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GPPSS budget in better shape than thought

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — With a little less than three months to go in the 2024-25 fiscal year, the Grosse Pointe Public School System has been able to reduce deficit spending by about half.

“Our first budget revision is much more promising than originally thought,” Superintendent Andrea Tuttle told the GPPSS Board of Education at its meeting Monday, March 31.

The original budget, passed in June 2024, included approximately \$1 million in deficit spending. That is down

to around \$500,000.

“When I started putting this revision together, I was looking at the worst-case scenario,” said Shelbi Frayer, who has been working as a finance consultant for the district during a search for a new chief financial officer. “I had a much gloomier picture in my

mind. We'll still need to use money from the fund balance, but not as much.”

New CFO Dee Ann Irby's first day in the district was the same day as the board meeting.

Frayer noted that almost every line item in the budget has changed since initial projections.

“Our local revenue has been reduced by \$2 million now that the state has estimated our taxable valuation,” she said.

“We build our state aid around that number, but we have to recognize what the state believes is our actual number versus what we budgeted for.”

The district could,

however, get additional funding after local municipalities conduct their boards of review over the spring.

“We collect most of our funding during the winter tax cycle, so there could be settlements that help us end the year in

See BUDGET, page 9A

Sewers worked as planned

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — When a small community antes up \$2 million for an emergency flood control valve to thwart a repeat of 1,000 basements flooded by sewer backups during thunderstorms, the valve is newsworthy no matter what.

The valve is news if it diverts flood water into Lake St. Clair. It is news if it fails to work and basements flood again.

It also is news when a big storm dumps a torrent, but not enough to activate the valve, as happened overnight Wednesday, April 2.

“We were nowhere close to being able to operate the EERV (extreme emergency relief valve),” said Nick Sizeland, city manager.

“The one-hour threshold is roughly two inches of water,” said Councilman Max Wiener, chairman of the infrastructure committee and early proponent of augmenting the storm water sewer system for flood protection. “The 24-hour threshold is 4.9 inches.”

“Over the course of an hour we got close to one inch of rain,” said Mike Krause, an electrician and pumping station operator.

The downpour was enough to activate the city's storm pumps, but not enough to warrant diverting flow through the EERV to an outflow at Patterson Park.

Sizeland said overall rain throughout the duration of the storm measured 1.8 inches.

“The pumps worked as intended,” Krause said. “We never got high levels in the wet well. We had our storm pumps running, but were able to handle it.”

“At no point did the system exhibit any kind of threat that might have triggered the EERV,”



COURTESY PHOTO

Elementary school students paint the windows at The Campus Shop and Small Favors in The Village in 2023.

Paint the Windows shifts to new program

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — After a hiatus last summer, Paint the Windows returns in May, but now will be known as Paint The Village, “because we're not painting the windows,” Main Street Grosse Pointe Executive Director Cindy Willcock said.

Instead, school-aged

children in the Grosse Pointes are invited to create artwork on specialty paper, which then will be framed and displayed in the windows of local businesses throughout next month.

The event itself takes place 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday, May 1, in the St. Clair and Kercheval plaza, where participants will create artwork to match the theme “The

Village in Bloom.”

“We still wanted that community feeling, because we know a big part of it is everybody coming out and being together,” Willcock said.

The changes ensure the artwork can remain on display longer — in years past, rain often washed away the paintings within days — and also are a consequence of the city's supplier dis-

continuing the paint kits.

“Everything started falling into place, where we really can't execute painting on the windows the way we wanted to,” Willcock said. “We wanted to make changes anyway, so it all really is an instance of making really good lemonade out of lemons.”

See PAINT, page 2A

Consultant eyes 23% water-sewer rate increase

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — More than a year's worth of water and sewer rate discussions come to a head this summer with a recommended double-

digit increase.

A municipal consultant said a combined 23 percent rate increase is needed to fund ongoing potable system improvements and to keep financially struggling sanitary sewer operations above

water.

“The (drinking) water fund is in good shape, but the sewer fund is underfunded,” said the consultant, Andy Campbell, a registered municipal advisor at Bendzinski & Company, located in the

City of Grosse Pointe. “It just pays for itself. Overall, rates for the water and sewer system are barely covering expenses and do not bring in revenue for capital projects.”

See RATE, page 2A

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Pointer of INTEREST

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Woods dedicates memorial trees

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Friends and family gathered Wednesday, April 2, to remember loved ones at the city’s 42nd annual memorial tree dedication.

“This is one of the most inspiring events we do as a tree commission and as a city as well,” Chairman Paul Lechner said.

Ted Barthel, who passed away March 2024, received a locust at Lake Front Park.

“Ted was an interesting individual and a great friend of my late father-in-law,” Lechner said. “They and some others would gather at a picnic table by the kayak rack. We all called it the ‘table of knowledge’ and they



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE YOUNG

Members of the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council and Tree Commission stand with family members whose loved ones received memorial trees.

would sit there and solve the world’s problems.”

Councilman Todd McConagy joked that he was the “youngest surviving member” of the group.

“My boat slip was nearby and those guys kind of adopted me,” he said. “I learned a lot from them.”

William Robert Davis,

who passed away January 2024, received a red maple at Lake Front Park.

“We were Irish twins,” said Sue Mack, his sister. “We were born the same

year. He always was a fighter for the underdog.”

Mack said his tree is located near other memorial trees dedicated to her parents, late husband and sister.

“I have lots of memories of my family when I go to the park,” she said.

William Yordy, who passed away February 2024, received a red maple on the island at the split of North and South Oxford.

“About 10 years ago we contacted the city because the island was a mess,” said his widow, Diane Yordy. “The city didn’t have the money, so the neighbors all got together to clean it up.”

The city gave the group a tree for the island about eight years ago.

“Bill watered that tree for years,” she continued.

“(Public Works Director) Jim Kowalski said he wanted to do something special for him, so they installed a plaque in his honor and noting he was an Advanced Master Gardener.”

Yordy added that she and her neighbors often are told it is the best looking island in the city and that they decorate it for each season.

Thomas Morawski, who passed away in June 2021, received a pin oak at Ghesquiere Park next to a tree previously dedicated to his father.

His family wrote that Morawski, a former sergeant with the Woods Public Safety Department, “was a wonderful human being, like his father, and now they are immortalized side by side.”

Jordan Ulmer, who passed away February 2024, received a linden at city hall.

RATE:

Continued from page 1A

tal improvements.”

None of the recommendations were new. City auditors during the last two fiscal cycles said the same thing, especially about sewers. So have members of the infrastructure committee, planning commission, city council and administration.

A schedule of system upgrades are part of a six-year capital improvement plan council members passed unanimously months ago.

“We are going to be pursuing increasing water and sewer rates, but also looking at bond opportunities,” said Nick Sizeland, city manager.

Campbell’s proposal translates into a typical Park homeowner paying an extra \$48 per bimonthly bill. The yearly total increase is \$288.

The bimonthly breakdown is:

- ◆ Water: from the current \$131.12 down to proposed \$117.00;
- ◆ Sewer: from the current \$75.71 up to proposed \$137.50 and
- ◆ Total: from the current \$206.83 up to proposed \$254.50.

The proposal reapportioned fees to reflect relative costs of water and sewer services, unlike had been done in the past for reasons neither Campbell nor anyone else on the committee knew, but recognized as a common foible among municipalities.

“This happens a lot of times,” Campbell said during a meeting of the infrastructure committee Thursday, April 3. “It’s not unique to Grosse Pointe Park.”

Higher costs

Proposed rates contain cost increases from the Great Lakes Water Authority, from which the city buys drinking water and to which it contracts sewage treatment.

“In any water-sewer increases we do, 6 percent of that is GLWA,” Sizeland said.

“Great Lakes Water is now legally allowed to pass on much larger increases,” said Councilman Max Wiener, chairman of the committee.

“We don’t see this going away, especially looking at (GLWA’s) capital improvement plan,” Campbell said. “They’re looking to spend a lot of

dollars.”

Sizeland doubts the combined increase will reach the 23 percent mark the consultant recommended.

“That number’s not necessarily final,” Sizeland said. “It may decrease it a little.”

“We’re going to look at the numbers, reflect on them and try to get feedback and plan this out,” Wiener said. “But if we defer it too long, costs magnify. We must tackle this. We have to be responsible about it, understand the needs of residents and their viewing of it as well.”

Nevertheless, rates are sure to go up with the start of the new fiscal year July 1.

“We have a lot of capital improvement coming up,” Campbell said. “So, it’s a two-part for the city: change rates to get on a more normalized rate structure, but also continue funding the capital improvement plan through user rates and millages.”

His report will be reprised in forthcoming council meetings and a budget hearing prior to adoption of the fiscal year 2025-26 municipal budget.

“This analysis takes into account the current millage being assessed for water and sewer capi-

tal improvements,” Campbell said. “It builds that in so we’re not overcharging residents for the capital improvement plan.”

He doused prospects of the 10-year water-sewer millage that voters approved in 2023 being a one-time deal.

“I don’t know if I would tell people the millage will not be necessary when it expires,” Campbell told committee members. “There will be a need for it. It will just depend on the council at that time, the capital improvement plan and the desires in terms of millage funding, user rate funding and the capital improvement plan as a whole.”

Bonds

Another 8 percent of the suggested rate increase accounts for a proposal to issue \$6.5 million worth of bonds to fund improvements and purchase public works equipment.

Sizeland said the bonds would be payable over 20 years.

“It was in our capital improvement plan approved by the council last year,” he said. “A \$2 million component would be (to replace old) water meters; \$4 million of that would be for sewer lining. We’re also looking at buy-

ing a sewer vacuum truck because the (current) truck is probably two years out from its useful life. Principal interest payments over the life of that bond is about \$480,000. The interest rate is about 4.2 percent. If we could get those bonds sold by November, get the money by then, we would make our first payment in May 2026.”

Meters

The drive to replace old, inaccurate water meters has been discussed during infrastructure committee meetings and reported for more than a year. New meters are sought because the present ones no longer accurately register the full amount of water consumption.

Patrick Droze, a principal at the city’s engineering consultants, OHM Advisors, said the acceptable industry standard for water system loss is 10 to 15 percent.

“On average, the (Park) is about 20 percent,” he said. “As meters run out, they typically run slow, which means they don’t record as much water.”

“Best perspective, we’re paying 20 percent of every (customer’s) water bill,” Josh Chafin, director of the Park water department, said in March of last year. “I’ve

been in houses where the meter doesn’t even spin when they turn on the water.”

Wiener said 19,000 meters need replacement.

“We did not have the cash to buy water meters,” Sizeland said. “We have all these needs to prioritize.”

“We have a lot of major capital needs with aging infrastructure,” Wiener said. “But one of the good things about the work we’re trying to do is ideally we’ll yield savings down the road — as we change water mains, we have less breaks; as we improve water meters, we have less loss. Hopefully, there will be some kind of compounding effect in some of our savings to help with this reserve.”

“At the end of next fiscal year, we’re projected to have \$1.5 million cash reserves,” Sizeland said. “We have not normally had cash reserves. If something happens at least we have that.”

Park officials delayed action on new rates due to turnover in the finance department and among consultants. The council in October 2022 retained Campbell’s former employer to devise a rate strategy, but work slowed while he shifted to Bendzinski.



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PAINT:

Continued from page 1A

Prizes within grade categories still will be given as in years past,

but new this year, all first-place winners’ artwork will be reproduced onto banners that will hang on the street poles along Kercheval for the summer.

“When they come down, we may offer them available for sale, so parents or grandparents can buy their kid’s

banner that hung in The Village,” Willcock added. “That could help fund the next round of banners and then it becomes a program that continues to fund itself and to grow so that we can always have fresh, fun banners and celebrate the youth involved in our community.”

Because of space limitations, pre-registration for Paint The Village is required at thevillagegrossepointe.org.

To ensure consistency and fairness, participants also must purchase \$10 art kits at the event, containing colored pencils, crayons and specialty paper.



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COURTESY PHOTO

The annual Easter Egg Hunt takes place at Pier Park rain, snow or shine.

Farms Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — The annual Pier Park Easter Egg Hunt begins at 10 a.m. sharp Saturday, April 12. Farms families are encouraged to arrive at 9:45 a.m. for the free event.

Intended for children ages 2 to 12, the festivities include hunting for candy-filled eggs and taking pictures with the Easter Bunny.

Attendees should bring an Easter basket or bag to collect the eggs, as well as a camera for photos.

“When the kids see the Easter Bunny and the eggs they’re going to hunt for and they’re excited, it makes all of us happy,” said Lynn Roose with the city’s parks and recreation department.

The event takes place rain, shine or snow.

“You can be here as long or as short (as you like),” Roose said. “If the weather’s nice, you can hang out and play at the playground or you can see the bunny and go right home.”

— Laurel Kraus

Farms PS report details 2024 stats

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — The Farms’ investment into a drone unit in 2023 — notably as the first department in the area to do so — is paying off.

Last year, during its first full year of operation, the department’s drone was deployed 39 times. It assisted in the apprehension of suspects involved in domestic violence, car theft and larceny from auto cases, as well as searched for a missing Alzheimer’s patient, runaway juvenile and person in crisis.

“Its versatility extended to environmental safety, where Drone-3 was used to assess a potential hazardous gas spill at the Pier Park marina and pinpoint the source of a fire during a smoke investigation,” states the department’s annual public safety report for

2024.

Released in March, the report highlights a status quo of crime occurrences year-over-year.

Major crimes — criminal homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, arson, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft — cataloged 120 incidents compared to the same number in 2023.

As major property crime accounts for 95 percent of major crimes in the Farms, the majority of such fell into the categories of larceny, 85, and motor vehicle theft, 18. There also were 11 burglaries, five robberies and one rape.

As the city contracts out its paramedic services, MedStar Ambulance responded to 658 calls for service in 2024, while its dedicated fire department completed 363 fire runs — though 175 were found

See STATS, page 4A

The Week Ahead

- SUNDAY, APRIL 13**
- ◆ Neff Park Spring Egg Hunt, 2 to 3:30 p.m. \$10 per child. Park passes required.
- MONDAY, APRIL 14**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Public School System Communities United in Diversity meeting, 6 p.m.
 - ◆ Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting, 7 p.m.
 - ◆ Grosse Pointe Farms City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
 - ◆ Grosse Pointe Park City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- TUESDAY, APRIL 15**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Parks Committee meeting, 4 p.m.
 - ◆ Main Street Grosse Pointe Board of Directors meeting, 6:30 p.m.
 - ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Arbor Week Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- THURSDAY, APRIL 17**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Library Board of Trustees meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the Ewald branch.
- FRIDAY, APRIL 18**
- ◆ Good Friday
 - ◆ Municipal offices closed

Egg hunt, petting zoo at Neff Park this weekend

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — The Neff Park Spring Egg Hunt returns for its 19th year this Sunday, April 13, at 2 p.m.

In addition to eggs scattered throughout the park that can be redeemed for bags of candy, a limited number of golden eggs will be well hidden for additional prizes.

“Maybe, with all this rain we’re getting, things will be greening up and some of the perennial flowers will pop up,” said Chris Hardenbrook, assistant city manager, who is leading the event while the city is in the process of hiring a new parks and recreation supervisor.

The event, which takes place no matter the weather, also will feature a petting zoo and photo opportunities with Peter



A past participant of the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Neff Park.

COURTESY PHOTO

Cottontail.

“It’s a good reminder for parents to bring the camera to take a photo with the bunny,” Hardenbrook noted. “We do not have a camera.”

The cost per child is \$10, which may be paid

online at tinyurl.com/4463avb5 or with cash at the gate. Collection bags for the eggs will be provided.

“I’ve always liked (this event), because it’s been a long time since a lot of residents have visited

Neff Park,” Hardenbrook said. “For most, it’s probably been since the pool closed. ... It’s another great way to visit the lakefront park and invite people back to the park in the spring months.”

— Laurel Kraus

SEWERS:

Continued from page 1A

Wiener said. “Our wet well never got close to capacity.”

“The wet well got to about 13 feet,” Sizeland said.

The Park’s wet well is a large tank buried under the hill at Patterson Park. Storm water is collected in the tank and released gradually to reduce the risk of backups.

“We have standard operating procedures of when to utilize the EERV,” Wiener said. “There wasn’t sufficient rain to use it if we wanted to but, frankly, the system worked really well.”

“Prior to the storm, (Public Works Director) Tom Jenny, Mike Kraus and I reviewed our standard operating procedures for the EERV,” Sizeland said.

“As water comes in, we have set points for our storm water pumps,”

Krause said. “With (Wednesday night’s) event, we used all our storm water pumps to maintain a level that was not alarming.”

Jenny said sporadic reports of water entering residents’ basements weren’t related to the sewer system.

“It’s groundwater that can’t leave the house,” he said. “You need to have your drain snaked so clear water can leave your house.”

“This can be one of the issues of French drain systems,” Wiener said. “The system is from the roof down to the street. If

you don’t maintain the connection to the street, water can’t go out to the street. It will back up into the house. Some residents talk about seeing clear water coming up from their drain. That generally denotes rain water that is infiltrating back into their system.”



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Walk a mile in Sarah Holder’s shoes

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

June 1, 30 years ago, Sarah Holder made a commitment to walk every single day for a year.

In order to make it back before her husband left for work, she — and often a neighbor — hit the sidewalks at 5:30 a.m., regardless of rain, thunder, snowstorms, below-zero temperatures and even a bout of the flu.

“I did the first year and I thought, ‘Well, I’m going to go for another year,’” Holder recalled. “I ended up doing seven straight years without missing one day and then

I found out we were expecting our last child.”

The lifelong Pointer missed the odd day here and there during the course of her pregnancy, but was right back at it two weeks after her son’s birth. It also was around that time, going into the eighth year of her commitment, that she naturally became a runner.

Today, Holder runs three miles each morning and walks another five to 10 miles each afternoon.

“There just isn’t a street (in the Pointes) that I haven’t probably walked down,” said Holder, who has been known to pull over during cross-country family road trips that

set off at 4 a.m. to fit in her daily allotted run.

“Thankfully, my husband is a real trooper, too,” she acknowledged.

He’s been along for the ride 43 years — and arguably longer, given he’s been a fixture in her life since she was 9 years old.

Dennis Holder entered her orbit when he became best friends with her brothers in middle school, often having dinner at her house and quickly reaching “tag along on family vacations” status.

“I’m one of five girls and two brothers,” Sarah Holder said, “and my mom would always say, ‘Dennis, which one of my daughters are you going to marry?’ And I would think it was so embarrassing.”

But at some point, Dennis Holder evolved from the boy who would help babysit her youngest siblings to the cool guy two years her senior with a motorcycle.

“He grew out of that,” Holder noted.

The two started dating when she left for college and were married shortly after she graduated.

In the years since, they’ve had four children — Lindsay, Andrew, Stephanie and Matthew — and today reside just two blocks from where Holder grew up in Grosse Pointe Park.

If asked to describe herself, “an encourager” is the phrase that comes to Holder’s mind.

She found her passion in an unexpected place, as often is the case for God’s calling on a

Christian life.

In 2010, a close friend and fellow Pointer she had met in a local Bible study years prior was training to be a yoga instructor and dragged her along as a practice student.

“I’m thinking, ‘I’m a runner. This is so slow,’” Holder recalled. “But I went and I really felt the Lord saying, ‘This is what you’re going to do.’ I thought, ‘Oh my gosh, I don’t know how I’m going to do this.’ I failed speech class in college, because I was too afraid to talk in front of peers.”

Still, she listened, attending an intensive, 18-day, 12 hours each day, instructor certification through the Yoga Alliance in Arizona. With a 3-year-old at home, it was a daunting feat, to say the least.

Today, Holder is co-owner of Living Waters Yoga on The Hill.

The Christian yoga studio — “We’re still yoga,” Holder clarified, “but our intention is not the guru” — marries all the physical and mental health benefits of yoga with the incorporation of Bible verses, prayer and Christian music.

“I literally fell in love with it,” Holder said. “It is my passion, it’s my every-



Lifelong Pointer Sarah Holder co-owns Living Waters Yoga, a Christian yoga studio on The Hill.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Holder, last summer, leads City Glow Yoga in Campus Martius, where participants use headsets to enjoy silent yoga as the sun sets.



In October, Holder completed her first half-marathon in two hours, 15 minutes.

The studio has flourished 15 years in its location, remaining a fixture in the community even through the pandemic.

“We’ve gone through periods where we can make enough to pay the rent and not ourselves,” the co-owner said, “but it’s a ministry first and we did not go into it to feel like we were bringing down the house.”

With three grandchildren and a fourth on the way, Holder last year completed her first half-marathon alongside eldest daughter, Lindsay.

The two tackled the Detroit Free Press International Half-Marathon in October, Holder crossing the finish line with a time of two hours, 15 minutes.

Looking toward the future, she one day aspires to start a walking club, encouraging others to get out and enjoy fresh air in the same way she raised her children to live healthily in body, mind and soul.

“She’s a certified super mom and super grandma,” Lindsay Holder said.

STATS:

Continued from page 3A

to be false for various reasons and 125 were of a miscellaneous nature.

Though firefighters also responded to mutual-aid requests from other cities, the Farms itself experienced five structure fires in addition to 33 miscellaneous fires.

Thanks to a grant through MI Prevention, Farms firefighters last year installed for residents 286 smoke and combination smoke/carbon monoxide alarms.

“Actually it surprised me (how many residents don’t have smoke alarms or don’t change them out properly),” Fire Inspector Kris Desmadryl said at the time.

In 2024, 176 vehicle crashes occurred within the city and 31 drivers were arrested for operating while intoxicated.

The department issued 1,871 citations, which is a 9.4 percent decrease from 2023.

The Farms dive team was deployed once last year when three individuals were stranded on a boat that had lost power and was rapidly taking on water.

“No exact location could be offered by the captain except they were somewhere in the center

of the lake between St. Clair Shores and Detroit,” the report notes. “Utilizing the Wayne County Sheriff’s rescue boat located at Pier Park, dive team officers located the stranded boater and provided assistance until a tow arrived on scene.”

Also unique to the Farms department is its K-9 unit. In 2024, K-9 Officer Rocco completed his second year with the department, alongside handler Sgt. Tim Harris.

Rocco’s service last year included assisting in locating car thieves involved in Country Club of Detroit thefts. The three suspects surrendered when informed the K-9 officer would be sent after them.

“Rocco remains a member of the Harris family,” the report reads, “residing in their home and insisting he is a lap-dog.”

The department also engaged in a number of opportunities for community education in 2024 — many with students on topics of bullying, school safety, stranger danger, vaping and drugs.

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City of Grosse Pointe

Location found

A 23-year-old Woods man was found in possession of stolen property at 10:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 1, when a Harper Woods man tracked his Apple AirPods to a restaurant in The Village. The airpods had been inside the man’s car, which was stolen two days prior.

Arrest scam

A text message scam Wednesday, April 2, convinced a Grosse Pointe resident to send \$10,000 in bitcoin to an unknown person to avoid threats of arrest.

Champagne

A 21-year-old Chicago man and 24-year-old Detroit man were arrested at 9:20 a.m. Wednesday, April 2, as they attempted to flee after stealing two bottles of champagne from a business in the 16000 block of Kercheval. The bottles were returned to the business.

Lights out

For driving with no headlights at 9:40 p.m. Friday, April 4, a 21-year-old Detroit man was pulled over at Mack and Washington and cited for an expired driver’s license.

Ran red

After running a red

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

light near Mack and Fisher at 9 p.m. Saturday, April 5, a 27-year-old Detroit man was cited for driving with a suspended license.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Tip jar

A tip jar containing approximately \$10 in cash was stolen from the front counter of a restaurant in the 18000 block of Mack at 3:14 p.m. Wednesday, April 2.

The suspect is described as an approximately 60-year-old black man with a beard. He was wearing a black T-shirt with the word “Detroit” on the front and a blue hoodie with jogging pants.

Road rage

A 34-year-old Grosse Pointe man was given a disorderly person citation for throwing objects from a moving vehicle, following a road rage incident near Kerby and Lakeshore at 5:01 p.m. Wednesday, April 2.

The man, when unable to pass another vehicle,

allegedly began yelling threats at the driver and threw ice cubes from his cup at the other vehicle.

Narcotics

While the driver of a vehicle was pulled over on Mack with a suspended license at 10:34 p.m. Thursday, April 3, the passenger initially refused to give officers her identity despite being cited for not wearing a seatbelt while in the front seat.

Upon identifying her, officers discovered warrants for her arrest. She also had drug paraphernalia and narcotics with her, for which she was arrested.

Stolen gun

An employee at a Farms business reported his firearm had been stolen from his jacket, which he left in the locker room while he was on shift between 4:50 and 10:58 p.m. Saturday, April 5.

Drunken

Upon spotting an open liquor bottle on the rear floorboard during a traffic stop near Mack and Moross at 12:15 a.m. Monday, April 7, an officer asked the 29-year-old Detroit man to step out of the vehicle for field sobriety

tests. The man failed testing and a preliminary breath test found his blood alcohol content to be 0.16 percent, 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

Window smashed

Nothing was reported missing from a locked Jeep of which someone smashed the rear window between 10 p.m. Monday, March 31, and 6:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 2.

The vehicle was parked at the time in a residential driveway on the 1100 block of Nottingham.

Package taken

A package containing \$16 worth of radiator valve handles and girls’ underwear was stolen Friday, March 28, from the porch of a house in the 1200 block of Berkshire.

The victim reported the theft a few days later. Police described the suspect as an unknown male wearing black pants and hooded sweatshirt.

Hit and run

Police are searching for a 35-year-old Wyandotte woman suspected of committing a rear-end hit-and-run wreck at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 5, at the intersection of Cadieux and Maumee, a four-way stop.

