knit mittens to keep kids warm or enjoy serving food at a soup kitchen while others may help to organize community-wide events that inspire people to get out, meet their neighbors and take pride in their towns and cities. Indeed, the opportunities to make a difference in one's community abound, especially for those willing to consider applying their unique skills to volunteering.

Here are some ways you can give back that you may not have considered:

- Share your expertise. Established professionals with ample experience in a given arena can be particularly helpful with community initiatives. For example, experienced project managers can volunteer with local government offices and help to plan town-wide celebrations that bring locals and local retailers together. Experienced accounting professionals may volunteer with local senior centers to offer complementary or low-cost tax services to aging community members living on fixed incomes.
- · Help to raise funds. Fundraising may not be the first activity individuals associate with volunteering, but charitable organizations must be able to continuously raise financial support to meet their missions. Individuals with sales experience or the gift of conversation can help to organize fundraising events like black-tie dinners with silent auctions that are both fun and fruitful for local charitable organizations.
- Get behind the wheel. Various organizations, including local houses of worship and senior centers, help aging men and women get around town. Volunteer drivers make such efforts possible, so individuals who want to give back can offer to drive aging and/or immobile community members to religious services, weekly events like bingo night, or even offer to drive incapacitated neighbors to and from their doctor's appointments.

- Start a program for local youth. Adults with a passion for a particular hobby can share that love with local youths by volunteering to start a program or club that teaches young people the basics of a specialized activity. For example, adults with a love of sailing can work with local township officials and develop a sailing instruction program for community youths. If reading is a passion, start a book club for teenagers that encourages them to discover their own favorite literary genre.
- · Get creative. Artists or writers can run workshops or classes for those looking to hone creative skills. Your experience is valuable to those who are just beginning their creative journey. Crafting, scrapbooking, Become a museum docent or volunteer to usher at theatre performances.



· Help other seniors. Offering assistance to other seniors who might be struggling with something you have mastered is an excellent way to give help and encouragement. As a senior, you'll know how to adjust your guidance for the challenges of aging, such as offering chair exercises or modified yoga at a local senior center, home or club. If you are a tech whiz, offer workshops to help other seniors understand computer or smartphone usage or assist with educating seniors on cybersecurity.

Resident homes for seniors are often looking for entertainment. Those talented in singing, playing an instrument, performing magic and more would be welcome to share their gifts with residents.

· Be sociable. Start your own group of likeminded individuals who can enjoy cameraderie and beat loneliness. Book clubs, Bible studies, card or craft session or history clubs are things you can create on your own and promote via your church bulletin or senior club.

Volunteering presents a wonderful way to give back to one's community. Finding something you enjoy not only makes your community an even better place to call home — it has some profound health benefits too. It seems that when you give, you receive even more benefits for yourself. Studies show that volunteering leads to better physical and mental health, among other great

According to an article published by the American Heart Association and Jeffrey Burr, a professor of gerontology at the University of Massachusetts Boston, "compared to nonvolunteers, volunteers have less depression, less anxiety, higher self-esteem, greater happiness, and a greater sense of meaning in life." Burr and the AHA note the health benefits of volunteering occur among all ages, and a deep look at how volunteer efforts are good for personal health shows just how profound giving back can be.

Here are some of the ways you improve mind and body when you volunteer:

- · Reduced stress: The Mayo Clinic reports that volunteering reduces stress and increases positive, relaxed feelings by releasing dopamine. When volunteers spend time in service to others, they report feeling a sense of meaning and appreciation, both of which can have stressreducing effects.
- · Lowers depression: Research has shown that volunteering leads to lower rates of depression and anxiety, particularly among people 65 and older.
- · Provides a sense of purpose: AmeriCorps reports volunteering can provide a sense of purpose in older adults, which can help replace feelings of inadequacy due to loss of major role identities, such as wage earner or parent. This sense of purpose can improve life satisfaction and happiness.
- · Reduces blood pressure: According to researchers at Carnegie Mellon University, older adults who volunteered for at least 200 hours annually decrease their risk of high blood pressure by 40 percent. This also may lower risk of heart disease and stroke.
- · Eliminates feelings of isolation: Volunteers working together link people to others and their communities. This can help people overcome feelings of isolation, which may come from being new to a community or being a senior and having a smaller social circle.
- · Increases happiness: Those who volunteer regularly tend to be happier and more empathetic towards others. Volunteering also instils a sense of pride that can make people happier.
- · Keeps the mind active: Individuals who volunteer can improve their cognitive health. That's because volunteering engages a person in new skills, requires them to solve problems and keeps them mentally stimulated through various activities.
- · Improves physical health: Some volunteer activities will involve physical tasks that can contribute to improved physical health because they constitute moderate exercise.

Showing your brotherly love by volunteering your time and talents offers a number of amazing benefits for both you and your community. It's the little secret only the heart knows that when you share yourself with the world, everyone wins!

### | SENIOR LIVING

### 'Trust in the Lord and take a walk' Longtime City resident celebrates a century of life

By Laurel Kraus Staff Writer

Betty Kackley, a longtime resident of the City of Grosse Pointe, celebrated her 100th birthday at The War Memorial Saturday, Jan. 25.

Kackley was born on a farm in Ohio, where she married her high school sweetheart, Dr. James Kackley, in 1946. After her husband finished military service and medical school residency at Ohio State University, the couple moved to Grosse a physician at Bon ber

daughters.

our family," granddaughter Jenna Bell said. "She's sassy, but she has this well educated and so well spoken. She is such a woman of God. She is like the pillar of our fam-

community, Kackley was years doing props for the King Lutheran Pointe, where he became countless plays; a memof The War

they raised their three a longtime volunteer for the Bon Secours "She's the matriarch of Assistance League, where she worked in the gift shop many years; a very funny. She's kind of member of Lochmoor Club, where she enjoyed aura of regal. She's so playing tennis; and a generous giver to The Salvation Army and

She also participated in many book clubs and Actively involved in the Bible studies as a past member of St. James part of Grosse Pointe Lutheran Church and Theatre more than 30 current member of Christ

Concordia.

Kackley Today,

Secours Hospital and Memorial's garden club; delights in spoiling her six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

"She has always been supportive of everybody's dreams and goals and has been a person to (go to for) support spiritual support, emotional support," Bell said. "She really just helped all of us achieve our dreams."

Kackley still lives independently in her home on Elmsleigh Lane, frequents a book club and occasionally drives.

When asked by her grandkids her secret to longevity, "I think she has said something along the lines of, 'Trust in the Lord and take a walk," Bell said.



PHOTOS BY CHRISTINE SEMMLER

Betty Kackley turned 100 years old Jan. 25.

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### Uncover the Hidden History of Grosse Pointe



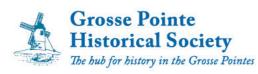
Grosse Pointe's story extends far beyond the grand mansions of auto industry tycoons. It's a narrative woven from the lives and homes of everyday Grosse Pointers. Take, for instance, the tale of this local residence. Its current owners had no idea that a magnificent tree once graced their very yard! (As they say, sometimes history whispers clues about what lies beneath our feet!)



### Explore Your Home's Past with the Grosse Pointe Historical Society

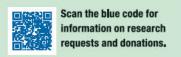
The Grosse Pointe Historical Society (GPHS) is here to unlock the mysteries of your Grosse Pointe home. As a member, your first research inquiry is free!

> Visit our website at www.gphistorical.org to delve deeper into the past.



375 Kercheval Λve. Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 development@gphistorical.org (313) 884-7010

The Grosse Pointe Historical Society has thousands of resources about the history of the Pointes and adjacent communities. Visit our web site at www.gphistorical.org to find out more.



Do you like history? Would you like to volunteer? Scan to learn more!



### The Helm offers a free workshop to explain ins and outs of Medicare

is one such milestone. The Helm offers a free program that explains required steps, as well as various drug and supplemental plan options to make a smooth transition to Medicare.

Medicare counselors will be at The Pointes. Helm, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 18, to provide a comprehensive overview of Medicare, including coverage, costs, pros and cons of different optional plans and how to sign up.

The ideal time to take the class is three to six months before turning 65. The class is free, but space is limited, with a Medicare counselor.

Some things can't be avoided. so call The Helm at (313) 649-2110 or Turning 65 and signing up for Medicare email taltovilla@helmlife.org to make a reservation.

> The Helm offers the New to Medicare class about three times each year. Preference is given to residents of Harper Woods and the five Grosse

> The Helm also offers free, individual appointments throughout the year with Medicare counselors to help people understand their options, choose the best plan and answer any specific questions. Contact Tony Altovilla at taltovi lla@helmlife.org or (313) 649-2110 to schedule a one-on-one appointment



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**FEBRUARY** 

3:00-5:00 p.m.



Sunrise of Grosse Pointe Woods and Sunrise on Vernier are getting in the Valentine's Day spirit! This is the perfect time to tour our community and learn how we support heart health in our residents. Please join us at Sunrise on Vernier and let your creativity flow with some unique craft projects as you enjoy treats and beverages.

RSVP by calling **313-643-5845** today!

**Sunrise on Vernier** 1850 Vernier Rd Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236

🚉 🏩 🔥 ©2025 Sunrise Senior Living







# **SecOnd Time Around**

By Margie Reins Smith

# Baby sitting

growwere warned - mostly by their mothers - not to sit on cold cement or cold ground. If your mother caught you sitting on the front porch steps on a chilly autumn evening, you were told to go inside

hen I and get a cushion. Or babies." stand up, for Pete's sake.

"Why?" we asked.

u p, according to whose me. girls mother caught you sitting, but if all the answers were added together and ruin your insides and

Back in the 1950s, that didn't sound like such a The answer varied terrible consequence to

Then along came the sit-upon. The sit-upon was probably invented by divided by the number of a Girl Scout leader, a mothers who actually mother. To prepare us for responded, the reason a camping experience, boiled down to: "You'll Girl Scouts were encouraged to make sit-upons never be able to have cushions to place angles with paper hundreds of times their again.

between our tender bottoms and the cold, cold ground while we were gathered around the basements all over

afternoon with a stack of Life magazines, a couple red-and-white checked balls of yarn and some oilcloth sit-upons. The into rectangles with pinking shears. We each stacked up a pile of Life magazines and placed pieces of oilcloth on the holes all around the rect-

in and out of the holes to seal the magazines inside the oilcloth. The finished product — the much ballyhooed sit-upon — was a waterproof cushion we were supposed to carry everywhere. You never required to sit on the cold, cold ground.

Today, in attics and Our Girl Scout leader magazines are waiting to came to a meeting one be reclaimed. They're stitched up inside faded patterned oilcloth pre-cut magazines have been protected and preserved and are still pristine, unyellowed, un-foxed and un-dog-eared.

While browsing around tops and bottoms of the eBay recently, I discovstacks. Then we punched ered that vintage Life magazines are worth

punches and wove yarn original purchase prices. The seller of a July 13, 1942 issue, with a member of the Air Corps Gunnery School on the cover, listed it for \$50. Its original price was 10 cents. Col. Jimmy Stewart was featured on the Sept. knew when you might be 24, 1945 issue — which now has an eBay starting price of \$74.95. It cost 10 cents 80 years ago.

By the way, that warn-America, vintage Life ing about not being able to have babies if you sat on cold cement — that's baloney. And to all you young people who are scratching your heads and wondering what oilcloth is, it's a cotton or linen fabric coated with linseed oil, which made it waterproof. It precedes plastic. In the 1950s, most kitchens had an oilcloth tablecloth that could be wiped clean again and

# Solo exhibition a reflection on solitude

By Jody McVeigh Editor

Loretta Markell finds ing, feeling contentment in quiet moments while exploring emotions, desires and aspirations.

Several products of those quiet moments are featured in the solo exhibition, "Intimacy," which is on display at the Grosse Pointe Artists Association's

The Grosse Pointe Shores resident was awarded the solo spot-

of Show" in the GPAA's "My Masterpiece" exhibition last year.

"I fluctuate between inner peace while paint- figure and abstract," Markell said of her work, largely inspired by nature and selfreflection. "... Looking at the natural world, everything going on in the world is interesting. Not only the natural world, but the crazy world going on right now. There are so many things to think about. secondary gallery I'd rather make somethrough Friday, March thing that makes people feel positive."

That optimistic attitude brought Markell into the art world a bit light for winning "Best later in life. She became



PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

Loretta Markell's "Kindred Spirits."

Institute of Arts in her

a docent at the Detroit master's in fine arts in as well as by Alice Neel 2000," she said. "I became interested in "After a while, I went making art as well as

learning.

it myself," she said. "In my old age, I'm learning new things about mak- McGee's work and the ing art — digital, painting with an iPad, photography. When I started in photography at Wayne State, we were still using film and developing it in a dark room. Now the dark room is Photoshop."

Though inspired by masters such as Matisse, and Paul Klee, Markell also finds joy in works by contemporary artists to Wayne State to get a telling people about it." like Wangechi Mutu.

Now 88, Markell Among her biggest remains interested in influences, however, was Charles McGee, 'When I see some- under whom she studthing I like, I want to do ied at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center.

"I love Charles way he went about teaching," Markell said.

Though an admirer of others' works, Markell has a style of her own.

"You can't be someone else," she said. "You have to be yourself. I look at other people's work and I love it, but when it comes down to it, you have to be in your own head, in real-

See SOLO, page 6B



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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.

