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PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Graduating seniors from Grosse Pointe North High School, left, and Grosse Pointe South High School, right, celebrate the end of their high school careers at commencement ceremonies last week. Find more photos from North and South, as well as from University Liggett School, beginning on page 10A.

Notre Dame work pushed to spring

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Those who appreciate the newly painted crosswalk at Notre Dame and Kercheval Place need not fret. Rather than that area, it is the section of Notre Dame between St. Paul and Jefferson scheduled for reconstruction. It just won't be this year.

Though the 2025 road improvement plan — passed by council last

September — highlighted the portion of Notre Dame as the city's main millage-funded project this summer, it now has been pushed to next spring.

"It's just a deferral from the fall to the spring," City Engineer Stephen Pangori said of the estimated \$872,400 project. "The same fiscal year, different quarters."

The switchup is an attempt to best leverage savings and construction timelines, building upon initial adjustments to the bidding process that were put in place with the 2024 road improvement plan. At that time, the city went out to bid for the reconstruction of Lakeland early in the

See WORK, page 2A

City hall tries four-day week

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Lennon and McCartney needed eight days a week to show they care.

Park employees figure they can do it in half that time.

City hall shifts to a four-day, 10-hour workweek starting Monday, July 7.

From then through Thursday, Aug. 28, municipal headquarters, excluding the public safety department, operates 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Offices will be closed Fridays.

Hours following Aug. 28 will be determined based on how things went.

City Manager Nick Sizeland said current hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, make it difficult for members of the public working normal, 9-to-5 jobs, to conduct business in person at city hall.

"The first challenge is in the morning," he said. "Contractors want to get in early to pull and pay their permits. The second

challenge is we close at 4:30 p.m. This is not the most customer service-friendly time and does not allow visitors to city hall that are coming home from work."

He proposed the change during the June 9 city council with the slogan, "Same service, more flexibility."

He said, "This trial allows us to look into utility savings with having the lights off, a reduction of air-conditioning units and janitorial services."

A review of utility and related bills during the period will be balanced against employee productivity and public satisfaction to determine if schedules revert to normal or continue anew.

Sizeland didn't shy from pitching anticipated benefits to employee morale by implementing three-day weekends.

"Long weekends allow employees to schedule personal errands, appointments or childcare without taking paid leave," he said.

He also cited an endorsement by the International City/County Management

See WEEK, page 3A

Woods increases spending threshold

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — City council at its meeting Monday, June 2, voted unanimously to double the administration's purchasing threshold that doesn't require its approval.

The amount goes from \$10,000, set in January 2023, to \$20,000.

"With inflation and our ability to perform the business we need to, it makes sense," City Administrator Frank Schulte said. "We're also the biggest of the Pointes."

The move follows the actions of Grosse Pointe Farms and Grosse Pointe

Park, which recently increased their thresholds to \$20,000 and \$25,000, respectively. Thresholds for surrounding communities are City of Grosse Pointe, \$5,000;

'With inflation and our ability to perform the business we need to, it makes sense.'

FRANK SCHULTE
Grosse Pointe Woods City Administrator

Grosse Pointe Shores, \$10,000; St. Clair Shores, \$15,000 and Harper Woods, \$5,000.

Woods voters in November 2022 approved amending the city's charter to increase the amount from \$5,000 to

\$10,000. The ballot language also allows council to adjust the amount by resolution moving forward.

Repeat purchases of varying amounts, including less than \$20,000, will be presented to council each month as routine agenda items, including things like paying legal bills, equipment purchases and public safety equipment and uniforms.

"We'll still follow that procedure for ordinary business, but the new ordinance would be for emergency situations or things that weren't

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Kalie Foster
Home: Grosse Pointe Farms
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See Section B

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Urban forest recruits

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The first of nearly two dozen replacement trees were planted last month to reforest parkland cleared last year for construction of a flood-control valve.

About a half-dozen saplings were donated and planted at no cost to the city along the driveway to Patterson Park.

They are the first of more than 20 trees being donated to replace those cut down last year for installation of an underground extreme emergency relief valve and replated piping. New trees now grow atop sections of concrete sewer pipe large enough for a youngster to stand in linking the valve near the park’s entry gate with a stormwater storage tank and outfall to Lake St. Clair.

Construction of the anti-flood system required approval of state environmental regulators. Park officials lobbied for it as a last resort against sewer backups that twice flooded basements during heavy rains

during the summer of 2021.

“The contribution is tremendous and another example of the extraordinary engagement and generosity that help make so much possible in the Park,” said Councilman Max Wiener, chairman of the infrastructure committee.

He was scheduled to attend a recent ceremony at the Park honoring residents for donating money for EERV construction.

“I’ll never cease to be impressed with what residents are willing to do for our community,” Wiener said.

“We in Grosse Pointe Park have the rare honor of having philanthropy support for almost all our needs, including our water and sewer infrastructure as well as our green infrastructure,” Mayor Michele Hodges said. “That’s worth saluting.”

Park resident Paul Van Tol donated the trees, each of which stands about seven feet tall.

“They should be twice as tall in about 10 years,” Van Tol said. “We’re planting three varieties:

tulip poplar, sycamore and red maple.”

Mature tulip poplars top out at nearly 100 feet. Their bright green leaves are among the first to emerge during spring, turning orange-yellow in fall. Flowers are tulip-shaped.

“Tulip poplar is a very interesting tree,” Van Tol said. “If you cut a limb, you can smell it, almost like perfume.”

Sycamores are characterized by light, grayish outer bark that flakes off to expose a cream-hued inner layer.

“You can tell by trees along Jefferson (in the Park), which are sycamore or plane trees,” Van Tol said.

Sycamores are high on his list of favorites. He donated hundreds to the city last year for planting on municipal property, mainly between curbs and sidewalks in the northwest residential section.

“They are magnificent, great trees,” he said.

Red maples have dark green leaves that turn bright red in autumn.

Van Tol grew and harvested the trees in



The EERV construction zone near the Patterson Park driveway is being reforested with trees donated by Park resident Paul Von Tol, left and planted last month with help from his friends, including Ernie Miedema and Bruce Vande Vusse of the Farms. Not pictured is helper Ken Nyenhuis, a Park resident.

PHOTO BY
BRAD LINDBERG

Macomb County. He delivered them to Patterson and, with help from three friends, put them in the ground.

“Trees are a vital part of who we are and what we have,” said one of the helpers, Ken Nyenhuis, a Park resident. “I’ve

always enjoyed shade trees, especially after doing work and sitting under a shade tree for a little bit.”

Farms residents Ernie Miedema and Bruce Vande Vusse also assisted.

Their efforts contribute

to the Park’s 38 percent canopy cover, exceeding the 25 percent minimal coverage recommended in the 2022 Journal of Arboriculture study, “Assessing Canopy Cover Over Streets and Sidewalks in Street Tree Populations.”

Rate hike rated an investment

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — An out-of-sorts Anne

Billiu complained to city council this week about receiving a \$150 water bill during a period she and everyone else at her

residence were out of town.

Municipal officials promised to look into it.

Yet, indirectly and on a citywide scale, a majority of the council addressed the problem then and there.

During the council’s June 9 meeting, members voted 6-1 for a 23 percent increase in water and sewer rates.

Resulting revenue will finance, in part, issuing bonds to replace nearly

4,000 of the city’s water meters. Odds are that includes Billiu’s.

The old meters are road-worn, inaccurate and blamed for all kinds of costly problems, including not operating regularly and, when they do, not properly tracking water usage.

Overall evidence of chronic water loss is the city’s supplier, the Great Lakes Water Authority, pumping more water into the city than users regis-

ter.

“One of the findings from our water reliability study is that Grosse Pointe Park has tremendous water losses,” said Councilman Max Wiener, chairman of the infrastructure committee. “They’re estimating it at 20 to 21 percent. There’s a couple factors: water main breaks, but basically, we have a lot of water meters that are out of date. They lock up, so we’re not getting accurate readings.”

In addition to new meters, higher rates will fund the lining of four

miles of the city’s 40-mile sewer system. The sections were judged at risk of collapse and targeted for restoration during a systemwide evaluation that included reconnoitering the up-to-100-year-old network with remote-control miniature cameras.

“This is an expenditure, but it protects us against failures,” Wiener said.

New rates mean the average Park homeowner will pay \$254.50 every two months for

See HIKE, page 4A

SPEND:

Continued from page 1A

planned for,” Schulte said when the item was placed on the ballot.

An example could be if the Department of Public Works needed a new riding lawn mower in the middle of summer at the height of grass-cutting season. The previous process could have taken weeks to complete, even if the cost was one penny over \$5,000, including seeking two bids and presenting the information at one of council’s two monthly meetings.

The \$5,000 threshold was implemented in 2004.

A memo from Treasurer/Controller Steven Schmidt to council said inflation has increased a cumulative 65 percent since that time.

Schmidt also wrote the change would:

- ◆ simplify the accounting process by eliminating the need to track and depreciate small-value items,
- ◆ improve financial statements by focusing on more significant items and
- ◆ align strategic assessment management to operational scale.

Schulte said he has not had to use the \$10,000 threshold in the past three years.

WORK:

Continued from page 1A

year with the intention to take advantage of early-bird pricing, as contractors would not already be booked with countless other projects.

The city found financial success in doing so, Pangori reported, but hit a bump in the road with scheduling the project because it was budgeted in the 2024-25 fiscal year and therefore work couldn’t begin until July 1 last summer.

“From the time the contractor won our project in January or February to July, he picked up a whole bunch of school work,” Pangori

explained. “The school work has to be done in that two-and-a-half-month window in the middle of the summer, so he could not mobilize to do our project until the fall.”

By deferring the Notre Dame project, which is budgeted within the 2025-26 fiscal year, the city plans to go out to bid in January and have construction begin in April.

“By bidding it, awarding it and starting it, we’re hopeful that we can get a contract that will give us a good price, because they know the work is immediate and they can jump on it,” Pangori said.

Street construction still will take place elsewhere in the City this year.

Resurfacing of St. Clair from St. Paul to Waterloo is set to begin

this month and is 81.25 percent funded by a Michigan Department of Transportation grant. Fisher from Maumee to Lakeshore also will be tackled as a joint project funded by both the Farms and City.

“St. Clair, Notre Dame and Fisher — that’d be a lot of disruption to do all three of those at the same time,” Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak noted. “So (deferring Notre Dame) might lessen some of the impact.”

The 2025-26 budget also has committed \$50,000 to the joint sealing of roads that were resurfaced in the last two to seven years. This work will not require any road closures.

Fisher road

Though the two Pointes are continuing to move ahead with por-

tions of Fisher reconstruction on their own dimes — the section between Waterloo and Mack was tackled in 2022 — the City and Farms for several years have unsuccessfully attempted to lock down federal grant funding.

The City is applying again this year for grants that would ease the burden of resurfacing Fisher from Maumee to Kercheval.

The work is estimated to cost \$1.2 million.

A grant through the Transportation, Economic Development Fund Category B Program would cover \$250,000, while an additional grant applied for through the Federal Aid Committee would cover another \$728,000.

Any amount not covered by grant funding would be split between the two Pointes.



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James Craig speaks against Chick-fil-A development

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

DETROIT — Neighborhood residents, business owners and parents of children at the Giving Tree Montessori Learning Center gathered at the school's playground Saturday afternoon, separated by construction fencing from where a Chick-fil-A development is proceeding at the corner of Mack and Marseilles.

The grassroots community meeting featured a site visit by former Detroit police chief and current mayoral candidate James Craig, who listened to the concerns of affected community members — largely regarding the proximity of a high-volume drive-thru directly alongside a school playground.

Craig spoke in support of finding a location along Mack that would be a better fit, such as the vacant Ray Laethem dealership lot, and commented the current plan “makes no sense.”

“I offer this sugges-



tion,” he said. “I would make a last-ditch effort, maybe hold a meeting in the evening, invite the president of the city council, somebody from the mayor’s office, someone from the police department and let them stand up and explain to you how this is going to work out. That’s the least they can do.”

Craig also addressed the controversy with a

Detroit zoning ordinance that prohibits fast-food drive-thru lanes within 500 feet of a school. Giving Tree became a licensed elementary school with a first-grade curriculum in June 2024, but city officials argue it was still a childcare center at the time the project was approved in March 2024.

“I know at one point this wasn’t a school, but

it is now,” Craig said. “... Yes, I support small businesses coming into communities, but we have to do it the right way and it really is about safety. Safety first. We’re talking about children.”

Community stakeholders who spoke included Joe Allemon of Allemon’s Landscape Center, Kendall Wrigley, who is the owner of Court4 Detroit — where dozens



PHOTOS BY LAUREL KRAUS

Left, former Detroit police chief and current mayoral candidate James Craig speaks with families and community stakeholders at the Giving Tree Montessori Learning Center’s playground June 7. On the other side of the black tarped fencing, Chick-fil-A drive-thru lanes are planned. Above, Andrew, Annie and Ella Rose Rivers attend the meeting to protest against the Chick-fil-A development. Eight-year-old Ella Rose was a Giving Tree student.

of children at Giving Tree attend a tennis program by walking across Marseillies — and Michelle Elhosni, medical director for the Lakeshore Allergy and Asthma Center.

“As a high-risk asthma specialist, I see firsthand what numerous medical studies have actually proven: close proximity (to) exhaust, fuel, pollu-

tion, is a direct link to increased rates of childhood asthma, allergies, eczema, recurrent infections, pneumonia and chronic illness,” she said. “... Children here as young as 3 months old, my son included, are depending on us.”

As construction continues, Chick-fil-A intends to open the location this fall.

Charlevoix confab during Kercheval party

Streetscape renovations, set to begin next year in the Charlevoix commercial district, are about 60 percent through the preparation stage, according to Nick Sizeland, city manager.

Renderings of the project feature a curbless, narrowed roadway intended to slow motor vehicle traffic; wider sidewalks to encourage pedestrian access and sidewalk dining; safer crosswalks, pocket parks, benches, public art, trees and landscaping, shaded areas, environmentally friendly runoff-capturing bioswales and water features that many residents and business owners support as conducive to modern lifestyles and community standards.

More public engagement is scheduled for the first Kercheval After 6 street party, 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday, June 28, on Kercheval between Nottingham and Wayburn.

“We’ll have a booth at After 6 and ask residents for their input on key

detail designs of the streetscape inclusive of benches, trash containers, bioswales, trees, art,” Sizeland said.

The city’s engineer and members of the municipal administration will attend.

“We’ll all be asking people for input,” Sizeland said.

“We had another update with our city engineer,” Sizeland said. “We are submitting documents to the Michigan Department of Transportation for their review.”

About half of the project’s \$4 million cost is funded by a nearly \$1.9 million federal Transportation Alternatives Program grant.

Ideas for the new streetscape developed over the past two years with help from the public during regular TIFA meetings and special engagement sessions, including one a few weeks ago at a couple of businesses in the Charlevoix district.

— Brad Lindberg

Sewer separation kicks off at Tonnancour

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — A major inland district sewer separation project in the Farms officially is off to the races, with construction of the first of three phases kicking off at Tonnancour and Lakeshore in May.

As part of the selected route to transfer storm water from the inland district to Lake St. Clair, a gravity sewer will be constructed along Tonnancour from Kercheval to Lakeshore, where an outfall will be installed in the break-wall.

Passersby also may have noticed a section of Lakeshore median has been removed to create a bypass, which will allow for the installation of the

new storm drain to run across the road. Removed trees will be replanted after the drain is installed.

“We had a meeting with (Tonnancour) neighbors,” City Manager Shane Reeside said. “It’s a major project. It’s going to be very disruptive, but I think people are understanding the scope of it and have been very cooperative in our discussions.”

A Tonnancour timeline is as follows:

◆ Lakeshore and Tonnancour intersection road closure begins late May,

◆ Tonnancour water main replacement begins in June,

◆ Tonnancour storm sewer installation mid-July to mid-September,

◆ Tonnancour full road replacement mid-Sep-

tember to mid-October

◆ and road resurfacing no later than end of October.

As a bit of a consolation prize for the significant disruption to Tonnancour residents, city officials are including in the deal a new

8-inch water main along the road, given it already will be torn up.

“It’s an older main subject to frequent breaks, so we felt it made sense to price it out when we were going to be putting

See SEWER, page 5A

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, JUNE 16

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Infrastructure Committee meeting, 9 a.m.
- ◆ City of Grosse Pointe City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Farms City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Committee-of-the-Whole meeting, 7:15 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 17

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Parks Committee meeting, 4 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

WEEK:

Continued from page 1A

Association: “According to the ICMA, employees reported the alternative schedule increased their productivity and their ability to serve citizens.”

Of all days during the traditional five-day workweek, Friday sees the least traffic, maybe 10 to 15 people tops, Sizeland said. “If it doesn’t work, we’ll go back to the old way,” he told members of the council.

The idea passed by a 5-2 vote.

“It’s worth a shot,” Councilman Marty McMillan said.

Councilman Brent Dreaver liked the idea of city hall being accessible later in the afternoon.

“It will expand our ability to serve residents,” he said.

“There’s a lot of utility in it,” Councilman Max Weiner said. “The beauty

is it’s a trial.”

“We have a post-July 4, pre-Labor Day trial. I can live with that,” Councilman Tim Kolar said. “We shall see. We’re trying to find the best way to serve our staff and community.”

“My first reaction was not for support,” Mayor Michele Hodges said. “Our residents are No. 1. I’ll be supporting it because the rationale is strong and we have an opportunity to adjust it if it doesn’t work.”

Opposing were Councilman Tom Caulfield and Councilwoman Christine Gallagher.

“We’re in the hospitality business,” Caulfield said. “We need to provide as much service as possible.”

“I don’t often agree with Mr. Caulfield, but we are in the hospitality business,” Gallagher said. “We’re here to cater to residents.”

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Love-hate-love for events planner

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

Anyone involved with sweating out the minefield of special event planning knows it takes special drive and talent. To describe it as organized chaos understates bedlam. To say it’s like herding cats insults felinity. Felinity is barely a real word, but anything associated with special events planning requires ingenuity and agility. Putting on a special event is a cluster of madness, a disaster in the making, a road to confusion and fear of things gone wrong. Then it goes off superbly and everyone is happy as hell. “Out of chaos God made a world,” is the philosophical equivalent. As Kalie Foster puts it, I told you so. Foster is accomplished enough at special events and wedding planning that she can be honest about the frustrations and rewards. She said, “It’s probably not healthy, but this is my mantra at a special event: ‘I love my job, I hate my job, I love my job.’” She arrives at an event, everything is great. Everybody’s nice. “I love my job.” Then, things go totally off the rails. Something crazy happens. “I hate my job.” She snaps out of it. “By the end of the night, it was beautiful. The clients are super happy. Well, I love my job.” Foster is high energy. She described all of that

in about two seconds. “I’m chatty,” she said. “I’m kind of an open book. I love creating things, whatever it is. I love bringing people together.” Foster’s also enterprising. “Busy day, but a good day,” she said last week about her schedule. She was born with the mindset. “My parents are go-getters,” she said. “They’re awesome.” Her parents operate a boat business in her hometown of Glennie near Hubbard Lake. “I grew up around people with the entrepreneurial spirit,” Foster said. A couple years ago she married fellow entrepreneur, Brad Foster. They live in Grosse Pointe Farms. Both are willing to jump at opportunities, even those that seem daunting, because they realize that opportunity can be fleeting. “We don’t like the word, ‘no,’ very much in our house,” she said. Events planning is an offshoot of her main business, Eventus Detroit, which organizes business meetings and social events at locations beyond routine office or convention settings. The company mainly operates from the 125-year-old, six-story former Riverside Storage & Cartage warehouse on Grand River in Detroit. The building has a walk-in safe. Industrial-sized, martini-glass-style columns support the ceilings. “Our vaults and stor-

age rooms are clean and dry,” according to a vintage company advertisement. “There’s something fun about it,” Foster said of the setting. “This is a unique, cool place people are excited to be. It’s not like a hotel banquet hall they’ve seen 1,000 times before. It has all these little nooks and crannies from 100 years ago that people go crazy for. We’ll take them to the roof so they can see the view.” Holding business meetings in nontraditional environments can promote innovative thinking and problem solving. A couple Stanford University professors characterized “leaving the office or home workspace to mine the world for unexpected insights (as the) disciplined pursuit of unexpected information seeking inspiration,” in “5 Ways to Boost Creativity on Your Team,” published March 28, 2023, on the Harvard Business Review website, hbr.org. “It gets people thinking in a different way, especially for corporate events,” Foster said. “A pitch I use a lot is it gets your people thinking differently, especially when you’re meeting about something creative. You put them out of their comfort zone. That’s important.” Foster got started in event planning while an undergraduate business student at Grand Valley State University. “The summer before my junior year, I got a job as a personal assis-



COURTESY PHOTO

Kalie Foster, owner of Eventus Detroit special events planning company, prepares an event in her flagship venue, a 100-year-old former warehouse in Detroit.

stant at a warehouse building in downtown Detroit,” Foster said. “They were throwing an artist’s show and fireworks party. Nobody wanted to do it. I said, ‘I’ll do it.’ It went super well. We had a great time. Then, the building owner and I sat down and said let’s make this into an event space because the event went well, people loved it and we were, like, there’s something here. We can book this.” She was no longer a personal assistant. “I hit the ground running but didn’t know what I was doing,” Foster said. “I just started calling people. It turned into

this great business. We had great clients, like Google. Some of (multiple businesses owner) Dan Gilbert’s people came in. We had Red Bull. It was going really well. High-end clients.” She maintained operations upon returning to campus for her junior year. “I ran my team of five or so people remotely until returning the next summer,” Foster said. “It was fun. I found a little niche I never thought of doing before.” She added venues during her senior year. “People were starting to venture out of banquet hall spaces and wanted something cool,” Foster

said. “If you have a reputable management company running multiple spaces similarly, you have a better collection of venues for clients. I went into my senior year with that mentality. I graduated in 2019 and launched Eventus Detroit. I was boots on the ground looking for venues.” Although the old storage warehouse is her bread-and-butter, she also organizes pop-up events at vacant properties that are on the market. The rationale is to use otherwise dormant space to generate revenue until the property is sold. “You’re making money on something that would have just sat there,” Foster said. “I have affiliate venues, too. I’ve helped get them off the ground and bring clients but not doing full-scale management.” The Riverside Storage building has become popular for weddings. “I wasn’t expecting it,” Foster said. “It’s been great. I love my wedding clients — really cool people that book a wedding in a warehouse.” Another offshoot is planning house parties. “Being around all these events, I got a taste for party planning,” Foster said. “Brad and I are big entertainers. A couple times per year, we have big parties at our house. So, I kind of got a taste for party planning from that. A house party is a dying art. I love themes, making it feel like a professional event stage and wowing guests with little details.”

Farms water, sewer rates rise 4 percent

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — In a repeat of last summer, Farms residents will see a 4 percent increase to water and sewers bills come July 1. The impact will be a \$4.58 increase per 1,000 cubic feet of actual metered water usage and a \$2.43 increase per billing cycle in flat charge for service. “That’s primarily due to a 5.78 percent sewer charge increase

passed down from the Great Lakes Water Authority,” Finance Director Tim Rowland said. It also reflects a need for the city to rely less on consumption to generate revenue for the system. Water usage in the city continues to trend downward since 2011, a situation Councilman Lev Wood, who also is chair of the budget and audit committee, called an existential problem being that water consumption is critical to city revenue. “Water conservation is wonderful for homeowners, because it saves you money,” he

added, “but it’s not so wonderful for the city, because we have to raise our rates because we need money to come in from the consumption.” Significant capital improvements planned for the year are: ♦ \$2,033,222 in water main replacements, ♦ \$250,000 in sewer lining, ♦ \$300,000 in lead service replacements and catch basin rebuilds ♦ and a bonded \$11,704,419 for construction of a force main and gravity sewer as the first phase of a major sewer separation project. Farms council unani-

mously approved the water and sewer charge increases during its meeting Monday, May 12. **Recycling** Farms residents will see no change to the recycling rate for fiscal year 2025-26. The rate remains at \$12 per bi-monthly billing cycle as part of a five-year contract with GFL Environmental, which has been continued by Priority Waste. The contract, which is in collaboration with the other Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods, has one year left and will run through Sept. 30, 2026.