There were no injuries, according to police. The suspect fled the scene, but officers said her vehicle had been stolen in Wyandotte.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

April fools

Two 15-year-old Detroit males found themselves in the Grosse Pointe Woods jail after breaking into a vehicle in the 19000 block of Raymond around 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 1.

One suspect fled east-bound and was apprehended by an officer, while the second jumped a wall into the north parking lot at Henry Ford St. John Hospital and was caught by another officer. They are charged with attempted larceny.

At least they were locked

Two locked vehicles were stolen a day apart last week.

A 2021 Jeep Grand Cherokee was taken in the 2100 block of Hawthorne between 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, April 1, and 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 2.

A 2022 Dodge Durango was taken in the 2000 block of Vernier between 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 2, and 8:30 a.m. Thursday, April 3.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Stolen vehicle

A gray 2024 Dodge Durango was stolen from a driveway on Willow Tree Place between 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 2, and 8 a.m. Thursday, April 3. No broken glass was found at the scene and the owner had both key fobs.

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

Library lawn becomes short-term staging area

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — City-owned land in front of the Park branch public library next to city hall was conscripted this month as a staging and storage yard during the lower Jefferson Avenue sewer separation project.

“The contractor will have a work trailer there,” said Tom Jenny, public works director. “Equipment and supplies will be stored onsite close to the project itself — all the stuff needed to build the Jefferson sewer. Jefferson has no storage room, so they need to put supplies somewhere.”

“There’s going to be equipment there for the next couple months as they do the project,” Councilman Max Wiener said. “When it’s done, everything will get restored.”

“It will be brought back to its original condition once construction is done, per the contract,” Jenny said.

Work on the sewer is expected to begin this month and finish by Aug. 15. Pamar Enterprises, located in New Haven, won a low-bid contract of \$962,217 for the job in early February.

Park officials budgeted around \$400,000 for the sewer project, according to Sizeland.

More than half the cost of separation will be paid by the group funding construction of the Paul and Carol C. Schaap Center for Performing Arts on Jefferson between Alter and Maryland.

The arrangement developed from a legal

compromise last fall between the center’s backer, the nonprofit Urban Renewal Initiative Foundation (URIF), and Wayne County regarding the center’s construction infringing on a 15-foot-diameter storm-water drainage pipe just inside the Detroit border, as was reported earlier.

Staging

“It came to us as a request from the contractor to ask us to let them use the lawn for staging,” said Patrick Droze, a principal at OHM Advisors, the city’s engineering consultants. “It will likely be pipes, gravel and manholes.”

In addition to granting the request on logistical grounds — no other area nearby was available for staging — the city has a stake in accommodating its contractors.

“If you can find ways that make it easier for them to do their work, make it an easier project for them, they’re going to get in and out quickest and, hopefully, at less cost to the city,” Droze said.

Upon separating the area, rainwater entering catch basins will flow to the Patterson discharge station rather than to a Great Lakes Water Authority sewage treatment facility near Zug Island in southwest Detroit.

“Restoration includes asphalt pavement, concrete pavement, concrete sidewalk and the median of Jefferson between Lakepointe and Maryland,” Droze said last month.

Restoration also may result in simplified land-

scaping of the traffic islands.

It costs between \$25,000 and \$30,000 to tend the island’s formal landscaping, according to City Manager Nick Sizeland.

Payments are made by the Downtown Development Authority, straining its annual budget, currently \$122,000.

The three-block sec-
See STAGING, page 8A



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Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

Top 7 signs it's April in GP

(Editor's note: As they say, the more things change, the more they stay the same. This is adapted from a similar Our View two years ago.)

How do we know spring has arrived? The budding trees, fluctuating temperatures (yes, those were actual snow flakes that came calling Monday) and sudden urge to deep clean and organize a dirty garage like Martha Stewart have us taking a look at some of the tell-tale signs and symbols that it's April in Grosse Pointe:

1. Tiptoe through the tulips: It's hard to walk anywhere lately without seeing tulips, daffodils, magnolia trees and cherry blossoms making their colorful, annual debuts, especially after our late-March warmup. Even when Pointers are walking the dog in the early mornings with winter jackets on, we nod at these promising sights and whisper "spring is here" like a giddy teenager.

2. Tax man: Ranking up there with renewing your license or enduring a same-day procedure with light anesthesia, Tax Day is just around the corner on Tuesday, April 15.

3. Take me out to the ballgame: It's such a Mayberry type of sight to drive by any of our high school tracks and diamonds and see them buzzing with activity. And for anyone lucky enough to be within a stone's throw of a field in the Pointes, the sounds of the game announcer and cheers from the crowd give you a virtual front row seat. We say hop on your bike with the family and take in a track meet, tennis match or soccer, lacrosse, baseball or softball game. Our Norsemen, Knights and Blue Devils will appreciate the support and you will feel lucky about where we get to live and "do life" together. And with the start of Little League season just around the corner, we look forward to the Grosse Pointe Shores-Woods Little League hosting the state tournament later this summer.

4. Sittin' on the dock of the bay: While the parks' pools don't open until Memorial Day weekend, we know boaters' hearts are aflutter around town now that marinas are almost open for business. Soon we can ride down Lakeshore and see who's playing hooky on the water. Don't worry, we won't tell — your guilty pleasure is safe with us.

5. Bang your head: The sneezin' season has arrived and it will drive your sinus health mad. Whether it's a constant nagging headache, runny nose or quasi-sore throat (or hey, how about all three?!), these are your biggest clues that spring has sprung in GP. Also, see item No. 1 to explain why allergies are in full force.

6. Hoppy Easter: Not only do our local parks have Easter egg hunts, marshmallow drops and more planned, The League Shop once again is holding a jellybean count. Stop into this town favorite and take a guess for a chance to win a Herend figurine.

7. College decisions: The parental stress starts to fall away as college and post-high school choices are made. We all know these kids are prepared for the future, but it is always a highlight to see the excitement and hope for the future through the eyes of the young.

And just because we have an extra bounce in our step, we have a bonus sign of spring for you. This one holds the power that with a single mention, it sends shivers down the spine of anyone who has been dive bombed by one: the red-winged blackbird. Yes, it's time for this loathed feathered frenemy to nest and bring forth yet more red-winged blackbirds into our orbit. Of course, Mother Nature is wonderful and the circle of life is sweet, but we could do without the aggressive nest protection and aforementioned dive bombing when we are innocently jogging or biking, unaware we are about to get attacked. The situation gets even better when you look like a lunatic swatting in the air and screeching at it to stop while cars pass by and get a laugh at your expense.

In any event, spring has arrived and we couldn't be happier. We call on everyone to start enjoying these sunny days and warmer breezes (we promise they will be here), just as soon as we finish reorganizing those darn garages.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE HELM

Pure Grosse Pointe

It's not too late to visit The Helm for its art exhibition, featuring work by Grosse Pointer Will Shippert, above, and Detroit resident Angelo Sherman, right, among others. Artwork hangs throughout the main and back rooms and will be on display through Monday, April 14. The public is welcome to visit The Helm, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, during business hours to view the art.

GUEST VIEW By Melissa Fradenburg, CDFA, AIF

Understanding the new tariffs — and why staying calm matters

With the latest announcement of sweeping new U.S. tariffs, financial markets reacted swiftly and with understandable concern. Many well-known companies saw shares retreat on fears of higher costs, reduced earnings and potential global retaliation.



term volatility uncomfortable, it's important to remember that tariffs — like many economic tools — are neither inherently good nor bad.

Their impact depends on how they're implemented, how trading partners respond and the broader economic context.

It's also easy to get swept up in political narratives, especially with conflicting messages circulating through news

Cutting through the noise While headlines can be jarring and short-

See GUEST, page 7A

LETTERS

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

Times have changed

To the Editor:

I chuckled more than once reading your highly creative, well-crafted April Fool's Day editorial encouraging consolidation of the Pointes (April 3). But the times, they certainly have changed!

Grosse Pointe News readers on Oct. 28, 1948, read a quite serious proposal by Carl Schweikart, Grosse Pointe Township supervisor, regarding the lack of one police radio network and one health service. "This talk of five little cities each pulling its own way is all nonsense. ... Not one of these parties would dream of surrendering their own village rights of home rule and merge them into one city. That would be the sensible thing to do ..."

The "movement to consolidate all of

See LETTERS, page 7A

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GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST						
April 10 - 16						
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47° 34°	49° 34°	53° 36°	61° 42°	67° 41°	57° 38°	56° 40°
Rain	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Windy	Windy	Cloudy
60%	20%	10%	10%	10%	0%	0%
SUNRISE 6:59 am SUNSET 8:08 pm	SUNRISE 6:57 am SUNSET 8:09 pm	SUNRISE 6:55 am SUNSET 8:10 pm	SUNRISE 6:54 am SUNSET 8:11 pm	SUNRISE 6:52 am SUNSET 8:13 pm	SUNRISE 6:51 am SUNSET 8:14 pm	SUNRISE 6:49 am SUNSET 8:15 pm

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

I SAY By Brad Lindberg



The ultimate guide to blind love

One of my favorite books that I have no intention of reading all the way through is Robert Burton's "Anatomy of Melancholy."

It's an alluring but impossible read, more taxing of the attention span than Carl Sandburg's biography of Abraham Lincoln during the war years. Both authors lose themselves in minutia. Burton, to his credit, did it purposely. Sandburg merely proved that comparing fog to little cat feet doesn't mean being able to write a

compelling 2,400-page work of nonfiction. "Anatomy," first published in 1621, the year of the Pilgrims' first Thanksgiving, has a single topic with myriad and convoluted asides and digressions. Think of it as a self-help book about fighting depression, but in a style and mode barely out of the Middle Ages.

A fun and characteristic excerpt is from the third partition about the symptoms of love-melancholy, the ultimate ode to love being blind.

Burton, a fellow at Oxford University, summarized it this way: "Who loves a frog thinks the frog as fair as Diana." Imagine Burton dipping his quill to list the following unpleasant features that true love

overcomes.

"Every lover admires his Mistress, though she be very deformed of her self, ill-favored, wrinkles, pimpled, pale, red, yellow, tanned tallow-faced, have a swollen Juggler's platter-face, or a thin, lean, chitty-face, have clouds in her face, be crooked, dry, bald, goggle-ey'd, bleary-ey'd, or with staring eyes, she looks like a squis'd [squeezed] cat, hold her head still awry, heavy, dull, hollowed-eyed, black or yellow about the eyes, or squint-eyed, sparrow-mouthed, Persean hook-nosed, have a sharp Fox nose, a red nose, China flat great nose, snub-nose with wide nostrils, a nose like a promontory, gubbertushed, rotten teeth, black, uneven, brown

teeth, beetle-browed, a Witch's beard, her breath stink all over the room, her nose drop winter and summer, with a Bavarian poke [pouch] under her chin, a sharp chin, lave eared, with a long crane's neck, which stands awry too, with [sorry, I can't type this part; too embarrassing] blood-faln fingers, she have filthy long unpared nails, scabbed hands or wrists, a tanned skin, a rotten carcass, crooked back, she stoops, is lame, splay-footed, as slender in the middle as a cow in the waist, gouty legs, her ankles hang over her shoes, her feet stink, she breeds lice, a mere changeling, a very monster, an auf [oaf], imperfect, her whole complexion savours, an harsh voice, incondite gesture, vile gait, a vast virago, or [can't bring myself to type it], a fat fustilugs, a truss, a long lean rawbone, a skeleton, a sneaker, (supposed, as the poet saith, her unseen beauties somewhat better), and to thy judgement looks like a merd in a lanthorn, whom thou couldest not fancy for a world, but hatest, loathes, and wouldest have spit in her

face, or blow thy nose in her bosom, the very antidote of love to another man, a dowdy, a scold, a nasty, rank, rammy, filthy, beastly queen, dishonest peradventure obscene base, beggarly, rude, foolish, untaught, peevish, Irus' daughter, Thersites' sister, Grobian's scholar, if he love her once he admires her for all this, he takes no notice of any such errors or imperfections of body or mind.

"These very things enchant him then, he had rather have her than any woman in the world."

It comes and goes like that for, in my edition, nearly 1,000 pages.

Burton had a sense of humor. He didn't hide it. He began the book with a joke: "Gentle reader, I presume thou wilt be very inquisitive to know what antick or personate actor this is that so insolently intrudes upon this common theatre to the world's view, arrogating another man's name; whence he is, why he doth it and what he hath to say. Although as he said, 'In the first place, supposing I do not wish to answer, who shall make me?'"

The quote is from Seneca. Burton loaded the book with literary citations from the Greeks, Romans to writers and thinkers of his day.

Burton's playfulness is apparent throughout "Anatomy." He broadcasts it in a warning to readers (more than 100 pages into the book) not to criticize the work, released originally under the pen name Democritus Junior. The reference is to the Greek philosopher Democritus, known as the "laughing philosopher."

"I caution you against rashly defaming the author of this work, or cavalling in jest against him. Nay, (to be brief), neither tacitly reproach him because of others' censure, nor employ your wit in foolish disapproval, of false accusation. For, should Democritus Junior prove to be what he professes, akin at least to his elder namesake, or smack ever so little of his genius, it is all over with you: he will become both accuser and judge of you, will dissipate you in jests, pulverize you with wit, and finally, sacrifice you to the God of Mirth."

GUEST:

Continued from page 6A

feeds and social media. Now more than ever, it's essential to focus on facts and resist the urge to make emotional financial decisions.

What are the new tariffs?

In simple terms, tariffs are taxes on imported goods. They're often used to make foreign products more expensive and boost domestic manufacturing. While they can raise consumer prices, the real impact depends on whether companies pass costs along or absorb them and how much global supply chains are disrupted.

Here's what was announced:

- ◆ 10 percent universal tariff on all imports that started April 5.
- ◆ Additional country-specific tariffs scheduled to start April 9:
 - ◆ 24 percent on Japan,
 - ◆ 20 percent on the European Union,
 - ◆ 54 percent total on Chinese goods (including existing duties),
 - ◆ 25 percent on all foreign-made vehicles, now in effect,
 - ◆ closure of the "de minimis" loophole on May 2, ending duty-free treatment for small shipments from China and Hong Kong and
 - ◆ continued 25 percent tariffs on Canadian and Mexican goods.

This plan is described as a middle ground between flat tariffs on all imports and fully reciprocal tariffs that match each country's rates on U.S. goods. The goal, according to the administration, is to correct what it views as decades of unfair trade practices and to protect American industries.

A divisive policy with real impacts

Supporters of the new tariffs believe this is a necessary step to bring back American manufacturing and level the global playing field. They argue that many countries have long imposed higher tariffs on U.S. exports, disadvantaging American workers and businesses.

Critics, however, warn that these policies may raise the average U.S. tariff rate to 29 percent — the highest in more than a century — risking higher inflation, slower economic growth and the possibility of a recession.

Retaliation from trading partners like the EU and China could affect everything from agriculture to tech.

What remains unclear is how much of this plan will be implemented long-term and how much is intended to strengthen the U.S. position in future trade negotiations. Some believe the moves are more about leverage than lasting policy.

How exposed is the U.S. economy?

Trade made up about 24 percent of the U.S. economy in 2023. In comparison, it accounted for 74 percent of Mexico's GDP and 67 percent of Canada's, meaning those countries are more exposed to global trade shocks. While the U.S. is somewhat insulated due to our large domestic economy, industries that rely on exports or foreign components may still feel significant effects.

Recent job growth — it was announced April 4 that 228,000 new jobs were added in March — combined with the Federal Reserve's positioning for two interest rate cuts this year, could help provide a cushion as the economy absorbs the impact of trade uncertainty and layoffs tied to federal job cuts.

What can investors — and everyday people — do?

Market dips, while uncomfortable, also can create opportunity. History shows that investors who steadily added to their portfolios during major pullbacks often outperformed those who moved to cash. That said, not every bout of volatility is a buying opportunity, especially for money needed in the near term. It's always wise to keep enough cash on hand for short-term expenses or unexpected needs.

For those with a long-time horizon, staying the course remains one of the most reliable ways to build wealth. While uncertainty around tariffs and global trade likely will continue, focusing on what we can control — staying invested, staying diversified and balancing long-term strategy with short-term liquidity — can help us navigate what comes next with greater clarity and confidence.

Melissa Fradenburg, CDFIA, AIF is a wealth advisor at Antonelli Financial Advisors in The Village.

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

Grosse Pointe into a single city" hit a road bump with the problem of the Shores' two-county boundary (Feb. 24, 1949). Still, in 1950, came proposals for a single authority to "handle the garbage and rubbish problem" (May 18) and a "united Fire District" (July 6).

In a lengthy March 8, 1951 editorial, the News summarized its strong support for consolidation, a position "this paper has advocated ... since its founding in 1940." The paper clearly stated "... the community is approaching nearer and nearer the time when a merger into a single municipality will be almost man-

datory." Overwhelmingly residential, "the Pointe" shared the same goals of quality protection and health. After all, the schools had always been unified. Two weeks later the paper noted the rising communal problem of lakefront properties giving way to the tremendous post-World War II housing boom (March 22).

What happened? The 1950s logic of one community is strong. Today, millions of Americans hear or watch "Grosse Pointe" and have no idea or interest in knowing there are five of them. We are left with an interesting discussion to explain one Grosse Pointe as an April Fool's parody.

FRANK BUNTON
Suwanee, Ga.



Advice for what matters most, when you need it most

Congratulations to **Nicole S. Norris** for being named to the *Forbes*® "Top Women Wealth Advisors Best-in-State" 2025 list, published on February 11, 2025. Rankings based on data as of September 30, 2024.



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Main replacement improves fire flow

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A neighborhood increase in water pressure resulting from a two-block water main expansion last year validates a multi-million dollar plan to upgrade the 100-year-old water transmission system citywide, according to everyone involved.

Increased pressure is particularly applicable to having a dependable supply of water at high volume to fight fires.

“We budgeted in our capital improvement plan about \$1.6 million per year just for water mains for the next six years,” City Manager Nick Sizeland said. “We know the projects we’re going to be doing next year.”

He was encouraged by results of replacing a corroded, six-inch diameter cast-iron water main last year on Beaconsfield

between Vernor and Mack with an eight-inch plastic one. Water pressure improved beyond the work zone.

“Look at the improvement already in fire flow,” Sizeland said.

A similar outcome resulted from a pipe expansion on part of Maumee.

Work will continue with funding from the 10-year water-sewer improvement millage voters approved in 2023.

“One of the projects we’ve identified this year is a main on (lower) Charlevoix,” said Patrick Droze, a principal at the city’s engineering consultants, OHM Advisors. Construction is intended to conclude prior to renovating the business district streetscape tentatively starting spring 2026.

“This is going to have a significant increase, potentially, in that flow,” Droze said.

He spoke within the context of summarizing a reliability study of the city’s water system to the infrastructure committee Thursday, April 3.

Mains scheduled for replacement this year are on lower Beaconsfield from Jefferson to Essex, on Mack Avenue from Berkshire to Buckingham and Three Mile Drive to Audubon. Work includes interconnecting dead-end sections of pipes to increase flow.

“You don’t want stagnant water,” said Councilman Max Wiener, chairman of the infrastructure committee. “You always want flow because if you have dead spots, the water can sit and cause issues with water quality and corrosion.”

“Similarly, on the northeast side of town, we have areas of lower fire flow,” Droze said. “Mains on Kensington, Yorkshire, Grayton and

Harvard would help to address those fire issues. Incrementally, it all works together.”

“We were trying to prioritize areas that had dead ends because it’s not great for water quality and they tend to have reduced fire flow as well,” said Mackenzie Chamberlain, an engineer in OHM’s environmental and water resources group. “There’s a proposal to loop some of those dead ends down near the lake and also up along Mack.”

“One of the nice things about the way we’re staggering projects is, as you see from the water reliability study presentation, as you change an artery, it affects the area around it,” Wiener said. “We’re building the system to tackle the biggest needs, but there’s going to be costs to residents. One of the goals is to make it as transparent and upfront as possible.

This is one reason we have a capital improvement plan, so we have long-term planning and people know what’s coming.”

The Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act of 1976 requires cities to conduct water reliability studies every five years.

“The document is a tool used to evaluate the water system as it exists today,” Droze said. “We compare that to two build-out conditions, one at five years and one at 20 years.”

“This reliability study helps our capital improvement planning for water infrastructure by identifying areas where we can improve fire flow and removing lead service lines,” Sizeland said.

For built-up cities like the Park, where there is virtually no likelihood of expansion or meaningful population growth, the reliability study focuses

on making sure the existing water system is adequate for current uses.

“Fire protection is where we look at the system overall (and if) there is enough flow,” Droze said.

He said general water pressure isn’t a problem in the Park.

“But fire flow, if there’s an area we could do better on that, we look for improvements,” Droze said.

“I always go into things expecting the worst and hoping for the best,” Wiener said. “Overall, the system looks really promising. We have lots of work to do. We’re going to keep taking bites of the apple, but overall, I’m pleased this report came out much stronger than I thought.”

The reliability report will be posted on the city website and discussed during at least one upcoming council meeting.

Consistency is key with picnic tables

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — The cost of 60 cedar-colored recycled plastic picnic tables has increased nearly \$10,000 since the Farms ordered the first batch from the same company in 2023.

Farms city council approved the replacement of the 60 aluminum tables at Pier Park in March, after the fraying wooden tables were phased out two years prior. The shipment should arrive in May, Parks and Recreation Director Chris Galatis said, and be in use at the park by Memorial Day.

“I can’t speak to the age of the aluminum tables as they were purchased prior to when I started here in the Farms, but they were getting older with a lot of wear and tear,” he said via email. “When we replaced the wooden tables in 2023, we wanted everything to be uniform and match on the park grounds, so we decided to do it in phases. With all new recycled plastic tables in the park, we will not need to do any maintenance on them and they will last for a long time.”

The tables, purchased through supplier Pilot

Rock, come with a 50-year warranty on the recycled plastic and a 10-year warranty on the steel frames.

Receiving a 25 percent discount from the list price — slightly greater than the 23 percent discount the city received in 2023 — the tables come with a price tag of \$819.75 each.

The total expenditure is \$51,825, including the \$2,640 cost of freight.

As part of the consent agenda, city council approved the purchase 6-0, with Mayor Pro Tem Beth Konrad Wilberding absent.

— *Laurel Kraus*

Farmers Market lease renewed

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The Farmers Market sows what it reaps.

Successful operation last summer earned the market a renewed lease for the next two summers.

“Two years is a good agreement, allowing vendors stability to know if they do a good job, you got them next year,” Councilman Marty McMillan told market board member and Park resident Philip Crouse. “It allows for a great partnership, which is what you need to succeed.”

“A two-year lease will give us a stronger position to build our vision and vendor network, ultimately delivering the best market experience to the community,” Crouse said.

The market returns this year every Saturday to a municipal parking lot behind the Corewell Health building on the south side of Kercheval between Lakepointe and Beaconsfield.

Hours also remain the same: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. starting on a date to be determined mid-June through mid-September. Parking is free in a neighboring lot on market days.

“Our first season was truly amazing,” Crouse said. “Our first day exceeded our expectations. We assembled 16 vendors, which included five local brick-and-mortar businesses (and) four produce vendors. We estimated over 1,000 visitors.”

Success bred success. The list of merchants expanded to more than 30, Crouse said. Organizers filled a gap by recruiting a meat vendor.

“After their first

Saturday with us, they doubled their commitment for the remainder of the summer,” Crouse said. “By the end of the summer, they committed to the full season in 2025.”

Business sponsorships developed.

“Support from the local business community is vital to us,” Crouse said. “We also got feedback on areas we could improve.”

He has four objectives for the second year of operation:

- ◆ Raise awareness of the market.
- ◆ By attracting more people to the market, we will be able to create a more vibrant experience for our community and a great commercial platform for our vendors,” Crouse said.
- ◆ Serve the community.
- ◆ “The single biggest request last year was that people want more produce,” Crouse said. “We are working to deliver that this summer. We also want to form strong ties with the local business community. We’re eager to build on our sponsor program this year and work with local associations like the Grosse Pointe Park Business Association and Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce.”
- ◆ Deepen the organization’s partnership with vendors.

“We will be doing more this year to get regular feedback from our vendors to ensure their needs are met and their concerns are tackled immediately,” Crouse said.

- ◆ Operate a successful venture.

“We exited last year with a strong balance sheet and need to do the same this year so we can ensure the organization’s success for years to

come,” Crouse said. “We haven’t signed any vendors formally this year, (but) 10 vendors from last year have committed to a second year, including all our produce vendors.”

One of the market’s board members was assigned this year to oversee children’s programming.

“We see this programming as a key offering of the market,” Crouse said.

“I really appreciate you guys,” Councilman Brent Dreaver told Crouse. “Our kids get to run around seeing everybody. It’s a lot of fun.”

Mayor Michele Hodges added, “The more we can be a partner with you and help create that sense of place, work in partnership with our business community and boutique businesses you’re counting on as well, it keeps adding to the heart and soul of our community.”

“After a year of having that market, we thought the arrangement between the city and market was very amicable,” said Nick Sizeland, city manager. “We’ve had no concerns or issues. Residents were satisfied to have a farmers market.”

Councilman Tom Caulfield described the market as a “great community event.”

He told Crouse, “Last year, some local residents were asking if we could put it on Kercheval.”

“I think for this season we’ll stay in the same spot for continuity,” Crouse answered.

“We’ve discussed engaging (our partners along the borders with Detroit) as part of the farmers market,” Hodges said. “They’re very open to wanting to be part of that. I’m happy to help facilitate (that).”

