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News earns 4th consecutive Newspaper of the Year title

THE GROSSE POINTES — For the fourth consecutive year, the Grosse Pointe News was named Newspaper of the Year in its class by the Michigan Press Association.

The newspaper garnered an additional 44 honors — for its editorial coverage, which helped it earn the Newspaper of the Year honor, as well as for advertising, including the 2024 Excellence in Advertising top honor among weekly newspapers.

“We’re honored to once again be recognized by the Michigan Press Association for excellence in both editorial and advertising,”

Publisher Anne Gryzenia said. “This recognition is a reflection of the hard work, dedication and collaboration of our entire team. We believe great things happen when you commit to going the extra

mile every day.

“Special thanks to our owner, Sean Cotton, for his unwavering support and to the community that continues to stand behind us by reading, subscribing and advertising. We’re proud to serve the Pointes and remain committed to delivering quality journalism and shining a light on all the amazing people, stories

See TITLE, page 2A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

A stop work order paused demolition of the vacant Ray Laethem building at the corner of Mack and Marseilles around 1:30 p.m. Monday, May 19.

Demolished building makes way for Chick-fil-A

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

DETROIT — “Right company, wrong site.”

Such is the motto community members with a vested interest continued to raise to the background ambiance of an excavator tearing down the old Ray Laethem

building at the corner of Mack and Marseilles last week.

Michigan’s first drive-thru-focused Chick-fil-A location is slated to open there this fall, according to corporate representatives.

Though it didn’t halt

See DEMO, page 4A

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See Section C

Calling for an end to gun violence

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Like an absence that is always present and a numbness always felt, the loss of loved ones to gun violence is real but doesn’t make sense.

For the second consecutive year, city council unanimously passed a resolution supporting June 6 as National Gun Violence Safety Day.

“We renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have access to them and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our families and communities safe,” according to the resolution passed during its meeting May 19.

Attending was Park resident Mary Fraser, mother of the late Brian Fraser.

See END, page 5A

Budget allows for art center traffic study

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Interest income represents nearly 10 percent of the Downtown Development Authority’s anticipated source of funds for next fiscal year.

Some \$127,800 in property tax receipts remain the bulk of the

DDA’s total estimated revenue, but an additional \$12,000 in interest plus \$100 in fees took the total to \$139,900.

“Two years ago we started collecting interest,” said Nick Sizeland, DDA director and city manager. “That’s been significantly helping the DDA’s budget.”

Members of the DDA board this month authorized Sizeland to

increase the budget \$10,000 to fund a traffic study of the district upon opening this fall of the Schaap Center for Performing Arts, one block from city hall.

The extra \$10,000 came from savings and boosted the total budget to \$149,900.

Board member Giuliano Mancini

See STUDY, page 3A

Farms purchases Mack property

All-Pointes joint dispatch floated as possible use

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — In the late 1990s, Grosse Pointe Farms purchased the Kroger and Sears properties at the corner of Mack and Moross, as well as seven homes along Moross to square off the property.

Around that same time, the city rezoned the stretch of land along Mack between Moross and Kerby to a community service district.

“The rezoning was

The building at 18780 Mack, formerly Mack Shop, LLC, sits between Wendy’s and Belle Tire.

twofold — one, to allow for expansion of recreational use of the property,” City Manager

Shane Reeside said, as the land today incorporates greenspace, a soccer field and a dog park.

“... And then the corner property was really an opportunity for the city to gain control of that property, which was frankly a blighted situation. It was a Sears outlet and the building was not well kept. It was also a building that had a significant amount of retail fraud and auto thefts from that parking lot.

“The city obviously purchased it and added greenspace and really landbanked it, so it’s available to the city to determine its ultimate future.”

The city must now also determine the

See MACK, page 8A



PHOTO BY LAUREL KRAUS

Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Jim Petersen
Home: Grosse Pointe Park
Volunteer named Math Tutor of the Year





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Introducing our interns

The future of journalism is alive and well in Grosse Pointe as the Grosse Pointe News welcomes two summer interns.

Joining the newspaper staff this summer are Margaret “Meg” Kelly and Aaron Ihrle.

Kelly, who will enter her sophomore year at the University of Wisconsin-Madison this fall, already has settled in at the office. The Grosse Pointe South High School graduate is studying journalism and mass communication with a certificate in sports communication.

“I am so grateful for the education I received at South; my teachers and classes challenged me and instilled a strong work ethic in my studies,” Kelly said. “I am proud to say my teachers



Meg Kelly

from South will always be a support system for me.”

Kelly also has a strong interest in sports. She played field hockey and lacrosse all four years at South.

“I have always been very involved in the sports world and this sparked my passion for



Aaron Ihrle

journalism, specifically in sports media,” she said. “Writing for The Tower inspired my love for journalism and the overall collaborative process for a newspaper publication. I specifically enjoyed writing about the athletic department; however, I am looking forward to exploring

other areas of journalism during my time at the Grosse Pointe News and gaining confidence in my interviewing processes.”

At UW-Madison, Kelly was selected to be editor of the newsletter for her sorority, Alpha Xi Delta. In her spare time, she loves spending time at the Neighborhood Club and Patterson Park, playing pickleball with friends.

“I also enjoy spending time on Lake St. Clair and traveling with my family to new cities,” she noted. “This opportunity will aid in my decisions about the future and what type of journalism I will focus my studies toward. Right now, my aim is on-air reporting, but with my love for writing, I hope to gain skills in both aspects. I am very enthusiastic to start with this publication and see where my future in journalism takes me.”

Joining Kelly in the

coming weeks is Ihrle, who hails from Harper Woods and graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School.

“Brian Stackpoole’s TV production class is incredibly valuable to me now in college, because we use many of the programs at university like Adobe Premiere Pro, for example,” he said. “After high school I went to Macomb Community College for my prerequisites and transferred to the University of North Texas to study converged broadcast media through the Department of Media Arts. I am on staff at North Texas Television as the news assignments coordinator.”

Ihrle has held various positions around the newsroom, from live-shot reporter to weather anchor — even anchoring the news desk last semester. In his free time, he loves spending time with friends and family.

“Music is a significant part of my life,” he said. “I enjoy playing with the Lakeshore Ukulele Strummers, a ukulele group my grandmother, Patricia Ihrle, started, when I’m home and have time. Additionally, I love to go see the Detroit Symphony Orchestra perform and, when I cannot attend, Dave Wagner’s drive-time elixir on WRCJ is my favorite radio program.”

“I am very excited to spend my summer with the Grosse Pointe News,” he added, “and I look forward to connecting with my hometown community through digital and print media.”

“We’re so excited to have Meg and Aaron with us this summer,” Publisher Anne Gryzenia said. “We love having local aspiring journalists here in the Pointes and we look forward to their fresh perspectives.”

— Jody McVeigh

TITLE:

Continued from page 1A

and moments that make Grosse Pointe so special.”

Another feather in the locally owned newspaper’s cap was its first MPA Public Service Award, which was given to Staff Writer Laurel Kraus for her coverage of the City of Grosse Pointe Public Safety Department’s takedown of a Lululemon theft ring.

Kraus’ same story earned third place in the Business/Agriculture

News category, in which she also nabbed second place for her piece about the closure of Rite Aid on The Hill.

Associate Editor Ted O’Neil placed first in the Feature Story category for his piece about the discovery of a 75-year-old Pepsi-Cola mural and Grosse Pointe Woods City Council’s debate over whether it should be preserved or not.

Editor Jody McVeigh placed third in the Feature Story category with an article about Woods resident Dan

Paterek’s donation of 645.1 pounds of pull tabs to Ronald McDonald House.

The Grosse Pointe News swept the Best Editorial category with an Our View about the Grosse Pointe Public School System’s use of committees placing first; the decision of Henry’s Cleaners to cover the decades-old Pepsi mural placing second; and the exit of several GPPSS administrators making “GPPSS ... the talk of the town” earning third.

A second-place honor in the Best Columnist category was earned by guest columnist Margie Reins Smith, whose “Second Time Around” columns appear monthly in the Senior Living section.

The Grosse Pointe News staff earned first place for Best Newspaper/Publication Design for its July 18, 2024, full-run issue, as well as Best

Page or Pages Design for its “Jingle Bulbs” pages created by Donna Zetterlund, Gryzenia and Olivia Monette. The 2024 Wedding Guide placed second in the Special Section category.

Photographer Renee Landuyt earned first place for “Wise Young Owl” in the News Photo category, as well as first and third in the Photo Story category for “Annual dog swim” and “Haunted homes,” respectively.

Former Associate Editor Meg Leonard received first place in the Best Sports Column category for “Most dedicated NFL fanbase? Detroit’s the no-doubter.” She and Sports Writer Mike Adzima also took third in the category for “Guest Pickers.”

Leonard earned second place for “Legends of the Fall: Former North, South football players to watch their sons take the field Friday” in the Sports Feature category, while Adzima earned third place for “South girls track and XC coaches inspire generations of

athletes.”

On the digital side, Monette swept the Best Video Presentation category for videos on The Nosh (first place), Brine Oyster House (second place) and the Wedding Guide (third place). The Grosse Pointe News staff was honored with a second-place win for Best Digital Presentation.

The Grosse Pointe News sales and production staffs also took honors in several advertising categories:

Home Services — Julie Sutton and Zetterlund, third place for “What’s it Worth?”

Home Furnishings — Sutton and Ken Schop, third place for “Woodmaster Kitchens”

Real Estate — Zetterlund, Monette and Sutton, first place for “Finer Pointes”

Restaurants — Monette, first place for “Tide to Table”; staff, second place for “The Nosh” and Sutton, third place for “Sidecar Slider Bar”

General Retail — Schop and GPN Production, third place for “Rustic Root”

Best Digital Ad — Monette, first place for “Brine Oyster House,” second place for “Flyleaf” and third place for “Wedding Guide Promo”

Best Health/Fitness Ad — Monette, first place for “Danielle Paquin Beauty” and second place for “Corner Studio,” and Ken Ong, third place for “Beauty in Science MedSPA”

Best Use of Color — Monette, second place for “Brine”

Best Ad Grouping — GPN staff, first place for “The Nosh”

Best In-House Circulation Ad — Zetterlund and Gryzenia, first place for “Whole lot of ...” and Monette, second place for “The Grosse Pointe News is on the move”

Best In-House Content Promotion — GPN staff, third place for “GP News Fishing Classic”

Best Community Cause Marketing — GPN staff, first place for “Adopt-A-Pet/In-Home Obedience Coaching” and third place for “Racing for Kids”

“As an advertising and marketing team, we take great pride in providing our valued advertising partners with a variety of solutions to help them achieve success,” Advertising Manager Shelley Owens said. “There is no ‘one size fits all’ and we are committed to finding the best fit for them while adapting accordingly throughout any campaign, be that in print, online or paired with social media. The dedicated and engaged team I’m fortunate to work with each and every day makes my ‘job’ anything but.”



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EERV. Safety valve. Peace-of-mind pipe: What’s in a name?

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — It’s easy to get cocky when governing people who donate thousands of dollars for a flood-control valve that, buried and covered with dirt, will never be seen again and hopefully never put to use.

“It’s time to show those flood waters who’s boss,” said Mayor Michele Hodges during a dedication ceremony Tuesday, May 20, of the extreme emergency relief valve installed last year at Patterson Park.

“The irony of this project is if it works as intended, it’s effectively forgotten,” said Councilman Max Wiener, chairman of the infrastructure commit-



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Max Wiener, Grosse Pointe Park council member and Nick Sizeland unveil the new marker for the extreme emergency relief valve. Watching, from left, are Grosse Pointe Park Mayor Michele Hodges, Grosse Pointe Park Foundation President Jay Kennedy, Foundation Trustee Shery Cotton, Nancy Cotton and Sean Cotton.

tee and EERV advocate since attaining office in 2021. “That’s what

makes this such an altruistic gift. It’s so unique. It exists for security and

then, no one’s going to talk about it again — hopefully.”

“The project was made possible through the engagement and philanthropy of Shery, Sean and Nancy Cotton, the Grosse Pointe Park infrastructure millage passed by residents and the Grosse Pointe Park Foundation,” according to a plaque unveiled Tuesday, May 20, on a brick wall about halfway up the driveway to Patterson Park.

“I’m grateful we have the means to be able to help with this,” said Shery Cotton, a Park resident and past president of the foundation. “It’s probably one of the most important things I’ve done.”

“Infrastructure is so important,” said Sean Cotton, who owns the Grosse Pointe News. “This private-public

partnership was difficult, but it was important. We’re honored to have this plaque, but even more so, we’re just happy to help our community.”

“This may be the most significant project the foundation has ever been involved with,” said Jay Kennedy, current president. “It will give peace of mind to people. It’s been described as an insurance policy. It should support property values, so it’s a very important project. I hope it isn’t used and we don’t talk about it again for a long, long time.”

The \$2.8 million valve was funded, first, by a \$130,000 donation from the foundation.

Voters followed up by

See EERV, page 9A

STUDY:

Continued from page 1A

recommended the study during the DDA’s meeting May 6, during which Sizeland introduced the budget proposal.

“Do we have any sort of plan toward traffic studies following construction of the Schaap Center and completion of the (sewer) separation project to see how traffic flow is going and if safety needs to be improved?” Mancini asked.

“In the city’s budget, we have a service called TIA (Transportation Improvement Association),” Sizeland said. “If we want to ask about an intersection or street, whether traffic counts or speed studies, we can look at that. If we want to get into further developing that, we might use the city engineer to assist us in a design.”

“Scheduling that type of investigation upon completion of the Schaap Center and (sewer) separation makes sense because we don’t know what traffic flows are going to be,” Mancini said.

Funding the budget leans mainly on capturing property taxes within DDA boundaries — commercial and public property on both sides of Jefferson from the Detroit border to Somerset — that otherwise would be passed to other jurisdictions, such as the county.

The \$149,900 overall budget for the coming fiscal year, starting July 1, is \$27,400 greater than this year, according to Sizeland’s presentation during the meeting.

Members of the city council have final say on the budget.

“Council will review the budget,” he said. “They (need to) approve it. Then, in our next DDA meeting we will formally adopt the budget.”

Council action is expected before the authority’s next scheduled meeting July 22.

Particulars

Line-by-line comparisons of recent DDA budgets are inexact because of changing categories of appropriations.

◆ Gone from the current proposal, for instance, is an appropriation to be set aside for

construction of a civic campus parking lot. Set-aside the past few years ranged between \$35,000 and \$45,000, but aren’t being continued because the parking lot portion of civic campus renovations was cancelled. The matter is reported separately.

◆ A significant decrease in money designated for landscape maintenance — from \$35,000 last year to \$25,000 proposed for next year — represents Sizeland soliciting a contractor to submit a lower bid to maintain municipal flower beds, lawns and related greenery within the DDA district. Members of the Beautification Commission also are asked to recommend low-maintenance landscape designs for traffic islands to be replanted upon completion of a sewer separation project on lower Jefferson Avenue near city hall. That matter also is reported separately.

◆ Other non-linear comparisons are of the authority’s administrative or intergovernmental expenses.

Prior budgets put those

figures between \$10,300 and \$18,400 to account for the time Sizeland and other municipal employees worked on DDA business.

The figure proposed for next fiscal year expands to \$31,000 and is reportedly a more accurate representation of salaries, wages and fringe benefits of the DDA director and employees of the finance department, payroll administrators and time spent drafting the authority’s budgets and preparing for audits.

On the other hand, Sizeland increased the budget for legal services. DDA legal services during recent years ranged between \$7,000 and \$15,000. Sizeland increased the estimated cost to \$25,000 to renew the DDA and issue bonds for construction of the revised civic campus renovations. Again, that topic is detailed in a separate report.

Another recurring expenditure is for green infrastructure, meaning greenspace and infrastructure features that recycle rain water or divert runoff from the

sewer system.

The budget for next fiscal year features \$15,000 for green infrastructure. Budgets dating to the 2022-23 fiscal year each set aside \$10,000.

Green infrastructure spending is twofold, improving the landscape while reducing flow to the sewer and, therefore, the prospect of stormwater backups flooding basements and roadways.

A related expense of

\$9,000 is proposed for tree or plant removals, plus fixing and maintaining light poles around city hall.

“We’re trying to clean up the property,” Sizeland explained.

Due in large part to setting aside funds for construction of the now-rejected parking lot, the DDA has \$257,000 in savings. Sizeland anticipated the savings will go toward enacting remaining portions of the renovation plan.

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, JUNE 1

◆ Cruisin’ Through the Woods Family Fun Ride, 4 p.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 2

◆ Grosse Pointe South High School graduation, 6:30 p.m.
◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4

◆ Grosse Pointe North High School graduation, 6:30 p.m.
◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Community Tree Commission rescheduled meeting, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 5

◆ Grosse Pointe Park Tax Increment Authority meeting, 7 p.m.

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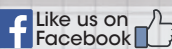
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Sharing gifts brings great reward

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Grosse Pointe Park resident Jim Petersen recently was honored by Siena Literacy Center as its Math Tutor of the Year.

The recognition came as a surprise to the retiree, who also provides computer science tutoring. The past three years, he has worked with 13 learners.

Siena provides free help for adults seeking to improve their ability to successfully meet the challenges of everyday living by learning foundational skills in reading, writing, math and English as a second language. It has partnered since 2023 with Detroit at Work to provide educational services to students in the Learn to Earn and JumpStart programs.

“It’s a neighborhood program on the far west-side, at Grand River and McNichols,” Petersen said of Siena, which is housed at Christ the King Catholic Church in Detroit. “They mostly offer reading opportunities for adults who would like to learn to read, but they also offer math. They asked if I could fill in, too, with a student interested in learning IT skills.”

Siena serves learners from 30 different countries, including 17 countries in Africa, five in the Middle East, five in North America, one in South



COURTESY PHOTO

Grosse Pointe Park resident Jim Petersen accepts his Math Tutor of the Year award during Siena Literacy Center’s 30th anniversary volunteer awards ceremony.

America and two in Southeast Asia.

“I was searching online for volunteer opportunities after I retired,” Petersen said, noting he tutors students online, one on one. “Many of them are students from Africa who come here and want to complete their education.”

He spends an hour and a half per student, per week, and works with each learner until they meet their personal goals.

“They might get employed or maybe they want to focus on something besides math,” he said. “I’ve worked with a couple of them for over a year. Generally it’s six months per student.”

The Royal Oak native considers himself a natural and enjoys sharing what he knows with others.

“I’ve enjoyed math since junior high school,” he said. “I had a great math teacher in junior high school. It sparked

something in me.

“And my dad got a computer in 1976,” he continued. “My dad and I enjoyed doing that as a shared hobby. Kimball High School had a computer lab. The classes were for seniors, but I managed to get in. From the recommendation of my math teacher in junior high, I got in as a ninth grader. That was really a joy, for four years, working on computers.”

Petersen earned a

bachelor’s degree in secondary math education and computer education, as well as a master’s degree in computer science from Wayne State University.

He lived in Detroit while teaching math and computer science in Detroit Public Schools for five years, then spent 25 years in computer programming at Ford Motor Co.

He moved to Grosse Pointe in 2007 and retired in 2019.

Petersen said he dedicated a lot of time to honing his skills, which is why he sought volunteer work in retirement.

“I didn’t want to retire and not continue to use my skills that I spent so many years earning,” he said. “It would be a waste to retire and not use them.

... For so many students, math is a bad memory from their school years,” he added. “I want to help reverse that by showing how math can be fun, interesting and have great application to everyday life and job situations. Mainly I do that by focusing on the meaning of the math the students learn, with emphasis on word problems that apply the math knowledge they have gained.”

Petersen said he’s open to other tutoring opportunities. He’d particularly enjoy working with adults at community colleges who need a little extra help in math or computers.

“I’m thankful for the opportunity to volunteer at Siena,” he said. “They always send students my way whenever they have some. It’s a good opportunity to use my skills.”

Siena, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary, is grateful for its volunteers as well.

“They mean so much to us and to the learners who come to us for our services,” said Caitlyn Pisarski, Siena’s executive director.

DEMO:

Continued from page 1A

progress for long, a stop-work order paused demolition around 1:30 p.m. Monday, May 19 — just hours after it began with no prior notice to the neighboring properties and without proper fencing between large construction equipment and a playground for toddlers at the edge of the property line.

Parents of children at The Giving Tree Montessori Learning Center, which abuts the Chick-fil-A development along Marseilles, pooled their efforts and managed to get the stop-work order in place until a screening fence was put up and neighboring properties received notice of

the demolition plan.

“The next morning we got all that through Federal Express (mail),” said Kevin Chown, who along with his wife, Renee, took over operation of Giving Tree four years ago, when the prior owner was nearly forced to shut it down due to COVID.

Demolition resumed Thursday — though the remedial measures did little to ease parents’ concerns over high-traffic drive-thru lanes being placed alongside playgrounds that have existed since 1984.

“There’s a lot of elements of how this has transpired over the last couple of years, (for) which I would say the overarching theme is there just seems to be kind of a blatant disre-

gard for public opinion and the safety of kids,” said Ben Earl, whose 3-year-old son goes to

The Giving Tree owners aren’t opposed to the demolition itself — “It had to come down,”

‘I don’t understand the push to place an infamously busy restaurant that’s drive-thru-only next to where these little kids play.’

BEN EARL

The father of a student who attends Giving Tree

Giving Tree. “I don’t understand the push to place an infamously busy restaurant that’s drive-thru-only next to where these little kids play. It’s terrifying — the proximity between where the kids have a playground and then where drive-thru lines are going to be with just a bunch of cars idling.”

Kevin Chown said, “so we’re not the type to fight progress.” — but have championed the fight against a drive-thru at the location since Chick-fil-A’s plans became public knowledge in summer 2023.

“We found out about this by accident,” Renee Chown added, when a friend in the construction industry happened to notice Chick-fil-A’s name on a list of projects seeking bids for construction.

Those opposed to the development maintain project approvals have been pushed quietly through. Beyond initial community meetings, a 2023 site plan denial by Detroit’s Buildings, Safety Engineering &

Environmental Department and an early 2024 overturn of the denial by Detroit’s Board of Zoning Appeals, revised site plans and permitting have occurred outside of public purview and access.

Requests through official city channels to view the revised and finalized site plan — which shows two drive-thru lanes along the back property line paralleling the school fence and playgrounds before circling back toward Mack, where there is a singular entrance and exit — continue to fall on deaf ears.

A Freedom of Information Act request for all documentation related to the development filed by the Grosse Pointe News with the city of Detroit in late February returned only information up to the October 2023 BSEED denial.

“I think being more transparent to the public would go a long way,” Earl said.

Further complicating matters, Giving Tree became a licensed non-public elementary school with a first-grade curric-

ulum in June 2024 — “I applied because I had parents asking me about wanting to send their kids to first grade,” Renee Chown said — which now calls into question the potential violation of a city ordinance.

Sec. 50-12-136 prohibits fast-food drive-thrus within 500 feet of a school.

It is the city’s position that Giving Tree still was a child care center at the time the BZA approved the project in March 2024. The revised site plan was approved April 4, 2025, those in opposition argue.

“Per section 50-12-136, BSEED determined that the fast-food restaurant use would not impede the normal and orderly development of The Giving Tree, because the children are not permitted to leave the site unless an adult is present,” said Georgette Johnson, press secretary for the city of Detroit, via email.

Kevin Chown said a couple parents already pulled their kids from Giving Tree earlier this year, when it became apparent the development was continuing to move forward.

“How are you going to justify putting a double lane drive-thru next to a school?” Renee Chown asked. “It doesn’t matter what year you became a school. It’s a school.”

Other business owners surrounding the site at 17761 Mack — including the owners of Allemon’s Landscape Center and the BP Gas Station at Mack and Rivard — also remain in staunch opposition to the traffic along Mack the development would bring.



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City of Grosse Pointe

Not so fast

A customer exited a store in the 16000 block of Kercheval at 6:40 p.m. Monday, May 19, to find a man sitting in the driver's seat of his 2021 Durango. The suspect ran to a waiting getaway car when confronted. He had pulled up the passenger-side floorboard to expose fuses, which he was attempting to manipulate to steal the vehicle. An investigation is ongoing.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Loudmouth

Closing time came early for a 29-year-old Park man who got himself bounced from a bar Wednesday, May 21, in the 15100 block Charlevoix. “(He) was kicked out for yelling profanities and arguing with patrons,” according to a public safety officer. Police logged the incident at 11:40 p.m. “Officers arrived on scene and the male continued to yell (and) scream while outside,” the officer said. “(He) called officers profanities and continued to argue. Officers tried to calm (him) multiple times. (He) refused and was arrested.”

Car B&E

A \$2,000 combined infotainment system and rear-view mirror was taken out of a vehicle while parked Thursday, May 22, in the 1100 block of Harvard. (The) rear passenger-side window was broken to gain entry,” according to police.