Life Remodeled

Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary President Sandra Cobb stands with Diallo Smith, CEO of Life Remodeled, during the club’s April 29 meeting at Ford House. Smith provided attendees with details around the nonprofit organization’s efforts to repurpose vacant properties into one-stop hubs of opportunities in the city of Detroit. Some projects involve volunteers having fun cleaning up neighborhoods, leading to youth leadership development, academic achievement and career exploration. Since 2014, Life Remodeled has invested \$51 million, boarded up 2,062 houses, beautified 2,369 blocks and engaged 81,978 volunteers.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DENNIS HYDUK

HIKE:

Continued from page 2A

water and sewer service beginning with the new fiscal year, July 1. The figure is \$47.67 more than the current average bill. Council members chose the 23 percent increase, which a consultant recommended, over a 19 percent hike City Manager Nick Sizeland presented as sufficient to meet foreseen needs. Councilman Tim Kolar, a state government accountant, said he supported spending more on infrastructure. He reminded everyone of the city’s situation during the summer of

2021. Two nearly unprecedented thunderstorms overwhelmed the regional sewer system — including the Park’s, which at the time was partially clogged and, in some spots, blocked by debris and collapsed pipes — that, coupled with power outages at two Detroit pumping stations, caused widespread basement flooding. “That is something I never want any of my neighbors ever to (experience) again,” Kolar said. “I want to get as close to no risk as possible. In 2021, a lot of reasons for the experiences at the time were from decades of disinvestment by this council. I’m not going to allow

the opportunity, when I’m on council, to not invest in things our community needs.” He concluded, “When experts tell us what they, from their professional experience based on decades of studying municipalities, recommend 23 percent, I’m in favor to (go) as high as possible, especially because I know we have a finance director, a city council and city manager (working transparently) and we can go to our neighbors and show them we were every darn dollar is going,” “Many residents, including us,” Mayor Michele Hodges said, “would have easily traded that catastrophe for a rate increase if we

could have prevented that. It would be fiscally irresponsible not to increase rates because catastrophes are far more expensive. Leaders plan and pro-act.” Some 10 percent of the rate increase is a pass-through of higher prices GLWA enacted for the Park and the rest of its water customers throughout southeastern Michigan. Increased revenue also funds purchase of a sewer vacuum cleaning truck to remove debris from storm and sanitary sewers, facilitating drainage. The balance of funds will be deposited in the water-sewer fund reserves, called a rainy-day fund with no pun intended, for emergen-

cies. All planned expenditures — meters, pipe restoration and the vacuum truck — were part of a capital improvement plan council passed unanimously last year. Councilwoman Christine Gallagher forgot she supported the capital improvement plan. “When did we vote for the plan?” she asked this week. “Last year,” answered Wiener and Sizeland simultaneously. Among reasons Gallagher lost her argument against higher rates was basing her case on an analysis of the municipal drinking water network, not the sewer system.

Grosse Pointe News

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Grosse Pointe Shores

Unlocked vehicles

Two unlocked vehicles at a residence on Renaud were gone through overnight into Wednesday, June 4. Around \$15 in loose change was taken from one of them.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Auto theft

There are no suspects for the theft of a 2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee parked overnight Wednesday, June 4, in the driveway of a house in the 600 block of Lakepointe.

Suspended

Three drivers being investigated for speeding on Mack Avenue last week were arrested for violating suspended operator’s licenses.

All incidents happened between Three Mile and Somerset and involved motorists from Detroit.

One driver, a 52-year-old man, was traveling 70 mph.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

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

City of Grosse Pointe

Illegal dumping

A man driving a white Ford F-150 is being sought for illegal dumping after dumping garbage into a local church’s dumpster twice in the last week.

Unlicensed driver

An unlicensed 17-year-old Detroit girl was cited after being stopped at Mack and University for driving without headlights at 1:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 4.

Printers

A 55-year-old Detroit man stole two printers worth \$260 from a business in the 17000 block of Mack at 1:15 p.m. Thursday, June 5.

He was arrested with the stolen property two

hours later, while in a cab leaving the area.

Attempted home invasion

Officers suspect they stopped an attempted home invasion with the arrest of a 40-year-old Canton man at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, June 5.

The man was seen suspiciously walking around a home in the 17000 block of Jefferson and ran when confronted by an officer in the backyard.

He was arrested a few blocks away and a gun was discovered along his flight path.

Stolen iPhones

Two iPhone 16e smartphones worth \$610 each were stolen from a local store at noon Friday, June 6, after they had just been purchased and were undergoing a data transfer.

The suspect is described as a black man in his late 30s.

Dog food theft

Dog food and other miscellaneous items

were stolen from a store in the 17000 block of Kercheval at 3:45 p.m. Sunday, June 8.

The suspect is described as a heavyset black woman in her 30s.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Found keys

Car keys were found on the front lawn of Grosse Pointe South High School during the graduation ceremony Monday, June 2. They are being held at the public safety station.

Soliciting

A 50-year-old Oregon man was arrested for soliciting/peddling without a permit after he went door-to-door on several streets selling magazines around 5 p.m. Thursday, June 5.

The man also had warrants for public-order crimes and soliciting in Arizona, Missouri, California and Idaho.

Smoke alarm

Firefighters were called to a home in the 100 block of Beaupre when smoke filled the house at 8:40 p.m. Thursday, June 5.

Vandalized bike

A bike was found vandalized with spray paint and bent handle bars last Tuesday, June 3, after it was forgotten unlocked at a bike rack on McMillan.

Dog attack

A Merriweather woman received puncture wounds and a compression injury while attempting to stop a dog that escaped its leash from attacking her golden doodle in front of her house at 4:21 p.m. Friday, June 6.

Tailgating

A 38-year-old Hamtramck woman who had just left a party told an officer she was confident in her ability to drive despite also saying she had never seen the motorcycle she was tailgating on Mack at 8:51 p.m.

Saturday, June 7.

A preliminary breath test showed her blood alcohol content to be 0.20 percent, for which she was arrested.

Window tint

A 31-year-old Detroit man was cited for driving with a suspended license after being pulled over at Cook and Mack for illegal front window tint at 2:42 p.m. Sunday, June 8.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Key fob

A 2018 BMW was stolen from inside a closed garage in the 19000 block of East Doyle overnight into Wednesday, June 4.

The key fob was inside the unlocked vehicle, which later was recovered in Ecorse.

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

GLWA warns of flood risk

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The late-night ping of an email alert about increased odds of stormwater flooding came as a welcome warning to managers of the city’s sewer system.

“GLWA is asking residents to remain vigilant and, out of an abundance of caution, to remove items of value from their basements,” according to the email from the Great Lakes Water Authority, which handles most of southeast Michigan’s storm and wastewater sewer systems.

The message was sent to its clients and area news media at 11:27 p.m. Wednesday, June 4.

“It is also helpful if residents do not run their washing machines and

dishwashers during heavy rain events,” according to the warning.

“It’s part of the Great Lakes Water Authority being transparent,” City Manager Nick Sizeland said. “When there is an issue or something that could be an issue, they’re trying to get out in front of it.”

He said alerts are more frequent and timelier since a big storm and power outages at Detroit pumping stations caused widespread basement flooding during the summer of 2021.

“They’re doing a good job of weather patterns and giving people heads up,” Sizeland said. “We are watching the weather,

too, but it certainly assists us, especially with information GLWA has compared to the Park. We want to unitize their data.”

A rainstorm was entering the region as the mes-

noon, June 5.

“GLWA has stated that the regional system is currently working as designed and is in dry conditions and currently has capacity to handle the expected wet

weather flows into the system from the rain predicted over the next several days,” according

to the alert.

GLWA warned of potential flooding due to a backup power problem earlier in the week at the authority’s Water Resource Recovery Facility in Detroit.

The recovery operation, formerly called a waste-

water treatment plant, is in southwest Detroit across the Rouge River from Zug Island. Sewers in all five Grosse Pointes lead to the plant, which has a pumping capacity of 240 million gallons per day.

“While the facility is working at full capacity to treat wastewater, DTE Energy and GLWA are working in partnership to ensure the facility has its full triple power redundancy restored, which is

an industry best practice,” according to the alert. “The equipment currently powering the facility allows the facility to operate at full capacity.”

Shortly after sunup Thursday, Sizeland reported nothing awry: “Good news. No flooding.”

Later, he said, “GLWA was simply notifying its customers of a power problem in one area. But they had backups operating.”

‘When there is an issue or something that could be an issue, they’re trying to get out in front of it.’

NICK SIZELAND
Grosse Pointe Park City Manager

SEWER:

Continued from page 3A

a major sewer line down Tonnancour and have that disruption due to construction at the same time,” Reeside said.

City council in May unanimously awarded the water main replacement project to DiPonio Contracting — the same contractor handling phase one of the sewer separation project —

with a total construction budget of \$835,020.

“That would be financed separately,” Reeside noted. “Not through the sewer (separation) project, which is a bond project, but funded out of our water and sewer fund as part of our water main replacement program.”

Council approved the Tournaccour water main replacement contract during its meeting Monday, May 12.

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OUR VIEW

Wait a minute, a clinic?

First off, congratulations to the School District of the City of Harper Woods. And we thought the Grosse Pointe Public School System was a long name! Our neighbors to the east now have a health clinic at their high school. Better them than us, we say.

And here is the most amazing part. The cost, according to the Harper Woods school board's agenda from Feb. 13, 2024, when it approved the project, was slightly over \$400,000, including architectural and construction costs. Pretty good deal, huh?

We will get to their clinic in a minute, but first a stroll down memory lane.

A proposed clinic at Grosse Pointe North High School first came to light in May 2022, although no costs were discussed until six months later. In November, the GPPSS Board of Education voted 5-2 in favor of the clinic after learning of its \$700,000 price tag with no discussion at the committee level. Within two weeks, that jumped to just shy of \$916,000.

To borrow a catchphrase from a popular sales pitch TV show, "But wait, there's more."

Two weeks after that, the final cost came in at \$989,000, which again was approved by a 5-2 vote. In both instances, Ahmed Ismail and Lisa Papas were in the no column, with Colleen Worden, Joe Herd, Margaret Weertz, Christopher Lee and David Brumbaugh voting yes.

Administrators at the time said the cost increases were due to bids the general contractor received. We wonder if that was a result of the unspoken "Grosse Pointe premium." Hey, with that ZIP code, they can afford it, contractors figure.

Luckily, the misguided idea was 86'd in January 2023 after a new school board was seated. Ismail and Papas were joined by Ginny Jeup and Sean Cotton, owner of the Grosse Pointe News, in voting to cancel the project. Worden, Brumbaugh and Valarie St. John voted against.

That was nearly \$1 million in sinking fund money that subsequently has been spent on much more vital needs.

The money would have been used to build out a science lab that was less than 20 years old. The only thing about all of it that made sense was that the clinic would have had a secure entrance from the outside — especially considering there would have been no idea about who was trying to access the space or why — and a secure vestibule between it and the school.

Beyond that, district taxpayers would have been on the hook paying for the maintenance and upgrades to the clinic while those running it would have had a steady stream of referral clients.

Renewal of the state grant that would have provided the bulk of the funding for the clinic would have been based on reaching a unique number of users each year. There's no guarantee it would have. The district at the time said it would have cost \$150,000 to convert the clinic back to its original state.

It would not be wrong to assume, based on sentiment in late 2022, that the new sinking fund millage passed in November 2024 would have been at risk



ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

of failing had the clinic proceeded.

The opening of the Harper Woods clinic in April was met with great fanfare, including a performance by the high school marching band and a ribbon cutting ceremony. It will operate in a similar fashion to what would have occurred at North, with one key difference. While the clinic at North would have been available to students and residents ages 5 to 21, and for students with disabilities through age 26, from the Pointes and Harper Woods, the Harper Woods clinic will maintain the same ages but will be open to all of Wayne County.

It will be open weekdays year round and staffed with Corewell Health employees, including a nurse practitioner, medical assistant and social worker.

Funding comes from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the Michigan Department of Education and the Corewell Health East Foundation.

As would have been the case at North, the clinic will accept insurance, but insurance is not a requirement for care and families will never receive a bill.

It makes more sense for such a facility to be located in Harper Woods rather than the Pointes. First off, the need is much greater. The poverty rate in Harper Woods is 19.8 percent, more than eight times that of the Pointes. Furthermore, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, less than 3 percent of Grosse Pointers do not have health insurance. In Harper Woods,

more than 9 percent of residents lack the same.

Beyond that, the school district is much more compact. It has two elementary schools, a junior high and a high school, all in an area about the same size as the City of Grosse Pointe. Its buildings are essentially located within walking distance of each other.

During the April ribbon cutting, a few comments made to a local TV news station by those associated with the clinic stood out to us.

A Corewell official said one aspect the clinic will focus on is "behavioral health." Not "mental health," but behavioral health. Everyone can have their opinion as to what the focus of the clinic at North might have been. We have ours and we will leave it at that.

Harper Woods Superintendent Stephen McGee also said he had been trying to get a clinic at the high school for five years. That far predates any discussion in GPPSS about the issue.

We wonder why, then, was North chosen instead of Harper Woods three years ago. Better grant writers? Better gravy train? We may never know, but we are thankful to have dodged that bullet.

The only question is, will the proponents who were so vocal in their support of a clinic at North take their children to this one?



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Pure Grosse Pointe

Les Braves II stands strong amidst looming storm clouds on the lakefront lawn of The War Memorial, whose patriotism was on display Memorial Day weekend.

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GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

June 12 – 18



THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
78° 57°	71° 58°	74° 60°	77° 61°	79° 61°	86° 65°	89° 51°
Chance of Rain	Chance T-Storms	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy
40%	30%	50%	30%	30%	20%	40%
SUNRISE 5:54 am SUNSET 9:09 pm	SUNRISE 5:54 am SUNSET 9:10 pm	SUNRISE 5:54 am SUNSET 9:10 pm	SUNRISE 5:54 am SUNSET 9:11 pm	SUNRISE 5:54 am SUNSET 9:11 pm	SUNRISE 5:55 am SUNSET 9:11 pm	SUNRISE 5:55 am SUNSET 9:12 pm

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

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.

I SAY By Laurel Kraus



Ethiopia’s church in the sky

I subscribe to the train of thought that we were never meant to know about — and have to process — everything that is going on in the world, particularly the injustices and tragedies. We have enough to deal with in our own backyards. That said, I have no complaints when the internet occasionally

drops fascinating nuggets of insight into life in vastly different cultures. While recently scrolling away on social media, I came across a random post referring to Ethiopia’s “Church in the Sky.” Consider me immediately intrigued. Abuna Yemata Guh, located in Ethiopia’s Tigray region, is a stunning feat of centuries-old architecture. The church, incredibly, is carved directly into a rock mountain at a height of 8,460 feet above sea level. It is said to date back to the fifth or sixth century. Even more incredibly, it still operates as a church today, despite the fact that the only way to reach it is by ascending a 1,000-foot cliff face using only foot and handholds chipped into the sandstone rock. At the top of the ascent, one must traverse a ledge one-meter wide with a straight drop off along one side to reach the church’s entrance, where a wooden door is built into

the rock. BBC Earth called it “the world’s least accessible place of worship.” Inside, three chambers are carved out of the rock — a music room, Holy Communion room and a space that holds an Ark of the Covenant replica. Centuries-old paintings, made from animal fat, of the 12 apostles and other biblical stories adorn the space. Ancient holy books also remain within the church. Today, brave tourists are welcome to climb up to Abuna Yemata Guh to see it themselves. “As we explored in a blissful daze, we met the kindly priest who makes the same perilous climb every day to continue the work of the early Christians who created this 6th century church,” blogged Erika Atienza, who made the trek in 2019. “The experience of meeting him and feeling the undoubted spirituality of the church is overwhelming. The climb is tough, sure, but ultimately a small price to pay to visit this unique monolithic beauty.” Church services and baptisms continue to be held — yes, mothers from nearby villages are said to still bring their newborns up to the church to be baptized closer to God — and countless sources say the danger of the trek has never once come to fruition throughout the centuries. “The route is blessed,” Father Assefa, a priest with the church, said in a 2019 interview with The Washington Post. “Not one has ever died.”

YESTERDAY’S HEADLINES

1950

75 years ago this week

HIGH SCHOOL HAS GRADUATED 5,553 DURING LAST 25 YEARS: On June 15, the commencement program will stress the Silver Anniversary of the Grosse Pointe High School’s first graduating class. The 1950 graduating class has invited members of the first graduating class (class of 1925) to be guests of honor at the ceremony. **GOAT, NOT COAT, FOUND BY POLICE:** No, it really was a goat and not a coat, as the reporter first figured it to be on the Park Police Day Book. Besides, coats don’t escape from garages. A real old one might be “lifted” but only goats would escape and besides, the recovery of a worn and weary old coat would not warrant a police radio broadcast for its recovery.

year 1975-76. The municipality first learned in March that its allocation would be changed because the ORS “arbitrarily and capriciously” made a decision to decrease our population based upon a report prepared by SEMCOG, rather than base its decision on information supplied by the community, said City Administrator Chester E. Petersen. **PARK HEARS REQUEST FOR PARKING LOT:** A proposal to convert two lots at the southeast corner of Jefferson and Lakepointe, adjacent to the Professional Building, to off-street parking, was referred to the Park City Planning Commission by the Park Council. The proposed lot would have room for about 35 cars, it was said.

building at Lake Front Park in Grosse Pointe Woods is “cool.” That’s what Jamie Radke said following an afternoon workout in the building’s air conditioned basketball court. Woods officials said residents will get their money’s worth out of the park’s new \$1,030,000 activities center. **SCHOOLS, POLICE WARY OF HAZING:** In an attempt to put an end to the tradition of end-of-the-year “hazing,” school administrators and staff, parents and police will be on guard to ensure a safe last day of school dismissal. Over the years some of the playful pranks and celebration has turned to “hazing” underclassmen and eighth-graders by upper class high school students — most notably by paddling. Grosse Pointe Park youth officer Detective Sgt. Jim Smith said, “It’s not hazing. It’s felonious assault.”

2000

25 years ago this week

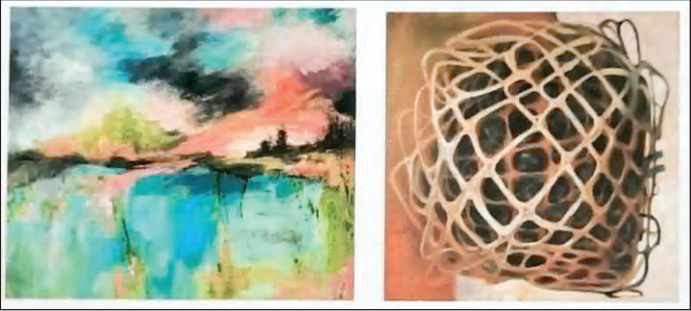
POINTE STUDENTS NET \$952K IN MICHIGAN MERIT AWARDS: Sixty percent of high school juniors who took the MEAP last year will go off to college \$2,500 richer. The Michigan Merit Award scholarships were offered to 381 students at Grosse Pointe North and South high schools. They qualified for the scholarship by achieving excellent scores on the MEAP math, reading, writing and science tests. **ACTIVITIES BUILDING GETS RAVE REVIEWS:** The reviews are in and the word is out. The new activities

2015

10 years ago this week

CROSSPOINTE RENOVATIONS REVEALED: Parishioners at Crosspointe Christian Church soon will see plenty of sunlight after spending six long months in the church’s basement while renovations were being made. The church opens its newly-refurbished worship area Sunday, June 14. Renovations include the installation of new carpet, seating, lights, paint, electrical work, sound and video systems, as well as work on the stage. **K-9 DUKE IS CAT’S**

Art show open



Posterity Art & Framing Gallery, 17005 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe, presents “Celebrating Nature and the Imagined,” an exhibition showcasing the work of Ellen Kennary Doyle and Marcia K. Hales, now through Friday, June 27. The immersive art exhibition showcases where the worlds of nature and imagination intertwine in a symphony of color and form. An artists’ reception takes place 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, June 19. Guests are invited to meet the artists, enjoy complimentary refreshments and view the artwork.

MEOW WITH NEW VEST: A ballistic vest suits Duke the police dog, but don’t expect him to model it on the catwalk. The vest is all business, designed to thwart bullets and knives. “It’s cumbersome and heavy,” said the dog’s handler, PSO

Timothy Harris of the Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety Department. Duke, a 2-year-old male German shepherd, weighs 80 pounds. The eight-pound vest protects against bullets and stabbings. **SCOUT CAR LOOTED AT FIRE:** A man is being

prosecuted for looting a police cruiser of medical supplies and a bullet-resistant vest while officers concentrated on a four-alarm fire early Monday, June 1, that destroyed side-by-side businesses on lower Charlevoix in Grosse Pointe Park.



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Excalibur stays in good hands

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — When Brad Foster was a card-carrying 21-year-old, the place to go was Excalibur in the Park.

“Memories are always of the day before Thanksgiving,” he said. “That place is slammed, the homecoming for the entire community. A ton of memories being there elbow-to-elbow trying to get a Bud Light from the bar and running into people I hadn’t seen for a long time.”

Foster is no longer 21. He’s an Ivy League grad and sort of a commercial real estate tycoon. He’s owned a mountainside hotel in Costa Rica and a lakeside restaurant in northern Michigan. But his recollections of Excalibur are fresh. And he likes the idea of providing similar memories for others.

The opportunity came this year. The bar hit the market.

Foster and his Realtor friend, Jimmy Saros, saw a deal that couldn’t be beat.

“We always joked about how cool it would be to buy Excalibur and have a piece of Grosse Pointe history,” Foster said.

Saros brokered the sale that closed last month.

“The longtime owner/operator of the bar reached out to me and said it was time for him to retire,” Saros said.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Excalibur recently was acquired by Brad Foster.

“With Excalibur being a great piece of property and being a patron of the Park, I was interested in helping the sale get into the right hands. Brad seems very excited. He’s going to bring new life to his venue that will be really exciting for the Park.”

Foster is entering the market at the right place and time. Excalibur is within the Charlevoix commercial district, due for a \$4 million streetscape enhancement project scheduled to start next year.

“There’s a lot of momentum in the Park,” Saros said. “I think it’s one of the best little downtowns in metro Detroit. Not only is he going to be able to capitalize on that, but I think he’s going to add to that

momentum as well.”

“We’re going to be adding entertainment every Friday and Saturday, and maybe Sunday in summer,” Foster said. “We had our first band last week. They were awesome. They had never played in Grosse Pointe. The place was packed. It’s a good chance to get entertainment that has never been in the area.”

“The vision for Charlevoix takes hold when people like Mr. Foster seek not only to invest, but to engage in a way that builds community and is complementary to our existing businesses,” Mayor Michele Hodges said. “With that formula, the energy and momentum will continue to grow, which is exactly what we want to see.”

New customers aren’t being sought at the expense of the old.

“The idea is, you have your local crowd,” said Foster, a Grosse Pointe Farms resident. “The local crowd is there every day. They love the place. We want to keep those people, but we want to add extra things on the off time, weekends and evenings. That’s where we are putting more of our energy. I don’t want it to just be a corner bar where everybody gets hammered.”

Foster hired Bruce Felts to manage the business.

“He came from Mad Nice in Detroit and has been at a couple other restaurants in the area in leadership roles,” Foster said. “He’s overqualified, but he’s awesome. He



COURTESY PHOTO

Brad Foster, new owner of Excalibur, and wife Kalie, celebrate the acquisition.

totally gets the vision and has connected us with a bunch of good people. He loves the music scene. We are excited about growing that part of the business.”

Foster reintroduced limited food service and has plans for more.

“Right now, we’re just doing hot dogs as a kind of fun thing,” Foster said. “The plan is to roll out pizza in house. We want to be the best cheap pizza. At one o’clock in the morning, it’s almost impossible in Grosse Pointe to get food. So, you can buy pizza for your friends and sit at the bar or in the backyard.”

Foster’s former restaurant at Hubbard Lake, the Tin Fish Boathouse, earned good reviews on yelp.com:

“As my family likes to

say it, the service and food has never fell short of impeccable,” wrote a reviewer from Chicago.

“The restaurant is a fresh start, with enthusiasm and good food,” wrote another from Clinton Township. “The manager is enthusiastic and polite.”

“My main business is Foster Financial, a real estate development company,” Foster said. “We own office buildings, retail buildings. Hospitality has been a passion of mine. We dug into the numbers and Excalibur made a lot of sense. Selfishly, we would hate to see it sold to somebody who is going to either knock it down and get rid of this local haunt for so many people. That was the motivation.”

Skincare and makeup shop opens in The Village

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — “I’m the friend of the group that’s kind of like the makeup skincare junkie,” Park resident Georgia Assaf said. “I try everything out. I give everyone recommendations.”

Last year she sold her nail polish brand, Huella, to pursue a dream kept on the backburner as she had children — a Pointe-based retail store carrying all things beauty.

Pointelle opened in The Village at 17125 Kercheval last Thursday, featuring

shelves stocked with makeup, skincare, hair-care, hair tools, suncare and more. Brands include mid- to upper-range products spanning needs for young girls through women with mature, aging skin.

The French-inspired store was named after the French word for a designer fabric pattern and as a nod to the Grosse Pointes.