STAGING:

Continued from page 5A

tion of Jefferson from

the Detroit city limits to Lakepointe is one of the few carryovers from the entire city having a combined storm and sanitary

sewer network. Most of the sewers were separated into mutually exclusive systems during the 1990s for environmental reasons and to reduce the odds of storm flow overwhelming the combined system and backing into basements.

“The Jefferson separation is the biggest section of sewers we can separate to take stress off the system,” Wiener said.

“Pretty much all the work on that project is going to happen on Jefferson,” Droze said. “There’s going to be a little bit on Lakepointe and Maryland.”

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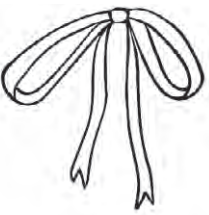
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Parcells looking for new principal again

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The Grosse Pointe Public School System is searching for a new principal at Parcells Middle School for the fourth time in four years.

A letter to Parcells families from Superintendent Andrea Tuttle said Jason Wesley, who was appointed principal last July, submitted his resignation during spring break week and he would not be returning for the remainder of the school year.

“The Parcells learning community has endured



Jason Wesley

several leadership changes in the last few years and we recognize the challenges this has created,” Tuttle wrote. “Although changes in leadership can be difficult, they also present



Joe Spryszak

opportunities. With the collaborative spirit and dedication of the Parcells staff, we are confident that Parcells Middle School will remain a vibrant place for learning, growth and student

success.”

Joe Spryszak, who retired last year as assistant principal at Grosse Pointe South High School, will serve as interim principal for the remainder of the school year.

“During his tenure in GPPSS, Mr. Spryszak helped lead several significant efforts and spearheaded new initiatives,” Tuttle continued. “His commitment to our students, community and programs was exemplary. He is a well-respected and commended administrator and we are honored that he is excited to

return to the district.”

Wesley was hired to replace Sara Delgado, who served as Parcells principal during the 2023-24 school year before being named principal at Grosse Pointe North High School.

Delgado had replaced Ken Milch, principal the prior two years. Milch in 2021 replaced Dan Hartley, who had been principal from 2014 to 2021, before resigning to become director of secondary instruction for Fraser Public Schools. Hartley returned to GPPSS a year later in the same role before being named principal of

Bloomfield Hills High School in 2023.

Tuttle said the process to find a new principal will start soon.

“We are committed to ensuring a thorough and efficient selection process that includes stakeholder input from teachers, parents and administrations,” she said. “We recognize the importance of identifying a new principal as promptly as possible to allow for a successful start to the next school year.”

Tuttle said via email she did not have any further comment beyond the letter.



COURTESY PHOTO

Lakeshore Optimist Club speech winners

The Grosse Pointe Optimist Club recently held its 15th annual Oratorical Contest at The War Memorial. This year's topic was “How Optimism Has Helped Me Through Trying Times.” Gold medalist Evelyn Kroshus, left, and silver medalist Addison Perry, both of Pierce Middle School, are eligible to proceed to the Area Optimist Oratorical Contest April 26. See gpointimists.com for more information.

Trombly survey almost done

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A survey to determine how many young children live in the catchment area of the former Trombly Elementary School had a good response.

Chris Stanley, assistant superintendent of learning technology and preK-12 operations, told the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education at its meeting Monday, March 31, the district received 435 responses from around 1,500 households, or 28 percent participation.

He said Epic/MRA, a Lansing-based polling firm that conducted the survey, was “pleased with the results.”

Board Secretary Valarie St. John, who has conducted surveys in the public health field, said she considers a response rate of 3 to 5 percent successful.

The survey was open March 10 to March 28.

“They said it would take them two to three weeks to analyze the data,” Stanley said.

Postcards mailed to each address gave families a choice to respond via a QR Code or through a website link. Each also contained a unique identifier.

“The goal was to collect the most accurate headcount possible,” Stanley said.

He also acknowledged Grosse Pointe Park officials and the group Trombly United for their assistance.

“They really did a lot of footwork for us,” he said.

Administrators in the Park were able to provide addresses based on park passes

and tax rolls, while Trombly United canvassed the neighborhood, reminding people not to ignore the postcards.

The district's goal was to determine how many children from birth through age 9 live south of Jefferson. 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 in elementary school by the time it were to reopen,” Stanley said previously. “We’re looking for the students who would be a seat in that building.”

The survey was broken down into three subsets:

- ◆ children birth to 4 not enrolled in GPPSS preschool,
- ◆ children 5 to 9 not enrolled in GPPSS and
- ◆ children 5 to 9 attending Defer Elementary School.

Superintendent Andrea Tuttle previously told the board there are 461 students at Defer, including 174 who would be attending Trombly had it not closed. Estimates to reopen Trombly are pegged at around \$5.8 million.

According to data from Plante Moran, which consults the district on a number of issues, the area around Trombly is expected to increase in children ages birth to 5 by 12 percent between now and 2029.

The board plans to spend around \$1.5 million for new windows at Trombly to prevent interior water damage.

Maire, Goodwill of Greater Detroit partner for community donation drive

Goodwill of Greater Detroit, in partnership with Maire Elementary School, is hosting a community-wide donation drive 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 12, Maire, 740 Cadieux, City of Grosse Pointe.

Residents are encouraged to donate gently used clothing, shoes and accessories, kitchenware and other household items to support metro Detroiters facing employment barriers, including those living with disabilities.

Maire has a longstanding tradition of fostering strong partnerships between students, parents and the community to provide high-quality instructional programs. The school's mission emphasizes preparing students to be lifelong learners and productive citizens in a dynamic society.

The sale of donated goods at Goodwill stores goes toward helping

Detroit-area residents build essential skills, gain meaningful employment and achieve greater independence. Last year alone, Goodwill of Greater Detroit assisted more than 11,750 individuals with job training, skill building, financial counseling, job placement and other support services necessary for sustainable, fulfilling employment.

Items that will be accepted at the Maire donation drive include:

- ◆ clothing and shoes
- ◆ houseware
- ◆ books and records
- ◆ lamps
- ◆ radios and clocks
- ◆ antiques
- ◆ small appliances
- ◆ china and cookware
- ◆ glassware
- ◆ kitchen utensils
- ◆ toys
- ◆ purses, belts and handbags

BUDGET:

Continued from page 1A

better shape,” Frayer said.

Tuttle added that the fund balance, at around 10.2 percent, is lower than where it should be.

“We wanted to be as conservative as possible so that when the audit does come out, we won't have to take more out of it,” she said.

The audit of the 2023-

24 budget saw the district realize a \$1 million surplus, which helped push the fund balance into double digits for the first time in three years.

“A large part of that was the insurance utilization, since we are self-funded,” Tuttle added.

Frayer said insurance use this year has fluctuated compared to what was budgeted from a low of 85 percent in a given month to 102 percent.

The district also is

waiting on a possible supplemental appropriation from the state that could increase categorical grants by \$700,000.

“We thought we might get it in our March state-aid payment, but we didn't,” Frayer said. “I wouldn't include it in the budget until it passes.”

The board is expected to vote on the budget revision at its next meeting, scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, April 14, at Brownell Middle School.

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Needlepoint shop changes Pointes

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The Wool & The Floss recently moved from its longtime home on Fisher to 19803 Mack. Owner Melissa MacLeod called it “bittersweet.” The move came about when the owner of the previous location put the building up for sale. “I took classes there as a little girl,” she said of 389 Fisher. “I knew we had outgrown it, so I thought why buy it if it’s already too small. Now we have twice as much space to grow our inventory and serve our customers.” The move was completed the first week of March and was celebrated with an open house March 15. “It went crazy well,” MacLeod said. “We had great attendance.” The new location may look familiar to some as the former offices of Towar Productions, pub-



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

The Wool & The Floss recently moved to its new location at 19803 Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods.

lishers of “the little Blue Book,” which relocated to The Hill. “We’ve actually had people stopping in, looking for copies,” MacLeod laughed. After taking a break from needlepoint during and after college, MacLeod returned to it in her late 20s. “I was pregnant with twins and they put me on bedrest,” she said. “You can only stand daytime

TV for a few minutes, so I picked it back up again.” Jean Candler, from whom MacLeod bought the business in 2017, eventually asked her to teach classes. “At first it was one day a week and it just grew from there,” she said. While the store originally catered to needlepoint and knitting customers, it now focuses solely on the former. “The knitting part went

by the wayside during COVID,” she said. “I was determined not to lose my business and social media played a big part in that. My needlepoint numbers skyrocketed.” For example, MacLeod does an “unboxing party” live on Instagram and Facebook at 9:30 a.m. every Thursday to showcase new items that arrived at the store. The Wool & The Floss is now up to 20 employees and ships worldwide, although MacLeod said local customers are still her “top priority.” MacLeod also hosts an annual spring retreat that draws attendees from more than two dozen states and Canada. “It’s a good way to showcase the area and hopefully convince people to come back and explore more,” she said. The store is open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. See woolfloss.com for more information.

Zoo hosts Greenfest, E-Recycling weekend

The Detroit Zoo presents an eco-friendly weekend that supports sustainability with two events: Greenfest, a festival presented by Consumers Energy, and E-Recycling, a community electronic recycling drive that gives guests the opportunity to earn free admission tickets to the zoo.

Taking place Saturday and Sunday, April 12 and

13, these events offer an opportunity to engage with green initiatives, reduce one’s environmental footprint and take action toward a more sustainable future. “Both E-Recycling and Greenfest are fun, unique opportunities to meet the community where they are,” said Marissa Ratzenberger, events supervisor for the Detroit Zoological Society. “No

matter how much you know about sustainability, this is a great weekend to visit the zoo and see how you can go green and ignite positive change for animals and nature.” Greenfest takes place 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 12 and 13. Guests will enjoy live music, a variety of eats from green food trucks, an eco-friendly marketplace and hands-on activities — all while surrounded by

the animals who call the zoo home. Greenfest is included with zoo admission and free for members. Greenfest is presented by Consumers Energy. “Consumers Energy is thrilled to partner with the Detroit Zoo to provide a fun connection with clean energy,” said Lauren Snyder, Consumers Energy’s vice president of customer experience. “We’re connecting with our friends and neighbors today — and the next generations — by demonstrating how they power a sustainable future.”

Greenfest also is sponsored by Meijer. E-Recycling takes place 9 a.m. to noon during Greenfest. Hosted in the zoo’s 10 Mile Road parking lot, this initiative provides community members with the opportunity to declutter in a responsible manner, making a real, positive impact on the environment. During these times, guests are encouraged to drop off old, unwanted electronic devices for safe, eco-friendly recycling. Every item recycled helps reduce landfill waste, protect animal habitats by cutting down on the need for new metal mining and safeguard the

environment for future generations. As a thank-you for participating, guests will earn free admission tickets to the zoo: one daytime zoo admission ticket in exchange for one large item or a 17-gallon or larger tub with electronics. An entire trunk or backseat full of electronics will earn guests two zoo tickets. E-Recycling is hosted in partnership with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy, Cirba Solutions and PADNOS. To explore the zoo’s full lineup of spring and summer special events, visit detroitzoo.org/events.

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Pointe Cabinets open house features Motawi Tileworks

Design enthusiasts, industry professionals, homeowners and those who love beautiful things are invited to a can’t-miss event at Pointe Cabinets & Design, 20485 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. “Meet the Maker: Nawal Motawi at Pointe Cabinets & Design,” takes place 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, April 17. Guests will be treated to an afternoon of artistry and inspiration featuring the founder of Motawi Tileworks, Nawal Motawi.

Motawi graduated from the University of Michigan’s Stamps School of Art & Design. She made tile in her garage before founding her Ann Arbor-based company in 1992. Motawi Tileworks currently boasts a staff of more than 40 and has received numerous awards for the progressive practices that helped the business grow and thrive. During the open house, Motawi will share the artistry and passion behind her iconic tile designs. Guests will get hands-on with textures, glazes and patterns that spark creativity, as well as design tips from in-house designers, who will advise on how to elevate spaces with one-of-a-kind tile work. Those interested are asked to RSVP by Friday, April 11, to info@pointecd.com.

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Priest’s ‘last best friend’ publishes book honoring longtime church leader

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

“There was never anybody like him and there will never be anyone like him. I’m grateful I had the chance to get to know him — and for him to trust me not to muck it up.”

Patrick McCuen spent more than five years compiling a book detailing the life of Msgr. Peter S. Lentine, affectionately known as Father Pete, who served the congregation of St. Philomena Church more than 50 years.

“Conversations with Father Pete: What a 98-Year-Old Priest Taught Me About Leadership, Forgiveness, and The Meaning of Life,” was published in February. It is a follow-up to McCuen’s documentary about the beloved priest, who died in 2017.

“He was soft-spoken and humble, but he always had a presence about him,” McCuen said. “He was different than other people.”

McCuen, the church’s self-appointed historian, became interested in Lentine’s life as he sifted through church archives. His interest was piqued even more after the 2013 Archbishop’s Gala.

“He took me along to take pictures,” McCuen said. “Hundreds of people came up to him and he knew hundreds of people’s names. They all had stories about him and he had stories about them.

“He was in his early 90s then and still very spry,” he added. “I was very intrigued by him. I asked him about doing a documentary.”

The pitch was out of McCuen’s comfort zone; he is a sales manager for an automotive supplier, not a documentarian. It was out of Lentine’s comfort zone as well; he continued to refuse McCuen’s offer.

However, Lentine fell ill in 2014, and was

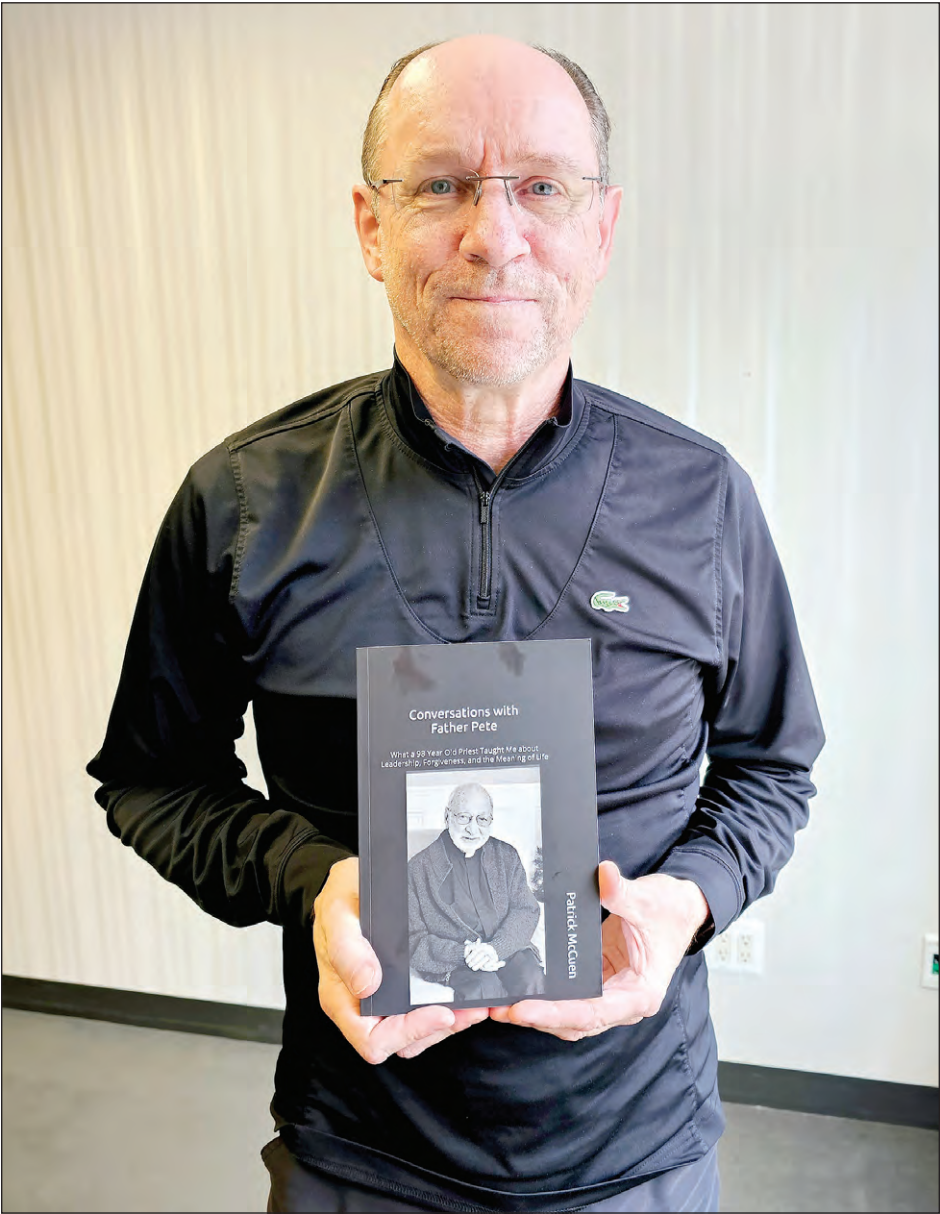


PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Patrick McCuen spent more than five years writing his book, which explores the life of Msgr. Peter S. Lentine and the lessons the priest taught the author during their time together.

forced to slow down as he underwent dialysis. That fall, after a Mass in his honor, he asked if McCuen was still interested in that documentary. When McCuen said yes, Lentine told him, “You better hurry.”

Beginning February 2015, the pair met every Tuesday night.

“I’d turn on the video recorder and he’d just tell me stories,” McCuen recalled. “I wrote down every question I had on index cards and I had my family write down questions. I gave him blank cards, too, and told him to write down questions he wanted me to ask him. I shuffled the deck and every Tuesday, we’d take a card off the top of

the stack and talk about whatever was on that card.

“Some nights we were laughing and other nights we got the tissues out. It was very emotional. ... He definitely had things he was keeping for 60, 70 years that he never talked about. I could tell he wanted to get them off his chest.”

What McCuen thought would take four or five weeks ended up taking two and a half years. Rather than a 45-minute video, he produced a two-hour documentary. In addition to Lentine, he spoke with the priest’s family, friends and colleagues.

McCuen said he did not know Lentine well

when they began, but the two became close friends by the time they were through.

“It was very rewarding; a life-changing experience,” he said. “My daughter says I was his last best friend.”

Their final result was shown to the St. Philomena congregation in May 2017.

“He told me all of his stories,” McCuen said, “his family immigrating from Italy to his time as a young person, a teenager in high school, seminary, all his pastoral assignments, his sickness. We talked about everything. There was no rush, but he was getting sicker and sicker.

“He told me stories

he’d never told anyone, never told his family and friends,” he added. “They found out when they saw the documentary. It was very brave of him, I thought. It’s easy to talk about the good days and accomplishments, but it’s hard to talk about the challenges, things people might have put you through.”

The documentary was screened before a full church and received thunderous applause, he recalled.

“Father Pete loved it,” he said. “... It was the last chance people had to honor him, to show him how much they love him and his dedication to the parish. We didn’t know at the time it was the last big hurrah for him. He passed away eight weeks later.”

McCuen and Lentine had discussed writing a book about their experience. Lentine’s death put the project on hold for a year, until McCuen decided it was time.

“It took five and a half years, after work and on weekends, to write this book,” he said, noting there is more detail in the book than in the documentary. In its pages, McCuen shares Lentine’s stories and pointed out two major lessons he learned from the priest.

“A lot of people did him wrong over his lifetime, but he never held a grudge,” he said. “He practiced habitual forgiveness. ... The other major point was he had such an interesting life. He was an interesting guy. I spoke to his family, friends, colleagues, ex-priests and they all had interesting lives too.

“You don’t get to know a person by looking them up on the internet or even spending five minutes with them,” he continued. “You have to sit with them and let them talk, hear their stories. Record them, because when that person goes, those stories go. Even if you read

them, you’ll never hear their voice again, the inflection, the emotion. I preach that everywhere I go. Sit with your older relatives and let them tell their stories. You can’t replicate that.”

McCuen said he wrote the book to honor Lentine and keep his leg-end alive.

“I was not raised a Catholic,” he added. “I became a Catholic because of Father Pete’s example and I took the name Peter as my Confirmation name.”

Hardcover and Kindle versions are available on Amazon. It’s also available for purchase at the Solanus Casey Center gift shop and it’s in circulation at the Grosse Pointe Public Library.

“It’s been very well received,” McCuen said. “The most rewarding comment I get is when people tell me they hear his voice when they read his dialogue. His voice was church to me. When I read the Bible, I hear his voice in the background.

“I’m very proud of it. I’m proud of the time we spent together. ... It literally became the highlight of my week to sit down with him. It was highly satisfying, the relationship that evolved.

“He always gave you his full attention; there were no distractions,” he added. “... He did not judge anybody or keep anybody out (of St. Philomena). Everybody got along. When he passed, the Archdiocese closed the parish. I’ve never found anyplace like it.”

“Conversations with Father Pete” may be purchased online at a.co/d/d517y4x or by scanning the QR code.



Selfridge Air Museum hosts Veterans Appreciation Weekend

The Selfridge Military Air Museum invites the public to a special tribute, saluting the men and women of the U.S. military, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, May 17 and 18. The 126th Army Field Band will perform 4 to 5 p.m. Saturday only.

The weekend event will feature unique displays pre-

sented by “living historians” who are dressed in period uniforms and are experts in the features of the displays, which include the life of servicemen and women in the European and Pacific theaters, as well as the experiences of a World War II Corsair fighter pilot.

Historic military vehicles

also will be displayed, including Gen. Eisenhower’s staff car, Gen. MacArthur’s staff car and the 1941 Buick that was owned by a U.S. fighter pilot who was shot down during the Pearl Harbor attack. This automobile has been restored into like-new condition, but was strafed with machine-gun fire during the

attack.

Museum guests are welcome to take a walking tour of the Air Park, which includes more than 30 historic aircraft and displays.

Complimentary food and beverages will be provided during the event by National Coney Island, Mission BBQ, Texas Roadhouse, Better

Made and Faygo.

Base access and museum admission are required. Guests are advised to visit selfridgeairmuseum.org for additional information, including help in gaining base access. Veterans receive reduced-price admission; active servicemen and women are admitted free of charge.

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Racing For Kids launches 36th season with Florida events

Racing For Kids opened the 2025 NTT INDYCAR Series season with a visit to hospitalized kids at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, Fla.

This is the Grosse Pointe-based national children's charity's 36th year of helping sick children get better faster through motorsports.

Leading the Feb. 27 hospital visit was AJ Foyt Racing's star racer, Santino Ferrucci, who competed in the weekend's Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg. The INDYCAR racer made bedside visits, engaging 50 young patients, talking about racing, signing his hero cards, posing for photos and handing out colorful Racing For Kids hats.

Joining Ferrucci were two young racers from the USF2000 Series, Jace Demark and George Leon Argyos III. Their 90-minute program was the 21st visit Racing For Kids has made to Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital since INDYCAR began racing on the streets of St. Petersburg in 2003.

The following day, Racing For Kids teamed up with St. Petersburg Grand Prix promoter, Green Savoree Racing



Above, Racing For Kids' Kids-at-the-Track Day is a yearly highlight for the families of chronically ill children, who get to enjoy a day of racing excitement and fun. Below, INDYCAR racer Santino Ferrucci, right, and USF2000 drivers George Leon Argyos III and Jace Demark pose with a young patient at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg.



Promotions, to entertain dozens of young hospital outpatients and their families at a VIP Kids-at-the-Track event. The kids enjoyed personal tours of the INDYCAR Paddock, AJ Foyt Racing team transporter, Dallara chassis manufacturer's transporters and Firestone Racing's race tire compound. They also were treated to a track-side lunch provided by Lundy Catering.

"Green Savoree and its St. Pete Grand Prix staff really stepped up to the plate once again to make this happen," said Debby Wright, Racing For Kids COO. "We love kicking



COURTESY PHOTOS

Santino Ferruci of AJ Foyt Racing greets a child life specialist from Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital and her son at the Kids-at-the-Track Day at the Firestone Grand Prix.

off our season in St. Petersburg and our 36th year is off to a great start."

Racing For Kids faces a busy season again, which will feature race weekends at the Chevrolet Detroit Grand Prix in late May, as well as a June event at the Road America track in Elkhart

Lake, Wisc.

"This is a particularly exciting and rewarding time of year for our team of Grosse Pointer residents and supporters," Wright said, "as we take the spirit of our community to the bedsides of sick children around the United States and Canada."

Election integrity focus of GOP forum Tuesday at War Memorial

Election integrity activist Darlene K. Hennessy will speak at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 15, to the Eastside Republican Club at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Hennessy is an experienced volunteer on behalf of organizations such as Michigan Fair Elections Institute and Check My Vote with responsibility for their Wayne County volunteer operations.

"Ms Hennessy has been extensively involved in securing Michigan's elections and, therefore,



Darlene K. Hennessy

can provide valuable insight in how we can make them too big to rig," said club chairman

Renee Strobl in a statement in advance of the meeting.

Forum doors open at 7 p.m. for coffee and networking in advance of the 7:30 p.m. meeting. The public is invited to the forum, which concludes with an opportunity for audience members to ask questions.

Hennessy's involvement began as she participated in Michigan voter roll investigations through the Check My Vote initiative. Her success led her to the position of Wayne County

lead, through which she oversaw a team of data analysts for the Check My Vote project.

One of Hennessy's primary contributions was the "Soles to Rolls" project, which identified and verified excess voters in the qualified voter files by canvassing voter registrations. This effort was done in collaboration with the Michigan Fair Elections group, formed in 2021.