### **Louise Potts Thomas**

Louise Potts Thomas, 86, of Grosse Pointe Park, in her sleep and surrounded by her family Wednesday, Jan. 29,

as a longtime member tried to get back in. Beckenhauer. and servant to Grosse Despite many initial newsletter for 22 years and enjoyed entertaining friends in the neighborhood and welcoming new The Detroiter. neighbors as part of the

28, 1938. She had very fond memories as a child Jennifer; and grandchil- fond memories of playhelping on the 260-acre dren, Edward, Catherine, ing football and swimfamily farm where she Thomas, moved to their house in and Suraj. She was pre- lifelong friendships with Pittsburgh. She and her sister, Anne, returned to Sydney and Catherine ing class of 1961. the farm in the summer Potts; beloved cousin and to raise chickens and col-childhood friend, Harvey College and graduated Grand Traverse Yacht will be missed dearly by Giorgio. lect and sell their eggs. Reed; and daughter-in- from Wayne State Club. There they also swam in law, Chris Thomas. the Beaver Run Reservoir, walked in the woods and service will be held at 11 first wife and their three to let them know he was were his own. played with their pet a.m. Saturday, March 15, daughters and pursued a proud of them. He was deer, Bambi.

for writing. She com- Farms.

posed many stories and later earned a degree in journalism at Ohio University. After graduation she spent an entire passed away peacefully summer in Mexico before known in the community nalism for 15 years, she (n e e

### William Charles "Rustv" Beckenhauer III

Tauber)

Louise is survived by Pointe. Rusty spent Louise was born Nov. (Ed); children, Bruce on sports fields and at (Santhi), Jeff and Lochmoor Club. He had deceased by her parents, members of his graduat-

University. He settled in



**Louise Potts Thomas** 

Chamber of Commerce. passed away Sunday, daughter to Petoskey, mances of his children, bit.ly/3WHPErJ. She married Al June 2, Jan. 19, 2025, in the where he worked as a nieces, nephews and Louise was a beloved 1962, and later became a arms of his beloved wife real estate developer. grandchildren. Rusty wife, mother and grand-full-time mother. Then, of almost 50 years, Returning to their home offered support and mother. She was widely having been out of jour- Patricia "Tricia" Janet on Lincoln Road in advice freely and often enjoyed many years ten. Rusty was born Feb. 2, sharing cocktails and Pointe Memorial Church. rejections, she found her 1943, in Detroit, to lawn equipment with his his wife, Tricia; daugh-She edited the church's way and eventually William Charles and H. neighbors and engaging ters, Kristin Mallegg Margaret Lamparter, became the editor of the Madelene "Billie" (nee their children in elabo-Detroit Chamber of Leslie) Beckenhauer and rate water fights. He Brown (Peter), Tracy ing wife of the late Dr. Commerce magazine, lived with his parents also returned to the auto Smith (Thomas) and and sisters in Grosse industry working for the Lauren Newcomers Alumni Club. her sister, Anne Vogeding much of his childhood rekindled his love of golf children, Alexander surrounded by family. through a membership Brown, Connor Mallegg, Rusty and Tricia retired Brown, Jessica, ming for Grosse Pointe he built his dream home Harrison Jeffries, Beck Caroline DiGiulio; her lived until the family Amanda, Jeffrey, Previn High School and formed and spent countless Smith, Grady Jeffries brother, Rusty attended Albion ily and friends at the Hoerder (Julian). Rusty companion, Anthony



William Beckenhauer III Sharon Diane DiGiulio

Grosse Pointe, Rusty to anyone who would lis-

Jeffries away his nieces and nephews Rusty loved his family and their children, missed by all who knew A celebration of life Harper Woods with his fiercely and never failed whom he loved as if they and loved her.



William Charles a successful career in cheering on the side- Northern Michigan, she settled into a job as a "Rusty" Beckenhauer III, the automotive industry lines of the sporting 3159 Ogidaki Trail, writer for the Pittsburgh 81, of Traverse City, they moved with their events and perfor- Traverse City, MI 49686,

### **Sharon Diane DiGiulio**

Sharon Diane Rusty is survived by DiGiulio, 84, beloved daughter of Carl and (Michael), Stefanie both deceased, and lov-Walter DiGiulio, passed peacefully Woodbridge Group and (Christopher); grand- Monday, Feb. 3, 2025,

Sharon is survived by at the Detroit Golf Club. Matthew Brown, Maggie her three devoted chil-Cameron dren, Walter DiGiulio, to Traverse City, where Mallegg, Macey Smith, Linda Krehbiel and Ronald hours landscaping, kay- and Wiley Jeffries; and Lamparter (Mary); sisaking on the bay and sisters, Leslie Tranter ter, Judith Swink (the spending time with fam- (Thomas) and Lisa late Bill), and longtime

Sharon will be deeply

Information about vis-Services will be held itation and services may Grosse Pointe career as a manufactur- frequently found behind in Grosse Pointe at a be found on the website In her teen years, she Memorial Church, 16 er's representative. the starting block or later date. In lieu of flow- of A. H. Peters Funeral developed a real talent Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Rusty married Tricia backstop, in the front ers, memorial donations Home, Grosse Pointe Nov. 19, 1975, and after row of the auditorium or may be made to Step Up Woods, at ahpeters.com.

### SOLO:

Continued from page 5B

"I don't know if I have style." a style," she added. "I just do what I feel like these days is acrylic, there," she said. "There solo show find some- said.

color. My style is my in her solo show.

"Digital, oil, acrylic, materials I'd like to try, in her work. like encaustic (hot wax

comes out. Sometimes painted with oils. But painting). There's a something that, if they art, you're in your own ing doing it again."

whatever though she previously are so many different thing they can relate to

"I hope they find lonely. When you make Zen feeling."

"I enjoy doing this,"

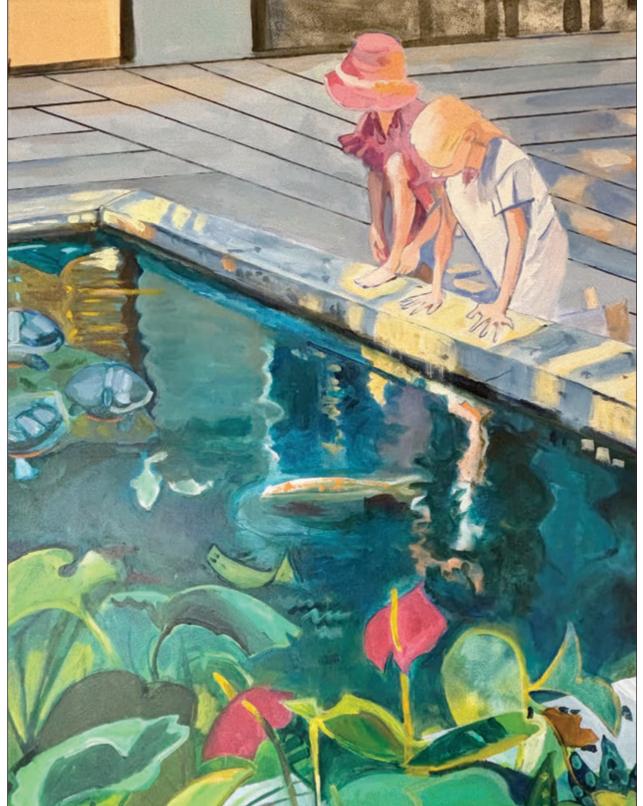
it's a lot of color, some- she is willing to try any- piece in this show. It's look at it long enough, it head, doing your own times it's not so much thing, which is evident fun to do; I'm consider- makes them think of thing often by yourself. something that has hap- But I have no problem Markell said she pened or is happening being alone when I'm Her medium of choice encaustic — it's all hopes viewers of her in their own life," she making art. It's a nice way to get into myself and lose everything she added. "I never feel else. It gets me into a



"Yuki-oona (Snow Woman)" by Loretta Markell.



PHOTOS BY JODY MCVEIGH



Above, "Gullible Guy" by Loretta Markell. Right, Markell's "Wonderment."

# Corewell Health debuts Raising Resilient Children

By Jody McVeigh Editor

To equip parents with practical strategies to improve their child's behavior, emotional well-being and overall dynamics, family Corewell Health is offering the evidencebased initiative Raising Resilient Children.

"Parenting can be both rewarding and challenging, and many parents seek guidance on raising happy, welladjusted children," said Suzy Berschback, the Raising Resilient Children program manager with Corewell Health. " ... Raising Resilient Children is unique because it is not one-size-fits-all approach. It offers different levels of support depending on a family's needs, from light-touch advice to intensive oneon-one coaching.'

The program, developed in Australia as the Triple P (positive parenting program), is millions of parents such as tantrums, bed- children worldwide,' build positive relation- time struggles or diffi- Berschback said.

ships with their chil- culties with discipline.' dren.

The program provides parents with tools to:

- ♦ manage misbehavior effectively and calmly,
- encourage positive behavior and emotional problems in children, resilience,
- build stronger parent-child relationships
- ◆ reduce stress and anxiety in both parents

and children. Raising Resilient Children is available in various formats to suit different preferences,

Berschback noted. "Parents can access Raising Resilient Children through selfguided online modules at their convenience, in-person group workshops or individual coaching sessions led by trained professionals," Berschback said, adding that the program is designed for parents and caregivers of children from infancy through adolescence. available in more than dealing with common happier homes and

Research has shown,

she added, that families who complete the Raising Resilient Children program often experience:

- fewer behavioral
- reduced parental stress and conflict,
- greater confidence in parenting decisions
- improved emotional well-being for both parents and chil-

The program is sponsored by Corewell Health and Children's Miracle Network and is free to Wayne, Oakland and Macomb county residents.

Those interested in learning more or taking a class should visit corewellhealth.org/raising-resilient-children for more details about availability, registration and program options.

"By empowering parents with positive strategies, Raising Resilient "... It supports families Children aims to create 40 countries, helping parenting challenges, brighter futures for



Acknowledging efforts

PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE KOSINSKI

Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary Club President Sandra Cobb stands with Club Administrator Dennis Hyduk on Jan. 28. Cobb received a fellowship certification from the Guatemala Literacy Project, which serves to improve education for the impoverished in Guatemala.

Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary has financially supported the project over the years and this fellowship is an acknowledgement of those continuing efforts. This multi-club Rotary International project has helped almost 300,000 students alleviate poverty since 1997.

Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary Club members extend an open invitation to local residents to join their Tuesday breakfast presentations at 7 a.m. at Ford House, Grosse Pointe Shores. Email dennis.rotary1591@gmail.com for more informa-

### **EVENTS:**

Continued from page 2B

"Crocodiles Need Kisses 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
- ◆ Cabaret Over the Cove: Valentine's Dinner & Live Performance, 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14. day Wednesday, Feb. 12. Ticket prices vary.
- March 13.

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

### The Helm

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

◆ Restorative Evening March 20, with instructor Allie Short, Cost is \$7

guests.

- ◆ Social Media for p.m. Fridays, through bers, \$10 for guests. May 9, with instructor Janisse Green.
- ◆ Upscale Jewelry Design for Beginners, 10 a.m. to noon Mondays, through March 3, with Robinson Young.
- Exploration Series: China Lantern Festival, all
- Linda Boyle. Cost is \$25 Farms.
- Cost is \$25 for members, Grosse Pointe Woods. \$30 for guests.
- offers a variety of classes shown at 4:30 p.m. Ardmore Elementary Thursday, Feb. 13. Cost is School, 27001 Greater \$3 for members, \$5 for Mack, St. Clair Shores. guests, and incudes snacks.
- Yoga, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. the first and third 18, with facilitators Tony St. Clair Shores. Thursdays, through Altovilla and Medicare
  - volunteers. ◆ Lunch and Learn: Ford St. John Hospital, room at The War Saturday, Feb. 15.

for members, \$10 for What is Hospice?, noon 22101 Moross, Detroit. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, with facilitator Deb Mature Learners, 4 to 5 Sloss. Cost is \$5 for mem-

### Blood drives

The American Red blood.org. Cross hosts the following blood drives:

- ♦ Noon to 6 p.m. instructor Kathleen Wednesday, Feb. 12, Holy Innocents-St. ◆ The Helm Cultural Barnabus Catholic Church, 24800 Phlox, Eastpointe.
  - ◆ Watercolor Painting, Thursday, Feb. 13, The of Jefferson East Inc.,
- ♦ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13, Valentine's Day University Liggett Memorial Veterans Club 4820. Lunch, 11:30 a.m. to 1 School's Boll Center meets from 2 to 4 p.m. p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13. Library, 1045 Cook, Thursday, Feb. 13, with
  - ◆ The movie "Aloha" is Wednesday, Feb. 19, presentation about U.S. a variety of classes at its
  - ♦ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, ◆ New to Medicare, 7 Jefferson Masonic Lodge who has served on three grossepointeartcenter. No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile,

United Church, 20571 Vernier, 4125. Harper Woods.

Register at redcross

### Rotary

Wednesday, Feb. 12, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse

### Veterans

social hour until 5 p.m. different aircraft carriers, org. will answer questions.

Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, ◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Grosse Pointe Farms. For lecture: New Lessons Friday, Feb. 21, Redeemer more information, call from Old Masters, 2 p.m. Methodist John Bates at (313) 881-

### St. Michael's

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse The Rotary Club of Pointe Woods, presents Grosse Pointe hosts its its next Lunch Laugh and next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Learn at noon Thursday, Feb. 13. The Rev. Barry Randolph and Richard ◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pointe. Josh Elling, CEO the Messiah Housing discounts for future ser-♦ Trivia Night, 6 p.m. 10 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, War Memorial, 32 speaks. Email grosse speak. All are welcome; a bring a friend receive a Thursdays, Feb. 20 and Feb. 12, with instructor Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe pointerotary@gmail.com. free-will offering will be free gift. Call (313) 423collected. Reservations 0087 for information. are requested by Tuesday, The Grosse Pointe War Feb. 11. Call (313) 884-

### **GPAA**

The Grosse Pointe ♦ 1 to 7 p.m. The meeting includes a Artists Association offers Navy aircraft carriers, studio, located at The which have always been a War Memorial, 32 key tool in enforcing U.S. Lakeshore, Grosse foreign policy. U.S. Navy Pointe Farms. To regisveteran William Falinski, ter for the following, visit

♦ Incising Marks in ♦ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. The meeting takes place Encaustic with Candace Friday, Feb. 21, Henry in the lower-level veterans Law, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

♦ Your Old Mansion Sunday, Feb. 16.

### Galentine

Aretee Day Spa, 20559 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, hosts a Galentine Open House from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16. The event, in celebration of Aretee's newest artist, includes champagne, charcuterie, cocktails, Cannon from Church of free consultations and Corp., in Detroit, will vices. Attendees who

### 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 fulllotus yoga.net.



### **FEATURES**

### TEAM:

Continued from page 2B



"Gino's Italian," by Nancy Philo, shows the teamwork involved in the restaurant business, which she describes as "almost a dance with practiced moves."

paint to recreate a photo of Michigan Central Station.

"The theme brought out some very interesting and very unique views on teamwork," Pope said.

shared so much."

The juror for the exhibition was Corey Scillian, ceramist and former president of Pewabic Pottery.

Other artists who "It's really heartfelt; they received honorable men-March 7. The show may be a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays.

"Gino's Italian" and Nobuko Yamasaki for "Christmas Favorite."

"My Team" will be displayed in the GPAA main a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday gallery through Friday, through Saturday and 10

Several veterans used really took it to heart and tion were Nancy Philo for previewed online at grossepointeartcenter.org, though Pope noted art is best seen in person.

The gallery is open 9



PHOTO COURTESY OF GPT

"The Lion in Winter" features Samantha Teter at Eleanor, Catherine Pearson as Alais and Patrick Lane as King Henry II.

Continued from page 1B

roring the play's Medieval period. However, the dialogue, written in the 1960s, is modern.

"There are no thees and thous and thys," Marinello said. "It uses modern language. The Medieval setting and Medieval clothing contrasts with the modern language and sensibilities. Bringing those things together is really fun."

Where musicals typically liven performances with song and dance, "The Lion in Winter" relies heavily on dialogue, Marinello said.