“In the future I’ll be adding men’s care (and) possibly kid’s care like bath and body,” said Assaf, whose extensive beauty background also includes running a distribution center for global brands,

as well as an organic makeup website.

She launched Pointelle to fill a need for local makeup and skincare retail, which is particularly difficult to buy online, where it can’t be matched against skin tones.

“Makeup is so unique that one shade could look different on anybody,” Assaf said. “(Online) there’s a lot of returning or you’re stuck with something that you don’t really care for.”

As she raises a young daughter, Assaf also was struck with the desire to provide a warm, welcoming, safe place for girls to go in The Village. She intends to offer master classes for makeup and hair tutorials in the near future.

“When you think about the young girls in the neighborhood, they all love makeup, but they don’t necessarily know too much about it,” she said. “It’s what they see on social media a lot of the time. ... The master classes will teach these young girls how to do their makeup, how to feel confident, how to feel beautiful in their own skin and how to do it properly for their face shape, for



PHOTO BY LAUREL KRAUS

Park resident Georgia Assaf opened Pointelle in The Village last week, fueled by her passion for makeup and skincare.

their skin tone, skin texture.”

Hours at Pointelle are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

The shop can be found on Instagram, TikTok and Facebook. Its website — thepointelle.com — should be live in the next few months.

“I definitely hope it leaves a positive impact on the young girls and women of the community,” Assaf said. “... A great little place to go so they don’t have to go far to get their beauty products.”

Assaf and her husband, Zach, also are the owners of Village Wine and Fairfax Market, as well as the operators of the Windmill Pointe Park snack shack in the summer.

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Makeup brands at Pointelle

- ◆ Laura Mercier
- ◆ Westman Atelier
- ◆ RMS
- ◆ Sweed
- ◆ Jane Iredale & more

Skincare brands

- ◆ Obagi
- ◆ Dermalogica
- ◆ Patyka
- ◆ Leahlani
- ◆ Avene
- ◆ Korres
- ◆ Indie Lee
- ◆ Torriden & More

The shop also has suncare brands including Coola, Supergoop, Colorescience and Vacation, as well as hair product brands including Briogeo, Amika, Rahua and L’ange.

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Bond committee work done, for now

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — After four meetings across a little more than two months, the Grosse Pointe Public School System Bond Advisory Committee has completed its first task of trying to determine how \$60 million of a potential bond should be spent.

The group was prepared to present its findings to the GPPSS Board of Education at its meeting Wednesday, June 11, after press time.

“I’m hoping the board will accept our recommendations with very little changes,” Superintendent Andrea

Tuttle said at the committee’s final meeting.

The district is considering asking voters to renew a bond originally passed in 2018 this November.

The \$111 million bond originally was approved by 55 percent of voters in November 2018. The district can collect up to 3.14 mills if the debt service schedule justifies that amount. A mill is \$1 in taxes for every \$1,000 of a property’s taxable value.

If approved, the bond would bring in \$120 million over 20 years to use on facility upgrades. The sinking fund millage, approved by 66 percent of voters last November,

will bring in \$111 million over the next decade.

Should the board decide at its second meeting in June to move forward, the committee’s work won’t end. In seeking committee volunteers, board President Colleen Worden and Tuttle said they were looking for a wide cross-section of the district who could work to promote the issue.

In considering the bond, administration determined \$60 million in critical needs that would be addressed if it passes. Those include exterior building upgrades; HVAC, electrical and plumbing work; security improvements

and other infrastructure needs.

Those numbers range from a low of \$2 million at Brownell Middle School to \$12.5 million at Grosse Pointe South High School. Included in the tally is \$5.9 million for the closed Trombly Elementary School, which the board previously committed to bringing up to code and maintaining as a district asset.

In looking at the remaining \$60 million, some of the highlights the committee favored are:

- ◆ \$8.2 million for new furniture,
- ◆ \$4 million to refurbish the Christian A.

Fenton Performing Arts Center at Grosse Pointe North High School,

- ◆ \$9.7 million for boiler replacements and
- ◆ \$750,000 to relocate the main office at South.

The final piece of the puzzle the committee addressed in late May was the remaining \$5.2 million. Members discussed six specific issues, each of which Tuttle said needed a two-thirds vote to be finalized. They included:

- ◆ \$125,000 to resurface the track at South, 96 percent approval,
- ◆ \$50,000 to each building principal to use at their discretion on critical needs, 100 percent approval,

- ◆ \$1 million for air conditioning upgrades at the administration’s discretion, 79 percent approval,
- ◆ \$475,000 for early childhood initiatives, 96 percent approval,
- ◆ \$3 million for locker room renovations at the high schools, 83 percent approval and
- ◆ reopening the Parcels Middle School pool, 8 percent approval.

Without enough members voting to approve reopening the pool, Tuttle said that left \$3.7 million to reconfigure it. Some suggestions were a STEM lab, a maker space, an art and media center and an e-sports arena.

Classes of 1985 set joint 40th reunion

The Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South Classes of 1985 will come together for a joint 40th high school reunion from 6 p.m. to midnight Sunday, Aug. 31, at Country Club of Detroit in Grosse Pointe Farms.

The celebration includes dinner, danc-

ing, late night coney Island and a special performance by Detroit’s own Smiths and Morrissey tribute band, The Smiths United, bringing everyone back to the ’80s soundtrack that defined a generation.

Alumni may visit their

class Facebook groups — “GPN Class of ’85” or “Grosse Pointe South HS — Class of 1985” — to register and stay informed. Those not on Facebook may request details and a registration form by emailing the reunion committee at gpngps40@gmail.com.

PRIDE OF THE POINTES

The following students were named to the Dean’s List at the University of Tennessee for the fall 2024 semester: **Margaret Demkowicz, Brooke Lezotte, Elizabeth Leberdy and Christopher Rosati** of the City of Grosse Pointe; **Isabella Leonard and Andrew Rulison** of Grosse Pointe Park and **Ashley Majni and Jack Rollins** of Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆◆◆

Peter Hoffmann and **Noah Spriet** of Grosse Pointe Woods were named to the Dean’s List at Kettering University for the winter 2025 semester. Hoffman also was awarded for exceptional achievement in Kettering’s introductory physics course sequence.

◆◆◆

University of Alabama gymnast **Rachel Rybicki** of Grosse Pointe Park was named a recipient of the NCAA Elite 90 Award, becoming the fifth gymnast in UA history to receive the prestigious academic award and the eighth Elite 90 honor for the program.

Double majoring in economics and finance, with a minor in Spanish, Rybicki currently holds a 4.00 GPA.

◆◆◆

Cameron Kaess of Grosse Pointe Farms recently was inducted into the College of Charleston Phi Beta Kappa Society. Kaess is a senior majoring in chem-

istry.

◆◆◆

The following students participated in Albion College’s recent Elkin R. Isaac Student Research Symposium:

Nicholas Miller of the City of Grosse Pointe presented “Activity of a Mutant Calcium/Calmodulin Kinase Associated with Congenital Cardiomyopathy” as a featured session and presented “Progress Toward the Synthesis of a Photo-Switchable NMDA-Antagonist” during the poster session. Miller is majoring in mathematics and biochemistry and is a member of the Prentiss M. Brown Honors Program.

Katie Woerner of Grosse Pointe Farms co-presented “Invaders and Native Species: Using Metabarcoding to Compare Microbiomes of North American & European Blue Crabs”

during the poster session. Woerner is majoring in environmental science with a minor in geographic information systems and is a member of the Center for Sustainability and the Environment.

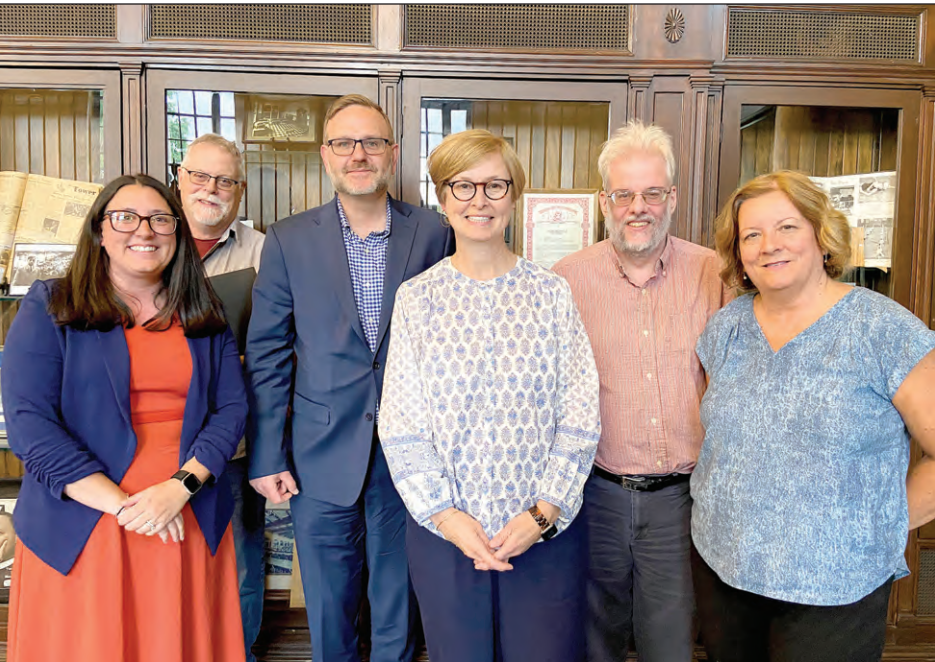
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The following students received academic awards during Albion College’s recent Honors Convocation:

Cameron Thompson of Grosse Pointe Park received a Cathy L. Young Endowed Award in French. Thompson is majoring in psychology with a minor in philosophy.

Allie McIntyre of Grosse Pointe Woods received a Cathy L. Young Endowed Award in French. McIntyre is a sophomore is a member of the Prentiss M. Brown Honors Program.

See PRIDES, page 10A



COURTESY PHOTOS

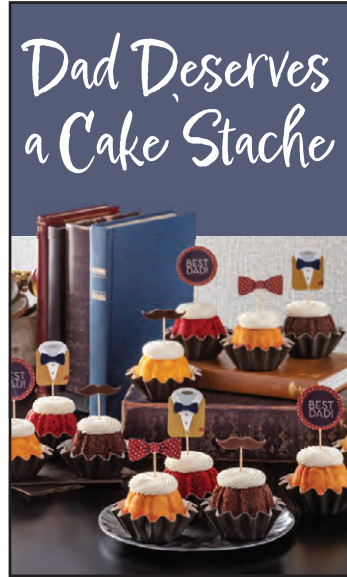
GPPSS honors retirees, employees with 25 years of service

The Grosse Pointe Public School System held its annual reception honoring retirees and employees with 25 years of service Thursday, May 29, in Grosse Pointe South High School’s Cleminson Hall.

Top, among the retirees in attendance were, from left, Susan Howey, Monteith Elementary School; Michelle Denison, Monteith; Kemmer Weinhaus, Mason and Ferry elementary schools; Amy Wilson, Richard Elementary School; Margaret O’Connell, Richard; Karen Januszek, Ferry; Kevin Kurkowski, Morningside and Ann Lightbody, Pierce Middle School. Not pictured are retirees Jim Cadotte, Brownell, Parcels and Pierce middle schools; Joseph Ciarvino, Parcels; Jennifer Corbett, Parcels; George Flora, Barnes Early Childhood Center; Kim Gerlach, Brownell; Daniel Gilleran, Grosse Pointe North High School; Carol Holmes, North; Helen Johnson, Morningside; Diane Kozikowski, Richard; Kirk Sattelmeyer, Ferry; Geneva Scully, Pierce; Erika Stout-Kirck, Parcels and Linda Trombley, Brownell.

Above, among employees with 25 years of service in attendance were, from left, Laura Loveday, Mason; John Chapman, Morningside; James Gross, Brownell; Susan Howey, Monteith; Seth Cueny, Morningside and Andrea Bolton, Pierce. Others with 25 years who are not pictured are Holly Bayster, Richard; Constance Cairns, Grosse Pointe South High School; Matthew Eszes, Pierce; Nora Hard, Ferry; Chad Hepner, South; David Martin, Pierce; Cynthia Morefield-Pinder, South; Rebecca Murawski, North; Julie Passamani, Parcels; Amanda Pata, North; Susan Schmitz, Ferry; Tamara Shepard, North and Mary Socia, North.

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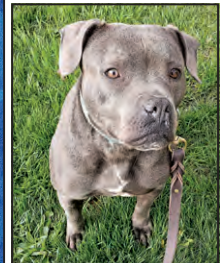
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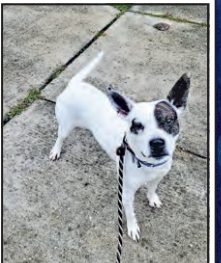
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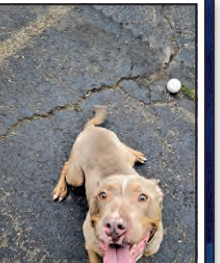
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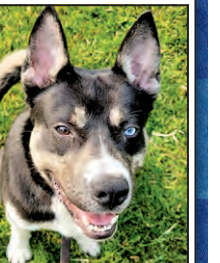
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10A | SCHOOLS



Above, Cara Kaslatas, senior class president, welcomes the senior class of graduates. Right, Lilly Kline gives the commencement address.



Grosse Pointe North Principal Sara Delgado gives her first and only commencement address to the Class of 2025. Delgado is moving to a new position as the executive director of teaching and learning for the Grosse Pointe Public School System.



Tejas Shastri-Deonikar and Wesley Ramsey sang a beautiful version of the song, “Gloria.”

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Nice job, North!

On a rain date that ended with good weather, 240 students graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School. Right, Axel Cooper prepares to shake North Principal Sara Delgado’s hand as he walks across the stage to graduate.



Above, Andrew Bernard performs “Viola Concerto in G major 1st movement” during the ceremony. Right, Grosse Pointe North’s band and orchestra, led by Tom Torrento, plays “Pomp and Circumstance” as the 2025 graduates walk to their chairs.



PRIDES:

Continued from page 9A

Maya J. Brousseau of Grosse Pointe South High School Class of 2021, graduated May 3 with double honors from Albion Honors College. Brousseau has won the departmental medal for interdisciplinary research for her thesis on climate change and circular models in economics. She is the first student from Michigan to study in Iceland, spending the winter 2024 term doing field research and impacts of ecotourism on arctic climates. Her degree is in environmental science and business management. She hopes to be part of the bridge transitioning between sustainability and profitable business practices.

Grosse Pointe Woods student **Dylan Cardinale** graduated from Albion College with a degree in biology and a minor in



Maya Brousseau

communication studies. His degree was granted summa cum laude with the additional honor of Phi Beta Kappa recognition.

Grosse Pointe Woods student **Christopher Marshall** graduated from Albion College with a degree in kinesiology-exercise science and a minor in biochemistry. His degree was granted cum laude.

Grosse Pointe Farms student **Jeffery McDougale** graduated from Albion College with a degree in psychology



Nicholas Miller

and a minor in art. Grosse Pointe student **Nicholas Miller** graduated from Albion College with degrees in mathematics and biochemistry. His degrees were granted magna cum laude with Albion College Honors and the additional honor of Sigma Xi recognition.

Grosse Pointe Farms was named to Southern New Hampshire University’s spring 2025 Dean’s List.

Maria Mirkazemi of Grosse Pointe Farms was named to the Dean’s List



Cara Chadwell

for the spring 2025 semester at Belmont University.

Grosse Pointe Farms graduated with a Master of Science degree in data science from The University of Texas at Austin in spring 2025.

Grosse Pointe Woods was named to the University of Evansville Dean’s List for the spring 2025 semester.

Grosse Pointe Park earned a Bachelor of

Science degree in pharmaceutical science from Cedarville University.

Grosse Pointe Farms was named to the Dean’s List at Cedarville University for spring 2025.

Grosse Pointe Farms student **Ryker Mazey** was named to Albion College’s Dean’s List. Mazey recently graduated with a degree in kinesiology-exercise science and a minor in sports communication.

Grosse Pointe Woods student **Owen Schaaf** was named to Albion College’s Dean’s List. Owen Schaaf recently graduated with a degree in psychology.

Grosse Pointe Park student **Cameron Thompson** was named to Albion College’s Dean’s List. Thompson graduated with a degree in psychology and a minor in philosophy.

Grosse Pointe Park student **Sevi Vogt** was named to Albion College’s Dean’s List. Vogt is majoring in biology and Spanish with a minor in history.

Grosse Pointe Park student **Julia Kado** was named to Albion College’s Dean’s List. Kado is majoring in English education with a minor in English as a second language education and a concentration in 5-9/7-12 secondary ed program and is a member of the Prentiss M. Brown Honors Program.

Grosse Pointe Woods student **Allie McIntyre** was named to Albion College’s Dean’s List. McIntyre is a sophomore at Albion College and a member of the Prentiss M. Brown Honors Program.

Grosse Pointe Shores was named to the Western Carolina University spring 2025 Chancellor’s List.



Above, Superintendent Andrea Tuttle speaks to graduates. Right, Alice Popek crosses the stage and shakes former Grosse Pointe South Principal Moussa Hamka's hand as she graduates.



Adelina Parikh gives a speech titled, "Oh, the Things We Do."



With the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education behind her, Aliana Ritter, senior class president, gives a speech titled, "From the Kitchen Table."



Success for South!

Grosse Pointe South hosted its graduation on the school's front lawn Monday, June 2. Two hundred eighty-eight students walked across the stage.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



Grosse Pointe South's band and orchestra, led by Christopher Takis, play "Trumpet Voluntary" as the recessional song after the graduates toss their caps and depart the ceremony.



Moussa Hamka gives his last principal's address to 2025 graduates as he is now in a new position as assistant superintendent of human resources for the Grosse Pointe Public School System.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Congrats, Liggett grads!

University Liggett School hosted its 2025 graduation Sunday, June 8, on its Grosse Pointe Woods campus. Sixty-seven seniors graduated. Above left, senior Claire Juip gives the invocation to open the commencement ceremony for the Class of 2025. Below left, Liggett valedictorian Isabel Wimmer delivers an inspiring address to the Class of 2025 during the school's commencement ceremony, reflecting on shared memories, academic growth and the journey ahead.



Congratulations to the Class of 2025

The 67 seniors in the class of 2025 were admitted to these colleges and universities.

Adrian College
Alabama A&M University
Alabama State University
Albion College
Alma College
Alverno College
American University
Arizona State University
Babson College
Baylor University
Belmont University
Berklee College of Music
Boston College
Boston University
Bowling Green State University
Butler University
Calvin University
Case Western Reserve University
Central Michigan University
Central State University
Clark Atlanta University
Colgate University
College for Creative Studies
Colorado State University
Columbia College
Connecticut College
Dartmouth College
Davenport University
Davidson College
DePaul University
Eastern Illinois University
Eastern Michigan University
Emerson College
Ferris State University

Fisk University
Florida A & M University
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Southern College
Florida State University
Fordham University
George Washington University
Georgia State University
Grand Valley State University
Hampton University
High Point University
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Hope College
Howard University
Indiana University
Ithaca College
Jackson State University
John Carroll University
Kalamazoo College
Kettering University
Lake Superior State University
Lawrence Technological University
Lincoln University
Louisiana State University
Loyola University Chicago
Madonna University
Marquette University
Marymount Manhattan College
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
Miami University
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
Molloy University
Morgan State University
Nazareth University
New York University

Norfolk State University
North Carolina A & T State University
North Carolina Central University
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University
Northern Michigan University
Northwood University
Oakland University
Oberlin College
Ohio Northern University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Otterbein University
Pace University
Parsons School of Design
Penn State University
Pratt Institute
Purdue University
Queens University of Charlotte
Rollins College
Saginaw Valley State University
Saint Mary's College
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Siena Heights University
Southern Methodist University
Spelman College
Spring Arbor University
SUNY College at Oswego
Syracuse University
Temple University
The New School
The Ohio State University
The University of Alabama
The University of Tampa
United States Military Academy at West Point

University of Arizona
University of Central Florida
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Dayton
University of Detroit Mercy
University of Georgia
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Above, whimsical touches are found throughout Rebecca Barry’s Balfour garden. Right, potted flowers and Boston ivy greet visitors to the side entrance of Jayne Kasuba’s Kensington home.



Pollinators the focal point of Grosse Pointe Garden Tour

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

June is National Pollinator Month and the week of June 16 is National Pollinator Week. It’s only fitting the theme of the 33rd annual Grosse Pointe Garden Tour, which takes place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, June 20 and 21, is “Pollinators Make Your Garden Grow.”

Seven private gardens, as well as the Veterans and Trial gardens at The War Memorial, will be featured on the tour, hosted by the Grosse Pointe Garden Center. Pollinators, of course, will be prominent.

Kelly Konieczki’s garden at 524 Lakepointe in Grosse Pointe Park not only entirely features native plants, but also includes bits of knowledge she’s learned on her gardening journey.

“We moved in about eight years ago and I’ve been working on the gar-



Above left, most of Kelly Konieczki’s backyard contains plants and flowers that attract pollinators. Above right, potted blooms line steps in Rebecca Barry’s rear yard.

den since 2019,” Konieczki said. “It started with a small pollinator garden in the back corner. I knew nothing about gardening, but I wanted to help the monarch butterfly, because I heard the population was in decline.”

Detroit Abloom helped her select the perfect plantings and Konieczki began learning about and growing the garden with her daughter.

“This is what started my journey into conservation,” she said. “I was reading books, attending webinars. It was during the pandemic, so it was the perfect time to do a deep dive into pollinator gardens.”

Her small garden slowly expanded throughout the spacious backyard and now includes much of the front yard. Signs dot the pesticide-free landscape explaining what’s growing and why.

Konieczki has spicebush, which attracts spicebush swallowtails; milkweed, which attracts monarchs; pearl everlasting, which attracts American lady. She has

plants that attract other specific species, like sulphur butterflies, golden northern bumblebees and sphinx moths.

“If you plant it, they will come,” she said, noting that insects are picky eaters. “I focus on host plants a lot: caterpillar food. If something’s not eating your garden, it’s not part of the ecosystem.”

Throughout Konieczki’s garden are informational signs and QR codes, offering further learning opportunities for garden gazers. Guests can learn how to create and manage a habitat, for example, or create and maintain a brush pile.

“I plant plants to create something healthy for us — they help mitigate flooding and with filtering pollutants — and it’s giving these insects a home, which is what they need,” she said. “... ‘Weed’ is the common name of a lot of beautiful plants, but a lot of natives can look formal, beautiful. Things can be beautiful and beneficial.”

A Michigan State Extension Master

Gardener information table will be hosted in Konieczki’s yard, where guests also will be able to pick up seed packets from the Grosse Pointe Public Library Ewald Branch’s seed library.

“I can’t tell you how much joy this brings me,” Konieczki said. “Every day out here there’s something new to discover. ... My hope is that everyone takes something away they can implement into their home spaces, no matter how big or small.”

Such is the goal of the tour, which for a second year will feature a scavenger hunt involving items at all seven gardens.

“There will be an item in each garden they have to find,” said Kathy Brown, who is co-chairing the event with Ginny Brown. “We’re trying to emphasize pollinators, so the scavenger hunt items are going to be near pollinator plants. Children and adults loved it last year.”

Three yards will feature entertainment both

See GARDENS, page 6B



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



A spicebush swallowtail finds a resting place on the spicebush in Kelly Konieczki’s front yard.



An array of succulents are featured along the path leading to Jayne Kasuba’s backyard on Kensington.

Raffle round-up

The following items will be raffled off during the 33rd annual Grosse Pointe Garden Tour:

- ♦ “Waiting,” a watercolor painting by Robert Fiorda, valued at \$500.
- ♦ Wild Birds Unlimited gift basket, valued at \$153.
- ♦ Garden Shoppe gift basket, valued at \$125.
- ♦ Bee & Pollinator Collection basket, valued at \$100.
- ♦ Waterford Balmoral crystal vase, valued at \$85.

Winning raffle tickets will be drawn at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, June 21, at 1246 Balfour, Grosse Pointe Park. Ticket holders need not be present to win; however, winners are responsible for collecting their prizes within 30 days.

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10.

For information, call (313) 889-1647 or email gpgardencenter@outlook.com.