END:

Continued from page 1A

He was 20 years old when the Grosse Pointe South High School graduate and two fellow students were shot and killed at random two years ago on the campus of Michigan State University. The perpetrator, a man with a firearms charge on his criminal record and a grudge against society, died by suicide after the fact. “Thank you from the bottom of my heart and my family’s heart,” Fraser told the council. She also noted gun violence doesn’t include using firearms for self-defense. “We don’t want Second Amendment rights to go away,” Fraser said. “We want the violence to stop. Thank you for acknowledging that and coming together as a community.” Mayor Michele Hodges thanked supporters of the resolution for advocating against gun violence. “I appreciate the leadership you’ve shown, Ms. Fraser,” Hodges said, “I hope you and your family feel that embrace of love and to remind the community that Brian Fraser Day was June 2, 2023. For most of us, every day is Brian Fraser Day along with Paige Stalker (16-year-old Farms resident shot and killed in Detroit in 2016) and Arielle Anderson (19, Harper Woods, Grosse

PUBLIC SAFETY

Pushed out

A black 2024 Jeep Grand Cherokee was stolen at 5 a.m. Thursday, May 22, while parked in the 15000 block of Charlevoix. “Cameras showed the vehicle being pushed out of the city with another vehicle,” police said. No suspects were described.

Twice too fast

Police investigating a 31-year-old Detroit woman for driving a vehicle at more than twice the posted speed limit arrested her for violating a suspended operator’s license. At 9:47 p.m. Thursday, May 22, an officer clocked her speeding 61 mph in a 30 mph zone. During a curbside investigation on Mack at Ashland in Detroit, a background check revealed her driving privileges had been suspended. A similar driving infraction led to the arrest of a 58-year-old Detroit man on Mack and Berkshire at 7:40 p.m. Friday, May 23. Less than two hours later, officers arrested a 42-year-old male motorist from Oak Park for violating a suspension and being named in an outstanding traffic warrant. He’d been pulled over on Maryland near Kercheval for running a stop sign.

Stops theft

While investigating a suspicious noise outside his house late afternoon Friday, May 23, a resident of the 1400 block of Balfour reportedly interrupted someone trying to steal his parked vehicle. “(He) observed a (black male) suspect running north on Balfour,” accord-

ing to police. The vehicle’s driver-side door lock was damaged, the window broken and steering column damaged. Obstructs Police described a reportedly drunken, 61-year-old female motorist from Troy trying to hinder a traffic stop on Mack near Somerset at 10:40 p.m. Saturday, May 24. An officer reported pulling her over for speeding 61 mph in a 30 mph district. “(She) smelled of intoxicants, refused to give officers proper information and exit (her) vehicle,” according to an investigator. “Once out of the vehicle, (she) fought with officers.” Her blood alcohol level registered 0.16 percent, twice the legal limit of 0.08 to operate a motor vehicle in Michigan, according to investigators. Officers tagged her with drunken driving, resisting and obstructing police.

Slowly swerving

Unlike nearly a half dozen arrests last week stemming from motorists exceeding speed limits, police said they caught a drunken driver on Mack near Balfour at 7:50 p.m. Sunday, May 25, because he was driving slowly and erratically. “(His) vehicle was traveling at 19 mph (in a) 30 mph (zone) and swerving in and out of lanes,” according to police. The driver, 30, of Detroit, registered a 0.3 blood alcohol level, according to police. The level is more than three times the state’s legal limit to operate a motor vehicle.

Package thefts

An unknown black male with braids and no other description is suspected of tailing an Amazon delivery driver and stealing packages placed on the front porches of at least four addresses in the 1000, 1200 and 1300 blocks of Balfour during the evening of Monday, May 26. “(The) suspect was possibly on a bicycle,” according to police. Packages contained a cleaning mop, food storage containers, spray lubricants and a hair trimmer, police said. “Multiple packages (were) found open in the street,” they said. “Some items were returned.” — Brad Lindberg

Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety at (313) 882-7400.

Grosse Pointe Farms

15 minutes

When the clerk at a gas station in the 19000 block of Mack informed a man he could not sell him alcohol before 7 a.m. due to state law, the man walked out of the establishment without paying for the 18-pack of beer at 6:45 a.m. Monday, May 19. He shortly after is believed to have been the suspect in a St. Clair Shores retail fraud, which led to a police pursuit. The man crashed his vehicle near Moross and Harper in Detroit and fled on foot, evading officers. He is described as an approximately 40-year-old black man with braided hair.

Lobster tales

When a 60-year-old Detroit woman returned to a store in the 18000 block of Mack last week to steal liquor, an employee recognized her as the person who stole 10 lobster tails worth \$399 Thursday, May 15. The woman admitted to the crime and was arrested.

Red-handed

Officers discovered a warrant for failure to appear for a domestic violence charge when a 32-year-old Warren man came to the station for a Secretary of State VIN inspection at 6:07 p.m. Monday, May 19. He was arrested and turned over to the Southfield Police Department.

Adding up

After driving through a red light on Mack at 5:45 p.m. Thursday, May 22, a 31-year-old Detroit woman was found to have a suspended license, as well as multiple traffic warrants out of Wayne County, Detroit and Canton. She received a citation

for disobeying a traffic control device and driving while license suspended. Evidence While already wanted on a felony warrant for possession of ecstasy, a 36-year-old Detroit man was found to have MDMA pills on him when pulled over near Mack and Fisher at 9:57 a.m. Friday, May 23.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Nothing to report per dispatch. —Ted O’Neil

Report information about crime to Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety, (313) 881-5500.

Grosse Pointe Woods

Nothing to report per dispatch. —Ted O’Neil

Report information about crime to Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety, (313) 343-2400.

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POINTES OF VIEW

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Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

ConGRADulations

Our annual farewell letter to high school graduates from Grosse Pointe South, Grosse Pointe North and University Liggett School: Hundreds of you high school seniors are crossing graduation stages in Grosse Pointe soon, capping off four full years of juggling challenging coursework with extracurricular activities, the arts, athletics and a busy social schedule (and dealing with a pandemic, but we won't bog this letter down with that!).

Whether your future plans include college, trade school, military service, a gap year or adventures beyond the classroom, you earned something special in the form of your high school diploma. Throughout your academic journeys in Grosse Pointe, we hope you discovered the many great and unexpected things you are capable of accomplishing.

Looking back at your whirlwind of a senior year shows us just how amazing you all are. In September, you jumped right back in the grind, unsure if you could crank out a 10-page paper about a Middle English novel or Shakespearean poetry. But you learned you can make it happen once you focus, even if you burned your copy of "Beowulf" immediately after.

This is the same month you decided to go to homecoming after much denial and protest, because ultimately, you knew this was your last chance to go to the dance you all claim is "so boring" or "the worst." You also faced the fact this is when your parents take 1,003 photos beforehand and post all of them on Facebook. Every. Single. One. To think you had nearly recovered from the "Last First Day" porch photo humiliation — again at the hands of your parents — on the first day of senior year.

By about mid-October, you were running on college application fumes. You didn't think you had enough gas in the tank to finish the slide deck for your art portfolio, or write yet another personal essay about "naming an obstacle you overcame that was fundamental to your success." But you did it. And you got your parents off your back about applying to their alma mater in the process.

By November, your fall sports were ending and winter tryouts were in full effect.

You kept practicing violin or for your upcoming solo. You found yourself counting the days until Thanksgiving break. But as soon as you finished the Turkey Day leftovers, it felt like you were right back at school, volunteering for a holiday food drive or winter coat donation drive, Christmas caroling with the choir or getting a last-minute gift for your favorite teacher or Secret Santa.

You and some of your classmates also started to receive college decisions this month. And so the drama begins. Now it's January and you're back at it, realizing you are approaching your final semester of high school. But first you have to get through mid-term exams. You momentarily wish you could somehow get out of taking them, but you keep studying, knowing the importance of keeping up your grades.

This has become increasingly true, thanks to colleges dragging out the release dates for their admissions decisions. You wonder when the torture will end. By the end of the month, many classmates have heard from both University of Michigan and Michigan State — two of the most popular colleges among your classmates. Some are happy, while others are devastated. Some wait in college decision purgatory, aka postponement or deferral.

By February, you are plugging away until mid-winter break arrives. A ski trip or lying somewhere in the sun sounds a million times better than sitting in an AP chem lab or history lecture on World War I, but you persevere.

By March you get a kick out of the frenzy Massachusetts Institute of Technology creates among the country's high schools by letting prospective students know March 14 if they were lucky enough to get in. At this



ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

FROM THE OWNER By Sean Cotton

A promise fulfilled and a standard upheld

In December 2020, I wrote an open letter to the Grosse Pointes. At the time, the Grosse Pointe News — a paper founded in 1940 — was facing an uncertain future. The widespread government-imposed restrictions earlier that year had disrupted everyday life and devastated small businesses, including the advertising revenue streams that keep local newspapers alive. Like many community papers across the country, ours stood on the edge of collapse.



But I believed then, and still do now, that local journalism is one of the most important founda-

tions of a strong community. I made a commitment to preserve this newspaper, to invest in it and to make it something the people of Grosse Pointe could continue to trust and be proud of.

Today, I am honored to share that the Grosse Pointe News has once again been named Michigan Newspaper of the Year in our circulation class by the Michigan Press Association.

This award is not self-selected. Each year, press associations from other states are brought in to independently

See STANDARD, page 7A

point in your academic career, you are savvy enough to know MIT's decisions are released March 14, because it is Pi Day. You're also savvy enough to know that Pi aren't round; Pi are square(d), but that's a different dad joke altogether.

Soon, spring break comes and goes with great success, except for the sunburn. Decision Day has everyone excited about their futures in college or trade school or whatever the next chapter may be for your classmates. Congratulatory graduation signs from North, South or Liggett start appearing on lawns from the Park through the Shores. AP exams start, awards nights pop up, scholarships are awarded and promposals are in full effect. Somehow you can't believe you only have a few days left of classes.

Finals hit. You think to yourself, "Wasn't I just in kindergarten?" as you finish your last exam. It feels like yesterday you wore full Lilly Pulitzer or the GP uniform (khakis and a blue blazer) for eighth-grade graduation. You catch your mom tearing up when you walk inside the house after picking up your cap and gown. You practice for graduation. You officially cross the stage a few hours later, take even more pictures with your family and head to your all-night party with your classmates. High school is officially over.

We do need to make you aware of the fact that if your time here felt fast to you, it felt even faster to your parents. Trust us. Our wish for you as you set off for college is that you hit the ground running when you arrive at your next destination. Be courageous and take that senior year swagger along with you as a college freshman or rookie in your next chapter. But do so knowing the place that gave you your wings also provided your strong roots. Take these wings and learn to fly. We can't wait to see what you accomplish next.

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.

Time to act

To the editor:

Your recent article on the shortage of paraprofessionals in Act 18 classrooms highlights a deeply troubling situation. These classrooms serve students with the most significant needs and are among the most difficult to staff. Yet despite Dr. Tuttle and her team securing Act 18 funding from Wayne County — at no cost to the district — to increase wages for parapros in these classrooms, it appears that paraprofessional union leadership is uninterested in accessing these funds.

That is the only conclusion I can draw. Why would union leaders oppose an agreement that brings more pay to their own members in classrooms where support is most urgently needed? Do they send their children to our schools? Are their children in Act 18 classrooms? Do they even live in our district?

Why turn away free money that could help retain and attract staff to support our most vulnerable students?

If parapros want higher wages, they should be encouraged to apply for the many open Act 18 positions. Blocking progress helps no one, especially not the kids.

And where is the board?

In December, the previous board leadership under then-President Sean Cotton passed a resolution directing the administration to finalize an agreement with the teachers' union for Act 18 money. It worked. Now Trustee Ginny Jeup is introducing a similar resolution for the paraprofessionals.

See LETTERS, page 8A

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I SAY By Mike Adzima

Tigers’ success could make for a perfect Michigan summer



I’ll always be grateful that I’ve been able to spend a majority of the summers in my life in Michigan. I don’t think anywhere else can really compare to a Michigan summer, even though as I’m writing this it doesn’t quite feel like summer as it’s barely 50 degrees and raining outside.

Also as I’m writing this, the Detroit Tigers have the best record in Major League Baseball. If there’s one thing that can make a Michigan summer even better, it’s our

hometown baseball team actually being good.

Of course, we all remember the miraculous run the Tigers went on at the end of last summer to make their way back to the playoffs for the first time in a decade. This summer, it looks like a miracle in the final month of the season won’t be necessary at all. The Tigers are dominant.

This team has Tarik Skubal, by far the best pitcher in the American League and perhaps all of baseball. Riley Greene has continued to look like an up-and-coming superstar, while Spencer Torkelson is finally starting to perform like the No. 1 overall draft pick he was. Even Javier Baez is having a career resurgence in center field of all places and is being embraced by the fans after years of scrutiny.

There is just so much that feels special about this Tigers team. The energy around the team and around the fan base through just the first couple of months of the season has been amazing so far and we are not even into the heart of summer yet.

I have a feeling Comerica Park and downtown Detroit are going to be buzzing during Tigers game days this summer in a way the city has not felt in a while. Hopefully, the way the Tigers are playing and winning is sustainable. If it is, then celebrating plenty of Tigers victories throughout the next few months will help make an already great Michigan summer even better.

STANDARD:

Continued from page 6A

review thousands of entries. This year, the Wisconsin Press Association evaluated nearly 3,000 submissions from 93 newspapers across Michigan. To be recognized as the best in our class is a powerful affirmation, not just of the talent behind this paper, but of the consistency, care and commitment that define our entire team.

One of the proudest recognitions this year was the Public Service Award, granted for our reporting on how local law enforcement took down a high-end retail theft ring. That work, led by Laurel Kraus, exemplifies the vital role local journalism plays in public safety, accountability and trust.

There were many other standout achievements. Ted O’Neil earned first-place honors in both editorial writing and feature storytelling. Renee Landuyt was recognized for her extraordinary eye and skill in both news photography and photo essays. Meg Leonard received top honors for her editorial writing and sports commentary, delivering smart, engaging insight issue after issue. Mike Adzima also was honored for his thoughtful and impactful sports writing.

Olivia Monette led our advertising and digital efforts to new heights, earning multiple first-place awards across several categories. And our design team — Donna Zetterlund, Julie Sutton and the rest of our visual staff — were celebrated for creating a publication that is as polished and inviting as it is informative.

Of course, these awards are only part of the story. This newspaper is sustained by a full team that includes reporters, advertising professionals, designers, IT specialists, print coordinators and even our cartoonist, who brings sharp wit and charm to our pages each week. Every edition is the result of hours of planning, coordination and care from people who genuinely love what they do, including Shelley Owens, Ken Schop, Dave Hughes, John Pigott, Melanie Mahoney, Ken Ong, Brad Lindberg and Ellie Carter.

At the core of all this is our publisher, Anne Gryzenia and our editor, Jody McVeigh. Their leadership, work ethic and deep dedication to this paper shape everything we produce. We could not do this without them.

To our entire staff — whether you are on the page, behind the desk, on the phone or out in the field — thank you. You have not only fulfilled the promise I made more than four years ago, you have gone beyond it. This newspaper is thriving because of you.

To our readers: Thank you for believing in us. Thank you for subscribing, for sending in story ideas, for your letters and your loyalty. You are the reason we do this.

The Grosse Pointe News is stronger than ever. And while we are proud of these honors, what matters most is knowing that we continue to serve a community we deeply respect, week after week, with clarity, purpose and pride.

Sean Cotton is the owner of the Grosse Pointe News.

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LETTERS:
Continued from page 6A

Yes, current board leadership may have been endorsed by union heads, but Grosse Pointe students must come first.

It's time to act.
CHERYL DENMAN
Grosse Pointe Park
(Editor's note: Trustee Ginny Jeup was scheduled to introduce her resolution at the GPPSS Board of Education meeting Tuesday, May 27, after press time.)

Where is the outcry?

To the Editor:
I have been watching this board for years. It has now been six months since the current majority took control and, in that time, they have burned through two chief financial officers. Where is the outcry?
If you want to hear the outcry, attend a board meeting in person. You'll witness members of the Alliance for Grosse Pointe Schools shouting down residents during public comment, residents who are simply exercising their rights. The atmosphere is toxic and it is enabled by a board majority that seems determined to divide this community.
The board, led by Colleen Worden and trustees Valarie St. John, Laura Hull, Tim Klepp and Clint Derringer, has repeatedly dismissed the advice of Dr. Andrea Tuttle, our superintendent, and every CFO who

has served under her. One former CFO is back as a consultant, but given the constant disrespect against advice, I would not be surprised if she leaves again soon.
Even the board's legal counsel is ignored. That is not responsible leadership.
Dr. Tuttle is the best thing to happen to our schools in years. Yet she is constantly undermined by this board majority. One has to ask, are they trying to push her out? Is that what the teachers union wants, who endorsed this board?
I hesitate to even have my name published. These people are organized, vindictive and the threat of violence is real. A man who may be affiliated with their group came to a meeting and threatened Trustee Sean Cotton's life during public comment. That's why public safety is now present.
This board needs to find its way fast.
TOM STEEN
Grosse Pointe Park

Deserves better
To the Editor:
As a lifelong resident who sent our kids to GPPSS but no longer has students in the district, I depend solely on the transparency of the board to fully understand what's happening. Transparency is not a courtesy, it's essential. Our trust in public institutions depends on open communication and accountable leadership.
Unfortunately, what's being pushed by board

leadership under the names "board norms" and "policy reform" is not unifying the community or the board. It's about control and silencing dissent. Ending the long-standing practice of publishing board emails, as Valarie St. John is attempting, and enforcing selectively applied norms, as Colleen Worden is promoting, are moves aimed at managing speech and punishing independent thought. This is not unity. It is enforced conformity.
As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, unity has never meant uniformity.
Trustees Tim Klepp, Laura Hull, Clint Derringer and Worden promised to heal divisions and support the entire community. Yet their treatment of trustees Sean Cotton and Ginny Jeup, dismissal of the Trombly United Committee, disregard for the south end of the district and rejection of expert advice from Dr. Tuttle and multiple CFOs say otherwise.
Grosse Pointe deserves better than silence and controlled speech. Our trustees must ask questions, represent all constituents and speak freely. The board majority's proposed policies threaten to distance the community from the very decisions that affect us most.
We call on the board to uphold transparency and serve with integrity and openness.
KATE HOPPER
Grosse Pointe Farms

Woods passes budget, lowers millage rate

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — City council approved the 2025-26 fiscal year budget and a lower millage rate at its meeting Monday, May 19.
The overall millage rate will fall from 17.04 to 15.51, including 12.64 for general operations.

A mill is \$1 in taxes for every \$1,000 of taxable value of a property. The new fiscal year begins July 1.
"The main reason for the drop is we paid off the 2015 road bond," Treasurer/Comptroller Steven Schmidt said. "Two other millages also went down."
The rate on the 2017 road bond falls from 1.38 to 0.05 mills and the Grosse-Gratiot Drain drops from 4.06 to 3.93.
The budget is set at \$18,106,302, up from \$18,072,096 in the current fiscal year. It will require using \$1.15 million from the general fund in order to be balanced. The 2024-25 fiscal year started out with a \$1.5 million deficit, but Schmidt said that is now closer to \$775,000.
"We've seen savings across all departments," he said. "We've spent less on legal services than

anticipated and we're being very efficient."
The city's 2023-24 fiscal year started with a \$1.2 million deficit, but ended with a \$630,000 surplus.
Councilman Michael Koester said that has been the trend nearly every year since he's been on council.

'We've seen savings across all departments.'
STEVEN SCHMIDT
Woods Treasurer/Comptroller

Woods has received the recognition, the longest such streak in the nation for an award that started in 1945.
Although the city's millage rate went down, taxable value increased 4 percent, from \$920.6 million to just under \$961 million. That is expected to bring an increase of 3.2 percent in property tax collections.
Public safety is once again the largest single budget expenditure, at \$8.6 million. That's followed by public works at \$2.6 million and parks and recreation at almost \$2.1 million.
Schmidt said an additional \$47,000 had to be added to the parks and recreation budget due to an increase in the state minimum wage that will go toward paying life-guards.
Vehicle purchases will account for \$562,000 in spending. That includes two new public safety vehicles, a new truck for parks, \$110,000 for a DPW dump truck and \$250,000 for a new garbage truck.
"We usually rotate in two new scout cars each year because they get so much use, although we didn't buy any this year," Schmidt said. "The rubbish truck is just an every-once-in-a-while need."

MACK:

Continued from page 1A

future of another property in the community service district, which council earlier this month unanimously voted to purchase for \$795,000.
The property at 18780 Mack sits between Wendy's and Belle Tire. Vacant approximately two years, the last business to occupy the 5,743-square-foot building was Mack Shop, LLC, which was used by a builder for fabrication.
"There's always been an interest by the city in that property," Reeside said. "In fact, the prior owner had agreed to a

right of first refusal with the city if the property ever became available. ... Looking at recent land sales and building sales, the price per square foot is very competitive for the building, which is 5,743 square feet."
The city's assessor placed the true cash value of the property at \$890,200.
The funds to purchase the site will come from the city's capital projects fund, in which administration previously set aside \$600,000 for this purpose, knowing the property likely would become available.
"My concern was what else would we have done with that

money?" resident Andrew Dervan told council during public comment. "There's a lot of needs in the city. That's my concern. What are we deferring to buy this property?"
By owning the land, the city also will lose approximately \$15,000 in property taxes annually.
Joint dispatch
While the Farms is considering a number of uses for the property at 18780 Mack, relocation of its aging public safety station, though discussed frequently, is not on the table.
"That property would be too small for a full-fledged public safety building," Reeside said,

"but it could have a similar use that could complement public safety." Namely, an all-Pointes joint dispatch and lockup center.
It's not a revolutionary concept — there was a previous attempt to consolidate in 1958.
Currently, the City and Park have consolidated since 2013, the Woods and Shores have consolidated since 2020, and the Farms stands alone. Prior to 2020, the Farms and Shores were consolidated since 2011.
Aside from the obvious economical advantages, an all-Pointes concept could create a more cohesive approach to public safety operations throughout the five communities.
"I believe a combined dispatch/lockup facility could be a viable upgrade to public safety

services in our surrounding communities," Farms Public Safety Director John Hutchins said.
Reeside told Farms council the respective city managers are working with engineering firm AEW to explore logistics and whether joint dispatch is worth pursuing.
"We'll be not only looking at that (Mack) site, but we'll look at the other existing dispatch locations to see what our options are," he added. "... It's just something that we've seen implemented successfully in other communities. Frankly, there are areas in the country where you have just one dispatch center for a whole county, let alone in an area. So we're obviously looking at best practices and what works best for our

respective communities."
As far as the building purchase at 18780 Mack is concerned, Farms officials may also consider uses including moving the city's courthouse to the location or, most feasibly, using it as storage space for currently overflowing public works equipment in the evenings.
"And down the road, if the city decides to go another direction," Reeside noted, "we feel confident that the building could be resold to a purchaser that we feel would be a benefit to the community and would be in line with the current zoning."
The closure of JOANN Fabrics at 18850 Mack offers another future possibility for the city, as it also is part of the community service district.



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Park hosting native plant sale

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission is cultivating its adopt-a-garden inventory by co-hosting a native plant sale this weekend.

“This is our second year doing it,” said Lisa Kyle, commission chair.

Commissioners are co-hosting the sale with Michiganense Natives, a native plant nursery from Plymouth, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 31, on the lawn beside city hall on Jefferson between Maryland and Lakepointe in front of the Ewald Public Library.

“They bring the plants and we have the sale,” Kyle said. “We earn free native plants based on how much money they have in sales. It’s a good deal.”

The sale is open to the public.

“Anyone can stop and buy plants,” Kyle said.

Native plants are what they are: species considered an inherent part of the natural ecosystem, not introduced by human action.

As such, Michigan’s native plants are at home in the area.

“Native plants are very well suited to the environment,” Kyle said. “They evolved in this environment.”

Native plants also take it easy on gardeners.

“They’re generally hardy to this planting zone,” Kyle said. “You usually don’t have to water them as much over the life of the plant. The benefit to me is creating habitat and food sources for our native flora and fauna, animals, insects, birds and pollinators.”

Among native plants Commissioner Kelly Konieczki suggested to include in the landscape are keystone species. The allusion is to the central stone of an arch that locks the structure together.

“Keystone plants are plants that support the greatest number of species,” she said. “When you’re trying to decide which plants to put in your garden, look at asters, goldenrods, invasives and helianthus (sunflowers). Those four, according to studies, are the top hitters in terms of

the most numbers of species you’ll be supporting when you plant those.”

Every type of plant has individual characteristics.