"It's all about the words, the text, James Goldman's great writing," he added. "Musicals have tap

there aren't musicals with great human. dialogue. The challenge becomes how do you make a two-hour play interesting and engaging when the main thing is text, dialogue, words, the interplay between people. This is fun and witty and sharp. The challenge is to maximize that. How do you make the costumes interesting and the set interesting? Our set and costume designers have worked hard to bring historical references into their designs, so we have periodaccurate clothing and set. It's been a fun challenge, bringing in love and betrayal," he said. "The these specific notes that a discerning history buff will see and appreciate."

More than half the cast of "The Lion in Winter" is new to GPT, but all bring a high level of talent to dancing and great songs; dialogue the stage, portraying characters doesn't matter as much. Not that who are both regal and deeply

"This is a play where the relationships are just as important as the words," Marinello said, "and our cast has really leaned into the dynamics of power, love and rivalry. They've worked hard to make these historical figures feel alive and relatable, and their dedication shows."

Marinello encouraged audiences to see for themselves the human drama that is "The Lion in Winter."

"It's about family and legacy and wit is great. It's surprisingly funny and heartfelt at times. This is a moment to reflect on these classic stories we tell. It's what great live theater is all about - the shared experience audience members have."

For tickets, visit gpt.org.





# IFE & FISURE



2C GP GABBY | 3C MOMBEAU'S TABLE | **8C** MOVIE JUNKIE MARK

# LSC DAR celebrates 132 years in GP

Louisa St. Clair Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated its 132nd birthday Jan. 18, with more than 80 DAR members and guests at the Country Club of Detroit.

LSC was established 1893, as the local chapter of the national society with a mission to promote education, historic preservation and patriotism. The chapter administers essay and art contests on topics of American history for area students and presents scholarships to seniors from Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South high schools. It also supports veterans and activeduty military and is an active partner with the Grosse Pointe Historical Society.

Chapter Regent Patty Drury shared the chapter's major accomplishments in 2024, including welcoming new citizens at the Eastern District Memorial; serving as the Daughters; and visiting Court of Michigan in Detroit; hosting its annual Student Awards event at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club; supporting the children's books at laun- were formally inducted Fisher House Detroit's fundraising initiatives; placing an America 250! Hamtramck; organizing a Lori Dawson, Meagan



Louisa St. Clair Past Chapter Regent Peggy King Scully presented the DAR award, posthumously, to Mary Ann Evans McLendon. Accepting the award is McLendon's granddaughter, Esteralita Evans, and University Liggett Upper School student D'Mya Johnson.

at Woodmere Cemetery; and Georgia. distributing thousands of dromats in Detroit, into the DAR: Paige Highland Park and Bachand, Lynn Detweiler, marker at The War tourfor DAR of Michigan Fabbri, Kristin Krier,

official sponsor of DAR-supported schools Wreaths Across America in Kentucky, Alabama

Seven new members



DAR of Michigan Vice Regent Christy Saniga, left, pins new member Marianne Langlois.

Marianne Langolis and the chapter. Stephanie Wilkins. Past regents of the chapter — King Scully, Kay Burt-Fontichiaro - were hon-

The DAR Women in American History Medal was awarded, posthumously, to Mary Upshaw Evans McClendon for her contributions to improving working conditions and wages of domestic workers in Detroit. Her granddaughter, Esteralita Evans, was present to accept the award, as was Da'Mya Johnson, a student at University Liggett's Upper School, who brought McLendon's story to the attention of

The chapter presented its annual Historic is the chapter's tradition, Jane Turnbull, Peggy Preservation Grant to Michigan DAR sister hands and singing "God Willson and Kristine chapter, John Crawford Bless America.'

Chapter based in Almont, to support its effort to restore and mark the final resting places of its founding members with DAR insignia. The chapter also announced its new award, the Helen Newberry Exceptional Chapter Service Award, named in honor of the former chapter member and past honorary vice president general of the national society.

Contributions were announced for the Children of the American Revolution of Michigan State President's Project and the DAR of Michigan State Regent's Project.

The meeting ended, as with all attendees joining



Clair Chapter Regent Patricia Drury, right, greets DAR of Michigan State Regent Dawn Brady.

Louisa St.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PATTI THEROS

# Junior League of Detroit looks to future filled with new programs, projects

The Junior League of Detroit has kicked off 2025 with a slate of new projects and renewed energy focused sharply on continuing a tradition of providing trained volunteers and financial support to projects and programs that support women and children in Wayne County.

The commitment of the JLD to the community this year includes outreach to such organizations and programs as Brilliant Detroit, Salvation Army and Enchanted Makeovers. Through recent funding, grantees have included Racquet Up Detroit and the Salvation Army Connor Creek.

The JLD provides scholarship support as well through its Grants and Scholarship Committee. Applications for the 2025 round of scholarships are open and available at jldetroit.org. In 2024, 10 graduating high school senior women attending colleges and universities — including the University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University, Hope College and Louisiana State University — each received \$1,500 in scholarships from the JLD. In past years, the JLD has supported young women attending institutions in an array of academic programs throughout the country.

In its inaugural year, the JLD Fund Development Committee is spearheading projects to strategically move the JLD's charitable and philanthropic efforts forward, in part replacing its previous signature Designers' Show House, which concluded in 2024 netting \$288,000 in its final year. On the docket are 313 Pours, an evening of wine tasting, cigar sampling and live and silent auctions; a premier fashion event in downtown Detroit; and Kitchens for a Cause, a two-day event that will include a tour of professionally designed and built kitchens in the Grosse Pointe and Detroit areas.

JLD President Mary Hollens said the JLD Fund Development Committee, along with new events and community- jldetroit.org.

based initiatives, is engaged in a transformative and educational process.

"We aim to maximize our benefit to the community with a focus on children and families," said Hollens, who has served two years as JLD president. "This approach offers our members greater opportunities to lead and support them through service projects while utilizing their diverse skill sets.

"We are proud of our record of service in the community and especially pleased with the work we have done with our partner, Brilliant Detroit, a nonprofit organization that addresses early childhood development and kindergarten readiness," she added.

The JLD's efforts are equally recognized by the organizations it serves, especially Brilliant Detroit.

"The Junior League of Detroit has been a part of Brilliant Detroit's growth to 24 neighborhoods and 24,000 people - from Day 1," Brilliant Detroit founder and CEO Cindy Eggleton said. "They have provided volunteers who have renovated spaces, taught classes, gardened, created events and more. Our team and families could not be more grateful as they have created a lasting impact with unprecedented

The impact has made a real difference for Detroit families.

"From the programs to the resources, the Brilliant Detroit community is a big part of my family's life," program participant Christina Stevens said. "We appreciate that they provide something for everyone and offer safe spaces within our communities. If I ask my daughter what she wants to do after school, it's usually, 'Go to the Brilliant Detroit house."

The Junior League of Detroit is an organization of women whose mission is to advance women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration and training. For more information about the organization and its programs, visit

CONNELL





### GROSSE POINTE Galor POINTING YOU IN THE RIGHT **DIRECTION WITH REAL-LIFE ADVICE!**

# Keeping it light for Valentine's Day



Dear Gabby: I just recently, Valentine's Day is comnot sure what to do.

play it cool?

in the City

Dear Confused: Since started dating someone your relationship is still new, it's best to keep it light. How about making up next week. I'm ing plans for something relaxed? Opt for coffee Should I plan some- or cocktails rather than thing? Get a gift? Or just a fancy dinner. And hey, you can always get a I don't want to make small, thoughtful gift things awkward or move and have it at the ready so you aren't left empty-Any advice? — Confused handed if your date has something for you.

Skipping big gestures is a good idea at this point - nobody needs added pressure. Have fun, keep it light and best of luck!

— Gabby

Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

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

# Navigating a Blended Family

DEAR ANNIE: My husband and I have been struggling with marital problems ever since he proposed. Before that, we got along well, but things took a turn for the worse after the engagement. His ex-wife is constantly causing drama, and whenever I try to stand up for myself, the situation gets twisted, and I'm the one blamed. My husband usually ends up upset with me instead of he accuses me of check- him, but he doesn't lisaddressing the real issue.

The ex has crossed major boundaries. For example, she joined the same exercise classes I attended just to stir up trouble, and eventually, she was asked not to come anymore because of her behavior.

with one of his adult this point. daughters (my stepdaughter). Before I came for four years and marinto the picture, my husband often talked about how he felt alone, saying him to be happy with me his kids didn't call, text or visit him. But since we matter. I love my husgot married, his daughter band, but I believe as long calls him around five times a day.

call him without it causing an argument. If I call, ing up on him.

his kids behind my back, and when I find out and me for days. I'm comconfront him, he accuses me of being "toxic." He loss for what to do. Is doesn't call me during the there a way to fix this, or alive. Honestly, it feels ship before me — an love he feels for you. Try feelings are being dis- CREATORS.COM

We've been together these same issues. ried for two, but I feel like Marriage his family doesn't want or anyone else, for that as his ex and kids are involved in this way, they Meanwhile, I can't even won't allow our marriage to succeed.

I've tried talking to ten. Instead, he gets He also does things for defensive, gets offended and then won't speak to pletely drained and at a

Now the main issue is like he wouldn't care at eight-year partnership also ended because of Exhausted in this

> Blended families can be incredibly challenging, that you're feeling frus-

trated and even jealous of your husband's nowclose relationship with his daughter. That said, there's also something fear has no place in a beautiful about a father and daughter reconnecting later in life and becoming close friends.

to remind yourself of missed," to help keep the high.

and it's understandable that he's not communicating openly with you or is hiding things, that's a serious concern. It may indicate that he's afraid of how you'll react, and healthy relationship. Open, honest communication is essential.

Talk to him calmly and ways. It's important to remem- let him know how you're ber that love isn't a finite feeling without assigning resource; the love he blame. Use "I" state- Annie Lane to dearannie@ day and wouldn't even is it already broken? For feels for his daughter is ments like, "I feel hurt creators.com. know if I were dead or context, his last relation- very different from the when it seems like my

DEAR EXHAUSTED: that when emotions run conversation constructive. If he continues to However, if you feel get defensive or refuses to see your perspective, it may be time to consider marriage counseling. A neutral third party can help both of you navigate this complicated situation and figure out whether the relationship can be repaired -- or if it's time to go separate

Send your questions for

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Grosse Pointe Woods hosted its annual Winterfest Saturday, Jan. 25, at Ghesquiere Park behind city hall. There were food trucks, outdoor games, a photo booth, pony rides, a dance party and — a favorite part of the event - a Mascot Meet & Greet.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA YORK

Olive Burrus poses with PAWS, the Detroit Tigers mascot, at Winterfest. The mascots were the most popular part of the event.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA YORK

Grosse Pointe Woods Mayor Art Bryant poses with Detroit Lions mascot, Roary.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICOLE JENSEN

PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA YORK Michigan Sen. Kevin Hertel, representing District 12, which includes all of the Grosse Pointes, poses with Detroit Lions mascot Roary and his son, Benjamin Hertel.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NICOLE JENSEN

Detroit Lions running back David Montgomery attended Winterfest with his family and took time to pose for a photo with William Jensen.

From left, Grosse Pointe Woods residents Alese Plewa, Carina Jensen and Hana Martin pose with Detroit Tigers mascot PAWS and Detroit Pistons mascot Hooper.

# We Treat by Anna Lizer by Anna Lizer by Anna Lizer by Anna Lizer

For someone who spent many years in marketing, I am pretty gullible to advertisements about products I probably don't need. Cue the hooded waterproof stadium blanket that I HAD TO HAVE. By the time it arrived I didn't even remember why I needed it.

The selling features of the blanket are that you can stay warm and dry at sporting events, camping, the beach, etc. Perhaps I was sold on this concept as I was freezing at an outdoor lacrosse game when I saw the advertisement.

The blanket is pretty large and the inside is a



ant plaid pattern. The ture is being able to faswaterproof and not cozy, hands-free (you don't but it does its job of keep- have to hold it around ing out rain. It does come yourself like a blanket). with a little bag to store it in when not in use, but seems pricey for what honestly I just throw it in you get, though it's one the trunk of my car.

weather strikes or when this. the bleachers at an event are wet is pretty nice - feature is nice and I'll give it that. Being able overall it is not a bad to have a hood also is item for athletes who handy when you don't are playing a game in feel like holding an the rain to throw o umbrella or it's just over their uniforms to

At \$42 on Amazon, it All in all, it's fairly to have in the car to pull about your favorite item underwhelming. I mean, out when you need it. I or something you want a waterproof blanket is am giving it 3 out of 5 us to try for you! Drop not earth-shattering, nor alligators. Any water- us a line at media@ is it novel. Having it in proof blanket you can grossepointenews.com. the car to grab when bad find is almost as good as

However, the hood

nice fleece with a pleas- sprinkling. Another fea- protect themselves from getting soaked and freezoutside is black and ten it so you can wear it ing to death ... or the moms who drive them to said games and faithfully watch them play, rain or shine.

> We LOVE testing out of those items that is nice new things! Tell us



# Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Last Sunday I was in the pasta. Their bold flamake and I decided to and marinades. take it up a notch by using stew meat. The And this recipe is loaded

with flavor. Surprisingly enough, I opted not to use red wine. Instead I used red wine vinegar for subtle tang and anchovy fillets for an fun as enjoying eating it. extra umami punch.

The key to the entire dish is Calabrian chili paste that I found in Trader Joe's. It took the dish from great to outstanding. Calabrian chilis are hot chili peppers from the region of Calabria in Italy. This paste isn't just spicy. It's bright, tangy, fruity and the heat slowly builds as you are eating and diced

the mood to braise some- vor sets this sauce apart sliced thing, anything. I was from any other that I've craving something that ever made. You can find was hearty and cooked them whole in a jar but lets low and slow with lots of the paste is readily availlayers of flavor, able in The Village. I plan Bolognese is one of my on adding it to my salad all time favorite sauces to dressings, sandwiches

This spicy ragu is a perfect thing to make on meat is slow-cooked until a weekend where you it shreds and soaks up a have some free time. It's rich and luscious sauce. the process of layering in peeled tomatoes different levels of flavors that slowly cook together until they reach perfection that excites me. Sometimes the process of rosemary making the dish is just as

Cheers, Mombeau

Spicy Beef Ragu

4 oz pancetta

3 lbs beef stew meat

1 large onion, diced

2 large carrots, peeled

3 garlic cloves, thinly

4 whole anchovy fil-

3 tbsp tomato paste

2 tbsp calabrian chili

1/4 cup red wine vinegar

2 28 oz cans whole

2 bay leaves

1 tbsp chopped fresh

1 parmesan rind

Salt and pepper to taste

and pepper and brown in Next, add in the tomato parmesan cheese rind. spoon each of salt and

pancetta. Remove from rosemary and bay leaves. three minutes. Pour in nice rich sauce. Remove stew meat with lots of salt they should melt right in. to combine. Tuck in the extra cheese.

two batches in the same paste, Calabrian chili Bring to a boil, cover and pot that you cooked the paste, red wine vinegar, place in the oven. Cook for two and a half to three the pan and add one more Stir everything together hours. Take the ragu out Preheat your oven to tablespoon of olive oil, to combine and let the of the oven and use a fork 350 degrees. In a large, the onions, carrots and vinegar reduce and the to gently break apart the oven-safe stock pot, cook garlic. Add about 1 tea- pastes caramelize, about meat until you have a olive oil until browned, pepper. Sweat the vege- both cans of tomatoes the bay leaves and parabout three to five min- tables until soft then add plus one tomato can filled mesan rind. Serve over utes. Remove with a slot- in the anchovy fillets. Let with water. Add the beef freshly cooked papted spoon. Season the them sizzle in the oil and and pancetta back in stir pardelle noodles and



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

### It's Champagne Season

- a line you might think indicates that this article is being published two months too late.