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Chart topper

Woods man’s debut album hits No. 1 on Bandcamp platform

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Josh Stuckless was trying to maintain a low profile while manning a friend’s merchandise table at a concert in Nashville. Though he posed for a few photos with people who recognized him, the crowd went wild when he was invited onstage. “We did a song together and people were singing it back to us,” said Stuckless, 21. “That was the closest thing I’ve felt to euphoria as a musician.” Stuckless, whose artist name is Flatroom !!, said he’s still getting used to his newfound success. Part of that success means going to Nashville to take the stage as a special guest during a Glitch Glum show. Part of it also means an impromptu piano duet with his all-time favorite artist, Porter Robinson, during the Electric Forest music festival. And part of it means watching his newly released album, “You Will Only Get

Older,” hit No. 1 on the streaming platform, Bandcamp. “This entire music community is based on the internet, so everyone is from everywhere,” Stuckless explained. “That’s how you meet people — in communities and forums. This is a love letter to the online music community. I couldn’t be more proud of it.” The album dropped March 8. “It took around five years to make,” Stuckless said, noting the album title changed as much as the track list. “At the end of last year I finally decided on a track list I’m proud of. I think I put the cap on it at just the right time. People really like it and I’m grateful people really like it.” The album falls under the genre of hyperpop, but includes a variety of music styles. “It’s pop, it’s electronic, it’s acoustic, it’s slow jams,” he said. “It’s everything you can think of. There’s something on there for everybody.” Other than contribu-

tions made by featured artists such as CMTEN, ssoh, Shifting Perspectives and Glitch Glum, every piece of the album was created in Stuckless’ bedroom. “CMTEN and Glitch Glum had a song blow up on TikTok like crazy huge,” Stuckless said. “I started becoming fans of them in 2020. They inspired my sound so heavily. Being able to work with them was an absolute pleasure.” The album cover, he added, was shot at Sweeney Park, near his home in Grosse Pointe Woods. Stuckless was raised in an entertainment-oriented family, with a musician father, an actress mother and a sister who just graduated from Interlochen and is moving to the Big Apple to pursue a Broadway career. A cousin introduced him to electronic music 12 years ago. “My first introduction, and the biggest, was Deadmau5,” he said. “Everything I listen to



PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

Josh Stuckless released his debut album, “You Will Only Get Older,” in March and saw it reach No. 1 on Bandcamp.

inspires my sound in one way or another.” He quickly gravitated toward hyperpop, “where you’re taking a pop song, taking the vocals and putting them over something electronic and creating something new with it,” he said. “... For this album and the hyperpop community, having autotune all the way up is standard. On some of the songs I sound like a robot, but there are songs that are raw, just me singing into the mic.”

Stuckless began sharing his work online and gaining traction, but got a huge boost in 2023, when he was accepted to appear in an online music festival, in which around 15 artists are selected to create 20-minute performance videos. He was on a road trip with his family when he tuned into the festival. They made a pitstop at McDonald’s so they could use the Wi-Fi while watching his popularity rise in real time.

“People started noticing me,” he said. “It was so humbling. ... I got asked to do it again in 2024 and they said I didn’t have to apply.” At the close of his 2024 festival performance, he announced his upcoming album, which he initially planned to release last fall. Though he fell behind schedule, he continued to hype the album, releasing the cover art to an enthusiastic following

See CHART, page 6B

P.E.O. presents awards, scholarships

Women helping women achieve educational goals is the mission behind several honors awarded local students through the Philanthropic Educational Organization’s Chapter AO-Grosse Pointe, a chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. Two juniors — Lauren Loper of Grosse Pointe North High School and Eleanor Sahutske of Grosse Pointe South High School — received the Florence Miller Award in recognition of their academics, leadership and community service. The award is dedicated in honor and memory of Florence Miller, a leading educator in Grosse Pointe and advocate for women with P.E.O. Allison Thomas, a senior at Grosse Pointe South, received the Johanna M. Gilbert Scholarship from Chapter AO. The scholarship, supported through the Gilbert family, honors Johanna Gilbert’s membership and support of P.E.O. and longtime dedication to the arts, as well as being a talented musician herself. The award honors a South woman who has made an outstanding achievement in the arts. In addition, Isabella Boedeker, a senior at Grosse Pointe North, received the competitive national P.E.O. award, a STAR Scholarship, given in recognition of leadership, academics, extracurricular activities, community service and the potential for future success. The P.E.O. Sisterhood is one of the oldest women’s organizations in the United States and Canada. Founded in 1869, P.E.O. has provided 125,000 women with \$432 million in educational support. Learn more at peointernational.org.

Honors for P.E.O. state officer

Beth Pressler of Grosse Pointe Park was among those honored for 50 years of membership in the



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHAPTER AO

Michigan P.E.O. State Secretary Beth Pressler, center, was honored for 50 years in P.E.O. with several members of Chapter AO-Grosse Pointe.

P.E.O. Sisterhood at the group’s state convention in Lansing in May. Pressler, a leading Realtor locally and nationally, has not only led the Chapter AO-Grosse Pointe in a variety of leadership roles, but for the past year has served as state secretary for the Michigan P.E.O. board. She will continue to serve in the coming year as state treasurer.

Indoor pickleball offered at Assumption this summer

Pickleball enthusiasts are invited to beat the summer heat and humidity — and rainy and windy days — by playing indoor pickleball in an air-conditioned gym at Assumption Cultural Center. Assumption has three courts in its Olympic-size gym that features a new hardwood floor. Courts are available to rent daily 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. now through Friday, Aug. 1. Courts may be reserved in advance or guests may call to check on same-day availability. Cost to rent a

two-hour session is \$40 per court. In the fall, winter and spring, Assumption also offers a variety of small group lessons and clinics to teach rules, scoring and techniques to newcomers, as well as help experienced players improve their game. Clinics are instructed by Peggy Murphy Kurza, a certified PPR instructor, and Mike Patton, a 5.0 player. Assumption Cultural Center is located at 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores. Call (586) 779-6111.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

- ◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, June 12, St. Margaret Catholic Church, 21201 E. 13 Mile, St. Clair Shores.
- ◆ 1 to 5 p.m. Monday, June 16, Corewell Health Grosse Pointe Hospital, 468 Cadieux, City of Grosse Pointe.
- ◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 17, Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 18, Jefferson Masonic Lodge No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile, St. Clair Shores.
- ◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Friday, June 20, St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park.
- ◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, June 20, Henry Ford St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

The War Memorial

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

- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Vietnam Through the Lens: The James “Skip” Liberty Story film screening, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 18.

- ◆ Picnic on the Lawn, 4 to 7 p.m. Sunday, June 22.
- ◆ Bridging the Gap: Modern Communication for Seniors, 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday, June 24. Cost is \$25.
- ◆ Shakespeare on the Rocks: “The Tempest,” 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, July 10. General admission is \$18. VIP tickets are \$48.

Ford House

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

- ◆ Storytime: “Over and Under the Pond,” by Kate Messner, 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays during June.
- ◆ “A Passion for European Art: The Collecting and Travels of Edsel and Eleanor Ford and Their Legacy of Philanthropy at the Detroit Institute of Arts,” 7 p.m. Thursday, June 12, for ages 18 and older. Admission is \$10 for members, \$12 for the public.
- ◆ Travel Tales, 10:30 a.m. Thursdays, June 26 to Aug. 14, for ages 4 and older. Admission is \$5 for member children, \$7 for nonmember children.
- ◆ Explorers: Plant Detectives, 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, June 28, for ages 7 to 11. Admission is \$7.

- ◆ Gather in the Garden, 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, June 28, for ages 21 and older. Tickets are \$120 for members, \$150 for the public.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

Historical Society

The Grosse Pointe Historical Society hosts its 21st annual summer gala from 6 to 11 p.m. Friday, June 13, at 30

See EVENTS, page 5B

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Park Farmers Market opens June 14

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

After a well-attended resurgent season, the popular Park Farmers Market returns to the corner of Kercheval and Lakepointe in Grosse Pointe Park, from 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, June 14 to Sept. 13. Though the hours were cut — last year’s ran until 1 p.m. — everything else about this market is growing.

“Last year was a huge success,” said Philip Crouse, whose idea it was to bring back the summer market after it shut down several years ago. “We started with a vision to provide people with weekly staples for their pantry. We were able to achieve that.”

Expanding on last year’s success, the market has grown around 30 percent, offering more vendors, children’s programming and live music.

“We measured our success through our vendors’ success,” said Alex Field, handling marketing for the market. “Some said they did better at our market than other experiences they had.”

“It’s cool to see it grow as a community space,” Crouse said. “I’d see familiar faces week after week. It’s a place for pantry staples, but also a space to go to get out. It’s a neat way to see people, not just at school or at the baseball diamond.

“... There was market in Grosse Pointe before,” he added. “We had to prove to people we’d be there every Saturday. It was a big win to build our confidence.”

Another boost came in April, when Grosse Pointe Park City Council renewed the market for two more summers.

Having a dependable space is one of the aspects market-goers valued most, according to a recently conducted community survey.

“We do bring an entrepreneurial mindset to the product,” Crouse said. “We want to make it better and not be stagnant. The survey underscored things we already knew, but we also learned some things we didn’t know. People said they wanted more produce; we wanted that as well.”

The challenge was met. Every produce vendor from last year is returning and more has been added through a partnership with Eastern Market.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ORCHID BERTELSEN

Vegetables, fruits, microgreens and other freshly grown goods take the stage at the Park Farmers Market, which opens this Saturday.

“Eastern Market has a program (Produce Assessment Project) where they pop up in different parts of the city with curated produce sets to sell,” Crouse said. “It’s great for us because it fills any produce gaps we have the entire season. People love to go to Eastern Market, but it’s far or maybe it’s hard to get to on a Saturday. The fact they’ll bring a set of produce that will complement our existing vendors is an incredible win.”

Among returning vendors is Freeman Meat Co., which was a periodic vendor last year, but will be at the market every week this season, Field said.

“It’s a really great market that gets awesome community support and we’re excited to be a part of it this year,” Sydney Freeman said. “I’m looking forward to seeing how the market has grown and changed. The community is hungry for a farmers market and I

was amazed at the support it got in season one. It’ll be exciting to see the new vendors and how the community turns out.”

Freeman Meat Co., based in Shiawassee County, provides farm-fresh frozen beef, pork and chicken, as well as farm-fresh eggs. The family-run business does not have a storefront, so farmers markets are important for its sustainability.

“Community farmers markets are important for keeping the community together and keeping everyone more community minded,” Freeman said. “It’s been a hard couple of years since the pandemic, so farmers markets are great for us. ... The community support means everything.”

Other returning vendors include ROI Urban Farms, Green Rebellion microgreens and New Order Coffee, the latter of which will alternate weeks with Decent Coffee — new to the mar-



ket — to keep guests caffeinated week after week.

Decent Coffee owner Leo Olofsson said the market sounded like a great opportunity to get his shop’s name into the neighborhood.

“We love farmers markets,” he said, “and participating in this year’s set of markets feels like a dream.”

Hot and iced coffee, Kyoto-style cold brews and a selection of sodas and cold beverages will be on the Decent Coffee menu. A few other surprises may be in store as well.

“We are still working out what other specials we can drum up for this one,” said Olofsson, adding that he’s looking forward to meeting and talking to community members, “and hopefully make a great impression on our neighbors in the Park.”

MI Great Lakes Fish Co. — the only vendor that was part of the market’s previous iteration — is coming back for six

Saturdays.

A number of bakeries will fill the gap left by the closure of Hillside Hearth. Among them are Death by Pastry, Cookies by M-K and Bossy B’s.

LeRouge Boulangerie is on tap to sell fresh produce and honey from its farm in Metamora, as well as LeRouge merchandise and picnic fixings.

“We wanted to be a part of the market this year because we really pride ourselves on engaging with the community,” said Kaycee White, manager of LeRouge. “We figured what better way to engage than participating in a program that was started by some amazing community members? Also, it was so nice to have the market across the street from us last year that we knew we wanted to be a part of it this year — really get in on the action.

“I am most looking forward to connecting with

Participating vendors to date

- ◆ Bossy B’s Bakery
- ◆ Charcuterie on 13th
- ◆ Cookies by M-K
- ◆ Death by Pastry
- ◆ Decent Detroit
- ◆ Eastern Market Farm Stand
- ◆ Flavors of Jamaica
- ◆ Freeman Meat Co.
- ◆ Gajiza Dumplings
- ◆ Green Rebellion
- ◆ Hens & Honey Homestead
- ◆ Irish Shortbread
- ◆ Let’s Pop
- ◆ LeRouge Boulangerie
- ◆ Luv Roots
- ◆ MI Great Lakes Fish Co.
- ◆ Millie Lou’s Pretzel Co.
- ◆ New Order Coffee Roasters
- ◆ Pet Wants
- ◆ Purely Gluten Free
- ◆ ROI Urban Farms
- ◆ Slow Sundays
- ◆ Taco Hernandez
- ◆ Waterborn

the community and really being able to showcase the amazing produce from our farm,” she added.

In addition to food-stuffs and floral vendors, the market is expanding on a popular feature from last year. During Craft Market Days, the market will highlight local artisans and handmade goods. Three are planned this season: the third Saturdays of July and August, as well as the last day of the market.

Another new facet to the market is the addition of a tented seating area, thanks to marquee sponsor, Corewell Health. Marquee sponsor Excalibur Park is sponsoring live music most Saturdays.

Additional sponsors include John Adams Mortgage, Pointe Acupuncture, the Pointe Hardware group including Marvin and Festool, Fisher Pointe Dental and Jim Saros Real Estate Services.

Fans of the market will be happy to know Park Farmers Market merchandise again will be available for purchase.

“It’s cool seeing kids and adults in the community wearing our shirts,” Field said. “It brings fun and approachable branding to all of this ... to create merch people want to wear around.

“... We’re finding ways to engage people beyond the Park, in the other

See MARKET, page 5B

‘Food is Medicine’ class coming to Detroit Abloom

Studies show that 80 percent of chronic diseases are related to lifestyle. Obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, arthritis, heart disease and some cancers are preventable and reversible.

Lifestyle medicine is a specialty that uses lifestyle interventions primarily to treat these chronic conditions. Scientific evidence supports the role of a whole-food, predominantly plant-based diet as an important strategy.

Dr. Pooja Gupta presents three lifestyle classes aimed at improving health and longevity this summer at Detroit Abloom, 248 Manistique, Detroit. The Food is Medicine series takes place noon to 3 p.m. Saturdays, June 21, July 26 and Aug. 16.

Gupta has practiced cardiology more than 20 years and is a certified lifestyle medicine physician. She will share how to incorpo-

rate fiber-filled, nutrient-dense, antioxidant- and phytochemical-rich and minimally processed vegetables, fruits, whole grains, legumes, nuts and seeds into one’s diet to treat the root cause of diseases, strengthen the immune system, reduce the risk for several kinds of cancers and restore health.

Each session begins with a welcome and introduction, then moves into a topic of discussion — the six pillars of lifestyle medicine, aging vibrantly and gut microbiomes, for example — followed by a cooking demonstration, lunch and socialization. Each session ends in meditation with music.

The objectives of the seminars are:

- ◆ knowing the role of lifestyle medicine and its six pillars in the prevention, treatment and reversal of the chronic diseases;

- ◆ learning about the concept of a whole-food plant-based diet and different food groups included;
 - ◆ learning the difference between a nutrient-dense diet and a calorie-dense diet;
 - ◆ understanding how food plays a role in heart health, brain health and longevity;
 - ◆ learning to read labels, shopping and meal prepping;
 - ◆ learning to cook fast, delicious, five-minute plant-based recipes;
 - ◆ having an opportunity to connect socially and
 - ◆ understanding the role of stress and learning and practicing the ancient Eastern art of meditation.
- Gupta will be available for one-on-one personal consultation if anyone is interested.
- Cost is \$25 and registration is required at tinyurl.com/58t4hmkw

SOCIAL HOUR

BY JOLIBLOOM

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4B | OBITUARIES

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.

Charles Robert Whitney Jr.

Charles “Chuck” Robert Whitney Jr., 75, of Grosse Pointe, passed away peacefully Tuesday, April 22, 2025.

Chuck was born Sept. 4, 1949, in Detroit, to Charles Robert Whitney and Beverly Jane (nee Swetland), both now deceased. He is survived by his beloved wife of 33 years, Virginia “Gina” (nee Baubie). He was the loving father of three children, Charles, McGregor (Heidi) and Elisabeth (James Kendzorski); devoted grandfather of Willow, Juniper and Finnley; and supportive brother of Marcia Whitney, Jane Whitney Gage (Jen Bradford) and the late Tracy Whitney Howe.

Chuck had success in many roles throughout his life, but he found his calling as a restaurateur. Together, he and Gina owned and operated Whitney’s of Charlevoix for more than two decades. He was in his element at the restaurant and had a talent for creatively solving problems while always maintaining compassion for his employees.

Living up north was a huge part of Chuck’s life; he adored going out on the open water on his beloved boat, “Gina B,” with his daughter and wife. He would anchor in the middle of the water, grill a great meal and enjoy the ambiance. An avid sports-

man, Chuck spent many hunting seasons and peaceful times on the Pigeon River in the Lower Peninsula of Michigan, as well as the deep woods of northern Canada. He cherished duck hunting on the waters of Lake St. Clair near Mitchell’s Bay, Ontario, Canada, with generations of family and close friends. It was a passion until the end of his life. Chuck also had a lifelong love of motorcycles. The highlight of his many journeys was a legendary run in the late 1970s from Detroit through Canada and up the Alaska Highway, and a 3,600-mile cross-country Harley Davidson trip with his sons nearly 20 years ago, dubbed “Zoom ’06.”

Chuck will be fondly remembered by his many friends, family, countless bartenders, servers, dishwashers, cooks and patrons for his effortless ability to swap stories, quote obscure history and bring smiles with his quick wit. The Whitney’s of Charlevoix annual end-of-season employee party, lovingly known as Chuckstock, is remembered to this day as a northern Michigan summer highlight.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the St. John Foundation, 1 Ford Place, Ste. 5A, Detroit, MI 48202, henryford.com/development/priorities/st-john-priorities/giving-form.

A celebration of life will

be held at 4 p.m. Friday, June 20, at Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

Anne Bullock Sullivan

Anne Bullock Sullivan, 63, a longtime Grosse Pointe Farms resident, passed away peacefully and surrounded by family Monday, May 26, 2025, after a year of treatment for ovarian cancer.

Anne was a sparkling light of joy and positivity. She was born Feb. 21, 1962, in Boulder, Colo., to Don and Mary Bullock, both now deceased. She was raised in Kalamazoo and graduated from Loy Norrix High School and Michigan State University.

Anne is survived by her husband and love of her life, Jim Dixon; children, Bridget Sullivan (Ted), Melissa Sullivan (John) and Mikey Sullivan (Janine); stepchildren, Jimmy Dixon (Holly), Sally Dixon and Danny Dixon; and her canine companion, Sassy. She also is survived by her siblings, Andy Bullock (Nancy), Susan Bennett (Tod) and Carol Russell (Scott); as well as many friends, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Anne’s enthusiastic zest for life meant she had a wide range of interests and activities. She loved gardening, walking, yoga, reading, book club, mah-jong and feeding the birds in her yard. Watching the



Charles R. Whitney Jr.



Anne Bullock Sullivan



Alice Staniec

sunrise over Lake St. Clair during all seasons was a special time for her. She loved all kinds of music, especially any that led to dancing in the kitchen or a family sing-along. She learned to sew as a child with her mother and that interest continued into adulthood as she became quite accomplished. She also enjoyed exploring the arts, frequently visiting the Detroit Institute of Arts and working on her own watercolor painting skills.

Anne found motherhood extremely rewarding and took pride in building strong and loving relationships with each of her children. She was an active member of Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, including singing in the choir, playing the bells and participating in a leadership role with Stephen Ministries. She was cherished by coworkers at all of her jobs over the years, most recently at Blaser Design Group, where she was described as the backbone of the business. Over the past four years, Anne had been walking across Michigan, from Lake Michigan to Lake Huron, with her two sisters. They completed 200 miles just prior to her cancer diagnosis last year.

In lieu of flowers, Anne requested that memorial donations be made to the Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance, ocrahope.org/get-involved/ways-to-give/

honor-a-loved-one, or the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition, 12221 Merit, Ste. 1950, Dallas, TX 75251, ovarian.org/get-involved/ways-to-give.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, June 20, at Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms. Visitation begins at 9:30 a.m. Her family asks that people pay forward any compliment or act of kindness shown by Anne so her light may continue to shine.

Alice Staniec

Alice Staniec, 97, a former resident of Grosse Pointe Shores, passed away Monday, March 31, 2025. Alice left this world peacefully and surrounded by her family in her adopted home of South Florida. After a life filled with love and accomplishment, she reunites with her husband, Edward, the true love of her life.

Alice’s parents, Dmytro and Anna Mudry, immigrated from Ukraine, so Alice and her three sisters — Dolores, Olga and Mary — grew up speaking Ukrainian as a secondary language. Alice passed on parts of the language to her children, mostly with simple phrases like “dyvys’na” (“look here” in English) to get their attention.

A mother of three and grandmother of five, Alice

was a devout Roman Catholic who regularly attended Mass at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church and prayed the Rosary daily. She worked as an elementary school teacher in East Detroit and later volunteered at both Ford House and Henry Ford Cottage Hospital.

Alice valued family, healthy living and exercise. She preached the virtue of patience, importance of education, benefits of exercise and the value of a dollar. She attended countless swim meets and football, basketball and baseball games, but loved nothing more than family members’ Catholic sacraments and school graduations.

Alice was a great cook and hosted countless games of wiffle ball and Rummikub in her backyard. She walked or biked along Lakeshore every day and was a regular at the Grosse Pointe Woods and Shores parks. She always had a kind word for strangers and crafted the most thoughtful handwritten cards for holidays.

Alice is survived by her children, Paul, Mary Anne (Michael McMillin) and Shelley (Scott Kudialis); grandchildren, Dana (Damian Suvaka), Christopher, Scotty, Heather and Kristin; and great-grandchildren, Ariana and Alexander.

A funeral Mass will be held at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church.



James Donald MacConnachie

carried into every chapter of his life.

Jimmy was a seasoned and successful salesman, which led him to become a self-made entrepreneur who built his company, U.S. Financial Services, from the ground up. He dedicated more than 40 years to its growth and success. His work ethic, vision and commitment to his customers and employees made him a respected leader in his industry.

Outside of business, Jim spent most of his time at home and in the great outdoors. He was a skilled hunter, boater, pilot, craftsman and skier, both on the water and the snow. Lake Charlevoix held a special place in his heart. He proudly taught his own children and nearly 35 nieces, nephews, friends and grandchildren how to water ski. He also was an avid hockey player in a local men’s league. In his later years, he devoted his time to volunteering with Camp Quality of Michigan, teaching kids how to snow ski on the hills of Boyne Mountain and Otsego. His love of cars and motorcycles was equally legendary and he often was found behind the wheel or handlebars of something fast, classic or both.

Above all, Jimmy was a family man. He is survived by his beloved wife, Sara; and their four children, Krystin, Meghan, Ally (Jason) and Christopher (Ashley). He was a cherished grandfather of six, Tony, Sal, Gigi, Dean,

Henry and James, each of whom brought him immense joy and pride. He also is survived by his siblings, Kathleen, Bill, Kevin, Maureen, Ian and Roseann; and 18 nieces and nephews. Jimmy believed in inspiring the next generation. He was predeceased by his parents, Beverly and Jim; and siblings, Doug, Cerene and Dan.

Jimmy lived life on the edge with a fearless heart and contagious zest for living. His risk-to-reward threshold for life was higher than anyone else would attempt. He encouraged everyone around him to follow their dreams and live life to the fullest. His bright spirit, teaching heart and deep love for adventure and family leave an indelible mark on all who knew him. He will be deeply missed but forever remembered by his loved ones.

Visitation takes place from 3 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 18, with a prayer service at 7 p.m. at Chas. Verheyden Inc., 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park. A funeral will be held Thursday, June 19. He will lie in state from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. Mass at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, 15020 Hampton, Grosse Pointe Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Camp Quality of Michigan, P.O. Box 345, Boyne City, MI 49712, campqualityusa.org/ways-to-help/donate.

Arrangements were entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

Helene Joy Hackett AND William John Hackett



Helene Joy Hackett, 91, and William John Hackett, 94, of Grosse Pointe Farms, went to heaven just six hours apart. Helene passed away Monday, May 12, 2025, and William in the early hours of Tuesday, May 13, 2025. They were childhood sweethearts and spent 70 years of marriage together.

Helene and William were the cherished mother and father of John Hackett (Pamela) and Jamie Hackett (Ben Dixon); proud grandparents of Michael (Meredith Mengel), Jennifer, John (Adrian) and Tamie (Charles); great-grandparents of James, Logan, Nolan, Cassie and Amanda (Cody); and great-great-grandparents of Lawson, Colton and Blakey.

Helene was predeceased by her parents, John and Edith Wright; and her three brothers, Jack, Jim and Richard Wright. William was predeceased by his parents, Lyle and Leona Hackett. He is survived by his brother, Lawrence Hackett (Norma) and Diane Hackett.