“All green is green until you really start looking,” Konieczki said.

New England aster (symphyotrichum novae-angliae), a keystone, is expected to be part of the sale.

“It’s really pretty,” Konieczki said. “It has a small, purple, daisy-like flower. Asters and goldenrods are really important because they bloom at the end of the season. Migrating species or species that are trying to fuel up for winter are really important nectar sources for them. Typically, there’s not a lot blooming at the end of the season.”

Other native’s she enjoys are:

- ◆ Penstemon digitalis, commonly called foxglove beardtongue.

“I really love Penstemon digitalis,” Konieczki said. “That is going to be blooming pretty soon. It’s fairly formal looking, too. It’s tall, but not too tall. It’s nice because it’s a

See SALE, page 10A

EERV:

Continued from page 3A

supporting a 10-year millage to generate a projected \$2 million per year exclusively for water and sewer system improvements.

When the EERV bid came in nearly 40 percent higher than expected in April 2023, three members of the Cotton family — Shery, Nancy and Sean — made a \$900,000 donation.

“Putting a plaque up and acknowledging what you guys did is the least we can do for something that is so significant and unique,” Wiener told donors during the ceremony.

The valve is designed to prevent sewer backups during heavy rains by diverting excess runoff from storm sewers directly into Lake St. Clair.

Floods during nearly unprecedented storms in summer 2021 damaged thousands of basements in southeast Michigan.

“Grosse Pointe Park by itself saw over \$80 million in damages,” Wiener said. “Because of it, the city reoriented and really started taking infrastructure seriously. Thank you to residents for passing the water-sewer millage so we can put together a concerted, multifaceted, multi-year plan to build out the infrastructure. But the conversation we had was about what we could do that had the most bang for the buck to protect residents. That’s when the conversation started about the extreme emergency relief valve.”

Now-retired Park City Manager Dale Krajniak came up with the idea in response to storm flooding around 2017.

“The Park was hit with a significant rainstorm, which have been more severe with microcells,” Krajniak said. “The entire system on the eastside, including our border area with Detroit, was overtaxed. As a result, the (Park’s) entire pump station itself became flooded. We had to take the system offline for fear the transformers



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

The pipe is the new inlet for the EERV project that was completed earlier this year. The pipe is about 24 feet down and approximately 60 inches in width.

would blow. Had that happened, we would have been weeks and weeks without sewerage pumping facilities.”

To avoid a repeat, he and the city engineer planned a stormwater sewer cross-connection apparatus. They coined it an extreme emergency relief valve.

“With the storms we’ve seen, it seems every 10 years there’s a major event,” Krajniak said. “The EERV protects from the worst-case scenario of the plant going down.”

“This area is historically a swamp,” said Sean Cotton. “You need something like this (valve). It was hard to convince the state to let us put this water into the lake, but it’s for extreme emergencies.”

“We have specific standard operating procedures of when we can utilize it,” said Wiener, an engineer. “We have a flow monitor (to) track it. This is a controlled system.”

“From the start, EGLE (the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy) said no,” said Nick Sizeland, city manager. “We had to build trust with them, to get EGLE to understand this was an important project not only for our residents and property values, but also helping our neighbors in Detroit.”

He added, “Without the support of this team, Mayor Hodges, the Cotton family and the Park foundation, this

could never have happened. I am so appreciative that we were able to work together on a sewer project that typically does not have philanthropic help.”

“Philanthropy allowed us to move this forward quickly and get to other work that needs to be done,” said Patrick Droze, project manager for the city’s engineering consultants, OHM Advisors.

“It was a huge symbol to the state, coupled with the water-sewer millage, that we’re taking this seriously,” Wiener said.

“I’ve lived here longer than I’ve lived anywhere in my life,” Shery Cotton said. “This is my home. I want to keep it great.”

“The thing that helped motivate us and kept us going was outreach from the community, especially the philanthropic community,” Wiener said during the unveiling. “All of you kept asking, ‘What can we do for the city?’”

Mayor Hodges said the EERV is misnamed.

“It should be called a safety valve,” she said. “It’s that important to this community. It buys us precious time to find even more long-term solutions. For now, it is critically important to protect our community, our tax base and make certain our homeowners are not in a floodplain and are able to get insurance.”

Then she came up with another idea: “This is a pipe that gives us peace of mind. It’s a peace-of-mind pipe.”

Residents oppose rezoning

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Homeowners turned out in full force voicing opposition to the proposed rezoning of 20160 Mack.

City council held a public hearing on the matter at its meeting Monday, May 19, after the plan had been unanimously approved by the planning commission last month. Several dozen residents attended the hearing, which lasted more than two hours, with 31 speaking against rezoning.

The property, currently a medical office, sits on the east side of Mack between Renaud and South Oxford, with a rear parking lot that spans between both side streets. Entrepreneur Justin Buccellato is asking the city to rezone the property from office to retail and wants to build three connected commercial sites totaling 10,700 square feet.

“I’m heavily invested in the community,” Buccellato told council. “I own 18 properties on

Mack, including eight in Grosse Pointe Woods. My office is in the Woods. I want to make this an exciting new development.”

Buccellato said he does not yet know what type of tenants would occupy the space.

“It could be fitness, retail, a veterinarian,” he said. “We’ve got the financing approved.”

He added, however, he would not complete the purchase without the zoning change.

Neighbors speaking against the plan said their main concerns are related to health and safety. That includes increased traffic, parking congestion, crime, stormwater runoff, the possibility of a chain restaurant locating there and an influx of rodents if any type of restaurant moves in.

They presented council with a petition against rezoning with 250 signatures and stressed there already are enough vacant retail spots on Mack as another reason to keep the location zoned for office use.

John Vitale, of Stucky

Vitale Architects, said Buccellato agreed to make changes to his plans after residents raised concerns at last month’s planning commission meeting. Those included a revised facade, adding more windows, adding a wall along the back of the property to diminish noise, putting different lighting in the parking lot so it would not spill into the neighborhood and allowing the city to put up signs making it illegal to exit the parking lot onto either Renaud or South Oxford.

“We think this proposal is vital to the city for revitalizing Mack,” he added. “This would be a fresh look that tenants are looking for and the city’s master plan accommodates for it.”

Vitale and James McNelis, another architect with Stucky Vitale, both are members of the city’s planning commission and recused themselves when that body voted to approve the rezoning.

Council tabled the matter and sent it back to the commission for further review.



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Tell toll scammers to hit the road

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Mary-Kay Reno doesn’t drive a sucker’s road.

She won’t fall for criminals sending fake government text messages or emails dunning her for unpaid toll road fees.

“I’ve received several of them in the past few months,” said Reno, of Grosse Pointe Park. “I automatically know it’s a scam, so I don’t even click on it.”

Reno’s the model motorist when it comes to brushing off scams.

“I just delete it and show it as spam,” she said.

She and just about everybody has received messages purportedly from the DMV,

Department of Motor Vehicles, billing for a toll road charge to be paid by gift card, credit card, whatever.

“Even though scam texts and emails are starting to look more legitimate, nobody is going to tell you to get a gift card or ask for your credit card number,” said Detective Ryan Willmer of the Park Public Safety Department.

Latest gimmick

It’s an old-fashioned phishing scam wearing a new mask.

The FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center reportedly received more than 2,000 complaints about fake texts regarding toll road collections since March 2024.

“The link provided within the text is created

to impersonate the state’s toll service name, and phone numbers appear to change between states,” according to the center’s website, ic3.gov.

“This is a general robo scam, like many others,” Willmer said. “It’s trying to scam you into giving gift cards or (bank) account numbers. As technology gets better, their text messages and emails look more legitimate and make people think they owe money or did something wrong.”

Except real toll road operators don’t work that way.

Of 36 states having a total of 111 toll roads, Florida has the most mileage, 657.

“With Toll-By-Plate, the registered owner of the vehicle will receive a Toll Enforcement Invoice in

the mail with a \$2.50 administrative charge,” Florida Turnpike, managed by the Florida Department of Transportation, posted at floridaturnpike.com. “Failure to pay for using a toll facility in Florida may result in a referral to a collections agency or imposition of a Vehicle Registration Stop.”

Yet, even in Michigan, which has as many toll roads as there are snakes in Iceland, scammers target victims.

“They don’t have turnpikes here, like in Ohio and Indiana,” Willmer said. “If you don’t pay (upon exiting the turnpike), they’ll take a screenshot of your license plate and write you a ticket. Scammers are trying to scare people who wonder if they forgot to

pay while driving through (another state).”

Report it

Perpetrators typically operate from overseas, making it hard for local law enforcement agencies to do anything about it.

“It’s like chasing ghosts on the internet,” Willmer said.

Thieves try to take advantage of pre-registered, cashless payment or pay-by-phone systems.

“If people are concerned about something, call us first,” Willmer said. “Just call dispatch and say you received a text message or email.”

There are enough toll roads nationwide to justify an organization called The Toll Roads.

Its website, thetollroads.com, has a cus-

tomers advisory about the scam:

“The Toll Roads is advising drivers to disregard phishing texts being sent to their phones that detail a specific outstanding toll amount or Notice of Toll Evasion. If you receive a text and are unsure, The Toll Roads customers can verify valid text notifications by logging into their account. On the dashboard, scroll down to account security and click ‘Notification Verification’ or use the direct link at secure.the tollroads.com/accounts/notification-verification.

“If you think your information has been compromised involving credit card, bank account number or personal information, go to IdentityTheft.gov.”

City moves forward with sewer separation design engineering

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — “Based on the initial schedule, we’d be close to completing construction,” City Manager Joe Valentine said — had approvals for a planned major sewer separation project not seen nearly 28 months of delays.

“We were prepared to start and get the plans done in February of 2023.”

The holdup rested in completion of a cost-ben-

efit analysis and other due diligence required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the City to receive an unprecedented \$21.6 million in federal funds toward the project.

Administration also needed to wait on the passage of a sewer separation millage approved by voters last August, which was necessary to cover an estimated \$7 million local match component to the grant.

“To get nearly \$22 million spent in our city on

the federal dime is a huge deal,” Councilman Chris Walsh said, after city council Monday, May 19, approved a number of steps to get the ball rolling on design engineering.

The city now has contractual approval under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to proceed with phase one: design engineering, which includes a one-year extension to the project’s timeline. Upon receipt of acceptable drawings, FEMA later will authorize phase two: construction — intended to begin next year.

With the contract in hand, council also authorized the first issuance of bonds under the voter-approved \$15 million available.

The issuance, not to exceed \$1.395 million,

will cover design engineering services and is split between \$1.2 million for civil design engineering, \$126,000 for environmental engineering and \$69,000 for bond issuance costs.

Residents can expect the debt service to hit their tax bills in winter or summer of next year, depending on when the bonds are issued.

“The total for the first year for the millage requirement is 0.1722 mills,” Valentine said, clarifying the amount is not reflected in the 16.49 millage rate passed earlier this month for fiscal year 2025-26, because the grant moved forward after the budget was approved. “Every year the numbers fluctuate a little bit based on principal and interest. ... So for the 20-year period, the

average millage requirement for this issuance is 0.1694.”

Council unanimously selected the city’s longtime engineering consultants, AEW, to proceed with the design engineering, circumventing the typical competitive bidding process.

Because choosing not to go out to bid disqualifies the city from using FEMA grant funding for phase one, it instead will bear a majority of the \$1.395 million cost, using millage funds. Of the environmental engineering cost, \$113,400 still will be reimbursable from grant funds.

Regardless, administrators consider it the advantageous approach considering the grant’s time constraints.

The approved one-year extension pushed the

required project completion date to January 2027, but city officials already anticipate requesting a second extension.

With design engineering expected to take up to eight months, the competitive bidding process would tack on several additional months.

In addition, AEW not only has extensive knowledge of the city’s water systems, but also is already up to speed on the stormwater separation project.

“I don’t think we would have wanted to start with a new engineering firm under any circumstances,” Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak said.

The total project will cost an estimated \$29 million to divert stormwater north of Waterloo between Neff and Fisher directly to Lake St. Clair.

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Shores sets budget, lowers millage again

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — City council approved its 2025-26 fiscal year budget at its meeting Tuesday, May 20, lowering its millage rate for the second consecutive year at the same

time.

The total rate of 16.98 mills — down from 17.80 this fiscal year — puts the Shores in the middle of the pack behind Grosse Pointe Woods at 15.51 mills and the City of Grosse Pointe at 16.49.

A mill is \$1 in taxes for every \$1,000 of a proper-

ty’s taxable value.

“That’s a good thing,” Finance Director Dale Krajniak said. “It’s a little surprising, because we’re the smallest of the Pointes and have to spread costs over fewer taxpayers, but it shows we’re efficient.”

The city also held the line on water and sewer

rates, which it lowered last year. The cost of one unit of water stays at \$6, while sewerage remains at \$8.04. A unit is equal to 749 gallons.

Total revenue is expected to be \$8.1 million, a 2.6 percent

See BUDGET, page 11A

SALE:

Continued from page 9A

fairly early bloom, late spring; blue to summer and white tubular bloom.”

The ‘Mystica’ cultivar is a favorite of Michigan State University’s perennial garden manager, according to an April 15, 2021, article on the school’s horticulture department website.

“The foliage holds on until deep fall, making it a long lasting, multi-seasonal perennial. The flowers are adored by bumblebees, making them fun to observe as they do their work,” according to the article.

◆ Early sunflower, Heliopsis helianthoides. “It is hardy and easily grown as a showy garden perennial in dry sites and is a good choice for clay

soil,” according to Michiganense Natives (michiganesenatives.com). “A great low-maintenance plant for mid-summer color in a prairie garden.”

◆ Black-eyed Susan, Rudbeckia hirta.

“The plant is fast to mature, although short lived,” according to Traverse City-based Plant It Wild’s website, plantitwild.net. “It will readily self-seed, but not aggressively. Likes full sun and moderate soil fertility and moisture.”

Leaves are about seven inches long, grayish with stiff hairs and a rough texture. It does well in sun and dry soil.

The beautification commission has two native plant gardens at city hall.

“We did that whole, big bed along the driveway to city hall,” Kyle said. “We put those plants in last fall. All of them came from plant sales last summer.”

The second bed is toward the back of the traffic island outside the building’s main entrance.

Choir, band & orchestra

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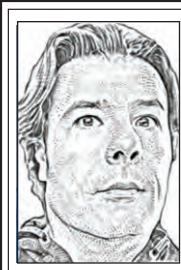
How to turn ChatGPT into a learning partner

Students are already using AI in and out of class, but not always well and not always honestly. There's a difference between using ChatGPT as a cheat sheet and using it as a true learning partner. The difference is how you structure your interaction with it from the start.

As an educational consultant who's used ChatGPT for thousands of hours, I've discovered the deepest learning comes from setting up the system to think with you over time. These five foundational choices have reshaped how I (and my students) use AI to go deeper, not just faster.

1. Customize your AI's personality and role.

Before the first prompt, the most important step is deciding who you want ChatGPT to be. Coach? Editor? Debate partner? Drill sergeant? Curious sidekick? Most students don't know they can set



Academic Pointers

by Glen Hipple

tone, language, personality and level of detail at the beginning of a chat, or even give it a character name that reflects their ideal guide.

In my own research, I've set up ChatGPT to switch tones between formal assistant and supportive mentor when needed. This lets it adapt to the emotional needs of the learner, which improves stamina and trust.

2. Use custom Instructions to build long-term learning goals.

Few people realize they can tell ChatGPT how they learn best, what to prioritize and what to avoid in every single response. Whether a student struggles with attention span,

second-language processing, executive function or just wants SAT practice to feel more like a game, that can be baked into the settings.

Parents can use this, too. If your child is using AI, work with them to set clear instructional goals like:

- ◆ always explain math concepts visually and with real-world applications,

- ◆ avoid giving direct answers to homework problems,

- ◆ offer leading questions instead and

- ◆ correct grammar only after the student has rewritten a paragraph on their own.

3. Use memory function strategically.

When memory is turned on, GPT remembers what you've told it across sessions. This can be game-changing for long-term learners. For example:

- ◆ a student working on a project can ask the AI to remember their topic, goals and timeline throughout multiple dedicated windows,

- ◆ an SAT student can have the AI track areas of weakness and adapt sessions accordingly and

- ◆ a neurodivergent learner can have tone and pacing adjusted in every chat without re-explaining needs.

Parents, ask your child to show you what GPT remembers. You can work together to delete or update those memories, ensuring they're getting support aligned with your family's learning values.

4. Develop a shared language for feedback.

Instead of "That was helpful" or "I don't get it," students can build specific feedback habits that teach ChatGPT how to

adjust its approach. For example:

- ◆ simplify that with an analogy,

- ◆ break it into steps with visuals,

- ◆ explain it like I'm 5 and

- ◆ test me on this now.

In my tutoring practice, I train students to use feedback tools to become metacognitive thinkers. They're not just learning a subject, they're learning how they learn.

5. Use reflection to reinforce, not replace thinking.

Too often, educators rush to provide answers. But real learning happens when students articulate their own reasoning. By asking GPT to wait, listen, let them lead, students reinforce retention and build deeper understanding.

Try saying:

- ◆ don't answer yet, let me explain it first,

- ◆ ask me questions instead of giving answers and

- ◆ tell me if my logic

makes sense.

I've seen this approach restore confidence in students who thought they weren't "math people" or "good writers." Turns out they were, they just needed time to say it aloud first.

We've barely scratched the surface of how generative AI can assist learning when used with intention. This isn't about doing less thinking. It's about learning how to think better with a tool that adapts alongside you. In the future, the "smartest" students will be the ones who ask better questions, build better systems and treat their AI as a partner, not a substitute.

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



COURTESY PHOTO

Honored

Elizabeth Becker, a University of Tennessee at Martin student from Grosse Pointe Farms, accepts the Intercollegiate Athletics Student-Athlete Award for Equestrian from UTM Chancellor Yancy Freeman during the university's Honors Day, held April 13 in Watkins Auditorium on the UTM campus. The award recognizes an outstanding equestrian team member who demonstrates leadership in and out of the athletics venue and shows academic excellence. The selection for the award is made by the staff and coaches from the UTM Office of Intercollegiate Athletics.

BUDGET:

Continued from page 10A

increase. Total tax collection will increase from \$6.3 million to \$6.5 million and account for 80 percent of the city's revenue stream.

Both summer and winter taxes will include a 1 percent administrative fee, allowable under state law, to offset costs incurred by the city in assessing property values, collecting taxes and conducting the appeal process.

Public safety will be the single biggest expenditure again, at \$3.5 million.

"That's the way it is in every municipality," Krajniak said. "Public safety typically takes up about half the budget."

Sanitation is the only other line item coming in above six figures at just more than \$1 million.

Looking at just wages, Krajniak said public safety accounts for 55 percent of the total and public works comes in at 25 percent.

Spending on major and local streets is set at \$710,000, up from \$537,000 this year. Contributions to health-care and the pension fund also increased.

Krajniak said the general fund balance is \$2.7 million, or 35 percent. The Government Finance Officers Association recommends municipalities carry a general fund balance of 15 to 20 percent.

"The general fund balance, water and sewer fund balance and marina fund balance are all in good shape," he added. "That's what allowed us to roll back the rates. The budget is very healthy and will continue to allow us to provide services with no hiccups."



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Career Day at Brownell

Brownell Middle School hosted its annual Career Day Thursday, April 17. Students in fifth through eighth grades listened to a variety of speakers talking about different careers. Above left, Col. Amanda Ward, chief of joint staff, Michigan Air National Guard, discussed opportunities in the Michigan Air National Guard and the educational benefits that come with serving. Above right, Renee Nixon talked about career opportunities in the museum field, such as conservation, historical research, library sciences, culinary arts, museum education, interpretation and accounting. Nixon explained and demonstrated how to develop programming that is both object based and engaging.



Above left, Nadia Mamba talked with students about the restaurant business and what it is like to be the co-owner of her and her husband's restaurant, Boabab Fare, located on Woodward in downtown Detroit. Above right, Gregg Russell with DTE's Renewable Energy Department talked to students about how important renewable energy is and about carbon capture and sequestration.

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OO FASHIONED | 8

Barrel-aged Pastaio house blend bourbon, bitters, amarena cherry

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Grey Goose Vodka, peach purée, Prosecco

CANNOLI MARTINI | 8

Grey Goose Vodka, hazelnut syrup, touch of cream

TOMMY GUN | 7

Patrón Silver, fresh jalapeños, lime juice, grapefruit juice, simple syrup, smoked sea salt rim

NONNA'S ESPRESSO MARTINI | 7

Grey Goose Vodka, Kahlua, espresso, touch of Aperol

PATRON ANEJO OLD FASHIONED | 8

Barrel-aged Patrón Anejo, bitters, lime, amarena cherry

VINNY THE GIN | 7

Bombay Sapphire Gin, Elderflower Liqueur, lavender syrup, lime, club soda, smoked sea salt amarena cherry

MORE TO DRINK

WELL | 6

ROCKS +2 | MARTINI +3

HOUSE WINE | 7

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PfAE recognizes teachers, students

THE GROSSE POINTE — Teachers from across the Grosse Pointe Public School System were honored recently with the Pointers for Academic Excellence’s Luminary Awards during a reception at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

“What makes the Luminary Awards so unique is that they come directly from the people who feel the impact every day, our students,” said Kevin Nugent, PfAE executive director. “These awards are about shining a light on the educators who don’t just teach, but inspire, lead and make otherwise forgettable moments unforgettable.”

Students nominated current teachers who inspired them and demonstrated integrity, leadership, resilience and civic mindedness. Each received a \$100 Visa gift card.

In addition, the event also recognized the inaugural Compass Scholarship recipients from the graduating class of 2025. Addie Wakefield and Colin Smith of Grosse Pointe North High School and Mira Huarani and Lucas Bower of Grosse Pointe South High School each were awarded \$5,000.

“Their success reflects the guidance and dedication of the educators who stood beside them,” Nugent said.

Educators recognized, along with reasons students gave, were:

◆ James Kettel, Brownell Middle School, celebrated for transform-



COURTESY PHOTOS

Teachers from across the Grosse Pointe Public School System were honored with the Pointers for Academic Excellence’s Luminary Award, nominated by students.

ing math into a fun and inclusive subject while leading extracurriculars that build student community and confidence;

◆ Sharon Drew, Brownell, for turning her classroom into a supportive and joyful space where math becomes a favorite subject;

◆ Elyse Hawley, Ferry Elementary School, for her work in speech and language, inspiring dramatic improvements in both speech and self-esteem;

◆ Anna Court, Richard Elementary School, for bringing out the best in her students;

◆ Michael Havern, Richard, for bringing curriculum to life through storytelling, leaving lasting impressions and inspiring gratitude in his students;

◆ James Bennett, Grosse Pointe North

High School, for his passion for law and his mentorship;

◆ Cynthia Morefield-Pinder, Grosse Pointe South High School, for her encouragement and mentorship in making Spanish an enjoyable and enriching experience;

◆ Rebecca Churray, Pierce Middle School, for reshaping how students view social studies through clear instruction, empathy and motivation;

◆ Tom Torrento, North, for his band program and impacting students on many levels;

◆ Jacquelyn Bingham, Pierce, for going above and beyond in her classroom, her consistent approach to learning and holding students to a high standard;

◆ Darcy Demas, Mason Elementary School, for

her exceptional patience and dedication;

◆ Angela Briske, Mason, whose passion for literacy helped a struggling reader fall in love with books and the library;

◆ Susan Howey, Monteith Elementary School, for showing strong leadership and respect for all of her students;

◆ Drew Kisskalt, Parcels Middle School, for his warmth, patience and leadership of a peer-to-peer program that promotes empathy and inclusion school-wide;

◆ Jessica Dewitt, Monteith, for helping students believe in themselves and making learning fun through humor and support;

◆ Heather Temrowski, Defer Elementary School, for her constant encouragement, patience



Grosse Pointe South High School seniors Mira Huarani and Lucas Bower, with PfAE Executive Director Kevin Nugent, receiving their Compass Scholarships.



Grosse Pointe North High School seniors Addie Wakefield and Colin Smith, with PfAE Executive Director Kevin Nugent, receiving their Compass Scholarships.

and unwavering belief in her students;

◆ Catherine Evans, Defer, for bringing joy to her classroom with kindness, music and a deep love for her students;

◆ Jenna Roebuck, South, for uplifting students emotionally and academically and helping them see their own strength and

◆ Brian McDonald, Parcels, for his clear, supportive teaching style and lasting impact over multiple school years.

PfAE was started by Sean Cotton, owner of the Grosse Pointe News, shortly after his election to the GPPSS Board of Education, although he is not involved in its ongoing operations.