And sure, sparkling wines usually are reserved for toasting at Christmas and New Year's. And once those holidays have passed, most people believe the season for them is over. For me, it's just beginning, and it lasts all year.

And there's a method to my madness — though I consider it not madness but sanity. That's because far too many domestic wines don't have enough acidity for me and the foods I eat.

And at the heart of wine-and-food pairings is that the wine must have sufficient acid to work with food. But far too many chardonnays are soft; too many cabernets lack the structure. Sugar has become common-

It's Champagne season place in sauvignon blanc.

Americans have a sweet tooth and U.S. wineries, notably on the West acidity, and it's that attracwines are sweet or ultrasoft. Sometimes it's simply low acid. Other times, the wine has such high alcohol that it acts as a meals than any other sinsweetening agent. gle wine with the possible Sometimes it's actual exception of riesling (a sugar — including in passion of mine!). After I some of the most popular red wines!

does this have to do with or sparkling wine, and I Champagne? Or fine qual- have plenty to choose ity sparkling wine?

Quality bubbly cannot district, usually has suffi- ing flavors. cient acid to work with

that denotes a dry wine. to work with a wide variety of foods. The acidity can be counted on to help food taste better.

There are about four dozen top-flight sparkling wine producers in the United States who make exceptional sparklers. Most are slightly sweet to balance high Coast, make sure many tive balance that gives them such versatility.

One result is that I tend to drink a lot more sparkling wine with my am done evaluating 30 or 40 wines in a day, my So, you may ask, what go-to beverage is a beer from!

It has recently been be made if the grapes are widely reported that harvested too late, which the Champagne district compromises the critical in France has been hit element of acidity that is with some pretty terrirequired to make it taste ble weather, the results good. French Champagne, of which are extremely with the capital C to indi-small harvests and cate that comes from that some not-very-interest-

This has reduced the almost all forms of food. size of the crop and has So do top-rate domes- had the effect of driv-

tic bubblies. I refer to ing prices even higher favorite California houses wines called brut, a term than they had been, on hand year-round. And Sonoma They have sufficient acid always a prestigious show up unexpectedly, mands a high price.

> I tasted a good example of a fine quality Champagne the other day and even though it was Tuesday." discounted, it still cost just over \$40 per bottle!

California and other domestic sparkling wines can be really fascinating, especially because the fruit is more evident, and the wines tend to be a little bit more vibrant. And, of course, priced a lot more reasonably.

It is extremely difficult to list my favorite domestic bubblies because so many are exceptional. For everyday drinking, many discount stores carry exceptional sparkling wines for \$20 to \$30 per bottle, which is reasonable when you compare that to the average cost of a high-quality chardonnay.

The other nice thing about sparkling wine is that you really don't need to worry about vintages. Most non-vintage bruts are made to be drinkable as soon as they hit the retail shelf.

I keep several bottles of sparkling wine from my

and Champagne is if a friend happens to California, where he product, so it com- and I pull one out, I occa- Experiences," a weekly occasion?"

My reply is usually a com. variation on a theme: "It's

Dan Berger lives in County, publishes "Vintage sionally hear, "What's the wine newsletter. Write to him at winenut@gmail.

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# SPREAD THE

# THIS VALENTINE'S DAY IRHAT

By Olivia Monette Special Writer

Love is in the air, and so is the excitement of finding the perfect Valentine's Day gifts for every special someone in your life! Whether you're planning a romantic gesture, a Galentine's celebration, or just treating yourself, we've rounded up a curated selection of thoughtful, local products that will make hearts swoon. From cozy sweaters and luxurious cashmere to relaxing spa essentials and sweet surprises, these picks are guaranteed to spread the love in Grosse Pointe this Valentine's Day.

Check out our handpicked treasures from beloved local shops and make this Valentine's Day unforgettable.



### **HEARTFELT GIFTING**

Lovely accessories make the outfit! Michelle McDowell Juliet pink heart earrings from Merit Woods Pharmacy, are a Valentine shoo-in for gifting or for you.



### **ROCK HER WORLD**

She'll gasp with delight when she opens this Dean Davidson Rock Rose ring, above. The modern design looks incredible on any digit and will be a constant reminder of the love you share. ! Buy it at Pearl.



Super cute, baby pink LUCY PARIS Betsy cardigan with gold heart buttons is a flattering piece for your winter/spring wardrobe. Dress it up with a skirt or dress down with jeans - you'll look sweet either way. From Glitter & Scotch.

NCLA Beauty Lip Treatment Duo, below right, From Merit Woods Pharmacy. Includes Balm Babe lip balm + Sugar, Sugar lip scrubber for more kissable lips. Balm Babe is a natural vegan lip treatment in a light pink champagne scent that intensely soothes and nourishes lips with conditioning shea butter, cocoa butter, avoca-







### SOFTNESS = LOVE

Giving someone a gift that's super soft on their skin is another way to say, "I love you." Pearl gets it right with this beautiful White & Warren orchid pink cashmere wrap, far left. The cuddly-soft blanket scarf is a season-less accessory that every wardrobe needs. Crafted from the finest cashmere, it will be your perfect home or travel companion, offering comfort and style on long journeys or chilly evenings by the fire. Worn as a shawl, scarf, shrug, or blanket, this number will be your favorite, once you have one you won't be able to live without it.

Cozy up to this adorable Z Supply pink and red striped lounge set, left, from Savvy Chic. Long sleeve jammy top and pants are made from brushed sweater knit fabric and feature a sweet embroidered heart graphic at the chest. With its relaxed fit and crew neck, it's perfect for lounging in winter comfort on Valentine's Day and beyond.



### LIFE & LEISURE



### THE L WORD

Pretty Z Supply red embroidered "love" sweater, above, is ideal for mom or galentine gifting — or to wear to a Valentine's Day party yourself. When you're looking for something a little more colorful, this relaxed crewneck sweater with a playful chainstitch detail is it! With its cozy, midweight feel, it's the perfect piece for easy, laid-back styling and festive fun. From Savvy Chic.

### SWEET SCENTS

Scents take us to the places we love most, near and far. A thoughtful gift for yourself or those you care about is the small luxury of a beautiful fragrance for the home.

The Moodcast Fragrance
Co. Homebody reed diffuser, right, takes your heart
home, sweet home. Curl up
under a cashmere throw,
set your tea down and
pick up your favorite book.
Warm layers of smoky cade,
sweet vanilla, cozy amber
and soothing bergamot
help you wind down, cuddle
up, and stay a while. It's a
valentine for your sense.
Includes eight reeds. From
Merit Woods Pharmacy.



### FIZZ FACTOR

Above right: Musee's Champagne & Rose Shower Steamers. Infused with the delicate aroma of fresh rose petals and sparkling champagne, these steamers bring a touch of elegance and romance to your daily self-care routine, perfect for unwinding this winter. From *Merit Woods Pharmacy*.





### STATE YOUR FEELINGS

Show off your love for your favorite state while you sip your morning coffee with this cheery City Bird "Love, Michigan" mug. It's microwave and dishwasher safe, from *Merit Woods Pharmacy*.



### FOR THE LITTLEST LOVES

Mary Square gingham kids' stainless water bottle, above, is durable, practical, and pretty for little ones on-the-go. Features a flip-lid to avoid spills and a handle for easy toting. From *Merit Woods Pharmacy*.





### COURTESY PHOTOS



### **DO IT TOGETHER**

Treat yourself (and your sweetheart) to a fun-filled Valentine's Day puzzle. My Mind's Eye Box of Chocolates Puzzle features a rich collection of chocolates with a unique, charmingly-detailed design. Fill your heart with a sweet sensation of solving something delicious! 320 piece puzzle is from *Merit Woods Pharmacy*.



### **CUDDLES AND MORE**

The Warmies® Plush pink penguin, above, is fully microwavable to provide hours of soothing warmth and comfort. This little bird is scented with real dried French lavender and perfectly weighted for a positive sensory experience. Warmies make an ideal gift for all ages. From Merit Woods Pharmacy.



### **CUDDLES AND MORE**

On the Way Games Magnetic Tic Tac Toe travel game brings this entertaining, competitive 2-person game to the car or plane. All the pieces are magnetic and easily contained inside the 5.5-inch purple metal tin for fun on the go. From Merit Woods Pharmacy.

### WARM FUZZIES

Warmies® Slippers are fully microwavable and gently scented with real French lavender for the ultimate comfort and relaxation. Made with luxurious faux fur and memory foam soles, these soft and stretchy slippers are one-size-fits-most, perfect for relieving stress and soothing tired, aching feet. Simply pop them in a microwave to provide up to an hour of soothing warmth and comfort.

Living Royal hearts slide: With a cute heart design on top, these super soft purple slide slippers will keep your feet warm wherever you wear them.

Both from Merit Woods Pharmacy.

# Candy Solvers

Special Writer

Two local favorites are poised to please this Valentine's Day - with chocolates and flower bouquets that will send hearts aflutter.

Did you know that Chocolate Bar Cafe is now making their chocolate candies in house? It doesn't get any fresher or more delicious than that! From colorful truffles to bagged candies, you'll satisfy your baby's sweet tooth right here. Chocolate Bar Cafe offer creative sweets too, like their chocolate pizza, served inside a real pizza box. Or wow your love with an edible work of art- a gorgeous sugar cookie birdhouse. Each unique design features a pair of lovebirds kissing. It's an adorable way to share your affection with confection.

Chocolate Bar Cafe is located at 20737 Mack Ave. in Grosse Pointe Woods. They can be reached at (313) 881-2888 or online at chocolatebar-cafe.com.

On the hearts and flowers side, Viviano Flower Shop is revving up to thrill lots and lots of lucky recipients of Valentine bouquets and arrangements this year, as the delivery trucks begin to roll nonstop for February's favorite day. Viviano's has long been a go-to place for high-quality florals and expert design. The specialists at Viviano's show special care for each customer, because they know that every arrangement signifies love. Roses, freesia, carnations, daisies and more are strictly fresh and constantly replenished. When a Valentine sees that trademark white box at their door, they know what's inside is going to be spectacular!

A surprise about Viviano's is their extensive line of beautiful seasonal gifts. Walking the aisles of the St. Clair Shores headquarters is nothing short of amazing — as you'll discover unique and lovely servingware, housewares, candles, decor, soaps and lotions, puzzles, toys and more.

Viviano Flower Shops are located at 32050 Harper Ave. in St. Clair Shores and 20087 Mack Ave. in Grosse Pointe Woods. Reach them online at viviano. com or call 800-VIVIANO (848-4266) to reach any store. Be sure to order your Valentines Day flowers early for best choice on delivery dates.



### PIECE OF CAKE

An easy Valentine gift for the whole family is a scrumptious cake from Chocolate Bar Cafe, like the pretty one above.





### **SWEET ON YOU**

Intricately frosted cookie birdhouses, left and above, will warm February hearts this year. Each one is freshly baked and exquisitely decorated. This tasty and creative gift will be the special Valentine they'll remember forever. They're \$35 each from Chocolate Bar Cafe.



### Delicious truffles are a

work of art - all made fresh and in-house.



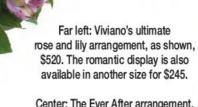
What gal or galentine wouldn't love a handmade and decorated chocolate high heel pump filled with sweets? Be sure to try one on for size at the Chocolate Bar Cafe!







Flowers are the gift that make you feel very special. With all the fresh varieties of arrangements and bouquets from Viviano Flower Shop, the good feelings can flow in any number of ways - in colors, types and fragrances to fulfill the heart's desire of your most beloved Valentines.



Center: The Ever After arrangement, priced at \$85, as shown. Available in another size for \$62.50.

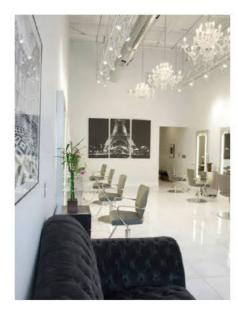
Right: The Lily Rose arrangement retails for \$95.

All by Viviano Flower Shop.



### LIFE & LEISURE | 7C

### Relax and recharge at sweet local spas



From hair services to spa treatments, a visit to Chez Lou Lou, above, is an experience like no other, where the process and surroundings are as enjoyable as the beautiful results you take with you. Below, the Japanese head massage with water relaxes and invigorates.



Grosse Pointe's Chez Lou Lou is a modern salon that captures the elegance of Paris with its clean, modern, minimalistic design. The luxury salon and spa prides itself on its up-to-date education and methods, offering the very best in products and techniques.

A trip to Chez Lou Lou Salon is a great Valentine's Day treat! They are now offering the ultimate relaxation experience with their Japanese head massage spa treatment. This luxurious service combines the soothing effects of a full-body massage with an invigorating head scrub and wash, all performed on a comfortable spa table. Available in 60- or 90-minute sessions, the treatment is designed to melt away stress, leaving you feeling refreshed and rejuvenated. Perfect for anyone in need of some serious pampering, this indulgent experience makes an unforgettable gift for someone you love-or for yourself.

For this or any of the spa's outstanding treatments, call them at (313) 647-0525or contact them online at cheloulou. com/contact. Their team of creative and unique stylists and technicians are on deck to provide the luxury treatments that will make this Valentine's Day the best ever.

Chez Lou Lou Salon is located at 16900 Kercheval Ave. in Grosse Pointe in The



An aromatheraphy scalp massage is a great add-on to a massage or facial treatment at Hand & Stone Massage & Facial Spa.

In St. Clair Shores, Hand & Stone Massage & Facial Spa is offering luxurious treatments that will make your Valentine yours forever! Their impressive spa menu of specialized facial and massage treatments let you customize your services to please and pamper your every need.

For the face, hands, feet, head — or whole body, your Valentine will have an opportunity to relax under the care of experts who seek to provide a memorable and beneficial experience, every time.

Hand & Stone Massage & Facial Spa have multiple locations in Macomb and Oakland counties, including at 21920 Greater Mack Ave. in St. Clair Shores. To see their full spa menu, visit online at handandstone.com or call (586) 217-2265 to book your Valentine appointment for the gift that puts everyone in a better mood.