Helene was born June 21, 1933, in Flint, Mich. She graduated as valedictorian of Flint Central High School’s Class of 1951. She then graduated from Michigan State University with high honors. Helene taught elementary school in St. Clair Shores, Chesterfield Township, East Detroit and Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. She was a Brownie and Girl Scout leader for 14 years and taught Sunday school for 18 years. She was a genealogy historian, member of the St. Lucie Historical Society and Daughters of the American Revolution. She was known for her sweet, giving, kind-hearted personality and caring for others.

William was born Oct. 25, 1930, in Rosebush, Mich. He drew people in like a

magnet due to his servant’s heart, personality, sense of humor and positive attitude toward life. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army and played baseball for the General. William was an educator and a principal for many years and was celebrated nationally for his achievements. He had a Masters 60 and three minors. He was actively involved in the athletic endeavors of his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and was inducted into the Flint Athletic Hall of Fame for his role in the national championship in Hutchinson, Kan., for his college basketball-playing days. He was the “scout” for the original Grosse Pointe Bulldogs hockey team, which was named after his nickname, “Bulldog Bill.” Ultimately, all travel teams in the GP Hockey Association took on the “Bulldogs” name through a vote. Some of Dad’s fondest memories were from his grandkids competing with GP Bulldogs hockey, GP South baseball, hockey, volleyball and football and GP Farms/City Little League, Babe Ruth and the GP Redbirds.

They were both music lovers of a variety of genres. They appreciated God’s great outdoors and enjoyed traveling with the family throughout the United States during the summers in a pop-up camper. They really enjoyed their driveby birthdays in the front yard when the community would come by and honk and talk with them. Both exhibited a strong work ethic and instilled family values and were full of love. They will be missed dearly.

A private family service will be held this fall.



COURTESY PHOTOS

“Enchanting Rose Garden” in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Detroit Garden Weekend is June 13-15

The Detroit Garden Conservancy welcomes guests to Detroit Garden Weekend, June 13 to 15. The three-day event offers a peek into several gardens, showcasing design, artistry and nature.

Friday, June 13, the 2.5-acre Oudolf Garden Detroit on Belle Isle takes center stage through “Exploring the Oudolf Plant Palette for Year-Round Beauty.” Ground crew members Meredith Simpson and Richard Thomas will discuss the design philosophy of Piet Oudolf, followed by a stroll through the garden. The program begins at 4 p.m. Cost is \$30 for Garden Conservancy members, \$40 for the public.

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 14, five private gardens in Wayne and Oakland counties will welcome visitors dur-



“Jardin a la Francaise” in Grosse Pointe Farms.

ing the Garden Conservancy Open Days program. Open gardens include two in Grosse Pointe Farms, one in Grosse Pointe Park, one in Pleasant Ridge and a fifth in the Boston Edison district of Detroit. Admission is \$5 per gar-

den for Garden Conservancy members, \$10 for the public.

The weekend concludes 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 15, with “The Most Important Room of a House: The Garden,” during which guests will learn about the Dorothy H. Turkel House, a Frank Lloyd Wright-designed residence in the Palmer Woods Historic District. Homeowners Norman Silk and Dale Morgan, in conversation with landscape architect Richard Hass, will discuss the interplay between architecture and landscape. Cost is \$120 for Garden Conservancy members, \$140 for the public.

Tickets for all three events may be purchased online at gardenconservancy.org. Garden addresses for the Open Days program will be released to ticket holders.

For more information, visit gardenconservancy.org.



“An Urban Refuge for our Native Friends” in Grosse Pointe Park.

MARKET:

Continued from page 3B

Pointes,” he added. “It’s a really important goal. We want to get folks to come west Saturday mornings and join us. Give us a shot and check us out if you haven’t already. We want to bring together the Pointes and east Detroit. We want to be a bright spot in folks’ week.”

Education also is paramount to organizers.

“We’re a local farmers market that sources from Michigan,” Field said. “Part of our role is educating people. The upside is that the quality and freshness and taste when things are in peak season locally outweighs the fact you can’t get everything all the time. It’s incumbent on us to provide education and connect people with the source of their food.”

Those who would like to see the official Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting ceremony, featuring Park Mayor Michele Hodges, should arrive at



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ORCHID BERTELSEN

Florals are represented again at this year’s Park Farmers Market.

8:45 a.m. opening day.

“She’ll stick around our booth for ‘Coffee with the Mayor,’” Crouse said. “We hope to have different city representatives in the booth with us on dif-

ferent Saturdays throughout the season.”

For more information, visit parkfarmersmarket.com or find it on Instagram @parkfarmermarketgpp.

EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

Preston Place, Grosse Pointe Farms. “Glamorous Night” includes catering by 405 Hospitality Group, valet parking, open bars, live music, classic Hudson cars on display and more. Proceeds support the mission of the Grosse Pointe Historical Society. For tickets, visit tinyurl.com/bdcz6fur.

POST Detroit

POST Detroit, 14500 Kercheval, Detroit, hosts several workshops during May. To sign up for the following, visit mutualadoration.com:

- ◆ Free + Fun Community Clothing Swap, noon to 8 p.m. Friday, June 13. Registration is required.
- ◆ Mending Workshop: Reverse Applique Embroidery, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 14. Cost is \$65.

- ◆ Pressed Flower Workshop: Framed Floral Art, 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 14. Cost is \$85.

- ◆ Meet the Maker: Melissa West of Studio M West, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 14.

- ◆ Screen Printing Workshop: Pet Portraits, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, June 15. Cost is \$100.

- ◆ Jewelry Workshop: Marbled Effects in Polymer Clay, noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, June 15. Cost is \$75.

- ◆ Fibers Workshop: Pom Pom Garland, 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, June 18. Cost is \$60.

DIA

The Detroit Institute of Arts hosts a variety of exhibitions and installations during the month of June. Museum admission is free for residents of Wayne, Macomb and Oakland counties. For more information, visit dia.org.

- ◆ Drawing in the Galleries: American, 6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, June 13, and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 15.

- ◆ Drop-in Workshop: Pamphlet Stitch Books, 6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, June 13, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 14, and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 15.

- ◆ The film “Holy Cow” is shown 7 p.m. Friday, June 13; 3 and 7 p.m. Saturday, June 14; and 2 p.m. Sunday, June 15.

- ◆ Friday Night Live! Tunde Olaniran, 7 p.m. Friday, June 13.

- ◆ 2025 Annual Teen Summit, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 14.

- ◆ The Rainbow Beard Show, 2 p.m. Saturday, June 14.

- ◆ Guest Artist Demonstration: Weaving with Michael L. Daitch, Coat of Many Colors Handweavers, noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 15.

- ◆ Member Scavenger Hunt, 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday,

June 15.

- ◆ Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival, 7 p.m. Sunday, June 15.

- ◆ The fourth annual Wayne County High School Art Exhibition, Friday, June 20, to Sunday, July 20.

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.

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods hosts QPR & Quesadillas, from 4 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 17, at Hydrangea Kitchen, 371 Fisher. Attendees will learn to recognize the warning signs of suicide, how to offer hope and get help. Training is free, but registration is required. Email maryjo@familycenterhelps.org.

GPAA

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

- ◆ 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.

Library

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

- ◆ Readers’ Choice Book Discussion group, noon to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 14, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

- ◆ A Look into Interior Design, 2:30 to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 14, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

- ◆ Beginning Sunday, June 15, all three library branches will be closed on Sundays for the summer.

- ◆ Monday Art with Mari, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Monday, June 16, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

- ◆ Family Movie Mondays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, June 16, at

Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

- ◆ Read, Rhyme & Play, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 17, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

- ◆ Read, Rhyme & Play, 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday, June 17, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

- ◆ Summer Book Binge: Teen Book Club, 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 17, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

- ◆ MESSY Art, 10 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, June 18, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

- ◆ GPPL@Windmill Pointe Park, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, June 19.

- ◆ Crafternoons@the Library, 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, June 19, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

- ◆ Reader Dog, 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, June 21, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

- ◆ Saturday Drop-In Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday, June 21, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

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:

- ◆ 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.

- ◆ Out-to-Lunch Bunch, noon to 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 18. The group will go to Watermark Bar & Grille. Bus fare is \$6 for members, \$8 for guests.

- ◆ Field trip to Orchestra Hall, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, June 20, to see “Let’s Misbehave: The Songs of Cole Porter.” Cost is \$52 for members, \$58 for guests.

- ◆ The movie “My Penguin Friend” is shown at noon Friday, June 20. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for guests.

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 macomb_rlm@rtl.org or visit rtl.org.

Worship Service

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www.christthekinggp.org

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

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

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
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WE HAVE AN ARTS MINISTRY



Detroit Artists Market, CCS present ‘Dope Women in Media’

The Detroit Artists Market’s exhibition, “Dope Women in Media,” curated by Laura Gibson, has been relocated to the Center Galleries at the College for Creative Studies. Originally scheduled to open Jan. 24, the exhibition was postponed due to a significant flood that temporarily closed DAM’s gallery for renovations. “CCS is pleased to partner with our friends and neighbors at the Detroit Artists Market to pro-

duce this exhibition,” said Lucy Cahill, CCS gallery coordinator. “The Detroit arts community’s resilience and creative impact is strengthened when we show up for one another, revealing the importance of thoughtful collaboration. ‘Dope Women in Media’ is a timely exhibition and these artists deserve their time in the spotlight.” “Dope Women in Media” celebrates the groundbreaking contributions of women in

media arts. Featuring work by Detroit-based artists, the show explores intersections of film, video, photography and new media, highlighting personal and social themes shaping contemporary culture. Through bold, experimental and critical practices, the exhibition shines a spotlight on the powerful voices of Detroit women working in art, filmmaking and storytelling. “I’m grateful to the Detroit Artists Market

and the College for Creative Studies for partnering to showcase the ‘Dope Women in Media’ exhibition,” curator Laura Gibson said. “DAM’s efforts to keep its programming alive while recovering its space is to be applauded. I look forward to seeing these amazing women photographers and filmmakers on display at CCS.” “Even in the face of unexpected challenges, DAM remains committed

to program continuity and providing opportunities to showcase local artists,” DAM Executive Director Miah J. Davis said. “We’re grateful to the College for Creative Studies for their generous partnership in ensuring ‘Dope Women in Media’ receives the visibility it deserves.” Participating artists include Juanita Anderson, Danielle Eliska, Asia Hamilton, Arrielle Mock and Nina Young. The featured art-

ist is Deb King, curated by Gary Eleinko. The exhibition opens Friday, June 20, and runs through Friday, Aug. 1, at CCS, 301 Frederick, Detroit. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. A free public opening reception takes place 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, June 20. Guests will have the opportunity to meet the curator and artists. For more information, visit detroitartistsmarket.org.

CHART:

Continued from page 2B

Jan. 1. “I announced the album was going up on Bandcamp,” he said. “I thought I’d sell two or three CDs. By the next morning, it was completely sold out. That’s not counting digital sales and streams. “That day I checked the charts for hyperpop,” he added. “It was No. 1 in that category, so I thought I’d dig a little deeper. It was No. 1 in Michigan, No. 1 in Detroit and, for electronic music, it was No. 10 in the world.” Flatroom !! digital downloads and merchandise are available on flatroom.straw.page, while people who see him perform live have a chance to purchase an otherwise sold-out CD. Each one is signed and includes a print cover of one of his singles, as well

as a guitar pick bearing his logo. “I wanted to do something unique,” he said. Stuckless performed locally May 30 at Cabbage Patch Saloon and, more recently, at The Blind Pig in Ann Arbor. He also has played the Crofoot Ballroom in Pontiac and New Dodge Lounge in Hamtramck. “Every time I do a show, I learn a lot,” he said. The 2022 Grosse Pointe North High School grad — who was naturally gifted with perfect pitch and synesthesia — hopes to someday tour the world performing shows while calling New York City home. “That’s where all this music comes from,



Josh Stuckless recently performed at Cabbage Patch Saloon in Grosse Pointe Park.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM NIXON

roots help him make sure to keep his feet on the ground. “I’m still learning what all of this means,” he said. “I don’t pretend I know everything. I’m lucky to have the support of people everywhere I go — my mom, my dad, my grandparents, my friends. They know I have a talent for this and this is what I want to do. “... To build a career, you have to put yourself out there,” he added. “It’s hard, but it’s so worth it. To people who are trying to make a career out of music, put yourselves out there. The worst thing you can do is be parasocial with artists. Don’t lie about your status as a musician. Be yourself, but don’t be scared to put yourself out there. Don’t be scared of opportunity. As a musician, you’re going to have regrets: ‘I wish I did this or I wish I did that.’ You don’t have to wish; just do it.”

GARDENS:

Continued from page 1B

days of the tour. Members of the Sweet Strings Dulcimer Band will perform at noon in the Ryszewski garden at 1110 N. Oxford, Grosse Pointe Woods; Grosse Pointe South High School’s St. Clair Trio will perform at 1 p.m. in the DeSantis-Steyer garden at 807 Roslyn, Grosse Pointe Woods; and South’s Festival of Flutists will perform at 11 a.m. in Jayne Kasuba’s garden at 1247 Kensington, Grosse Pointe Park.

Kasuba’s Boston ivy-covered home has been a “work in progress” for 34 years.

“We chose to not have children; these are my children,” she said of the many plants and blooms that cover her front and back yards. “I was a librarian and would read gardening books at work and think, ‘I’m going to try that.’

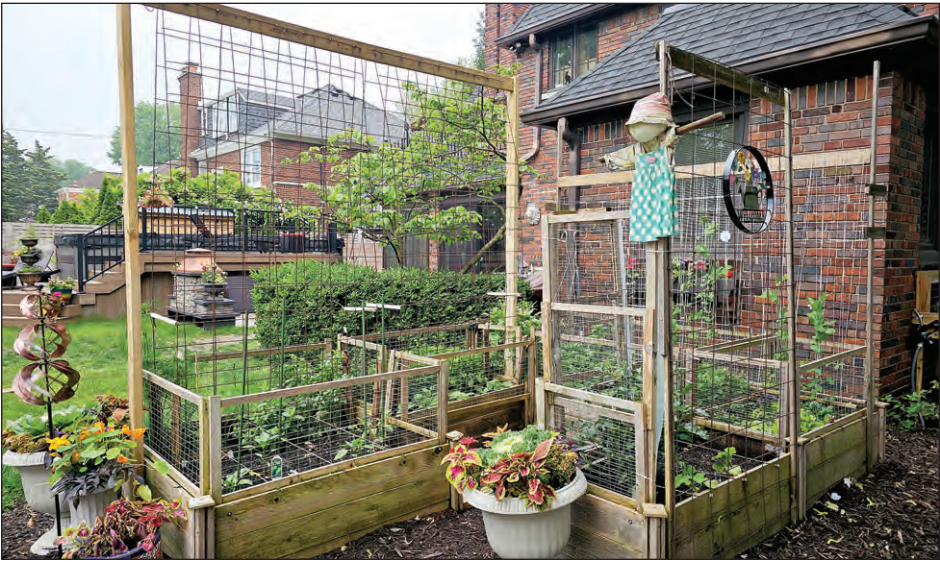
“I love growing things, nurturing things,” she added. “Spring is my favorite time, seeing everything coming up that made it through the winter.”

The grounds were a blank slate when she moved in; now they’re full of dogwoods and azaleas, junipers and hydrangeas, cranesbill and caladium and everything in between.

“I learn through trial and error,” Kasuba said. “It’s fun to try different things. I go through it and make plans for next year. I just can’t help it.”

Park resident Rebecca Barry can relate.

“I always think I’m done, but then I’m always doing something,” Barry



said. “There will be a ‘next.’” Her backyard retreat at 1246 Balfour includes hostas, ferns, primroses, peonies and clematis that are accented by bird feeders, statuettes and other decorations, creating a whimsical backyard retreat. She began working on the space — which also includes a large raised vegetable garden — four years ago. “I had a vision in my head of an illustration in a children’s book — the black marker with watercolor behind it,” Barry said. “I decided I was going to try to make it.”

Her vision was brought to fruition and includes a birdbath, bird feeder and hummingbird feeder with automatic cameras that snap photos of the variety of winged visitors to her gated garden. Refreshments will be offered at Barry’s garden, also the site of the tour’s Garden Shoppe, which will carry hand soap, aprons, tools and other gardening supplies. The yard also will showcase this year’s raffle items (see sidebar). Other gardens on the tour include the Beals garden at 56 Mapleton

in Grosse Pointe Farms and the Graziani garden at 51 Michaux Court in Grosse Pointe Shores. “One of the things I love most about gardening (is) we are always learning and experimenting with plants and designs,” Kathy Brown said. “In our quest for gardens each year, the goal Ginny and I have is to present different features, designs and types of gardens, so that you come away with new and exciting ideas to try at home.” For more information or for tickets, visit gpgardencenter.org.

Pictured clockwise, from left, Jayne Kasuba’s yards feature a variety of healthy blooms; Kelly Konieczki educates passersby about native plants and pollinators with signs throughout her gardens; a massive vegetable garden is growing strong in Rebecca Barry’s rear yard.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



Tickets, please

Tickets to the 33rd annual Grosse Pointe Garden Tour are \$15 in advance, \$20 on tour days. Tour-day tickets are only available at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Tickets will be sold in advance at the following businesses:

- ◆ Coreander’s Children’s Bookshoppe, 15116 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park
- ◆ Allemon’s Landscape Center, 17727 Mack, Detroit
- ◆ Other World Grosse Pointe, 17750 Mack, Grosse Pointe
- ◆ Charvat the Florist, 18590 Mack, Grosse Pointe Farms
- ◆ Viviano Flower Shop, 20087 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods
- ◆ Moehring Woods Florist, 20923 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods
- ◆ Wild Birds Unlimited, 20381 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods
- ◆ Conner Park Florist, 21480 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores
- ◆ Greenhouse Gardens, 21807 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores
- ◆ Soulliere Landscaping and Garden Center, 23919 Little Mack, St. Clair Shores
- ◆ English Gardens, 22501 Kelly, Eastpointe
- ◆ The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms

Tickets also may be ordered online at gpgardencenter.org and picked up the day of the tours at The War Memorial.

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Pointer’s band winding down

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

After 25 years of playing music around the world, Adam Turla still gets a kick out of his memories of growing up in Grosse Pointe

“I think about the lake a lot,” he said during a recent phone interview. “I like to visit my old haunts when I come back. I’ll drive by a baseball field and there’ll be a game going on and I think back to how many games I played there. Little League was a big part of my life growing up.”

The 1999 Grosse Pointe South High School graduate and his band, Murder by Death, kicked off their farewell tour earlier this month where it all began, Bloomington, Ind. Turla and his now



COURTESY PHOTO

Murder by Death members, from left, Emma Tiemann, Adam Turla, Dagan Thogerson, Sarah Balliet, David Fountain and Tyler Morse.

wife, Sarah Balliet, started the band in 2000, shortly after meeting as freshman at Indiana University.

“We’ve played more than 2,000 gigs,” he said. “That’s a lot of wear and tear.”

They’ll play their final

mother, Julie, for exposing him to a lot of music.

“I was her concert buddy,” he laughed. “By the time I was 12, I’d seen Iggy Pop, Lou Reed, David Bowie.”

For those unfamiliar with the six-member band, Murder by Death’s music is far different from what the name implies. They are known for playing a mix of instrumentals, rock and alt-country, including Balliet’s electric cello.

Turla said he and Balliet, the only two original members remaining, are a team.

“It’s been challenging, but also rewarding,” he said.

Turla’s introduction to playing music came via his longtime classmate, Ryan Browne.

“He had a guitar and his mom found another

one at a garage sale that I bought from her for \$20,” he said. “We took lessons somewhere on Mack from a guy named Rob. He taught us blues and jazz scales and then we’d hang out in the basement practicing.”

He also has other fond memories of the Pointes.

“We used to skip homework and go get breakfast at Janet’s Lunch,” he recalled. “And we used to ride our bikes everywhere.”

That included the former Shores Madrid theater in St. Clair Shores at Nine Mile and Greater Mack.

“I still remember seeing ‘Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade’ there,” Turla said. “And I like to go to Travis for a burger when I visit.”

Now living in Louisville, Ky., Turla and

Balliet also are in the restaurant business as owners of Pizza Lupo.

“It’s a big passion,” he said. “My brother-in-law, Max, is a co-owner and executive chef, so we’re partnering with his talent.”

Turla said he enjoyed trying different kinds of food while touring.

“When you travel, the one thing you can control is what you eat,” he explained. “It’s the one thing that changes every day.”

When the tour wraps up in November, that doesn’t necessarily mean the end of the band. They plan to still do their annual summer shows at The Caverns in Pelham, Tenn.

“We actually play in a cave, which is a really cool experience,” Turla said. “It’ll give us a chance to still connect with people.”

See murderbydeath.com for more tour information.

DIA announces \$15 million endowment honoring Gene Gargaro’s leadership

The Detroit Institute of Arts recently announced the renaming of the director’s role to the Mary Anne and Eugene A. Gargaro Jr. Director, President, and CEO, in recognition of nearly \$15 million in gifts made to the museum’s unrestricted operating endowment. The contributions will help ensure continued excellence in museum leadership for generations to come.

The endowment recognizes Gene Gargaro’s decades of service and dedication to the DIA as chairman of the board, a position he held until 2024, and underscores the impact he and his wife, Mary Anne, have had on the museum’s growth and stability.

His leadership was instrumental in key milestones, including spearheading fundraising for the museum’s \$158 million renovation, expansion and grand reopening in 2007; maintaining the museum’s fiscal health during the 2008-09 global financial crisis; guiding the strategic initiative in 2013-14 to navigate the museum through Detroit’s bankruptcy, including being a key leader in the “Grand Bargain”; achieving the DIA’s \$100 million commitment to the “Grand Bargain” to preserve the museum’s collection and secure the city of Detroit’s pension investments; co-chairing the museum’s original millage in 2012 and its renewal in 2020; and overseeing nearly \$800 million in total fundraising over 20 years.

Mary Anne Gargaro has been her husband’s strategic partner and advisor, acting in many capacities at the DIA herself, including serving as gala chair and serving on the Associates of the



COURTESY PHOTO

Mary Anne and Gene Gargaro

American Wing Auxiliary Board. Both Gene and Mary Anne Gargaro received the 2015 Lifetime Service Award.

The Gargaros, residents of Grosse Pointe, personally contributed \$1 million to the endowment, which has received nearly 100 gifts from donors, including seven-figure gifts from numerous families, including Bonnie Ann Larson; Mary Kay and Keith E. Crain; Jennifer and Terence Adderley Foundation; Ann and James B. Nicholson; Anne and John H. Roberts; Anthony L. Soave; Molly and Mark Valade; and the Wayne and Joan Webber Foundation.

“Gene Gargaro’s leadership has been nothing short of transformative,” said Salvador Salort-Pons, the Mary Anne and Eugene A. Gargaro Jr. Director, President and

CEO of the DIA. “His vision and dedication have ensured the DIA’s long-term success and this endowment is a fitting tribute to his legacy. We are deeply grateful to Gene and Mary Anne Gargaro, as well as the many donors who have made this possible.”

“Mary Anne and I are very proud to share this special director naming recognition with all those who have joined us in supporting the DIA,” Gene Gargaro said. “This museum is a treasure for Detroit and our region and we are privileged to have played a role in its continued success.”

General admission to the DIA is free for residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. Museum hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Corewell GP earns ‘A’ Hospital Safety Grade

Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital earned an “A” Hospital Safety Grade for spring 2025 from The Leapfrog Group, a national nonprofit watchdog that sets standards for excellence in patient care.

The distinction recognizes the achievements of the hospital in protecting patients from preventable harm and error.

Corewell hospitals in Greenville, Ludington, Trenton, Troy and Zeeland

also earned “A” Hospital Safety Grades for spring 2025.

“We are very proud to have six Corewell Health hospitals receive an ‘A’ Safety Grade from the Leapfrog Group,” said Jeffrey Dittkoff, M.D., chief quality officer for Corewell Health. “We are extremely thankful for our clinical teams who have achieved excellent clinical outcomes and always keep patient safety at the forefront.”

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Both Males, Bonded pair, 5 years old, Pure Bred Beagles, Denver id Tricolor, Boulder is White/Brown.

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Gabby

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Summer water safety

Dear Gabby: I’m nervous about drowning risks now that summer is here. What can I do to keep my young kids safe around water?— Worried in the Woods

Dear Worried: You’re smart to be thinking about this because drowning is fast, silent and preventable.

Always assign a “water watcher” when kids are near any body of water — even a kiddie pool. That person should have no distractions and stay focused solely on the swimmers.

Enroll your children in swim lessons and use properly fitted life jackets for open water.

Pool fencing with self-

latching gates is essential for younger children. Remember that floaties and inflatable toys are not substitutes for supervision.

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



Regretting a raving good time

DEAR ANNIE: Last year, I married the nicest guy I’ve ever met. I’m 40 and wish I’d met him sooner, but better late than never.