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COURTESY PHOTO

GPA auction raises more than \$610,000

From left, auction chairs Steve and Celia Wade and Katie and William O’Keefe. The Grosse Pointe Academy’s 57th annual Action Auction, with the theme of “Taking Flight ... A Journey to Success,” raised more than \$610,000, including \$300,000 during the paddle raise to fund a new AI initiative for students in fourth through eighth grades.

“The support from our community is an investment in the future of our students,” Head of School Tommy Adams said. “Through initiatives like the AI lab, we are preparing students not only to use technology, but to lead with it.”

Mercer Agency-Farm Bureau grant brings science lab to Mason

For two days, approximately 272 Mason Elementary School students learned how food is raised when the Michigan Farm Bureau Food, Agriculture & Resources in Motion, or FARM, Science Program made a stop at their school.

The science lab visit was made possible through an Agents for Change grant by the Farm Bureau Insurance Agent Charitable Fund and Michigan Farm Bureau Family of Companies.

Farm Bureau agent Tom Mercer, a proud supporter of the

Grosse Pointe Public School System's efforts to bring agricultural education to the community, nominated Mason for the grant, which was supplemented by funds from Wayne County Farm Bureau.

Equipped with the latest teaching technologies and STEM-based lessons to increase agricultural awareness, the mobile classroom brought hands-on, field trip-type learning directly to Mason.

The FARM Science Program is facilitated by regional educators who've been trained on the cur-

rent Next Generation Science Standards. Students learned about careers in agriculture and science through experiential lessons, helping them understand how agriculture impacts their daily lives so they grow into informed customers.

Every other month, Agents for Change grants are awarded to Michigan school districts. Schools are nominated by local Farm Bureau Insurance agents and selected by a committee based on the need of the school and overall goal of the program.



Above, from left, PTO members Kendall Cassidy, Amanda Starkey, Tatiane Kotaran and Susie Brummelte, Farm Bureau's Tom Mercer and Blythe Mercer, Mason Principal Anita Hassan, Wayne County Farm Bureau Promotion and Education Chair Kim Graham, PTO member Amanda York, Mason PTO president Kyle Monroe and PTO member Holly Feikens.



Alice Schnorberger and Kennedy Cobb hold containers of soil in which they planted green bean seeds. Each student was given a plant and green bean seeds, as well as instructions on how to care for the plants once they brought them home.



Above, Tori Myers correctly marked all the parts of a plant. Left, Mason PTO President Kyle Monroe shows students a corn cob and seeds for planting corn.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe News

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

New life

Former school transformed into low-income housing

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

A May 7 ribbon-cutting ceremony featuring Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan, former mayor Dennis Archer, Councilwoman Latisha Johnson and the Most Rev. Arturo Cepeda, auxiliary bishop of Detroit, officially opened the doors of The Residences at St. Matthew, Peter and Connie Cracchiolo Campus.

Also in attendance were representatives from the Family of Parishes that includes St. Matthew, as well as St. Clare of Montefalco, St. Paul on the Lake and St. Ambrose Catholic churches.

They were among more than 200 guests to tour the former St. Matthew Catholic School buildings, which have been transformed into 46 new affordable housing units and permanent supportive housing.

The \$20.49 million redevelopment was made possible through a collaboration with Catholic Charities of Southeast

Michigan (CCSEM) and Cinnaire Solutions, with financing from the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, Federal Home Loan Banks, historic tax credits and other sources.

Keeping history alive

St. Matthew School closed in 2002, but the buildings continued to be used by Detroit Public Schools until 2008. They've been empty ever since.

The Rev. Duane Novelly, pastor of St. Matthew Catholic Church, said both buildings — the school and an activities building — were well-maintained after being vacated. He made sure to keep the buildings heated, replace broken windows and make other repairs.

"I didn't want them destroyed — by vandalism or by water damage," he said. "I wanted to make sure the bones were good."

His diligence paid off. The buildings were on the market when Novelly was approached by CCSEM. Talks about the



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

The Residences at St. Matthew recently celebrated its grand opening. The former school building has been transformed into 46 affordable housing units and permanent supportive housing.

redevelopment started in 2019; the deal was finalized in 2023.

CCSEM bought the buildings and went to work transforming them. Twenty-five units are reserved as permanent supportive housing for people transitioning out of homelessness. The remaining units offer affordable housing based on income.

"They pay a percentage of what their income is," Novelly said.

The buildings and units themselves are a mix of modern amenities and historic touches, as required to receive historic tax credits.

"A lot of historical elements were left intact to meet those requirements," Novelly said.

The hallways are lined with original mid-century glazed tile. Each unit includes the original classroom entrances; doors were moved back to create vestibules for each unit. In many units, the frames and ledges of chalkboards are a visible historic tribute. Windows throughout the buildings are new, but echo the historical look of original windows.

"They were classrooms with a lot of light, so that's all been preserved," Novelly said.

Similarly, the new exterior doors reflect the profile of the school's original doors.

Each unit has separate climate control and shared laundry rooms are on each floor. CCSEM pays utilities.

There are four two-bedroom units, five studio spaces and the rest are one-bedroom units.



This fully furnished apartment is ADA-accessible.

Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant units are available.

"Most of the rooms are similar," said Anna Licavoli, services manager with CCSEM, noting the Capuchins donated furnishings for each unit. "It was important to us to do things like have texture to help absorb sound, durability and the ability to move things around. There's versatility in the rooms.

"... It's important to us to welcome people with dignity," she added. "This is not cheap furniture. It's nice, high-quality furniture so they feel cared for and thought of. Part of our mission is to treat people with dignity and respect."

The former cafeteria was transformed into four units. A lower-level studio unit once housed the school's kitchen and maintenance engineer closet. The locker rooms were recreated into two one-bedroom apartments with exterior entry doors, so they have private entrances.

There are gathering spaces as well. The former school's gymnasium



History is preserved on each apartment wall where the frame and ledge of a chalkboard are visible.

— the original St. Matthew Church — was transformed into a multi-purpose room.

"It's a community space to hold events, health fairs, Zumba, literacy programs," Licavoli said. "We have a computer room, so we can offer computer classes. We're looking for partners who want to do that for us."

Beyond the multipurpose room is a smaller community space where residents can play cards or games, attend 12-Step meetings or other gatherings.

"It's a space where they can build community and interact with each other," Licavoli said.

In the spaces designated for the previously homeless, every kitchen is outfitted with dishes, silverware, a coffee-maker and food, "so they can just move in with whatever they have," Licavoli said. "... And a donor donated TVs for each room."

The spaces designated for affordable housing are not furnished, "but we definitely have referral services and case management services through CCSEM," Licavoli added.

A fenced-in outdoor greenspace will provide gardening and picnicking opportunities, "and

See LIFE, page 2B



The Rev. Duane Novelly addresses attendees during the grand opening.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan speaks during the grand opening event.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

This common area is available for meetings, card games and other activities.

Therapy Ranch hosts Hike and Ride fundraiser June 7

Therapy Ranch invites community members, horse lovers and outdoor enthusiasts to its annual Hike and Ride fundraiser Saturday, June 7, at the Pontiac Lake Equestrian Campground.

The family-friendly event supports Therapy Ranch's mission to provide trauma-informed equine-assisted psychotherapy and nature-based healing programs to individuals and families in need.

Participants can choose to hike or ride their own horse on the equestrian trails of Pontiac Lake, then stick around for light refreshments, raffle prizes and a chance to connect with others who believe in the power of healing through animals and the outdoors.

"All proceeds go directly toward helping our clients access the transformative support they need through our

therapy programs," said Therapy Ranch Program Director Lindsay Drouillard, a resident of Grosse Pointe Park. "Whether you're joining us on horseback, on foot or simply in spirit, your involvement makes a real difference."

Pontiac Lake Equestrian Campground is located in White Lake. Check-in for the June 7 event is 12:30 p.m. The trail opens at 1 p.m.

Register online at tinyurl.com/44z7688h

This event is open to all ages and experience levels.

For more information, visit therapyranch.org.



Golden Retriever Rescue of Michigan presents to Optimists

Andrea Krausmann, director of training and co-treasurer of the Golden Retriever Rescue of Michigan, or GRRoM, recently visited the Lakeshore Optimist Club to tell the members about the organization.

GRRoM's mission is to locate suitable adoptive homes for homeless and displaced Golden Retrievers. While finding homes for the Golden Retrievers, they are placed in foster care homes where GRRoM supports their shelter, food, companionship and medical care. They also provide education on all aspects of dog ownership.

Prior to 2000, GRRoM was a committee within the Fort Detroit Golden Retriever Club Rescue Service, a club that is still in operation as a social club for Golden Retriever enthusiasts. GRRoM separated from the club and established a separate 501(c)3 to enhance the services to rescue displaced Golden Retrievers. For more information about GRRoM, for adoption information or to volunteer, visit grrm.com/adoptagolden

Lakeshore Optimist Club meets 7:30 a.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. All are welcome to attend, listen to interesting speakers and learn what the club is about.

For locations, dates and times, visit gpointimists.com/ or follow the club on Facebook at facebook.com/lakeshoreoptimists.



COURTESY PHOTO

Kent Commer, Lakeshore Optimist Club secretary, and Andrea Krausmann, director of training and co-treasurer of GRRoM.

LIFE:

Continued from page 1B

encourage people to be outside," she added.

Currently, two tenants are living in the former activities building.

KMG is the onsite management company handling leases for low-income spaces, while the Homeless Action Network of Detroit assists the previously homeless population with support and referrals.

More than a residence

The Residences at St. Matthew is part of the Healthy Housing Initiative created by Catholic Charities USA, the parent company of CCSEM, one of five agencies in the country selected to participate. Licavoli said the program aims to improve health conditions through offering affordable housing and health services.

"If people are in houses, their health outcomes improve," she said. "If they're not worried about housing, they can focus on underlying things. ... We have peer support specialists who have lived these experi-



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Above, a furnished unit ready for occupancy. Right, a gymnasium doubles as event space at the new Residences at St. Matthew.

ences, been in the system. They know what it's like and can help."

Medical services also are provided through a partnership with Henry Ford St. John Hospital. The original principal's office has been transformed into a medical suite with an exam room and reception area.

"They're all voluntary services," Licavoli noted. "They're not forced to meet with us. We're there to support them. We also have an agency van dedicated to residents, to take them to appointments. We want to help them thrive."

Not only is The Residences at St. Matthew in a walkable

residential neighborhood, but it is near bus transportation and a local market.

"This is a good example of what to do with re-adaptive housing," Novelly said. "This was empty for 15 years. It could have gone to blight, but I wanted to keep it a good presence in the neighborhood."

Novelly said he hopes the collaborative efforts between The Residences at St. Matthew, CCSEM and the parish of St. Matthew Catholic Church continue to meet the needs of those seeking housing, "and give them a decent place to live that brings grace and dignity."

He noted evangelization opportunities as well.

"Maybe there's a Catholic among them and this gets them back to church," he said.



Medical services are provided onsite through a partnership with Henry Ford St. John Hospital.

"We'll continue our outreach and promote the Catholic Church as well. We'll use evangelization as tool to re-stabilize the parish and the neighborhood as well."

"... Having the parish and residences under

one Catholic umbrella has a synergy that works well," he added. "We're really focused on educating parishioners and the community. We're hoping to be a partnership that provides religious classes and spiritual direction."

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BY JOLIBLOOM



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This alcove, which used to house a drinking fountain, was among the historic touches preserved.



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COURTESY PHOTOS

The newly formed Opera de Metro brings opera performances into the community.

Opera de Metro bringing ‘The Magic Flute’ to Christ Church

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

In its debut season, Opera de Metro is hoping to enchant and engage modern audiences by offering opera music closer to home.

Following successful December performances of “The Gift of the Magi” in Royal Oak and Lake Orion, Opera de Metro presents “The Magic Flute,” directed by Paige Heidrich, at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 31, and 3 p.m. Sunday, June 1, at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

“We’re a company created by young artists for young artists,” Artistic Director Madeleine Krick said. “We’re committed to hiring local talent. We want to showcase the talent that’s here and bring it into the community.”

ODM is the next step in a series of successful collaborations between Krick and advisory board members, Olivia Donnel, Kellan Dunlap and Jake Surzyn. The friends put together a few small projects — a program of favorite opera scenes, for example — before Dunlap strongly sug-

gested something more serious.

During a phone call last summer, he told Krick, “You have to start an opera company today.”

“I was supposed to be auditioning for grad programs,” Krick recalled. “... He had this thesis of why it should happen. He talked for 10 minutes about it, then said, ‘I love you. Gotta go. Bye.’”

Krick said despite all the “big idea” projects she had in mind, this one stuck. She made a few phone calls to gauge her friends’ interest, then sat and mapped it out: personnel, public relations, budget, development. With Dunlap’s and Surzyn’s commitment, she “turned it into a real idea with a real budget.”

“There’s a market to fill,” Surzyn said, noting most local opera companies have folded. “There’s only Detroit Opera left. Opera MODO dissolved, Arbor Opera Theatre in Ann Arbor is gone, Main Street Opera in Plymouth is gone. The only opera companies left are in Grand Rapids and Detroit.”

The group hustled to establish ODM and within a few months cre-

ated a website and Facebook page and announced auditions.

“We didn’t want anyone else to fill the gap before we did,” Krick said.

The team knows what it’s doing.

Krick, who studied voice performance at Oakland University before shifting her concentration to conducting, is a lifelong singer. Surzyn, who professionally sings with Christ Church Grosse Pointe, got a later start. He earned an undergraduate degree in voice performance from Oakland University, then took a year off to perform throughout the state before accepting a full-ride scholarship to earn his master’s degree in voice performance at the University of Michigan.

“I’ve done over 85 professional productions,” he said, noting that early on, he intended to become a doctor. He joined choir to satisfy an arts credit in high school and was encouraged to continue singing. His robust voice “was built for opera,” he added.

“Opera is like the Olympics,” Krick said. “It’s this amazing amal-

gamation of the heights of human ability. It’s all these forces coming together onstage. All these elements are melding together into this cohesive, beautiful, powerful story. It’s human art for everyone.”

ODM’s performance of “The Magic Flute” features a new English translation, written by Surzyn.

“It was fun,” he said. “I wanted to make it a story. ... I made them three-dimensional rather than two-dimensional stick figures on the stage.”

Added Krick, “It’s outrageously silly. I don’t know if ‘The Magic Flute’ has ever been described as a comedy.”

“The Magic Flute” features a cast of 16, as well as five production members, including costumer Maryn O’Brien. A pair of high school students is gaining experience through ODM as well — one singing in the chorus, the other serving as a stagehand.

“We’re inviting them to be a part of the process and get that experience,” Krick said.

Many of those involved took part in “The Gift of

See OPERA, page 9B

WEDDING



Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Handilah

Matouk—Handilah

Maria Angelina Matouk and Daniel Elias Handilah were married Saturday, May 10, 2025, at Saint Peter & Paul Jesuit Church in Detroit. Father Roby Zibara of St. Maron Maronite Catholic Church in Detroit officiated the ceremony, which was followed by a reception at The Palazzo Grande in Shelby Township.

The bride is the daughter of William and Gina Matouk of Grosse Pointe Shores. The groom is the son of Elias Handilah and the late Sofia Handilah, also the stepson of Laila

Handilah of Grosse Pointe Park.

The bride wore a gown from Tevam Dresses in Troy and carried a bouquet created by Lena’s Flowers and Designs. The groom wore a suit by Antonio Rimanelli in Grosse Pointe Woods.

The bride is a graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School. The groom graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School.

The couple plans to honeymoon in Greece and remain in Grosse Pointe where they grew up.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Library

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

- ◆ Tuning In: Detroit’s TV/Radio Hosts, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 29, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ GPPL Friends \$5 Bag Sale, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 31, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Read, Rhyme & Play, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 3, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
- ◆ Read, Rhyme & Play, 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday, June 3, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
- ◆ First Tuesday Book Discussion, 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, June 3, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Teen Swiftie Hang Out Night, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 5, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ High School Exam Study, all day, Saturday, June 7, to Thursday, June 12, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

families are welcome.

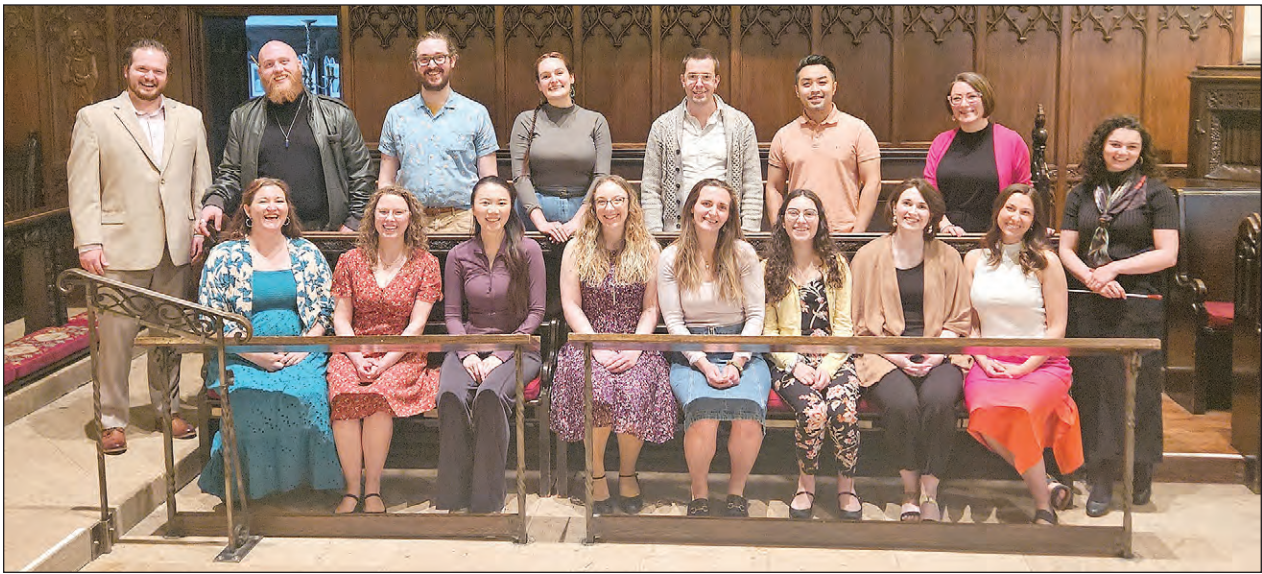
- ◆ Summer Bloom Mini Photo Session, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, June 1.
- ◆ Self-Defense for Men, Women and Teens, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 3, for ages 12 and older. Cost is \$45.
- ◆ Thursday Night Social — A Low Country Shrimp Boil Event, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 5. Tickets are \$53 general admission, \$68 including three beer samples.
- ◆ Awaken Your Senses: An Evening of Yin Yoga, Massage and Sound Bath, 6 to 7:15 p.m. Sunday, June 8. Cost is \$50.
- ◆ Silent Book Club, 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 10.
- ◆ Wine Down: A Tasting Experience with Michael Bottigliero, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 12. Cost is \$80.
- ◆ Candlelight Open Air Concert: A Tribute to Adele, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, June 12. Tickets range from \$30 to \$63.
- ◆ Candlelight Open Air Concert: A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac, 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. Thursday, June 12. Tickets range from \$30 to \$63.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

- ◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, May 30, Pointe Fitness, 19556 Harper, Harper Woods.
- ◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, June 2, Ford

See EVENTS, page 7B



Opera de Metro Artistic Director Madeleine Krick, right, and advisory board member Jake Surzyn, left, stand with the cast of “The Magic Flute.”

GRAD

gifts

SHOW YOUR
SPARKLE



1

THEY'LL TREASURE



FLY HIGH!

2

SUCCESS!



3

FAITH
IN THE
FUTURE



4



Bey-Berk red leather jewelry box makes a lovely gift for new grads on their way to building a jewelry collection. Goldtone hardware and leather handle. From Nordstrom.



Left: WOLF tri-level classic jewelry boxes made from rich leather organize your grad's accessories, preventing them from tarnishing with LusterLoc™ anti-tarnish lining. In Indigo and Forest Green, from Nordstrom.

AHEE is how Grosse Pointe celebrates! Your grad has worked hard, now is their moment to shine with a beautiful heartfelt keepsake piece from edmund t. AHEE Jewelers. Make the day more meaningful with a gift of gorgeous jewelry your grad will cherish forever. Find exquisite diamonds, pearls, gold, silver, Shinola

watches and more at 20139 Mack Ave. in Grosse Pointe Woods. Call (313) 886-4600 or visit ahee.com for more information and store hours. Include an elegant leather jewelry box in school colors to keep a lifetime of jewelry and accessories safe and tarnish free. Visit nordstrom.com.



SHOOT FOR THE MOON

5



GRAB THE BRASS RING

6



SOAR, GIRL!

7



TIME TO ACHEIVE

8



COME SAIL AWAY!

9



THE WORLD IS HER OYSTER

10

1. Round brilliant cut quad diamond earrings in 18k white gold are the keepsake to remind her of her many achievements.
2. Celebrate her flight to adulthood with the Roberto Coin mother of pearl and round brilliant cut diamond Jasmine Butterfly pendant in 18k yellow gold.
3. Honor this occasion with a Shinola Monster automatic 43mm stainless steel bracelet watch he'll treasure.
4. A loving reminder of faith wraps her wrist with this brilliant cut diamond bezel cross bracelet in 18k yellow gold.
5. The moon and the stars are all hers with this beautiful set of Meira T round brilliant cut diamond stud earrings in 14k yellow gold.
6. The Nikos Koulis Oui A-Round collection baguette and round brilliant cut diamond and black enamel pendant in 18k white gold makes a great gift.

7. Gift her with the Meira T round brilliant cut diamond butterfly necklace in 18k white gold.
8. Show her it's her time to take on the world with this elegant Shinola 34mm plated finish Birdy bracelet strap watch.
9. Deakin & Francis sailboat enamel cufflinks in sterling silver remind him he'll make waves.
10. Mikimoto Akoya pearl and round brilliant cut diamond earrings in 18k white gold are a classic gift for grads.

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.

Nancy Beel Boos

Nancy Beel Boos, 86, of Mclean, Va., passed away peacefully Friday, May 2, 2025, surrounded by family.

Nancy was born July 28, 1938, in St. Clair Shores. She was raised in St. Clair Shores and lived in Grosse Pointe Shores and Bloomfield Hills, and only recently moved to Virginia to be closer to her daughters. Nancy graduated from Dominican High School in Detroit in 1956. She went on to the University of Michigan for one year before leaving to work for renowned Detroit attorney Lester S. Smith.

A talented businesswoman, Nancy was the feisty half of a dynamic duo with her husband, Frank H. Boos, who owned and operated the Frank H. Boos Gallery in Bloomfield Hills, a leading regional auction house that was a respected presence in the Detroit area arts community for more than 40 years. A passionate lover of the arts, she was on the board of the Michigan Foundation for the Arts for many years. Nancy closed the gallery in 2006 after Frank passed.

Nancy cherished her family dearly, both human and canine. She is survived by her children, Jonathan (Sheri), Alexandra (John) and Kristina; stepson, Christopher (Geraldine); grandchildren, Jonathan Jr., Lauren and Christian; and step-grandchildren, Shelby, Marcus, Max and Eric. She was predeceased by her parents, Richard and Margaret Beel; brother, Joseph

Beel (Madelyn); and husband, Frank H. Boos, who passed away in 2006.

The family will receive friends at 1 p.m. Saturday, July 12, until a celebration of life at 2 p.m. at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers and Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward, Royal Oak.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to Humane World for Animals, 1255 23rd NW, Ste. 450, Washington, D.C. 20037, bit.ly/3SFS5IW; the Lewy Body Dementia Association, 912 Killian Hill Road SW, Lilburn, GA 30047, lbda.org/donate; or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 2000 Town Center, Ste. 1730, Southfield, MI 48075, bit.ly/47PRTZ.

Margaret "Peggy" Nye Carpenter

Margaret "Peggy" Nye Carpenter, 81, passed away Wednesday, May 14, 2025.

Although Peggy spent the final months of her life in poor health and paralyzed from a fall, she maintained a positive attitude and stoic demeanor. She faced each day with her sweet personality, all the while describing her circumstances as, "It is what it is."

Born Oct. 23, 1943, in Buffalo, N.Y., Peggy moved to Grosse Pointe at a young age. She attended Grosse Pointe public schools, as well as University Liggett School. She then attended Hood College in Frederick, Md. Upon

graduation, Peggy moved to Florida and performed mission work for one year with special needs children. She returned to Michigan to attend the University of Michigan where she received a Master of Library Science degree in 1969. This degree led to her working at both the Wayne State University library and the St. John Hospital medical library, where she was later appointed director. During her career at St. John's, she was well-respected by the health care workers who sought her assistance. Peggy also worked at the Henry Ford Hospital medical library in Detroit.