That group subsequently partnered with the Election Integrity Network, a nationwide organization also established in 2021 by Clela Mitchell, an experienced North Carolina election attorney. In her capacity as Wayne County lead in 2024, Hennessy and her team successfully removed 6,500 registra-

tions of voters who had either moved, relocated out of state or were deceased.

Thus far in 2025, Hennessy leads an even larger volunteer group dedicated to election integrity. Her expanded responsibilities include education, election oversight, increased canvassing, liaison to municipal clerks, coordinating and supervising data analysts and engaging in legislative activities in Lansing.

Hennessy's professional and personal pursuits make a significant impact on everything she does, both through community service and in the field of election integrity.

Professionally, she served 30 years as a registered nurse at the Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit, with

28 of those years in pediatric intensive care. Beyond her professional responsibilities, Hennessy is a devout Christian and married to her high school sweetheart. Together they have one son.

Hennessy has been an ardent lover of corgis since 1999. Additionally, since 2014, she has been a flight coordinator for Pilots N Paws, a non-profit that facilitates transport of rescue animals across the United States with the help of volunteer private pilots.

The Eastside Republican Club Forum is held monthly September through May and the public is always welcome. Stay up to date at EastsideRepublican. Club, on Facebook and X.



The Good News

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

Sunday, April 13 – Palm Sunday
9* and 11 am: Worship Service (childcare available)

Thursday, April 17 – Maundy Thursday
7 pm: A Simple Supper & Scripture

Friday, April 18 – Good Friday
7:30* pm: Tenebrae Service

Sunday, April 20 – Easter Sunday
6:45 am: Sunrise Service next door at The War Memorial
9* and 11 am: Worship Service (childcare available)

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*If you can't join us in-person, tune in to our livestream services at bit.ly/GPMLivestream.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Jardinieres

La Societe des Jardinieres meets 11:30 a.m. Thursday, April 10, at the home of member Carla Butterly. Lunch will be served followed by a business meeting. Afterward,

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Questers

The Pear Tree Questers meets 1 p.m. Friday, April 11, at the Grosse Pointe Park home of Michael and Ava Schoenith. The program is "The Tale of the Roostertail and the Mouse Tail." The group will view the couple's collection of memorabilia. The day chair for this event is Madeleine Phillips.

GPPL Friends

The Friends of the Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts its bi-annual Books and Bags Sale 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 12, in the lower level of the Woods branch, 20680 Mack. Early entry for Friends members begins at 9:30 a.m. The

See EVENTS, page 4B

Sen. Hertel, Maire Bears highlights of 14th annual Community Luncheon

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Dozens of guests — from law enforcement, government officials and religious leaders to educators and nonprofit directors — filled the gymnasium at Maire Elementary School April 3, to celebrate community.

The 14th annual Community Luncheon, created by Alicia Carlisle and Helen Srebernak to bring community leaders into Grosse Pointe Public School System buildings, opened with networking, followed by a welcome from Carlisle and Maire Principal Nicole Filiccia.

Maire kindergarten students led the Pledge of Allegiance and entertained guests with a song before GPPSS Superintendent Andrea Tuttle spoke about excellence in education. Her words were echoed by Deputy Superintendent of Educational Services Roy Bishop, who also gave a brief address.

Guest speaker Denis Karic, associate provost of Wayne County Community College District's Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center, spoke next about the importance of community.

"We believe our success is measured by the success of our communities," he said, then noted two initiatives in which WCCCD is involved.

The first is a partnership with Carlisle's Michael B's Cafe, which, when open, will provide job opportunities for young adults with special needs. Through their partnership, WCCCD began offering classes for students with special needs at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church and the result has been inspiring.

"Our partnership has flourished, enrollment has grown, participants are enthusiastic and parents are happy," Karic said.

The luncheon featured treats created by students of the partnership's The Art of Desserts class.

A second initiative is the forthcoming expansion at WCCCD's Mary Ellen Stepfle University Center in Harper Woods, to create the Center for Virtual Learning and Digital Careers, which will offer access to high-demand careers and be a hub connecting high school students to digital resources.

"The center will serve college students, but also offer resources for the community," Karic said. "... The entire region will benefit from these resources."

Following lunch, keynote speaker Sen. Kevin Hertel took the podium, first drawing attention to a collection of banners hanging in the Maire gym. Each included a word like "kindness" and "respect," along with the pledge, "We learn. We lead. We lift."

In regard to respect, he said, "Everyone I work with, regardless if I agree or disagree with them, I try not to let the disagreement get in the way."

"And courage — a lot of elected officials lack the courage to do what's right. They're too wor-



Grosse Pointe Public School System Deputy Superintendent Roy Bishop and Superintendent Andrea Tuttle address the crowd with some humor.



Denis Karic, Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center associate provost, shares about the center's partnerships.

ried about the next election."

Hertel said he believes in policy first, politics second.

"I try to do that every day," he said. "It's important that we all come together, have conversations and find ways to move forward together."

He touched on some of the local achievements that have been made, including working with Grosse Pointe Shores

and Farms to bring back funding for seawall restoration, as well as bringing funding to Grosse Pointe Woods to create a safer path to school near Parcels Middle School. In Harper Woods, he added, he's worked with city leadership to bring in resources for a new community center, pocket park and the schools.

He spoke about activity in Lansing, including the uncertainty created by

funding cuts at the federal level, as well as what's been accomplished so far this year, such as advocating for small businesses.

"We've also proposed Freedom of Information Act expansion out of the Senate," he added, noting currently legislative offices and the governor's office are exempt from FOIA.

"(People) should have access to that information," he said, noting Michigan is one of two



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

State Sen. Kevin Hertel, the keynote speaker, addresses the audience.

states with the exemption. "We hope to get that done."

Road funding and lowering prescription drug costs also were touched on. He also fielded questions from the audience about federal cuts to public libraries, the Open Meetings Act and what's he's most excited about in his role.

"A divided government is a good place to put aside politics and work together to make things happen," Hertel said. "I'm an eternal optimist

at heart. I believe we will get a lot done."

He encouraged constituents to reach out and be a part of the solution.

"We are only a phone call away," he said, "if there's anything we can help with at the state level. We want to be as accessible in the community as possible."

The Maire choir closed the luncheon, which was hosted by GPPSS, WCCCD and Grosse Pointe Magazine, with a lively performance.



Maire kindergarteners, led by music teachers Vickie Pascoe and Elly Scannell, entertain the crowd.



The Maire fourth-grade choir performs "Footloose" with help from music teacher, Vickie Pascoe.

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HOLY WEEK

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PALM SUNDAY

St. Paul on the Lake Mass 4:30pm on Saturday, and 7 am, 8:30am, 10:00am, and 12:00 noon -Sunday	St. Matthew Mass 4:30 pm on Saturday and 10 am -Sunday
St. Clare of Montefalco Mass 4 pm on Saturday and 9 am and 11 am -Sunday	St. Ambrose Mass 4 pm on Saturday and 8:30 am and 11:15 am –Sunday

SERF Vicariate wide Sacrament of Reconciliation
Monday of the Holy Week at 7 pm at St. Joan of Arc

HOLY THURSDAY

St. Paul on the Lake Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7 pm Adoration following Mass-Night Prayer (Compline) 10:50pm	St. Matthew Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30 pm Adoration following Mass until 10:30 pm
St. Clare of Montefalco Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7 pm Adoration following Mass until 10 pm	St. Ambrose Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7 pm Adoration following Mass until midnight

GOOD FRIDAY

St. Paul on the Lake Stations of the Cross – 12:15pm Passion of the Lord – 1:00pm	St. Matthew Stations of the Cross – Noon Passion of the Lord – 1:30 pm
St. Clare of Montefalco Station of the Cross – 3 pm Passion of the Lord – 7 pm	St. Ambrose Stations of the Cross – Noon Passion of the Lord – 1:30 pm

HOLY SATURDAY

St. Paul on the Lake Blessing of the Food - 1:00pm Easter Vigil - 8:00pm	St. Matthew Easter Vigil – 9 pm Blessing of the Food at the conclusion of the Mass
St. Clare of Montefalco Blessing of the Food - Noon Easter Egg Hunt – 12:30 pm Easter Vigil – 8 pm	St. Ambrose Blessing of the Food – Noon Easter Vigil – 8pm

EASTER SUNDAY

St. Paul on the Lake Easter Mass 8:00am, 10:00am, and 12:00noon	St. Matthew Easter Mass at 10 am Blessing of the Food at the conclusion of the Mass
St. Clare of Montefalco Easter Mass at 9 am and 11 am	St. Ambrose Easter Mass at 8:30 am and 11:15 am

EASTER MONDAY

St. Paul on the Lake Mass 8:15am ONLY	St. Clare of Montefalco Mass at 9 am
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OBITUARIES

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

Joyce Lionel McCorkle Thams

Joyce Lionel McCorkle Thams, 92, of Grosse Pointe Farms, passed away Saturday, March 29, 2025. Joyce was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. She was cherished by all who knew her for her warmth, kindness and unwavering spirit.

Joyce was born Sept. 11, 1932, in South Bend, Ind., and raised in McMinnville, Tenn. Joyce lived a life marked by love, generosity, hard work and dedication to family and friends. She shared many passions with her late husband, Dick, including boating through the Great Lakes, touring the country in one of their antique automobiles dressed in period clothing, skiing at Otsego Ski Club and golfing in Florida. She loved watching all sports on television, but her favorite to watch were the Detroit Tigers. She knew all the players and never missed a game.

Joyce read The Wall Street Journal every morning and enjoyed talking about her stock predictions with her kids. She loved a good game of bridge or a family euchre tournament during Christmas. Christmas was her favorite holiday and the huge gatherings at the family home in Gaylord were occasions her whole family looked forward to attending. The chaos of four generations and more than 30 people staying together in the same house gave her pure joy.

Joyce's love, wisdom and laughter will be dearly missed by all who knew her, but will live on in the countless lives she touched. Joyce is survived by her six children, Scott Thams (Shelly), Sharon Thams Carter, Kirk Thams (Jana), Keith Thams (Jacqueline), Judy Thams and Eric Thams (Lisa); 14 grandchildren, Lauren, Claire, Carrie, Jessica, Maya, Grace, Jake, Kelsie, Maita, Stephanie, Ellie, Frankie, Tommy and Giovanni; nine great-grandchildren; brother, James McCorkle (Georgia); and sister, Harriett Jean Brown, who

will forever hold her in their hearts. She now is reunited with those who passed before her, including her husband of 63 years, Richard W. "Dick" Thams; and siblings, Judy Jones, Nina Causley and Jo Ellen Longshore.

Visitation will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 15, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. A memorial service to celebrate Joyce's life well lived will take place at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 16, at St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Elizabeth Chesbrough Maitland

Elizabeth Chesbrough Maitland, 90, passed away peacefully Wednesday, March 26, 2025. She had such a love for life, family and friends.

Elizabeth was born July 31, 1934, in Detroit. She attended Maire Elementary School, Pierce Middle School and graduated from Grosse Pointe Country Day School (now University Liggett School) in 1952, before going to Connecticut College for two years. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from the University of Michigan in 1956.

She married Gordon Renwick Maitland Jr., in 1957. After a brief stint working for a public relations firm, she obtained a teaching certificate from Wayne State University.

From there, she taught third grade at University Liggett School before raising her three children: Katherine Waugaman (Doug) of Scottsdale, Ariz., and Houston, Texas; Edward Maitland (Holly) of Beverly Hills, Mich.; and Gordon Maitland (Kathleen) of Plymouth.

She had eight grandchildren: Brooke, Allison and Amanda Maitland; Ian, Dylan and Ryan Waugaman; and James and Henry Maitland. She also had two great-grandchildren, Kinley and Maren Hamilton.

She loved working as a secretary for a number of years for two friends who

were interior decorators. Besides part-time work, she was involved in the community and served on many boards, including Junior League of Detroit, Sigma Gamma Association, Grosse Pointe Farm and Garden Club, Grosse Pointe Garden Center, Detroit Industrial School, University Liggett School Parents Board and National Society of the Colonial Dames of America, Michigan chapter.

Her favorite activities and hobbies were gardening, volunteering in the community and traveling. She had a blessed life and her loved ones celebrate all she represented as a mother, wife, sister and friend.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Detroit Industrial School, 17150 Waterloo, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230, or Sigma Gamma Association, P.O. Box 36923, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, May 12, in the Barbour Chapel at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Robert "Bob" Dale Dudeck

Robert "Bob" Dale Dudeck, 82, passed away peacefully Wednesday, April 2, 2025, surrounded by the love of his family. He was the devoted husband of Marcie, his partner in life, for 58 wonderful years.

Born Dec. 21, 1942, in Michigan City, Ind., Bob was the beloved second son of Martin and Ruth Dudeck. He grew up alongside his older brother, Norman, and younger sister, Joanne, in Three Oaks, Mich., where he developed lifelong values rooted in family, faith and hard work, including summers spent working on his uncle's Christmas tree and peach farms. Those early years helped shape the quiet strength and steadfast work ethic that defined him throughout his life.

A man of deep faith, Bob was a devout Catholic who attended Sunday Mass weekly and believed in the guiding principles of the church.



Joyce Lionel Thams



Elizabeth Maitland



Robert Dale Dudeck

He graduated from Western Michigan University and spent the majority of his career with Great Lakes Steel Corp., where he was admired for his dedication and integrity. Bob also served with pride as a member of the Michigan National Guard for more than six years.

Bob loved sports. As an avid cyclist in his younger years, he took part in weeklong trips across the Midwest and Southeast. He was a dedicated golfer who achieved the rare feat of two holes-in-one and later found joy in playing pickleball and watching sports. He especially loved watching his children and grandchildren play the many sports in which they participated, always cheering them on with pride. A lifelong fan of the Detroit Tigers and Lions, Bob's loyalty extended to the Michigan State Spartans after his sons became alumni.

One of Bob's greatest joys was being "Papa." He adored his four grandchildren and loved creating special memories with them, especially summer days at the family cottage in Huron, Ohio, and trips to Dairy Queen for his favorite treat, a Georgia Mud Fudge Blizzard.

Above all, Bob cherished time with his wife, Marcie, his family and the many friends he held dear. His warmth, gentle nature and quietly spoken presence will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Bob is survived by his loving wife, Marcie; sons, Chris (Lisa) and Andrew (Jennifer); grandchildren, Brett, Reese, James and Henry; brother, Norman; and sister, Joanne.

A funeral Mass celebrating Bob's life will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, April 11, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods. Visitation begins at 10 a.m., followed by Mass at 10:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Michigan Parkinson Foundation to honor Bob's enduring

spirit and generous heart, 30400 Telegraph, Ste. 150, Bingham Farms, MI 48025, bit.ly/40dbN27.

Arrangements were entrusted to A.H. Peters Funeral Home.

Deveran J. Brewer

Deveran J. Brewer, 75, of Grosse Pointe Shores and formerly of Grosse Pointe Park, passed away peacefully Friday, April 4, 2025, after a brave fight with Parkinson's Disease.

Deveran was born in Detroit's west side and was the oldest of three siblings. Dev, Ron and Sarah spent weekends on the family farm in Emmett, where they had a beautiful garden full of vegetables, fruits and flowers.

Dev met the love of his life, Vera (nee Reswow), when they were matched at the Cass Technical High School computer dance in 1967. That night, he asked Vera to be his senior prom and they dated long distance while he was stationed in Korea with the U.S. Army. They were married June 4, 1972, at All Saints Russian Orthodox Cathedral in Detroit.

Dev earned an engineering degree from Wayne State University and spent 30 years with Budd Company at its Detroit plant. When he retired at 55, he enjoyed planning his garden; his favorite crop was garlic. Holidays were always a special occasion. He spent weeks planning the meal using an Excel spreadsheet in his special holiday binder. He loved planning and preparing the meal, but most importantly, he loved having his family around the table together, laughing and enjoying a good glass of wine while gathering notes for next year's meal. His favorite vacations were at Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, where he and Vera loved the clang of the silverware in the dining room. They loved it even more when the kids and grandkids could join in on the fun.

Dev was an avid sports



Deveran J. Brewer

fan, especially of the Detroit Tigers and Lions, and loved talking sports. He had a passion for stamps that started as a young boy. Dev shared that passion with his brother-in-law, John Reswow, when Dev received his Parkinson's diagnosis. The two of them enjoyed countless hours discussing their extensive stamp collections.

Dev is survived by his wife, Vera, who he affectionately called Honey; and their special sidekick dog, Rudy, who brought so much love and life to them. He also leaves behind four children who he loved dearly, Tanya Dely (Mark), Andrew (Maria), Byron and Natalie Delmege (Andrew). He cherished his time with his seven grandkids, Nicholas Dely, Mark Gregory Dely, Catherine Dely, John Dely, Abigail Delmege, Thomas Delmege and Eleanor Delmege; and Rudy's best buddies, Bruno and George. He always loved when the grandkids came into town and spent evenings fishing, playing pool in the basement and watching Hallmark movies and Perry Mason.

Dev was predeceased by his son, Deveran Jett Brewer Jr.; parents, Estil and Velma Brewer; and parents-in-law, Nicholas and Nadejda Reswow and Nicholas Glush.

Visitation will be held 3 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 11, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. A prayer service will occur at 7 p.m. Funeral services will occur at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, April 12, at Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Cathedral, 3810 Gilbert, Detroit, with a luncheon to follow.

EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

sale includes gently used purses, wallets and bags for between \$5 and \$30, as well as a large selection of used books. Guests may fill a grocery bag of books for \$5. All proceeds benefit the Grosse Pointe Public Library. Transactions must be made in cash only.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 16, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Alex Allen, president and CEO of Chandler Park Conservancy, speaks. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

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GPT’s Youth on Stage presents ‘The SpongeBob Musical: Youth Edition’

Grosse Pointe Theatre’s Youth on Stage is bringing the underwater world of Bikini Bottom to life with “The SpongeBob Musical: Youth Edition,” which will be performed April 11 to 13, at Parcels Middle School.

This high-energy production features a cast of 54 young performers and promises fun, laughter and music that will delight audiences of all ages.

Director Rachel Hutchison was drawn to the show after discovering its clever writing and engaging soundtrack.

“I was surprised by how much I enjoyed reading the script, as I had not grown up on the show and did not know SpongeBob well,” Hutchison said. “The writing is strong and the humor is terrific. Then I listened to the soundtrack and I was completely hooked. Whether you are a SpongeBob fan or not, this is a really terrific show.”

Translating the beloved television series to the



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above, from left, Hank Meldrum, Freddy Orlando, Lily Breedlove and Libby Weaver. Right, from left, Bentley Karcher, Charlotte Torrento, Clinton Steinert, Elliott Cox, Dillon Teskey, Mack Kohler and Gavin Bethell.

stage has been an exciting challenge for the young cast.

“SpongeBob is a terrific show for community theater and especially for a youth theater,” Hutchison said. “The characters are well-known and beloved by the cast and they are so much fun to portray. The

kids have really enjoyed using their imaginations to bring this cartoon world to life.”

The production features an expansive cast, with each performer taking on a unique role in creating the vibrant underwater community.

“As in the Broadway version of the show, our

entire cast is wearing creative, DIY-themed costumes that reflect both the type of sea creature they are playing as well as the job that sea creature does in Bikini Bottom,” Hutchison explained. “Audience members will have plenty to look at when the full cast is on the stage.”

Following themes of friendship, community and self-worth, the show offers more than just fun — it delivers an uplifting message.



“This is a great story about the power of friendship, the value of community and the importance of knowing your value,” Hutchison said. “These themes are well-balanced with the whimsical nature and over-the-top comedy in the show, making it truly touching and a joy to watch.”

In addition to the young performers, the behind-the-scenes work also is being led by youth, showcasing their talents in costuming, tech and stage management.

“Our costume and tech

crews are staffed by youth, too, and they have done a tremendous job,” Hutchison added. “Come see what a little imagination can do and have the best day ever with us.”

Showtimes are 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 1 p.m. Sunday. A special sensory-friendly performance takes place 1 p.m. Saturday, April 12. Parcels is located at 20600 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

For tickets and more information, visit gpt.org/sponge or gpt.org/sensory, or call (313) 881-4004.

ASK THE EXPERTS By Tonya Rice, MA, LPC, NCC, ACS

Keys to understanding, managing & reducing stress

Every April, Stress Awareness Month serves as a reminder of the impact stress has on our mental and physical well-being. In today’s fast-paced world, stress is a common experience, but when left unchecked, it can lead to serious health issues such as anxiety, depression, heart disease and weakened immune function. Understanding stress and learning effective management strategies can improve overall well-being and quality of life.



What is stress?

Stress is the body’s natural response to challenges or demands. It can be triggered by various factors, including work pressure, financial concerns, relationship difficulties or major life changes. While some stress can be beneficial by motivating us to take action, chronic stress can be harmful, leading to longterm physical and emotional exhaustion.

Signs of stress

Recognizing stress early can help prevent it from becoming overwhelming. Common symptoms include:

- ◆ irritability and mood swings
- ◆ difficulty concentrating
- ◆ fatigue and difficulty sleeping
- ◆ muscle tension and headaches
- ◆ changes in appetite
- ◆ increased reliance on unhealthy coping mechanisms, such as overeating or excessive alcohol use

Effective stress management strategies

Managing stress is essential for maintaining mental and physical well-being. Here are some proven strategies:

1. Practice mindfulness and relaxation techniques.
Engaging in mindfulness meditation, deep-breathing exercises or progressive muscle relaxation can help calm the nervous system and reduce stress levels.
2. Maintain a healthy lifestyle.
Regular physical activity, balanced

nutrition and adequate sleep are crucial for resilience against stress.

3. Set realistic goals and prioritize tasks.
Breaking tasks into manageable steps and setting achievable goals can help prevent feelings of being overwhelmed.
4. Stay connected.
Social support plays a vital role in stress management. Talking to a trusted friend, family member or therapist can provide relief and perspective.
5. Engage in enjoyable activities.
Taking time for hobbies, exercise or creative outlets can serve as a healthy distraction from stressors.
6. Seek professional help when needed.
If stress becomes overwhelming or starts to impact daily life, seeking guidance from a mental health professional can provide effective coping strategies and support.

Take action this April

Stress Awareness Month is an opportunity to prioritize mental wellness by recognizing stressors, implementing effective coping strategies and seeking support when needed. By making stress management a daily practice, we can create a healthier and more balanced life. Take this month to reflect on your stress levels and explore new ways to promote well-being for yourself and those around you.

The therapists at All Things Possible Wellness Center can provide additional strategies and guidance to help you cope. For more information, visit allthingspossiblewc.com/

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

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Dear Gabby: My in-laws keep dropping by unannounced and while I love them, sometimes I just need a heads up! How do I set boundaries without hurting their feelings? — Frustrated in the Farms

Dear Frustrated: Setting boundaries doesn't mean you don't love them — it just means you appreciate a little planning. Try saying something like, "We love seeing you, but with our busy schedule, it

helps to know in advance so we can make the most of our time together." If they still pop in unexpectedly, meet them at the door with, "Wish we could chat longer, but we have plans right now." They'll get the hint.

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



Disabled veteran feeling forgotten

DEAR ANNIE: I'm a 100 percent disabled veteran living in Alaska, and I feel completely defeated. For the last two years, I've tried to hold state agencies accountable for serious mishandling of my case — including falsified documents, broken agreements and using my disability against me.

Despite filing formal complaints and following every process, nothing has changed. Investigators

downplay everything, even questioning my mental health treatment inappropriately.

I've also tried legal aid, the Equal Opportunity Employment Commission and lawyer referral services -- all dead ends. On top of that, my chronic illness is flaring, my child is being affected and I feel emotionally abandoned by everyone I've asked for help.

How do I keep going when it feels like every

system has failed me and no one cares? — Feeling Forgotten in Alaska

DEAR FEELING FORGOTTEN: First, let me say this clearly: *You are not worthless.* You've been through an overwhelming series of injustices, and it's no wonder you feel exhausted, heartbroken and alone. You've done everything right -- filed complaints, followed procedures, asked for help -- and the

system has failed you again and again. That's not a reflection of your worth. It's a reflection of broken systems.

As a 100 percent disabled veteran, you deserve support. Please consider reaching out to national organizations such as Disabled American Veterans or Wounded Warrior Project; they may be able to advocate for you in ways local agencies have not. Also, the National



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

Disability Rights Network may help with legal advocacy and representation.

I hear your pain. And I want you to know: You are not alone. If things feel too heavy, please call the Veterans Crisis Line at 988 (then press 1). They will listen with-

out judgment.

You've shown strength just by writing this. Please don't give up. You matter.

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

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Hop on over to Copper Hop Brewing Company

It's April. Spring is in the air (somewhere!), trees are blooming, birds are chirping and the Easter Bunny soon will be hopping into town.



COURTESY PHOTO
Copper Hop Brewing store front.

Speaking of hopping, let's learn about some other hops: the kind we drink. Specifically at one of the area's biggest and best breweries, Copper Hop.

Owners Ryan Balicki, Jeremy Lewis and Shaun Koltuniak landed on the perfect space in St. Clair Shores to start their dream. Growing up between St. Clair Shores and Macomb, these three friends of almost 25 years combined, knew the area well. What was once Vitamin Village at 23401 Greater Mack in downtown St. Clair Shores is now the home of these three beer-brewing boys' dream come true.

In 2019, after a drastic renovation of the 5,000-square-foot property, the doors of Copper Hop Brewing Company opened. With 12 beers on tap regularly, "We sell everything from crispy lagers to hazy IPAs to high ABV stouts and everything in between," Balicki said.

Copper Hop is a party in the front, business in the back. The gigantic brewing space is a site in itself and the process of it all is quite fascinating.