On our month-long honeymoon in Europe, we attended a music festival. During the festival, my husband and I saw some other women in pasties, and in a moment of flirting, I did something totally out of character and bought some pasties myself and a glittery thong. I spent the next day

dancing and partying in this revealing attire with my husband. I think everyone needs to have one wild moment in their life, and I had lots of fun.

After we got home, I found out the festival had hired a photographer to take pictures for their social media accounts. There I was in three photos online wearing only the glittery thong and pasties over my breasts, dancing on a mini stage they set up in the crowd.

The pictures are untagged, so no one would connect them to me anyway, and my friends all think I look hot and that it isn’t a big deal.

I own my own business, so I don’t need to worry about employment, and for now, only my friends know. Even so, I’m too embarrassed to tell my husband.

Should I confess to him that I’m in these pictures that will exist forever? Should I try to get the photos removed

somehow? Should I even feel embarrassed?

When I really think about it, it’s probably no big deal, but when the feelings of embarrassment kick in, I don’t know what to do! — Festival Flashback

DEAR FESTIVAL FLASHBACK: Honesty is the best policy, especially in marriage, and this isn’t so much a confession to your husband as it is simply sharing with him what you found. He was right there with



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

you, participating in the event, too, even if there are no pictures of him to prove it.

You’re in a fortunate position that the pictures don’t affect your job or personal life. Still, if contacting the festival or social media account is easy enough, it’s worth asking if the photos can be taken down; you may

care more later on and wish you had done so sooner. Don’t let this happy, carefree, innocent moment in the past become something you beat yourself up for now.

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

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Cooking meals from around the world

I’ve always said it’s no secret that our communities are built on family-owned and operated businesses and restaurants. Husbands and wives for generations down the line. It’s what gives this area the charm it holds.

This April, another husband and wife duo joined our restaurant industry along Mack Avenue. In the location that was once the beloved Lyla’s Catering, a similar yet more “global” cuisine has filled the space with flavors and specialty items like none other. Welcome home, Alison and Murad Abusoboh, owners of Pangea Global Kitchen.

Alison’s family roots are here in Grosse Pointe Woods. A 1998 graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School, her love for education took her overseas to the United Arab Emirates, where she taught English to kindergartners. There she met Murad, a special education teacher from Jordan, who Alison ironically also was teaching English.

“We fell in love over Google Translate,” she said of their relationship.

And so their story began. After seven years away, it was time for Alison’s return home.

“I couldn’t wait for my family to meet Murad. I just knew he’d fit in perfectly and he did,” she said.

While overseas, Murad not only missed his family in Jordan, but more so his mother’s cooking. The only

way to change that was to start making her homemade meals himself. Step-by-step directions from his mom via Skype led to his newfound passion for cooking and doing so for others.

Upon their big move back to the States, Murad also moved on from teaching. He began cooking for Alison’s family and venturing into different ethnic dishes.

His passion grew, as did his confidence in the kitchen. Making lasagna for his wife’s Italian family was a hit. Take it from me, that’s not an easy sell! Alison tells me “He nailed it,” and in no time, they started their local catering company: Abu Lawrence Catering. When asked the meaning behind the name, they told me Abu Lawrence means “Father of Lawrence,” the name of their only son at the time.

With the success of their home-based business and growing family, they knew it was time to look into their own space and 20083 Mack was waiting for new tenants. Both sides of their families got involved and provided much help throughout the whole process.

Murad’s family hasn’t missed a beat, thanks to FaceTime. And Alison’s brother, Steve, might be a familiar face you’ll see behind the counter. Murad, along with close friends and family, did some personal renovations on the space and made it their own. They had a vision and

they achieved it. A new storefront meant a new name, too.

“Being able to cook meals from around the world, we thought that Pangea Global Kitchen was appropriate,” Alison said.

While Alison’s days still start in the classroom, Murad’s workday starts with the prep team around 9 a.m. He sources most of their products from some of his favorite local shops in Dearborn and uses a few distributors as well. With trying new recipes all the time, Murad first cooks the original recipe, then makes it a second time, adding his own touch to perfect it.

Some of Pangea’s staple items always available are mostly Mediterranean dishes like grape leaves, tomato kibble, falafel and Jordanian shawarma, made with Murad’s homemade Pangea seasoning. One can’t overlook the Musakhan, a combination of chicken, onion and sumac, rolled into a thin Arabic flat bread called makook, then baked. I admit I was hesitant at first, but have since enjoyed it twice. It’s often found in their grab-n-go cooler for a quick reheal.

Their homemade hummus, extremely creamy and smooth, has become an item I want in my own fridge. I highly recommend adding a dollop to a fattoush salad and purchasing a bag of Murad’s “famous” pita chips with every container. This guy is a seasoning genius. Between his “special pita chip mix” and “famous homemade Pangea seasoning” for their shawarma, your tastebuds will be more than pleased.

Their Sicilian lasagna, yes, the one Alison’s Italian family approved, as well as their Indian butter chicken are staple items available daily. When I asked what the fan favorites were so far, it was literally everything mentioned above.

The Indian butter chicken consists of chicken cooked in a rich, creamy tomato-based sauce, served over rice and naan. This was a meal that was featured in Pangea’s second week of business. It was such a hit they made it a regular menu item. It can be ordered as a single meal or family meal, which serves four to six.

Pangea’s house soup is lentil, which is available daily. More soup offerings



Food Gossip

by Nina Taormina

will be available in the fall. Pangea also has specials that rotate weekly.

“Our goal is to feature at least one authentic meal a week, maybe every two weeks, depending on how popular it is,” Alison said.

I like this plan. It gives people something to look forward to as far as dinner plans go. Remember to check social media pages to see what the meal(s) of the week will be.

With graduation season up upon us, don’t forget that Pangea started off as a successful catering business. Alison said there is a specific catering menu to choose from, but most of their offerings are found at the store. Call (313) 926-6021 or pop in and ask for the catering menu. Murad personally will walk through every event to ensure it is tailored specifically to your party’s needs.

Delivery also is available for catered events.

Pangea’s current business hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For a quick dine-in bite, grab a seat at their five-top window bar seating area. It’s perfect for a lunch break.

“The community has been wonderful at trying new things and venturing out of their normal taste buds, which is our favorite part,” Alison said. “Murad has a lot of ethnic recipes up his sleeve. You are in for some good eats and we can’t wait.”

For all of Pangea’s daily updates and announcements, follow them on Facebook at Pangea Global Kitchen and Instagram: @pangeaglobalkitchen.

Fun fact: Lyla and Bill of Lyla’s Catering formed a relationship with Alison and Murad over the years. Murad was fortunate to have worked with Lyla a few times to gain experience with her and learn from her expertise. Lyla trusted him to take over and “feed the community” the same way she did. Yes, Lyla essentially handpicked her family businesses replacement when she retired. They’re a perfect fit. You might even catch her at the shop one day.

Stay tuned. Stay hungry.



Indian butter chicken.



Musakhan.



Falafel sandwiches.



Chicken shawarma.



Grape leaves.



Pangea Global Kitchen storefront.

COURTESY PHOTOS

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



I'm sure many of us have seen them all over TikTok — the viral wavy headbands that promise to hold back your hair with just the right touch of volume and zero head pain. As someone who has spent years cycling through old claw clips, tight harmful ponytail holders and bad “gentle” solutions, I figured it



was my time to delve into the headband world and

try this popular zigzag crown.

The pack I got from Amazon — tinyurl.com/yc224wmr — came with a few different shades of neutral colors varying from brown to black with all the same wavy, bendable design. I was skeptical as it looked like it would jab into my scalp. Most head-

bands slide back in minutes or cause immense pain to my scalp. I slipped this one on during a finals week study session and was pleasantly surprised. The first thing I noticed was how little pain it caused. The wavy edges allowed for distributed pressure better than other bands and I did not feel that telltale tight spot behind my ears, even after hours of wearing one. It also held back my hair through the Wisconsin wind as I walked out of the library and through a brisk

Starbucks run. The look gives modern yet retro '90s with a little twist. The only drawback I can see is the hold loosens over the course of the day, especially if you have relatively thick or freshly washed hair. However, usually a quick adjustment does the trick. My verdict: 4.5 out of 5 stars. Wavy headbands are an easy and affordable way to elevate a plain outfit without sacrificing any comfort. I may just have to retire the old claw clips after this find.

Now I am keeping my eyes on the metallic versions for summer.

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.

4.5 Out Of 5



Spanakopita

Courtesy of Mombeau’s Table

I am very excited to share this week’s recipe. It’s a passed down recipe that’s tried and true. Most importantly it’s the overwhelming victor of our friend’s best hors d’oeuvre contest at his annual White Elephant party. The accolades speak for themselves. This dish is a savory Greek spinach pie and comes to us from my friend’s mother who hails from Thessaloniki, Greece. It’s rich, cheesy, buttery and has a delicate, crunchy phyllo dough crust. I know it was a hit at my house because I caught two of my kids rooting around the refrigerator looking to heat up the leftovers. Complimenting anything with spinach is not something they are apt to do at the dinner table. This dish is easy to make but does take some advance planning. Once it’s assembled it needs to set up in the fridge. The filling will thicken up so the bottom crust doesn’t get soggy. It’s easiest to prepare the day before. The filling is simple to put together. Your time will be spent brushing each phyllo sheet with butter to create the signature flaky layers. Phyllo dough dries out very fast so make sure

that you have the butter melted and ready to go with your pastry brush in hand. Don’t worry if the layers don’t lay perfectly flat. There are too many layers for anyone to notice a few imperfections. The final step before baking is cutting the top into squares for a beautiful, professional look and easy serving. Keep this recipe in the back of your head the next time you ask your host what you can bring to the gathering. It’s great hot or at room temperature plus it feeds a crowd.

Cheers. Mombeau

Spanakopita

- 10 oz fresh, baby spinach
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 1.5 cups (12 oz) crumbled feta
- 4 eggs
- 3 tbsp olive oil
- 1.5 tsp salt
- 1 tsp pepper
- 1 lb butter, melted

1 16 oz box phyllo dough, defrosted

Working in batches, roughly chop the spinach leaves in a food processor. Add the chopped spinach to a large bowl along with the chopped onion, cheeses, eggs, olive oil, salt and pepper. Mix thoroughly and set aside. Melt two sticks of butter. Using a pastry brush, brush the bottom of a 9x13 inch baking dish with the melted butter. Next, unroll one package of phyllo dough. Generously brush the top side of the sheet and lay width-wise on one end of the dish. Each layer should have two sheets of phyllo dough to fit the length of the dish. Repeat this process for all of the sheets in the package, brushing each top with butter. After the bottom layer is complete, pour in the filling and spread out to make an even layer. For the top crust, melt the remaining two sticks of butter. Open the second package of phyllo dough and unroll. Repeat the same method for the top that used to make the bottom crust until all sheets have been used. Brush the top of the spanakopita with butter and pour any remaining over the top.



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

Cover with aluminum foil and set in the fridge for four hours or overnight. When it’s time to bake the spanakopita off, pre-heat your oven to 350. While the oven is pre-heating, take the pie out

of the fridge. Trim off any edges. You want nice, neat sides. Use a sharp knife to cut the top into squares. I cut three lines lengthwise and seven lines widthwise to give me 24 pieces.

Bake for 45 minutes to an hour or until the top is golden brown and the sides are bubbling. Let sit on the counter for at least 10 minutes before cutting into squares. Enjoy!



Cabernet Franc

Each popular grape variety has its own aromatic profile, though many (most?) large wine producers tend to homogenize any uniqueness. When you pay \$10 or less for a bottle of wine, the grape variety listed on the front label is probably 75 percent of what’s inside the bottle (by law, it must be at least that amount), but the aroma and flavor don’t always conform. Chardonnay is a good example. It’s a grape that has very little distinctiveness. Often, it is as neutral as the winery can make it, as most Americans do not like assertive wine flavors. Bland is good. Because California’s

climate is sunny and warm, grapes that produce modestly priced wines ripen quickly. Most grapes do not spend time on the vine developing flavors. The longer tomatoes ripen on vines, the more their flavors develop. Grapes operate similarly. As a result, cheaper wines tend to be bland. And they sell relatively well, especially to people who do not drink wine regularly. A good example of a modestly priced wine that is usually fairly simple is cabernet sauvignon. Its natural herbal aromas rarely show up in inexpensive versions. But a variety that offers a bit more assertiveness

and has seen a resurgence in interest lately is cabernet franc. Related to cabernet sauvignon, it was once thought of as a bit too herbaceous. However, in the last several years, dedicated grape growers have begun taming cabernet franc’s forceful flavors. Winemakers have seen benefits in making wine from it that has less astringency than cabernet sauvignon, with a little more charm and pizzazz. It will not be as easy to find a bottle of cabernet franc as it is to find cabernet sauvignon, but the former is typically more interesting. As many cabernet sauvignons are now similar to one another, cabernet franc offers a dramatic new idea in red wine distinctiveness. Steven Kent Mirassou was one of the first California wine makers to discover the charms of cabernet franc, and even though that was just 20 years ago, he was still ahead of the curve.

His eponymous winery in Livermore Valley, east of San Francisco, specializes in cabernet franc and his most recent efforts are exceptional. One of those is his La Gamine (see the Wine of the Week). If you can’t find this wine, two French versions may be found in quality wine stores. One is called Chinon (she-nohn). It is typically all cabernet franc without any aging in small barrels.

Another is called anjou rouge, also made from the same variety. Many of these wines can be found between \$20 and \$30 and are designed specifically to go with red meat dishes. **Wine of the Week:** 2023 Steven Kent Cabernet Franc, “La Gamine,” Livermore Valley (\$35) — The aromas and flavors of this beautiful wine are based around red cherry and

fresh plum notes and the tannins are generous and soft. Unlike many cabernet sauvignons that require aging before the astringency reduces, this attractive wine can be consumed sooner. *To find out more about Sonoma County resident Dan Berger, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2025 CREATORS.COM.*

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SUMMER FUN



PHOTO BY JILL CAVANAUGH

Here’s our picks for living the good life this season



BEACHY KEEN

“Lake Life” pillow from Small Favors, above, is from their fun seasonal pillow collection. Nautical pillows add a fresh breath of beachy lake air to any environment. Ahhhh, yes!

By Olivia Monette
Special Writer

Summer is the perfect blend of fun, fashion, and freedom. As the weather is heating up, so is the style. Lightweight fabrics, bold colors, and playful prints take over closets everywhere. From flowy sundresses and linen sets to swimsuits and retro sunglasses, summer fashion is all about comfort and personalization. It’s the season to experiment with trends, mix up some textures, and show off your favorite warm weather looks whether you’re headed to brunch, festival, a beach day, or a casual brunch.

However, summer isn’t just about looking good, it’s about creating lasting memories. Long, sunny days and warm nights make it the ideal time to entertain. Think backyard barbecues, sunset picnics, and spontaneous adventures. With a cool drink in your hand and your favorite people by your side, even the simplest get togethers feels special. Add in some music, great food, and a few string lights and the summer vibes are high.

Summer parties are the perfect time to gather with friends and family, and setting your table with pieces from The League Shop makes it both fun and effortless. Whether you’re hosting a backyard barbecue, garden party, and patio dinner, The League Shop has everything you need to create a stylish and inviting set up. From

vibrant tableware to any themed decor that reflects your summer aesthetics, their collection allows you to bring personality and flair to your summer table. Mixing and matching pieces that lets you customize your table to fit any vibe.

What makes The League Shop especially enjoyable is how easy it is to pull together a cohesive look. Their curated sets and coordinating accessories take the guesswork out of decorating, leaving you with more time to enjoy the party. Adding a few playful details such as logo napkins, serving dishes, or a creative centerpiece vase leaves you with a festive and functional table.

The League Shop’s collection of serving pieces is perfect for effortless summer entertaining. It combines style with practicality. Their vibrant platters, bowls, and trays are designed to bring personality to your table whether it is a casual barbeque or a beachside picnic. Many of their serving essentials are made from Goe Melamine which is a top choice for outdoor dining thanks to its incredible durability and lightweight feel. Unlike traditional ceramics or glass, Goe Melamine can withstand drops, spills, and outdoor elements without losing its charm. These are also dishwasher safe and make cleanups a breeze. With their playful pattern selection and coordinating pieces, The League Shop makes it easy and fun to create a functional summer table.



A LEAGUE OF ITS OWN

Toast summer days in style with this silver champagne bucket, far left, topped with elegant red floral napkins for a festive touch. Whatever the celebration, this duo brings sophistication to your summer soirée.

Quirky and charming, a pig-shaped wooden cutting board brings rustic personality to your cheese or fruit display. Whether you're entertaining on the patio or creating a casual countertop charcuterie moment, it's a conversation starter that's as functional as it is fun.

Add a warm, natural texture to your summer spread with this three-piece rattan cheese knife set, left. The stainless steel blades make them a practical must-have for hosting wine nights, picnics, or backyard gatherings.

All from **The League Shop**.



FIESTA TIME

This 2-piece block print salsa bowl set, above, includes bright blue hand-painted details and a coordinating ladle. This pretty bowl is deep enough for the chunkiest salsa, pico de gallo or guacamole for seasonal parties or nights on the deck. The ladle prevents double-dipping while keeping everyone's chips in one piece. Ole! This one's a winner.

Below: Dress up your dip with a Mud Pie water hyacinth dip bowl set. The 3-piece set includes a stoneware bowl, spreader and cute decorative woven basket.

See these serving sets and so much more for entertaining at **Small Favors**.



FRUITY FUN

Brighten your table with a zesty splash of citrus from **The League Shop**, above right. This ceramic lemon dish, paired with green napkins and whimsical garden-print linens, delivers a sunny look that's perfect for serving snacks, dips, or summer sweets. A sweet and simple way to add personality to your entertaining routine.

GARDEN PARTY

The League Shop lets you embrace summer's bold colors with this hydrangea-themed outdoor setup, right. The generous woven market tote, patterned quilted placemats, and coordinating floral textiles create a picture-perfect picnic scene. Ideal for brunch in the garden, this collection of summer beauty blends effortless style with functionality.



RELAXING FUN

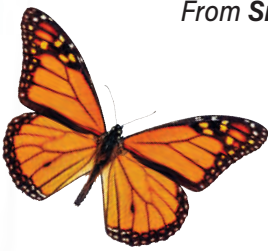


Dock & Bay towels are quick-drying, lightweight and compact for your summer treks to the beach. Made from 100% recycled plastic bottles, they are also planet-friendly. They'll never be musty or soggy, either. Sand shakes right off. It's the next thing in beach towels! Comes with its own cute little matching pouch. From **Small Favors**.



DECKSIDE DECAF

Start your summer mornings on the deck with the beauty of a wildflower field, as you sip your wake-up nectar from a gorgeous Rifle mug, above. Elegant styling and shiny gold accents make you feel you can take on anything — you're that fabulous! Choose your own pretty design and start your day in seasonal beauty. From **Small Favors**.



TAKE-ALONG CARRYALL

Keep beach items safe, secure and stylish in a sherpa teddy pouch, left. Take your daily essentials with you — this little zippered sidekick can carry it all. From **Small Favors**.

PINEAPPLE PERFECTION

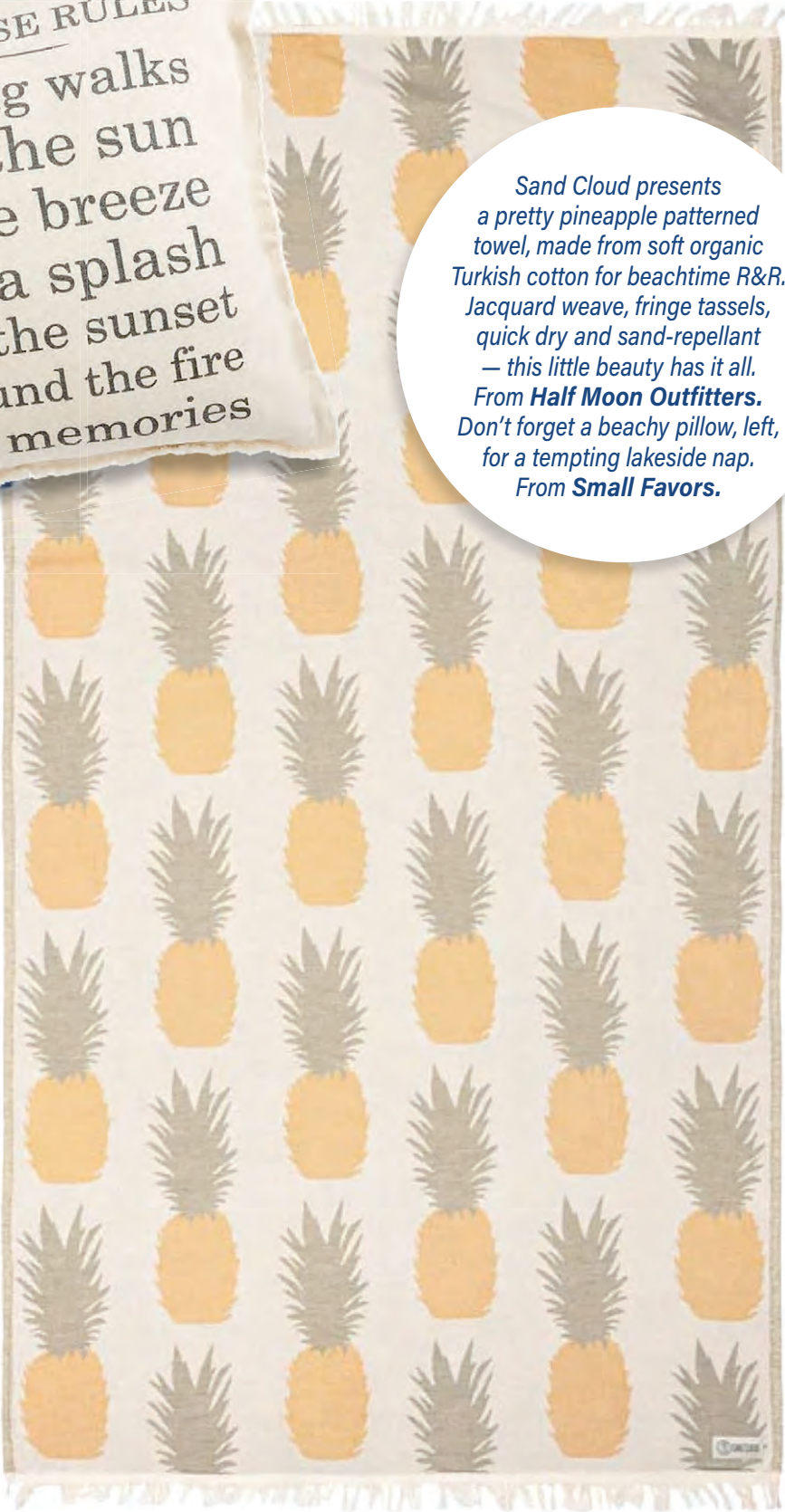


Sand Cloud presents a pretty pineapple patterned towel, made from soft organic Turkish cotton for beachtime R&R. Jacquard weave, fringe tassels, quick dry and sand-repellant — this little beauty has it all. From **Half Moon Outfitters**. Don't forget a beachy pillow, left, for a tempting lakeside nap. From **Small Favors**.



BREATHABLE BEACH BAG

What makes this Scout medium woven tote so special is its slightly wider shape and the fact that it zips shut. The breathable water-resistant beach-chair-like fabric lets air in and keeps sand and water out. Choose from several pretty colors. Hands down, this will be your new favorite personal beach/pool bag. Scout's honor! From **Small Favors**.



Local shops provide all the seasonal goods

Thinking about taking the family on a summer adventure? Half Moon Outfitters is your new go-to destination for gearing up the whole family. This outdoor lifestyle store has a variety of apparel, footwear, and gear designed to make the most of Michigan’s sunny season. They offer a wide variety of kid-friendly options too — such as sun protective clothing and durable footwear. Adults can also find a mass amount of essentials from insulated water bottles from Hydro Flask to versatile sandals by Olukai.

Small Favors makes it easy to find gifts and goodies for all ages, kids included, ensuring your summer is filled with fun and thoughtful surprises. From toys, puzzles, and craft kits to charming books, and Jellycat plushes there is plenty to keep little ones entertained during sunny days. Small Favors also offers a wide range of summer themed items and outdoor entertaining items which makes it a one stop destination for family fun.

For adults, Small Favors has an impressive selection of gifts that blend styles and practical uses. Whether you’re looking for a hostess gift, Michigan-made treats, or elegant drinkware, Small Favors has you covered.

OUTDOOR FUN



RECHARGING PORT

The Eagles Nest Outfitters’ Singlenest hammock, above, is perfect for one, ideal for solo relaxation on any kind of adventure. The compact and lightweight hammock is expertly constructed with durable yet soft FreeWave® fabric, making it the packable rest or sleep spot you’ll be glad you took along.