Recently, Peggy's personal time was spent with her family and a few very close friends. She avidly followed the lives of her niece, Carrie, and her nephew, Steven, and their children, Rachel, Tucker, Mason and Charlie. She took great interest in the details of their lives. Sundays were her favorite day of the week, where she scheduled Zoom calls with her sister-in-law, niece and nephew to catch up on the latest news.

Peggy also generously gave her time to Grosse Pointe Memorial Church where she was a deacon and later an elder. She was involved in many events at the Presbytery as well.

Peggy was predeceased by her parents, Horace Carpenter and Ruth Nye Carpenter; brother, Horace Nye Carpenter (Hanny); and twin sister, Elizabeth "Betty" Nye Carpenter. She is survived by her



Nancy Beel Boos



Margaret Nye Carpenter



Carolyn Annette Goad

sister-in-law and close friend, Lynn Schneider; Steven Gorey Carpenter and his son, Charlie; and Carolyn Carpenter Devlin, and her children, Rachel, Tucker and Mason.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 7, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, bit.ly/3Mf6j0o.

Arrangements were entrusted to Chas. Verheyden, Inc.

Carolyn Annette Goad

Carolyn Annette Goad, 86, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away peacefully Tuesday, May 20, 2025, in Clinton Township. She was a spirited and faith-filled soul.

Born Jan. 10, 1939, in Philadelphia, Tenn., Carolyn's loving nature and zest for life touched all who knew her. Carolyn's journey began in the rolling hills of Tennessee, where her story was shaped by the warmth of southern hospitality and the close-knit community that surrounded her. Her life was a testament to love, as she shared 52 years of marriage with her beloved husband, Eddie Goad, who predeceased her April 28, 2011. Together they built a leg-

acy of family, including their devoted daughters and sons-in-law, Traci and Rodney Mercer of Harrison Township, and Cindi and Rod Tinknell of Grosse Pointe Woods.

A proud grandmother, Carolyn's joy was multiplied with the birth of her grandson, Evan Batts (Katie). Her great-grandchildren, Matthew, Brooke and Michael, brought her immeasurable happiness. Carolyn's nurturing spirit extended to her beloved Shih Tzu, Kiki, who was a constant source of companionship and joy.

Carolyn's professional life was marked by her meticulous attention to detail and her dedication to her work in bookkeeping and clerical positions. Her colleagues respected her for her reliability and unwavering support. Upon her retirement, she remained active in her community as a dedicated member of Grace Community Church in Detroit, where her faith was both a personal comfort and an inspiration to others.

Her interests were as varied as they were passionate. Carolyn found solace in the tranquility of her garden and her love for jazz music often led her to concerts where she swayed to the melodies that moved her soul. She was an excellent cook and delighted in preparing meals for her family and friends, often experimenting with new recipes that would

become requested favorites. Carolyn's creative spirit shone through in her hobbies. She crafted beautiful silver jewelry, knitted cozy garments and had a unique touch in sponge painting.

Those who knew Carolyn will remember her for her loving heart and ability to find joy in the simple pleasures of life. Whether she was floating above the clouds in a hot air balloon or finding treasures through home shopping, her enthusiasm was infectious. Her legacy is one of a life well-lived, full of moments that sparkled with her spirited nature.

Carolyn leaves behind a tapestry of memories that will be cherished by her family, including several nieces, nephews and a circle of friends who were drawn to her vibrant spirit and loving presence. Her life was a beautiful reflection of her values — love, faith and joy in every moment.

A memorial service and celebration of life will be held at a later date. She will be interred at Cadillac Memorial Gardens East in Clinton Township. Cremation arrangements were entrusted to Grace Memorial of Clinton Township. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Senior Sisters at Grace Community Church, 21001 Moross, Detroit, MI 48236, gracewired.churchcenter.com/giving.

Pucks for a Purpose

The inaugural Pucks for a Purpose charity hockey game took place April 12, and received tremendous support from the community.

More than 250 spectators attended the event at East Side Hockey Ice Arena and helped bring in \$30,000. Proceeds benefited two charities — the Jamie Daniels Foundation and The Headstrong Project.

Organized by Tony Gatloff of Mutual of Omaha Mortgage and Danny DeKeyser of Saros Real Estate, the event included a puck drop by Detroit Red Wings play-by-play announcer Ken Daniels, a silent auction and concessions.

Organizers said they look forward to hosting the event again next year.



From left, Tony Gatloff, senior vice president of mortgage lending and corporate outreach with Mutual of Omaha Mortgage; Ken Daniels, play-by-play announcer for the Detroit Red Wings and co-founder of the Jamie Daniels Foundation; and Danny DeKeyser, Realtor with Saros Real Estate Services and former Detroit Red Wings defenseman.

COURTESY PHOTOS



Left, from left, Danny DeKeyser; Jimmy Saros, broker/owner of Saros Real Estate Services; Tony Gatloff; and Ken Daniels. Right, from left, Ned Freeze, director of corporate partnerships with The Headstrong Project; Danny DeKeyser; Tony Gatloff; Bridget Roa, office manager at Mutual of Omaha Mortgage; and Dave Romano, vice president of military affairs with Mutual of Omaha Mortgage.



COURTESY PHOTO

A previous, well-attended Scarab Club finale fundraiser.

Chamber Music at the Scarab Club 26th season finale, fundraiser June 8

Chamber Music at the Scarab Club presents the final event of its 26th season at 3 p.m. Sunday, June 8, at the Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit.

The concert will feature some of Detroit’s finest chamber musicians, most of whom have performed on the series in the past and are donating their talents for this performance to help raise funds for the future and to celebrate the past.

Young musicians from the Tuesday Musicale of Detroit Student League also will perform.

The program will take place on two floors of the Scarab Club, with performances upstairs in the lounge gallery — taking advantage of the club’s 1870s Pleyel piano — downstairs in the main

gallery and, if weather permits, outside in the courtyard garden. This allows the audience to move around the building or stay in one spot, as the performances will occur one at a time and the music will be audible from all spaces.

The afternoon of chamber music includes pieces by Chopin, Fuchs, Saint Saens, Coleridge-Taylor and more. Each piece will be introduced by one of the musicians.

Refreshments will be served throughout the afternoon.

Tickets are \$50, \$15 for students, and may be purchased online at tinyurl.com/52b7tz9t

For more information, visit scarab-club.org or call (248) 921-3193.

Face Addiction Now launches ‘Healthy Families’ program

Support offered to parents, caregivers, families affected by substance use disorder

Face Addiction Now — formerly Families Against Narcotics — recently announced the launch of its Healthy Families program, an initiative designed to provide compassionate, comprehensive support to mothers, fathers, caregivers and families impacted by substance use disorder in Macomb, Wayne and Oakland counties.

Grounded in empathy and guided by hope, the Healthy Families program meets families wherever they are on their recovery journey by offering individualized support to help them create safe, stable and nurturing home environments. Whether participants need in-depth case management

or just a check-in and some guidance, FAN can help.

Services offered through the Healthy Families program include:

◆ basic needs support (food, diapers, formula, childcare);

◆ case management and treatment navigation;

◆ connection to support groups that foster healing and resilience;

◆ access to prenatal and other essential medical care;

◆ encouraging, consistent follow-ups from FAN staff;

◆ assistance navigating CPS and family preservation planning;

◆ help for individuals involved in the legal system and

◆ harm reduction resources and education.

“This initiative is about meeting people with compassion, not judgment,” Program Director Kim Baffo said. “Every family deserves the opportunity to heal and thrive — and this program is designed to walk with them every step of the way.”

With the Healthy Families program, FAN’s goal is to spread hope — one family, one future at a time.

To refer someone to the program, visit tinyurl.com/FANFamiliesProgram

For more information or help getting started, call FAN’s direct line at (586) 909-8198 to speak with a staff member.

Scholarship awarded

The AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Post 57 recently awarded the 2025 Diane VandenBoom Memorial Scholarship of \$500 to Grace E. Lemanski, a 2023 graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School. Lemanski currently is in the pre-dentistry program at University of Detroit Mercy.

Pictured from left are AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Post 57 Scholarship Chairperson Cindy Manardo of Grosse Pointe Woods, Lemanski and her father, Patrick Lemanski, an AMVET Sons member.

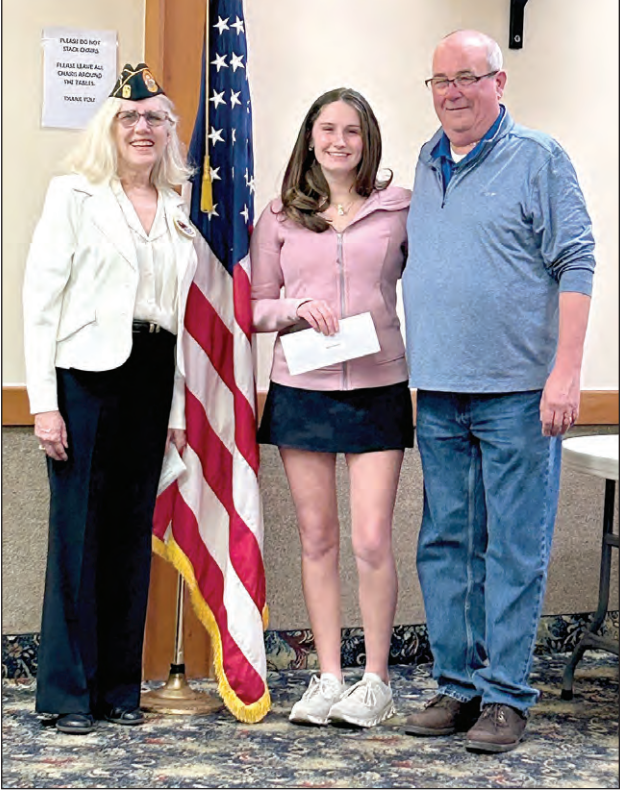


PHOTO COURTESY OF CINDY MANARDO

Steeped in history

Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary Club President Sandra Cobb stands with The War Memorial President and CEO Maria Miller during the club’s April 8 meeting at Ford House. Miller shared some of The War Memorial’s history, steeped with trials and tribulations that have made it home to many of Grosse Pointe’s most personal and memorable events. Surviving recent floods is one of many challenges The War Memorial has successfully faced over 75 years as a community nonprofit. Miller also highlighted the historic Alger House and the addition of the Fred M. Alger Center in November 2022. The War Memorial serves approximately 100,000 individuals with more than 3,000 functions annually.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOB GRAMBO

EVENTS:

Continued from page 3B

House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 4, Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Monday, June 9, Tompkins Community Center, 14920 Windmill Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Park.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

Ford House

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

◆ Maker Studio: Fragrance Workshop, 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 31. Cost is \$65 for members, \$75 for the public.

◆ Native Plant Sale pickup, 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 31.

◆ Storytime: “Over and Under the Pond,” by Kate Messner, 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays during June.

◆ “Wish You Were Here: Unpacking Ford Family Travel” exhibition opening reception, 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 4.

◆ Paint Out, a plein air painting event for adults, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday,

June 7. Cost is \$30 for Friends of Ford House, \$40 for the public.

◆ Fresh Paint Party, 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, June 7.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

The Helm

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

◆ Lunch and Learn: AI and the Future, noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, June 1, with facilitator James Giordani, an IT expert. Cost is \$5 for members, \$10 for guests.

◆ The movie “Eat, Drink, Man, Woman” is shown at noon Friday, June 6. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for guests.

◆ The movie “Wicked” is shown at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, June 12. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for guests.

◆ Me and My Grand, 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, June 17. Grandparents and their grandchildren will decorate birdhouses. Cost is \$10 for members, \$15 for guests and free for children.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 4, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Jill Brack and Xavier Cornelius of the Sachse Construction Academy speak. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

GPAA

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

◆ Intermediate Watercolor with Paula Fiebich, 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, June 4, 11 and 18.

◆ Explorations in Abstraction with Valerie Allen, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, June 14 and 15.

◆ “Nostalgia,” a Japanese woodblock workshop with Nobuko Yamasaki, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, June 21 and 28, and July 12. Registration closes June 7.

◆ Writing Workshop with Jan Dale: How to write better descriptions of your art show pieces, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 21.

◆ Gouache Painting with Cathy Huntoon, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays, July 15 to Aug. 5.

Family Center

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods has partnered with Grosse Pointe Woods and Grosse Pointe Farms to offer a free Family Movie Night at 8 p.m. Friday, June 13, at Ghesquiere Park in the Woods. Families should bring snacks, lawn chairs and blankets to watch “Trolls Band Together.” Treat Dreams Ice Cream will be available for purchase.

Auction/Dinner

The 33rd annual Bid for Life auction/dinner takes place Tuesday,

June 17, at the Vintage House Banquet Hall, 31816 Utica, Fraser. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., followed by a family-style dinner at 7 p.m. The event includes live and silent auctions and a 50/50 raffle. Hawaiian dress is encouraged, but not required. Tickets are \$55 per person, \$400 for a table of eight. Proceeds benefit the Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund. For tickets or information, call (586) 774-6050, email macombrlm@rtl.org or visit rtl.org.

Adaptive yoga

Yoga Moves Any Body, in partnership with the Kirk Gibson Foundation, hosts Adaptive Chair Yoga classes at 11:30 a.m.

Mondays at Full Lotus Yoga, 20365 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Adaptive yoga benefits those with multiple sclerosis, Parkinson’s disease, stroke and other neuromuscular conditions. Cost is \$12 per drop-in class or five classes for \$50 in advance. Visit fulllotusyoga.net.

Toastmasters

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

Worship Service

Christ the King Lutheran Church and Preschool
Mack at Lochmoor • 884-5090
www.christthekinggp.org

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

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

Solomon Spangler, Pastor
Making New Disciples - Building Stronger Ones

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church
(United Church of Christ)

Worship Sunday at 10:00 am

Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver
An Open & Affirming Church

240 Chalfonte G.P. Farms
313-884-3075 • www.gpccong.org
WE HAVE AN ARTS MINISTRY



UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL AND ACADEMY



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE U OF D JESUIT CLASS OF 2025

The University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy proudly celebrates the Class of 2025 and all they’ve accomplished. We are especially honored to recognize our graduates from the Grosse Pointes. These young men have grown as scholars, leaders, and Men for Others — and we can’t wait to see the difference they’ll make in the world. Congratulations to each of you on this remarkable milestone!

OUR GROSSE POINTES GRADUATES:

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Demetri Borrego | Johnny Lambrecht III | Oscar Reed |
| Bobby Crane | Michael Lepera | Antonio Said |
| Colin Gormley | Dominic Malouf | Kyle Spondike |
| Charlie Gorski | Will McLean | Vincent Swikoski |
| Michael Hartnett Jr. | Michael Nesi | JT Tinsley |
| Jon Kelly | Santiago Ortiz | Charlie Walton |
| Arun Kensora | Tommy O’Shea | Griffin Zaliwski |

Hellenic Art Exhibition: Odyssey of Colors open now through October

The Hellenic Museum of Michigan's annual celebration of contemporary Greek and Greek-American creativity titled "Hellenic Art Exhibition: Odyssey of Colors" runs through Oct. 12. The museum is located at 67 E. Kirby, Detroit.

The collection offers a platform for artists of Greek heritage to explore their cultural roots while engaging audiences in meaningful conversations about history, identity and expression. A reception for the more than two dozen participating artists is scheduled noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, June 1.

The museum is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. See hellenicmi.org for more information.

OPERA:

Continued from page 3B

the Magi" in December.

"Magi" was a seven-person show," Surzyn said. "Six of them came back for this show. This gives us a way to create ways singers can grow through our company."

One returning cast member is Sara Mortensen, taking on the role of Queen of the Night. She's never performed the difficult repertoire before, but rose to the challenge and aced her audition.

Rising to challenges is encouraged among singers within ODM, which also serves as an educational platform for emerging artists to grow and share their talents.

The group hosts "industry day," providing the opportunity for roundtable discussion about topics like audition etiquette.

During panel auditions, professionals from across the country sit in virtually and in person to hear ODM performers and provide feedback.

"Next year, we're talking about three satellite events," Krick said. "We're talking about a dinner theater, maybe a voice competition. We're going to get more creative than opera concerts."

Krick said she hopes to provide space for people to experience opera "generated with them in mind."

"A lot of opera is created for academics and opera lovers," she continued. "It's exclusive to people with opera knowledge. For us, we're bringing it into the community and generating it with our own audience in mind. Anyone coming is going to enjoy it, whether they've listened to opera or classical music before."

Local performances also allow attendees to skip the drive downtown, jostle for parking spaces or fight traffic from Detroit sporting events.

"Christ Church has been very generous to us," Krick added. "I hope to continue that relationship."

To keep ODM funded, its Opera in Bloom fundraising campaign runs through the end of June, with the goal of raising \$10,000.

"Our goal is to set a foundation for next season," Krick said, noting ODM currently is entirely community funded.

It also is partnering with Social Kitchen & Bar in Birmingham, who will contribute proceeds from its cocktail Violet Beauregarde — blueberry-infused vodka, mint and lemon — to ODM.

Donations to Opera in Bloom, including sponsorships, also may be made on the ODM website's "Join and Give" page. Those who donate \$100 or more become part of the Maestra's Circle and receive access to a pre-show meet-and-greet with the singers and maestra, as well as recognition in ODM programs.

Tickets for "The Magic Flute" are \$30 general admission, \$20 for students, seniors and veterans. They may be purchased online at operademetro.org.

GROSSE POINTE ANIMAL ADOPTION SOCIETY



20542 Harper
(Lennon and Harper)
(313) 884-1551
www.gpaas.org

Animals Available for Adoption at gpaas.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
313-884-1551 OR www.gpaas.org



Meet IRIS

Female, 6 months old, Shorthair, Calico Tabby.



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OFFICIAL 2025 BALLOT

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HOW TO ENTER:

1. Enter one name for each category with a Grosse Pointe area business you think should be named this year's Best of the Best. We'd love for you to fill in every category, but feel free to enter only the ones you want to write in. Fill in your name and contact info below. You must vote in a minimum of 10 categories for your votes to count.

2. Mail in this completed ballot or hand-deliver it to the Grosse Pointe News offices in the Village. Must be received by deadline. Drop off in person or mail to:

Grosse Pointe News
16980 Kercheval Place, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230

DEADLINE for voting is midnight on June 5, 2025.
Winners will be announced in the July 17 issue of the Grosse Pointe News. (Ballots will be available in the May 22 and May 29 print editions of the Grosse Pointe News.)

2025 CATEGORIES

FOOD & DRINKS

Best All-Around Restaurant _____

Best Restaurant/Bar for Watching Sporting Events _____

Best Coffee Shop _____

Best Breakfast _____

Best Dessert _____

Best Bakery _____

Best Nachos _____

Best Seafood _____

Best Wings _____

Best Happy Hour _____

Best Ice Cream Shop _____

Best Carryout _____

Best Place to Meet Someone _____

Best Place To Host a Party or Event _____

Best Specialty Food/Beverage Market _____

RETAIL & SERVICES

Best Aesthetician _____

Best Orthodontist _____

Best Veterinarian _____

Best Massage Therapy _____

Best Urgent Care _____

Best Manicure _____

Best Hair Salon _____

Best Window Sales Dealer _____

Best HVAC Contractor _____

Best Handyman Services _____

Best Nonprofit to Volunteer _____

Best Northern Michigan Resort/Hotel _____

Best Place to Stay in Downtown Detroit _____

Best Public Place to Hang Out on a Rainy Day _____

Best Classic Women's Fashion _____

Best Trendy Fashion _____

Best Grosse Pointe Style Fashion _____

Best Store to Buy a Gift _____

Best Store to Buy a Wedding Gift _____

Best Store to Buy a Baby Gift _____

Best Financial Planner _____

Best Auto Dealership _____

Best Real Estate Agency _____

Best Family-Owned Business _____

Best Curb Appeal/Charming Grosse Pointe Storefront _____

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Outdoor concert supports future Michael B’s Cafe

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Bloomfield native and Nashville superstar Mac Watts is sure to draw a rowdy crowd when he performs an outdoor country music concert Saturday, June 7, in the parking lot of 15118 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park.

The “fun-raiser” will benefit the future Michael B’s Cafe, a coffee bar and bakery that will offer job training and opportunities to adults with special needs.

In contrast to Michael B’s 2023 outdoor extravaganza — a festive night featuring Grammy Award-nominated Fleur Seule — this year’s benefit will be a bit more low key.

“It’s going to be casual,” said Patty Sunisloe, a Michael B’s board member. “We’re bringing in 100 bales of hay for people to sit on. They can enjoy hot dogs and hamburgers from the grill and there will be a food truck, too.”

The fun starts at 6 p.m., when The Thrift Shop Cowboys take the



presents



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stage to warm up the crowd. At 7:30 p.m., the Full Circle Choir will entertain with a few country songs of their own. Watts will cap off the night with his 8 p.m. performance.

“It’ll be a casual, low-key, fun concert,” said Alicia Carlisle, Michael B’s founder and owner of Cabbage Patch Saloon, located next door. “So

put on your cowboy boots and get ready to do some dancing.”

Carlisle was introduced to Watts when he performed locally last fall.

“He came in and blew me away,” she said, adding that she became friends with his family and went to see him perform in Nashville in February. “He’s excited to come home and play



Nashville superstar Mac Watts will be performing an outdoor concert Saturday, June 7, in Grosse Pointe Park.

to a hometown crowd.”

During the event, the future home of Michael B’s will be cleaned out, so guests can walk through to see the “before” and get excited about the “after,” Carlisle added, noting bricks will be available for purchase in support of the project.

“The community support and outreach has been fantastic,” Carlisle said. “I’m constantly surprised by and grateful for everyone’s kindness and willingness to help.”

Admission to the festivities is \$50. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

“The tickets are reasonably priced,” Carlisle said. “And this is a family event. You can bring your whole family if you want to.”

Renovations to the

building are set to begin this summer and proceeds from the concert will support the opening of the cafe.

“We’re going to need tables, chairs, dishes, kitchen equipment, a coffee-roasting machine for fresh-roasted coffee,” Sunisloe said. “There’s a lot to it.”

Raising funds to open the cafe is one thing, but the opportunities it will provide to adults with special needs are priceless.

“If you look nationally at the percentage of people with disabilities who are gainfully employed, it’s ridiculously low,” Sunisloe said. “This initiative is going to try to change that dynamic. People with disabilities need purpose in this world and this is a good way to do it.

“... We’re going to employ special needs people and connect people in the community over a shared love of coffee,” she added. “We’re Michael B’s Cafe: Coffee Connecting Community. The whole theme is about bringing the community together.”

Sunisloe said the June 7 concert is a teaser of more in store.

“Keep an eye out,” she added. “There are more events coming up.”

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities for the June 7 event may be purchased online at michaelbcafe.org.

“This is a special one,” Carlisle said. “It’s going to be fun. No one has to get dressed up. Just put on your cowboy hat if you want, come and have a good time.”

Detroit Zoo celebrates Charley Harper’s iconic art with exhibit

The Detroit Zoo is excited to welcome guests to its newest, limited-time art exhibit, “Charley Harper’s Natural World,” which is now open inside the zoo’s Ford Education Center. This exclusive zoo experience highlights the whimsical, graphic style of one of America’s most beloved wildlife artists — heightening senses to discover nature through a bold, playful lens.

“Charley Harper’s Natural World” brings more than 40 of Charley Harper’s iconic prints to life through numerous hands-on, interactive educational components for guests to explore the natural world, offering a unique experience that blends art, conservation and education together.

In addition to col-

laborating with the Cincinnati-based Charley Harper Art Studio, the zoo also is partnering with Ann Arbor-based Motawi Tileworks to display 10 Charley Harper textured art tiles that guests can touch while exploring the exhibit. These textured art tiles, along with other natural elements in the gallery, make the experience more accessible to guests of all ages and abilities.

The “Charley Harper’s Natural World” experience is included with zoo admission and is ideal for families, art enthusiasts, educators and nature lovers alike.

The exhibition runs until Sept. 7, during normal Detroit Zoo operating hours.



Some of “Charley Harper’s Natural World” unique art currently displayed at the Detroit Zoo’s Ford Education Center through Sept. 7.



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Cyberbullying: What it is and how to stop it

Dear Gabby: I’m a high school junior and I’ve been dealing with some serious online bullying. It started with a couple of classmates making comments on my posts, but now there are fake accounts posting rumors about me and DMs calling me names — and it feels like everyone knows. I’ve started skipping school just to avoid it. I’m scared to speak up, but I feel like I’m drowning. Is there any way I can make this stop? — Anonymous

Dear Anonymous: Let’s start here: What’s happening to you isn’t just mean behavior or typical teen drama. It’s cyberbullying — and it’s

real, harmful and completely unacceptable.