### Conner Park Florist has a gift for the unique



Conner Park Florist's pretty "Thru the Grapevine" heart arrangement, above, is a Valentine for the whole home.

Along with the classic breathtaking red rose bouquets and romantic assorted florals arranged in heart-stopping beauty, you can count on Conner Park Florists to come through with unique ideas to charm your sweeties. They've been helping Cupid since 1946, so they now a thing or two about flowers and love.

The family-owned florist has been a trusted name in florals for generations. For the freshest flowers with exceptional service, visit at 21480 Greater Mack Ave. in St. Clair Shores or online at connerpark.com. Call (586) 420-8860 for information.





basket, above, comes in various sizes.

"Health Nut"

left, from Conner Park Florist, have definite Valentine "wow" factor.

COURTESY PHOTOS

### Cozy up to romantic films this Valentine's Day

Many couples feel that nothing beats a quiet evening in with the one you love on Valentine's Day. Watching a romantic film together can be a way to cap the night off.

There are plenty of films that focus on Valentine's Day or have a larger romantic theme. Such movies are ideal for date nights and the ultimate date night: Valentine's Day.

- · "Valentine's Day" (2010): This aptly titled film takes place on - you guessed it - February 14th. It has a who's who cast of well-known actors like Jennifer Garner, Shirley MacLaine and Bradley Cooper. Various storylines intersect among the characters as Los Angeles residents work their way through the highs and lows of love on Valentine's Day.
- "Kate & Leopold" (2001): While rom-com fans are used to seeing Meg Ryan teamed up with Tom Hanks, in this tale she's paired with Hugh Jackman. Jackman is a duke from 1876 who inadvertently finds himself traveling through time to modern-day New York City, where he meets a plucky advertising executive. The two clash before they discover feelings for each other.
- "The Princess Bride" (1987): This movie has withstood the test of time. It has a little bit of everything: swordfights, revenge, a giant, and, of course, a heartwarming love story at its core.
- "The Wedding Singer" (1998): Despite coming out in the 1990s, this film brings on all the campy 1980's nostalgia, including a hit soundtrack of favorite songs from that decade. Although not everyone is a fan of Adam Sandler's comedic antics, this movie is less slapstick and more heartfelt. It's one of a few where Sandler has paired with Drew Barrymore in the lead roles. Check out "50 First Dates" if you want a fun Sandler-Barrymore double feature.
- "Pride and Prejudice" (2005): Jane Austen's classic novel has undergone many interpretations on the silver screen. The 2005 version starring Keira Knightley and Matthew Macfadyen as Elizabeth and Darcy is a fan favorite. With its beautiful tableaus and enchanting soundtrack, viewers can't help but root for this unlikely couple.



- "Always Be My Maybe" (2019): This Netflix original movie has Ali Wong and Randall Park playing former childhood best friends with some unfinished business. When they are reunited as adults on different paths, will they find a connection? Keanu Reeves has a guest cameo.
- · "Chocolat" (2000): A mysterious French woman and her young daughter open a chocolate shop in a remote place where villagers are afraid of change. Her confections seemingly have magical powers to fix the ills of people, if only the shopkeeper can lure the stubborn to give them a taste. Johnny Depp stars as a love interest.
- "Notting Hill" (1999): If Meg Ryan is the queen of rom-coms, Hugh Grant may be the king. In this movie, an unassuming British book shop owner gets cast into the limelight when a famous American actress played by Julia Roberts hides in the stacks and eventually becomes more than just a customer.



### WHERE TO

Pearl • 74 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms • shoppearl.com • (313) 458-8719 • IG @ capricious\_gp Chez Lou Lou Salon • 16900 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe • chezloulousalon.com • (313) 647-0525 Chocolate Bar Cafe • 20737 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Woods • chocolatebar-cafe.com • (313) 881-2888 Conner Park Florist • 21480 Greater Mack Ave., St. Clair Shores • connerpark.com • (586) 773-1500 Glitter & Scotch • 16906 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe • shopglitterandscotch.com • (313) 571-3607 Hand & Stone • 21920 Greater Mack Ave., St. Clair Shores • handandstone.com • (586) 217-2265 Merit Woods Pharmacy • 19325 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Woods • (313) 882-0047 Savvy Chic • 16822 Kercheval, Grosse pointe • savvychicgp.com • (313) 466-3388 • IG @ savvychicgp Viviano's Flower Shop • 32050 Harper Ave., St. Clair Shores • viviano.com • 800-VIVIANO (848-4266)



### **LIFE & LEISURE**



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TOPIC STUDIOS, FRUIT TREE AND EXTREME EMOTIONS

Left, Kieran Culkin as Benji Kaplan and Jesse Eisenberg as David Kaplan in the 2024 movie "A Real Pain," written and directed by Jesse Eisenberg.

MOVIE REVIEW "A Real Pain" 2024 - Rated R 1 hr 30 min \*\*\*\*

I thought it was interesting that there were two major studio releases recently that dealt with Jewish people reconnecting with their heritage in Poland. One was "Treasure" starring Stephan Fry and Lena Dunham and the other was "A Real Pain." I haven't seen "Treasure" yet but I've heard nothing but great things about it. If it's half as good as this one it must be worth checking out.

This is the third movie Jesse Eisenberg has written and directed and is a testament to his talent. Don't be surprised if this film garners several awards this Oscar Season. It's a buddy film at its core but it's much more than that. It deals with family dynamics, our collective history and being true to one's self. There's a measured blend of humor and seriousness, which makes it blurt out the most inapsuch a rewarding viewing experience.

Cousins (Kieran Culkin) inherit action.



Dave (Eisenberg) and Benji (Culkin) on the train.

some money from their to Poland and reconnect divorcee the charm of the film. Dave is a buttoned-down, somewhat fretful, family man who Benji considers basement. He has absolutely no filters and will propriate things at the the tone for the rest of worst possible moments. the film. On the group's Dave It's this dynamic that first outing, they visit a (Eisenberg) and Benji drives much of the

The couple joins a beloved grandmother, small group for a Jewish who was a Holocaust Heritage Tour in survivor. They decide to Warsaw. Their fellow take a trip in her honor travelers include a recent Marcia with their roots. The two (Jennifer Grey), a Midcouldn't be more differ- western couple Diane ent, which contributes to (Liza Sadovy) and Mark (Daniel Oreskes), and Eloge (Kurt Egyiawan), a survivor of the Rwandan genocide who's cona sellout. Benji, on the verted to Judaism. The other hand, is a carefree, tour is led by Englishman aimless drifter who's still James (Will Sharpe), a living in his mother's Holocaust history scholar.

There's a scene near monument to the World War II. It's comprised of

Dave is visibly uncom-

the beginning that sets incident where Benji majority of the pieces fact, if there weren't any shocked by his com- soundtrack. But that's

giant metal soldiers on the battlefield. Benji suggests his cousin take a with the soldiers. Dave is rather reticent about thinks it's almost sacrileto be various made-up

fortable. That's just the first done differently. A misbehaves. Throughout are lively and upbeat other movies in your the movie, he says what- and I feel his slower ever's on his mind. The etudes would have it again. rest of the gang is usually made a more effective

Culkin's performance garnered him a Best Supporting Actor award at the recent Golden photo of him standing Globes. Lublin, a Jewish cemedoing this, since he tery, the Majdanek concentration camp and gious. Before long, with their great aunt's home Benji's encouragement, in Kranystaw. It mirthe rest of the group is rors a trip Eisenberg nonetheless. also posing, pretending actually took a few characters. While the the film, we're treated whole gang is thoroughly to a score of Frederic enjoying the moment, Chopin's beautiful off reading a good

years ago. Throughout piano music. This is one thing I would have

Cousin hugs.

often agree with his cyn-

ical observations. While

they're appalled at his

admire him for his hon-

esty and directness. He

has a naïve innocence

that endears him to the

group. It's a quality that

Dave doesn't understand

at first. But he eventually

comes to appreciate

Benji's impulsive nature.

Not surprisingly,

The group visits

about this heartwarming and memorable movie.

by Mark Domin

Iovie Junkie Mark

"Life is too short to watch mediocre movies"

Ultimately, the tour is an awakening for the two cousins. They draw from their family's past as well as their own. At the conclusion of the trip, they realize while they've drifted apart over remarks, they also the years, they can appreciate their differences and similarities. They are family after all. It's a major breakthrough for both of them, and we're lucky to be a part of it.

> Note to parents: The film is rated "R" due to language and pot smok-

Currently streaming on Hulu.

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

★★ So-so. Not a total waste of time, but you would have been better book.

★★★ Pretty good. In queue, you might watch

★★★★ One you'd ments, even though they just a minor complaint 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.



At the hotel.



Tour guide James (Will Sharpe) with Dave (Eisenberg).



Having a smoke on the rooftop.



A contemplative Benji (Culkin).



A final farewell at the airport.

### LIFE & LEISURE | 9C



Moon Alert: After 2 a.m. EST today, there are no restrictions to shopping or important deci-Gemini.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, February 6, 2025: You're curious and knowledgeable, and you value freedom. You have both artistic and scientific talents. You will reap the benefits of all your hard work this year. Expect to attain power and leadership. Expect a promotion, awards, kudos and recognition. Bravo! This is a busy year for you.



ARIES

(March 21-April 19) This is a lovely day to schmooze with others. In particular, you'll enjoy talking to siblings, relatives and neighbors, because you're in an upbeat, positive frame of mind. This is also a great day impression on others to make plans for the future, as well as to write, teach and sell. Tonight: Discussions.



**TAURUS** 

Financial negotiations will go well today. This is an excellent day to make your pitch to bosses and people in authority. Help from behind the scenes or from an unexpected source might bless you. Trust your moneymaking ideas. You also might buy something that pleases you. Tonight: Check your money.



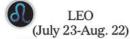
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)

your sign lined up with lucky Jupiter, and at the same time, the Moon is dancing with Venus. This makes you feel positive and generous to others. Today you will get what terms of kindness, friendship and support to othyou. Tonight: You win!



**CANCER** 

(June 21-July 22) Although you have been rethinking things sions. The Moon is in lately, behind-the-scenes support might help you today, especially in discussions about inheritances, shared property and insurance issues. People in authority will listen to you. Today is the day to make your case. Tonight: Solitude.



LEO

It's a popular day! Enjoy

the company of friends and groups, clubs and organizations. You might make travel plans with a friend. You might explore opportunities in publishing, the media, medicine, the law and further education. Conversations are intense but positive. Tonight: Schmooze.



**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You made a great today, especially if you have to deal with larger groups. You will find it easy to establish a rapport with others, which is why this is a great day for public relations, work or sales. Work-related travel is likely. Tonight: You're



admired.

LIBRA 'Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

This is an excellent day to travel or to make travel plans for the future. You want to expand your world. In particular, you want to gain knowledge and learn new things. Relations with your kids are excellent. It's a great day to teach chil-Today the Moon is in dren. Romance is blessed! Tonight: Explore!



**SCORPIO** 'Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

property and inheritances will benefit home and famyou give, especially in ily today. In fact, family discussions about home actor Charlie Heaton repairs will go well. Ask for ers. Travel will appeal to help from other sources, Ukraine, screenwriter

others, as well as financial institutions and insurance companies. Tonight: Check your finances.



**SAGITTARIUS** Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Because the Moon is opposite your sign, you have to cooperate with today. others Nevertheless, this will be easy to do since everyone is in a positive frame of mind. This is a great day to teach or learn, or both. It's a strong day for those in sales, marketing, teaching, acting and writing. Tonight: Cooperate.



**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

This is an excellent day for financial discussions. It's a great day to ask for a raise or to see how you might boost your income. You might seek a better paying job. Work-related travel is likely. It's also a great day to work from home or improve your



**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

This is a playful, funloving day! Reach out to friends and make plans to get together for coffee, a drink, lunch, dinner — anything. You'll also enjoy involvement in groups and organizations, particularly related to the arts, the entertainment world. Tonight: Play!



**PISCES** 

This is a feel-good day for you. You might see ways to boost your income. However, you will also enjoy a chance to relax at home and talk to family members. Research into any subject will be enjoyable and rewarding. Tonight: Relax.

**BORN TODAY** 

(1994), first lady of including the resources of Olena Zelenska (1978).

home. Tonight: Work.





(Feb. 19-March 20)

Actress Alice Eve (1982).

# **Contract Bridge**

A GRAND SLAM

5 4

South dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH ♠ Q 4 ♥KJ5 ♦ A 10 8 5 3 ♣Q62 WEST EAST **♦** J 8 5 ♠ 109632 ♦J964 ♠AKJ9843 ♣1075 SOUTH **♠** A K 7 ♥AQ10983 ♦ K Q 7 2 The bidding: East South West North

Let's say you're declarer in seven hearts and West leads the king of clubs. You ruff and see that you're sure to make the contract unless the

Opening lead — king of clubs.

Pass

missing diamonds are divided 4-0. Even in that case, the grand slam can be made by playing the diamonds correctly. Thus, if West has the J-9-6-4, you can first cash the king and later finesse dummy's ten to nullify his diamonds. If East has the J-9-6-4, you can start the suit by playing dummy's

ace first and subsequently pick up the suit without loss regardless of how East defends.

Your only problem, therefore, is to try to discover which defender, if either, might have all four missing diamonds. This is not a difficult task if you go about it the right way.

You draw three rounds of trump, noting that West started with three of them. You next play the ace of spades, to which both opponents follow suit, and at this point the remainder of the play becomes crystal clear.

West surely must have had at least six clubs for his four-club bid, and since he's already shown up with three hearts and a spade, he cannot possibly hold four diamonds. So, if either opponent has four diamonds, it must be East.

Accordingly, you lead a low diamond to dummy's ace at trick six. After West shows out, you continue with the ten. When East covers with the jack, you win with the king, cross to dummy's carefully preserved queen of spades and then lead another diamond, this time finessing against East's nine, to bring home the grand slam.

Note that if you had started the diamond suit by first playing the king from your hand, the grand slam would have gone down the drain.

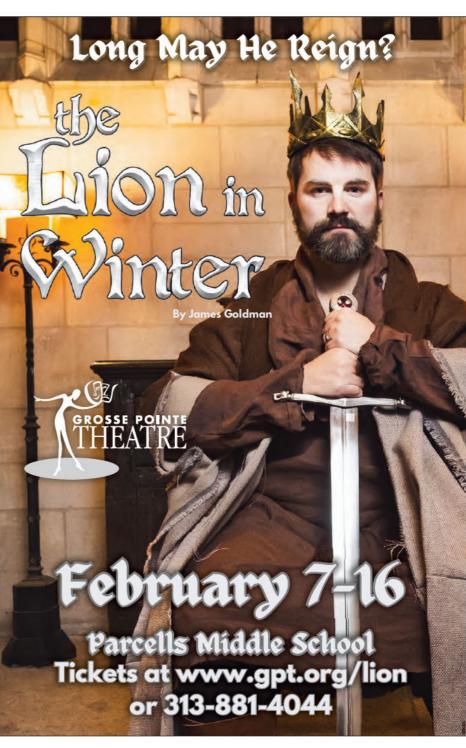
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by Steve Becker

Pass

Pass







# **What's your FAVORITE PART?**

Send us a photo of you with your completed favorite part of our weekly KID SCOOP section in the comics - and you'll be entered to win a \$25 gift card to CHOCOLATE BAR CAFE in our monthly contest.