BIG CHILL

The YETI Tundra 35 is portable enough for one person to haul while still having an impressive carrying capacity. Thanks to up to 3 inches of PermaFrost Insulation and the FatWall Design, this cooler will keep your ice icy. Bear-resistant, it also fits nicely in an inner tube, making it the best ice chest for floating down the river with some cold beers and warm pals. This portable cooler’s sturdy construction will stand up to the rigors of any adventure. From Half Moon Outfitters.

Swig can cooler holds most 12oz slim can beverages and keeps them deliciously cold for 12+ hours. From Small Favors.



WAVE OF EXCITEMENT

Let the good times roll. TidalBall is a beach game that only weighs 10 oz, packs easily into a beach bag or a cargo pocket, but fits in a whole day of fun. It’s a family friendly game, suitable for most ages, but comes with koozies, because, you know... From Half Moon Outfitters.



BUBBLES, BUBBLES!

Long-lasting Bubble Tree eco-friendly bubble system, right, gives kids hours of fun without harming the planet. Refillable aluminum bottles mean no plastic waste. The self-wand omits messy dipping and creates large lustrous bubbles everyone will love! From Small Favors.



S'MORE TO LOVE

Summer is for evening campfires, laughter, campside singalongs and yummy S'mores! Keep everything in one handy place with your very own S'more station — it holds everything you need for this traditional family camping treat. Make memories along with the marshmallows this summer. From amazon.com.



NIGHT MOVES

The Flashlight with Disc-O Select is a high-quality flying disc that’s as much fun to play with during the day as it is at night. Simply press the button and the long life (100,000 hrs) LED lights a patented fiber-optic array that extends to its rim, illuminating the disc from every angle. The professionally-designed Flashlight is made of lightweight, durable materials with true balance and a long, straight flight. Endless hours of active nighttime outdoor entertainment. Buy it at Half Moon Outfitters.

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OFF AND RUNNING!

Skilled local Division B anglers ready to bring their A games



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE ENTRANTS

By Donna Zetterlund
Special Writer

The Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic is in full swing, with participants catching some truly impressive fish from piers and boats along Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River.

Qualifiers went all in for the biggest catch (and big prizes) from bass, pike, muskie and walleye categories. This week's overall top fish was Andrew Phillips' 30" muskie, reeled in from the shores of Woods Park. Phillips also took the prize for the muskie category and the pike category with a 29.5" fish for Division B.

Joe Miller and Finn Ryan both tied for B Division's top bass with 21" fish. The walleye winner was a 19 incher, caught by Ben Jacob of Grosse Pointe Farms. Each category winner takes home a \$25 prize, with \$50 going to the overall longest fish in any category.

In Division D (boating adults) Chris Ramales grabbed the leading spot for pike with a 25" whopper. The bass winner was Ben Jacob with a 22" smallmouth.

The kids' A Division saw Parker Hurd take the lead with a 23" smallmouth bass, the overall age 12 and under winner of a \$100 prize. There were no entries this week in the kids' boating division.

In addition to the top fish winners, all participants are eligible to win weekly prizes in a random drawing. Prizes include gift cards and gear from Lakeside Fishing, as well as gift cards from Fishbones, Fairway Packing Co.'s The Steak Shop, Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy, Wally's Frozen Custard, Wilson Marine and Chocolate Bar Cafe. An anonymous donor has provided a great selection of electronics prizes again this year.

The winners of this week's random drawing are:

- Tom Kolojeski - \$100 Fishbones gift card
- Alex Blythe - \$25 Lakeside Fishing gift card
- Daniel Shanle - electronics gift
- Skip Moody - electronics gift
- Mackenzie Hurd - Chocolate Bar Cafe gift card

A big round of congratulations to all the first week winners and thanks to our generous sponsors. We look forward to seeing more entrants winning next week.

Just a reminder that participants need an adult subscriber to the Grosse Pointe News in the household to enter, so now is the perfect time for a subscription. Sign up online at grossepointenews.com or call (313) 882-6900.

The full rules of the Fishing Classic are posted online at grossepointenews.com/fishing.

Finn Ryan, 14, above, of Grosse Pointe Woods, snared a winning (tie) smallmouth bass for the B Division with this hefty specimen. The 21" bass was caught at Lake St. Clair, off of Lake Shore Rd. Talk about a perfect day of fishing!

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 the 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.



LEADERBOARD

- LARGEST FISH OF THE WEEK PER AGE DIVISIONS**
- LARGEST FISH OF THE WEEK PER FISH CATEGORY IN DIVISION**

DIVISION A ON SHORE - AGE 12 AND UNDER

- 1 **PARKER HURD** 23" SM BASS
- 2 **CHRISTIAN PHILLIPS** 17.5" LM BASS
- 3 **MACKENZIE HURD** 8" SM BASS

DIVISION C BY BOAT - AGE 12 AND UNDER

NO ENTRANTS

DIVISION D BY BOAT - AGE 13 AND UP

- 1 **CHRIS RAMALES** 25" PIKE
- 2 **BEN JACOB** 22" SM BASS
- 3 **TOM KOLOJESKI** 22" PIKE
- 4 **TOM KOLOJESKI** 21" PIKE
- 5 **TOM KOLOJESKI** 18.5" SM BASS
- 6 **ALEX BLYTH** 18.5" SM BASS
- 7 **ALEX BLYTH** 18.5" SM BASS

DIVISION B ON SHORE - AGE 13 AND UP

- 1 **ANDREW PHILLIPS** 30" MUSKIE
- 2 **ANDREW PHILLIPS** 29.5" PIKE
- 3 **TOM KOLOJESKI** 24" PIKE
- 4 **TOM KOLOJESKI** 24" PIKE
- 5 **JOSEPH MILLER** 21" LM BASS (TIE)
- 6 **FINN RYAN** 21" LM BASS (TIE)
- 7 **BEN JACOB** 19" WALLEYE
- 8 **DANIEL SHANLE** 18.8' LM BASS
- 9 **ANDREW PHILLIPS** 18.3" LM BASS
- 10 **BEN JACOB** 18" LM BASS
- 11 **JOSEPH MILLER** 17.5" SM BASS
- 12 **ALEX BLYTH** 17" SM BASS
- 13 **JOSEPH MILLER** 17" SM BASS
- 14 **SKIP MOODY** 16" MUSKIE
- 15 **DANIEL SHANLE** 15.5" LM BASS

*Congratulations winners
and participants!*

MANY THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS



**Lakeside
Fishing**



Grosse Pointe News

Winners, all!

Give some props for fish that are tops



The 30" muskie, above, caught by Andrew Phillips, of Grosse Pointe Woods was both the top muskie and the biggest fish of the week across all categories in class.



Andrew Phillips' 29.5" pike, above, was the category winner for B Division.



The 25" pike, above, won Chris Rames, the number one pike spot for Division D (boaters.)



Ben Jacob's 19" walleye, above, was top in the category for Division B.



Joe Miller's 21" smallmouth bass, above, tied him in the bass category for Division B.



Division A's Christian Phillips won the bass category for his division with this 17.5 inch, above. That's a beauty!



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will help meet your
financial needs.

Let's talk.



Grosse Pointe Branch

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Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236
313-743-0433
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For the daily fishing report:
Call (586) 777-7008

THIS WEEK'S TIP:

Early morning jigging for walleye and using harnesses all day. Walleye at Alter Road, bass biting on the Mile Roads. Finding muskie on the spillway. Go get 'em, fishers!

Sponsored by:

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



BLUE SKIES



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above: Ben Jacobs with his 22” smallmouth bass, an entrant in the Division D (boating) showdown. It was reeled in at Kerby Cove.

Left: Tom Kolojeski’s 22” pike, was entered in the D Division contest this week. The pike was caught boatside on Lake St. Clair.



Fishing Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River

By Grosse Pointe News Staff

Lake St. Clair is a world-class water sport destination — and on the water or the shore — fishing opportunities abound. Whether you seek bass, perch, pike, or the wily muskie, the lake offers lots of water wildlife that will potentially send you home happy.

According to lakesofusa.com, a blog website dedicated to the finer details on our country’s great water resources, here are some tips for the shore fisherfolk who will be lining the shores of Lake St. Clair this summer.

- For maximum casting distance, use long rods at least 7-9 feet. This will help you best navigate banks and piers.
- Live bait such as worms and minnows help target bass and perch. Soft plastic lures work well too.
- Early mornings and evenings tend to be most lucrative for catching the most fish.
- Time your expedition for after a wind shift. The shorelines facing a prevailing wind often gather schools of fish.
- Make sure your Michigan fishing license is up to date. If fishing on the Canadian side, be aware that Michigan and Canadian licenses are not interchangeable.

Lakesofusa.com reminds all who fish to always be aware of the local rules for size limits. It’s also important to know season opening and closing dates.

Look for smallmouth bass May–October near Lake St. Clair’s piers, seawalls and rocky shorelines, while largemouth can be found May–September in shallow bays and grassy areas.

Find pike early mornings March–May and again from October–November. Pike like to hide among the weeds and reeds in shallow spots.

For muskie, go fishing June–November in deep areas by boat. Walleye like moving water and can best be found April–May, and also again in October–November.

Expert fisherman Tyler Brinks of Bass Resource has these ideas for making a day at Lake St. Clair pay off. He recommends that as summer starts and fish move offshore, the best baits too utilize include drop-shot rigs, tubes, Ned Rigs and spybait.

Even on a lake as large as St. Clair — much fishing takes place in shallower waters. Bass tend to congregate in the 10 to 15-foot zone in the summer months.

Brinks concurs that with its sloping bottom (that can go a few miles out from the shoreline) much of the lake measures within this common swimming pool-depth.

“The “Mile Roads” serve as markers for Lake St. Clair and depending on the season — bass can be found at various distances from the point where these roads meet the shoreline,” Brinks offers.

He has discovered that the current of the Detroit River, which flows right through downtown Detroit, provides some excellent smallmouth fishing. The river flows fast at its entrance but makes for excellent fishing as it narrows near Grosse Pointe. He recommends tubes, drop-shot rigs and spybaits for fishing in this area.

Lake St. Clair is home to wonderful fishing experiences for all ages and skill levels. It provides a “big lake” thrill whether you are on a boat or at your favorite spot on shore. The gorgeous scenery surrounding the lake creates a relaxing and memorable environment that is perfect for the solo fisher as well as the whole family.



Seasoned fisherman Tom Kolojeski, above, nabbed a 21” pike from Lake St. Clair for Division D. It’s always a treat to see what this skilled angler is able to reel in from the lake. Another great catch!



The waters at Woods Park gave up this choice 18.3” largemouth bass, above, to talented Andrew Phillips. Phillips was a big winner this week with the largest muskie, largest pike and largest fish overall. Congrats are certainly in order for this top fisherman.



Solid competitor Alex Blyth’s 18.5” smallmouth bass, above, caught by boat on Lake St. Clair. Blyth entered in Division D.



Pike, above, are known for their sharp teeth, which help them catch prey such as fish and frogs.



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 6/12, 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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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

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHILDE AND RESERVE ENTERTAINMENT
Craig T. Nelson as Buck in the 2025 movie “Green and Gold,” directed by Anders Lindwall.



Jenny played by Madison Lawlor.



Buck (Craig T. Nelson) confronts Jerry (Tim Frank).

MOVIE REVIEW
“Green and Gold”
2025 - Not Rated
1 hr 45 min
★★★★☆

The “David and Goliath” theme has been around since, well, biblical times. It’s a common plot narrative in folktales, novels, music and, of course, movies. Everyone loves to root for the underdog as (s)he takes on the big, bad adversary — be it a huge bank, mega-corporation, or heavily favored sports team. The recent indie film “Green and Gold” continues that tradition, but it also offers quite a bit more than just that

clichéd storyline. The film is the first feature length outing for director Anders Lindwall who’s mainly done shorts until now. And what a remarkable debut it is. He wrote it along with Missy Mareau Garcia, Steven Shafer and Michael Graf. Cinematographer Russ Fraser, whose oeuvre is mainly music videos, handled the beautiful camerawork. I wasn’t familiar with any of the actors involved, but they all turned in stellar performances. What’s more, it’s based on a true story. It’s 1993 and the setting is a small dairy farm in rural Wisconsin. The

property has been in the same family for generations and is just barely surviving. Buck (Craig T. Nelson) is the patriarch who gets up before dawn to milk the cows and do all the usual farming chores. He’s helped by his granddaughter Jenny (Madison Lawlor), and his faithful wife Margaret (Annabel Armor). The primary focus of the film is the relationship and interaction between Buck and Jenny.

Jenny with the herd.



Jenny working the fields.



Musician Billy played by Brandon Sklenar.



The farmstead.

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

“Life is too short to watch mediocre movies”

Buck is a grizzly, stubborn old codger who believes in tradition and doing things the old-fashioned way. He milks his cows by hand and plows his fields behind a team of horses. Buck feels the land is sacred and is resistant to practicing modern farming methods. At one time he even bought a tractor, but fittingly it’s never been used.

Adding to the plot is the love the family has for the Green Bay Packers football team. These folks are absolutely rabid fans of the Green and the Gold! They take Detroiters’ worshiping the Lions’ Honolulu Blue to the next level. I don’t recall a single scene where Buck isn’t wearing something without the Packers logo on it. He and Jenny even skip out of Sunday church services early to rush home and catch the game. Then there’s the fact that he named his cows after players from the Packer’s 1967 Super Bowl team!

While Jenny realizes how much she’s needed on the farm, she also has her eyes on a different path forward. She’s a talented singer-songwriter and is slowly working toward a career in music. Jenny lives in the loft of a barn, which is where she writes and records her songs.

Occasionally, she performs in bars in town, hoping to be discovered. What little money she earns she puts aside to help out with the farm. She frequently butts heads with her grandpa over her dreams of becoming a professional musician, although Margaret fully supports her in her endeavors.

As luck (or unluck) would have it, the family has fallen seriously behind on the mortgage payments. That’s when the greedy banker makes his appearance. Mortgage lender Jerry (Tim Frank) shows up and gives Buck an ultimatum — either they come up with all the money they owe or the farm will become property of the bank and sold off to a commercial farmer. Almost half jokingly, Jerry proposes a wager: If the Packers win the Super Bowl, Buck will get a year’s grace period to come up with the money. If they don’t make it, Buck loses the farm immediately.

That’s all I’ll tell you about this wonderful film. It’s a gentle little movie that has a lot of heart. It’s the story about rural America and the old-fashioned way of doing things. It’s also about family dynamics, caring neighbors and community and chasing one’s dreams. Someone astutely observed that green and gold aren’t just the colors of Green Bay’s football uniforms, it’s also the subtle color theme to the movie. We’re often treated to rich green fields as the camera pans across the farmland and the scenes are often bathed in a shimmering, golden light. This is the kind of movie that slowly sneaks up on you — it’s such a warm and fuzzy tale, it’ll make you wish it lasted a bit longer.

Currently streaming



for free on Hoopla (with your library card) and Prime. Also available to rent on YouTube, Apple TV, Amazon, Fandango, and other services.

Note to parents: The movie is unrated but I think it’s fine for family viewing.

- 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.



Movie poster.

Weekly Challenge

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

6/12 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	8	2	3	1	9	7	6	4
7	6	9	5	8	4	1	3	2
3	1	4	6	7	2	5	8	9
1	3	7	8	9	5	2	4	6
4	2	5	7	6	3	9	1	8
6	9	8	2	4	1	3	7	5
8	7	1	9	5	6	4	2	3
9	4	3	1	2	8	6	5	7
2	5	6	4	3	7	8	9	1

6/5 Solution

Contract Bridge

TENDER LOVING CARE

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

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

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ 1 ♦ 1 ♥ Pass
1 NT Pass 4 ♥
Opening lead — king of diamonds.

It is easy to win tricks with aces and kings, and naturally far more difficult to win them with deuces and treys. Between these extremes, though, lies the challenge of making sure that intermediate cards — those of middle rank — pull their full weight. It is in this area that a player must frequently exercise tender, loving care.

Take this deal where West led the king and another diamond against four hearts. East took the ace and continued with a third diamond. South ruffed hopefully with the nine, and

when West discarded a spade, declarer had gotten over his first hurdle.

Declarer next led a low heart to the jack, losing to the ace, but had to go down one when East returned another diamond. It did not matter whether South ruffed with the seven or the queen; either way he would sooner or later lose a second trump trick.

South would have made the contract had he handled his trumps more carefully. It was obvious that East had the ten of trump after the nine won the third trick, and it was not difficult to deduce from the bidding that East also had the ace of trump.

South should therefore have led the first trump from dummy, and not from his own hand. At trick four, he should have crossed to dummy with a club or a spade and returned a low trump.

If East followed low, South would win with the queen and lead a low trump back to the jack, depleting West of his trumps in the process. If instead East went up with the ace on the first trump lead and returned a diamond, South would ruff high, lead a low trump to the jack, return to his hand to draw East's last trump and claim the rest.

Either way, by leading the first trump from dummy, declarer could neutralize the defenders' intermediate cards and at the same time make maximum use of his own.

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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 CAPRICORN.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, June 12, 2025:

You are energetic, self-contained, intelligent and enthusiastic. You give yourself wholeheartedly to your interests. This is the final year of a nine-year cycle, which means it's time to take inventory of your life and let go of the people, places and things from the past that might have held you back.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

People notice you today. Fortunately, you will make an excellent impression on others because you're in a happy frame of mind, which will encourage you to act warmly with others. In fact, you might use your influence to help someone. Tonight: Be modest.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Today things that are exotic and different will attract you. In fact, as the collector of the zodiac, you might purchase something that catches your eye, because your appreciation of beauty is heightened. Meanwhile, a flirtation or romance with someone "different" could begin. Tonight: Learn.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

This is an excellent day to ask for a loan or a mortgage or to negotiate anything to do with shared property or getting your fair share of something. Doors will open for you, and people will be ready to help you. Meanwhile, a secret love affair might be percolating! (You love an adoring peanut gallery.) Tonight: Check your finances.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Tread carefully today. The Moon is opposite your sign, which means you have to be ready to compromise with others. Nevertheless, because the Moon is dancing beautifully with Venus, relations with friends, as well as members of groups, will be warm and cordial. Tonight: Listen.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

In many ways, you will accomplish what you want to do today because people will help you. This could apply to your job or to any task that you set for yourself. This influence will also apply to the health care you might receive, or your interactions with a pet. Plus, you are well-liked right now. Tonight: Get organized.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Grab every chance to socialize and have fun today! Enjoy sports events. Playful activities with children will delight you. Make an effort to explore the arts, the entertainment world, the theater and anything that showcases the talents of others. Accept invitations to party. Tonight: Relax.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

This is an auspicious day for you. You can use your excellent decorating skills to make your home look more attractive today. This is important, because more than any other sign, you are affected by your environment. Go crazy with throw pillows. Tonight: Cocoon.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Today you feel warm and pleasant to everyone around you, which is why you will enjoy being with siblings, relatives and neighbors. You also might feel protective of a loved one. Look for ways to improve your immediate surroundings; this will please you. Be inventive. Tonight: Discussions!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Listen to your money-making ideas today. You might be on to something worthwhile. You might see ways to make money that are related to the arts, jewelry or clothing. Meanwhile, if shopping today you'll love to buy beautiful things for yourself and others. Tonight: Check your money.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

This is a great day to schmooze with others because the Moon is in your sign dancing with fair Venus, which makes you feel warm and friendly with everyone. You don't want to work today. Instead, you want to enjoy good food and drink and perhaps overindulge in something irresistible. Tonight: You're strong.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Today you want to take it easy and hide behind the scenes. However, you will be interested in doing something to make where you live more attractive. You will also enjoy entertaining at home. Conversely, you will accept invitations to share good times with others as well. Tonight: Privacy.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

Your interactions with a female acquaintance or friend might be important to you today. You might even feel protective of someone and want to help them or keep them from harm. Meanwhile, you truly appreciate the beauty of your daily surroundings. Tonight: Be friendly.

BORN TODAY
Actor Rick Hoffman (1970), actor Dave Franco (1985), actor Timothy Busfield (1957).

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg June 12, 2025

ACROSS		53	Millions of millennia	18	colada (drink from Puerto Rico)	43	Some time around the rink, say
1	What smokers toss	54	Islamic parallel to kosher	21	1/2, to 2	44	Moved around the rink, say
6	Mani-pedi target	55	Yankees' division, familiarly	22	TV (March Madness channel)	45	Type of solution for contact lenses
10	Gator's cousin	57	"For sure"	23	It's updated on an iPhone	47	NATO members, e.g.
14	Group of Girl Scouts	58	Sign of winter's end, as depicted at the starts of 17-, 24-, 35- and 50-Across	25	"Pick me! Pick me!"	48	"Anyone but You" star
15	Giant bad guy	62	Comic Jay	26	Smart TV brand	51	Bricklayer
16	Seized wheels	63	Like a couch potato	28	Sideways	52	Ahead of schedule
17	Fruits known for their white flesh	64	Salary increase	32	Email subj. line starter	53	Spanish form of "to be"
19	Imitated	65	Biblical paradise	33	School org.	56	Taj Mahal's locale
20	"Raging Bull" actor Robert	66	Taps a credit card, say	34	Name hidden in "feast upon"	58	Not guzzle
21	Absurd	67	Realms	36	Spelman or Howard, in brief	59	Kiss at the mall, e.g.: Abbr.
22	Cashbox	DOWN		37	The "A" of UAE	60	Fit fiddle
24	"It's your only chance!"	1	K-pop supergroup	38	Drink made in a blender	61	"Rushmore" director
27	Fish eggs	2	Coffee dispenser	41	AMC's "Mad"		
28	Biomedical workplace	3	"Bye-bye," to a Brit	42	YouTube video interruptions		
29	Carpool lane letters	4	What a beachgoer spreads out				
30	Hectic hospital areas, in brief	5	Bridge length				
31	Great White North's neighbor	6	Informal response to "Thanks"				
33	Prods	7	Radiant				
35	"Man, it's painful!"	8	Wrath				
39	Actress	9	"Miz"				
40	___ cum laude	10	Towering construction machine				
43	Mule's father	11	Surface again, as a road				
46	Co. that manufactured the first color TVs	12	Warmup act				
47	Get older	13	They tell computers what to do				
49	Its 20 volumes weigh 138 lbs.						
50	"United Shades of America" host whose middle name ends with "U"						

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

6/5 Solution

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www.upuzzles.com

6/12

In Full Bloom by Drew Schmenner

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	
													40	
				39									41	42
43	44	45		46						47	48		49	
50				51						52			53	
54										55			56	
57								58	59					
62								63					64	
65								66					67	

THURSDAYCOMICS

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz

HEY, MANAGER, WE CAN'T LOSE TODAY...

SEE? I HAVE GLOVES ON BOTH HANDS AND BOTH FEET!

THAT'S GREAT! HERE'S ANOTHER ONE THAT MIGHT HELP...

Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno

Here's the plan: We dump packaged mushrooms into straw baskets and tell those chumps at the farmers market we gathered them in the woods.

ANDY CAPP

Reg Smythe

ANDY CAPP IS REALLY SLOSHED. I FEEL FOR POOR OL' BOB

IS HE GIVING HIM A HARD TIME?

ROSE & CROWN

Ales & Wines

O FLOWER OF SCOTLAND

LIVE MUSIC TONIGHT GUITAR BOB

HE'S TAKEN OVER ON VOCALS

WHEN WILL WE SEE YOUR LIKE AGAIN...

Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy

YOU'RE NOT GETTING BETTER, SO I'M SWITCHING YOU TO A MEDICINE WHOSE COMMERCIALS HAVE A MUCH COOLER '80S POP SONG.

B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni

ALL THE GREATEST INVENTIONS HAVE BEEN DEvised IN THE SHOWER.

OH, WOW! THAT'S INTERESTING.

WHAT'S A SHOWER?

NO CLUE. HASN'T BEEN INVENTED...

Reality Check

Dave Whamond

YOU BOUGHT BIG SQUEAKY TOYS? YOU'RE A DOG! YOU CAN'T AFFORD ALL THAT!

I USED MY MASTER'S CARD

Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker

AMAZING! INCREDIBLE! FANTASTIC! UNBELIEVABLE!

WHAT?

BEETLE DID SOME WORK!

HE EMPTIED YOUR WASTEBASKET?!

DO YOU WANT IT ON THE FLOOR OR ON YOUR HEAD?!

The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner

I'VE GOT TECH SUPPORT, CUSTOMER SERVICE AND THE HELPLINE IN A GROUP CHAT... AND NOW THEY'VE DELETED ME FROM IT.

Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters

PSST.. WATCH OUT FOR THE DOG LEG ON THE LEFT,

Dennis the Menace

Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton

Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis

SOMETHING NEW FROM BEAN'S END. I ASSUME?