"Brewing involves a little bit of technical work and a lot of cleaning," Balicki said, explaining the day-to-day production. "The process involves using warm water to wash and strip the grains of their sugars to make a sweet wort that tastes similar to sweet tea. Afterwards, you boil the

wort to sterilize it, then transfer it to a fermenter where you add yeast. The yeast then eats all the sugar from the wort in which the byproduct of this process is alcohol. The whole process has to remain sterile, hence the lots of cleaning."

Fascinating, right? When I asked if there was a difference in brewing technique for each different kind, believe it or not, most are similar. Different strains of yeast and different hops are what create the different flavors. Just so we are not all asking ourselves the same question, by definition a beer hop is the cone-shaped flowers of the *Humulus lupulus* plant, which are added to beer to impart bitterness, aroma and flavor and also act as a preservative.

Of the 12 taps, seven are regulars and five are rotated every two months. The blonde ale, "Pint Break," and the New England IPA, "Gonna Need a Bigger Boat," are the two most popular beers. As for seasonal selections, there's an ode to "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation," the Christmas ale, "Cousin Eddie's

Dickie." This is a personal must and a fan favorite as well. I always have to pay a visit when he's in town and he sometimes visits for Christmas in July, too.

Like most breweries, there's a mug club. The one at Copper Hop is so popular there's currently a waitlist until the fall for possible new members. Sounds like it's quite an honor to be in this club.



Social district nights.

There is more to the brewery than just its 12 beers.

"We serve four to six different wines, two ciders, non-alcoholic beer and drinks and soda," Balicki

Right and below, Copper Hop Brewing's 1,400-square-foot patio with a mural in the background.

said. "We are also in the process of getting our distillers license, so hopefully mixed drinks are starting in the summer."

I'm definitely looking forward to what this summer will bring. And, in true brewery fashion, food trucks are a weekly occurrence. Located out back, seven days a week, you are guaranteed to find one of many delicious options in the food truck rotation. Balicki tells me the barbecue trucks and "anything Latin or taco-related seem to be the most popular."

This made me laugh, seeing as I'm normally in those exact food truck lines. Slows Bar BQ is always a special treat when it's blocks away from your house. Check out their social media to see who's in the weekly lineup. You can catch dinner on wheels nightly from 5 to 9 p.m. and Sundays from 2 to 6 p.m. Not interested in what the



Food Gossip

by Nina Taormina

offerings are during your visit? No worries. Feel free to bring your own food or have something delivered directly to you.

While the brewery always had a patio out front, in 2020, COVID brought a good reason to expand its outdoor options. Starting small, then growing and eventually with approval from the city, Copper Hop was able to close off the entryway from Mack to the back parking lot and created 1,400 square feet of what I consider one of the best outdoor patios in St. Clair Shores. With a capacity of approximately 100 people sitting, this patio is open year around and is pet friendly. With custom built-in booths and plenty of tables, once the



Cousin Eddie's Dickie with live music.

sun is shining, this space fills up quickly. You can't sit on the patio without noticing the newest addition: an absolutely stunning mural that was painted on a neighboring wall a few summers back.

"The mural was commissioned and paid for by the DIA," Balicki said. "The city and a special council worked hard to find the perfect spot and artist to complete the job. They found her in Haley Mousseau, a local artist from St. Clair Shores."

It's truly the perfect location, where it can be enjoyed by many, and is a beautiful work of art that encompasses the city perfectly.

See BREWING, page 3C



Growler and carry outs.

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



I am officially obsessed with the TELETIES Flat Round Hair Clip. As someone who constantly throws my hair into a claw clip, whether it's a full updo or a half-up/half-down style, I love how clips are gentle on my hair and help preserve a blowout or styled look without leaving any kinks or dents like a ponytail would. But the one major downside of traditional claw clips? They're so bulky. Driving in the car with

one in my hair, leaning back to watch a show or trying to lie flat during a Pilates class



always ended with me ripping the clip out in frustration. It's uncomfortable and awkward. I knew there had to be a better option. The flat round clip from TELETIES is it. It's strong and sturdy and the flat shape means I can comfortably lean back, rest my head or move through my day without

it getting in the way. The teeth don't snap off, the clip holds everything in place and it feels super secure without being too tight. Made with a durable yet flexible plastic blend, this clip comes in a variety of sizes and colors. The tortoise medium size is my go-to, but there are plenty of options, whether you have fine hair or thick curls. It's also surprisingly budget-friendly for how high-quality it is. One clip can

last forever if you don't lose it. If you're local, Small Favors in The Village carries a huge selection. Every time I stop in, I'm tempted to grab another. If you love the look and function of a claw clip but are tired of the discomfort, the TELETIES flat clip will change your life. I'm giving this product 5 out of 5 alligators. I love it, want to purchase more constantly and just bought a few for my

friends. You'll love this product!

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

5 Out Of 5



Bowl crazy

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

I know that I am very late to the game but I'm really starting to love the "bowl dinner" craze. Again, this idea of customized, fast and healthy meal options has been around for a long time but I never have made them at home. The thought of everyone making their own, custom creation scared me because of how many dishes would be involved. And, giving your family dinner choices just leads to problems, right? I was wrong. The trade off is that they LOVE them. They EAT them. They even look forward to them. You can put just about any meal into a bowl. Shawarma bowls, burrito bowls, smoothie bowls, grain bowls are just the tip of the iceberg in this food trend obsession. Think about how many

franchises' sole focus is just this. I'm sure it was created to cater to the gluten allergy crowd but now it perfectly meets the demands of the many health conscious hungry eaters out there. Who doesn't love the ability to have full control over what they put into their dinner, especially when they are watching what they eat? For one of the last Lenten Friday dinners, I made bang bang salmon bowls. The salmon is tossed in spices and quickly roasted. A quick and spicy bang bang sauce is served alongside. And the rest of the offerings are up to you. I like edamame shells and scallions. You could add shredded carrots and sliced cucumbers with fresh cilantro leaves. People seem to love

the element of some cooked things along with some fresh choices for balance. Quick seared bok choy is a family favorite at my house so I made sure to include it. These are fun to assemble and beautiful to look at. This is my last fish recipe for this season of Lent. I hope you love it.

Cheers, Mombeau

Bang Bang Salmon with Baby Bok Choy

1.5 lbs salmon, center cut, skinless

1 tbsp olive oil

3/4 tsp smoked paprika

1/2 tsp garlic powder

1 tsp salt

1/2 tsp pepper

Bang Bang sauce (see below)

2 cups jasmine rice, cooked (1 cup uncooked)

- 1 bunch scallions, cut into strips
- Shelled edamame seeds
- 2 heads baby bok choy
- 2 tsp toasted sesame oil
- 1 tbsp soy sauce

Preheat your oven to 450. Gently cube the salmon fillet into one inch chunks using a sharp knife. Place the salmon in a bowl with the olive oil, smoked paprika, garlic powder, salt and pepper. Toss gently to thoroughly combine. Lay out the salmon onto a baking sheet making sure the pieces are not crowded together. Roast for 12 minutes or until brown around the edges. While the salmon roasts, heat a skillet over medium-high heat. Wash and slice the baby bok choy down the center so you have two halves. Add the sesame oil and when hot, place



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

the halves cut side down and cook for three minutes. Flip over and pour the soy sauce over top. Cook for another two minutes. To plate, in a bowl, scoop in a good portion of rice and top with some salmon pieces. Lay down a half of the bok choy, some edamame and sliced scallions. Drizzle desired amount of bang bang sauce over top. Enjoy!

- Bang Bang Sauce**
- 1/2 cup mayo
 - 1.5 tbsp sriracha
 - 1.5 tbsp rice wine vinegar
 - 2 tbsp ketchup
 - 1 tbsp soy sauce
- Mix all ingredients together in a bowl and set aside.



The benefit of time

Most fine red wines benefit from time in the bottle. Although most of the wine sold in the United States is consumed within hours or a few days of its acquisition, better red wines are made with the under-

standing that they are a living product and improve with some maturity. Many of the best wines have always been known for how aging improves them. One of the longest-lived red wines is Barolo from

Italy, which at the upper echelons of quality is best at 40 to 50 years. France's esteemed Bordeaux and California's counterpart, cabernet, often can live equally as long. Even modest cabernets can improve with some aeration. Most of America's regular wine consumers know this. This is one reason why the downturn in sales of all wine in the United States over the last 18 months or so has benefited not only the majority of red wines

but also their potential consumers. As long as storage conditions in stores and restaurants have been optimal, the wines will improve. This is particularly important for wines that beg for additional time in the bottle — such as most Italian red wines. Italy produces some exceptional reds that are normally priced fairly, especially in recent years when quality vintages have been widely reported. Since most Italian red wines are made

from grapes with high acidity levels, almost all of them benefit from additional time in the bottle. I had lunch the other day with importer Don Chigazola, and we talked about the fact that some of his finest red wine imports already had a few more years than some of his competitors' wines. At the moment, we are beginning to see many Italian red wines come into the United States from the 2022 vintage. Many are very fine wines, but they are still extremely young. Chigazola just imported his 2019

Chianti classico from the high-quality house of Cantalici (\$30). The added three years it had in the bottle gave it more complexity than most 2022s. It has lovely fruity aromas that are still youthful but with a ripe, silkier taste from added time in the bottle. It has a classic Tuscan character and only 15 percent merlot for intricacy. To find out more about Sonoma County resident Dan Berger, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2025 CREATORS.COM.

BREWING

Continued from page 2C

In 2023, the gentlemen were fortunate enough to take over the vacant building next door and add to their square footage for a grand total of 7,500 square feet. It's opening in June, just in time for St. Clair Shores' twice-monthly social districts, of which the brewery

is a huge anchor, along with neighbors Shores Inn across the street. With the capacity of 60 to 85 people (depending on event type), this new event space provides additional room for extra crowded nights and special events, like monthly ticketed comedy nights — which sell out in the blink of an eye, by the way. Special events like this

will be announced on Copper Hop's social media pages and can be found online as well. For private events, rental information can be found online at thecopperhop.com. Love local live music? You're in luck. Live tunes can be heard every Wednesday night from 7 to 9 p.m. and once a month is a singer/songwriter night as well. Some great sounds come out

of both of these evenings. I cannot wrap up this article without a shout-out to Copper Hop's amazing and predominantly female staff. They are some of the quickest, most knowledgeable servers in the area. They always make sure you are well taken care of. On their busiest of nights, you never wait long for a cold one. Jason's not too shabby either and a great mixologist, too. Cheers to all of you. You guys rock! The brewery just updated its hours, adding Mondays. Current hours are 4 to 9 p.m. Monday, 3 to 10 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, noon to midnight Friday and Saturday and noon to 8 p.m. Sunday. Follow along with what's hopping at the brewery on Instagram: @copperhopbrewing, Facebook: Copper Hop Brewing Company and online at thecopperhop.com. Fun Fact: The first beer Ryan and Jeremy ever brewed together included Michigan Copper Hops, a hop variant only found in Michigan. And that's how the guys picked the brewery's name. Stay tuned. Stay hungry. Stay thirsty ... And always drink responsibly.



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EASTER ENTERTAINING



feasting made
festive and fun

By Olivia Monette
Special Writer

Easter is a time for gathering with loved ones, enjoying a delicious meal and celebrating the season of renewal. And just like there's no one way to celebrate the holiday, there's no one way to style your Easter table! Whether you love classic elegance, playful charm, rustic simplicity or modern minimalism, there's a perfect tablescape to match your Easter aesthetic.

In this special feature, we're showcasing five unique Easter tablescapes, each capturing a different way to bring festive beauty to your holiday gathering. From vintage-inspired pastels with delicate florals to whimsical tables filled with bunnies and bright colors, these tables prove that Easter decorating can be both personal and stunning. Whether you prefer a rustic farmhouse look with natural textures or a sleek, contemporary setting with soft neutrals and subtle seasonal accents, there's inspiration here to help you create a memorable Easter table that feels just right for your home.

No matter your style, the key to a great Easter table is combining seasonal details, thoughtful place settings and a touch of springtime magic.

Read on to discover how each of these beautifully styled tables brings the holiday to life in its own unique way!

A charming Easter tablescape

An elegant Easter tablescape is the perfect blend of vintage charm and springtime festivity. Delicate floral china with gold trim sets a timeless foundation, while soft ivory napkins with embroidered details add a refined touch. A sweet knit bunny centerpiece steals the show, bringing a playful and whimsical element to each place setting. Fresh white roses and candlelight create a warm, inviting atmosphere, making this table a beautiful setting for Easter brunch or dinner. Whether you're hosting a formal gathering or an intimate family meal, this setup captures the magic of the season with classic elegance and festive appeal.

Dinner party favors escalate the charm factor of your tablescape. Vintage setting, top, features a crocheted bunny favor. Or top place settings with a hand-written name card and a chocolate egg, like these chocolate crispy treats from Chocolate Bar Cafe, above. A tiny, individually wrapped chocolate rabbit, right, can make a perfect favor to savor.



Leaping bunny ceramic platter, above, from Small Favors, adds whimsical beauty to your table as a serving platter for canapes or desserts.



COURTESY PHOTOS



LIVIN' ON THE EDGE

Bunny plate sitter, left, from Small Favors, attaches to your Nora Fleming plate base for a whimsical addition to Easter dinner. Add extra charm to your table with this adorable little friend (he won't eat much!)



BUNCHES OF CHARM

Scalloped carrot bundle serving plate, left, is from Small Favors. Includes a precious little bunny serving spatula.



Cozy and welcoming with a pop of pink

This elegant yet playful Easter tablescape brings together classic charm and fresh spring hues. The stunning pink-rimmed plate from The League Shop adds a refined touch with its intricate pattern and gold detailing, making it a perfect statement piece for an Easter gathering. Layered with a quilted placemat and a mix of patterned napkins, this setting blends traditional elements with a modern, collected feel.

Adding an extra dose of festive charm, a hand-painted Herend bunny from The League Shop sits nearby, bringing a timeless Easter tradition to the table. Paired with vintage silver flatware and a single tulip accent, this look is ideal for those who appreciate elevated simplicity with a touch of whimsy. Whatever the meal, this tablescape is sure to make Easter feel extra special.

A fresh take on a spring garden theme

This botanical-inspired tablescape brings a fresh, garden-like feel to Easter dining. A beautifully quilted floral placemat with scalloped edges sets the stage for a delicate hand-painted floral plate from The League Shop, creating a soft and romantic look. The mix of patterned napkins, also from The League Shop, in blue and floral designs adds a unique and unexpected contrast, giving the table a layered, collected feel. Vintage-inspired silver flatware completes the setting, while a single tulip placed across the setting adds a simple yet elegant nod to spring. Perfect for those who love timeless charm with a touch of natural beauty, this table is both inviting and effortlessly chic for an Easter gathering.

Luxe setting for an Easter to remember

For the extravagant Easter dinner party of our dreams, this tablescape exudes elegance and sophistication with layered white dinnerware, vintage silver flatware and a vibrant floral quilted placemat that brings a fresh spring feel to the setting. But the true showstopper? A delicate Herend bunny box placed at the center of each plate—a thoughtful and luxurious gift for guests to take home. This elevated and refined tablescape blends tradition with indulgence, creating a setting that feels both intimate and grand. Whether filled with a tiny treat or left as a stunning keepsake, these Herend pieces make the perfect favor for an Easter gathering where every detail is meant to be cherished. If you're looking to make your holiday meal feel extra special, this is the way to do it!

Effortless elegance for Easter hosting

Hosting Easter doesn't have to mean extra dishes! This charming tablescape proves that disposable can still be beautiful, thanks to pink paper plates and floral napkins from The League Shop. The delicate hydrangea design on the napkins adds a classic spring touch, pairing perfectly with the pastel backdrop. Elegant vintage silver flatware adds a refined contrast, making this setup ideal for those who want a balance of ease and sophistication. Adding a touch of charm, a hand-painted Herend bunny completes the look, bringing an element of timeless Easter tradition. Whether you're hosting a casual brunch or a festive family gathering, this setup keeps things stylish while making cleanup a breeze.

Settings, from top: Pretty pink setting with pieces from The League Shop; garden-themed tablescape with floral elements from The League Shop; Simple white plates resonate elegance and serve up a sweet surprise – a Herend bunny trinket box favor from The League Shop.



Fish pitcher and spring napkins, left, from The League Shop.

Instant centerpiece

Adding a little Easter flair to your table is easier than you think. A simple bouquet of fresh tulips from Trader Joe's instantly brings a spring vibe, while a few festive accessories — like decorative bunnies, a glass jar filled with pastel eggs or a seasonal candle — tie everything together. Whether you're hosting Easter brunch or just want to brighten up your kitchen, a few thoughtful touches can easily make your space feel festive. Bonus: it's a low-effort, high-impact way to get into the seasonal spirit without going overboard!



Above: The power of paper! The Easter meal is just as lovely with time-saving paper plates and napkins, also from The League Shop.

Far left: Surround some fresh flowers with existing candles and ornaments for a breathtaking buy easy Easter centerpiece.

PHOTOS BY JILL CAVANAUGH

WHERE TO SHOP:

Chocolate Bar Cafe
20737 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe
(313) 881-2888
chocolatebar-cafe.com

The League Shop
16849 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe
(313) 882-6880
theleagueshop.com

Small Favors
17112 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe
(313) 887-1774
shopsmallfavors.com

Trader Joe's
17028 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe
(313) 640-7794
traderjoes.com

Easter basket fun!

DYNAMIC DUO

Start strong with everybody's favorites – chewy, fruity jelly beans and scrumptious foil-wrapped chocolates. It's just not an official Easter basket without this nostalgic duo. Load up at **Chocolate Bar Cafe** and keep going down the bunny trail!



CHOCOLATE BUNNY

The king of Easter candy bling! The cool chocolate bunny, right, reigns supreme as the centerpiece of any Easter basket. Chocolate Bar Cafe is your HQ for delicious, handmade chocolate bunnies and house-made chocolates all year round. Explore **Chocolate Bar Cafe's** "a-bunny-dant" selection of melt-in-your-mouth rabbits and other Easter treats.



HEREND CHARMERS

Three little bunnies who usher in all the wonder of spring! Herend's signature rabbits, left, are joining together to add their own adorable bliss to your Easter holiday. Whether they are part of your tablescape, decorating your home or being presented as a holiday gift, They are the ideal way to celebrate. Find them at **The League Shop**.



The League Shop
16849 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe
theleagueshop.com
(313) 882-6880



PRETTY POUCH

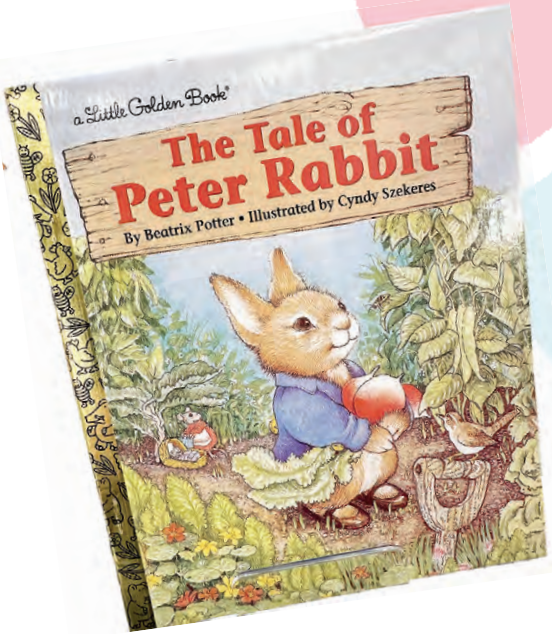
Egg-squisite! This lovely, little beaded zip pouch, below, is a fun Easter gift that can be used for change, credit cards or makeup – or slips into a pocket nicely for essentials during a purse-free night out. Cute and colorful, ladies will love this sweet holiday memento. From **Small Favors**.



STORY TIME

Coreander's Children's Bookshoppe is our favorite place along the bunny trail for Easter books that will become family treasures. Classic titles like "The Complete Tales" by Beatrix Potter, "Will You Be My Friend" and "The Tale of Peter Rabbit" are a way to make sure that little ones' baskets are full of all the good stuff! Come browse the aisles and take home some Easter magic.

Coreander's Children's Bookshoppe
15118 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe Park
coreanderschildrensbookshoppe.com
(313) 514-7999



High-tail it over to these great Grosse Pointe shops to fill your Easter holiday baskets for all ages in the most incredible ways. From candies your family will be anticipating to sweet bunny-themed books and gift surprises — you’ll be remembered as the best Easter bunny ever for years to come. Make this year’s holiday special in delightful ways loved ones will cherish forever. Hop to it and let’s get this egg-hunt started!

PERFECT PACKAGING

Scout bags, below, are not only great for toting, traveling and lunching – they make awesome Easter baskets too! Fill them up with Easter treats and your recipient will have a lasting gift to use all year with fond memories of you. Check out all the pretty colors and designs at **Small Favors**.

A PLUSH PINK PAIR

“Everybunny” needs someone to hug! This sweet plush pink bunny with floral ears and feet, below left, is squeezably soft and ready to love. **Small Favors** also has a soft baby bunny book, below to make your own. More to love for your littles!

Small Favors
17112 Kercheval Ave
Grosse Pointe
shopsmallfavors.com
(313) 887-1774

PILLOW SOFT

An adorable rabbit peeks from this decorative pillow, above left, at **Small Favors**. A lovely and lasting gift that looks as great on the sofa or bed as it does in your basket, you’ll want to grab yours quick as a bunny.

BASKET STUFFERS

There’s no place like **Small Favors** for charming little trinkets and treasures to fill a basket with happiness! Fluffy bouncing chicks and bunnies, top left, add instant delight, while carrot-shaped markers, above, make coloring even more fun. This is just a sample of the wonderful selection at Small Favors.

GOOD EGGS

Yummy eggs of all types are on hand at **Chocolate Bar Cafe**, right. Foil-wrapped chocolate or malted...or both? That’s the only question, but not the only answer – because there are plenty more eggs in store where these came from! Choose your favorites for every family member and enjoy the sweet taste of happy Easter memories.

TREASURED TRINKETS

When quality matters, it’s **The League Shop**! For precious Easter figurines, left, peruse the store and take in all the spring lineup has to offer. From Herend to other quality name brands, The League Shop will have just what you are looking for at Easter and every special occasion.

READY-TO-GO BASKETS

If this year finds you busy with prep for Easter entertaining, treat yourself to gorgeous ready-made baskets, above right, from **Chocolate Bar Cafe**. Each one is filled to the brim with premium chocolates and other sweets and treats! You’ll find baskets for everyone on your list. Give yourself a break this year – grab a basket to go!

Chocolate Bar Cafe
20737 Mack Ave.
Grosse Pointe
chocolatebar-cafe.com
(313) 881-2888

finish



COURTESY PHOTOS



8C | LIFE & LEISURE



TODDLER TIME

A cute plush rabbit, bunny books and trio of sweet treats make up this basket of fun for toddler+ age kids. The magic of Easter awaits with this charming selection of gifts.

Ready-made
TOY BASKETS
for all ages!

BY WHISTLE STOP HOBBY & TOY

All aboard the Whistle Stop train to a happy Easter. From infants to tweens, there are ready made basket bundles that will bring joy to every kiddo. Check out this assembly of great gifting ideas – or stop in and select some great Easter gifts of your own. Enjoy the ride!

BABY BASKET

Baby's first Easter will be a delight with this sweet basket of goodies for the tiniest ones. Musical white rabbit plus toy, rattle, plush baby's first basket, Peter Rabbit book and toy set and a rubber ducky for bath time will give baby years of happiness.



ACTIVITIES AND MORE!

Oh-so-soft floppy-eared bunny inside a soft rabbit basket, is matched up with fun activities to keep kids busy while adults visit. A cute coloring set, colorful Easter stickers and "Hurry Up Chicken Butt" game will have them laughing and playing all day. It's a memorable holiday all wrapped into one fun basket!

GO, GO, GO BASKET

Kids on the move will love this collection of things to do, whether drawing in chalk on the sidewalk, jumping rope, planting a live chia seed plant, playing in the sandbox or snuggling a beautiful rainbow bunny – and more. It's a great choice for kids who are on the go all day long!



LITTLE FRIENDS

Young girls will love this basket of happiness! It includes two craft kits - "Make a Bunny Friend" and "Candle Critters," two stuffies, a tin of Crazy Aaron's Egg Hunt Thinking Putty and a bag of Jelly Belly candies. Busy little hands will enjoy every moment of time with this basket.



THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Outdoorsy tots will enjoy the gardening basket. It's chock full of fun things to enjoy and learn about the earth. The basket itself is a colorful and cool garden tool holder! It comes with a set of gardening tools to join parents or grandparents in planting and watching the miracle of nature in bloom. Also includes a magnifier for looking at bugs and other small creatures up close, as well as a little case to hold tiny critters to enjoy and then release. A brown garden bunny tops off this great nature exploration basket.



BOY TOYS

What boy wouldn't be thrilled with this great grouping of goodies? A trio of foam balls to toss? A Groovy Glowing Candy Lab? Weird but True Sports Trivia, a yo-yo, trick hand buzzer and more – what's not to love? Make his day with a basket after his own heart.



WIGGLES AND GIGGLES



This classic collection has two games – "Uncle Wiggily" and a candy matching memory game, a sweet Thumper bunny and "Thumper and the Egg" book with stickers, plus some delicious candies to savor during all the fun. A great gift for your little one to cherish and enjoy.

SWIFTY FUN



Girls up to tweens will adore a basket of books and other rockin' fun like a toy guitar, plush LOVE heart pillow, fashion accessories and more to add to her mementos. Make her the happiest little bunny around with this perfect girly basket.