You’re absolutely right to want it to stop. Your feelings are valid and what you’re going through deserves real support. It’s easy for loved ones to tell you to try to ignore it, because they know the rumors are false and the people doing it are not worth worrying about. However, when you are the one going through it, it is much more complicated. Even though you know it’s untrue and mean, it is 100 percent normal to be totally rattled by it.

Here’s how to start reclaiming your peace:

1. Document everything. Screenshot the messages, posts, fake accounts — all of it. Keep a folder on your phone or laptop. This isn’t being dramatic; it’s protecting yourself with evidence.
2. Tell someone. A trusted adult — whether it’s a parent, teacher, school counselor or mentor — can help you take action. Many schools have protocols for cyberbullying and adults can advocate for you in ways peers can’t. They can also see the bigger picture looking from the outside in.
3. Use digital boundaries. Block, report, mute — don’t hesitate to shut off



the negativity. You’re not obligated to be accessible to people who hurt you. Adjust your privacy settings and don’t be afraid to log off when you need to.

4. Center your well-being. Cyberbullying can take a toll on your self-esteem, but it does not define you. Keep close to people who lift you up and

don’t hesitate to talk to a therapist or school counselor if you need help processing everything.

5. Know this: You are not alone. Thousands of teens have gone through this — and many come out stronger and more empowered. You’re already on that path just by speaking up.

This isn’t your shame to carry. You deserve safety, kindness and community — online and in real life.

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

New mom rattled by other woman in the workplace

DEAR ANNIE: My boyfriend and I have been together for eight years. We have an 18-year age gap. I’m 39, and he’s 57. We have a strong relationship and have been through hell and back together. God blessed us with our 6-month-old son, “Michael.” We have a happy little family. We also work together. There’s been a young co-worker constantly throwing herself at my boyfriend. It’s happened

before at other jobs we’ve had, too. When I talk to him about it, he’s completely oblivious. I don’t know how to handle this co-worker without getting upset with him. He said he’s not aware of her behavior, that he loves me and our son, and he asks me why I get upset with him about it. How do I handle this co-worker conundrum? — Unconfident

New Mother

DEAR NEW MOTHER: It’s completely understandable to feel unsettled, especially as a new mom who’s navigating both home life and work life with their partner. What stands out to me isn’t your boyfriend’s behavior but your need for more security and his support. If he hasn’t reciprocated or even noticed this co-worker’s advances, it’s

likely because he genuinely isn’t entertaining them. So rather than question his loyalty, focus on what you need. Let him know that you trust him but would appreciate his awareness and backup when someone crosses a line. You’re on the same team, so approach this as one. On the work front, keep things professional. Often the best way to thwart an attention-seeker is to ignore them.



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

If the situation escalates, you and your boyfriend can reevaluate and set boundaries together. You said it yourself — you’ve been through hell and back together. You’ll make it through this, too. Focus on each other, nurturing your relationship and enjoying parenthood and your new son. Everything else is just noise.

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

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Licavoli’s Sugar Coated Designs by Josie

When she was a little girl, she would spend quality time in her grandmother’s kitchen. Together, they’d make everything from her homemade meat sauce and meatballs, with freshly picked basil for grandma’s garden, to homemade pasta salad and her delicious homemade apple pie. On the home front, her mother was always cooking meals for her and her brother, always lending a helping hand. “My mom always made fresh blueberry muffins and chocolate chip cookies for my brother and I, and I always had a sweet tooth,” she shared. Her father, a phenomenal chef, taught her so much in the kitchen over the years and has played a huge role in where she is today. She tells me he’s more of a savory food guy, but “he makes the BEST homemade rice pudding and tiramisu!” This, I can certainly agree with. Her father’s name is Phil, and “she” is Josie Licavoli, of Licavoli’s Sugar Coated Designs by Josie. A 2020 graduate of Regina High School, Josie

told me she started watching cake decorating videos on YouTube during her senior year. From there, she started experimenting with cupcake and cake decorating and her baking wheels were spinning. One day, Josie stumbled across a cute lemonade stand that had “the most cutest, impressive, beautifully decorated sugar cookies ever.” It was then she knew cake decorating was one thing, but sugar cookie decorating was another. A special gift from her father and Jill, his partner in life and in business, Josie was given her first KitchenAid stand mixer and baking supplies. It was almost immediately that her personal testing kitchen was in full force of testing more than just baking ideas, but also testing Josie’s skills and patience. “When I first started, I did have a difficult time trying to get the right piping tip size, icing recipe, icing consistency and a steady hand,” she said. “But with a good few months of practice, I progressively caught on and it felt more natural

to me.” She’s still learning new techniques and growing as a baker daily, she adds. Three years after her high school graduation, Josie’s new business was growing at a fast pace. By this time, she was making all of her cookies in the deli area at her family’s Italian market, Licavoli’s, on Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods. Word was getting out and anytime someone asked on Facebook for custom cookie recommendations for a special event, Josie’s name was starting to become very recognized. The butcher block tables at the market were no longer big enough for the space that she required and her dad knew it was time for her to expand into a place to call her own. In October 2023, after an all-hands-on-deck family project involving her mom’s boyfriend Bob, a carpenter by trade — who she fondly calls “Bob the builder” — and her fiancé, Nino, Licavoli’s Sugar Coated Designs by Josie now had its official storefront located inside her father’s market. “It turned out better than I could have ever imagined, like it was here all along,”

she said. “I’m so lucky to be able to have my own business in my dad’s market. I love it here!” Josie’s regular day normally starts around 8:30 a.m., depending on her orders for the week and the workload for each day. All of her cookies are baked fresh. When she has custom orders or cookie sales at the storefront, her days include planning the order from start to finish. Designing, making custom cookie cutters on a 3-D printer with the help from Nino, making homemade cookie dough, rolling and cutting the cookies. Then, baking and decorating each individual cookie with her homemade icing. The icing alone is a process in itself. Coloring it, baking it, outlining each cookie, icing them — also called flooding — and doing the piping details before completion, which is photos and packaging. The process takes about two days, depending on the order size. She also makes fresh chocolate chip and snickerdoodle cookies. “Those are very easy and can be made in just a few hours and put out for sale,” she said. “I usually have my



Food Gossip

by Nina Taormina

chocolate chip cookies here for sale and my rice crispy treats. I sell a half dozen chocolate chip cookies and a jumbo chocolate chip cookie.” I mean, who doesn’t love a chocolate chip cookie? She says they’re the fan favorites, especially the jumbo ones. But her snickerdoodle cookies are worth a trip to the market on their own. Definitely a sweet tooth fix for me! Her custom orders are date specific. She bakes according to the pick up date preferred by the customer. Her in-store sales are typically for the holidays and sometimes special events, such as anything involving our local sports teams, like the playoffs we’re getting accustomed to. These are set dates she will post on her social media pages ahead of time. “The amount of baked goods made daily depends on how many orders I have for that week,” she said. Josie states that she likes to have a “baking day” when she makes her cookies for the next day’s orders so that she can have a smooth process from start to finish. “Since I am not a full bakery, and

mainly do custom orders, I go off of the week,” she explained. “For example, I had 51.5 dozen cookies last week for custom orders.” I asked Josie about her favorite and least favorite part of her business. She told me her favorite is making and decorating her sugar cookies. She loves creating and planning the designs and enjoys the challenge, especially with different color schemes. “It’s my absolute favorite thing to see the customers’ faces when they see their cookies,” she shared with a smile. Her least favorite is making all the icing. Her royal icing is homemade and she hand mixes it and colors it. This process can take up to an hour, although she says it’s one of the most important parts of her cookie process. Her most popular events for special orders are graduations or weddings. She says they are tied for her top events. Grad season is right around the corner. Consider this your reminder to have the coolest sugar cookies in town at your graduate’s party! They also make perfect party favors. My family has definitely enjoyed some over the years. For custom cookie orders, you can message Josie on Facebook under

See FOOD, page 3C



Licavoli’s Market inside store front.



Chocolate chip and snickerdoodle cookies.



Detroit sports-themed sugar cookies.



Children’s birthday sugar cookies.

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



For Easter this year, I gave my kids the HYOIO Catching Sticks Reflex Game from Amazon and it has been hanging in our living room ever since, ready to play at any moment. What started as a fun holiday surprise quickly turned into our go-to game for friendly sibling competition, lots of laughter and a surprising amount of focus. The game is all about reflexes, not athletic ability, which makes it fun and accessible for everyone. You hang the base unit over a doorway and it uses two

hooks to hold the grab sticks. When the machine randomly releases a stick, players try to catch it before it hits the ground. It sounds simple, but the challenge ramps up fast. One of the coolest features is that it has three adjustable speed levels, so younger kids, teens and even competitive adults all can play at their own pace. In our house, it has



become the ultimate sibling showdown. With three teenage boys obsessed with competition and coordination, this game has delivered. I even got involved and managed to surprise them with a few catches of my own. Measuring just more than 15 by 8 inches, the setup is compact and easy to move around. It

is small enough to store, but durable enough to handle daily play. The machine is fully automatic, which adds to the surprise factor and keeps everyone on their toes. Beyond the fun, it has helped improve reaction time, concentration and hand-eye coordination, all while keeping the kids off screens and actually interacting with one another. For just \$20, it is a fun and easy win and a great gift idea for birthdays or holidays.

I am giving this 5 out of 5 alligators.

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

Provençal potato salad

Courtesy of Mombeau’s Table

Have you ever tasted the potato salad at Jumps Restaurant on the Hill? There is nothing like it. It’s light, zingy and so flavorful. The salad is made with red potatoes in a vinegar-based dressing with slightly crunchy onions. They have perfected it. I’ve tried to copycat the recipe at home but have never had luck. The concept seems so simple: potatoes, onions, mustard, vinegar, oil and some seasonings. But it’s never as good as the original. So instead, when I’m craving a light potato salad I make this instead. This potato salad has no mayonnaise. I’ve found that people who do not like mayonnaise really have a strong dislike for it. There is no in between here. Two of my kids can’t even look at mayonnaise. They will, however, eat this, olives and all. This potato salad has lots of Provençal flavors are highlighted here like fresh tarragon and parsley, briny capers and olives. It’s tossed in a

simple vinaigrette that has anchovy paste as its secret weapon. The anchovy paste adds another salty layer of flavor. The amount of dressing may seem like a lot but the potatoes absorb it all. The key here is adding the dressing to the hot potatoes so it can absorb better. Since there is no mayonnaise, this salad can sit at room temperature and is a perfect addition to any picnic or outdoor meal. One quick note, I used Trader Joe’s grilled olives that come in a jar. They were so delicious and added a very subtle smoky flavor. If you happen to come across them, try them out for this salad or just in general. Cheers, Mombeau

Provençal Potato Salad

1.5 lbs fingerling potatoes

1 heaping cup green beans

2 tbsp chopped parsley

- 1 tbsp chopped tarragon
 - 2 tbsp chopped red onion
 - 1 tbsp capers
 - 2 tbsp chopped green olives (about 6 large)
 - 3 tbsp red wine vinegar
 - 1 tsp anchovy paste
 - 1 minced garlic clove
 - 1 tsp dijon mustard
 - 4 tbsp olive oil
 - 1 tsp salt
 - ½ tsp pepper
- Start by making the dressing. In a small bowl, add in the vinegar, anchovy paste, minced garlic, mustard, salt and pepper. Whisk together and then slowly drizzle in the oil. Whisk until emulsified. Place the fingerling potatoes in a pot of cold water with one tablespoon of salt. Make sure



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

there is about two inches of water covering the potatoes. Bring to a boil then back to a simmer. While the potatoes cook, wash and trim the green beans. Cut into two inch pieces. Simmer the potatoes for about 12 to 15 minutes or until fork tender. During the

last couple minutes of cooking, add in the green beans. They should be cooked until bright green and tender. Drain the potatoes and green beans and put back into the pot to steam for a few minutes. While still hot, slice

the potatoes in half. Add the sliced potatoes along with the green beans in a large bowl. Add in the chopped herbs, onions, capers and olives. Pour in the dressing and toss everything together. For best results, let the salad sit for an hour before serving.

Wine and food pairings

I believe far too much is made of the “proper” wine and food pairings. I realize that many people have made their life’s work all about telling others which wines go best with which foods, but there are rarely perfect answers here, and even though certain basic guidelines are applicable, even the most authoritative experts often debate with one another. Many of the food-wine conversations to which I have been a witness have ended up with one person thinking the other is an idiot and they almost never agree on the specifics. Generalizations, however — well, that’s another story. A hearty plate of pasta

with a deep, rich, red tomato-based sauce, most experts would agree, calls for a tart red wine that has enough acidity to contend with the acid that’s in the sauce. Like Chianti or barbera. And experts agree also that a typical chargrilled steak calls for a gutsy red wine such as a cabernet or syrah — a wine with enough oomph to handle the protein and fat in the steak. Veal forestiere, for example, typically calls for a flavorful, fairly intense red wine that can compete with the mushrooms, Marsala, and butter and red wine sauce. I had this dish several years ago with a fabulous older red French Burgundy, and it

was phenomenal. So, I was a little surprised when I interviewed a wine collector decades ago at a restaurant where he ordered that very dish and chose a gewurztraminer from Alsace to go with it. I asked why he chose that wine. He said that when he was in his 20s, he visited Europe and had that dish and that a waiter had suggested the white wine to go with it. He said he never forgot how well the flavors married. Many sommeliers think pinot noir and salmon are the perfect pairing, but I often prefer another wine with that fish. I usually order salmon rare because it’s a rich,

oily fish and overcooking causes it to lose some of its charm. When it’s rare, I find it often works well with a pinot gris, notably one from a cold region. Such a wine then will have good acids and tannins to contend with the richness of the fish. Most cream soups also could use assistance from wine. But not just any wine. I adore dry Oloroso sherry with cream soups and often put a teaspoon of the sherry in the soup! One basic rule that’s easy to remember: Try to match up the basic flavors of the food with the basic structure of the wine. Oysters, for example,



are a dry rose, or one that’s sparkling, or a light red Beaujolais. In the final analysis, however, I live by one creed: I’d rather have an excellent “wrong” wine than a poor “right” one.

To find out more about Sonoma County resident Dan Berger, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

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FOOD

Continued from page 2C

her business name, as well as on Instagram at @licavolissugarcoateddesigns-byj. Calling the market directly at (313) 642-4404 is an option as well. May through August dates book extremely fast, as she can take orders up to 600 cookies. To ensure her cookies

are always as fresh as possible, she does have a dream team on standby to help her with bigger orders, but for the most part she’s a one-gal show. “Quality is my number one priority and I would say I am a perfectionist, so I can only do the decorating on the cookies,” she said. “But I do get help with icing (flooding) them. “Making cookies has

brought my dream of owning my own business and doing something I love to life,” she added. “I’m so grateful for that.” At just 23, we can’t wait to see how far this dream takes her. Fun fact: When Josie and her brother, Philip, were younger, her nickname for him was “cool whip” and his for her was “cookie.” Stay Tuned. Stay hungry.

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Jack Gryzenia, of Grosse Pointe Farms, has the right stuff to be a real contender in the Classic.

PHOTO BY ANNE GRYZENIA

Local anglers — ready...set...cast!

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

The fifth annual Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic kicks off today and runs through the end of June.

“We’re happy to offer this fun and exciting contest yet again,” Publisher Anne Gryzenia said. “What could be better than spending time along or on our beautiful Lake St. Clair.”

And it’s not just us saying that. The website fishingbooker.com, which matches anglers with charters, ranks Lake St. Clair No. 3 in the country for fishing.

As usual, anglers are aiming for the biggest catch, qualifying with smallmouth and largemouth bass, pike, muskie and walleye. Prizes will be awarded based on fish length.

Divisions are split into age groups: 12 and younger and 13

and older.

Each week brings several chances to win great prizes, including gift cards and gear from Lakeside Fishing, Fishbones, Fairway Packing Co.’s The Steak Shop, Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy, Wally’s Frozen Custard, Wilson Marine and Chocolate Bar Cafe. Everyone who enters any size fish is eligible to win prizes via a random weekly drawing.

Cash prizes also are awarded for pier fishing; competing boaters need to confirm the boat specifics.

“We’re excited to once again take part in the Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic and connect with the local community through this great tradition,” said Kyle Hecht, independent branch leader and financial consultant at Charles Schwab’s Grosse Pointe Independent Branch. “As the event’s premier sponsor, we’re proud to be part of something that

brings people together in such a meaningful way. It’s a reflection of the kind of relationships we strive to build every day. At our Charles Schwab branch, we’re focused on delivering personal financial guidance and building lasting relationships that go beyond the walls of our office. Supporting our community, both through events like this and in our day-to-day work with clients, is something we truly value.”

Several additional sponsors also are responsible for making this family-friendly event possible.

Have you been to Fishbones yet this year? Their outdoor patio is the perfect place to enjoy a meal with friends, family and fresh air.

Don’t forget to pick up your fishing gear and tackle at Lakeside Fishing Shop. They’ll be providing helpful weekly fishing

See FISH, page 6C

2025 Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic

- DIVISION A (ON SHORE) - Ages 12 & under
- DIVISION B (ON SHORE) - Ages 13 & older
- DIVISION C (BOATING) - Ages 12 & under
- DIVISION D (BOATING) - Ages 13 & older

Fishing area: Anywhere in the Grosse Pointes and surrounding areas on land or boat

Dates: May 29 - June 28, 2025

Cash prizes:

- \$50 per fish category for the A & C divisions, plus \$100 for the largest fish of the week.
- \$25 per fish category for the B & D divisions, plus \$50 for the largest fish of the week.

ALSO weekly drawings for gift cards, gear and other prizes.

Visit grossepointenews.com/fishingclassic for full contest rules and details.



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FISH TIPS

by Lakeside Fishing Shop

THIS WEEK’S TIP:
Pulling harnesses at Metro Beach. Bass are biting along all the mile roads, with perch action at the 7 Mile Road marker in 13’ depths. Good fishing, everyone!

Sponsored by:

Lakeside Fishing Shop
25110 Jefferson Avenue/10 Mile Road
St. Clair Shores • (586) 777-7003

For the daily fishing report:
Call (586) 777-7008

GOOD LUCK

TO ALL FISHING CONTEST PARTICIPANTS!

9 Mile & Jefferson • St. Clair Shores • 586 498-3000



LET'S GO FISHING!

MAY 29 - JUNE 28, 2025

WIN CASH PRIZES

OR GIFT CARDS AND FISHING GEAR

CONTEST RULES:

- 4 divisions to enter
 - DIVISION A (ON SHORE) - Ages 12 & under
 - DIVISION B (ON SHORE) - Ages 13 & older
 - DIVISION C (BOATING) - Ages 12 & under
 - DIVISION D (BOATING) - Ages 13 & older
- Fish categories:
 - BASS (LARGEMOUTH AND SMALLMOUTH)
 - MUSKIE
 - PIKE
 - WALLEYE
- Catch and release fishing only
- Lake St. Clair or the Detroit River
- Submit a photo of your catch next to this ruler page, like this



- Contest is for length of fish only
 - Must be measured with ruler provided/assembled from this page or official on-site bench rulers
- Enter as many days/fish as you wish!

SEE COMPLETE RULES ONLINE AT:
grossepointenews.com/fishingclassic/rules

Announcing weekly winners in 6/5, 6/12, 6/19, 6/26 and 7/17 issues of the Grosse Pointe News.



Lakeside Fishing



Grosse Pointe News

1" —

2" —

3" —

4" —

5" —

6" —

7" —

8" —

9" —

10" —

11" —

12" —

13" —

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27" —

28" —

29" —

30" —

31" —

32" —

33" —

34" —

35" —

36" —

37" —

38" —

ALIGN WITH 19.5' MARK AND TAPE TOGETHER

CUT RULER EXTENSION AT RIGHT IF ADDITIONAL LENGTH IS NEEDED AND TAPE TO THE BOTTOM END OF RULER AT LEFT

GROSSE POINTE NEWS • CHARLES SCHWAB GP • LAKESIDE FISHING • WILSON MARINE • FISHBONES • FAIRWAY PACKING CO. • WHISTLE STOP HOBBY & TOY • WALLY'S FROZEN CUSTARD • CHOCOLATE BAR CAFE

LAKESIDE FISHING • WILSON MARINE • FISHBONES • FAIRWAY PACKING CO. • WHISTLE STOP HOBBY & TOY • WALLY'S FROZEN CUSTARD • CHOCOLATE BAR CAFE • GROSSE POINTE NEWS • CHARLES SCHWAB GP

FISH:

Continued from page 4C

reports, as well as great prizes any angler would love to add to his or her bag of tricks. “We especially hope contestants and others will patronise Lakeside and Fishbones as Jefferson in St. Clair Shores undergoes two years of sewer work,” Gryzenia said. “The Nautical Mile deserves our help.” Wilson Marine in Harrison Township has you covered for service, parts and accessories and Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy meets all your fun indoor and outdoor summer needs. Plus, Whistle Stop is supplying prizes for the GPN Inshore Fishing Classic kickoff coloring contest.



COURTESY PHOTO

Ben Jacobs’ 15” smallmouth bass is a perfect specimen, caught by boat in the 2024 competition.

And don’t forget Wally’s Frozen Custard or Chocolate Bar Cafe — the ideal spots to hit after fishing for a delicious cooldown or to grab a dessert to go along with steaks to grill from Fairway Packing. When you visit a sponsor business this year, be sure to say hello and let them know you joined in on the fishing classic fun. Participants must have an adult subscriber to the Grosse Pointe News in the household to enter this contest, so now is the perfect time to get a subscription. Sign up online at grossepointenews.com or call (313) 882-6900. For complete rules of the Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic, catch all the details online at grossepointenews.com/fishing.

Making memories



COURTESY PHOTO

Kyle Hecht, above, Independent Branch Leader and Financial Consultant at Charles Schwab Grosse Pointe, fishes with 5-year-old son Hunter Hecht, left, and 2-year-old daughter, Piper Hecht. The family warms up off Lake St. Clair in preparation for the 2025 Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic. Charles Schwab Grosse Pointe is the premier sponsor of the Classic. Join the Hechts for some good old fashioned family fun all along the Pointes side of Lake St. Clair, as well as on the Detroit River. It should be a fantastic season of fishing, so prep your poles and grab your bait — we’ll see you on the lake!

Learn a few helpful muskie fun facts

- The elusive muskie is certainly a trophy of Michigan lakes. According to Field and Stream magazine, here are some helpful tidbits to increase your chances of a great catch:
- Muskies are known as the “fish of 10,000 casts”
- Even small, young muskies simply don’t feed voraciously and are picky eaters
- Their feeding habits are dictated by water conditions, weather, and even the moon phase
- The bigger the muskie grows, the more selective it becomes, making luring challenging
- Adult muskies dine on larger-size prey such as small carp or bass and trout



- Their metabolism is slower than other species of gamefish, so after a big meal they may not bite again for days or weeks
- Rather than sweat the challenges and tracking moon phases, Field and Stream suggests just taking your chances — many a muskie has been caught while fishing for something else!

SOURCE: FIELD AND STREAM

Lake St. Clair
A place of wonder and natural beauty

- Area: 430 square miles – 26 miles x 24 miles
- Average depth: 10 to 11 feet
- Maximum natural depth: 21.3 feet
- Maximum dredged depth: 27 feet in the navigation channel, made deeper to accomodate freighter passage
- Elevation: 574 feet above sea level
- Most popular fish to catch: Perch, walleye, smallmouth bass and muskie
- Fed by: The St. Clair River, which flows to the south of Lake Huron.

Many thanks

TO OUR GENEROUS CONTEST SPONSORS

Join us in recognizing our great sponsors, who have so generously underwritten the contest and contributed the prizes for the winners of the contest and raffle. We are so happy to be a part of this community of kind and engaged businesses. Now, let’s GO FISH – and bring back some legendary catches, great memories and amazing fish tales!



Lakeside Fishing

WILSON MARINE

WILSONBOATS.COM



Grosse
Pointe
News





Adam Morath, left, pictured last year with his hefty 15.25” smallmouth bass. Morath placed as a walleye winner, catching a 19” fish.

One of the many fish caught by Andrew Phillips in 2024, top right, that made it a spectacular year of fishing.



Gabby Szafarczyk, above, entered five smallmouth bass in the competition last year. Parker Hurd, right, nabbed a 16” largemouth bass in 2024 in Grosse Pointe Woods.



COURTESY PHOTOS



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

2024’s big winner Camden Kensora, 12, above left, took the competition by storm with his 39-inch muskie. Camden, of Grosse Pointe Woods, receives his trophy from the top sponsor of the Fishing Classic, Kyle Hecht, above right, of Charles Schwab Grosse Pointe. Their winning smiles tell the whole story of a competition that unites our community.

FISHING FUN • COLORING CONTEST

ENTER TO WIN!