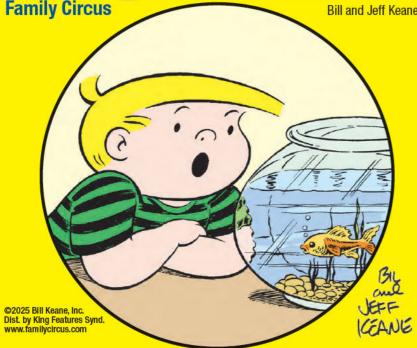
JUST EMAIL us at media@grossepointenews.com with your photo, name, city and a brief reason why you like KID SCOOP. Your photo may be used in our next promotional ad. The deadline is FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2025.



Take advantage of all the Grosse Pointe News has to offer:

Subscribe at (313) 882-6900 grossepointenews.com/subscribe

### **Family Circus** Bill and Jeff Keane Garfield FEBRUARY, THERE ARE TIMES I JUST



"I wouldn't want to be a fish. Their whole life is one long bath."

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

4 1

3

8

9

5

9

6

5

4

3

5

8

# FEEL LIKE DOING NOTHING





**Popeye** 



'AT'S GREAT!! WHAT NDESTRUCTIBLE OBJECT HAS YA PICKED TO DESTROY?



### **Beetle Bailey**





### **Blondie**







### 3 9 4 6 2 5 8 7 1 5 2 7 1 9 8 3 6 4 8 6 1 3 7 4 9 2 5 9 4 3 8 5 2 7 1 6 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆ Over The Hedge 752961483

### **Universal Crossword**

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### **ACROSS**

6

- 1 Consumed4 Blacksmith's block
- 9 Upon 13 Clue Musical
- composition 16 Medieval
- guitar Prozac and Paxil (In this clue's
- answer, note letters 3-6) 20 Bond's first
- foe 21 Fodder for some
- analysts
  22 "A rat!"
  23 Measurement known as "apparent
- temperature" (... letters 4-5 + 7-8)
- 26 Form a union?
  28 Large vase
- Scot's "not" Showbiz
- grand slam
  32 Peacock's
  network 33
- Cartog-rapher's creation 35 Talk
- pointlessly Clip-on 40 Angry outbursts (... letters 1-2 +
- 5-6)
  Assistance
  "Already?"
  Clever humor
  Pokemon
  Blue Version,
- e.g. 47 Canceled, as
- a mission

- 49 Race, as an
- engine 51 Test for a future Ph.D.
- 52 Cool and distant 55 Monopoly card with property info (... letters 1-2
- + 6-7)
  58 Road goo
  59 Regarding
  61 California
- wine valley Power-saving
- laptop setting (... letters 8-9 + 14-15)
- + 14-15)
  67 "Right away, boss!"
  68 Golden Globe or Golden
- Boot 69 Heartfelt
- request
  70 Weight room
  units
  71 Out of style 72 Drop the ball
- DOWN 1 "I've got it!"
  2 Blurb that
- may begin
- "Swipe right if ..."
  3 Bouncers'
- posts 4 Mimic
- 5 Puppy's bite6 Green salsa variety7 Glacierhiking tool
- 8 "\_\_\_ we forget ..."
  9 In the style of 10 Piano technician 11 Furry sea

mammal

12 Annoying

- Edited by David Steinberg February 6, 2025
  - 14 Hue plus white
    18 "How you \_\_\_?"
    19 Coconutty

  - Girl Scout cookies 23 Searches for prey 24 Mentioning
  - 25 Darling
  - dispenser 31 Hansel's fairy-tale sister
  - 34 Bear's foot 36 Propeller for a large flat
  - boat One who sees what
  - you're saying 38 Barely defeated
  - 40 Past the
  - say 41 Soil
  - 44 Yoko of music

- 48 Canadian capital 50 Type of diagram with
- overlapping circles One of the

Complete the

grid so every row,

column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from

1 to 9 inclusively.

Previous puzzle

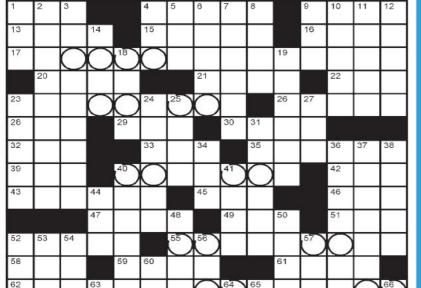
solution

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

- Musketeers
- 53 Jazz singer Cleo
- 54 Moon's path Tiny bits
  - 57 Like laundry
  - before drying
  - 60 Onesie
  - fastener 63 Many "Men in Black"
- characters, for short
- 64 Tax org. 65 Poem of
- praise 66 Corn unit
- point of being funny,

# PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

1/30 Solution © 2025 by Andrews McMeel Universal www.upuzzles.com



Riptide by Joe Marquez





### **Andy Capp**

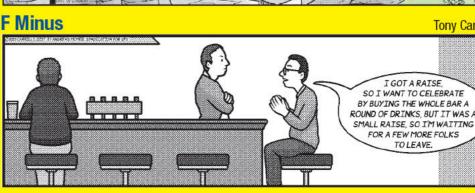


GOSH, THAT'S A COINCIDENCE. FLO'S GOT AN ANNIVERSARY OOH, LOVELY TO THE DAY I FIRST MET MY EDDE

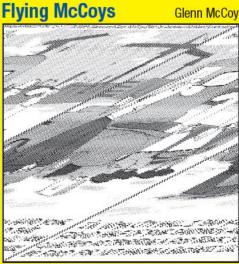


Tony Carrilo

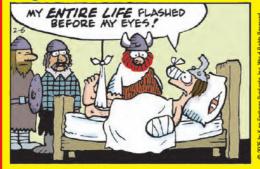
Wizard of Id Created by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart. Currently by Mason Mastroianni I CAN'T TELL IF YOU SCREWED UP A SPELL OR IF THE ARTIST STARTED EMPLOYING AI



Tom Wilson TAKE US TO







Crankshaft





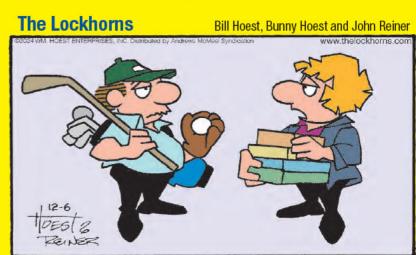
THE SCHOOL BUS DRIVER SHORTAGE IS BECOMING ACUTE, AND AS A RESULT, OVERCROWDING ON THE BUSES THAT WE DO HAVE DRIVERS FOR IS A REAL PROBLEM! Crock



"RUFF'S A MIXED BREED. THAT'S WHY HE GETS ALONG WITH OTHER DOGS!"







**Mother Goose and Grim** 

I HAVE NOIDEA WHERE WE ARE GOING

NEITHER DO I

BUTATLEAST WE'RE MAKING GREAT TIME GETTING THERE

Mike Peters

"I THINK YOU'RE MISSING THE POINT OF GAME NIGHT, LEROY."

John McPherson

Carpe Diem Niklas Eriksson YOU NEED TO GET OK, THEN I'LL OPT FOR MORE EXERCISE. SLEEPWALKING. 周回



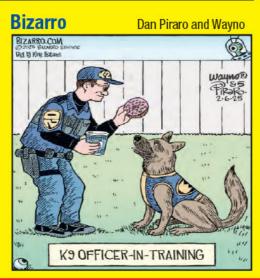
**Close To Home** 

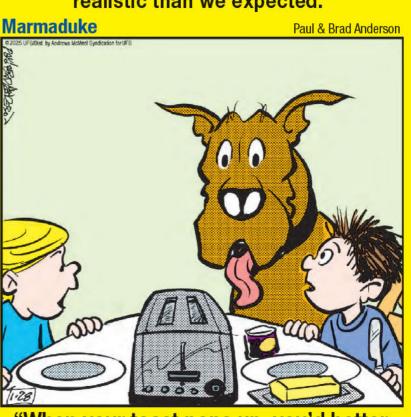
B.C. Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni SHOW ME A MAN WHO IS HONEST AND I'LL SHOW YOU A GUY WITH MORE WITH HIS WIFE WHEN ASKED ABOUT CONFIDENCE THAN INTELLIGENCE. BEING ATTRACTED TO OTHER WOMEN. ME

Wumo Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler Get your hands on illegal God, I think your burning guns! Hot single women bush has been hacked ... n your area! Buy crypto!

"The safari turned out to be a bit more realistic than we expected."

Reality Check Dave Whamond NO. FIRST ADD JU-JU
EYEBALL. THEN SOME
TOE-JAM FOOTBALL, SOME
MONKEY FINGER, SOME
WALRUS GUMBOOT... EYE OF NEWT?





"When your toast pops up, you'd better be quick."



THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE Get puzzle answers, recipes and more at www.kidscoop.com

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**Black Inventors and Science Pioneers Touching Lives Every Day** 

Have you ever ridden in an elevator, worn shoes, played with a Super Soaker or used a microphone? Then your life has been touched by an African-American scientist.

> Follow the maze to match each inventor with their invention



If you love to pick up a microphone and sing out a song, you will be glad this scientist loved electricity and physics. He invented a small microphone. His technology is used in 90 percent of microphones today and in cell phones, laptops, baby monitors and hearing aids.

Early elevators had doors that had to be opened and closed by hand. Elevator doors that open and close automatically made riding an elevator safer.

In 1914, this inventor created a "safety hood" which made polluted air safer to breathe. This was an early version of the gas mask.

Proof It!

Are you an eagle-eyed

reader? Read the story

below and circle the seven errors you find. Then

rewrite the story correctly.

**Peanut Professor** George Washington Carver was

born into slavery, but he grew up to be one of America's greatest scientist. He invented

more than 300 products made

it was hard for a Black child to get into school when Carver

was young but. He never gave

up. He eventually finished skool and got a job as a teacher

Carver wanted to help poor

farmers. He told them to grew

peanuts. The farmers thought

Carver invited some farm to

lunch. They had soup, mock

chicken, creamed vegetables,

Imagines their surprise when Carver told them that everything was made with peanuts!

bread, salad, ice cream, cookies

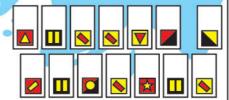
at a school in Alabama.

peanuts were weeds.

and coffee.

from peanuts!

This NASA engineer is best known for inventing the Super Soaker water blaster. The success of his invention has funded his own research and he now has more than 100 inventions to his name. Use the code to discover this inventor's name.



### **INVENTOR CODE**

<b>/</b> = E	
<b>=</b> G	<u></u> = N
<b>=</b> H	<b>II</b> = 0

= S

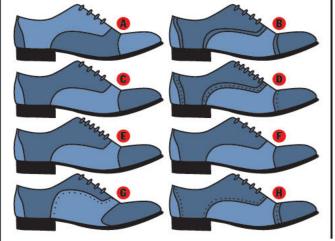




### Jan Ernst Matzeliger

He invented a machine that could quickly attach the top of a shoe to the sole. The machine made shoes ten times faster than by hand, making shoes more affordable.

Find the two identical shoes.



### Replace the missing words.

### Mae Jemison

Mae Jemison has always had big \_\_\_\_\_. Her big dreams took her into space! She is the first African-American female

1992, she flew aboard the space shuttle Endeavor.

Mae loved and dancing as a child. In college she decided to

medicine. After becoming a doctor, she went to Africa with the Peace Corps. When she returned \_\_\_\_\_, she decided to follow another dream—to be an astronaut.

DREAMS

SCIENCE ASTRONAUT

Look through the newspaper for ten words that describe inventors. Use these words to write a poem or a paragraph about inventors.

newspaper to locate information.

Cut and paste these sentences in the correct order to discover the beginnings of Black History Month.

week to encourage knowledge of the important contributions by the Black community. What began

eventually became a month-long observance known as Black History Month.

as a week-long celebration to honor equal rights pioneers Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln

Carter G. Woodson was one of the first scholars to study African-American history. He lobbied to establish an African-American history

### Double

MICROPHONE **AMERICAN** 

**AFRICAN COLLEGE SCIENCE** HISTORY INVENT **DREAMS FEMALE PEACE** 

HONOR

**BLACK** 

HAND

SONG

AIR

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

BLTNEVNIAA HONORKAYFC SPEACECRES CKDAHOIOMM ISLNLCRTAA EBOLAIESLE NTENAHMIER CGSTGOAHRD ENOHPORCIM

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



This week's word: AUTOMATIC The adjective automatic means a device that acts or

is set in motion by itself. The grocery store doors opened automatically as

I walked toward them.

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

### FROM THE Lesson Library

### STEM Newsmakers

Watch the newspaper for articles and pictures about important men and women in the world of science. Write a short paragraph about each. Keep all of your clippings and paragraphs in a notebook or folder called STEM Newsmakers.



What did the scientist get by combining a two ton elephant with two tons of potatoes?

seotstoq bedsem to a not owT:A3WZNA

### Write On! 🐗 Determination

and Perseverance

Determination and perseverance have helped eople accomplish great things. Tell about a time determination or perseverance helped you.

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# SPORTS



3D NORTH VS. SOUTH GIRLS HOOPS | 4D CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING **2D** BIG GAME PREDICTIONS

## Girls hockey teams celebrate seniors and wins

By Mike Adzima Sports Reporter

As the varsity girls hockey regular season enters its final weeks, there are only a few make a statement before the playoffs begin. The final weeks of the regular season also present the chance for teams to honor their seniors in week.

**Grosse Pointe North** 

brated senior day Saturday, Feb. 1, when ored its five seniors — Madeline Pflaum and performance.

joined us as a junior and The Norsemen cele- has been a force on defense while also pushing the puck up the ice. the team hosted Livonia Piper Marshall, who United. The team hon- joined us this year to play hockey for the first time, games left for teams to Josie Cueter, Anne has been a ray of light.... Cleland, Piper Marshall, Maddie Pflaum also joined us as a junior and, Leanna Phillips — with despite never having an 8-2 win in a dominant played hockey before, she fearlessly stepped "This senior class is into the net as our goalie. some of their final games truly special," North girls You'd never guess she on the ice, which is what hockey coach Taylor just started. ... Josie the teams from Grosse Shaheen said. "Annie Cueter, an all-around out-Pointe North and Grosse Cleland, our four-year standing athlete and per-Pointe South did when senior, has been a stand-son, joined us as a they were in action last out on defense, especially sophomore and we're all this year. Leanna Phillips so grateful she did. She's

South girls hockey seniors Rosie Smith, Bella Peruski, Abby Evans, Frances Ring, Hannah Sun and Molly Reynolds were honored for the team's senior day on Friday, Jan. 31.

brought fire and passion Feb. 5. The Norsemen to the team over the last then travel for a short

ing kindness and a smile."

senior day with a hat trick in the first period. Her three goals plus a goal from Paige Martin helped the Norsemen to a 4-0 lead after the opening

ond period as the for North cruised to a win.