EASTER COLORING CONTEST

WIN a \$25 gift certificate to WHISTLE STOP HOBBY & TOY

Color in Mr. Peter Cottontail bunny, below, and enter him into our coloring contest – for a chance to win a great prize from Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy, where there is so much fun to choose from!



1. Color in the drawing of the bunny using crayons, markers, chalk or paint.

2. Fill in the entry blank with your name, city, age and contact information.

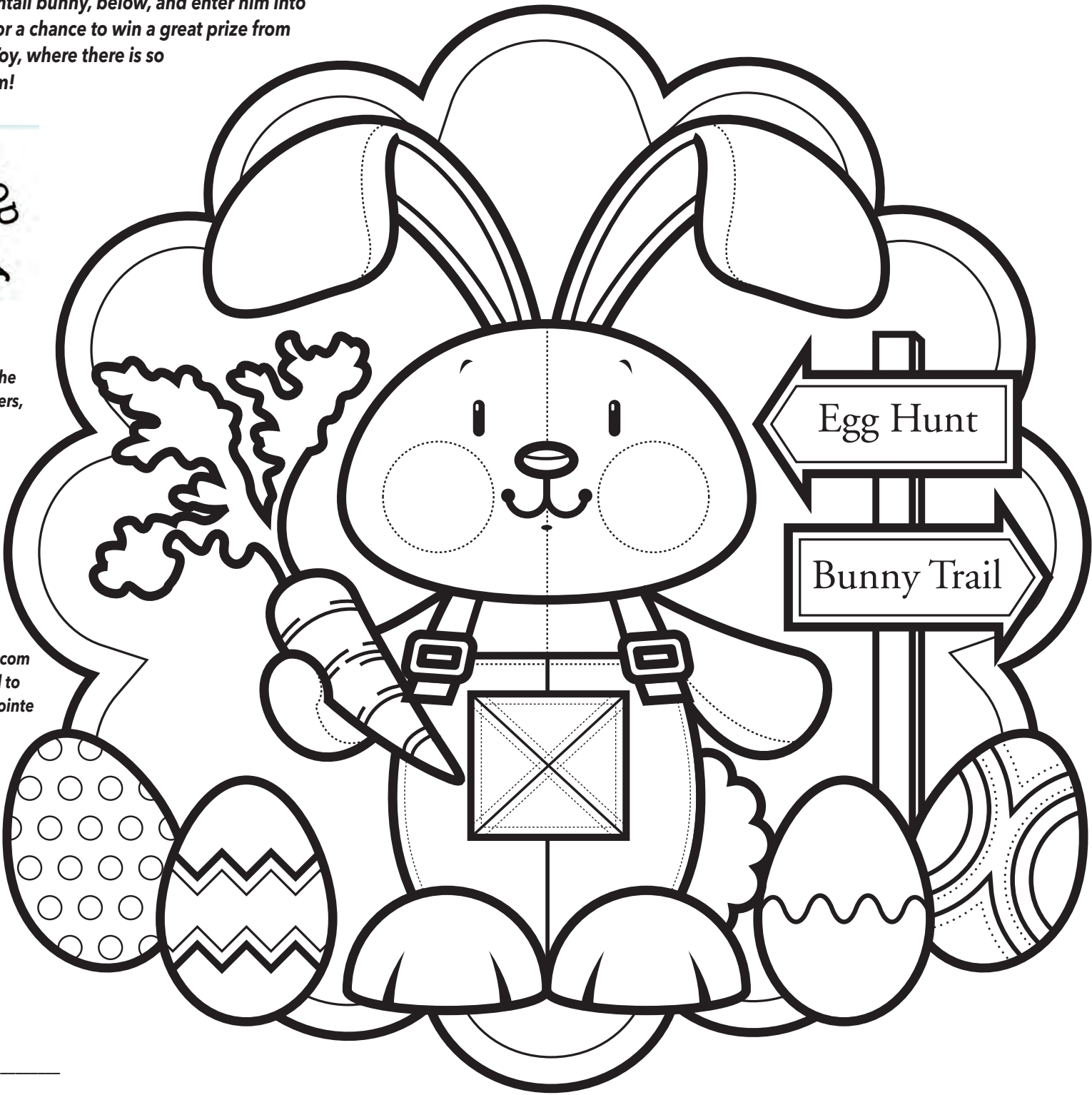
3. Email a photo of your coloring contest entry page to the Grosse Pointe News at media@grossepointenews.com or hand deliver the original to 16980 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe

NAME: _____

AGE: _____

CITY: _____

PHONE: _____



COLOR YOUR
HOLIDAY EGGS
LIKE A PRO!

Egg-xpert egg dying tips

Coloring Easter eggs is a time-honored tradition dating back more than 2,500 years. There is evidence that people living in the ancient settlement of Trypillia dyed eggs. Ancient Persians also were believed to paint eggs for Nowruz (Persian New Year).

Christians adopted similar traditions to symbolize aspects of the Easter story. Originally Christians dyed eggs red to represent the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross, according to Chase Oaks Church. Good Housekeeping reports early Christian missionaries adapted the dying tradition to include more egg colors to represent different aspects of the Easter story. Yellow represented the resurrection, blue represented love and red remained a symbol of Christ's blood.

Whether families dye eggs to symbolize the Easter miracle or simply for fun, the following are some coloring tips to enhance the process.

1. Prevent cracked eggs. Most colored eggs are hard-boiled. To prevent cracking during the boiling process, add a teaspoon of vinegar and a tablespoon of salt to the boiling water. Additional anti-cracking measures include rubbing half a lemon on each shell before boiling.

2. Boil eggs and cool completely. It takes roughly 10 minutes to hard-boil an egg. Fill a pot with enough water to submerge the eggs, then bring it to a boil over medium-high heat. Gently lower the eggs into the water with a slotted spoon. Cover, reduce the heat to a simmer, and cook for 10 minutes. Drain the eggs and cool in a bowl of water or run under cold tap water.

3. Don't forget the vinegar. Whether you use colored dye tablets or drops of food coloring from the pantry, use a mix of water and vinegar in the coloring solution. According to Education.com, food coloring is an acid dye and bonds using hydrogen. This chemical process only works in an acidic environment. Vinegar is added to water to make it more acidic and help the dyes adhere more strongly to the eggs and produce brighter colors.

4. Stick to white eggs. Stores sell both brown and white eggs. The species of chicken determines whether the eggs will be white or brown. When coloring eggs, it might be better to purchase white eggs, as the dyes will show up more vividly on the white shells.

5. Create distinctive designs. By covering portions of the bare eggs before dipping into color, people can create unique designs. Things like masking tape, rubber bands, wax (or crayons), and even twine can be used. The dye will only take on the uncovered areas, leaving white behind.

6. Dyes are not the only way to color eggs. Everything from non-toxic paints to decoupage can be used to cover eggs in vivid colors. Egg decorators also can use colored yarns, fabric or stickers. Search for creative materials to set Easter eggs apart this year.

Coloring eggs is a popular Easter tradition, and there are many ways to ensure this beloved activity produces beautiful results.



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PHOTOS COURTESY OF BLACK BEAR, EDITH PRODUCTIONS AND MARFA PEACH COMPANY
Left, Colman Domingo as John ‘Divine G’ Whitfield and Clarence Maclin as Clarence ‘Divine Eye’ Maclin in the 2023 movie “Sing Sing” directed by Greg Kwedar.

MOVIE REVIEW
“Sing Sing”
2023 - Rated R
1 hr 47 min
★★★★☆

Usually I know a fair amount about a film before I watch it. In the case of “Sing Sing,” about the only things I knew were that it took place in a prison and it was nominated for an Oscar. I figured it was something worthwhile and put in in my queue. What a pleasant surprise it turned out to be.

Images of previous prison films jumped into my head. If the past was any indication, I was in for a non-stop series of prisoner-on-prisoner violence. Demented guards who beat inmates into submission. And of course, bleak, tiny cells with bare walls and leaky ceilings.

Fortunately, “Sing Sing” was none of that. Sure, the prison itself wasn’t depicted as the Garden of Eden, but the portrayal was probably closer to reality than a stylized version of Dante’s “Inferno.”

What gives the story its authentic feel is that it’s based on an Esquire magazine article from 2005, “The Sing Sing Follies” by

John H. Richardson. Writing credits go to Mr. Richardson, Clint Bentley and Brent Buell and the film was directed by Greg Kwedar.

The focus of the movie involves the inmates’ participation in the prison’s groundbreaking RTA (Rehabilitation Through the Arts) Program. The group produces a wide range of plays, whereby the prisoners find a respite from the daily grind of prison life and helps give meaning to their lives.

There are other factors that make the movie feel authentic and not a Hollywood dramatization of the events. The two leads Colman Domingo (“Rustin”) who plays John “Divine G” Whitfield and Clarence Maclin (“Divine Eye”) both served time in prison. Most of the other extras in the film are inmates at Sing Sing, which is located in Upstate New York. I’ve read that filming took place there along with two other prisons.

The cinematography



Movie poster.



At the parole hearing for ‘Divine G.’



gives you a sense that you’re right there interacting with the prisoners. The fine camerawork by Pat Scola includes a good deal of hand-held shots, adding to the intimate feeling.

At the beginning of “Sing Sing,” a group of inmates gather for a brainstorming session to figure out what their next play will be. Various ideas are tossed into the hat and when they can’t reach a consensus, their leader Brent Buell (Paul Raci), suggests he can write a script that incorporates all their

ideas. He then creates a time-travel story they end up titling “Breakin’ the Mummy’s Code.” They’re all on board and enthusiastic about rehearsing for the play.

While this is transpiring, a couple of side stories take place. Divine G (Domingo) is a long-time participant in the program and actually helped create it. He spends a large part of his days in the library and at his typewriter, working on his clemency plea. He was wrongly accused of a murder he didn’t commit and he’s obviously dedicated to securing his release. Divine Eye (Maclin) is involved in the drug trade within the



one in the movie. I think it’s unfortunate that for whatever reason, the film got limited distribution and was only shown in a handful of theatres nationwide. But thanks to its release on streaming services, more people can now enjoy this fine movie.

(Bonus)

Looking for other significant prison themed movies? Here are a few of my favorites: “The Green Mile,” “Dead Man Walking,” “The Shawshank Redemption,” and “Midnight Express.”

Currently streaming on Max and to rent on Amazon, Apple TV, Plex and other services.

My rating system:

★ A real stinker. A movie that is so bad, you’re embarrassed to admit you’ve seen it, but you have to rate it nonetheless.

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

★★★ Pretty good. In fact, if there weren’t any other movies in your queue, you might watch it again.

★★★★ One you’d recommend to friends.

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

If you have any suggestions, feel free to email me at: dominmark@yahoo.com.

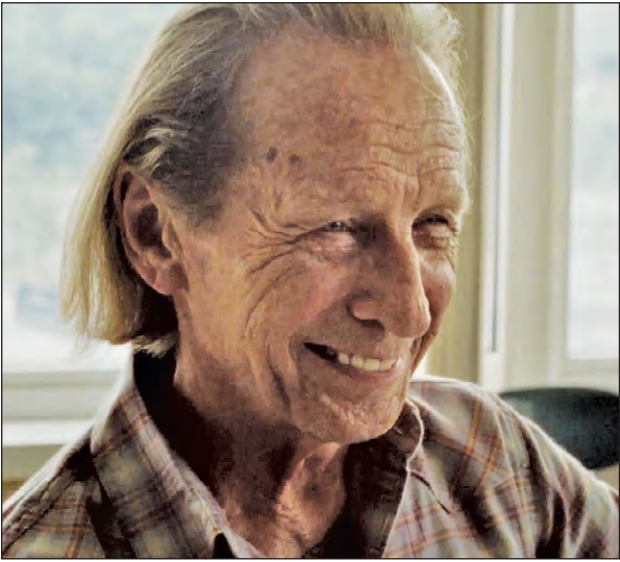
Also, if you’re looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com.



Rehearsal.



The cast of ‘Breakin’ the Mummy’s Code.’



Paul Raci as director Brent.

GROSSE POINTE THEATRE YOUTH ON STAGE
PRESENTS

THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL™
youth edition

Sensory Performance
Saturday,
April 12, 1 p.m.

APRIL 11-13, 2025

For Tickets - gpt.org/SPONGE or call 313-881-4004

SENSORY FRIENDLY PERFORMANCE

The 1 p.m. performance on Saturday, April 12 will be a Sensory Friendly Performance. Sensory-friendly performances are designed to create a welcoming and comfortable arts experience for people with autism, sensory sensitivities, or other social, learning or cognitive disabilities. This performance is also perfect for young, first-time theatre goers.

For this performance we will offer:

- Advanced social narrative with pictures
- House lights will remain on
- Reduced special effects and lighting
- Reduced sound levels
- Ability to move around as needed
- Quiet space in the lobby
- Personal headphones, cushions or fidgets welcome
- Allergy-free snacks
- Visual schedule and simplified synopsis available at performance

www.gpt.org/sensory

Weekly Challenge

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

4/10 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

4/3 Solution

Contract Bridge

THE HEAD-IN-SAND APPROACH

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH		EAST	
♠	A J 8 6	♠	7 5
♥	9 8 7 5 3	♥	6 4
♦	Q 2	♦	K 10 9 8 7
♣	10 3	♣	Q 8 5 2
WEST		SOUTH	
♠	10 3 2	♠	K Q 9 4
♥	A K Q 10 2	♥	J
♦	J	♦	A 6 5 4 3
♣	A J 9 6	♣	K 7 4

The bidding:
South 1 ♦ West Dble North Pass East Pass
Opening lead — king of hearts.

When you play in a doubled contract, you sometimes have to decide how far to go to try to make your bid, and how far to go to try to minimize your loss.

Here is a sad case where the declarer, in a reckless display of total obliviousness, lost control of the hand and took a bad beating as a result. West made a takeout double of the opening diamond bid, and East elected to leave the double in. West led the king of hearts and shifted to the jack of diamonds.

Declarer covered the jack with dummy's queen and took East's king with

the ace. South promptly returned a diamond, hoping to get the adverse trumps out of the way so he could cash his spade tricks.

The idea of drawing trump was greeted with enthusiastic approval by East, who proceeded to extract them all. West, in the meantime, discarded three spades and a heart.

East then made the fine play of shifting to the queen of clubs, trapping South's king. The defenders thereupon collected four clubs and three hearts to bring about a six-trick defeat, which came to a tidy 1,700 points.

Of course, penalties of this magnitude are almost always traceable to malfeasance in office, and this hand is no exception. Aside from the fact that a spade contract by North-South would have been far superior, the matter of declarer's line of play at one diamond doubled left a great deal to be desired.

The fact that East had left the double in made it a virtual certainty that he had started with five trumps. Warned by the bidding what to expect, South should have tried to minimize the damage.

After winning the ace of diamonds, he should have started cashing his spades instead of leading a trump. By playing this way, he could have assured scoring five tricks to hold himself to a modest set. As it was, though, all he scored was the ace of trump.

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by Steve Becker

Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or important decisions from 3:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. EDT today (12:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. PDT). After that, the Moon moves from VIRGO into LIBRA.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, April 10, 2025:

You have a single-minded devotion to your goals. You're not impulsive. You're confident of your success. This year brings exciting changes along with increased personal freedom. Stay flexible so that you can take advantage of new opportunities and act fast on them. Expect to travel.

♈ ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

This is a curious day, because there are two very different influences at play for you. On one hand, relations with co-workers and people related to your health care or even your pet might be difficult today. Everyone is cool or stand-offish. Nevertheless, you're keen to work and be productive! Tonight: Cooperate.

♉ TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)

Romantic relationships as well as relations with your kids might be strained today. Therefore, don't make a big deal about anything. Keep things cool. However, your physical energy is pumped, which bodes well for physical athletics and competitive sports. Tonight: Work.

♊ GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

Although you have energy to make improvements at home today, this is a poor day to ask for permission or approval from authority figures, including parents, bosses, VIPs and even the police. This is because your relations with others might be strained. Be low-key and polite. Tonight: Socialize!.

♋ CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

Today you have lots of mental energy, which you can use to accomplish tasks at work or apply to sales, marketing, teaching, acting and working in general. You also might use this energy to improve health. Nevertheless, relations with siblings, relatives and daily contacts are strained. Tonight: Cocoon.

♌ LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

When it comes to financial matters today, you will make the first step because you feel confident and energetic. Nevertheless, someone else might think you're being pushy. Either way, go with your energy and begin activities related to inheritances, taxes, debt and shared property. Tonight: Interesting conversations.

♍ VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Today the Moon is in your sign dancing with Mars, which makes you independent and ready to play a leadership role. This is why others might follow your direction. Having said that, your relations with partners and close friends are a bit testy today. Smile and be patient. Tonight: Check your belongings.

♎ LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Today you are best served by working alone or behind the scenes. You have the energy to get things done but you might not be keen about cooperating with others. You might feel annoyed with someone. Work alone. Tonight: You win!

♏ SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You are a willful, self-disciplined sign. Today in particular, you'll be confident about calling the shots and leading groups or teams and friends to achieve mutual goals. Nevertheless, relations with romantic partners and kids might be a tad brusque. Tonight: Enjoy solitude.

♐ SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You make an excellent impression on others today, especially professionally speaking or doing anything related to your job, career or activities within your community. However, relations with family members might be strained. (You can't win 'em all.) Tonight: Be friendly.

♑ CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Visions of travelling somewhere might spark your imagination today. "I have to get away from all this." Explore exciting possibilities quietly, because relations with siblings, relatives and neighbors are not ideal today. Keep your dreams to yourself. Packing tropical? Tonight: You're admired.

♒ AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

When it comes to discussions about inheritances, shared property, taxes or debt, you will defend your best interests today. You might feel challenged by a friend or a professional; however, you know your rights. Ideally, you might postpone disputes and haggling for another day. Tonight: Explore!

♓ PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

Today your attention will be on your most personal relationships. You will certainly express yourself vigorously, because issues are important to you today. Admittedly, conflicts with others might arise. Therefore, know what your objective is and stick to what you want to achieve. Tonight: Check your finances.

BORN TODAY
Actress, singer Mandy Moore (1984), actress Daisy Ridley (1992), actor David Harbour (1975).

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Stainberg April 10, 2025

ACROSS

1 Scared

7 MSG measure

10 NBA stat hidden in "We're back!"

13 Adored by

14 Freshly

16 Second of all?

17 Bad thing to be under

18 "Emergency exit safety feature

20 Gizmo that makes a rainbow

21 "Michael Jackson burned his hair while filming an ad for this soda

22 New Year in Hue

23 Big part of a donkey

25 Has seconds, thirds and fourths, say

26 River down under?

28 Rihanna's first name

30 ____kwondo

31 Almost summa, on a diploma

33 Is anxious

35 "Sloppy computer programs in itself

39 In itself

40 "Madre's boy

41 End of an

42 Find deplorable

44 'Tis, but in the past

48 Come closer to the answer

51 Chem., e.g.

53 "Violets ____ blue"

54 ***Intended to curb illegal activity

56 City at the start of a march to Montgomery

58 ***Material in some implants

59 Speak to condescendingly

60 Colorado native

61 High cards in chor dai di

62 Kid-lit "pest"

63 Barrett of Pink Floyd

64 AARP members: Abbr.

65 Memorable ... or, parsed differently, the two-row arrangement in each pair of starred clues' answers?

DOWN

1 Changes with the times

2 Weasel's cousin

3 Something uncommon

4 Greek god of war

5 "Who's there?" response

6 Dash's counterpart

7 Red (bureaucracy)

8 Stylish or short-tempered

9 Coops up

10 Started a computer again

11 Take stock of

12 Takes to task

15 "Bridesmaids" actress

19 Syringe amts.

21 Lying face down

24 Frustrated cry

27 Kringle's day, for short

29 Cookie quantity

32 It's just a number

33 Org. that regulates airwaves

34 Cheer (for)

35 Peace

36 Babbled

37 That and that

38 Text abbr. whose last letter stands for "correctly"

39 Mythical horse with wings

42 Cupid's missiles

43 Key related to D major

45 Unrecruited athlete

46 Italian suit designer

47 Airport in Washington

49 Game console "for everyone"

50 Abbr. on a credit card statement

52 Newton associated with an apple, not a fig

55 Military meal

57 Cookie

59 ____state area

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

4/3 Solution

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www.upuzzles.com

I See, I See! by Hanh Huynh and Cato Mayer

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9			10	11	12
13							14			15		16		
17							18				19			
20						21								
22				23	24			25						
26			27		28		29					30		
			31	32						33	34			
	35	36						37	38					
39							40							
41					42	43					44	45	46	47
48			49	50				51		52		53		
54							55			56	57			
58									59					
60				61						62				
63					64					65				



THURSDAY COMICS



Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



IS THE GAME OVER, MANAGER? WHO WON?



THEY DID WHAT WAS THE SCORE?



SIXTY-EIGHT TO NOTHING



LUCKY!!

Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



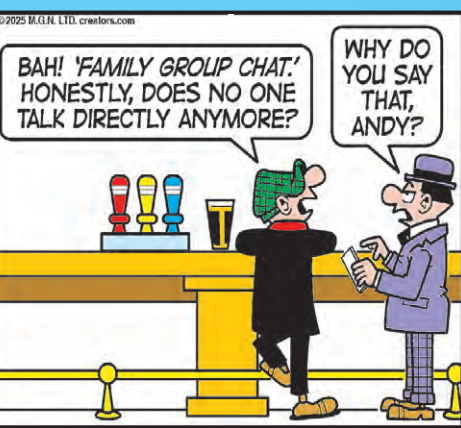
I prefer to work digitally.

Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



I'M MESSAGING MY MISSLUS ON THE FAMILY GROUP CHAT. IT'S A GREAT WAY TO KEEP IN TOUCH



BAH! 'FAMILY GROUP CHAT.' HONESTLY, DOES NO ONE TALK DIRECTLY ANYMORE?

WHY DO YOU SAY THAT, ANDY?



BECAUSE YOUR MISSLUS IS STANDING NEXT TO YOU

Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



WHAT DO YOU MEAN HE LOOKS JUST LIKE YOU AT THAT AGE? I DON'T SEE THE RESEMBLANCE.

C'MON, I'VE SEEN PHOTOS. I HAD A LITTLE HEAD AND BODY JUST LIKE THAT!

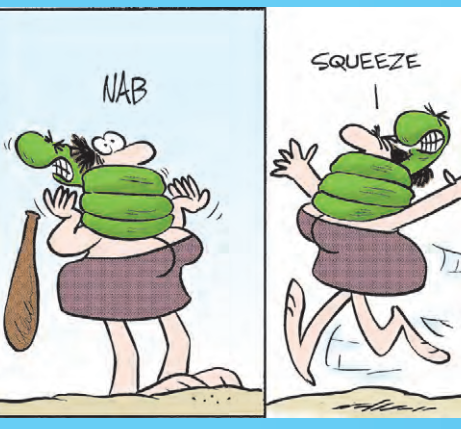
B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni

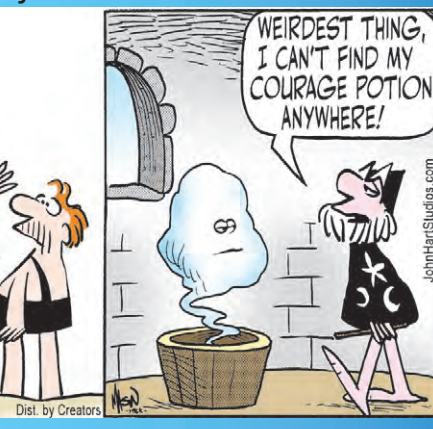


YEEAAAAHH!!

NAB



SQUEEZE



WEIRDEST THING, I CAN'T FIND MY COURAGE POTION ANYWHERE!