Learning to fish is lots of fun!

Ask mom or dad (or grandma and grandpa) if they would like to go fishing with you. Maybe they would like to help you enter our fishing contest. Even if you are not ready to fish – you can enter this coloring contest! Color in the picture and send a copy of it to us. You might just be the lucky winner of a great prize from **Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy!**



WIN a \$25 gift card to Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy!

Child's name _____	Age _____
City _____	
email address _____	
Phone number _____	

KIDS ages 2-12, have an adult email a photocopy of your coloring contest entry to: media@grossepointenews.com or deliver to: 16980 Kercheval Ave., GP by 5pm on 6/6/25.

8C | LIFE & LEISURE



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT PICTURES AND LEVERAGE ENTERTAINMENT
Left, Mark Wahlberg as Pete and Rose Byrne as Ellie at the adoption fair in the movie “Instant Family,” written by John Morris and Sean Anders and directed by Sean Anders.

MOVIE REVIEW
“Instant Family”
2018 - Rated PG-13
1 hr 58 min
★★★★☆

When I noticed this movie was based on a true story about a young couple adopting three foster children, I was a bit dubious. It had the potential to be either really funny or overly dramatic. Fortunately, it turned out to be a perfect combination of the two. I’m not sure why it isn’t better known, but now that it’s on Netflix, it’s getting the attention it deserves. As I like to say, “You’ll laugh. You’ll cry. You’ll thoroughly enjoy this delightful movie.”

“Instant Family” is based on director Sean Anders’s (“That’s My Boy,” “Spaced”) actual experiences with adopting three kids and he co-wrote the screenplay with John Morris. It stars Mark Wahlberg, Rose Byrne and a strong cast of supporting actors, including the talented Isabela Merced (“Sicario: Day of the Soldado”) — she’s definitely an up-and-coming star to look out for. It features an abundance of laughs while dealing with the serious topic of adoption and the foster care system. But it treats this subject with the respect it deserves.

Pete (Wahlberg) and Ellie (Byrne) are a happily married couple who make their living fixing



Karen (Spencer), Ellie (Byrne), Sharon (Notaro) and Pete (Wahlberg).



Lizzy's (Merced) new bedroom.

up and flipping homes. One day, as they begin work on a five-bedroom wreck something dawns on them. Could this be the house of their dreams? And with some subtle hints from friends and family, perhaps the only thing missing is a family of their own. That’s when they realize



A wild first dinner together.

they just might be perfect candidates to adopt a child.

After doing some online research, the couple decides to attend a series of adoption classes. The sessions are co-lead by social workers Karen (Octavia Spencer) and Sharon (Tig Notaro), who are absolutely hilarious. Karen responds to questions by blurting out the first thing that comes to mind, which is often

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

“Life is too short to watch mediocre movies”

wildly inappropriate. Then Sharon, totally straight-faced, rephrases the answer in a measured, thoughtful way. The two play off each other perfectly, reminiscent of old-time comedy teams like Abbott & Costello.

The classes conclude with a huge adoption

all three children in.

Little do they know what they’re getting in to. They soon find out Lizzie is quite the rebel. She knows exactly how to push their buttons to get them riled up. Her brother and sister prove to be a handful as well. Juan (Gustavo Escobar) is a little sweetheart, but he’s accident-prone and is constantly crying out in shame for his minor mishaps. And Lita (Julianna Gamiz) is a huge demon in a tiny package. When she doesn’t get her way, she lets loose with a scream that could shatter fine china. The chaotic first dinner they share together hints at the challenges that lie ahead for the new family.

Some of the brightest moments in “Instant Family” are when Margo Martindale (“Cocaine Bear,” “August: Osage County”) is on screen. She plays Pete’s mom and is so overjoyed at being a grandma, she’ll do anything for her grandkids. Grandma Sandy goes out of her way to spoil the kids and her unbridled enthusiasm and delight make for some very funny scenes.

While a majority of the film deals with the family learning how to work together as a cohesive unit, it also takes on the more serious issue of the foster system itself. The main topic being that reunification is the ultimate goal, even when it’s not in the best interest of the children. In this case, the kid’s mother, after being released from prison for substance abuse related offenses, is allowed to make her case for taking back her children. This could have easily been a heavy-handed part of the film, but Anders presented it

smartly and in a believable manner.

Overall, I found “Instant Family” to be a very entertaining film. It features excellent writing, fine acting from the entire cast, and an engaging story that definitely had me smiling. Actually, there were several laugh-out-loud moments in the film. So if you’re looking for a movie the whole family will enjoy, put this one in your queue.

Currently streaming on Netflix and Paramount, and to rent on Amazon Prime.

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.



Sharon (Notaro) and Karen (Spencer).



Meeting with social workers Karen (Spencer) and Sharon (Notaro).

AVVERTENZA: l'adozione imprevista di 3 figli può provocare

caos
risate
imbarazzo
errori
amore

Mark Wahlberg
Rose Byrne
Octavia Spencer

instant family

per maggiori informazioni andate
dal 21 marzo al cinema

Movie poster.

Weekly Challenge

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

5/29 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

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

5/22 Solution

Contract Bridge

A CHANGE OF PLANS

South dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ K Q J
♥ 9 6
♦ 9 8 7 5 3
♣ J 8 2

WEST

♠ 9 8 5
♥ K 10 8 3
♦ K 6 2
♣ 10 7 4

EAST

♠ 3 2
♥ A Q 7 4
♦ Q 10 4
♣ 9 6 5 3

SOUTH

♠ A 10 7 6 4
♥ J 5 2
♦ A J
♣ A K Q

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
4 ♠			

Opening lead — nine of spades.

The opening lead has a decisive effect on the outcome of many hands. Sometimes it defeats a contract, and sometimes it hands declarer the contract on a silver platter. Quite often it radically changes the course of play, since it might compel declarer to adopt an approach he would not normally have considered.

Take this deal where West has no clear-cut lead and decides to start with a trump. This turns out to be his best

shot, because without a trump lead, South would eventually be able to ruff a heart in dummy and so acquire his 10th trick.

But the trump lead poses a direct threat to that plan and forces South to reconsider whether to try for a heart ruff in dummy. In the actual deal, if he tries for the heart ruff, he goes down against best defense.

Thus, let's say he wins the spade in dummy and leads a heart a trick two. East wins and returns a trump. When declarer then leads another heart, West wins and returns his last trump, and South eventually loses three hearts and a diamond.

However, the opening trump lead should persuade South that trying for a heart ruff is no longer a viable proposition, so he should seek another line of play. As it happens, there is one, and South should not dawdle in adopting it as his only realistic possibility.

Accordingly, he next plays the A-J of diamonds, hoping to find the suit divided 3-3, in which case dummy's diamonds can be established, using the two remaining high trumps in dummy as entries. This counterstroke proves successful, and, in fact, if the defenders do not promptly cash two hearts, South finishes with 11 tricks.

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by Steve Becker

Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

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

Happy Birthday for Thursday, May 29, 2025:

You are kind, charming, gregarious and magnetic. You're also compassionate. This is a year of learning and teaching. Take time to renew your spiritual or religious beliefs. Explore philosophies that will give you a better self-awareness and get you closer to the true meaning of your life.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

This is a fast-paced, stimulating day, and you're keen to get your point of view across to someone. (Today you're more of a talker than a listener.) It's an excellent time to start a new business venture, as well as exchange and learn ideas and plans related to business and commerce. Tonight: Conversations.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

You are the financial wizard of the zodiac, and today you have money-making ideas! Or perhaps this stimulating influence taking place in your Money House will produce financial discussions with others. You might be keen to make a special purchase. Ka-ching! Tonight: Check your belongings.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Today both the Sun and your ruler Mercury are lined up in your sign, which stimulates your need to talk to others and share your ideas. You want to make plans for the future. Get out and travel! Be an active agent with respect to the world at large. Tonight: You're powerful.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

The Moon is still in your sign boosting your good fortune over all the other signs. Take advantage of this! Why not ask the universe for a favor? Meanwhile, research of any kind will pay off for you today. You'll seek answers and information with determination. Tonight: Enjoy privacy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Today two different energies are at play: One will encourage you to get out and talk to everyone. You'll be enthused, extroverted and interested in talking to younger people in particular. You might share your goals for the future with someone. Nevertheless, part of you wants to stay private. Tonight: You're popular!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You have confidence to talk to bosses, teachers, parents and people in authority today, which is why you won't hesitate to express your views. You'll ask for what you want, which is why you might advance your agenda. Tonight: Show respect.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

You're the most sociable sign in the zodiac, and today you will love interacting with others, especially sharing exciting, fresh ideas. Discussions about politics, religion, philosophy and heady topics will turn your crank. You might make travel plans! Tonight: Study and learn.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You have determination and steely discipline, which is why you will be intrigued by deep, psychological truths today. You might have a profound effect upon someone. Discussions about finances and shared property also might occur. Tonight: Check your finances.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

There's a lot of energy coming at you from other people today. Someone might try to convince you about something. They might try to sell you their ideas. Whatever the case, be aware that you have to stay on your toes. Fortunately, you can charm and schmooze anyone today. Tonight: Cooperate.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

This will be a productive day for you, because you're mentally energetic and keen to achieve your objectives. Discussions with others will go well. Very likely, you will take charge and run the show. Nevertheless, be aware that you have to compromise today. Definitely. Tonight: Be productive.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

This is an upbeat, fun-loving day! In particular, it's a creative time for you, which is why you will shine if you're involved in sports, working with children, the arts, the entertainment world or anything to do with the hospitality industry. You're in the groove! Tonight: Socialize!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

Today you want to socialize and have fun with others. Nevertheless, family discussions will be important. You might talk to a parent or an older family member. Discussions about real estate, home repairs, renovations and family plans will take place. Tonight: Relax at home.

BORN TODAY

Actress Annette Bening (1958), 35th U.S. President John F. Kennedy (1917), actor, comedian Bob Hope (1903).

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg May 29, 2025

ACROSS

- 1 Disturb
- 6 Public square
- 11 pal
- 14 Accra's country
- 15 Made more bearable
- 16 Two halves
- 17 "Was optimistic (In this answer, see letters 4-9)
- 19 Golden object in "Jack and the Beanstalk"
- 20 Suddenly bright stars
- 21 On the Caribbean, say
- 23 Instance
- 24 "Wryly humorous (... letters 2-4)
- 27 Miscalculations
- 29 Crime for a pyromaniac
- 30 Org., whose flag has 12 stars
- 31 Cereal grains
- 33 "Presto!"
- 36 Physique, slangily
- 37 *Fruit with a narrow top (... letters 3-5)
- 40 Pop
- 41 Compete in an aquatic meet
- 43 Action
- 44 Thing sent in a birthday text
- 46 Accounts
- 48 "I can ____" ("Tell me about it")
- 50 "Downgraded planet (... letters 4-6)
- 53 Take a turn, in chess
- 54 Entered swiftly
- 55 Cost
- 57 "Affirmative," in Cologne
- 58 Have a whack at something, or an instruction for entering each starred clue's answer?
- 64 For
- 65 Opposites of odds
- 66 Princess's accessory
- 67 Mateo
- 68 Witherspoon of "You're Cordially Invited"
- 69 Terminated

DOWN

- 1 "Blech!"
- 2 Vietnam's national dish
- 3 Tree gunk
- 4 Catch in a trap
- 5 Bowlful with ground beef and green chiles, perhaps
- 6 Antifur grp.
- 7 Infused with alcohol
- 8 Volcanic powder
- 9 Sleeping character?
- 10 Wednesday on television?
- 11 Takes someone out
- 12 Darling
- 13 Allowed by law
- 18 Higher than
- 22 Gait slower than a canter
- 23 Bank alternative
- 25 Like a movie that's not for kids
- 26 Major (Big Dipper's constellation)
- 27 DIY website
- 28 Most tender
- 30 Channel where you can find "The Big Bang Theory" reruns
- 32 Scottish assent
- 34 Truth or ____
- 35 Put two and two together, say
- 38 Adam's apple location?
- 39 Find a new home
- 42 O. Henry's "The Gift of the ____"
- 45 Collapses, as a tunnel
- 47 Hang around
- 49 Discharge
- 50 Daggers and a cauldron, e.g., in "Macbeth"
- 51 First lady Bush
- 52 Unlocks
- 56 It's over run!
- 59 "Now seen it all!"
- 60 Neckline shape
- 61 Possessed
- 62 Unrefined mineral
- 63 Small amount

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

5/22 Solution

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www.upuzzles.com

5/29

Bar Exam by Gabe Antell-Proulx

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
64						65					66			
67						68					69			

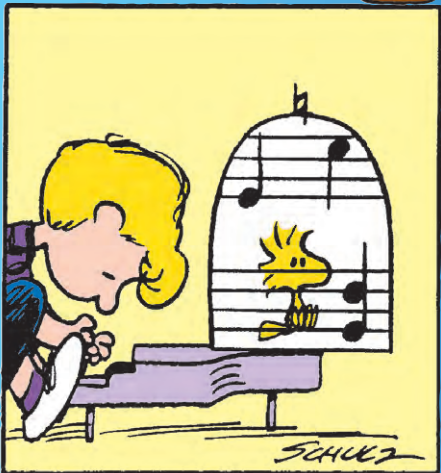


THURSDAY COMICS



Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



Bizarro Dan Piraro and Wayno



Andy Capp

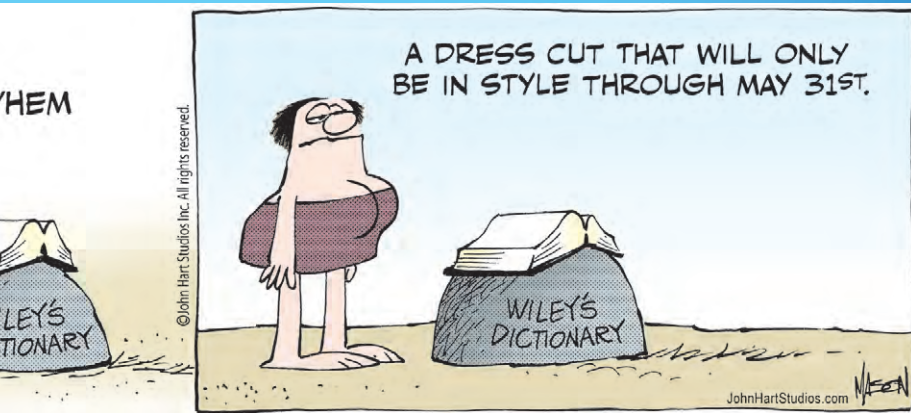


Reg Smythe

Flying McCoys Glenn McCoy



B.C.

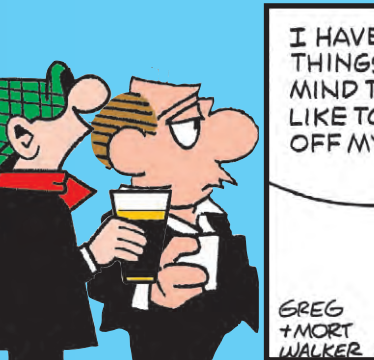


Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni

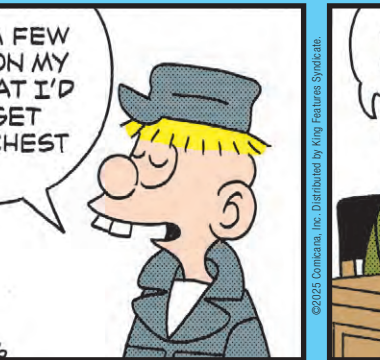
Reality Check Dave Whamond



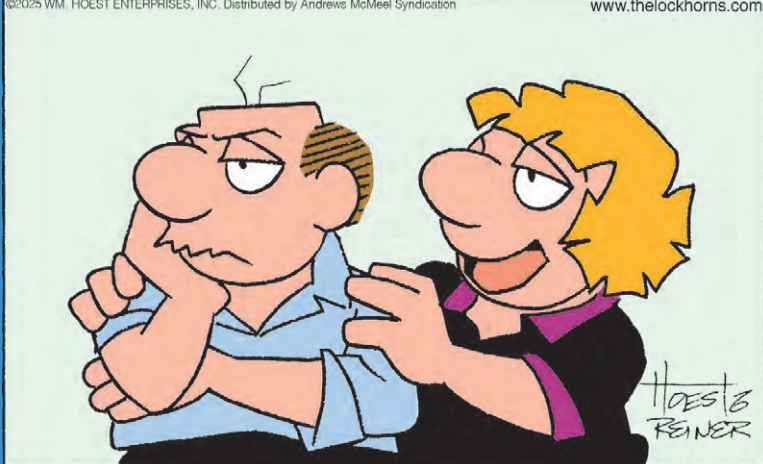
Beetle Bailey



Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



The Lockhorns Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



Mother Goose and Grim



Mike Peters



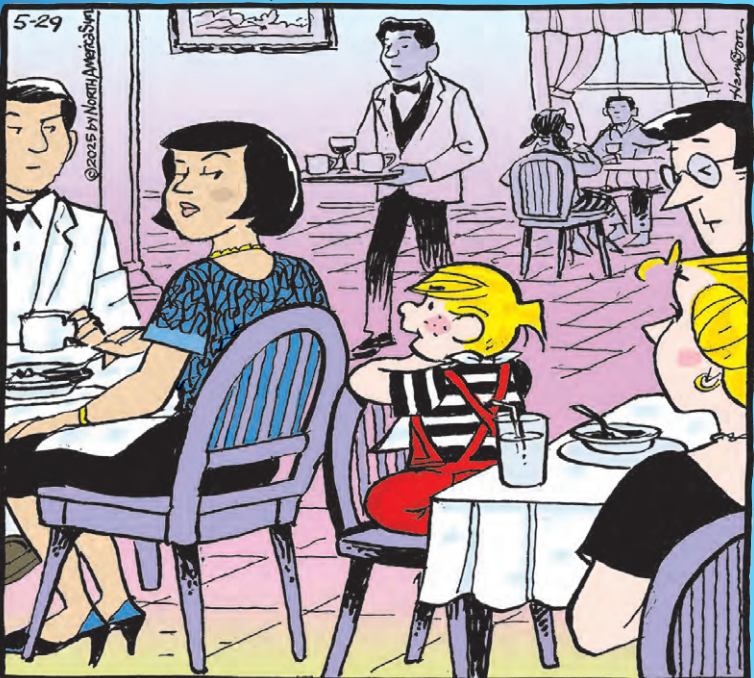
Crankshaft



Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



Dennis the Menace Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



Carpe Diem



Niklas Eriksson

Wumo



Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



THURSDAY COMICS





Garfield



I NEED TO START EATING HEALTHIER



WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?



MORE FRUIT FLIES

SOUNDS DISGUSTING

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JIM DAVIS 5-29

Hagar The Horrible



HERE I AM... FIFTEEN MINUTES BEFORE MY APPOINTMENT!

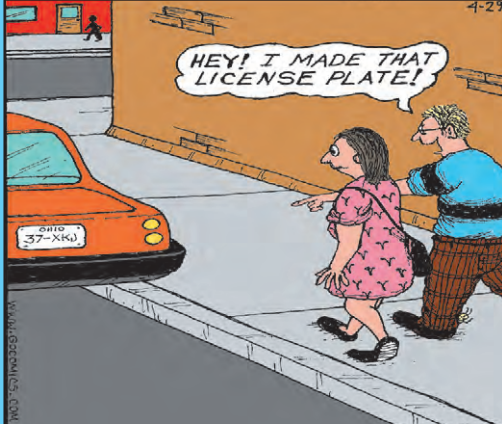
THAT WASN'T NECESSARY! WE DON'T HAVE THAT POLICY HERE!



I CAN HEAR WHY!

OWW SHRIEK! Noooo!!

Close To Home



HEY! I MADE THAT LICENSE PLATE!

Dik Browne and Chris Browne

John McPherson

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Wizard of Id



WENT FOR BACK SCRATCHES AND FOUND THE SPOT...

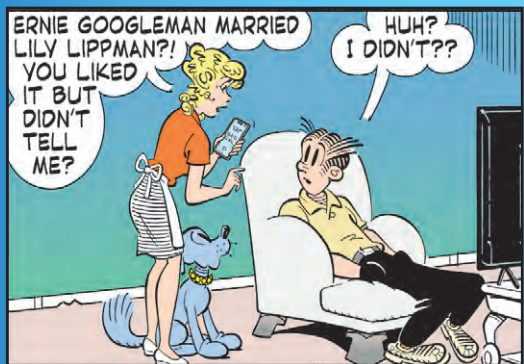
Ziggy



DON'T EVER CHANGE, ZIG! WE LIKE YOU JUST THE WAY YOU ARE!!

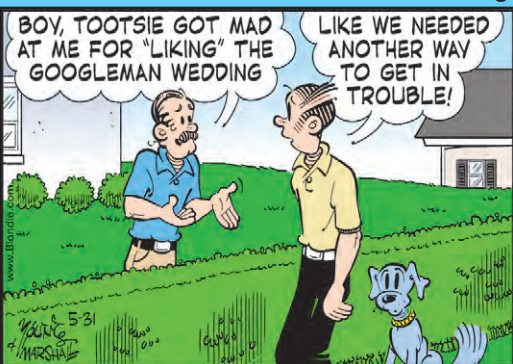
BUT DON'T GET ANY WORSE EITHER!

Blondie



ERNE GOOGLEMAN MARRIED LILY LIPPMAN?! YOU LIKED IT BUT DIDN'T TELL ME?

HUH? I DIDN'T??



BOY, TOOTSIE GOT MAD AT ME FOR "LIKING" THE GOOGLEMAN WEDDING

LIKE WE NEEDED ANOTHER WAY TO GET IN TROUBLE!

Marmaduke



"Marmaduke thinks you should be much nicer to the little kids."

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

Tom Wilson

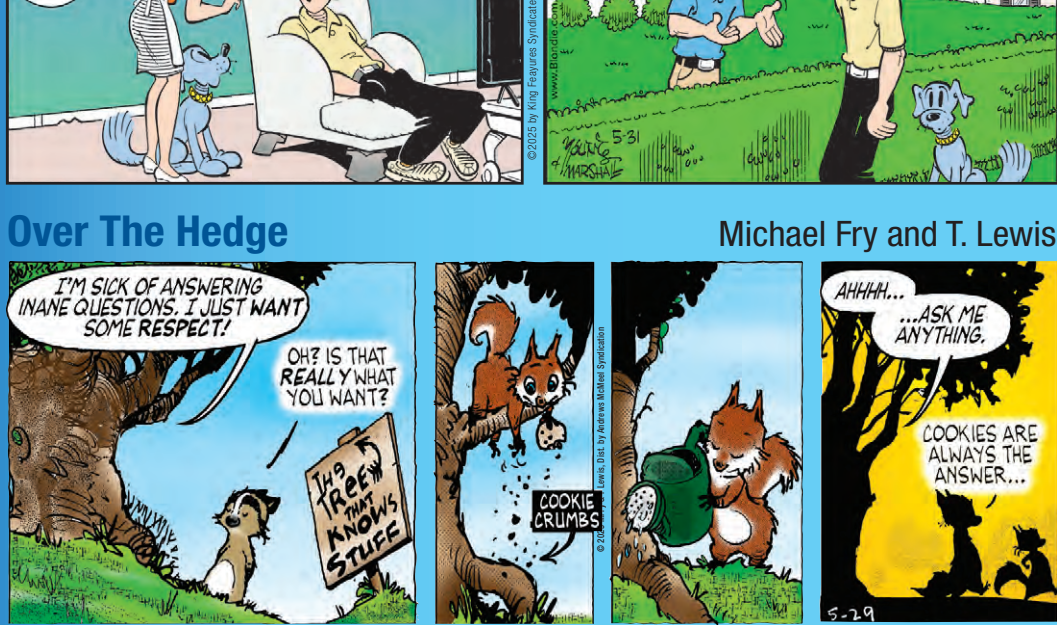
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Over The Hedge



I'M SICK OF ANSWERING INANE QUESTIONS. I JUST WANT SOME RESPECT!

OH? IS THAT REALLY WHAT YOU WANT?

THE GREEN MAN KNOWS STUFF

COOKIE CRUMBS

AHHHH... ...ASK ME ANYTHING.

COOKIES ARE ALWAYS THE ANSWER...

Crock



UNCLE CLAYBO GOT MARRIED AGAIN

MUST'VE BEEN A BIG RECEPTION AFTERWARDS

LETTER SAYS DENNY'S RAN OUT OF HAMBURGERS

HOW COME?

Popeye



WHEE-eee!! OUR CONTEST IS ABOUT OVER!

POPEYE ISN'T LICKED YET!

MY ROCKET BOMB IS CLOSING IN ON THE TARGET!

COME ON, YA BLASTID FIRECRACKER, I IS READY FER YA!