YOU BET! IT'S MY NEW 400,000 BTU 'WEED WIZARD' TORCH.

AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SEE DISASTER ON THE HORIZON HERE?

Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson

Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler

"Cabbage soup with M&M's" and "hot dogs with fresh strawberries"?

Our chef's pregnant, and that's what she wants to eat today!

THURSDAY COMICS

Garfield

Jim Davis

DO YOU EVER BRING YOUR OWNER A DEAD BIRD?

IT'S A SIGN OF AFFECTION, YOU KNOW

GROSS!

CAN'T I JUST HACK UP A HAIRBALL IN HIS CEREAL BOWL?

Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne

Close To Home

John McPherson

ARE YOU FEELING LUCKY?

JACKPOT

"Thanks, guys, but I'm giving up all my coffee breaks over the next 16 years so I can retire a year early."

Wizard of Id

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

BOOP!

DID YOU DISPATCH THAT FLYING DRAGON?

IF YOU MEAN THE SPICED RUM, THEN... YESSH!

Ziggy

Tom Wilson

Comic strip showing a purple dinosaur-like creature and a man.

Blondie

Chris and Dean Young

HA! REMEMBER WHEN WE COULD ONLY USE CASH IN THE SNACK MACHINES?

YEAH, HOW PRIMITIVE! HA! HA!

NOW WE CAN USE CREDIT, DEBIT AND EVEN APPLE PAY!!

I GUESS NOW THERE MIGHT BE A TEMPTATION TO BUY TOO MANY SNACKS!

TOO MANY???

Comic strip showing a man in a blue uniform and a woman.

Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis

Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson

SO YOU REFUSE TO IMPART ANY MORE WISDOM?

WHY BOTHER?? YOU PROMPTLY IGNORE IT!

NOT ALWAYS! CITE ONE TIME YOU TOOK MY ADVICE.

YOU TOLD ME TO HAVE MY HEAD EXAMINED.

STILL EMPTY!

Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker

WE NEED WATER DESPERATELY

I'LL SURF THE NET

LOVE THAT NET

Popeye

Bud Sagendorf

Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane

LET'S LOOK IN YOUR CRYSTAL BALL AND SEE HOW THOROUGHLY MY ROCKET BOMB DESTROYED POPEYE!

WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE SMOKE TO CLEAR!

WHEE-eee! 'AT WAS A GOOD FIGHT!

HEH!

F Minus

Tony Carrilo

BELIEVE ME, GOLDIE, YOU DON'T WANT A BIGGER BOWL. IF YOU HAVE MORE SPACE, YOU'LL JUST FILL IT WITH MORE JUNK.

"Mommy! I just took something shiny out of PJ's mouth and it's your diamond!"



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**Kid Scoop Together**

FLAG DAY

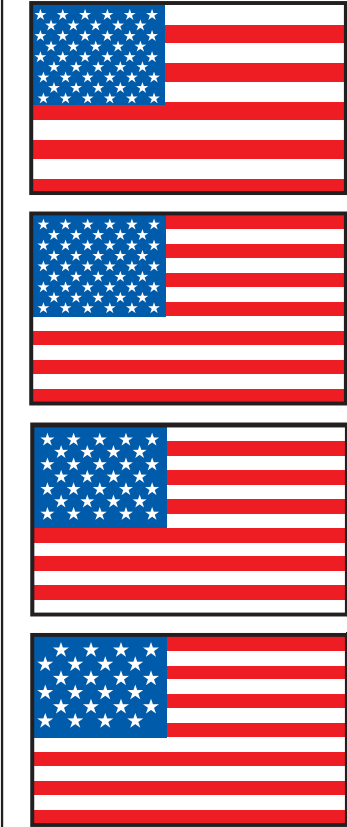
The Stars and Stripes

The flag of the United States of America has red and white stripes and white stars on a blue background.

The first flag was sewn by hand by a seamstress in Philadelphia in the year 1777. Some say that New Jersey Congressman Francis Hopkinson came up with the idea for how the flag should look, and Betsy Ross made it.

The flag was approved by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. Americans celebrate that day as Flag Day each year.

Only one of these flags is the real American flag. Can you find it? Have an adult check your answer.





FINISH

Can you bring these spools of thread to Betsy Ross?



START

Extra! Extra!

ABC Dad

Look through the newspaper for five words that explain ways your dad, grandfather, favorite uncle or a friend is special to you. Put these words in ABC order.

Standards Link: Spelling: Arrange words in alphabetical order.

Standards Link: Science Investigation: Find similarities and differences in common objects.



Father's Day Flags

Are you looking for a special way to say "Happy Father's Day?" Make your dad a flag all his own! It's simple!

- Make a list of words that describe your dad.

- Choose the three best words from your list.
- Find or draw pictures that represent the words you have chosen.
- Cut out the pictures and arrange them on a letter-sized piece of paper to look like a flag.

Standards Link: Design: Use a variety of media to create a design.

Kid Scoop® Puzzler

Flag Talk at Sea

Long before cell phones and radio communications, people on ships needed a way to communicate to people on other ships, or on shore — people who were too far away to be reached by yelling. A system of nautical flags was developed, each flag represented a letter of the alphabet and/or a meaning. Fill in the missing vowels to discover what these flag examples mean.



Y _ S



N _



M _ N



D _ VER
D _ WN

OVERBOARD

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

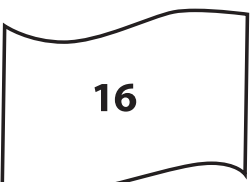
Double Double Word Search

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

CONGRESS
DAD
DAY
DRAW
FATHER
FLAG
HAPPY
HAND
LETTER
ROSS
SEWN
SIMPLE
SMART
SPECIAL
UNCLE

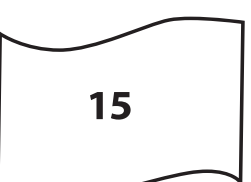
E	L	P	M	I	S	F	T	H	Z
V	M	W	S	Y	A	D	L	F	J
D	Q	L	S	P	E	C	I	A	L
R	A	L	E	T	T	E	R	T	G
A	H	D	R	Y	P	P	A	H	T
W	Z	A	G	H	L	K	W	E	R
P	S	T	N	V	S	S	O	R	A
J	R	Y	O	D	T	W	Y	K	M
K	E	L	C	N	U	N	W	E	S

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



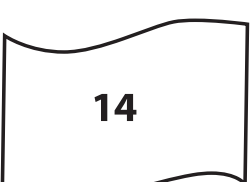
16

_____ often represents courage, hardiness, blood and/or valor.



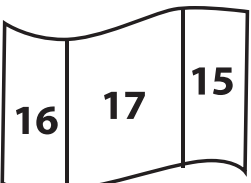
15

_____ often represents freedom, vigilance, justice, perseverance, peace and/or prosperity.



14

_____ often represents the sun, wealth and/or justice.



16 17 15

These three colors combined usually represent revolution and freedom: _____ and _____.

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Kid Scoop® VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: APPROVE

The verb **approve** means to agree with an idea or to give permission.

My parents do not **approve** of me staying up past 9:00 on school nights.

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop® LESSON LIBRARY

An Ad for Dad

Look at the advertisements in the newspaper. What makes a great father? Create an ad for your dad (or uncle, grandfather, etc.) that features all the best things about them.

Standards Link: Writing: Use stylistic and rhetorical aspects of writing.



How is a baby bird like its dad?

ANSWER: It's a chirp off the old block.



Write On!

Thank You, Dad!

Design a "Thank You" ad for a special dad, granddad, uncle or family friend. Say why this dad is special.

Your Neighborhood

It's what's most important to you, to your kids, to your family. It's easy to stay on top of what is happening around you with the

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A win for the ages

Czarnik’s walk-off propels South baseball to final four

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Every kid who grew up loving baseball probably imagined themselves at some point stepping up to the plate with the bases loaded and two outs in the final inning of a must-win game. That was where Grosse Pointe South senior Adam Czarnik found himself Saturday, June 7, in the bottom of the seventh inning of the Division 1 state quarterfinals. With South trailing by a single run, two outs and the bases loaded, Czarnik was able to come up with the most clutch hit of South’s season and bring in two runs to give the Blue Devils a 5-4 win over Woodhaven and a trip to the state semifinals.

“I was just looking to protect,” Czarnik said. “I knew that with me being down 0-2, he wasn’t going to throw me another fastball; he was going to go off-speed and he did. He threw me a curveball and I just poked it into the outfield and thankfully, both runners were able to score.”

What got Czarnik and the Blue Devils to that

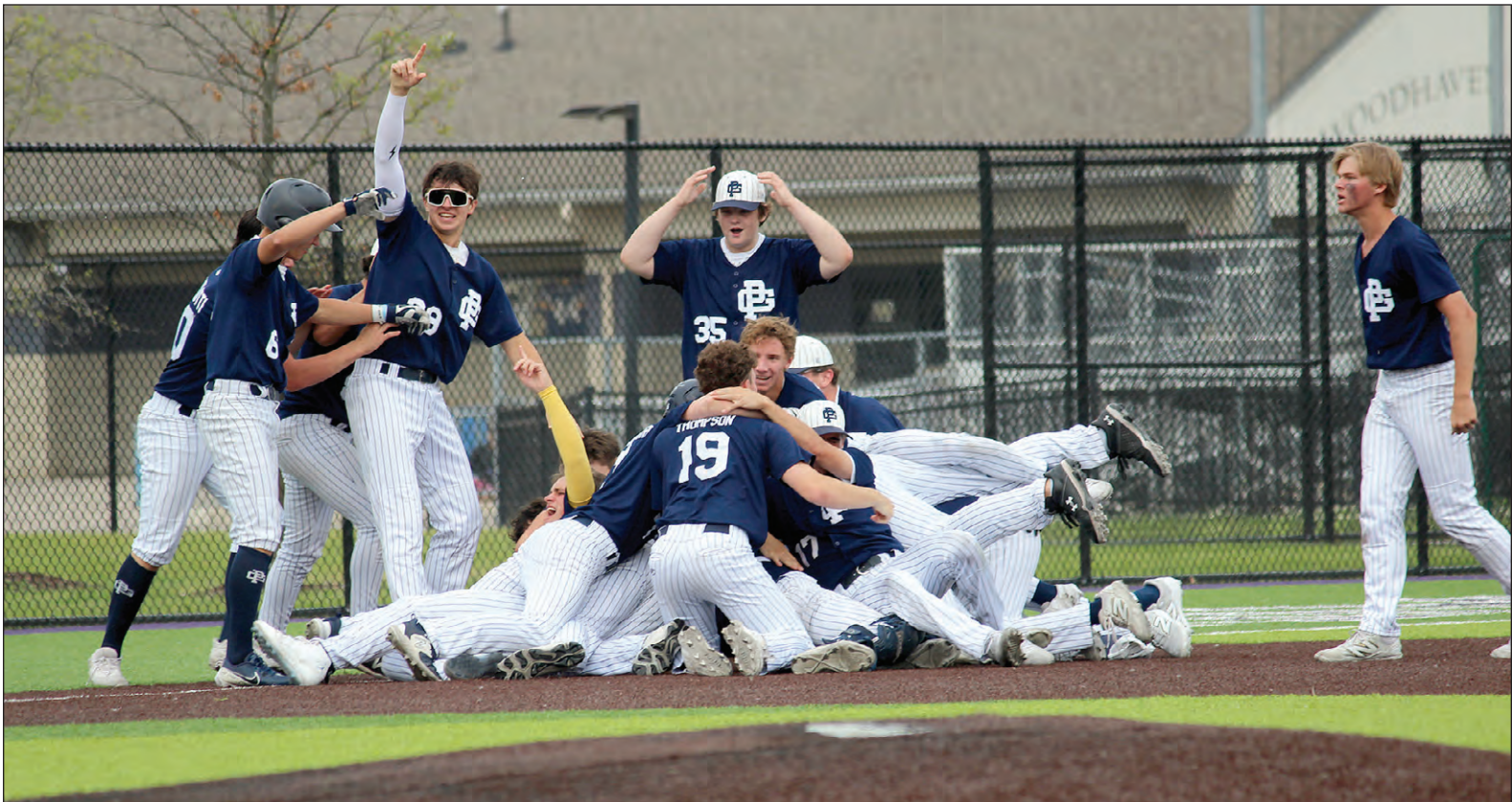


PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Grosse Pointe South baseball players storm the field to celebrate after senior Adam Czarnik’s walk-off hit gave the team a 5-4 win over Woodhaven in the Division 1 state quarterfinals Saturday, June 7.

point, firstly, was a dominant 11-1 win over U of D Jesuit in the regional championship game earlier in the day. Three-RBI performances from Luke Thompson and Evan Bernard, along with shut-down pitching by Charlie

Michelotti, set up South for a matchup against Woodhaven in the quarterfinals.

The Warriors jumped on South early, going up 2-0 in the top of the first inning. The Blue Devils did not get on the board

until the bottom of the fourth inning, when Drew Hess brought in a run on a sacrifice fly.

In the top of the sixth inning, after a controversial play where South’s second baseman, Jack Lupo, collided with

Woodhaven’s baserunner Jace Davis, resulting in an out and a run being taken away from the Warriors, Woodhaven got the run back and went up 3-1 by scoring on a wild pitch. Thompson managed to lace an RBI

single for the Blue Devils in the bottom of the sixth to pull them back to within one run.

Woodhaven extended its lead once again in the top of the seventh inning

See SOUTH, page 2D

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

South freshman Kokoshi a rising star after tennis state title win

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Ever since she began playing tennis at age 5, while her dad was working at the Eastside Tennis and Fitness Club, Dalina Kokoshi knew she wanted to eventually compete at a high level. She has been doing that for years, competing in tournaments around the country and the world, but decided she wanted to make her mark at the high school level with Grosse Pointe South as well.

Kokoshi joined the Blue Devils this year as a freshman and knew right away she could contend for a state championship. She did just that, capturing the No. 1 singles state title in Division 2 at the state finals Saturday, May 31.

“Going into states, I had confidence but was also a little bit nervous, especially on the second day since I knew the competition would be



COURTESY PHOTO

Dalina Kokoshi had an outstanding freshman season for Grosse Pointe South girls tennis, highlighted by winning the Division 2 state championship in No. 1 singles.

better,” Kokoshi said. “I still just went in and tried my best and pulled off the win.”

The transition into

high school sports as a freshman can be challenging, but Kokoshi took it in stride. She was used to competing

against the best and never seemed to be worried about going up against opponents who might be older, bigger and stronger than her.

“I was able to get into it right away,” Kokoshi said. “Usually, the tournaments I play outside of school are very high level. ... It was a bit of a change from playing against people who always hit hard and move well, but it wasn’t much of a problem and I’m happy with the way I played.”

Kokoshi won nearly 30 matches in the regular season and earned the No. 1 seed in the No. 1 singles bracket for the state tournament on her way to becoming the champion.

Her South coaches

like to describe Kokoshi’s game as well-rounded and she agreed that could be the case. It seems there is nothing on the court Kokoshi can’t do well after years of practice and competition.

“My ground strokes are pretty solid and I like my backhand a lot,” she said. “... I have a pretty good serve. It puts me in an offensive position when I play. And my game at the net, I train there a lot and play doubles, too, which helps me in my singles

game when it comes to finishing points at the net.”

As she gets ready for a summer of playing in international tournaments and training in Europe, Kokoshi should be back with the Blue Devils next spring, ready to defend her state championship. What was perhaps the biggest change for Kokoshi when she joined the team at South was

Grosse Pointe News



Dalina Kokoshi

School: Grosse Pointe South
Sport: Tennis

Sponsored by Oasis Heating & Cooling

Heart of a Champion

- Won Division 2 No. 1 singles state championship at 2025 MHSAA state finals
- 27-1 record in regular season matches for Grosse Pointe South this spring

See ATHLETE, page 6D



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Liggett summits Everest in girls soccer regional final

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The University Liggett School varsity girls soccer team went into the Division 4 regional championship game Thursday, June 5, knowing it did not want to see its season end yet. The only way the Knights want the season to end is by lifting a state championship trophy in East Lansing and they got one step closer with a

victory in the regional title game last week by taking down Everest Collegiate 1-0. “There’s a huge sense of excitement and accomplishment that we get to play in the state semifinal next week, but now the predominant feeling is just appreciating this moment,” Liggett girls soccer head coach David Dwaihy said after clinching the regional title. “... You don’t get too many

moments like this as a coach or as a player, so you just want to savor it.” The lone goal of the game was scored by Liggett’s Kerith Short about midway through the first half. The Knights were awarded a free kick and Short was able to expertly guide the ball from over 20 yards away into the back of the net for what ended up as the ultimate difference-maker in the game.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

The University Liggett girls soccer team defeated Everest Collegiate 1-0 Thursday, June 5, in the Division 4 regional championship game.

“Any game we’ve achieved anything in, she’s kind of been at the center of it,” Dwaihy said about Short. “... What a leader by example we have. Her free kick was really well-taken going over the wall to the near post. Not many people expected that and I think it kind of took the goalie by surprise and we were a little fortunate that it squeezed in. You take a goal whenever it’s given.”

While Liggett got a few more chances throughout the game to score again, it was the defense that took over and shined for the Knights with the lead. The team defended Everest’s pushes toward the net as the game got closer to reaching an end. Sophomore goal-

keeper Aline Rahaim came up with some big saves late in the game to help Liggett hang on for the win. The Knights advanced to the Division 4 state semifinal where they faced Plymouth Christian Academy after press time Wednesday, June 11. The Division 4 state championship game is scheduled at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 14, at Michigan State University’s DeMartin Soccer Stadium in East Lansing.

‘There’s a huge sense of excitement and accomplishment that we get to play in the state semifinal next week, but now the predominant feeling is just appreciating this moment.’

DAVID DWAIHY, LIGGETT GIRLS SOCCER HEAD COACH



Kerith Short lines up for a free kick that would find the back of the net for the only goal of Liggett’s 1-0 win in the regional championship game.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

South senior Adam Czarnik brought in the game-tying and game-winning runs with a two-RBI single in the bottom of the 7th inning to give South a 5-4 victory over Woodhaven.

SOUTH:

Continued from page 1D

thanks to an RBI triple by Danterius Perry. That set up the drama that came in the bottom of the seventh with South trailing by two runs. The momentum quickly shifted in South’s favor as the team loaded the bases with its first three batters of the inning. A hit by pitch and two errors set up the Blue Devils with an optimal situation, having the bases loaded with no outs, and Andrew DiLodovico drawing a walk helped bring in a run to pull South back within one. However, the situation quickly became less optimal when the Blue Devils suffered back-to-back

strikeouts. It was bases loaded with two outs for South when Czarnik stepped to the plate. His walk-off hit came when South was down to its last strike. Czarnik’s hit found center field and Lupo crossed the plate to tie the game. Henry Domzalski was close behind to score the winning run and send South to the final four in East Lansing for the first time since 2018. “It’s so apropos for a team that’s just been such a pleasure to be with,” South baseball head coach Dan Griesbaum said after his team’s dramatic victory. “They work so hard and they love each other. ... I just can’t say enough about how proud I am of this team.” While the bats ultimately won the Blue

Devils game, strong pitching helped keep them in it. The relief performance of Griffin Szatkiewski was the highlight on the mound. He came in after starter Dane Lezotte was pulled after 1.1 innings. Szatkiewski pitched the rest of the game, holding Woodhaven scoreless for nearly four innings and going 5.2 innings and surrendering two hits on four runs with six strikeouts. South advanced to the Division 1 state semifinals, where it is set to take on Hartland at 9 a.m. Friday, June 13, at McLain Stadium in East Lansing. The Division 1 state championship game is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 14, also at McLain Stadium.



After South suffered an early 2-0 deficit, Griffin Szatkiewski entered the game and pitched 3.2 scoreless innings to help South pull closer. He would finish allowing two runs on just four hits in 5.2 innings of work.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS ON PROPOSED 2025/2026 TAX CERTIFICATION AND BUDGET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on Tuesday, June 17, 2025 at 6:45 p.m. in the auditorium of the Harper Woods High School located at 20225 Beaconsfield, Harper Woods, MI., the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Harper Woods will hold a public hearing to consider the district’s proposed property tax millage rates and the proposed 2025/2026 Budget, respectively.

The Board of Education may not adopt its proposed 2025/2026 budget until after the public hearing. Copies of the proposed property tax millage rate and the proposed 2025/2026 budget are available for public inspection during normal business hours at 19851 Anita St., Harper Woods, Michigan.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

This notice is given by order of the Board of Education.

Radu Iacoban, Business Manager Consultant
On behalf of
The Harper Woods Board of Education

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Grosse Pointe News Yard & Estate Sale Map



THIS WEEK

1. 355 St Clair, GPC

2. 424 Washington, GPC

3. 1370 Harvard, GPC
4. 175 Vendome Rd., GPF

5. 312, 324, 328, 329, 341 Touraine Rd, GPF

6. 845 Harcourt, GPP
7. 626 S. Higbie Pl., GPW

○ = YARD SALE ● = ESTATE SALE

See Classifieds for more details



COURTESY PHOTO

Kokoshi was the top seed in the Division 2 No. 1 singles bracket at this year’s state finals after tallying a 27-1 match record during the regular season.

ATHLETE:
Continued from page 1D

becoming part of a team in the first place. For her entire career before becoming a Blue Devil, Kokoshi always played for herself. Now,

she has the experience of working together and getting to cheer and be cheered on by her teammates. “I’ve had so much fun playing with a team,” she said. “Everybody was so amazing and they’re so sweet. I liked

having the support while I played. Usually, not many people come to my matches, so having people watching me play and having their support was really nice. ... It was so great to share that moment with my team.”



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

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

Scan the QR code below to follow us!



Pointes golfers take final swings at state finals

By Meg Kelly
Staff Intern

The Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett School boys varsity golf teams capped off their respective post-season runs at the 2025 MHSAA state finals June 6, showcasing strong individual and team efforts at Forest Akers Golf Course and Meadows Golf Course at Grand Valley State University.

Grosse Pointe South
Competing in the MHSAA Division 1 state finals at Forest Akers West in East Lansing, South placed 14th out of 18 teams with a two-day total of 644 (+68). The Blue Devils matched their opening round score both days, carding back-to-back 322s (+34), thanks in large part to standout play from freshman Marty Wayman.

Wayman finished 18th overall in the individual standings, shooting a 150 (+6). He opened with a 74 (+2) as he tallied birdies on holes 3, 11 and 16, all par 4s, and especially played well on the back nine. He followed this on day two with a 76 (+4), high-

lighted by birdies on holes 10 and 17, with another strong finish down the stretch. Sophomore Charlie Thomas placed 44th with a 158 (+14). He shot 76 (+4) in round one, with birdies on holes 5, 13, 14 and 16, followed by an 82 (+10) in round two with birdies on holes 1 and 17. Sophomore Ben Bieri turned in a consistent showing to finish 51st with a 159 (+15), posting rounds of 81 (+9) and 78 (+6), with birdies on hole 7 in both rounds and consistency on the front and back nines. Senior Nate Faulkner rounded out his varsity career with rounds of 92 and 86, for a grand total of 178 (+34), while senior Quinn Cameron (91) and freshman Jack Babcock (89) contributed to the team’s scoring both days.

University Liggett School
The Knights competed in the Division 3 state finals at the Meadows Golf Course at Grand Valley State, finishing 14th out of 18 teams with a combined total of 682 (+114). After 347 (+63) in round one, the Knights rebounded with a 335

(+51) in round two. Senior Charlie Cooksey led Liggett with a 157 (+15), for a 14th place individual finish. He carded rounds of 79 (+8) and 78 (+7), showing great play on the back nine, including a birdie on hole 17 in round two. Senior Steve McMahon was steady throughout the weekend, tying for 36th with a 164 (+22) behind back-to-back 82s. He birdied holes 12 and 14 in round one and holes 7 and 13 in round two, performing slightly better on the front nine Sunday. Sophomore Charlie Laethem placed 83rd, improving from a 92 (+21) on Saturday to an 86 (+15) Sunday, which included a birdie on hole 2 and a stronger back nine finish. Freshman Jackson Miller posted rounds of 94 (+23) and 89 (+18) for a 183 (+41), while senior Peter Laethem rounded out the Knights’ lineup with rounds of 100 (+29) and 95 (+24) for 195 (+53) total. Both South and Liggett will graduate key seniors, but are showing promise for these underclassmen going into the 2026 season.



COURTESY PHOTO

Grosse Pointe South varsity boys golf finished 14th at the Division 2 state finals in East Lansing last weekend. From left: Coach Bobby Mitchell, Nate Faulkner, Ben Bieri, Jack Babcock, Marty Wayman and Charlie Thomas.

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.

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Submit online at:

grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week

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