Reality Check

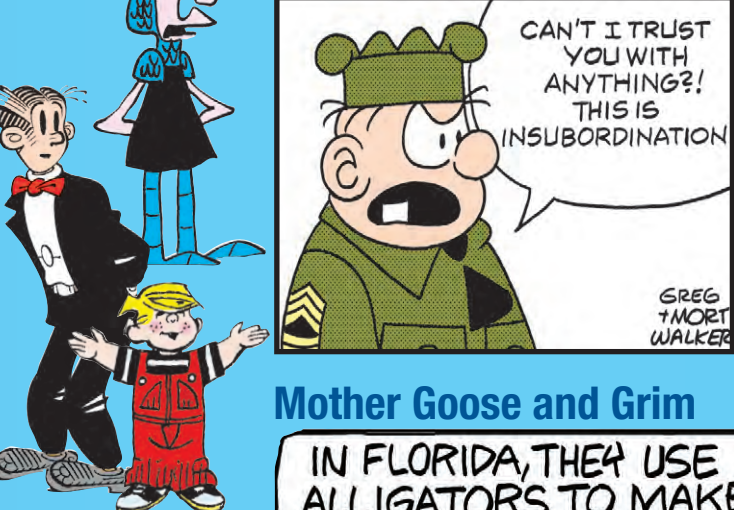
Dave Whamond



NOT WHAT I EXPECTED WHEN YOU SAID WE WERE GOING TO SEE A FAMOUS ROCK GROUP

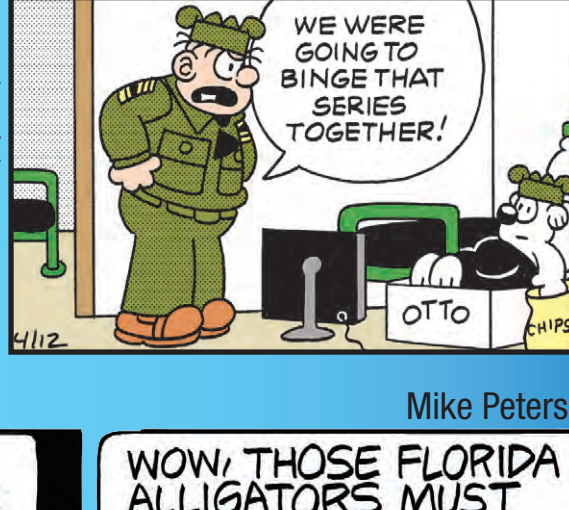
Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



CAN'T I TRUST YOU WITH ANYTHING?! THIS IS INSUBORDINATION

GREG & MORT WALKER

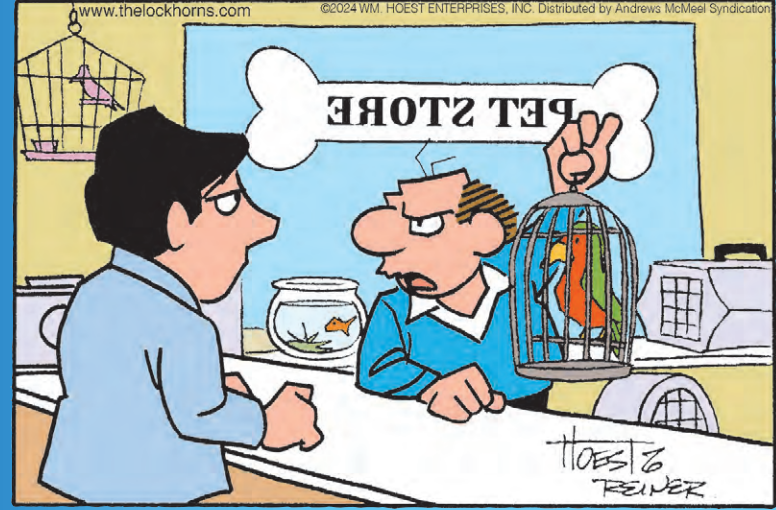


WE WERE GOING TO BINGE THAT SERIES TOGETHER!

OTTO CHIPS

The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner

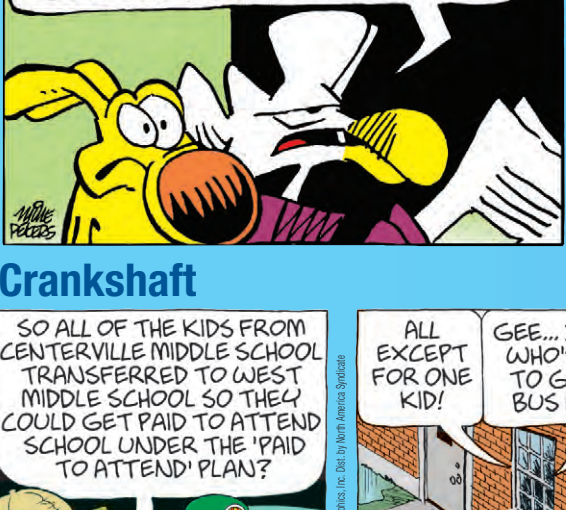


PET STORE

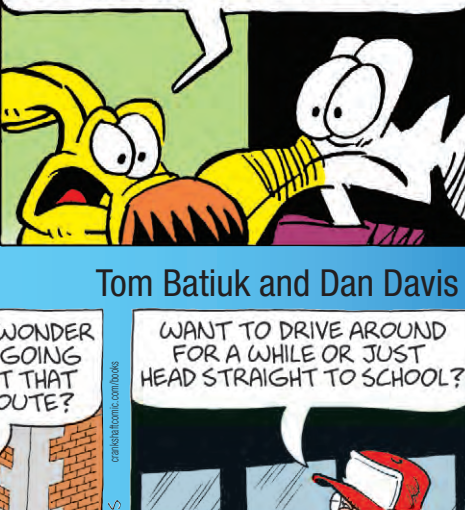
HOEST & REINER

Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



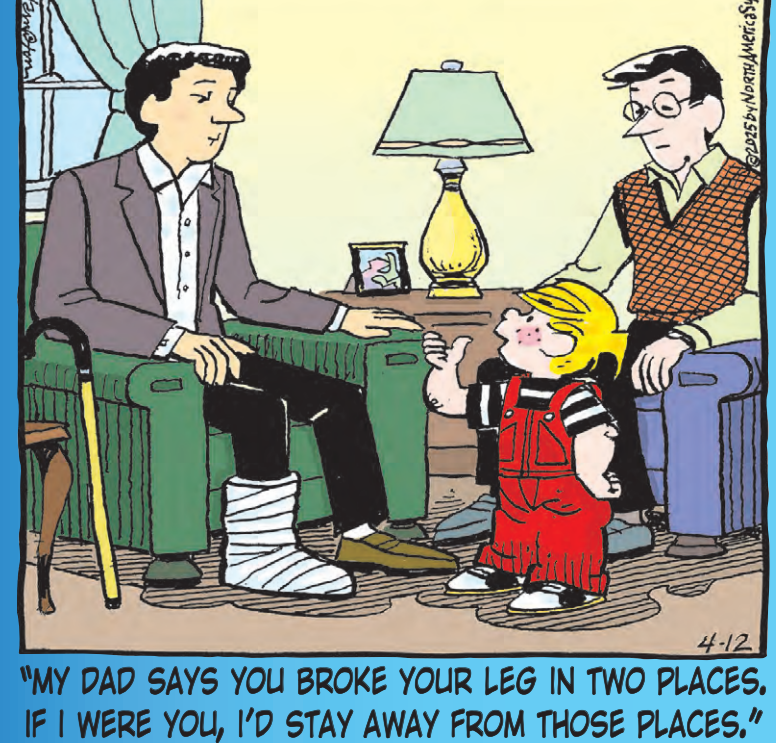
IN FLORIDA, THEY USE ALLIGATORS TO MAKE SHOES AND HANDBAGS



WOW, THOSE FLORIDA ALLIGATORS MUST BE VERY TALENTED

Dennis the Menace

Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



"MY DAD SAYS YOU BROKE YOUR LEG IN TWO PLACES. IF I WERE YOU, I'D STAY AWAY FROM THOSE PLACES."

Carpe Diem

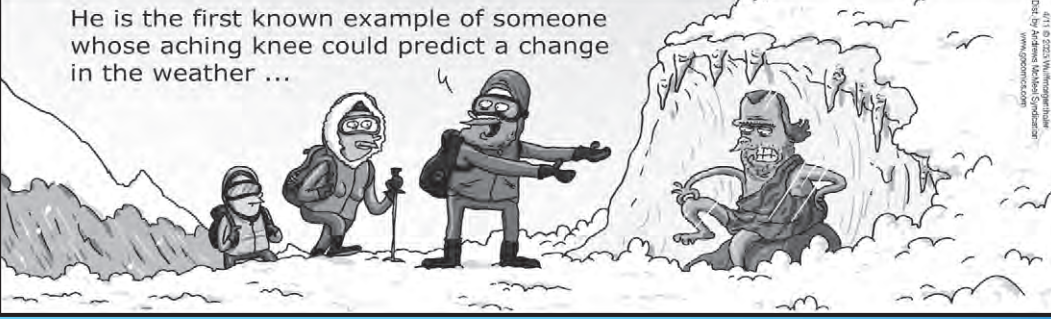
Niklas Eriksson



I'M SO CONFOUNDEDLY TERRITORIAL. TAKE THIS COUCH, FOR INSTANCE - IT'S NOW MINE FOREVER.

Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler

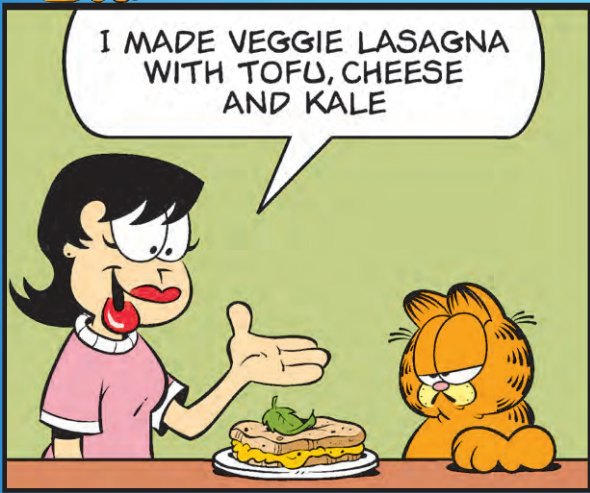


He is the first known example of someone whose aching knee could predict a change in the weather ...

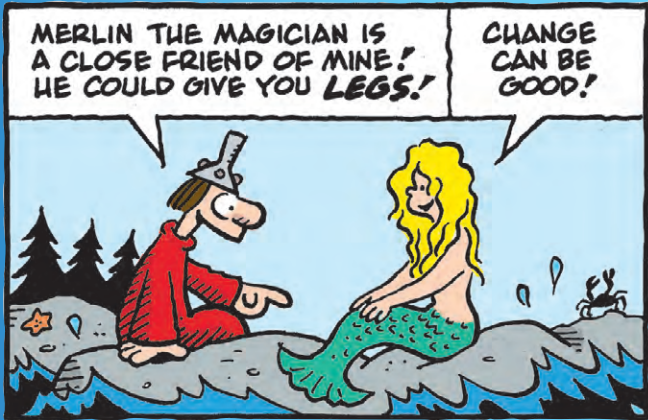
THURSDAY COMICS

Garfield

Jim Davis



Hagar The Horrible

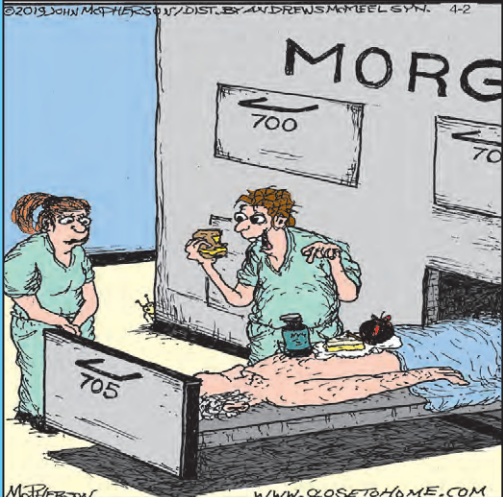


Dik Browne and Chris Browne



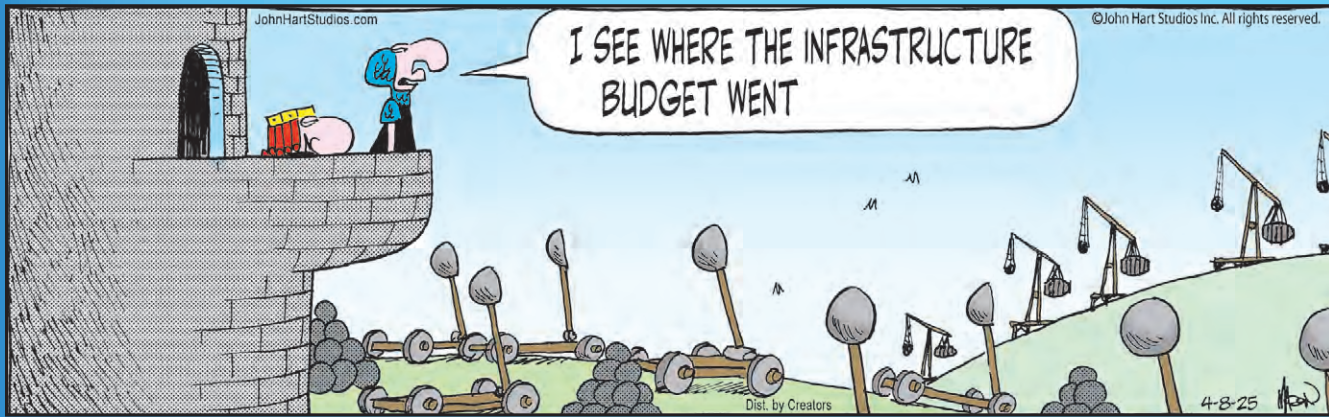
Close To Home

John McPherson



Wizard of Id

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



Ziggy

Tom Wilson



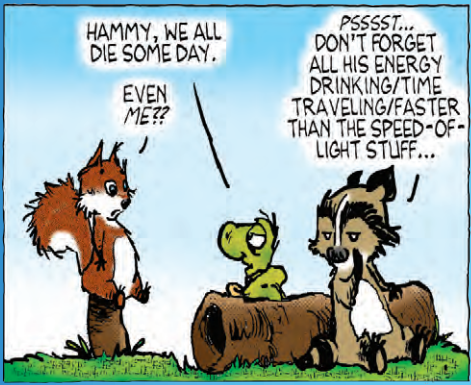
Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



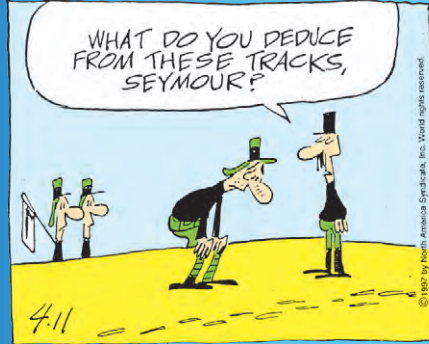
Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



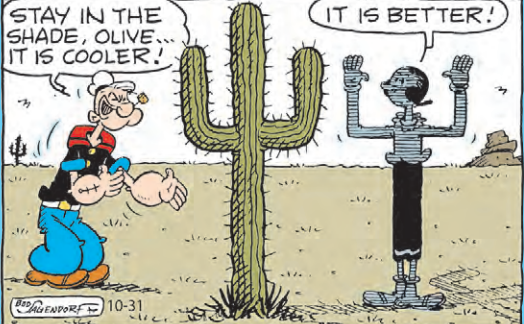
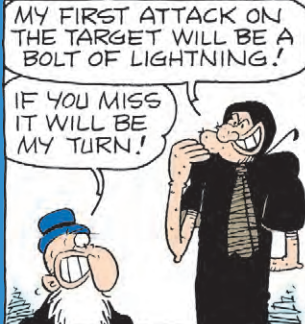
Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



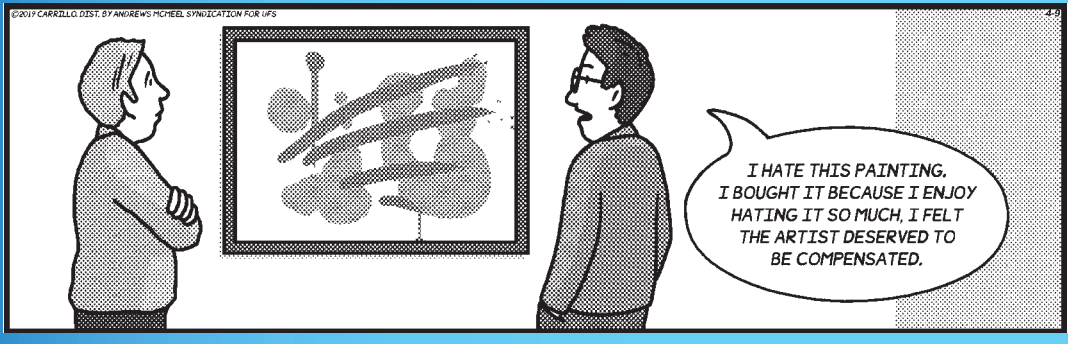
Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



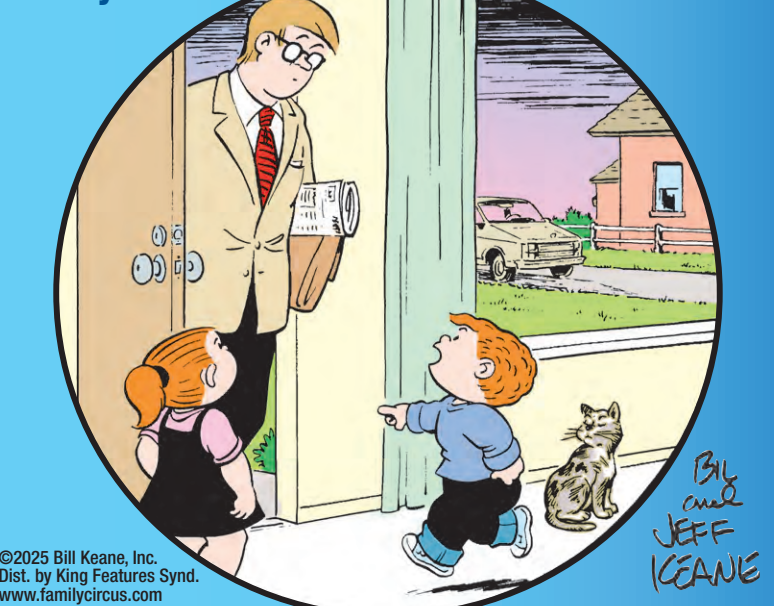
F Minus

Tony Carrillo



Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane





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Kid Scoop Together

Funny Fill-In

Ask a family member for nouns, adjectives and verbs to fill in the blanks. Then read your silly story aloud!

Puzzling Camels

Discover some surprising facts about camels by solving the puzzles on today's **Kid Scoop**® page!

Blink! Blink! Blink!

Camels have lovely, long lashes to help keep sand out of their eyes. But that's not all. Camels have another interesting eye feature that helps keep the sand out of their eyes. Circle every other letter to find out what it is.

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

C A _____

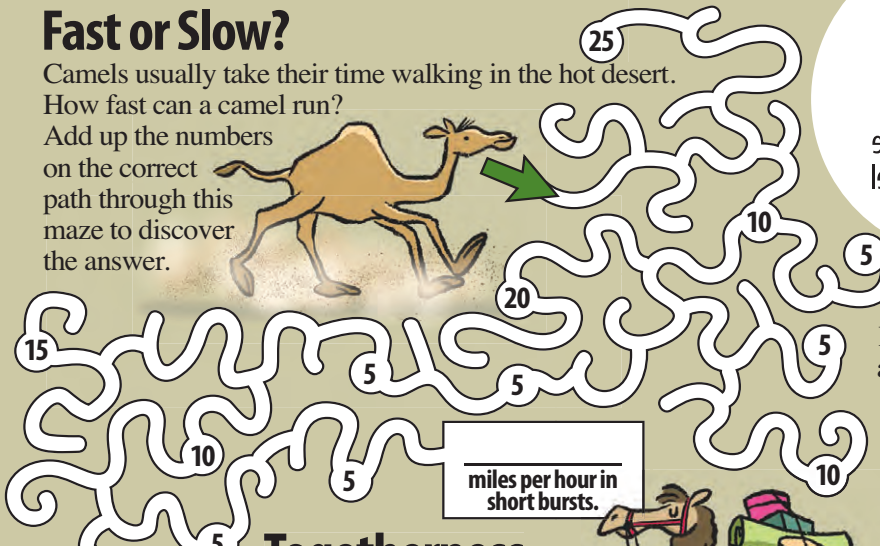


Standards Link:

 Science: Animals have features that aid in survival.

Fast or Slow?

Camels usually take their time walking in the hot desert. How fast can a camel run? Add up the numbers on the correct path through this maze to discover the answer.



25
10
5
20
15
5
5
10
5
10
5

miles per hour in short bursts.

What's in the Hump?

A camel's hump is **not** filled with water. Hold this page up to a mirror to see what's inside a camel's hump.

erlt qeql zqlrl tatl erlt .tatl rltiw bellit zi qmrlul z'lermas A
lermas erlt zqlrl bnrl vqlreql zqlviorql ti bnrl .lool lermas
.retsw ro boot tuortliw zboireq qnrol op

One Hump, Two Humps

Do the math. The camel with an even-numbered answer is a BACTRIAN camel. The one with an odd-numbered answer is a DROMEDARY.

2+3
4+4

Standards Link: Science: Variations exist within a species.

Togetherness

Camels are **social** animals that like to be in groups called **herds**. Can you find each camel's exact twin?



Designed for the Desert

Oops! The hot desert sun melted some of the words in this paragraph. Can you replace them?

Camels have _____, tough feet that help them _____ on hot, sandy deserts. These wide feet keep them from sinking in the _____ and, surprisingly, make them excellent swimmers!

When it's windy in the desert, camels can pinch their nostrils _____ to keep out sand and dust.

CLOSED THICK
SAND WALK

Desert Description

Look through today's newspaper to find 10 adjectives that describe a desert.

Extra! Extra!

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify adjectives.

Standards Link:

 Reading: Use context clues to determine vocabulary

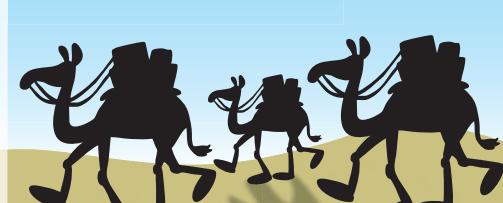
Kid Scoop Puzzler

For centuries, humans have used camels as transportation and to carry goods across the desert. For this reason, they have earned a famous nickname. Use the code to reveal it.

S _____ S _____ S _____

SECRET CODE

● = D	◐ = O
★ = E	◑ = P
▼ = F	⊙ = R
◐ = H	◑ = S
⊙ = I	⊙ = T



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

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

CAMEL	S	W	I	M	M	E	R	S	C	T
COOL	E	O	W	I	K	C	I	V	S	A
DESERT	L	B	C	A	M	E	L	U	G	Y
DUST	I	H	O	I	T	Y	D	T	H	G
ENERGY	H	Q	O	Z	A	E	S	R	M	R
EYES	F	U	L	T	P	L	R	E	U	E
FOOD	O	M	M	V	S	D	N	S	Y	N
HOT	O	I	W	P	H	U	H	E	Z	E
HUMPS	D	J	E	F	S	A	N	D	B	K
RUN										
SAND										
SOCIAL										
SUN										
SWIMMERS										
WATER										

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Desert Deal

Look at the advertisements in today's newspaper. Write an ad describing all the great features of camels. Draw a cool picture of a camel for your ad, too.

Standards Link: Writing: Write descriptively using details.

How do camels hide in the desert?



ANSWER: They wear camellage.

Write On!

Camel Fact and Opinion

Describe a camel with three facts and one opinion. Label each one.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write descriptively using supporting details.

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South track and field teams start season strong; girls win Patriot Relays

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The spring sports season began last week for several teams, including the varsity boys and girls track and field teams. For both squads from Grosse Pointe South, last week's first competitions of the new season were a success as the Blue Devils began the new season with strong performances and victories.

South's girls track and field team officially began the new season Wednesday, April 2, in a quad meet with Warren Mott, Marian and University Liggett School. The Blue Devils were victorious over all three opponents and took first place in 14 of the day's 17 events.

"This was an excellent start for our team," South girls track and field coach Steve Zaranek said. "All 80 (girls) on the team handled themselves so well and were extremely supportive of one another. On the track, we were prepared and



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Grosse Pointe South varsity girls track and field team celebrate with the first-place trophy after earning the top spot at the Patriot Relays hosted by Livonia Franklin last Saturday, April 5.

very competitive for such an early season meet. This is a great sign for what is to come."

One of the biggest highlights from the opening meet was the performance of senior Sarah Koval, who won both the 800 and 1600. Koval also anchored the 3200 relay team for South that took first place, sharing the victory with teammates Morgan Costello, Rylee Piornack and Calisse Budek. Budek, Evie Wodzisz, Adelina Parikh and Karissa Jelinski also won the 1600 relay.

Wodzisz had a victory in the field events for South with a win in pole vault. Morgan Duff won the long jump and Olivia Barba took a pair of wins in the field with first-place finishes in discus and shot put.

South's girls team

See TRACK, page 4D

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Johnson looks to lead Knights to glory in final Liggett season

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Andrew Johnson is known as a "Liggett Lifer." Now in his senior year of high school, Johnson has been at University Liggett School since preschool and has never taken his time as a Knight for granted.

Johnson might have the most school pride of any athlete around while representing Liggett throughout the year. Across football, hockey and baseball, he does it all for the Knights and is making the most of his senior year to embrace the role he has been given as a leader for the next generation of Liggett athletes like him.

"How you do one thing is how you do everything else," Johnson said. "By leading by example and giving 100 percent, day in and day out, my team will do the same."

"(Andrew) epitomizes what it means to be the captain of Liggett baseball on and off the field,"

Grosse Pointe News



Andrew Johnson

School: University Liggett
Sport: Baseball

Sponsored by Oasis Heating & Cooling

Liggett baseball coach Jay Ricci added. "It's an honor to coach him."

With his final high school baseball season just underway, Johnson is looking to continue making the most of his

Division 3 as a defenseman. He was also a captain of the varsity football team in the fall.

The lessons he has received from his coaches in all three sports are what he tries to empha-

size as a captain and senior leader. Johnson knows everything he has learned in the classroom and on the field while at Liggett will stick with him far beyond high school, wherever the future takes him.

"Being disciplined," he said, "that's one thing that I've really tried to apply in everything in my life. It's so important in sports. ... Having that drilled into me every day in practice has really helped me be successful, and I thank all three of my head coaches for it."

Johnson's focus is on leading Liggett to success, even as he tries to navigate the future. The expectations for himself and the Knights as a team are high entering the baseball season. He would not be the confident leader he is if he did not believe he and his team could meet them.