North press time Wednesday, the win for South.

three years, always show- road game against St. Clair Shores at 4 p.m. Shores Civic Arena.

### **Grosse Pointe South**

The Blue Devils were able to pick up a couple of wins last week as they look to close out an Cueter and Martin both impressive regular seascored again in the sec- son strong. The first win South came Norsemen were up 6-2 Wednesday, Jan. 29, going into the final when the team narrowly period. Cueter capped off defeated the St. Clair the game with one more Shores Saints 19U team while Phillips also found 2-1. The Blue Devils went the back of the net as down 1-0 early, but a pair of third-period goals by hosted Ruby Lenhard turned Washtenaw United after things around and earned

Lenhard, a junior, helped South get the win last Wednesday, but last Friday's game was dedi-Cueter highlighted her Friday, Feb. 7, at St. Clair cated to the team's seniors. Abby Evans, Bella Peruski, Molly Reynolds, Frances Ring, Rosie Smith and Hannah Sun were honored during the team's senior day Friday, Jan. 31, and the Blue Devils took care of business with a 9-0 win over Ann Arbor Pioneer.

"Senior night was an awesome celebration of our six seniors and the time that they have put into Grosse Pointe South hockey," South girls hockey coach Lexi Bohlinger said. "We

See HOCKEY, page 4D

From left: Piper Marshall, Josie Cueter, Madeline Pflaum, Leanna Phillips and Anne Cleland celebrate their senior day with North girls hockey on Saturday,

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

## Tull focused on finishing gymnastics journey strong

By Mike Adzima Sports Reporter

Feb. 1.

Sometimes a new opportunity can give an athlete a whole new appreciation for a sport. That is what happened with Grosse Pointe South senior Lucy Tull a couple years ago when she decided to join the Grosse Pointe United varsity gymnastics team.

Tull started doing gymnastics when she was 3 years old and continued through much of high-level clubs and in USA Gymnastics competitions. When her family area to Grosse Pointe when she was in sixth grade, Tull decided to leave gymnastics behind and thought she was doing so for good. However, when she began her sophomore years ago and Tull has older, I had to work year of high school, the opportunity to join Grosse Pointe United eventually reignited her love for the sport.

"My sophomore year of high school, one of the coaches, Courtney Hamidi, wrote me a hand-written letter," Tull said. "... It said that they



her youth competing for would love to have me she still needed time to come and try out for the fully get back into the team and see if I liked it. ... It ended up being moved from the Chicago super fun and the girls

were super nice. It was than what I was used to. It was a way to keep this it being too stressful."

back into the groove of being a competitive gymnast. Even with the high school level being less mentally stressful than what she was used to handling earlier in

fully gotten

PHOTO BY LEON HALIP

swing of things after four years away from the sport.

"It was hard to get much less competitive back into it for the first month or so," Tull said. "... When I was younger, sport in my life without doing all of those skills and stuff, it came more That was a couple of naturally. Now that I'm

her career,

in shape."

compete now may think Caruss Invite on Jan. 25. she never missed a beat. Her highest All Around At the end of her junior score this season is 35.7, Division 2 at the state routine and 9.475 on the joining the team, she is a sense that the two events team's top finishers at be Tull's favorites. any given competition.

Athlete Of The Week Proudly Sponsored By:

also was fourth All Those watching Tull Around at the Jeanne season last year, she fin- with high scores of 9.1 ished 14th All Around in on vault, 9.4 on floor finals. Two years after beam. It only makes senior captain and con- in which she scores the off the beam." sistently one of the highest also happen to "Floor I enjoy because

Lucy Tull joined the Grosse Pointe United gymnastics team as a sophomore

and is now one of the team's captains in her senior season.

On Jan. 11, Tull fin- you really get to put ished fourth All Around yourself and your per-

more for it and get back at the Fraser Invite and sonality into the routine a bit more, because you get to pick your own music and set your own routine to that music," she said. "... Beam I've always liked since I was little. It's kind of where my perfectionist self can shine through because if you wobble at all, you're

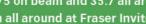
PHOTO BY TATUM ESCHENBURG

Whenever Tull is on the sidelines waiting for her turn to compete, she

See ATHLETE, page 6D



- High scores this season include 9.4 on floor routine, 9.475 on beam and 35.7 all around
- Finished 4th all around at Fraser Invite on Jan. 11 and at Jeanne Caruss Invite on Jan. 25
- Senior captain of Grosse Pointe United gymnastics







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### Coaches predict Super Bowl LIX winner

By Mike Adzima

Cuper Bowl week is finally Jupon us, and for the second time in three seasons we will get to see the Kansas City Chiefs taking on the Philadelphia Eagles in the big game pionships. Standing in their to sit back and enjoy this match-

on Sunday, Feb. 9. History is on way are the Eagles, led by suthe line as Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs are looking to cement their legacy as one first Super Bowl title since 2018. of football's great dynasties

perstar running back Saquon Barkely, on their quest for a

While we probably all would by becoming the first team to rather be watching the Detroit game and who will emerge ever win three straight cham- Lions play on Sunday, we have

up instead. As has become tradition, the Grosse Pointe News asked varsity sports coaches and figures from around the Pointes for their takes on the victorious when all is said and done on Sunday.



Chad Hepner Head Coach, Varsity Football, **GP South** 

Winner: Eagles Final Score: 31-28 MVP: Saquon Barkley "The Chiefs will have no answer for the 'tush push'."



Winner: Chiefs

Jay Ricci Head Coach, Varsity Baseball, University Liggett

Final Score: 31-28 **MVP**: Patrick Mahomes "My thoughts are two words: Patrick Mahomes.'



Joe Drouin Head Coach, Varsity Football, GP North

Winner: Eagles Final Score: 35-28 MVP: Saquon Barkley

"With the heartbreaking early exit of our beloved Lions, it's hard for me to focus on football - I just hope both teams have fun. I think Philly will be the best team on Super Bowl Sunday."



Mike Adzima Sports Reporter

Winner: Chiefs Final Score: 28-23

**MVP**: Travis Kelce "As much as I would like to see someone else besides the Chiefs win, it's just too hard to pick against them and Patrick Mahomes in any big game. Travis Kelce catches two touchdowns, including one late in the game to give Kansas City the lead, then rides off into the sunset."



Amanda Amine

Head Coach, Girls Lacrosse & Field Hockey, University

Winner: Eagles Final Score: 34-27 MVP: Jalen Hurts

"I feel like Kansas City's magic will finally run out in a close game. Looking for Hurts to have a good game both in the air and on the ground, and Barkley to be the star he has been all season long."



Andy Rishmawi

Athletic Director, GP South Winner: Chiefs

Final Score: 31-28 **MVP**: Patrick Mahomes

"I can never vote against Brady or Mahomes, so I am going with the Chiefs."



Chris Bolio Head Coach, Boys/Girls Soccer, GP South

Winner: Eagles Final Score: 27-17 **MVP**: Saquon Barkley

"Not really a fan of either team, but I do not want the frauds that are the (Kansas City) Chiefs winning a three-peat."



Bill Fleming Head Coach, Varsity Softball, GP South

Winner: Chiefs Final Score: 34 - 20 **MVP**: Patrick Mahomes

"Kansas City is the dominant force in the NFL, they just play at a different level. Maybe the last true dynasty in professional sports."



Taylor Shaheen

Head Coach, Girls Varsity Ice Hockey, **GP North** 

Winner: Eagles Final Score: 35-31 MVP: Saguon Barkley



ob Johnson

Head coach, Boys Varsity Basketball, GP North

Winner: Chiefs Final Score: 31-28 **MVP**: Patrick Mahomes

"I think it will be a similar game to the last time these teams faced off in the Super Bowl. The last team to have the ball wins."



Phil Kozlowski

Head coach, Varsity Baseball, GP North

Winner: Eagles Final Score: 31-28 MVP: Saguon Barkley

"Ultimately, Saquon Barkley will be too much to handle and will be the difference maker along with winning Super Bowl MVP."



John Fodell

Head Coach, Boys & Girls Varsity Swim & Dive, **GP South** 

Winner: Chiefs Final Score: 34 - 28 **MVP**: Patrick Mahomes



Dan Griesbaum Sr. Head Coach, Varsity Baseball, **GP South** 

Winner: Chiefs Final Score: 27-24 **MVP**: Patrick Mahomes



Ron Smith

Head Coach, Softball, GP North

Winner: Chiefs Final Score: 31-24 **MVP**: Patrick Mahomes

"I think it will be a good game, not as good without the Lions in it, but good. It is tough to pick anyone against KC and Mahomes when it's a big game on the



Andre Rison

Head Coach, Varsity Football, University Liggett

Winner: Chiefs Final Score: 35 - 27 **MVP**: Patrick Mahomes



tephen Benard ead Coach, Boys Varsity asketball, GP South

Winner: Chiefs Final Score: 31-28 **MVP**: Patrick Mahomes



ustin Macksoud Head Coach, Boys Lacrosse,

Winner: Eagles Final Score: 32-27 MVP: Jalen Hurts



ALL PHOTOS: COURTESY . DESIGN: JOHN PIGOTT

games."



Mike Costanzo Head Coach, Boys

Lacrosse, University Liggett

Winner: Chiefs Final Score: 38-31 **MVP**: Patrick Mahomes

"Barkley is an absolute beast and will get his yards, and two TDs. The Chiefs have so many weapons and have an impressive record in one-score

### **SPORTS**

# D Zone Playoff Tune-Up Showcase comes to South Feb. 8

By Mike Adzima Sports Reporter

The day high school around the Pointes have been waiting for is Tune-Up Showcase event at Grosse Pointe Rouge. South High School, featuring 14 varsity boys a.m. with the first game basketball teams from between Hazel Park and showcases around Michigan, L'Anse Creuse North. December including Grosse Pointe Other games through- Christmas or in January North and Grosse out the day include around Martin Luther Pointe South.

founder of The D Zone, against Flint Elite. said. "To have an event teams are playing in is form that covers high aren't many of these." pretty outstanding and school football and bashopefully it can get a lot ketball around the state visit basketball.thed-

great teams this year."

The day begins at 11 just a few weeks.

of the community to of Michigan, hosts zone.com/tournaments.

SAT 2/8/2025 | 11 AM | GROSSE POINTE SO

11:00 AM

HAZEL PARK VS L'ANSE CREUSE NORTH

12:30 PM CENTER LINE VS IMLAY CITY

2:00 PM

SAGINAW HERITAGE VS WARREN FITZGERALD

3:30 PM **EISENHOWER VS LINDEN** 

5:00 PM

**DAKOTA VS FLINT ELITE** 

6:30 PM

**GROSSE POINTE NORTH VS ADRIAN** 

8:00 PM **GROSSE POINTE SOUTH VS RIVER ROUGE** 

come and support them events and showcases because they both have like this in different communities through-North and South will out the year. What basketball fans from be featured in the final makes the Playoff two games of the day. Tune-Up unique is it The Norsemen take on gives teams a break almost here. Saturday, Adrian at 6:30 p.m. and from their conference Feb. 8, The D Zone is the Blue Devils close the schedules to play hosting its Playoff night at 8 p.m. with a against competition matchup against River they may see in the playoffs, which begin in

"So many of these Center Line against King Jr. Day," Carlin 'We feel very strongly Imlay City, Saginaw said. "... We think it's a about the Grosse Pointe Heritage taking on little unique to have a community because it's Warren Fitzgerald, showcase right before such a strong commu- Eisenhower versus the playoffs. That's why nity," Stuart Carlin, Linden and Dakota we named it the way we did, because it's just dif-The D Zone, a website ferent. And around that that both high school and social media plat- time of year, there

For more information.



North's Eva Borowski attempts to block a shot by South's Maddy Benard.

# South beats North again in girls hoops rematch

By Mike Adzima Sports Reporter

Thursday, Jan. 30, marked the second January between the varsity girls basketball teams from ble digits before half- 10. Grosse Pointe North and time, taking a 25-13 Grosse Pointe South. The advantage into the locker Blue Devils' record to rivals first met Jan. 14 at room. South, with the Blue Devils winning 44-34. It within that range much was North's turn to host of the second half. North last Thursday, but the fought hard to pull closer, result ended up the same but South maintained a its first MAC Red Division with a nearly identical steady lead throughout. final score as South At the end of the third swept the season series between rivals with a led by 11, going up 32-21.

game. The Blue Devils ultimately win by 11. came out firing in the first quarter while Benard led all scorers North's offense was off with 18 points in her South to lead 11-2 at the also reached double dig- Ford II at 7 p.m.

end of the first quarter.

extended its lead to dou-

The game remained quarter, the Blue Devils While the Norsemen bat-South jumped out to an tled to the end, South again Friday, Feb. 7, takearly lead and didn't look continued to hold that ing on Dakota at 7 p.m. back in last Thursday's advantage to the end to

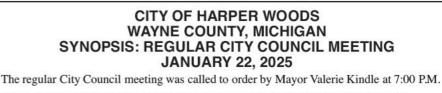
South senior Maddy

its for the Blue Devils The Norsemen picked with 11 points. Junior things up in the second Eva Borowski was quarter but still were North's leading scorer unable to keep pace with with 13 points, while meeting the Blue Devils. South freshman Juliette Laurenceau finished with

> The win moved the 6-10 this season and 3-3 in MAC Red Division play. North dropped to 5-9 after the loss and the team is still searching for win.

> South hosted Henry Ford II Wednesday, Feb. 5, after press time. The Blue Devils are home

The Norsemen faced Eisenhower after press time Wednesday, Feb. 5. They go on the road Friday, Feb. 7, for a to a slow start, allowing team's win. Morgan Duff showdown with Henry



ROLL CALL: All Councilpersons were present, except for Councilmember Cheryl A. Costantin

MOTIONS PASSED

- 1) To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held January
- 2) to open the Public Hearing on the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan project plan.
- 4) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:08 p.m..