F Minus



YOU THINK YOU CAN RUN THIS OFFICE ON YOUR OWN? YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THE CALENDAR WOULD NOTIFY ME WHEN YOU ADDED "FIRE SHELLY" TO IT.

Family Circus



"Somebody ate two candy bars last night!"

Michael Fry and T. Lewis

Bud Sagendorf

Tony Carrillo

Bill and Jeff Keane

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Do you know the difference?

WANTS AND NEEDS

Met Pirate Pierre. He'll be stuck on this island for the next few months until another ship arrives to rescue him. It's a great time to know the difference between **WANTS** and **NEEDS**.

Which is which?
A **NEED** is something you **must have** in order to survive. You need water, food, shelter, clothing and sometimes medicines.

A **WANT** is something you would *like to have*, but can live without. A computer, cellphone, television and a bike are wants, not needs.



Look around the room you are in now. List three things that are **WANTS** and three things that are **NEEDS**.

WANTS	NEEDS

Standards Link: Economics: Understand the difference between basic survival and nonessential items.

True Treasure Map

It's going to be six months until the next pirate ship visits Pierre's island. He made a map of the island.

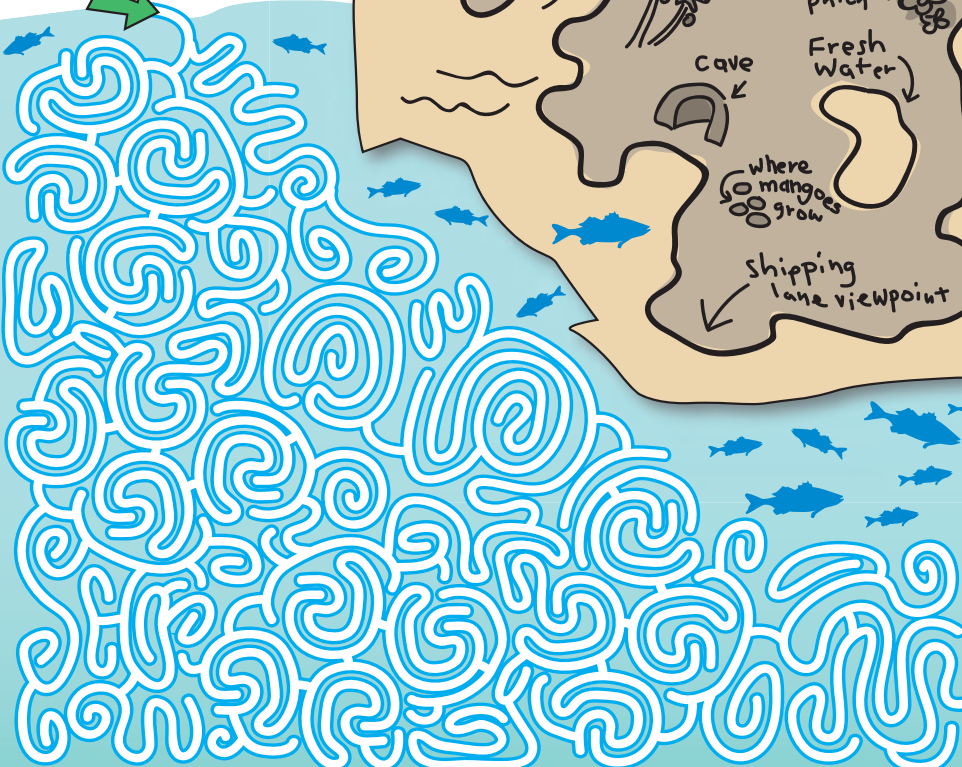
Circle the places on Pierre's map that will provide **NEEDS**. Cross out places that provide **WANTS**.

Standards Link: Economics: Differentiate between wants and needs.

Help Pierre catch a crab for dinner!



Pierre needs fish! How many can you find on this page?



SURVIVAL SUPPLIES

When his ship began to sink, Pirate Pierre had to act quickly to grab things he would **NEED** on the island rather than things he might **WANT**.

How did he do? Circle the things he will **NEED** on the island. Cross out the things he might **WANT** that won't really help him.



WANTS	NEEDS

Pierre's ship sank after someone put a lot of _____ inside one of the cannons.

Pierre swam to the shore of a very strange island. It was covered with _____, so he knew he'd have plenty to eat.

Instead of coconuts, _____ grew on the trees. And to catch fish, he used _____ for bait!

He built a little hut out of _____ that he found on the _____. It protected him when rain began to _____ from the sky.

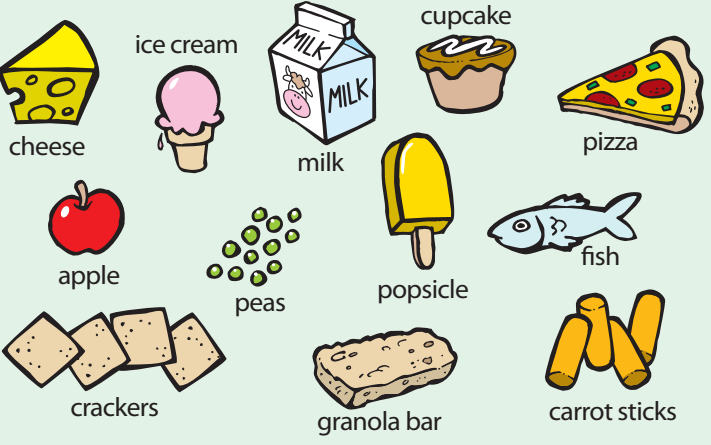
Pierre was eager to _____ home. He made a tall tower of _____ to catch the attention of passing ships. It worked! The captain of a _____ saw the tower and Pierre was rescued!

Standards Link: Grammar: Understand and use nouns, adjectives and verbs correctly.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Sometimes it's hard to decide if something is a **need** or a **want**. For example, cake is a food, but is it a want or a need?

Circle the foods here that you think are a need. Show your choices to a family member. Do they agree?



Double Double Word Search

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

CELLPHONE
TREASURE
COMPUTER
RESCUE
ISLAND
PIRATE
TROPHY
OYSTER
WANTS
NEEDS
KNIFE
SINK
CRAB
ROCK
ROPE

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

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

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: SURVIVE

The verb **survive** means to be able to remain alive.

The food delivery helped the family to **survive** the flood.

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

"I REALLY Want That!"

Look through the newspaper ads for something that you want. Divide the price of that item by 12. There are 12 months in a year, so how much would you need to save each month to purchase the item in a year?

Standards Link: Math: Calculate amounts using money.



Why is it so hard to talk to a pirate?

ANSWER: Because they love to ARRRR-gue!

Write On! Needs & Wants

List three things you **NEED** in your life and three things you **WANT**. Write a paragraph explaining your choices.

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Liggett bests South in boys playoff lacrosse showdown

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The varsity boys' lacrosse Division 2 regional semifinal last Thursday, May 22, may have been hosted by Dearborn Divine Child, but it was an all-Grosse Pointe affair. University Liggett School and Grosse Pointe South faced off to see who would advance to the

regional championship game. Ultimately, the Knights prevailed 7-4 to keep their playoff run going. "I liked our energy," Liggett boys lacrosse head coach Mike Costanzo said after the win. "We had a lot of passion and energy right from the start and I wasn't sure if they were going to be able to keep it up, but they sure did.

Our team played hard for four quarters, won a lot of ground balls and won a lot of faceoffs. They did a lot of gritty things that you've got to do to win." While Liggett got the win, South took the lead first. Jack Smith scored just a few minutes into the game to give the Blue Devils an early 1-0 lead. That lead stood for much of the first quarter until Liggett's Nick Gould was able to tie the game and then put the Knights ahead 2-1 by the end of the first quarter with a pair of quick goals. Luke Slanec added another to Liggett's lead early in the second quarter. South was able to cut the deficit back to one goal when Jack Cotton found the back of the net. However, the Knights struck again with a goal by Griffin Marchal to make it 4-2 in favor of Liggett going into halftime. The Knights continued to build on their lead and pull away with three unanswered goals to start the second half. Gould completed his hat trick and freshman Mac Costanzo added another tally for Liggett to make it 6-2 after three quar-



Liggett's Nick Gould celebrates with his teammates after scoring one of his three goals in the Knights' playoff victory over Grosse Pointe South.



South's Colin Cotton, right, and Doc Reilly from Liggett go head-to-head for a faceoff during the regional playoff game last Thursday, May 22.

PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Duff headed to states after helping South girls track clinch regional title

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

When the Grosse Pointe South girls' varsity track and field team captured the regional championship May 16, everyone knew that it would not have been possible without a full team effort. The Blue Devils functioned like a well-oiled machine that day and one of the key parts of that machine was junior Morgan Duff. Duff has been part of the track and field team since her freshman year. This spring was finally the season when she and the Blue Devils were able to overcome perennial regional favorite Detroit Cass Tech to bring home the trophy. "We knew in order to win, and to beat a powerhouse like Cass

Grosse Pointe News

ATHLETE
OF THE WEEK

Morgan Duff

School: Grosse Pointe South
Sport: Track and field

Sponsored by Pointe Capital Management

"Relays were going to have to be perfect with handoffs. Team support is something (Coach Zaranek) always talks about, and that day we really peaked...The depth has really helped us get into the mindset

that it's not just about our one event, we're working as a team." Duff had plenty of highlights from South's victory at the regional championships. She took first place and qualified for the Division 1 state finals in the long jump, setting a personal record by jumping 17 feet 1 inch. She was also part of the 4x200-meter sprint relay team, along with Evie Baer, Jaimison Diamond and Sabine Stackhouse, that took second place and qualified for states. The effort that Duff and her teammates made in that race, she feels, is a true testament to the message of teamwork and chemistry that the Blue Devils preach. "As the anchor, my third runner is Evie (Baer)...We played bas-



PHOTO BY GRACE GERESY

Morgan Duff excels in several events for South girls track and field, including sprint races, sprint relays and long jump.

ketball together, so we already had a connection," Duff said about being part of a relay

See ATHLETE, page 2D



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Softball teams wrap up regular season with playoffs approaching

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

With the calendar reaching the end of May, the high school varsity softball regular season is ready to come to a close. The teams from Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett spent last week playing some of their final regular-season matchups as the teams prepare for playoff action beginning soon.

Grosse Pointe North
The Norsemen were able to end the regular season on a high note

with a few victories in some of their final games. “What we work for every year is coming into the playoffs and having ourselves prepared and ready to go,” North softball head coach Ron Smith said. “...The girls are playing well right now. Our pitching and defense is clicking and we’re starting to hit.” The team hosted Clarkston for a doubleheader last Wednesday, May 21, and was able to sweep the Wolves and take both games. The first game was an 8-7 victory for North, punc-

tuated by a walk-off home run in the bottom of the seventh inning by Addie Wakefield. The Norsemen had a 7-4 lead going into the seventh inning, but a late rally by Clarkston ended up tying the game before Wakefield became the hero for North. Wakefield finished the game with a pair of RBIs, while Liesl Wilkins also had a strong game at the plate with three RBIs on two hits, including a two-run home run. North used the momentum from the walk-off win to take Game Two of the dou-

bleheader 5-3. It was another game that was tied late, but an error by Clarkston’s defense in the bottom of the sixth inning allowed the Norsemen to bring two runs across the plate that ultimately won them the game. Addie Moses was North’s winning pitcher in the victory, tossing all seven innings and tallying eight strikeouts while giving up three runs on six hits. The Norsemen earned a home win against Lakeview last Thursday, May 22. The regular season finale was a good one for North as it dom-

inated the Huskies 11-1. Charlotte Julien helped power the offense with three RBIs while Kate Stemmler and Victoria Mangol both had a pair as well. Elliott Jarvi had a dominant pitching performance, allowing just one run on two hits over five innings. “We’re going to be tuning in over the next week,” Smith said about preparing for the postseason “...Fine tuning everything and then going to South and leaving it all on the field and hopefully we’re taking a trophy home with us.” North closed the regular season against Berkley after press time Wednesday, May 28. The team begins the postseason Saturday, May 31, playing in the Division 1 district semifinal round against Detroit East English Village Prep. The game is scheduled for noon and will be hosted at Grosse Pointe South.

the plate. The Blue Devils got another dominant pitching performance in the win, this time from Makenzie Waterson. The sophomore pitched six innings and gave up two runs on just three hits. The team then made it three wins in three days with a 12-3 victory over Chippewa Valley last Thursday, May 22. Murphy Russell continued the trend of outstanding pitching, tossing six innings and giving up three runs on six hits. Simon had a three-hit performance at the plate while bringing in two RBIs. South played a final regular season game on the road against Lake Shore Tuesday, May 27, after press time. The Blue Devils begin the postseason in the Division 1 district semifinals at home against Detroit University Prep Saturday, May 31, with first pitch at 10 a.m.

University Liggett
Liggett concluded the regular season last Wednesday, May 21, taking on Cass Tech at home. The regular season finale for the Knights ended in a loss, with the Technicians winning 6-1. The Tuesday, May 20, with Piper Obermok and Sophia Husek both bringing in a pair of RBIs at the plate. Husek also was the winning pitcher, going all seven innings and racking up 11 strikeouts while allowing only two hits. South followed that up with a 12-2 victory against Marine City at home last Wednesday, May 21. Viviana Ostrowski and Mackenzie Simon both had a couple of RBIs each in strong days at

Grosse Pointe South
The Blue Devils are looking to go into the postseason with some momentum after some late-season wins last week. South picked up a 12-3 win over New Haven on the road last Tuesday, May 20, with Piper Obermok and Sophia Husek both bringing in a pair of RBIs at the plate. Husek also was the winning pitcher, going all seven innings and racking up 11 strikeouts while allowing only two hits. South followed that up with a 12-2 victory against Marine City at home last Wednesday, May 21. Viviana Ostrowski and Mackenzie Simon both had a couple of RBIs each in strong days at



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

North’s Elliott Jarvi was the winning pitcher in the team’s dominant 11-1 victory over Lakeview last Thursday, May 22.



Knights fall to Marian in playoff opener

Aliya Abraham, above, maneuvers past Marian defenders during University Liggett School girls lacrosse’s Division 2 regional playoff tournament loss to the Mustangs last Thursday, May 22. After a strong regular season that including winning the Catholic League championship, the Liggett girls lacrosse team saw its season end with a 14-9 loss in the regional quarterfinal round of the playoffs. It was the Knights’ second loss of the season, bringing the team’s final record for the spring to 12-2.

PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

City of Grosse Pointe, Michigan

PUBLIC NOTICE - ORDINANCE NO. 468

Please take notice that the City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe has passed Ordinance No. 468 amending Section 78-143 of the Grosse Pointe Code of Ordinances regarding changes to the water rate, sewer rate, the readiness to serve charge, debt service, and industrial damage rate. This Ordinance will become effective ten days after the publication of this Notice. The complete text of Ordinance No. 468 is available at Grosse Pointe City Hall, 17147 Maumee, Grosse Pointe, MI, Mon.-Fri., 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Telephone 313-885-5800.

Christopher M. Hardenbrook,
City Clerk

GPN: 5/29/25

4D | SPORTS

Blue Devils, Norsemen ready for next level



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH ATHLETICS

Three Grosse Pointe South Blue Devils recently signed their college letters to make their sports futures official. From left: Rosie Smith signed on to play women's hockey at Miami University in Ohio, Neil Honablue will continue his wrestling career at the University of Olivet and Lila Brundage will compete in women's soccer at Northwood University.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE NORTH ATHLETICS

A trio of Norsemen from Grosse Pointe North celebrated continuing their athletic careers at the collegiate level. From left: RJ Williams signed to join the men's basketball team at Henry Ford College, Michela Trupiano will continue her track and field career at University of Detroit Mercy, and Alex Kellay is set to hit the links with the men's golf team at University of Mount St. Vincent in New York.

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THE CLASSIFIEDS Grosse Pointe News (313)882-6900 ext. 1

Grosse Pointe News

Yard & Estate Sale Map

1

2

3

4

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See Classifieds for more details

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South golf takes third in MAC Red

The Grosse Pointe South varsity boys golf team finished in third place at the MAC Red Championship tournament last Thursday, May 22, at Forest Akers Golf Course. Two Blue Devils finished among the top five in the entire field. Sophomore Charlie Thomas tied for second with a score of 76, while freshman Marty Wayman finished tied for fourth at 77. Pictured from left: Ben Bieri, Jack Babcock, Nate Faulkner, Marty Wayman, Charlie Thomas and Quinn Cameron.

COURTESY PHOTO

Grosse Pointe News

ATHLETE

OF THE WEEK

Do you know an outstanding high school athlete? Nominate them for Athlete of the Week and put them in the running for Athlete of the Year.

All weekly winners will be invited to the end of year Athlete of the Year Awards Gala – with top athletes winning scholarships! Submit online at:

grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week

Grosse Pointe News



PHOTO COURTESY OF REBECCA AUGUSTYN

The 10U Grosse Pointe Knights baseball team went undefeated and brought home the championship at last weekend's Derek Kaufman Memorial Wood Bat Tournament in St. Clair. The Knights defeated Taylor North 9-6 in extra innings to win the title. The team's roster includes: Bennett Rubio, Kian Kashef, George Dakmak, Ryan Donnellon, Harrison Cavanagh, Julian Augustyn, Jackson Donnellon, Tyler Vandenberghe, Cameron Mannino, Boomer Inger, Benny Maltese and Nicholas Amori.

CITY OF HARPER WOODS
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 19, 2025

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Valerie Kindle at 7:00 P.M. **ROLL CALL:**All Councilpersons were present

MOTIONS PASSED

1) To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held May 5, 2025.

2) to open the Public Hearing on the levying of a 17.5 mill assessment to defray the costs to continue the maintenance of police and fire protection.

3) to close the Public Hearing.

4) To adjourn to closed session (as permitted by State Statute MCLA 15.268, Section 8(e)) for the purpose of discussing litigation strategy and settlement.

5) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon and with no further business, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED

1) (1) approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 132543 through 132631 in the amount of \$486,263.13 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing (2) approve payment to Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc. in the amount of \$23,176.36 for professional services during the month of May 2025 for the following projects: Temp Water Operator, #180-303; Beaconsfield Resurfacing, #180-253; 2025 Misc. Concrete Rep. #180-363; 2025 Joint Crack/Seal, #180-366; CDBG Sidewalk Pgm, #180-350; 2025 Sidewalk Pgm, #180-367; Miss Digs, #180-255; Comcast Review, #180-375; Comcast Review, #180-372; 2024 San. Sewer Cleaning #180-340; 2025 San. Sewer Cleaning #180-365; 2024 Storm Sewer Rep. #180-337; 2025 Storm Sewer Rep., #180-362; DWRF Lead Water Svc. Repl., #180-331; DWSD Sewage Dischg District, #180-347; Sen. Peters Appropriation #180-374; DTE Review Vernier #180-376; DTE Review Peerless #180-377; Updated Voting Precinct Map #180-373. (3) approve payment to SAFEbuilt, LLC in the amount of \$64,803.34 for the contractual building department services performed during the month of May 2025. (4) approve payment to Nu Appearance Maintenance, Inc. in the amount of \$6,064.00 for contractual lawn cutting and trash pickup in various areas of the City, including City Hall, the annexes, Library and the Parks. (5) approve payment to Plante & Moran PLLC in the amount of \$12,818.00 for the financial/accounting services provided for preparation of the 2024 financial statements. (6) approve payment to Yeo & Yeo in the amount of \$42,000.00 for the financial/accounting services provided for preparation of the 2024 financial statements. (7) approve payment to McKenna Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$10,341.07 for the professional services provided with the update to the Zoning Ordinance and for changes to Voting Precincts and attendance at the Planning meeting. (8) approve payment to Simplified Business Solutions in the amount of \$11,117.55 for the email hosting, security and backups of our computer system for the month of May and for IT support services for all departments.

2) to adopt the attached resolutions to continue a Special Assessment District in the City of Harper Woods and further, to direct the City Assessor to spread the assessment levy of 17.5 mills on the taxable value of all lands and premises within the municipal boundaries of the City of Harper Woods to defray the costs to continue maintenance and operations of police and fire (8.75 mills for police and 8.75 for fire).

3) to approve the updated Poverty Guidelines and Policy for the City of Harper Woods to include the following language: "the value of any additional property owned by the applicant will be included in the asset test."

4) to introduce and place for first reading the City of Harper Woods' draft Zoning Ordinance, which replaces Zoning Ordinance 2013-04, and further, to direct the City Clerk to publish a notice of this in accordance with City Charter requirements.

5) to approve payment to Michigan Joint Sealing, Inc. in the amount of \$62,430.91 for Progress Payment No. 1 on the Pavement Joint/Crack Sealing Project, #180-366.

6) to approve payment to L. Anthony Construction Inc. in the amount of \$115,602.12 for Progress Payment No. 1 on the Concrete Pavement Repair Project, #180-363.

7) to approve payment to Super Construction LLC in the amount of \$75,150.00 for Progress Payment No. 3 on the DWSRF Lead Water Service Replacement, #180-331.

8) to approve payment to L.J. Rolls Mechanical in the amount of \$13,881.30 for Progress Payment No. 3 on the City Hall Generator Project, #180-291.

9) to approve the Contract Modification in an amount not to exceed \$340,000.00 with Great Lakes Contracting for the 2025 Storm Sewer and Catch Basin Repair Program, #180-362.

10) to approve the Contract Modification No. 1 on the 2025 Sewer Cleaning and CCTV Investigation project, #180-365 in the amount of \$7,412.50.

11) to adopt the Resolution in Support of Declaring the First Friday in June, June 6, 2025 to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

Valerie Kindle, Mayor

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

Published: GPN, May 29, 2025

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SPORTS

SECTION D • GROSSE POINTE NEWS • MAY 19, 2025

20 SOFTBALL & BOYS LACROSSE | 4-50 COLLEGE SWIMMER | 6-70 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Knights, Norsemen start girls soccer playoffs with wins

The Knights and Norsemen girls soccer teams both won their first games in the playoffs on Tuesday night. The Knights defeated Taylor North 9-6 in extra innings to win the title. The team's roster includes: Bennett Rubio, Kian Kashef, George Dakmak, Ryan Donnellon, Harrison Cavanagh, Julian Augustyn, Jackson Donnellon, Tyler Vandenberghe, Cameron Mannino, Boomer Inger, Benny Maltese and Nicholas Amori.

SPORTS

SECTION D • GROSSE POINTE NEWS • MAY 19, 2025

20 SOFTBALL & BOYS LACROSSE | 4-50 COLLEGE SWIMMER | 6-70 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Sweet victory!

South's Griesbaum earns 900th career win

South's Griesbaum earned his 900th career win on Tuesday night. The Knights defeated Taylor North 9-6 in extra innings to win the title. The team's roster includes: Bennett Rubio, Kian Kashef, George Dakmak, Ryan Donnellon, Harrison Cavanagh, Julian Augustyn, Jackson Donnellon, Tyler Vandenberghe, Cameron Mannino, Boomer Inger, Benny Maltese and Nicholas Amori.

SPORTS

SECTION D • GROSSE POINTE NEWS • MAY 19, 2025

20 SOFTBALL & BOYS LACROSSE | 4-50 COLLEGE SWIMMER | 6-70 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

GP's new Stanley cup

The Knights girls soccer team won the Stanley Cup on Tuesday night. The Knights defeated Taylor North 9-6 in extra innings to win the title. The team's roster includes: Bennett Rubio, Kian Kashef, George Dakmak, Ryan Donnellon, Harrison Cavanagh, Julian Augustyn, Jackson Donnellon, Tyler Vandenberghe, Cameron Mannino, Boomer Inger, Benny Maltese and Nicholas Amori.

SPORTS

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South's Bachert using legacy on basketball court

South's Bachert is using his legacy on the basketball court. The Knights defeated Taylor North 9-6 in extra innings to win the title. The team's roster includes: Bennett Rubio, Kian Kashef, George Dakmak, Ryan Donnellon, Harrison Cavanagh, Julian Augustyn, Jackson Donnellon, Tyler Vandenberghe, Cameron Mannino, Boomer Inger, Benny Maltese and Nicholas Amori.

SPORTS

SECTION D • GROSSE POINTE NEWS • MAY 19, 2025

20 SOFTBALL & BOYS LACROSSE | 4-50 COLLEGE SWIMMER | 6-70 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

North's Babcock savoring final seasons

North's Babcock is savoring his final seasons. The Knights defeated Taylor North 9-6 in extra innings to win the title. The team's roster includes: Bennett Rubio, Kian Kashef, George Dakmak, Ryan Donnellon, Harrison Cavanagh, Julian Augustyn, Jackson Donnellon, Tyler Vandenberghe, Cameron Mannino, Boomer Inger, Benny Maltese and Nicholas Amori.

Grosse Pointe News

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