Last spring, Johnson led the Knights in batting average, on-base percentage and RBIs. He is expected to be one of the

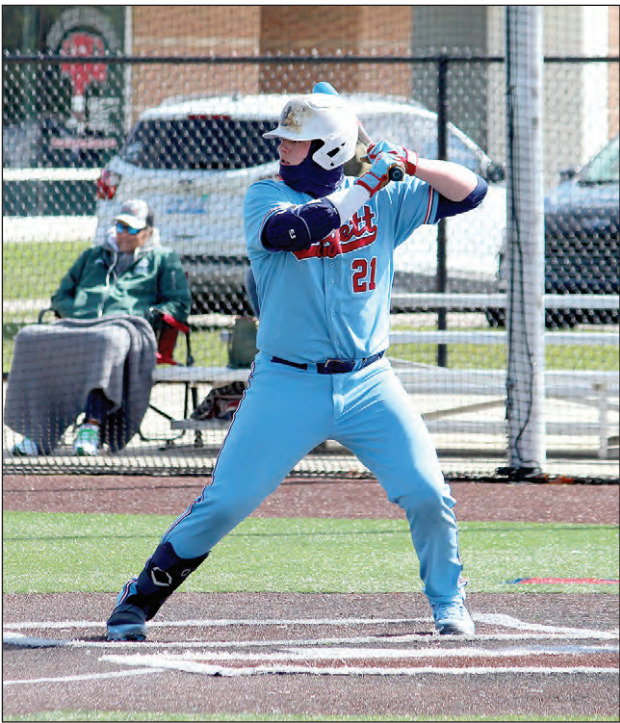


PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Andrew Johnson steps up to the plate for Liggett during a game against Brother Rice last season. Johnson led the Knights in several hitting categories in 2024, including batting average, on-base percentage and RBIs.

team's leading hitters again this season and was named pre-season first team All-State by Prep Baseball Report Michigan

and to the All-Ohio Valley Region Team by Perfect Game.

See ATHLETE, page 2D

Amazing Andrew

- Led ULS baseball in batting average, OBP and RBIs in 2024 season
- Served as team captain and named 2nd Team All-State with ULS boys hockey in 2024-25
- Captain of ULS varsity football in 2024



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Softball squads find footing in opening week of new season

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The varsity high school softball season got into full swing last week as the teams from Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett School returned to the diamond for their first games of the new campaign. The first week of competition had its ups and downs for all three teams as they came away with a mix of wins and losses.

Grosse Pointe South
The Blue Devils opened the season Tuesday, April 1, with a home game against Hazel Park. South looked dominant in its season opener, cruising to a 10-0 victory over the Vikings. Senior Murphy Russell and sophomore Makenzie Waterson combined to pitch the shutout in the season-opening win for South, allowing just one total hit in the process. Junior Mackenzie Simon led the way on offense with three RBIs on two hits, while senior Lucia Gabel also finished the game with a pair of RBIs. South then hosted Fraser Friday, April 4, where the team suffered its first loss of the season, falling to the



COURTESY PHOTO

Liggett pitchers Isabella Nihem and Keegan Price warm up their arms ahead of a game last week against Luthern Northwest.

Ramblers 9-8. Fraser jumped out to an early three-run lead in the first inning, but South matched it to tie the game at three in the bottom of the first inning. The Ramblers then went up again 5-3 in the third inning, but South once again answered. The Blue Devils took the lead in the bottom of the third inning with a rally started by an RBI single from Kelsie George. Kate Kalmink then brought in two runs for South to make it 6-5 Blue Devils. An RBI by Olivia Husek put the scoreboard at 7-5 in favor of South before the

inning ended. However, in what seemed to be the pattern of the game, no lead was safe. Fraser once again rattled off three runs in the top of the fourth inning to take back the lead and go in front 8-7. The Ramblers added another run to their lead in the top of the seventh inning and, while South got the game down to a one-run deficit in the bottom of the seventh, the comeback fell just short. South hosted Lake Shore after press time Tuesday, April 8. The Blue Devils take the field again at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 10, on

the road against L'Anse Creuse. **Grosse Pointe North** North softball started the season at home Friday, April 4, hosting St. Clair. The Norsemen were ultimately unable to begin the new campaign with a win, falling to the Saints 6-1. While there was not too much action from the Norsemen's bats in the loss, Addie Wakefield did have one of the strongest performances of the day going three for four at the plate. North's offense may have been quiet in the season opener, but it

exploded in the team's next couple of games following the opening loss. The Norsemen hosted Livonia Franklin for a doubleheader Saturday, April 5, and won both games while scoring a total of 26 runs. The first game of the doubleheader was a high-scoring affair with North taking the win 16-10 over the Patriots. Charlotte Julien and Isabella Boedeker both had three-hit games for the Norsemen, with Boedeker also bringing in a pair of RBIs. Liesl Wilkins led the team with three RBIs on two hits in the win. North went on to dominate the second game of the doubleheader, winning 10-0. Freshmen pitchers Emma Barr and Addison Moses combined for the shutout performance on the rubber, allowing just three total hits. Moses also went three for three at the plate with a pair of RBIs, and Wakefield's grand slam in the fourth inning highlighted another strong day at the dish for the senior captain. The Norsemen faced Chippewa Valley Tuesday, April 8, after press time. North goes on the road Thursday, April 10, to take on

Dakota at 4:30 p.m. This weekend, the Norsemen are set to compete in the Lake Orion Tournament hosted by Lake Orion High School beginning Saturday, April 12. **University Liggett** It was a rough beginning to the season for the Liggett softball team last week, going 0-3 in its first stretch of games. The Knights began the new year with a matchup against Lutheran Northwest Tuesday, April 1, losing 11-6. Constantina Bournias had a pair of RBIs for the Knights in the loss to open the season. Liggett then hosted Toledo Central Catholic for a doubleheader Friday, April 4, losing both games. The first game was a 10-2 loss for the Knights, with Isabella Nihem bringing in both of Liggett's only runs with her bat. There was no offense to be found for the Knights in the second game of last Friday's doubleheader as they lost 10-0. The Knights visited Regina after press time Wednesday, April 9. They take the diamond again for a doubleheader at home Monday, April 14, against Riverview Gabriel Richard starting at 4:30 p.m.



COURTESY PHOTO

Johnson, a senior captain of the Liggett varsity boys hockey team this winter, was named Second Team All-State.

ATHLETE:
Continued from page 1D
While all of the hype surrounding him heading into the season is exciting for Johnson, the goal remains the same: Do whatever it takes to help Liggett raise another state championship banner. "Coach Ricci has done a great job bridging our past successes with the future of where the program is going," Johnson said. "We've been a successful program in the past and we don't expect anything to change. The goal every year is to win a state championship. We have all of the banners in the left field and that's just added motivation for us moving forward each year. We came up short my sophomore year, so I've had that feeling in me for over a year now and so I think this is our year to do it." The expectation to help lead a program like Liggett baseball to success might feel overwhelming; however, Johnson thrives in that pressure and feels like he has an edge on the competition that way. "A wise man taught me how to bet on myself," he said. "Taking that into each at-bat and every rep in the field, giving myself the benefit of the doubt, knowing that I'm better than everyone that I'm going against has given me my competitive advantage." Closing the book on his high school career with a state championship would be a dream come true for Johnson. No matter what happens, the Liggett Lifer is going to cherish every time he gets to put on the Knights jersey until the very end. "I wouldn't trade anything for the time I've had here and the community," Johnson said. "This school has helped raise me and has always been a place I could lean on. I couldn't be prouder to be a Knight."

Grosse Pointe News

ATHLETE

OF THE WEEK

Do you know an outstanding high school athlete?
Nominate them for Athlete of the Week and put them in the running for Athlete of the Year.

All weekly winners will be invited to the end of year Athlete of the Year Awards Gala – with top athletes winning scholarships!
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Grosse Pointe News

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

NOTICE TO BIDDERS – DOUBLE SHREDDED BROWN HARDWOOD MULCH AND INJECTION OF MULCH IN LANDSCAPE BEDS AND DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF PLAYGROUND MULCH THROUGHOUT THE CITY: Sealed bids will be received by the City at the office of the City Clerk, 20025 Mack Plaza Dr., Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, until 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at which time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud for furnishing the following services: Double Shredded Brown Hardwood Mulch and Injection of Mulch in Landscape Beds Throughout the City and Installation of Engineered Wood Fiber Playground Much at various locations in City Parks. Copies of specifications and bid sheets may be obtained from the City Clerk. The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any irregularities in the bidding and to accept any proposals it deems to be in the best interest of the City.

G.P.N.: 4/10/25

Paul Antolin
City Clerk

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council will be considering the following proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment for second reading at its meeting scheduled for April 28, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers/Court Room of the Robert E. Novitke Municipal Center. The proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment is available for public inspection at the Municipal Center, 20025 Mack Plaza Dr., between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Council meeting is open to the public. All interested persons are invited to attend.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS, CHAPTER 50 – ZONING; PROVIDING A DEFINITION OF SHORT-TERM RENTALS AND REGULATING SHORT-TERM RENTALS.

G.P.N.: 4/10/25

Paul Antolin
City Clerk

Baseball teams swing into brand new season with wins

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Last week, the Pointes celebrated opening day for the new varsity high school baseball season. While the season-opener for Grosse Pointe North scheduled for Monday, April 7, was postponed due to weather, the baseball teams from Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett School began their seasons and collected a few wins each in their first contests of the season.

University Liggett
The Knights started Tuesday, April 1, with a doubleheader against Ann Arbor Father Gabriel Richard. Opening day for Liggett was a success, with two wins over the Irish in the doubleheader. Game 1 was a dominant 11-0 win for the Knights. Mack Phillips pitched the shutout on the mound for Liggett and allowed just one hit while tallying eight strikeouts. Jackson Fetter helped lead the offense with three RBIs, while Kanaan Taylor had a mutli-hit game as well. The second game of last Tuesday's doubleheader was more tightly contested. However, Liggett still was able to come away with a close 7-6 win. The Knights trailed 6-5 going into the bottom of the fifth inning, the final inning of the game. A sacrifice fly tied the game and was followed by a wild pitch, which scored Liggett's Cam Veitengruber to win the

game. Javion Gray, Andrew Johnson, Alex Durham and Joey Harris all finished the game with RBIs for the Knights. Liggett was in action again at home Thursday, April 3, hosting Chippewa Valley. Despite holding the lead for most of what was a close and relatively low-scoring game, the Knights suffered a 3-1 loss to the Big Reds. The first and only run of the game for the Knights came in the first inning on an RBI single by Ravi Hines. Liggett held onto that narrow 1-0 lead until the sixth inning when Chippewa Valley tied the game. The Big Reds added two more runs in the top of the seventh inning to cap off their comeback win, handing Liggett its first loss of the season. Liggett hosted a doubleheader against Jackson Lumen Christi after press time Tuesday, April 8. The Knights take the field again Thursday, April 10, hosting Dakota at 4:30 p.m. Over the weekend, the team heads to Dearborn Divine Child for a doubleheader Saturday, April 12, starting at 10 a.m.

Grosse Pointe South
The Blue Devils had plenty of action their first week of the new season, playing five

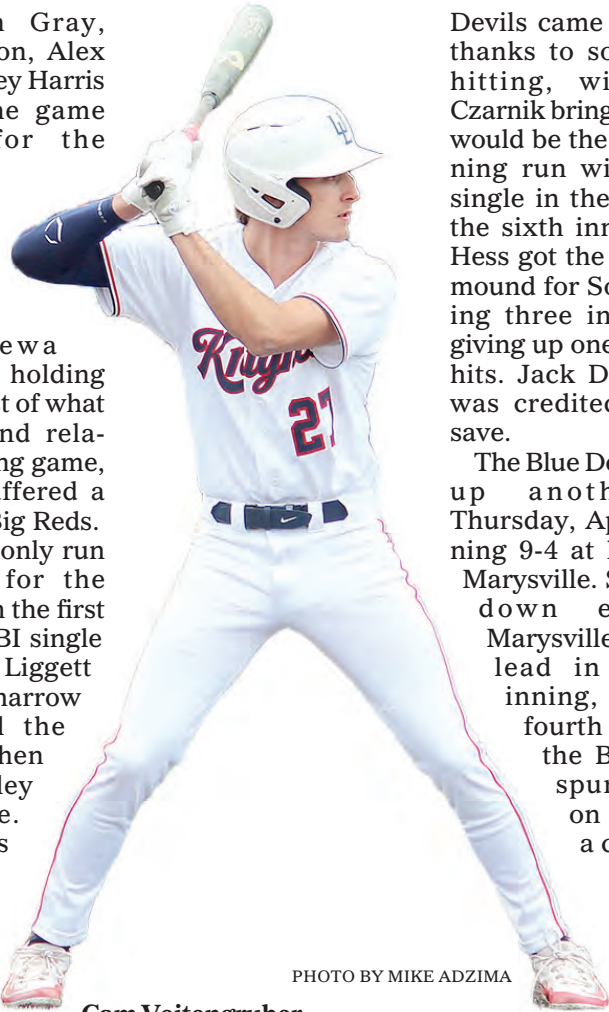


PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Cam Veitengruber

games and winning four of them. The first was the team's season opener Tuesday, April 1, which was a 4-3 win over Fraser. South jumped out to an early three-run lead in the first inning to help the team on its way to a season-opening win. Dane Lezotte started the early rally with an RBI single that was followed by a two-RBI hit by Henry Domzalski. Fraser started to come back by scoring two runs in the third inning and eventually tying the game 3-3 in the top of the fifth inning. The Blue

Devils came out on top thanks to some clutch hitting, with Adam Czarnik bringing in what would be the game-winning run with an RBI single in the bottom of the sixth inning. Drew Hess got the win on the mound for South, pitching three innings and giving up one run on six hits. Jack Danielewicz was credited with the save. The Blue Devils picked up another win Thursday, April 3, winning 9-4 at home over Marysville. South went down early as Marysville took a 4-0 lead in the first inning, but a big fourth inning for the Blue Devils spurred them on the way to a comeback. Andrew Dilodovico led the way on offense with

three RBIs, all of which came on a triple in the fourth inning that gave South the lead for good after the game was tied 4-4. Jack Lupo also brought in a pair of runs with his bat in the win for the Blue Devils. The only loss of the week for South came Friday, April 4. The Blue Devils hosted Dakota and a late grand slam by the Cougars turned a close game into a tough loss for South as Dakota was victorious 7-3. Trailing by a run in the bottom of the sixth inning, Steven Zrimec for South tied the game 3-3 on a sacrifice fly. While it looked like the game might be on the way to a tight finish, Dakota's Evan Morrison took advantage of having the bases loaded in the top of the seventh inning and hit a grand slam to put the Cougars ahead in the 7-3 win. South bounced back

from the loss with two blowout wins over Roseville in a doubleheader Saturday, April 5. The first win was a 10-0 victory for South, with Hess tallying three RBIs to help lead the offense. Griffin Szatkiewski got the win on the mound, pitching all five innings and not allowing any hits or runs, while also adding five strikeouts. The hot bats continued for the Blue Devils in Game Two of Saturday's doubleheader, with South winning 15-0. Zrimec, Danielewicz, Stanton Kapla and Ben Kocik all finished the day with multiple RBIs in the big win for South. South's scheduled game against Stevenson for Monday, April 7, was postponed due to weather. The Blue Devils will be in action again Thursday, April 10, hosting De La Salle Collegiate at 4:30 p.m.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Henry Domzalski slides into third base for South during the Blue Devils' season-opener against Fraser last Tuesday, April 1.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Liggett's Liam Kurtz gets a fist bump from coach Jay Ricci after reaching third base in the Knights' game against Chippewa Valley last Thursday, April 3.

**CITY OF HARPER WOODS
CITY COUNCIL
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN 48225
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Harper Woods will be holding a Public Hearing on Monday, May 5, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of obtaining public input and comment on the Creation of a Special Assessment District to Defray the Costs to Continue the Maintenance and Operation of Police and Fire Protection for the City of Harper Woods.

1. The estimate of the costs and expenses of the police and fire motor vehicles, apparatus, equipment, housing and police and fire protection to be defrayed by an annual levy on the lands and premises within the special assessment district. The estimate of costs and expenses is estimated to be in excess of \$4,000,000.
2. The creation of a special assessment district consisting of all of the lands and premises within the municipal boundaries of the City of Harper Woods.

Residents who are unable to attend this hearing may submit their written comments regarding this matter to the City Clerk's office prior to the hearing date.

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

POSTED: April 8, 2025
PUBLISHED: April 10, 2025

**CITY OF HARPER WOODS
PLANNING COMMISSION
19617 HARPER AVENUE
HARPER WOODS, MI 48225
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN hat the Harper Woods Planning Commission will be holding a Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of obtaining public input and comment on the proposed update to the City's Zoning Ordinance. The public hearing will be held in the Municipal Building, 19617 Harper Avenue, Harper Woods, 48225.

A copy of this proposed Zoning Ordinance is available for inspection in the City Clerk's office Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Residents who are unable to attend this hearing may submit their comments in writing to the City Clerk's office before April 23, 2025

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

PUBLISHED: April 10, 2025

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PHOTOS BY LEON HALIP

South girls lacrosse stacks early wins

The Grosse Pointe South varsity girls lacrosse team returned to action last week following spring break and picked up a pair of wins early in the season. The first was a high-scoring 18-17 win over Troy last Friday, April 4. Lyla Hampton, above right, scored 12 goals for the Blue Devils in the win. South then faced Troy Athens on Monday, April 7, and picked up another win 12-10. Maddie Swarthout, above left, scored three goals for South in Monday’s victory, while Hampton added six more. Freshman Wells Webber also tallied a pair of goals as well. The Blue Devils are at home Friday, April 11, hosting Royal Oak.

TRACK:

Continued from page 1D

then earned another early-season victory by taking first place at the Patriot Relays hosted by Livonia Franklin Saturday, April 5. The Blue Devils finished on top after taking first place in four of the meet’s 12 events and were the only team to earn points in every event.

“Our early-season

depth is already proving its value,” Zaranek said. “From sprints to distance to relays and field events, we are covering all events quite well.”

Duff, Jaimi Diamond, Molly Reynolds and Evie Baer won the sprint medley relay. Koval, Parikh, Piornack and Chloe Caulfield were victorious for South in the distance medley relay. Another first-place finish for South last Saturday came in the pole vault, with

Reynolds, Wodzisz and Mya Jansen combining for the win.

The boys track and field team for South also thrived last week, opening the season with a win over Warren Mott and University Liggett Wednesday, April 2. The Blue Devils had several first-place finishes that day, including two from Jack Martin in the 800 and 1600. Edmund Shall won both the 100 and 300 hurdles. In the field, Conrad

Squitieri won the discus, Jaiden Spratt was first in the high jump, Liam O’Donoghue won the pole vault and Charlie Bedsworth took first place in long jump. South’s boys team also competed in the Patriot Relays Saturday, April 5, finishing third place overall. The Blue Devils did not have any first-place finishes, but did finish several events near the top.

Daschel Hanneman, Nathan Tyler, Tristan

Wininger and Shall were second in the 4x400 relay. Shall, Martin, Tethyan McKenzie and Brody Fitzgibbon also took second place in the distance medley relay. Another second-place finish for South came in the 4x110 shuttle hurdles from Shall, Wininger, Hanneman and Cashton Livingstone.

In the field, Jaiden Spratt finished second for South in the high

jump. Spratt, along with Bedsworth, Zachary Wilson and Onction Zape took fourth in the 4x200 relay. Andrew Pazuchowski, Joseph Agnone, Joe Fodell and Zack Hayes finished third in the 4x100 throwers relay.

Both the boys and girls teams for South will be in action again Saturday, April 12, at the 12th annual Freeland Invitational hosted by Freeland High School.

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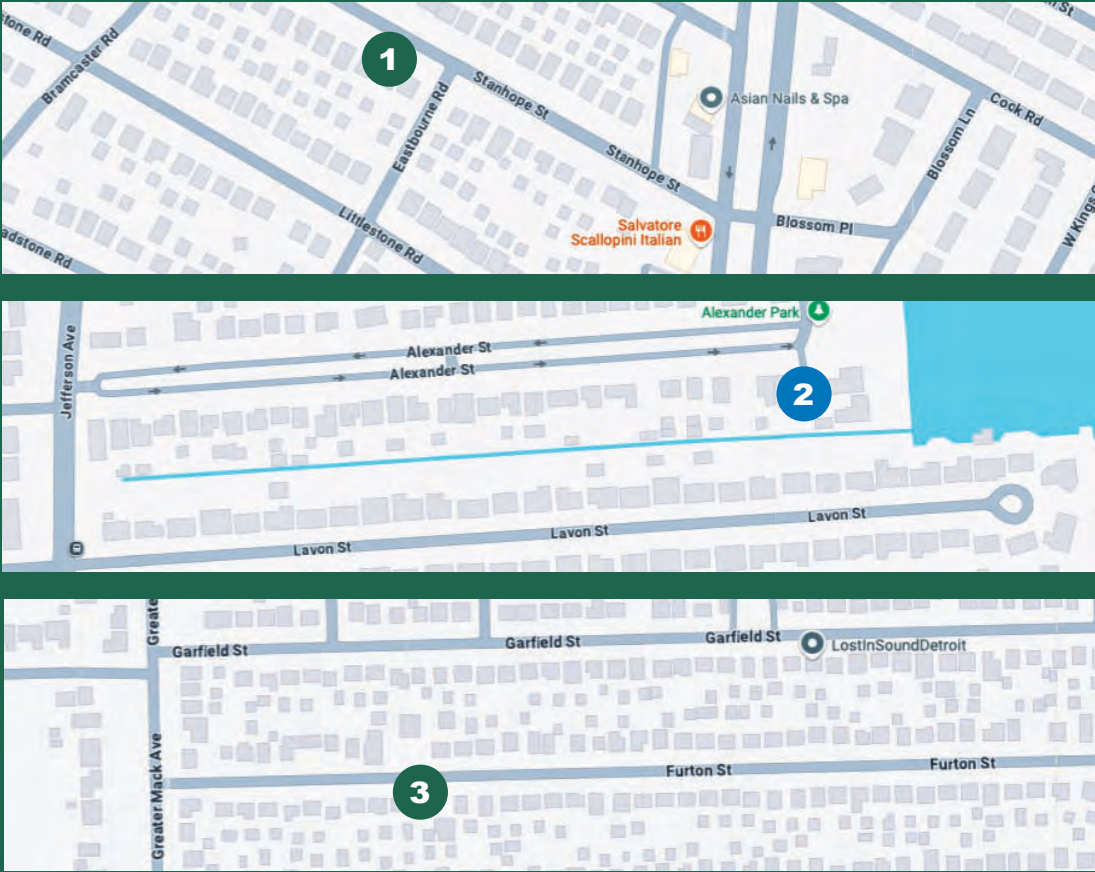
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HITS & HIGHLIGHTS

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:

BOYS LACROSSE

Grosse Pointe South

Varsity boys lacrosse earned a lopsided win over L'Anse Creuse North 19-2 last Saturday, April 5. Jack Smith and Jack Cotton scored five goals each for the Blue Devils in the win. Henry Tiderington tallied four goals and Eugene Agnone also had a hat trick, finding the back of the net three times.

South hosted Romeo after press time Tuesday, April 8. The team goes on the road for its next game Thursday,

April 10, visiting Eisenhower.

University Liggett

Varsity boys lacrosse opened the season last Tuesday, April 1, with a 13-9 win over Shrine. The Knights then welcomed an opponent from across the border last Friday, April 4, when they hosted Toronto Upper Canada College, with the game ending in a 12-3 loss for Liggett. The Knights take the field again on the road Saturday, April 12, going to take on De La Salle Collegiate.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe North

Varsity boys lacrosse team suffered a few losses last week. The Norsemen fell 15-2 against L'Anse Creuse last Tuesday, April 1. Last Thursday, April 3, North

dropped a home game to St. Clair 7-2. The Norsemen then hosted Allen Park last Saturday, April 5, and took another loss 11-5. North goes on the road to visit L'Anse Creuse North Thursday, April 10.

GIRLS SOCCER

University Liggett School

Varsity girls soccer opened the new season last Thursday, April 3, at home against Orchard Lake St. Mary's. The season-opener for the Knights ended in a scoreless draw. The team faced Shrine Catholic after press time Tuesday, April 8, and hosts Bishop Foley at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 10.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Grosse Pointe South

Varsity girls soccer visited Anchor Bay last Thursday, April 3, in a game that ended in a 1-1 tie. The Blue Devils returned home last Friday, April 4, to host Dakota. South suffered a 4-2 loss, with goals scored by Lila Brundage and Lilia Moussiaux. On Monday, April 7, South faced off against Utica, losing 2-0. The team took the field again after press time Wednesday, April 9, hosting Stevenson. The Blue Devils have a rivalry match against Grosse Pointe North scheduled for Friday, April 11, at 5:30 p.m. at North.

Grosse Pointe North

The varsity girls soccer team suffered a trio of losses over the last week. Last Thursday, April 3, the Norsemen fell 10-0 on the road at L'Anse Creuse North. The Norsemen were on the road again Friday, April 4, losing 1-0 to Warren Cousino. North then suffered another loss Monday, April 7, losing to St. Clair 8-0. North hosts Utica at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 10. The team also welcomes in cross-town rival Grosse Pointe South on Friday, April 11, for a game at 5:30 p.m.



COURTESY PHOTO

NORTH TRACK & FIELD

Grosse Pointe North varsity girls track and field was victorious in a dual meet against Stevenson Monday, April 7. The Norsemen had several first-place finishes during the day, including two from Mimi Trupiano, who won the 200 and 400. Ashlei Anatolio won the 1600 and Lillian Deskins was victorious in the 3200 for the Norsemen. In the field, Lauren Loper was first in shot put while Liliana Ivanaj took first place in the high jump and also the long jump. The Norsemen race again Saturday, April 12, at the Warrior Classic hosted by Woodhaven.

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