### RESOLUTIONS PASSED

1) (1) approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 131634 through 131740 in the amount of \$711,872.29 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) approve payment to SAFEbuilt, LLC in the amount of \$26,127.86 for the contractual building department services performed during the month of December 2024. (3) approve payment to Drive Creative Services LLC in the amount of \$16,526.00 for the printing of the City's annual calendar and the printing of the Insider newsletter. (4) approve payment to WCA Assessing in the amount of \$6,384.16 for the contractual assessing services to be performed during the month of February 2025. (5) approve payment to Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc. in the amount of \$26,079.27 for professional services during the month of January 2025 for the following projects: Beaconsfield Resurfacing, #180-253; Misc. Concrete Repair, #180-338; Joint Crack Sealing, #180-341; Sidewalk Program, #180-349; CDBG Sidewalk, #180-350; Miss Digs, #180-255; Roscommon Pocket Park, #180-329; Temp Water Operator, #180-303; San. Sewer Cleaning, #180-340; DWRF Lead Water Svc Replacement, #180-331; DWRF Project Plan, #180-344; DWSD Sewage Discharge, #180-347, and the Dist System Materials, #180-357. (6) approve payment in the amount of \$18,500.00 to Guardian Sewers for their assistance with several water main breaks at various residential locations. (7) approve payment to Nu Appearance Maintenance, Inc. in the amount of \$5,577.50 for salting, snow removal and final leaf cleanup in various residential and commercial areas of the City. (8) approve payment in the amount of \$62,927.34 to Grosse Pointe Woods for the City's pro-rata portion of the operating and maintenance of the Torrey Road Pump Station for the period July 1 through December 31, 2024. (9) . approve payment to Turf and Timber LLC in the amount of \$48,600.00 for the removal of dead and downed trees/limbs. (10). approve the repair, to be performed by K & S Ventures, to the City Hall heating/cooling system, replacing the control system and installing temperature sensors in the amount not to exceed \$15,760.00. (11) approve payment to City Insight LLC in the amount of \$16,068.00 for the annual licensing,

maintenance, hosting and technical support for the mobile payment application. 2) to adopt the attached resolution to Adopt the Final Project Planning Document for Wastewater System Improvements and Designating an Authorized Project Representative (Attachment 1). 3) to accept the proposal submitted by Yeo & Yeo CPA's and Advisors for the City's annual financial auditing services in the amount of \$52,000.00, with \$5,000.00 extra if a SEFA audit

4) to approve payment to L. J. Rolls Mechanical in the amount of \$62,465.85 for Progress Payment No. 1 on the City Hall Generator project, #180-291.

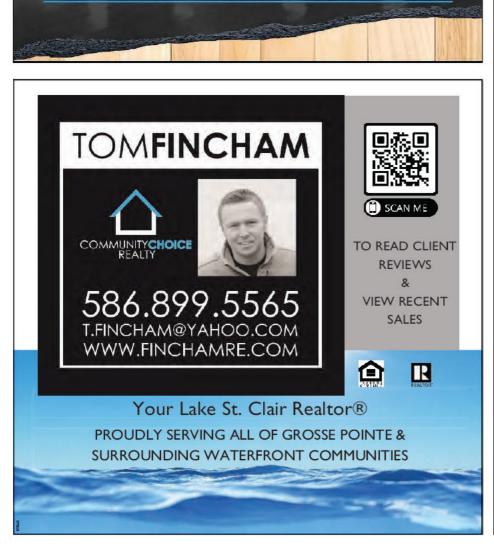
5) to approve payment to Great Lakes Contracting Solutions, LLC in the amount of \$75,235.03

for Progress Payment No. 2 on the 2024 CDBG Sidewalk Replacement Program, #180-350. 6) to approve the purchase of one (1) Ford Interceptor Police Vehicle from Lunghamer Ford in the amount of \$51,967.10, payable in three annual payments, and further to approve the additional equipment necessary to outfit the vehicle in the amount of \$29,655.81, for a total amount of \$81,622.91.

7) to approve the purchase of a refurbished bucket truck from Premier Aerial and Fleet Inspections in the amount of \$29,967.69.

8) to approve the agreement between the City of Harper Woods and Bendzinski & Co. Municipal Finance Advisors and to designate Bendzinski and Co. to serve as the Dissemination Agent for the City and further, to authorize the acting City Manager to sign the agreement.

9) to approve payment to Wayne County in the amount of \$356,018.00 for the operation and maintenance of the Milk River Drain for the period of January through March 2025.



Valerie Kindle, Mayor Published: GPN, February 6, 2025 Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

# Blue Devils and Knights compete at MIHL Showcase, North picks up late wins

By Mike Adzima Sports Reporter

The days left in the boys varsity hockey regular season are numbered and teams face some of their toughest competition as they prepare for the playoffs. Last weekend, Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett School took on some high-caliber opponents in the annual MIHL so." Showcase, while Grosse Pointe North was able to add a couple of wins to its resume late in the sea-

### **University Liggett**

to come out of the tough MIHL Showcase with a pair of wins at the end of the weekend. The team's first game of the showcase was Thursday, Jan. 30, when Liggett faced off against Plymouth.

The game ended in a 3-0 victory for the Knights over the Wildcats, with senior posting a 25-save shutout. Landen Maltby, Patrick Dreyer and Nick Gould were the goal scorers for Liggett in the vic-

"He was absolutely lights out this weekend and the team fed off of it," Liggett boys hockey coach Colin Smith said about Wehrmann. "He makes a big save and the bench goes crazy, and then it translates into our forecheck turning it up and we're getting it out of our zone faster...He's been the backbone of the team and continues to do

The Knights returned the Kennedy Recreation Center in Trenton Saturday, Feb. 1, to continue the showcase. Saturday's game saw Liggett facing off The Knights managed against Riverview Gabriel Richard. It was another win for the Knights as they triumphed over the Pioneers 5-3. Andrew Johnson scored twice, with Gould, Griffin Marchal and Gary Stacy adding the other goals for Liggett to end the weekend.

4. The team hosts Orchard Lake St. Mary's 5:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7.



PHOTO BY SYLVIA KUBITZ

Goalie Ben Wehrmann recorded 25 saves in a shutout win for Liggett over Plymouth on Thursday, Jan. 30.

press time Tuesday, Feb. ing experience for a young South team.

Grosse Pointe South team," South boys year." Last weekend's MIHL hockey head coach Alan Sou Showcase was not quite Koroloewicz said. "... the weekend was as fruitful for the Blue You could tell that it Thursday, Jan. 30, when Devils. South ended the was definitely some- it lost 6-1 to Detroit weekend with a couple thing that they enjoyed Country Day. Jack of losses, but the time being part of and it O'Keefe scored the Blue spent playing in one of reflected in our play. ... Devils' lone goal in the Liggett went on the the state's biggest high I think that overall, we loss. goalie Ben Wehrmann road to face St. Clair school hockey events out-played both of our Shores Unified after still was a valuable learn- opponents. ... I think showcase Saturday, "It was the very first ing them what a big deal to Jackson Lumen Blanc at 5 p.m. Friday,

South's first game of

they really took some Feb. 1, but the team lost inspiration from us tell- yet again, 6-1, this time road to face Grand at McCann Ice Arena at MIHL Showcase for this was and being able Christi. Evan Bernard Feb. 7, at the Crystal about two-thirds of our to be part of it every scored the only goal for Fieldhouse Ice Arena.

the Blue Devils in Saturday's game.

The Blue Devils took on De La Salle Collegiate Tuesday, Feb. 4, after press time. They take their home ice at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7, against Trenton.

### **Grosse Pointe North**

With only a few games remaining in the regular season, the Norsemen added a couple of tallies to the win column last week. The first victory came Tuesday, Jan. 28, as North took down New Boston United 9-1. Aidan Burney, Ben Clor and Blake Shock all scored twice, with Levi Olsey, Tim Klatt and Charlie Berger adding a goal each in the big win.

North then celebrated its senior day Saturday, Feb. 1, when the team hosted the Mid-Michigan Raptors. Shock's hat trick helped lead the Norsemen to a 4-3 win. Charlie Mueller also scored, making it four South returned to the wins for North in the team's last five games.

North travels on the

### HOCKEY: Continued from page 1D

ended up winning the game and all six seniors, including our goalie, Rosie Smith, got on the score sheet.'

Reynolds led the way with three goals in the win that helped South improve to 14-1 on the season. Sun,

all scored as well, along win over Ann Arbor third period. with Audrey Reynolds and Kylie White.

week-long break before taking the ice again Saturday, Feb. 8. They off against face Washtenaw United at 4 p.m. at the Arctic Coliseum of Chelsea.

**University Liggett** 

Skyline-Huron Tuesday, Jan. 28. Stella Smiatacz learned Tuesday, Feb. 4, win. Miranda Alcala scored twice while Avery Welsh, Sophia Secco and Maggie Weiss added a goal each.

Lake St. Mary's Thursday, Jan. 30, in a 2-1 loss for the

School canceled the remainder of the 2024-25 girls varsity hockey sea-

Liggett hosted Orchard athletes committed to program is under review, playing for our Girls Ice Hockey program this sea-The Knights started last Knights. Secco scored the son has declined, we now Ice Hockey next winter. ... Ring, Evans and Peruski week with a dominant 8-0 team's lone goal in the face the reality that there We realize how important before press time.

are not enough student- this sport is to you and The Blue Devils get a tallied a hat trick in the that University Liggett Hockey season," school officials announced in a statement to players and families that was obtained by the Grosse Pointe "Because the number of News. "The future of the with the hope that we will be able to safely offer Girls

The Grosse Pointe News athletes to safely continue understand the disapthe 2024 - 2025 Girls Ice pointment that this may cause. The health and safety of our athletes, however, is our utmost priority and will always be our top consideration in any decision we make."

The Grosse Pointe News reached out to school officials but did not receive any further comments

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submitted for publication.

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

### Announcements

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Classifieds.

Grosse Pointe News (313)882-6900 ext. 1

### Merchandise

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### MARCIA WILK ESTATE SALES 313 779 0193

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927

including Elnita sewing machine, Pewabic,

# Grosse Pointe News Yard & Estate Sale Map = ESTATE SALE THIS WEEK: 1. 262 Stephens, GPF = 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.

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### **SPORTS**

## Unified hoops rematch ends in stalemate

meeting and were looking to avenge their loss to South earlier in the

North stormed back in Pistons the second half and ulti- Basketball Showcase.

game to overtime.

settled when the teams month, but even after meet for a third and final unified sports programs. overtime, no winner time this season on could be decided as the Wednesday, Feb. 26. to fevo-enterprise.com/ game ended in a 67-67 That game will be played event/Grossepointe 33. South held a 37-29 Little Caesars Arena as fevo-enterprise.com/ lead at halftime, but part of the Detroit event/Grossepointe6. Unified

The co-ed unified var- mately led by four points Tickets are on sale and sity basketball teams going into the fourth include admission to the from Grosse Pointe quarter. It was then a unified game in the South and Grosse Pointe tight finish, with South's afternoon and to the North met on the court Titan McKenzie knock- Detroit Pistons versus again last ing down the tying bas- Boston Celtics NBA Thursday, Jan. 30. The ket in the final minutes game that night. Norsemen hosted this of regulation to send the Proceeds from tickets purchased through The stalemate will be either school's link will go to benefit the school's

> For North tickets, go on the NBA court at For South tickets visit

> > — Mike Adzıma



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Continued from page 1D

PHOTO COURTESY OF ISABELLE NGUYEN

The Grosse Pointe United gymnastics team

recently celebrated

Titan McKenzie gets ready to put up a shot for South as North defenders prepare for a rebound.

ROSSE POINTE SOUT

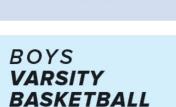
# **HITS & HIGHLIGHTS**

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:

### SOUTH WRESTLING

A couple of wrestlers from Grosse Pointe South reached career milestones in the MAC Blue/Gold/Silver championship meet. Senior Wyatt Hepner earned his 150th career win and placed first in the league at 150 pounds. Fellow senior Josh Lemanski earned his 100th career win at the event and won the league title at 175 pounds. Neil Honablue from South al :o earned a top-three finish at 165 pounds in third place.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH ATHLETICS



Grosse Pointe South boys basketball went on the road and defeated Chippewa Valley on Friday, Jan. 31. The Blue Devils had four players reach double digits in the win, with Kooper Richards scoring 14 points to lead the way. Jamison Spratt had 13 points,

12 and Vince Vachon with 11. South hosts Warren Lincoln on Thursday, Feb. 6, in the team's annual Coaches vs. Cancer game at 7 p.m. The Blue Devils take the floor at home on Saturday, Feb. 8, against River Rouge in the D Zone Playoff Tune-Up Showcase at 8 p.m.

Grosse Pointe North boys

James Michelotti finished with basketball extended its winning streak to five games on Friday, Jan. 31, beating Fraser 54-42 at home. Leo Perettie had a stellar night with 26 points. Dequan Howell also reached double digits with 11. The Norsemen host L'Anse Creuse on Thursday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m. North also plays on Saturday, Feb. 8, against Adrian in the D Zone Playoff Tune-Up Showcase at Grosse

Pointe South. Tip off is scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

University Liggett boys basketball made it three straight wins with a 69-35 win over Bishop Foley on Friday, Jan. 31. Justin Gibson led the team with 17 points while Sean Harris and Deagan Barr both tallied 14. Liggett visits Ann Arbor Greenhills on Thursday, Jan. 31, at 7 p.m.

### Tull's senior day. She is the only senior on this year's roster.

is cheering on and encouraging her teammates, showing her leadership as the team's lone senior. She always has her teammates' backs and knows they have hers as well.

In her years with Grosse Pointe United, Tull has formed a strong bond with her fellow gymnasts. While she is the only senior, there is a small group of veterans with whom Tull has grown close over the past couple of seasons. With a relatively small team of about a dozen gymnasts, there were some new faces Tull and the other veterans welcomed this season to create what she feels has already become a tightknit group ready for suc-

"This year, we only had four returning girls,' Tull said. "We usually have a small team anyway. ... I think that creates a really close atmosphere. ... It's very welcoming and that spreads to everyone else. People instantly clicked."

There is not another group with whom Tull would rather spend her senior season. She knows there are only a few meets left in her gymnastics career, as she does not currently have plans to compete at the collegiate level, so Tull wants to make the most of them.

She already has achieved one of the main goals she had this year and now her focus is on leading both herself and her team to some trophies.

"I really wanted to upgrade my tumbling passes and have already done that actually," Tull said. "... That was a big moment for me. Also, just with it being my senior year, I'm hoping to make it to states, whether it's team states or individual. I just want that to be a final hurrah for gymnastics."

### Now is the best time to have alterations or replacement done to your boiler-heating-AC plumbing and electrical projects that are needed

Here are a few reasons to have it done now.

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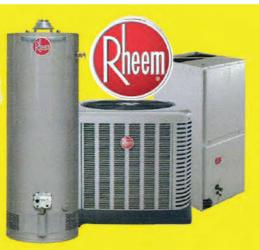
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